



SCRUTINY BOARD (CITY DEVELOPMENT)

Meeting to be held in Civic Hall, Leeds on
Tuesday, 9th March, 2010 at 10.00 am

A pre-meeting will take place for ALL Members of the Board
in a Committee Room at 9.30 am

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

R Pryke (Chair)	-	Burmantofts and Richmond Hill;
C Beverley	-	Morley South;
R Harington	-	Gipton and Harehills;
M Lobley	-	Roundhay;
N Taggart	-	Bramley and Stanningley;
G Wilkinson	-	Wetherby;
A Ogilvie	-	Beeston and Holbeck;
S Armitage	-	Cross Gates and Whinmoor;
T Murray	-	Garforth and Swillington;
R Downes	-	Otley and Yeadon;
D Schofield	-	Temple Newsam;
T Grayshon	-	Morley South;
S Smith	-	Rothwell;

Please note: Certain or all items on this agenda may be recorded on tape

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A G E N D A

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25 of the Access to Information Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded).</p> <p>(*In accordance with Procedure Rule 25, written notice of an appeal must be received by the Chief Democratic Services Officer at least 24 hours before the meeting)</p>	
2			<p>EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <p>1 To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report.</p> <p>2 To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information.</p> <p>3 If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-</p> <p>RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:-</p> <p>No exempt items or information have been identified on the agenda</p>	

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
3			<p>LATE ITEMS</p> <p>To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.</p> <p>(The special circumstance shall be specified in the minutes.)</p>	
4			<p>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</p> <p>To declare any personal/prejudicial interests for the purpose of Section 81(3) of the Local Government Act 2000 and paragraphs 8 to 12 of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p>	
5			<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p>	
6			<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>To receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th February 2010.</p>	1 - 10
7			<p>PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER 3 2009/10</p> <p>To consider a report of the Head of Policy and Performance presenting an overview of performance against the priority outcomes relevant to the Scrutiny Board's portfolio and an analysis of performance indicator results at the end of Quarter 3.</p>	11 - 66
8			<p>SESSION 2 CONTINUED - INQUIRY TO REVIEW THE METHOD BY WHICH PLANNING APPLICATIONS ARE PUBLICISED AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT TAKES PLACE</p> <p>To consider a report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development on the continuation of Session 2 of the Inquiry to Review the Method by which Planning Applications are Publicised and Community Involvement takes place.</p>	67 - 82

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
9			<p>REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY CONCERNING A65 QUALITY BUS INITIATIVE</p> <p>To consider a report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development on a request for scrutiny in relation to the A65 Quality Bus Initiative.</p>	83 - 88
10			<p>TRAFFIC CONGESTION "PINCH POINTS"</p> <p>To consider a report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development and to discuss with the Chief Highways and Transportation Officer actions to reduce the number of "pinch points" in the city.</p>	89 - 106
11			<p>REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY - LOSS OF LAND ALLOCATED FOR EMPLOYMENT</p> <p>To consider a report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development on a request for scrutiny in relation to the loss of land allocated for employment.</p>	107 - 110
12			<p>CLIMATE CHANGE - LOW ZERO CARBON TECHNOLOGY DELIVERY AND IN OUR ESTATE</p> <p>To consider a report of the Director of City Development on Climate Change with an emphasis on evaluating options for installing LZC (Low and Zero Carbon) energy as part of the corporate estate, with a focus on small medium and large scale projects.</p>	111 - 126
13			<p>WORK PROGRAMME</p> <p>To consider the attached report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development regarding the Board's work programme, together with a copy of the Forward Plan of Key Decisions pertaining to this Board's Terms of Reference for the period</p>	127 - 152
14			<p>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Tuesday 6th April 2010 at 10.00am (Pre Meeting for Board Members at 9.30am)</p>	

Agenda Item 6

SCRUTINY BOARD (CITY DEVELOPMENT)

TUESDAY, 9TH FEBRUARY, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor R Pryke in the Chair

Councillors C Beverley, R Downes,
T Grayshon, R Harington, M Lobley,
T Murray, A Ogilvie, N Taggart, D Schofield
and S Smith

89 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the February meeting of the Scrutiny Board (City Development).

90 Late Items

The Chair agreed to accept a copy of a supplementary report submitted by the witness, Councillor George Hall, Barwick-in-Elmet and Scholes Parish Council relating to the inquiry to review the method by which planning applications are publicised and community involvement takes place (Agenda Item 7) (Minute 94 refers). The document was not available at the time of the agenda despatch, but had been circulated by emails to all interested parties on 3rd February 2010.

91 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interests made under this item.

92 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor G Wilkinson.

93 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That, subject to a number of minor changes required by the Chair, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th January 2010 be approved as a correct record.

94 Session 2 Inquiry to Review the Method by which Planning Applications are Publicised and Community Involvement takes place

Referring to Minute 83 of the meeting held on 12th January 2010, the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report in relation to Session 2 of the Board's inquiry to review the method by which planning applications were publicised and community involvement takes place.

The purpose of this session was to :-

- receive any information requested from the last session

- consider evidence of examples of good practice in other local planning authorities concerning the publicity and notification given to planning applications and the methods used
- consider some Case Studies involving selected residents groups, developers and Area Managers suggesting improvements to the current arrangements for publicising and involving people on planning applications, given the constraints identified in paragraph 1.4 of the terms of reference
- identify the strengths and weaknesses of the current arrangements and opportunities and barriers for improvement
- consider how this fits with current corporate consultation policy, processes and arrangements to facilitate more effective community consultation in neighbourhoods with regard to statutory requirements for timescale and scope

Appended to the report were copies of the following documents for the information/comment of the meeting:-

- a) Terms of reference - Inquiry to review the method by which planning applications are publicised and community involvement takes place
- b) Report of the Chief Planning Officer –Inquiry to review the method by which planning applications are publicised and community involvement takes place

In addition to the above documents, a copy of a supplementary report produced by Councillor George Hall, a witness at today's meeting, was circulated for the information/comment of the Board.

The following representatives were in attendance and responded to Members' queries and comments:-

- Phil Crabtree, Chief Planning Officer, City Development
- Martin Sellens, Head of Planning Services, City Development
- Helen Cerroti, Development Project Manager, City Development
- Mr Keith Collridge, Kirkstall resident and involved with the Kirkstall forge redevelopment
- Councillor George Hall, Barwick-in-Elmet and Scholes Parish Council
- Ms Freda Matthews, resident and Chair of Little Woodhouse Community Association

The Chair invited the Chief Planning Officer to report on the following three specific issues which had some relevance to the Board's inquiry:-

- new legislation strengthening guidance on "garden grabbing" and inappropriate development in gardens

- new regulations covering houses in multiple occupation where planning permission was now required where three people reside (formally six people)
- the recent introduction of a new Online Public Access System which would include all planning applications and comments that were received. The Board was advised that all Members of Council would be given an opportunity to receive practical instruction to use this new system, but much of it was intuitive and could be used straight away

Following this, the Chair then allowed a short presentation from each witness on their personal experiences of the processes and what they regarded as the main advantages and disadvantages of the present system and how it could be approved.

Councillor George Hall

Councillor Hall referred to his supplementary report and briefly highlighted the main issues relevant to the inquiry and which had been agreed by Barwick-in-Elmet & Scholes Parish Council. Councillor Hall referred to an error on page 2 of his report paragraph 6.1 which should read that 97.1% of planning applications were determined under officer delegated powers not 91.7%. Councillor Hall, in general, was positive of the progress made to date by the department in improving the planning process and of the report of the Chief Planning Officer. In summary, specific reference was made to the following key issues:-

Paragraph 2.0 refers – the appointment of a Community Planning Officer for the North East Outer Area which had been a great success. The Parish Council strongly support further developments in this regard

Paragraph 3.0 refers - the complexity of the planning process

Paragraph 5.0 refers – that they would like to see greater clarity as to the reasons for planning decisions being approved or rejected

Paragraph 6.1 refers – the view that the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) needed to be more robust in relation to the Parish and Town Council protocol

Paragraph 6.3 refers – the concerns that in accordance with Paragraph 41 of the Planning Policy Statement¹ (PPS1) which states "that Parish Councillors should play a key role in developing full and active community involvement in their area", Parish Councillors were sometimes discouraged when representations they make appear to be given little weight even though they are consistent with the vision of the community

Keith Collridge

Mr Collridge reported on his involvement in the community and with the Kirkstall forge development. He made specific reference to the early establishment of the Kirkstall Forge Liaison Group which promoted good practice and had met regularly since it was established.

The Liaison Group had recently been consulted on the developers proposals to move from one bedroom to more popular three bedroom homes and was

awaiting information on what community service provision was to be provided to meet a more family based community.

He confirmed that the Kirkstall forge developers had in general worked well with the community and had been represented at the Kirkstall festival for a number of years. He reminded Members that Kirkstall groups were still opposed Section 106 monies being designated to improve Horsforth roundabout as this should come from the Council's highways improvement budget.

In relation to affordable housing, he briefly referred to the Kirkstall District Centre and British Home Stores site.

In concluding, he informed the meeting that a document entitled 'Vision for Kirkstall' had been recently completed and that the University students had been a great help with it's production. It was intended for this to be included in the Neighbourhood Design Statement for the area and to be accepted as Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Freda Matthews

Ms Matthews provided the meeting with background information in respect of her role as Chair of Little Woodhouse Community Association. She made reference to the following specific issues:-

- the geography of the Little Woodhouse area which had three Conservation areas and thirteen listed buildings
- the importance of continuing to include the Little Woodhouse Community Association within the planning process
- the need to keep the public fully informed of planning applications via lamp posts/street notices and to actively remove out of date notices
- to welcome the involvement of a Community Planning officer within the North West (Inner) area which had improved the service to the community both in planning and enforcement terms
- the need to continue to improve communications at all levels between Planning Services and members of the public
- to welcome the fact that, as good practice, major developers had provided Little Woodhouse Community Association with exhibitions on planning applications
- to raise their concerns about poor responses to leafletting within the area and to share developers concerns in this regard
- to inform the meeting of the recent discussions in relation to introducing a Neighbourhood Design Statement for the area and for this document being accepted as Supplementary Planning Guidance
- to raise the importance of enforcement within the area and to ensure that appropriate enforcement action was implemented against those who were offending

The Chair then sought comments from Board Members and those officers in attendance responded to the comments made.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following:-

Kirkstall forge development issues

- the fact that changing the development from a mainly one bedroom development to principally three bedroom properties, would have an immediate impact on school places and other service provision requirements such as doctors dentists and whether the developers had taken this into account
(The Head of Planning Services responded and informed the meeting that there was an outline planning approval in place for Kirkstall Forge with a Section 106 agreement and that the changes being proposed fell within the remit of the outline approval. There were continuing discussions with the developer in bringing forward detailed applications for the development)
- clarification as to who had the overall responsibility of looking at provisions on local services resulting from planning decisions
(The Head of Planning Services responded and confirmed that Planning Services took the lead in this area)
- the need for more affordable housing
(The Head of Planning Services responded and confirmed that affordable housing was a key priority, but within the context of a volatile housing market required a degree of flexibility)
- the provision of a railway station in the development

General Issues

- the definition of what was meant by consultation
- clarification of what was not currently available on the Online Public Access System and why some other local authorities were more advanced in this area
(The Chief Planning Officer responded and outlined the latest developments and protocol)
- how to engage more with both the University of Leeds and Leeds Metropolitan University in the planning process
(The Chief Planning Officer responded and confirmed that Planning officers did consult with students through Unipol and other organisations that existed within the University of Leeds and Leeds Metropolitan Universities, but more could be done)
- the need to continue to develop 'Plain English' wherever possible in all aspects of the planning process
(The Head of Planning Services responded and confirmed that despite the complexity of some of the issues, Planning Services were seeking to ensure that 'Plain English' was used in all its documents)
- how Parish Councils could involve the community more in commenting on planning applications
- the siting of planning notices and their removal once expired
(The Head of Planning Services responded and acknowledged that it was his staff who were responsible for carrying out both these tasks)

- clarification as to whether Community Planning officers were involved in enforcement issues
(*The Head of Planning Services responded and confirmed that the two posts of Community Planning Officers did take up enforcement issues*)
- a suggestion that the department introduce a 'tick box' approach to show what consultation had been undertaken and the outcome
(*The Head of Planning Services responded and agreed to consider this proposal*)

In concluding, the Chair then invited the three witnesses to sum up and thanked them for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

RESOLVED-

- a) That the contents of the report of the Chief Planning Officer and appendices, together with the supplementary information, be received and noted.
- b) That the case studies and witness statement be received and noted.
- c) That the inquiry be extended in order to invite the following witnesses unable to attend today's meeting to the Scrutiny Board on 9th March 2010 :-
 - Councillor Janet Thornton, East Keswick Parish Council
 - Tony Ray, Planning Consultant
 - Jacqui Balinnes, Planning Aid
- d) That relevant issues identified at today's meeting be included in the Board's final report.

(Councillor R Harington arrived at 10.10am during discussions of the above item)

(Councillor N Taggart arrived at 11.05am during discussions of the above item)

95 The Agenda for Improved Economic Performance

The Chief Economic Development Officer submitted a report regarding the 'Agenda for Improved Economic Performance'.

Appended to the report were copies of the following documents for the information/comment of the meeting:-

- a) Leeds Agenda for Improved Economic Performance – Executive Summary
- b) List of Consulted Organisations
- c) The Agenda for Improved Economic Performance - Future Structure

The following representatives were in attendance:-

Paul Stephens, Chief Economic Development Manager, City Development

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Tuesday, 9th March, 2010

Tom Holvey, Economic Policy Manager, City Development

In summary, specific reference was to the following issues:-

- support for the main approach of the document around a common message, leadership and buy in of partners
- support for the themes of the document through the Golden Thread and the three objectives of Great Place, Skilled People and Copetitive Businesses
- concern expressed that EASEL had been omitted from the document
- the need for clarity of the relationship between Leeds and the city region
- the fact that this document should have been reviewed in 2004
- the need for positive elements to be included within the document with the aim of addressing inequalities in the area
- clarification of the principle aims of the document around growth and business diversity and whether the 'Leeds Initiative Leeds Economy Partnership' document published in 1999 had influenced these areas
- the reasons why the document was not to be incorporated within the new 'Vision for Leeds 2011-2030 and the costs involved in developing this separate publication
- reference to a separate policy regeneration document on worklessness which had been produced by the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods
- the concern expressed that the document would not have an impact as it would be viewed as just another 'glossy' document produced by the Council
- support for a shorter and more succinct style of publication
- the need to identify more of the unique components of the Leeds economy
- support for the proposal that future opportunities need to be made clearer and that linkages be improved particularly with other strategies and the different sections of the document
- support for the proposal that the document be reversed so that the actions and "what are we going to do" was at the front followed by the context
- clarification of which organisations and businesses had been consulted
- the need for the document to include political aspirations which cannot be done by officers to promote major schemes and initiatives in Leeds
- the need for a 'Plan B' to be written into the document i.e. Next Generation Transport, what if scenario
- the need for the document to focus on joined up thinking with a dialogue with 'real people' and avoid having too structured approach

The Chair then invited the Chief Economic Development Officer and the Economic Policy Manager to respond to the various comments made.

In summary specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- details of the cross section consultation process which had included such companies as ASDA and IBM in Thorp Arch
- the view expressed that the document would focus too much on the economic performance of Leeds and not on the areas of deprivation
- to acknowledge the importance of the consultation process in producing the final document
- to advise the meeting that there will be a series of action plans produced and incorporated into the final document
- reference was made to the 1999 document and the fact that for three years from its publication a particular theme was selected each year and progress reviewed
- confirmation that the issue of sustainability would be addressed in the final document, together with focusing on low carbon emissions/equality thereby ensuring that the City of Leeds would be in a good position to respond to the challenges around the targets and aspirations set by the Vision for Leeds 2011 -2030
- the fact that many companies were currently time rich but cash poor and consequently perhaps more willing to visit schools to raise pupils aspirations

RESOLVED-

- a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- b) That the Chief Economic Development Manager and the Economic Policy Manager be requested to incorporate appropriate and relevant comments and support given by the Board within the final document prior to it's submission for approval to the Executive Board meeting on 7th April 2010.
- c) That, in conjunction with the Board's Principal Scrutiny Adviser, the Chief Economic Development Manager be requested to provide Board Members with either a hard copy or link in relation to the 'Leeds Initiative Leeds Economy Partnership' document published in 1999 for their information/retention.
- d) That Members of the Board be provided with a copy of the final publication.

(Councillor C Beverley left the meeting at 11.30am during discussions of the above item)

(Councillor D Schofield left the meeting at 11.40am during discussions of the above item)

(Councillor T Murray left the meeting at 11.55am during discussions of the above item)

96 Work Programme

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report providing Members with a copy of the Board's current Work Programme. The Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 1st February 2010 to 31st May 2010 and the Executive Board Minutes of 6th January 2010 were also attached to the report.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Tuesday, 9th March, 2010

RESOLVED –

- a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- b) That the Executive Board minutes of 6th January 2010 and the Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 1st February 2010 to 31st May 2010 be noted.
- c) That the Board's Principal Scrutiny Adviser be requested to update the work programme to incorporate those updates requested at today's meeting.
- d) That the following specific items be also added to the work programme:-
 - a request for scrutiny received from Councillor B Cleabsy in relation to the loss of land allocated for employment in Horsforth (March 2010)
 - to discuss with the Chief Highways Officer actions that have or can be taken to reduce highway "Pinch Points", in the city (March 2010)

97 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday 9th March 2010 at 10.00am (Pre meeting for Board Members at 9.30am)

(The meeting concluded at 12.10pm)

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Originator:
Heather Pinches
Tel: 22 43347

Report of the Head of Policy and Performance

Meeting: City Development Scrutiny Board

Date: 9th March 2010

Subject: Performance Report Quarter 3 2009/10

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report presents our key performance information against the Leeds Strategic Plan improvement priorities relevant to the City Development Scrutiny Board for Quarter 3 2009/10. In addition since the last quarter the first set of reports under the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) regime were released and the CAA reports are tabled with this report as a supplement to our own internal performance reports. Following on from the Q2 performance report, and the first set of CAA reports in December 2009, CLT identified a number of performance issues which warranted additional attention and focus. To this end it was agreed that the performance indicator report normally provided at Q3 should be supplemented by a small number of Action Trackers. The tracker relevant to the City Development Scrutiny Board is included with this report so that Members have the opportunity to more closely monitor this 'tagged' area and can suggest, where necessary, further improvement action. In addition, the CAA Lead, Stephen Gregg, will also use these extra trackers to monitor our performance on an on-going basis throughout the year prior to a full refresh of CAA in December 2010.

2 Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to present an overview of performance against our priority outcomes and high risk (tagged) performance areas at the end of Quarter 3 so that Members can monitor progress and, where necessary, recommend appropriate remedial action. In addition the CAA reports present an independent external assessment of our performance from the Audit Commission through the first round of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA).

3 Background Information

- 3.1 This performance report includes a number of appendices of information and these are summarised below:

- **Appendix 1** – Any “tagged” action trackers from the Leeds Strategic Plan which are relevant to the Board. These trackers include progress in the delivery of key actions/activities, updated key performance indicator results and any relevant challenges and risks. They include an overall traffic light rating assigned by the Accountable Officer and agreed with the Accountable Director.
- **Appendix 2** – Performance indicator report containing quarter 3 results for all performance indicator which can be reported in year from the Leeds Strategic Plan, National Indicator set and any key local indicator which are relevant to the Board.

This information is supported by a guidance document to aid the reader in interpreting the actions trackers and the performance indicator reports.

- 3.2 The performance indicator reports have been revised slightly to include a direction of travel arrow which provides an indication of whether improvement is being made year on year. This compares the predicted year end performance for 2009/10 with actual year end performance for 2008/9. In order to simplify the interpretation of this column it should be noted that an **upward** arrow always indicates **improving** performance regardless of whether the indicator should rise or fall.
- 3.3 Since the Q2 performance was reported to Scrutiny the first set of reports under the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) were released. The CAA is the new framework for the independent assessment of local public services in England. CAA has two main elements, which are linked and inform each other, these are:
- **Area Assessment** that looks at how well local public services are delivering better results for local people across the whole city, focusing on agreed priorities such as health, economic prospects and community safety, and how they are likely to improve in the future; and
 - **Organisational Assessment** of individual public bodies which for the council comprises two scored assessments – Use of Resources and Managing Performance. These scores are aggregated to produce a single score for the organisation.

In addition, the National Indicator Set (NIS) introduced from April 2008, is also used as a key evidence source for both the area and organisational assessments.

- 3.4 The CAA is an annual assessment co-ordinated by the Audit Commission through the CAA Lead (CAAL) but incorporates the views of all relevant inspectorates (eg Ofsted, Care Quality Commission, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary etc). The Area Assessment examines how well local services are delivering improvements and progressing towards long term goals. The Area Assessment seeks to assess the effectiveness of partnership working, and the implementation of the sustainable community strategy and local area agreement. The CAA provides the public with direct access to information on performance and an independent assessment of the prospects for the local area. The Area Assessment is reported as a narrative and does not receive a numerical score or other rating; instead 'red' and 'green' flags are issued in relation to the progress being made in an area. It is important to note that 'red'

and 'green' flags are not the opposite of each other; they each have their own distinct purpose and criteria ie:

- Where the action being taken in an area to improve an important outcome is assessed by the inspectorates as unlikely to deliver the improvement sought, this may be highlighted as a significant concern using a red flag. It is important to note that a deteriorating outcome will not necessarily result in a red flag.
- Where exceptional performance or improvement is identified, or there are promising prospects for improvement through innovation, this may be highlighted as a source of learning for others using a green flag.

3.5 The Organisational Assessment covers the following key questions:

- Managing Finances – how effectively does the organisation manage its finances to deliver value for money?
- Governing the Business – how well does the organisation govern itself and commission services that provide value for money and deliver better outcomes for local people?
- Managing Resources – how well does the organisation manage its natural resources, physical assets and people to meet current and future needs and deliver value for money?
- Managing Performance – how well does the organisation manage and improve its services and contribute to wider community outcomes?

3.6 The first three questions are assessed in the annual Use of Resources Assessment. The Managing Performance theme is assessed by the CAAL using the National Indicator Set, judgements by other inspectorates eg the annual performance assessments on Adults and Children's services and through an on-going dialogue in conjunction with the Area Assessment. Both the Use of Resources and Managing Performance assessments are given a score on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 4 (highest) and the overall Organisational Assessment result is a combination of the two elements using the matrix below:

		Managing performance			
		Scores	1	2	3
Use of resources	1	1	1	1	1
	2	1	2	2 or 3	2 or 3
	3	1	2 or 3	3	3 or 4
	4	1	2 or 3	3 or 4	4

3.7 Therefore, within this model the CAAL has some discretion in weighing up the evidence and taking account of local context in determining which themes should carry more weight. The scores represent the following descriptors of performance:

Overall [organisation x] performs poorly/adequately/well/excellently		
1	An organisation that does not meet minimum requirements	Performs poorly
2	An organisation that meets only minimum requirements	Performs adequately
3	An organisation that exceeds minimum requirements	Performs well
4	An organisation that significantly exceeds minimum requirements	Performs excellently

4 Main Issues

4.1 In November 2009 the Q2 performance information for the Leeds Strategic and Council Business Plans was reviewed by CLT and they identified an number of areas of concern in terms of performance. In early December the first Organisational and Area Assessments reports under CAA were released and these reports also identified a number of areas of under-performance which the CAA Lead has identified for further investigation – these “tagged” areas are effectively the potential red flag areas for 2010. There was significant similarity between

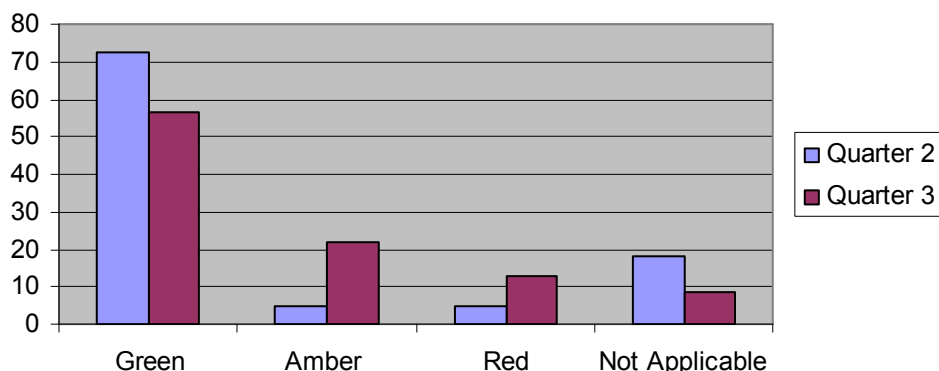
these two lists and in December CLT agreed that they wanted to collectively monitor these areas more closely but use the current performance management processes to do this. Therefore, it was agreed to produce action trackers quarterly for these “tagged” areas to enable more frequent updates and closer monitoring of these high risk areas. In addition, the CAA remains live during the year and there is an opportunity to refresh the information on the One Place website with any updates of key progress and activities.

Overall Performance Indicator Analysis

4.2 Of those indicators that can be reported quarterly to the City Development Scrutiny Board the proportion of those rated red, amber and green and the comparisons to the position at Q2 are shown in the table and graphs below.

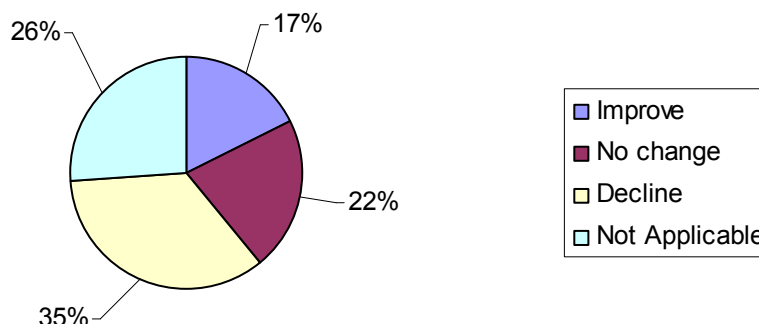
Traffic Light	Q2		Q3	
	Number	%	Number	%
Green	16	73	13	57
Amber	1	5	5	22
Red	1	5	3	13
Not Applicable	4	18	2	9

RAG Rating of City Development Indicators



4.3 In terms of direction of travel the predicted year end performance of all indicators has also been compared to the outturn from the previous year and the summary of this for the City Development Performance Indicators is shown below:

Direction of Travel of City Development Indicators



CAA Reports

- 4.4 Since the last performance report to Scrutiny the CAA Organisational and Area Assessment reports have been released. Both reports were made available to members upon their publication back in December and both reports can be also be found on the intranet and internet as well as on the Audit Commissions One Place website. Therefore, these reports are provided in Appendix 3 for discussion alongside the Q3 performance information to provide an independent perspective.

Data Quality

- 4.5 The Corporate Policy and Performance Team have revised the criteria used to inform the data quality judgements that are included in Accountability reports for each performance indicator. A revised data quality checklist, with a built in scoring mechanism to determine the traffic light rating, has been produced. This has been successfully piloted in Children's Services and Environment and Neighbourhoods and is in the process of being rolled out across all reported indicators. In order to ensure consistency of reporting it is our intention to report these revised data quality traffic lights at Q4. Members should note that this will mean that some of the data quality traffic light ratings are likely to change as this more rigorous approach is implemented at year end.

5 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 5.1 The Leeds Strategic Plan and Council Business Plan is part of the council's Budget and Policy Framework. Effective performance management enables senior officers and Elected Members to be assured that the council is making adequate progress and provides a mechanism for them to challenge performance where appropriate. Effective performance management is a key element of the organisational assessment under the Comprehensive Area Assessment. The CAA examines and challenges the robustness and effectiveness of both our corporate performance management arrangements and those across the partnership.

6 Legal and Resource Implications

- 6.1 The Leeds Strategic Plan fulfils the Council's statutory requirement to prepare a Local Area Agreement for its area. These slightly revised performance reporting arrangements are achievable within current resources across the organisation.

7 Conclusions

- 7.1 This report provides the Board with a high level overview of the city's performance against the key priorities relevant to the Board from the Leeds Strategic Plan as at the 31st December 2009.

8 Recommendation

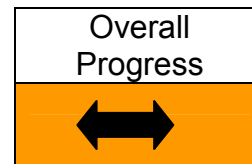
- 8.1 Members are asked to;
- consider the Q3 performance reports and where appropriate, recommend action to address any specific performance concerns raised; and
 - consider the relevant parts of the organisational and area assessment reports which are within the remit of the Board.

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Improvement Priority - TR-1b. Improve the quality, capacity, use and accessibility of public transport services in Leeds.

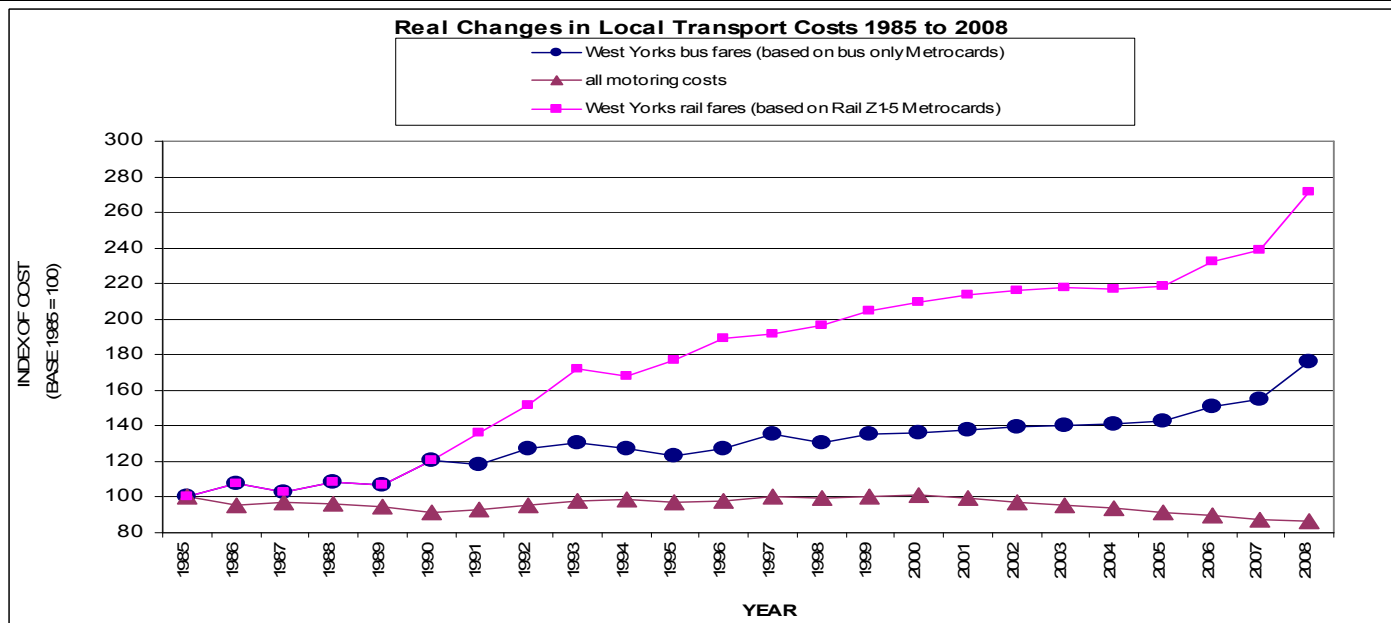
CAA Focus - Slow progress improving quality, use and accessibility of public transport despite being top priority and specifically including progress in delivery of New Generation Transport

Accountable Officer - Gary Bartlett / Accountable Director - Jean Dent



Why is this a priority?

Public transport is a major concern for local people. Consultation performed to identify priorities indicated that improving the quality, accessibility and use of public transport was a priority for all groups. Improvements in public transport will also help ensure that the city is a place where people want to live and work.



Overall Progress to date and outcomes achieved 1st October to 31st December 2009

Overall Summary

Leeds City Council and Metro have submitted 4 major scheme business case (MSBC) bids to the Department for Transport (DfT) as indicated below. Decisions are awaited. Significant progress against this Improvement Priority is dependent on DfT approval to these business cases.

Work is progressing on other schemes however budget cuts are having an impact. The Leeds Bus Partnership has seen one scheme withdrawn and the bus prioritisation project is being re-prioritised which will result in a reduction in the number of bus stops being treated for accessibility measures.

More generally, the percentage of non-car journeys is slightly lower than expected for 2009. Part of this is felt to be due to the change in the way rail patronage was counted which resulted in an underestimate of patronage compared to the previous method. Also comparative cost figures for travel by car versus bus or rail show that whereas bus and rail travel costs continue to increase, the relative cost of travel by car is decreasing.

Achievements since the last report

- **Leeds New Generation Transport (NGT)** – Submission of the MSBC to the DfT in Oct 09 and publication on the NGT website. A formal decision by the DfT is expected end of February 2010. Initial indications are positive but we still await an announcement about Programme Entry.
- **A65 Quality Bus Initiative** – MSBC submitted. CPO confirmed and being actioned.
- **Leeds Station Southern Access (LSSA -METRO)** – Working with Network Rail a preferred option has been developed for the scheme. The planning application and MSBC were submitted in Oct 09 and Nov 09 respectively.
- **Leeds Rail Growth Package (HA)** – MSBC submitted in Nov 09 and the outline Transport Assessment was completed in Dec.
- **Bus Prioritisation (BP – Highways Agency (HA))**- BP has been introduced at a number of sites along the A660 Headingley Lane. The re-design at Scott Hall Road has been approved by the bus operators and works on site are expected to commence at the end of Feb. A report is to be submitted to the LTP steering group regarding future schemes.

Improvement Priority - TR-1b. Improve the quality, capacity, use and accessibility of public transport services in Leeds.

CAA Focus - Slow progress improving quality, use and accessibility of public transport despite being top priority and specifically including progress in delivery of New Generation Transport

Accountable Officer - Gary Bartlett / Accountable Director - Jean Dent

- **Pudsey Bus Station** – Scheme went on site on 1st November 2009. Some delay has been experienced due to electricity cables under some sections of private land. A strong local partnership is however developing between LCC, Metro and the contractor to resolve any ongoing issues.
- **Leeds Bus Partnership** – Full programme and delivery mechanism agreed. Issues over some routes. One significant scheme withdrawn due to funding issues. Performance monitoring framework agreed by Bus Partnership group.
- **East Leeds Parkway (ELP - Metro)** – Work continues to agree a preferred option for developing in the single option design stage with Network Rail and continued development of the draft MSBC.
- **M621 (HA)** -The M621 Strategy study has reported its conclusions and possible next steps have been discussed with LCC. This included an analysis of the routes physical characteristics and structures and identifying problems with congestion and accidents to identify possible mitigation.
- **Strategic Road Network (HA)**– Enhancements on the M62, junction 25 and 30 have been announced with works due to commence in 2010-11
- **Strategic Park and Ride (HA)**– A study into the potential for a P&R continues with feasible sites being identified as part of the LTP 2 and 3.
- **Go Greener Campaign** – Work on influencing traveller behaviour continues in conjunction with LCC.
- **Transport for Leeds (HA)** – Project Extranet set up and working in Oct 09. In November, the financial model was completed, the work with public focus groups was concluded and a list of potential schemes were identified and signed off. A medium list of potential schemes including full pro-formas was completed in Dec.
- **Leeds City Region Transport Strategy (LCRTS) and Connectivity Study** – Transport Strategy launched at LCR summit. DfT DaSTS Connectivity Study commenced in Nov. phase 1 to be completed in April 2010.
- **Additional Train Carriages (METRO)** - is currently working with other Passenger Transport Executive (PTE's), Northern Rail (NR) and the DfT to secure additional trains for West Yorkshire and the wider NR franchise. It seems that Northern will receive additional “used” trains in a phased cascade from other train companies. It is expected that some additional carriages will appear on the WY rail network in 2010/11, however the process will go on until 2014 and beyond. The total number of additional carriages has not yet been finalised.

Challenges / Risks

- **NGT** – Aim to gain DfT programme Entry in early 2010 however timescales not within promoters control. Scale and nature of formal objections to the Transport and Works Act Order application
- **LSSA** – Obtaining Planning Approval and DfT Programme Entry
- **Leeds Rail Growth Package** – Alignment between the delivery of the new rail stations and delivery of the HLOS.
- **BP** – Concerns raised by bus operators regarding the limited hours of operation of the inbound bus lane on the approach to Shaw Lane. LCC to investigate whether longer hours can be justified
- **ELP** – Alignment between RFA timescales and NR HLOS timescales
- **LCRTS & LCR Connectivity Study** – Funding cuts

<u>Council / Partnership Groups</u>			
<u>Approved by</u> <i>(Accountable Officer)</i>	Gary Bartlett	<u>Date</u>	09/02/10
<u>Approved by</u> <i>(Accountable Director)</i>	Jean Dent	<u>Date</u>	09/02/10

Improvement Priority - TR-1b. Improve the quality, capacity, use and accessibility of public transport services in Leeds.

CAA Focus - Slow progress improving quality, use and accessibility of public transport despite being top priority and specifically including progress in delivery of New Generation Transport

Accountable Officer - Gary Bartlett / Accountable Director - Jean Dent

Key actions for the next 3 months 1st January to 30th March 2010				
	Scheme	Contributory Officer / Partner	Milestone / Actions	Timescale
1	Leeds NGT	Francis Linley/Metro	1. DfT decision on Programme Entry. 2. Further public consultation and engagement with wider stakeholder groups including LCC Area Committees	Jan/Feb 2010
2	Leeds Bus Partnership	Metro	Resolve issues over quality of data related to bus patronage.	March 2010
3	A65 Quality Bus Initiative	Andrew Hall/Metro	Decision made by DfT on MSBC.	Jan/Feb 2010
4	Leeds Station Southern Access	Metro	DfT decision on programme entry	March 2010
5	Leeds Rail Growth Package	Metro	Complete documentation to enable planning application to be submitted	Jan/Feb 2010
6	Transport for Leeds – Complete Highway model	Tim Harvey	Complete Highway Model	Feb 2010
7	LCR Connectivity Study	Dave Gilson/Metro	Phase one to be completed	April 2010

Performance Indicators										
Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority										
Ref.	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 3	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
LSP-TR1b(i)	Percentage of non-car journeys into central Leeds in the morning peak period	Transport Policy	Annually %	Rise	42.3% (2004)	44.7% (2008)	44.7% (2009)	44.3% (2009 final result)		No concerns
LSP-TR1b(ii)	Local bus passenger journeys originating in the authority area	Transport Policy	Annually Number	Rise	No current baseline	Data provided by METRO. Currently unavailable. Metro expect to be able to provide 2009/10 baseline data by March 2010.				

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City Development Quarter 3 Performance Indicator Report

Appendix 2

PI Type	Ref	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Predicted Year End Result	Year on Year Direction of Travel	Data Quality
1 Local Indicator	LKI 185	CO2 emissions from local authority operations	Sustainable Development	Quarterly Tonnes CO2	Fall	141, 699 Tonnes CO2	141, 699 Tonnes CO2	138,723	30,623	55,317	94,019	136,571	↑	No Concerns
	<p>This is a new quarterly indicator demonstrating the figure for actual CO2 emissions in tonnes through the year. This local version of National Indicator 185 will improve monitoring of cumulative CO2 emissions and will determine if the annual percentage reduction target (of NI 185) is likely to be met by the year end. NI 185 measures the percentage reduction between years and will, therefore, still be reported on an annual basis.</p> <p>There has been strong progress for the first 3 quarters. Emissions declined in most areas compared with 2008-09 (buildings -6.4%; fleet -7.2%; outsourced fleet -5.0%; streetlights +5.5%; and staff travel +2.3%;). Buildings emissions form 60% of total emissions; the downward trend is due to a variety of reasons including building disposal, more efficient new buildings, energy efficiency improvements and increased staff awareness. Fleet vehicles achieved significant reductions partly due to energy efficiency initiatives. Streetlighting increased as the PFI programme resulted in additional lighting columns being installed in rural areas to achieve the prescribed light standards, although this will be reversed as more urban areas are reached. Data inconsistencies have reduced due to the smoothing effect of more quarters of data, ironing out some issues with estimated billing.</p>													
2 Leeds Strategic Plan - Government Agreed	NI 188	Planning to adapt to climate change	Sustainable Development	Quarterly Level	Rise	0	1	2	1	1	1	2	↔	No Concerns
	<p>Progress has been made on moving beyond level 1. So far task 2f (encouraging the LSP to identify major weather and climate vulnerabilities and opportunities that affect the delivery of the LSP's objectives) has been completed and significant progress has been made on tasks 2a (comprehensive risk based assessment of vulnerabilities to weather and climate, now and in the future), 2b (identification of priority risks for council services), 2d (adaptive responses incorporated into council strategies, plans, partnerships and operations: for instance this year guidance on climate change has been prepared for service plans) and 2e (appropriate adaptive responses have begun to be implemented in some priority areas, particularly flooding and transport). Initial work has commenced on task 2c (identifying the most effective adaptive responses) and it is hoped that dedicated resources can be secured to complete this during quarter 4.</p>													
Page 21 Leeds Strategic Plan - Partnership Agreed	NI 157 - MAJORS	Processing of planning applications as measured against targets for Major application types	Planning Services	Quarterly %	Rise	63.49%	65.33%	70.00%	67.57%	63.77%	60.55%	60.00%	↓	No Concerns
	<p>The service will meet the Government's national target of 60% by the end of the financial year, although it will not achieve the stretch target of 70% for this indicator. This is due to the effects of the recession both because of reducing numbers of new Major Planning Applications (30% drop in new majors applications compared with quarter 3 2008-09) and a backlog of 'out of time' applications where, for financial reasons, developers are reluctant to sign section 106 agreements.</p> <p>The service is continuing to deal with the number of 'out of time' applications (as at quarter 3 there were 69) and have committed to reducing these from about 90 in April 2009 to 50 or less by the end of March 2010. Work is also progressing in improving the processing time of new applications, despite some reduction in staffing levels which has taken place in response to the fall in fee income associated with the recession.</p>													
4 Leeds Strategic Plan - Partnership Agreed	LSP-EE1A	Support the establishment of 550 new businesses in deprived communities in Leeds by 2011.	Economic Development	Quarterly Number	Rise	12,397	13,016	12,809	13,028	13,111	13,024	13,050	Not Applicable	Some concerns
	<p>The overall number of businesses decreased by 87 in Quarter 3. While we are still well ahead of target in terms of the number of businesses established, this demonstrates that the recession is having a clear effect on the local economy. This indicator tracks the total number of businesses in the LEGI sphere of influence as reported by the BETA model (an economic modelling tool).</p>													
5 Leeds Strategic Plan - Partnership Agreed	LSP-CU1A(I)	Number of physical visits to libraries	Libraries and Information	Quarterly Number	Rise	4,181,923	3,998,358	3,850,000	960,337	1,999,156	2,892,987	3,772,987	↓	No Concerns
	<p>The result for this quarter was partly affected by the prolonged, severe weather in December. In addition, fewer of the users of Garforth and Compton Road have switched to other libraries than anticipated whilst those libraries have been closed for refurbishment. Therefore, the predicted year end result has moved to amber.</p>													

City Development Quarter 3 Performance Indicator Report

Appendix 2

PI Type	Ref	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Predicted Year End Result	Year on Year Direction of Travel	Data Quality	
6	Leeds Strategic Plan - Partnership Agreed	LSP-CU1A(II)	The Total Number of Visits to Museums and Galleries.	Museums and Galleries	Quarterly Number	Rise	384,346	995,883	1,000,500	280,256	551,450	768,170	998,000	↑	No Concerns
		<p>The predicted year end result is based on 3 quarters' data being, on average, 77% of the full year result. Compared to quarter 3 last year, visits to museums and galleries are lower; however, this time last year, the City Museum had only just opened and was experiencing huge visitor numbers. The poor weather in December may have also contributed to a lower than expected result. The indicator is now fractionally below target.</p> <p>The cumulative quarter 1, 2 and 3 result has been revised upwards by approximately 50,000, as the magic eye sensor at the Art Gallery has now been working properly for 6 months, having been faulty during quarter 1 and it is clear that the quarter 1 figure was severely under-estimated.</p>													
7	Leeds Strategic Plan - Partnership Agreed	LSP-TP1E	Increase the number of new customers on low incomes accessing credit union services (savings, loans and current accounts)	Economic Development	Quarterly Number	Rise	6,700	5,971	3,500	1,084	1,780	2,535	3,100	↓	No Concerns
		<p>In quarter 3, 755 new customers on low incomes represents an increase against quarter 2, however is still significantly lower than quarter 1. To achieve the target for 2009/10, 965 new customers would need to access credit union services during quarter 4. The reasons for the fall in performance over the past 2 quarters may be related to the significant changes Leeds City Credit Union (LCCU) have experienced over the past 18 months including a rationalisation of the branch network and reduced opening hours. This has impacted upon the accessibility of credit union services and, therefore, reduced exposure and take up by new members. Secondly, LCCU are reporting that as a result of the recession people are less willing to borrow money and, as a significant amount of new members on low incomes are normally borrowers, this has had an impact on the overall numbers achieved.</p> <p>The LCCU are estimating an end of year result of 3,100 new members, based on the past two quarter' result and the fact that, historically, there has been a drop off in new members in January and February.</p>													
Page 22	Leeds Strategic Plan - Partnership Agreed	LSP-TR1b(i)	Percentage of non-car journeys into central Leeds in the morning peak period	Transport Policy	Annual %	Rise	42.3%	44.7%	44.7%	N/A	N/A	44.3%	44.3% (final result)	↓	No Concerns
		<p>Data for this indicator is obtained from both the Leeds Central Cordon Modal Split Roadside Survey and rail passenger counts undertaken by Metro. Please note that the tolerance levels on this indicator are +/-0.5%. As such, we are still within the target levels set and performance remains on track.</p> <p>The non-significant increase in the proportion of car travellers can be partially explained by the effects of the economic downturn meaning there are less commuters. As traffic levels fall (by 2% last year), congestion reduces and commuters may switch back to car, particularly when the cost of travel by different modes is taken into account, as the real costs (i.e. - after taking out the effects of inflation) of travelling by public transport have increased significantly since 1995 whereas overall, the cost of owning and operating a car remains unchanged.</p>													
9	National Indicator	NI 157 - MINORS	Processing of planning applications as measured against targets for Minor application types	Planning Services	Quarterly %	Rise	69.94%	76.17%	65.00%	80.08%	79.41%	79.02%	75.00%	↔	No Concerns
		<p>The Government's national target is 65%,and the service is performing well against this.</p>													
10	National Indicator	NI 157 - OTHERS	Processing of planning applications as measured against targets for Other application types	Planning Services	Quarterly %	Rise	83.63%	86.41%	80.00%	87.24%	86.73%	87.33%	85.00%	↔	No Concerns
		<p>The Government's national target is 80%,and the service is performing well against this.</p>													


City Development Quarter 3 Performance Indicator Report

Appendix 2

PI Type	Ref	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Predicted Year End Result	Year on Year Direction of Travel	Data Quality		
11	National Indicator	NI 157 - COUNTY MATTERS	Processing of planning applications as measured against targets for County Matter application types	Planning Services	Quarterly %	Rise	64.71%	64.71%	Not set	40.00%	50.00%	47.37%	50.00%	↓	No Concerns	
<p>Of the 19 County Matters decisions made, 9 were within the 13-week timescale for this indicator. This is a new indicator which commenced in April 2008 as part of the new NI 157 national indicator suite. Unlike the other parts of NI 157 (major, minor and other planning applications), government have not set national targets. Because of the highly complex nature of these applications (minerals and waste applications) and the small number submitted (17 during 2008-09), it would be difficult to set meaningful targets.</p>																
12	National Indicator	NI 151	Overall Employment rate (working age)	Economic Development	Quarterly %	Rise	75.1%	73.0%	Not Set	72.4%	71.6%	70.3%	Not Applicable	↓	No Concerns	
<p>Between July 2008 and June 2009 the employment rate in Leeds was 70.3%. This is below the national average of 73.3% and the regional figure of 72%. The results for quarter three for Leeds are 1.3% points lower than the previous quarter results, which relate to the period between April 2008 and March 2009 (71.6%). This decline is to be expected in a time of rising unemployment; in addition, it should be recognised that the survey has a 95% confidence interval. Targets have not been set for this indicator because it is very difficult to directly influence the overall employment rate, which may be positively or negatively affected by external market forces.</p>																
Page 23	13	Local Indicator	LEG1	Support the establishment of 550 new businesses in deprived communities in Leeds by 2011, with two thirds started by local residents.	Economic Development	Quarterly Number	Rise	0	263	367	280	320	340	350	Not Applicable	Some concerns
	<p>In Quarter 3, the Programme recorded 20 business starts. The effects of the recession are now being seen more clearly. Following a check on all LEG1 indicators in January 2010, previous results for this indicator have been updated. The need for this is that the original 2008/09 result of 216 did not include the 47 businesses started in 2007/08, despite the fact that this indicator is measured cumulatively. Processes have been updated to ensure consistency and accuracy in future quarterly reporting.</p>															
14	Local Indicator	LEG12	To assist 650 existing businesses in deprived communities in Leeds to survive and grow by 2011.	Economic Development	Quarterly Number	Rise	0	799	433	808	926	1,013	1,020	Not Applicable	Some concerns	
<p>This indicator is well ahead of schedule with a total of 87 businesses supported this quarter. Following a check on all LEG1 indicators in January 2010, previous results have been reviewed and targets updated. The need for this is that the original result for 2008/09 of 569 did not include the 250 businesses supported in 2007/08, and also over reported the number of businesses supported by 20, despite the fact that this indicator is measured cumulatively. Internal processes have been updated to ensure consistency and accuracy in future quarterly reporting.</p>																
15	Local Indicator	LEG13	To attract 75 existing businesses to relocate to deprived communities in Leeds by 2011.	Economic Development	Quarterly Number	Rise	0	26	50	26	26	27	30	Not Applicable	Some concerns	
<p>The most challenging target for the Programme is to attract new investors into deprived communities. This has been slow now for 3 quarters and it is becoming clear that we will not achieve this target. Following a check on all LEG1 indicators in January 2010, previous results have been updated. The need for this is that the original result of 18 did not include 8 inward invests reported in 2007/08, despite the fact that this indicator is measured cumulatively. Internal processes have been updated to ensure consistency and accuracy in future quarterly reporting.</p>																






City Development Quarter 3 Performance Indicator Report

Appendix 2

	PI Type	Ref	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Predicted Year End Result	Year on Year Direction of Travel	Data Quality
16	Local Indicator	LEGI4i	To create 1,100 jobs and move 800 people from deprived communities in Leeds into employment or self-employment by 2011. Part i: To create 1,100 jobs.	Economic Development	Quarterly Number	Rise	0	449	733	537	687	725	740	Not Applicable	Some concerns
		<p>38 new jobs were created through the Programme in quarter 3. We are on track to exceed the target by the end of the financial year, however the number of jobs is beginning to slow down as the effects of the recession become more apparent.</p> <p>Following a check on all LEGI indicators in January 2010, previous results have been updated. The need for this is that the original result reported did not include 94 jobs created in 2007-08, despite the fact that this indicator is measured cumulatively. Internal processes have been updated to ensure consistency and accuracy in future quarterly reporting.</p>													
17	Local Indicator	LEGI4ii	To create 1,100 jobs and move 800 people from deprived communities in Leeds into employment or self-employment by 2011. Part ii: Move 800 people from deprived communities in Leeds into employment or self-employment	Economic Development	Quarterly Number	Rise	0	338	533	375	458	475	520	Not Applicable	Some concerns
		<p>17 local residents have found employment through the Programme in quarter 3 - either as employees of new start businesses or expansions, or through the support they have received on the Startup Programme. The target may not be achieved this year, as growth continues to slow and as the effects of the recession become more apparent.</p> <p>Following a check on all LEGI indicators in January 2010, previous results have been updated. The need for this is that the original result reported did not include 111 individuals into work in 2007-08, despite the fact that this indicator is measured cumulatively. Internal processes have been updated to ensure consistency and accuracy in future quarterly reporting.</p>													
18	Local Indicator	BV-170C	The number of pupils visiting museums and galleries in organised school groups	Museums and Galleries	Quarterly Numerical	Rise	23,939	35,890	36,608	10,124	15,716	26,332	37,100		No Concerns
		<p>The predicted year result is based on data from the first 3 quarters being, on average, 71% of the full year result. The indicator remains on target.</p>													

City Development Quarter 3 Performance Indicator Report

Appendix 2

PI Type	Ref	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Predicted Year End Result	Year on Year Direction of Travel	Data Quality	
19	Local Indicator	CP-CU50B	Visits to the City Council's cultural facilities - Sport & Active Recreation	Sport and Active Recreation	Quarterly Numerical	Rise	4,552,263	4,552,263	4,293,463	1,125,461	2,246,843	3,401,391	4,545,235		No Concerns
<p>Whilst the predicted end of year result of 4,545,235 is 5.86% above target, it is below last year's actual. The target for 2009/10 phased in the planned capital investment (facility refurbishments, etc.) but the closure of the swimming pool at Kippax due to roof problems was unexpected, and this has had a further negative impact during quarter 3 with visits at Kippax down by more than 50%. Additionally, 2 large sites are closed this year and they contributed during 2008/2009 (Armley was closed for the full financial year and Morley from 6th July 2008). Overall most sites are up at the end of quarter 3 2009/2010 against the previous year. Of the 14 comparable sites 11 sites have increased their throughput comparable to last year and 3 are down (Garforth, Bramley, Rothwell) but by no more than -3.36%. The decreases are marginal and may be due to the bad weather in December.</p>															
20	Local Indicator	LKI-SP9A	The number of swims and other visits (to sport/leisure centres) per 1,000 population	Sport	Quarterly Number	Rise	5,981	5,981	5,582	1,461	2,917	4,416	5,902		No Concerns
<p>This is a sub indicator of CP-CU50B above and assesses visits against the population profile of Leeds. This indicator is a division of throughput and the local population profile based on the latest Office for National Statistics Mid-Year Population Estimates. In 2008, Leeds' population rose to 770,100, which affects the overall calculation (i.e. if the number of visits was "fixed" the increase in population would lead to an overall reduction in visit numbers per head of population).</p>															
21	Local Indicator	LKI CD HW04	The percentage of lighting points across the city in light.	Street Lighting	Monthly %	Rise	98.50%	99.50%	98.75%	98.93%	98.89%	99.03%	98.95%		No Concerns
22	Local Indicator	LKI 215A	The average number of days taken to repair a street lighting fault which is under the control of the local authority	Street Lighting	Quarterly Days	Fall	6.04 Days	4.57 Days	5.00 Days	4.74 Days	4.75 Days	4.93 Days	4.81 days		No Concerns
<p>Despite the bad weather in December, Southern Electrical Contracting have met their performance target for this indicator. A number of factors have contributed to the improvements made including the increased number of patrol and repairs and the newer apparatus in use as a result of the Core Investment Programme.</p>															
23	Local Indicator	LKI 215B	The average time taken to repair a street lighting fault where response time is under the control of a Distribution Network Operator (DNO)	Street Lighting	Quarterly Days	Fall	26.15 Days	43.00 Days	20.00 Days	20.19 Days	13 Days	14.39 Days	15.86 days		No Concerns
<p>The target agreed to by Southern Electrical Contracting is dependent on the performance of Yorkshire Electricity (YE). Performance has improved significantly compared to last year and YE have hit their target. However, longer term, YE will need to commit to investing in their deteriorating underground infrastructure as more supply faults could occur, which may lead to a deterioration in performance. Discussions with OFGEM regarding a national service level agreement are ongoing.</p>															

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Action Tracker Guidance

Introduction

The ‘Action Trackers’ are mostly prepared on a half yearly basis (at quarters 2 and 4)* and are intended to give an organisational ‘snapshot’ view of the progress against the city’s top level priorities as set out in the Leeds Strategic Plan and Council Business Plan. They provide a broader range of information and progress than is provided in the performance indicator results alone. Each improvement priority within the Leeds Strategic Plan and Council Business Plan has been allocated to an **Accountable Officer** whose role is to provide leadership, co-ordinate the activities of contributing officers/partners and evaluate the performance information to ensure the delivery of the improvement priority. An action tracker has been completed for every improvement priority by the Accountable Officer who has provided an overall evaluation of progress to date and an assessment of the direction of travel. Please see below a brief summary of the information that has been provided in each of the sections of the action tracker template.

*For areas of under-performance, or where issues have been highlighted under CAA, the trackers are provided quarterly. Within these “tagged” trackers at quarters 1 and 3 Accountable Officers are given the option to provide a more focused update based on any specific issues raised under CAA where this is appropriate.

Overall Progress Traffic Light and Direction of Travel Ratings Explained

	Progressing as expected – on schedule to complete key actions and meet the targets for key performance indicators. Overall the direction of travel is improving.		Minor delays/issues are having an impact on delivery but remedial action is underway/planned and the key performance indicators results are likely to be on, or close to, target. Overall the direction of travel is improving.		Significant delays or issues to address and unlikely to meet targets for key performance indicators. Overall the direction of travel is improving.
	Progressing as expected – on schedule to complete key actions and meet the targets for key performance indicators. Overall the direction of travel is static.		Minor delays/issues are having an impact on delivery but remedial action is underway/planned and the key performance indicators results are likely to be on, or close to, target. Overall the direction of travel is static.		Significant delays or issues to address and unlikely to meet targets for key performance indicators. Overall the direction of travel is static.
	Progressing as expected – on schedule to complete key actions and meet the targets for key performance indicators. Overall the performance is deteriorating.		Minor delays/issues are having an impact on delivery but remedial action is underway/planned and the key performance indicators results are likely to be on, or close to, target. Overall the performance is deteriorating.		Significant delays or issues to address and unlikely to meet targets for key performance indicators. Overall the performance is deteriorating.

Why is this a Priority?	This section provides a brief comment on why this improvement area is a priority. For example it may be to address poor performance particularly in comparison to other similar cities, be a Government priority or it may address a specific local need / inequality etc. A black diamond denotes that this is a “tagged” or high risk tracker which is produced quarterly.
Graphs	This section presents one or two of the aligned performance indicators as a graph. The graph will include information such as past and present performance and future targets
Overall Summary	This section provides an overall summary analysis of the progress to date - taking a view based on all the information provided in the action tracker including the results for the aligned performance indicators. This section should provide a clear explanation for the overall traffic light and direction of travel ratings.
Achievements since the last report	This section provides details of the key achievements/outcomes delivered in the last 6 months. For many improvement priorities there will be a large number of actions and activities but this section will only include the most important high level achievements.
Challenges/Risks	This section sets out any key risks or challenges that may prevent the delivery of the improvement priority.
Council/Partnership Groups	This outlines at which key council or partnership group the Action Tracker has been discussed and/or approved.
Key Actions for the next 6 months	This section provides a summary of next steps/key actions which are due to be carried out over the coming 6 months. Again these are limited to the most important and high level activities and where possible focus on what the impact/outcome will be. For each action/activity the contributory officer/partner responsible for leading this work, any milestones and timescales are included.
Performance Indicator Information	In this section the results for the aligned performance indicators for this improvement priority are presented including the target and are traffic lighted both for the result itself and for data quality. NB Additional performance information is presented in appendix 4.

Accountability Reporting Guidance

Column Title	Description
PI Type	<p>The PI Type column describes which basket each indicator belongs to. A basket is a set of indicators which we use to report on progress relating to different plans or frameworks, such as the Leeds Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Leeds Strategic Plan Government Agreed - These indicators show progress against the Leeds Strategic Plan and also form our Local Area Agreement.</p> <p>Leeds Strategic Plan Partnership Agreed - These indicators are the locally agreed priorities included in the Leeds Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Business Plan - These are indicators that form part of the Council Business Plan.</p> <p>National Indicator - These indicators are part of the set that are used to measure local government performance.</p> <p>Local Indicator - These are local key indicators for Leeds set by specific service areas.</p>
Reference	Each indicator has a unique reference number.
Title	This is the title given to the indicator.
Service	The service column identifies which team within the Council is responsible for service delivery, monitoring the performance and data quality of each indicator.
Frequency & Measure	<p>The top line in this column identifies how often we collect this information. This may be every month, every three months (quarterly) or once a year (annually). We only report annual indicators at the end of quarter 4 (after the end of March).</p> <p>The second line in this column identifies what measure we use to check on progress. For example, we might measure this result in the number of days or weeks we should take to finish something, such as a planning application. In another case, we might measure the percentage, such as the percentage of enquiries we respond to within five minutes.</p>
Rise or Fall	The good performance column identifies if the results should go up or down to show whether we are doing well. For example, if this is set to rise, you would expect the figures to increase.
Baseline	The baseline column provides a base result for the indicator against which progress can be measured. This is usually based on performance at a specific time in the past. E.g. a previous year.
Last Year Result	This column displays the result at the end of the previous financial year (31 March 2009).
Target	This column shows the target we have agreed for this financial year.
Quarter	This column identifies the result at the end of the quarter.

Appendix 1 & 2 Guidance Notes

Predicted Full Year Result	Directorates use this column to show how well they expect to do at the end of the year. They forecast this position depending on the current performance of each indicator. This figure may change each quarter depending on the performance over time of the indicator. We use this figure as one method to inform whether an indicator is red, amber or green.	
	The green light shows that the Directorate predicts this indicator WILL meet its target. The Directorate uses current performance information to make this forecast.	
	An amber traffic light shows that the Directorate predicts this indicator will not meet its target. However, the performance for this indicator is still acceptable and will not result in significant problems. The Directorate uses current performance information to make this forecast.	
	The red lights shows that the Directorate predicts this indicator WILL NOT meet its target at the end of the year. The Directorate uses current performance information to make this forecast.	
Direction of Travel	An upwards arrow indicates that the 2009/10 result is forecast to be an improvement in performance compared to the 2008/09 result	↑
	A sideways arrow indicates that the 2009/10 result is forecast to be at the same level of performance compared to the 2008/09 result.	↔
	A downwards arrow indicates that the 2009/10 result is forecast to be decline in performance compared to the 2008/09 result	↓
Data Quality	To know we can rely on the information in these reports, it has to be of good quality. Directorates use this column to identify indicators where they have concerns about the quality of the information or data in the report. If a Directorate has Some or Significant concerns regarding Data Quality there will be an explanation in the comments field.	
	No Concerns indicates that the Directorate has signed off the data as accurate.	No Concerns
	If Some Concerns has been chosen, the Directorate has concerns about the data and are working to ensure it is accurate and reliable.	Some Concerns
	If Significant Concerns has been chosen, the Directorate thinks that the quality of the data may not be good or that maybe they have not got the correct data.	Significant Concerns
Comments	The comments for each indicator should explain why performance varies. They should also highlight if there are any problems with the quality of the data and what steps the Directorate is taking to improve it. This section will also focus on what will be done to improve the actions and state what outcomes they have achieved.	

Leeds

Area Assessment

Dated 9 December 2009



oneplace

for an independent overview
of local public services

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Leeds at a glance

This independent assessment by six inspectorates sets out how well local public services are tackling the major issues in Leeds. It says how well they are delivering better results for local people and how likely these are to improve in future. If, and only if, our assessment shows that the following special circumstances are met in relation to a major issue, we use flags to highlight our judgements. We use a green flag to highlight where others can learn from outstanding achievements or improvements or an innovation that has very promising prospects of success. We use a red flag to highlight where we have significant concerns about results and future prospects that are not being tackled adequately. This means that local partners need to do something more or different to improve these prospects.

Green flags - exceptional performance or innovation that others can learn from

-  Green flag: People in deprived communities benefiting from Leeds' economic growth - Leeds Ahead

Red flags - significant concerns, action needed

-  Red flag: Keeping vulnerable children and young people safe
-  Red flag: Burglary in parts of Leeds

The local area

Over 750,000 people live in Leeds. The economy has grown quickly over the past ten years. The city has changed from being mainly industrial into an important business, finance and legal centre.

The population has been increasing quickly. It is very diverse, with over 130 nationalities including a black and minority ethnic population of just under 11 per cent. It is an area of great contrasts. It includes rural areas like Harewood and Wetherby, where most people are relatively well-off. It also includes densely populated, inner city areas where people are poorer and housing quality is a big problem. Although improving, the health of people in Leeds is generally worse than the national average, with big differences across the city.

The next section tells you how Leeds's public services are doing in each of their local priority areas.

How is Leeds doing?

CULTURE: Enable more people to be involved in sport and culture, and facilitate delivery of major cultural schemes

More people than ever before are using cultural and leisure facilities in Leeds. The Grand Theatre, Art Gallery and Central Library have been refurbished. New, popular attractions such as the City Museum have been opened. Visits to museums and galleries nearly doubled to just under one million, although visits to libraries fell slightly. The number of adults being active and participating in sports rose by nearly eight per cent in the year to October 2008 - one of the largest increases in the country. Prospects for improvement are good. Plans are well advanced to build the Leeds Arena - a 12,500 seat multi-purpose venue which is a high priority for residents and local businesses. There are also plans to improve and relocate leisure centres. But the benefits of this investment are not being felt consistently by all Leeds people. Satisfaction with libraries, theatres and concert halls, and open spaces, has fallen. Whilst many residents regularly use services, a quarter of Place Survey respondents has never used them. Partners need to do more to ensure that cultural facilities are used by all the people of Leeds.

ENTERPRISE AND THE ECONOMY: Increase innovation, promotion of the City and facilitate major city centre developments.

Leeds has responded well to the recession. As with other major cities, the recession has affected Leeds, particularly developments in the city centre. In response, local public services have reviewed their priorities and are focussing on the development of the Arena, new retail developments at Trinity Quarter and improving Leeds Bradford airport. This clear approach gives confidence to investors, developers and residents that the city is in good shape to overcome the recession.

Partners have a clear ambition to help drive the region's economic growth. They are on track and are successfully developing the city's economy and reputation. Until the recession hit, employment was increasing, as was the number of people using the city's shops, cultural and leisure facilities. Partners have a detailed understanding of the city and wider city-regional economy. They have identified the new facilities needed to achieve Leeds' ambitions, including the Arena and improved transport into the city. This places the city well to continue to grow.

People in more deprived communities have benefited from Leeds' economic growth through 'Leeds Ahead'. Leeds Ahead is a social enterprise that works

with the Leeds Initiative to involve Leeds businesses in innovative joint work between public, community and business sectors. It has encouraged enterprise, improved skills and attainment and raised the aspirations of people in disadvantaged communities.

ENVIRONMENT: Increase recycling, reduce emissions, improve cleanliness and access, improve sustainability of the built and natural environment and improve our resilience to current and future climate change.

Note: At the time of this assessment, industrial action had disrupted refuse collections for several weeks. The impact of this on recycling rates and street cleanliness was not yet known.

People in Leeds continue to produce less waste than most parts of the country. In the past Leeds has not been good at recycling, but over 30 per cent of waste is now being recycled, re-used or composted. This is less than most other areas, but is likely to get better as more garden waste is being recycled and the Council has invested in more kerbside collections. Streets are now cleaner and public access to footpaths and other rights of way has improved.

Work to reduce carbon emissions from public sector buildings is still at an early stage. Partners have started to prepare for the possible effects of Climate Change and have recently agreed a Climate Change Strategy for the city. They plan to invest in projects to cope with possible floods. A big challenge for Leeds is to balance its ambitions for economic growth, for example the expansion of Leeds-Bradford airport, with its ambitions to reduce carbon emissions. Partners need to speed up their efforts to combat climate change. They also need to get better at measuring the results of their work to improve the environment.

HARMONIOUS COMMUNITIES: increased local engagement and empowerment to establish increased sense of belonging and enable vibrant communities.

Fewer people in Leeds than in 2006/07 feel that people from different backgrounds get on well. There are big differences within Leeds, with people in the east, south and west much less positive than those in the north. The Council and its partners have done a lot of work to try and improve how well people get on, but it is not always clear whether this is making a difference.

Resident satisfaction varies widely depending on where you live in Leeds. People in the north east of the city are much more likely to be satisfied with their area than people in the south or west. There are likely to be even bigger differences, which are hidden within these fairly large districts of the city. Local public services are carrying out a much more detailed residents' survey to try and understand better these differences. They are also developing a 'Neighbourhood Index' to give them a better understanding of individual neighbourhoods.

HEALTH AND WELL BEING: reduce mortality in the most deprived areas and improve assessment, access to services and support to vulnerable people.

Some vulnerable children and young people are not being kept safe from harm in Leeds. A recent inspection found that discussions between the Council, police and other agencies do not take place quickly enough and children are not always seen by professionals, even when there are concerns about their safety. Key procedures are out of date and the speed and quality of assessments varies too much.

Older people in Leeds are happier than in most similar areas. More than 80 per cent of people over 65 said that they were satisfied with their home and neighbourhood. Most people have a choice about the care that they receive and more people than average are supported to live independently. Arrangements to make sure that vulnerable adults are kept safe have been improved, but further work is needed to make sure that they are having an impact.

People in Leeds are living longer than ever before. Early deaths from cancer are decreasing. Fewer adults in Leeds are obese than the national average and more are physically active. But there are big differences in health across the city. For example, an average man in City and Hunslet will die just over 10 years earlier than an average man in Harewood. NHS Leeds, the Council and other organisations are working to try and improve this. They are targeting work more effectively on vulnerable communities, but there is still more to do.

LEARNING: improve workforce skills, learning outcomes and engagement of vulnerable groups.

Most children in Leeds achieve well at school, but progress is inconsistent. At Key Stage 2 results fell in both English and maths and the number of schools not hitting government targets is not getting better. The number of pupils getting good GCSEs is around the national average. Whilst some schools recorded big improvements in GCSE results some slipped back.

Progress for some groups is particularly slow. For example Asian pupils perform well below the national average. Behaviour in some secondary schools is not as good as it should be and despite improvements, the rate of persistent absence in some schools is still too high. 9.5 per cent of young people are not in education, employment or training (NEET). Prospects for improvement are promising, as support is being targeted on the individuals and groups who most need it.

THRIVING PLACES: Increase numbers of decent and affordable homes, reduce homelessness and fuel poverty. Create a safer environment, reduce worklessness and develop services to improve to support children, families and communities.

Most types of crime have fallen in Leeds, including some that people are most concerned about, such as violent crime. Most people feel safe in their local area after dark and fewer people see drug dealing as a big problem. But burglary is very high in parts of Leeds like Harehills, Beeston, Armley and Headingley. In some cases, it is up to three times the national average. The police and Council are working together with probation and the courts to try and reduce burglary in Leeds. There has been some recent improvement, but this trend must continue over a longer period to demonstrate that there are strong prospects for continued improvement.

Housing is a problem in the poorer parts of Leeds. Many people living in rented housing in the private sector are living in over-crowded accommodation. Partners have worked hard to try and increase the number of affordable houses. The quality of public sector housing is improving. Fewer people are homeless than before in Leeds, and numbers continue to fall. But the latest official figures show that over 24,000 people are on the waiting list for housing.

Many people in Leeds do not have basic skills, and getting people into work in the poorer areas of the city is a problem. Unemployment is over 10 per cent in some parts of Leeds, compared to a city wide average of less than three per cent. Up to 30 per cent of people are either unemployed or unable to work in some inner city areas. Partners are taking a lot of action to try and help people into work, but recognise that they still need to do more to improve things.

TRANSPORT: Improve public transport services in Leeds, condition of the

transport infrastructure and road safety.

In 2004, Leeds people said that public transport was the most important thing for the future of Leeds. Since then, progress has been relatively slow. Some improvements have been made. Bus shelters and train stations are better and new bus lanes mean that buses run faster and services are more convenient for passengers. But bus usage is not meeting targets, and passengers are no happier than before about bus services.

Roads and pavements in Leeds have got better. In 2007, local people said that repairing roads and pavements was their top priority for improvement. Since then, the Council has increased spending. Fewer people now see repairs as a big problem.

Reducing congestion was also a big priority for Leeds people in 2007. Access to the city has been improved through new roads. More people are leaving their cars at home when they travel into Leeds in the morning peak, and more people cycle to work. Prospects for improvement are mixed. Congestion remains a problem on many roads. Plans for the future include 'New Generation Transport'. This includes a trolley-bus system which could significantly improve public transport.

About Leeds

A recent survey shows that in Leeds 79 per cent of people are satisfied with their immediate local area as a place to live. This is broadly the same as the average for similar areas and broadly the same as the national average of 81 per cent.

Over 750,000 people live in Leeds - making it the largest city in Yorkshire and Humberside. The economy has grown quickly over the past ten years. The city has changed from being a mainly industrial city into an important business, finance and legal centre. It is at the centre of the 'Leeds City Region'.

The population has been increasing quickly. It is forecast to continue to grow, particularly the number of people aged over 65. Leeds is very diverse, with over 130 nationalities, including a black and minority ethnic population of just under 11 per cent. It is an area of great contrasts. It includes rural areas like Harewood and Wetherby, where most people are relatively well-off. It also includes densely populated, inner city areas where people are poorer and housing quality is a big problem. Although improving, the health of people in Leeds is generally worse than the national average, with big differences across the city.

Leeds was the 85th most deprived area in England in 2007- an improvement on 2004 when it was 63rd. But parts of Leeds are still very deprived. Over 150,000 people live in areas which are amongst the 10 per cent most deprived in the country. 'Narrowing the gap' between the prosperous parts of Leeds and the less well-off inner city areas is one of the big challenges for the city.

The Council, NHS, other public services like the police, fire and probation,

voluntary organisations and businesses, work together as 'The Leeds Initiative' to improve the quality of life for people in Leeds. Partners share a vision 'to bring the benefits of a prosperous, vibrant and attractive city to all the people of Leeds'. They have ambitions of 'Going up a league' economically and in quality of life and 'Narrowing the gap' between the richer and poorer parts of Leeds.

How well do priorities for Leeds express community needs and aspirations?

The Leeds Initiative has a good understanding of the big issues affecting people in Leeds. A wide range of people and groups were involved in establishing the Vision for Leeds and in agreeing priorities for the city. Many of the things that people have identified as important in the past have seen big improvements. Most types of crime have fallen and roads and pavements have got better. People in Leeds feel safer than they did two years ago.

One Leeds' big ambitions is to go up a league economically and in quality of life. It's prospects for doing so are promising. The other big ambition is narrowing the gap between the richer and poorer parts of the city. Over the last three years, there has been some progress in narrowing this gap. But the Place Survey showed big differences in satisfaction between the most and least deprived parts of Leeds. Development of a Leeds 'Neighbourhood Index' will help local public services understand what is needed to narrow gaps more effectively.

Public sector organisations in Leeds carry out a lot of consultation with people. They also collect a lot of detailed statistical information about Leeds. At the moment, they tend to do this as individual organisations rather than together. This means that information is not always used as effectively as it might be. It also means that people might be asked about the same issues by different organisations. Local public services have recognised the need to work together more closely to improve how they consult people in Leeds.

Partnership working is well established. Partners are looking to improve it further by being clearer about roles and responsibilities. The pace of improvement would also be improved by more effective performance management - challenging quickly where things are not going well and putting them right. The partnership recognises the need to improve its approach to ensuring value for money. It has set up the Public Sector Resources Partnership Group to try and make sure that it spends money in the best way possible. The Group provides public service partners with the opportunity to ensure that their work is subject to detailed evaluation to ensure that it provides good value for money.

Leeds is at the centre of the Leeds City Region. This involves 11 local authorities from across North, South and West Yorkshire working together on big issues like regeneration, skills and housing. The City Region has been given special status by the government to make changes to the way that councils and their partners minimise the impact of the downturn and speed up recovery. The challenge for the City Region will be to make sure that these

changes have an impact on people's lives.


CULTURE: Enable more people to be involved in sport and culture, and facilitate delivery of major cultural schemes

More people than ever before are using cultural and leisure facilities in Leeds. Free events like 'Opera in the Park' and 'Party in the Park' attracted record audiences in 2009. The Council has spent money on refurbishing the Grand Theatre, Art Gallery and Central Library. It has also opened new attractions such as the City Museum and Kirkstall Abbey visitor centre. The museum attracted nearly 200,000 visitors in the first six months. This investment led to visits to museums and galleries nearly doubling to just under one million, although visits to libraries fell slightly. Eight per cent more adults were active and participated in sports - one of the largest increases in the country. There is a comprehensive programme of Sport and Active Recreation for disabled service users.

Although there is concern about the impact of the recession on future plans, the Council and partners are working to improve facilities further and prospects for improvement are good. There are plans to improve the City Varieties theatre and the Northern Ballet. Plans are well advanced to build and open the Leeds Arena - a 12,500 seat multi-purpose venue in the heart of the city - which is a high priority for residents and local businesses. There are also plans to improve and relocate leisure centres, to provide a wider range of facilities and make them easier to get to.

But the benefits of this investment are not being felt consistently by Leeds people. Satisfaction with libraries, theatres and concert halls and open spaces has fallen. Whilst many residents regularly use services, a quarter of Place Survey respondents have never used leisure facilities. Partners need to do more to ensure that cultural facilities are accessible by all the people of Leeds.

ENTERPRISE AND THE ECONOMY: Increase innovation, promotion of the City and facilitate major city centre developments.

 **Green flag: People in deprived communities benefiting from Leeds' economic growth - Leeds Ahead**

People in more deprived communities have benefited from Leeds' economic growth through 'Leeds Ahead'. It has encouraged enterprise, improved skills and attainment and raised the aspirations of people in disadvantaged communities. Businesses have become valued members of local communities.

Leeds Ahead has engaged with nearly 200 local businesses. These businesses have invested more than £500,000 and donated 13,000 hours of voluntary support, through 460 separate projects. The work has benefited 147 different community partners and helped more than 12,000 of the 75,000 most deprived people in the city.

Leeds Ahead is a social enterprise that works with the Leeds Initiative to involve Leeds' businesses in innovative joint work between public, community and business sectors. Before 2007, businesses helped support local communities in an unco-ordinated way. The Leeds Ahead approach has ensured that support is better directed to what is important for local people. Relationships with local communities are long-term, rather than one-off. Businesses have better ownership and understanding of local needs. Employees stay in their jobs for longer, businesses are financially stronger and have better links with local partners. As a result, businesses enjoy better goodwill and reputation benefiting local people and the places in which they live.

Pupils in inner city schools have been helped with maths and english through mentoring by employees of a major law firm. Exam results in targeted schools have increased and in one school the number of children getting five GCSEs at A-C grade, including maths and english, has increased from 20 to 53 per cent. Mentoring schemes have helped increase the participation of young people in positive activities, improved school attendance rates and attitudes to learning. Higher aspirations for achievement, work, careers and enterprise offer to break cycles of deprivation and reliance on state benefits.

Businesses have provided specialist advice, support and other forms of help to local communities. In a local prison, their input has helped to engage prisoners in the world of work, to get them a job and so contribute to local society. Initiatives have supported economic regeneration by providing opportunities for work experience, and training to improve general work, entrepreneurial and business management skills. Community development projects have been helped to increase local project design and delivery skills. Council employees have also gained from Leeds Ahead. They are now better engaged with, and understand, the needs of people in deprived areas.

This has improved the prospects, community cohesion and confidence of many people in the most disadvantaged communities in Leeds. Marginalised groups have been re-integrated. Families in poverty have gained the opportunity to become more independent and financially secure. People now have greater pride, sense of belonging and achievement in their local communities.

ENTERPRISE AND THE ECONOMY: Increase innovation, promotion of the City and facilitate major city centre developments.

As with all major cities, the recession has affected Leeds, particularly developments in the city centre. As a result, it has reviewed its priorities and is focusing on the development of the Arena, City Park, city centre improvements, new retail developments at Trinity Quarter and the expansion of Leeds Bradford airport. This clear approach gives confidence to investors, developers and residents that the city is in good shape to overcome the

recession.

Leeds has responded well to the recession. Local public services understand how it has affected individuals, business and areas. They have provided targeted help to those most affected, including advice and support to the recently unemployed. Public and private sector business support services have been located together in White Rose House. New businesses have been supported in deprived communities through the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI).

Partners have a clear ambition for the Leeds economy to help drive the wider economies of the region. They are on track to deliver this goal and are successfully developing the city's economy and reputation. Until the recession hit, employment was increasing, as was the number of people using the city's shops, cultural and leisure facilities. Partners have a detailed understanding of the city and wider city-regional economy and have identified the facilities the city must have if its economic ambitions are to be realised, including the Arena and improved transport into the city. The business, voluntary and community sectors have been closely involved in setting priorities and in decision making.

Prospects for the future are promising. Partners have ambitions of 'Going up a league' economically and in quality of life. Good progress has been made on raising the profile of Leeds as an international city and a new economic strategy is being developed to support this. Leeds' role at the centre of the Leeds City region places it well to take advantage of new opportunities and to continue to grow its economy.

ENVIRONMENT: Increase recycling, reduce emissions, improve cleanliness and access, improve sustainability of the built and natural environment and improve our resilience to current and future climate change.

Note: At the time of this assessment, industrial action had disrupted refuse collections for several weeks. The impact of this on recycling rates and street cleanliness was not yet known.

Leeds has improved its waste recycling and over 30 per cent of it is now being recycled, re-used or composted. This is less than most other areas, but is likely to get better as more garden waste is recycled and there are more kerbside collections. The Council has spent significant amounts of money to reduce the amount of waste produced by people in Leeds and the amount that is sent for recycling. People in Leeds now produce less waste than most parts of the country. The Council's Integrated Waste Strategy is a comprehensive approach which aims to maintain progress and meet the long-term demands of the Government and the European Union.

Streets are cleaner than they were and public access to footpaths and rights of way has improved. Other work to improve the environment has included the crime and grime initiative and the Graffiti Charter. The Council is reviewing its environmental performance and plans to invest in areas like improved street cleaning.

Work has been started to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from public sector buildings and day to day activities, and to encourage businesses to do likewise. For instance, Housing Associations have put energy-efficiency upgrades into 3,350 properties, the Council has set up a £1 million fund to improve its buildings between 2008 and 2010, and its Fuelsavers Team is helping people to get grants for home improvements. Although work is taking place to deliver biomass, solar and wind projects there is only a piecemeal approach to reduce carbon emissions. A lot of work is focused on understanding current levels of CO₂ emissions and how to measure levels accurately in the future. This will provide a clearer picture of what can be done to reduce CO₂ emissions between 2010 and 2012 and in the longer-term.

Partners are in the early stages of preparing for the possible impacts of Climate Change. They have recently agreed a Climate Change Strategy for the city. They have set aside funds for projects to cope with possible floods and set up a Programme Board to strengthen focus and leadership. But partners are not yet able to demonstrate clear results from much of the work to improve the environment. The newly-produced Climate Change Strategy has not yet been translated into a detailed, prioritised action and delivery plan. The contribution of other partners, including business, is not yet clear. One of the big challenges for Leeds is how it balances its ambitions for economic growth, for example the expansion of Leeds-Bradford airport, with its ambitions to reduce carbon emissions. We will follow up progress on environmental issues later in the year.

HARMONIOUS COMMUNITIES: increased local engagement and empowerment to establish increased sense of belonging and enable vibrant communities.

Fewer people in Leeds feel that people from different backgrounds get on well than in 2006/07. There are big differences within Leeds, with people in East, South and West much less positive than those in the North of the City. Local public services have a programme of work to improve relations between different groups. This includes the Safer Schools Partnership, which places safer schools officers in high schools to work with young people on issues like racial tolerance.

Community Cohesion pilots are being carried out in three areas where there are particular tensions between different communities - Armley, Chapeltown/Harehills and Middleton. Work in these areas focuses on trying to help people to get on better together, rather than addressing some of the underlying inequalities that create tensions between communities. It is not

clear how 'narrowing the gap' work to reduce inequalities is integrated with partners' ambitions to build more harmonious communities. A Leeds 'Neighbourhood Index' is being developed to help local public services understand the specific issues facing different communities, how best to tackle them and how to measure if they have made a difference.

The most recent Place Survey showed that satisfaction levels in Leeds compare well with similar cities. Older people in particular are more satisfied than elsewhere, with over 80 per cent saying that they are satisfied or very satisfied. But there are big differences depending on where you live in Leeds. People in the North East of the city, are much more likely to be satisfied with their area than people in the South or West. It is likely that this hides even bigger differences within these fairly large parts of the city. The recent place survey shows a mixed picture on how well people in Leeds are involved in their local communities. Fewer people in Leeds than other big cities participate in civic activities, and there has been a big fall in the number of people who know how they can get involved in local decision making. On the other hand, the number of people who felt that they could influence decisions has increased. Local public services are carrying out a much more detailed residents' survey to try and understand better the differences within the city.

HEALTH AND WELL BEING: reduce mortality in the most deprived areas and improve assessment, access to services and support to vulnerable people.



Red flag: Keeping vulnerable children and young people safe

Some vulnerable children and young people are not being kept safe from harm in Leeds. An inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements - the first point of contact for referring children who might be at risk - found that child protection referrals do not ensure that children are adequately safeguarded. Discussions between the Council, police and other agencies do not take place quickly enough and children are not always seen, even when there are concerns about their safety.

Inspectors found that key procedures were out of date and that different child protection teams adopted different approaches. The quality of assessments and the time taken to complete them varied too much. They found that record keeping was poor. Some children were identified as having been left at potential risk of serious harm.

The inspectors also had concerns that the systems for ensuring that the service is working properly were not good enough and were not helping the service to get better.

There are other problems with keeping vulnerable children and young people safe. The number of children admitted to hospital because of unintentional and deliberate injuries is increasing and is higher than the national average.

Inspectors also found in 2007 that safeguarding is inadequate in the private fostering service, which has yet to be re-inspected.

Some of these issues have been raised in previous inspection reports, but the Council and its partners have been slow to respond to concerns.

The Council responded quickly to the concerns raised in the unannounced inspection and prepared an action plan in response to the findings. It is too soon to judge whether these actions are enough to ensure that vulnerable children in Leeds are safe from harm.

What's being done in response?

Since the unannounced inspection, Leeds has accelerated its improvement plans to respond to the issues identified. Partners have taken immediate action to:

- add significantly to the management and leadership in children's social care;
- invest in an additional 12 senior social workers and 10 administrative staff to support front line workers;
- ensure that all children identified by the Ofsted inspectors as being potentially at risk of serious harm are safe;
- review all cases of potential harm or neglect reported since 1st April 2009 which did not progress to initial child protection conferences, and ensure that any concerns identified in the files are addressed;
- agree revised thresholds for action across the partnership and launch new materials across all agencies to support this. The guidance and publicity materials adopt a 'no closed doors' approach, in order to ensure that needs are met at the right level for children, young people and their families
- implement a revised Child Protection Enquiry process;
- introduce a professional triage system for referrals in the Contact centre;
- start a process to both improve and quality assure decision making processes; and
- conduct fortnightly staff seminars in social care to focus on quality of service delivery (topics have included: inspection findings, revised Child Protection Enquiry processes, learning from serious Case Reviews and quality assurance).

HEALTH AND WELL BEING: reduce mortality in the most deprived areas and improve assessment, access to services and support to vulnerable people.

Older people in Leeds are happier than in most similar areas. More than 80 per cent of people over 65 said that they were satisfied with their home and neighbourhood. Most people have a choice about the care that they receive and more people than average are supported to live independently. For

example, the Independent Living Project has helped people with a learning disability and adults with mental health needs in Leeds to live more independent lives. But people do have to wait longer in Leeds for minor alterations to their home. The Council provides good information and support to help people maximise benefits and pensions. It helped people to claim nearly £11 million in extra benefits in 2009.

Arrangements to make sure that vulnerable adults are kept safe have been improved. New staff have been recruited and more training provided to existing staff. Partners are working better together to help ensure that vulnerable people are safe and work has already been done to ensure that the new procedures are working. Further work is needed to make sure that they are having an impact.

People in Leeds are living longer than ever before. Early deaths from cancer are decreasing. Fewer adults in Leeds are obese than the national average and more are physically active. But there are other problems. Although recently there has been a slight drop, more teenagers become pregnant in Leeds than the national average. Leeds also has higher rates of binge drinking than other parts of the country.

There are big differences in health across the city. An average man in City and Hunslet will die just over 10 years earlier than an average man in Harewood. Women in City and Hunslet can expect to live almost nine and a half years less than women in Adel/Wharfedale. NHS Leeds, the Council and other organisations are working to try and improve this through a more systematic approach and by focusing on helping the most vulnerable communities. We will be following up progress on this as part of next year's assessment.

Deaths from smoking are higher than the national average, so reducing the number of smokers is a priority. The number of people who smoke in Leeds is reducing, particularly in the most deprived areas where, like most big cities, more people smoke. But there are still one and a half times as many smokers in deprived areas than in Leeds' more affluent areas. As in most big cities, more babies die young in Leeds than the national average. NHS Leeds is taking action to improve this, and is targeting neighbourhoods like Beeston and Chapeltown which have the worst problems.

LEARNING: improve workforce skills, learning outcomes and engagement of vulnerable groups.

Most children in Leeds achieve well at school, but progress is inconsistent. Achievement is not improving for the youngest children and is not as good as for children elsewhere. At Key Stage 2 results fell in both English and maths and the number of schools not hitting government targets is not getting better. Recent information from the Council shows the number of pupils getting five A-Cs at GCSE including maths and English remained at just over 46 per cent - the same as in 2008 - after increasing in the previous years from just over 40 per cent in 2006. Whilst some schools in Leeds recorded big

improvements in GCSE results some slipped back and six schools failed to meet the government target for 2011. Of these, one closed to become an academy and two closed to emerge as a new school.

Progress for some groups is particularly slow. For example, at key stages 2 and 4 Asian pupils perform well below the national average. The gap in achievement between Asian groups and the Leeds average for GCSEs including maths and English increased between 2006 and 2008.

Behaviour in some secondary schools is often only satisfactory and despite improvements, the rate of persistent absence in some schools is still too high. Nearly 10 per cent of young people are not in education, employment or training (NEET). There are high numbers from minority ethnic groups who are NEET progress to improve this has been slow.

More people in Leeds lack Level 2 skills than in other parts of the country, and the gap with national figures is not narrowing. Level 2 skills cover a wide range of academic and vocational qualifications that are designed to help people's employment prospects. Achievement of these level 2 qualifications by the age of 19 is below national averages, but improving.

Prospects for improving learning are promising, as more action is being taken to target support on the individuals and groups who most need it. We will monitor progress on this as part of the 2010 assessment.

THRIVING PLACES: Increase numbers of decent and affordable homes, reduce homelessness and fuel poverty. Create a safer environment, reduce worklessness and develop services to improve to support children, families and communities.



Red flag: Burglary in parts of Leeds

Burglary rates in Leeds are amongst the highest in the country. In some parts of Leeds, they are three times the national average. Burglary is particularly high in deprived areas like Beeston, Harehills, and Armley. Areas with high student populations also suffer, such as Headingley, where burglary was nearly nine times higher than in Wetherby in 2008/09.

Overall burglary across Leeds reduced from over 16,300 offences in 2002/03 to 9,248 in 2008/09. But it has increased for each of the last three years, at a time when the national trend has been downwards. Public service partners including the police have been slow to respond to this.

Partners recognise that they must make better use of intelligence to identify high risk offenders. They also know that they must target their efforts

effectively at local level rather than take a 'blanket' approach to dealing with the problem. Partners need to work better with the criminal justice system to try and ensure that offenders are given the right sentences and are properly supervised when they leave prison.

There are particular problems with young offenders - Leeds has a higher proportion of younger offenders than average. Most detected burglaries in Leeds are carried out by males under the age of 21. The Safer Leeds Partnership's figures show that just under a half of all offenders are aged between 15 and 19. The high number of young people not in education, employment or training and high rates of persistent absence in secondary schools highlight problems around the engagement of young people in positive activities.

The Partnership has identified the need to do further work to target socially excluded young people, provide the right level of support and improve how the management of young offenders is co-ordinated. This means sharing information on exclusions and persistent absence from school, identifying families that need the highest levels of support and targeting youth services and supervision. The Safer Schools Partnerships provides a good opportunity to make these links more effectively.

The police and council are working together with the probation service and the courts to try and reduce burglary, but this is not yet having a big impact. Actions include making properties more difficult to break into, improved street lighting, providing activities for youths and targeting prolific offenders. There has been some recent improvement, but this trend must continue over a longer period to deliver the very big improvements which are needed to reduce the wide gap between Leeds and similar areas.

What's being done in response?

Key public service partners in Leeds recognise that burglary is an area of concern and that rates are too high. Burglary action plans include a wide range of activity aimed at reducing burglary, but some of the plans are still under development. Work is being done through the Burglary Improvement Team to improve how burglary is tackled, but this work is not yet complete

Safer Leeds has incorporated best practice from better performing areas into its action plans.. Partners have developed a joint intelligence function and tasking process to support the identification and management of offenders. This is reducing the reoffending of the most prolific offenders and coordinates the resources of all partners to target the offenders who are identified as causing the most harm to communities.

These actions are starting to reduce burglary and detection rates have improved. Discussions are continuing about how to deliver the very big improvements which are needed. We'll update this section with more detailed information when it is agreed.

THRIVING PLACES: Increase numbers of decent and affordable homes, reduce homelessness and fuel poverty. Create a safer environment, reduce worklessness and develop services to improve to support children, families and communities.

Apart from burglary, many types of crime have fallen in Leeds, including some that people are most concerned about, such as violent crime and car theft. In general, people feel that Leeds is becoming safer. More people feel safe in their local area after dark than two years ago and significantly fewer people see drug dealing as a big problem. Fewer people than in other big cities feel that anti-social behaviour is a problem, whilst more people feel that public services are working well to make Leeds safer.

The number of serious assaults fell by nearly seven per cent in 2008/09 - with 426 fewer offences than the previous year. This has been helped by targeting efforts on 'hotspot' pubs and bars in the city, including a more visible uniformed police presence and stronger licensing enforcement. Special powers have been used to restrict drinking alcohol on the streets. This has reduced levels of street drinking. Plastic glasses have been introduced in some bars and pubs to reduce injuries. A recent survey showed that fewer people in Leeds than other big cities see drunk and rowdy behaviour as a big problem and levels of concern have not increased in the last two years. More young offenders re-offend in Leeds than in similar areas, but the Youth Offending Service works reasonably well.

Anti-social behaviour by problem families has been reduced. 'Signpost' works closely with families who are prolific and persistent perpetrators. It helps up to 98 families at any time, also helping with access to other services, for example health, housing and benefits. The families are fairly chaotic and often have problems including alcohol & substance misuse and domestic violence. Anti-social behaviour fell in nearly 9 out of 10 families who completed the programme. In half the families, criminal behaviour fell and school attendance improved significantly. The recent place survey showed that fewer people in Leeds feel that anti-social behaviour is a problem than in most big cities.

Housing is a problem in parts of Leeds. Many people in private rented housing are living in over crowded accommodation. The latest official figures show that over 24,000 people are on the waiting list for housing. Fewer people than before turn down the public sector houses they are offered as unsuitable, but the rate is still too high. This suggests that the system to provide choice does not work as well as it should.

Local public services have worked hard to try and increase the number of affordable houses. Funding has been agreed to deliver affordable housing as part of the East Leeds regeneration scheme. Planning policies have been strengthened to ensure that 30 per cent of all new housing developments include properties that people on lower incomes can afford. The quality of public sector housing is improving. All homes are set to meet the government's 'decent homes' standard by 2010/11. Fewer people than before are homeless in Leeds, and numbers continue to fall. Private sector tenancies are being used as an alternative to becoming homeless. The use of temporary accommodation for homeless people has fallen by 70 per cent since 2006. A sanctuary scheme is proving successful and mediation has been used in 182

cases to prevent homelessness. We will follow up progress on housing as part of next year's assessment.

Getting people into work in the poorer areas of the City is a problem. Unemployment - the number of people claiming Job Seeker's Allowance - rose by 90 per cent between May 2008 and 2009. This was higher than the rise in most of the other big cities, although more recent figures are much more encouraging. Unemployment is over 10 per cent in some inner city areas in Leeds - more than double the Leeds average. In Chapeltown, it is 17 per cent. Worklessness (the number of people either unemployed or unable to work) in some inner city areas is well over 30 per cent. Partners are doing a lot to try and help people into work. For example, the Local Employment Partnership (LEP) has seen 651 employers sign up to offer work opportunities to people in less well off communities. Partners recognise that they still need to do more to improve things.

TRANSPORT: Improve public transport services in Leeds, condition of the transport infrastructure and road safety.

Transport congestion, public transport and the condition of roads and pavements are consistently high priorities for Leeds residents. In response, partners have decided to improve transport systems and how easily people can use them, improve the condition of the streets and public transport facilities and improve safety for all users of the roads.

In 2004, one third of people thought that public transport was the most important thing for the future of Leeds. This was the top priority. Progress since then on improving the quality, use and accessibility of public transport has been relatively slow. One of the main problems is that public transport is provided by private companies and local public services have limited influence on bus and train services. Some improvements have been made. Bus shelters and train stations have been improved and bus lanes built to help buses run faster and make services more convenient. But not enough people are using buses across West Yorkshire, and passenger satisfaction with bus services in Leeds isn't getting better.

Roads and pavements in Leeds have got better. In 2007, Leeds people said that repairing roads and pavements was their top priority for improvement. Since then, the Council has increased spending on repairs and fewer people now see this as a top priority for improvement. Reducing congestion was also a big priority for Leeds people in 2007. Access to the city has been improved through new roads, such as the East Leeds Link Road and Inner Ring Road 7. More people are leaving their cars at home when they travel into Leeds in the morning peak. More people are cycling to work, with the number of cycle trips exceeding targets. But congestion remains a problem on many roads.

The Council, police and fire service are doing a lot of work to help make roads safer. Success has been mixed. Fewer people have been killed on the roads, but more have been seriously injured, especially cyclists and pedestrians and the Leeds target for reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured

in road accidents was just missed.

Leeds has identified that improved transport is key to the city's future economic success- so the Council is working with a range of partners on a new local transport plan for 2011. This will help link transport plans more closely with other work and help support a more sustainable Leeds in the future. Plans include 'New Generation Transport'. This includes a trolley-bus system which could improve public transport access for communities. In the long-term, there is some hope that 'Quality contracts' with bus operators will improve bus services, though this is a difficult challenge which has not yet been resolved anywhere in the country outside London.

CAA looks at how well local public services, working together, are meeting the needs of the people they serve. It's a joint assessment made by a group of independent watchdogs about the performance of local public services, and how likely they are to meet local priorities. From 9 December you will find the results of Comprehensive Area Assessment on the Oneplace website - <http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/>

Alternative formats - If you require a copy of PDF documents in this site in large print, in Braille, on tape, or in a language other than English, please call: 0844 798 7070

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for an independent overview
of local public services

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Leeds City Council

Organisational Assessment

Dated 9 December 2009



oneplace

for an independent overview
of local public services

Leeds City Council

Overall, Leeds City Council performs adequately

Managing performance	2 out of 4
Use of resources	3 out of 4
Managing finances	3 out of 4
Governing the business	2 out of 4
Managing resources	3 out of 4

Description of scores:

1. An organisation that does not meet minimum requirements, Performs Poorly
2. An organisation that meets only minimum requirements, Performs Adequately
3. An organisation that exceeds minimum requirements, Performs Well
4. An organisation that significantly exceeds minimum requirements, Performs Excellently

Summary

Overall, Leeds Council performs adequately. Many of the things the Council does are improving things for people in Leeds, but in some areas it has much more to do.

The Council scores 2 out of 4 for managing performance. It has worked well to reduce the impact of the economic recession. It has invested in better leisure and cultural facilities, improved street cleanliness, increased recycling, made progress in keeping vulnerable adults safe and helped reduce most types of crime. At the time of this assessment, industrial action had disrupted refuse collections for several weeks. The impact of this on recycling rates and street cleanliness was not yet known.

The Council has responded slowly to concerns raised last year about the safeguarding of children and young people, who have been left at risk of significant harm. The Council needs to make sure that it responds more effectively when problems are identified, particularly when they involve vulnerable people. The Council has made some progress in narrowing the gap between the richer and poorer parts of the City. But it needs to do more to achieve its ambition of bringing the benefits of a successful city to all the people of Leeds. With partners, the Council has some way to go in tackling some of the long term problems facing the city, such as burglary, which is still very high in some parts of the City, worklessness, poor housing and health. Too many young people are not in education, employment or training (NEET).

There is a difference between the scores for use of resources and managing performance. We decided that the score should be that overall Leeds performs adequately rather than well. This is because of the weaknesses in keeping children and young people safe. It is very important that Councils have good services for the most vulnerable people.

Ofsted's annual rating for Children's Services is poor. While most services are at least good, there are important weaknesses in social care. A recent unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements found that staff practice was inconsistent when completing and recording assessments of children at risk, and this was not always done quickly enough. Referrals to the child protection service did not meet the legal guidance and did not safeguard children and young people well enough - so there was an unacceptable risk of significant harm to them. Most children's homes are good or better. The Council's adoption service is good and its fostering agency satisfactory, but private fostering is inadequate. A high, and increasing, number of children are admitted to hospital because of unintentional and deliberate injuries. Many children achieve well at school and the number achieving 5 GCSEs including maths and English is around the national average. But progress is slow for children in primary school.

The Care Quality Commission rates adult services as performing well. Adult social care services continue to improve. The Council has worked hard to involve people who use services, their carers and local organisations, in developing services which meet their needs. It is working well with its partners to tackle poor health, support older people to live in their own homes, to treat people equally and to provide help to enable them to be financially secure. The Independent Living Project has helped people with a learning disability and adults with mental health needs in Leeds to live more independent lives. The Council has made good progress to ensure that older people at risk of harm are protected properly. But there is still work to do.

The Council scored 3 out of 4 for use of resources. The Council has good information about its finances. It is good at managing its money and is making savings. It has shown that it can redirect resources towards the things that are important locally. The Council understands its costs and how it performs, but can not yet show consistently the benefits of what it does for Leeds residents.

The Council understands the risks it faces and manages them well. It is also managing its use of natural resources well and is reducing the environmental impact of providing services. As with most councils, satisfaction with the Council fell in 2008, but Leeds compares well with councils in other big cities.

The Council's arrangements for governing the business are adequate and meet basic requirements. The Council could improve the way that it plans and buys services from other organisations by being clearer about the benefits that the services will deliver. The Council tries to make sure that the information that it uses is accurate, but it could improve the way that it shares information with the public agencies that it works with. The Council manages its assets well.

About Leeds City Council

Over three quarters of a million people live in Leeds, from more than 130 countries, and the city is growing. Twenty years ago, most businesses in the city were industrial. Now, Leeds has less industry and more people work in banks, building societies, legal and finance. It is the largest city in Yorkshire and Humberside and the biggest shopping centre.

Leeds Council has 99 councillors. The largest is the Labour party, but the Council is run by a joint Liberal Democrat/Conservative administration.

As with all large cities, the different areas of the city contrast greatly. People in areas round the centre, south of the centre and in the east of the city are more likely to have poor housing and ill-health, and to be out of work. On the edge of the city, in places such as Wetherby and Bramhope, people tend to have more money and to have better health. In the north of the city are two Universities. The Council therefore also has to meet the needs of the many thousands of students who live in Leeds for only part of each year, as well as those of the residents who live here all the time.

Leeds City Council, together with its partners, has decided that the most important priorities for the city are:

- culture and sport;
- environment;
- transport;
- thriving places;
- enterprise and the economy;
- harmonious communities;
- learning;
- health and well-being; and
- improving the Council's capacity to improve services in Leeds

Organisational assessment

Health and Well Being

The Council is not properly protecting children at risk of harm, and is not 'safeguarding' them well. A recent inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements found that discussions between the Council, police and other agencies do not take place quickly enough and children are not always seen by professionals, even when there are concerns about their safety. Key procedures are out of date and the speed and quality of assessments varies too much. Some children were identified as having been left at potential risk of serious harm. The inspectors also had concerns that the systems for ensuring that the service is working properly were not good enough and were not helping the service to get better.

The Council's adoption service is good and the fostering service satisfactory. Most children's homes are good or better, but inspectors rated the private fostering service inadequate. The number of children admitted to hospital

because of unintentional and deliberate injuries is increasing and is higher than the national average. Of three serious case reviews carried out, two were conducted adequately and one well.

Older people in Leeds are happier than in most similar areas. More than 80 per cent of people over 65 said that they were satisfied with their home and neighbourhood. Most people have choice about the care that they receive and more people than average are supported to live independently. For example, the Independent Living Project has helped people with a learning disability and adults with mental health needs in Leeds to live more independent lives. But people do have to wait longer in Leeds for minor alterations to their home. The Council provides good information and support to help people maximise benefits and pensions. It helped people to claim nearly £11 million in extra benefits in 2008/09.

Arrangements to keep vulnerable adults safe have improved. Staff have been recruited and more training provided. Partners are working better together and work has already been done to ensure that the new procedures are working. Further work is needed to make sure that they are having an impact.

People in Leeds are living longer than ever before. Fewer adults in Leeds are obese than the national average and more are physically active. But there are big differences in health across the city. An average man in City and Hunslet will die just over 10 years earlier than an average man in Harewood. Women in City and Hunslet can expect to live just under nine and a half years less than women in Adel/Wharfedale. The Council and its partners are working to try and improve this. They have recently introduced a more systematic approach to tackling these problems. They are targeting work more effectively on vulnerable communities, but there is still more to do.

Learning

Most children in Leeds achieve well at school, but progress is inconsistent. At age 11 results fell in both English and maths and the number of schools not hitting government targets is not getting better. The number of children getting 5 higher level GCSEs, including maths and English, is around the national average.

Progress in attainment for some groups is slow. For example, at age 11 and 16 Asian pupils perform below the national average. The gap in achievement between Asian pupils and the Leeds average for GCSEs including maths and English increased between 2006 and 2008. Behaviour in some secondary schools is often only satisfactory and despite improvements, the rate of persistent absence in some schools is still too high. 9.5 per cent of young people are not in education, employment or training (NEET).

More people in Leeds lack Level 2 skills than in other parts of the country, but this is improving. Level 2 skills cover a wide range of academic and vocational qualifications that are designed to help people's employment prospects.

Culture

The Council has improved cultural facilities in Leeds and more people than ever are using them. It has spent money to bring the Art Gallery, Central Library and Grand Theatre up to date, and has re-opened the City Museum and the Kirkstall Abbey Visitor Centre. Visits to museums and galleries nearly doubled to just under one million, although visits to libraries fell slightly. The number of adults being active and participating in sports rose by nearly eight per cent - one of the largest increases in the country.

But the benefits of this investment are not being felt consistently by all Leeds people, who are less satisfied with theatres, museums, parks, open spaces and leisure facilities than they were two years ago. Whilst many residents regularly use services, one in four of all people in Leeds have never used a leisure centre.

The Council is trying to improve things even further - though there is some concern about the impact of the recession on future plans. It now plans to improve the City Varieties and the Northern Ballet, and to make leisure centres better and easier to get to. Plans are well advanced to build the Leeds Arena - a 12,500 seat multi-purpose venue which is a high priority for residents and local businesses

Environment

Note: At the time of this assessment, industrial action had disrupted refuse collections for several weeks. The impact of this on recycling rates and street cleanliness was not yet known.

Over 30 per cent of waste is now being recycled, re-used or composted. This is less than most other councils, but is likely to get better as a result of more garden waste being recycled and investment by the Council in more kerbside collections. Streets are now cleaner and public access to footpaths and other rights of way has improved. Other work to improve the environment has included the crime and grime initiative and the Graffiti Charter. The Council is reviewing its environmental performance and plans to invest in areas like improved street cleaning.

The Council is managing its use of natural resources well and is reducing the environmental impact of providing services. Work to reduce carbon emissions from public sector buildings is still at an early stage. The Council and its partners have started to prepare for the possible effects of climate change and have recently agreed a Climate Change Strategy for the city. They plan to invest in projects to cope with possible floods. The Council and partners need to speed up their efforts to combat climate change. They also need to get better at measuring the results of their work to improve the environment.

Transport

Roads and pavements in Leeds have got better. In 2007, local people said that repairing roads and pavements was their top priority for improvement. The Council listened to this message and increased spending. Fewer people now see repairs as the top priority for improvement.

Reducing congestion was also a big priority for Leeds people in 2007. The

Council has improved access to the city through new roads, such as the East Leeds Link Road and the Inner Ring Road. More people are leaving their cars at home when they travel into Leeds in the morning peak, and more people cycle to work. But congestion remains a problem on many roads.

In 2004, Leeds people said that public transport was the most important thing for the future of Leeds. Since then, progress has been slow. Some improvements have been made. Bus shelters and train stations are better and new bus lanes mean that buses run faster and services are more convenient for passengers. But bus usage is not meeting targets, and passengers are no happier than before about bus services.

The council, police and fire service are doing a lot of work to help make roads safer. Success has been mixed. Fewer people have been killed on the roads, but more have been seriously injured, especially cyclists and pedestrians and the Leeds target for reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents was just missed.

The Council is working with partners on a new local transport plan for 2011. This will help link transport plans more closely with other work and help support a more sustainable Leeds in the future. Plans for the future include 'New Generation Transport' - for which the Council has secured £250M of funding. Proposals include a trolley-bus system which would improve public transport access for communities.

Thriving places

Most types of crime have fallen in Leeds, including some that people are most concerned about, such as violent crime. Most people feel safe in their local area after dark and fewer people see drug dealing as a big problem. But burglary is very high in parts of Leeds like Harehills, Beeston, Armley and Headingley. In some cases, it is up to three times the national average. There are particular problems with young offenders - just under a half of all offenders are aged between 15 and 19. The high number of young people not in education, employment or training and high rates of persistent absence in secondary schools highlight problems around the engagement of young people in positive activities. The police and Council are working together with probation and the courts to try and reduce burglary in Leeds.

Anti-social behaviour by problem families has been reduced. 'Signpost' works closely with families who are prolific and persistent perpetrators. It helps up to 98 families at any time, also helping with access to other services, for example health, housing and benefits. The families are fairly chaotic and often have problems including alcohol & substance misuse and domestic violence. Anti social behaviour fell in nearly 9 out of 10 families who completed the programme. In half the families, criminal behaviour fell and school attendance improved significantly. The recent place survey showed that fewer people in Leeds feel that anti-social behaviour is a problem than in most big cities.

The number of serious assaults fell by nearly seven percent in 2008/09. This has been helped by targeting 'hotspot' pubs and bars in the city, including a more visible uniformed police presence and stronger licensing enforcement. Special powers have been used to restrict drinking alcohol on the streets. This has reduced levels of street drinking. Plastic glasses have been introduced in

some bars and pubs to reduce injuries. A recent survey showed that fewer people in Leeds than other big cities see drunk and rowdy behaviour as a big problem. The level of concern has not increased in the last two years.

Housing is a problem in parts of Leeds. Many people in rented housing are living in over crowded accommodation. The latest official figures show that over 24,000 people are on the waiting list for housing and there are many empty properties. Fewer people than before turn down the public sector houses they are offered as unsuitable, but the rate is still too high. This suggests that the system to provide choice does not work as well as it should.

The Council has worked hard to try and increase the number of affordable houses - 400 were built in the last year. Funding has been agreed to deliver affordable housing as part of the East Leeds regeneration scheme. Planning requirements are now stronger, to ensure that 30 per cent of all new housing developments include homes that people on lower incomes can afford. The quality of public sector housing is improving. All homes are set to meet the government's 'decent homes' standard by 2010/11.

Fewer people than before are homeless in Leeds, and numbers continue to fall. Private sector tenancies are being used more to stop people becoming homeless. A sanctuary scheme is proving successful and mediation has been used in 182 cases to prevent homelessness. Council data shows that the use of temporary accommodation for homeless people has reduced by 70 per cent since 2006.

More people in Leeds do not have basic skills than in other parts of the country, and getting people into work in the poorer areas of the city is a problem. Unemployment is over 10 per cent in some parts of Leeds, compared to a city wide average of less than three per cent. Up to 30 per cent of people are either unemployed or unable to work in some inner city areas. The Council and partners are taking a lot of action to try and help people into work, but recognise that they still need to do more to improve things.

Enterprise and the Economy

The Council has responded well to the recession. As with other major cities, the recession has affected developments in the city centre. In response, the Council and partners have reviewed their priorities. They are focussing on the development of the Arena, City Park and city centre improvements, new retail developments at Trinity Quarter and improving Leeds Bradford airport. This clear approach gives confidence to investors, developers and residents that the city is in good shape to overcome the recession.

The Council is working hard to ensure that Leeds can lead the region's economic growth. It has a detailed understanding of the city and wider city-regional economy and has shared this effectively with partners. It has identified the new facilities needed to achieve Leeds' ambitions, including the Arena and improved transport.

Leeds is at the centre of the Leeds City Region. This involves 11 local authorities from across North, South and West Yorkshire working together on big issues like regeneration, skills and housing. The City Region was given 'Forerunner' status, enabling it to change the way that councils and their

partners minimise the impact of the downturn and speed up recovery. The Council has a major role to play in ensuring that the City Region has an impact on people's lives.

Harmonious communities

Fewer people in Leeds feel that people from different backgrounds get on well than in 2006/07. There are big differences within Leeds, with people in East, South and West much less positive than those in the North of the City. The Council is working with partners to improve relations between different groups. Initiatives include the Safer Schools Partnership, which places safer schools officers in high schools to work with young people on issues like racial tolerance.

Community Cohesion pilots are being carried out in three areas where there are particular tensions between different communities - Armley, Chapeltown/Harehills and Middleton. Work in these areas concentrates on trying to help people to get on better together, rather than tackling some of the underlying inequalities that create tensions between communities. A Leeds 'Neighbourhood Index' is being developed to help all partners understand the problems facing different communities, how best to tackle them and how to measure if they have made a difference.

Satisfaction levels vary widely, depending on where you live in Leeds. People in the North East of the city, are much more likely to be satisfied with their area than people in the South or West. It is likely that this hides even bigger differences within these fairly large parts of the city. The recent place survey shows a mixed picture on how well people in Leeds are involved in their local communities. Fewer people in Leeds than other big cities participate in civic activities, and there has been a big fall in the number of people who know how they can get involved in local decision making. On the other hand, the number of people who felt that they could influence decisions has increased. The Council is carrying out a much more detailed survey of residents to try and understand better the differences within the city.

Improving the Council's capacity to improve services in Leeds

Council officers and councillors work well, both together and in discussing issues with people and voluntary groups in local communities. These partners say that they regard the Council as being an effective leader, listening to and acting upon their views.

The Council's leaders have decided on a range of approaches to improve how well they can meet the needs of people in Leeds. These include actions aiming to get the best value for money from available resources - for example, 12,000 fewer days were taken sick by council staff in 2009. The Council is also taking steps to make sure that council staff have the right skills and opportunities to fulfil their potential and to collect good information for decisions about what is important.

Some of the benefits are beginning to emerge - for instance, the Council has saved £23 million in the last year by doing things differently, and can now

invest these savings in new projects.

It has introduced a new system to manage progress of both its own and Leeds-wide plans. These provide reports which identify what is going well, and what is going less well, so that this can be corrected. They have encouraged honesty and openness throughout the Council about strengths and weaknesses and make clear who is going to do what. Councillors challenge what Council officers do, to ensure services are delivered well.

But the benefits of this approach are not yet fully clear and there is also some work to do to involve other organisations in the approach. The Council needs to ensure that its arrangements for managing performance enable it to respond quickly and effectively when things go wrong. Once this base is fully in place, the Council will be better able to show how well it is performing and how things are getting better.

CAA looks at how well local public services, working together, are meeting the needs of the people they serve. It's a joint assessment made by a group of independent watchdogs about the performance of local public services, and how likely they are to meet local priorities. From 9 December you will find the results of Comprehensive Area Assessment on the Oneplace website - <http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/>

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for an independent overview
of local public services

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Originator: Richard Mills

Tel:247 4557

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 9th March 2010

Subject: Session 2 Continued - Inquiry to Review the Method by which Planning Applications are Publicised and Community Involvement takes place

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

1.1 At the last Scrutiny Board meeting Members agreed to extend session 2 of this inquiry in order that witnesses who were unable to attend the meeting on 9th February 2010 could give evidence today.

1.2 The following witnesses have indicated that they will attend the meeting today:

- Councillor Janet Thornton, East Keswick Parish Council
- Tony Ray, Planning Consultant
- Jacqui Baines, Planning Aid

2.0 Terms of Reference

2.1 A copy of the Board's terms of reference for this inquiry which was approved on 13th October 2009 is attached for reference purposes.

3.0 Report of the Director of City Development

3.1 The report of the Director of City Development which was considered at the last meeting in accordance with the issues identified in the terms of reference for this session is attached.

4.0 Purpose of Extended Session

4.1 The purpose of this extended session is to continue to consider:

- case studies involving selected residents groups, developers and Area Managers suggesting improvements to the current arrangements for publicising and involving people on planning applications, given the constraints identified in paragraph 1.4 of the terms of reference.
- identify the strengths and weaknesses of the current arrangements and opportunities and barriers for improvement.
- how this fits with current corporate consultation policy, processes and arrangements to facilitate more effective community consultation in neighbourhoods with regard to statutory requirements for timescale and scope.

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 The Board is requested to:

- (i) Consider case studies and hear from witnesses and ask questions as appropriate.
- (ii) Determine what, if any, further information the Board requires.
- (iii) Identify specific issues and recommendations the Board wishes to include in its final report.

Background Papers

None used

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Inquiry to Review the Method by which Planning Applications are Publicised and Community Involvement takes place

Terms of Reference

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At the meeting in June 2009 Members agreed to carry out an inquiry to review the current practices by which planning applications are publicised and the way in which people are involved in the planning process.
- 1.2 In particular Members were keen to strengthen the methods by which all parties concerned or affected by a planning application feel engaged in the process but particularly those of individual residents.
- 1.3 Members also wished to identify the circumstances in which substantial additional publicity and consultation is justified for specific planning applications and how it is applied at the pre and post application stages.
- 1.4 The context of and drivers for the inquiry are that:
 - Strict limits and timescales within which planning authorities operate
 - The legal framework within which the planning system operates which prescribes how the process should work and how applications are dealt with. The government is committed to an ambitious planning reform agenda, which aims to speed up the planning system and increase the predictability of planning decisions. Changes include 'Planning for a Sustainable Future: White Paper', the 'Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act', changes to secondary legislation, reviews of planning policy guidance and a change in culture for the whole of the planning system.
 - Department of Communities and Local Government proposals to change planning legislation in relation to the publicising of planning applications giving local authorities a more proportionate, effective and local approach to publicity.
 - Local Government Association recent publication "Probity in Planning"
 - Work well underway in preparing a Charter for involving Parish and Town Councils in the planning process
 - The ways consultation responses are weighed against other planning considerations in making decisions
 - Members have their own experiences of the strengths and weaknesses of the current methods by which planning applications are publicised and consultation undertaken and potential areas for improvement.
 - There is a Central Government agenda promoting greater levels of engagement, including the recent publication of the Community Empowerment White Paper,

'Communities in Control', which will increase requirements for Councils to promote, facilitate and deliver a wider range of engagement activity, with demonstrable impacts on services and other decisions.

- The Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-2011 includes an improvement priority and a national indicator on increasing the number of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality.
- The Council has legal obligations it must meet in respect of Equality legislation. It is required to evidence appropriate arrangements for engaging with all communities.
- The Council is a signatory to the Compact for Leeds, where community participation and equal partnerships are key areas of focus.
- Area Committees are about to significantly strengthen their community engagement responsibilities, including a brief to agree Area Community Engagement Plans with the goal of delivering better outcomes from local services.

1.5 It is considered that the scrutiny focus is timely and provides an opportunity to look at the way in which planning applications are publicised and consultation undertaken from a planning perspective and how this fits with current corporate consultation policy, processes and arrangements to facilitate more effective community consultation in neighbourhoods, e.g. the Corporate Consultation Portal, emerging Equalities Forum and Hubs;

2.0 The Scope of this Inquiry

2.1 The scope of this inquiry is to identify:

- a) the methods by which planning applications are advertised and consultation undertaken and the opportunities and barriers for making improvements to that process. This will need to be in the context of balancing local views whilst meeting statutory consultation and notification obligations in terms of timescale, resources and legal parameters under which the planning process operates.
- b) what good practice exists in other planning authorities that can be used and developed.
- c) what is currently being developed in house to further engage with local communities
- d) what resources and other support would be required to implement any improvements identified.

3.0 Comments of the relevant Director and Executive Board Member

3.1 The Director of City Development and the relevant Executive Board Member have been requested to comment on these terms of reference.

4.0 Timetable for the Inquiry

- 4.1 The inquiry will take place over three sessions with a view to issuing a final report in March 2010.

5.0 Submission of Evidence

- 5.1 The following formal evidence gathering sessions have been scheduled:

Session One – 12th January 2010

The purpose of this session is to hear evidence about:

- the legal requirements under the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995 (GPDO) describing the statutory requirements for consultation and notification within the overall planning process, with reference to the appeals system where costs can be awarded if inappropriate actions are taken and the Code of Practice for Publicity and Consultation on all Planning Applications based on the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and other relevant legislation.
- Outline of the planning process and what types of comments can be considered in the decision making process on an application from both consultees and the public who may wish to make representations
- the current methods for publicising planning applications and the consultation processes used in Leeds, including emerging electronic delivery methods.
- CLG proposed changes in response to the Killian Pretty review

Session Two – 9th February 2010

The purpose of this session is to consider:

- any information requested from the last session
- consider evidence of examples of good practice in other local planning authorities concerning the publicity and notification given to planning applications and the methods used.
- consider some Case Studies involving selected residents groups, developers and Area Managers suggesting improvements to the current arrangements for publicising and involving people on planning applications , given the constraints identified in paragraph 1.4 above.
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses of the current arrangements and opportunities and barriers for improvement.
- how this fits with current corporate consultation policy, processes and arrangements to facilitate more effective community consultation in neighbourhoods with regard to statutory requirements for timescale and scope.

- 5.2 The Board is asked to consider at this session any emerging recommendations from the inquiry to date.

Session Three – 9th March 2010

The purpose of this session is to consider:

- any information requested from the last session.
- the Board's draft inquiry report and recommendations.

6.0 Witnesses

- 6.1 The following witnesses have been identified as possible contributors to the Inquiry:

- Director of City Development
- Chief Planning Officer
- Head of Planning Services
- Development Project Manager
- Area Managers, Environment and Neighbourhoods Directorate
- Selected residents groups and developers
- Relevant Executive Board Member
- Chief Regeneration Officer
- Plans Panel Chairs
- Parish and Town Council representatives

7.0 Monitoring Arrangements

- 7.1 Following the completion of the scrutiny inquiry and the publication of the final inquiry report and recommendations, the implementation of the agreed recommendations will be monitored.

- 7.2 The final inquiry report will include information on the detailed arrangements for monitoring the implementation of the Board's recommendations.

8.0 Measures of success

- 8.1 It is important to consider how the Board will deem whether its inquiry has been successful in making a difference to local people. Some measures of success may be obvious at the initial stages of an inquiry and can be included in these terms of reference. Other measures of success may become apparent as the inquiry progresses and discussions take place.

- 8.2 The Board will look to publish practical recommendations.



Report of the Chief Planning Officer

Meeting: Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 9 February 2010

Subject: Inquiry to Review the Method by which Planning Applications are Publicised and Community Involvement takes place

Electoral Wards Affected:
All
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:
Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/>
Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/>
Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 The Scrutiny Board (City Development) at its meeting in June 2009 agreed to carry out an inquiry to review the method by which planning applications are publicised and community involvement takes place.
- 1.2 As part of the Scrutiny process, three sessions have been scheduled for formal evidence gathering between January and March 2010. The first session held in January 2010 provided background information about the planning system, legal and statutory requirements, current arrangements for publicising applications and the proposed changes made by the Killian Pretty review.
- 1.3 The purpose of the second session is to:
- Consider examples of good practice in other local planning authorities
 - Consider evidence from invited witnesses
 - Identify the strengths and weaknesses of the current arrangements and opportunities and barriers for improvement
 - Identify how this fits with the current corporate consultation policy to facilitate more effective community consultation, with regard to the statutory obligations in terms of timescale, resources and legal parameters under which the planning process operates.
 - Consider any emerging recommendations from the Inquiry to date

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In session one, the Board heard the background information on how the planning system works and in particular about the time and legal parameters in which the service operates. These constraints have an effect on the type and scope of the notification and consultation that can normally be carried out. A balance is always needed between consideration of the cost and speed of decision making and providing a reasonable opportunity for the public to comment and influence the scheme.

2.2 Currently, there are changes and reforms at a Leeds City Council level and nationally with regard to consultation and notification. At a local service level many positive changes have been implemented such as adoption of a pre-application protocol, increase in numbers of the Community Planners, Public Access the online planning system and the Town and Parish Council Charter. At a national level the Government's planning reform agenda and the Communities in Control White Paper, mean that changes to improve involvement methods and to engage more effectively with local communities are underway.

2.3 These changes present opportunities to improve the service, but there will also be challenges in matching expectations of stakeholders with the timescale and finite resources that are available and in terms of the influence of what can be altered through the engagement process.

3.0 Practice from other Authorities

3.1 Members may recall from session one that information was provided about the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The SCI explains how Local Planning Authorities (LPA) will engage with the public through the planning process, including in the determination of planning applications. The SCI describes the way Planning Services publicises planning applications through the methods available to them- site notices, newspaper advertising, notification letters, online lists and so on. The SCI also describes community involvement at pre-application stage. All LPA's are required to have an SCI.

3.2 The requirements for publicity and consultation are laid down in the GDPO. Desk research has shown that, like Leeds, the majority of local planning authorities go beyond the statutory minimum.

3.3 All LPAs employ the same basic methods for notification: neighbour notification letters, site notices and press notices.

3.4 Neighbour Notification Letters

The variation in practice occurs in the scope of where notification letters are sent and in the type of application subject to a notification letter.

3.5 The table below describes practices in some of the Core Cities:

LPA	Distribution of letters
Sheffield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For all schemes, the letters are selected in preference to Statutory Site Notices where there is a choice. • All properties adjoining the proposed development and directly affected plus those who are adjoining the site who may not be directly affected but who could reasonably expect to be informed of the proposal, with a presumption in favour of notification. • It is not necessary to notify unaffected neighbours, even if their properties adjoin the development site, eg rear extension does not require notification of neighbours to the front. • Land within 4 meters of the land on which the development is proposed will be regarded as adjoining. • A road or similar intervening obstacle up to 20 meters wide shall be disregarded, and properties beyond shall be regarded as 'adjoining'. If an adjoining property is a multi-storey block of flats or similar, a practical judgment has to be made as to whether it is most appropriate to use a site notice in the lobby or nearby, and notify any known tenants group. • Any directly adjoining flats, such as the top floor flats where rooftop telecom

	apparatus is proposed, will be individually notified.
Bristol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On all application types a judgement is made by Officers to determine which properties should receive a letter. Letter sent to all adjoining properties and such other properties as are felt to be significantly affected by the proposal. If there are blocks of flats a letter to the Management Company (if known) will be more efficient than individual letters to all occupiers, though electoral register and property database is useful. • Householder applications- letters to all properties who might be affected by the extension. The basic principle is if the extension is within 25 metres and can be seen from a nearby property then they should get a letter. The minimum requirement is, all adjoining properties and any which are affected by the proposal eg opposite the site. • Where an application is for planning and listed building consent, neighbour notification need not be duplicated.
Liverpool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letters to all properties adjoining the application site, properties abutting to the rear should be notified if extensions have a visual or direct impact from position of windows/bulk; properties opposite the application site should be notified of front/side extensions which have a visual or direct impact. • Infill Housing/Redevelopment: wider notification should take place, properties either side or facing any proposed access should be notified as well as all properties abutting the application site. • The larger the redevelopment the greater the consultation exercise that should be initiated. If the site consists of the loss of open space, tree loss, or a greenspace, wider notification should take place. • Changes of use: wider consultation should take place where a large conversion scheme is proposed, and take account of the access and car parking arrangements, or if the proposal would represent a significant change in the character of the area. • Non Residential Developments- depends on the scale and whether it is anticipated that access/amenity issues arise. Within a wholly industrial or commercial area, adjoining occupiers only may be appropriate. Wider consultation should take place within predominantly residential or mixed use areas, if major land use changes are proposed, if significant or controversial changes of use are proposed, or where it is anticipated that issues of traffic flow, on street parking, noise and disturbance or scale of development are likely to be experienced at some distance from the site. In commercial parades, residential properties above are notified.
Birmingham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letters to all neighbours who are effected by a development. Additional site notices and statutory notices which appropriate to the type and scale of development. Apart from householder and advertisement applications, councillors, MPs and local community groups are also informed. • For commercial developments a radial search from the edge of the development site of the proposed development, dependant on the size of the proposed development is carried out and letters for Minors a 50m buffer from edge of development site, Minor/Major a 100m buffer from edge of development site, and Major/Major a 200m buffer from edge of development site. • For residential developments radial search from the edge of the development site of the proposed development as below dependant on the size of the proposed development is carried out and letters to Minor (1 to 9 dwellings) a 50m buffer from edge of the development site, Minor/Major (10 to 199 dwellings) a 100m buffer from edge of the development site and Major/Major (200 + dwellings) - 200m buffer from edge of the development site.

3.6 Sheffield Council has guidelines for where there is the need for wider neighbour notification and community consultation for applications that are likely to generate wider interest. These include telecommunications and masts, development of food and drink outlets, large traffic generators, especially if they will be through residential streets and potential polluters, such as incinerators. Judgement is used to decide who might be affected or believe themselves to be effected and a combination of

letters and extra site notices is used. However, this wider notification is not opened and is limited to a maximum of six properties either side.

3.7 Birmingham are currently considering reducing or stopping the neighbour consultation letters on planning applications, and carrying out the 'statutory minimum', i.e. site notices and, where relevant, press notices. They are currently collecting information from other LPA's to help them make their decision.

3.8 Newspaper Advertising

3.9 Leeds advertises in five local newspapers on a fortnightly basis. There are a number of practices LPAs employ to meet their statutory obligation for advertising in a newspaper for certain types of applications:

- Calderdale Planning Services uses the local daily newspaper but took a decision recently to only advertise fortnightly rather than weekly. There have not been any adverse comments made by the public, but it delays the publicity period up to 5-6 weeks on some applications.
- Hammersmith and Fulham are investigating the use of their Council newspaper to advertise applications. However, this is being met with a great deal of local resistance, due to the perceived political bias of the publication¹.
- Public objections in Cornwall, Grimsby and other parts of the country following the removal of council planning notices and other advertisements from local newspapers had forced those councils to reinstate them².

3.10 Following the recent consultation by CLG on newspaper advertising and the decision to maintain the current practices, there maybe some emerging ideas from other LPA's who are also looking for ways to reduce the financial burden of this method of notification.

3.11 Online Planning Systems

3.12 A number of LPA's are further along with the development of their online planning application system than is the case in Leeds. Many authorities already have a system for automatically alerting the public of when new applications are made in their pre-defined area of interest. In West Yorkshire, Kirklees and Wakefield have such a system. Additionally in Kirklees, an SMS text message is sent out to the public who have signed up to the planning alerts. The weekly text message tells the member of the public that applications in their chosen area of interest have come in and where they can go to find further information about the applications. This is an automated process, but there are time and cost implications. However, with 79%³ of the UK population owning a mobile phone, there is potential for communicating planning application information to a huge number of people.

3.13 Code of Practice for Publicity

3.14 A number of authorities describe their processes for publicity and consultation in a Code of Practice for Publicity. The Codes set out practical guidance for Officers organising publicity and consultations on planning applications. These Codes are in the public domain and are usually available on the Council's website.

¹http://hfliibdems.org.uk/news/000181/hf_news_is_council_propaganda_masquerading_as_an_independent_newspaper.html

² <http://www.newspapersoc.org.uk/blog/index.php/2009/10/>

³ <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=868> Consumer Durables, Consumer durables ownership increases

4.0 Witnesses

4.1 In line with the terms of reference of this inquiry, a number of witnesses have been invited to attend today's meeting to respond to questions posed by the Board. Witnesses represent various stakeholder groups involved in planning and include local residents, developers and Parish Councillors.

5.0 Strengths and weaknesses of current arrangements and opportunities for improvement

5.1 There are inevitable tensions in the consultation and notification process between the wish to engage and notify as widely as possible and the timescales and resource constraints within which the service operates. This can be a difficult balance to maintain and the process is not infallible.

5.2 Members heard in session one about the range of methods for informing people about applications such as, lists on the Council website, lists and applications in libraries, arrangements through the Parish and Town Council Charter and so on. In this section an analysis will be made of the strengths and weakness of the current arrangements, highlighting where there are opportunities for improvement and where there are barriers which may inhibit improvement.

5.3 Pre-application process

5.4 The Government is currently providing a clear national policy framework for development management, moving LPAs from development control to a development management approach. CLGs definition of development management is:

*a positive and proactive approach to shaping, considering, determining and delivering development proposals. It is led by the LPA, working closely with those proposing developers and other stakeholders. It is undertaken in the spirit of partnership and inclusiveness and supports the delivery of key priorities and outcomes*⁴.

5.5 A key part of this approach is pre-application engagement. A draft pre-application engagement policy annex has been produced by CLG. CLG states that development management is delivered on the ground using positive, transparent, inclusive and responsive processes built on strong and effective partnership working and effective engagement with the local community⁵. It is reassuring to see that much of the work already undertaken by Leeds Planning Services is in accord with the government's proposals, through the adoption of the pre-application protocol and the protocol for pre-application discussions with local communities and Ward Members.

5.6 The protocols mean there is a more structured and robust approach to pre-application discussions and importantly recognises the critical role of engagement with Ward Members and local communities in help shaping proposals at an early stage.

5.7 However, in reality not all developers and their advisors are as effective in community engagement as others and community involvement is not mandatory. Whilst some developers engage with a wide range of people and organisations over the life of an application, for example in the case of Kirkstall Forge, other developers do the minimum. Whilst the responsibility for pre-application engagement lies with

⁴ CLG Development Management: Proactive planning from pre-application to delivery December 2009

⁵ Ibid

the developer, there is still a resource implication for Planning Services in terms of Officer time and input. The developers' role in positive engagement is crucial to the success of the pre-application phase, but some need more support and direction than others. Our aim is to develop the role of Planning Officers in helping developers to form their approach to public engagement and the involvement of Members and local communities.

5.8 Leeds is not unique in this regard; CLG recognises that the level of pre-application engagement will be dependent on a range of considerations including the resources available to the local planning authority and the willingness of the developer to engage.

5.9 The challenge is to develop an approach, which is proportionate to the scale of the application and getting developers to take ownership of community involvement. The Town and Parish Council Charter and Community Consultation database will provide new mechanisms to assist in this. Nevertheless, there will need to be a shift in emphasis to the "front loading" of the planning process at the pre-application stage, in order to improve the quality of applications and to avoid problems and delays at later stages.

5.10 Role of Community Planners

5.11 Members heard in session one about the two Community Planners operating in the north of the city and how these roles are a real strength of the current arrangements. Their role is key in the liaison between local communities and planning services. Community Planners advise the Area Committee, Ward Members, Parish and Town Councils and other groups on the implications of planning proposals, applications and appeals submitted within the area and/or affecting the locality.

5.12 A weakness is that there are only two Community Planners. It is the wish of the service that such roles were employed in each of the Area Committee areas, however, this would be subject to appropriate funding opportunities.

5.13 Online Planning Applications

5.14 Members also heard in the first session about the online Public Access system where people will be able to sign up and receive automatic alerts of applications in their area of interest. This new service is fundamental to the direction of the service in allowing people to "self serve" and access the information they want, when they want it. The public will not have to solely rely on letters or a site notice to learn about new applications.

5.15 However, in order to realise the full benefits of the service for the wider community, there needs to be effective promotion to publicise signing up to the planning alerts.

5.16 There is also the need to be mindful of the need to involve and consult with the public and users on any future developments of ICT processes to ensure that the system is fit for their needs and is easy to use and navigate. This is particularly key for people for whom English is not their first language or for disabled people.

5.17 Planning Services is very mindful of the issue of digital exclusion of those people without access to the Internet. Online planning and automatic alerts whilst providing an excellent channel of information, will not be a substitute for notification letters and site notices. Additionally, work is underway with Leeds Library Services to train library staff in the use of Public Access so that they can help members of the public find the information they need.

5.18 Notification letters

5.19 In Leeds, letters are often used as the preferred method for notifying neighbours of developments that may effect them, particularly for householder applications. Letters are sent for household applications and residential new builds up to nine houses. Members may recall from session one that for these types of applications, an average of six letters are sent per application, ensuring that neighbours who are adjacent and who adjoin the property are alerted to the proposals. The GDPO states that letters should be sent to adjoining properties, in Leeds the statutory minimum is exceeded.

5.20 However, there are instances where neighbours have complained about not receiving a notification letter when they felt they should have received one. In 2009, four complaints were received from the public but none of the complaints were upheld. It is impossible to notify everyone about everything by letter, but, determining which properties are notified is done on a case by case basis and sometimes can appear arbitrary.

5.21 The posted notification process is costly, approximately £58,000, and needs to be cost effective in reaching people who will be affected. From the previous table, Members will see that some other authorities do less than Leeds Planning Services, for example, not notifying unaffected neighbours, even if their properties adjoin the development site, for developments such as rear extensions where notification of neighbours to the front is not required. In this scenario, Leeds Planning would normally notify those neighbours to the front, that is, the so-called unaffected neighbours. In Leeds we tend to use site notices for developments near blocks of flats, whereas some other authorities would send out notification letters to tenants groups or by contacting individuals after using the electoral roll to identify those living in the flats.

5.22 It is understood that elected Members also send out their own letters to neighbours notifying them of developments in their locality. Member letters often have a wider distribution area than those sent out by Planning Services.

5.23 Site Notices

5.24 Site notices are used extensively in Leeds and are effective for developments where there are no immediate neighbours. The notices have been designed with equality issues in mind. Legally there are categories of applications that need to be advertised by site notice, eg listed building. Often in such cases a planning consent notice would be posted as well as a separate listing building consent site notice, for the same property, which may cause confusion, but nevertheless it is a statutory requirement.

5.25 Site notices have the potential to alert a wide range of people to the proposed development due to their prominent positioning. However, they can also be removed or damaged easily. Site notices are also used on major developments in favour of notification letters. However, it is the wish to move towards the use notification letters wherever possible.

5.26 Newspaper advertising

5.27 The CLG made an announcement on its consultation on use of newspaper advertising for applications in December 2009. There are no changes to the current arrangements, despite evidence to show that in one authority the percentage of people who made comments on a planning application as a result of it being

displayed in a press notice was only 2.1%⁶. Major applications, listed building consent (except those where alterations are internal only) and all planning applications for development that affects the character or appearance of a conservation area or the setting of a listed building need to be advertised in the press.

- 5.28 In Leeds, advertising in five local and free newspapers costs almost £59,000, against a budget of £38,000. Anecdotally, it appears that the free newspapers do not always reach every household. With staff costs, the process totals almost £63,000 and so it is important to consider if this is an effective distribution channel and whether it represents value for money, given the use of ICT systems and the community database.
- 5.29 Some authorities use their Council newspaper, but *About Leeds* is a quarterly publication and would not fit in with the statutory notification timescales, unless the frequency of the newspaper was changed to a fortnightly basis.
- 5.30 With the status quo maintained on newspaper advertising but pressure still on LPAs budget, it is perhaps timely to review how this part of the notification process works.

6.0 Corporate Consultation

- 6.1 The Council has an adopted a Community Engagement Policy, which responds to the requirements placed upon the Council by Central Government. The Statement of Community Involvement forms part of the Corporate Engagement Policy.
- 6.2 The Vision for Leeds 2004-2020 makes a commitment to develop a more strategic approach to community engagement. As a partner of the Leeds Initiative, the Council shares that aspiration and through its approach to community engagement aims to:
- Ensure that community engagement is carried out to the highest possible standards
 - Increase the number and range of people active in their community and participating in democratic decision making processes
 - Increase the number of opportunities for everyone to be fully engaged particularly those who are described as *not yet reached*
 - Ensure that community engagement activity impacts on decision making
- 6.3 In the context of this Inquiry the type of engagement activity in which Planning Services is involved is perhaps different to those of other Council Services. Planning Services itself does not undertake the community engagement, that is the role of the developer.
- 6.4 However, there is an important role for Planning Services in meeting the aims of the Council's Community Engagement Policy by:
- encouraging developers to engage, communicate and involve effectively and to the highest possible standard;
 - by providing advice and information about community groups, including those hard to reach and those who traditionally are not engaged yet with the planning process;
 - by signposting developers to Ward Members and Parish Councils,
 - by ensuring that developers agree a Statement of Community Consultation which sets out the type, scope and breadth of engagement and

- by asking developers to submit with the planning application a summary of consultation responses and how these have been taken into account in amending the proposal.

6.5 This can be evidenced through the pre-application protocols, where developer and City Councils responsibilities are clearly defined.

6.6 Within the remit of Planning Services through the notification and publicity processes, meaningful community engagement can still be achieved through providing high quality communication to communities through letters, notices, adverts and web based information and through the feedback system whereby people find out about decisions in a timely way.

7.0 Conclusions and recommended service improvements

7.1 Although the statutory requirements for notification and involvement of individuals and communities is laid out in statute, there is some flexibility for LPAs to adapt it to local needs, taking the GDPO regulations as the statutory minimum. Leeds exceeds the statutory minimum in its notification process through the sending of letters and often putting up site notices too. It is crucial to be consistent, as the level of publicity given to applications is often under scrutiny by the local community and Members. Adopting different criteria in some applications may create an expectation that similar levels are applied in other applications, and should therefore be avoided. There is the potential for improving the process using letters in favour of site notices for some developments to reach the people who may be effected most and in creating a consistency of approach, whilst still employing judgment on individual applications.

7.2 Public Access will improve communications with a large proportion of the community who will be able to see applications online. However, there will always be some people, for a variety of reasons, for whom this is not the preferred method communication. The service is mindful of the need to forge links with those who are at risk of becoming excluded further from the planning system. The Internet is a powerful tool, but its effectiveness as a tool can only be if realised if the information is clear, in plain English and easy to navigate.

7.3 Newspaper advertising costs the authority a great deal with little evidence to suggest its impact or value for money. Other authorities have investigated alternative methods and publications and while there is still the statutory need to advertise in the press, there is the need to consider the most cost-effective way of achieving this.

7.4 The good practices employed in the Council's pre-application protocols will go a long way in facilitating community engagement with developers. However, there is sometimes an inconsistency of approach at Officer level and by developers and steps should be taken to improve the critically important pre-application stage to ensure procedures are inclusive and clearly set out for all participants to understand.

7.5 Clearly, the service has made great positive changes in recent times, but there is always room for further improvement and review. In reality we do not know which forms of notification are the most effective and where people find out about new planning applications. The following areas are possible recommended improvements:

- Review of current neighbour notification process,
- Promotion for Public Access to encourage sign up to the automatic alerting system

- Build in public engagement for future developments of Public Access
- Review newspaper advertising
- Pre-application process, encouraging developers to engage with communities before submitting their proposals
- Review pre-application involvement with Ward Members to ensure Members are receiving early alerts of pre-application discussions on schemes within their Ward
- Develop Planning Officer skills and responsibilities for pre-application engagement
- Investigate further funding opportunities for Community Planners with Area Committees
- Improve the design of web content, providing clear information how to comment and what information can be considered
- Review methods to engage with the hard to reach groups
- Member training on planning for all Ward Members and offered to Town and Parish Councillors, with special reference to *rules of engagement* at the pre-application stage and community champion role

8.0 Recommendations

8.1 Members are recommended to:

- i. Note the contents of this report
- ii. Identify any further information the Board requires in respect to the evidence presented to date for consideration at Session 3 of this inquiry.
- iii. Consider the possible recommendations for improvements
- iv. Consider whether the Board has sufficient evidence to begin to identify recommendations for inclusion in its final report

Background Documents

CLG Development Management: Proactive planning from pre-application to delivery December 2009

CLG Publicity for planning applications- summary of responses December 2009

CLG Communities in Control Real People, Real Power, July 2008 Report. November 2008,

HMSO Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995 (GDPO)

HMSO Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

Leeds City Council Planning Services Protocol for Pre-application discussions with local communities and Ward Members, 2008

Leeds City Council Planning Services Pre-application Protocol, 2008

Leeds City Council Statement of Community Involvement February 2007

Leeds City Council Community Engagement Policy October 2006

Websites

http://hflibdems.org.uk/news/000181/hf_news_is_council_propaganda_masquerading_as_an_independent_newspaper.html

www.newspapersoc.org.uk/blog/index.php/2009/10/

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=868> Consumer Durables, Consumer durables ownership increases



Originator: Richard Mills

Tel: 247 4557

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 9th March 2010

Subject: Request for Scrutiny concerning the A65 Quality Bus Initiative

Electoral Wards Affected: Kirkstall in particular

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The attached request for scrutiny has been received from Councillor J Illingworth concerning the A65 quality bus initiative (QBI).
- 1.2 Councillor Illingworth has been invited to attend today's meeting to provide further detail to the Board as to the reasons for his request for scrutiny.
- 1.3 A representative from the City Development department will attend as an observer at this meeting. The representative will be able to respond to any points of clarification which may be raised.

2.0 Options for Investigations and Inquiries

- 2.1 When considering the request for scrutiny, the Scrutiny Board (City Development) shall determine:
 - what further information the Board needs before considering whether an inquiry should be undertaken
 - how the proposed inquiry meets criteria approved from time to time by the Scrutiny Advisory Group
 - whether the inquiry can be adequately resourced
 - whether an inquiry should be undertaken

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The Scrutiny Board is asked to consider;

- (i) The request for Scrutiny from Councillor J Illingworth.
- (ii) What, if any, information the Scrutiny Board requires from the City Development department before it can determine if it wishes to undertake an inquiry on this matter.

Background Papers

None referred to

From: Illingworth John
Sent: 21 January 2010 11:01
To: Rogerson Paul
Cc: Marrington Peter; Bartlett Gary; Kieran Preston; Bob Collins; bennh@parliament.uk; Battle MP John; david.marsh@ypn.co.uk
Subject: Request for Scrutiny A65 QBI

Dear Paul (bcc councillors)

I am writing further to the exchanges in the Council meeting yesterday afternoon about the A65 Quality Bus Scheme. This boat has got a hole in it, and it would be in the public interest for this defect to be disclosed.

I strongly support bus priority schemes, and hope to see many more, but there is a fundamental problem with the A65 QBI because the present proposals are badly designed and unlikely to work as intended. They will probably result in rat-running and make things worse for the electors than I represent. I have been pointing this out for several years, but every time that I do so, people avoid the central issue, and sometimes resort to personal attacks.

I have attached a plan "A65QBI.gif" which officers and members can double click to open on their Council computers. It is intended to print at A3 size, but it should be reasonably clear at A4. The following account has been slightly simplified in the interests of clarity.

(See attached file: A65QBI.gif)

The original scheme proposed in 1992 envisaged a **fully segregated** bus priority scheme, largely on the south western side of the existing road, but crossing over at the Kirkstall viaduct to follow the north east side outside ARLA foods. It is marked in purple on the map. This is a good scheme, underpinned by an improvement line, and I have always supported it strongly. The reason for the alignment is that it can be easily signalised and it largely avoids cutting across existing minor junctions. Please note the relationship to the River Aire.

Subsequently this excellent scheme was modified, without any effective public or councillor consultation, to delete the bus lanes between the points B and C on the map, **which is the most congested section of the route**. The revised scheme is no longer effectively segregated from the general traffic. Around this time, the Council very foolishly abandoned the A65 improvement line, for no good reason that has ever been disclosed.

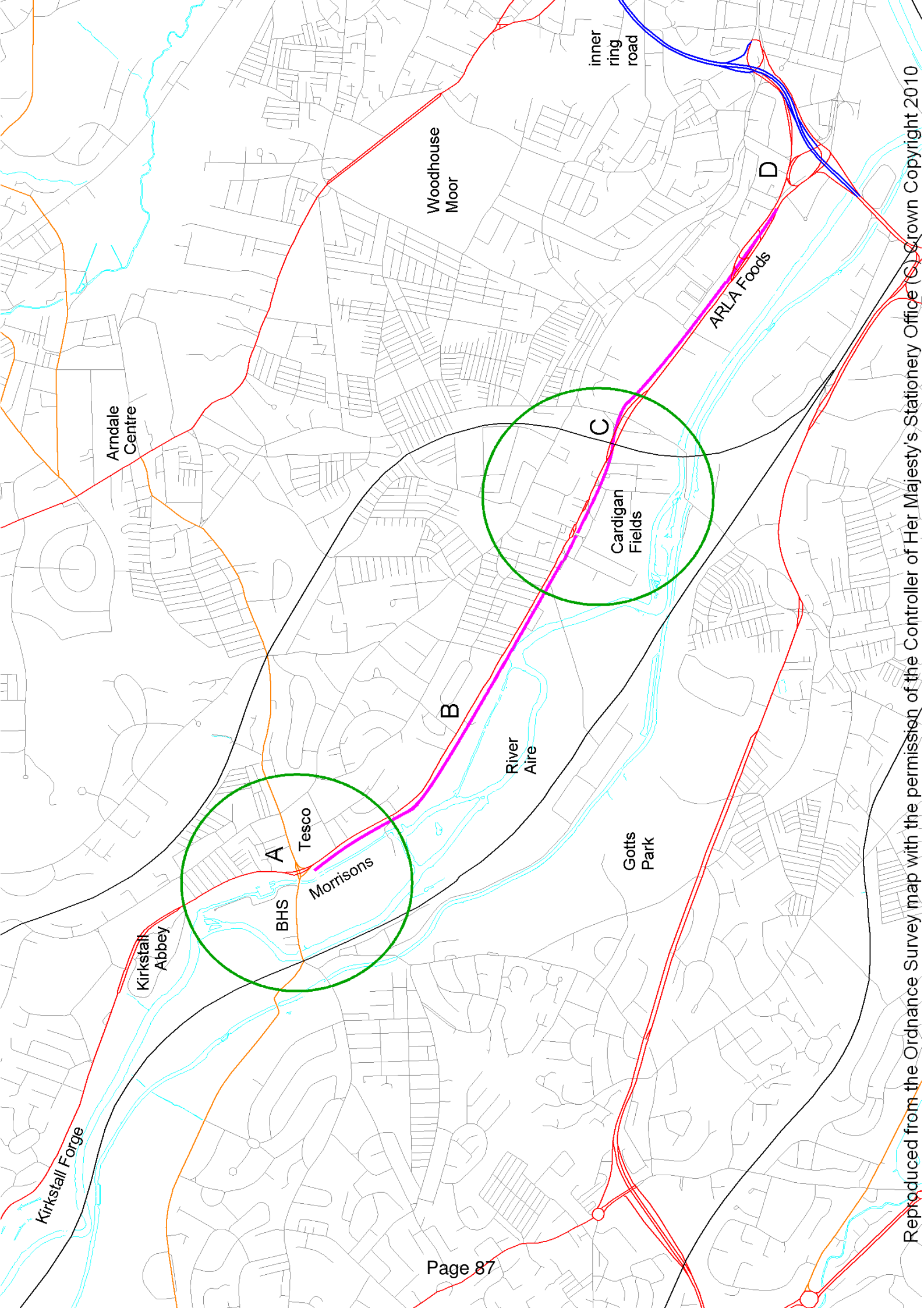
In order to make this cut down scheme operate, the engineers proposed bus gates and queue relocation systems near the points B and C on the map. I have repeatedly asked to see the full timing diagrams for the various traffic signals, but this essential information has never been released by the Council.

I have built my own models using the TRANSYT computer program for the junctions A and C both of which predict severe congestion at peak times and long traffic queues in all directions. In order to make this a fair test it is also necessary to include some neighbouring junctions, more or less indicated by the green circles on the map. It is also standard practice to include all reasonably anticipated developments in these models, which in this case includes the redevelopment of the Kirkstall Forge, BHS, Tesco and ARLA Foods / Yorkshire Chemicals sites.

I have repeatedly challenged the Council as the promoter of the A65 scheme to publish its own computer models of these junctions with all the reasonably anticipated development in place. The Council has consistently failed to do this, and I have concluded that the Council's engineers cannot make them work either. Instead the Council has released various incomplete and partial models which do not provide a proper test. I would support the present scheme if it could be shown to work.

I repeat my challenge to the Council. I presently do not believe that the Council's contractor can make these junctions "work". We will have to spend additional money in the future, "bodging" this scheme to make it function, but it is unlikely to be as good as the original 1992 plans. Please will you take this message as a formal request for a Scrutiny Inquiry into the traffic signal timings and anticipated queue lengths for the A65 Quality Bus Proposals. Officers and members will realise that I could be demolished in an instant if the Council published a working model, with all the reasonably anticipated developments in place. Please will Paul Rogerson, Kieran Preston and Bob Collins also take this message as a formal request for the publication of the traffic signal timings, vehicle flows and road capacities that were used to design the A65 Quality Bus Scheme, under the Freedom of Information Act.

John Illingworth



Arndale Centre

Woodhouse Moor

inner ring road

ARLA Foods

C

Cardigan Fields

B

River Aire

A
BHS

Tesco

Morrisons

Gotts Park

Kirkstall Abbey

Kirkstall Forge

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Originator: Richard Mills

Tel: 2474557

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 9th March 2010

Subject: Traffic Congestion - "Pinch Points"

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

1.1 At the last Scrutiny Board Members agreed to invite the Chief Highways and Transportation Officer to today's meeting to discuss actions that have or can be taken to reduce traffic congestion caused by "Pinch Points" in the city.

1.2 The Chief Highways and Transportation Officer has been invited to attend.

2.0 Background Paper

2.1 The Board on 16th December 2008 considered the attached report of the Director of City Development on key locations for congestion on the major highway network. Included within the report was information concerning locations specifically identified to the Board by Ward Members.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 Members are invited to discuss with the Chief Highways and Transportation Officer actions that have or can be taken to reduce traffic congestion caused by "Pinch Points" in the city.

Background information

None

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Report of the Director of City Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 16 December 2008

Subject: TRAFFIC CONGESTION – KEY LOCATIONS

Electoral Wards Affected:

ALL

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

Executive Summary

This report provides an update to the information provided to the Board about key locations for congestion on the major highway network as set out a previous report considered on 18 December 2007. Included within the report is information concerning locations specifically identified to the Board by Ward Members.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.1 This report provides an update on information previously considered by the Board.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The previous report of 18 December 2007 detailed the Local Transport Plan 2006-11 policies to tackle congestion in line with Government policies and guidance which for reference are as follows:

C1 Encourage the switch to public transport – by encouraging more travel by bus and rail and improving ticketing and information

C2 Manage the demand for travel – by the management of car parking and reallocation of road space

C3 Make best use of existing capacity – by urban traffic management and control and the provision of information

C4 Improve the highway network – by selective improvements and general highway maintenance

C5 Encourage more cycling and walking – by dealing with existing barriers, promoting the benefits and integration with public transport

C6 Promote Smarter Choices – by workplace travel planning measures and car club schemes

C7 Promote sustainable land use planning policies and practices

2.2 The understanding of the extent congestion and the location of “hot spots” is derived from several sources:

- Timed journeys
- Queue surveys
- Observations and analysis by Urban Traffic Management and Control
- Analysis of Global Positioning System data provided by the Department for Transport for the purposes of congestion monitoring
- Analysis of how congestion affects bus services in conjunction with Metro and the bus operators.

2.3 The previous report noted that there is no no universal standard definition of congestion which can occur as a result of number of issues:

- At junctions where the flow of traffic arriving exceeds the designed capacity of the site.
- On lengths of road where again the flow exceeds the design capacity of the road causing flows to break down with queuing and “shockwave” effects.
- Poor road user behaviour i.e. poor lane discipline, injudicious or inconsiderate turning movements, illegal or inappropriate parking.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Section 2 has provided a brief reminder of the issues relating to congestion that were the subject of the previous report. The previous report provided a schedule of the key locations on the network where congestion was a problem. These sites are reviewed in Appendix 1.

3.2 Prior to the December 2007 report Ward Members were invited to submit details of sites which were of interest of concern to them. These are detailed in Appendix 2 with a short position statement for each site.

3.3 In overall terms congestion is continuing to be managed as part of the overall approach set out in the LTP. In terms of progress, the highlights of 2008 are the completion of Leeds Inner Ring Road Stage 7 in November and the substantial completion of East Leeds Link which is expected to open to traffic within the next month.

3.4 The previous report presented plots showing peak period journey speeds derived from the GPS data provided by the Department for Transport. This data is being

constantly updated and a new contractor as now begun to supply this information which is being analysed. Over time the data is becoming more comprehensive, allowing the degree of accuracy to be increased. However, the visual plot has not significantly changed since last year and is therefore included at Figure 1 for Members information.

5 Legal And Resource Implications

5.1 This report raises no specific legal and resource implications.

6 Conclusions

6.1 This report has updated Members on the work to address congestion as part of the Local Transport Plan especially in terms of the sites previously identified to Members and also those raised by Members themselves. Additional updated information is provided in the appendices to this report concerning all these sites.

7 Recommendations

7.1 Members are requested to note and comment on the contents of this report.

8 Background information

8.1 Background documents relating to this report is as follows:

- i) Traffic congestion - key locations; Report to Scrutiny Board (City Development), 18 December 2007.

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APPENDIX 1

CONGESTION LOCATIONS ON THE MAJOR ROAD NETWORK (BASED ON MORNING AND EVENING PEAK DATA)

Reference	Road	Location	Description	Updated status
A58M	Leeds Inner Ring Road	Western end in vicinity of Armley Gyratory	Heavily congested route at peak times, particularly in the westbound direction. Some delays to bus services accessing West Leeds routes.	Limited scope for improvements to Armley Gyratory. Bus lane provided on the Wellington Road approach and consideration as to further optimisation of signal timings at the junction. Long standing requirement to improve situation of cyclists at this pinch point. Situation unchanged from previous report.
A58	Roundhay Road at	Harehills Corner	Congestion in the vicinity of Harehills Road and Easterly Road junctions affecting also B6159. Local demand for parking in the area of district centre.	Major improvement to the easterly Rod junction was made in 1995. Frontage use issues along Roundhay Road remain. HOV lane in preparation for inbound Roundhay Road approach. Study underway into provision of outbound bus priority lane including examination of road safety, congestion and parking. Planned scheme delivery 2009-10.
A58	Whitehall Road	Wortley	Inbound congestion at roundabout junction with A62 also affects a limited number of bus services.	In medium term there is potential for a bus lane which is restricted by available carriageway widths. Situation unchanged from previous report to review in final two years of current LTP programme.
A64	York Road	Harehills Lane	Outbound congestion also has affects on B6159.	Bus priorities bypass the congestion at this location which is managed as part of the overall East Leeds QBC scheme. Situation unchanged from previous report to review in final two years of LTP programme.
A63	Selby Road	Halton	Congestion on length through Halton area also having adverse impact on bus services	Limited scope for improvements as urban road serving local community with many junctions and frontage activity. History of local improvement works in Halton centre have helped pedestrians. Opening of East Leeds Link within the next month should have some

				beneficial impacts on traffic flows.
A65	Kirkstall Road	City centre to Kirkstall	Congested length of route with significant delays to bus services	Major quality bus corridor scheme in preparation utilising queue management to maintain traffic flows whilst offering bus services priority. Start of scheme planned for mid 2009 with two year construction programme.
A643	Ingram Distributor Road	Holbeck	Congested link between Armley Gyratory and M621	Junction with M621 has been partially signalised. Approaches to Armley Gyratory are constrained by railway arches. Situation unchanged from previous report.
A643	Bruntcliffe Lane	Morley	Localised congestion related to busy junctions and frontages	Limited scope for improvements as urban road serving local community with many junctions. History of local improvement and junction works. Situation unchanged since previous report.
A647	Armley Road	Armley (Branch Road) and Galloway Lane, Pudsey	Relates primarily to two busy junctions. Major junction with A6120 at Dawson's Corner signalised. Existing HOV lane inbound to Armley.	Consideration is being given to schemes which will improve the situation for buses to provide an enhanced quality bus corridor. Outbound bus lane proposals approved for development with view to a scheme during 2009-10.
A653	Dewsbury Road	Ring Road, Beeston	Localised congestion through Beeston centre and at "Tommy Wass junction"	Proposals for providing bus lane on the congested Ring Road leg of the Tommy Wass junction in detailed design for delivery during 2009-10.
A658	Harrogate Road	Yeadon	Localised congestion related to busy junctions and frontages	Incremental minor improvements have been made and will continue primarily in relation to the airport. Review of traffic impacts of airport expected as part of any planning application. Submission for A65 to A657 link road submitted to Regional Transport Board for consideration as part of the current Regional Funding Allocation review, post 2013-14 programme.
A660	Headingley Lane/Otley Road	Hyde Park to Weetwood	Congested length of route relating to busy junctions at Hyde Park and Headingley and numerous intermediate junctions. Has very significant impact on bus services. Well	Highway offers limited scope for further improvement or further optimisation of traffic signals. Phase 2 of Leeds New Generation Transport scheme. Interim package of bus

			used by cyclists with some pinch points.	priority enhancements in preparation for the corridor including examination of options for early introduction of park and ride facilities.
A6110	Ring Road	Wortley and Beeston	Localised congestion related to busy junctions including at A62 Gelderd Road. Impacts upon bus services including those accessing White Rose Centre.	Previous improvements have related to nearby retail centre and future changes may also arise through development proposals elsewhere. Situation unchanged since previous report.
A6120	Ring Road,	Junctions with the A58, A61, A63, A65 and A657	Localised congestion relating to individual junctions. All junctions pose an issue for public transport reliability. Limited inbound bus lane provided at A63. A660 junction is the least congested and has seen provision of a pedestrian crossing on the south leg.	Package of schemes prepared and submitted to Regional Transport Board for consideration as part of the current Regional Funding Allocation review, post 2013-14 programme. Subject to outcome development of priority schemes for A61, A65 and A657 junctions will commence during 2009-10 year.
B6154	Tong Road	Wortley	Localised congestion related to busy junctions and frontages.	Inbound bus lane has been provided as part of the Route 4 service improvement package and is being monitored. Situation unchanged since previous report.
B6157	Leeds and Bradford Road	Kirkstall	Localised congestion related to busy junctions.	Physical limitations to scope for future improvements. Inbound bus lane proposals to be considered as part of final two years of LTP programme.
B6481	Pontefract Road	Stourton	Localised congestion related to busy junctions and industrial frontages. Proximity to M1 and M621 a key factor.	Limited improvements to M1 junction 44. Further enhancements likely to follow as part of the Aire Valley Leeds investment programme and as a result of developments. Development of AVL transport options is continuing as part of LDF Area Action Plan preparation.

November 2008

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APPENDIX 2

CONGESTION SCRUTINY – UPDATES TO PREVIOUS MEMBER FEEDBACK

Ward Member	Comment	Action
C Townsley B Cleasby	A65 & A6120 request for action Proper solution to Horsforth roundabout	Proposals in report. Scheme proposals in preparation for submission to Regional Transport Board review of Regional Funding Allocation.
C Campbell	Radical strategy. Development contributions	Draft SPD now adopted for development control purposes.
J Dunn D Congreve	Middleton Ring Road, Tommy Wass junction at A653 Ring Road Beeston Park Whitehall Road to Domestic Street	Bus priority scheme in detailed design for expected implementation during 2009. Site previously reviewed and no cost effective scheme identified. To be re-visited as part of forward programme of bus partnership schemes. Will be reviewed as part of overall city centre strategy development programme.
D Congreve	Belle Isle Road, suggestion for improvement removing traffic calming and creation of bus lane. M621 Junction 2a Top Moor Side	Not in immediate programme. Limited congestion would not justify creation of a bus lane. Traffic calming has reduced road casualties but local improvements at East Grange Road junction in preparation. Also consideration of improvements for pedestrians at Windmill Road junction. City centre review issue, subject of ongoing review by Highways Agency including consideration of an option for closure.
E Nash B Atha	A65 and Burley Road Design of bus stop lay-bys and build outs (noted in particular Burley Road outbound at Willow Road)	A65 QBC scheme in preparation and Burley Road scheme now complete. Build outs and other measures are only being applied where this is the most effective way of allowing

		disabled access to buses. In general these assist with frontage parking and other issues. Where lay-bys are already provided especially adjacent to junctions these will be retained with appropriate DDA modifications. At the Burley Road site the stop is close to the main junction and only a sub-standard is physically possible but this should usually be sufficient for buses to pull out of the traffic.
P Ewens	Meanwood Road and A660 Suggestion for tidal flow	Bus priority proposals in development for Meanwood Road. Package of bus priority proposals in preparation for A660 corridor with view to implementation during 2009-10. Option has been considered but signing, road space requirements and needs of other road users make impractical for use on this corridor.
B Atha	Butcher Hill chicane	This site has been reviewed by traffic engineers. Has significantly improved conditions for pedestrians especially for journey to the adjacent high school who have strongly supported the measures. One letter of complaint received.
S Smith	A639 Pontefract Road suggestion of additional traffic lane	Site is being monitored following modifications to the signing etc. Indications are that the present arrangement works well at site where road safety issues had been raised. Will keep under review.
A Carter	Support for the enquiry	Noted
S Bentley	A660 Otley Road, congestion also suggest reminding drivers re off-peak use of the bus lanes	Route under review as noted elsewhere. Congestion is limited at off-peak times so little journey time benefit to be derived from use of bus lanes. However, at certain off-peak times congestion on approaches to Headingley would justify the extension of bus lane operating times to the full day (this could be achieved without adverse impact on general traffic travel times) Previously examined but concluded insufficient

	<p>Scott Hall Road, extend guideways through roundabouts and introduce tidal flow.</p> <p>Impacts of Leeds Grammar School on A61.</p> <p>Traffic blocking “yellow boxes” at junctions.</p>	<p>congestion benefits to justify high cost and disruption of construction. Tidal flow options are quite limited on Leeds roads due to frontage development, side road junctions and other activity which makes safe and effective introduction problematic.</p> <p>To be monitored now new school development is operating.</p> <p>Enforcement matter for Police but may be possible with cameras in due course with potential future powers taken under the Traffic Management Act.</p>
Former Councillor E Minkin	<p>Reminder to consider pedestrians and cyclists and issues raised by barrier rails for movement.</p> <p>Pedestrian pinch points on Loop, Merrion Gardens, St Peter’s Street and East Street</p>	<p>Matters being taken into account as part of design process. Bid lodged with Regional Transport Board for the Leeds Core Cycle Network major transport scheme to provide major step change in cycle provision and boost for cycling numbers.</p> <p>Review of city centre transport strategy to consider.</p>
R Feldman	<p>Clay Pit Lane at Woodhouse Lane</p> <p>A660 Woodhouse Lane corridor</p>	<p>Recent improvements to junction but limitations on further capacity. Site will fall under wider review of the city centre transport strategy.</p> <p>Note previous comments and proposals for enhanced bus priority measures to improve attractiveness of bus options on this route.</p>
M Lobley	<p>List of locations:- Scott Hall roundabout</p> <p>Stonegate Road/KingLane/Ring Road link and junctions</p> <p>Harrogate Road/Street Lane junction</p>	<p>Under consideration in conjunction with major scheme package being assembled for Ring Road junctions.</p> <p>Ditto above comment.</p> <p>Relates to signal capacity at busy junction in peak periods. Limited scope for improvement.</p>

	<p>Harrogate Road and rat-run on Blake Grove</p> <p>Chapelton Road and outbound exit from Sheepscar</p> <p>Roundhay Road at Harehills Corner</p> <p>Kirkstall Road at viaduct</p>	<p>Ditto above</p> <p>Scheme in preparation to provide extension to inbound bus lane at this location. Includes redesign of pedestrian crossing.</p> <p>Proposals for outbound bus lane in preparation including review of various parking arrangements. Easterly Road is being reviewed as site for potential inbound HOV lane.</p> <p>A65 QBC major scheme will improve Kirkstall Road to dual carriageway standard in both directions (2+ bus lane outbound; 1+bus lane inbound) further improvements would be expected in due course when major redevelopment takes place.</p>
J Procter	<p>Roundhay Road at Harehills Corner.</p> <p>Interest in "Red routes"</p>	<p>Ditto comments above.</p> <p>Red routes remain an option for future use. However still require special authorisation from the Department for Transport. Complex to introduce from traffic management perspective as restrictions prevent any stopping or loading and therefore to safeguard frontage uses it is necessary to provide loading and parking lay-bys etc.</p>

November 2008

Data have not been validated or flow weighted

Data source: Journey time information produced by the Mott MacDonald C-JAMS system based on historic vehicle tracker data used under licence from ITIS Holdings.

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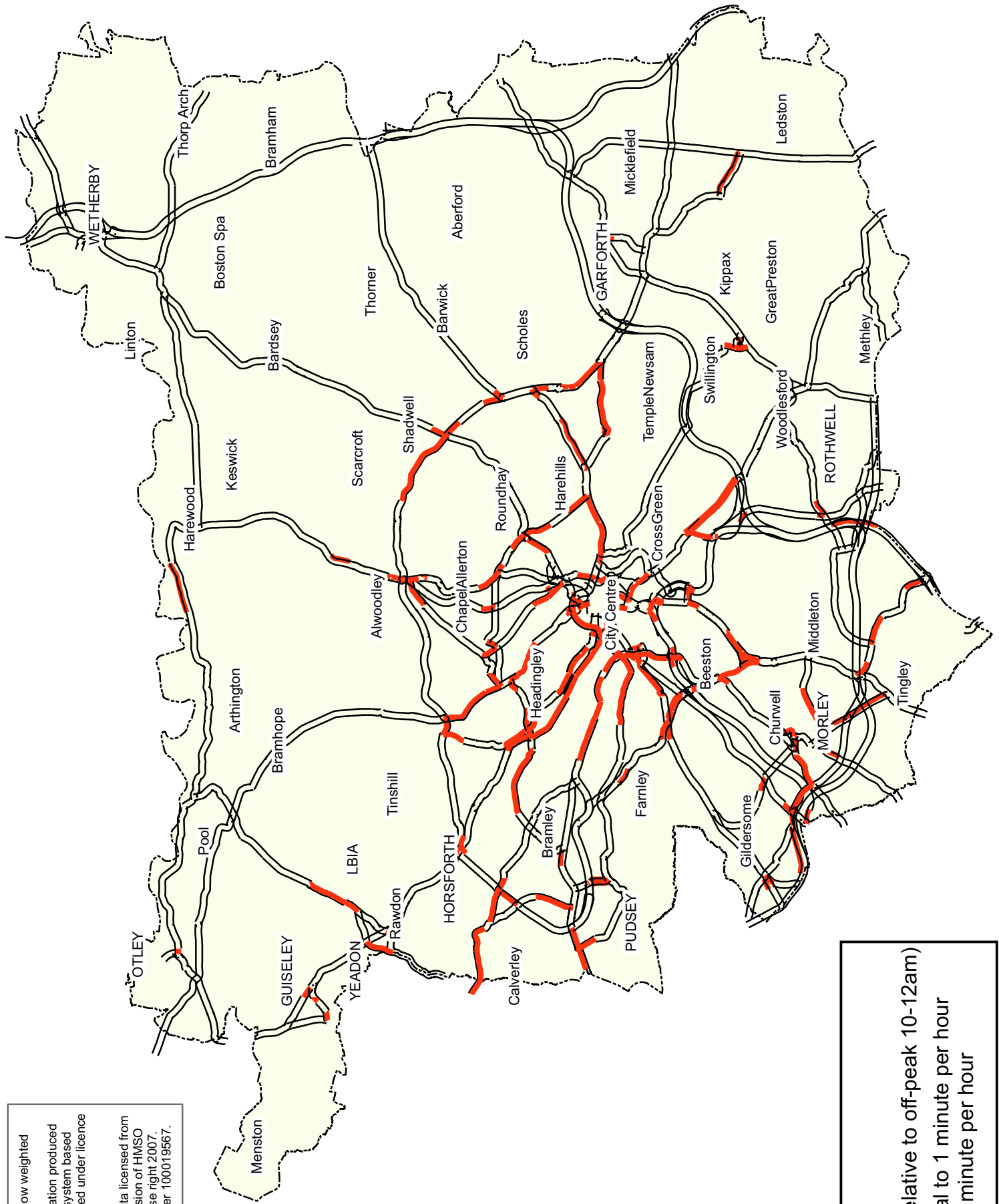


Figure 1
am/pm peak delay (relative to off-peak 10-12am)
— Less or equal to 1 minute per hour
— More than 1 minute per hour

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Data have not been validated or flow weighted

Data source: Journey time information produced by the Mott MacDonald C-JAMS system based on historic vehicle tracker data used under licence from ITIS Holdings.

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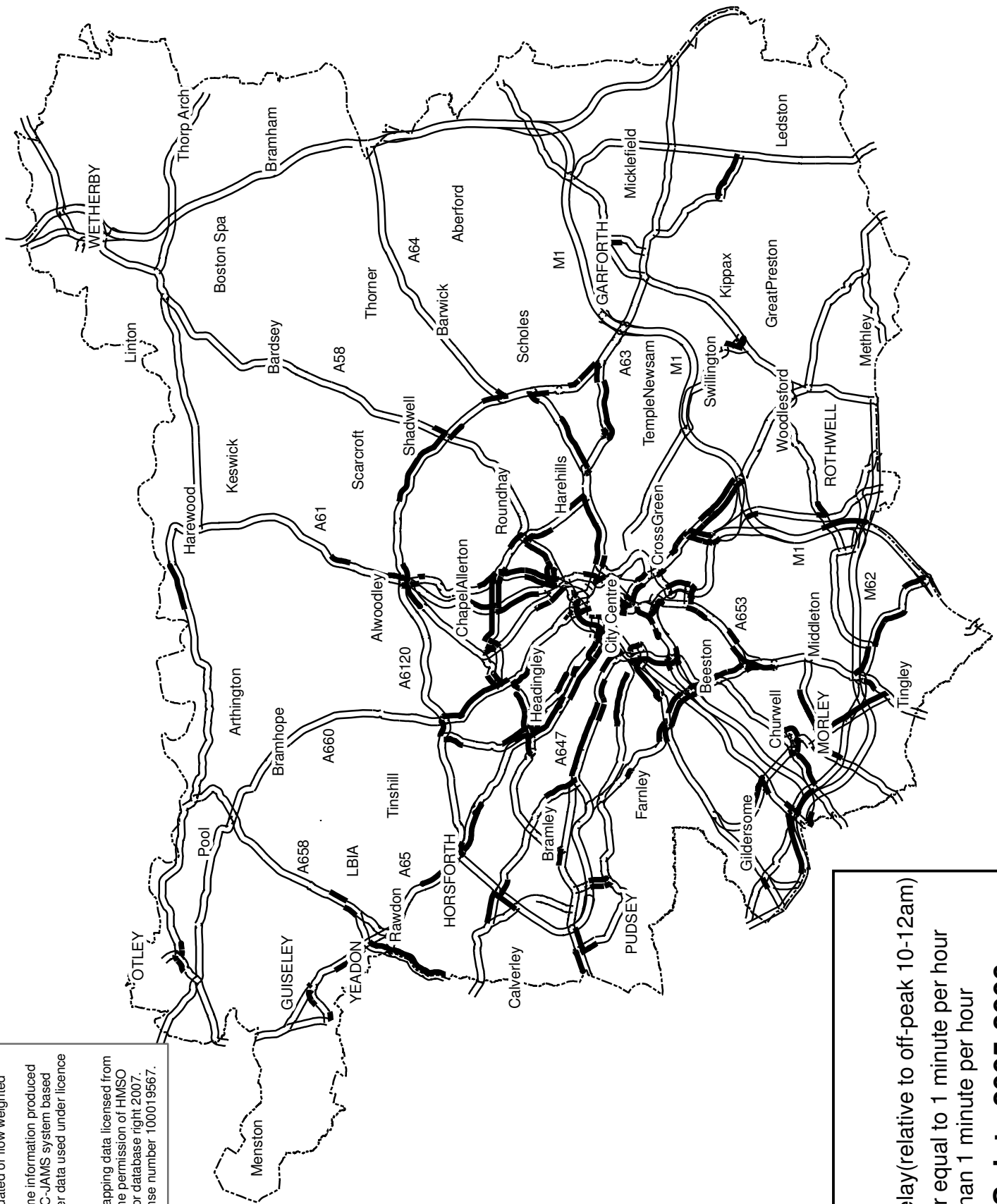


Figure 1
 am/pm peak delay (relative to off-peak 10-12am)

- Less or equal to 1 minute per hour
- More than 1 minute per hour

LEEDS ITIS data 2005-2006

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Originator: Richard Mills

Tel: 247 4557

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 9th March 2010

Subject: Request for Scrutiny - Loss of Land Allocated for Employment

Electoral Wards Affected: Horsforth in particular

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The attached request for scrutiny has been received from Councillor B Cleasby concerning the loss of land allocated for employment.
- 1.2 Councillor Cleasby has been invited to attend today's meeting to provide further detail to the Board as to the reasons for his request for scrutiny.
- 1.3 A representative from the City Development department will attend as an observer at this meeting. The representative will be able to respond to any points of clarification which may be raised.

2.0 Options for Investigations and Inquiries

- 2.1 When considering the request for scrutiny, the Scrutiny Board (City Development) shall determine:
 - what further information the Board needs before considering whether an inquiry should be undertaken
 - how the proposed inquiry meets criteria approved from time to time by the Scrutiny Advisory Group
 - whether the inquiry can be adequately resourced
 - whether an inquiry should be undertaken

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The Scrutiny Board is asked to consider;

- (i) The request for Scrutiny from Councillor B. Cleasby.
- (ii) What, if any, information the Scrutiny Board requires from the City Development department before it can determine if it wishes to undertake an inquiry on this matter.

Background Papers

None referred to

**Cleasby
Brian
<Brian.CI
easby@l
eeds.gov
.uk>**

To Pryke Ralph <Ralph.Pryke@leeds.gov.uk>

ccTownnsley Christopher
<Christopher.Townnsley@leeds.gov.uk>, Barker
Andrew <Andrew.Barker@leeds.gov.uk>

07/02/2010 18:09 Subject Horsforth Employment Land Inquiry.

Ralph, would you please consider an inquiry to look into the use of employment land, in and around Horsforth, for housing. Every piece of land designated for employment as it has become available is being built upon. This is putting enormous pressure on all our services, particularly Roads and Schools.

The Kirkstall Forge site, which touches the boundary with Horsforth has 540 Family homes planned. The Woodside site, in Weetwood but again on our border is similar in size. Ward Councillors are now faced with proposals in our own ward, Clariant, for 550 family homes.

How much longer before residents are commuting to London to work?

All along the upper Aire Valley, from High Royds Hospital to Asda and Yorkshire Chemical, next to the Inner Ring Road, thousands of houses are being built, planned or considered.

I have concerns that there is no plan and no planning. We have discussed it with Richard who says he agrees.

Would you please bring some sanity to the Council and investigate.

Regards, Brian Cleasby

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Originator: G Munson

Tel: 51767

Report of the Director of City Development

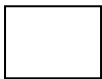
Scrutiny Board: City Development

Date: 9th March 2010

Subject: Climate change – LZC technology delivery and in our estate

Electoral Wards Affected:

All



Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Background

- 1.1 On the 1st September 2009, City Development Scrutiny Board received and discussed a background report outlining the importance of renewable energy in tackling climate change. Scrutiny Board agreed to concentrate on three key issues, namely:
 - a. Evaluating options for installing LZC (Low and Zero Carbon) energy as part of the corporate estate, with a focus on small, medium and large scale projects;
 - b. Development control processes to ensure that developments of over 10 dwellings or 1000 m² have at least 10% on-site LZC technologies;
 - c. The appropriate delivery structure to ensure that LZC energy, particularly large grid connected or on-site in major regeneration areas, was delivered.
- 1.2 The Board also agreed to discuss progress in planning policy to strategically plan for large-scale grid-connected renewable.
- 1.3 To allow for meaningful discussion, this has been split into two sessions. The first session (8th December 2009) covered planning issues (1.1.b. and 1.2) and this final session will focus on corporate issues (1.1.a. and 1.1.c.).
- 1.4 This report provides brief background and is structured so that sections 2, 3 and 4 focus on 1.1.a and section 5 focuses on 1.1.c. Although there are opportunities to provide LZC energy for transport (for example through the current trial of

biomethane refuse vehicles and diesel electric hybrids within our fleet) the issues are different so they are outside the scope of this report.

2.0 The need for LZC within the corporate estate

- 2.1 Leeds City Council is currently heavily dependent on fossil fuel based energy supplies for its buildings and schools. This dependency creates a business risk because of increasing costs of energy relating to scarcity and security of supply. Current annual costs to the authority are in the order of £20m and projected to increase in the future with energy costs projected to rise by 25-60% per year and carbon trading possibly adding penalties between £1-8m per year, depending on a number of market factors.
- 2.2 In order to prepare for this, a draft Carbon Reduction Framework has recently been discussed with the Environment Programme Board. This aims to set the strategic direction to make corporate buildings as close to carbon neutral as technically and financially viable by 2026. Carbon neutrality would remove all penalties for carbon emissions, and would to a great extent protect us from the worst of the cost implications of future energy scarcity.
- 2.3 The purpose of a Carbon Reduction Framework is to reduce Leeds City Council's current exposure to risk, because of its dependency on fossil fuels, by setting out a rationale for reducing corporate energy demand and transferring from current fossil-fuel based energy sources to LZC energy sources.
- 2.4 In the short-term, this will be achieved by improved energy efficiency and reducing corporate office-space, which still present significant cost-effective opportunities. In the longer term, significant amounts of on-site and off-site LZC energy will be required.
- 2.5 Elected Members have signalled a willingness to pursue a range of measures to reduce the Council's carbon footprint. It is recommended that Leeds pursue a 'mixed economy' approach to carbon reduction for the Council's estate and buildings based on a combination of:
- Reducing overall energy demand;
 - Developing large scale opportunities for low and zero carbon technologies to provide heat and power to Council buildings;
 - Developing small and medium scale opportunities for low and zero carbon technologies to provide heat and power to Council buildings.
- 2.6 Initial analysis suggests that to become carbon neutral the council will need to
- Reduce energy demand by the equivalent of 39,800 tCO₂. The majority of this (circa 31,000 tCO₂) can be saved by pursuing the Zero Carbon Schools Programme which seeks to make new schools zero carbon by 2016 and existing schools by 2021. The remainder would come from a mix of measures, including improved controls, more efficient boiler plant, heat recovery and pool covers at swimming pools, improved insulation and improved lighting equipment.
 - Generate renewable energy equivalent to 65,400 tCO₂. This will be explored in sections 3 and 4.

3.0 Opportunities for large scale renewables

- 3.1 Large scale renewable generation is often deployed away from centres of population in order to minimise impacts, with the exception of Combined Heat and Power (CHP) which, due to the expense of transporting heat over distances, needs to be located close to demand. The remote nature of large scale renewables means that the national grid is often used to transport electricity to demand. Therefore specific arrangements need to be put in place to ensure that electricity generated can be credited correctly.
- 3.2 The main technologies that are technically suitable and commercially viable at the large scale include:
- Large wind turbines;
 - Hydro-electric plant;
 - Energy from waste;
 - Combined Heat and Power with District Heating.
- 3.3 Further technical information regarding each of these technologies is given in appendix 1.
- 3.4 Initial analysis in mid-2009 suggested that the most appropriate technologies for the council, given consideration to technical and financial viability, were:
- Large wind turbines installed on land owned by the council could feasibly generate electricity equivalent to circa 48,000 tCO₂;
 - Archimedean screws and water-wheels installed in existing infrastructure in the Aire and Wharfe could generate electricity equivalent to circa 2,700 tCO₂;
 - Utilisation of electricity generated from residual waste could provide power equivalent to circa 4,000 tCO₂; Future schemes to digest food waste to produce natural gas could provide power up to 24,000 tCO₂;
 - Installation of CHP and District Heating networks in the city centre could generate energy equivalent to 1,200 tCO₂.
- 3.5 Whilst there are no examples of large scale renewables within our existing estate, the options are relatively limited and good progress is being made to explore the more promising ones, including:
- The council is working in partnership with the University of Leeds, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Leeds Met and Leeds Colleges to investigate the feasibility of extending the output from the existing Generating Station Complex to serve other city centre buildings. The initial options appraisal demonstrated that it is both technically feasible and financially viable. The next step is to secure formal agreement from all parties to proceed and to conduct a more detailed feasibility study.
 - The council is working with the Partnership for Renewables (a Carbon Trust Enterprises company) to plan, finance and project manage the installation of

large renewables, including wind, on our estate. Feasibility studies show that we own land on which up to 18 turbines could operate, which would meet half of the council's electrical load. This is a contentious area in planning terms, due to the proximity to the airport and public attitudes, but the recently approved 125m turbine at Knostrop, together with new technologies which masks turbines from radar, show that they are not impossible.

- Plans are currently being developed to propose archimedian screws at St Anne's Mill, Thwaites Mill and Armley Mill.

3.6 These opportunities are all in early stages of feasibility testing. Although from initial studies they all appear technically feasible and using outline Net Present Value modelling appear to be financially viable, we would still need to find capital (from reserves, through borrowing or as a joint venture) to make them happen. There are also many other issues such as precise locations, exact technologies, public acceptance, planning restrictions, etc that need to be addressed before capital finance is sought.

4.0 Opportunities for small to medium scale renewables

4.1 Small and medium scale renewable energy projects typically relate to single sites and generally replace only a part of the on-site fossil energy consumption with renewables. Technologies include:

- Solar thermal panels;
- Small to medium wind turbines;
- Photovoltaic cells;
- Biomass boilers;
- Heat pump technology.

4.2 Further technical information regarding each of these technologies is given in appendix 1.

4.3 Initial analysis in mid-2009 suggested that the most appropriate technologies for the council, given consideration to technical and financial viability, were:

- Use of biomass boilers in schools and other large sites could generate heat equivalent to circa 700 tCO₂;
- Use of solar thermal in sports centres, particularly those with swimming pools could generate heat equivalent to circa 1,300 tCO₂;
- Use of solar thermal technologies in other buildings for provision of hot water could generate heat equivalent to circa 7,500 tCO₂;

4.4 The principle reason that small scale renewables have not been adopted more widely in the UK is that they are typically capital intensive and while energy costs remain low, their simple-payback periods are long.

4.5 Other countries have stimulated their small-scale renewables market by introducing 'feed-in tariffs' which provide a guaranteed additional payment for each unit of electricity generated using specific renewable energy technologies. The UK government confirmed in early February that it would introduce a feed-in tariff (the Clean Energy Cashback) and announced the additional guaranteed payments. A selection of these are shown in the table below:

Technology	Scale	Tariff level for new installations in period (p/kWh)			Tariff lifetime (years)
		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	
Anaerobic digestion	>500kW	9	9	9	20
Hydro	>100kW - 2MW	11	11	11	20
MicroCHP	≤2 kW*	10	10	10	10
PV	≤4 kW (new build)	36.1	36.1	33	25
PV	≤4 kW (retrofit)	41.3	41.3	37.8	25
PV	>4-10kW	36.1	36.1	33	25
PV	>10 - 100kW	31.4	31.4	28.7	25
Wind	>1.5 - 15kW	26.7	26.7	25.5	20
Wind	>15 - 100kW	24.1	24.1	23	20
Wind	>100 - 500kW	18.8	18.8	18.8	20
Wind	>500kW - 1.5MW	9.4	9.4	9.4	20

4.6 This transforms the economics of small-scale renewable energy, particularly for retrofitted photovoltaics. Since this announcement was made, there has been insufficient time to assess the potential across the council buildings, but we intend to do this over the spring and early summer.

4.7 Within our existing estate, there are already a number of examples of small-scale renewables, including:

- Kippax North Junior and Infants School has both a wind turbine and photovoltaics;
- The new Garforth Library and One Stop Centre uses solar thermal;
- The John Charles Centre for Sports has a 15kW wind turbine and uses CHP.

4.8 There are plans to include small-scale renewables in a number of other schemes:

- The Leeds Arena will use a mix of renewable technologies, including solar thermal;
- Bankside school will include a range of technologies, including a large photovoltaic array.
- A number of schools in their early design stages in Building Schools for the Future program are including a range of technologies designed to reduce energy

consumption (e.g. by Passivhaus construction), and to produce on-site renewable energy.

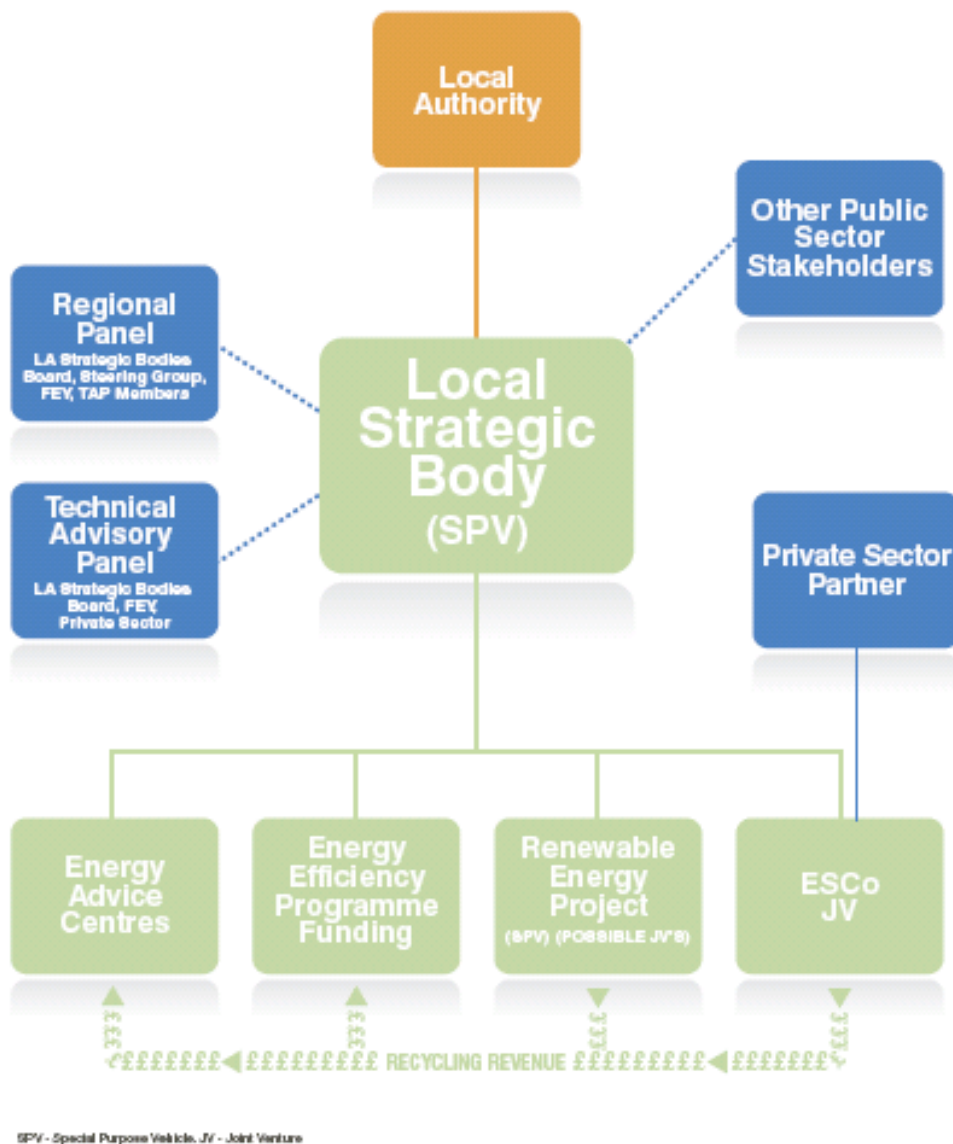
- 4.9 Unlike large scale renewables, these technologies have few major restrictions and are therefore easier and quicker to install. The principle drawback is that the return on investment is often very long, although the Clean Energy Cashback is helping to make investments more attractive. Additionally, by integrating renewables into the design of new buildings or major retrofits (for example using photovoltaics as shades for windows or replacing gas boilers with biomass ones) the additional costs can be minimised.

5.0 Developing the delivery structure – Energy Leeds

- 5.1 At earlier meetings, Scrutiny have been updated regarding Leeds' developing land-use planning policies (as set out in the emerging Core Strategy and Natural Resources and Waste Development Plan Documents) for renewable energy. These policies will help to guide proposed renewable energy development to the most appropriate locations in response to market demand.
- 5.2 In addition to this approach, early work has commenced on developing a proactive approach to energy infrastructure whereby the Council can act to facilitate large-scale low and zero carbon energy infrastructure in a more strategic manner. This work has developed out of Leeds City Council's participation in a regional project with Future Energy Yorkshire (FEY - now CO2Sense) to develop a framework for low carbon energy initiatives.

Main issues

- 5.3 The city of Leeds has no local energy policy and no entity or agency with responsibility for developing a policy and taking a strategic overview of energy requirements and future energy management in the city. The FEY project recommended that local authorities consider establishing such a body "to provide local authorities with a focused vehicle for interpreting, prioritising and overseeing the delivery of local authority low carbon energy policies".
- 5.4 The diagram below illustrates how a strategic body would be responsible for the delivery of energy related activities and would provide a mechanism by which funds can be invested in economically attractive low-carbon energy projects, with revenues recycled to support less attractive projects and to assist in funding the development of future projects.



Practical projects in Leeds

5.5

There is no shortage of potential low carbon energy initiatives already running in the city or being developed, for which a strategic body for energy services could provide the strategic oversight:-

- Urban eco settlements in the Aire Valley;
- Retrofitting existing housing stock (public and private) to reduce carbon emissions and address fuel poverty;
- The Council's role as a corporate landlord in owning and managing energy issues in a large number of municipal buildings;
- Generating electricity on Council-owned land such as currently being explored with the Partnership for Renewables, a Carbon Trust backed enterprise, working with the public sector to develop and manage onsite renewable energy projects;
- The potential presented by the forthcoming Residual Waste Treatment Facility and other sources of heat, together with existing and new sources of energy demand (e.g. the Arena) in the city to participate in a district heating scheme. A

feasibility study has been carried out to investigate a district heating network for the civic quarter;

- The potential to generate and utilise low carbon transport fuels as part of the NGT;
- The Eastgate project, when it recommences, will include an ESCo, details to be confirmed and the Council is already seeking to support this;
- The potential of introducing an ESCo in Holbeck as a trailblazer for other regeneration areas in the city;
- The provision of energy efficiency advice and addressing fuel poverty as currently carried out by the Fuelsavers team within Neighbourhoods and Environment;
- There is potential to develop a neighbourhood heat network project based on existing electrically heated flats / multi storey buildings;
- Householder investment in new technologies (eg Ground Source heat pumps) funded by recycling money;
- Accelerated development of low carbon homes;
- Advising developers on suitable approaches to meeting planning policy requirements for renewables/CHP and facilitating delivery of on-site, near-site and off-site energy;
- Attracting finance and facilitating energy efficiency improvements to commercial and industrial sites, focussing on regeneration areas and leasehold properties.

5.6 Many of these projects are either already in place or at an advanced stage of development, yet there is no mechanism in place to seek synergies or efficiencies between these projects.

Policy drivers

5.7 The principal council policies (Leeds Strategic Plan and Council Business Plan 2008-11) now prioritise climate change, linked to the new National Indicators. The Leeds Strategic Plan includes commitments to:

- Reduce ecological footprint through responding to environmental and climate change (NI186);
- Reduce emissions from public sector buildings, operations and service delivery, and encourage others to do so (NI185);
- Undertake actions to improve our resilience to current and future climate change (NI188).

5.8 The recently adopted Climate Change Strategy; Vision for Action includes a target to reduce emissions from Leeds by 80% between 2005 and 2050 and outlines a number of areas of activity to achieve this. These include activities that may come under the remit of a Strategic Body such as home energy efficiency and low carbon energy infrastructure projects.

- 5.9 The national consultation on the Government's Heat and Energy Saving Strategy outlines several key policy proposals:-
- All homes to have received a 'whole house' energy makeover by 2030 with all lofts and cavity walls insulated by 2015;
 - Comprehensive energy saving information and advice to be made available to everyone;
 - Development of new financial measures to allow costs to be more than offset by energy savings;
 - Consideration of a new delivery model to ensure greater co-ordination;
 - Changes to Building Regulations to extend energy saving requirements;
 - A new focus on district heating in sustainable communities;
 - Encouragement of combined heat and power and better use of surplus heat.
- 5.10 Some of these measures were included in £1.4bn package of measures to reduce UK carbon emissions announced in the Government's recent budget. In addition, the Government will be consulting on a Renewable Heat Initiative (RHI) to encourage heat generated from renewable sources (e.g. air- and ground-source heat pumps, biomass fuelled stoves and boilers, solar-thermal water heaters and combined heat and power (CHP) plants which are fuelled from renewable sources) later this year.
- 5.11 Building regulations are gradually being tightened and once homes and buildings are required to reach the higher levels of performance in the Code for Sustainable Homes and zero carbon requirements in 2016 (homes) and 2020 (other buildings), it is generally recognised that these higher standards are very difficult to achieve without some form of off or near site renewable energy production or combined heat and power together with associated behaviour change by the occupants to make the most of living in a low-energy development. A scenario can be envisaged therefore where future developers are seeking to commission renewable or low-carbon technologies together with energy saving advice for occupants as part of their developments. If the city is prepared by having a strategic body in place which can take responsibility for advising developers on this, it will make Leeds a more attractive proposition for developers.
- 5.12 In the longer term the existence of a Strategic Body would provide a channel for any potential government or regional funding for low carbon energy measures and could also assist in the aim to develop a low carbon infrastructure for the city to attract commercial interest and ensure Leeds' competitiveness in a future which is likely to favour resource efficient economies. There are also potential advantages in Leeds having greater energy resilience and having greater control over energy supply and management.
- Energy Leeds Project Board**
- 5.13 A Project Board has recently been established to investigate and make recommendations on whether and how Leeds could establish a Strategic Body for energy services (working title 'Energy Leeds'). The outcome of the project will be a

clear way forward on the steps that need to be taken to establish a strategic body if the project finds that there are advantages in having such a body.

- 5.14 To date the Project Board have scoped the likely functions of a Strategic Body as
- assessment of present and future city-wide energy needs,
 - providing a strategic overview of sustainable energy production opportunities for the city of Leeds and it's hinterland (e.g. working with CO2Sense to provide heat maps, grid connection maps, renewable resource maps, transport maps etc),
 - making the most efficiency use of existing (eg civic quarter CHP) and future energy assets,
 - city-wide coordination of renewable energy and carbon reduction opportunities made available by more stringent planning laws (i.e. facilitating shared use of low carbon technologies between neighbouring developments),
 - the provision of technical help and advice to public and private sector organisations in developing renewables and carbon reduction schemes,
 - help and advice regarding funding and financing options including organising revenue recycling between projects and providing an interface (possibly through a separate ESCo) to buy/sell energy from new projects.
- 5.15 The Project Board have identified the scope of the project as seeking to deliver:
- An audit of existing and imminent energy related projects and initiatives in Leeds;
 - A heat network audit making use of the energy mapping tool developed by Future Energy Yorkshire;
 - Following the framework developed for the Future Energy Yorkshire regional project, recommendations on whether and how to establish a Strategic Body for energy services in Leeds covering:
 - The need for a strategic body
 - Objectives of a strategic body
 - Legal form of the strategic body
 - Financial operation of the strategic body
 - The next steps required to establish a strategic body
- 5.16 Clearly the possibility of creating a new city-wide agency with responsibility for energy services is a significant undertaking. Potential benefits of a strategic body include:
- the provision of a strategic overview of energy which does not exist at present and which is likely to be an important consideration in the future;

- an agency with the ability to identify and map existing and potential 'heat networks' across the city, communicating with and sharing information on practical projects;
- an agency with a clear single focus who could take responsibility for the tendering and procurement of specific local projects delivered by separate Special Purpose Vehicles or Joint Venture ESCOs;
- sends a strong signal to partners and investors.

5.17 Potential risks include:

- costs of establishing a body with some restructuring within the Council likely to be necessary;
- political and legal issues;
- financial complexity of how the strategic body would operate and ensure appropriate financial arrangements are in place between separate energy projects.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 Scrutiny Board is invited to note and comment on the contents of this report.

Appendix 1 - RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

Wind turbines

A wind turbine harnesses energy from the wind to produce electricity. The most common design is of three blades mounted on a horizontal axis, which is free to rotate into the wind on a tall tower or mast. The blades drive a generator either directly or via a gearbox (generally for larger machines) to produce electricity for consumption on site or sale to the grid. Modern designs can be very quiet in operation.

Wind turbines can be mounted on masts that are free-standing or tethered with wire guys. The greatest amount of power will be generated if turbines have a constant supply of steady wind, which is dependent on the site having a good wind profile (average wind speed of 5-6 m/s or higher) and being free of obstructions such as trees or buildings.

Wind turbines are amongst the most cost-effective renewables, on the right site. The main drawbacks are that not every site is suitable and negative perceptions amongst some local residents, based around outdated expectations of noise and subjective visual objections. For any wind-turbine application, it is essential to involve local residents early on in the design and make sure that photomontages are made available to allay fears.

In Leeds, there are only a few sites that are suitable for the largest (125m tall) turbines due to the large resident population, the number of high-quality environments, generally low wind-speeds and conflicts with radar. Smaller turbines have some potential even in these areas but give poorer returns on investment.

Biomass

Biomass, a renewable energy source, is biological material derived from living, or recently living organisms, such as wood, waste, vegetable oils and alcohol fuels. Forest residues, wood chips, waste organic material from fibre or food production and specifically grown energy crops (such as miscanthus, switchgrass, hemp, corn, poplar, willow, sorghum, sugarcane and a range of tree species) are all classified as biomass.

There are a number of technological options available to make use of the wide variety of biomass types as a renewable energy source. Conversion technologies may release the energy directly, in the form of heat or electricity, or may convert it to another form, such as liquid biofuel or combustible biogas. Examples include:

Thermal conversion - these are processes in which heat is the dominant mechanism to convert the biomass into another chemical form. The most common technology is combustion based (biomass boilers or CHP) but pyrolysis and gasification are growing in popularity.

Chemical conversion - a range of chemical processes may be used to convert biomass into other forms, such as to produce a fuel that is more conveniently used, transported or stored, or to exploit some property of the process itself.

Biochemical conversion - makes use of the enzymes of bacteria and other micro-organisms to break down biomass. In most cases micro-organisms are used to perform the conversion process: anaerobic digestion, fermentation and composting.

In Leeds there are many woods, both council and non-council, that are currently under-managed. Bringing these woodlands into a management regime would enable biomass to

be extracted in a controlled manner, without a significant impact on biodiversity, amenity, or leisure usage.

Energy from Waste

Energy from waste (EfW) is the process of creating energy in the form of electricity or heat from waste. EfW is therefore a form of energy recovery to recoup some value from waste materials. Most EfW processes use a form of thermal combustion (typically incineration) to produce electricity directly with some heat recovery, or produce a combustible fuel commodity, such as methane, methanol, ethanol or synthetic fuels.

There are a number of other new and emerging technologies that are able to produce energy from waste and other fuels without direct combustion. Many of these technologies have the potential to produce more electric power from the same amount of fuel than would be possible by direct combustion.

Common thermal technologies include gasification and pyrolysis and common non-thermal technologies are anaerobic digestion and fermentation.

Hydropower

Hydropower, or water power, is power derived from the force of moving water, which may be harnessed for useful purposes. Most types of modern hydropower are used to generate electricity.

Small scale hydro or micro-hydro power has been increasingly used as an alternative energy source, especially in remote areas where other power sources are not viable. Small scale hydro power systems can be installed in small rivers or streams with little or no discernible environmental effect on things such as fish migration.

The main considerations in a micro-hydro system installation are: a sufficient and consistent flow of water, the height difference between the intake and the exit and compliance with legal and regulatory issues.

In Leeds, there is potential to install modern small scale hydro on both the river Aire and Wharfe, using some of the old civil engineering works associated with old mills. Modern Archimedian screws (slow moving encased corkscrews) can generate around 250kW of electricity on a good site and are considered to be 'fish-safe' and relatively quiet and unobtrusive. It is considered that the two rivers could contribute the equivalent of two large scale wind turbines, however, Leeds City Council owns only three of the many extraction points available

Combined heat and power (CHP)

CHP uses a heat engine or a power station to simultaneously generate both electricity and useful heat. CHP uses heat that would be wasted in a conventional power plant, potentially reaching an efficiency of up to 89%, compared with 55% for the best conventional plants. This means that less fuel needs to be consumed to produce the same amount of useful energy.

CHP is most efficient when the heat can be used on site or very close to it. However, an exact match between the heat and electricity needs rarely exists. A CHP plant can either meet the need for heat needs on site or use district heating to transfer excess heat to neighbouring developments.

Overall efficiency is reduced when the heat must be transported over longer distances. This requires heavily insulated pipes, which are expensive and inefficient; whereas electricity can be transmitted along a comparatively simple wire, and over much longer distances for the same energy loss.

In Leeds there already exist a number of CHP units (notably at St James's hospital, at the Carlsberg-Tetley brewery and on the University of Leeds/LGI campus). There are major opportunities to develop new CHP schemes across Leeds with advanced plans to integrate CHP with the Eastgate/Harewood development, to expand the University/LGI scheme and in Holbeck Urban Village.

The biggest challenges for CHP in Leeds are raising sufficient capital finance and ensuring that new developments commit to using the heat to give investors certainty over financial returns.

Air or ground-sourced heat pumps

A heat pump is a machine that moves heat from one location (the 'source') to another location (the 'sink' or 'heat sink') using mechanical work. The most commonly understood heat pumps are fridges and freezers, which exploit the physical properties of evaporating and condensing fluids, known as refrigerants.

Recently, reversible-cycle heat pumps have started to be commonly used to provide thermal comfort in homes and offices. These heat pumps use a vapour-compression refrigeration device that includes a reversing valve and optimized heat exchangers so that the direction of heat flow may be reversed. Most commonly, heat pumps draw heat from the air or from the ground, but liquid source heat pumps are not unknown at riverside and lakeside sites.

Ground-sourced heat pumps require heat capturing coils filled with a heat transfer fluid to be laid in trenches or in deep bore holes, depending on the ground available. As the ground temperature stays relatively constant these provide good consistent heat sources. Air source heat pumps resemble air-conditioning units and upgrade heat from external air to a useful temperature for internal heating. Typically, below about -5°C air source heat pumps struggle.

Ground and air source heat pumps have good potential in Leeds. School sites are seen as being particularly useful where large playing fields would provide suitable ground resources.

Photovoltaics (solar cells)

Solar photovoltaic (PV) systems use energy from the sun to convert solar radiation into electricity, which can be used directly to run appliances and lighting or sold to the national grid.

PV systems perform best in direct sunlight, but continue to perform well in reduced light conditions. Systems come in various forms including solar tiles, roof-integrated panels and on-roof panels. PV systems are also available for cladding buildings, forming brises-soleil, and covering walkways.

PV systems main benefits are their flexibility, suitability to many situations, ease of installation, low maintenance and production of electricity in the day when it is most needed. Their main drawback is that they are expensive with long-payback periods, although, in the right circumstances, the feed-in tariffs mentioned above significantly reduce these drawbacks.

Solar thermal (solar panels)

Solar panels can be fitted onto or integrated into a building's roof and use the sun's energy to heat a heat-transfer fluid which passes through the panel.

The fluid is fed to a heat store (e.g. a hot water tank) to provide part of the domestic hot water demand for the building. Usually another heat source will be needed to supplement collectors in winter months. Solar panels can also be used to heat swimming pools, where heat is needed all year round for pool heating and for showering.

Solar thermal installations' main benefits are their relatively low capital costs and ease of maintenance. The drawback is that they are not suitable for integration to all existing heating systems, heat production doesn't always match demand profiles (unless excess heat can be 'dumped' to a swimming pool) and the value of energy generated is currently relatively low.

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Originator: R L Mills

Tel: 2474557

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 9th March 2010

Subject: Work Programme, Forward Plan of Key Decisions and Latest Executive Board Minutes

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Appendix 1 to this report provides Members with a copy of the Board's current Work Programme.
- 1.2 Appendix 2 is the current Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 1st March to 30th June 2010.
- 1.3 Appendix 3 provides Members of the Board with the latest Executive Board minutes.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Board is requested to:
 - (i) Determine from these documents whether there are any additional items the Board would wish to add to its work programme.
 - (ii) Receive and make any changes to the attached work programme following decisions made at today's meeting.

Background Papers

None used

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Scrutiny Board (City Development) - Last Revised 19th February 2010

Appendix 1

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES	TYPE OF ITEM
Meeting date: 9th March 2010		Reports required by 17th February 2010	
Session 2 (continued) Inquiry to Review the Method by which Planning Applications are Publicised and Community Involvement takes place	To hear from any further witnesses and discuss the Board's initial final report and recommendations	The Board agreed to extend session 2 in order to hear from witnesses who could not attend the Board meeting on 9th February 2010	RP/DP
Quarterly Accountability Reports	To receive quarter 3 performance reports	This is the regular performance report	PM
Performance Indicator NI 157 - Majors	To consider a report of the Director of City Development on this national indicator in detail	<p>Scrutiny Board on 1st September 2009 in considering the performance reports of the department in Q1 requested to consider this target on major planning applications including some case studies.</p> <p>The Chair has agreed that that because of pressures in the department and the number of items to be considered at today's meeting that a full report on this issue will be submitted to the first Board meeting in the new municipal year.</p>	RP/B

Scrutiny Board (City Development) - Last Revised 19th February 2010

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES	TYPE OF ITEM
Playbuilder Initiative	To consider a further update from the Director of Children's Services on this initiative	An initial report was considered by the Board on 1st September 2009. Due to the number of items today it has been agreed with the Chair that this report will now be submitted to the Board meeting in April 2010.	DP
Climate Change	To evaluate the options for installing LZC energy as part of the corporate estate with a focus on small, medium and large scale projects. To consider the appropriate delivery structure to ensure that LZc energy, particularly large grid connected or on-site in major regeneration areas, was delivered	The Board agreed to consider 3 key issues on 1st September 2009	
Request for Scrutiny A65 QBI	To consider a request for scrutiny from Councillor J Illingworth concerning the A65 QBI	This request was received on 21st January 2010	RFS
Request for Scrutiny Loss of Employment Land	To consider a request for scrutiny from Councillor B Cleasby concerning the loss of employment land	This request was received on 7th February 2010	RFS

Scrutiny Board (City Development) - Last Revised 19th February 2010

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES	TYPE OF ITEM
Meeting date: 6th April 2010 Reports required by 17th March 2010			
Legible Leeds Project	To consider a progress report	Board on 13th October 2009 considered a report on this issue and requested a further update in February . As the contract for this project was only let in January 2010 it is proposed that a report be now brought to the Board in April 2010.	B/DP
Recommendation Tracking	To monitor progress on meeting the recommendations agreed in 2009/2010		MSR
Annual Report	To consider the Board's Annual Report for 2009/10	This is in accordance with the Scrutiny Procedure Rules	
Session 3 Inquiry to Review the Method by which Planning Applications are Publicised and Community Involvement takes place	To consider the Board's final report and recommendations		RP/DP

Key: CCFA / RFS – Councillor call for action / request for scrutiny
 RP – Review of existing policy
 DP – Development of new policy
 MSR – Monitoring scrutiny recommendations
 PM – Performance management
 B – Briefings (Including potential areas for scrutiny) SC – Statutory consultation
 CI – Call in

Scrutiny Board (City Development) - Last Revised 19th February 2010

Issues Identified but not yet included in Work Programme

1. Leisure Centres and Vision for Sport /sport centre closures- report going to Executive Board July 2009. Scrutiny Board would like to consider to have input to the 5 year vision and perhaps do some further scrutiny
2. Report requested updating members on work to improve signage in the station area and city centre and the Civic Trust proposals.
3. Agreed that arrangements be made for Members of the Scrutiny Board to visit the building site of the new well being PFI leisure centre site at Morley as soon as the new build has progressed to make the visit worthwhile.
4. Report requested on Review of Libraries - new technology, opening hours, greater use of mobile libraries, building maintenance.
5. Update report requested from Marketing Leeds and the role it plays in marketing Leeds nationally and internationally
6. Concerns expressed by Members as to the lack of publicity and promotion of "gems" in the city some privately owned (Wetherby racecourse, Harewood House) and the many events like concerts, Chapeltown Carnival, St George's Day
7. Report on the outcome of the trial of a designated barbecue area on Woodhouse Moor probably September 2010
8. The Board in December 2008 asked that further scrutiny be undertaken of the work being carried out to the City Varieties during 2009.
9. Possible issue raised by the Board in June 2008 for consideration later in the year - Review of the Environmental Policy and EMAS.

APPENDIX 2



FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

1 March 2010 – 30 June 2010

LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

For the period 1 March 2010 to 30 June 2010

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made and email address to send representations to)
Leeds Arena, Proposed Appointment of Technical Monitoring Advisor To appoint a technical monitoring advisor on the proposed arena development for the duration of the design and build stage of the project.	Director of City Development	1/3/10	Arena Project Board	Report to Director of City Development	Director of City Development martin.farrington@leeds.gov.uk

<p>Holbeck Urban Village - Section 106 Monies and Priorities for Spend To support the dark arches and green linkages projects as priorities for spend of section 106 monies</p>	<p>Chief Planning Officer</p>	<p>1/3/10</p>	<p>Wide ranging public consultation has previously been undertaken on the schemes under the remit of the HUV Public Realm Project Board and reported through regularly to the HUV Partnership Board. The report identifying the priorities for spend has been approved by the HUV Public Realm Board. The HUV Partnership Board to be consulted on the 4th March.</p>	<p>Report</p>	<p>Chief Planning Officer vanessa.allen@leeds.gov.uk</p>
<p>Morley Conservation Area To amalgamate and extend the Morley Town Centre and Morley Dartmouth Park Conservation Area into the Morley Conservation Area and adopt the Morley Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan as non-statutory planning guidance</p>	<p>Chief Planning Officer</p>	<p>1/3/10</p>	<p>Ongoing consultation since May 2008 with the local community, Ward Members, Morley Town Council and other bodies</p>	<p>Report and Morley Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan</p>	<p>Chief Planning Officer richard.taylor@leeds.gov.uk</p>

Tall Buildings Design Guide To approve the Tall Buildings Design Guide as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	Chief Planning Officer	1/3/10	Consultation on the draft document has already taken place consistent with the relevant requirements	Executive Board Report	Chief Planning Officer henry.skrzypecki@leeds.gov.uk
Grants to Major Arts Organisations Approve levels of funding	Chief Officer Libraries, Arts and Heritage	4/3/10	Applications subject to scrutiny by appropriate officers	Grant applications of Major Arts Organisations	Chief Officer Libraries, Arts and Heritage catherine.blanshard@leeds.gov.uk
New Generation Transport (NGT) Transport and Works Order To approve the proposed NGT alignment for the Transport and Works Order (TWAQ) Submission	Executive Board (Portfolio: City Development)	10/3/10	Ongoing with key stakeholders, the bus operators, affected residents, Ward Members and Area Committees	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) francis.linley@leeds.gov.uk
Former Royal Park School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of offers for disposal of property • Consideration of request to waive payment of Court costs 	Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeneration)	10/3/10	Hyde Park and Woodhouse and Headingley Ward Members	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of City Development john.ramsden@leeds.gov.uk

Review of Local Development Schemes To agree changes to the current scheme	Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeneration)	10/3/10	Executive Member	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of City Development steve.speak@leeds.gov.uk
Large Casino Licence To agree the commencement of the process for the award of the large casino licence	Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeneration)	10/3/10	n/a	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of City Development martin.farrington@leeds.gov.uk
Community Asset Strategy Approval requested	Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeration)	10/3/10	Asset Management Board 24 th July	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of City Development john.ramsden@leeds.gov.uk
Investment Strategy for South Leeds - Progress Report and Changes to the Board Note and support the programme and changes to the Board	Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeneration)	10/3/10		The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of City Development phil.crabtree@leeds.gov.uk

<p>Holbeck Urban Village Programme - Priorities and Governance Arrangements To support the proposed governance arrangements set out in the report. To support the boundary change to HUV as set out in the report</p>	<p>Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeneration)</p>	<p>7/4/10</p>	<p>HUV Partnerships Board (4th March), Beeston Hill and Holbeck Board, Leeds Property Forum, Neighbourhoods and Housing, Yorkshire Forward</p>	<p>The report to be added to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting</p>	<p>Director of City Development colin.mawhinney@leeds.gov.uk</p>
<p>A653 Dewsbury Road Bus Priority Measures, Ring Road, Beeston Park Bus Lane Permission to construct the scheme, subject to satisfactory funding arrangements being in place on return of tenders. The works are required to provide a quality bus corridor identified in the LTP and are an intrinsic part of the Yorkshire Bus Initiative.</p>	<p>Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeneration)</p>	<p>7/4/10</p>	<p>Initial Member consultation has taken place.</p>	<p>The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting</p>	<p>Director of City Development jean.dent@leeds.gov.uk</p>
<p>Asset Management Plan and Capital Strategy Approval of the Capital Strategy and Asset Management Plan</p>	<p>Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeneration)</p>	<p>7/4/10</p>		<p>The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting</p>	<p>Director of City Development john.ramsden@leeds.gov.uk</p>

Free swim Capital Modernisation - Pot 4 To inject Sport England Capital Grant and LCC match funding into the Capital Programme and request authority to spend	Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeneration)	7/4/10	Executive Member	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of City Development mark.allman@leeds.gov.uk
Agenda for Improved Economic Performance To agree the "Agenda for Improved Economic Performance" as part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework	Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeneration)	7/4/10	Draft has been subject to widespread consultation and to be considered by Scrutiny Board in February 2010	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of City Development paul.stephens@leeds.gov.uk
Sustainable Buildings Strategy Approval requested	Executive Board (Portfolio: Development and Regeneration)	19/5/10	September Strategic Investment Board	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of City Development john.ramsden@leeds.gov.uk

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

FRIDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor A Carter in the Chair

Councillors R Brett, J L Carter, R Finnigan,
S Golton, R Harker, P Harrand,
J Monaghan, J Procter and K Wakefield

Councillor R Lewis – Non-Voting Advisory Member

175 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED – That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as exempt on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as follows:-

- (a) Appendix B to the report referred to in minute 181 under the terms of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and on the grounds that it is not publicly available from the statutory registers of information kept in relation to certain companies and charities. It is considered that since this information has been prepared for the Council's assessment of various property transactions then it is not in the public interest to disclose this information at this point in time. Also the release of such information would or would be likely to prejudice the Council's commercial interests in relation to and undermine its attempts to acquire by agreement similar properties in the locality in that owners of other similar properties would be aware about the nature and level of consideration which may prove acceptable to the Council. It is considered that whilst there may be a public interest in disclosure, much of this information will be available from the Land Registry following completion of the purchase and consequently the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing this information at this point in time.
- (b) Appendix 1 to the report referred to in minute 188 under the terms of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and appendix 2 to the same report under 10.4(3,6), and on the grounds that it contains information about the commercial position of the City Council in relation to the proposed procurement; information which would reveal action the authority proposes to take under legislation, in relation to identified sites which are subject to separate consultation in the first instance with residents and staff concerned. The public interest of maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing such information. Whilst it is considered that there is public interest in disclosure of this information at the earliest opportunity, it is deemed more appropriate, and consequently of greater public interest to ensure

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 10th March, 2010

that the information is released once a decision has been made by Executive Board.

- (c) Appendix 1 to the report referred to in minute 189 under the terms of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and on the grounds that it contains information which if disclosed to the public would, or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Council. The Appendix contains commercially sensitive information which if disclosed may prejudice the future negotiation of the contract for the project.
- (d) Appendices 1 and 2 to the report referred to in minute 185 under the terms of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4 (3) and on the basis that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) which if disclosed to the public would, or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of that person or of the Council. The proposals have been considered in terms of the benefit that the Council would seek as part of any proposal to make its land available to facilitate any S106 requirements.
- (e) Appendices B and C to the report referred to in minute 194 under the terms of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4 (3) and on the grounds that they contain information that is commercially sensitive relating to the Council's ongoing waste PFI procurement and the financial and business affairs of Bidders, where the benefit of keeping the information confidential is considered greater than that of allowing public access to the information.

176 Declaration of Interests

Councillor Wakefield declared personal interests in the matters referred to in minute 179 as a school and college governor and a personal and prejudicial interest in the matters referred to in minute 185 as a consequence of a close personal association connected to Farsley Celtic.

177 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2010 be approved.

DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

178 Items relating to the New Generation Transport (NGT) Scheme

RESOLVED - That consideration of the two items entered on the agenda relating to the New Generation Transport scheme be deferred to the next meeting of the Board.

CENTRAL AND CORPORATE

179 Revenue Budget 2010/2011 and Capital Programme

(A) Revenue Budget 2010/11 and Council Tax 2010/11

The Director of Resources submitted a report on the proposals for the City Council's Revenue Budget for 2010/11, on the Leeds element of the Council Tax to be levied in 2010/11 and the Council House rents for 2010/11. In presenting the report the Director indicated that the final determination in respect of the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy was at variance with the figure contained in the papers as submitted to the Board. It was proposed that the estimates for the Housing Revenue Accounts be amended for submission to Council, reflecting the final subsidy determination with a subsequent increase in the HRA reserves. It was reported that a further report will be submitted to the Board with proposals on the use of these additional resources in 2010/11.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair paid tribute to all those officers who had been involved in the preparation of the 2010/11 budget and thanked them for their efforts.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That Council be recommended to approve the Revenue Budget for 2010/11 totalling £569,295,000, as detailed and explained in the submitted report and accompanying papers, including a 2.5% increase in the Leeds element of the Council Tax, subject to appropriate amendments to the report for submission to Council to reflect the final determination in respect of the Housing Revenue Account.
- (b) That with respect to the Housing Revenue Account Council be recommended to:
 - (i) approve the budget at the average rent increase of figure of 3.1%
 - (ii) increase the charges for garage rents to £6.07 per week
 - (iii) increase service charges in line with rents (3.1%)

(B) Capital Programme Update 2009-2014

The Director of Resources submitted a report setting out the updated Capital Programme for 2009-2014. A page containing revised recommendations had been circulated to all members in advance of the meeting.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the following be recommended to Council:
 - (i) That the capital programme, as attached to the submitted report, be approved and that the list of schemes shown at Appendix H to the report be reserved until additional resources become available;

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 10th March, 2010

- (ii) That the Executive Board be authorised to approve in year amendments to the capital programme including transfers from and to the reserved programme in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules;
 - (iii) That the proposed Minimum Revenue Provision policies for 2010/11 as set out in 5.3 of the report and explained in Appendix G be approved;
 - (iv) That the Minimum Revenue Provision policies for 2009/10 be amended as set out in 5.3.3 of the report.
- (b) That the list of land and property sites shown in appendix F to the report be disposed of to generate capital receipts to support the capital programme
 - (c) That the Director of Resources be authorised to manage, monitor and control scheme progress and commitments to ensure that the programme is affordable.
- (C) Treasury Management Strategy 2010/2011
The Director of Resources submitted a report on the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2010/11

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the initial treasury strategy for 2010/11 as set out in Section 3.3 of the report and that the review of the 2009/10 strategy and operations set out in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 be noted.
- (b) That Council be recommended to set borrowing limits for 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13 as set out in Section 3.4 of the report.
- (c) That Council be recommended to set treasury management indicators for 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13 as set out in Section 3.5 of the report.
- (d) That Council be recommended to set investment limits for 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13 as set out in Section 3.6 of the report.
- (e) That Council be recommended to adopt the revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2009 and revised Prudential Code.

(The matters referred to in parts A(a), A(b), B(a) (i) to (iv) and C(b) to (e) being matters reserved to Council were not eligible for Call In)

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Wakefield required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on the decisions referred to in parts (A) and (B) of this minute)

180 Financial Health Monitoring 2009/10 - Quarter Three Report

The Director of Resources submitted a report on the financial position of the authority after nine months of the financial year in respect of the revenue budget and the housing revenue account.

RESOLVED – That the projected financial position of the authority after nine months of the financial year be noted.

181 Changing the Workplace Report and Business Case

The Director of Resources submitted a report presenting the objectives and proposals for the Changing the Workplace programme, with particular focus on the delivery of phase 1 of the initiative in the city centre.

Following consideration of Appendix B to the report, designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rules 10.4(3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting it was

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the programme for changing the workplace as outlined in the report be supported
- (b) That the recommendations for phase 1 as detailed in paragraph 5 of the exempt appendix, and with regard to the following matters, be approved
 - 1. The negotiation of terms for the acquisition of a building on the terms detailed in the appendix or procuring the construction of a building.
 - 2. Seeking release of freehold and leasehold properties as proposed.
 - 3. Agreement to the level of fees proposed for specialist property advice.
 - 4. Agreement to the reinvestment of the property efficiency savings plus 5% of other efficiencies to be delivered through the Changing the Workplace programme, to support delivery of the new workplaces, technology, programme resource and training for phase 1.
 - 5. Agreement that the Director of Resources bring a further report to this Board regarding a preferred option.

182 City Card

The Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Planning and Improvement) submitted a report outlining a proposal for the introduction and implementation of the City Card scheme as part of the Council's Business Transformation

programme, as a phased development, focussing in Phase 1 on City Development.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to an injection of £692,000 into the Capital Programme, and that authority be given to incur expenditure of £1,342,000 to implement phase one of the City Card project.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Wakefield required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on this matter pending receipt of a detailed briefing with regard to the proposals)

183 Scrutiny - Half Year Report

The Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report introducing the first half yearly report with respect to the operation of the Scrutiny function in Leeds.

RESOLVED – That the report be received.

DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

184 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment 2009

The Director of City Development submitted a report summarising the key aspects of, and presenting for approval, the Leeds Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) for 2009.

In presenting the report, the Chair thanked all those officers within City Development who had been involved in the preparation of the Leeds SHLAA document for 2009.

RESOLVED – That the Leeds Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment 2009 be approved for publication.

185 Farsley Celtic Administration

The Director of City Development submitted a report on two proposals in relation to the future use of the Farsley Celtic facility, the Council's interests in the site and the need to inform the Administrator with regard to the Council's intentions in the matter.

Following consideration of Appendices 1 and 2 to the report, designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3), which were considered in private at the conclusion to the meeting it was

RESOLVED –

- (a) That Members being satisfied that assisting FC 2010 Limited would promote the social and environmental wellbeing of the area, assistance be offered to FC 2010 Limited as a means of supporting their proposed Creditor Voluntary Arrangement and that approval be given to the following:

- (i) The use of the Council land shown on plan 1 attached to the submitted report to support the delivery of any Section 106 Agreement required for Chartford Homes' adjacent residential development.
 - (ii) The use of the Council's land at less than best consideration, at a peppercorn, on a licence or leasehold basis, on final terms to be approved by the Chief Asset Management Officer.
 - (iii) To utilise the Council's Prudential Borrowing powers to provide a loan to FC 2010 Limited on the basis of the Heads of Terms outlined in Appendix 2 of the report, subject to the Director of Resources being satisfied with the outcome of the final due diligence undertaken and the final terms agreed.
- (b) That in the event that FC 2010 Limited's proposal is not acceptable to the Administrator, officers be authorised to pursue alternative courses of action in the terms now indicated.
 - (c) That this decision be exempt from Call In due to the matter being considered urgent, and that Call In may result in the Administrator seeking to liquidate the Football Club's assets without further delay.

(Councillor Wakefield, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest, left the meeting during the consideration of this matter)

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING

186 Future Improvement Priorities for Private Sector Housing

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report outlining the proposed future priorities for action to improve private sector housing in Leeds, including the basis upon which future investment bids and proposals would be made.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the following proposals to be adopted as future private sector priorities for action for private sector housing in Leeds.
 - (i) Direct investment towards excess cold / fuel poverty and falls hazards
 - (ii) To progress strong partnership collaborative work with NHS Leeds, the Leeds City Region Partnership, and Government in support of the Health and Housing Agenda.
 - (iii) Exploring new and innovative ways of securing funding to support future investment plans.
 - (iv) Jointly undertake a feasibility exercise to assess the potential of introducing private finance through the use of Social Impact Bonds (SIB) with CLG.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting to be held on Wednesday, 10th March, 2010

- (b) That a further report be brought to the Board providing further detail on potential funding options.

187 Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) (1995) - 13th Progress Report

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report providing an update on the progress which has been made in relation to the overall energy efficiency levels of the Leeds housing stock during the period 1st April 2008 to 31st March 2009.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That content of the 13th HECA Progress Report be approved and that it be noted that the report will be released to Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber, upon request.
- (b) That an annual report, on the same basis as this report, continues to be brought to this Board.

188 Round 6 Housing PFI Project: Lifetime Neighbourhoods for Leeds

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods and the Director of Adult Social Services submitted a joint report setting out a proposal for improvements to older people's housing as a result of the Council's successful Expression of Interest for Round 6 of the national Housing PFI programme.

Following consideration of Appendix 1 to the report, designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and appendix 2 to the report designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4 (3) and (6), which were considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting it was

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the scope of the project as follows:
- 700 new build accommodation of extra care or lifetime homes aimed primarily at older people, 300 units of extra care; 400 lifetime homes.
 - mostly 2 bedroom units (flats and houses) with a small number of 3 bed houses (2 or 3 per site) where site size allows;
 - a 25 year long HRA Scheme, with a five year construction period;
 - Lifetime Homes standard for all properties. Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4/BREEAM Very Good as a minimum;
 - design, build and facilities management including repairs, lifecycle improvements, housing management, communal service management (for extra care), and leasehold management (if applicable); and
 - 10 sites in 10 locations.
- (b) That the sites listed in the table of exempt Appendix 2a to the report be included in the project.

- (c) That approval be given to an anticipated City Council financial contribution as detailed within section 2 (iii) of exempt Appendix 1 to the report
- (d) That the Outline Business Case be completed and submitted, following approval by the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods under delegated authority, on the basis of the details set out above.
- (e) That approval be given for a period of statutory consultation to commence with immediate effect to be undertaken as set out in recommendation (i) of exempt Appendix 2a to the report.
- (f) That, having regard to the scope and context of this project and reasons set out in the report, support be given to the principle of replacing sheltered housing as set out in recommendation (ii) of exempt Appendix 2A to the report and that the Chief Housing Officer be authorised to take the final decision on whether the sheltered housing should be replaced as proposed following any relevant formal consultation. Further, that any consequential decisions about suspension of lettings, re-housing and demolition should also be taken by the Chief Housing Officer at the appropriate time under delegated authority.
- (g) That a progress report be brought to this Board in June 2010.
- (h) That the project be allocated to the Housing PFI Project Board for project governance proposals

ADULT HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

189 Holt Park Wellbeing Centre - Affordability Position

The Director of Adult Social Services and Director of City Development submitted a joint report on the revised affordability position for the Holt Park Wellbeing Centre project.

Following consideration of Appendix 1 to the report, designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting it was

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the revised estimated affordability implications and sensitivity analysis over the life of the proposed PFI Contract for the Holt Park Wellbeing centre, summarised in table 1 of the exempt appendix to the report
- (b) That the detailed information contained in the exempt appendix with regard to recalculation of PFI credit and reassessment of the affordability position be noted and that the revised affordability position, as contained in paragraph 3.6 of the appendix, be approved.

- (c) That officers be authorised to issue the City Council's affordability thresholds relating to the PFI project to the LEP and to Environments for Learning.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

190 The Ofsted and Care Quality Commission Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services in Leeds

The Interim Director of Children's Services submitted a report providing details of the outcomes from the recent announced Ofsted inspection of safeguarding and looked after children's services in Leeds.

RESOLVED – That the findings of the announced inspection of safeguarding and looked after children's services and how these fit into the wider improvement work currently taking place be noted.

191 Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) Inquiry into Safeguarding - Interim Report: Director of Children's Services Response

The Interim Director of Children's Services submitted a report presenting a response to the Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) interim report regarding the Safeguarding of Children. The Chair of the Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) attended the meeting and presented the interim report of the Board.

RESOLVED – That the recommendation of the Children's Services Scrutiny Board Inquiry into Safeguarding-Interim Report be noted and that the response set out by the Interim Director of Children's Services in Paragraphs 3.2 to 3.7 of the submitted report be approved as an appropriate response to the recommendation.

192 Outcome of Consultation on the Expansion of Primary Provision for September 2010

Further to minute 103 of the meeting held on 14th October 2009 the Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report detailing the outcomes arising from the statutory public consultation process undertaken with respect to the prescribed alterations to:

- permanently expand the 17 primary schools identified in paragraph 2.3 of the report
- add community specialist provision for up to 14 pupils with complex medical physical needs at New Bewerley Primary School
- add community specialist provision for up to 14 pupils with complex medical physical needs at Whitkirk Primary School.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the outcome of statutory public consultation on the prescribed alterations be noted
- (b) That approval be given for the publication of a statutory notice in respect of the proposals

- (c) That it be noted that a report detailing the response to the statutory notice will be brought to this Board for determination.

193 Outcome of Consultations on the Expansion of Primary Provision at Gildersome Primary School in 2011 and at Richmond Hill Primary School in 2012

Further to minutes 104 of the meeting held on 14th October 2009 and 120 of the meeting held on 4th November 2009 the Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report detailing the outcomes from the statutory public consultation exercise undertaken with respect to Richmond Hill Primary School and Gildersome Primary School.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the outcome of statutory public consultation on the prescribed alterations to permanently expand Gildersome and Richmond Hill Primary Schools be noted.
- (b) That approval be given for the publication of a statutory notice proposing:
- (i) the expansion of Gildersome Primary School to a new capacity of 420 pupils from September 2011, with an admission limit of 60 pupils
 - (ii) the expansion of Richmond Hill Primary School to a new capacity of 630 pupils from September 2012, with an admission limit of 90 pupils.
- (c) That it be noted that a report detailing the response to the statutory notice will be brought back to this Board in the Summer of 2010 for a final decision.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

194 Waste Solution for Leeds - Residual Waste Treatment PFI Project - Results of Detailed Solutions Stage

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report presenting the outcomes arising from the evaluation of bids at the Detailed Solutions stage of the procurement process. The report also provided an update on the progress of the Residual Waste Treatment PFI Project since the report which was considered by the Board in November 2008 (minute 136).

Following consideration of Appendices B to the report and C which was circulated at the meeting, designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3), which were considered in private at the conclusion to the meeting it was

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the exclusion of the residual waste transfer station from the scope of the Residual Waste Treatment PFI project
- (b) That approval be given to the proposal not to develop a dedicated residual waste transfer station, with the result that all residual waste for treatment under the PFI contract will be delivered directly to the main residual waste treatment facility once the operational phase of the PFI contract commences
- (c) That the Board notes the continued requirement for the provision at Evanston Avenue of a household waste sorting site (HWSS) and the existing level of waste transfer capacity for a range of materials, and the intention to bring a further report to this Board on the proposed city-wide HWSS strategy, which will expand on the strategy for redevelopment of the Evanston Avenue site
- (d) That the programme going forward to complete the Residual Waste procurement and to award the contract be noted
- (e) That the communications strategy going forward be noted
- (f) That the Board notes the affordability issues detailed in the exempt section of the submitted report and approves that the Price Ceiling will be calculated based upon the methodology set out in Appendix B paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 until the selection of Preferred Bidder.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Wakefield required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on this matter).

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 16th February 2010
LAST DATE FOR CALL IN: 23rd February 2010

(Scrutiny Support will notify Directors of any items Called In by 12.00 noon on Wednesday 24th February 2010)