



WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

**Meeting to be held in St Bartholomew's Primary School, Strawberry Lane, Leeds, LS12 1SF
on Wednesday, 20th February, 2013 at 5.00 pm**

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

J Harper	- Armley;
A Lowe	- Armley;
J McKenna (Chair)	- Armley;
C Gruen	- Bramley and Stanningley;
T Hanley	- Bramley and Stanningley;
N Taggart	- Bramley and Stanningley;

Co-opted Members

Hazel Boutle	- Armley Community Forum
Eric Bowes	- Armley Community Forum
Kevin Ritchie	- Bramley and Stannigley Community Forum
Karen Smales	- Bramley and Stanningley Community Forum

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A G E N D A

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APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS

To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded).

(*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.)

EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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.

2 To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information.

3 If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-

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:

No exempt items have been identified on this agenda.

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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 circumstances shall be specified in the minutes.)</p>	
4			<p>DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS</p> <p>To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and paragraphs 13-18 of the Members' Code of Conduct. Also to declare any other significant interests which the Member wishes to declare in the public interest, in accordance with paragraphs 19-20 of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p>	
5			<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>To receive any apologies for absence.</p>	
6			<p>MINUTES - 12TH DECEMBER 2012</p> <p>To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 12th December 2012.</p>	1 - 6
7			<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</p> <p>To receive further information in relation to Minute No. 61: Corporate Parenting.</p>	7 - 32
8			<p>MINUTES - COMMUNITY FORUM</p> <p>To receive the minutes of the Armley Community Forum and PACT meeting held on 15th January 2013 and the Bramley Community Forum and PACT meeting held on 29th November 2012.</p>	33 - 36
9			<p>MINUTES - ALMO INNER WEST AREA PANEL</p> <p>To receive the minutes of the ALMO Inner West Area Panel meeting held on 10th December 2012.</p>	37 - 42

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10			<p>MINUTES - AREA CHAIRS FORUM</p> <p>To receive the minutes of the Area Chairs Forum held on 2nd November 2012.</p>	43 - 48
11	Armley; Bramley and Stanningley		<p>ANNUAL COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT</p> <p>To receive and consider a report from the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods providing an annual update from the Area Community Safety Co-ordinator and the Neighbourhood Police Inspector on activity in the Inner West to deliver the key outcomes agreed for both Safer and Stronger communities.</p>	49 - 70
12	Armley; Bramley and Stanningley		<p>ANNUAL REPORT - FOR THE PARKS AND COUNTRYSIDE SERVICE</p> <p>To receive and consider a report from the Chief Officer of Parks and Countryside providing an overview of the service and setting out some of the challenges faced along with key performance management initiatives.</p>	71 - 88
13	All Wards		<p>WELFARE REFORM IMPACT ON COUNCIL TENANTS</p> <p>To receive and consider a report from the Chief Executive East North East Homes Leeds updating the Area Committee on welfare reform changes that impact on council tenants and are due to be implemented in April 2013.</p>	89 - 106
14			<p>AREA LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT</p> <p>Report to follow.</p>	
15	Armley; Bramley and Stanningley		<p>WELL-BEING REPORT</p> <p>To receive and consider a report from the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access & Performance) providing Members with an update on the budget position for the Well-being Fund for 2012-13.</p>	107 - 118

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16	Armley; Bramley and Stanningley		<p>AREA UPDATE REPORT</p> <p>To receive and consider a report from the Deputy Chief Executive updating Members on progress against the Area Support Team's work programme and local priorities.</p>	119 - 130
17			<p>DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Wednesday, 20 March 2013 at 5.00pm (Fairfield Community Centre, Fairfield Terrace, Bramley, Leeds, LS13 3DQ)</p> <p>MAP OF TODAY'S VENUE</p> <p>(St Bartholomew's Primary School, Strawberry Lane, Leeds, LS12 1SF)</p>	

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Agenda Item 6

WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 12TH DECEMBER, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor J McKenna in the Chair
Councillors C Gruen, T Hanley, J Harper
and N Taggart

CO-OPTEEES H Boutle (Armley Community Forum)
E Bowes (Armley Community Forum)
K Ritchie (Bramley and Stanningley
Community Forum)
K Smales(Bramley and Stanningley
Community Forum)

Apologies Councillor A Lowe

57 Late Items

In accordance with his powers under Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed to accept the following late information:

- Well-being application in relation to Bramley Grit Bins (Minute No. 68 refers)

58 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests.

59 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Lowe.

60 Minutes - 25th October 2012

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2012 be approved as a correct record subject to the amendment of minute 47(6.4) to read , 'Members were advised that Morbaine construction would not develop the site in Armley until it was clear that the supermarket development in Wortley was not to proceed.

61 Open Forum / Community Forums

In accordance with paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to 10 minutes for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee.

The Fire Station Commander provided the Area Committee with an update on 3 main issues;

- a) Firefly Systems – Currently the systems are being fitted by crews in the Inner West area.
- b) West Leeds Project – Teenagers from the West Inner and Outer areas are taking part in a young fire fighters course to assist them to achieve an NVQ and some structure to their lives.
- c) Arsonist – members were brought up to date with the current concerns that emergency services have regarding an arsonist(s) in the Raynville area who has to date carried out in the region of 40 arson attacks, work is being carried out to stop this by either Criminal or Civil action and the introduction of additional CCTV.

Vince Foster, Youth Work Manager for the Inner West area provided the Area Committee with an update on work to date including a presentation on;

- Detailed statistics since April 2012
- Accreditation opportunities for young people
- Armley Case Study
- LAZER Centre Case Study
- Bramley Centre Case Study
- Recent activities
- Future Plans
- Barge Project

There was also detailed discussion on a number of issues, particularly:

- Corporate Parenting
- Work with Foster Carers
- Difference of usage and outcomes between Bramley and Armley Ward.

RESOLVED –

- a) That a report be submitted to this Committee on Corporate Parenting.
- b) That Members be provided with information outside of the meeting in respect of , Youth work support to Rainbow House and to Foster Carers/children.

(Councillor Taggart arrived at the conclusion of this item at 17.55 pm)

62 Minutes - Community Forum

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Armley Community Forum meeting and PACT meeting held on 18th September 2012 be received and noted:

63 Matters Arising - Armley Community Forum and PACT Meeting

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 20th February, 2013

Further to minute 4.8 of the meeting it was explained that TRO referred to Traffic Regulation Order.

64 Minutes - ALMO INNER WEST AREA PANEL

The Area Committee received an update on additional funding for Clyde Walk considered by the ALMO Inner West Area Panel.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the ALMO Inner West Area Panel meeting held on 22nd October 2012, be received and noted.

65 MINUTES - AREA CHAIRS FORUM

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Area Chairs Forum meeting held on 11th September 2012, be received and noted.

66 WNW Environmental Services Locality Team

The Locality Manager (West North West) submitted a report which provided an update on performance against the Service Level Agreement between Inner West Area Committee and the West North West Environmental Locality Team.

The report covered the period from May to November 2012 and provided details on a range of functions being delivered across the area during this period against the priorities and commitments set out in the SLA. The report also noted the good progress to date but also recognised the need for more focussed and targeted work with partners in the agreed priority areas of New Wortley and the Broadleas.

The following appendices accompanied the report:

- Appendix A – Service Level Agreement update – Inner West Leeds
- Appendix B – Service Requests (11th June to 16th November 2012)

Jason Singh Locality Manager (West North West) presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and appendices including:

- Performance
- Developmental Work
- Accountability
- Restructuring of the Service
- Improvements in the Bramley area
- Bin provision on bus stops
- Refuse Collection on Highborne View

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 20th February, 2013

- (ii) That additional bins be trialled on or near to bus stops at 10 locations in the Bramley Area.

67 Inner West Neighbourhoods Improvement Board

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) submitted a report which provided an update on progress made on the new Inner West Neighbourhoods Improvement Programme.

Members discussed in detail the role and responsibilities of the two Community Organisers that have recently started working in New Wortley and Fairfield and are hosted by Barca but employed through a Government backed programme.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the report be noted
- b) That a report be submitted to the next meeting on the work of the Community Organisers and that a worker be invited to the meeting.

(Councillor J Harper left the meeting at the conclusion of this item at 18.35pm)

68 Wellbeing Monitoring Report

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) submitted a report which provided an update on the budget position for the well-being fund for 2012-13 and was also seeking funding for projects.

Kate Sibson, Area Projects Officer, Customer Access and Performance, presented the report.

Members discussed the current requests for funding in detail and also considered possible schemes for the 2013-14 Commissioning Round.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the current budget position for the well-being fund for 2012-13, be noted
- (b) That the customer contribution be lowered to £25 for target hardening works to encourage greater resident take up of the scheme.
- (c) That an additional £1,000 funding be reserved for the Bramley Floodlight Scheme subject to the Scheme receiving the relevant Planning permissions in time and that this funding be authorised by the relevant Area Leader via a delegated decision subject to consultation with Ward Members.

- (d) That the following decisions be made in relation to applications for well-being funding:
- Bramley Events Budget (Music Festival £700/Rodley Festive Lights £875) - £1,575 - APPROVED
 - Bramley Grit Bin refills - £528.78 - APPROVED
 - Aston Drive Ginnel Closure – Option 1 (£2,350) and Option 2 (£4,285) - £6,635 - APPROVED
 - LAZER Centre Motorbike – £3,500 – APPROVED
- (e) That the appropriate documentation be prepared by officers for the following schemes in the 2013/14 Commissioning Round;
- Park keeper for Rodley Park/Bramley Park/Falls Park and Stanningley Park
 - War Memorial in Rodley

69 Area Update Report

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report which provided information on key services and other activities delivered in the inner west area since the last meeting in October 2012.

Kate Sibson, Area Projects Officer, Customer Access and Performance, presented the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted and that Kate be thanked for her efforts in respect of the Armley Festive Lights Switch On.
- (b) That any ideas for increasing resident engagement with the Citizen Panel should be submitted to the Area Project Officer.

70 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 20th February 2013 at 5.00pm
(St Bartholomew's Primary School, Strawberry Lane, Armley, LS12 1SF)

(The meeting concluded at 7.10pm.)

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Matters Arising from Previous Meeting: 12th December 2012

Minute No. 61: Corporate Parenting

At the last Area Committee, Members requested more information on their role as corporate parents.

A guide on this subject has been published by Children's Services, and is appended to this note for information.

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All photographs posed by models.

Corporate parenting

a guide for councillors





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We hope this booklet will help you think about how you can support looked after children and care leavers in your area. We hope you find this information useful in helping you develop in your role as a corporate parent.



Introduction

Leeds is a city with ambition for its children; we want to become the best city for children in the UK. Leeds City Council is working with key partners and our communities to make Leeds a child friendly city where all children:

- **are safe from harm;**
- **do well at all levels of learning and have the skills for life;**
- **choose healthy lifestyles;**
- **have fun growing up; and**
- **are active citizens who feel they have voice and influence.**

However, some children face particular challenges because of their needs or circumstances. It is essential that these children receive additional support and attention if they are to achieve these key outcomes and reach their potential.

Looked after children and young people have a unique place in the Leeds community. They have a special relationship with the local authority due to the fact that they have been taken into care either by a court order or by voluntary agreement with their birth parents. The local authority, therefore, has direct responsibility for these children and for ensuring that they receive the care and support they need.

All local councillors have an important and critical part to play in supporting looked after children and ensuring that they achieve good outcomes. The responsibility councillors have for looked after children make them 'corporate parents'.

Acting as a corporate parent for looked after children is one of the most important duties that you have as a councillor in Leeds. Looked after children should be cared about and not just cared for.

This booklet has been developed to support councillors in acting as effective corporate parents. By learning more about corporate parenting, and promoting the welfare of looked after children and care leavers, you will help to make sure the council meets its responsibility to its most vulnerable citizens.



What is corporate parenting?

The role of corporate parents is to seek for looked after children and care leavers the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children and to safeguard and promote their life chances, providing opportunities and support. This includes having concern for the child's education, training and employment, health, welfare, leisure, housing and cultural opportunities.

Corporate parenting places collective responsibility on local authorities to achieve good parenting and councils must demonstrate their commitment to helping every child they look after, wherever the child is placed, to achieve their potential. Corporate parenting also extends to care leavers, as the authority retains a level of responsibility for former looked after children until they reach 21 (or up to 24 if they are in full-time education).

As you would expect, much of the day-to-day functioning of a council's corporate parenting responsibility is delegated to childcare professionals, including foster carers and social workers. However, the leaders of the corporate parenting body – the local councillors – need to be aware of what is happening on their behalf for the looked after children and care leavers they are ultimately responsible for.

Councillors have ultimate responsibility for the safety, wellbeing and development of all children who are in the care of local councils in England and Wales at any one time – at the moment there are approximately 65,000. Good corporate parenting requires ownership and leadership at a senior level, this includes elected members. It is the responsibility of all councillors, as corporate parents, to be satisfied that there is a joined up, effective and holistic approach to meeting the needs of looked after children and care leavers through policy and planning. It is a councillor's duty to ensure that they are prioritised in decision making across the council's areas of responsibility. This is important because their circumstances and experiences mean that they can experience many disadvantages and poorer outcomes than other children across a range of measures including health and education.

Why corporate parenting matters

Looked after children are among the most vulnerable children in our community. Looked after children are, for a variety of reasons, unable to live at home so are 'looked after' by the local authority. This may be through a voluntary agreement with the child's parents or through a legal order [*See appendix A for Information on legislation*]. However, most looked after children will have experienced some form of disadvantage in their lives prior to becoming looked after.

Whilst many of the services for looked after children are provided or arranged by children's services, looked after children are in the care of the local authority and therefore it is the responsibility of the local authority, through elected councillors, to ensure that looked after children are supported to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Recent legislation, such as the Children Act 2004 and the Children and Young Persons Act (2008) have emphasised the responsibilities of councils and elected members for looked after children. The 2007 White Paper, Care Matters: Time for Change made a number of recommendations for how local authorities could improve corporate parenting. These include:

- arranging a forum for looked after children with direct links to the director of children's services and lead member to give looked after children an opportunity to express their views and have some influence over the services and support they receive;
- setting out its 'pledge' to looked after children which covers the services and support looked after children and young people should expect to receive;
- making sure the director of children's services and lead member for children's services are responsible for leading improvements in corporate parenting; and
- providing corporate parenting training material to help councillors make sure effective arrangements are in place locally.

Leeds response to 'Care Matters' is set out later in this booklet.

However, despite high ambitions and a shared commitment for change, outcomes for looked after children and young people have not sufficiently improved in recent years. There is still a significant gap between the quality of their lives and those of other children. For example:

- in 2006, only 12 per cent of children in care achieved five A*-C grades at GCSE (or equivalent) compared to 59 per cent of all children;
- their health is poorer than that of other children. 45 per cent of children in care are assessed as having a mental health disorder compared with around 10 per cent of the general population;
- over 50 per cent of children in care responding to Care Matters said that they had difficulties accessing positive activities;
- care leavers are over-represented in the prison population;
- 9.6 per cent of children in care aged 10 or over, were cautioned or convicted for an offence during the year – almost 3 times the rate for all children of this age;
- 30 per cent of care leavers aged 19 were not in education, employment or training (NEET).

As corporate parents councillors are responsible for narrowing the gap in outcomes between looked after children and other children in the community.

What can a councillor do?

All councillors have an important role to play whatever their position, power or influence, and can be actively involved in ensuring the best possible care and opportunities are available for looked after children and care leavers.

Effective corporate parenting will depend on councillors:

- being aware of the role, accepting responsibility and being accountable for the wellbeing of looked after children;
- making a clear political commitment to corporate parenting and demonstrating leadership;
- committing resources through effective budget setting, and prioritising their needs in decision-making across all areas of the council;
- seeking for looked after children and care leavers the same outcomes any good parent would want for their own children – finding ways to support their growth and attainment until they achieve full transition;
- understanding the impact on looked after children and care leavers in all council decisions;
- getting adequate information on the profile of looked after children and care leavers, and their needs (for example key information about the looked after

children population such as numbers and where they are placed, trends and issues affecting them, performance in schools and cost, quality and outcomes of placements;

- making it your business to find out about and develop knowledge of key partners and the various services across the council that support looked after children and care leavers;
- asking the right questions about the quality of care and the quality of services provided and monitoring overall performance to ensure action is being taken to address any shortcomings in the service and constantly improve outcomes.
- question any area of the council about how they are supporting looked after children and care leavers;
- being accessible to professionals, carers, looked after children and care leavers; and
- being advocates for looked after children and care leavers by ensuring their voice is heard, knowing their issues and celebrating their achievements.

Effective corporate parenting will also depend on officers openly engaging councillors in dialogue about relevant services, responding to questions, providing training and information and keeping councillors up to date.



What can a ward councillor do?

- Be aware that there are probably looked after children and care leavers living in your area or going to school there, and understand the basic issues they may face;
- find out who your area assembly corporate carers group representative is – every area assembly has one – and discuss the needs of children in your ward;
- maintain contact with the relevant area locality-based children’s team and arrange to make periodic visits to see and hear from staff;
- make sure foster carers, social workers, looked after children and care leavers know how they can contact you;
- celebrate the achievements of foster parents in your area and attend celebration events when you can;
- find out whether there is a children’s home in your ward and, if so, make contact. The homes welcome visits, though a telephone call to arrange a suitable time is helpful;
- take an active interest in any children or young people’s facility in your area.
- find out if looked after children and care leavers have contact with the police.
- report issues in your ward regarding looked after children and care leavers to relevant people such as the lead member for children’s services and deputy director of children’s services (safeguarding, specialist and targeted services);
- promote community understanding of looked after children and care leavers to get the wider community on board;
- monitor council policy for impacts on looked after children and care leavers;
- be aware of reviews and any formal Ofsted inspections of children’s services and read reports of the findings;
- participate in seminars, briefings on children and young people to increase your knowledge;
- promote foster caring, for example have leaflets in your surgeries and community centres and at events; and
- promote employment opportunities, work experience or placement opportunities for care leavers.

What can I do if I'm a school governor?

In your role as a school governor you can play an important role in supporting looked after children to get the most out of their education. You can do this by:

- ensuring that the school is meeting statutory obligations towards looked after children, for example knowing the number of looked after children attending, monitoring their educational attainment, attendance and exclusions, asking whether they go on trips or are involved in bullying incidents;
- ensuring that information on looked after children is regularly reported and discussed at school governor meetings, at least once a term. Ask what strategies are in place for assisting looked after children in the school to do better. Get basic information – whether written or face-to-face, or via an annual report or through opportunities to hear from looked after children themselves;
- finding out which member of staff has specific responsibility for looked after children;
- ensuring schools focus on raising attainment standards for looked after children and have high expectations of them – schools should have the same aspirations for what they can achieve as for other children;
- checking that the school is meeting objectives and doing the best they can for looked after children;
- satisfying yourself that staff are making appropriate special efforts to help with looked after children's education by making sure regular reviews are carried out;
- finding out if any of the looked after children at your school have a Statement of Education Needs and whether they are receiving all the support they require;
- championing and promoting the needs of looked after children in schools and nurseries;
- checking how the council is monitoring educational standards for looked after children and progressing with the introduction and updating of Personal Education Plans;
- ensuring that older children have a clear pathway into education, employment and training and are supported to achieve their ambitions.



What contact should I have with looked after children and care leavers?

You can be an effective corporate parent without having to know individual looked after children and care leavers personally – personal contact on an individual basis is not generally appropriate, although children, just like any local resident, can choose to contact or visit their local councillor.

Communication between children, their carers, the council and councillors can be complicated – it can be challenging to find appropriate ways of ensuring the voices of children are heard. There are issues of confidentiality and respect, and the needs and interests of the child must always come first.

Some contact and communication is important – as a councillor it can help you understand why you must take your responsibilities seriously. For children and young people it is an opportunity to express their views and concerns directly with someone who has ultimate policymaking authority.

You can become involved in visits and attend events to understand the issues that looked after children and care leavers face and celebrate the successes they achieve, often against significant odds. Your attendance would provide encouragement to the children involved. Occasional events are also organised for our foster carers, who play such a key role in the care and development of looked after children. Again, by attending you can show your recognition and appreciation of the service they provide for the authority.





Further information about looked after children in Leeds

In 2009 in response to Care Matters, councillors worked with looked after children and the **Leeds Care Promises** were developed. The young people decided to change 'pledges' to 'promises' as this had greater emphasis. The promises are described as "statements about the support and services that all children who are looked after and those moving into adult life can expect to receive from their local authority." You can find out more about the Leeds care Promises on the Leeds Children's Rights Services website, at: <http://www.leedschildrensrights.org/index.php/the-promise.html>

The local authority's progress in keeping their promises to looked after children are monitored by the Have a Voice Council.

The **Have a Voice** Council are a group of young people who are looked after by us in some way, whether on a voluntary basis or subject to a legal order, or who have recently left the care of Leeds City Council. The Have a Voice Council meet monthly to look at the services they receive from the council and identify which services work well and how others can be improved. The Have a Voice Council meets frequently with heads of service, lead members and the Corporate Carers group.

The **Corporate Carers** group was established in 2006 to provide a forum for councillors to learn more about working with looked after children, contribute to decision making and hold officers to account for performance in this area. In addition to elected members the group is attended by officers working with looked after children and representatives of other groups that play a key role in supporting looked after children, including foster carers. The Corporate Carers group is chaired by the executive member for children's services. This helps to make sure that it links across to the work of other key partnerships that work with children and young people across the city. In addition, each of the ten area committees nominate one member to be their representative on the group to ensure that the interests of looked after children in each part of Leeds are considered. A number of other elected members also sit on the group to provide a link back to key groups such as school governors and fostering and adoption panels.

The corporate carers group meets monthly and looks at a wide range of issues and information to help them understand and support work with looked after children. This can include:

- schools performance data for looked after children;
- feedback from foster carers;
- details of Regulation 33 visits, Ofsted reports and other information about standards in Leeds children's homes; and
- feedback about the views of looked after children themselves, including details of any complaints they have made or successes they have achieved.

Through Corporate Carers the council has a clearly defined group of elected members that take a lead on the corporate parenting agenda and can report back to other elected member groups and support all councillors in meeting their responsibilities as corporate parents.

Children's services are carefully scrutinised on the care that they provide to looked after children in Leeds. There is therefore a range of information available in relation to looked after children. Children's services provide regular updates to the overview and scrutiny board and the children's trust board on numbers and outcomes for looked after children. This is available through the agenda and minutes of these meetings. Children's services and individual children's homes are subject to regular inspection by Ofsted and the outcomes of these inspections can be found on the Ofsted website.



Glossary of terms

Accommodated

This is the term used in the **Children Act 1989** to describe when a child is looked after by the local authority, by agreement with a person who has parental responsibility for the child. The local authority does not have parental responsibility for the child.

CAFCASS

The Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS) looks after the interests of children involved in family legal proceedings. It works with children and their families, and then advises the courts on what it considers to be in the children's best interests. CAFCASS only works in the family courts. Examples of matters that may be taken to family courts are:

- when parents who are separating or divorcing can't agree on arrangements for their children;
- an adoption application;
- when children are subject to an application for care or supervision proceedings by children's services.

Care order/interim care order

When a child is looked after by the local authority and is the subject of an interim or full care order made by a court in accordance with **Section 31 Children Act 1989**, the local authority shares parental responsibility with any other person who already has parental responsibility.

When a child is subject to an interim care order, the degree to which the parental responsibility is shared is determined by the court. When a full care order is made, the local authority is able to decide how far and in what ways the parent can exercise their parental responsibility and thus is in control of the arrangements of the child.

Care plan

A plan which details the arrangements that are in place to meet the current and future needs of a child who is looked after by the local authority. The plan is made in consultation with the child, parents and other important people or organisations in the child's life.

Care leaver

Under the **Children Leaving Care Act 2000**, local authorities have a duty to provide good-quality support to all care leavers until they reach at least 21, or 25 if they are in education. All care leavers must have a **pathway plan** and a **personal advisor** from the age of 16.

Child

A person under the age of 18 years, unless married.

Child in need

A child who is assessed by the local authority as being in need of services as a result of the child being disabled or in order to:

- maintain a reasonable standard of health or development
- prevent the child's health or development from being impaired.
(**Section 17 (10) Children Act 1989**)

Child protection plan

A multi-agency plan in relation to any child who is considered to be at continuing risk of significant harm. The purpose of the plan is to ensure that the child's safety is maintained and the risk of harm in the future is reduced.

Children's services

The department in the local authority providing or arranging services for children and young people, including education and social care. It is headed by the director of children's services.

Glossary of terms

Common Assessment Framework (CAF)

CAF is a locally agreed approach to conducting an assessment of the needs of a child or young person and deciding how those needs should be met. It ensures that services are coordinated by a lead professional, and that needs are met at an early stage before they get worse.

Contact Order

An order made by a court under the **Children Act 1989** directing contact between a child under 16 years and a named person or people.

Core assessment

An in-depth assessment of a child in need. A core assessment gives an understanding as to the most important needs of a child and the capacity of their caregivers to respond appropriately to these needs. Children's services has lead responsibility for carrying out core assessments.

Core group

The group of parents and professionals, identified at the initial child protection conference, who are responsible for implementing a child's protection plan.

Designated doctor/nurse/teacher

A professional who is designated to have specific responsibilities for child protection services within their agency setting.

Emergency Duty Team (EDT)

The children's services team who are responsible for providing a response out of normal office hours.

Emergency Protection Order (EPO)

An order made by a court in accordance with **Section 44 Children Act 1989**, to enable the applicant (usually children's

services) to remove a child to a safe place or to prevent the removal of a child from a safe place on the grounds that the child would otherwise be likely to suffer significant harm.

An EPO can also be obtained to gain access to a child where parents or carers are preventing this and the child is believed to be a risk of significant harm. It can also include medical examination and treatment if necessary. The duration of the EPO is specified in the order, but will not exceed eight days. An EPO gives the applicant parental responsibility which it shares with the parent(s).

Foster carer

An adult who has been assessed and approved by the local authority to look after children on its behalf. A foster carer does not have parental responsibility and does not replace the child's parents, but does offer day to day care that children need when they cannot live with their own family.

Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO)

A person employed by children's services but independent of the line management responsibility for a child's case. An IRO is responsible for monitoring the implementation of a looked after child's care plan and chairing statutory reviews for looked after children.

Initial assessment

A preliminary assessment of a child who appears to be a child in need in accordance with Section 17 Children Act 1989. The initial assessment is led by children's services and will establish whether the child and family requires any additional support to safeguard and promote the child's welfare, including whether a social worker is required.

Glossary of terms

Initial child protection conference

A meeting which takes place when it is assessed that a child is at continuing risk of harm. All agencies involved as well as the parents and child (where appropriate) will normally attend in order to determine whether the child's name should be placed on the child protection register and to draft an outline child protection plan.

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) is responsible for the management and oversight of cases where there is an allegation against an adult who works with children. They also provide advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations, liaise with police and other agencies, and monitor the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible according to a thorough and fair process.

Looked after

When a child is 'in care' on a statutory basis, or 'accommodated' on a voluntary basis by the local authority they are known as a looked after child. The child may be in a foster or residential home or placed at home.

LSCB – local safeguarding children board

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children requires effective coordination in every local area. For this reason the Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish an LSCB. The LSCB is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations in each area will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the locality and for ensuring the effectiveness of what they can do.

MARAC – multi agency risk assessment conference

MARAC is an information sharing framework to help victims of domestic abuse and their families. Multi agency risk assessment conferencing is used to identify victims of domestic abuse who are most at risk of experiencing violence in the future. Information gathered during the risk assessment is shared among relevant agencies to promote the safety of the abused adults and their children.

MAPPA – multi-agency public protection arrangements

Arrangements to assess and manage any risk to the public that may be presented by certain offenders. These arrangements include the multi agency public protection process (MAPPP) used to manage the small numbers of offenders considered to represent a very high risk.

NAI

Non accidental injury.

OFSTED (Office for Standards In Education, Children's Services and Skills)

OFSTED is responsible for ensuring that social care is provided to the required standards. This includes inspecting children's homes and residential schools.

Parental responsibility

A legal term from Section 3(1) of the Children Act 1989, meaning 'all the rights, duties, powers and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his property.' Always held by the mother and by a father where the parents are married. Unmarried fathers may acquire parental responsibility by registering the child's birth jointly with the mother or by formal declaration. Unmarried fathers have only since December 2003 (and not retrospectively) been able to gain parental

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Glossary of terms

responsibility by registering the birth with the mother. Parental responsibility is also acquired by a non-parent holding a Residence Order (Section 8 Children Act 1989) and by the local authority if the court commits a child to its care. Parental responsibility is only removed from birth parents completely at the point of a child being adopted.

Police protection

The power that any police officer has, in accordance with Section 46 of the Children Act 1989, to remove to, or keep in a safe place, any child who is found to be at risk of significant harm. The power lasts 72 hours and children's services must be notified that a child has been made the subject of police protection as soon as is practicable in order that Section 47 enquiries can be carried out.

Regulation 33 visits

Regulation 33 visits are a requirement of **Children's Home Regulations 2011** and the National Minimum Standards for children's homes. These visits are carried out monthly by an officer designated by the Registered Provider (who is usually a head of service) to ensure that practice in the homes is in line with National Minimum Standards. Following each visit, a report is provided to the Registered Provider and the Registered Manager detailing the findings and any recommended actions. We are working with elected members to develop a system of some joint visits with elected members accompanying our Regulation 33 visitor.

Residence Order

An order made by a court directing with whom a child under 16 years should live. The holder of a residence order shares parental responsibility as long as the order lasts.

Review child protection conference

A meeting held at regular intervals whenever a child is the subject of a child protection plan. This meeting determines whether the plan needs to be continued or discontinued.

Safeguarding

Activity intended to ensure that children stay safe; to protect them from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation and also to minimise more general risks such as those from accidents and bullying.

Section 17

The section of the **Children Act 1989** that describes the responsibility of the local authority towards "children in need".

Section 47 Enquiries

Enquiries carried out in accordance with **Section 47 of the Children Act 1989**. A local authority children's services department is obliged to carry out enquiries whenever it suspects, or is informed that, a child who lives in its area is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm. The enquiries are directed at determining whether the authority should take any action to safeguard or promote the child's welfare.

Sexual exploitation of children

Children involved in prostitution and other forms of commercial sexual exploitation such as the production of indecent images, whether it is by photographs, films or the internet.

Significant harm

Harm means ill-treatment or the impairment of health or development. It includes physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development and both physical and mental health. Ill-treatment includes sexual abuse and

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Glossary of terms

non-physical forms of ill-treatment, including, for example, impairment suffered from seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. The significance of the harm is a matter of judgement by comparison with a similar child.

Strategy discussion

A discussion involving children's services, the police and any other agencies as appropriate, that takes place whenever there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm. Depending on the circumstances and

degree of urgency, a strategy discussion may take place at a meeting or by other means, for example by telephone. Its purpose is to plan necessary enquiries.

SUDI

Sudden unexplained death in infancy, where a child under the age of 24 months dies in the home environment or in hospital and there is no immediately apparent explanation (also known as cot death or SIDS).



Acknowledgements

Leeds member development team would like to thank everyone involved in producing this booklet:

Councillor Judith Blake, executive member for children's services

Steve Walker, deputy director – safeguarding, specialist and targeted services

Kay Sidebottom, member development officer

Sue May, head of services for looked after children

Leeds City Council communications and marketing team



Armley Forum Minutes of meeting 15th January 2013

Present: Cllr Harper (Chair), J&J Newsome, M Schofield, D Gregory, C Walton, B Holme, C O'Keefe, S Myers, P Eason, Ald Nelson, Rev Sen, L Chemey, S Friend, A Wallis, X Chevillard, J Greave, S Moss, Cllr McKenna, D Boutle, Cllr Lowe, M Pugh, B&G Lancashire, J Ramell, D&M Stead, B Draper, J Lyaskey, D Peck, A Parnham

Apologies: M Quirke, Mrs Richmond, M Smyth, Mr & Mrs Bruce, H Boutle, K Harrison, Mrs Lemm, B&E Rayworth

1 Welcome and introductions

1.1 Cllr Harper welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Matters arising from previous minutes:

- 2.1 6.1 Brooklyn Street will be resurfaced in the 2013/14 financial year
- 6.2 Everything is in place for parking restrictions to be implemented soon
- 6.4 No response from Parks & Countryside about Moorfield Recreation Ground
- 6.6 Waste Facility at Carr Crofts has been referred to the Environment Agency
- 6.7 Former Mill at Carr Crofts referred to Environmental Action Team

3 Police Update

- 3.1 Sgt Czternastek introduced himself as the new sergeant for the inner West Neighbourhood Policing Team. He reported on the latest crime statistics from November to January.
Burglary : 32 down by 21 on previous year
Theft from Motor Vehicle : 37 down by 31
Theft of Motor Vehicle : 14 up 3
Robbery : 7 up 3
- 3.2 The burglary and theft from motor vehicle figures are very positive compared with the same period 12 months ago. Robbery is up, but an individual has been charged with three offences.
- 3.3 The NPT have been carrying out operations against nuisance, illegal and anti-social driving. Five vehicles were seized with no tax or insurance, and 34 drivers were stopped and asked to produce documents. Four drivers were charged with drink driving.
- 3.4 Sgt Czternastek welcomed questions from the floor:
Did a recent incident at Bramley Community Centre involve young people from Armley?
Will have to check
- 3.5 Cedar Place – cars speeding down Carlton Road
Police using speed indicator cameras to send warning letters to drivers.
- 3.6 Bin scavenging on Greenocks, Aviaries and Highthornes. Suspects are Eastern European who are looking for textiles or other materials to sell. Tipping over bins leaving a lot of rubbish, reported at night and early morning.
Police aware and are working with the Environmental Enforcement Team.
- 3.7 Complaint about youths shouting abuse and causing an obstruction on pavements on Town Street, and groups of Eastern European men hanging around the bookmakers. New police volunteers who speak a range of Eastern European languages are supporting officers by translating instructions and advising on acceptable behaviour.

- 3.8 Hill End Road, suspected drug dealing.
Will investigate. Please pass on any descriptions or registration numbers.
- 3.9 What is the advice regarding Euro Profile locks?
Euro profile locks have a bit of the barrel sticking out and can be easily snapped by burglars. The Area Committee are funding a scheme to provide discounts on improved locks on streets where burglaries are occurring. Call Kate on 0113 3367871 for more information.
- 3.10 Cllr Harper thanked the officers for attending.

4 Gotts Park Golf Course

- 4.1 The council recently announced that the Gotts Park golf course is under review. It will remain open for the next twelve months but is at risk of closure if use continues to decline.
- 4.2 Representatives from Friends of Gotts park urged forum members to support the facility which also has a club house serving refreshments and a small function room.
- 4.3 Joanne Clough from Parks and Countryside explained that use of the municipal courses across the city had significantly declined that they were now running at a loss. She explained that the P&C service would be working very closely with the Club over the next 12 months to see where changes could be made that will help to keep the golf course going.
- 4.4 Comments from the floor:
Need to look at opening times, people use the course after 5pm but no-one is there to charge for tickets.
Café not well advertised, the council wouldn't give permission to put up a sign at the entrance.
Talk to the prison, they are running a job training scheme for inmates.
- 4.5 Cllr Harper urged the residents of Armley to use the facility and all three Ward Members are opposed to its closure.

5 Any other business

- 5.1 Raynville Way and Gardens have now been adopted by the council, how do we make sure services know? Should have been notified, tell Ward Members if services are being missed.
- 5.2 Armley Moor – concerned about drinkers coming back. Needs more litter bins.
The Moor is not council land. Issue with new bins is that no-one to empty them.
- 5.3 Can the quality of shops on Town Street be improved? Too many cash shops and bookmakers.
No, they are commercial enterprises and the council has no influence.

6 Date of next meeting & future agenda items

- 6.1 No suggestions for speakers

Future meeting dates, 7pm Armley Library
Tuesday 19th February
Tuesday 19th March
Tuesday 16th April
Tuesday 21st May

Notes of Meeting held 29th November 2012
Eric Atkinson Centre, Wellington Gardens, Bramley

1 Introductions

- 1.1 Cllr C Gruen welcomed 15 residents and Cllr Hanley to the meeting, 3 apologies were noted.

2 Police Update (Inspector Mark Wheeler)

- 2.1 Priority Crime update - house burglaries in the period have dropped from 59 to 13 which is a reduction of 46 and also equates to 249 less burglaries since 1st April 2012. Theft from vehicles has decreased by 14 to 19; theft of vehicles has decreased from 7 to 4 and no robberies have taken place.
- 2.2 Following the day of action about traffic issues earlier in the year, work has continued and 6 drivers were arrested on suspicion of drink driving – 3 have been charged, 2 are on bail pending sample results and 1 was released. A 20 year old male was charged with serious offences of dangerous driving on Ganners Grove and Fairfield Hill – the male deliberately drove at police vehicles; he was arrested and remanded in prison custody until 4th December. A Section 59 warning was issued to a 21 year old riding a motorcycle on a pavement at Summerfield Walk – this means that should he be caught again, his bike will be taken and destroyed.
- 2.3 Officers in Stanningley successfully raided a cannabis factory and destroyed 600 plants, 4 arrests have been made and investigation are ongoing.
- 2.4 Insp Wheeler gave out two tips – after Christmas take packaging (such as large boxes for televisions etc..) directly to the nearest household waste site and don't leave them in your gardens as burglars could target your home knowing you have new items. Also, don't leave your car unattended with the engine running while de-icing as thieves could steal your car.
- 2.5 A resident asked about diabetes guidelines relating to checking bloods an hour before driving and if the Police have powers to access blood sugar records. Insp Wheeler was unaware of any powers the Police have to access medical equipment but will look into it. He did say that Officers are trained in spotting those suffering from diabetes attacks.

MW

3 Bramley Shopping Centre Update (Paul Smith)

- 3.1 There are no updates on the planning issues about the viewpoint flats since the last meeting although work has been going on behind the scenes and a meeting is taking place in December between Leeds City Council Planning and New River (the owners of the centre).
- 3.2 The lights switch on was very successful with over 2300 people passing through the centre. Thanks were offered to Terry and Helen who worked very hard on the event. Next year will be bigger and better. It was noted there was a real feeling of community spirit.
- 3.3 There is a new Santa's Grotto in the centre, the PDSA are running it and proceeds are going to the charity. The Post Office are recruiting a new postmaster and will be developing the retail space. Some new shops have opened including an Indian Takeaway, Munchies Café has moved to a larger unit.
- 3.4 Flowerbed planting will take place in the Spring by the front entrance and in the raised bed at the back; this won't affect the planting done by Bramley in Bloom. The car park is planned for redevelopment at the front but there is no date as yet.
- 3.5 Footfall has increased in the centre throughout the last year likely to be because of Tescos and changing the parking to a 2½ hour limit with no return for 2 hours which means people know they will be able to park.

- 3.6 **Tescos (Mick Carr – Store Manager Tescos – Bramley Shopping Centre)**
The Kirkstall Tescos store will not impact on the Bramley Shopping Centre Store, there are no plans to close the store. The store is doing well.
- 3.7 A resident noted that the buses to Bramley Shopping Centre run at limited times; MC and PS to look into this. **MC/ PS**
- 4 **West Leeds Debt Forum Update (Norah Gibson / Sally Dodgson - Trading Standards)**
- 4.1 SD spoke about the SAFER project; this has been set up with Big Lottery fund money and is a two year project working in Leeds and Bradford. The project worker in Leeds is offering debt advice for those over 55 and is training workers and volunteers who are customer facing to be aware of signs of debt/scams. 70% of people do not report scams to the Police mainly because of embarrassment.
- 4.2 The SAFER project is working well already – one person in Armley who had seen the information was the victim of a potential scam was able to report the scammer because they were aware of the signs of a scam.
- 4.3 SAFER is also working in partnership with BARCA with those people on the BARCA drugs scheme as those with dependences are more likely to be the victim of a scam.
- 4.4 NG updated the group on the work of the West Leeds Debt Forum particularly working against loan sharks and advising where people can go if they have money worries. The forum are also promoting Credit Unions, Citizen’s Advice Bureau (CAB) and Burley Lodge Centre.
- 4.5 There was considerable interest amongst the group about the issues raised and it was suggested that a longer discussion at the next meeting would be useful, particularly noting that the Government are currently looking at Pay Day Loan legislation. SS to add to agenda. **SS**
- 5 **Area Committee Update (Kevin Ritchie – Bramley Forum Co-optee)**
- 5.1 KR gave an update on what was discussed at the last Area Committee, he also noted that the documents for the committee are available on the Leeds City Council website (www.leeds.gov.uk)
- 5.2 KR has been on a walkabout with Jason Singh, Locality Leader and identified areas of concern for Environmental Services in particularly noting litter on the Ganners and Somerfield Shops which has since improved and vegetation on Rodley Lane that has now been cleared.
- 5.3 Cllr Gruen offered thanks to Kevin for his hard work and time relating to sitting on the Committee as Co-optee.
- 6 **Any other business (All)**
- 6.1 Cllr Gruen asked for suggestions for future items – items suggested were Recycling/Waste, Environmental Services, Bramley Baths representatives, Police Commissioner Mark Burns-Williamson and a discussion about debt in the area. **SS**
- 6.2 Moorside are holding the annual Carol Concert on Friday 7th December, 7pm, at St Catherine’s Drive.
- 6.3 The Inner West Area Committee is now seeking applications from community groups for funding from its Wellbeing Fund for 2013/14. Further details are available from Susan Skinner (Susan.Skinner@leeds.gov.uk). **SS**
- 7 **Next Meeting**
- 7.1 31st January 2012, Eric Atkinson Centre, Wellington Gardens, Bramley
6.30pm Housing forum, 7.30pm community forum.

**MINUTES
INNER WEST AREA PANEL MEETING
4pm AT WESTFIELD CHAMBERS
MONDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2012**

Attendees:

Area Panel Members:	Hugh Morgan Pugh (Chair)	HMP
	Deanne Hodgson	DH
	Jenny Holt	JH
	Andy Liptrot	AL
	Graham McDonald	GM
	Councillor J Mckenna	JM
	Councillor N Taggart	NT

Officers:

Mick Parker N.P.M	MP
Stephen Towler Scrutiny	ST
Tracey Thorpe: Minutes	TT

1.0 Apologies: Apologies were received from Jean Paxton, Betty Nyamayaro, Akbar Khan.

2.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting Held on the 22nd October 2012 and Matters Arising all agreed.

Update to (Item 7.0) MP reported that the Neighbourhood Improvement Programme support team held a open day for members of the community to attend at the Fairfield Community Centre which was received very well.

3.0 Capital Expenditure.

3.2 External Funding Update.

Regarding the external funding report from Dawn Appleyard this report covers the whole of the Almo's it is not just for the Inner West area. Dawn Appleyard is the key person to contact in putting bids together for the future.

Action

4.0 Customer Involvement

4.1 Area Panel Bids

AP39 Railings to Westerley Rise & Westerley Croft

To fit fencing to the Westerleys the original cost was £1,000 now at £1,280.00
Approved.

AP70 Burnsall Croft.

The scheme will improve the overall appearance of Burnsall Croft the cost will be £2,083.00.
Approved.

AP78 Clyde Walk Regeneration Project

Enhance the quality of footpaths and communal open spaces within the central spine route of the New Wortley Estate. Cost £50,000
Approved.

HMP is to discuss with AK that we need to have schemes ready to move forward at the next couple of Area Panel meetings so we can spend the money as soon as expenditure is approved in April. There is also a need to target the multi storey flats for renovating, cleaning, and the provision of skips at local events. Cllr Mckenna added that he has been delighted on the the previous bids that have gone through.

4.2 Theaker Lane - Lighting

A evaluation report regarding the Theaker Lane Garage Site Lighting was submitted to the panel. The panel had previously agreed to fund the work to install the additional lighting columns on the site at a total cost of £8000.

The project has been well received by the tenants of the garages on Theaker Lane. Respondents were particularly satisfied that the work had improved community safety or reduced crime and reduced levels of anti-social behaviour. Customers also expressed satisfaction that the project had improved the health and well-being of residents and made an improvement to the quality of the local area.

Other comments received from customers were very positive stating that the lighting had been a very good idea and money has been well spent.

4.3 **Community Engagement & Inclusion Update**

The report goes out every month with a summary of the activities of the team.

If anyone has any new and creative ideas as to how you can involve your community, you can contact Rukhsana Mahmood who is the Cohesion & Diversity Officer at WNWhl.

The report also states how WNWhL are meeting the needs of Diverse Communities by continually organising and promoting twice yearly forums for each of the top 6 languages other than English which is requested by our customers these include Arabic, Farsi, Kurdish, Polish, Tigrinya and Urdu.

One of the areas states that WNWhl have been successful in achieving the award for standards of "Excellence" in Social Housing.

The assessment was led by the Local Government Association who will validate and formally recognise the Excellence level.

ST reported that the Tenant Scrutiny have held a assessment day on the 27th November and 3 out of 5 applicants were selected.

The 2 unsuccessful candidates were advised to increase their experience of involvement with WNWhL and reapply in 2013. The sixth applicant was unable to attend due to a previously arranged holiday and an additional assessment session will be arranged for him.

Further reports will continue to be brought to the Area Panel as scrutiny progresses.

There is currently nine active and recognised Tenants and Residents Associations representing residents in the Inner West area. Associations play an important role in developing community spirit and in ensuring that local residents have a voice and are able to influence the services and priorities affecting their communities.

There is also two Area Representatives for the Inner West covering the Landseer's and Wellington Gardens. Area Representatives represent tenants in a defined area and act as a link between WNWhl and the local community.

The report also publicises the outcomes and activities from customer involvement which is an important part of the work the team do. During December they have produced the fourth edition of IMPACT which has been circulated to all of our customers and staff. Articles have also been added to the website, where up to date feedback and results from customer involvement can be seen.

5.0 Local Issues

5.1 Local Performance Framework.

Customers have been consulted on repairs from Morrisons another survey will also take place in the New Year. Targets have been achieved by contacting customers within one day of their complaint coming through and a full response was met within the first 10 days. MP and AK do have a monthly meeting where they look at the performances of the team.

MP is to arrange to have a narrative box added to the performance report to highlight what targets have been achieved. Cllr McKenna has asked for New Wortley and Bramley to carry out at least 100 inspections.

Cllr McKenna stated that looking at the report it is indicating we are heading in the right direction in meeting our priorities, but would like to see the red areas turning green.

Cllr McKenna would also like to see more involvement in working together with the Police and the PCSO's.

Cllr Taggart raised an area of concern in sharing data on customers with contractors. We need to have customer's needs ie anything that is specific to that customer highlighted on the database so that the contractor would be aware in what their needs are ie any language barriers, disabilities, special needs.

Cllr McKenna reported that one of his constituents is Kurdish enquiring do WNWHL have any support in place to offer support in the community. ST reported that twice a year forums are held to offer support and help for members if anyone requests information to go out in the appropriate language then this can be arranged.

5.2 Grounds Maintenance Update Report.

The report show that with about 1,300 grass assets cut each time, Neighbourhood Monitoring Officers have been achieving a strong monitoring rate of an average of 30%.

Continental Landscapes have been delivering against WNWHL performance targets with 99.5% overall performance result (99% target) 92% of assets have been cut right the first time (90% target)

Customer satisfaction surveys have been carried out, of the 300 asked so far 81% have been very or quite satisfied by performance and 17% were very or quite dissatisfied. The report indicates there was a dip in satisfaction during the wet weather in the summer. Performance is shown by each ward some wards have had low or very low numbers, Outer West has had a high level at 9% joined alongside with Inner West. Outer North West has had the highest levels of monitoring of all areas at 38% but all areas have achieved 25% or More.

6.0 Any Other Business

- 6.1 Neighbourhood Action Plans have now been signed off and are available for viewing on the WNWHL web site.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 11th February 2013 4pm (Training 4.30pm) at Westfield Chambers

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Attendance:

Councillors: P. Gruen (Chair), G. Hyde, G. Hussain, G. Wilkinson, A. Gabriel, J. Akhtar, J. McKenna, J. Jarosz

Officers: K. Kudelnitzky, R. Barke, J. Maxwell

Minutes: S. Warbis

Attending for specific items: K. Morton, I. Mackay

Item	Description	Action
1.0	Apologies	
1.1	Cllr A McKenna, Cllr K. Bruce, Cllr P. Wadsworth, James Rogers, Shaid Mahmood	
2.0	Minutes and Matters Arising	
2.1	The minutes of the previous Area Chairs Forum meeting on 11 th September 2012 were agreed as an accurate record.	
2.2	<u>3.4 of previous minutes – Youth Service Review</u> Concerns were raised that Cllr Wilkinson was the only Conservative member interviewed by the external consultant. It was pointed out that the consultant spoke to all of the Area Committee Chairs, and that also the cross party working group and scrutiny sub group were involved in the discussions.	
2.3	<u>7.5 of previous minutes – Area Working Review</u> It was suggested that concerns over the links between clusters and Area Committees could have been stressed more in the minutes of the meeting. A suggestion was made that Area Committee members could attend cluster meetings, and vice versa.	
3.0	Review of Youth Services / Update on Clusters	
3.1	Ken Morton attended to provide a verbal update on the Review of Youth Services, to give feedback from the Schools Forum and to discuss Area Chairs involvement as the review progresses.	
3.2	The Schools Forum met on 25 th October and agreed to continue the current funding of clusters for a further three years. It was agreed that governance arrangements needed to be reviewed and that a task group would be facilitated by Sue Rumbold, Chief Officer Partnership Development and Business Support in Children’s Services. This would need to link into Area Committees and with the Review of Area Working.	
3.3	There would also be a review of the current formula for funding clusters particularly in light of the changes to school funding around special needs criteria.	
3.4	A diagram was circulated showing a proposed Elected Member and Governors structure for the Leeds Education Challenge Board. There is a proposal to have an Elected Member and Governors Board for each of the three areas of East North East, South, and West North West. It was suggested that each board would have one Member from each of the clusters in that area.	
3.5	As an interim position it was suggested that current representation by Members on clusters would continue, but it was requested that Ken Morton advise the Chief Officer Partnership Development and Business Support (Sue Rumbold) that Area Committee Chairs would like to see proposals progressed that	Ken Morton

enabled future appointments of Members on Cluster Boards to be made by Area Committees.

- 3.6 Also a wider Governor network meeting has been proposed in each of the three areas to make wider collaboration possible. This suggestion was supported by Area Chairs. It was also suggested that within Area Committees some elected members have had more experience of school clusters than others, and that they should help support and inform those members who have previously had less involvement.
- 3.7 It was mentioned that at the moment there was a degree of suspicion on both sides between Area Committees and clusters. Cluster chairs have expressed an interest in gaining more information about Area Committees and Area Support Teams and this is matched by Area Chairs interest in clusters. There was a desire for School Headteachers to have more involvement in community issues locally and it was felt that by establishing better links between clusters and Area Committees this could be enabled.
- 3.8 The report on the Review of Youth Services is no longer being taken to the Executive Board in November. Although the Cross Party working Group and Scrutiny Sub-group have had meetings recently, more member input is required. It is clear that Elected Members will want to see the financial position before a report is taken to Executive Board but, as with the overall council budget, this picture is not clear yet. There is a need to stabilise this position before any delegations are made to Area Committees as these issues should be resolved before any control of the service is passed over.
- 3.9 The aim is to secure the cash resource for "breeze" type activities to be delegated to Area Committees. Other areas of the service need to see a conversion from a mainly staffing resource into a more flexible model.
- 3.10 A new specification for youth Services needs to be devised with potentially commissioning being carried out at the three area levels. Simple procurement is not the only model any more, and voluntary sector ambitions and capacity also needs to be considered. It is no longer assumed that in house services will have the major roll in this area. Input from Area Chairs will be required as this specification is being developed.
- 3.11 There will be a significant restructuring of the service by September 2013 with the intention of having fewer managers, more apprentices and more experienced practitioners in the structure.
- 3.12 Area Chairs, and Area Committees, will be seen as the key clients and will need to agree the specification for the commissioning of more targeted Youth Services work. There will need to be significant input from elected members at an area level in agreeing specifications.
- 3.13 The question of assets was raised and whether these would transfer across with any delegations. There is not a clear view on this at the moment and this is likely to need a separate piece of work. It was clear however that there would need to be distinctions made between assets purely used locally and others, such as Herd Farm, which provide a resource to the whole city.
- 3.14 It was viewed by the Area Chairs Forum that the direction of travel was right. It was suggested that Children's Services would need to lay out the Key Performance Indicators and standards required to meet the needs of any external inspection requirements, but that Area Committees should be given the responsibility of meeting these locally.
- 3.15 It was stressed that the transition of the service needed to begin in April 2013 and this should include the cash resource for the "things to do, places to go" activities. Advice should be available from Children's Services on commissioning, but this should not be decided prior to delegation and Area

Committees should be in control of this.

- 3.16 It was suggested that discussions with Area chairs should be taking place between now and the end of December on the design of a commissioning framework. **Ken Morton**
- 3.17 There were comments from Area Chairs over the lack of clear timescales and their inability at this time to explain to constituents what the changes to Youth Services would entail. It was also mentioned that there needed to be more integration with clusters, schools, jobs and skills around commissioned work and that more imaginative events could be commissioned city wide to tackle issues such as NEETs and citizenship.
- 3.18 It was felt that there needed to be more consultation with members regarding the review. It was felt that drop in sessions were not the best way to consult and that a way forward would be to organise presentations to Party Group meetings.
- 3.19 Ken Morton agreed to confirm with Cllr Blake and Nigel Richardson that presentations on the Review of Youth Services should be offered to Party Group meetings. **Ken Morton**
- 3.20 It was pointed out that there had not been an announcement, or clear statement of intent, to the Executive Board over the proposal to transfer the service. It was agreed that there is a requirement to take a report to executive board showing this intention, and this could then be followed by a phased implementation. **Ken Morton**
- 3.21 There was a discussion over the current distribution of resources and how in some cases this did not seem to match the needs of particular areas. It was agreed that the current distribution model was flawed and needed Area Chair input. Ultimately any changes would need political approval.

4.0 Neighbourhood Planning

- 4.1 Ian Mackay, Planning and Sustainable Development, attended to provide an update on Neighbourhood Planning in Leeds and provided a briefing note.
- 4.2 Ian provided a brief background on the elements of Neighbourhood Planning included in the Localism Act including Neighbourhood Plans, Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to build Orders. Neighbourhood Plans must be in conformity with the Council's Core Strategy, the National Planning Policy framework and human rights and equality legislation, and can also include non-planning interests as decided by local communities.
- 4.3 The Local Planning Authority is responsible for determining applications for Neighbourhood Plan areas and designating Neighbourhood Forums. The Council has a duty to support local communities however this support can be defined by the local authority. The Council will also pay for and organise the examination and referendum of the plan, although all issues relating to referendums are not clear as yet.
- 4.4 It was agreed at Executive Board in June 2012 that Area Committees will have a consultative role to play including advising, signposting, empowering and providing mediation where necessary.
- 4.5 Area Committees are providing an increasingly valuable role in partnership and delivery as the four pilots, and interest in other areas, is developing.
- 4.6 In our region Bradford has only one designated area so far, Kirklees is showing no interest and Calderdale have had three expressions of interest but have no designated areas. Leeds has 10 designated areas with the possibility of 15 further designations. Holbeck is seen by the Department for Communities and

Local Government (DCLG) as an exemplar for neighbourhood planning in the inner city.

- 4.7 A table was provided within the briefing note listing potential roles associated with neighbourhood planning that Area Committees may wish to consider.
- 4.8 The issue of the promotion of neighbourhood planning in inner city / deprived areas was discussed. It was agreed that Area Committees would have differing views on this, depending on the dynamics of particular areas, but that choices to promote or disregard neighbourhood planning should be made on an informed and considered basis.
- 4.9 Differing approaches are already being seen in different areas. North East Outer Area Committee have provided funding for an officer to deal with neighbourhood planning and are therefore seeing more activity in their area. South East are looking at joint Area Committee funding for a post to cover a wider area. It may be appropriate for these approaches to be considered and debated in other areas as well. It was recognised however that certain Area Committees may have greater priorities in their areas.
- 4.10 There was some debate over what the value of neighbourhood planning in inner areas could be and how interested local people would be in taking this approach. There was feedback from the Holbeck pilot that local people were keen to influence the quality of development in their area and saw neighbourhood planning as a way of influencing this.
- 4.11 It was agreed that learning should be taken from Holbeck and shared with other areas. Some areas already have design statements which could be built on. It was also pointed out that some areas already have good existing community governance arrangements and that there should be care taken that any new neighbourhood forums didn't run counter to what was already in place.
- 4.12 It was mentioned that in the West the Neighbourhood Improvement Board could be a potential forum for opening local discussions regarding neighbourhood planning.
- 4.13 In response to a question about funding availability for community groups, Ian Mackay pointed out that DCLG will provide £25,000 to the Local Planning Authority for every neighbourhood plan that successfully passes the examination. The funding letter from DCLG states that this money is intended to cover the costs of the examination and referendum. Ian Mackay pointed out that he has secured support from Planning Aid for any deprived area in Leeds that wishes to prepare a neighbourhood plan.
- 4.14 It was pointed out that the non-planning opportunities that could be incorporated into neighbourhood plans could be particularly valuable to inner areas. Issues such as social responsibility can be built in and can influence planning and development locally.
- 4.15 There was some scepticism over the resilience of neighbourhood plans and whether they could be overruled centrally if disputes were made by developers. It was pointed out that approved neighbourhood plans would be statutory documents and would provide more certainty for an area. If plans are robust there shouldn't be any wriggle room although across the country they have yet to be tested in disputes.
- 4.16 It was mentioned that there has been interest expressed in New Wortley regarding neighbourhood plans. Despite some contrary views, residents in inner areas do have an interest in environmental and quality of life issues and do have an interest in influencing decisions.
- 4.17 There was some doubt raised over the increased bureaucracy of having Area Committees and Neighbourhood Forums involved in planning. There are already

plans panels in place and there is a risk of neighbourhood forums not being fully representative of their areas. There was also some doubt that equality and human rights issues would be fully covered within neighbourhood plans. It was also suggested that the non-planning issues may be better dealt with through other mechanisms.

4.18 It was agreed that there needed to be close links between Area Committees and parish councils and also neighbourhood forums, to ensure that developing neighbourhood plans were representative of the local area. It was reiterated that where no parishes are in place, little would progress without the support of Area Committees, and there needed to be a considered decision whether neighbourhood plans would be appropriate or not in each area.

4.19 There was only time to discuss the first of the eight potential roles for Area Committees within the briefing note. It was therefore agreed that a group would be set up consisting of Ian Mackay, Kathy Kudelnitzky, Cllr James McKenna, Cllr Ghulam Hussain and Cllr Angela Gabriel to discuss the potential roles, and for their views to be circulated to Area Chairs Forum members in advance of the next meeting on 10th January 2013.

**Ian Mackay
/ Kathy
Kudelnitzky**

4.20 Ian Mackay mentioned that Balsall Heath in Birmingham was another inner city area that was making good progress with neighbourhood planning, and it was suggested that there would be merit in visiting this area. Ian Mackay agreed to provide Sarn Warbis with website details to be circulated to Area chairs Forum members.

**Ian Mackay
/ Sarn
Warbis**

5.0 Review of Area Working Update

5.1 Kathy Kudelnitzky, Chief Officer Localities and Partnerships, provided a progress update on the review of Area Working and a summary of proposed recommendations for executive board.

5.2 Following consultation with Elected Members, Area Leaders, Directorates, Service Managers and other stakeholders the review has sought to provide feedback, views and recommendations across six objectives:

- Powers and responsibilities delegated to Area Committees and other locality-based arrangements;
- Joint-working between the council's Executive Board and Area Committees;
- Effectiveness of community and partner engagement through Area Committees;
- Effectiveness of partnership working at a local level;
- Geography of our current locality-based working arrangements; and
- Locality-based funding issues

5.3 Draft documents are to be considered by the All Party Working Group immediately after this meeting, and will then be taken to Corporate Leadership Team on 6th November, a meeting of Cabinet on 12th November and then through the clearance process to Executive Board on 12th December.

5.4 The Executive Board will be invited to agree both short and longer term recommendations, with a project plan being developed over the next three months for implementation. Elected member involvement, and particularly that of Area Chairs, will be key to implementing recommendations within the review.

6.0 Any Other Business

6.1 Full Council Meeting

CLlr Gruen mentioned that at the next full council meeting Area Committees would be on the order paper and that Area Chairs would be required to contribute to discussions / questions if their particular areas were being discussed. This is an opportunity to raise the profile of Area Committees and should be taken advantage of.

6.1.1 It was suggested that Area Support Teams also had a role in promoting the work of Area Committees. Local people and organisations are not always made aware of the members' role in decision making, approval of funding, and support for successful initiatives and activities funded through the Area Committees.

6.2 Wellbeing Update

Jane Maxwell, Area Leader West North West, tabled a paper providing a snapshot of well Being Fund approvals and commitments for the current financial year.

6.2.1 The figures show that some of the funding approved by Area Committees is still working it's way through the system, and Area support Teams are working with Finance, as well as funded projects, to ensure that approved funding is processed and updated on the council's Financial Management System.

6.2.2 There are still concerns about the level of funding which is uncommitted spend where currently no projects have been identified. Area Teams will work with Area Chairs and Area Committees to review how much funding is available and how elected members can support the development of local projects to apply for the available Well Being resources.

6.2.3 More detailed spreadsheets are available to Area Chairs profiling individual projects and their associated issues in clearing funds.

6.2.4 Solutions are being sought with finance to address the issue of allocated funds remaining on Area Committee accounts where commitments have clearly been made and but there are legitimate reasons for delays in the drawing down of funds.

6.2.5 It was suggested that Executive Board needed to exert it's influence over particular Area Committees or wards where there was significant under use of well being funds.

6.2.6 It was stressed that although there was a clear need to maximise this years well being budgets, it was essential that funds were used for valid projects meeting the priorities of each Area Committee. Maximising this years well being budgets is a current priority for Area Leaders and Area Support Teams.

7.0 Date of Next Meeting

7.1 Wednesday 9th January 2013, 09:00 – 11:00, Committee Room 4 - Civic Hall

Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Report to West (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 20th February 2013

Subject: Annual Community Safety Report

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Armley & Bramley & Stanningley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. This report details on crime trends and a range of community safety activity that has taken place during 2012.
2. It updates Members on the key priorities for 2013 and provided information on wellbeing spends on community safety issues.

Recommendations

3. The Area Committee is asked to:
 - a. Note the contents of the report and offer comments as appropriate
 - b. Note the Area Committees role in reducing burglary and other crime

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report provides an annual update from the Area Community Safety Co-ordinator and the Neighbourhood Police Inspector on activity in Inner West to deliver the key outcomes agreed for both Safer and Stronger communities. It includes a section on crime levels and activity that has been carried out to achieve or maintain reductions in crimes. It has a section on two Delegated Functions (Leeds Anti Social Behaviour Team and LeedsWatch service) and their activity during 2011/12. It identifies the key priorities for 2012/13 in Inner West and outlines the approach to addressing those priorities.

2 Background information

- 2.1 A number of factors have a bearing on crime, criminologists have placed these factors into three broad categories:

- A suitable target or opportunity, for example: valuable items which can be removed relatively easily such as laptops near an open window, vehicles with unlocked doors and a valuable item on show, etc
- A motivated offender, for example: someone whose values or beliefs make stealing acceptable, drug dependency, someone motivated by greed, etc
- A low likelihood of getting caught, for example: no Police or security guards, a neighbourhood with a low level of reporting crime, no natural street surveillance, etc

- 2.2 Traditional problem solving techniques aim to reduce crime by impacting on these three categories:

- Working to educate the victim (leaflet drops, face to face crime prevention advice, etc)
- Tackle the offender (known as offender management; visit known offenders, tenancy action, curfews, criminal sanctions – prison, etc)
- Undertake community based work to improve natural surveillance such as community engagement and capacity building to increase reporting (eg neighbourhood watch), environmental works such as cutting hedges back, secure by design, etc)

- 2.3 However it should be acknowledged that other factors also have a bearing on crime;

- Seasons
- Weather
- Release of offenders
- Location
- Population

- 2.4 It is also important to note that one offender can commit many offences in a short period of time and this can lead to significant increases in crime figures. For example, where six cars are damaged in a street, this would lead to six reports of criminal damage.
- 2.5 The North West Divisional Community Safety Partnership is a multi agency partnership chaired by the Police and West North West Homes and includes partners from Fire Service, Leeds University, Youth Service, Youth Offending Service, Children's Services, Safer Leeds and Community Safety Lead Member representatives from each of the four Area Committees in West North West Leeds. The Partnership meets four times a year and sets the strategic direction for partnership work, examining performance and agreeing priorities. The work of the group is accountable to the Safer and Stronger Communities Board, who receives regular reports of the activity undertaken.

3 Summary of key Actions

- 3.1 The following key actions have been delivered through the Divisional Community Safety Partnership during the last 12 months:
- 3.2 Multi Agency Tasking. This group meets monthly and it's membership includes; Safer Leeds (Co-chair), Police (Co-chair), Area Support Team, West North West Homes, Fire Service, Youth service, Children's Services, Environmental Action Team, Bramley and Rodney Community Action (BARCA) and Leeds ASB Team. The group aims to direct partnership resources to tackle the priorities set by the Divisional Partnership and from local agency intelligence.

Examples of the work undertaken by the Multi Agency Tasking group during the period November 2011 – October 2012 includes:

- Planning and delivering action days to tackle specific problems; action days were held in the following areas: Conference Road area, Top Armley (Little Scotland Area) Broadleas and Wythers.
 - Tackling anti social behaviour problems at New Wortley, Street Drinking on Armley Town Street and Hate Crime on the Wythers as some examples.
 - Police crime reduction training delivered at Safety Central to 30 staff across the partnership.
 - Planning and contributing to 12 months of community engagements events held across Inner West. Partners used these events to engage with residents about crime, grime and anti social behaviour priorities and work being undertaken in communities.
- 3.3 Burglary remains a high priority for the Division and in Inner West both wards have been identified as Localities of concern in the city in relation to burglary. The table below shows the position of both Armley and Stanningly ward in relation to the city. Armley has seen a sustained reduction with a 38 % reduction over the last 12 months. Bramley and Stanningly ward has also seen excellent reduction in burglary and has moved out of the top seven localities of concern with 65.1% reduction in burglaries over the last 12 months.

Burglary will remain a priority for the North West Divisional Community Safety partnership for 2013, and resources and partnership activity will continue to focus on reducing burglary.

Ward Risk Matrix January – December 2012

Ward	Jan-12	Feb-12	Mar-12	Apr-12	May-12	Jun-12	Jul-12	Aug-12	Sep-12	Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	12 Month Total	12 Month % Change	3 Month Change	Colour Key
Hyde Park & Woodhouse	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	442	-27.0%	12.0%	Strategic Area
Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	346	-17.6%	27.6%	
Armley	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	291	-38.0%	-22.7%	
Gipton & Harehills	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	288	-28.8%	7.4%	
Headingley	Very High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	266	-41.3%	53.7%	
Killingbeck & Seacroft	Very High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	246	-41.1%	41.7%	
Kirkstall	Very High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	220	-49.7%	-2.2%	
Middleton Park	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	218	22.5%	37.8%	
Weetwood	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	212	-30.1%	-18.4%	
Beeston & Holbeck	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	210	-1.5%	67.4%	
Chapel Allerton	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	208	-47.1%	20.0%	
Roundhay	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	208	-20.6%	16.4%	
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	Very High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	200	-33.0%	66.7%	
Calverley & Farsley	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	181	-28.9%	87.5%	
City & Hunslet	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	180	-9.9%	53.3%	
Bramley & Stanningley	Very High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	176	-65.1%	-5.4%	
Farnley & Wortley	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	170	-51.6%	106.9%	
Moortown	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	170	-38.1%	20.9%	
Alwoodley	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	162	-5.3%	-35.8%	
Temple Newsam	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	154	-50.8%	31.1%	
Pudsey	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	135	-48.3%	66.7%	
Horsforth	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	126	-36.2%	3.1%	
Adel & Wharfedale	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	117	-41.9%	-52.4%	
Morley North	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	109	-17.1%	-33.3%	
Harewood	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	90	-8.4%	-20.8%	
Rothwell	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	89	-9.3%	46.2%	
Morley South	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	84	-27.8%	113.3%	
Otley & Yeadon	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	74	-33.0%	-12.5%	
Wetherby	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	74	25.4%	-20.0%	
Ardley & Robin Hood	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	69	-12.7%	-5.3%	
Kippax & Methley	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	68	-17.9%	-26.7%	
Guiseley & Rawdon	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	57	-55.6%	16.7%	
Garforth & Swillington	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	56	-50.9%	-36.8%	

3.4 Two outcome based accountability sessions took place to look at burglary in more detail in Armley and Bramley/Stanningley Wards. The Sessions brought a number of partners and Members together to look at:

- The statistics for burglary
- The local factors driving burglary
- What multi agency actions can be delivered to address these factors

Following the Outcome Based Accountability meeting a multi agency burglary plan was developed for each area. Examples of work delivered through these plans include:

- Delivering crime reduction training to partnership staff to incorporate into estate walkabouts and to give advice on crime prevention whilst working in the local community.
- Promote Immobilise.com through the partnership to increase registrations to the national property database
- Managing the multi agency work in these areas to maximise the impact on burglary; action days to have a burglary focus for example in the high optimal areas.
- Identify and secure funding for target hardening of properties to address the Euro Cylinder problem targeting the most vulnerable properties and locations within Inner West
- Target campaigns through the Darker Nights Initiatives and It Only Takes a Minute “Campaign to raise awareness of the lighter nights and sneak- in burglary.
- Arrange environmental audits with partners of the areas to address any environmental issues impacting on burglary for example overgrown hedges, obscured street lighting, broken street lighting, etc
- Co-ordinate engagement with residents to offer crime reduction advice and encouraging residents to form neighbourhood watches and attend Partners and Community Together (PACT) meetings
- Development of the multi agency Amber Nominal meetings targeting to manage offending behaviour and provide incentives to engage with support agencies.

3.5 Multi agency action days are delivered in partnership and aim to tackle crime, anti social behaviour and environmental issues within an agreed area. During the action day a number of agencies come together to focus their activity in this geographical area, joining together to have a greater impact. During the last 12 months, 6 action days have been held in the Inner West area focusing on Fairfield’s and Broadlea in Bramley, New Wortley, Armley Town Street the Wythers, top Armley (Little Scotland area).

3.6 Immobilise.com. During the last 12 months Safer Leeds and WNW Homes have funded equipment used by the Neighbourhood Policing Team to provide easy access to Immobilise.com which is the world largest register of property. This equipment has been used on action days, in the Optimal target areas and also at community engagement events.

3.7 Operation Optimal. This initiative was introduced in February 2012 by West Yorkshire Police in the North West Division. The initiative looks at where recent burglaries have occurred and then maps areas of concern down to street level. Police patrols are then deployed to these streets to reduce the number of burglaries. This analysis is also shared with partners such as West North West Homes and Environmental Action Services Fire Service who will give these areas extra attention. Where burglaries do occur the victim is visited and provided with crime reduction advice and signed upto immobilise.com.

Neighbouring properties (back, front and either side) are also visited, offered crime reduction advice and signed upto Immbolise.com, if appropriate.

3.8 Off Road Bikes. The cost of this project is shared across the four Area Committee areas, with each Area Committee contributing £1,500 per annum towards the running costs of two vehicles. The Bikes are deployed across the Division to patrol greenspaces or to target specific problems. The vehicles are effective in reducing anti social behaviour and low level crime, particularly on green spaces providing reassurance to those using parks and greenspaces. The vehicles have also been used during specific initiatives such as action days or more focused initiatives in conjunction with the council's Park Ranger Service. Local information and breakdown of activities is detailed at point 6 of the report.

3.9 CCTV. The Area Committee with West North West Homes Leeds supported the permanent sighting of one CSV cameras on the Broadlea estate in Bramley & Stanningley ward) cameras are monitored by LeedsWatch based within Safer Leeds.

There are four cameras in Armley ward. CSV footage has been used in relation to 10 arrests within Inner West Leeds, for a variety of offences including burglary, robbery, theft, criminal damage, sexual assault, outraging public decency, offensive weapons, drug offences and public disorder, more detailed information about CCTV is contained at 4.0.

3.10 North West Leeds Hate Crime Marac. This multi agency meeting meets each month to look at hate crime incidents across the Division. The meeting is chaired by the Community Safety Coordinator and supported by Safer Leeds and seeks to support victims, take firm action against perpetrators and address any location based issues which need additional attention, through action days for example. During the last 12 months 41 cases have been discussed at this meeting. The types of support we have been able to offer to victims include improved security, repairs to garden boundary fences, negotiate urgent move to an new area/ home. The meetings constantly look at ways to be proactive, and have recently introducing a specific information letter introducing the Hate Crime Coordinators with their contact details to all new West North West Homes tenants. There have also been two multi-agency action days to raise awareness of Hate Crime focussing on the Wyther estate in Armley and the Broadleas in Bramley.

3.11 Offender Management. In January 2012 West Yorkshire Police and Safer Leeds arranged for a number of partners to come together and look at what additional focused support could be provided to individuals involved in burglary and other priority crime. The group is chaired by Safer Leeds with support from the Divisional Neighbourhood Policing Support Team and brings together representatives from Sign Post, Probation, Youth Offending Service, WNW Homes, Leeds ASB Team, Connexions and Attendance Management. The group seeks to address the support needs of individuals and families to help them to stop offending, this support could be through training opportunities provided through Connexions, additional support by Youth Offending Service,

Signpost working with the family offering intensive support. Since its inception the group has discussed 16 individuals and taken 6 individuals off the list due to either engagement with services and reduction in offending or incarceration (resulting in a reduction in offending). The list of individuals is fluid with about 10 on the list at any given time.

4.0 CCTV

- 4.1 LeedsWatch provides a monitoring service for public space surveillance cameras covering open spaces across Leeds. The CCTV control room is staffed, and cameras are recorded 24 hours per day, 365 days a year. The service also provides two mobile CCTV vehicles for deployment within communities across Leeds.
- 4.2 The main objective of the service is to reduce crime and the fear of crime through the use of CCTV technology, leading to improved crime prevention, and an increase in the detection and prosecution of offenders.
- 4.3 CCTV is one of a number of Service functions delegated to Area Committees. The Area Committee's role in relation to this function is to 'maintain an overview of the service in the Committee area and receive regular information about it.'
- 4.4 The LeedsWatch service works in partnership with a large number of internal and external partners such as; Urban Traffic Control (UTC), Emergency Planning, Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT), West Yorkshire Police, WY METRO and other Local Authorities across the West Yorkshire sub-region.
- 4.5 There is currently a total of 5 public space surveillance CCTV cameras monitoring the Inner West Committee Area, via the Central CCTV Control Room at Middleton; they are located in Armley (4) and the Broadlea Estate (1).
- 4.6 Within the Inner West Committee Area there were 10 recorded arrests on camera for various offences, assault (5), robbery (1), public order (1), theft (2) and a burglary (1) recorded between October 2011 and September 2012. CSV footage has been requested by the police in relation to a further 57 incidents concerning crime within the Inner West Committee Area.
- 4.7 Within the last 12 months the mobile vans have been deployed for a total of 4 months within the Weetwood / Pudsey Policing Area and patrols have been deployed in specific areas highlighted by the police specifically in relation to identified crime 'hot spots'. The vehicles are evenly deployed throughout the year between the three policing divisional areas. The deployment of the mobile vans is co-ordinated by the police.
- 4.8 The LeedsWatch service this year has undertaken a critical role in the delivery of the Leeds Burglary Reduction programme, assisting with the identification and detection of offenders using the City wide LeedsWatch network, mobile CSV vans and the West Yorkshire Police Automatic Number Plate Recognition (APNR) system to detect cross boundary offenders and supporting city wide and locality based operations.

- 4.9 Noise nuisance is a major cause for concern across the city. The Out of Hours Noise service was transferred from Environmental Services in May 2011. Work has taken place to improve call handling and response rates, and develop closer working with the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT), in order to more effectively deal with persistent noise offenders.
- 4.10 Supporting the city's most vulnerable residents is also a priority. The Leedswatch service is currently responsible for providing a first response to Care Ring alarms. On call 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, this service responds to alarms from mainly elderly clients who may have fallen or find themselves in need of support. Officers attend to the alarm call and contact emergency services, family members or other appropriate individuals, staying with the client to provide support and re-assurance until further help arrives.
- 4.11 Improving the information and intelligence we provide to Leedswatch customers is a key priority for the service. We are reviewing how this data is recorded, in the way in which we can provide accurate information to service users, to provide more detail and improve the services analytical and intelligence capacity.
- 4.12 Moving forward, the Leedswatch Service is investigating further opportunities to integrate services and create a centre of excellence for emergency response and out of hours call handling. In order to ensure that the service is making the best use of its resources, a full service restructure will take place in 2013/14, which seeks to develop a more agile and resilient service capable of delivering a wider range of services, and offering best value to the residents of Leeds. Discussions are taking place with the Leeds Anti Social Behaviour Teams, Environmental services, West Yorkshire Police and the ALMOs to look at how the various services can better linked together to improve service delivery, collate accurate information for customers and service users and to provide a more pro-active response to issues of public concern, through improved collating of data / information and intelligence sharing between agencies.

5.0 Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT)

- 5.1 LASBT is a multi-agency team drawn from Leeds City Council, West North West homes Leeds, West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service and Victim Support. LASBT is divided into three area based teams and one central 'core' team.
- 5.2 All anti-social behaviour (ASB) cases are managed within the team from 'cradle to grave', and ASB Case Officers cover defined area based patches. The team works closely with a range of agencies to tackle ASB, provide support, and improve community safety within estates across all tenure types.
- 5.3 A project to review LASBT service provision in October 2013 highlighted significant improvements in customer satisfaction and service standard delivery.

5.4 Performance Data

Enquiries are requests for service from the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team and come via the contact centre, the local housing office, West Yorkshire Police, Stop Hate UK and elected members and MP's.

1 & 2 Day response to Enquiries from Contact Centre -

The service standard for response is 1 or 2 working days dependent on the nature of the behaviour being reported. 689 enquires have been received by LASBT West in 2012/13 to date. 55.7% of these enquiries relate to ALMO properties. 92.4% of all enquiries received were responded to within two days.

LASBT workload is made up of enquiries and cases. A case is the investigation and resolution of a complaint of anti-social behaviour. Service standards within a case centre around complainant and accused person contact.

SSTD3 – Initial Contact with Complainant – (service standard 10 days)

The 2012/13 year to date performance for this measure within LASBT West is that 97.9% of complainants were contacted within 10 days of a case being opened.

SSTD5 – 10 day Complainant Update – (service standard every 10 days)

The 2012/13 year to date performance for this measure within LASBT West is that 94.9% of complainants were contacted every 10 days to update their case.

SSTD4 – Initial Contact with Accused person – (service standard 10 days)

The 2012/13 year to date performance for this measure within LASBT West is that 92.6% of complainants were contacted within 10 days of a case being opened.

5.5 Customer Satisfaction Surveys are undertaken when a case has been open for a period of four weeks. Feedback from customers is one of the most important measures of what's been done well, how well the team are performing and what needs to be done to improve the service for the future. All outcomes from Customer Surveys are shared with the team to enable learning, and the sharing of good practice.

5.6 In addition to the four week customer satisfaction survey, a survey is also undertaken within 28 days of the case closure. This contact ensures that there are no further ASB issues, and gauges satisfaction levels once the case has closed.

The 2012/13 year to date performance for LASBT West is shown below;

Customer Satisfaction with service - 4 week case onset survey –

87.8% of respondents stated they were either satisfied, or very satisfied with the service they had received.

Customer Satisfaction with service – Closed Case survey -
 96.2% of respondents stated they were either satisfied, or very satisfied with the service they had received. 96.9% of respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied with the investigation carried out by the Case Officer.

5.7 ASB Caseload

The table below shows a breakdown of the cases opened in the Inner North West area during 2012/2013.

5.8 ASB

Ward Boundaries	Number of Cases Opened
Armley	61
Bramley & Stanningley	41

Case Studies by Ward Area

This section provides a summary of some of the ASB cases that have been investigated by the team during 2011/2012.

Armley –

- An introductory tenant was evicted due to groups of youths visiting the property, drinking, being abusive and threatening and setting fires outside the house.
- A multi-agency approach to tackle anti-social behaviour in and around New Wortley Community Centre has proved successful and residents thanked the Police and the Anti-Social Behaviour Team at the last residents meeting.
- A house closure was granted following reports of groups visiting the property drinking and being abusive to other residents. A house closure was also obtained on a separate property in relation to groups of visitors and rowdy behaviour.

Bramley & Stanningley –

- An introductory tenant was evicted due to using her property for immoral purposes; the number of visitors to her flat was causing noise nuisance and anti-social behaviour to local residents.
- Two injunctions were obtained after the perpetrators had made threats with a knife as well as being rowdy and involved in drug use.
- A possession order was obtained after police found large quantities of cannabis and amphetamine in a tenant's home.

5.9 Domestic Noise Service

Officers dealing with domestic noise nuisance. Previously in the Environmental Protection Team, moved across to the Leeds ASB Team on 1st October 2012. The three Officers who moved across are now managed by the ASB Team Managers and work closely with LASBT West Case Officers. There are cases which are a complex mix of noise and anti social behaviour and Officers are working jointly on these cases. Work has started to rewrite

procedures which aim to offer the most effective and efficient outcome for victims. However, this joint working practice is already in place and has led to improved outcomes when dealing with cases where domestic noise is associated with anti-social behaviour. Officers are working together by undertaking joint visits and installing noise monitoring equipment quicker in appropriate cases. Cases involving just domestic noise such as loud music where a statutory noise nuisance has been proved are now being taken down a tenancy enforcement route presenting a much quicker outcome as information is being shared more effectively.

One of the major changes already implemented is giving the ALMO responsibility for investigating domestic noise complaints as a tenancy management breach. If the ALMO have undertaken the initial investigation and taken appropriate measures and the noise continues, the case can then be referred to LASBT as per existing referral procedures.

5.10 Community Ownership

Above are just a few examples of how working with residents within our communities enables us to tackle ASB effectively. Feedback from victims and community advocates, attendance at community meetings, multi-agency tasking, intervention panels and community forums are all helping partners to better understand how ASB affects different communities and how early intervention and support can impact on reported problems.

Community groups were consulted regarding the revised ASB policy and procedure document and able to influence its final draft. West North West homes Leeds has a Tenancy Management Service Improvement Group and a Customer Sounding Board. The ASB Manager attends these meetings and all new policies, procedures and initiatives are discussed with customers and their input is a valuable contribution to new and ongoing work.

- 5.11 The journey undertaken in Leeds has significantly improved our collective response to anti-social behaviour, for both the services involved in responding to ASB and more importantly the victims themselves.

6.0 Diversionary Activities

- 6.1 During 2012 the partnership has worked with partners on diversionary activities for young people. This has included specific targeted at those young people involved or at risk of crime and ASB through a revisit programme delivered by BARCA for young people in Bramley and targeted work at the Lazer Centre. In addition the Neighbourhood Police team support the Saturday Night Project at Armley Leisure Centre allocating staff to build on developing positive relationships. Funding to support the Saturday night project from the Inner West Area Committee as contributed to the success of the project with 60+ juniors and 20 + seniors attending on a regular basis.

6.2 Operation Analgesic

Operation Analgesic examined crime and youth related ASB during the school summer holidays in 2010 and 2011. This operation ran during the 2012 school holidays focussing additional resources around Armley Town Street, Chapel Lane Hall Lane and the area including New Wortley Cemetery, and the Holdforths. In Bramley the Fairfield's were the main ASB hotspot with clusters of ASB were in the Ganners and the Broadleas. This analysis of previous ASB hotspots over the last 2 years assisted police to deploying proactive resources based on the intelligence.

6.3 Safeguarding

Within the Safer Leeds Partnership Plan 2011-2015 a key strategic priority is improve safeguarding and reduce vulnerability. During 2012 the Community Safety Coordinator and the Neighbourhood Police Team have been working with the Bramley /Stanningley and Armley Clusters within Inner West and have participated and contributed to the Out Come Based Accountability workshops on the 3 Children's Services main obsessions these being attendance, looked after children and young people not in Education, Training or Employment (NEET).

6.4 Families First Initiative

Leeds has secured up to £8 million over the next 3 years for a major programme to work with families to reduce offending and anti-social behaviour, improve school attendance and support parents to move into work. The programme is funded through the Government's Troubled Families scheme. Following consultation it will now be know locally as Families First Leeds.

Leeds is an early adopter of the programme which will provide additional support to a significant number of families in the city over the next 3 years.

The £8million includes a £2.3 million injection up front for year 1 and the scheme aims to build on existing good practice across the city. It will aim to bring all agencies and council services together to ensure effective, joined-up support for our most vulnerable families and therefore benefiting communities across the city.

The programme will integrate and support priorities and plans across the council and will play a major part in contributing to the council's ambition for Leeds to become the best city and to develop stronger communities and restorative approaches.

Community Safety is working in partnership with Children's services in Inner West and to identify those families who fall into these categorise and put in place partnership interventions. Within West North West Leeds initially there have been 459 families identified and an assessment of concerns ranging from 13 families extreme concern with 139 low concerns. Below is a summary of number for the Armley and Bramley Clusters.

6.5 ACES Armley Cluster Summary

Household assessments

	Assessed Level	Households in Cluster	% Total Households	Overall % (Leeds total)
LOW	6 ~ Low	26	36.62%	28.60%
	5 ~ Potential	11	15.49%	19.85%
MODERATE	4 ~ Concern	15	21.13%	25.57%
	3 ~ Significant	11	15.49%	18.06%
HIGH	2 ~ High	7	9.86%	5.10%
	1 ~ Extreme	1	1.41%	2.83%
	Total	71		

6.6 Bramley Cluster Summary

	Assessed Level	Households in Cluster	% Total Households	Overall % (Leeds total)
LOW	6 ~ Low	15	19.48%	28.60%
	5 ~ Potential	18	23.38%	19.85%
MODERATE	4 ~ Concern	20	25.97%	25.57%
	3 ~ Significant	18	23.38%	18.06%
HIGH	2 ~ High	5	6.49%	5.10%
	1 ~ Extreme	1	1.30%	2.83%
	Total	77		

6.7 Household assessments

The above table shows the total numbers of households identified in the cluster area as being applicable for consideration under Government criteria. These have an assessed level based upon the quantity and type of data linked to that household. The table shows the number of households in the cluster at each level, and compares the cluster proportions with the Leeds overall proportions.

Community Safety and the Neighbourhood Police Team contribute to the priorities of Children's Services through the work with the Clusters and attendance at the Support and Guidance meetings and Cluster Partnership meeting.

Further work is being developed with Community Safety and Children's services to identify those young people at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation. Information of those young people identified as being at risk is brought to the relevant tasking meetings for discussions/actions with partners. The Safer Schools Officers have received training to deliver a tailored lesson plan on grooming to young people in High Schools and this will be delivered the High Schools in Inner West.

6.8 **Domestic Violence**

During 2012 a package of support for the Bramley cluster has been developed with the aim of reducing the prevalence and impact of domestic violence and effectively improving safety and reducing risk for families – in the short and long term. This will be achieved by developing a 'whole school, cluster wide approach' to domestic violence issues. This involves not just working with schools but other children's services in the area to raise awareness of DV and promote a consistent approach. Further work will be developed through some peers group work with BARCA to develop materials and tools that support the delivery of DV awareness in schools.

Information from the new in the DV Profile shows that Armley (Ward 4) is the area of significant or moderate risk and the main area of concern in West North West. Most DV reports were in the Aviaries, the Cedars and New Wortley with Wyther Park also having high levels. Through the partnerships and the Clusters, we will be looking to see how we can work to develop awareness and training around the Armley Cluster area.

The clusters and Children's services will also focus on wider issues about local agency support for Domestic Violence cases: around the Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) and non-MARAC cases. T During 2012 these were are on average of 20 Domestic Violence's (DV) cases per month taken to the North West Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference MARAC with the period of April – June 2012 seeing 76 MARAC cases across North West Leeds . Joint work continues to focus on partnership approaches to supporting victims of DV .

The Domestic Abuse Scheme, Safer Leeds (DASSL) is a project providing 1:1 work with men who are abusive to their partners. It currently takes referrals from Children's Social Work Services. It is looking to develop its operation and provide a service to men referred through other channels or who which to refer themselves. Barca, based in Bramley also provides both one to one and group work for men who wish to work on their behaviours. Over the next year we intend to support all agencies work together and develop means of encouraging men to engage with this provision, support all family members and monitor change.

6.9 **Prostitution**

- 6.10 Senior Elected Members have agreed to set up a Steering Group to develop a long term, strategic, citywide response to address the impact of prostitution on the individuals involved and the communities affected. This Steering Group will be supported by a group of officers from a range of services including Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police, NHS Leeds and the third sector. The officers group will be chaired by the Director of Genesis – a voluntary sector organisation that supports women and girls involved in sex work. This will strengthen the work that has been done in the Holbeck area by seeking to ensure that the full range of issues and the impact on all areas of the city are

addressed and to reduce the negative effects that the lack of co-ordination has created in the past.

6.11 Operation Dairy is the name of the operation run by City and Holbeck Division to address the issue at a local, operational level. Officers from the Neighbourhood Policing Team patrol the area in order to identify and take action on the women operating as prostitutes. There is a clear process for officers to follow that involves a series of warnings and referrals to support agencies. The NPT are working very closely with the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT) who is building cases on the women in order to reduce the ASB element of their behaviour.

6.12.1 The North West Division sits on the boundary of City and Holbeck and as such there have been cross boarder issues around prostitution. The North West Division contributes to Operation Dairy and supports the Case Conference approach that has also been developed in the last 12 months. The Case Conference aims to aid a co-ordinated approach to care planning in order that those engaged in street based sex working have increased opportunities to access appropriate services. The services will endeavour to reduce harm caused to the individual's health and wellbeing and support their exit from street based prostitution. Alongside this it also intends to disrupt and challenge illegal and anti-social street behaviour related to street based prostitution. The Case Conference takes referrals from a range of agencies and is developing positive networks and understandings between agencies that will enhance partnership working around the issue.

6.13 Off Road Bike Team Inner West

6.14 In the period January 2012 to September 2012 there have been 153 calls in the ward regarding nuisance motorcycles and quads.

6.15 Armley -

Over the last few years this area has seen a vast reduction in the number of calls for nuisance motorcycles and quads. The majority of calls centre around youths on motorcycles in built up areas. Calls to Little Scotland and the Wyther estate are much more sporadic than in previous years however the majority of offenders in these areas refuse to stop for the Police expecting officers to engage in a chase which never happens in built up areas for obvious reasons. The Lazer centre is well known for there courses on motorcycles and youths in the area are very keen to get involved with this as opposed to riding illegally.

6.16 Bramley /Stanningley

This area has also over the years seen a significant reduction the number of calls regarding nuisance motorcycles and quads. The main problem is the Fairfield estate, with youths riding motorcycles of all descriptions in the estate and onto Bramley Park. There are several access points the main one being

to the rear of the reservoir off Fairfield Hill a further one off Fairfield Hill and the main entrance off Moorfields. We recently had a call from a parent on the Fairfield's asking the Police to attend to seize his son's scooter which he had bought as a non runner. Despite an area search the scooter could not be found but a visit to the address at a later date saw the scooter being seized and the youth being advised accordingly.

Bramley Fall Wood has occasional calls but it is certainly not the problem area it used to be prior to the patrols made by the Police Off Road Motorcycles.

7.0 **Analysis of Crime Figures**

7.1 The following table provides an overview of crime figures for Armley ward in Inner West Leeds. The figures presented cover the period April 2009 – Dec 2012 and relate to all crime types, including Fraud & Forgery, handling stolen goods, sexual offences and other thefts.

7.2 **Ward 4: Armley**

7.3 Over the last 5 years total crime has fallen in Armley ward by 431 offences and ASB incidents down by 552. For the comparison 2010-11 and 2011-12 the key facts are:

- House burglary has been reduced by 38%
- Other burglary has been reduced by 29 offences
- Criminal damages have been reduced by 38 offences
- Violent crime has reduced by 75 offences
- Vehicle crime has been reduced by 44 offences
- Theft has increased by 112 offences
- Drugs offences have increased by 18 owing mainly to increased pro-activity through NPT lead search warrants

- **Total crime reduction for 2010-11 / 2011-12 = 286 less offences**

Armley Ward

Recorded Crime	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Change 11-12 v 08-09	Jan-Dec 2012
Burglary Dwelling	477	491	592	392	-85	295
Burglary Elsewhere	257	280	296	267	10	207
Criminal Damage	877	716	594	556	-321	548
Drugs Offences	109	112	168	186	77	197
Fraud & Forgery	105	113	112	92	-13	107
Handling	14	14	12	14	0	15
Other Crime	63	74	84	75	12	74
Other Theft	552	475	684	796	244	590
Robbery	61	51	50	39	-22	43
Sexual	26	35	25	33	7	33

Offences						
Theft From Vehicle	439	477	344	322	-117	261
Theft Of Vehicle	135	106	84	62	-73	60
Violent Crime	617	525	542	467	-150	490
Total Recorded	3732	3469	3587	3301	-431	2920

Incidents	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Change 11-12 v 08-09	Jan-Dec 2012
ASB	2320	2294	2151	1599	-552	1260

There has been a reduction in the number of ASB incidents from 2010-11 to 2011-12 of 552 reports.

7.4 Ward 6: Bramley & Stanningley

The following table provides an overview of crime figures for Bramley Stanningley West Leeds. The figures presented cover the period April 2009 – December 2012 and relate to all crime types, including Fraud & Forgery, handling stolen goods, sexual offences and other thefts.

Over the last 5 years total crime has fallen in Bramley & Stanningley ward by 312 offences and ASB incidents down by 346. For the comparison 2010-11 and 2011-12 the key facts are:

- House burglary increased by 37 offences (but with a Jan-Dec 2012 twelve month reduction of 65.1% = 176 offences.)
- Other burglary was reduced by 91 offences
- Criminal damages were reduced by 80 offences
- Violent crime was reduced by 37 offences
- Vehicle crime was reduced by 87 offences
- General theft increased by 43 offences
- Drugs offences increased by 10 offences owing mainly to increased pro-activity through NPT lead search warrants
- **Total crime reduction for 2010-11 / 2011-12 = 230 less offences**

Bramley Ward

Recorded Crime	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Change 11-12 v 08-09	Jan-Dec 2012
Burglary Dwelling	274	363	383	420	146	176
Burglary Elsewhere	162	245	279	188	26	185
Criminal Damage	689	510	462	382	-307	343
Drugs Offences	42	52	76	86	44	81
Fraud & Forgery	27	26	21	19	-8	23
Handling	7	11	19	9	2	8
Other Crime	30	33	38	34	4	38
Other Theft	342	360	433	476	134	301
Robbery	27	28	20	11	-16	10
Sexual Offences	26	27	18	18	-8	26
Theft From Vehicle	318	217	209	138	-180	143
Theft Of Vehicle	83	61	51	35	-48	39
Violent Crime	442	350	378	341	-101	301
Total Recorded	2469	2283	2387	2157	-312	1665

Incidents	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Change 11-12 v 08-09	Jan-Dec 2012
ASB	1547	1533	1521	1175	-346	965

7.5 West Inner Overall Public Confidence in Policing Levels

A key performance indicator for the Neighbourhood Policing Team is the proportion of residents who say that local officers do a “good or excellent job” and have confidence in local policing. In the months of March to December 2012 the NPT saw increases in this area and has remained above the 2011 output:

<u>Month</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Jan	47	50.4
Feb	48.6	49.7
Mar	48.9	48.5
April	50.5	-
May	51.4	47.9
June	52.8	44.9
July	52	46.1
Aug	52	44.8
Sept	54	45
Oct	53.5	45.6
Nov	50.7	47.5
Dec	49.9	46.8

7.6 Partnership Initiatives

There have been a number of operations and partnership activities that have contributed to reducing levels of crime and Anti Social Behaviour in the Bramley /Stanningley and Armley ward which include:

- Operation Alice with the NPT staff have deviated their tours of duty to work a variety of hours in line with offending times. This has often mean that they have worked 1800 – 0600.
- Operation Optimal - visits to burglary victims and their neighbours and target patrols to hotspot areas
- Spring and Autumn campaigns including door knocking providing crime reduction advice in burglary hotspots
- Promotion of Immobilise.com property marking, including door knocking and community events.
- Operation Anchor focussing on prison releases
- Completion of the alley gating project on Conference Road in Armley and additional funding secured to install dawn/dusk lighting. This has had a positive impact in the neighbourhood and has also reduced incident of burglary (during 2010/11 this street was identified as high concern in 2011.)
- An environmental visual audit undertaken of the Little Scotland area to identify and refer on any environmental issues impacting on crime and the fear of crime for example overgrown hedges, obscured or broken street lighting, graffiti, untidy communal areas, etc
- action days concentrating partnership attention to the area to tackle crime and environmental issues such as binyards, overgrown hedges, broken street lights, graffiti
- Operation Bullseye targeting receivers of stolen good including the Apollo scanning equipment to be used on warrants
- Crime reduction training delivered to partners for use in estate walkabouts
- The North West Leeds Dog Watch Scheme.
- New Wortley partnership action plan to tackle ongoing issues regarding nuisance in and around New Wortley Community Centre. These include anti social behaviour and criminal damage. Individuals drinking alcohol to excess is a main factor in the anti social behaviour, along with some drug use and funding. Extra police patrols have been maintained around the area, including the use of resources such as Mounted Section, Dog Handlers in addition to normal Neighbourhood Police Officers & PCSO's. Funding from West Yorkshire Community Trust of £2,750 for the Community centre to work in partnership with Barca-Leeds, to provide outreach sessions. The aim of these sessions would be to engage with and identify young adults that are involved in antisocial activity. The aim would be getting them positively engaged with universal services, to support them to other positive activities.
- Armley Town Street Action plan to reduce levels of ASB and street drinking in the locality.

- The NPT has provided 2x PCSOs to support the Armley Saturday Night Breeze Project throughout 2012 and this will continue with 1x PCSO throughout 2013. Up to 100 young people attend the Breeze project.

7.6 Reassurance Events

The Neighbourhood Police and Partners have continued to support local communities and neighbourhoods by coordinating some and attending other community events. These include the Dog Watch show at Farnley Park, Broadleas Community engagement day, Ganners community event, Armley Fun day, New Wortley Funday, Christmas light switch on events and have attended numerous Forums and PACT meetings across Inner West.

8.0 Priorities for the North West Division Community Safety partnership 2012/13

The North West Division Leadership team have identified the following priorities for the division;

- Strong strategic leadership
- Partnership commitment / information / communication
- Shared and publically agreed priorities
- Co location where possible
- Multi agency problem solving
- Evidence based deployment
- 3rd sector (portal), volunteers / special constables

8.1 The Operational key themes are;

- Burglary
- Confidence and satisfaction
- Anti Social Behaviour
- Community engagement
- BME satisfaction gap
- Troubled Families (Families First)
- Metal theft

The North West Division will continue to strengthen its partnership work to reduce crime and deliver joint crime and community Safety initiatives. There will be a strong focus on a commitment to combating local issues that are important to local people across wards in Inner West.

9.0 Priorities for the North West Division Community Safety Partnership 2012/13

9.1 Through the Safer Leeds Community Safety Partnership the following priorities have been identified for 2013;

- Reduce crime and its impact which includes burglary and other high volume crime and support for victims
- Reduce re-offending working in partnership with probation and the prison service
- Effectively tackle anti-social behaviour and develop and deliver multi agency ABS service
- Improve Safeguarding and reduce vulnerabilities including Domestic Violence and Child sexual exploitation through a coherent partnership approach.
- Tackling substance miss-use

10.0 Corporate Considerations

10.1 Consultation and Engagement

The projects highlighted in this report will include consultation and engagement under the theme of crime and anti social behaviour with the aim of providing crime reduction advice and to increase reporting.

10.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

The Hate Crime MARAC discuss individual cases of hate crime and agree actions to progress support for victims of hate crime, action against perpetrators and any key location work which is required. The meeting receives quarterly monitoring information relating to hate crime and takes appropriate action to address any concerns arising from the report including; awareness raising engagement events to increase reporting, letter drops to areas and talks to school year groups.

Engagement events and projects take account of equality and diversity in their delivery. Considerations such as date, time, venue, access all have an impact on equality and diversity in relation to ensuring events is accessible to all members of the community.

10.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

Effectively tackling crime and anti social behaviour is a strategic priority in the Safer Leeds Plan 2011-2015.

10.4 Resources and Value for Money

Projects and work highlighted in this report have been funded through a mixture of Safer Leeds, Area Committee, West North West Homes and Proceeds of Crime funds. Further opportunities for partnership funding will be explored through the coming year.

10.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

There are no legal implications or access to information issues for this report. This report is not subject for call in.

10.6 Risk Management

Risk implications and mitigation are considered for each project.

11.0 Conclusions

11.1 Whilst the wards have seen significant reductions, burglary continues to be a concern for the Inner West area and considerable partnership work is delivered to address burglary hotspots. Specific work has been delivered in Armley and Bramley using the Outcome Based Accountability model to identify the issues impacting on burglary in these areas and creating actions to address high levels of burglary. Actions plans have been used to introduce new initiatives and pieces of work to address specific problems in each of the localities and the continued support from Members to tackle burglary is welcomed.

11.2 During 2011 Armley was the top ward from the localities of concern in relation to burglary and improvements have been made during 2012. Bramley has seen significant improvements and the crime figures shows that the initiatives and actions introduced into the area are delivering better outcomes. The Inner West continues to present many challenges in other areas of community safety, anti social behaviour, domestic violence, and management of offenders. However the partnership commitment remains strong and by working smarter with reducing resources we will continue to focus on reducing crime and the fear of crime in Inner West.

12.0 Recommendations

12.1 Members of the Inner North West Area Committee are requested to:

- a. Note the contents of the report and offer comments
- b. Note the Area Committees role in reducing burglary and other crime

13.0 Background documents

None



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Report of The Chief Officer of Parks and Countryside

Report to West (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 20th February 2013

Subject: Annual Report – for the Parks and Countryside Service

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):		
Armley Bramley & Stanningley		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number:		
Appendix number:		

Summary of main issues

1. The report provides an area profile of key assets, information on park usage and a customer based perspective of the quality of the assets and services provided.
2. It highlights the current progress towards Leeds Quality Park (LQP) status for community parks in the area. It provides the costs of achieving and retaining LQP status in community parks up to the year 2020.
3. The report details capital improvements in community parks, sport pitches and fixed play in the area for the last 12 months and planned improvements to be delivered in the next 12 months.
4. It gives a detailed breakdown of events and volunteering in the area.
5. It gives an overview of the Streetscene Grounds Maintenance contract considering performance for grass cutting in 2012. It sets out the specification and how this is developing alongside suggesting increased engagement in performance monitoring.

Recommendations

6. The Area Committee is requested to note the content of the report and to communicate priorities for investment in community parks, playing pitches and fixed play facilities in light of the issues raised.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report seeks to further develop the relationship between the Parks and Countryside service and the West Inner Area Committee, as agreed at Executive Board.
- 1.2 It provides an overview of the service and sets out some of the challenges faced along with key performance management initiatives. In addition it seeks to provide a positive way forward for delivering the extended role of the Area Committee.
- 1.3 In particular it sets out at an area level progress made in attaining Leeds Quality Park standard. It also sets out investment needs to attain LQP standards and to retain them.

2 Background information

Service Description

- 2.1 Leeds City Council has one of the largest fully inclusive local authority Parks and Countryside services, managing almost 4,000 hectares of parks and green space. This includes 7 major parks, 62 community parks and 95 recreation grounds and 391 local green spaces, which include 144 playgrounds and 500 sports facilities ranging from skateboard parks to golf courses, and which play host to 600 events annually. The service also manages a nursery which produces over 4 million bedding plants each year, 97 allotment sites, over 800km of Public Right of Way (PROW), and 156 nature conservation sites, as well as 22 cemeteries and three crematoria.
- 2.2 The 2009 Parks and Countryside residents survey showed that the service attracts almost 68 million visits each year from Leeds' residents alone, and that approximately 96% of these are regular park users. These range from anybody using a park for informal recreation (e.g. walking, observing nature) to people who take part in formal activities (e.g. football clubs, conservation volunteers or to attend events). The user surveys also evidenced that 10m visits are made to our green space by Young People (12-19) compared to 3.6m by Children (5-11).

Description of Priority Advisory Function

- 2.3 The priority advisory function for Area Committees relates to community parks provision that have a wide range of facilities, including general recreation, sports pitches, play and formal and informal horticultural facilities.
- 2.4 Where developments are less significant or only impact on one site then ward members and community groups will be informed and consulted using established procedures. It is important to note that good levels of engagement with ward members exist and this function seeks to enhance this engagement.

3 Main issues

Area Profile of the Service

- 3.1 The following table summarises community green space assets managed by Parks and Countryside in the West Inner Area Committee:

Asset	Quantity
Community parks	6
Playing Pitches:	
Football	18
Rugby League	7
Rugby Union	1
Bowling greens	4
Playgrounds	7
Multi-use games areas	3
Skate parks	1

Community Parks

- 3.2 The service undertook a residents survey using the Citizen's Panel methodology during the summer of 2012. Whilst this has provided some city wide data, more work is required to provide sufficient data at an area committee level. Options to undertake additional surveys during 2013 are currently being examined to provide an updated dataset for usage and satisfaction.
- 3.3 Analysis from the 2009 residents survey was carried out relevant to the 6 community parks in the area which are;

Site Name	Annual Number of Visits	Total Annual Visits to West Inner Community Parks is 3.75m approx.
Armley Park	338,143	
Bramley Falls Wood	744,476	
Bramley Park	1,194,237	
Gotts Park	531,299	
Rodley Park Rec Ground	284,075	
Stanningley Park	648,914	

- 3.4 The residents survey provides significant insight into the users of community parks, demographics of users, how they get there and what they do. A detailed insight of each community park is given in appendix 1. The key analysis points are;
- Approximately 71% of visitors are adults with 29% children and young people.
 - There are a wide range of reasons for visiting but nearly all visitors at some point go for relaxation or exercise. There is significant differences in reasons for visiting at some of the parks in the area.
 - The majority of visitors travel to the park on foot (85%) of which 67% take less than 10 minutes to travel there.
 - Of the 12% who visit by car 80% take less than 10 minutes to get there.

- 46% of visitors go to community parks either every day or on most days, whilst 79% go at least once a week.

3.5 Parks and Countryside provide annual pitch hire for sports teams in the area. The table below shows the number of teams with current bookings playing on pitches in the area; *(note this excludes clubs who have a long term lease in place)*

Age Group	No of Teams
Open Age	20
Juniors	33

Volunteering in the Parks and Countryside Service

3.6 The Service continues to focus on increasing the number of volunteers and groups working in the area. There has been a significant increase in the value of activities which take place particularly in the area of corporate volunteering. Our emphasis for the next 12 months will be to :

- Seek to increase corporate volunteering working in partnership with Leeds Ahead.
- Continue to improve involvement with the many “in bloom” groups in Leeds.
- It is an ambition to have a volunteer group for every community park where there is a site based gardener.

3.7 It is estimated that volunteers across all groups contribute nearly 400 days of voluntary work in the West Inner area over a 12 month period. The tables below give details of works undertaken in West Inner since November 2011 and the active groups in the area Committee;

Table 1 - Work undertaken by volunteers working with the Rangers;

Site	Organisation	Task	No. of Vol Days
Calverley Lane Picnic Site	Leeds Wildlife Volunteers	Hedge laying	17.1
Newley Meadow & Picnic Site	Leeds Wildlife Volunteers	Planting wildflower plugs	6.4
		Step construction, picnic bench removal, cutting back vegetation	6.9
Total			30.4

Table 2 - Corporate volunteer actions;

Site	Organisation	Task	No. of Vol Days
Armley Park	Corporate group	Weeding beds, path edging, maintain bowling green.	9.0
Bramley Falls Wood Park	LCC - HR	Balsam bashing, footpath cut back.	5.7
	Corporate group	painting fence around car park.	5.0
Newley Meadow & Picnic Site	Premier Farnell	Install picnic bench, clear vegetation from entrances, paths and seating, install steps, painting signs and fencing, litter picking.	23.6

Site	Organisation	Task	No. of Vol Days
Rodley Park Recreation Ground	Premier Farnell	Pruning trees and shrubs encroaching paths.	3.6
Total			46.9

Table 3 - Summary of the groups who are active in the West Inner area :
(Days working on Parks & Countryside land)

Group Name	Number of Volunteers	Estimated Volunteer Days
Armley Common Rights Trust	5	10
Bramley Fall Residents Association	10	20
Friends of Bramley Park	10	30
Leeds Parks Volunteers	4	78
Leeds Voluntary Footpath Rangers	6	130
Leeds Wildlife Volunteers	12	216
Total	47	484

Table 4 - Existing in bloom groups within the West Inner area;

In Bloom Group	Number of Volunteers	Award Won (Yorkshire in Bloom)	Estimated Volunteer Days
Bramley	6		160
Total			160

Highlighted groups are newly formed in bloom groups in 2012

Events

- 3.8 The bookings and licensing team has introduced improvements to the application process for events that occur on parks. They are providing greater assistance in helping community groups organise events with particular emphasise on ensuring legal and safety requirements are met but do not deter groups and organisations from organising activities. The table below shows a list of events held in the outer West area in 2012:

Site Name	Month	Event	Total
Armley Park	May	Healthy Living Network Leeds	1
	August	Breeze on Tour	1
Bramley Park	July	Bramley Carnival	1
	October	Bramley Music Festival	1
	November	Bramley Park Bonfire	1
Hall Lane Recreation Ground	June	Jubilee School Funday	1
Raynville Crescent POS	October	I Love West Leeds Cinema Screening	1
Total			7

Community Parks – Leeds Quality Park Status

- 3.9 The Parks and Green Space Strategy was approved at Executive Board in February 2009 and sets out the vision and priorities to 2020. One of the key proposals contained in the strategy is the aspiration for all community parks to meet the Green

Flag standard for field based assessment by 2020. The Green Flag Award Scheme represents the national standard for parks and green spaces. It has been developed around eight key criteria as follows;

- **A welcoming place** - how to create a sense that people are positively welcomed in the park
- **Healthy, safe & secure** - how best to ensure that the park is a safe & healthy environment for all users
- **Clean & well maintained** - what people can expect in terms of cleanliness, facilities & maintenance
- **Sustainability** - how a park can be managed in environmentally sensitive ways
- **Conservation & heritage** - the value of conservation & care of historical heritage
- **Community involvement** - ways of encouraging community participation and acknowledging the community's role in a park's success
- **Marketing** - methods of promoting a park successfully
- **Management** - how to reflect all of the above in a coherent & accessible management plan or strategy and ensure it is implemented.

3.10 The Parks and Countryside service reports annual performance against two local indicators based upon the Green Flag Award scheme;

- *The percentage of Parks and Countryside sites assessed that meet the Green Flag standard.*
- *The percentage of Parks and Countryside community parks which meet the Green Flag standard.* Performance against these indicators is illustrated in section 3.30.

3.11 The indicator includes an assessment of each community park which has particular relevance to Area Committee engagement. The scheme is known as the Leeds Quality Park (LQP) standard. The following table provides a summary of these assessments for the West Inner Area Committee.

Site	Year Assessed	Welcoming Place	Healthy, Safe, Secure	Clean, Well Maintained	Sustainability	Conservation / Heritage	Community Involvement	Marketing	Meets Standard?
Armley Park	2010								No
Bramley Falls Wood	2011								No
Bramley Park	2011								No

Site	Year Assessed	Welcoming Place	Healthy, Safe, Secure	Clean, Well Maintained	Sustainability	Conservation / Heritage	Community Involvement	Marketing	Meets Standard?
Gotts Park	2010								No
Rodley Park Rec Ground	2012								No
Stanningley Park	2010								No

Key:

Meets Leeds Quality Park Standard on average for this key criteria	
Below Leeds Quality Park Standard on average for this key criteria	

3.12 From this table, there are no parks identified that meet the Leeds Quality Park Standard in the area. This is identical to the previous Area Committee report.

3.13 The residents survey in 2009 enables an assessment of visitor numbers and satisfaction rating (scored out of 10) for a number of criteria for each park, set out in the following table:

Site	Design and Appearance	Cleanliness and Maintenance	Ease to Get Around	Range of Facilities	Horticultural Maintenance	Nature Conservation	Facilities for Families	Sports Facilities	Overall Impression
Armley Park	8.0	5.3	8.7	6.0	6.7	7.3	6.0	6.0	6.7
Bramley Falls Wood	8.2	7.8	8.9	5.6	8.0	7.9	6.9	6.2	7.5
Bramley Park	6.5	6.3	7.9	5.0	7.1	6.6	5.4	5.8	6.2
Gotts Park	8.5	8.2	9.0	6.1	8.4	7.5	6.9	7.1	8.2
Rodley Park Rec Ground	6.6	6.2	7.1	5.1	6.7	7.1	5.1	4.9	6.9
Stanningley Park	6.0	6.0	8.2	4.5	7.6	6.7	4.7	5.2	5.6

Key:

Generally meets LQP expectations	7.0 - 10	
Generally below LQP expectations	0.0 – 6.9	

This table broadly correlates with the professional audit undertaken for the Leeds Quality Parks assessment set out in paragraph 3.11. It is noted however that both Gotts Park and Bramley Falls Wood score generally higher than the score required to meet LQP expectations. There are however issues identified with the range of facilities, facilities for families and sports facilities offered across all of the parks.

Playing Pitches

3.14 The residents survey in 2009 allowed respondents to rate sport facilities in parks. The results are shown in the table below;

Rating of Sports facilities	2009 (West Inner)	2006 (West Inner)
Fair to very good	62.3%	64.4%
Poor or very poor	37.7%	35.6%

The results show a slight decrease in those rating sports facilities as fair to very good. This data is related to the table set out in paragraph 3.13.

Fixed Play

3.15 The residents survey in 2009 allowed respondents to rate facilities for children and their parents. The results are shown in the table below;

Rating facilities for children	2009 (West Inner)	2006 (West Inner)
Fair to very good	64.5%	68.9%
Poor or very poor	35.5%	31.1%

Results show a slight reduction in those who rated facilities as fair to very good.

3.16 Improvements to community parks during 2012 are as follows:

- Bramley Park – General park improvements (£178k).

3.17 The following table provides a perspective on the minimum level of investment required to achieve the LQP standard for the five remaining parks. It also includes the level of reinvestment required across all the community parks in order to sustain the LQP pass up to 2020;

Site Name	Cost to Achieve (excluding fixed play)	Reinvestment (excluding fixed play)
Armley Park	£100,000	
Bramley Falls Wood	£93,000	
Gotts Park	£54,000	
Rodley Park Rec Ground	£106,000	
Stanningley Park	£157,479	
Total to achieve LQP	£510,479	
Average annual reinvestment		£20,868
Total reinvestment to 2020		£187,813
Overall Total Investment to 2020		£698,292

3.18 Reinvestment levels are estimated according to the expected lifespan of equipment and infrastructure as set out below;

Description	Timescale for Recurring Investment
Signage and interpretation	5 years
Fixed play (including MUGA's/skate parks)	10 years
Bins and benches	15 years
Paths and infrastructure	25 years
Landscaping	25 years

3.19 Planned and proposed improvements for the next 12 months are;

- Rodley Park Recreation Ground – Removal and landscaping of old bowling green. New gates and fencing with interpretation. Foot path and drainage works. New park infrastructure (£77k).
- Gotts Park – Interpretation, woodland access improvements (£81k).
- Dunkirk Hill – woodland thinning, path works, fencing and park furniture (£88k).
- Bramley Falls Wood – 1 item of play equipment replaced (£10k).
- Stanningley Park - 1 item of play equipment replaced (£10k).

3.20 In terms of fixed play, work has been undertaken to set out refurbishment requirements over a 10 year rolling programme in support of the outcomes of the Fixed Play Strategy. The average cost of a new playground is currently about £120k; Multi-use games areas and skateparks are slightly cheaper on average at about £90k each. The table below shows the capital investment required on an ongoing basis to fund the area committees existing fixed play sites;

Fixed Play Type	No.	Total Replacement Cost £'s	Required Average Annual Spend £'s
Play Areas	7	840,000	84,000
Multi Use games Areas	3	270,000	27,000
Skate Parks	1	90,000	9,000
Totals		1,200,000	120,000

Area Committee funding for additional on site gardeners

3.21 A number of area committees provide additional funding for gardeners to increase site based presence at parks in the area.

3.22 Since the introduction of site based gardeners, analysis shows that complaints to both Ward Councillors and the Parks and Countryside Service have declined on sites with increased daily presence. In addition, the service has observed an increase in the number of residents using parks and open spaces which is backed up by the residents survey data.

3.23 The site based gardeners increase working relationships with users, local residents and community groups. These site based staff further increase users satisfaction and support the aspiration to increase volunteer groups working within parks.

Streetscene Grounds Maintenance

3.24 Following a procurement exercise the streetscene grounds maintenance contract was awarded to Continental Landscapes Ltd (CLL) with effect from 1st January 2012. This contract covers sites that are located alongside the highway network or amongst residential streets managed by the council's Arms Length Management Organisations (ALMOs and BITMO). The specification requires the contractor to undertake litter removal from sites they maintain at each visit supporting the council's wider efforts to maintain clean streets. The table below shows the asset breakdown of contract items for the West Inner area committee:

Asset Type	Annual Visits	Unit	Measure
Amenity Grass	13	M ²	517,221
Premium Grass	26	M ²	25,952
Rough Grass	3	M ²	3,215
Rough Linear	3	M	615
Shrub Beds	2	M ²	14,589
Hedges	3	M	154
Total			561,746

3.25 Despite 2012 being one of the wettest summers ever recorded the contractor has completed grass cutting operations as required by the contract specification. During June the specification was revised to increase the mowing frequency on grass plots adjacent to sheltered housing and this has proven to be very successful in addressing issues of grass length and overspill of cuttings in these areas. Regular monitoring of the contractors work is undertaken with a target sample size of 10%. Analysis of city wide performance for the 2012 mowing season shows that the contractor achieved an average failure rate of less than 1%.

3.26 The Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board Working Group examined the contract during the summer and produced a number of recommendations that are currently being considered or have already been introduced. These include:

- Increasing frequencies to 16 grass cuts and 6 shrub/rose visits.
- That any proposed removal of shrub/rose beds are consulted on with ward members and parish/town councils prior to removal.
- That options to increase 'joined up working' with locality management are explored.
- To examine options to increase efficiencies by better utilisation of contractor resources during the winter.
- That parish and town councils are encouraged to engage in contract performance management.
- That an improved communications strategy is developed.
- That area committees are provided with performance information relevant to the area.

- That contract management efficiencies are sought alongside increased consistency of approach.
- Establishing funding to address problem sites until ownership can be established.

3.27 From 1st September 2012 management of the contract passed to Parks and Countryside and work has commenced to restructure the contract team to achieve increased coordination and efficiency from grounds maintenance and weed spraying contracts. It is proposed that officers attending the area committee environment sub groups will provide regular updates on performance and any proposed changes to the contract.

3.28 As a result of the ALMO review currently underway, arrangements regarding the provision of ALMO elements of the contract may change.

Coordinated Working with Environmental Services

3.29 The Parks & Countryside Service move to the Environments & Neighbourhoods Directorate has given opportunities to improve collaborative working. In particular improvements in horticultural land management, cleansing and more efficient use of resources in regard to;

- Co-ordination of weed spraying activities with the grounds maintenance contract with a consistent approach to monitoring.
- Traffic Management arrangements co-ordinated to minimise costs and disruption of the highway.
- Litter collection in the vicinity of community parks, and as part of normal operations site based gardeners undertake an initial litter pick of the park which is being expanded to include some areas outside the curtilage of the park. Conversely, street cleansing staff now assist with emptying litter bins in parks on a weekend when parks staff are not always present.
- Work is underway to map all maintainable ginnels and establish work requirements to draw up an annual co-ordinated work schedule. Work is already co-ordinated to undertake weed-spraying where the locality team have already cut back vegetation, and removed detritus from the surface of the path.
- Locality Managers have led on consultation and worked with Parks and Countryside on developing proposals around dog control orders in Leeds.
- The Parks and Countryside service has a number of welfare facilities and yard space available in most community parks distributed throughout the city which has provided an opportunity for the locality based teams to use these facilities for staff welfare provision and as operational bases.

Parks & Countryside Key Performance Indicators

3.30 The following table highlights key performance indicators relevant to the service;

PI Code	Description	2010/11 Actual	2011/12 Actual	2012/13 Target	2013/14 Target
LKI-GFI / CP-PC50 / EM38	The percentage of parks and countryside sites assessed internally that meet the Green Flag criteria	23% (Target 23%)	26.2% (Target 26.2%)	29.4%	32.6%
LKI-PCP 22	Overall user satisfaction with Parks and Countryside (from the user survey)	N/A	N/A	7/10	N/A
New	The percentage of parks and countryside community parks which meet LQP status	33.9%	38.7% Target (40%)	47.5%	55%

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 Close liaison with community and ward members is already in existence, utilising a variety of mechanisms, for example through residents' surveys, multi-agency meetings and community forums. In addition volunteers, Friends of groups and local residents are regularly consulted on local projects with input on design and physical implementation of a wide range of site improvements.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 This report does not have an impact on equality and diversity. Further information is available on analysis of the residents survey 2009 specifically regarding equality issues on request.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The contents of this report set out how the Executive Board requirements can be met by taking a more proactive approach to involve and engage Area Committees in matters relating to community parks.

4.3.2 The information within the report contributes significantly to the sustainable economy and culture city priority plan.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 The central government's Comprehensive Spending Review has had significant impact on local government budgets and it is anticipated that the budget allocation for Parks and Countryside will continue to be very challenging.

4.4.2 The service undertakes to sustain and develop the services provided to the public and has traditionally used a number of sources of financial support to achieve developments. These include grants from bodies such as Green Leeds Ltd,

Sustrans, Natural England, National Lottery funding and developer contributions via section 106 (S106) funds.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This report has no legal implications and is not subject to call in. There is no information which is confidential or exempt.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no significant risk management issues contained within the report, its conclusions and recommendations.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 Community green space contributes in many ways to the delivery of the Corporate Priority Plan. They provide places for relaxation, escape, exercise and recreation. They bring communities together and make a positive contribution to the local economy, education, improve public health and well-being, and generally make a better place to live, work and visit.
- 5.2 Improvements to community parks, fixed play and playing pitches remain a priority, and there already has been investment made to deliver improvements along with further schemes identified. Issues are being addressed through the Parks and Green Space Strategy along with implementation of the Fixed Play Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy.
- 5.3 Community engagement remains a key activity for the service with regular correspondence, attendance at meetings and briefings, along with more localised consultation where required. As described at 3.2 options to undertake additional surveys during 2013 are currently being examined to provide an updated dataset for usage and satisfaction.
- 5.4 A programme of activities is planned for which updates and reports can be provided to the Area Committee to help inform, consult and influence community green space management.

6 Recommendations

6.1 The Area Committee is requested to note the content of the report and to communicate priorities for investment in community parks, playing pitches and fixed play facilities in light of the issues raised.

7 Background documents

- 7.1 Area Committee Roles, Outer West Area Committee, 4th July 2011.
- 7.2 Annual Report for Parks and Countryside Service in West Inner Area Committee, West Inner Area Committee, 19th October 2011.
- 7.3 Parks and Greenspace Strategy, Executive Board, February 2009.

Appendix 1: Detailed Residents Survey Information

1.1 Total Number of Annual Visits

	Community Parks	Other P&C Sites	Total
West Inner	3,741,143	373,544	4,114,687

1.2 Reasons for Visiting – respondents select their five main reasons (The 24 choices have been grouped in this table)

Reason	Armley Park %	Bramley Falls Wood %	Bramley Park %	Gotts Park %	Rodley Park Rec Ground %	Stanningley Park %	West Inner Total %
Exercise	73	85	71	89	91	86	79
Play	36	54	45	42	55	61	48
Dog walking	18	50	29	32	45	21	31
Enjoy the surroundings	36	46	26	58	64	43	39
Family outings	41	46	26	16	55	29	32
Relaxation	82	100	75	100	55	100	94
See Wildlife	18	50	12	32	18	14	22
Sport related	32	12	12	11	0	36	17
Other	5	12	11	0	9	7	8
Events	5	4	17	0	0	4	8

1.3 Age Profile of Visitors

Site	Age 20 – 39	Age 40 – 59	Age 60+
Armley Park	42%	23%	35%
Bramley Falls Wood	32%	44%	24%
Bramley Park	42%	35%	23%
Gotts Park	43%	33%	24%
Rodley Park Rec Ground	23%	69%	8%
Stanningley Park	41%	37%	22%
West Inner Total	39%	37%	24%

How visitors get to the parks and how long it takes to get there

1.4 Visitors on Foot – Journey Time

Site	% of visitors on foot	Less than 10 mins	10–20 mins	20-30 mins	30+ mins
Armley Park	82%	58%	28%	14%	0%
Bramley Falls Wood	73%	53%	42%	0%	5%
Bramley Park	85%	63%	25%	10%	2%
Gotts Park	95%	72%	17%	6%	6%
Rodley Park Rec Ground	100%	72%	28%	0%	0%
Stanningley Park	86%	83%	17%	0%	0%
West Inner Total	85%	67%	25%	6%	2%

1.5 Visitors by Car - Journey Time

Site	% of visitors by car	Less than 10 mins	10–20 mins	20-30 mins
Armley Park	18%	100%	0%	0%
Bramley Falls Wood	19%	60%	40%	0%
Bramley Park	11%	72%	14%	14%
Gotts Park	5%	100%	0%	0%
Rodley Park Rec Ground	0%	~	~	~
Stanningley Park	14%	100%	0%	0%
West Inner Total	12%	80%	15%	5%

1.6 How long do visitors stay. (Detailed information on each community park is available on request).

Time	Summer Stay		Winter Stay	
	Weekend	Weekday	Weekend	Weekday
Less than 30 Minutes	14%	19%	29%	43%
30 minutes to 1 hour	41%	51%	40%	42%
1 to 2 hours	24%	20%	18%	3%
2 to 4 hours	15%	7%	3%	3%
4 or more hours	2%	1%	0%	0%
Do not visit	4%	2%	10%	11%

1.7 How often do visitors go. (Detailed information on each community park is available on request).

	Summer	Winter
Every Day	18%	12%
Most Days	28%	20%
Once or Twice a week	33%	25%
Once every two weeks	11%	15%
Once a month	9%	17%
Seldom or never	1%	11%

1.8 Information taken from comments made in the survey.

Site	General satisfaction comments	What would make you stay longer or encourage more use	Any other comments
Armley Park	Generally satisfied comments. Basketball area needs replacing/repairing.	Café/Kiosk for refreshments. More things to do (particularly teenagers).	Several comments that they like their community park.
Bramley Falls Wood	Dog fouling issues. Lack of toilets.	No recurring themes.	~
Bramley Park	Some concerns over safety issues and anti-social behaviour. In general most facilities the park has need upgrading and improving. Regular comment about broken glass in the play area.	Refreshment facilities. Generally improved facilities and more to do.	Improved safety and facilities.
Gotts Park	No recurring themes.	Resurfacing of paths. Tidying up of woodland areas.	~
Rodley Park Rec Ground	More shrubs and flower beds. Drainage issues.	Improve the area of the old bowling green.	~

Site	General satisfaction comments	What would make you stay longer or encourage more use	Any other comments
Stanningley Park	Dog fouling. Graffiti and vandalism within the play area.	Multi use games area. Bigger play area it is often overcrowded.	~

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Report of Chief Executive East North East Homes Leeds

Report to West (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 20th February 2013

Subject: Welfare Reform Impact on Council Tenants

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

A number of welfare reforms come into effect from April 2013 which will see:

- Social sector size criteria changes come into effect;
- Reductions in Council Tax Support; and
- The implementation of local welfare schemes following the abolition of elements of the Social Fund

There has been considerable activity to undertaken to ensure that tenants and Council Tax payers are aware of and understand the implications of the changes. Further work will take place in March to provide personalised information to those directly affected as well as providing general guides to elected members on the help that is available to people affected by the changes.

The changes set out above have to be implemented by local councils and are all on track to take effect from April 2013. Other changes due to come into effect from April 2013 have been deferred slightly:

- The Benefit Cap, whereby DWP will tell Local Authorities which cases to apply the cap to, will now come into effect in 'the summer'
- Personal Independence Payments, which replaces Disability Living Allowance, will come into effect in June 2013 for new claims with most existing DLA claims not being reviewed until October 2015

Recommendations

The Area Committee is asked to note work done to date by ALMOs and the Council to prepare for the introduction of Welfare Reform changes.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Area Committee on Welfare Reform changes that impact on Council Tenants and are due to be implemented in April 2013. It also summarises work that is currently being undertaken to prepare Tenants for those changes and for future changes that will impact later in the year.

2 Background information

- 2.1 The Welfare Reform Act 2012 continues to introduce a national programme of reforms and changes to the Welfare Benefit system. The focus for the reforms is on benefits for working age people whilst people of pensionable age remain largely unaffected by the reforms. The drivers for the reforms are that people should be better off being in work rather than on benefits and that the overall costs of benefits should be reduced.
- 2.2 The main thrust of the reforms are the introduction of a “Universal Credit” which will replace a range of existing means tested benefits and tax credits for people of working age starting from October 2013. The Act follows the November 2010 White Paper “Universal Credit - Welfare Works” which outlines the Government’s proposals for reforming welfare to improve incentives to work, simplify the existing welfare benefits system and tackle administrative complexity.
- 2.3 Besides introducing Universal Credit and related measures, the Act makes the following significant changes to the current Benefit systems that are due to be implemented at different stages during 2013:-
- Personal Independence Payments replace the current Disability Living Allowance starting with new claims in June 2013;
 - Social Sector Size Criteria will result in housing benefit entitlement being reduced for working age tenants living in Council or Housing Association homes where the household is deemed to have more bedrooms than they require;
 - Local Council Tax Support replaces Council Tax Benefit which is to be abolished from April 2013, with new local schemes of Council Tax support decided by Councils and a national scheme for pensioners. Local schemes will apply to working age customers only with the Government prescribing a national scheme for those customers of pension age. The cost of both the local scheme for working age customers and the national scheme for pension age has to be met by Councils from reduced funding to be provided by Government;

- Social Fund Changes mean Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans for Living Expenses elements of the Social Fund will be abolished from April 2013. The funding for these schemes will be devolved to local Councils with an expectation from the Government that *“the funding be concentrated on those facing greatest difficulty in managing their income and to enable a more flexible response to unavoidable needs, perhaps through a mix of cash or goods and aligning with the wider range of local support local authorities / devolved administrations already offer”*;
- A Benefit Cap will result in the total benefit that a family can receive being limited to £500 per week for working age families and £350 per week for single claimants. There will be some exemptions for tenants working at least 24 hours a week, tenants getting disability benefits and households where a child is getting a disability benefit, all of whom will be exempt from the cap.

3 Main issues

3.1 Social Sector Size Criteria (SSSC)

As from April 2013 this reform introduces changes for ALMO and Housing Association claimants on Housing Benefit that are of working age and that are living in a property that is deemed to be too large for their needs - too many bedrooms for the number of occupiers. Those tenants that are affected will have a percentage reduction in housing benefit applied as follows:-

- 14% reduction for 1 bedroom more than required;
- 25% reduction for 2 or more bedrooms than required.

Collectively the ALMOs and the Council have been making preparations for the implementation of Social Sector Size Criteria (SSSC). The SSSC will have a significant impact in Leeds with over 8,000 households known to be affected in the City. A breakdown of the numbers affected by ward is shown at **appendix 1** along with value of cuts in Housing Benefit by ward.

In July 2012 all the ALMOs/BITMO and Housing Associations undertook to contact tenants who data at that time indicated would be affected by SSSC changes. A further data extract was undertaken in November 2012 to identify changes to the numbers affected. Overall, the number had reduced but the extract identifies an additional 880 tenants that would be affected by the changes.

- 3.2 A statement is attached (**appendix 2**) which details the visits/contacts and the potential implications such as customers saying they will be unable to continue to live at their properties due to affordability and requesting to downsize. The Central and Corporate Scrutiny Board has set up a working group to consider the collection and recovery issues arising from this reform and the changes to Council Tax Benefit and will be making recommendations to Executive Board on collection and recovery activity. The terms of reference for the working group are attached at **appendix 3**.

As indicated the ALMOs have been taking steps to ensure that tenants are supported where possible to deal with the changes. A statement setting out issues raised by the ALMOs and activities underway to manage the impacts is attached at **appendix 4**.

3.3 Benefit Cap

The Department for Work and Pensions has written to councils to say that the implementation of the Benefit Cap will be deferred and will 'in the Summer of 2013'. In the meantime, DWP will test the processes for applying the Cap within 4 London Boroughs before rolling out the processes nationally. Although Councils will be required to operate and apply the new rules on the Benefit Cap, the responsibility for identifying families affected by the Benefit Cap lies with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Recent data from DWP suggests that over 500 families in Leeds will be affected by the Benefit Cap and DWP has written to all those families likely to be affected. Home visits have also been undertaken by Revenues and Benefits and ALMO staff to ensure people affected are made aware of the changes.

3.4 Discretionary Housing Payments

DWP has now notified the council of its Discretionary Housing Payments funding to help deal with the impacts of the Social Sector Size Criteria. In total Leeds will receive £1.92m in Government funding in 13/14 for Discretionary Housing Payments. This is an increase of just over £1m in funding compared to the allocation in 12/13 with the increase intended to recognise the additional pressures caused by the Social sector Size Criteria rules and the Benefit Cap.

In November 2012, the Executive Board approved a policy for the award of Discretionary Housing Payments that prioritises awards to:

- People with disabilities living in significantly adapted accommodation;
- Foster carers and kinship carers;
- People requiring additional rooms to accommodate access to children arrangements;
- Pregnant women taking in a new tenancy that takes account of the expected birth.

Awards will be administered by Revenues and Benefits with applications in relation to Social Sector Size Criteria requiring ALMO validation around housing need and availability of alternative accommodation in the area. This is expected to help ensure that funding is targeted to those priority cases with few options to deal with the change.

3.5 Localised Council Tax Support

The Government's Local Government Finance Act 2012 received Royal Assent on 1 November 2012 and requires that Councils put in place local schemes of Council Tax support by 31 January 2013 to replace Council Tax Benefit. The Government has confirmed that the funding for the 13/14 Leeds scheme will be £49.2m which

represents a £5.2m reduction in funding compared to 12/13 Council Tax Benefit projected costs of £54.4m

Council met in January 2013 to approve a local scheme of Council Tax Support that sees:

- The Council and precepting authorities putting additional funding into the local scheme to protect certain vulnerable groups from reductions in support. The groups to be protected are: lone parents with children u5, carers, people getting the severe or enhanced disability premium and people in receipt of Armed Forces Compensation Payments (war pensioners and war widows;
- Council Tax support for the remaining working age customers reduced by 19%.

Appendix 1 also shows the impact of the change at ward level. The collection issues arising from the local scheme are also being considered as part of the Scrutiny Board Working Group review.

3.6 Local Welfare Scheme

Leeds will receive £2.8m scheme funding in both 13/14 and 14/15 to run a local welfare scheme. The funding has been devolved to local councils as a result of the abolition of Community Care Grants (CCG) and Crisis Loans for Living Expenses (CL). The funding represents the amount that was spent on CCGs and CLs by Jobcentre plus in 11/12.

At its November meeting, Executive Board approved a scheme design for local welfare provision in Leeds that aims to:

- support people to return or remain in the community without the need for extra care;
- support the most vulnerable in urgent situations through signposting to the most appropriate support services or through provision of goods
- engage individuals with appropriate support services where needed to prevent repeat applications and develop resilience
- support the most vulnerable in a holistic way that will have a positive effect and minimise cash payments.

As well as providing direct support, the report also received approval for scheme funding to be spent on developing initiatives that would help with addressing future demand and supporting a more sustainable scheme in the event of change to funding. This includes initiatives aimed at increasing provision of debt and benefit advice, promoting financial inclusion primarily through Leeds City Credit Union, supporting the Furniture re-use network and supporting Third Sector organisations.

A brief consultation exercise is underway with all elected members and a further report will be presented to Executive Board in March 2013 setting out the full scope of the scheme and more detailed eligibility criteria for consideration.

3.7 **Universal Credit**

Implementation is planned from October 2013 but there are indications that this timetable may slip.

- The 'Pathfinder' planned for April 2013 will go ahead at the end of April but will now deal only with the more straightforward single Jobseekers Allowance claimants who are not homeowners, have no children and who already have bank accounts;
- The national roll out from October 2013 is now more likely to be a geographical or sector roll out with further details to follow about the planned migration of Housing Benefit cases to Universal Credit.

DWP are expected to issue a statement at the end of January 2013 with the details of the roll out intentions. At the same time DWP are also due to issue a statement about the way face-to-face services will be commissioned for Universal Credit. It is recognised by DWP that some people will need help to access Universal Credit online and with budgeting requirements. The commissioned face-to-face service is intended to provide that support. Local Authorities are expected to be the lead agencies in providing this support.

3.8 **Communicating the changes**

Each year in March, Revenues and Benefits is required to issue Council tax bills and Benefit Notifications to all its customers informing them of their new Council tax liability and, where appropriate, their new Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit entitlement. This results in over 330,000 Council Tax bills being issued and around 85,000 benefit notification letters being issued.

This year the intention is to include targeted information to those affected by the SSSC changes and Council Tax Support changes so that they:

- a) Understand why their benefit has changed;
- b) Understand the importance of paying their rent and Council Tax;
- c) Are encouraged to open bank accounts, particularly through the promotion of Leeds City Credit Union; and
- d) Know who to contact and where to go for additional support.

The information is currently being developed by Revenues and Benefits working closely with ALMOs, Housing Associations and Customer Services.

It is also intended to provide a 'guide' sheet for all elected members giving a synopsis of the changes and providing details of where people can go for help. This will also include details of the Local Welfare Scheme that will replace elements of the Social Fund (see below).

The cross ALMO / BITMO action plan (now Version 8) has been updated ensuring that it links to the citywide Welfare Reform Communication Plan and Welfare Reform Strategy.

There are a number of joint Welfare Reform 'Roadshows' taking place throughout the city, with representatives from each of the ALMOs attending, as follows:-

22 October – Dewsbury Road One Stop 9-3
16 November – Armley One Stop
19 November – Great George Street
03 December – St George's Centre
07 December – Aireborough Centre
10 December – Compton Centre
07 January – Otley
11 January - Osmonthorpe

Further Roadshows are being planned

3.9 **Locality Working**

Local partners and members of the WNW Area Leadership Team have been working with the Welfare Reform Board to maximise local support in response to Welfare Reform changes.

WNW Welfare Reform Workshop

The West North West Area Support Team held a Welfare Reform Workshop on the 28th November, aimed at frontline staff and managers to help raise awareness of the approaching changes and anticipated impact. The workshop also provided local leaders and frontline staff the chance to examine what the welfare reform changes meant to them and their staff teams. The workshop was supported by Leeds Benefits Service, WNWHL, Burley Lodge, and Leeds Credit Union. The feedback from this session will inform local action plans to ensure that frontline practitioners are well supported and have the information they need to meet the needs of local residents. Over 60 people attended the event, and feedback was very positive, a request was made to hold another event next summer to explore the impact of the changes. This network is being used to disseminate new information quickly to local leaders and practitioners from across a range of sectors.

Employer Forum

An Employer Forum is being organised to raise awareness of the welfare reform within the local business sector and to open dialogue with regards employment opportunities for local people. It is anticipated that this event will take place in the forthcoming months.

Private Sector Support

Work is underway with the Health and Well Being Team, WNW Area Support Team and the Benefits Service, through funding secured from the PCT, to commission a Provider to deliver additional information, advice and guidance to tenants in the private sector that are affected by the welfare reform.

Illegal Money Lending

The Neighbourhoods Team, Public Health are organising some market style events for members of the public, on the back of work being undertaken through the West Leeds Debt Forum. The primary objective being to tackle and raise awareness about illegal money lending, with a further raft of partners from advice services, health services, financial services, worklessness partners and emergency services attending. Events have taken place at Armley Library, Fairfield Community Centre and Trinity Methodist Church, with further events planned in these areas throughout February and March.

The Life channel in GP surgeries is also being used to raise awareness around illegal money lending and there are promotional leaflets available for circulation.

Development work is also taking place to improve access to advice and guidance and to better target activity to priority neighbourhoods.

Employment, Learning and Advice Portal

Work is underway to explore the potential to set up an 'Employment, Learning and Advice Portal'. The portal would provide a link to a directory of services, resources and organisations in Leeds to facilitate and improve signposting and communication between frontline practitioners and residents in the City.

Priority Neighbourhood Focus

Work is underway with partners to organise days of collaborative working, targeting our priority neighbourhoods, to bring together mobile and outreach provision for days of action, with a focus on the welfare reform and worklessness.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 Extensive consultation is taking place on Welfare Reform as detailed above.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 There are a number of issues in relation to equality and diversity and, particularly, cohesion and integration that are being picked up as part of the city-wide Welfare Reform Strategy.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 A number of policy change recommendations are being considered by the Council's Executive Board due to the introduction of the Welfare Reform changes.

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 Additional staffing resources will be required both pre-introduction of Welfare Reform and as the changes are introduced to work with those tenants who are affected by the changes. Some provision has been made within HRA budget provision to mitigate the impact of the changes particularly in so far as debt provision is concerned.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 There are no legal implications, access to information or call in implications in so far as this Report is concerned.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 The introduction of Welfare Reform is a major risk and is logged on the Council's corporate Risk Register.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The introduction of Welfare Reform will have major implications for tenants living in the ENEHL area. Work is well underway to inform those affected of the changes and to develop personal strategies with them to minimise where possible the financial impact of those changes.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Area Committee is asked to note work done to date by ALMOs and the Council to prepare for the introduction of Welfare Reform changes.

7 Background documents

None

Ward Name	Number Of Claims Affected By Ward			Annual Decrease In Housing Benefit By Ward			Total Benefit Loss
	Under-occupancy: ALMOs	Under-occupancy: Hsg Assoc	Council Tax Support	Under-occupancy: ALMOs	Under-occupancy: Hsg Assoc	Council Tax Support	
Adel and Wharfedale	38	2	356	£ 26,333.81	£ 1,610.92	£ 48,138.23	£ 76,082.95
Alwoodley	140	40	674	£ 75,513.41	£ 33,194.41	£ 93,182.43	£ 201,890.25
Ardsley and Robin Hood	67	21	511	£ 40,308.36	£ 13,322.37	£ 68,393.90	£ 122,024.63
Armley	397	100	2030	£ 210,792.80	£ 82,457.81	£ 258,491.33	£ 551,741.94
Beeston and Holbeck	297	31	1729	£ 159,029.69	£ 21,525.80	£ 223,290.37	£ 403,845.85
Bramley and Stanningley	341	15	1325	£ 204,453.93	£ 10,917.76	£ 170,454.90	£ 385,826.59
Burmantofts and Richmond Hill	646	141	2761	£ 341,550.13	£ 106,575.92	£ 346,989.95	£ 795,116.01
Calverley and Farsley	63	6	445	£ 38,932.92	£ 6,049.15	£ 62,237.58	£ 107,219.64
Chapel Allerton	358	176	1642	£ 216,858.80	£ 136,752.40	£ 212,123.30	£ 565,734.51
City and Hunslet	215	129	2035	£ 127,574.57	£ 97,408.41	£ 259,764.17	£ 484,747.15
Cross Gates and Whinmoor	152	22	839	£ 94,779.02	£ 15,806.74	£ 109,091.50	£ 219,677.26
Farnley and Wortley	306	7	1174	£ 173,390.30	£ 5,683.00	£ 150,278.26	£ 329,351.55
Garforth and Swillington	68	3	319	£ 40,105.80	£ 1,679.28	£ 43,708.92	£ 85,494.00
Gipton and Harehills	383	158	2853	£ 224,905.51	£ 114,937.22	£ 361,187.21	£ 701,029.94
Guiselley and Rawdon	53	4	329	£ 31,864.41	£ 2,477.38	£ 43,972.82	£ 78,314.61
Harewood	25		165	£ 17,018.68		£ 26,686.18	£ 43,704.85
Headingley	20	31	443	£ 12,898.15	£ 22,823.20	£ 50,067.99	£ 85,789.33
Horsforth	105	6	360	£ 60,243.68	£ 4,162.92	£ 50,508.24	£ 114,914.84
Hyde Park and Woodhouse	316	180	1605	£ 169,677.55	£ 146,985.94	£ 201,009.59	£ 517,673.08
Killingbeck and Seacroft	632	78	1848	£ 382,430.01	£ 54,397.96	£ 235,569.24	£ 672,397.20
Kippax and Methley	100	9	477	£ 66,430.36	£ 5,567.31	£ 65,207.31	£ 137,204.98
Kirkstall	364	27	1225	£ 215,846.92	£ 19,338.69	£ 154,303.67	£ 389,489.27
Middleton Park	496	116	1906	£ 292,334.22	£ 82,314.19	£ 244,906.13	£ 619,554.54
Moortown	53	83	571	£ 30,432.23	£ 71,330.94	£ 78,210.87	£ 179,974.04
Morley North	75	4	545	£ 41,717.31	£ 2,977.68	£ 71,132.84	£ 115,827.83
Morley South	134	4	744	£ 71,319.01	£ 2,614.61	£ 96,891.97	£ 170,825.60
Otley and Yeadon	80	23	535	£ 48,262.62	£ 16,323.94	£ 72,526.71	£ 137,113.28
Pudsey	139	22	694	£ 82,106.35	£ 18,459.76	£ 93,669.81	£ 194,235.91

Rothwell	157	31	528	£ 95,572.34	£ 22,885.81	£ 69,612.21	£ 188,070.36
Roundhay	66	37	611	£ 35,927.66	£ 29,123.24	£ 86,338.75	£ 151,389.65
Temple Newsam	261	47	921	£ 160,570.16	£ 35,072.99	£ 119,062.50	£ 314,705.64
Weetwood	146	17	691	£ 79,676.82	£ 11,826.51	£ 91,074.83	£ 182,578.15
Wetherby	55	7	233	£ 33,893.20	£ 4,311.58	£ 32,794.59	£ 70,999.37
Grand Total	6748	1577	33124	£ 3,902,750.73	£ 1,200,915.83	£ 4,290,878.27	£9,394,544.82

Appendix 2 - Welfare Reform Strategy Board - 16th January 2013
Social Sector Size Criteria - Update on Contacts/Visits Undertake to Date

	ENEHL	%	WNWHL	%	AVHL	%	BITMO	%	CITY	%
Original Number of tenants Affected	2775		2503		1665		238		7181	
Completed Visits	2333	84%			889	43%	163	68.5%		
Tenants no longer Affected per LBS list 26/10/12	477	17%	433	17%	350	21%	47	20%	1307	
Number already visited from LBS list of 26/10/12	267		121		141		11		540	
Revised Total	2298		2070		1315		191		5874	
Completed Visits / Contacts	2107	91.7%	1648	77%	995	76%	152	79.6%	5060	86%
No response to contacts	191	8.3%	20	1.2%	320	24%	13	6.8%	544	9%
Family Size Dispute	197	9.3%	216	13%	78	8%	30	19.7%	521	10%
Property Size Dispute	106	5%	47	3%	60	6%	15	9.9%	228	5%
Transfer Requested * see below	351	16.8%	307	19%	183	20%	41	27%	882	17%
Cover Shortfall from Income / Benefits	1480	70.2%	386	23%	33	3%	121	79.6%	2020	40%
Seek Employment	648	30.8%	505	30%	88	9%	32	21.1%	1273	25%
Plan to move to other tenure	13	0.6%	167	10%	33	3%	3	2%	216	4%
Seek Lodger	73	3.5%	65	4%	39	4%	9	5.9%	186	4%
Foster Carers	12	0.6%	20	1.2%	28	3%	2	1.3%	62	1%
In adapted Properties	73	3.5%	133	8%	95	10%	26	17.1%.	327	6%
Access to Children or Applying	94	4.5%	29	19%	35	3%	3	2%	161	3%
Tenants considered High Risk	995	47.2%	112	7%	250	25%	NA		1357	27%
* Bedroom Requirements of those requesting a transfer										
1 Bedroom	196	56%	205	67%	122	66%	18	43.9%	541	
2 Bedrooms	119	34%	88	29%	57	30%	17	41.46%	281	
3 Bedrooms	30	9%	13	4%	4	2%	4	12.5%	51	
4 Bedrooms	6	1%	1	0.3%	0	0%	2	9.8%	9	
5 Bedrooms	0		0	0	0	0%	0	0		

** Please note some tenants are considering more than one option as a response to SSSC.

Appendix 3 - SCRUTINY BOARD (RESOURCES AND COUNCIL SERVICES)

WELFARE BENEFIT CHANGES – MANAGING THE IMPLICATIONS OF ‘UNDER OCCUPANCY’ AND COUNCIL TAX CHANGES IN COUNCIL OR HOUSING ASSOCIATION PROPERTIES

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.0 Introduction

1.1 From April 2013 the amount of Housing Benefit paid to working age tenants in Council or RSL properties will be reduced where they have more bedrooms than the family needs. Also Council Tax Benefit is abolished from April 2013 to be replaced by local schemes of Council Tax Support. On 12th December 2013 Executive Board approved for submission to Full Council a scheme which means that working age recipients face a reduction of 19%

2.0 Scope of the inquiry

2.1 The purpose of this review is to consider the likely effects of these benefit changes on *those people deemed to be living in property with more bedrooms than they need* and to make an assessment of and, where appropriate, make recommendations on the following areas:

- How the Council responds to those tenants who fall into financial arrears due to the changes
- The consequences of the Council’s approach to the management of financial arrears on other Council policies, for example the Lettings policy and tenant strategy
- The consequences of the Council’s approach to the management of financial arrears on the potential rise in homelessness and the reduction in accommodation available for the most vulnerable
- The consequences of the Council’s approach to the management of financial arrears on the finances of the Council and major precepting authorities and the implications for the Housing Revenue Account
- local measures to deal with the potential consequences of the reforms, such as the encouragement of sound financial management through information, advice and education

3.0 Comments of the relevant Director and Executive Member

3.1 In line with Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 12.1 where a Scrutiny Board undertakes an Inquiry the Scrutiny Board shall consult with any relevant Director and Executive Member on the terms of reference. (to be done)

4.0 Timetable for the inquiry

4.1 The Inquiry will take place over a number of sessions and will be conducted by a working group.

4.2 The length of the Inquiry is subject to change. It is anticipated that a final report will be produced January 2013.

5.0 Submission of evidence

5.1 Session one – December 2012

- To understand the size of the cohort within scope of the inquiry
- To understand the financial challenges faced by those in 'under occupancy.' and any predictions/projections on the likely consequences of the reforms
- To understand the discretionary powers available to the Council to assist tenants.
- To understand any statutory constraints
- To understand current recovery procedures/policy

5.2 Session two – January 2013

- To look at best practice in other Core Cities
- To consider policy options
- To consider local measures to deal with the potential consequences of the reforms, such as the encouragement of sound financial management through information, advice and education

5.3 Session three – Full Board 21st January 2013

- To consider the draft recommendations arising from the review and to agree the Board's final report.

6.0 Witnesses

6.1 The following witnesses have been identified as possible contributors to the Inquiry: **(order to be determined)**

Cllr B Atha – Executive lead

Steve Carey – Chief Benefits and Revenues officer

Jill Wildman – Director of Housing, East NE Homes

Paul Broughton – Chief Customer Access Officer

Officers who are involved in recovery

Liz Cook – Housing Services

Dave Levitt – Recovery Manager, Revenues and Benefits

RSL rep

Rep of a tenants group?

CAB rep?

Mike Woods – Principal Finance Manager, Financial Development

Richard Ellis – Head of Finance, Environments and Neighbourhoods

7.0 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 7.1 The Equality Improvement Priorities 2011 to 2015 have been developed to ensure our legal duties are met under the Equality Act 2010. The priorities will help the council to achieve its ambition to be the best City in the UK and ensure that as a city work takes place to reduce disadvantage, discrimination and inequalities of opportunity.
- 7.2 Equality and diversity will be a consideration throughout the Scrutiny Inquiry and due regard will be given to equality through the use of evidence, written and verbal, outcomes from consultation and engagement activities.
- 7.3 The Scrutiny Board may engage and involve interested groups and individuals (both internal and external to the council) to inform recommendations.
- 7.4 Where an impact has been identified this will be reflected in the final inquiry report, post inquiry. Where a Scrutiny Board recommendation is agreed the individual, organisation or group responsible for implementation or delivery should give due regard to equality and diversity, conducting impact assessments where it is deemed appropriate.

8.0 Post inquiry report monitoring arrangements

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 The final inquiry report will include information on the detailed arrangements for how the implementation of recommendations will be monitored.

9.0 Measures of success

- 9.1 It is important to consider how the Scrutiny Board will deem if their 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.

Appendix 4 – Issues and activities arising from ALMOs

1. The implementation of SSSC will present the Council with a number of complex and interlinked issues to resolve. Where possible we have to prevent financial hardship affecting tenants whilst maximising rental income so as not to have an adverse impact on the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan. Moving households to minimise financial hardship will increase void turn-over costs and not necessarily make best use of stock with such high demand for housing. A number of actions and issues have been highlighted that need to be considered and the Council asked to take decisions on prior to the introduction of the changes:-
 - Consider the re-designation of certain properties across the city i.e. 2 bedroom multi-storey flats, 4 and 5 bedroom houses;
 - Consider a review of Local Lettings Policies and the policy on re-housing children at height;
 - Consider a reduction in the percentage of Date of Registration Quota properties to allow more properties to be let to customers in housing need;
 - Consider awarding priority to affected tenants (those in receipt of Discretionary Housing Payment and subject to the released properties being re-lettable at full occupancy). Other options include mutual exchange;
 - Consider allowing affected tenants who move to private rented sector to retain their priority after they move;
 - Develop guidelines setting out when it will be appropriate for ALMOs to take possession action in relation to rent arrears arising from SSSC;
 - Review of Lettings Policy bedroom requirements in relation to Under-occupation;
 - Consider whether to award higher priority to those tenants overcrowded living in smaller properties that could be let to under-occupying Council and Housing Association tenants;
 - Consider a 'ring fence' approach for a proportion of smaller properties to be advertised to give preference to tenants affected by SSSC;
 - Consider changes to the rent payment frequency and required method in advance of Universal Credit.

Alongside the issues highlighted above the Lettings Policy review has commenced and a number of these issues highlighted will link into the future Lettings Policy and procedures. There is work in progress cross ALMO / BITMO / Housing Partnerships – other sections within LCC to consider each of the issues outlined in order that the necessary preparations can be made.

2. Within ENEHL and other ALMOs / BITMO the following work is also being undertaken for on-going support for our customers that will be affected by SSSC:-
 - We hit our target to complete an initial visit and attempt to make contact with tenants affected by SSSC by the end of November to discuss the options available, undertake income and expenditure assessments to see if tenants are able to afford to pay the increased charge and give advice on rehousing options should tenants wish to move to smaller accommodation;
 - From the end of November we have been making follow up visits to those tenants who did not respond to our initial attempt to contact them (no access cases);

- We have started to work through the latest revised list of tenants who have been identified as being affected by SSSC due to a change in their circumstances or because they are new Housing Benefit claimants;
- We are providing more intensive support and advice to tenants who have told us that they don't want to move from their current home but who tell us they will not have the available income to pay the increased rent. This includes:-
 - ensuring tenants are claiming all eligible benefits ,
 - budgeting advice and setting up payment by Direct Debit;
 - debt advice and referral to specialist debt support agencies;
 - referrals to Leeds City Credit Union to refinance high interest loans or set up bill payment accounts;
 - assistance and advice with establishing bank accounts and direct debits for those who don't currently have bank accounts;
 - identifying tenants eligible for Discretionary Housing Payments and assisting in completing application forms;
 - Outlining financial Implications for tenants considering taking in lodgers or boarders;
 - Further advice on moving home options;
 - Tenants identified with vulnerabilities and support needs will be referred for specialist support through Independent Living Teams.
- Tenants who have told us they wish to move are being contacted to ensure they fully understand the Choice Based Letting system and any Letting Policy issues that may affect them. This will ensure they are bidding most effectively to maximise their chances of being offered an alternative smaller property. Mutual Exchanges will be encouraged and we will look to actively link tenants together to facilitate exchanges. We are also planning local Mutual Exchange Swop Shop events to bring interested tenants together to help identify other tenants they may consider swapping with. Information on how to access Housing Association properties is also being provided.
- Further general advice and information will be provided via newsletter articles and targeted letters running up to April 2013.
- We are working with other partners and voluntary groups to ensure they are fully prepared for direct approaches made to their organisations.

Leeds City Council's Telephone Contact Centre and One Stop Centre staff will continue to be briefed and trained to ensure they are providing appropriate advice and can refer tenants to ALMOs for assistance.

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Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access & Performance)

Report to West (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 20th February 2013

Subject: Well-being Report

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Armley, Bramley & Stanningley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

This report provides the Inner West Area Committee with an update on the budget position for the Well-being revenue fund for 2012/13.

The report also seeks approval for additional funding for Bramley Events Budget.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- Note the current budget position for the Well-being Fund for 2012/13,
- Consider the request for additional funding for the Aston Drive Ginnel closure project.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report provides Members with an update on the budget position for the Well-being Fund for 2012 -13.
- 1.2 It provides information on two projects that are not progressing in line with expectation, and makes a request for additional funds for the Aston Road Ginnet project, and decommission the Armley events pot.

2 Background information

- 2.1 Area Committees have a delegated responsibility for the allocation of Area Well-being funding. The amount of Well-being funding provided to each committee is calculated using a formula agreed at Full Council taking into consideration the population and deprivation of an area.
- 2.2 At its last meeting, the Area Committee was provided with information on those projects not achieving their expected spend. An update on these projects is provided in this report.
- 2.3 The 2012/13 Inner West Area Committee's Well-being budget was £136,710. After deducting any existing commitments and taking account of the 2011/12 carry forward position, the Area Committee had £152,055 of funding available for projects.
- 2.4 No additional Capital Well-being was allocated to the Area Committee in 2012/13. Following approvals at the last Area Committee meeting, the balance of the Inner West Capital Well-being budget is £4,195.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 Well-being Budget Statement 2012 -13
- 3.2 The balance of the Inner West Well-being are as follows:
Armley - £2,522
Bramley and Stanningley - £2,154
Small Grants & Skips - £1,148
- 3.3 Well-being revenue projects approved in 2012/13. A summary of the monitoring information received by the projects is attached at Appendix 1.

IW/12/01/L	Broadleas CCTV	1,784.00
IW/12/02/L	Bramley Baths	27,720.00
IW/12/03/L	Community Ctr Consortium	35,000.00
IW/12/04/L	Police Off Road Bikes	1,500.00
IW/12/05/L	Armley Festive Lights	1,750.00
IW/12/06/L	I Love West Leeds Festival	10,000.00
IW/12/07/L	Small grants & Skips	6,789.00
IW/12/08/L	Inner West Events Budget	9,575.00
IW/12/09/L	Armley Sports Project	2,250.00

IW/12/10/L	Summer Sports & Coaching	2,500.00	
IW/12/11/L	Environmental Clean ups	Decommissioned	
IW/12/12/L	Neet Reduction Project	6,750.00	
IW/12/13/L	Community Hanging Baskets	1,800.00	
IW/12/14/L	Armley Saturday Night Project	3,000.00	
IW/12/15/L	Armley Noticeboard	2,200.00	
IW/12/16/L	Target hardening in Armley	3,000.00	
IW/12/17/L	Stop Loan Sharks Campaign	1,900.00	
IW/12/18/L	Bramley Floodlights	16,000.00	
IW/12/19/L	Aston Drive Ginnel Closure	6,635	
IW/12/20/L	Lazer Centre Motorbikes	3,500	
IW/12/21/L	Bramley Grit Bins	529	Parkfield Football Cl

3.4 There are currently three projects not achieving their expected spend:

3.5 IW.12.16 Armley Target Hardening

There has been no take up of the target hardening service offered through this scheme. The householder contribution was reduced in December to £25, and the police are offering the service to all properties burgled over the Christmas period. CASAC are still confident that the full grant will be claimed by the end of March, as fewer properties will now benefit.

3.6 IW.12.18 Bramley Floodlights

Members requested an update on the project at the December meeting. This is attached at Appendix 2.

3.7 IW.12.08 Inner West Events Budget

The invoices for the Armley festive light switch on have all been paid, and some services cost less than expected. There is £1,034 left in the Armley events budget and Members are asked to close the budget and return the surplus to the general Armley Well-being pot.

3.6 **New Well-being applications**

3.7 Aston Ginnel closure project

In December, the Area Committee approved funding for a gating project to close part of the ginnel behind Aston Drive in Armley Ward and provide additional fencing to the open section. Due to an oversight, the applicant did not include the cost of the advertisement in the local press which is a statutory requirement of a gating order. The cost of the advertisement estimated at £850, and the Area Committee is asked to approve additional funding for this purpose.

3.8 2013-14 Commissioning Round

3.9 The deadline for the 2013.14 Well-being commissioning round passed on 31st January. The Area Support Team received 27 applications that will be considered by the Area Committee at its meeting on 20th March.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 The Area Committee has previously been consulted on the projects detailed within the report. Local priorities are set through the Area Business Plan process.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 All Well-being funded projects are assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration. In addition, the Area Committee Well-being process is currently being reviewed citywide, which will include undertaking a new Equality Impact Assessment to ensure the Well-being process continues to comply with all relevant policies and legislation.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 Projects submitted to the Area Committee for Well-being funding are assessed to ensure that they are in line with Council and City priorities as set out in the following documents:

- Vision for Leeds
- Leeds Strategic Plan
- Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan
- Children and Young People's Plan
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
- Regeneration City Priority Plan

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 Aligning the distribution of Area Committee Well-being funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

4.4.2 In order to meet the Area Committee's functions (see Council's Constitution Part 3, section 3C), funding is available via Well-being budgets.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 There are no legal implications or access to information issues. This report is not subject to call in.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 Risk implications and mitigation are considered on all Well-being applications. Projects are assessed to ensure they are able to deliver the intended benefits.

5 Conclusions

5.1 The Inner West Area Committee Well-being Fund provides an important opportunity to support local organisations and drive improvements to services.

This report provides members with an update on current Well-being funded projects as an update on the commissioning process for 2013/14.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Members are asked to:

- Note the current budget position for the Well-being Fund for 2012/13,
- Consider the request at 3.4 to provide an additional £820 towards the Aston Drive Ginnel closure project.
- Close the Inner West Events Budget and return £1,034 to the Armley revenue pot.

7 Background documents¹

- None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

Bramley Phoenix Rugby Union Club Floodlights Update

Background

Leeds City Council's Parks and Countryside Service has supported Bramley Phoenix RUFC to make an application to the Area Committee for new floodlights on their training pitch at Bramley Park.

A sum of £16,000 was awarded for this purpose, and in December, an additional £1,000 was requested to make up an expected shortfall. The Rugby Football Union (RFU) are providing a £5,000 grant towards the project.

Current Status

The Area Support Team requires a full application form from the rugby club before issuing a funding agreement and contract. Further information on the RFU's tendering process to appoint a contractor is required for our own audit purposes.

The club hope to appoint a contractor by the end of February, and the contractor will apply for planning permission and enter into negotiations with Northern Power Grid to secure an electric supply to the floodlights.

A licence agreement has been drawn up between Parks & Countryside and Bramley Phoenix RUFC to allow limited use of the pitch by other clubs, at a standard charge. A copy of the agreement is below.

Timescale

Appoint contractor:	February 2013
Apply for planning permission:	March 2013
Start on site:	April 2013
Completion:	May 2013

**LAND AT BRAMLEY PARK, BRAMLEY
BRAMLEY PHOENIX RUFC
MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT
1. USE OF FACILITIES**

Subject to Contract
17/01/13

TEAMS	TIMING	Duration
Bramley Phoenix RUFC		
Club Training	Tuesday evenings 7-8 pm	1 hr
Club Training	Thursday evenings 6-8 pm	2 hrs
Junior Rugby fixtures (u7, u9, u11, u14)	Sunday mornings 10.30-12.30	2 hrs
Other Community Access		
Community Use	Tuesday evenings 6-7 pm	1 hr
Leeds City Council		
Community Events	Occasional- will be notified in advance	

Details of the cost to Bramley Phoenix for the above usage of the facility to be completed to be in the formal licence arrangement.

2. OPERATING HOURS

No matches to commence before 10.30 am.

No matches to continue after 5.30 p.m except where an evening match is required by the League(s), Cup matches or "Representative" games.

No training/practice/coaching to commence before 10am.

Training/practice/coaching evenings to conclude by 9.00 pm.

Ground maintenance and other activities involving machinery to be restricted to between:-

- 8.00 am. and 7.30 pm. on weekdays.
- 9.30 am. and 5.30 pm. on Saturdays.
- 10.00 am. and 5.30 pm. on Sundays.

Use of floodlights to be restricted to Tuesdays and Thursdays during the rugby season(s) between 6.00 pm and 9.00 pm, (except where an evening match is required by the League(s), Cup matches or "Representative" games) and for necessary fixtures in dark light until 5.30 pm

3. ADMINISTRATIVE & OTHER USAGE

Bramley Phoenix RUFC - to administer and coordinate bookings for other community access.

Bramley Phoenix to charge other community organisations solely for the use of the floodlights at a rate adopted by Leeds City Council for its all-weather facilities. (Initial rate £12.20/hour).

LCC Community Events-Events organised by LCC based in the Bramley and Stanningley ward, notably the bonfire, but not events of a commercial nature.

4. GROUND/EVENT MANAGEMENT

Leeds City Council will continue to undertake basic operational maintenance on the pitch-cutting and line marking.

Bramley Phoenix RUFC are to undertake remedial work on the pitch surface improvements. Details of which are to be completed in the formal licence arrangement.

No match/matches/competitions etc which it could reasonably be anticipated that more than a total of 500 spectators will attend (and up to 250 players will take part) will be hosted at the Ground.

If requested by the Council, the Club will take reasonable steps, including putting up appropriate signs, to draw attention to the offence likely to be caused by foul language and other anti-social behaviour and will take all reasonable steps to control the behaviour of persons attending and/or using the premises.

If requested by the Council, the Club will display a contact name and address for claims, complaints, enquiries etc.

The Club will agree a procedure for retrieving stray balls with neighbouring owners and residents.

The Club will provide the necessary on site car parking, or specific designated off road alternative parking, for matches/events etc, and will steward match days/events etc to ensure that vehicles use the car parking provided, and will take all reasonable steps to manage access to, and egress from, the site/car park(s).

5. GENERAL

This Management Agreement shall be taken to be inclusive of all activities.

Whilst there is no obligation on the Club to provide all the specified non-club usage, it may not facilitate additional non-Club usage.

This Agreement may be reviewed from time to time, but cannot be amended unilaterally.

Inner West Well-being Project Monitoring

September to December 2013

- 1.1 This section updates the Area Committee on progress against Well-being funded revenue projects approved since March 2012.
- 1.2 **Project Name:** Community Centre Consortium
Lead Organisation: BARCA Leeds
Amount: £35,000
Project Description: This funding is to support the New Wortley and Fairfield Community Centres by employing a Social Enterprise and Business Facilities Manager until September 2012 and providing financial support through to March 2013. The Social Enterprise and Business Facilities Manager is responsible for developing an exit strategy for the project that will provide the management committees of the centres with procedures and skills to support the future viability of the centres.
Project Update: Barca's involvement has helped develop these centres through the Social Enterprise and Business Facilities Managers role. The two centres are in a much better financial position than at the beginning of the project. Fairfield Centre in particular seeing a remarkable change from a run down tired building into a vibrant hub of community activity, supported in part by a community development worker employed by Barca. New Wortley Centre has seen a turnaround in the way the social enterprises have been run on site, making them more efficient, business like and successful. The Area Support Team has helped the Board apply for funding to continue with a centre manager post until April next year. £6,000 was secured from NHS Leeds, and an application to Leeds Transition Fund for £10,000 was successful.
- 1.3 **Project Name:** Police off Road Bikes
Lead Organisation: West Yorkshire Police
Amount: £1,500
Project Description: The funding will hire four off road bikes to be shared across the West North West police division to combat anti-social behaviour caused by nuisance motorbikes on community greenspace and woodland.
Project Update: The police employ their powers under the 'No Insurance' scheme and Section 59 of the Police Reform Act wherever possible and in conjunction with Council's Parkswatch to seize offending vehicles and prosecute their riders. Off road motorcycle offending can be difficult to combat, with marked vehicles unable to carry out pursuits on open land. Using off road bikes, the officers are working well with the Parkswatch service in undertaking joint initiatives and co-ordinating patrols to tackle issues of anti social behaviour and illegal motor-bike nuisance in areas such as New Wortley, Bramley Falls Woods, the towpath of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal as well as parks and green spaces and hotspots in inner West.
- 1.4 **Project Name:** Armley Festive Lights
Lead Organisation: WNW Area Support Team
Amount: £1,750
Project Description: Funding ten festive light motifs for Armley town centre.

Project Update: The project was delivered as expected.

- 1.7 **Project Name:** Small Grants and Skips Budget
Lead Organisation: West North West Area Support Team
Amount: £5,289 (£4,000 plus previous year's carry forward)
Project Description: To provide a budget for community and voluntary groups to apply to for funding for small projects and skips for community use.
Project Update: A total of thirteen projects received small grant funding to the sum of £4,219 and six skips have been provided costing a total of £792.
- 1.8 **Project Name:** Inner West Events Budget
Lead Organisation: West North West Area Support Team
Amount: £7,500 (£5000 Armley, £2,500 Bramley & Stanningley)
Project Description: To provide a budget for Ward Members to allocate towards community events and celebrations.
Project Update: The budget supported a festive light switch on event in Armley, festive lights in Bramley and Rodley, and the Bramley music festival held in November.
- 1.9 **Project Name:** Armley Sports Project
Lead Organisation: Youth Service
Amount: £2,250
Project Description: Continuation of a football based project running every Tuesday evening in Armley Sports centre. It is a multi cultural session with young people from a variety of backgrounds, ages and gender who organise themselves into teams and play football against each other. The main aim of the project is diversionary which together with the Tuesday New Wortley Youth clubs ensures that young people are fully occupied all evening every Tuesday.
Project Update: 36 sessions in total have been delivered between April and December with an average of 20 young people attending each session in first quarter, 12 in the second and 10 in the third. Football coaching and five-a-side football is the main activity of these sessions, being delivered in partnership with the leisure centre and PCSOs providing support when they can. Issues with the times of the projects for younger young people (9pm – 10pm) are currently being looked at and it is hoped an early session may be possible.
- 1.12 **Project Name:** NEET Reduction Project
Lead Organisation: IGEN
Amount: £6,750
Project Description: The project organises fun activities for young people not in education, employment or training who are working with IGEN to motivate them to keep attending sessions and work towards re-engaging with school or training opportunities.
Project Update: There were 3 activity days held in quarter one, 8 in quarter two and 5 in quarter three. In quarter 3, 11 young people took part, of which 5 were classed as long term NEET and 6 classed at risk as at risk of NEET. The activities helped connexions advisors engage positively with the young people. 3 have been referred to further organisations for support. The remaining young people have continued to work with IGEN to secure employment or education placements.

Three participants had previously failed to engage with the Connexions service and their attendance at appointments was very sporadic, on many occasions only presenting in crisis. This programme allowed the young people the opportunity to build on relationships with Personal Advisors. One young person mentioned that he had previously thought that Connexions was like school and that his Personal Advisor would be like a teacher. Attending these provisions he soon learnt that this was not the case and that Connexions could offer support and guidance were needed.

- 1.14 **Project Name:** Armley Saturday Night Project
Lead Organisation: Out of School Activities Team
Amount: £3,000
Project Description: This funding is to pay for staff and equipment to support the 42 week Saturday night youth provision at Armley Sports Centre.
Project Update: The project runs at the Armley Leisure Centre on a Saturday evening from 6:00-9:00pm. A junior session for 8-13 year olds between 6:00-7:30pm and a senior session for 12-18 year olds between 7:30-9:00pm. The project ran 15 sessions between September and December 2012 and an average of 63 young people have attended. The senior attendance continues to fluctuate although over 15 have attended most weeks, where the attendance has dropped it is due to some members being given time out for bad behaviour which means their friends also do not attend. The team are to work with Extended Services to promote the project.
- 1.15 **Project Name:** Bramley Floodlights
Lead Organisation: Parks & Countryside / Bramley Phoenix Rugby Club
Amount: £16,000
Project Description: The funding is to install floodlights on the Leeds City Council owned Bramley Phoenix Rugby Club pitch.
Project Update: An update on this project is provided at Appendix 1.
- 1.16 **Project Name:** Target Hardening in Armley
Lead Organisation: CASAC
Amount: £3,000
Project Description: The project provides additional security for properties at risk of burglary, identified through Operation Optimal, the police's predictive anti-burglary initiative. Funding will be allocated as grant with the householder / landlord covering the first £75 of the standard target hardening package, plus any expenditure over £150. Referrals will come through West Yorkshire Police crime reduction officers. CASAC will provide the target hardening service based on the needs of the property.
Project Update: The scheme was delayed until August 2012 while match funding was secured from Safer Leeds. A limited number of referrals have come through for the scheme from Armley Ward, it is thought this is due to the initial £75 cost, therefore it has been decided that the client contribution be reduced to £25 and expenditure over £125. This enables the client to have 2 ABS cylinders fitted for £25. Since this change was initiated there have been 30 referrals received.
- 1.17 **Project Name:** Armley Notice board
Lead Organisation: Area Support Team

Amount: £2,350

Project Description: The funding is for the installation of a notice board, which would be maintained by local key holders to advertise community events.

Project Update: The notice board has now been installed and keys have been given to Armley Common Right Trust and the library.

1.18 **Project Name:** Lazer Centre Motorbikes

Lead Organisation: Youth Service

Amount: £3,500

Project Description: The funding is to purchase a motorbike for use at the Lazer Centre during the Lazer Centre Motorbike project with young people.

Project Update: It is anticipated that the motorbike will be purchased imminently and the project completed.

1.19 **Project Name:** Gritbin Refills Bramley

Lead Organisation: Highways

Amount: £528.72

Project Description: The funding will pay for 7 refills for grit in the Bramley area.

Project Update: The grit in the the blue Councillor funded grit bins in Bramley Ward at Beecroft Close, Horsforde View, Ivy Gardens, Landseer View, Westover View and Coal Hill Green was installed in late 2012.

Report of Deputy Chief Executive

Report to West (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 20th February 2013

Subject: Area Update Report

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Armley Bramley & Stanningley		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:		

Summary of main issues

The Area Update Report provides Members with information on key services and other activities delivered in the inner West area, including the transfer of Bramley Baths to the community and Healthy Living Network's new hub on Armley Town Street. The report also provides an update on the Area Committee's Business Plan and seeks Members' views on priorities and actions for the 2013/14 Business Plan refresh.

Recommendations

2. Inner West Area Committee Members are invited to:

Note the contents of the report, comment on any matters raised and suggest items for inclusion in future Area Update reports

- Note the progress made against the Area Committee's Business Plan and comment on priorities and actions for the 2013/14 refresh.

1 Purpose of this report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members on progress against the Area Support Team's work programme and local priorities.

1.2 The report also provides an update on progress against actions in the Inner West Area Committee's Business Plan.

2 Background information

2.1. An Area Committee Update report is submitted at every cycle of Area Committee meetings. Partners contribute collectively on projects and provide service updates.

3 Main issues

3.1 Inner West Area Committee Business Plan

3.2 In March 2012, the Area Committee approved its Business Plan 2011-2015. Appendix 1 shows progress against the actions in the plan and what the impact has been on local communities. Members will note that the format of the plan has changed. This was done to bring all four West North West Area Committee Business Plans onto a common template.

3.3 The Business Plan is refreshed each year, and it is proposed that the themes will change from the old Leeds Initiative headings to the Council Plan's 'Best City For..' priorities. The refresh will not substantially change the plan, but the Committee is asked to consider whether the current actions are relevant and whether any new ones should be added.

3.4 Healthy Living Network

3.5 Healthy Living Network have leased a premises on the corner of Mistress Lane and Town Street in Armley to provide a hub for the local community. Opening soon, it will provide activities, space for people to make and sell crafts and a structured volunteering programme.

3.6 The organisation also has permission to cultivate the derelict land opposite the hub, which is currently boarded up, overgrown and attracts anti-social behaviour.

3.4 The hub will also offer cooking sessions and specific work to help young people with mental health issues, however the development of further activities at the centre will be driven by consultation with local residents.

3.5 Inner West Neighbourhood Improvement Programme

3.6 The Inner West Neighbourhood Improvement Board met in December and discussed how to deliver improvements around the three priority themes of Employment & Learning, Health & Wellbeing and Improving Learning Outcomes.

3.7 The West North West Area Support Team is working with the theme leads to develop a neighbourhood improvement plan that will be presented to the Board and Area Committee for approval in March.

3.8 Bramley Baths

3.9 The asset transfer of Bramley Baths into community management has successfully taken place. Bramley Baths is now managed by Bramley Baths & Community Limited (an Industrial Provident Society) for the benefit of the community. Officers from the council's Asset Transfer Unit and Sports Unit provided valuable support to the enterprise - which has been led by a hard working group of volunteers - the Friends of Bramley Baths.

3.10 During December 2012 refurbishments and re-decoration work to improve the facility took place - including repairs and upgrades to the wet-side changing rooms and replacement of lockers on the side of the pool. The baths will continue to open for 49 hours a week enabling people to use the gym, swim, take swimming lessons, use the steam room and enjoy a fitness class programme. The longer term ambition is to increase opening hours, based on demand. The service for local schools who use the Baths to teach children to swim, has continued uninterrupted. The Recreation Room (formerly The Studio) is now available to hire for classes, meetings, parties and already local community & voluntary groups are exploring this option. Bramley Baths will continue to accept LeedsCard discounts for their services and to promote the LeedsCard to customers.

3.11 The baths received high profile publicity through the Guardian newspaper on 2nd January 2013 - a two-page photo-spread from the New Year's Day Big Dip event reached a nationwide audience. The Big Dip drew 100 people in for a mass-plunge into the pool to celebrate the new era, and was well received with many participants posting positive comments and photos on social media. Plans for a March open-weekend and associated special events, a February half-term programme for children, and Easter holiday family & child-friendly activities - are in development. The baths team, led by manager Danny Whiteley, are working hard to reach new groups and organisations with affordable, relevant services and would welcome any potential opportunities for bookings or new relationships that the Inner West Area Committee would like to recommend.

3.12 A billboard advert promoting Bramley Baths will appear on the community billboard space on Stanningley Road from mid-February and inside the baths, there is now a small exhibition of found photographs, showing the building and its patrons at swimming galas and other events from 1904 onwards. The management are hoping visitors will help to identify the people in these photographs, and a collection of albums and news clippings that relate to the life and history of this community building.

3.13 The Friends of Bramley Baths would like to thank the members of the Inner West Area Committee for their support to keep the baths open during the transfer period. For further information please contact danny@bramleybaths.com, 0113 214 6000.

3.14 Leeds City Council Youth Service

3.15 Bramley Update:

- The Bramley School of Rock sessions have focussed on health issues and have been making healthy snacks.

- Youth workers supporting the Ganner's mobile provision have helped three young people get job interviews.
- The Friday generic youth club has focussed on mental health issues and also hosted an awards night to celebrate the young people's achievements.
- Young people from the Participation Group have attended citywide training on consultation and have contributed to an Executive Board report on Youth Services in the city.

3.16 Lazer Centre Update:

- Seven young carers from West Leeds have joined a regular group at the centre with lots of activities planned for the coming term.
- Eight girls from the travelling community have joined a group supported by Chiva and it is hoped that more young people from this community will begin to access the centre.
- The centre has a number of activities supporting young people aged 14-19 not in education, employment or training, and workers go into local communities to find more NEET young people to work with, as well as taking referrals from the Armley cluster.
- There are currently 30-40 local young people attending Friday night sessions, and new activities planned for the centre include archery and in line skating.

3.17 Armley Update

- Young men from the Wythers have started a twelve week motorbike course.
- Young people from New Wortley helped interview Casual Activity Workers during a recent recruitment drive, and also decided how to spend £250 from the curriculum budget at the centre.
- Attendance at the Friday night session at Strawberry Lane community centre has increased, with young people from different backgrounds mixing together. The recent DJ workshop was extremely popular.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1. Community forums are held on a monthly basis in Armley and bi-monthly in Bramley within Inner West Leeds.

4.1.2. Ward Members are consulted on projects and initiatives within their ward on matters relating to the Support Team's work programme and locality priorities.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1. This section is not applicable to this report

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

4.3.1. The Area Committee Functions and Priority Advisory Functions were approved by the Executive Board in June 2009, this approval was rolled forward to 2010/11, and rolled forward again to 2011/12 with amendments only to environmental delegations.

4.3.2. The Area Functions are included in the Council's Constitution (Part 3, section 3C).

4.3.3. Area Support Team's work programme contributes at a local level to the themes contained in the:

- Vision for Leeds
- Leeds Strategic Plan
- Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan
- Children and Young People's Plan
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
- Regeneration City Priority Plan

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1. Programmes of work outlined in this report are resourced in the main by Area Support Team staff and where relevant their partners which in turn provides value for money.

4.4.2. In order to meet the Area Committee's functions (see Council's Constitution Part 3, section 3C), funding is available via Well Being budgets and the Community Centres Budget.

4.4.3. In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council Departments main stream budgets, and external partner agencies for example the Police and Primary Care Trust, which is in turn reflected in the fact that the Area Committee's role here is to influence, develop and consult. However, on occasion, Well-being funding has resourced some projects related to its roles.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This report is the report of the Area Leader for West North West Leeds who has delegated responsibility to action decisions in accordance with the Area Support Team's work programme in accordance with part 3 of the Council's Constitution in relation to Area Committee Functions.

4.5.2 This report is not confidential, neither is it, or part of it exempt.

4.5.1 This report is not subject to Call-In.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no significant risks identified in this report.

5. Conclusions

5.1 The Area Update report provides Members with information on a range of services and activities in the inner West and asks the Committee to note progress against the Inner West Business Plan.

6 Recommendations

6.1 The Area Committee is asked to:

- Note the contents of the report, comment on any matters raised and suggest items for inclusion in future Area Update reports.
- Note the progress made against the Area Committee's Business Plan and comment on priorities and actions for the 2013/14 refresh.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

Inner West Business Plan (Priorities for Action) 2012-15

Approved at March 2012 Area Committee

Improvement Priority	What will the Area Committee do to address this priority?	Which service or partner is responsible?	What did we do?	What was the impact?
Sustainable Economy and Culture				
Provide opportunities for people to get jobs or learn new skills	Develop a programme of work to tackle unemployment in priority neighbourhoods.	Jobs & Skills Job Centre Plus Community Centres	Sessions run in Fairfield and New Wortley. New Job Shop at Armley Library.	<p>In its first six months, the Armley Job Shop signed up three times more customers than when the service was based at Strawberry Lane Community Centre.</p> <p>New Wortley Community Centre and Fairfield Community Centre both run well attended job shops that have supported people back into work.</p>
Make better use of our community buildings	Support the Community Centre Consortium's programme of work, in particular the medium and long term plans for Fairfield and New Wortley Community Centres	Area Support Team Community Centres BARCA	<p>The Area Committee funded the Social Enterprise and Business Facilities Manager post from April to September. The Area Support Team is providing support to secure short term grant funding for the BSFEM post.</p> <p>A multi-agency group is to be established to support the New Wortley Community Centre Board develop a medium and long term plan.</p>	<p>Social enterprises at the two centres earned their highest revenues this year.</p> <p>Funding was secured to keep the BSFEM in post for a further six months.</p> <p>The number of activities running in both centres has increased since April.</p>

<p>Work with local businesses and partners to support a flourishing local economy.</p>	<p>Work with businesses and partner agencies to promote Armley Town Centre as a safe and clean place to shop.</p>	<p>Area Support Team Police Environmental Locality Team</p>	<p>The Armley Town Street action plan aims to reduce anti-social behaviour and street drinking on Town Street.</p> <p>Organised a Festive Light switch on event.</p>	<p>A number of actions have been completed, including a survey of businesses, enforcing the DPPO and engaging with Eastern European groups of drinkers to explain the law around anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>The festive light switch on took place on 24th November. Unfortunately rain impacted attendance but it was well publicised beforehand to promote the town as a shopping destination.</p>
<p>Provide opportunities and facilities to enable local people to access and engage in sport and cultural activities.</p>	<p>Work with partners to develop local projects that offer new opportunities to participate in sport and cultural activities.</p>	<p>Area Support Team LCC Sport Development I Love West Leeds Festival</p>	<p>The Area Committee continued to fund additional opening hours for Bramley Baths ahead of its transfer to a resident led consortium.</p> <p>The Area Committee provided grant funding for LCC Sport Development to hold taster sessions at local sports clubs for school age children and young people.</p> <p>The Area Committee funded the I Love West Leeds Festival .</p>	<p>The transfer of Bramley Baths was delayed and LCC Sports are funding the extended hours until January.</p> <p>Over 800 children from the inner west attended the sports sessions over the summer.</p> <p>The I Love West Leeds festival was cancelled due to bad weather. Outdoor cinema screenings were held in October at Fairfield and New Wortley.</p>

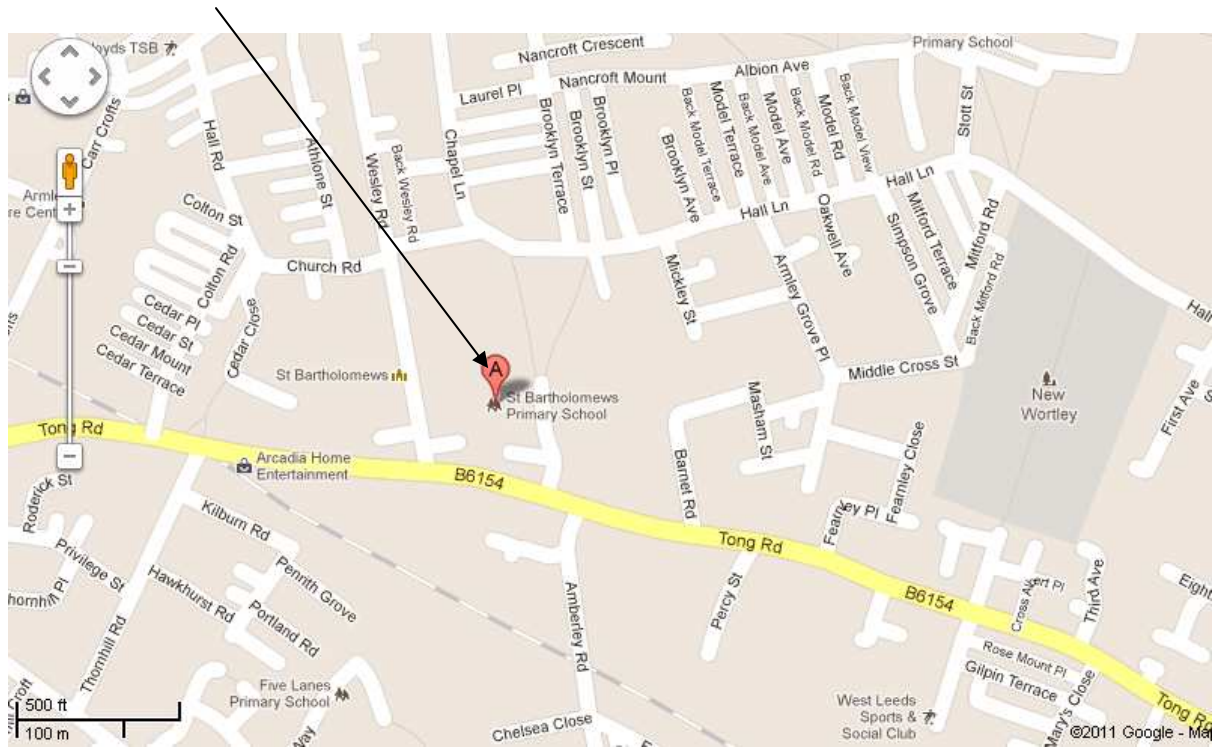
Safer and Stronger Communities				
Reduce crime and antisocial behaviour, with a particular focus on reducing burglary rates	Deliver and review Armley and Bramley burglary reduction plans. Work with the tasking partnership to solve priority issues and hotspot concerns.	Divisional Community Safety Partnership	The police trialled Operation Optimal in the inner West Area to reduce burglaries to predict burglary patterns using technology.	Burglary rates dramatically reduced in 2012 compared with the previous year, by 38% in Armley and 65% in Bramley & Stanningley.
Consult local people on changes that may affect their lives and support them to get involved in local decision making.	Hold community forums and meetings across the ward. Ensure significant developments are appropriately communicated to the public.	Area Support Team	Community forums are held in Bramley and Armley. AST officers attend the New Wortley residents' association public meeting to consult and update on current initiatives.	A range of actions are raised and followed up at forum meetings from tidying up a war memorial to introducing new parking restrictions. Both forums are well attended and often reported on in the local paper.
Support the development of strong networks of community groups who contribute to improving their neighbourhood. Support local events that bring people together.	Support local voluntary, community and faith organisations to play a lead role in the development and implementation of neighbourhood activities.	Area Support Team West North West Homes	Resident representatives invited to sit on the Neighbourhood Improvement Board and Neighbourhood Partnerships. AST supported family events in the Broadleas and Fairfields to survey local residents about their neighbourhood.	Residents from three out of four priority neighbourhoods have been recruited to the Board, and work is ongoing to find a representative from the Fairfields. AST surveyed residents at the Broadleas funday in August and the Fairfield Halloween event. Both were organised by the local multi-agency meetings.

Support volunteering within our local communities	Engage volunteers to work within local communities and support the development of community assets.	Area Support Team Community Centre Consortium	The Area Committee funded Business and Social Enterprise Manager has increased the number of volunteers at the Community Centres and put in place a development and training programme. The Friends of Bramley Baths have been supported by Barca and the Council to take over the running of Bramley Baths	Volunteers at the community centres are learning new skills and feel supported by the paid staff and Board. Asset transfer of Bramley Baths was completed in January 2013.
Improve the local environment and our parks and open spaces	Work through the environmental delegation and local tasking to tackle environmental hotspots	Locality Team Tasking	Members approved the service level agreement with the locality team and are regularly updated at the Area Committee and General Purposes Sub Group.	Members have complemented the Locality Team on their swift response to referrals.
Health and Wellbeing				
Promote healthy lifestyles and tackle health inequalities	Complete the New Wortley Health Needs Assessment and work with partners to deliver health related programmes of activity in priority neighbourhoods.	NHS Leeds Health Living Network Barca Fairfield & New Wortley Community Centres	New Wortley HNA completed and being used to target resources. HLN are continuing their successful referral project in local pharmacies and are planning sessions to promote men's health. Barca are running a number of sessions in Fairfield including fitness classes and family cooking session.	Increased number of well-being activities in New Wortley. Secured additional funding from NHS on the back of the Health Needs Assessment. New projects in the pipeline from Healthy Living Network to tackle mental health and harm reduction.

Children and Families				
All children and young people in Leeds have access to out of school activities.	Work with partners to target and deliver diversionary activities for young people.	Youth Service Barca Clusters	Area Committee funded three youth projects – Tuesday night football and Saturday night project in Armley and summer sports sessions across the two wards.	Attendance at sessions: Football - 12 Saturday night project - 50 juniors & 15 seniors Summer sports sessions – 800
Housing and Regeneration				
Improve public service co-ordination working together with local residents to improve our most deprived neighbourhoods Support partnership working around Priority Neighbourhoods.	Review priority neighbourhood working.	Area Support Team NHS Leeds LAMP meetings	The LAMP meetings were reviewed and a new Neighbourhood Improvement Programme has started for the four most deprived neighbourhoods in the inner West. The programme is lead by an improvement board with newly strengthened Neighbourhood Partnership meetings delivering the front line service improvements. A neighbourhood improvement plan is being drafted.	Increased awareness among partner agencies about the challenges in the priority neighbourhoods. Clear focus on priority themes that contribute most to the deprivation in the neighbourhoods. Closer working between agencies through the new Neighbourhood Partnerships.
Ensure efficient use of available resources such as Wellbeing in order to address both local and citywide priorities.	This priority was not in the Committee's original Business Plan. Actions for this priority will be included in the 2013/14 refresh.			

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St Bartholomew's Primary School, Strawberry Lane, Armley, LS12 1SF



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