



SCRUTINY BOARD (SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES)

Meeting to be held in Civic Hall, Leeds on
Monday, 11th March, 2013 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 - 11 FEBRUARY 2013

1 - 4

To confirm as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2013

7

2012/13 QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE REPORT

5 - 20

To consider the quarter 3 performance against the strategic priorities for the Council and City relevant to the Board's portfolio.

8

SCRUTINY INQUIRY - STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARDS

21 - 42

To consider the strengths and areas for development in relation to the Safer and Stronger Communities Strategic Partnership Board

9

COMMUNITY FIRST PROGRAMME

To receive a report summarising the views of the Scrutiny Board in relation to the Community First Programme – **report to follow.**

10

WORK SCHEDULE

43 -
70

To consider the Board's Work Schedule.

11

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 15 April 2013 at 10.00 a.m. (pre-meeting at 9.30 a.m. for all Board Members)

Agenda Item 6

SCRUTINY BOARD (SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES)

MONDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 2013

PRESENT: Councillor B Anderson in the Chair

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

69 Late Items

The following late information was admitted to the Agenda:

- Agenda Item 8 – Integration of the Domestic Noise Nuisance Service into Safer Leeds report.

70 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

71 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes

Apologies of absence were received on behalf of Councillor P Harrand, Councillor S Lay and Neil Evans, Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods.

72 Minutes - 14 January 2013

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2013 be confirmed as a correct record.

73 Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Bill

The report of the City Solicitor brought the Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Bill to the attention of the Board. Within the report, particular reference was made to the new Community Trigger and Community Remedy provisions contained in the draft bill.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Councillor P Gruen, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services
- Harvinder Saimbhi, Head of Anti-Social Behaviour
- Gill Marshall, Section Head, Legal, Licensing and Registration Services.

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

- Community Remedy provisions – it was noted that such provisions are designed to allow police officers to deal with low level crimes on the spot by imposing an out of court remedy or conditional caution.
- That Police and Crime Commissioners would be required to consult, prepare and publish a document setting out what reasonable interventions offenders would be required to undertake if an out-of-court solution is preferred.
- That there was a separate Government consultation on the Community Remedy seeking views to ensure that victims get a say in the punishments imposed.
- Community Trigger – that this would be a local trigger mechanism through which the response to a case of anti-social behaviour can be reviewed if no action has been taken by the authorities. This new mechanism is not to replace complaints processes.
- Leeds had been invited to pilot the Community Trigger. It was anticipated that this could go live in June 2013.
- Community Protection Notices – these are designed to give councils greater flexibility to deal with particular on-going instances of environmental anti-social behaviour issues that are not covered by the existing Environmental Protection Act 1990, such as ‘people noise’ including banging and shouting. These notices could be issued to businesses, individuals and organisations.
- Reference was made to the proposals within the Bill aimed at enabling landlords to seek possession of secure and assured tenancies on anti-social behaviour grounds. Linked to this, it was acknowledged that whilst the Council already has provisions in place for dealing with tenancy agreement breaches, these need to be enforced more rigorously.
- Whilst acknowledging that the Bill was still undergoing pre-legislative scrutiny, the Board noted the potential benefits associated with creating fewer but more flexible tools and powers aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour. It was noted that further work would be undertaken with partners to consider how best to apply these new flexible powers and any associated cost implications. However, it was hoped that the proposed new powers would enhance the current multi-agency approach of the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That the results of the Leeds Community Trigger pilot be brought back to Scrutiny once available.

74 Integration of the Domestic Noise Nuisance Service into Safer Leeds

The report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods provided the Board with an update on the progress made in integrating and developing the Domestic Noise Nuisance Service as part of Safer Leeds (Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team).

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Councillor P Gruen, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services
- Harvinder Saimbhi, Head of Anti-Social Behaviour
- Liz Jarmin, Head of Community Safety Partnerships, Safer Leeds

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

- That the Domestic Noise Nuisance Service now comprises of two sections: Day time case worker team (nine officers now embedded in the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team) and the Out of Hours Domestic Noise Response Service (embedded into Leedswatch).
- Domestic noise nuisance represents a substantial proportion of complaints received by the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team.
- That noise nuisance is not confined to certain wards and is a city-wide issue. However, there are particular noise hot spots.
- That Area Committees have the opportunity to commission an enhanced noise service using their well-being funding.
- As a large proportion of noise complaints are 'one offs', an improved noise pack had been introduced to assist the complainant in rectifying the problem themselves such as speaking with the offending party. These include noise diaries to gather evidence if the problem becomes persistent and further enforcement is needed.
- That the ALMOs now attempt at least three interventions to resolve any noise nuisance issues under Tenancy Agreements before making a referral to the LASBT.
- Reference was made to the work undertaken in offering support and mediation to vulnerable disabled clients.
- That further work is being undertaken to understand service trends and comparison with historical data.
- Members welcomed the progress made in improving the flexibility and effectiveness of the service, which was already receiving positive feedback from Elected Members, residents and staff.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

75 Work Schedule

The report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development presented the Board's draft Work Schedule and recent Executive Board minutes.

The following issues were discussed in relation to the Board's Work Schedule:

- That a working group meeting had been arranged for 4th March 2013 to meet with the Council's Police and Crime Panel representatives to consider the draft West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.
- That the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner is expected to attend the Scrutiny Board's April meeting.
- Income Generation – whilst it was reported that the Scrutiny Board (Resources and Council Services) was undertaken a wider piece of work on this, Members agreed to undertake a discrete piece of work around income generation opportunities linked to the Council's CCTV and security functions.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

76 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday, 11 March 2013 at 10.00 a.m. (Pre-meeting for all Board Members at 9.30 a.m.)



Report author: Robert Wood / Debra Scott

Tel: 272564 / 75951

Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) / Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board

Date: 11th March 2013

Subject: 2012/13 Q3 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 Q3 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 three 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

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 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.
- 2.4 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 3 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 3 remains steady, and there is confidence that we know where activity needs to be targeted to strengthen communities. Progress continues to be assessed as amber however, to note the challenging economic conditions in communities, and the funding available to partners to support the approach. One specific new initiative which was agreed in Quarter 3 and has now started is the Leeds Poverty Challenge. Agreed by the former Leeds Initiative Board at the suggestion of the Safer and Stronger partnership it will focus attention on the issues of poverty from the point of view of those in the community. The work will develop a cohort of involved local people who we envisage will become the catalyst for improvement at the community level.

Nevertheless a combination of on-going economic difficulties, and the challenges of welfare reform mean it remains vital to focus on communities.

Key Performance Highlights

- 3.2 **Burglary:** performance continues to improve against more stretching burglary reduction targets: in the 12 months to the end of December provisional figures show recorded offences were down 33%. All three policing divisions are on track to meet targets and in terms of priority wards it is of note that Bramley and Stanningley have made significant improvements in the last 12 months, moving out of the top 10 wards.

Council Business Plan

- 3.3 Directorate Priorities and Indicators – there are 8 directorate priorities relevant to the Board of which 2 are amber and 6 are green. The amber priorities are:

- Improve refuse service reliability
- Improve recycling rates

- 3.4 In terms of performance indicators 4 are green, 1 is amber and 1 is red. The red indicator is:

- **Number of missed bins per 100,000** collected (101.16): The residual waste collection performance in quarter two was 54.88 this exceeded the best performance achieved over recent years and is approaching the service's quality standard. There has been an increase in quarter three to 80.5 but this remains an improvement on the same quarter last year when the missed residual waste figure was 101.5. There has been an improvement on the previous quarter and year for other waste collections types. Missed Garden waste was at 123.6 this quarter compared to 181.03 in quarter two and SORT waste achieving 152.2 this quarter compared to 180.36 the previous quarter. This, combined with the achievement of higher recycling rates than ever before 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 now 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

- 3.5 Recycling rates continue to improve and stand at 42.9% at November 2012 (comparable figure in 11/12 was 39.7%). Expected outturn performance in 12/13 is around 40.4%, up from 37.4% last year which shows a year on year improvement but is below target. The pilot of fortnightly collections of recyclables which should improve future recycling rates has been delayed into 13/14. The Council was unsuccessful in its bid to the DCLG for the rollout of food waste collections. Roll outs of City wide food waste are now likely to be delayed until

resources allow, although it is planned to expand the Rothwell food collection area in 2013/14.

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 Q3 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 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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Safer Leeds Performance Accountability Tracker: (REPORT CARD)

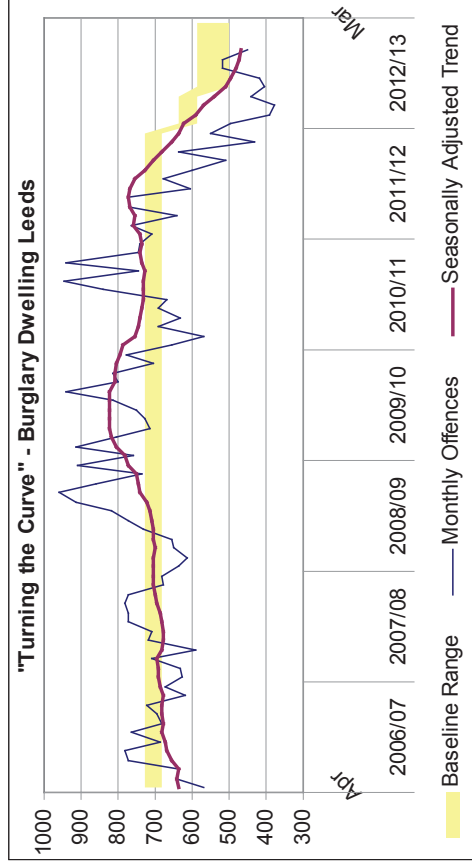
Outcome: People are safe and feel safe

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 and is consistent with achieving the target

- The provisional figure for the 12 months ended December 2012 is 5634 offences, down 33% (2830 fewer offences)
- All three policing divisions are on track to meet targets.

Review Period: Oct – Dec 2012

Population: Residents of Leeds

Progress: ➔

Ward	12 Month Total	12 Month % Change
Hyde Park & Woodhouse	442	-27.0%
Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	346	-17.6%
Gipton & Harehills	288	-28.8%
Armley	291	-38.0%
Headingley	266	-41.3%
Killingbeck & Seacroft	246	-41.1%
Kirkstall	220	-49.7%
Bramley & Stanningley	176	-65.1%
Chapel Allerton	208	-47.1%

Of note, Bramley and Stanningley have made significant improvements in the last 12 months, moving out of the top 10 wards.

Story behind the baseline

- Recent analysis has highlighted that traditionally common property types have all seen a decrease in volume, reflecting decreasing numbers of offences. Jewellery items, however, have increased by 15.4% in total, and have also increased as a proportion of all items stolen.
- Although increasing levels of jewellery thefts follow the gross increases in gold prices, there is not a direct correlation between the numbers of offences and monthly fluctuations.

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 examples of work in Q3 include; target hardening of vulnerable properties in priority areas. Aire Valley Homes "Crime Awareness Days" in partnership with the NPTs to engage with residents and identify options for target hardening investment into their properties. Week of action in Hyde Park, including crime reduction door knocking using student volunteers. Implementation of a burglary delivery plan in local areas of South Leeds. Cold Calling schemes in conjunction with Trading Standards has been extended to other areas.
- The Burglary Task Force continues to focus its operational activity on targeting offenders, e.g. six offenders including members of the same family have been charged with Conspiracy offences. The more serious offenders are currently remanded in custody, the others have bail conditions.
- The 'Gold Standard' (a voluntary code of conduct for the purchase of second hand precious metal and jewellery) was launched in late October to help monitor the activities of shops. This will support legitimate traders. 12 of the 14 dealers in within the City NPT boundary have signed up to the standard.
- The Autumn/Winter campaign; 'burglaries increase when it gets dark ~ light up, lock up be secure' was launched to coincide with the clocks going back. A variety of media has been utilised to disseminate key messages including, local press, radio advertising, social media, posters and flyers distributed by NPTs and Crime Reduction Officers in hotspot areas, video of a victim of burglary talking about their experience.
- In Q3 CASAC show cased their work to the Leeds Housing Forum resulting in more private landlords requesting lock upgrades to be fitted. LCC Area Committees agreed additional funding for such upgrades, with vulnerable households being prioritised through existing local tasking arrangements.
- From the 05/11/12, YOS workers have been based at Stainbeck Police Station; integrated working will go ahead early in the New Year, providing a single custody suite for young people. A robust package of measures will be in place for the new out of court disposal system commencing in April 2013.
- In the period, 01/12/2011 to 31/12/2012; 730 prison releases were managed, of which more than half were assessed as having a 75% risk of reoffending. Of these; 33 were recalled to prison, 54 refused early release,

Review Period: Oct – Dec 2012
Population: Residents of Leeds

Progress: 

124 release addresses assessed as unsuitable or false, 110 individuals who would have otherwise been released NFA provided accommodation, 139 given additional licence conditions.

What Worked/Lessons Learnt

- In March 2012, a Local Letting Policy was introduced in certain areas of North West, restricting the 'housing choice' for known offenders into Council property in areas where they have offended. The high level of non return of applications indicates that offenders may have opted out of the process by not completing and returning applications. Where properties have been re-let none of the tenants have been involved in ASB or breaches of tenancy to date. Feedback from residents has been positive as this policy sends out a clear message to those involved in crime and ASB.
- In early 2012, a process of including burglary impact statements in prosecution files was introduced. This assists judges in setting sentences to reflect the severity of the offence(s) committed, with the aim of increasing average sentence length. Interim results analysis suggests generally favourable outcomes.

New actions

- Produce a new strategic burglary profile, review localities of concern, and refresh the city wide delivery plan for 2013/14.
- Landlord Conference to be held on the 21st February with the aim of developing housing proposals for proactive locality working.
- A Probation and YOS event is being planned for March 2013 to improve transition arrangements for young people moving into the adult criminal justice system.
- Explore opportunities to maximise the impact of community resolutions, particularly with young offenders.
- Examine how the research findings on offenders' pathways to burglary can inform and direct partnership activity.

Information/intelligence requirement

- Ongoing identification of organised crime groups involved in burglary.

Issues/Risks

- Sustaining momentum, ensuring activity is focussed on the desired outcome.

Safer Leeds Performance Accountability Tracker:

Outcome: The communities of Leeds feel safe and are safe

Priority: **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Review Period: Oct – Dec 2012

Population: Residents of Leeds

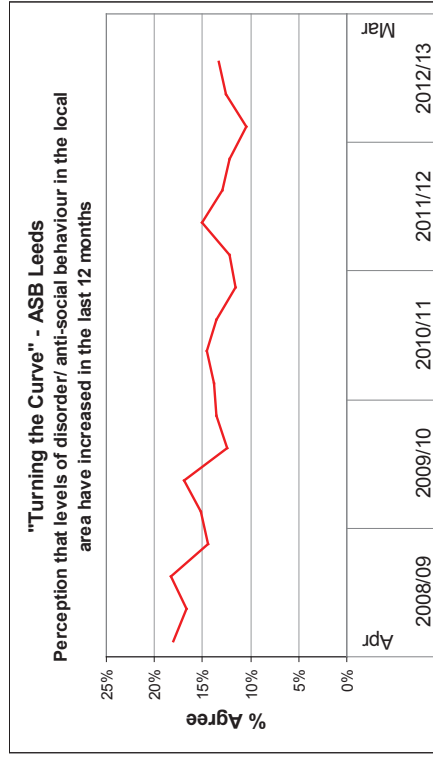
Progress: ↗

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 5,875 households across Leeds.



The 2008/09 baseline range was 16.94% of respondents indicated that ASB had increased in the last 12 months. The current level is 13.25% (to the end of Dec 2012). The overall trend shows a slight improvement however there is some variation in quarters and between localities.

Key Indicator – LASBT Survey

Customer satisfaction data is collated at case closure through customer (complainant) 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%	91.1%
Overall service	72.2%	73.7%	70.4%	83.0%	94.3%

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 3 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 complainants own expectations, and the complexity of the case.

LASBT endeavours to provides a customer focused service, actively managing complainant expectations, exploring potential solutions, and identifying and responding to individual needs in order to resolve cases at the earliest opportunity. Customer feedback suggests this is an effective and welcomed approach.

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 417 surveys from a sample of 832 named complainants (an overall response rate of 50.1%).

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.

Service Requests

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.

LASBT Enquiry volume increased following integration of the domestic noise nuisance team in quarter three 2012/13.

Siebel LASBT Enquiries.	2011/12				2012/13			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
ASB Noise	147	135	114	101	79	191	391	
ASB (excluding Noise)	864	781	531	624	646	767	612	
Sub Total	1011	916	645	725	725	958	1003	
Annual Total	3297				(3581 projected)			

West Yorkshire Police in Leeds received 16,229 ASB calls between April and December 2012. These calls are responded to through local policing. More

OBA-PAT

Review Period: Oct – Dec 2012

Population: Residents of Leeds

Progress: 

complex or persistent calls are referred to LASBT. Of the 16,229 police calls received, 1,599 calls were linked to LASBT cases.

What Worked/Lessons Learnt

Customer satisfaction data continues to improve with feedback suggesting that customers are more satisfied where they feel well informed about the processes involved, regularly updated and able to develop a positive working relationship with the investigating officer.

Feedback from the local Govt Ombudsman in relation to a housing/tenancy case has prompted a full review of LASBT correspondence to ensure our communications with case participants are clear, concise and non-accusatory at the outset. Equally the importance of having a robust vulnerability assessment has been highlighted through recent cases.

New actions

LASBT continue to review service delivery and operational procedures in response to new initiatives, proposed changes in legislation and customer feedback.

- The Government's Draft ASB Bill (2012) is currently being scrutinised by a parliamentary select committee and expected to be implemented in 2014.

Issues/Risks

Moving forward into 2013/14 our key challenge is to continue to build on the successful outcomes achieved during 2012/13.

"We are extremely pleased with the resolution the ASB team have brought about and grateful for the peace of mind this has given my mother."

"From the start [Case Officer] was very helpful and understanding with my worries about reporting this incident please pass on my thanks and once again thank you."

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.

Until recently street cleanliness was measured using NI195. 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 “cleaner 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. We were able to convert previous NI195 survey data into a Cleaner Streets score to establish a baseline from which to gauge performance.

Using this method the full year result for litter for 2010/11 was 86.7% of sites found to be satisfactory. The results for this summer using the new clean streets indicator were that 91.5% of streets have acceptable litter levels. The Winter survey will start shortly and results are expected towards the end of February. The new methodology has just been audited and judged robust. Some qualitative information is now available for the EIZ's in ENE Leeds which reports a 20% increase in resident satisfaction with street cleanliness. Feedback from the Citizens Panel shows residents are most satisfied with graffiti and fly posting levels at 66% and 60% respectively. Satisfaction with the other categories i.e. litter, dog fouling, fly tipping and overgrown vegetation are all similarly proportioned and average out at 8% very satisfied, 29% satisfied, 21% neither satisfied or unsatisfied, 29% dissatisfied and 13% very dissatisfied. However it is understood a relatively small sample sized was used and these figures may need to be interpreted with caution.

What do key stakeholders think?

Performance in achieving the outcome is monitored by Area Committees and local issues dealt with at ward member meetings. Through this openness and transparency, greater local influence and everyday engagement, member trust and confidence in the service continues to build. The early autumn period brought challenges to maintain cleanliness levels in neighbourhoods across the city with unprecedented levels of rainfall (bringing pressure on gully cleansing) and autumn de-leafing requirements. The council successfully responded to these challenges.

What worked locally /Case study of impact

ENE – all parts of the locality team combined to have in impact in in the Arlies, Markhams and Sandhursts parts of Harehills. Enforcement staff helped move cars and speak to residents to improve access for the street cleansing crews. Paths and roads were cleaned and the gully crew dug out and cleaned blocked drains. The initiative resulted in 177 notices being served, 13 FPN's issued and 2 prosecutions taken.

50 new litter bins have been delivered in ENE to replace broken, old ones and to respond to requests for new sites from Councillors residents and staff.

SSE – at Leeds magistrates court a high profile conviction was secured against two persons who had illegally dumped building waste in Temple Newsam Park. The first defendant was fined £1,000 plus £1,350 costs whilst the second defendant was fined £500 and ordered to pay £1,350 costs.

A workshop was held with local ward members to identify priority sites for cleaning and hot spots for crime and grime issues. A lead officer has then been allocated for each ward to develop an action plan to tackle the issues.

WNW - real problems presented by residents not taking their wheelie bins back in after collection day. This is restricting pavement access for vulnerable people and mums with push chairs. Also the bins are preventing effective sweeping resulting in accumulations of litter. A lamp post sign had been produced to go on lamp posts at the approaches to the worse streets e.g. Ash Road. The sign advertises the bin collection day for that street and that residents risk being fined if they don't take their bins back in after collection.

Risks and Challenges

Alternative weekly collections could have an impact on litter levels. SSE are providing input based on experiences in the pilot areas. As street cleansing is a fleet based service, any rises in the cost of diesel would put pressure on the budget. 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. We need to get better at sharing resources and working with partners to meet City Wide challenges but this is dependant on partners recognising and committing to this.

New Actions

- Cleaning schedules are being reassessed. It has been identified that some areas are been cleaned when they don't need cleaning and could manage with a reduced frequency. This will free up some resources to focus on areas that require more regular visits.
- A lack of capacity of the Supervisors to undertake meaningful staff engagement and quality assurance is being addressed. Three new posts of Resource and Case work Supervisor have been created in the locality teams and will be appointed to when the current restructure go's live in the next couple of weeks.. This will ensure greater contact with staff and oversight of cleanliness activities particularly in relation to the quality checking of cleansed routes.
- Cleaning block boundaries have been rationalised so that they better fit the locality teams.

Data Development

Since the beginning of January e-forms have been introduced for service requests relating to fly tipping and dog fouling and are now being developed for blocked road gullys.. These forms directly link to the key information systems for the service and as such will improve data quality by eliminating the need for additional data entry. This new process will help to relieve some of the resource pressure on business support staff.

The delivery of street scene cleansing rounds is currently managed on an ad-hoc basis using a series of different spreadsheets. Work is ongoing to develop an IT solution to develop a more joined approach to the management of this service provision.

Meeting: Safer and Stronger Communities Board

Population: All people in Leeds

Outcome: People can get on well together

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.

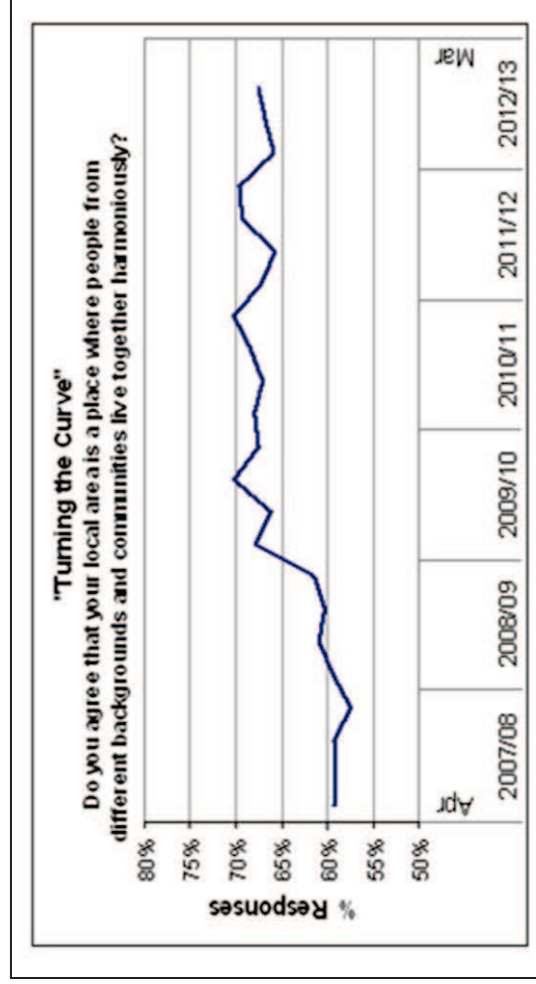
Our approach to supporting communities with multiple concern is to focus on early identification, interventions and support for individuals and families to reduce such risks, threats and harms. The partnerships focus is on understanding what interventions and support can be in place to make a difference 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 3 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.

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% and has shown a further increase to 67.49%. 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 4.

Overall Progress:
AMBER



What we did

- The **Safer and Stronger Communities Board** considered the approach being taken around Safeguarding Communities.
- **Stronger Communities Partnership** agreed a final definition of what stronger communities can mean in Leeds and began the process to use that definition to redefine the partnership's role and work programme for the next 2 years.
- The **Safer Leeds Executive** looked into the role of the new Police and Crime Commissioner and how this will affect the Executive's role.
- The **Safeguarding Communities** group continued its work on mapping communities to support specific work strands including Families First. Wider community safeguarding needs have been identified, including the potential to develop more preventative, rather than responsive, methods of dealing with crime, tensions and vulnerabilities within and between communities.
- The **Migration Partnership** supported the All Party Parliamentary Enquiry into asylum seeking children, and the West Yorkshire Destitution Network. It has also supported a cross-sector group to monitor the impact of the transfer of housing provision for Asylum Seekers to G4S and supported a new civic enterprise initiative "Welcome to Leeds". (See case study)
- The **Third Sector Partnership** hosted a seminar on looking at the role of the third sector in relation to Leeds City Council budget. It has also continued working with Third Sector Leeds on the Transform Leeds programme to provide a smart infrastructure for the third sector in Leeds.
- The **Gypsy Roma Traveller Strategy Group** is looking into the 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 and is providing a challenge on progress and performance on Educational Attainment and Jobs and Skills.

What worked locally /Case study of impact

Welcome to Leeds – is an initiative set up by voluntary sector partners in the refugee sector to provide a framework for trained volunteers to meet new asylum seekers sent to Leeds within 2 weeks of their placement. This gives a vital independent check to new arrivals and also key links to help support settlement. A small Civic Enterprise grant will help with sustainability and embedding this project. Early outcomes have been positive and assisted in the difficult process of transition of the asylum housing contract.

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 remains 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** has begun work to develop the Leeds Poverty Challenge – a way of people directly experiencing poverty in the city to work with policy makers etc to make changes to endemic poverty in Leeds
- 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, looking to develop a Best City for Communities framework.

Data Development

The Leeds Citizen's Panel responded to the Healthy and Stronger Communities survey, revealing how residents feel about a number of relevant issues:

- 55% of respondents feel aware of ways to get involved in local decision making
- 43% of respondents feel the council involves residents when making decisions
- 19% of respondents feel that they have influence over local decision making
- 72% feel different groups get on well in their area, and 67% feel this situation has stayed good or got better in the last year
- 97% feel safe walking alone in day time in their local area, and 70% feel this way after dark.

We can also highlight some significant differences between area committees and age groups:

- Inner South and Inner West respondents are more likely than average to say cohesion got worse in the last year.
 - Feelings of safety after dark are lower in Inner East (49%), Inner South (51%) and Inner West (40%) than average for Leeds (70%)
 - Inner East, Inner South, Inner West and Outer West respondents are more likely to feel on balance that people do not pull together in local area.
 - In general, the older the respondent, the more likely they feel that different age groups get on well locally, that local people pull together and to feel involved in their local area
- The University of Leeds is currently delivering the Healthy Communities Survey to the student population and results will be available later in 2013.

2012/13 Directorate Scorecard

Reporting Period :

Quarter 3 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 remains 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. The challenge in relation to developing some of the Stronger communities themes is now being tackled and work continues with a range of partners to determine what constitutes strong communities and to develop the strategies that would help to deliver this. Work is now being scoped to address issues linked to poverty, and domestic abuse is another area of work the Board wishes to consider further as an emerging priority.	Green							
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 and these arrangements continue to be reviewed to ensure that we make the best use of our joint resources and get the best outcomes from our combined efforts. The Board is also collaborating with other partnership boards to tackle cross-cutting issues, although it recognises that some of the stronger communities themes in particular will require sustained involvement over a longer time-frame.	Green							
Ensure that local neighbourhoods and central commercial areas are clean	The Q2 survey results relate to the summer Cleaner Streets Survey, results from the winter survey are not due till the end of February. Data recently made available from the Citizens Panel shows residents are most satisfied with graffiti and fly posting levels at 66% and 60% respectively. Satisfaction with the other categories i.e. litter, dog fouling, fly tipping and overgrown vegetation are all similarly proportioned and average out at 8% very satisfied, 29% satisfied, 21% neither satisfied or unsatisfied, 29% dissatisfied and 13% very dissatisfied. However it is understood a relatively small sample size was used and these figures may need to be interpreted with caution. Performance in achieving the outcome is monitored by Area Committees and local issues dealt with at ward member meetings. Through this openness and transparency, greater local influence and everyday engagement, member trust and confidence in the service continues to build. The early autumn period brought challenges to maintain cleanliness levels in neighbourhoods across the city with unprecedented levels of rainfall (bringing pressure on gully cleansing) and autumn de-leafing requirements. The council successfully responded to these challenges	Green	Reduce percentage of streets with unacceptable levels of litter (ANNUAL)	5% improvement by March 2013	86.0% 2011/12	91.5% (new indicator)	91.5% (summer survey data as Q2)		Environment
Improve the quality of Leeds' parks	With regard to the performance indicator reported in the Council Business Plan "the percentage of parks and countryside sites assessed internally that meet the Green Flag criteria", the results in 2012/13 are provisionally 30.8% against a target of 29.4% and thus a 'green' RAG rating. The sub-indicator, reported locally considers the 62 community parks assessed as part of the 143 sites in the wider indicator. The results in 2012/13 show a result of 41.9% against a target of 47.5%, and thus an "amber" rag rating. The service continues to target investment and resources where possible to community parks and is seeking to develop an investment strategy to more effectively target funding resources to meet the Parks and Green Space target of 100% community parks to Green Flag standard by 2020. With regard to the satisfaction index, the service undertook a residents survey using the Citizen's Panel methodology during the summer of 2012. Whilst this has provided some city wide data, more work is required to provide sufficient data at local level and support the index calculation. Options to undertake additional surveys during 2013 are currently being examined to provide an updated dataset for usage and satisfaction, and aims report this in Q2 in 2013/14.	Green	Percentage of parks and countryside sites assessed internally that meet the Green Flag criteria (ANNUAL)	29.4%	Annually Reported	Annually Reported	30.8% provisional result		Environment
Improve Recycling rates	YTD to Nov 2012 shows recycling at 42.9% (comparable figure in 11/12 was 39.7%). Expected outturn performance in 12/13 is around 40.4%, up from 37.4% last year which shows a year on year improvement but is below target. The pilot of fortnightly collections of recyclables which should improve future recycling rates has been delayed into 13/14. The Council was unsuccessful in its bid to the DCLG for the rollout of food waste collections. Roll outs of City wide food waste are now likely to be delayed until resources allow, although it is planned to expand the Rothwell food collection area in 2013/14.	Amber	Increase percentage waste recycled	45%	43.0%	44.0% at August 2012	42.9% at Nov 2012		Environment
Improve refuse service reliability	The residual waste collection performance in quarter two was 54.88 this exceeded the best performance achieved over recent years and is approaching the service's quality standard. We have seen an increase in quarter three to 80.5 but this remains an improvement on the same quarter last year when the missed residual waste figure was 101.5. There has been an improvement on the previous quarter and year for other waste collections types. Missed Garden waste was at 123.6 this quarter compared to 181.03 in quarter two and SORT waste achieving 152.2 this quarter compared to 180.36 the previous quarter. This, combined with the achievement of higher recycling rates than ever before 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 now 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	101.16 (see commentary for breakdown by bin type)		Environment
Reduce levels of domestic burglary	The provisional figure for the 12 months ended December 2012 is 5634 offences, down 33% (2830 fewer offences)	Green	Reduce number of burglaries	7056	1266 (12 mth total 6816 down 24.8%)	1265 (12 mth total 5,938 down 36%)	5634 (12 months total down 33%)		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)	The locality working review was completed in Q3 and a report with recommendations was agreed by Executive Board setting out an ambitious approach aiming to deliver a step change in area working. A detailed implementation plan has been developed and is taking forward work on all the agreed actions	Green	Increase percentage of people who feel they are involved in their local community	N/A	A great deal - 5.5% To some extent - 33.1% Not very much - 40.5% Not at all - 20.5% Don't know - 0.4%				Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services
Other Relevant Indicator				Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Executive Portfolio
Reduce the overall crime rate (per 1000 population)					21.2 (15,933) 12 mth total 67,051 down 9.8%	21.2 (15,387) 12 mth total 54,314 down 13.86%	(16,420) 12 month 64,019 down 11.8%		Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board

Date: 11 March 2013

Subject: Scrutiny Inquiry – Strategic Partnership Boards

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 Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules state that all Scrutiny Boards will act as a “critical friend” to the relevant Strategic Partnership Board and consider and report on the following areas:
 - What contribution the Partnership Board is making to tackle poverty and inequality, and the progress being made against this
 - How successfully the Board’s partnership arrangements are working
 - To what extent are significant benefits being seen from partnership working? How has partnership working ensured increased pace of change to address the issue in hand?
2. A common approach is being adopted for Scrutiny Boards in exercising their “critical friend” role, in order that outcomes can be compared and contrasted between Partnership Boards. However, it is also acknowledged that each Strategic Partnership Board is at a different stage in its development and maturity.
3. During March 2013, Scrutiny Boards will receive reports from the relevant Strategic Partnership Board and have the opportunity to question the chair and members of the Partnership Board and support officers.

Date	Scrutiny Board	Strategic Partnership Board
11 March	Safer and Stronger Communities	Safer and Stronger Communities
14 March	Children and Families	Children's Trust Board
21 March	Sustainable Economy and Culture	Sustainable Economy and Culture
26 March	Housing and Regeneration	Housing and Regeneration
27 March	Health & Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Health and Wellbeing Board

4. The attached report provides background information on the history and development of the Safer and Stronger Communities Strategic Partnership Board. The report also presents information which will assist the Scrutiny Board in assessing strengths and areas for development for the Partnership Board in respect of the three key questions set out in paragraph 1 above.
5. Following the scrutiny sessions in March, each Scrutiny Board will produce a summary report of its findings. The Scrutiny Support Unit will then prepare a cover report drawing out any common threads and best practice emerging from the individual inquiry sessions. The full report will be presented to Council, as the commissioning body for this piece of scrutiny inquiry work. Each Strategic Partnership Board will also receive their respective individual report, along with the cover report, and will be requested to respond to any scrutiny recommendations in the normal manner.
6. In December 2012 a review of partnership arrangements was undertaken. It concluded that:
 - The Leeds Initiative Board should be replaced by a wider Best City Leadership Network; this would involve more stakeholders in less frequent meetings focussing on the big 'State of the city' issues which face the city.
 - Best City summits will be held drawing on partners from the network to tackle issues of joint interest.
 - The Leeds Initiative brand should be retired, and the partnerships should be referred to as 'Best City Partnerships'.
 - The 5 strategic partnership boards shall not be changed, however they shall be managed in future by the relevant directorates
7. The outcome of the review does not change the focus of this scrutiny exercise. The partnerships are an important focus for the delivery of the city's key aims. Scrutiny Boards acting as the "critical friend" of the partnerships will help further progress the agenda under the new arrangements.

Recommendation

8. The Scrutiny Board is requested to use the attached information and the discussion with representatives from the Strategic Partnership Board to inform its contribution to the scrutiny report on strategic partnership boards.

Background documents¹

9. 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.

Item no:

Report from: Safer and Stronger Communities Board

Report to: Partnerships Scrutiny Board

Date: 25 February 2013

Subject: Progress and summary of the work of the Safer and Stronger Communities Board

Executive Summary

The Safer and Stronger Communities Board is one of the 5 city Strategic Partnership Boards. It has responsibility for the aspects of community safety, community capacity, community relations, street cleaning, parks and green spaces in the city priority plan.

In its first 18 months it has made significant progress on its agreed 4-year priorities and has established joint working in key areas with other boards.

1.0 Purpose of this report

1.1 To provide background information on the history and development of the Safer and Stronger Communities Strategic Partnership Board and sub-boards.

1.2 To present information which will assist the Scrutiny Board in assessing strengths and areas for development for the Partnership Board in respect of the three key questions:

- What contribution the Partnership Board is making to tackling poverty and inequality, and the progress being made against this?
- How successful are the Board's partnership arrangements?
- To what extent are significant benefits being seen from partnership working? How has partnership working ensured increased pace of change to address the issue in hand?

2.0 Background information

2.1 The Safer and Stronger Communities Board has met 6 times since its inception in September 2011.ⁱ

2.2 It is chaired by Cllr Peter Gruen, as portfolio holder for Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Housing and supported by a third sector vice-chair Bishop John Packer of the Diocese of Ripon and Leeds.

2.3 It has 15 members: 11 partners and 4 politicians (2 portfolio holders and 2 opposition representatives), and is supported by 4 Leeds City Council Officers:

Politicians:		
Cllr Peter	Gruen	(Chair) Exec Member - Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services (Labour)
Cllr Jonathan	Bentley	Leeds City Council (Liberal Democrat Group)
Cllr Les	Carter	Leeds City Council (Conservative Group)
Cllr Mark	Dobson	Exec Member - Environment (Labour)
Partners:		
Adrian	Curtis	Groundwork Leeds
Bishop John	Packer	For Leeds Migration Partnership (Vice-Chair)
CS Paul	Money	West Yorkshire Police
Dr Ian	Cameron	Director of Public Health - NHS Leeds / Leeds City Council
Hanif	Malik	Hamara
Maggie	Allen	Foundation Housing - for Third Sector Leeds
Mike	Love	Together for Peace
Neil	Moloney	West Yorkshire Probation
Nick	Smith	West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service
Steve	Hunt	East North East Homes for ALMOs and BITMO
Supported by:		
Neil	Evans	Leeds City Council - Environment and Neighbourhoods
Liz	Jarmin	Leeds City Council - Community Safety (Safer)
Rachael	Loftus	Leeds City Council - Leeds Initiative (Stronger)
Helen	Freeman	Leeds City Council - Environment and Neighbourhoods (Cleaner-Greener)

2.4 The Board has 2 major supporting partnerships: the Safer Leeds Executive and the Stronger Communities Partnership. Both of these partnerships also support additional partnership working on specific workstreams.

2.5 There is also a workstream that reports directly to the Safer and Stronger Communities Board on cleaner-greener issues. See Fig 1 – Safer Stronger partnerships structures for more information.

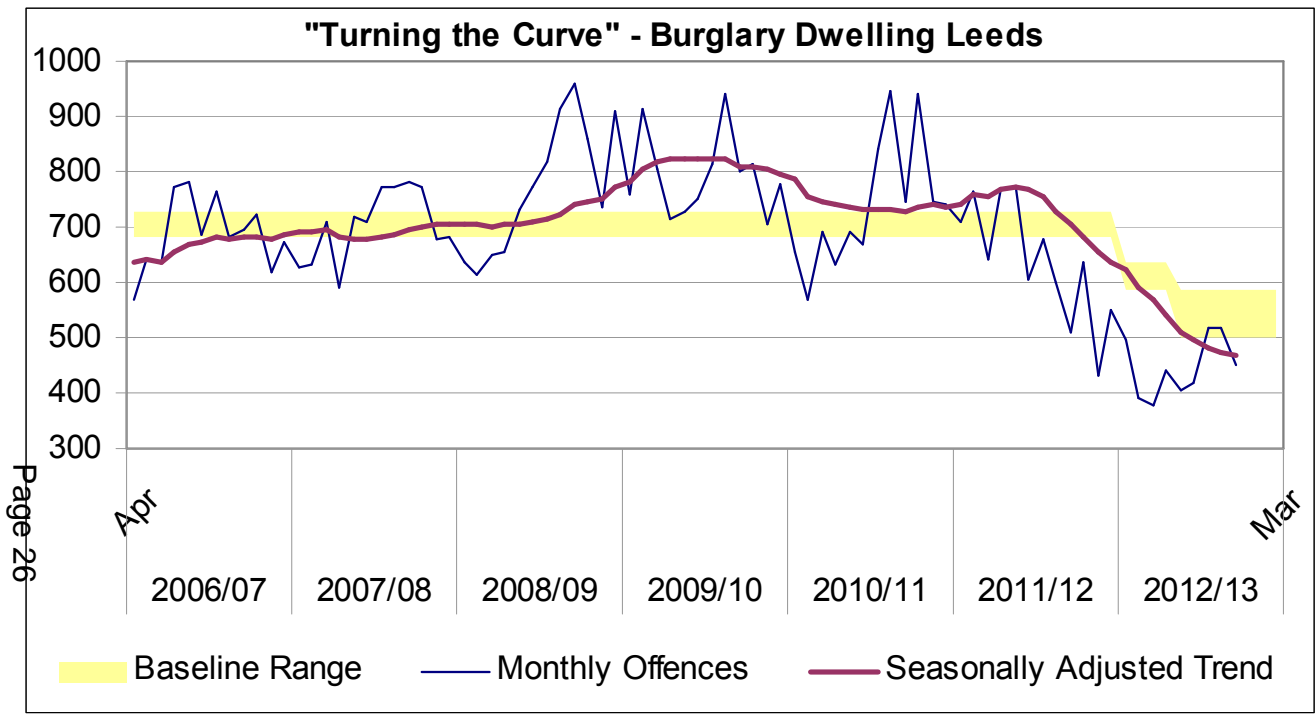
2.6 The Board has 4 priorities in the City Priority Plan:

- Reduce crime levels and their impact across Leeds
- Effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities
- Ensure that local neighbourhoods are clean
- Increase a sense of belonging that builds cohesive and harmonious communities

Fig 1. Safer Stronger Communities Board and supporting structures

<p align="center">SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES BOARD Chair: Cllr Peter Gruen, LCC Vice Chair: Bishop John Packer, LMP</p>													
CITY PRIORITIES	Reduce crime levels and their impact		Effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour		Increase the sense of belonging that builds cohesive and harmonious communities			Ensure local neighbourhoods are clean					
BOARD WORK PROGRAMME	- Families First (joint with Children's) - Restorative Practice (joint with Children's) - Alcohol Harm Reduction (joint with Health and Wellbeing)												
CROSS-CUTTING	Impact of Welfare Reform TBC: Poverty Truth Commission												
SUB-BOARD	<p align="center">SAFER LEEDS EXECUTIVE Chair: Neil Evans, LCC</p>				<p align="center">STRONGER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP Chair: Cllr P Gruen, LCC Vice Chair: M Love, T4P</p>			<p align="center">Cleaner Greener Workstream Lead: Helen Freeman, LCC</p>					
PARTNERSHIP WORK PROGRAMME	<p align="center">Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reducing levels of crime and its impact across Leeds - Effectively tackling and reducing anti-social behaviour in communities and neighbourhoods - Improving safeguarding and reducing vulnerability for individuals, families and communities 				<p align="center">Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Defining the conditions required for stronger communities <p align="center">Working with all communities and with targeted communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working with third sector to support communities and community sector 			<p align="center">Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring local neighbourhoods are clean - Improving access to and quality of green space in the city 					
SUPPORTING PARTNERSHIPS	<p align="center">INTEGRATED OFFENDER MANAGEMENT BOARD Chair: N Moloney- WY Probation</p>	<p align="center">BURGLARY TASKING GROUP Chair: D Oldroyd- WY Police</p>	<p align="center">ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOURBOARD Chair: S Hunt, ENE Homes</p>	<p align="center">*LEEDS ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP Chair: Dr I Cameron, NHS Leeds</p>	<p align="center">AREA COMMUNITY SAFETY P'SHIPS x 5 Chair: WY Police Divisional Commanders</p>	<p align="center">DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STRATEGY GROUP Chair: Vacancy</p>	<p align="center">* FAMILIES FIRST BOARD Chair: Cllr J Blake, LCC</p>	<p align="center">* SAFEGUARDING COMMUNITIES Lead: D Jackson, LCC</p>	<p align="center">LEEDS MIGRATION PARTNERSHIP Chair: Bishop John Packer, Diocese Ripon and Leeds</p>	<p align="center">BME CHALLENGE FORUM Chair: Cllr G Hussain</p>	<p align="center">* ROMA GYPSY TRAVELLER P'SHIP Chair: R Middleton, NHS Leeds</p>	<p align="center">* THIRD SECTOR PARTNERSHIP Chair: Cllr L Yeadon, LCC</p>	<p align="center"><u>NOTES:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Alcohol Management P'ship – also reports to Health and Wellbeing Board * Families First Board – also reports to Children's Trust Board * The 5 Area Community Safety Partnerships are: East North East, West North West, South and South East, City Centre and University * Safeguarding Communities – across Safer and Stronger priorities * Third Sector Partnership – also reports to LI Board

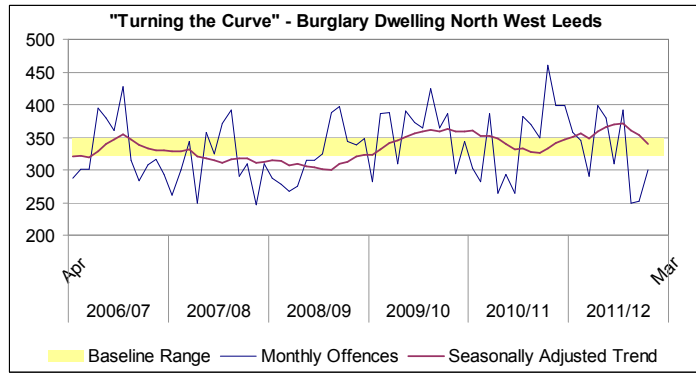
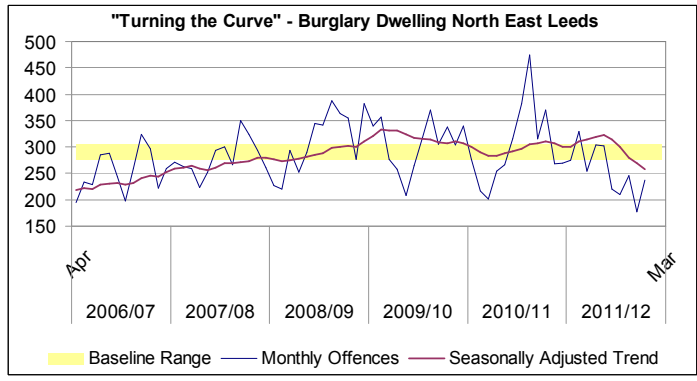
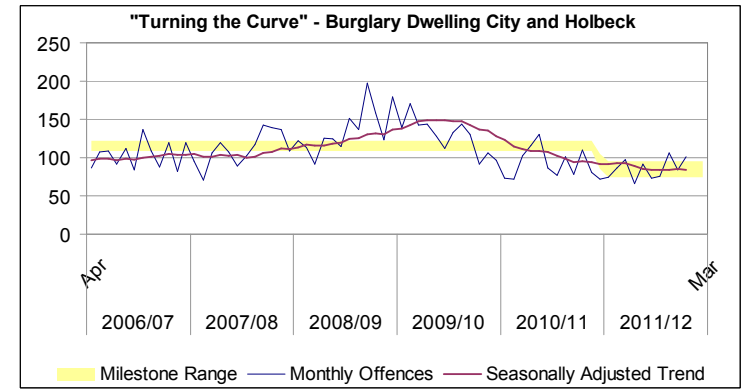
Fig 2 – (Priority 1) Turning the Curve – burglary offence patterns for Leeds overall and by police division 2006-2013.



GOOD PRACTICE IN BURGLARY DETERRENT:

The “immobilise.com” property marking and recording system, which aids the recovery of stolen goods, continues to be promoted locally.

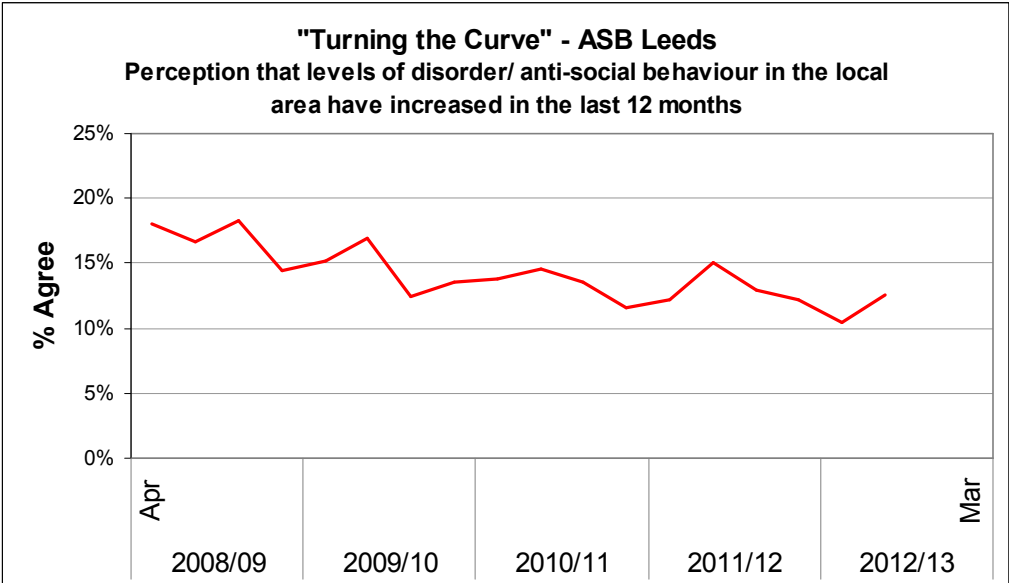
It also featured in the 2012 CrimeWatch programme based in Leeds.




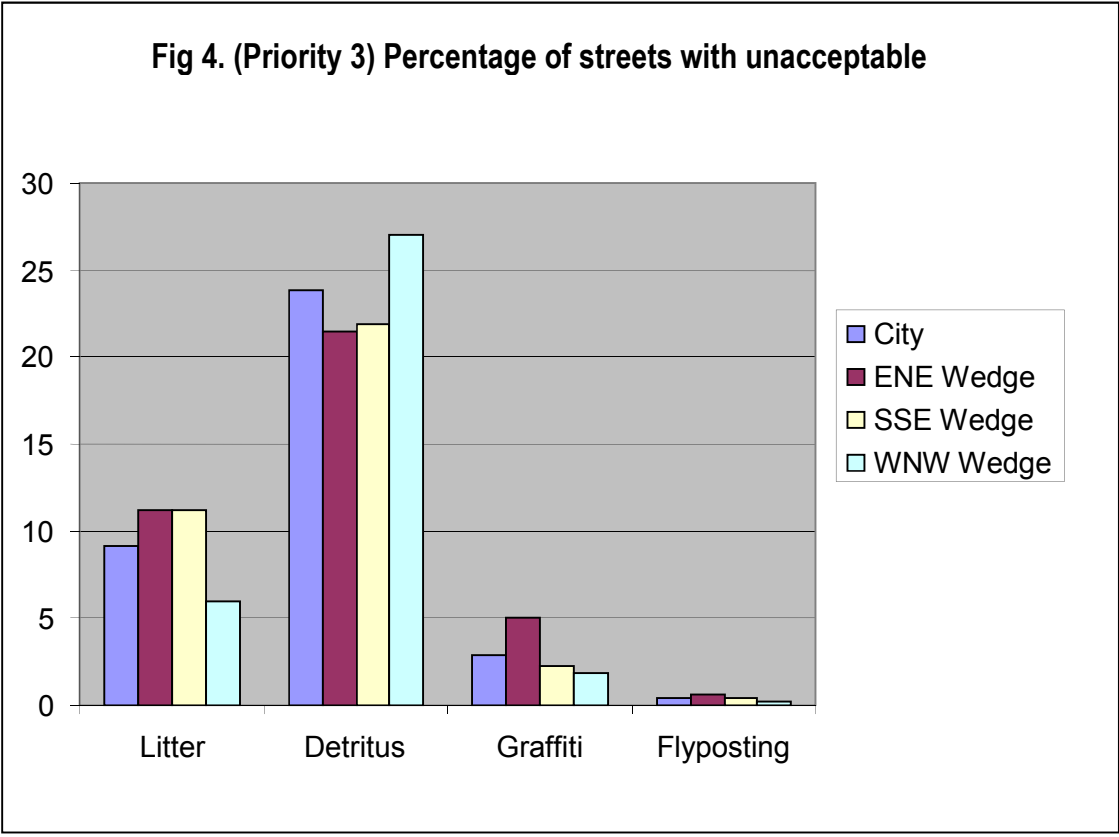
2.7 Reduce crime levels and their impact across Leeds – Overall Progress – (see fig 2)

- 2.7.1 Burglary has been a particular problem in Leeds for some years, and seeing a reduction in this across the city was chosen as they key indicator for reducing overall crime. The Safer and Stronger Communities Board has an oversight, but the devolved work of the Burglary Tasking Group has been the significant driver in bringing the city’s main crime reduction and prevention agencies into a highly collaborative approach.
- 2.7.2 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 and is consistent with achieving the target
- 2.7.3 The provisional figure for the 12 months ended December 2012 is 5634 offences, down 33% resulting in 2830 fewer victims.
- 2.7.4 Figures to the end of July 2012, show that this positive trend is shared in all three policing divisions: All three policing divisions are on track to meet targets; North West Leeds down 21.5% (919 fewer victims); North East Leeds down 26.7% (995 fewer victims) and City and Holbeck down 10.4% (116 fewer victims). (See fig 2).
- 2.7.5 Similarly all wards of concernⁱⁱ have seen a 12 month reduction, with the exception of Hyde Park & Woodhouse, but this ward has saw a significant reduction (-43.1%) in the 3 month period May – July 2012.

2.8 Effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities - Progress



- 2.8.1 Improving satisfaction rates for reported anti-social behaviour (ASB) was chosen as the key indicator to improved tackling and reduction of ASB in communities. Work to improve this is led by the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Board.
- 2.8.2 Since April 2011, Leeds had a multi-agency Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT) that have been responsible for dealing with all incidents deemed to be ASB in Government guidance. The team includes Council, ALMO and Police staff.
- 2.8.3 The number of ASB calls logged with West Yorkshire Police during 2010/11 was in excess of 42,000. Following the introduction of a revised and more accurate ASB grading system introduced in September 2011, (e.g. removing reports of abandoned vehicles) data to the end of March 2012 shows the police received 29,228 ASB related calls during 2011/12.
- 2.8.4 During 2011/12 LASBT opened 1248 new cases, a 21.8% increase on 2010/11 figures.
- 2.8.5 The multi-agency approach adopted by Leeds has been instrumental in lowering average “case completion” from 241 days to 150 days is now seen as a model of good practice both regionally and nationally, receiving numerous visit requests from a number of local authorities and community safety partnerships.
- 2.8.6 Fig.3 shows the trend in perceptions of anti-social behaviour taken from the West Yorkshire Police Authority survey, and are not reflective of service provision. In the last 12 months they have surveyed 6,073 households across Leeds.
- 2.8.7 The 2008/09 baseline range was 16.94% of respondents indicated that ASB had increased in the last 12 months. The current level is 12.62% (to the end of Sept 2012). The overall trend is therefore improving, although there is some variation in quarters and between localities.
- 2.8.8 The focus for 2013/14 will be on extending this approach to anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance, and supporting the Families First work.
- 2.9** Ensure that local neighbourhoods are clean – Progress 
- 2.9.1 Leeds City Council has a statutory responsibility for street cleansing and ensuring its own and others' land is kept clean and in reasonable order. In order to achieve a more locally responsive service, in the last year the decisions on how some environmental servicesⁱⁱⁱ are run have been delegated to Area Committees^{iv}.
- 2.9.2 The City Council is the prime service provider in the city and does this via an in-house workforce. The service provides a range of activities on a routine/scheduled basis including mechanical and manual street cleaning, litter bin emptying and fly-tip removal.
- 2.9.3 Services are also responsive to local issues such as events, fetes and galas etc as well as the needs of local communities as expressed via Elected Members or via residents themselves. Performance data shows that Leeds performs well against other 'core city' comparators with a relatively low level of spend per head of population. This is against a



backdrop of external funding losses, which presents a continuing challenge to maintain service standards in this context.

- 2.9.4 Perceptions of street cleanliness, reported anecdotally, improved in the last two quarters of 2011/12. Figure 4 shows the relatively low amount of streets with unacceptable levels of street litter – although some areas within wards suffer from persistent problems.
- 2.9.5 A sustained campaign of partnership action to clean up the streets of Headingley and Hyde Park has helped improve one such area. Littering, poor parking and anti-social behaviour have been targeted as part of a sustained operation to engage and educate residents in their responsibilities, and take action where necessary.
- 2.9.6 The focus of this priority however is not purely around street cleanliness, it is also about improve access to and the quality of green space in the city
- 2.9.7 In July 2012, Leeds had 6^v of its parks awarded the prestigious Green Flag Award, the national standard for parks and green space. Leeds also undertakes its own internal assessment of its other green specie sites against the green flag standard on a 3 year rolling programme. In 2011/12, 38 of the 143 sites met the national standard, which at 26.6% was a small increase on the target of 26.2%.
- 2.9.8 Leeds Parks and Green Space Strategy has set the aim that all 62 community parks will reach the green flag standard by 2020.

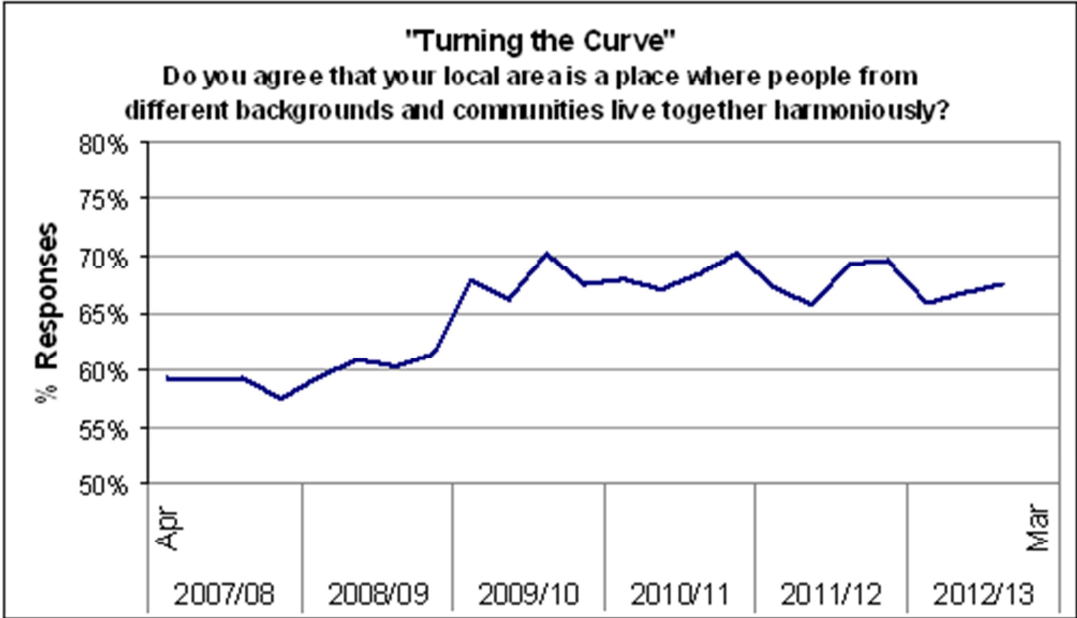
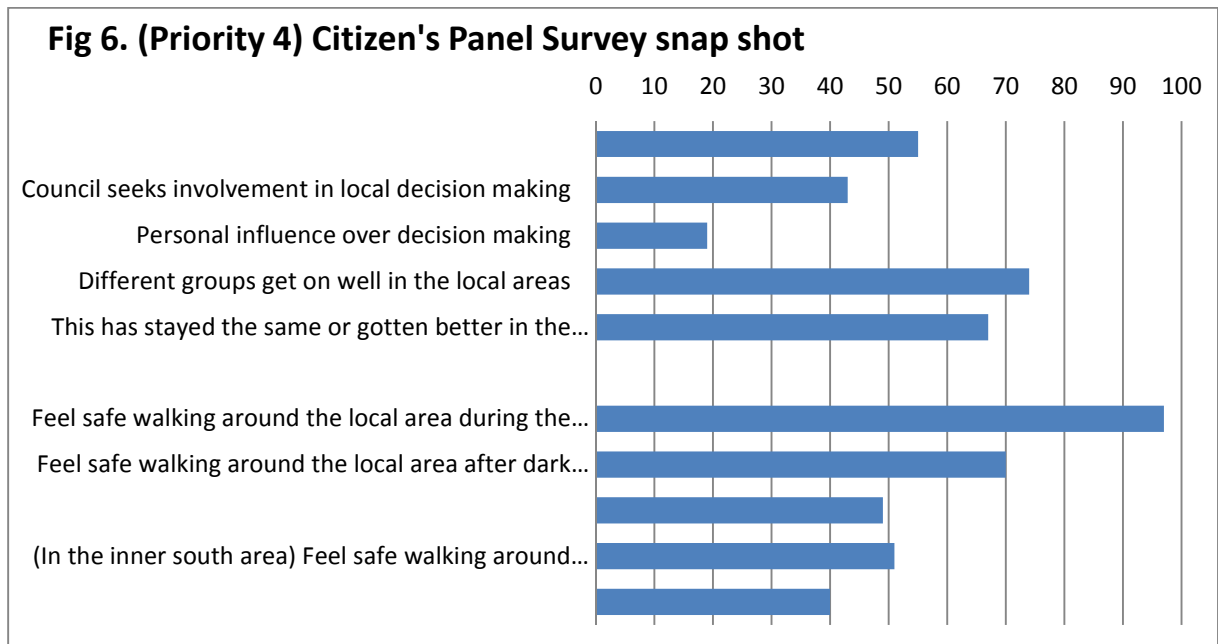


Fig 5 – Turning the Curve Measure – from West Yorkshire Police Authority household survey

- 2.10.1 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.
- 2.10.2 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.
- 2.10.3 The Stronger Communities partnership maintains a broad overview of the factors required to strengthen communities and is working hard with partners to develop the right community infrastructure and support in all communities in the city – this will be a key factor in determining a refreshed work programme for the partnership to 2016.
- 2.10.4 The partnership has also focused on some key areas that historically have provided challenges to maintaining good community relations, Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities and migrant communities as well as a sophisticated approach to hate crime and data through the safeguarding communities approach.
- 2.10.4.1 The Gypsy Roma Traveller partnership has progressed work to develop a Roma Needs Assessment and a Gypsy and Traveller Needs Assessment to bring together work in health and social care and to direct resources appropriately. The needs assessments combined spell out the need to better co-ordinate our actions across Council, agencies and the third sector to address the significantly poorer outcomes for people from these backgrounds.

- 2.10.4.2 The Migration Partnership is currently exploring options of how best to mitigate the combined impact of significant cuts to the third sector supporting migrant communities including asylum and refugee support as well as the impact of cuts in the public sector. The partnership has focused on looking at the unintended consequences of changes in immigration practice – including destitution and forced labour and has been working hard to smooth the rocky transition to a regional private sector contractor for housing asylum seekers and has supported the innovative Welcome to Leeds volunteer project. The partnership has also supported work to prevent hate crime in newly arrived communities and is looking to support more collaborative working to provide the right conditions for integration including community English language classes and volunteer coordination. The Migrant Access Project continues to deliver high quality training to volunteers and is getting key messages from key services across the city to migrant communities, using the skills and expertise of migrants themselves. The partnership has also led in supporting the Leeds City of Sanctuary movement to promote a culture of welcome and hospitality to sanctuary seekers in Leeds, challenging stereotypes and reaching out to the ordinary citizens of Leeds to better understand the reasons why people seek sanctuary in the UK and their everyday experience of life in Leeds.
- 2.10.4.3 Safeguarding Communities: figures for 2012/13 show a slow, but steady rise in the spread of areas of concern around tensions; however, the actual levels of risk have generally remained “low”. In terms of numbers of recorded hate incidents – although these have risen slightly – these have mainly been in the “concern” (isolated name calling, abusive language) or “moderate” (repeat harassment, threats, intimidation) categories, which may indicative of increased reporting levels. And the actual levels of incidents in the “High/ Severe” (physical violence, damage to property) have decreased. Work has also progressed to develop community mapping which will support in understanding and identifying inter-community tensions.
- 2.10.5 The citizens’ panel completed a survey to find out how residents of Leeds feel about some important aspects of the Safer and Stronger Communities agenda, specifically how people feel different groups get on in their area, and how this changes over time, feelings of personal safety, and awareness of and involvement in a range of community activities.
- 2.10.6 The Panel responded that just over half of respondents felt aware of ways to get involved in local decision making, but only 43% feels the Council involves them when making decisions, with just under 1 in 5 believing that they have influence. Nearly 3 in 4 people feel different groups get on well in their area, but with 1 in 3 saying they felt this situation had become worse in the last year.
- 2.10.7 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.



2.10.8 The current “turning the curve” measurement of good community relations is the data extracted from the quarterly West Yorkshire Police Authority household survey data. This provides a regular measurement but does not provide accurate data below the level of divisional command areas. The measure is also significantly limited in its scope and does not provide an accurate feedback measure for progress. The partnership will adjust this measure during the refresh of the work programme and will also look at a range of proxy measures that can better reflect the breadth of work undertaken in the Stronger Communities agenda.

3.0 Main issues

3.1 Safer and Stronger Communities Board – joined up work programmes

3.1.1 The Safer and Stronger Communities Board has chosen to focus on a few areas of work that join up the spectrum of Safer and Stronger Communities priorities, and also to work jointly with other boards on priority programmes. These are:

3.1.2 **Restorative Practice** – In partnership with Hull Centre for Restorative Practice Leeds has been driving forward and developing a training programme to embed restorative practices throughout the workforce that deals with children and young people.

3.1.3 This restorative approach will improve outcomes for the children, young people and families and relationships between services and agencies. It will increase effectiveness and efficiencies and will improve across a range of baseline data, for example:

- § Youth offending and arrests rates
 - § Care referrals and child protection plans
 - § School behaviour, attendance and exclusions
- 3.1.4 A coordinated and concise approach is strategically led and regularly reviewed in line with the needs analysis. The Leeds strategy includes how RP interfaces with Family Group Conferencing, the Family Learning Signature, and the Common Assessment process to ensure empowerment for families when receiving interventions from services.
- 3.1.5 In recent months training in Restorative Practice has begun to be implemented in the children's services clusters, various single agencies such as residential homes, Youth Offending Service, Safer Schools as well as city-wide multi-agency training.
- 3.1.6 Although still in early days in relation to measuring outcomes there have been marked improvements in some teams working on this agenda. There have also been some significant reductions in absence rates from schools in the clusters and senior leadership teams have started to develop approaches to high challenge and high support through fair process.
- 3.1.7 The implementation of restorative practice across Children's Services is progressing well, the challenge to the Safer and Stronger Communities Board is how to ensure that the restorative approach now reaches across criminal justice, community support and other areas relevant to the broader Safer and Stronger agenda.
- 3.1.8 **Families First** – Leeds has secured up to £8 million over the next 3 years for a major programme to work with families to reduce offending and anti-social behaviour, improve school attendance and support parents to move into work.
- 3.1.9 The programme is funded through the Government's Troubled Families scheme. Following consultation it will now be known locally as Families First Leeds.
- 3.1.10 Leeds is an early adopter of the programme which will provide additional support to a significant number of families in the city over the next 3 years. The £8million includes a £2.3 million injection up front for Year 1 and the scheme aims to build on existing good practice across the city.
- 3.1.11 It will aim to bring all agencies and council services together to ensure effective, joined-up support for our most vulnerable families and therefore benefiting communities across the city.
- 3.1.12 The programme will integrate and support priorities and plans across the council and will play a major part in contributing to the council's ambition for Leeds to become the best city and to develop stronger communities and restorative approaches.
- 3.1.13 A programme board has been established, chaired by Councillor Judith Blake, Executive Board member for Children's Services.

- 3.1.14 **Alcohol Harm Reduction** – Leeds Alcohol Management Partnership works across Children’s Trust Board, Health and Wellbeing Board and the Safer and Stronger Communities Board to deliver the 4 year strategy to reduce the harm and negative impacts of alcohol in Leeds. The 2011 Leeds Adult Alcohol Needs Assessment, the Children & Young Peoples Alcohol Needs Assessment, the NHS Leeds Alcohol Admissions Data Analysis^{vi} and the report on the Leeds Economic and Social Cost of Alcohol-related Harm have all informed the plan and underline the need for join intervention and action.
- 3.1.15 The links between alcohol and safer-stronger priorities are undisputed: reducing alcohol-related violent crime, anti-social behaviour, street drinking and other offences will have a positive impact on crime statistics as well as the individuals and families affected by alcohol related offending. In particular concern is being raised that the long term problem of under-age drinking is not being significantly reduced and incidences of alcohol related anti-social behaviour are remaining high, not just in the city centre but in many areas of the city.
- 3.1.16 In order to work together effectively to tackle the negative impacts of alcohol, the following 4 year strategic priorities have been agreed by all partners:
- § Partners work together towards achieving the Vision for Leeds by tackling the impact of alcohol on local people and communities
 - § People of all ages who consume alcohol do so within nationally recognised safe limits
 - § Fewer people experience alcohol-related violent crime and anti-social behaviour in our communities
 - § Fewer people experience alcohol-related ill health
 - § Fewer children and young people’s whose lives are adversely affected by their parents drinking including neglect, physical and emotional abuse
 - § Fewer under 18 year olds develop drinking habits which impact on their health, school attendance, personal safety and achievement
- 3.1.17 **Welfare reform** – the Safer and Stronger Communities Board July 2012 meeting received reports from West Yorkshire Police, ALMOs, LCC Council welfare staff and input from the voluntary sector on the impact of welfare reform on the safer and stronger agenda, and revisited this again in February 2013 meeting to ensure that work to protect the most vulnerable is upheld.
- 3.1.18 It is clear that there are multiple concerns and factors that could impact on some of the prevention work that has been in place in recent years.
- 3.1.19 A key response to joining up action and planning on welfare reform has been to commission the Leeds Poverty Challenge, jointly chaired by the Safer and Stronger Communities Board Chair and Vice-Chair:
- 3.1.20 **Leeds Poverty Challenge** – at the December 2012 Leeds Initiative Board meeting the Safer and Stronger Communities Board proposed to work on the Leeds Poverty Challenge.

- 3.1.21 Based on the successful work of the Scottish Poverty Truth Commission which brought civic leaders together with people directly experiencing poverty to better understand the impact of poverty and explore real solutions to it, the Leeds Poverty Challenge will seek to get under some of the pervasive aspects of poverty in the city and work out how we can better create solutions by co-producing action with people most directly concerned.
- 3.1.22 The Challenge has begun Phase 1 and is currently recruiting up to 30 people directly experiencing poverty in Leeds who will meet together with some support over the next few months to develop their ability to express and articulate their own experience of poverty, as well as to begin to explore their own views on how to effectively tackle poverty long term. This group will be speaking from their own experience rather than as representatives of any kind, but we anticipate that their lives will be representative of many others'. (See fig 7)
- 3.1.23 When this group is ready they will choose up to 15 people from their own group and invite 15 strategically chosen civic and business leaders to join them:
- to progress a mutual understanding of the different aspects of poverty in this city;
 - to unpick some of the routes into poverty: and better protect and progress routes out of poverty understanding why things do and do not work in practice;
 - to identify the 2 or 3 strands of work^{vii} that through the group's enhanced understanding they believe can be progressed significantly by joint action; and
 - to open opportunities to co-produce workable and sustainable solutions.
- 3.2 Safer Leeds – changes to the Safer Leeds Executive role following the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill**
- 3.2.1 The Safer Leeds Executive is the Leeds community safety partnership that was embedded as part of the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act. It brings together the “responsible authorities^{viii}” and “co-operating bodies^{ix}” to:
- Align relevant service delivery to the three commitments
 - Ensure value for money through cost effective deployment of services
 - Manage risks, threats and harms
- 3.2.2 Leeds has seen steady and sustained reductions in total crime over the last 10 years and the partnership work of Safer Leeds has been crucial to this success e.g. Anti-Social Behaviour teams, drug intervention programmes, burglary reductions, safer schools partnership, joint-funded PCSOs^x.
- 3.2.3 The funding for work to date has come from a variety of sources (Leeds City Council – 76%, Home Office grants 14%, Income generation 10%) but has been allocated to commitments set by the Safer Leeds Executive. These are outline in fig 7.

Phase 1: Recruitment of the Challengers (Feb- Sept 2013)

Stream A: Expert Witnesses

Recruitment: using networks of support providers, churches, personal contacts etc. Up to 30 people. (Feb-March 2013).

Preparation: *sample activities: 1-2-1s, workshops, meals, creative arts etc (March – July 2013).*

Support: group work to prepare for what working with the wider group will be like. 15 chosen by the group to work on Phase 2. (April – August).

Stream B: The Influential and Powerful

Recruitment: using a wide reference group to identify up to 15 influential/ powerful people in a position to make and take forward recommendations from the Challenge (March – July 2013).

Preparation: brief meetings to prepare people for working in the Challenge ethos. (July – August 2013)

Phase 2: The Challenge

Launch: September 2013 – official public launch of the joint group of Challengers – up to 30 people

Joint working to determine a set of inquiries into what are the challenges it believes it can progress thinking and action on

Phase 3: The Actions

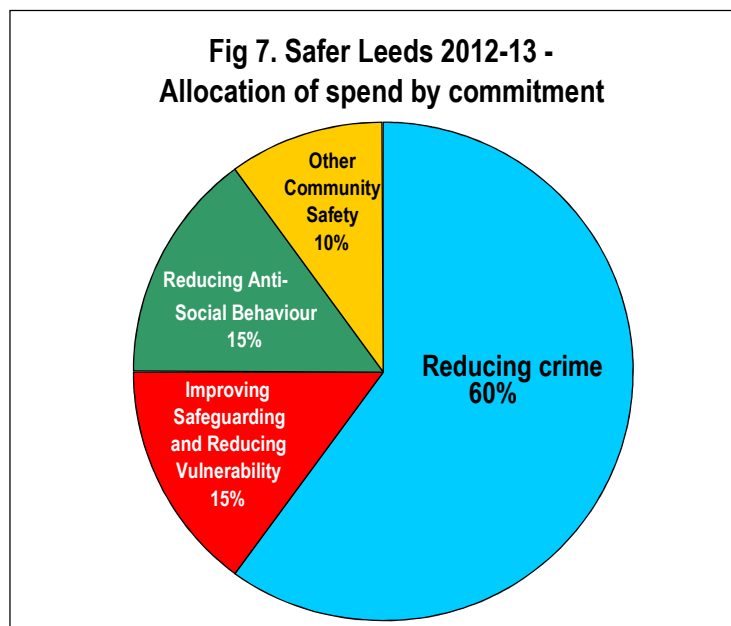
Enable action-focused spin-out projects which utilise the energy and enthusiasm of participants to get things done on the ground.

Findings of a report to identify, protect, value and enhance what is currently working to lead and keep people out of poverty in the city.

Fig 7. Leeds Poverty Challenge Timetable

3.2.4 In order to manage budget pressures caused by grant and funding reductions in 2011-12 and 2012-13, Safer Leeds reviewed and renewed its priority actions: neighbourhood operations, anti-social behaviour team, CCTV and PCSOs.

3.2.5 From 1 April 2013 new funding and decision making arrangements will be in place with the introduction of the Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs).



3.2.6 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 made way for directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners to become responsible for police governance locally and holding the local Police service and Chief Constable to account. In Leeds, this will largely replace the role currently held by the West Yorkshire Police Authority (WYPA) including the responsibility to recruit and if necessary dismiss the Chief Constable.

3.2.7 One of the main differences is that the PCC will also be responsible for funding community safety services. From April 2013 all Home Office community safety funding (currently £1.38m for Leeds) will be pooled in the PCCs West Yorkshire budget.

3.2.8 Chief Constables will retain responsibility for operational matters.

3.2.9 Councillors on Police and Crime Panels (PCPs) will have responsibilities to scrutinise and support the decisions of the PCC, and PCPs will be the joint responsibility of the 5 West Yorkshire Local Authorities.

3.2.10 The Police and Crime Panel will be made up of 12 local councillors (from: Leeds 3, Bradford 3, Calderdale 2, Kirklees 2, Wakefield 2) and 2 independent co-optees.

3.2.11 The duties of the panel will include:

- § requesting reports from the PCC, and their attendance at PCP meetings
- § requiring the PCC to respond to any concerns they have
- § making recommendations on the crime plan and annual reports
- § vetoing the PCC's appointment of the chief constable and the level of local tax (the precept level)

§ seeking a professional view from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) regarding potential dismissals of the Chief Constable

3.2.12 Wakefield Council will be the lead authority for the PCP in West Yorkshire. The Association of West Yorkshire Authorities will provide administrative and scrutiny support to members of the panel.

3.2.13 Currently a number of Safer Leeds service programmes (Anti-social Behaviour Team, Burglary Reduction, Drug Intervention and PCSOs) rely directly on the funding received from the Home Office grant, including the contributions from West Yorkshire Police. This will now be decided by the PCC rather than the Safer Leeds Executive.

3.2.14 Safer Stronger Communities Board would like the Scrutiny Board to note this change and offer any support and guidance as necessary as these changes are implemented.

3.3 Stronger Leeds – joined up working on conditions for stronger communities

3.3.1 Recent meetings of the Stronger Communities partnership have focused on better understanding what we mean by “stronger communities” and identifying the conditions required to build on and improve stronger communities working in Leeds.

3.3.2 The key strands identified to improve were in joining up:

§ Our ambitions for a “minimum offer” for every community in Leeds – access to facilities, opportunities and basic support for joint community action, a basic infrastructure for different parts of communities to identify their own strengths and needs and capacity to act on their own initiative.

§ Our ambitions to understand the needs of and support vulnerable individuals and groups in our communities – good relations with and between minority or vulnerable communities, action to prevent or minimise vulnerabilities in communities (hate crime, exploitation etc) and reliable data to understand more about our changing communities.

§ Our ambitions for a thriving community and third sector – understanding where and how we are investing in the third sector, and what kind of investment will be required to ensure all parts of the third sector (community sector, voluntary sector, small and medium social enterprises etc) are supported and can thrive.

3.4 The following statement was agreed:

We want to see all Leeds’ communities being strong and resilient: communities that can influence and shape the decisions that affect them; communities that can identify their own strengths and vulnerabilities; communities that mediate their own solutions to problems and know where to go to for help; and communities that are capable of withstanding the unanticipated when it occurs.

We want each of Leeds’ communities to be able to determine their own individual identity; to be confident of where they relate to the wider city, and to buy in to the shared Leeds

values of: community spirit, neighbourliness, tolerance and celebrating difference. This applies equally to communities of place and communities of identity. “Stronger communities” will come when we work together to achieve these aims.

3.5 It was agreed that this working definition would inform the forward work programme of the Stronger Communities Partnership, around grouped priorities of:

- building community capacity and resilience
- supporting communities to establish their own identity and how this relates to Leeds (defining how we work with minority/ marginalised/ isolated communities)
- promote a Leeds-wide buy in to shared community values and to what this means in practice: community spirit, neighbourliness, tolerance and celebrating difference

3.6 At the same time some work has been underway in different forums to look at what is needed in Leeds for an approach to working with and supporting communities more generally. This has been looked at through a variety of lenses: through the locality working “design principles” and through attempts at developing a community development strategy.

3.6.1 Work is now underway to refine our definition of “stronger communities” and to develop a “best city for communities” framework that can better support the overlaps and complexities on working with communities in Leeds so that we can make clearer investment decisions and more readily identify vulnerabilities.#

3.7 Cleaner Greener – achieving the green flag standard for inner city community parks

3.7.1 There has been good progress on improving many of the city’s community parks and we are only just short of our 2011/12 mid-point progress target of 40% of the 62 community parks meeting Green Flag standard, with a 100% target to meet by 2020.

3.7.2 However, of the 24 that currently meet the standard, 17 of these are in the outer city areas, with only 7 of the inner city parks meeting the standard. As investment in parks tends to rely heavily on funding from Section 106 planning gain funds for areas “in or near” the area of development, the outer areas (with more development scope) are more likely to benefit.

3.7.3 An investment plan to enable better targeting to help more community parks meet the standard is currently being drawn up.

4.0 Conclusions

4.1 The Safer and Stronger Communities Board has a broad remit across community safety, community capacity, community relations, street cleaning, parks and green spaces and there has been some benefit in bringing together these aspects of the city priority plan.

- 4.2** The current working arrangements for community safety work well and smart work programmes that have been developed and honed with partners on a focused crime reduction agenda are achieving results.
- 4.3** Work to bring together partners on the stronger communities agenda is much more challenging as funding is precarious, the inter-relation of factors affecting communities is complex and there are not clear duties or programmes that align to our ambitions. Achieving this alignment and clarity will be the focus of Stronger Communities in the next 12 months.
- 4.4** Working arrangements for Cleaner-Greener priorities are largely set and delivered by the Council through its statutory responsibilities and delegated functions. The work programme remains responsive to the Board's oversight however and the Board is anxious to develop more partner involvement, particularly as the agenda to promote more community involvement in cleaner spaces develops.
- 4.5** The Safer and Stronger Communities Board is satisfied that it is making progress where it can and is robustly identifying the areas that need to be improved. The Board is working jointly with other Strategic Partnership Boards on relevant areas and also taking responsibility for supporting cross-cutting priority work.

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1** That the Partnerships Scrutiny Inquiry accepts this as a report of the progress of the Board to date.
- 5.2** That the Partnerships Scrutiny Inquiry notes the contents, and offers constructive advice and critiques the partnership's activity to date.

ⁱ Meetings have taken place on 28th September 2011 (focus: setting the Board agenda); 27th January 2012 (focus: restorative practice, tackling alcohol jointly with the Health and Wellbeing Board); 23rd April 2012 (focus: after the riots, tackling troubled families with the Children's Trust Board); 16th July 2012 (focus: reducing re-offending together, preventing violent extremism, understanding welfare reform and its impact on the Safer-Stronger agenda, working with the Sustainable Economy and Culture Board on improved economic conditions for all communities); 25th October 2012 (focus: safeguarding communities, understanding the financial situation for Leeds, working with the Housing and Regeneration Board); and 28th February 2013 (focus: engaging local communities in the environmental agenda, welfare reform, setting the board agenda for the next 2 years).

ⁱⁱ "Wards of Concern" are where burglary levels are persistently the highest in the city. These are the following wards, with their percentage change in the last 12 months to May 2012: Hyde Park and Woodhouse (-27%); Burmantofts and Richmond Hill (-17.6%); Headingley (-43.1%); Armley (-38%); Gipton and Harehills (-28.8%); Killingbeck and Seacroft (-20.8%); Kirkstall (-41.0%) and Chapel Allerton (-47.1 %) and of special note, Bramley and Stanningley (-65%) have made significant improvements in the last 12 months, moving out of the top 10 wards.

ⁱⁱⁱ Delegated services: street cleansing (mechanical & manual litter picking), leaf clearing, litterbin emptying, dog warden services, littering & fly tipping regulation, domestic and commercial waste (storage & transportation

issues), highways enforcement (abandoned vehicles, nuisance vehicles, a-boards on pavements, mud on roads & placards on street furniture), graffiti enforcement and overgrown vegetation controls.

^{iv} Area Committees: There are 10 Area Committees, each covering a different part of the city. Every Councillor is on the Area Committee which covers their ward.

^v The 6 successful in the Green Flag Award are Roundhay Park, Temple Newsam, Golden Acre Park, Chevin Forest Park, Kirkstall Abbey, Pudsey Park.

^{vi} Reynolds B. Alcohol Admissions Data Analysis. 2010. NHS Leeds

^{vii} Strands that have emerged from consultation so far are: Implementing the Living Wage; Addressing uptake of Free School Meals/ aspects of nutritional poverty (i.e. including obesity/ malnutrition); Debt and financial inclusion – making the most of money, accessing it smartly; Family-care/ kinship care including grandparent carers; Other suggestions also include: Destitution where there is no recourse to public funds; Poverty in care leavers.

^{viii} Responsible Authorities – Leeds City Council, Leeds City Council Executive Member, NHS Airedale, Bradford and Leeds, West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Police Authority, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, West Yorkshire Probation Trust.

^{ix} Co-operating Bodies – Leeds Children’s Trust Board, Leeds Safeguarding Children Board, Youth Offending Service, Arms Length Management Organisations (ALMOs), HM Prison Leeds.

^x Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) are full members of the police service but some posts have been joint funded by the West Yorkshire Police Authority and Leeds City Council. West Yorkshire has the largest number of PCSOs in England and Wales outside of the Metropolitan Police.

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Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board

Date: 11th March 2013

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 15th February 2013.

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	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	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	Session 3 of the review WG 23/01/13 @ 11.30 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		
Community First Funding Initiative		Overview of community first funding in Leeds. WG 21/01/13 @ 10.30 am	
Briefings	Financial Health Monitoring/Initial 2013/14 budget proposals SB 10/12/12 @ 10 am	Initial 2013/14 budget proposals WG 08/01/13 @ 12.30 pm SB 14/01/13 @ 10 am Request for Scrutiny – SB 14/01/13	
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 ASB Team - SB 11/02/13 @ 10 am Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Bill 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		

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		
	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 4 of the review WG 04/03/13 @ 10 am	Review update SB 15/04/13 @ 10 am	
Community First Funding Initiative	Overview of community first funding in Leeds – summary note of the Board SB 11/03/13 @ 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.	Draft West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan WG 04/03/13 @ 1.30 pm	Meeting the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner SB 15/04/13 @ 10 am (TBC)	
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

FRIDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY, 2013

PRESENT: Councillor K Wakefield in the Chair

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

163 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED – That, in accordance with Regulation 4 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as exempt on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information so designated as follows:-

- (a) Appendix 4 to the report entitled, 'Bridgewater Place Wind Mitigation Measures' referred to in Minute No. 174 is exempt in accordance with paragraph 10.4(5) of Schedule 12A (3) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it contains information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings. It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the content of Appendix 4 as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information as there are potential legal implications with the proposals contained in this report.
- (b) Appendix 1 to the report entitled, 'Leeds Arena: Legal Action: Montpellier Estates Ltd.' referred to in Minute No. 177 is exempt in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) and (5) of Schedule 12A (3) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it details the actions likely to be pursued by the Council in recovering its legal costs from MEL and comments on the potential of MEL progressing an appeal of the decision. The content of the Appendix would be covered by legal privilege, as it includes the substance of communications between the Council and its lawyers, where the purpose of those communications is the giving of legal advice. It is acknowledged that there is a strong element of public interest inbuilt into the privilege itself and, that the general maintenance of confidentiality between client and lawyer is a matter which is in the public interest. Conversely, whilst there is always some public interest in disclosure and whilst there may be relatively strong public interest in the public knowing about the way forward in respect of the recovery of legal costs and the potential of an appeal, it

would seem there is little public interest in the disclosure of the advice and information contained in the Appendix.

It is, therefore, considered that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the content of the Appendix as Exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information contained in the Appendix. In addition, the Appendix contains information about an individual's and companies financial and business affairs.

- (c) Appendix B to the report entitled, 'Little London and Beeston Hill and Holbeck Housing PFI Project' referred to in Minute No. 180 is exempt in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) of Schedule 12A (3) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it contains commercially sensitive information on the Council's approach to procurement issues, financial information and commercial information in relation to the Preferred Bidder, where the benefit of keeping the information confidential is considered greater than that of allowing public access to the information.

(With regard to (b) and (c) above, as it had not been possible to make available 28 clear days ahead of the meeting a notice detailing the intention to consider the exempt parts of those reports in private, then in line with Regulation 5 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, prior agreement had been obtained from the relevant Scrutiny Board Chairs that the consideration of such matters was urgent and could not reasonably be deferred to the next meeting).

164 Late Items

With the agreement of the Chair, the following late items of business were admitted to the agenda:-

- (a) 'Leeds Arena: Legal Action: Montpellier Estates Ltd (MEL).' This report had been submitted as a late item of business, as the decision on the legal proceedings between the City Council and MEL was only handed down by the Rt. Hon. Mr Justice Supperstone on 6 February 2013. It was therefore not possible for this report to be included within the formal agenda papers. However, it was deemed appropriate that Board Members were provided with a summary of the main findings of the Hearing at the earliest opportunity and also that there was a need for the Board to determine the approach to be taken regarding the recovery of costs incurred by the Council in the legal action. A matter which could not wait until the next scheduled meeting. (Minute No. 177 refers).
- (b) 'Little London and Beeston Hill and Holbeck Housing PFI Project'. This report had been introduced as a late item of business, as the urgency of the issues and implications of further delays to the project required the immediate consideration of Executive Board. It was determined that

such matters could not be reasonably delayed until the next scheduled meeting of the Board for reasons of good governance and transparency. (Minute No. 180 refers)

165 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests

Councillor A Carter declared an Other Significant Interest in respect of the item entitled, 'Leeds Arena: Legal Action: Montpellier Estates Ltd. (MEL)', due to his involvement in the Hearing which considered the legal claims made by MEL against the Council. Such involvement arose from the fact that he was the Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Development and Regeneration during the relevant period. In view of this, other than paying tribute to the officers involved, Councillor A Carter did not contribute towards the discussion on this report and did not participate in the voting thereon. (Minute No. 177 refers).

Councillor Mulherin declared an Other Significant Interest in respect of the item entitled, 'Basic Need Programme', due to her position as Chair of Governors at Robin Hood Primary School, which was affected by the proposals detailed within the submitted report. (Minute No. 185 refers).

Councillor Golton declared an Other Significant Interest in respect of the item entitled, 'Response to Deputation to Council – Leeds and District Gardeners' Federation regarding Grow Your Own Food in Leeds and the Costs to the Council of the Allotment Model', due to his involvement with the Leeds and District Gardeners' Federation (Minute No. 172 refers).

A further declaration of interest was made at a later point in the meeting. (Minute No. 172 refers).

166 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th January 2013 be approved as a correct record.

DEVELOPMENT AND THE ECONOMY

167 West Park Centre Options Appraisal

The Director of City Development submitted a report regarding the future of the West Park Centre in the context of the outcome of the consultation undertaken with users and the current health and safety issues which led to the temporary closure of the building in November 2012.

Following the consultation undertaken to date, an options appraisal had been drawn up resulting in the following 5 options being identified in respect of the future of the West Park Centre:-

- Option 1 – Retention of the West Park Centre building in its entirety.
- Option 2 – Partial demolition of the West Park Centre and re-opening of the remainder.

- Option 3 – Demolition of the West Park Centre and new facility built on site for Artforms and other existing users.
- Option 4 – Demolition of the West Park Centre and decant to alternative premises elsewhere.
- Option 5 - Demolition of the West Park Centre and decant city wide services elsewhere with a local community facility developed on the existing site.

The Executive Member for Development and the Economy highlighted the significant number of representations which had been made on this issue and undertook to ensure that discussions would be held with all main users of the centre. The Board acknowledged that a swift, but considered response to this matter was required, in order to ensure that the most appropriate option was progressed.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report be noted.
- (b) That approval be given for officers to further develop options 2 and 5, as outlined above and as detailed within the submitted report, in consultation with potential users, with a report being submitted to Executive Board in April 2013 with detailed proposals and costs.
- (c) That the proposal to dispose of part of the West Park site that is implicit to the delivery of either options 5 or 2, as outlined above and as detailed within the submitted report, be noted.
- (d) That it be approved that the boundary between land to the immediate East of the West Park Centre and the site for the Queen Elizabeth II Fields In Trust scheme follows the existing fence line and site boundary, as detailed within Appendix 1 to the submitted report.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

168 Transforming Day Provision for People with Mental Health Needs

Further to Minute No. 163, 11th February 2011, the Director of Adult Social Services submitted a report providing information on the outcome of the extensive consultation exercise undertaken in respect of the transformation programme which had been requested by the Board. In addition, the report made recommendations for the proposed Mental Health Recovery Service for Leeds and also in respect of proposals regarding the asset bases. Finally, the report provided information on the future commissioning of the voluntary sector mental health services.

The Executive Member for Adult Social Care thanked the Mental Health Advisory Board for the valuable work which it had undertaken on this issue,

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting to be held on Wednesday, 13th March, 2013

whilst Members welcomed the content of the report and the process by which the proposals within it had been drawn up.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report and the very extensive and wide ranging consultation undertaken, be noted.
- (b) That the implementation of the proposed Mental Health Recovery Service model, as described in the submitted report, be agreed.
- (c) That the proposals in respect of the asset bases be agreed as follows:
 - Lovell Park to become a mental health hub;
 - Stocks Hill co-locates with partner organisation/s;
 - The service currently delivered from The Vale moves to Tunstall Road and The Vale is declared surplus to requirements for ASC. Consideration of use of a proportion of the capital receipt to fund improvements to Stocks Hill should be given once the service configuration is defined.
- (d) That the implementation of the proposals be agreed, together with a move towards the new model from April 2013 through to December 2013.

RESOURCES AND CORPORATE FUNCTIONS

169 Financial Health Monitoring 2012/13 - Month 9 report

The Director of Resources submitted a report setting out the Council's projected financial health position for 2012/13 after nine months of the financial year.

Given the unprecedented financial circumstances that the Council currently faced, the Chair thanked all of the officers who had contributed towards the Council's current position, which was an overall projected underspend of £600,000.

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

170 Revenue Budget 2013/2014 and Capital Programme

- (A) Leeds City Council Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2013/2014
Further to Minute No. 126, 12th December 2012, the Director of Resources submitted a report on the proposals for the City Council's Revenue Budget for 2013/2014, on the Leeds element of the Council Tax to be levied in 2013/2014 and on Council House rents for the same period, which had been prepared in the context of the Council's initial budget proposals agreed by Executive Board in December 2012 and the Local Government Finance Settlement.

Members welcomed the proposal to freeze the Leeds element of the Council Tax for 2013/14, so that it remained the same as the 2012/13 level.

A request was made that the Council ensured that the provision of resource was equitably distributed across all communities throughout the city.

In conclusion, the Chair highlighted the very significant budgetary challenges that the Council continued to face and emphasised the all-party representations which had been made to Government in respect of the Local Government Finance Settlement which had been allocated to Leeds.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That Council be recommended to approve the Revenue Budget for 2013/14 totalling £583,925,000 as detailed and explained within the submitted report and accompanying papers, with no increase in the Leeds' element of the Council Tax for 2013/14.
 - (b) That Council be recommended to approve grants totalling £123,000 to be allocated to Parishes, as detailed within paragraph 6.7 of the submitted report.
 - (c) That in respect of the Housing Revenue Account, Council be recommended to: -
 - (i) approve the budget at an average rent increase figure of 5.9%;
 - (ii) increase the charge for garage rents to £6.78 per week (based on 52 rent weeks);
 - (iii) increase service charges in line with rents (5.9%).
 - (d) That it be agreed that the line of eligibility for adult community care services remains unchanged for 2013/14.
- (B) Capital Programme Update 2013-2016
The Director of Resources submitted a report setting out the updated Capital Programme for 2013-2016 which included details of forecast resources for that period.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the following be recommend to Council:-
 - (i) That the Capital Programme, as attached to the submitted report, be approved;
 - (ii) That the Executive Board be authorised to approve in year amendments to the Capital Programme, including

transfers from and to the reserved programme in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules; and

- (iii) That the proposed Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policies for 2013/2014, as set out within paragraph 3.6 of the submitted report and as explained in Appendix E, be approved.
 - (b) That approval be given to the list of land and property sites shown in Appendix D to the submitted report, being disposed of in order to generate capital receipts for use in accordance with the MRP policy.
 - (c) That the Director of Resources be authorised to manage, monitor and control scheme progress and commitments in order to ensure that the programme is affordable.
- (C) Treasury Management Strategy 2013/2014
The Director of Resources submitted a report setting out the Treasury Management Strategy for 2013/2014 and the revised affordable borrowing limits under the prudential framework. In addition, the report also provided a review of strategy and operations in 2012/2013.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the initial treasury strategy for 2013/2014, as set out within Section 3.3 of the submitted report, and that the review of the 2012/13 strategy and operations, as set out within Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the submitted report, be noted.
- (b) That Council be recommended to set the borrowing limits for 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16, as detailed within Section 3.4 of the submitted report.
- (c) That Council be recommended to set the treasury management indicators for 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16, as detailed within Section 3.5 of the submitted report.
- (d) That Council be recommended to set the investment limits for 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16, as detailed within Section 3.6 of the submitted report.

(The matters referred to in Minute Nos. 170 (A)(a)-170(A)(c)(iii), 170(B)(a)(i)-170(B)(a)(iii) and 170(C)(b)-170(C)(d) being matters reserved to Council, were not eligible for Call In)

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5, Councillors A Carter and Golton required it to be recorded that they respectively abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within Minute No. 170(A))

171 2011 Census - Leeds: The Big Picture

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) submitted a report providing a summary of the city-wide 2011 Census results, highlighting some of the issues emerging from the results and advising of future data releases and proposals for analysis.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the issues emerging from 2011 Census be noted.
- (b) That the "Leeds: Big Picture" document be recommended to be received by all Scrutiny Boards and Directorates, with a request for them to consider what the data might mean for their service areas.
- (c) That it be recommended that future locality based assessments be referred to Area Committees for their consideration.

ENVIRONMENT

172 Response to Deputation to Council - Leeds and District Gardeners Federation regarding Grow Your Own Food in Leeds and the costs to the Council of the Allotment Model

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report responding to the deputation presented to Council on the 14th November 2012 by the Leeds and District Gardeners Federation in respect of growing your own food in Leeds and the costs to the Council of the Allotment Model.

Members welcomed the ongoing dialogue which was taking place with the Federation, highlighted the demand which existed for allotment plots throughout Leeds and acknowledged the positive impact that allotment gardening and initiatives such as 'Feed Leeds' had upon public health levels and residents' access to greenspace.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the submitted report in response to the deputation from the Leeds And District Gardeners' Federation be noted.

(Councillor A Carter declared an Other Significant Interest in relation to this item, due to his position as President of the Calverley Horticultural Society)

173 Sustainable Communities Investment Programme - Cross Green and Nevilles

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report providing details on the proposals for a programme to deliver energy efficiency works to homes and environmental improvements in the neighbourhoods of Cross Green and the Nevilles.

Members highlighted the need for investment within the Cross Green and the Nevilles neighbourhoods and welcomed the positive impact that the proposals within the submitted report would have. In addition, Members emphasised the

need for such investment initiatives to be undertaken in a comprehensive and cohesive manner, in order to ensure that the resulting improvements were maximised and also sustainable.

A request was made that the Economic Initiatives Programme was made more accessible, in order to ensure that all communities throughout the city which could potentially benefit from it, could be considered as part of the Programme in the future.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report be noted.
- (b) That the programme and project proposals for the Sustainable Communities Investment Programme for the Cross Green and the Nevilles Neighbourhoods be agreed.
- (c) That the investment of £5,000,000 from the Economic Initiatives Capital Programme for the delivery of the projects outlined in the submitted report be agreed.
- (d) That the management of the programme be delegated to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods, with further details on the major projects being received by the Board in due course.

DEVELOPMENT AND THE ECONOMY

174 Bridgewater Place Wind Mitigation Measures

The Director of City Development submitted a report providing an update on the current position regarding discussions with the owners of Bridgewater Place and advising on the results from the latest round of wind tunnel testing on the preferred building modification measures and their implications for the development of a mitigation scheme. In addition, the report informed of the interim measures which were being taken and potential future mitigation proposals within the highway to improve wind issues, whilst also seeking support for the current proposals and the potential financial implications for pursuing this option. Finally, the report provided an update on the ongoing Inquest into the death of Dr Slaney.

Following consideration of Appendix 4 to the submitted report, designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(5), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting, it was

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report in terms of the background information, interim mitigation solutions on the ground and work in progress towards a comprehensive solution, be noted.
- (b) That the continued development of work towards an agreed and deliverable solution to the wind issue be endorsed.

- (c) That in principle support be given to the proposed baffles above the highway on Water Lane, with Authority to Spend being given for the sum of £245,000 for continued wind testing, legal support, highway officer time and engineering design work in order to enable a detailed design to be provided for a baffle solution.
- (d) That a further report be brought back to Executive Board to cover the details of the design of the baffles and the cost of implementing them.

175 Proposed Extension to the Hours of Pedestrianisation of the Leeds City Centre Retail Core

The Director of City Development submitted a report in relation to the principle of extending the hours of pedestrianisation within the city centre's pedestrianised core.

The Board acknowledged the broad retail offer provided by Leeds, when compared with other city centres, and in connection with this, it was noted that the initial concerns held by a specific Member in respect of the proposals had now been addressed.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That support for the principle of extending the hours of pedestrianisation in the city centre be agreed.
- (b) That it be agreed that the proposed extension in pedestrianised hours from the current window of 10:30 – 16:30 to 10:30 until 20:00, seven days a week, is subject to statutory consultation for at least 21 days.
- (c) That a report be submitted to the Board following the conclusion of the statutory consultation period in order to consider any final proposals brought forward.

176 High Speed Rail Phase 2 (HS2) Announcement, 28 January 2013

The Director of City Development submitted a report advising on the proposals announced by the Government in respect of Phase 2 of the High Speed Rail (HS2) project contained within their Command Paper entitled, 'High Speed Rail: Investing in Britain's Future Phase Two - The route to Leeds, Manchester and beyond'.

Members welcomed the investment in the rail infrastructure and the resultant benefits that the HS2 initiative would bring to the region. However, it was emphasised that for the benefit of those communities which may be affected by the initiative, some certainty needed to be gained in respect of HS2's final route.

Members highlighted that all actions needed to be taken to ensure that the western route was developed at the earliest opportunity.

In conclusion, it was requested that in order to mitigate any potential impact and minimise uncertainty, the HS2 team be approached, with a view to facilitating greater levels of communication between HS2 and the affected communities.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Government's announcements for Phase Two of the proposed high speed rail network be welcomed.
- (b) That the content of the submitted report and the Government's proposals for taking the project forward, as published in the Command Paper, be noted.
- (c) That a further report be received at a future Executive Board concerning the Council's intentions for response, once the Government's timetable for formal consultation is known.
- (d) That the importance of early investment in the transport infrastructure at Leeds Rail Station be acknowledged, together with the fact that the rail network will be essential to making the city ready for HS2.

177 Leeds Arena: Legal Action: Montpellier Estates Ltd

The Director of City Development submitted a report summarising the main findings of the judgement handed down by the Right Honourable Mr Justice Supperstone (Mr Justice Supperstone) on 6th February 2013, concerning the two actions brought by MEL against the Council relating to the competition held by the Council in 2007 and 2008 for the development of the Leeds arena. In addition, the report also outlined the proposed action to be pursued in order to recover costs incurred by the Council in successfully defending the claims brought by MEL against Leeds City Council.

Duncan Hope, of DWF LLP solicitors, was in attendance in order to provide the Board with a brief summary of the case and the resultant judgement, as the company had been retained by the Council in order to advise on the case.

On behalf of the Council, the Board and the Chief Executive placed on record their appreciation and gratitude to all of those who had been required to give evidence on behalf of the Council throughout the case. Members highlighted the professional manner in which they had conducted themselves and impeccably represented the people of Leeds. In paying tribute to those officers involved, the Board did not only thank those who were still employed by the Council, but also highlighted those individuals who had since retired.

Following consideration of Appendix 1 to the submitted report, designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and (5), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting, it was

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report be noted.
- (b) That the Director of Resources, in consultation with the City Solicitor, be instructed and authorised to take all appropriate measures to ensure that the City Council maximises the costs recovered in successfully defending the claims brought by Montpellier Estates Ltd against the City Council.

(The matters referred to within this minute were not eligible for Call In, due to the strict timescales to which the appeals procedure operates and the timing of any application for costs needs to be made, and should an appeal be formally lodged by MEL, then the Council would need to respond without delay)

NEIGHBOURHOODS, PLANNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

178 The Community Infrastructure Levy - Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

Further to Minute No. 156, 14th December 2011, the Director of City Development submitted a report recommending the rates to be set in the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule, for the purposes of public consultation. In addition, the report outlined how such rates had been determined, including the range of supporting evidence and the requirements of the CIL Regulations.

As part of a question and answer session, officers provided Members with responses to a number of specific enquiries.

With regard to future infrastructure funding, Members highlighted the demands currently being placed upon the provision of schools, and the need to ensure that there was sufficient resource allocated to this area.

The Chief Executive highlighted the integral role of Parish and Town Councils in the CIL process, and suggested that such organisations were engaged at the earliest opportunity during the consultation exercise.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the CIL rates in the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule, including the charging zone boundaries, be agreed.
- (b) That the scope of the evidence base and associated documents supporting the setting of the CIL rates be agreed.
- (c) That approval be given to proceed with 6 weeks of formal public consultation on the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule.

179 Housing Revenue Account Business Plan Update 2013

The Director of City Development and the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a joint report setting out the main strategic priorities and progress that had been made in developing the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the progress made in delivering the self-financing HRA Business Plan be noted together with the priorities identified for managing the future Council Housing service priorities.
- (b) That the strategic priority to increase the supply of affordable housing in Leeds be agreed via:
- Local authority new build.
 - Working in partnership with private Registered Providers to release HRA sites to develop and deliver new build.
 - Disposal of HRA land to the private sector and the use of capital receipts to develop affordable housing.
 - Bringing local authority empty properties back into use.
 - Acquiring private properties into the HRA.
- (c) That it be noted that during the course of the year, future reports setting out future years strategies and modelling will be brought forward to the Executive Board.

180 Little London and Beeston Hill and Holbeck Housing PFI Project

Further to Minute No. 40, 18th July 2012, the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report providing an update on the current position of the Little London and Beeston Hill and Holbeck PFI Housing project and detailing a chronology of its delayed procurement. In addition, the report also set out the actions that the Council was taking to secure other improvements in the project areas in advance of and alongside the PFI works.

In presenting the report, the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services highlighted the frustration which had been felt by the Council, and those tenants and residents within the project areas, following receipt of the confirmation in January 2013 that the Treasury was no longer willing to accept the financial terms negotiated for the funding of the PFI project. The Executive Member then paid tribute to all of the officers involved for the swift progress which had been made on this issue since late January 2013 and highlighted that it was hoped a financial close could be achieved by July 2013.

Following consideration of Appendix B 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 Council's continued commitment to securing PFI housing investment for the neighbourhoods of Little London, Beeston Hill and Holbeck be confirmed.
- (b) That the current position on procurement of the project and the delays in reaching Financial Close be noted, and that approval be given for the strongest possible representations to be made to Government in clarifying and resolving its new requirements.
- (c) That the separate regeneration projects that are underway or planned in the Beeston Hill, Holbeck and Little London areas be noted and supported.
- (d) That the first call on the capital receipt from the sale of land at the Little London Community Hub be made to fund the relocation of the Neighbourhood Housing Office and reprovision of new community centre facilities.
- (e) That a further report setting out the confirmed financial position and a revised programme for financial close be reported to Executive Board at the earliest opportunity.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

181 Older People's Housing and Care

The Director of Adult Social Services, the Director of City Development and the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a joint report seeking approval for the implementation of a holistic, city-wide approach towards increasing and improving the range of accommodation for older people available in Leeds. The report also outlined a co-ordinated programme of activity which had been developed across the directorates of City Development, Adult Social Services and Environments and Neighbourhoods.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the requirements for specialist accommodation for older people be noted.
- (b) That support be given to the approach to investment outlined within sections 3.3-3.98 of the submitted report which includes delivery through working with housing associations and independent providers, bidding for external funding support and some direct investment in new build housing.

- (c) That the principle of the Council disposing of the sites (subject to consultation where necessary) listed at Appendix of the submitted report (sections 1.5,2.4 and 3.4) for extra care accommodation be agreed, with a further approval being sought from Executive Board for a less than best disposal, should this be required following marketing.
- (d) That the release of sites at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 (section 3.5) of the submitted report be agreed (subject to consultation where necessary) for the purpose of disposal on the open market, with the Board noting the potential to ring fence the receipts to support the delivery of the programme and the requirement for separate Executive Board approval.

182 Better Lives for the people of Leeds - Residential Care for Older People
 Further to Minute No. 67, 7th September 2011, the Director of Adult Social Services submitted a report on the progress made in respect of implementing the options which had been approved by Executive Board in September 2011 regarding long term residential care and outlining the vision for the future delivery of services in order to meet the needs of future generations of older people.

Responding to a Member's concerns, assurances were provided specifically around the geographical proximity of the sites involved, with confirmation also being provided that the consultation exercise would be meaningful and comprehensive. In addition, the Board was provided with reassurances around the timeliness of the consultation exercise and how it fitted into the Council's budget setting process.

Members highlighted the importance of ensuring that there was a mixed economy of residential care provision in Leeds, in order to ensure that it remained sustainable.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the content of the submitted report be noted, with the progress made so far in implementing the options approved by the Executive Board in September 2011 on the future of the Council's residential care homes being recognised.
- (b) That having noted that detailed consultation with those directly affected took place as part of the 'Future Options for Long Term Residential and Day Care for Older People' review in 2011, approval be given for the commencement of formal statutory consultation on the proposed options, as outlined within paragraph 5 of the submitted report, to be carried out in the same way. (This will also take into account the benefits from lessons learned and the insights gained from the consultation undertaken in 2011).

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

- 183 Better Lives for the people of Leeds - Day Centres for Older People**
Further to Minute No. 67, 7th September 2011, the Director of Adult Social Services submitted a report on the progress which had been made in delivering the options approved by Executive Board in September 2011 in respect of Day Care services for older people. In addition, the report also sought the Board's approval to undertake a formal consultation exercise on the proposed options for the future of those day centres where no recommendations had been made as part of the first phase of this programme.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report be noted with the progress made so far in implementing the options approved by the Executive Board in September the future of the Council's day centres for older people being recognised.
- (b) That having noted that detailed consultation with those directly affected took place as part of the 'Future Options for Long Term Residential and Day Care for Older People' review in 2011, approval be given for the commencement of consultation on the proposed options, as outlined within paragraph 5 of the submitted report, to be carried out in the same way. (This will also take into account the benefits from lessons learned and the insights gained from the consultation undertaken in 2011).

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

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

- 184 Response to the Deputation to Council from Leeds Students Unions regarding the Council's Support for Current and Future Students of Leeds in 3 Areas: Education, Employment and Empowerment**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report responding to the deputation presented to Council on 14th November 2012 by the Leeds University Union, Leeds Trinity Students' Union and Leeds Metropolitan Students' Union in respect of the Council's support for current and future students of Leeds in the three areas: namely, education, employment and empowerment.

The Executive Member for Children's Services paid tribute to the work of the Leeds Students' Unions in addressing the issues faced by students in the fields of education, employment and empowerment.

Members briefly discussed the availability of data illustrating the number of Leeds City Region students from disadvantaged backgrounds who had made applications to access Higher Education for the forthcoming academic year.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That support be given to an ongoing dialogue between officers and universities/colleges, both individually and collectively through the Higher Education Access: Rewarding Transforming (HEART) structures, in order to monitor and assess the impact of national funding changes and local and regional policies on the economic and social contribution students make to the city.
- (b) That support be given to the investigation of potential new channels for improving dialogue with HE students and the development of new opportunities for students to engage with schools and local communities through volunteering.
- (c) That the range of developments and initiatives already in place to support progression to higher education be noted, together with the work being undertaken to develop alternative routes to gain higher level qualifications.

185 Basic Need Programme: (A) Permission to Consult on a Further Round of School Place Expansions for 2014 and (B) Design and Cost Report for Morley Newlands Primary School

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report on two elements of the Basic Need Programme. Specifically, the report sought permission to undertake consultation on a further phase of school expansions, whilst it also sought approval to incur expenditure in respect of proposals to redevelop Morley Newlands Primary School to provide a new three form entry school to replace the existing two form entry primary school.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the consultation exercises regarding the following proposals be approved:
 - to expand Allerton Bywater Primary School from a capacity of 210 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 30 to 60 with effect from September 2014;
 - to expand Asquith Primary School from a capacity of 210 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 30 to 60 with effect from September 2014;
 - to expand St Francis Catholic Primary School Morley from a capacity of 154 pupils to 210 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 22 to 30 with effect from September 2014;
 - to expand East Ardsley Primary School from a capacity of 315 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 45 to 60 with effect from September 2014;

- to expand Robin Hood Primary School from a capacity of 315 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 45 to 60 with effect from September 2014;
 - to lower the age range of Hollybush Primary School from 5 to 11 to 3 to 11.
- (b) That expenditure of £9,396,800 from capital scheme number 16505 NEW 000 be authorised to fund the project to expand and rebuild Morley Newlands Primary School as part of Children’s Services Basic Need programme.

186 Annual Standards Report (Early Years Foundation Stage, Primary and Secondary Schools)

The Director of Children’s Services submitted a report summarising the achievement of learners at all Key Stages in 2012 and the good progress which had been made in Early Years Foundation Stage and primary and secondary education in Leeds. In addition, the report also outlined the action taken by the Council to fulfill its responsibilities to support, monitor, challenge and intervene as necessary.

By way of introduction to the report, the Executive Member for Children’s Services highlighted that across all key stages of learning, the standards achieved in 2012 had been the highest ever recorded in the city. The Executive Member paid tribute to all of the young people and staff throughout Leeds who had contributed towards this achievement, however, it was emphasised that work would continue via the Leeds Education Challenge to ensure that the progress continued.

Responding to a Member’s enquiry, officers undertook to provide Executive Board Members with Leeds’ data comparative with Core Cities, rather than that which related to the national level or statistical neighbours, as detailed within the submitted report.

Reference was made to the national GCSE English re-grading issue and its impact upon schools and individuals across the city, whilst Members specifically noted the positive progress being made with Looked After Children in Leeds.

RESOLVED – That the Board endorse and support the following:

- The progress that has been made at all key stages and the areas that need further improvement;
- The future provision of support, challenge and intervention in Leeds to ensure that progress continues to be made;
- The further development of the Leeds Education Challenge in securing improvement.

187 Updated Statement of Purpose for the Private Fostering Service, Leeds City Council

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which sought approval of the revised Statement of Purpose in respect of Leeds City Council's Private Fostering Service.

The Board discussed the timing of this report and in response to a Member's specific enquiry, officers undertook to provide the Member in question with data regarding the number of young people in Leeds who were privately fostered.

RESOLVED – That Leeds City Council's Statement of Purpose for Private Fostering Services 2012-2013 be approved.

188 Behaviour, Emotional and Social Difficulties (BESD) - Permission to consult on BESD school expansions for January 2014

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report requesting permission to consult on the proposed expansion of two Specialist Inclusive Learning Centres, proposed to take effect from January 2014, in order to meet the authority's statutory duty to secure sufficient school places for children with statements of SEN which identify a BESD need. The proposals were in parallel with linked plans to decommission the current Key Stage 2 Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), Key Stage 3 PRU and Key Stage 4 PRU, in favour of expanded BESD SILC provision, and greater locality provision by schools and partnerships of schools.

Responding to Members' enquiries, officers undertook to provide the relevant Members with a detailed briefing on several issues arising from the proposals outlined within the submitted report.

RESOLVED – That consultation exercises in respect of the following proposals be approved:

- Linked proposals to change the age range of the BESD Specialist Inclusive Learning Centre from 5 to 16 to 11 to 16, and to expand the capacity of the provision from 150 to 230 pupils using sites at Elmete Wood, Stonegate Road, the Burley Park Centre, the Hunslet Gate Centre and the Tinsill Centre with effect from January 2014;
- Proposal to expand the North East Specialist Inclusive Learning Centre (Oakwood Lane) 4-11 BESD provision from a capacity of 30 pupils aged 4-11 to 50 pupils aged 4-11 with effect from January 2014.

189 Permission to Consult on Proposals to Redevelop the Children's Services Transport Policy and Strategy

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which sought permission to move to a phase of public consultation upon the future of the discretionary elements within the current Leeds Children's Services Transport Policy. The consultation proposed would also seek to explore further opportunities to work with partners in order to improve overall provision in support of the Council's ambition to be a Child Friendly City.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting to be held on Wednesday, 13th March, 2013

In response to an enquiry, the Board was reassured that the proposed consultation exercise was in relation to the discretionary elements of the Children's Services Transport Policy only. However, it was noted that further work may be undertaken in the future in order to ensure that the Council was fulfilling its statutory obligations in this field as effectively as possible.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That a period of 28 days public Consultation, to commence on 25th February 2013, on the future of the discretionary elements of the Transport Policy, which will support the development of a new Children's Services Transport Policy, be agreed. (This may see the removal or amendment of some or all of the present discretionary aspects of the transport policy from September 2013. The consultation will also seek to explore how the Council can work with partners to enhance the wider offer and maximise opportunities that may be available).
- (b) That it be confirmed that the design and delivery of the consultation exercise should be fully informed by the views of young people, whilst ensuring that all stakeholders are encouraged to participate and to submit their own ideas on the shape, emphasis and delivery of the new policy provisions.

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

190 Permission to Consult on the Proposal to Cease the Provision of School Clothing Allowances

The Director of Children's submitted a report which outlined the current school clothing allowance scheme, recognised the availability of targeted pupil premium funding to all schools across Leeds and which sought permission to consult upon the proposal to cease the current discretionary school clothing allowance scheme for the start of the school year in September 2013 and the payments which would be paid in advance, mainly in June of 2013.

Members discussed the dialogue taking place with schools regarding the use of the Pupil Premium resource for the purposes of school clothing provision.

RESOLVED – That a consultation exercise be undertaken in February 2013 on the proposal to cease the current discretionary school clothing allowance scheme to take effect for the start of the new school year in September 2013 and payable in June of 2013.

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

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 19TH FEBRUARY 2013

**LAST DATE FOR CALL IN
OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS:** 26TH FEBRUARY 2013 (5.00 PM)

(Scrutiny Support will notify Directors of any items called in by 12.00 p.m. on 27th February 2013)

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