



SCRUTINY BOARD (SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES)

Meeting to be held in Civic Hall, Leeds on
Monday, 10th December, 2012 at 10.00 am

(A pre-meeting will take place for ALL Members of the Board at 9.30 a.m.)

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

- B Anderson (Chair) - Adel and Wharfedale;
A Blackburn - Farnley and Wortley;
N Buckley - Alwoodley;
P Davey - City and Hunslet;
R Grahame - Burmantofts and Richmond Hill;
M Harland - Kippax and Methley;
P Harrand - Alwoodley;
G Hyde - Killingbeck and Seacroft;
J Jarosz - Pudsey;
S Lay - Otley and Yeadon;
K Mitchell - Temple Newsam;
N Walshaw - Headingley;

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

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A G E N D A

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

3

LATE ITEMS

To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.

(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes.)

4

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To declare any personal/prejudicial interests for the purpose of Section 81 (3) of the Local Government Act 2000 and paragraphs 8 to 12 of the Members Code of Conduct.

5

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES

To receive any apologies for absence and notification of substitutes.

6

MINUTES - 12 NOVEMBER 2012

1 - 6

To confirm as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2012

7

SAFER LEEDS COMMUNITY SAFETY BUSINESS PLAN

7 - 38

To consider an update report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods on the Safer Leeds Community Safety Business Plan

8

2012/13 QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE REPORT

39 -
54

To consider a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance)/Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods summarising the quarter 2 performance data relevant to the Scrutiny Board.

9

FINANCIAL HEALTH MONITORING

To consider the financial position of the Environment and Neighbourhoods Directorate after 7 months of the 2012/13 financial year and also the initial 2013/14 budget proposals that are relevant to the Scrutiny Board's portfolio. **Report to follow**

10

CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN PARKS AND COUNTRYSIDE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION SERVICES

55 -
62

To consider the report of the Chief Officer of Parks and Countryside outlining progress made in co-ordinating Environmental Action Services with Parks and Countryside

11

WORK SCHEDULE

63 -
80

To consider the Board's Work Schedule

12

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 14 January 2013 at 10.00 a.m. (pre-meeting for all Board Members at 9.30 a.m.)

Agenda Item 6

SCRUTINY BOARD (SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES)

MONDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor B Anderson in the Chair

Councillors A Blackburn, N Buckley,
P Davey, R Grahame, M Harland,
P Harrand, G Hyde, J Jarosz, S Lay,
K Mitchell and N Walshaw

38 Late Items

The following late items were submitted to the Agenda:

- Agenda Item 6 – Minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2012
- Agenda Item 12 – West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority Consultation – Comments from Scrutiny

39 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and other interests

Councillor R Grahame declared an interest in Agenda Item 10, Scrutiny Review of the New Grounds Maintenance Contract due to his membership of GMB and Agenda Item 12, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority Consultation due to his membership of the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority.

40 Minutes -22 October 2012

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2012 be confirmed as a correct record.

41 Recommendation Tracking - Fuel Poverty Inquiry

The report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development provided the Board with an update on progress made in responding to the recommendations arising from the previous scrutiny inquiry into fuel poverty.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Neil Evans – Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods
- Robert Curtis – Environment Policy Team
- Kathy Kudelnitzky – Chief Officer, Localities and Partnerships
- Dr Beth Logan – Policy and Performance Manager, Leeds Initiative
- Dawn Bailey, Healthy Living Manager, NHS Airedale, Bradford and Leeds Cluster
- Brenda Fullard, Consultant in Public Health, NHS Airedale, Bradford and Leeds Cluster

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday, 10th December, 2012

The draft status categories assigned to each recommendation within the report were agreed by the Board.

In response to Members comments and questions, the following issues were discussed:

- Appointment of Fuel Poverty Champions at Area Committees. A decision was made at the Area Chairs Forum in July 2012 to await the outcome of the Council's area review given that this covered the general role of Area Committee Champions and their support needs. However, it was noted that some Area Committees had already appointed a Fuel Poverty Champion prior to this decision. A report setting out the findings and recommendations of the Council's area review is expected at the December meeting of the Executive Board.
- Involvement of Locality Health and Wellbeing Managers at Area Committee level.
- It was noted that the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) made £2.59m available to Leeds City Region to spend on a 'Green Deal Go Early' project. The Council submitted a proposal for c£1.28m with the intention of delivering grants to public and private sector properties in deprived hard to treat areas and 0% interest loans to less deprived private sector properties.
- That a report was due to go to Executive Board in December regarding the Leeds City Region long-term Green Deal project.
- Partnership working with private landlords
- Options for bulk fuel purchasing – a funding opportunity had been announced by DECC to help coordinate and conduct a bulk fuel purchasing initiative. In line with this, a proposal is to be presented to Executive Board in December.
- Development of the Winter Plan for Leeds and partnership work with Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to achieve this. Members requested a copy of the Winter Plan.
- As part of Winter Plan, Leeds City Council, with support from NHS Leeds Public Health and CCGs submitted a proposal to the Department of Health's 'Warm Homes Healthy People Fund' to increase energy saving advice and measures to vulnerable people. The Board was pleased to note that this had been successful.
- It was noted that the Member Seminar on Fuel Poverty will take place on Wednesday 19th December 2012.
- Ongoing projects and schemes – outreach work with Groundwork; work with Leeds Federated Housing; and a pilot scheme with the Citizen's Advice Bureau to offer joint fuel tariff, debt and income maximisation advice over the winter period.
- That the Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility would be enabled for heat and power and there was a clear intention for a district heating scheme.

RESOLVED – That the report and discussion be noted.

42 Provision of Allotments in Leeds

The report of the Chief Officer of Parks and Countryside set out the context of allotment provision in Leeds with particular reference to demand for food growing space. It discussed options and related issues in providing additional allotment space to fulfil demand.

Sean Flesher, Chief Officer, Parks and Countryside and Joanne Clough, Trading and Operational Manager, Parks and Countryside were in attendance for this item.

In response to Members comments and questions, the following issues were discussed:

- The report only referred to allotments managed by Leeds City Council and not those under Town or Parish Council control.
- Allotments at High Ash Drive – work was ongoing with a private landowner regarding vehicular access to the site.
- Over 300 plots had been brought into use since 2007 to help meet increased demand, with a further 22 planned in the near future.
- The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment for Leeds, published in July 2011, identified a total of 143 allotment sites (108 of which are in council ownership) covering 145 hectares. However, it had been assessed that an additional 39 hectares of allotment land was needed to meet demand. Core Strategy Planning officers had been asked to identify land. However, there was no capital funding currently allocated for the development of new sites. There was a reliance on Section 106 funds, funding from Town and Parish Councils and contributions from Area Committees and Ward Members.
- Around 4,000 questionnaires were sent out during the summer of 2012 to all plot holders who currently have an allotment and to those on waiting lists to gain an understanding of the demographic profile of allotment users.
- Management of waiting lists – it was reported that a new full time Community Food Growing Officer would have responsibility for managing allotments as well as encouraging community food growing projects across the city.
- Members requested for further information of allotment provision in Leeds including those belonging to Town and Parish Councils and comparisons with core cities. This information is to be considered by a working group of the Board early in the new year.

RESOLVED – (a)That the report and discussion be noted.

(b) That the additional information requested by Members be considered by a working group of the Scrutiny Board early in the new year.

43 Provision of Bereavement Services in Leeds

The report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods set out the role and responsibilities of Bereavement Services within Parks and Countryside and considered capital investment requirements and overall resource implications in managing cemeteries and crematoria across the city.

Sean Flesher, Chief Officer, Parks and Countryside and Joanne Clough, Trading and Operational Manager, Parks and Countryside were in attendance for this item.

In response to Members comments and questions, the following issues were discussed:

- All 23 cemeteries operated by the Council were multi faith. In addition to this, there were also a number of privately run cemeteries across the City.
- An out of hours service is provided for specific faith groups with the exception of Christmas Day.
- Security improvements including installation of CCTV at Harehills Cemetery and improvements at Hunslet were welcomed. It was reported that these had not been funded through Area Committees.
- Combined use of heat and power from crematoria – some work had been done at Rawdon and heat exchange was used for the chapel building and offices. At other crematoria there was limited opportunity to do this due to the location of buildings.
- Costs of services and comparisons to other core cities. It was reported that costs were reviewed annually and full price and service details were available on the Council's website.
- Cemeteries and Crematoria and the Leeds Quality Park Standard. It had been noted that improvements had been made at 13 of the sites since the last assessment although only one had achieved the Leeds Quality Park Standard. It was estimated that the cost, excluding building works, to bring cemeteries and crematoria sites up to the Leeds Quality Park standard is around £550k and there was a current reliance on funds from Section 106 monies.
- Capital investment for mercury abatement measures– it was reported that the new equipment had been installed at Rawdon that would contribute towards meeting targets in relation to the abatement of mercury emissions. The mercury waste was collected and disposed of by contractors.

RESOLVED – That the report and discussion be noted.

44 Scrutiny review of the new Grounds Maintenance Contract - draft report

The report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development presented the Board's draft report following its review of the grounds maintenance contract.

RESOLVED – That the Board's report following its review of the new grounds maintenance contract be agreed.

45 Recycling review - draft terms of reference

The report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development presented draft terms of reference in relation to the Scrutiny Board's forthcoming recycling review. The review was aimed at improving recycling through effective communication and education.

RESOLVED – That the terms of reference for the forthcoming recycling review be agreed.

46 West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority Consultation - comments from Scrutiny

The report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development presented the draft response of the Board in relation to the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority's consultation on proposals to changes to emergency cover in West Yorkshire.

RESOLVED – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the draft response of the Scrutiny Board be agreed and submitted to the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority as part of its public consultation process.

47 Work Schedule

The report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development informed the Board of its forthcoming Work Programme. Recent Executive Board minutes were also appended to the report.

Members were reminded of forthcoming work for the Board including the Parish and Town Council Review and items for the next agenda including Performance Management and the co-ordination of services between Parks and Countryside and Environmental Action Services.

48 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday, 10 December at 10.00 a.m. (Pre-meeting for all Board Members at 9.30 a.m.)

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Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Report to the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board

Date: 10th December 2012

Subject: Leeds Community Safety Business Plan - update

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" 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. In preparation for the introduction of an elected West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012, the Executive Board Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services asked the Scrutiny Board to work closely with the Safer Leeds Executive in developing a Leeds Community Safety Business Plan.
2. The Scrutiny Board agreed to undertake this piece of work via a working group over the Summer of 2012. The Business Plan was approved by the Safer Leeds Executive in September 2012. The final Business Plan is appended to this report (appendix 1).
3. This report provides the Board with an update on how the Plan has been used to inform the development of the 1st West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan, and to publicise Safer Leeds' priorities to a wider audience.
4. Finally, the report sets out the next steps in developing the plan in to the city's Crime and Disorder Strategy.

Recommendations

5. Members of the Board are asked to note the contents of the report, and agree to take an updated version of the plan in April 2013 for comment, prior to it being submitted for approval as the city's statutory Crime and Disorder Strategy by Full Council in July 2013.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To provide the Board with the final version of the Safer Leeds Business Plan, which was agreed by the Safer Leeds Executive in September 2012.
- 1.2 To advise how the plan has been used to inform the newly elected West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and a wider audience of the city's priorities in relation to crime reduction and policing.
- 1.3 To inform the Board that the Plan will be developed further in early 2013, before being submitted for approval as the city's statutory Crime and Disorder Strategy to Full Council in July 2013.
- 1.4 To ask for further assistance from the Board as part of this process.

2 Background information

- 2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 replaced Police Authorities with Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), and introduced Police and Crime Panels (PCPs) to scrutinise the decisions and actions of the PCCs and assist them in carrying out their functions.
- 2.2 PCCs are expected to provide strong local leadership, underpinned by their democratic mandate in the drive to reduce crime and keep communities safe. The government state that they will need to work with other local leaders to ensure local resources are used effectively and efficiently.
- 2.3 On the 15th November 2012, Mark Burns-Williamson (Labour Party) was elected as the 1st West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). He will hold office for a period of 3.5 years to May 2016.
- 2.4 As PCC, Mr Burns-Williamson will be responsible for developing a four year Police and Crime Plan in liaison with the Acting Chief Constable, based upon identified local priorities.
- 2.5 Mr Burns-Williamson has indicated that 2013/14, will be a transitional year, and that he intends to delegate resources currently commissioned via local Community Safety Partnerships, such as the Community Safety Fund (CSF) and Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP), through existing arrangements.
- 2.6 He will also be responsible for setting the 2013/14 precept, which will be presented to the PCP by 1st February 2013, prior to its introduction on 1st April 2013.
- 2.7 In June 2012, the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board was asked by the Executive Board Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services, to provide support to the Safer Leeds Executive as it developed a Business Plan, which outlined the city's priorities in relation to policing and crime reduction.
- 2.8 A scrutiny working group met over the Summer of 2012, to make comments on the draft plan, prior to it's approval by the Safer Leeds Executive in September 2012. A copy of the comments made by the working group is attached at appendix 2.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 All of the recommendations made by the scrutiny working group (appendix 2), were incorporated in to the plan, prior to being finalised.
- 3.2 Since the plan was approved, it has been used to inform and publicise the city's priorities in relation to crime reduction and policing, including:
- The West Yorkshire Partnership Plan – developed by the Police Authority for the newly elected PCC
 - Executive Board report – December 2011
 - Joint Strategic Assessment
 - Press articles
 - Copy sent to the newly elected West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner
 - Priorities included in State of the City document
 - Various presentations
 - Used as a common framework for each of the 5 West Yorkshire districts when establishing their own priorities
- 3.3 However, the plan has not been published a public document at this time. This is because it has been agreed that the Plan will be developed further to become the city's statutory Crime and Disorder Strategy.
- 3.4 The Council's constitution, specifies that the city's Crime and Disorder Strategy must be approved by Full Council. Following discussion with governance services, it has been agreed that the plan will be updated in early 2013, then submitted to the following Boards / meetings for comment, prior to being submitted for approval to Full Council in July 2013.
- 3.5 The timetable for approving the Safer Leeds Crime and Disorder Strategy is set out below.

Safer Leeds Executive – 10th January 2013

Approval of 2013/14 Joint Strategic Assessment

Safer Leeds Executive – 5th March 2013

1st Draft of Safer Leeds Crime and Disorder Strategy presented to Community Safety Partnership.

Safer and Stronger Scrutiny Board – 15th April 2013

To make proposals on Crime and Disorder Strategy 2013.

Executive Board – 19th June 2013

To receive the draft Safer Leeds Crime and Disorder Strategy 2013

Full Council – 3rd July 2013

To approve the Safer Leeds Crime and Disorder Strategy 2013

- 3.6 Running alongside the development of the strategy, further work will be undertaken to ensure that the strategy links in to the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.
- 3.7 This process also means that more accurate information on how resources allocated from the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner will be used, to deliver activities that address the city's crime reduction and policing priorities.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 In line with the timetable above, Scrutiny Board Members will be invited to comment on the strategy on its routes to Full Council.
- 4.1.2 Other key partners such as West Yorkshire Police, Probation, Youth Offending Service and Criminal Justice service partners will contribute and comment on the strategy through the Safer Leeds Executive.
- 4.1.3 As part of the development of the Police and Crime Plan, the PCC will be undertaking public consultation in early 2013. Recommendations from this consultation will be used to inform the Safer Leeds Crime and Disorder Strategy.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 The Safer Leeds Crime and Disorder Strategy will make reference to the Safer Leeds Partnership's commitment to serve all members of its communities effectively and acknowledges that all of its actions and plans should give due regard to implications for different groups and sections of the community.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 The Scrutiny Board has provided its support to ensure that the business plan accurately reflects local community safety priorities and demonstrates the effectiveness of the activity it wishes the Police and Crime Commissioner to support. Particular consideration was therefore given to the associated links with the relevant priorities set out with the City Priority Plans.
- 4.3.2 Further consideration will be given to this issue as the Crime and Disorder Strategy is developed.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

- 4.4.1 As mentioned above, PCCs will become responsible for setting out a four year Police and Crime Plan (five for subsequent plans), in liaison with the Chief Constable, based upon identified local priorities.
- 4.4.2 The newly elected West Yorkshire PCC has indicated that 2013/14, will be a transitional year, and that he intends to delegate resources currently commissioned via local Community Safety Partnerships, such as the Community Safety Fund (CSF) and Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP), through existing arrangements

4.4.3 The Leeds Community Safety Business Plan has been used to demonstrate the effectiveness of the activity it wishes the Police and Crime Commissioner to support in 2012/13.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This report does not contain any exempt or confidential information.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 This section is not relevant to this report.

5 Conclusions

5.1 The attached Safer Leeds Business Plan, outlines the city's priorities in relation to crime reduction and policing. It has been used to inform and influence the newly elected West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner of the city's aims and ambitions in this area of business.

5.2 The city has a statutory obligation to develop a Crime and Disorder Strategy, which sets out the city's approach to reduce crime and disorder, and deliver the city's ambition to be "the be the best city in the UK with the best community safety partnership and services."

5.3 It has been agreed that the Safer Leeds Business Plan, should be further developed and submitted to Full Council in July 2013, as the Safer Leeds Crime and Disorder Strategy.

5.4 The Safer and Stronger Scrutiny Board has played a key role in helping to develop the Business Plan, and its further assistance is requested to develop the Crime and Disorder Strategy.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Members are asked to note the contents of the report, and agree to take an updated version of the Safer Leeds Business Plan in April 2013 for comment, prior to it being submitted for approval as the city's statutory Crime and Disorder Strategy by Full Council in July 2013.

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.

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WORKING DOCUMENT

Partnership Business Plan 2012 - 2015

Safer Leeds
tackling drugs and crime

Welcome ~ Chair's Statement

I am delighted to introduce the Safer Leeds business plan and invite you to read about some of the excellent work that partnership has carried out over the past year.

Despite considerable financial pressures that the partnership and individual organisations have faced, we have remained focussed and I am pleased to report significant improvements.

We know there is more to do as, like many other cities, Leeds continues to face the challenges that crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse bring. It is important to me that we build on our previous successes, strengthen our partnership approaches at a city wide and local level, and endeavour to address the most significant issues of concern to the citizens of Leeds.

Crucially, as a partnership we need to address causes and not just symptoms, which means we cannot simply rely on short term 'fixes' if we want to see sustainable reductions in the long term. Through strong leadership and excellent service delivery we are determined to meet this challenge.

Looking ahead, to improve community safety outcomes and the lives of individuals, families and communities, we will concentrate on 'what we must do' and work with others on 'what they can do' in genuine partnership.

We welcome your comments, suggestions or concerns about the work of the partnership ~ please see our contact details on the back page.

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Gruen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Councillor Peter Gruen, Executive Member for Community Safety

Introduction ~ Safer Leeds

The Safer Leeds is the city's statutory Community Safety Partnership responsible for tackling crime, disorder and substance misuse, in the city.

Leeds is proud of its strong record of partnership working, which was embedded as part of the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) and subsequent legal enhancements.

Our Ambition

We want to be the best city in the UK with the best community safety partnership and services.

Our Desired Outcome

People in Leeds are safe and feel safe in their homes, in the streets, and the places they go.

Our Commitments and Priority Activity (see page 13)

Reducing crime levels and its impact across Leeds (with the main focus upon Burglary).

- § **Burglary Reduction Programme (BRP)**
- § **More integrated working with Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs), particularly Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's)**
- § **Drugs and Offender Management Programmes**

Effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities.

- § **Leeds Anti Social Behaviour Team**

Improving safeguarding and reducing vulnerability for individuals, families and communities.

- § **Reducing Domestic Violence and Safeguarding the Most Vulnerable Member of Society**

Governance

Recognising that no single agency can address these complex issues in isolation, the following authorities have made a commitment to work collectively on addressing community safety risks, threats and harms. Together they form the **Safer Leeds Executive**:

Responsible Authorities	Co-operating Bodies
§ Executive Member	§ Leeds Children's Trust Board
§ Leeds City Council	§ Leeds Safeguarding Children's Board
§ Leeds NHS	§ Youth Offending Service
§ West Yorkshire Police	§ Adult Social Care
§ West Yorkshire Police Authority	§ Arms Length Management Organisations (ALMO's)
§ West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service	§ Leeds Primary Care Trust
§ West Yorkshire Probation Trust	§ HM Prison Service Leeds

The Executive have a statutory requirement to:

- Produce a annual Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA)
- Prepare and implement a Partnership Plan, making arrangements for community engagement in its development
- Establish information sharing arrangements
- Be responsible for establishing Domestic Homicide Reviews.

The Executive is required to comply with the Council's financial regulations, and also to co-operate with the Scrutiny process, as detailed in the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2010.

Performance & Key Facts

Year	Total Crime	Violent Crime	Criminal Damage	Acquisitive Crime	Robbery	Vehicle Crime	Theft of MV	Theft From MV	Burglary
2002/03	128920	14031	22780	44352	2650	25361	9279	16082	16341
2003/04	125692	17074	24821	37170	1961	21433	7286	14147	13776
2004/05	103404	16809	23100	25894	1202	15251	5388	9863	9441
2005/06	98014	18034	21785	21384	1313	12401	3773	8628	7670
2006/07	94196	17294	21237	22392	1641	12507	3326	9181	8244
2007/08	85737	15646	18431	20289	1490	10350	2871	7479	8449
2008/09	82278	14594	16588	21162	1407	10507	2732	7775	9248
2009/10	75344	13177	13519	19935	1303	9111	2000	7111	9521
2010/11	74038	13359	11430	18953	1230	8854	1505	7349	8869
2011/12	70445	12065	10121	16376	1107	7607	1211	6396	7662
% Change (2002/03 to 2011/12)	-45%	-14%	-56%	-63%	-58%	-70%	-87%	-60%	-53%

- **Acquisitive crime: where the offender aims to gain economically from the crime**

The above table highlights the levels of recorded crime across a ten year period for total offences and the most problematic offence categories.

There has been a sustained reduction in the total numbers of recorded crimes in Leeds over the last 10 years, leading to an overall 45% lower level of offences recorded in 2011/12 than 2002/03. Reductions have occurred across all crime types over this period. This has been due to increased partnership work and investment in areas such as burglary reduction, but also through an improved use of intelligence leading to better deployment of resources.

Reducing crime levels and their impact across Leeds

- § **Burglary** ~ Problematic youths have been identified who view burglary as an extension of ASB and such “up and coming” offenders can rapidly become prolific. In the 12 months to the end of May 2012, there were 7,080 recorded domestic burglary offences, down 22.3% (2036 fewer victims) compared with the previous year.
- § **Thefts** ~ there has been an upward trend in thefts and continued increases are likely, especially in theft from person, metal thefts and theft from shops.
- § **Violent Crime** ~ although the overall levels of violent offences in Leeds is reducing; there continue to be local

concentrations of incidents and sporadic peaks in specific crime types.

- § **Alcohol Misuse** ~ although there is no automatic relationship between alcohol and violence, violent crimes are consistently the highest proportion of offences identified as 'drink involved'.
- § **Drug Misuse** ~ a number of cannabis farms continue to be found across Leeds, suggesting a prolific market. Complaints around cannabis often refer to youths "smoking" in the street (often also linked with on street drinking). Visible drug use is also often associated with other ASB and aggressive or abusive behaviour.
- § Effective drug treatment has a clear role in preventing crime. The Leeds Drug Intervention programme plays an essential role in engaging offenders in treatment services with approximately 20% of people coming into treatment services through this route

Effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities

- § **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)** ~ The most common issues across Leeds include youth related nuisance, alcohol misuse, persistent noise nuisance, vandalism and graffiti. Information from the quarterly WYPA household survey states that only 12.24% of respondents feel the levels of ASB in their local area have increased. This is a significant reduction from the 2008/09 baseline of

18.03%. The overall trend is downwards, although there is some variation in quarters and between localities.

- § **Perceptions** ~ In some areas, perceptions of high rates of crime and anti-social behaviour may not reflect reported incidents. Residents may not report incidents due to acceptance ("it's just how it is here") or intimidation and fear of reprisal. Alternatively, due to low tolerance or unsubstantiated fears, there may be higher reporting of relatively minor incidents in some areas. It is therefore recognised that more work needs to take place to improve reporting rates and develop a better intelligence picture of crimes across the city.
- § **Repeat Victims** ~ Repeated incidents of damage and ASB can result in residents leaving their homes and the levels of harassment and fear for individuals can be extensive. In some estate areas, there are also issues around specific families or groups highly involved in local ASB and crime.

FAMILIES



- § **Mental Health** ~ A significant proportion of 'disability' related hate crimes involve victims identified as having mental health issues or learning difficulties. Mental health issues do not only relate to victimisation, individuals in custody with mental health disorders are over-represented compared to the general population.
- § **Sexual Exploitation** ~ The extent to which some vulnerable people, including children in care or in chaotic family homes, and those who regularly go missing from home or care and are sexually exploited, is subject to investigation. A strategy group and action plan have been established to take forward this important area of work and develop work-streams to protect those that may be targeted by abusers.

Improving safeguarding and reducing vulnerability for individuals, families and communities

- § **Domestic violence** ~ The impact of domestic violence has negative consequences on families and children's lives and many agencies accept it as an indicator of child abuse. There is also a very high repeat victimisation rate indicating victims are often subjected to long term abuse.
- § **Hate Crime** ~ Victims of severe hate incidents, such as assault or damage, frequently report long-term, repeated intimidation and abuse with escalating levels of violence and threat.

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Recent Achievements

The Safer Leeds Partnership is a mature and effective partnership that has delivered integrated services to our customers.

- § There has been a steady and sustained fall in the total numbers of recorded crimes in Leeds over the last 10 years. Robberies, vehicle crimes and violent crimes all see significant and continuing reductions.
- § Burglary has been a particular problem within Leeds for some years and is seen as a key priority by Safer Leeds. Significant reductions have been achieved by bringing together the city's main crime reduction and prevention agencies into one focused city-wide team to ensure that activity is co-ordinated for the greatest impact. This freshly invigorated and highly collaborative approach has proven to be incredibly successful. In December 2011 the city recorded its lowest burglary count in over 10 years. Work has progressed to further improve burglary levels through the introduction of predictive mapping and partnership responses.
- § Integrated Offender Management has led to a more connected approach, identifying, targeting and managing problematic criminals in our community. Close working with HM Prison Leeds and other HMP establishments has supported a more co-ordinated approach to managing offenders on release into the community.

- § The Drug Intervention Programme is helping adult offenders who misuse drugs out of crime and into treatment. More integrated working with the prison service have been established to minimise the risks of those released from custody returning to crime. More people are receiving treatment more quickly and more people are leaving support services drug free.
- § Safer Schools Partnerships have been developed to prevent young people engaging in criminal activity. They have contributed to increased attendance and a decrease in exclusions as well as a drop in crime-related incidents.



- § Residents expect public agencies to tackle Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) in their localities in a responsive and effective manner. In Leeds multi-agency teams have been introduced to specifically tackle this issue.

- § Through the development of shared case management systems, community links, and improved information sharing, offenders can be identified and targeted through a range of disruption and enforcement tactics. This partnership approach also provides a co-ordinated and improved level of response and support to victims.
- § Partnership working between Anti-Social Behaviour Teams, Children's Services and Offender Management Services (Youth Offending Service, Probation and Police) has delivered intensive family support for those in greatest need with acute, complex issues. This has resulted in significant reductions in offending and anti-social behaviour amongst those receiving this assistance.

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- § Partnership approaches have been developed and implemented to address many of the safeguarding and vulnerability issues across Leeds. Tackling domestic violence and hate crimes continue to be priorities across the city. Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences have improved partnership working with vulnerable victims and assisted in dealing with problematic offenders.
- § There is increasing public and partnership concerns around sexual exploitation of children. Specific multi-agency groups have been set up to identify and support victims and target offenders engaging in such activities.
- § Community work is ongoing to help identify areas or groups at risk of escalating tensions, so that direct interventions and support can be targeted where and when they are most needed. The effectiveness of such partnership working was demonstrated in the summer of 2011, when Leeds was able to avoid the widespread disturbances and rioting that took place in other major cities across the country.
- § Partnership work is also ongoing to identify those most at risk of influence through extremist agendas, to focus support and intervention to prevent radicalisation of these individuals.

Partnership Expectations

Safer Leeds will focus on our desired outcome:

'People in Leeds are safe and feel safe in their homes, in the streets, and the places they go'.

We expect all partners to:

Continue funding programmes that have a direct impact on individuals, families and communities.

Align relevant service delivery to our 3 commitments.

Ensure value for money through cost effective deployment of services, utilising existing resources more effectively and efficiently.

Manage risks, threats and harms by reviewing, challenging and scrutinising delivery.

This clear partnership commitment has potential to make significant cost savings and will improve public satisfaction and confidence.

Equalities

The partnership aims to serve all members of its communities effectively.

All actions and plans should give due regard to implications for different groups and sections of the community.

We will ensure people are not excluded or disadvantaged because of their Race, Gender, Age, Disability, Religion and Belief, or Sexual Orientation.

Why is this important?

Leeds has seen steady and sustained reductions in total crime over the last 10 years. Safer Leeds services have been critical to this success (e.g. ASB teams, Burglary Reduction, Drug Intervention and PCSO's etc) despite economic and social pressures.

The expectations we have of ourselves and others are important as they will have an impact on:

The wider long term vision of Leeds Initiative (see page 17); the work of the entire city Priority Boards and our contribution to the prosperity and future of the city.

The communities we serve, and how we to continue to listen, involve and act on the issues that matter to local people.

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Reducing crime levels and its impact across Leeds

Priorities

- § Reduce and prevent offending and re-offending
- § Develop victim led approaches to restorative practise
- § Support crime reduction and partnership working

Key Indicators

Reduce burglary
Reduce Theft from Person
Reduce Offending rates (10-17) (18+)
Reduce Re-offending rate (10-17)(18+)
Increase the Restorative Practice outcomes as a part of overall Detection Rate
Increase the percentage of Young People on statutory court orders who undertake a restorative intervention as part of the their sentence
Reduce alcohol fuelled violence
Increase the rate of successful completions for those exiting drug treatment

Priorities for 2013/14

Continue to reduce domestic burglary through a targeted multi agency approach

Continue to support offender management services, which seek to rehabilitate and reintegrate offenders back in to society and away from crime

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Effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities

Priorities

- § Extend multi-agency approaches to ASB, providing effective solutions for residents experiencing persistent noise nuisance
- § Tailor responses and support to the needs of local communities
- § Target troubled families involved in ASB and offending through intensive interventions

Key Indicators

Reduce proportion of residents who believe that ASB has increased
Reported ASB level per 1,000
Increase the proportion of ASB cases with positive outcomes
Increase customer satisfaction
Reported ASB for families using Signpost
Improved school attendance for children in families using Signpost

Priorities for 2013/14

Continue to develop and deliver multi agency responses to effectively deal with all forms of anti-social behaviour, including persistent noise nuisance

Continue to provide community reassurance and build confidence through neighbourhood policing

FAMILIES



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Improving safeguarding and reducing vulnerability for individuals, families and communities

Priorities

- § Safeguard individuals and families by tackling domestic violence
- § Safeguard communities by dealing with hate crime and preventing groups and individuals becoming involved in extremist behaviour
- § Protect and support vulnerable young people from crime related risks, threats and harms

Key Indicators

- Reduce repeat victimisation rate for Domestic violence cases
- Reduce repeat victimisation rate for high risk Hate Crime cases
- Reduce the number of violent crimes against young people (U18)
- Improve the percentage young people who report feeling safer

Priorities for 2013/14

Expansion of the DASSL initiative to increase the city's capacity to work with domestic violence (DV) perpetrators, including the secondment of an officer from HMP Leeds.

Continue to develop and deliver multi agency responses to effectively deal with sexual exploitation and other forms of sexually harmful behaviour

FAMILIES



FAMILIES



Safer Leeds Partnership - Our Priorities 2013/14

The strengths of Leeds' current approach to reducing crime and protecting communities, is driven by strong and effective local leadership and partnership work. The citizens of Leeds want to live in communities that are safe and free from crime. However to achieve this, the Safer Leeds Partnership recognises that many of the issues that matter most to local people, cannot be dealt with in isolation. It has therefore invested in a range of multi- agency initiatives which it considers critical to achieving its ambition that, **'People in Leeds are safe and feel safe in their homes, in the streets, and the places they go'**.

Reducing crime levels and its impact across Leeds

Burglary Reduction Programme – Established in September 2011, the Leeds Burglary Reduction Programme consists of Officers from the Council, West Yorkshire Police, Probation, Youth Offending and other key partners. Its focus, is to deal with prolific offenders in the city's localities of concern, to work closely with individuals who are considered likely to enter the criminal system with burglary as their first offence and to work with our most vulnerable communities to reduce their likelihood of being a victim of burglary. Since the initiative commenced, domestic burglary has reduced by 33% in the city (01/09/2011 to 31/07/2012).

This project is currently funded through the Community Safety Fund, which will become part of the PCC pooled budget from 2013/14.

The Leeds Integrated Offender Management Service (The Hub) provides offenders with the opportunity to access a broad range of services such as housing, employment, substance misuse and debt management to support their re-integration back into the community and help reduce re-offending. Delivered through a multi agency approach involving Police, Probation, HM Prison Leeds, Foundation Housing, Leeds DIP and a range of other partners, it provides a vital lifeline to those wishing to change and improve their lives and break the cycle of re-offending prevalent in some sections of our community.

This project is currently supported by the Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP) funding for which become part of the PCC pooled budget from 2013/14.

Leedswatch – CCTV – This multi agency service monitors the city's network of public surveillance cameras. It houses a dedicated Police liaison team who pro-actively and re-actively work with Council officers to reduce crime and improve detection rates, making Leeds a safer place to live, work and visit.

Effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities

Leeds Anti Social Behaviour Team (LASBT) - Three multi-agency teams, consisting of officers from the Council, Police, the three Leeds ALMO's and Victim Support, operate across the city to effectively deal with all types of anti social behaviour. Since it began delivery, the LASBT has dealt with 1937 reports of ASB, reduced the amount of time it takes to

deal with individual cases by 106 days and improved overall satisfaction with the service provided by 24.3%.

West Yorkshire Police currently provide dedicated resources to work as part of the LASBT.

Police Community Support Officer's (PCSO's) – Nothing illustrates more the Partnership's determination to prioritise Community Safety than the decision by partners – in the face of massive budgetary cut-backs - to support PCSOs in Leeds. PCSOs play a vital role in supporting crime reduction and community safety in Leeds. The value placed on PCSOs by LCC is demonstrated by our commitment to jointly fund 5 PCSO's for each Ward of the city, over the last 7/8 years at a cost of over £1.5million per annum. Over the past 12 months, work has taken place to develop more joined up delivery between local services delivered by the Council, ALMO's and Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT's) to more effectively address crime and grimes related issue.

The City Council match funds 30% of 165 PCSO's costs, with the remainder coming from the Home Office via West Yorkshire Police Authority. This match funding contribution will become part of the PCC pooled budget from 2013/14.

Improving safeguarding and reducing vulnerability or individuals, families and communities

Domestic Abuse Scheme Safer Leeds (DASSL) - The DASSL project works with the perpetrators of domestic violence to lessen the risk of harm within families and to reduce repeat victimisation. At present referrals are almost exclusively from childrens social work, where child protection plans are in place. A key focus for 2013/14, will be to extend the reach

of this scheme to include police referrals from custody suites, self referrals and group work. Recently, HMP Leeds has seconded an officer to work as part of the DASSL team, to work with male offenders with a history of domestic abuse, supporting them to re-settle within the community, thereby reducing the risk of harm within the family environment.

West Yorkshire Police provides dedicated support to help reduce domestic violence via Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) process.

A multi-agency response to safeguarding continues to develop across Leeds. As an illustration of our commitment to the most vulnerable in our communities, the partnership arrangements which have evolved over the past 12 months are developing specific products and projects which seek to protect those at greatest risk

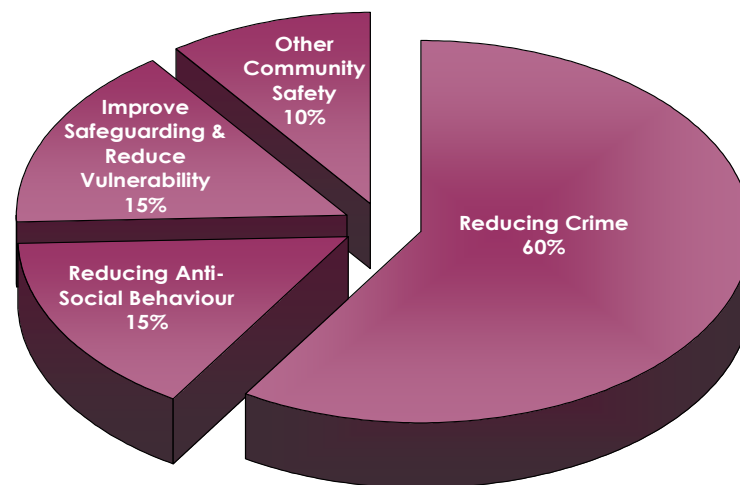
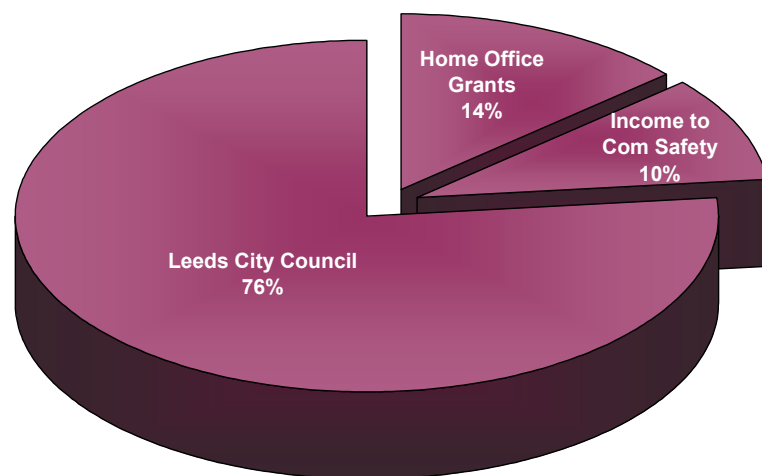
Conclusion

In November 2012, the residents of West Yorkshire will vote for their first Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). The PCC will be responsible for deciding police and crime priorities, and allocating resources to supporting these. This new way of working will fundamentally change the way that policing and crime across West Yorkshire is commissioned and delivered. This may put some of the initiatives outlined above at risk. We assert that the residents of Leeds, would be best served by continuing to support these priorities, helping the Safer Leeds Partners to build on the excellent work that has taken place over many years to make Leeds a safe and welcoming place to live and work.

Financial Budget Safer Leads Budget 2012/13 *

Funding Source	
Home Office Grants	1,381,637
Income to Com Safety	1,001,550
Housing Revenue Accounts (LCC)	4,488,580
Grant Funding (LCC)	3,315,580
Total Income	10,187,347

Allocation by Commitments	
Reducing Crime	6,011,327
Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour	1,578,310
Improve Safeguarding and Reduce Vulnerability	1,571,080
Other Community Safety	1,026,630
Total Allocation	10,187,347



Future ~ New funding and decision making arrangements will be in place with the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) in November 2012. From April 2013, all Community Safety related funding derived from the Home Office will be pooled within the PCC's budget.

A number of Safer Leads priority programmes, including Leeds Anti-Socials Behaviour Team, Burglary Reduction, Drug Intervention, CCTV and PCSO's, rely directly on funding from the Home Office. It is anticipated that these programmes will continue receive funding through the office of the PCC.

Constraints ~ To manage budget pressures, Safer Leads restructured in 2011/12. This involved a review of existing services to ensure the continuation of priority activities. Staff teams previously based in West Yorkshire Police divisions were centralised and co-located with LCC teams. Grants related spend was also reduced by £568k.

* Does not include funding for local policing through West Yorkshire Police, and other drugs programmes funded via West Yorkshire Probation Service and the Leeds and Bradford NHS Trust.

Changing Landscape

Over the next few years, the landscape in which Crime and Policing is delivered within our communities will change. However, the Community Safety agenda will continue to play a critical role in improving the well-being and success of individuals, families and communities. Listed below are the key factors and policies that will have a direct impact on how we as a partnership work.

- § **Police and Crime Commissioners** ~ Elected for a four year term, Police and Crime Commissioners will hold the police and other partners to greater account for the delivery of policing and crime reduction. Replacing the Police Authority, the PCC will appoint the Chief Constable, decide priorities, and make decision about how funding will be spent on policing and community safety services (including services outside direct policing).
- § **Localism** ~ Seeks to redistribute power and funding from government to local people to deliver what they want for their communities, transforming public services and ensuring that all communities are equipped and incentivised to grow and prosper.
- § **Reducing Reoffending** ~ Introducing greater involvement of the private and voluntary sectors in the rehabilitation of offenders, including use of payment by results, to cut reoffending and introducing more effective sentencing policies.

- § **Restorative Justice** ~ Further develop programmes to repair the harm caused by offenders, utilising restorative justice approaches, which address the needs of victims and the responsibilities of offenders.
- § **Families First** ~ The introduction of targeted programmes of activity which aim to break the cycle of crime and ASB that exist amongst some of the city's families, by supporting adults in to work, and moving children & young people in to education or training. This initiative includes an element of payment by results.
- § **ASB** ~ Proposed changes in legislation may require a greater focus on partnership responses to the needs of victims, community resolution, and longer term solutions.
- § **Welfare Reform** ~ Changes to be introduced in April 2013 may have the potential to directly impact on community safety outcomes.
- § **Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults** ~ Following a review there are government plans to provide statutory protection for those who may need care, who are unable to safeguard themselves, and are at risk of significant harm. Proposals include Councils having a legal duty to investigate suspected instances of adult abuse and NHS trusts and police required to appoint representatives to adult safeguarding boards.
- § **Safeguarding Vulnerable Children and Young People** ~ Continued focussed on partnership working to ensure that vulnerable children who are at risk of abuse receive protection and support, particularly in the light of a number of serious incidents in recent years.

Our City Priorities & Governance

Leeds Initiative

The Leeds Initiative is the city's local strategic partnership. Founded in 1990, it brings together the public, private, community, voluntary and faith sectors to work together to achieve success, encourage improvement, and overcome problems for the benefit of all citizens.

Vision for Leeds

After listening carefully to what local people, businesses and organisations have said, the Vision for Leeds is:

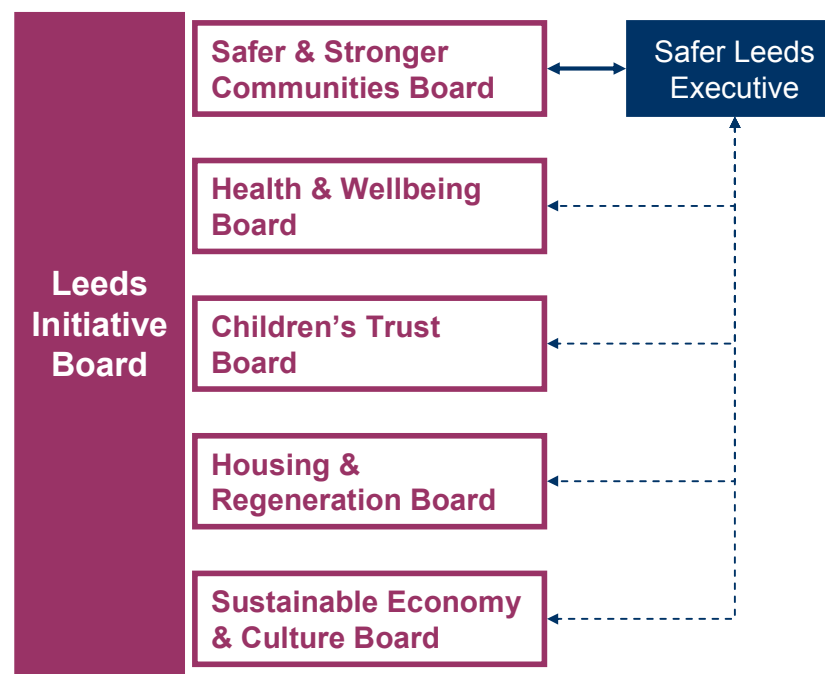
By 2030, Leeds will be locally and internationally recognised as the best city in the UK

This long-term Vision is supported by three aims

- Leeds will be fair, open and welcoming
- Leeds' economy will be prosperous and sustainable
- All Leeds' communities will be successful

Under the **Leeds Initiative Board**, there are five strategic partnership boards, which provide a strong lead and focus on the actions that will make a difference.

Each of the five Boards has a City Priority Plan which sets out the key outcomes and priorities to be delivered by 2015. Each Board is responsible for measuring and tracking progress towards the Vision aims.



Safer Leeds links directly to the wider **Safer and Strong Board** and its City Priority Plan (2011-2015) and also supports the delivery work of the other key Boards.

Safer Leeds will seek the support, energy and enthusiasm of local people, organisations and businesses throughout the city, to help deliver against our commitments and annual priorities for change.

Appendix ~ Leeds Community Safety Services

Area Community Safety Partnerships

Area Community Safety Co-ordinators work with Neighbourhood Police Teams and other local partners to tackle community safety concerns and priorities at a local level. These partnerships are essential in delivering community safety activity at a local, community level.

Crime Reduction

The Crime Reduction Team works in partnership to develop a whole range of programmes, including activities to reduce burglary and repeat victimisation, 'Alley gating' (a ginnel gating programme), the use of property marking and tracking devices to reduce crime.

Domestic Violence Team

The Domestic Violence Team works with partners to improve services for people affected by domestic abuse. This includes training and awareness raising work with a range of service providers and work with partners to improve the effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System. Specific programmes designed to disrupt perpetrators are being developed.

Additionally, the coordination of Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences across the city for the most high risk cases is led by Community Safety. Current work is being developed with the police, children's services and other

partners to improve support for families affected by domestic abuse.

Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team

The Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (comprising of staff from a range of agencies including LCC, Housing (ALMO), Victim Support, West Yorkshire Police and West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service Arson Task Force) was established in April 2011, to provide an integrated, effective response to anti-social behaviour and increase public confidence in key agencies' responses.

Leeds Watch CCTV and Security Services

In April 2011 CCTV and Security Services were merged, including the transfer of the Out of Hours Noise Nuisance service from Environmental Health. A new CCTV monitoring facility has been developed in partnership with West Yorkshire Integrated Passenger Transport to provide improved surveillance across Leeds and at all 26 Metro Bus Stations across West Yorkshire.

Work is ongoing to streamline WYP resources to work alongside Council colleagues in delivering an enhanced and value for money service. In 2012/13, it is anticipated that the CCTV monitoring service for East North East Homes Ltd will transfer to Leeds Watch.

Performance and Intelligence Team

A re-shaped District Intelligence Function is in place to ensure a more co-ordinated and partnership based intelligence function across the city. The unit has responsibility for the development of problem profiles and

products to inform city-wide tasking to address key crime issues. Additionally, leading on research and development including new approaches and community safety strategies.

Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)

Despite massive budgetary cuts, support for PCSO's has continued in Leeds. PCSOs play a vital role in supporting crime reduction and community safety, acting as "eyes and ears" within local areas to report on and tackle a range of issues such as anti-social behaviour, truancy and safeguarding.

Prevent

The Prevent work stream now sits within Leeds Community Safety. A calendar of training and awareness sessions is being developed to raise awareness, tackle the rhetoric of violent extremist groups, train local individuals and develop a peer learning network.

Proceeds of Crime Act Team (POCA)

The three divisional Proceeds of Crime Act teams (officers charged with seizing assets and cash gained through criminality) have merged into a single unit within Safer Leeds. This will increase the capacity and coordination of activity across the district focusing on strategic areas of concern including individuals linked to burglary and firearm offences.

Safeguarding

In May 2011 three Police Divisional Safeguarding Units merged into a single district unit. There are also opportunities around co-locating staff from Children's Social Care with Safer Leeds that would assist in refining referral and investigative practice, especially in relation to domestic violence, missing children and child sexual exploitation.

Safer Schools Partnerships

The Safer Schools Partnerships, where dedicated WYP officers work in partnership with the whole school community, have been developed to prevent young people in engaging in criminal activity.

Signpost- Family Intervention Service

Signpost is a citywide service that provides intensive support to families with a range of complex needs, through 3 locality based multi-disciplinary teams specifically targeting:

- § Families who are persistent perpetrators of anti-social behaviour, particularly targeting young people who are on ASBO's or families facing eviction.
- § Households where a member of the family is a prolific offender, with a particular emphasis on burglars.
- § Families who are known to Children and Children's Social Work Service and at risk due to safeguarding / child welfare concerns.

How to Contact Us

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Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities)

Development of the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan

Comments from Scrutiny to the Safer Leeds Executive

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In June 2012, the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board learned that the Safer Leeds Executive was in the process of developing a Leeds Community Safety Business Plan in preparation for the introduction of an elected West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012.
- 1.2 The Executive Board Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services asked the Scrutiny Board to work closely with the Safer Leeds Executive to ensure that the Plan is fit for purpose prior to it being formally approved by the Safer Leeds Executive in September 2012.
- 1.3 The Scrutiny Board agreed to undertake this piece of work as a matter of priority via working group meetings during July and August to which all Board Members would be invited to attend.
- 1.4 Working group meetings took place on 17th July 2012 and 14th August. During these meetings, discussions were held with the Chief Officer for Community Safety and the Head of Community Safety Partnerships (Safer Leeds) surrounding the objectives of the business plan and its content nearing completion.
- 1.5 An initial draft of the plan was considered during the scrutiny working group meeting in July. Following this meeting, the Safer Leeds Executive received verbal feedback of the issues arising from the working group's discussion. An updated version of the draft was then considered at the scrutiny working group meeting in August.
- 1.6 This report presents the agreed view of the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board in relation to the draft Leeds Community Safety Business Plan. The Board has requested that these comments are formally considered by the Safer Leeds Executive prior to it approving the Plan.

2.0 Observations, Conclusions and Recommendations

- 2.1 As the business plan is split into nine separate sections, the views of the Scrutiny Board in relation to each individual section are set out below.

Chairs Statement

- 2.2 The Scrutiny Board acknowledges the statement made by the Chair of the Safer Leeds Partnership in introducing the business plan and also inviting the public to contact the partnership with any comments, suggestions or concerns

Appendix 2

they may have about the work of the partnership. The Scrutiny Board does not wish to suggest any changes to this section.

Introduction to Safer Leeds

- 2.3 The Scrutiny Board does not wish to suggest any changes to this section as it clearly sets out the governance arrangements for Safer Leeds and highlights the partnership's ambition, desired outcome and commitments in accordance with the City Priority Plan.

Performance and Key Facts

- 2.4 This section includes a performance table highlighting the level of recorded crime across a ten year period for total offences and the most problematic offence categories. The Scrutiny Board is pleased to note that following its initial request, the definition of 'acquisitive crime' has now been included alongside this table.
- 2.5 In acknowledging the steady and sustained reduction in the total numbers of recorded crimes in Leeds over the last 10 years, the Scrutiny Board is pleased to note that the narrative surrounding the performance table now makes reference to the move towards increased partnership working, improved use of intelligence and better deployment of resources (including the targeted investment made in areas such as burglary reduction). The Scrutiny Board recognises that these are contributing factors in achieving such reductions and therefore needed to be acknowledged alongside the performance data.
- 2.6 The Scrutiny Board does not wish to make any other suggested changes to this section.

Recent Achievements

- 2.7 This section seeks to briefly demonstrate where the Safer Leeds Partnership has delivered integrated services to customers.
- 2.8 Within this section, it states that there is increasing public and partnership concerns around the sexual exploitation of children, which has led to a multi-agency approach in identifying and supporting victims and targeting offenders engaging in such activities.
- 2.9 Within the 'performance and key facts' section of the plan, reference is also made that vulnerable young people, including those in care or in chaotic family homes, and those who regularly go missing from home or care, can be targeted by abusers. Whilst an increase in the reporting of child sexual exploitation incidents nationally has clearly had an impact in terms of raising the profile of this problem, the Scrutiny Board recommends that further narrative is added within this section to underline why there is an increased cause for concern locally.

- 2.10 The Scrutiny Board acknowledges that the Safer Leeds Partnership has identified child sexual exploitation as a priority area for 2013/14, as highlighted within the business plan under 'partnership expectations'. The Scrutiny Board has also identified this as a potential piece of scrutiny work in the future. In recognition of the cross-cutting nature of this piece of work due to the associated links with the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board and Health and Wellbeing Board, the Scrutiny Board will explore how best to approach this with other relevant Scrutiny Boards in the future.

Recommendation 1

Where reference is made within the 'recent achievements' section of the business plan to the increasing public and partnership concerns around the sexual exploitation of children, further narrative should be added to underline why there is an increased cause for concern locally.

Partnership Expectations

- 2.11 Within this section, the Scrutiny Board is pleased to note that following its initial request, the partnership's priorities for 2013/14 no longer make reference to particular localities of concern. The Scrutiny Board considered that such references could be misinterpreted by the public in terms of the partnership's commitments and allocation of resources and therefore suggested that they be removed from the plan.
- 2.12 The Scrutiny Board is also pleased to note that where reference is made within this section to the vision of Leeds Initiative, the public are now signposted to the relevant section of the plan where they can seek further clarity of the role of Leeds Initiative and other governance arrangements if necessary.

Safer Leeds Partnership – Our Priorities 2013/14

- 2.13 The Scrutiny Board notes that this particular section had been added following the initial version of the draft plan. As the purpose of this new section is to provide further narrative surrounding the partnership's priorities, this is welcomed by the Scrutiny Board.
- 2.14 Linked to the partnership's priority to effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour, particular reference is made within this section to the role of the new multi-agency Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team and the positive impact this has had in dealing with ASB complaints. Whilst the previous section of the plan makes specific reference to the partnership's priority to extend multi-agency approaches to ASB and also noise nuisance, there is no reference to noise nuisance within this particular section.
- 2.15 In acknowledging that noise nuisance represents a substantial proportion of complaints made by the public, the Scrutiny Board recommends that further narrative is added to reiterate the partnership's commitment to find better solutions for people experiencing domestic noise problems, which is reflective in the recent transfer of staff from Environmental Health to the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team.

Recommendation 2

That further narrative is added to the 'Safer Leeds Partnership – Our Priorities 2013/14' section of the plan to reiterate the partnership's commitment to find better solutions for people experiencing domestic noise problems, which is reflective in the recent transfer of staff from Environmental Health to the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team.

Financial Budget

- 2.16 Within this section, the Scrutiny Board is pleased to note that following its initial request, a further pie chart will be added to illustrate the different funding sources for Safer Leeds. The Scrutiny Board does not wish to make any other suggested changes to this section.

Changing Landscape

- 2.17 As part of the changing landscape, the Scrutiny Board recommends that reference is also made to the role of the new Police and Crime Panel within this section.

Recommendation 3

That reference is made to the role of the new Police and Crime Panel within the 'changing landscape' section of the business plan.

Our City Priorities & Governance

- 2.18 The Scrutiny Board is happy that this section clarifies the role of Leeds Initiative and the five strategic partnership boards in delivering the key outcomes and priorities set out within the City Priority Plan. The Scrutiny Board does not wish to suggest any changes to this section.

Appendix – Leeds Community Safety Services

- 2.19 The Scrutiny Board is happy that this section provides further clarity of the role of existing community safety services and does not wish to suggest any changes to this section.

Other observations made by the Scrutiny Board:

- 2.20 In the development of any plan, it is vital to acknowledge the target audience. Local community safety business plans are designed to be high level plans used to articulate the community safety landscape for each of the relevant districts to prospective Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) candidates and members of the public.
- 2.21 In view of this, the Scrutiny Board set out to ensure that the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan accurately reflects and clearly articulates local community safety priorities and demonstrates the effectiveness of the activity it wishes the PCC to support. However, the Scrutiny Board is also mindful that, as a public facing document, the business plan needs to be succinct and not

heavily overloaded with performance related data that the public may find difficult to digest.

2.22 The Scrutiny Board acknowledges that further work will continue by the Safer Leeds Executive to ensure that the business plan will be accompanied with supportive performance related data, which will be made available to the successful PCC candidate. The Board also acknowledges that a number of existing strategies have been used to inform the draft Leeds Community Safety Business Plan. These are as follows:

- The Leeds Burglary Reduction Strategy (2011 – 2015)
- Leeds Anti Social Behaviour – Quest Review 2010/11
- The Leeds Domestic Violence Action Plan 2012/13
- The Leeds Reducing Re-Offending Plan 2010 – 13
- The Drug Recover Action Plan 2012/13
- The Leeds Alcohol Harm Reduction Plan 2011 – 2015
- Corporate Performance reports – Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime Reduction

2.23 The Scrutiny Board also recognises the importance of having a consistent approach across West Yorkshire and is therefore pleased to note that the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan is to act as a template to provide a common framework for the other districts.

2.24 Whilst the use of plain English is important, the Scrutiny Board accepts that some community safety language is unavoidable within the business plan when making reference to crime and disorder activities and existing support programmes.

2.25 The Scrutiny Board is pleased to note that following its initial request, definitions have been provided in relation to certain crime and disorder terminology, such as 'acquisitive crime'. However, the Scrutiny Board further recommends that the use of abbreviations within the plan is minimised as much as possible. Where these do occur, a full definition should be provided within each of the relevant sections of the plan for ease of reference.

Recommendation 4

As a public facing document, the use of abbreviations within the business plan should be minimised as much as possible. Where these do occur, a full definition should be provided within each of the relevant sections of the plan for ease of reference.

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Report author: Heather Pinches /
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Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) / Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board

Date: 10th December 2012

Subject: 2012/13 Q2 Performance Report

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input 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 a summary of performance against the strategic priorities for the council and city related to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board.

Recommendations

Members are recommended to

- Note the Q2 performance information and the issues which have been highlighted and consider if they wish to undertake further scrutiny work to support improvement over the coming year in any of these areas.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report presents to Scrutiny a summary of the quarter two performance data for 2012-13 which provides an update on progress in delivering the relevant priorities in the Council Business Plan 2011-15 and City Priority Plan 2011-15.

2 Background information

- 2.2 The City Priority Plan 2011 to 2015 is the city-wide partnership plan which sets out the key outcomes and priorities to be delivered by the council and its partners. There are 17 priorities which are split across the 5 strategic partnerships who are responsible for ensuring the delivery of these agreed priorities.
- 2.3 The Council Business Plan 2011 to 2015 sets out the priorities for the council - it has two elements - five cross council priorities aligned to the council's values and a set of directorate priorities and targets.
- 2.4 Members will note that the delivery of City Priority Plan priorities are shared with partners across the city while the Council Business Plan sets out the Council's contribution to these shared priorities. This report provides an overview of the performance relating to both plans enabling the Scrutiny board to directly challenge the council's performance as well as seeking to influence and challenge partners contributions through existing partnership arrangements.
- 2.5 This report includes 2 appendices:
- Appendix 1 – Performance Reports for the City Priority Plan Priorities
 - Appendix 2 – Directorate Priorities and Indicators relevant to the Board

3 Main issues

Quarter 4 Performance Summary

City Priority Plan

- 3.1 There are 4 priorities in the City Priority Plan relevant to Safer and Stronger Communities Board and of these 3 are assessed as green and 1 amber. The amber priority is:
- **Increase a sense of belonging that build cohesive and harmonious communities** – the performance report states that overall progress in Quarter 2 has been steady, and there is confidence that we know where activity needs to be targeted to strengthen communities. Progress is assessed as amber however, to note the challenging economic conditions in communities, and the funding available to partners to support the approach.

Key Performance Highlights

- 3.2 **Burglary:** performance continues to improve against more stretching burglary reduction targets: in the 12 months to the end of September recorded offences were down 36%. All three policing divisions are on track to meet targets and in

terms of priority wards this is the first quarter that all wards including Hyde Park & Woodhouse have seen a 12-month reduction. On-going performance monitoring suggests that the more stretching target agreed in September is achievable. This reflects the combined and sustained partnership activity in the area that needs to continue with the new Police & Crime Commissioner's governance arrangements.

- 3.3 **Anti-Social Behaviour:** Customer satisfaction data for the multi-agency ASB service has continued its improvement trajectory from 2008/09. But most notably performance at Q2 has shown a significant improvement both for case outcomes (90%) and the overall service (94%). Numbers of reported ASB cases are also continuing to rise as public confidence in the service improves.
- 3.4 **Street Cleanliness:** since 2011, the service has undergone a radical overhaul with the implementation of a locality working approach. Included in this is delegation to Area Committees with the introduction of local service level agreements and ward plans to ensure services are more responsive to local needs. On the whole, confidence in the service has increased and there is recognition that the service is more accessible and accountable than it has been in the past. Through regular communication and partnership working, stakeholders have a broader understanding of the limitations of the service and the need to prioritise finite resources. A revised indicator has been developed which provides similar information to that reported under the previous statutory NI 195 indicator, but data is collected in a more cost effective way. Performance for 2011/12 reported in line with the previous NI 195 indicator has been reworked to reflect the new indicator definition and methodology to provide a relevant baseline position, and performance this quarter is showing an improved position on the baseline, with 91.5% streets assessed as clean, and is currently above the 5% improvement target set for this year.

Council Business Plan

- 3.5 Directorate Priorities and Indicators – there are 8 directorate priorities relevant to the Board of which 3 are amber and 5 are green. The amber priorities are:
- Improve refuse service reliability
 - Improve recycling rates
 - Deliver an approach to locality working with improved community engagement and more local decision making
- 3.6 In terms of performance indicators 3 are green, 1 is amber and 1 is red. The red indicator is:
- **Number of missed bins per 100,000** collected (100.79): The service provided has increased in terms of both numbers (>2m collections per month) and complexity, with an expanded collection of different recyclables. At quarter 2 the residual waste (Black) bin performance improved again this quarter (54.88 missed) and is very close to the 50/100,000 best practice quality standard; garden waste (brown) bin performance (181.03 missed) has also shown improvement over the last quarter. However, the recycling (green) bin performance (180.36 missed) deteriorating compared to Q1, although the long-term trend is one of

improvement against an ambitious quality standard. However, more recent data for October is showing a significant improvement with the overall missed bin rate at 84.61 per 100,000. Residual performance has worsened slightly (62.18) but is still holding well, and recycling (144.41) & garden (104.99) have improved significantly from Q2.

- 3.7 Recycling rates overall increased during Q2 with the best ever rate of 48% seen in July.

Other issues

- 3.8 At Q2 one further potential issue was highlighted and discussed - ash dieback disease. It was noted that Parks and Countryside is proactively taking steps to identify possible action should it spread to Leeds. This includes identifying any newly planted woodland which could be affected, monitoring existing woodland and briefing the relevant Portfolio holder.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 This is an information report and as such does not need to be consulted on with the public. However all performance information is published on the council's website and is available to the public.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 This is an information report and not a decision so due regard is not relevant. However, this report does include an update on equality issues as they relate to the various priorities in the report card in appendix 1.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 This report provides an update on progress in delivering the council and city priorities in line with the council's performance management framework.

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 There are no specific resource implications from this report.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 All performance information is publicly available and is published on the council's website. This report is an information update providing Scrutiny with a summary of performance for the strategic priorities within its remit and as such is not subject to call in.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 The Performance Report Cards include an update of the key risks and challenges for each of the priorities. This is supported by a comprehensive risk management

process in the Council to monitor and manage key risks. These processes also link closely with performance management.

5 Conclusions

5.1 This report provides a summary of performance against the strategic priorities for the council and city related to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Members are recommended to:

- Note the Q2 performance information and the issues which have been highlighted and consider if they wish to undertake further scrutiny work to support improvement over the coming year in any of these areas.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 City Priority Plan 2011 to 2015

7.2 Council Business Plan 2011 to 2015

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.

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Safer Leeds Performance Accountability Tracker: (REPORT CARD)

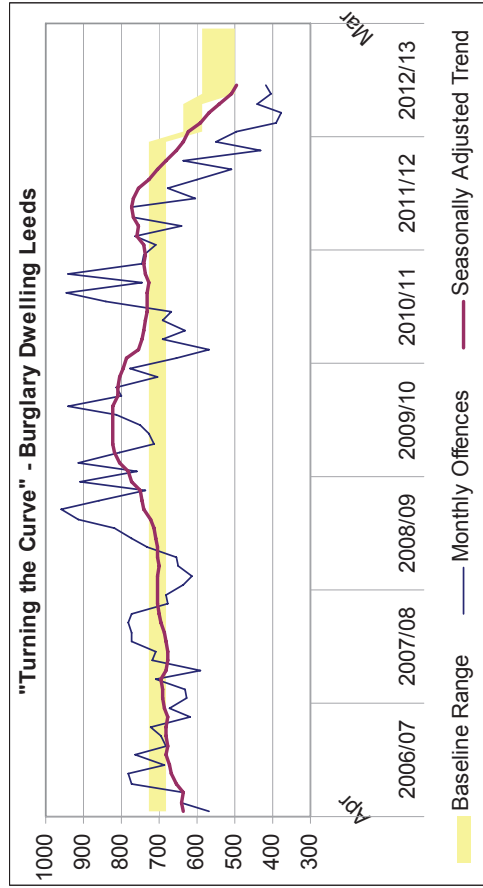
Outcome: People are safe and feel safe

Priority: Reduce crime levels and their impact across Leeds (focus on burglary reduction)

Why is this priority?

The public should be safe and feel safe on the streets, in the places they go and especially in their own home. Burglary has significant consequences directly impacting on a person's sense of safety, as well as damage and loss incurred. Domestic burglary levels in Leeds remain higher than the national average

Headline indicator



In September, Safer Leeds reviewed the 7,056 target for 2012/13 setting out a revised *stretched target* of a year end out-turn of 5,999. The seasonally adjusted performance is at the lower end of the Milestone Range suggesting if current performance continues then the target is achievable.

- In the 12 months to the end of September, there were 5,938 recorded offences, down 36% (3,276 fewer victims).
- All three policing divisions are on track to meet targets; NWL down 39.5% (1,753 fewer victims); NEL ~ down 39.0% (1,467 fewer victims) and C&H down 5.6% (56 fewer victims).

Review Period: July to September 2012
Population: Residents of Leeds

Progress: ➔

Ward	12 Month Total	12 Month % Change
Hyde Park & Woodhouse	472	-13.9%
Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	347	-39.0%
Gipton & Harehills	315	-19.9%
Armley	314	-35.9%
Headingley	298	-41.5%
Killingbeck & Seacroft	255	-35.6%
Kirkstall	244	-52.3%
Bramley & Stanningley	233	-56.8%
Chapel Allerton	215	-55.7%

This is the first quarter that Hyde Park & Woodhouse has seen a 12 month reduction, reflecting the combined and sustained partnership activity.

Story behind the baseline ~ Safer Leeds has commissioned independent research on offenders' pathways to burglary; from the interviews to date the following are noted:

- Most offenders travel within a 2 mile radius from home to commit an offence. In particular, younger offenders feel safer in an area they are familiar with and will stay within their 'comfort zone'. More experienced burglars will be prepared to travel further a field.
- Younger offenders see burglary as a relatively easy offence that offers greater potential rewards. Only a small number committed offences alone, most tending to prefer to do it with 'mates'. The average age of offenders from the sample group committing their first burglary is 12. Many said that burglary is like an addiction, and gives a 'buzz', with some saying it is a hard habit to break. Only some of the more experienced offenders were saying that the longer custodial sentences now being issued were being seen as a deterrent.
- Disposal of goods is rapidly undertaken, the main time periods being within 20 minutes to 1 hour, and each offender had numerous buyers ready to take the usual stolen goods, such as electrical items, gold, and jewellery.

Safer Leeds Performance Accountability Tracker: (REPORT CARD)

Outcome: People are safe and feel safe

Priority: Reduce crime levels and their impact across Leeds (focus on burglary reduction)

What we did (key examples)

- Partnership activity continues in the localities of concern including funding from area committees and Safer Leeds to support work around target hardening in specific streets, promotion of immobilise (property marking) and crime prevention advice.
- Operation Optimal in NWL continues to be refined and backed up with tasking of partners and engagement of local residents through super cocooning. NEL have applied the predictive element of the model and are tasking officers through their local hub to ensure high visibility in vulnerable areas at key times.
- By the end of Q2, the Burglary Task Force had investigated/disrupted 22 Organised Crime Groups. As a direct result of ongoing CPS involvement delivering improvements in investigations and prosecutions, 35 PPOs have been given substantial prisoner sentences. The 'Gold Standard' (a voluntary code of conduct for the face to face purchase of second hand precious metal and jewellery) will be launched in late October to help monitor the activities of shops that buy and sell gold. This will support legitimate traders and enable the Police to come down hard on those buying stolen goods.
- The Leeds Desistance Project targets and tracks young burglars as they progress from supervision with YOS to the Probation Service during their 'Transition to Adulthood'. Individual transfers from the YOS to the Probation Service convicted of burglary are routed through this single point of contact. An assessment is conducted and a decision made to ascertain if they remain with this specialist worker or if another intervention pathway is more appropriate. The current caseload is 29 and to date 7 orders have been completed successfully. Prior to the end of September there was no Burglary offending for the cases currently managed.
- The 'It Only Takes a Minute' campaign continued to be utilised in Q2 through local community engagement events, face to face contact with the public and social networking activity; repeating crime prevention messages. As part of Universities & Colleges open days and Freshers Fairs joint messages have been disseminated to new students and those moving into the private rented sector for the first time.

Review Period: April to June 2012

Population: Residents of Leeds

Progress: 

- The single youth custody suite for Leeds, at Stainbeck Police Station, will be launched in November 2012. This new way of working for YOS staff, who have previously engaged with young people mainly on a statutory basis, will involve detailed needs assessments. Their presence at the police station will improve information sharing between YOS, Children's Services and the Police to inform charging decisions and the use of alternative disposals. The project will be examining ways in which the application of the youth justice system in Leeds can be more restorative and responsive to the needs of victims. Referrals to the YOS team at Stainbeck will be taken from services in the community where young people are thought to be at risk of offending.

What Worked/Lessons Learnt

- A pilot between environmental enforcement and Seacroft Housing Office and PCSOs has seen weekly visual audits in top burglary streets being targeted for clean ups and action. In the same area, 9 CCTV cameras have been installed.

New actions

- Implement the Autumn/Winter campaign ~ Uninvited/Unwelcome Guest
- Continue to work with the Private Rented Sector Working Group to promote improved standards of security and through the wider Housing Forum to ensure burglary reduction remains a priority.
- Work on the established tasking arrangements around 'up and coming nominals' and links to the Families First Programme and targeted services.
- Joint partnership arrangements for the management of prisoners' releases in the run up to Xmas.
- A results analysis of the community impact initiative with Leeds Crown Court will be conducted in Q3.

Information/intelligence requirement

- Ongoing identification of organised crime groups involved in burglary and/or handling of stolen goods.

Issues/Risks

- The challenge will be to sustain momentum, ensuring activity is focussed on the desired outcome and working towards the ambitious stretch target.

Safer Leeds Performance Accountability Tracker:

Outcome: The communities of Leeds feel safe and are safe

Priority: **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Review Period: July – Sept 2012

Population: Residents of Leeds

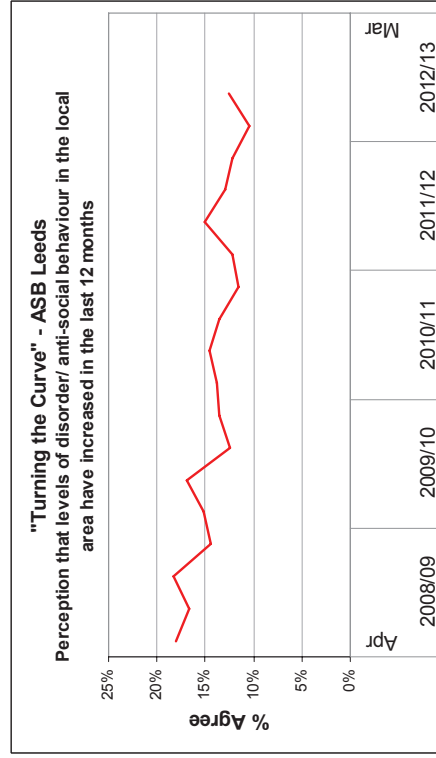
Progress: 

Why is this a Priority?

Anti-social behaviour can threaten the physical or mental health, safety or security of individuals, groups and communities. LASBT tackle anti-social behaviour at the earliest opportunity through a combination of prevention, enforcement and support. LASBT contributes to Leeds city Councils 'City Priorities Plan' of sustainable reductions in crime and disorder, tackling Anti-social behaviour and building stronger cohesive communities.

Key Indicator – Perception of Crime Survey

The measure below is concerned with overall perceptions of ASB, and are NOT reflective of service provision. The information is from the quarterly WYPA household survey ~ in the last 12 months they have surveyed 6,073 households across Leeds.



The 2008/09 baseline range was 16.94% of respondents agreeing it had got worse in the last 12 months. The current level is 12.62% (to the end of Sept 2012). The overall trend is downwards, although there is some variation in quarters and between localities.

Key Indicator – LASBT Survey

Customer satisfaction data is collated at case closure through customer (victim) surveys, which seek customer satisfaction levels in relation to various aspects of the service including;

Customer satisfaction	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Case outcome.	61.6%	66.1%	60.3%	79.9%	90.0%
Overall service	72.2%	73.7%	70.4%	83.0%	94.2%

Story behind the baseline (LASBT cases)

Prior to implementation of the multi-agency Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT) in April 2011 ASB was responded to by a range of agencies (ALMO's, ASBU, Police etc) each working to differing thresholds and service standards.

Data collated during 2012/13 Quarter 2 is showing further continual improvement on LASBT's baseline year which in turn significantly improved on former ASBU closed case survey data (Pre-April 2011).

What are the known factors driving the baseline?

Customer satisfaction with the case outcome is influenced by many factors including the victims own expectations, and the complexity of the case.

LASBT procedures are customer focused. For example, in supportively managing victim expectations, exploring potential solutions, and identifying and responding to individual needs. LASBT works to resolve cases at the earliest opportunity. Customer feedback suggests that the process is working. Recent feedback includes; *"The support and contact from Sheila (LASBT) and Alistair (Victim Support) was amazing and out did my expectations . I have great respect for Sheila she was my life line in a lot of ways through a time that was more difficult than words."* (LASBT South, September)

Safer Leeds Performance Accountability Tracker:

Outcome: The communities of Leeds feel safe and are safe

Priority: **Anti-Social Behaviour**

LASBT data during 2012/13 year to date has been drawn from on a total of 310 surveys from a sample of 491 named victims (an overall response rate of 63.1%) giving a 95% confidence level with a 3.38% confidence interval.

Demographics

Analysis of Active Case victim demographics shows that where information is recorded, **10.5%** of victims are Black Minority ethnicity. **64.5%** of victims are female. Only 2 victims are aged under 18. Analysis of Active Case perpetrator demographics shows that **10.0%** of ASB perpetrators are Black Minority ethnicity. **49.0%** of perpetrators are female. 80 perpetrators were aged under 18.

What we did

LASBT seeks to respond to ASB using a cradle to grave approach that ensures cases are allocated reflecting the governments harm centred approach. Reported problems are tackled at the earliest opportunity, with vulnerabilities identified at the outset and appropriate support provided. Each investigation is undertaken in accordance with clear procedures that are underpinned by customer focused service standards with feedback received from customers at both 4 weeks and case closure.

Revisions to enquiry logging processes have been made to reduce the incorrect logging of tenancy issues against LASBT enquiry types. It is envisaged as we work through the year additional information can be provided in relation to the split between reported tenancy and ASB issues.

	Q1 11/12	Q2 11/12	Q3 11/12	Q4 11/12	Q1 12/13	Q2 12/13	Q3 12/13	Q4 12/13	
Enquiries logged on Siebel under LASBT	1011	916	645	725	725	958			
Annual Total	3297							(3366 projected)	

Review Period: July – Sept 2012

Population: Residents of Leeds

Progress: 

West Yorkshire Police received 11915 ASB calls between April and August 2012 of which 453 calls were linked to existing LASBT cases and resulting in 66 new referrals into LASBT.

During 2011/12 LASBT opened 1248 new cases, a 21.8% increase on 21010/11 figures.

	Q1 11/12	Q2 11/12	Q3 11/12	Q4 11/12	Q1 12/13	Q2 12/13	Q3 12/13	Q4 12/13	
ASB cases opened by LASBT*	335	354	251	308	331	340			
Annual Total	1248							(1342 projected)	

What Worked/Lessons Learnt

Improved satisfaction and case duration data (durations having reduced from a pre-implementation (ASBU) figure of 241 days to less than 150 calendar days)

New actions

Building on this success three further key actions are being pursued:

- Environmental Protection Team staff have been integrated into LASBT recognising noise nuisance is often considered an ASB issue.
- West Yorkshire Police, continue to identify repeat locations and vulnerable victims, to improve information sharing and ensure LASBT proactively responds to emerging ASB issues.
- Government White Paper proposals for ASB are now expected to be implemented in 2014.

Issues/Risks

Moving forward into 2012/13 our key challenge is to continue to build on the successful outcomes achieved during 2011/12.

Meeting: Safer and Stronger Communities Board

Population: All people in Leeds

Outcome: the city is clean and welcoming

Priority: Ensure that local neighbourhoods are clean.

Why and where is this a priority Clean streets and neighbourhoods are regularly cited by local people as one of the key determinants of the whether the area in which they live is attractive and welcoming. Clean streets can promote a sense of well-being and belonging; conversely high levels of litter and rubbish can foster a sense of social concern and fear of crime, this is particularly the case in relation to graffiti, fly-posting and fly-tipping.

Overall Progress: Green



Story behind the baseline

The quality of the local environment, and in particular standards of street cleansing, are often seen by the public as an indicator of how well an area is being managed and its suitability as a place to live, work, visit or bring up a family. Many surveys have shown the importance the public attach to clean streets and that standards of street cleansing are a key factor in how people view the performance of their local council. Litter, graffiti and fly tipping if present are highly visible and can immediately undermine the confidence people have in an area.

With constant pressures on the Councils budgets, finding extra funding for street cleansing is not easy. However, improved standards of street cleansing can often be achieved by using existing resources more effectively. This has been one of the drivers for moving towards locality working which has already seen services being more responsive to local needs such as events, fetes and galas, as well as the needs of local communities as expressed via elected members or residents themselves.

Until now the formative measure of street cleanliness in Leeds has been NI 195. This was a statutory indicator and a prescribed methodology was produced by the government in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy to measure the % of unacceptable sites. However this has always been resource intensive producing results of limited operational or strategic use. As it is no longer a statutory indicator we have taken the opportunity to develop a replacement called the clean streets indicator which produces similar quality data but more efficiently. The new survey measures the % of acceptable sites in terms of litter levels across the city in the summer and winter months using a rotating sample of wards.

Historically Leeds has performed well against other core city comparators in terms of NI 195 with 86.7% of areas deemed to be satisfactory. The results for this summer using the new clean streets indicator are that 91.5% of streets have acceptable litter levels.

In addition to this quantitative indicator, work is still ongoing to capture qualitative information including residents feelings, comments and views on how litter free they think their local neighbourhoods are. This can then be used to identify litter hot spots and target resources accordingly.

What do key stakeholders think?

On the whole confidence in the service has increased and there is a recognition that the service is more accessible and accountable than it has been in the past. This is a view shared by members and residents as complaints have been turned into dialogue. Through regular communication and partnership working, stakeholders have a broader understanding of the limitations of the service and the need to prioritise finite resources. The culmination of this being ward plans that reflect the needs and aspirations of the community and provide the operational detail to the service level agreements.

<p>What worked locally /Case study of impact</p> <p>ENE – a radical overhaul in the way the team works has resulted in the creation of 28 Improvement Zones the majority being in Inner East some also in Inner North East. The reshaped team has changed the way it works with a more proactive approach and focus on problem solving to develop sustainable solutions. The overall objective being to change the behaviour and culture of residents towards street scene issues.</p> <p>SSE- an initiative to reduce scrap metal theft in South Leeds was run in partnership with the police. Vehicles were stopped at the front gates of scrap metal merchants in Morley and Beeston by the police giving our staff the opportunity to check waste carrier licences and transfer notes. The initiative resulted in 16 enforcement notices and 7 FPN's being served and a reduction in scrap metal thefts in the area.</p> <p>A joint 1 month initiative with Her Majesty's Prison service has seen 6 prisoners from Armley Prison gain work experience. Overseen by supervisors from SSE, they have been litter picking, removing fly tipped waste and cleaning ginnels to great effect.</p> <p>WNW – in conjunction with Armley residents groups, the Windgates and Bardens were identified as areas requiring intensive intervention to tackle a host of environmental grime and street scene issues. Surveys were undertaken of waste in gardens and bin yards to quantify the extent of the problem and to target pro active cleansing patrols of grot spots. A litter bin audit identified some need for new provision but also that some bins would be more effective if relocated.</p>	<p>New Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of environmental enforcement policies is ongoing to bring them up to date and make sure they are fit for purpose. • Better joint working with Highways around there asset management register to inform future plans for improving or installing new road gully's. • The current approach to procuring mechanical street sweepers is under review to explore the potential for reducing costs by negotiating a different way of leasing the vehicles. • A lack of capacity of the Supervisors to undertake meaningful staff engagement and quality assurance is being addressed. It is proposed to create the posts of a Resource and Case work Supervisor in each locality team to ensure greater contact with staff and oversight of cleanliness activities. <p>Data Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Management System – the crewing up and scheduling of street scene cleansing rounds has been done on an adhoc basis in the past using a series of spreadsheets which has hindered service provision. Work is ongoing to develop a comprehensive and flexible RMS that will be more efficient, effective and user friendly. • A system is being developed to record volumes of drug paraphernalia picked up by the needle team and identify the source of the request so that if it comes from an ALMO we can make the appropriate recharge. • A suite of reports has been developed to performance monitor the ENE impact zones in terms of service requests, notices served and enforcement action.
<p>Risks and Challenges E-form connectors not being implemented within the intended time frame would continue to make it difficult for the locality teams to process the volume of service requests they receive. Once introduced they will remove the need to dual enter data onto Siebel and Uniform which is inefficient and resource intensive.</p> <p>As this is a fleet based service, any rises in the cost of diesel would put pressure on the budget.</p> <p>Winter maintenance – traffic management budget costs not were factored in. This is around safely cordoning off arterial routes so that street cleansing and repair works can be completed.</p>	

Meeting: Safer and Stronger Communities Board

Outcome: People can get on well together

Population: All people in Leeds

Priority: Increase a sense of belonging that builds cohesive and harmonious communities.

Why and where is this a priority

Leeds has one of the most diverse and changing cultural populations in the UK, it also houses some of the most affluent populations as well as the most deprived in the country, and these communities are often in close proximity. The current economic pressures and other factors present both opportunities and challenges for the city, including the need to ensure that we maintain and strengthen our good community relations and build links and relationships between our diverse communities and neighbourhoods.

Story behind the baseline

Leeds has one of the most diverse and changing cultural populations in the UK. The majority of our black and minority ethnic and newly arrived communities are however concentrated in the inner city and less affluent areas. This has created some tension in communities where the impact of new arrivals or changing demographics has been felt more keenly. Whilst the overall picture is that Leeds communities are generally resilient and tolerant, the significance of intercultural tensions in some of our communities must not be underestimated.

The picture nationally is that tensions between different communities of identity are increasing, and Leeds is conscious of staying ahead of that trend.

Every community in Leeds has its strengths. However, there are communities

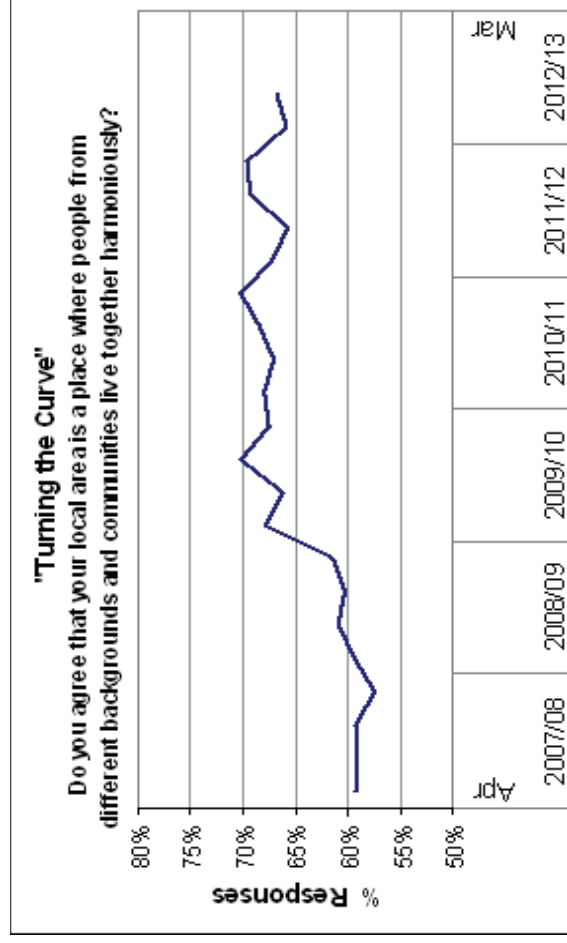
in Leeds where multiple concerns occur in the same location including poverty, unemployment, truancy and substance misuse. Where these concerns and others all exist in once place it compounds the effects of crime and anti-social behaviour, reduces respect for the environment and limits the potential benefits of community involvement and community action.

Our approach to supporting communities with multiple concern is to focus on early identification, interventions and support for individuals and families to reduce such risks, threats and harms. The partnerships focus is on understanding what interventions and support can be in place to make a difference at community level:

understanding the conditions required to ensure interventions are most successful. Newly emerging or changing communities are especially vulnerable to a range of threats, significant and regular changes in population, especially with short-term residency, inhibits the formation of strong, supportive and integrated communities – and we are working to look at what support needs to be in place to build resilience in these neighbourhoods, and with certain communities of identity.

Overall progress in Quarter 2 has been steady, and there is confidence that we know where activity needs to be targeted to strengthen communities. Progress is noted as Amber however, to note the challenging economic conditions in communities, and the funding available to partners to support the approach.

Overall Progress:
AMBER



The information is from the quarterly WYPA household survey ~ in the last 12 months they have surveyed 6,073 households across Leeds.

The 2007/08 baseline range was 59.34%. This has increased to 66.74% agreeing in the latest quarter (July - Sept 2012) although there is some variation in quarters and between localities. Performance target would be continued INCREASE.

What do key stakeholders think

The West Yorkshire Police Authority household survey noted a slight reduction in the percentage of people who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds live together harmoniously, from 69.6% to 65.9% in Q1, this has increased slightly to 66.74% in Q2 (July - Sept 2012). There are a number of factors that influence this, including general quarterly trends. The percentage however remains above the national average but needs to continue to be monitored if this repeats for Quarter 3.

What we did

- The **Safer and Stronger Communities Board** looked at the issues likely to have an impact in Leeds from welfare reform changes and the need to join up work to minimise the possibility of re-offending for those leaving Leeds prison.
- **Stronger Communities Partnership** had a focus on defining what we expect from "stronger" communities, and how this will influence the work undertaken in Year 2, and how we can more effectively make use of the resources we have to deliver.
- The **Safer Leeds Executive** began work on a new approach to tackling street prostitution in the city in Q1 and this continues. This is a holistic approach around addiction, housing, vulnerability, social issues and child exploitation and is starting to bring positive outcomes for the communities and individuals affected by this.
- The **Safeguarding Communities** group has focused on community mapping work, which continues to be developed to provide the "best guess" for services to target their work based upon information from a range of sources. Currently work is being prioritised around identifying potential communities for a number of specific nationalities of specific interest for engagement and support work.
- The **Migration Partnership** has remained focused on understanding and pre-empting the local, regional and national changes to migration support & regulations. It has also begun looking at the growing problem of destitution amongst appeal rights exhausted asylum seekers in the city. It has also supported a cross-sector group to monitor the impact of the transfer of housing provision for Asylum Seekers to G4S.
- The **Third Sector Partnership** looked at the impact of funding cuts to the sector, and engaged on the development of the longer term Leeds City Council budget.
- The **Gypsy Roma Traveller Strategy Group** received the initial findings from the Needs Assessments for Gypsy Traveller and for Roma communities, to better understand the local needs of the communities in Leeds.
- **BME Challenge Forum** – has met twice and is providing a challenge on progress and performance on Educational Attainment and Jobs and Skills.

What worked locally /Case study of impact

Budget Consultation – How the council balances its budget in 2012/13 is important to all communities. The budget consultation on people's priorities combines a range of accessible ways to take part with widespread promotion to individual residents, businesses and in particular through third sector organisations already engaged with communities. Equality monitoring of all responses allows us to monitor who is taking part and target outreach work to communities at risk of under-representation.

Risks and Challenges

Ensuring that community partners are in a position to engage and deliver where action is needed to support communities and influence behaviour is a key challenge in the current economic climate. A national increase in incidents of hate crime and inter community tension is noted as a risk for Leeds, and we need to ensure that we learn from the experiences of other cities where civic unrest has been more evident than in Leeds.

New Actions

- The **Safer and Stronger Communities Board** have undertaken to look at the feasibility of hosting a Poverty Truth Commission in Leeds – a proposal on the potential shape and scope of the commission is to be developed by a cross sector group and will be presented to the Leeds Initiative Board to seek its support and buy-in, with a view to starting in early 2013.
- The **Stronger Communities Partnership** has been working with **Third Sector Partnership** to better co-ordinate on agendas and started to look at delivery structures to improve working with communities in Leeds.
- The **Migration Partnership** looked into the growing issue of destitution and supported the development of third sector partners across West Yorkshire to tackle the problem.

Data Development

- The Leeds Citizen's Panel responded to the Healthy and Stronger Communities survey, which is currently being analysed. It will provide some vital statistical insight
- How far people feel a range of different groups get on in their area, and how this has changed in the last year
 - Feelings of personal safety
 - Awareness of and involvement in a range of community activities
 - Overall feelings of involvement

We will be able to look at the findings and highlight any significant differences between area committees, age/ethnic/gender/disability etc, and were previous data exists, any trends over time – that might want further quantitative and qualitative analysis.

2012/13 Directorate Scorecard

Reporting Period :

Quarter 2 2012/13

Environment & Neighbourhoods Directorate Priorities	Progress Summary	Overall Progress	Supporting Measures	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Executive Portfolio
Deliver the Safer and Stronger Board City Priority Plan, with a focus on reducing burglary levels, increasing confidence in relation to Anti Social Behaviour and improving cleanliness	Performance is strong across the range of priorities being delivered by the Safer/Stronger Board, including consistent reductions in Domestic Burglary, good performance on ASB service delivery and maintaining public confidence, and improving conditions and confidence in relation to environmental cleanliness.	Green	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Create the environment for effective partnership working	The Safer Stronger partnership remains strong and effective in tackling its priorities and has in place a number of sub-boards driving delivery of specific actions. The positive impact of these partnership arrangements is evidenced through strong performance across the range of priorities being tackled.	Green	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Ensure that local neighbourhoods and central commercial areas are clean	The way in which we measure performance has changed but our new baseline position reflects good performance. On the whole, confidence in the service has increased and there is a recognition that the service is more accessible and accountable than it has been in the past. This is a view shared by Members and residents as complaints have turned into dialogue and we are continuing to adopt strategies that respond to specific needs and issues in localities.	Green	Reduce percentage of streets with unacceptable levels of litter (ANNUAL)	5% improvement by March 2013	86.0% 2011/12	91.5% (new indicator)			Environment
Improve the quality of Leeds' parks	The service is using the information gathered through surveys to calculate the performance indicator and target investment and direct site developments to address the issues identified. This approach has led to continuous improvement since the indicator was introduced in 2004 and we are on track to meet this year's target. Site inspections are currently being undertaken to inform the latest performance data against this target and the results will be reported as part of the service's annual report to Area Committees in December.	Green	Percentage of parks and countryside sites assessed internally that meet the Green Flag criteria (ANNUAL)	29.4%	Annually Reported				Environment
Improve Recycling rates	YTD to August 2012 shows recycling at 44% (comparable figure in 11/12 was 41%) so improvements continue to be made. Expected outturn performance in 12/13 is currently projected to be around 41%, up from 37.4% last year. The pilot of fortnightly collections of recyclables which should improve future recycling rates has been delayed into 13/14. In addition, we are currently waiting to hear back from DCLG whether the Food Waste bid has been successful.	Amber	Increase percentage waste recycled	45%	43.0%	44.0% at August 2012			Environment
Improve refuse service reliability	The residual waste collection performance (54.88) is now exceeding the best performance achieved over recent years and is approaching the service's quality standard. Garden waste (181.03) and SORT (180.36) collections are achieving better than the historical average performance, but remain a focus for further improvement. This, combined with the best ever recycling rate for the city at 48% for July, and 44% in August, demonstrates a continuing performance improvement trend. Current performance also needs to be set against the delivery of an increasingly complex service for Leeds residents. For example, there are 2 million collections per month, when compared to 2007/08, which include around a further 37,000 households receiving SORT collections including the more difficult to access properties and a further 85,000 garden households receiving waste collections and 9,000 properties with food waste collections.	Amber	Reduce number of missed bins per 100,000 collected	50 (quality standard)	106.49	100.79 (see commentary for breakdown by bin type)			Environment
Reduce levels of domestic burglary	In the 12 months to the end of September, there were 5,938 recorded offences, down 36% (3276 fewer victims).	Green	Reduce number of burglaries	7056	1266 (12 mnth total 6816 down 24.8%)	1265 (12 mnth total 5,938 down 36%)			Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services

Other Directorate Priorities	Progress Summary	Overall Progress	Supporting Measures	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Executive Portfolio
Deliver an approach to locality working with improved community engagement and more local decision making (Customer Access and Performance)	<p>Area Working - Next Steps review is underway to report to the Executive Board in December 2012 setting out recommendations against a series of objectives aimed at improving the effectiveness of locality working, in particular, Area Committees. The review is considering: powers, responsibilities and delegations; community and partner engagement; local partnership arrangements; geography and boundaries; funding; and links between the Executive Board and Area Committees. The Way Forward on Community Engagement project sets out a range of improvement actions to develop further the council's approach to community engagements and consultation by developing support, guidance, training and co-ordination of engagement activities across the council; improving the effectiveness of the corporate consultation group; clarifying the roles of local elected members and the locality teams. Major consultations such as the citizen's panel and budget consultation surveys are reported at a area committee level</p> <p>Initial survey results capturing public views on involvement in their local community have been received - further analysis is planned over the next few months with a more detailed update provided at Q3.</p>	Amber	Increase percentage of people who feel they are involved in their local community	N/A		<p>A great deal - 5.5%</p> <p>To some extent - 33.1%</p> <p>Not very much - 40.5%</p> <p>Not at all - 20.5%</p> <p>Don't know - 0.4%</p>			Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services

Other Relevent Indicator				Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Executive Portfolio
Reduce the overall crime rate (per 1000 population)				N/A	<p>21.2 (15,933) 12 mnth total 67,051 down 9.8%</p>	<p>21.2 (15,387) 12 mnth total 54,314 down 13.86%</p>			Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services



Report author: M. Kinnaird
Tel: 3957400

Report of Chief Officer Parks and Countryside

Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board

Date: 10th December 2012

Subject: Co-ordination Between Parks and Countryside and Environmental Action Services

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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. The management of the streetscene grounds maintenance contract has transferred to Parks and Countryside enabling closer co-ordination of weed spraying activities with the grounds maintenance contract, a consistent approach to monitoring, along with an holistic approach to horticultural land management.
2. Traffic management arrangements have been co-ordinated to minimise disruption and costs associated with closing part of the carriageway for horticultural and cleansing operations.
3. Litter collection is co-ordinated 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.
4. There are occasions when events either planned or weather related can mean that more work is required afterwards. More recently, co-ordinated working has resulted in a more comprehensive approach with staff from both services working together, including following the Leeds Asian Mela, West Indian Carnival, Woodhouse Moor and Wetherby Wilderness Car Park.
5. 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. A new initiative is for Parks and Countryside to apply a detergent to loosen moss from pavements combined with the locality team using path sweepers to clean the pavements once treatment is complete.

6. Locality Managers have led on consultation and worked with Parks and Countryside on developing proposals around dog control orders in Leeds. Parks and Countryside have also worked with Ward Members, enforcement officers, PCSOs and the police to undertake education and enable better intelligence gathering on dog fouling.
7. 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.

Recommendations

8. That members note the content of the report.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report considers the progress made in co-ordinating Environmental Action Services with Parks and Countryside, along with further plans to improve the way services are co-ordinated in a way that utilises resources more effectively and improves the level of service achieved.

2 Background information

- 2.1 Parks and Countryside manage almost 4,000 hectares of parks and green space. This includes 7 major parks, 62 community parks and 95 recreation grounds, and 155 hectares of local green space, which include 144 playgrounds and 500 sports facilities ranging from skateboard parks to golf courses, and which play host to 700 events annually. The service also manage a nursery which produces over 4 million bedding plants each year, 97 allotment sites, 812km of PROW, and 156 nature conservation sites, as well as 22 cemeteries and 3 crematoria.
- 2.2 Environmental Action services are primarily delivered through 3 locality management teams accountable to Area Committees on a service level agreement basis. Activities include litter bin emptying, litter picking, street sweeping, and leaf clearing, along with enforcement activity that includes dog fouling, fly tipping, overgrown vegetation and litter. The teams are also responsible for proactive local environmental promotions. The management of the grounds maintenance contract was also carried out as part of Environmental Action Services up until the end of August.
- 2.3 A decision was taken in May to transfer the Parks and Countryside service from City Development to Environment and Neighbourhoods. The motivation behind this move was to enable closer working between services that impact on the local environment. This arrangement took effect from 1st September and combining services under one Directorate has enabled a greater focus on ways to improve co-ordination now that Parks and Countryside are part of an holistic approach to managing environmental services.

3 Main issues

3.1 Streetscene Grounds Maintenance

- 3.1.1 The management of the streetscene grounds maintenance contract has transferred to Parks and Countryside, effective from the 1st September. This is enabling integration of staff into an existing team which already has considerable knowledge and expertise of horticultural maintenance as well as the management and delivery of grounds maintenance contracts. Proposals are under way for a partial restructure of the service which will formalise this arrangement in a more effective way by enabling closer co-ordination of weed spraying activities with the grounds maintenance contract, a consistent approach to monitoring, along with an holistic approach to horticultural land management.
- 3.1.2 A review of the delivery approach for land currently either managed by Parks and Countryside or the contractor is being undertaken and considered for alternative

arrangements in 2013. This will provide even greater clarity for the public and service providers on what constitutes verges and incidental land around dwellings compared to land primarily for recreation or conservation.

- 3.1.3 The specification in the contract outlines requirements to deal with litter present on land maintained by ensuring that it is collected and removed prior to scheduled works. This is particularly important at the start of the grass cutting season, but is also a responsibility before each cut. It is also a requirement as part of other operations such as hedge cutting, shrub or rose pruning. Consideration is being given to expand this remit to cover adjacent hard surfaces where applicable in co-ordination with street cleansing activities.

3.2 Traffic Management

- 3.2.1 It should be noted that traffic management arrangements have been co-ordinated to minimise disruption and costs associated with closing part of the carriageway for horticultural and cleansing operations. Examples of this are at Stairfoot Lane and Holt Lane where Highways met the cost of road closure for highways operations, and Parks and Countryside staff took the opportunity to cut back overgrowing vegetation. Similarly, co-ordination between Locality Teams and the streetscene grounds maintenance contractor took place at Pudsey bypass where sweeping and gully cleansing operations followed grass cutting.

3.3 Litter and Waste Issues

- 3.3.1 Work is underway to co-ordinate litter collection in the vicinity of community parks where a site-based gardener is present. As part of their normal operations a site based gardener will undertake an initial litter pick of the park. This 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. Examples of where this is taking place are as follows:

- **Cross Flatts Park:** Parks and Countryside to include the emptying of the bin on the entrance to Maud Avenue and include the highways bins on other entrances to the park. Locality Team to commence litter picking to the perimeter of the park and empty bins in the park close to the entrances at the weekend. In addition, a bollard blocking the entrance to a ginnel bordering the park has been removed enabling a path sweeper to clean, along with the removal of shrubs and trees on Maud Avenue to prevent litter accumulations.
- **Scatcherd Park:** Parks and Countryside to empty the bins on the roadside from Morley Leisure Centre down to the bottom of the hill during the week. Locality Team to empty the bins and litter pick the perimeter of the park at the weekend.
- **Manston Park:** Parks and Countryside to commence emptying litter bins outside the shops on Pendas Way and Church Lane during the week. Locality Team to empty bins between the entrance to Manston Park (Manston Gardens) and up to and including the playground.

- 3.3.2 With regard to green waste management, Parks and Countryside have now decommissioned the 'five acre' recycling facility at Red Hall. Green waste is now handled at a number of more locally based facilities as part of a corporate waste contract, thus enabling a more efficient approach with less travel involved in disposal.
- 3.3.3 Community and 'in bloom' groups (of which there are now around 60) can now use household waste sites for items of waste removed from relevant sites, for what might otherwise be treated as commercial waste. This provides a simple, yet effective way of supporting these groups who aim to improve the local environment by volunteering.
- 3.3.4 During the Christmas period in 2010, 32 staff from Parks and Countryside helped support refuse collection teams. This year, a request has been made for additional drivers and operatives out of normal hours, and it is anticipated that staff from Parks and Countryside will be able to assist.

3.4 Events

- 3.4.1 There are occasions when events either planned or weather related can mean that more work is required afterwards. More recently, co-ordinated working has resulted in a more comprehensive approach with staff from both services working together. Examples of this include the following:
- Leeds Asian Mela held at Roundhay Park whereby Parks and Countryside staff worked with the Locality Team to carry out a joint operation to ensure the areas inside and outside the park were cleansed following the event.
 - The Leeds West Indian Carnival where Parks and Countryside staff picked up litter outside the entrances of Potternewton Park following the event.
 - Woodhouse Moor has particular challenges over the summer, and both services have worked together to remove litter and empty litter bins on busy days.
 - The Wetherby Wilderness car park was flooded in September and Parks and Countryside staff worked to clear logs and wood following which the Locality Team sent in a street sweeper to restore the car park surface.

3.5 Weed and Moss Control

- 3.5.1 Parks and Countryside have responded quickly when weed spraying requests have been referred for ginnels where the locality team have already cut back vegetation, and removed detritus from the surface of the path. For example this approach has worked well on some of the problem ginnels in Alwoodley and Moortown. A recent initiative to respond to local priorities in Outer North West and Outer West, is for Parks and Countryside to apply a detergent to loosen moss from pavements combined with the locality team using path sweepers to clean the pavements once treatment is complete.

3.5.2 Work is now underway to identify and map all maintainable ginnels and work requirements to draw up an annual co-ordinated work schedule including vegetation cut backs, sweeping and litter removal, weed and moss treatment.

3.6 Dog Control

3.6.1 Locality Managers have led on consultation and worked with Parks and Countryside on developing proposals around dog control orders in Leeds. This has enabled dog exclusion orders in playgrounds, the bird garden at Lotherton, Tropical World/Canal Gardens, and Home Farm. Dogs are to be kept on a lead at all times in cemeteries, crematoria and closed church yards and ornamental gardens (at Horsforth Hall Park, Golden Acre, Temple Newsam and Roundhay). Funding for signage has been identified to inform the public.

3.6.2 Parks and Countryside have also worked with Ward Members, enforcement officers, PCSOs and the police to enable better intelligence gathering. Site based gardeners in parks have been briefed on the process for reporting and recording incidents. Where Parks and Countryside front line staff witness people allowing their dogs to foul, they now have direct contact with relevant enforcement officers who can be informed immediately.

3.6.3 In addition Parks and Countryside have committed where there is a permanent site presence to carry out the following:

- Periodically hand out leaflets to dog walkers that set out owners responsibilities.
- Approach offending dog owners and ask that they pick up any fouling by their dog. If they refuse, staff have been instructed to avoid confrontation but note a description for intelligence purposes.
- Report persistent offenders to Dog Wardens.
- Inform dog owners that normal litter bins can be used for bagged dog faeces.

3.6.4 An example of joint working on a specific site is Calverley Park. A joint education day was held over the summer where dog fouling enforcement staff joined together with Parks and Countryside ParksWatch staff, PCSO's to engage with the public. School children from Calverley Parkside Primary School were also involved as they use the park, and posters designed by the children were attached to lamp posts in and around the park. Leaflets were handed out along with bags to collect dog faeces.

3.6.5 Following this education awareness day, there were a number of enforcement patrols in and out of normal office hours within the park and surrounding neighbourhood by the WNW Locality Team and Dog Wardens. Information packs were also posted through residents letter boxes in the immediate vicinity of the park on actions they can take (i.e. report to the appropriate services) to assist enforcement to tackle this problem.

3.7 Shared Facilities

- 3.7.1 A further practical example of where co-ordinated working has taken place is in relation to sharing facilities. The Parks and Countryside service has a number of welfare facilities and yard space available in most community parks distributed throughout the city. This has provided an opportunity for the locality based teams to use these facilities for staff welfare provision and as operational bases.
- 3.7.2 For example, facilities have been shared at Dartmouth Park, Springhead Park, Barley Hill Recreation Ground and Hunslet Moor to enable street sweepers etc to operate more locally rather than using a central base. This allows the cleansing staff to operate more efficiently in terms of productive time and transport savings.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 This report is in response to a request from the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board for discussion at the board meeting in December.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 The equality and diversity, cohesion and integration considerations have been addressed as part of the procurement arrangements where reference is made to specific contracts, and through the Council's adopted decision making protocols that impact on individual service areas.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 This report draws attention to co-ordinated working that demonstrates a contribution towards the following priorities contained in the City Priority Plan:
- Best city for communities:
 - effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities.
 - Ensure that local neighbourhoods are clean.
 - Best city to live:
 - Enable growth of the city whilst protecting the distinctive green character of the city.
- 4.3.2 The report highlights the contribution to the following Council Business Plan priorities:
- Improve the quality of Leeds' parks
 - Create the environment for effective partnership working
 - Deliver the Safer and Stronger Communities City Priority Plan, with a focus on reducing burglary levels, increasing confidence in relation to Anti Social Behaviour and improving cleanliness
 - Improve refuse service reliability
 - Work effectively at a local level

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 This report seeks to highlight how co-ordination of environmental services has led to improvements in the effectiveness, consistency and efficiency of service activities and to minimise disruption to the public.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report or access to information restrictions.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 There are no significant risks identified in this report.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 That members note the content of the report.

6 Background documents¹

- 6.1 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.

Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board

Date: 10th December 2012

Subject: Work Schedule

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" 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. A draft work schedule is attached as appendix 1. The work schedule has been provisionally completed pending on going discussions with the Board. The work schedule will be subject to change throughout the municipal year.
2. Also attached as appendix 2 are the minutes of Executive Board on 7th November 2012.

Recommendations

3. Members are asked to:
 - a) Consider the draft work schedule and make amendments as appropriate.
 - b) Note the Executive Board minutes

Background papers¹

4. None used

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.

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Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) Work Schedule for 2012/2013 Municipal Year

Area of review	Schedule of meetings/visits during 2012/13		
	June	July	August
Grounds Maintenance Contract			Overview of progress WG 1/8/12 @ 10.30 am
Briefings	Equality Improvement Priorities SB 18/06/12 @ 10 am	Parks and Countryside – overview of the service SB 30/07/12 @ 10 am	
Crime and Disorder Committee work.	Crime and Disorder Scrutiny in Leeds SB 18/06/12 @ 10 am	Development of the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan WG session 1 – 17/7/12 @ 11 am	Development of the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan WG session 2 – 14/8/12 @ 10 am
Budget & Policy Framework Plans			
Recommendation Tracking		Fuel Poverty Inquiry – Formal Response SB 30/07/12 @ 10 am Phase 2 Dog Control Orders SB 30/07/12 @ 10 am	
Performance Monitoring	Quarter 4 performance report SB 18/06/12 @ 10 am		

Key: SB – Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) Meeting

WG – Working Group Meeting

Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) Work Schedule for 2012/2013 Municipal Year

Area of review	Schedule of meetings/visits during 2012/13		
	September	October	November
Strengthening the Council's relationship with local Parish and Town Councils.		Agreeing terms of reference for the review. SB 22/10/12 @ 10 am	Session 1 of the review 26/11/12 @ 10.30 am
Grounds Maintenance Contract	Reporting on progress (summary of working group meeting) SB 10/9/12 @ 10 am	Identifying areas for improvement WG 02/10/12 @ 11 am Reporting on progress (summary of working group meeting) SB 22/10/12 @ 10 am	Considering the Board's draft final report SB 12/11/12 @ 10 am
Waste Management/ Recycling	Update on progress and determining areas for further review SB 10/09/12 @ 10 am	Scoping terms of reference for the review. WG 15/10/12 @ 2 pm	Agreeing terms of reference for the review. WG 12/11/12 @ 10 am
West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority - Proposals for Changes to Emergency Cover in West Yorkshire		Consideration of the proposals set out within the WYFRS consultation document. SB 22/10/12 @ 10 am	Agreeing the Board's submission to the consultation process. SB 12/11/12 @ 10 am
Briefings			Provision of Bereavement Services SB 12/11/12 @ 10 am Provision of Allotments in Leeds SB 22/10/12 @ 10 am
Crime and Disorder Committee work.	Development of the Leeds Community Safety Plan – comments from Scrutiny SB 10/09/12 @ 10 am		
Budget & Policy Framework Plans			
Recommendation Tracking			Fuel Poverty Inquiry SB 12/11/12 @ 10 am
Performance Monitoring	Quarter 1 performance report SB 10/09/12 @ 10 am		

Key: SB – Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) Meeting

WG – Working Group Meeting

Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) Work Schedule for 2012/2013 Municipal Year

Area of review	Schedule of meetings/visits during 2012/13		
	December	January	February
Strengthening the Council's relationship with local Parish and Town Councils.	Session 2 of the review WG 12/12/12 @ 9.45 am	Summary note of sessions 1 & 2 SB 14/01/13 @ 10 am Session 3 of the review WG 10/01/13 @ 11.15 am Session 4 of the review WG 21/01/13 @ 10 am Session 5 – Annual Parish and Town Council Seminar 31/01/13 @ 6.30 pm	Summary note of session 3 SB 11/02/13 @ 10 am Session 6 of the review WG 12/02/13 @ 10 am
Waste Management/ Recycling	Session 1 of the review WG 3/12/12 @ 10 am Session 2 of the review WG 13/12/12 @ 2 pm	Summary note of sessions 1 & 2 SB 14/01/13 @ 10 am Session 3 of the review WG 03/01/13 @ 2.30 pm	Summary note of session 3 SB 11/02/13 @ 10 am Session 4 – public listening exercises (dates TBC) Area 1 – 05/02/13 @ 10 am Area 1 – 06/02/13 @ 2 pm Area 3 – 07/02/13 @ 10 am
Co-ordination of services between Parks and Countryside and Environmental Services	Consideration of the potential opportunities and barriers for improving the co-ordination of services - SB 10/12/12 @ 10 am		
Briefings	Financial Health Monitoring/Initial 2013/14 budget proposals SB 10/12/12 @ 10 am	Initial 2013/14 budget proposals – draft comments from the Scrutiny Board SB 14/01/13 @ 10 am	
Crime and Disorder Committee work.	Safer Leeds Community Safety Business Plan – Update SB 10/12/12 @ 10 am		Integration of the domestic noise nuisance service in the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team SB 11/02/13 @ 10 am
Recommendation Tracking		Phase 2 Dog Control Orders SB 14/01/13 @ 10 am New Grounds Maintenance Contract SB 14/01/13 @ 10 am	
Performance Monitoring	Quarter 2 performance - SB 10/12/12		

Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) Work Schedule for 2012/2013 Municipal Year

Area of review	Schedule of meetings/visits during 2012/13		
	March	April	May
Strengthening the Council's relationship with local Parish and Town Councils.		Agree the Board's final report SB 15/04/13 @ 10 am	
Waste Management/ Recycling	Session 5 of the review WG 04/03/13 @ 10 am	Agree the Board's final report SB 15/04/13 @ 10 am	
Assessment of the Safer and Stronger Communities Board	To undertake an annual assessment of the Partnership Board SB 11/03/13 @ 10 am		
Briefings			
Crime and Disorder Committee work.			
Budget & Policy Framework Plans		Draft Safer Leeds Crime and Disorder Strategy SB 15/04/13 @ 10 am	
Recommendation Tracking			
Performance Monitoring	Quarter 3 performance report SB 11/03/13 @ 10 am		

Key: SB – Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) Meeting

WG – Working Group Meeting

EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 7TH NOVEMBER, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor K Wakefield in the Chair

Councillors J Blake, M Dobson, S Golton,
P Gruen, R Lewis, L Mulherin, A Ogilvie,
and L Yeadon

Councillor J Procter – Substitute Member

99 Substitute Member

Under the terms of Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 2.3, Councillor J Procter was invited to attend the meeting on behalf of Councillor A Carter, who had submitted his apologies for absence from the meeting.

100 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

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

- (a) Appendix 3 to the report referred to in Minute No. 111 under the terms of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and on the grounds that the information contained within the Appendix relates to the financial or business affairs of a particular person, and of the Council. This information is not publicly available from the statutory registers of information kept in respect of certain companies and charities. It is considered that since this information was obtained through one to one negotiations for the disposal of the property/land then it is not in the public interest to disclose this information at this point in time. Also it is considered that the release of such information would or would be likely to prejudice the Council's commercial interests in relation to other similar transactions in that prospective purchasers of other similar properties would have access to information about the nature and level of consideration which may prove acceptable to the Council. It is considered that whilst there may be a public interest in disclosure, much of this information will be publicly available from the Land Registry following completion of this transaction and consequently the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing this information at this point in time.
- (b) Appendix 1 to the report referred to in Minute No. 112 under the terms of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and on the grounds that the information contained within the Appendix relates to the financial or business affairs of a particular company, and of the

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 12th December, 2012

Council. It is considered that since this information was obtained through one to one negotiations for the disposal of the property/land then it is not in the public interest to disclose this information at this point in time. It is considered that whilst there may be a public interest in disclosure, much of this information will be publicly available from the Land Registry following completion of this transaction and consequently the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing this information at this point in time.

- (c) Appendix 4 to the report referred to in Minute No. 113 under the terms of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and on the grounds that the information contained within the Appendix relates to the financial or business affairs of a particular person, and of the Council. This information is not publicly available from the statutory registers of information kept in respect of certain companies and charities. It is considered that since this information was obtained through one to one negotiations for the disposal of the property/land then it is not in the public interest to disclose this information at this point in time. Also it is considered that the release of such information would or would be likely to prejudice the Council's commercial interests in relation to other similar transactions in that prospective purchasers of other similar properties would have access to information about the nature and level of consideration which may prove acceptable to the Council. It is considered that whilst there may be a public interest in disclosure. Much of this information will be publicly available from the Land Registry following completion of this transaction and consequently the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing this information at this point in time.

101 Late Items

There were no formal late items, however, it was noted that prior to the meeting Executive Board Members had received copies of documents detailing the respective comments of Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture) and Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care), following both Boards' consideration of the LDF Core Strategy, 3 appendices which detailed further proposed changes to the LDF Core Strategy Pre-Submission Draft and also an updated version of the associated Key Diagram. All such documentation was to be considered as part of agenda item 17, 'LDF Core Strategy: Pre-Submission Changes for Consultation' (Minute No. 115 refers).

102 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests

The Chief Executive declared an interest in respect of the matters relating to agenda item 14, entitled, 'Sovereign Street Development Proposals – Update', as a close personal friend was a partner of one of the organisations involved in the development proposals (Minute No. 112 refers).

103 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2012 be approved as a correct record.

RESOURCES AND CORPORATE FUNCTIONS

104 State of the City Report 2012

The Assistant Chief Executive, Customer Access and Performance submitted a report which presented the second annual State of the City report for Leeds. In addition to highlighting the emerging issues arising from the State of the City document, the covering report proposed that Executive Board recommend to full Council that the State of the City document be received at its meeting on 28th November 2012.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the issues emerging from the submitted State of the City Report 2012 be noted.
- (b) That Members of Full Council be recommended to receive the State of the City Report 2012 at its meeting on 28th November 2012.

105 Making Leeds a LGBT Friendly City

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access & Performance) submitted a report detailing the work undertaken to date in response to the White Paper Motion considered by Full Council on 28th March 2012 regarding the Leeds lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. In addition, the report outlined a range of proposals which would support the work being undertaken to make Leeds an LGBT Friendly City and which also recognised the contribution that the LGBT community made to the city's success.

Members welcomed the wide range of proposals within the submitted report which were aimed at promoting Leeds as an LGBT Friendly City and reiterated the importance of the city as a whole being inclusive and welcoming to all communities. However, in discussing the report, Members did emphasise that whilst they noted further work was being undertaken on the specific issue of a potential Gay Quarter in the city centre, they would not be supportive of any proposals which would create a sense of segregation for any part of the city centre.

RESOLVED – That the proposals identified within the submitted report, which will support work to make Leeds an LGBT Friendly City, be agreed in principle, subject to the comments made at the meeting regarding further work in regard to a potential Gay Quarter.

106 Social Fund Replacement Scheme

The Director of Resources submitted a report which sought approval for the development and implementation of a local scheme of welfare assistance using funding which would be devolved to local Councils by the Department of Work and Pensions in April 2013.

Responding to a specific request, officers assured the Board that every effort would be made to ensure that the administration associated with the delivery of the Social Fund was as efficient as possible, and that officers would

endeavour to administer the process for less than the administration funding levels which would be received from Government.

In conclusion, the Chair requested that a letter be forwarded on behalf of Executive Board to Government seeking clarity around the proposed funding arrangements in respect of the scheme for 2015/2016 onwards.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the funding devolved to Councils be used to develop a local welfare assistance scheme.
- (b) That the proposed scheme, as outlined within the submitted report, be approved, with final scheme details being submitted following further consultation.
- (c) That a further report be submitted to the Board in January 2013 detailing the outcomes of the consultation exercise, outlining proposals on funding allocations to the various elements of the final scheme and providing an update of progress made in setting up the associated administrative arrangements.
- (d) That a letter be forwarded on behalf of Executive Board to Government seeking clarity around the proposed funding arrangements in respect of the scheme for 2015/2016 onwards.

107 Discretionary Housing Payment Policy

The Director of Resources submitted a report providing information on the impact of the Housing Benefit changes which were scheduled to come into effect from April 2013, together with details of the additional Government funding which would be introduced and was aimed at supporting certain groups to manage the change. In addition, the report considered the likely demand for additional funding support and included a proposed policy for the assessment and award of support for those groups affected by the changes.

The Board noted the liaison work which had been undertaken by the ALMOs in respect of tenants, highlighted the further liaison work which was to be undertaken and it was emphasised that every effort would be made to ensure that all of those affected would have access to an effective multi-agency support network.

Members highlighted the increased demand on the provision of support and advice which had already been experienced, and was further expected to be experienced by the Council and other agencies as a result of the reforms, and it was requested that further work be undertaken to monitor such demand levels against current resources. In addition, reference was made to the health and wellbeing implications arising from the reforms which were being experienced, both by those affected by the changes and also by the frontline staff supporting them.

With regard to the proposals regarding Elected Member involvement in the appeals process, it was requested that further discussion be had in respect of the political composition of the Elected Members involved.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the expected impact of the benefit changes, coming into effect from April 2013, be noted.
- (b) That the policy for the award and assessment of Discretionary Housing Payments for 2013/14 be approved.
- (c) That further work be undertaken to monitor the demand levels for the provision of support and advice against current resources, which are experienced by the Council and other agencies as a result of the reforms.
- (d) That further discussion be had in respect of the political composition of the Elected Members who would be involved in the appeals process.

108 Treasury Management Strategy Update 2012/13

The Director of Resources submitted a report providing a review and update of the Treasury Management Strategy for 2012/2013, which was approved by Executive Board on 10th February 2012.

RESOLVED –That the update on the Treasury Management borrowing and investment strategy for 2012/2013 be noted.

109 Financial Health Monitoring 2012/13 - Month 6 Report

The Director of Resources submitted a report setting out the Council's projected financial health position for 2012/2013 at the half year stage.

Responding to a specific enquiry, the Board received further information regarding the current position in respect of income levels generated by planning and building fees.

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

110 Capital Programme Update 2012-2015

The Director of Resources submitted a report providing an update on the financial position for 2012/2013. In addition, the report outlined the current position regarding capital resources, detailed a summary of schemes which had been upgraded from 'Amber' status to 'Green' since July 2012 and provided a summary of progress made on some major schemes within the programme. The report also included a specific recommendation regarding the 'Fulfilling Lives Investment Programme'.

Members welcomed the use of a Department of Health grant to support the Fulfilling Lives programme.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the latest position on the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account capital programmes be noted.
- (b) That the transfer of schemes from the 'Amber' to the 'Green' programmes, as set out within section 3.3 of the submitted report be noted.
- (c) That the use of £765,000 of Department of Health grant in 2012/13 and 2013/14 be approved to support the 'Fulfilling Lives Programme', of which £185,000 will be injected into the capital programme when confirmed in December 2012.
- (d) That approval be given to the injection into the capital programme of £3,500,000 of S106 contributions in order to support the NGT scheme.
- (e) That approval be given to the allocation of £350,000 from the capital contingency scheme to provide for demolition and asbestos removal works on void properties.
- (f) That it be noted that funds allocated to the Lower Albion Street upgrade are no longer required and that approval be given to a scheme being developed for the upgrade of Commercial Street.
- (g) That approval be given to the allocation of £50,000 from the Economic Initiative scheme, which together with a £50,000 private sector contribution will provide for a £100,000 refurbishment of Bond Court.

DEVELOPMENT AND THE ECONOMY

111 Disposal of Richmond Court Hostel, LS9,' to Yorkshire Housing for affordable housing redevelopment.

The Director of City Development submitted a report setting out the options considered for the redevelopment of the Richmond Court site and which sought approval to dispose of the site in order to facilitate the redevelopment of the combined sites to provide 37 units of family accommodation, 18 of which would be provided on the Richmond Court site.

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

RESOLVED – That the sale of Richmond Court to Yorkshire Housing at a less than best consideration, as detailed within exempt appendix 3 to the submitted report, be approved in order to facilitate the redevelopment of a new affordable housing scheme of 37 units of family accommodation.

112 Sovereign Street Development Proposals - Update

Further to Minute No. 76, 5th September 2012, the Director of City Development submitted a report providing an update on the offers received in response to the marketing of development plots B and C, Sovereign Street, and which also sought approval to progress with the recommended preferred developer and occupier, as identified within the exempt appendix to the submitted report, for the development of Plot C.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, it was emphasised that the development of a public realm green space at Sovereign Street still remained a priority, whilst officers undertook to provide the Member in question with further information on the delivery of the green space development.

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

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the recommended negotiated Heads of Terms with the developer, as outlined within the exempt appendix to the submitted report, be approved.
- (b) That an exclusivity agreement for a period of six months on plot C, be granted to the occupier, in order to allow all parties sufficient time to conclude the legal documentation.
- (c) That authority be delegated to the Director of City Development in order to negotiate the final detailed Heads of Terms.

113 Disposal of Stratford Court, School Lane, Chapel Allerton to Unity Housing Association for Redevelopment.

The Director of City Development submitted a report setting out the options considered for the future of the Stratford Court sheltered housing scheme and which sought approval for the disposal of Stratford Court to Unity Housing Association in order to facilitate the development of a new affordable housing scheme on the site aimed at persons aged 55 and over.

Following consideration of Appendix 4 to the submitted report, designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting, it was

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the disposal of Stratford Court to Unity Housing Association, at a less than best consideration and on the terms outlined within the exempt appendix to the submitted report be approved, in order to facilitate the redevelopment of a new affordable housing scheme comprising of 30 x 2 bedroom apartments for persons aged 55 and over.

- (b) That it be noted, in light of resolution (a) above, the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods will suspend lettings and agree decant of the Stratford Court sheltered housing scheme.

NEIGHBOURHOODS, PLANNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

114 Response to Deputation - 12th September 2012 Council Meeting - Leeds Youth Fight for Jobs

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report in response to the deputation presented to Council on 12th September 2012 by the 'Leeds Youth Fight For Jobs' organisation, which was in relation to the housing situation faced by young people in the city.

By way of an introduction to the report, the Board received information regarding the actions being taken to improve affordable housing provision in the city, together with the actions being taken to stimulate the housing market.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the submitted report be noted.

115 LDF Core Strategy - Pre-submission Changes for Consultation

Further to Minute No. 197, 10th February 2012, the Director of City Development submitted a report presenting the proposed pre-submission changes to the Publication Draft of the Leeds Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy and the accompanying Sustainability Report, which had arisen from the consultation exercise undertaken. In addition, the report sought the Board's agreement to submit the documents to full Council for the purposes of formal approval and submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

Prior to the meeting, Executive Board Members had received copies of documents detailing the respective comments of Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture) and Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care), following both Boards' consideration of the LDF Core Strategy. In addition, Board Members had also received three appendices detailing further proposed changes to the LDF Core Strategy Pre-Submission Draft, together with an updated version of the associated Key Diagram.

In presenting the report, the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services highlighted the further proposed changes which had been circulated to Board Members prior to the meeting and also proposed one further amendment, specifically that Colton was not categorised within the Pre-Submission Draft document as a 'Town Centre'.

Responding to a specific enquiry raised in respect of the term 'sustainability' and its relationship with the Strategy, emphasis was placed upon the importance of ensuring that future developments were sustainable. In addition, the Board was informed that a Sustainability Appraisal had been undertaken in respect of the Strategy, in order to ensure that any developments which were delivered as part of the Strategy were in line with the Council's sustainable principles.

Members discussed the levels of opportunity for Elected Member involvement during the Strategy's compilation, and it was highlighted that attempts had been made throughout the process to ensure that the correct balance was struck between ensuring that comprehensive consultation was undertaken, whilst also moving the Strategy forward.

Board Members thanked all of those officers involved for the work they had undertaken throughout the preparation of the LDF Core Strategy document, together with all Elected Members who had contributed to the process.

In conclusion, the Chief Executive emphasised the ambitious nature of the Core Strategy, and highlighted the need for the development community to work in partnership with the Council in moving forward with the principles of it. In addition, the Chief Executive echoed the comments which had been made regarding the importance of ensuring that future developments were sustainable, specifically highlighting the work being undertaken around the delivery of appropriate infrastructure.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the pre-submission changes to the Publication Draft of the Core Strategy as detailed within the submitted report and appendices, the further appendices circulated prior to the meeting and via the specific proposal made at the meeting, namely that Colton is not categorised in the Pre-Submission Draft as a 'Town Centre', be approved, together with the sustainability report (addendum).
- (b) That Council be recommended to approve the Publication Draft Core Strategy and the sustainability report for the purposes of submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination pursuant to Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- (c) That approval be given to a further period for representations to be provided on the pre-submission changes, and that any further representations received be submitted to the Secretary of State at the time the Publication Draft Core Strategy is submitted for independent examination.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5, Councillor Golton required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within this minute)

(The resolutions referred to within this minute were not eligible for Call In, as the Development Plan Document which incorporates the LDF Core Strategy, is part of the Budgetary and Policy Framework. Therefore, the ultimate determination of such matters are reserved to Council, in line with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules)

116 Scrutiny Inquiry into Affordable Housing by Private Developers

Further to Minute No. 38, 18th July 2012, the Director of City Development and the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a joint report responding to the recommendations of the former Scrutiny Board (Regeneration), following the Inquiry undertaken by the Scrutiny Board into Affordable Housing by Private Developers.

Responding to a specific enquiry, officers provided the Member in question with further information on the process by which different types of affordable housing stock could be delivered in Leeds in order to meet demand.

RESOLVED – That the responses to the Scrutiny Board’s recommendations, as set out within section 3 of the submitted report, be agreed.

117 Leeds Supporting People Programme

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report providing an update on the Leeds Supporting People Programme, focussing upon the recent key changes to the overall funding of the programme, the funding within each of the programme’s main sectors and the effect of such matters upon the design and delivery of the housing support services for a range of client groups.

Members emphasised the importance of the work which continued to be undertaken as part of the Leeds Supporting People Programme, and the positive impact it had upon the quality of people’s lives.

RESOLVED – That the progress, challenges and key achievements of the Leeds Supporting People Programme, be noted.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

118 Annual Admissions Round 2012

The Director of Children’s Services submitted a report providing statistical information on school admissions into Reception Year, Year 7 and also into Junior School for September 2012. In addition, the report considered the impact of the changes being made to the co-ordination of In-Year Transfers, which were scheduled to come into force from 2013, as a result of the new Admissions Code which came into effect in February 2012.

Responding to a specific enquiry raised, Members were provided with further information on the ways in which the pathfinder project, undertaken in preparation for the forthcoming introduction of new application arrangements, had been successful.

The Board also noted the current position regarding the recent establishment of an all party working group which had been tasked with considering issues in respect of basic need requirements.

RESOLVED – That the information on the annual admission round 2012, as detailed within the submitted report, be noted, including:-

- The percentage of applications for places in September 2012 where the first preference was offered was 84.1%, with 95.2% being offered one of their first three preferences;
- The reducing number of appeals for secondary school places and in year applications with an increase in the number of primary appeals; and
- The continuing success of the online application system.

119 Design and Cost Report for East Moor Secure Children's Home

Further to Minute No. 59, 22nd July 2009, the Director Children's Services submitted a report which sought approval in respect of the proposals associated with the development of the new East Moor Secure Children's Home.

Responding to a specific enquiry, officers undertook to provide the Member in question and the relevant Ward Members with a briefing in respect of the timescales involved around when the balance of the land, arising from the development, would become available.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the capital proposals for the new East Moor Secure Children's Home, as outlined within the submitted report, be approved.
- (b) That £12,550,000 be injected into the capital programme.
- (c) That programme expenditure of £12,550,000 from capital scheme number 15629/000/000 be authorised.
- (d) That expenditure of £397,600 from capital scheme number 15629/COM/000 for previous design development work be authorised.

120 Leeds Safeguarding Children's Board - Annual Report on the Effectiveness of Safeguarding Arrangements for Children and Young People in Leeds

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which highlighted the progress being made by, and through the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to improve safeguarding children practice in Leeds.

Jane Held, Independent Chair of the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board was in attendance. She provided an introduction to the report, highlighted the key themes arising from it and responded to the subsequent questions raised by the Board.

Members thanked the Chair of the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board for the valuable work it continued to undertake, which had enabled positive progress to be achieved in respect of safeguarding practices in Leeds. The strong relationship which was developing between the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board and the Children's Trust Board was highlighted, however, despite the positive progress made, both Members and the Chief Executive emphasised

that there would be no complacency in this area and that the issue of safeguarding children would remain a key priority.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the LSCB Annual Report for 2011/2012, together with the comments made during the meeting, be noted.
- (b) That the challenges for 2012/2013, as detailed within the submitted report, including those accepted by the Children's Trust Board, be noted.

LEISURE AND SKILLS

121 Delivering Employment and Business Opportunities through the Council's procurement

The Director of City Development and the Director of Resources submitted a joint report setting out proposals regarding the introduction of an explicit policy for the inclusion of employment and skills obligations within all Council contracts where the value of the contract is greater than £100,000, and where it could be shown to offer appropriate value for money.

Responding to Members' enquiries, the Board emphasised the need for the initiative to be monitored, in order to ensure that it was performing effectively and also to ensure that the proposed contract value of £100,000 was appropriate. As a result, it was requested that further reports were submitted to future meetings as and when appropriate, in order to provide Members with the opportunity to monitor the performance of the initiative.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Board's support be given to a policy for Employment and Skills obligations to be considered in contracts where the value of the contract is over £100,000, and where it is shown to offer appropriate value for money.
- (b) That further reports be submitted to future Board meetings as and when appropriate, in order to provide Members with the opportunity to monitor the performance of the initiative.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 9TH NOVEMBER 2012

LAST DATE FOR CALL IN OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS: 16TH NOVEMBER 2012

(Scrutiny Support will notify Directors of any items called in by 12.00 p.m. on 19th November 2012)