



NORTH WEST (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

**Meeting to be held in Guiseley Methodist Church, Off Oxford Road, LS20 9EP on
Monday, 5th November, 2012 at 2.00 pm**

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

B Anderson	-	Adel and Wharfedale;
J L Carter	-	Adel and Wharfedale;
C Fox	-	Adel and Wharfedale;
G Latty	-	Guiseley and Rawdon;
P Latty	-	Guiseley and Rawdon;
P Wadsworth (Chair)	-	Guiseley and Rawdon;
B Cleasby	-	Horsforth;
C Townsley	-	Horsforth;
D Collins	-	Horsforth;
C Campbell	-	Otley and Yeadon;
R Downes	-	Otley and Yeadon;
S Lay	-	Otley and Yeadon;

**Agenda compiled by:
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A G E N D A

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			<u>PROCEDURAL BUSINESS</u>	
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, written notice of an appeal must be received by the Chief Democratic Services Officer at least 24 hours before the meeting.)</p>	
2			<p>EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <p>1 To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report.</p> <p>2 To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information.</p> <p>3 If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-</p> <p>RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:</p>	

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
3			<p>LATE ITEMS</p> <p>To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.</p> <p>(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes.)</p>	
4			<p>DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS</p> <p>To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and paragraphs 13-18 of the Members' Code of Conduct. Also to declare any other significant interests which the Member wishes to declare in the public interest, in accordance with paragraphs 19-20 of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p>	
5			<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>To receive any apologies for absence.</p>	
6			<p>OPEN FORUM</p> <p>In accordance with Paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, at the discretion of the Chair a period of up to 10 minutes may be allocated at each ordinary meeting for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee. This period of time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair. No member of the public shall speak for more than three minutes in the Open Forum, except by permission of the Chair.</p>	
7			<p>MINUTES - 24TH SEPTEMBER 2012</p> <p>To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2012.</p>	1 - 8

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8			<p>ANNUAL COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT</p> <p>To receive the annual community safety report, providing the Area Committee with details of the community safety activity undertaken during the last 12 months.</p>	9 - 28
9			<p>WEST YORKSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE (WYFRS) - PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES TO EMERGENCY COVER IN WEST YORKSHIRE</p> <p>To receive a report bringing to the attention of the Area Committee the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Services' consultation document which provides outline proposals for addressing the challenges of a reducing budget and the realignment of resources following a dramatic reduction in risk and demand over the past 10 years.</p>	29 - 90
10			<p>WELL-BEING FUND BUDGET REPORT</p> <p>To receive a report providing the Area Committee with an update on the current amount of revenue and capital funding committed and available via the Area Committee well-being budgets for wards in the Outer North West.</p>	91 - 98
11			<p>AREA UPDATE REPORT</p> <p>To consider the report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access & Performance) providing Members with information on a range of Area Committee business, including key messages from forums and sub groups, together with project and service activity.</p>	99 - 112
12			<p>AREA CHAIRS FORUM MINUTES</p> <p>To receive a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) providing a brief overview of the Area Chair's Forum minutes.</p>	113 - 122

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13			<p>DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>2pm, Monday 10th December 2012. Civic Hall, Calverley Street, Leeds, LS1 1UR.</p> <p>MAP OF TODAY'S MEETING</p> <p>Guiseley Methodist Church, Off Oxford Road, LS20 9EP</p>	123 - 124

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Agenda Item 7

NORTH WEST (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor P Wadsworth in the Chair

Councillors B Anderson, C Campbell,
J L Carter, B Cleasby, C Fox, C Townsley,
P Latty, G Latty, P Wadsworth, D Collins
and S Lay

16 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

17 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no resolutions to exclude the public.

18 Late Items

There were no late items added to the agenda.

19 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests

Councillor Cleasby declared a significant other interest in Agenda item 10 'Well - Being fund Budget Report' as a Member of the Horsforth Live at Home Scheme (minute 25 refers).

20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Downes.

21 Open Forum

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

On this occasion, there were no members of the public present.

22 Minutes - 18th June 2012

The minutes of the North West Outer Area Committee meeting held on 18th June 2012 were approved as a correct record.

23 Matters Arising

Minute No.13. Area Committee Sub Groups

The Area Committee were informed that a representative of Leeds Bradford Airport would be in attendance at the meeting to be held on 5th November 2012 and that a tour of Leeds Bradford would be arranged for Members prior to the meeting.

24 Consultation on expansion of primary school provision for September 2014

The Senior Planning and Bids Manager, Elizabeth Lowes, presented a report of the Director of Children's Services. The report briefed the Area Committee on the proposals being brought forward in response to rising demand for reception places city wide, in particular those impacting on the outer north west area. The report also provided a general update on place pressure issues in the outer north west.

The Director of Children's Services, Nigel Richardson was also in attendance.

Members raised their concerns about the school's chosen for expansion and highlighted the developments which are proposed for the outer north west area of Leeds which will require primary school provision. Members requested that they be provided with planned expansions as early as possible.

Members also considered the problem of getting children into the school's closest to them.

A request was made to officers present for information on the reception class numbers for 2013/14 for the schools in Horsforth and Otley.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the report be noted;
- (b) that Members of the Area Committee respond to officers on an individual basis with their response to the consultation; and
- (c) that officers present provide information requested by Members during the discussion of this item.

25 Remobilisation of the New Generation Transport (NGT) Scheme: Current Position and Public Consultation

It was agreed by the Chair that agenda item 12 be heard at this point during the meeting due to officer availability.

The NGT Project Manager presented a report of the New Generation Transport Team which provided an update on NGT scheme including the rationale for the scheme.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday, 5th November, 2012

Vanessa Allen, NGT Planning and Urban Design Manager and Dave Haskins NGT Project Director (West Yorkshire Metro) were also in attendance to help answer Member questions.

Members asked questions about the consultation process and how they would be continued to be briefed on the scheme. Concerns were also raised about the integration of bus services and ensuring that services to outer north west Leeds are not damaged by the introduction of NGT and its proposed route.

Members also questioned officers present about the expansion of NGT to other areas of the City and how parking would be managed for people wishing to leave their cars on the outskirts of the city and travel to the centre using NGT.

Members requested that ward members be briefed further through the North West Area Committee Transport Sub Group.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the report and on going consultation be noted; and
- (b) that a further briefing be provided to the North West Area Committee Transport Sub Group.

26 Well-Being Fund Budget Report

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) submitted a report outlining the current position statement of the Area Committee's Wellbeing budget, detailing for determination those expressions of interest received for Wellbeing funding and presenting for information those small grant applications which had been received to date.

During this item the CCTV maintenance cost was considered with Members questioning whether the maintenance of the CCTV cables was spread evenly between all the wards of Leeds.

During discussion of well being funding Members considered that further information was required on what other funding Horsforth Live at Home Scheme received.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the current position of the Well Being Budget, as set out in Section 2 and Section 3 of the submitted report be noted;
- (b) that the following be agreed in respect of those expressions of interest received for Wellbeing funding, as detailed within Section 4 of the submitted report; and

Name of Project: Yeadon Festive Lights
Ward Affected: Otley & Yeadon
Name of delivery organisation: Leeds Lights (LCC)
Decision £3,550 revenue **APPROVED**

Name of Project: Guiseley & Rawdon Festive Lights
Ward affected: Guiseley & Rawdon
Name of delivery organisation: Leeds Lights (LCC)
Decision: £2,550 revenue **APPROVED**

Name of Project: Horsforth Festive Lights
Ward affected: Horsforth
Name of delivery organisation: Horsforth Town Council
Decision: £2,100 revenue **APPROVED**

Name of Project: Horsforth CCTV
Ward affected: Horsforth
Name of delivery organisation: LeedsWatch
Decision : £3,679.40 revenue **APPROVED**

Name of Project: Replacement of Water Supply Pipe
Ward affected: Adel & Wharfedale
Name of delivery organisation: Robert Craven Memorial Hall
Decision: £2,500 revenue **APPROVED**

Name of Project: AVSED IT System
Ward affected: Guiseley & Rawdon and Otley & Yeadon
Name of delivery organisation: Aireborough Voluntary Services to the Elderly with Disabilities
Decision: £2,400 revenue (£1,200 G&R, £1,200 O&Y) **APPROVED**

Name of Project: Sir George Martin Drive Footway
Ward affected: Adel & Wharfedale
Name of delivery organisation: Highways and Transportation (LCC)
Decision : £6,000 revenue **APPROVED** – subject to written confirmation being received that the area being paved does not cover any private property not owned by the Council.

Name of Project: Surprise View Car Park
Ward affected: Guiseley & Rawdon and Otley & Yeadon
Name of delivery organisation: Friends of Chevin Park
Decision: £2,500 revenue **APPROVED**

Name of Project: Horsforth Live at Home Gardening Scheme
Ward affected: Horsforth
Name of Delivery Organisation: Horsforth Live at Home Scheme
Decision: £2,450 **DEFERRED** – further information to be sought as to other sources of funding received by the group.

(c) that confirmation be sought as to the distribution costs for laying CCTV cables to all wards in Leeds.

27 Children's Services Update Report to Area Committees - Outer North West

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which provided the Area Committee with an update on Children's Services Developments.

The recent Local Ofsted Inspections were noted by Members and congratulations passed to Children's Services staff involved in these inspections. However disappointment was also expressed that no schools had achieved an outstanding Ofsted report.

Members discussed the report in detail specifically in terms of how the North West Outer area compares to other areas of the City.

Members also questioned officers about the analysis of and reasons for school non attendance and as part of this discussion the meanings of some of the terms used within the performance information provided in the Appendices to the report.

Admission information on Newlaithes and Featherbank school's was requested by Cllr Cleasby.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the report be noted; and
- (b) that the report and appendices be referred to the North West Outer Area Committee Children and Young People Sub Group for further detailed analysis; and
- (c) that admissions information on Newlaithes and Featherbank Primary Schools be provided as requested.

28 West North West Homes Leeds Involvement in Area Committee

West North West Home submitted a report which outlined the purpose of West North West Homes Leeds involvement in Area Committees, and to explore ways of making that involvement as meaningful and productive as possible.

Members asked questions about estate grading and inspections and requested some of the inaccuracies in the division of the estates and areas be corrected. Members commented on the estates rated acceptable and what was being done to improve these.

Communication to residents was also raised in discussion with Members feeling that it was important that residents were informed as to how their estate was performing.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that action plans for estates rated acceptable be forwarded to Members of the Area Committee;
- (b) that West North West Home publicise the results of the estate grading and inspections;
- (c) that a further 6 monthly update report be received by the Area Committee at its meeting on 25th March 2013; and
- (d) that the report be noted.

29 Community Right to Bid

The Acting Chief Asset Management Officer submitted a report which updated the Area Committee on developments with Community Right to Bid and advised of the implementation date.

Members considered the role of the neighbourhood forums in consultation and nomination of assets and also asked the officer present about how Community Right to Bid worked in practice and what obligations the landowner was under.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

30 Area Update Report

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) submitted a report which brought together a range of information regarding Area Committee business.

The Area Improvement Manager, Jane Pattison, informed the Area Committee about Neighbourhood Planning which had been discussed at the Policy Sub Group Meeting on 1st August 2012. The Area Committee agreed that support should be given to local groups and members in relation to Neighbourhood Planning. Members requested that a small grant be made for Neighbourhood Planning.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the report be noted; and

- (b) that a small grant be made by the Area Committee for Neighbourhood Planning activities.

31 Area Chairs Forum Minutes

The Area Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive Customer Access and Performance. The report formally notified Members that the minutes of Area Chair's Forum meetings will be brought to Area Committee meetings as a regular agenda item and presented for comment the minutes of the Area Chairs' Forum meeting held on 12th March 2012.

Members considered the minutes of the Area Chair's forum meeting.

RESOLVED – that the contents of the report be noted.

32 Appointment of Area Committee Representation upon Leeds Initiative Area Based Partnership Groups/Corporate Carers' Group

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) and the Chief Officer (Democratic and Central Services) submitted a report which provided background to local Member representation upon Leeds Initiative Area Based Partnership groups and also the Council's Corporate Carer's Group, and invited the Committee to determine the Elected Member appointments to those groups.

RESOLVED – The Area Committee resolved that:

- (a) Councillor P Latty be appointed to the Corporate Carers' Group;
- (b) Councillor G Latty be appointed to the Area Health and Wellbeing Partnership; and
- (c) Councillor S Lay be appointed to the Divisional Community Safety Partnership.

33 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

2pm 5th November 2012, Guiseley Methodist Church, Off Oxford Road, LS20 9EP.

The meeting concluded at 4:45pm

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Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Report to North West (Outer) Area Committee

Date: 5th November 2012

Subject: Annual Community Safety Report

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

Summary of main issues

This report provides crime statistics for Outer North West Leeds and details of key activity to address crime and anti social behaviour issues.

Recommendations

The Area Committee is asked to:

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

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report is the annual community safety report, providing Members with details of the community safety activity undertaken during the last 12 months. The report will also provide details of crime data, making comparisons with previous years.

2 Background information

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 2.4 It is also important to note that one offender can commit many offences in a short period of time and this can lead to significant increases in crime figures. For example, where six cars are damaged in a street, this would lead to six reports of criminal damage.

- 2.5 The North West Divisional Community Safety Partnership is a multi agency partnership chaired by the Police and West North West Homes and includes partners from Fire Service, Leeds University, Youth Service, Youth Offending Service, Safer Leeds and Community Safety Lead Member representatives from each of the four Area Committees in West North West Leeds. The Partnership meets four times a

year and sets the strategic direction for partnership work, examining performance and agreeing priorities. The work of the group is accountable to the Safer and Stronger Communities Board, who receives regular reports of the activity undertaken.

3 Summary of key Actions

3.1 The following key actions have been delivered through the Divisional Community Safety Partnership during the last 12 months:

3.2 Multi Agency Tasking. This group meets monthly and it's membership includes; Safer Leeds (Co-chair), Police (Co-chair), Area Management, West North West Homes, Fire Service, Youth service, Attendance Management, Environmental Action Team, Clusters and Leeds ASB Team. The group aims to direct partnership resources to tackle the priorities set by the Divisional Partnership and from local agency intelligence.

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

- Planning and delivering action days to tackle specific problems; action days were held in the following areas: Weston Estate, Holt Park, King Georges, Westfields.
- Tackling anti social behaviour problems at Guiseley, Yeadon, Holt Park, St James
- Police crime reduction training delivered to 48 staff across the partnership including Housing Officers, Leeds ASB Team and other partners
- planning and contributing to 12 months of community engagements events held across Outer North West. Partners used these events to engage with residents about crime, grime and anti social behaviour priorities and work being undertaken in communities.

3.3 Multi agency action days are delivered in partnership and aim to tackle crime, anti social behaviour and environmental issues within an agreed area. During the action day a number of agencies come together to focus their activity in this geographical area, joining together to have a greater impact. Considerable effort goes into preparation for an action day and also in taking forward the work from the day itself. During the last 12 months, 6 action days have been held in the Outer area focusing on Holt Park (2 separate occasions), Weston Estate (2 separate occasions), King Georges, Westfields. The combined results for the year include:

- Over 1000 ASB leaflets distributed to increase and encourage reporting
- Over 50 ASB complainant visits
- Over 500 tenancy visits by West North West Homes
- Over 1000 leaflets promoting home fire safety checks from Fire Service
- over 100 smoke detectors installed
- 5 arrests

3.4 Immobilise.com. During the last 12 months Safer Leeds and WNW Homes have funded equipment used by the Neighbourhood Policing Team to provide easy access to Immobilise.com which is the world largest register of property. Immobilise.com

links to the Police National Property database and is successful in returning over 250 items back to their rightful owners every week. There are two types of equipment purchased through this initiative. The first is called Hermes and its sole purpose is to make it easier to create an immobilise.com account and then register property onto the account using a barcode scanner which automatically registers model and serial numbers of property such as phones, games consoles, laptops, etc. Where a barcode is not present these details can also be entered manually. The second piece of equipment is called Apollo and is only available to the Police. This equipment is used to identify whether property (logged on the Police National Property database) has been reported lost or stolen. The Apollo is used on visits to second hand stores, the execution of warrants and is available in the Police property stores. Over the last 12 months over 10,000 registrations have been undertaken by the Neighbourhood Policing Teams, Leeds Met, Leeds University and Trinity.

- 3.5 Local Lettings Policy. In March 2012 a local lettings policy was introduced in Holt Park to reduce the choice of offenders to live in Council accommodation in areas where they are offending. The policy draws a boundary around a geographical area and asks applicants who want to be rehoused in 1 bedroom accommodation in this area to undergo a check against the Councils asb database and Police systems. Where someone fails this test their housing application is bypassed for the property and a referral is made to Signpost who offer support to address offending behaviour.
- 3.6 Operation Optimal. This initiative was introduced in February 2012 by West Yorkshire Police. The initiative looks at where recent burglaries have occurred and then maps areas of concern down to street level. Police patrols are then deployed to these streets to reduce the number of burglaries. This analysis is also shared with partners at the Universities, Fire Service and Council (WNW Homes for example) who will give these areas high visibility presence. Where burglaries do occur the victim is visited and provided with crime reduction advice and signed upto immobilise.com. Neighbouring properties (back, front and either side) are also visited, offered crime reduction advice and signed upto Immbolise.com, if appropriate.
- 3.7 Off Road Bikes. The cost of this project is shared across the four Area Committee areas, with each Area Committee contributing £1,500 per annum towards the running costs of two vehicles. The Bikes are deployed across the Division to patrol greenspaces or to target specific problems. The vehicles are effective in reducing anti social behaviour and low level crime, particularly on green spaces providing reassurance to those using parks and greenspaces. The vehicles have also been used during specific initiatives such as action days or more focused initiatives in conjunction with the council's Park Ranger Service. A dedicated (answer phone) telephone number has been set up for the service (0113 2395092) to deal with calls about nuisance bikes and this number is publicised in community newsletters and the Police Neighbourhood Policing Team Website.
- 3.8 CCTV. The Area Committee funds the permanent citing of a number of CCTV cameras in Horsforth (2), Yeadon (3) & Otley (5). The cameras are monitored by Leedswatch based within Safer Leeds. There are five additional cameras in Horsforth. CCTV footage has been used in relation to 6 arrests within the North West Leeds, for a variety of offences including burglary, robbery, theft, criminal damage,

sexual assault, outraging public decency, offensive weapons, drug offences and public disorder, more detailed information is presented at 4.0.

- 3.9 Hate Crime Marac. This multi agency meeting meets each month to look at hate crime incidents across the Division. The meeting is chaired and supported by Safer Leeds and seeks to support victims, take firm action against perpetrators and address any location based issues which need additional attention, through action days for example. During the last 12 months 41 cases have been discussed at this meeting.
- 3.10 Offender Management. In January 2012 West Yorkshire Police and Safer Leeds arranged for a number of partners to come together and look at what additional focused support could be provided to individuals involved in burglary and other priority crime. The group is chaired by Safer Leeds with support from the Divisional Neighbourhood Policing Support Team and brings together representatives from Sign Post, Probation, Youth Offending Service, WNW Homes, Leeds ASB Team, Connexions and Attendance Management. The group seeks to address the support needs of individuals and families to help them to stop offending, this support could be through training opportunities provided through Connexions, additional support by Youth Offending Service, Signpost working with the family offering intensive support. Since its inception the group has discussed 16 individuals and taken 6 individuals off the list due to either engagement with services and reduction in offending or incarceration (resulting in a reduction in offending). The list of individuals is fluid with about 10 on the list at any given time. This initiative has been piloted in Inner West and Inner North West and has now been expanded to include Outer North West.
- 3.11 No Cold Calling Zones. The Area Committee provided funding to set up Cold Calling zones in Guiseley, Rawdon, Horsforth, Otley and Yeadon. A Cold Calling zone aims to stop people calling at properties without an appointment and signs are placed on the streets in the scheme. The intention is that the scheme will make it easier to spot bogus traders, who will stand out, as genuine traders will abide by the signs. The scheme covers 1661 homes covering more than 50 streets and was delivered in collaboration with Trading Standards. Work is underway to expand the scheme into Adel.
- 3.12 Operation Alaska. This operation targeted vehicles who transport refuse (particular focus on metal) and involved stopping the vehicles and examining the type of waste they were carrying, any defects evident on the vehicle, the type of fuel being used and if the driver had appropriate insurance and a waste carriers license. Taxi License Officers also assisted and took the opportunity to undertake checks on taxis. Agencies involved in the Operation include DVLA, Environmental Action Team and taxi Licensing Officers. Two successful Operations were delivered during this period resulting in 48 stops, 8 fixed penalty notices, 7 vehicles seized, 17 vosa notices, 20 trading standard warning letters.
- 3.13 Speed Indication Device (SID) / Speed Gun. This project was funded during the 2009/10 Area Committee cycle and the project continues to run. The Wellbeing grant was used to match fund the purchase of a Speed Indication Device (available to community groups) and a speed gun for use by the Police. The process for identifying speeding concerns is now well established through PACT (Partners and Community Together) meetings and community members go out with this equipment. Where concerns are evidenced through the SID, these are referred for attention using the

speed gun. Vehicles identified through the SID are sent a letter about their speed, to date over 2,000 letters have been sent through this initiative.

3.14 CASAC. The Area Committee has funded £20,000 of target hardening to be used to provide match funding for residents. The scheme pays £75 towards the cost of a basic target hardening package, with the resident paying the remaining £75. If additional work is required beyond the basic package then residents are asked to fund this, examples include additional external door locks. Police statistics are used to identify streets to promote target hardening and PCSOs undertake door step engagement with residents and provide crime reduction advice. The Community Safety sub group receives regular update reports about the work undertaken through this project and the last monitoring return provided details of the project which commenced in December 2010 and ended in March 2012. This return showed that 330 properties were target hardened through the whole project which exceeded the 320 property target set for the project.

4.0 CCTV

4.1 LeedsWatch provides a monitoring service for public space surveillance cameras covering open spaces across Leeds. The CCTV control room is staffed, and cameras are recorded 24 hours per day, 365 days a year. The service also provides two mobile CCTV vehicles for deployment within communities across Leeds. The main objective of the service is to reduce crime and the fear of crime through the use of CCTV technology, leading to improved crime prevention, and an increase in the detection and prosecution of offenders. The LeedsWatch service works in partnership with a large number of internal and external partners such as; Urban Traffic Control (UTC), Emergency Planning, Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT), West Yorkshire Police, WY METRO and other Local Authorities across the West Yorkshire sub-region

4.2 CCTV is one of a number of Service functions delegated to Area Committees. The Area Committee's role in relation to this function is to 'maintain an overview of the service in the Committee area and receive regular information about it.' There are currently a total of 14 public space surveillance CCTV camera's monitoring the Inner North West Committee Area, via the Central CCTV Control Room at Middleton, they are located in the following areas:

Yeadon – Otley – Horsforth

The total charges levied to the Outer North West Area Committee regarding public space surveillance camera(s) are outlined as follows:

Location	Monitoring and Maintenance	BT Charges	Total cost
New Road Side Horsforth	£1000	£821	£1821
Old Ball Roundabout Horsforth	£1000	£1,225	£2,225

Otley (5 cameras)	£5000	£6,863	£11,863
Yeadon (3 cameras)	£3,000	£3,442	£6,442

- 4.3 Within the Outer North West Committee Area there has been a total of 6 arrests on camera for offences of assault (3 arrests) and 3 arrests for driving over the prescribed limit recorded between April 2011 and March 2012. CCTV footage has been requested in relation to 79 further incidents within the Outer North West area for a various number of offences which provides evidence in relation to the criminal investigations relevant to identification of suspect(s).
- 4.4 Within the last 12 months the mobile vans have been deployed for a total of 4 months within the Pudsey / Weetwood Policing Area and patrols have been deployed in specific areas highlighted by the police in relation to identified crime 'hot spots'. The vehicles are evenly deployed throughout the year between the three policing divisional areas. The deployment of the mobile vans is co-ordinated by the police. The service this year has undertaken a critical role in the delivery of the Leeds Burglary Reduction programme, assisting with the identification and detection of offenders using the City wide Leedswatch network, mobile CCTV vans and the West Yorkshire Police Automatic Number Plate Recognition (APNR) system to detect cross boundary offenders and supporting city wide and locality based operations.
- 4.5 Improving the Out of Hours Noise Nuisance service – Noise nuisance is a major cause for concern across the city. This service was transferred from Environmental Services in April 2012. The out of hours noise nuisance service supports the work of the Leeds ASB Teams by providing evidence in relation to noise nuisance cases.
- 4.6 Supporting the city's most vulnerable residents is also a priority. The Leedswatch service is now responsible for providing a first response to Care Ring alarms. On call 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, this service responds to alarms from mainly elderly clients who may have fallen or find themselves in need of support. Officers attend to the alarm call and contact emergency services, family members or other appropriate individuals, staying with the client to provide support and re-assurance until further help arrives.
- 4.7 The Leedswatch service is now responsible for the delivery of a number additional service responsibilities. In order to ensure that the service is making the best use of its resources, a full service restructure has now commenced with a view to offering best value for the department. In particular discussions are still taking place with the Anti-Social Behaviour Teams, Environmental services, West Yorkshire Police and the ALMOs to look at how the various services can better linked together to improve service delivery, collate accurate information for service users and to provide a more pro-active response to issues of public concern, through improved collating of data / information and intelligence sharing between agencies.

5.0 Leeds Anti Social Behaviour Team

- 5.1 Following a 14 month city wide review into how partner agencies across Leeds work together to tackle anti-social behaviour, the newly re-structured, multi-agency, Leeds

Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT) became fully operational on Monday 4th April 2011. There are three area based teams, covering the East, West and South of the City. The West Team comprises of staff drawn from Leeds City Council, West North West homes Leeds, West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service and Victim Support.

5.2 All anti-social behaviour (ASB) cases are managed within the team from 'cradle to grave', and ASB Case Officers cover defined area based patches. The team works closely with a range of agencies to tackle ASB, provide support, and improve community safety within estates across all tenure types

5.3 A full evaluation of the first 12 months of the new service has been undertaken that has surpassed expectation and is showing significant improvements in our collective response to ASB.

5.4 Performance Data

Enquiries are requests for service from the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team and come via the contact centre, the local housing office, West Yorkshire Police, Stop Hate UK and elected members and MP's. The service standard for response is 1 or 2 working days dependent on the nature of the behaviour being reported.

1 & 2 Day response to Enquiries from Contact Centre -

1009 enquires were received in 2011/12. 79.8% of these enquiries relate to ALMO properties.

70.2% of enquiries were responded to within service standards. 29.4% did not record a one or two day response (noting not all enquiries logged as an LASBT enquiry type are allocated to LASBT).

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

The year end cumulative performance for this measure is 78.5% of customers were contacted within 10 days of a case being opened.

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

The year end cumulative performance for this measure is 81.6% of customers were contacted every 10 days.

SSTD4 – Initial Contact with Perpetrator – (service standard 10 days)

The year end cumulative performance for this measure is 75.5% of perpetrators were contacted within 10 days of a case being opened.

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

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

The performance data for 2011/12 is shown below;

Customer Satisfaction with service - 4 week case onset survey –

75% of respondents stated they were either satisfied, or very satisfied with the service they had received although note that the team achieved 100% performance in January, February and March.

Customer Satisfaction with service – Closed Case survey -

81% of respondents stated they were either satisfied, or very satisfied with the service they had received. 88.8% of respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied with the investigation carried out by the Case Officer.

5.7 ASB Caseload

The table below shows a breakdown of the cases investigated in the Inner North West area during 2011/2012.

Ward Boundaries	Number of Cases Investigated
Horsforth	8
Guiseley & Rawdon	11
Adel & Wharfedale	17
Otley & Yeadon	20

5.8 ASB Case Studies by Ward Area

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

Adel and Wharfedale

A tenant was evicted from the Holt Park area following numerous cannabis plants being found in his property. Also in the Holt Park area, a man was evicted following numerous reports of loud music, rowdy behaviour, threats and violence.

A further application for a Possession Order is currently going through the county court on another tenant in Holt Park who has also been made subject of an injunction. Several ABC's are also in place on youths causing ASB and nuisance. Referrals have been made to Signpost where appropriate.

Horsforth

An injunction was obtained on a tenant who was causing noise nuisance as well as being abusive to local residents and not being in control of her dog.

Guiseley and Rawdon

Possession action is ongoing against a tenant for possession of class A drugs and steroids.

Otley and Yeadon

A multi-agency Action Day was undertaken on the Weston Estate in Otley to raise awareness of LASBT and to encourage reporting.

5.9 Domestic Noise Service

Officers dealing with domestic noise nuisance, previously in the Environmental Protection Team, moved across to the Leeds ASB Team on 1st October 2012. The three Officers who moved across are now managed by the ASB Team Managers and work closely with LASBT West Case Officers. There are cases which are a complex mix of noise and anti social behaviour and Officers are working jointly on these cases. Work has started to rewrite procedures which aim to offer the most effective and efficient outcome for victims. However, this joint working practice is already in place and has led to improved outcomes when dealing with cases where domestic noise is associated with anti-social behaviour. Officers are working together by undertaking joint visits and installing noise monitoring equipment quicker in appropriate cases. Cases involving just domestic noise such as loud music where a statutory noise nuisance has been proved are now being taken down a tenancy enforcement route presenting a much quicker outcome as information is being shared more effectively.

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

5.10 Community Ownership

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

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

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

6.0 Analysis of Crime Figures

6.1 Appendix 1 provides an overview of crime figures for all 4 wards which make up Outer North West Leeds (Adel & Wharfedale, Guiseley & Rawdon, Horsforth, Otley & Yeadon). The figures presented cover the period April 2008 – March 2012 and relate

to all crime types, including Fraud & Forgery, handling stolen goods, sexual offences and other thefts.

- 6.2 During this period crime has fallen in three of the four wards, Guiseley & Rawdon (36 less crimes), Horsforth (62 less crimes), Otley & Yeadon (79 less crimes). Adel and Wharfedale did experience an increase in overall crime, 138 more crimes a 16% increase. Work is underway to address this. Despite this increase, crime is still lower than it was in 2008/09 (1077 crimes in 2008/09 compared to 999 crimes in 2011/12). This is a reduction of 78 crimes over the four year period (8%). It is important to note that these figures include all crimes as mentioned above. The following paragraphs will explore these outturns in more detail.
- 6.3 The subsequent Appendices (numbered 2 – 5) will concentrate on the following crime types: burglary, robbery, theft of and theft from vehicles, criminal damage and violent crime.
- 6.4 Appendix 2, provides an overview for Adel & Wharfedale ward and shows that the majority of crime reduced, with the exception of theft from motor vehicle which increased by 60 offences, an increase of 21%.
- 6.5 A significant number of these offences have been committed at Lawnswood Crematorium and a recent arrest has seen a dramatic reduction in offences. Theft from motor vehicles remains a challenging area with vehicle users leaving valuables on display in vehicles or leaving vehicles unlocked or with windows open. Various tactics are used to help get the message across about not leaving valuables on display, examples include knocking on doors to inform residents that they have left their vehicle insecure or with items on display, making a note of vehicle registrations and asking DVLA to write to vehicle owners and remind them not to leave goods on display and capture car deployment into hotspot areas.
- 6.6 During this period, the following work was delivered in Adel & Wharfedale:
- two action days in Holt Park focusing on engagement with residents about noise and anti social behaviour
 - 87 properties were target hardened through the CASAC target hardening project
 - A community Safety themed forum meeting was held in Holt Park, discussing local crime and anti social behaviour issues
 - Specific work was undertaken to tackle anti social behaviour in Holt Park and this work resulted in the issuing of 7 acceptable behaviour contracts
 - The introduction of a local letting policy for the Holtdales
 - Key messages about burglary and dark nights delivered through schools via the clusters
 - Fire Service talks to Prince Henry school about “gone in a flash” relating to bonfire night and firework safety
- 6.7 Guiseley & Rawdon saw reductions across all crime types during this period, of note were 36 fewer burglaries (29%) and 38 less Theft from motor vehicle offences (30% reduction). During this period, the following work was delivered in Guiseley & Rawdon:

- An Action day on the Westfield estate
- 89 properties were target hardened through the CASAC target hardening project
- Key messages about burglary and dark nights delivered through schools via the clusters
- Fire Service talks to Benton Park, Guiseley and St Marys schools about “gone in a flash” relating to bonfire night and firework safety

6.8 Horsforth saw reductions across all crime types with the exception of criminal damage which experienced an increase of 15 offences (10%). The following work was delivered in Horsforth during this period:

- Two action days at St James and King Georges focusing on anti social behaviour
- Particular attention to the Newlays to tackle burglary with PCSOs door knocking properties and providing crime reduction advice
- 78 properties were target hardened through the CASAC target hardening project
- Key messages about burglary and dark nights delivered through schools via the clusters
- Fire Service talks to Horsforth High school about “gone in a flash” relating to bonfire night and firework safety

6.9 Appendix 5 provides details for Otley & Yeadon and shows a decrease in all crime types with significant reductions in burglary 61 offences (41%). This follows an increase during the previous year and the additional work and effort during the previous 12 months has lead to this decrease, examples include:

- Two action days on the West Estate to tackle crime and anti social behaviour
- The introduction of a local lettings policy for Hawksworth Wood
- An environmental visual audit of Burley (Haddons and surrounding streets) undertaken to identify and refer any environmental issues impacting on crime and the fear of crime for example overgrown hedges, obscured or broken street lighting, graffiti, untidy communal areas, etc
- 76 properties were target hardened through the CASAC target hardening project
- Key messages about burglary and dark nights delivered through schools via the clusters
- Fire Service talks to Prince Henry School about “gone in a flash” relating to bonfire night and firework safety
- One-way ticket road safety event held at Prince Henry talking to year groups about road safety with the father of a road safety accident as a speaker

7 Corporate Considerations

7.1 Consultation and Engagement

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

7.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

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

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

7.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

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

7.4 Resources and Value for Money

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

7.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

7.6 Risk Management

Risk implications and mitigation are considered for each project.

8 Conclusions

8.1 Crime across the three wards of Horsforth, Guiseley & Rawdon, Otley & Yeadon has reduced during this period. Adel & Wharfedale ward saw an increase in crime during this period and work has started to address this increase by engaging with residents through the Holt Park Tenants & Residents Association and Adel Association, with presentations from appropriate officers and partner agencies and deploying resources in the ward to tackle specific issues such as anti social behaviour, criminal damage and theft from motor vehicle.

8.2 Operational Optimal is delivered across the Outer North West area and early evidence is that this is reducing burglary in target areas. The burglary analysis is shared with partners so they can assist when deploying resources to these areas, WNW Homes Officers wearing high visibility jackets in these areas as an example. Outer North West does have some areas of repeat anti social behaviour which require attention. Work is planned to bring partners together to collectively identify and address the issues driving anti social behaviour in these neighbourhoods. The first of these

workshops is planned in November and will result in actions which partners will agree to deliver over the coming months.

9.0 Recommendations

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

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

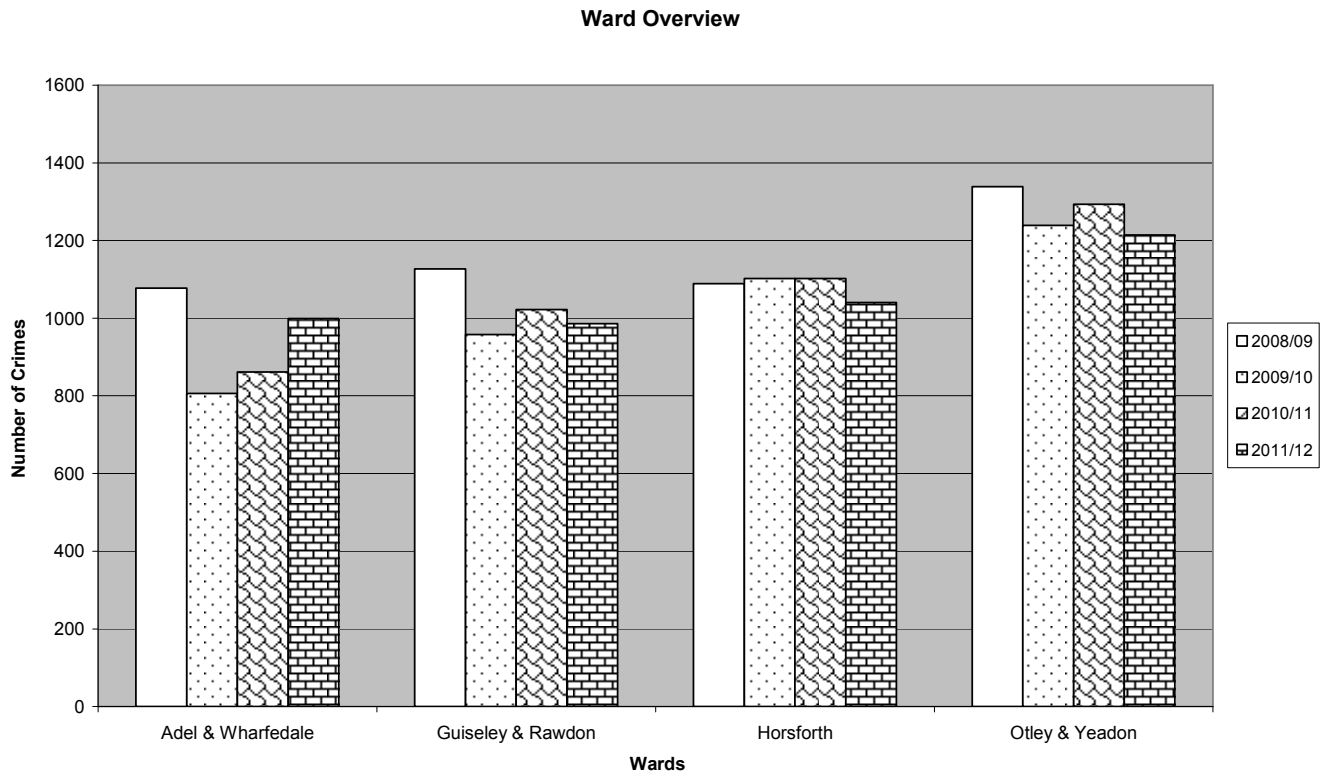
10.0 Background documents

10.1 None

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

Appendix 1

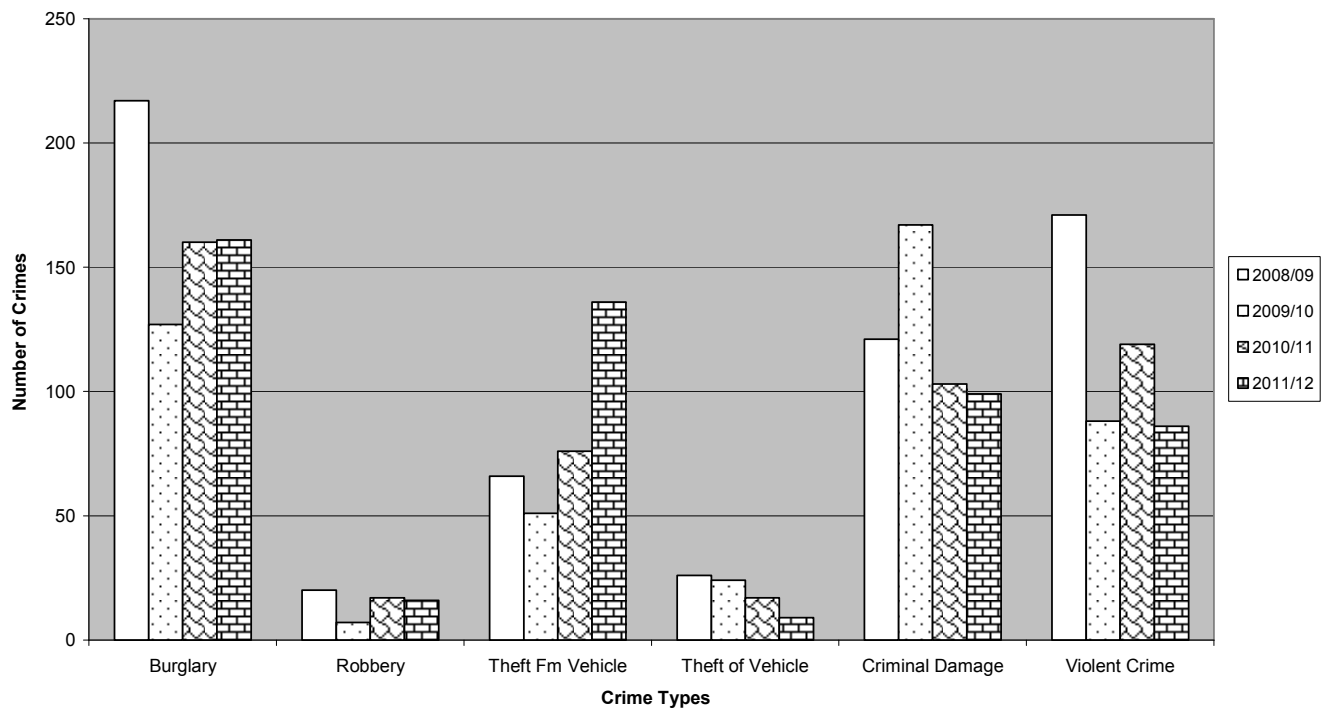
Ward Overview	Years				Variation	
Ward	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Difference	Change
Adel & Wharfedale	1077	806	861	999	138	16%
Guiseley & Rawdon	1127	958	1022	986	-36	-4%
Horsforth	1089	1102	1102	1040	-62	-6%
Otley & Yeadon	1339	1239	1293	1214	-79	-6%



Appendix 2

Adel & Wharfedale	Years				Variation	
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Difference	Change
Burglary	217	127	160	161	1	0%
Robbery	20	7	17	16	-1	-6%
Theft Fm Vehicle	66	51	76	136	60	79%
Theft of Vehicle	26	24	17	9	-8	-47%
Criminal Damage	121	167	103	99	-4	-4%
Violent Crime	171	88	119	86	-33	-28%

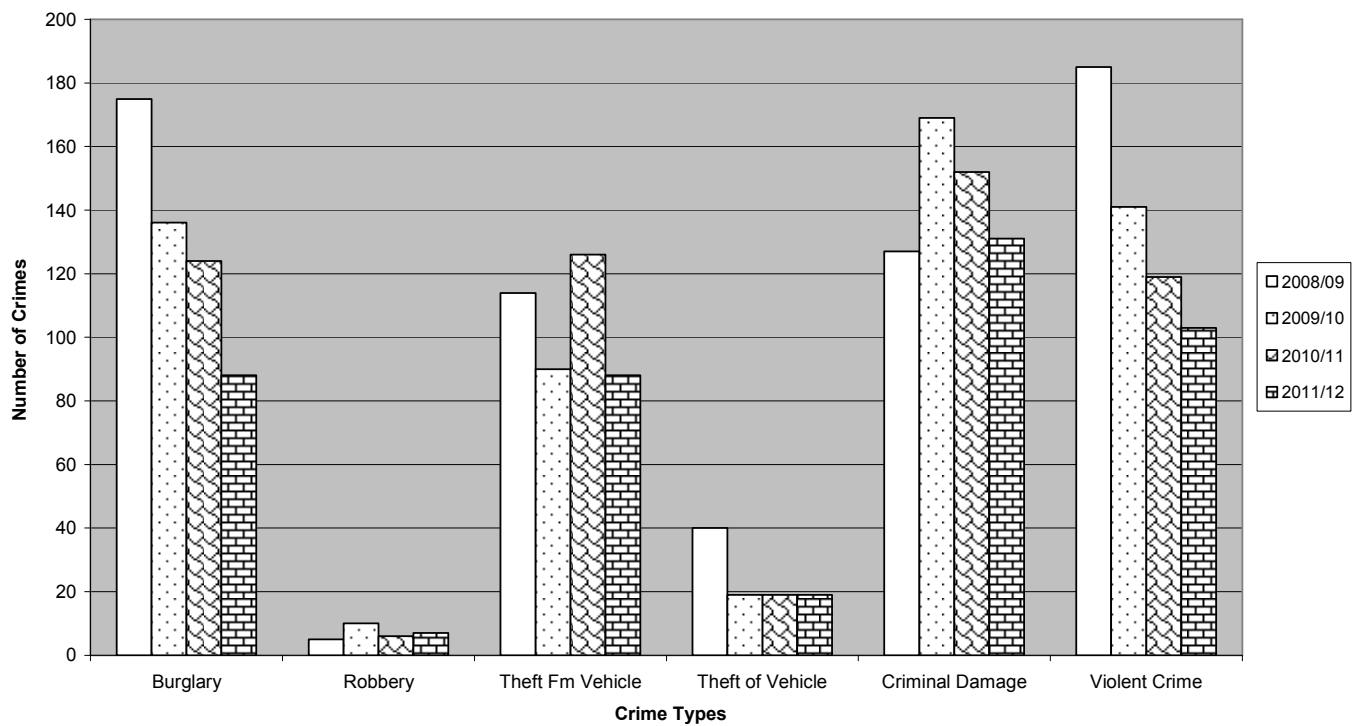
Adel & Wharfedale ward



Appendix 3

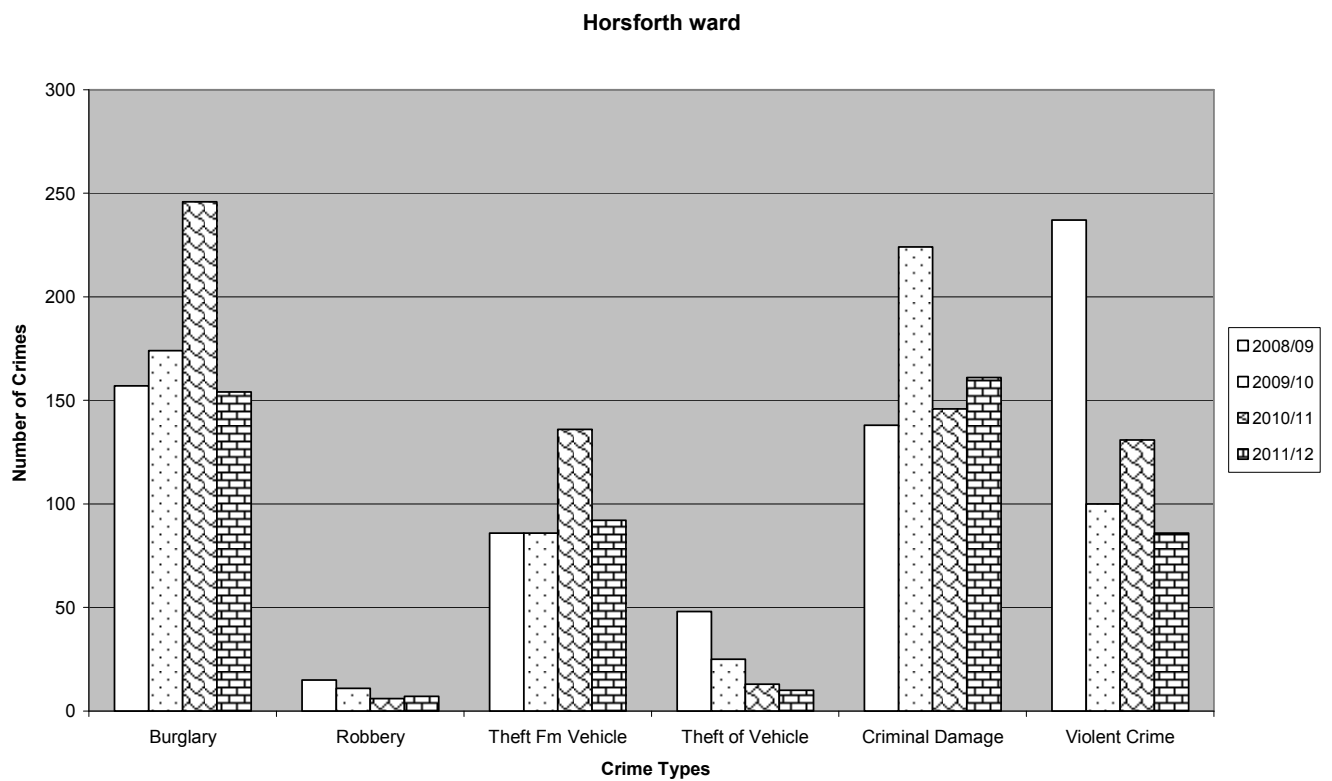
Guiseley & Rawdon Crime Types	Years				Variation	
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Difference	Change
Burglary	175	136	124	88	-36	-29%
Robbery	5	10	6	7	1	17%
Theft Fm Vehicle	114	90	126	88	-38	-30%
Theft of Vehicle	40	19	19	19	0	0%
Criminal Damage	127	169	152	131	-21	-14%
Violent Crime	185	141	119	103	-16	-13%

Guiseley & Rawdon Ward



Appendix 4

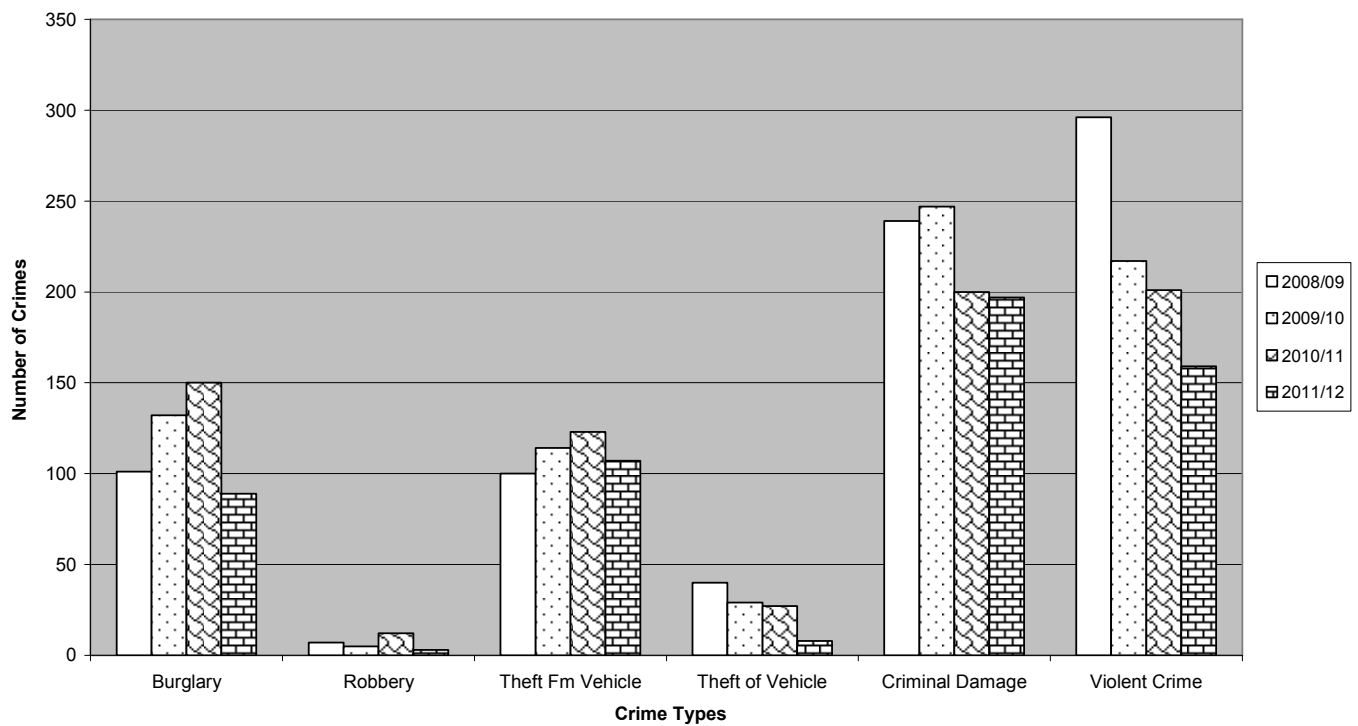
Horsforth Crime Types	Years				Variation	
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Difference	Change
Burglary	157	174	246	154	-92	-37%
Robbery	15	11	6	7	1	17%
Theft Fm Vehicle	86	86	136	92	-44	-32%
Theft of Vehicle	48	25	13	10	-3	-23%
Criminal Damage	138	224	146	161	15	10%
Violent Crime	237	100	131	86	-45	-34%



Appendix 5

Otley & Yeadon	Years				Variation	
Crime Types	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Difference	Change
Burglary	101	132	150	89	-61	-41%
Robbery	7	5	12	3	-9	-75%
Theft Fm Vehicle	100	114	123	107	-16	-13%
Theft of Vehicle	40	29	27	8	-19	-70%
Criminal Damage	239	247	200	197	-3	-1%
Violent Crime	296	217	201	159	-42	-21%

Otley & Yeadon ward



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Report author: Jane Pattison
Tel: 336 7870

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

Report to North West (Outer) Area Committee

Date: 5th November 2012

Subject: West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service (WYFRS) – Proposals for Changes to Emergency Cover in West Yorkshire

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

Summary of main issues

The report outlines the proposed changes to West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service particularly to the fire stations of Cookridge and Moortown.

Recommendations

The Area Committee are requested to note the report, consider the proposals and the reasons for making them and make comments.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of the Area Committee the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Services' consultation document which provides outline proposals for addressing the challenges of a reducing budget and the realignment of resources following a dramatic reduction in risk and demand over the past 10 years.

2 Background information

- 2.1 In the past five years there has been a dramatic reduction in the number of fires and associated deaths and injuries in West Yorkshire. There has also been a similar reduction in the number of other emergencies the Fire Service responds to, for example road traffic collisions. By the end of 2010/11, the total number of emergency incidents attended in one year had reduced by over 29% from its 2006/07 figure.
- 2.2 The consultation document attached provides details on proposals to continue to provide an efficient and effective fire and rescue service whilst acknowledging the challenges posed by fundamental changes to public sector funding.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 The current proposal affecting the Outer North West area is Proposal 9, Cookridge and Moortown.
- 3.2 Details for the proposed changes for these fire stations are detailed in the attached document.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 In June 2011, the Authority approved a communication and engagement strategy to support the major changes that are necessary to modernise West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service in the face of reduced risk and demand and significant reductions in funding.
- 4.1.2 The strategy recognises that there will be public concern about changes to emergency cover in an area and therefore intends to provide as much information as is reasonable and practical and the process follows recommended best practice. The Government recently revised its guidance on public consultation and the strategy has been reviewed in light of this latest guidance and it remains appropriate. The approach used by the Authority to develop its strategy can be summarised as follows:
- Detailed consideration of the effect each proposed action could have on the community and its aspirations
 - Identification of those individuals and organisations likely to be significantly affected
 - Tailored communication and engagement activity to ensure key stakeholders are

informed, involved and consulted when appropriate

- 4.1.3 In order to capture a full range of opinions and interact with communities, formal public consultation will take place over a 12 week period from 7 September until 30 November 2012.
- 4.1.4 Open dialogue with individuals or organisations affected by these proposals will be encouraged to provide the opportunity for views to be expressed and proposals will be published on the website and in print.
- 4.1.5 The Authority will have sight of the consultation responses at their meeting in December 2012 before it makes any decisions on the proposals.
- 4.1.6 You are therefore asked to consider these proposals and the reasons for them. If you want to share your views, it is requested that you do this in writing by 30 November 2012 via email or post, by contacting:

Hannah Stoneman
Consultation Coordinator
West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters
Oakroyd Hall, Bradford Road, Birkenshaw
West Yorkshire
BD11 2DY
Email: consultation@westyorksfire.gov.uk
Further information regarding consultation is available by contacting:
Tel 01274 655 717

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 Statutory partners are committed to equality and cohesion and all projects they are involved with will have considered these issues.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 The Area Committee Functions and Priority Advisory Functions were approved by the Executive Board in June 2009. This approval was rolled forward to 2010/11 and is also being rolled forward to 2011/12 with amendments to the environmental delegation. The Area Functions are included in the Council's Constitution (Part 3, section 3c).
- 4.3.2 The Area Support Team's work programme contributes at a local level to the themes contained in the Vision for Leeds; the Leeds Strategic Plan; the Health and Well-being City Priorities Plan; the Safer and Stronger Communities Plan and the Regeneration City Priority Plan.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

- 4.4.1 The approach to modernisation of the Service which is being followed by the Authority is simple and supports the on-going ambition of "Making West Yorkshire Safer"; it centres on four pillars:

- **Optimal resource allocation and deployment** - Ensuring resources are in the locations that will have the greatest impact.
- **Changing the way that services are delivered** - The implementation of innovative duty systems, the introduction of new equipment and vehicles, and the changing of working practices.
- **Value for money** - Do the best that can be done with the resources that are available but ensuring a high quality not a cheap service.
- **Public and Firefighter safety** – Continuing to deliver community safety initiatives and ensuring firefighters have the best equipment and training to do their job.

4.4.2 The proposals in this consultation document have been developed using this approach and the impact of the changes has been assessed, measured against the planning assumptions for emergency response (how quickly the fire service gets to emergencies) which have been approved by the Authority. This provides evidence that, relative to risk, the changes ensure that fire engines are in the right places to respond to emergencies across the County.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 All decisions taken by the Area Committee in relation to the delegated functions from Executive Board are not eligible for Call In.
- 4.5.2 There are no key or major decisions being made that would be eligible for Call In.
- 4.5.3 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 No risks identified.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 The Area Committee are requested to note the report, consider the proposals and the reasons for making them and make comments

6 Background documents

None

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



CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Proposals for Changes to Emergency Cover in West Yorkshire

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FOREWORD

In the past five years we have seen a dramatic reduction in the numbers of fires and associated deaths and injuries in West Yorkshire. We have also seen similar reductions in the number of other emergencies we respond to, for example road traffic collisions. By the end of 2010/11, the total number of emergency incidents we attended in one year had reduced by over 29% from its 2006/7 figure.

This consultation document provides details on proposals to continue to provide an efficient and effective fire and rescue service whilst acknowledging the challenges posed by fundamental changes to public sector funding. Despite these financial challenges we now face, we cannot lose sight of our ambition of 'Making West Yorkshire Safer' and we are proud that accidental dwelling fires and related deaths have been reduced to their lowest ever level.

Last year West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority commenced an extensive programme to modernise the Fire and Rescue Service and maximise the use of resources. This included a commitment to build five new fire stations in areas that provide the best response in an emergency. The investment by the Authority in modern fire stations is fundamental to the strategy for the delivery of our services and in particular the provision of an efficient and effective response to emergencies. The proposals in this document continue this approach as part of a strategic plan for implementation between 2013 and 2020.

We will continue to rationalise and redesign the service against the backdrop of a significant reduction in our funding, by reducing the risk to the community wherever possible and making sure that our resources are in the best place at any time day or night. We will also develop new ways of delivering our service, maximising changes in technology and working practices.

In the last five years we have made efficiency savings of £8.8m of which £7.3m were achieved in the last two years. This clearly demonstrates that savings can be made, whilst at the same time the numbers of fires, deaths and injuries continue to reduce. West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority is facing its biggest challenge in over 60 years. By embracing an ambitious programme for change, I am confident that the Service will rise to this challenge and continue to make West Yorkshire safer.

Simon Pilling
Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This consultation document outlines proposals for addressing the challenges of a reducing budget and the realignment of resources following a dramatic reduction in risk and demand over the past 10 years. If approved by the Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) following public consultation, the proposals would be fully implemented by 2020. The document covers a number of key aspects:

- **The context and methodology of the approach adopted**
- **An explanation of the services delivered by the Authority and some of the changes made already**
- **The proposals for future changes to emergency cover**
- **The communication and engagement process**

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) serves a population of 2.2 million people and the five districts of Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield cover an area of 800 square miles. West Yorkshire consists of diverse communities located within urban, rural, industrial and remote areas. Economic variance and contrast is stark, ranging from the second largest financial sector in the UK to some of the most deprived areas in the country.

Significant and sustained improvements in community safety over the past few years have created a reduction in risk and demand for the fire and rescue service. It is therefore appropriate to review the current service provided. This document explains the financial constraints that the Authority currently faces and the predicted reduction in future funding. It also provides details of some of the savings made so far, demonstrating that, amongst other things, significant efficiencies in non-front line services have already been made.

The document also details the general approach to risk management adopted by the Authority and explains how risk is analysed to ensure that the right resources are in the right place, at the right time. There is also an explanation of the changes to the levels of risk across West Yorkshire over the recent past and the approach being adopted for the future.

The document provides information on the services provided by the Authority and explains why and how they are provided. The first priority of the Authority is to prevent an incident occurring in the first place however, it is recognised that emergencies do occur and WYFRS must be able to respond effectively to any incident and the majority of costs relate to the provision of an emergency service. It therefore follows that when major savings need to be made, the front line emergency response element of the Service cannot be left untouched.

The approach to modernisation of the Service which is being followed by the Authority is simple and supports the on-going ambition of “Making West Yorkshire Safer”; it centres on four pillars:

- **Optimal resource allocation and deployment** - Ensuring resources are in the locations that will have the greatest impact.

- **Changing the way that services are delivered** - The implementation of innovative duty systems, the introduction of new equipment and vehicles, and the changing of working practices.
- **Value for money** - Do the best that can be done with the resources that are available but ensuring a high quality not a cheap service.
- **Public and Firefighter safety** – Continuing to deliver community safety initiatives and ensuring firefighters have the best equipment and training to do their job.

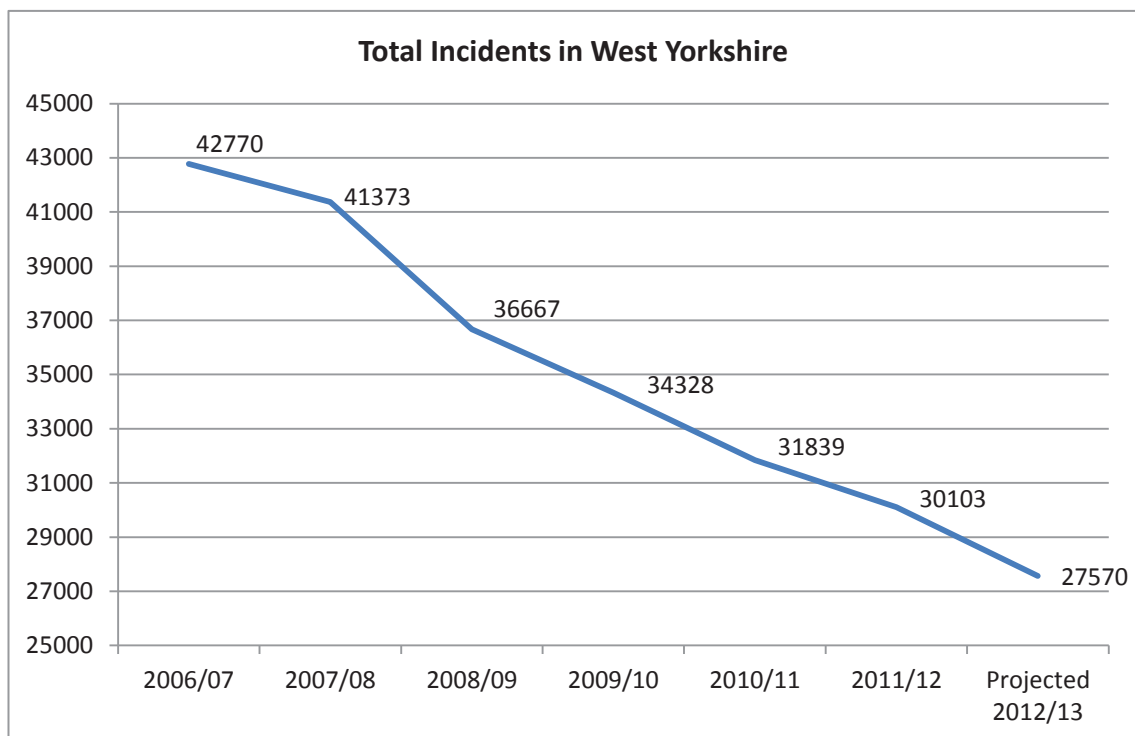
The proposals in this consultation document have been developed using this approach and the impact of the changes has been assessed, measured against the planning assumptions for emergency response (how quickly the fire service gets to emergencies) which have been approved by the Authority. This provides evidence that, relative to risk, the changes ensure that fire engines are in the right places to respond to emergencies across the County.

Finally, the document outlines the process of consultation and engagement with the public and others and the process for raising concerns, ideas and suggestions for consideration by the Authority in December 2012.

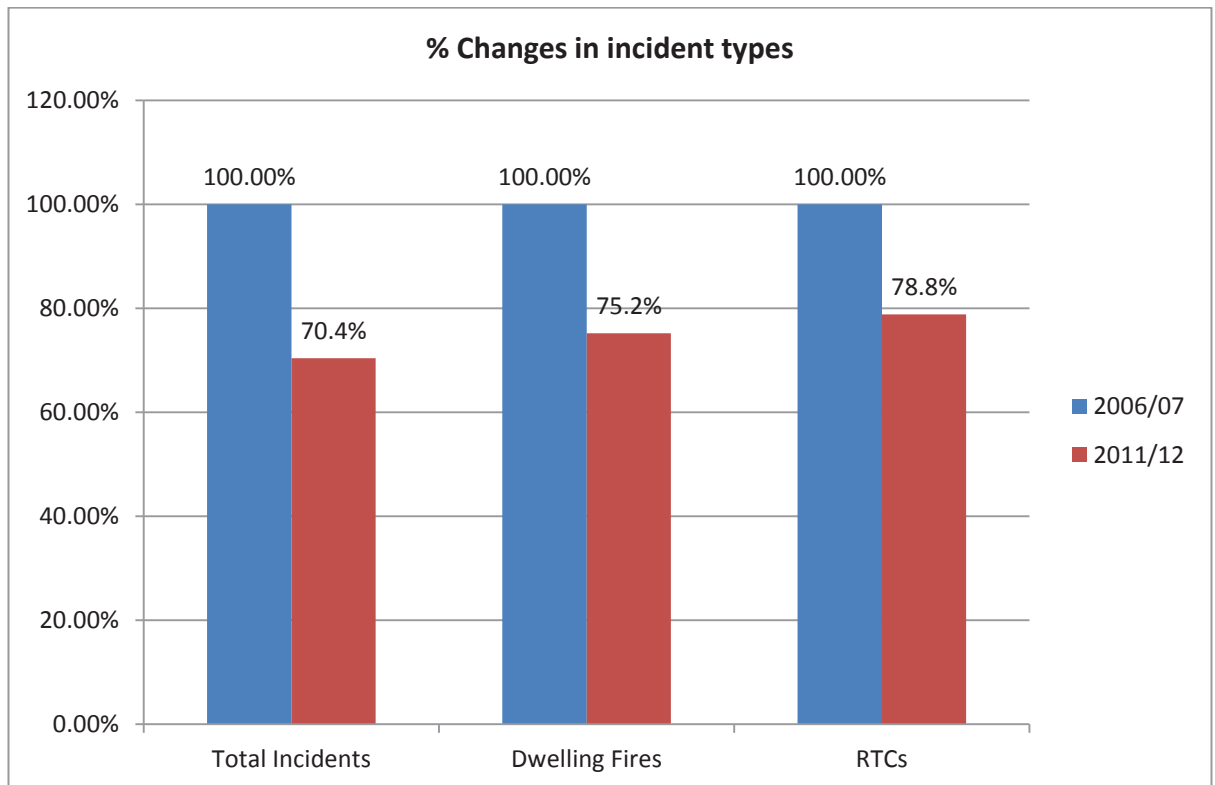
CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGY

1. Making West Yorkshire Safer

- 1.1. For many years, the ambition of West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority has been to “Make West Yorkshire Safer”. By focussing significant effort and resources on fire safety education, fire prevention and fire protection, there has been significant reductions in the number of fires, associated deaths and injuries. In recent years the work that WYFRS has done with partners to reduce other emergencies, including road traffic collisions, has expanded and delivered some very positive outcomes.
- 1.2. The Community Fire Safety Strategy, introduced in 2005, established a countywide target to undertake 56,000 Home Fire Safety Checks (HFSC) each year, together with a long-term commitment to complete 450,000; a figure which has now been exceeded. Since the introduction of this long-term strategy, accidental dwelling fires have reduced significantly along with the number of deaths and injuries sustained at these incidents. Although the numbers of people who die in fires in the home each year can vary considerably, there has been a consistent downward trend and in the past year four people died as a result of accidental fires in the home compared to 15 in 2006. The number of serious fires, deaths and injuries have now been reduced to their lowest ever levels, making West Yorkshire a much safer place. The graph below shows the overall reduction in the number of emergency incidents attended by WYFRS since 2006/7.



- 1.3. Not only have the total number of emergency incidents reduced but also the number of fires in dwellings, where most people are killed or injured, and road traffic collisions (RTC's), have also seen significant reductions. The table below demonstrates that West Yorkshire is clearly a safer place to live, work and visit.



- 1.4. The Authority has set challenging targets to continue to “Make West Yorkshire Safer” and these are set out in the five year Service Plan 2011 to 2015 which can be seen at www.westyorkshirefire.gov.uk. District and Local Area Risk Reduction Plans are developed from the high level targets in the Service Plan to provide focus for delivery of services. These plans concentrate on the areas and people that are most vulnerable and therefore most at risk from fire. The Authority remains on target to deliver against the commitments set out in the Service Plan.
- 1.5. As a direct result of the reduction in the number of fires and other emergencies, fire engines now receive significantly less call-outs than they did 10 years ago. Many of these fire engines now spend less than 4% of their time at incidents and experience prolonged periods of time without an emergency call. This is a fantastic outcome, particularly in light of a significant reduction in funding and it is therefore appropriate that resource provision is reviewed and where necessary, costs reduced, whilst maintaining an excellent standard of emergency response relative to risk.

2. Financial context

- 2.1. The Fire Authority is dependent upon central government to provide over 60% of its funding and consequently will see significant cuts as part of the government’s austerity measures. In total fire service funding nationally will be cut by 25% over the current four year period with 6.5% being cut in the first two years ending 31 March 2013 and the balance of 18.5% in the following two years.
- 2.2. However these cuts have not been shared evenly across all fire and rescue authorities with West Yorkshire losing over 10% of its funding in the first two years whilst some Authorities received a funding increase. If the cuts in grant are shared on the same basis in the final two years then the Authority could see further cuts in grant of 27%.

- 2.3. What this means in cash terms is that the Authority has already lost £5.9m of grant and is facing a further cut of somewhere between £8m and £14m by 31 March 2015.
- 2.4. Whilst the station mergers approved in December 2011 will help the Authority deal with the first grant cuts they do not address further cuts the Authority faces between now and 31 March 2015. Even the most optimistic forecast would see the Authority looking for further on going savings of £10m by 31 March 2015.
- 2.5. Finally the Government have already indicated that the austerity measures will not end in 2014/2015 and that it will be necessary to make similar levels of cuts in public expenditure in the following spending review period. It is vital that the Authority is in a position to react to these future cuts in funding if it is to provide appropriate levels of cover for West Yorkshire. Once fully implemented the changes included within this consultation document will deliver on-going revenue savings of £8m per annum.

3. Historical context – the changes and efficiencies made so far

- 3.1. Over a number of years, the Authority has reformed West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and made real efficiencies whilst maintaining high quality services, together with improving public and employee safety. In the last five years alone, the Authority has made efficiency savings of £8.8m of which £7.3m were achieved in the last two years.
- 3.2. During these recent years, in response to increased financial pressure, a number of innovative ways of working have been identified and changes to support functions implemented to make them more efficient. Some examples of the changes already made are detailed below.
- 3.3. In 2010, WYFRS introduced the Operational Resource Pool (ORP). This innovative duty system, using firefighters on flexible contracts, has ensured that full staffing is maintained on fire engines but with 64 less firefighters, reducing costs by £1.7 million.
- 3.4. During the same year, the manner in which WYFRS provides a range of specialist technical rescue and other specialised emergency services was reviewed and revised and the outcome is an improved service, using less staff saving £840,000 per year.
- 3.5. A fundamental review of the way support services are provided has challenged everything that the organisation does and led to greater efficiencies. Over the last two years, there have been reductions in non-operational staff of 109 people and many support processes, including procurement, have been rationalised.
- 3.6. An innovative duty system called Day Crewing (Close Call) has also been introduced. This duty system is a more economical way of providing fire and rescue cover in lower risk areas of the county using more flexible working arrangements. It provides the same standard of emergency cover as a wholetime shift station but requires 13 firefighters instead of 24.
- 3.7. Significant research has been completed to analyse the number and types of incidents WYFRS responds to in an attempt to reduce demand on the Service. It is known that many incidents attended do not actually need the fire and rescue service, for example some road traffic accidents, where nobody is trapped and automatic fire alarms, where the vast majority turn out to be false alarms. Policies have now been revised and additional training has been provided for Control staff, which has resulted in a significant reduction in demand on the Service without affecting public and firefighter safety.

- 3.8. Analysis has also shown that a significant number of the fires attended are small and can be dealt with using smaller fire engines with less firefighters. Fire Response Units (FRU) have therefore been introduced for these types of incidents and this ensures that the larger fire engines, with more firefighters, remain available to respond to incidents of a more serious nature. Combined Aerial Rescue Pumps (CARP) have also been introduced, which do the same job as a standard fire engine and the current high reach vehicles (Aerial Ladder Platforms); two vehicles and two crews for the price of one. WYFRS intend to extend the use of these modern approaches to fighting fires across West Yorkshire as appropriate.
- 3.9. Fire and emergency cover in the Five Towns area of Wakefield district has been reviewed already resulting in the merger of Knottingley and Pontefract fire stations and changes in duty system at Normanton and Castleford to Day Crew (Close Call). This has resulted in significant savings without affecting quality of service. The success of this project has given us confidence that such an approach can be applied to other areas of West Yorkshire.
- 3.10. Work continues with emergency service partners to identify opportunities for collaboration. West Yorkshire Police now share the Pontefract fire station and will soon occupy parts of Castleford Fire Station. This generates income for the Fire and Rescue Authority and reduces costs for West Yorkshire Police. Further work with West Yorkshire Police and Yorkshire Ambulance has identified other opportunities.
- 3.11. WYFRS are also working with South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service to deliver a shared mobilising and communications system for both Control Rooms, which will deliver a modern system at reduced cost.

4. An introduction to Integrated Risk Management Planning

- 4.1. The Government introduced Integrated Risk Management Planning (IRMP) in 2004 to replace National Standards of Fire Cover. This change moved the focus of emergency cover from buildings to people. The aim of IRMP is to improve community safety, reduce emergencies and provide value for money, with the continuous process of aligning the available resources to risk and demand.
- 4.2. Since the introduction of IRMP, WYFRS has continued to deliver excellent and efficient services to communities. Pioneering initiatives have enabled WYFRS to remain one of the best performing fire and rescue services in the country and amongst the lowest cost per capita. At £38.82 per head of population per year, the Authority provides the lowest cost service of all the metropolitan fire and rescue authorities.
- 4.3. The integration of prevention, protection, response and resilience strategies is fundamental to making West Yorkshire safer and enables the Service to identify and reduce risk to the community and to firefighters. A more detailed explanation of how these arrangements work together is contained within the Community Risk Management Strategy 2011-2015 that can be viewed on the website at www.westyorkshirefire.gov.uk
- 4.4. Extensive research underpins each IRMP proposal and information comes from various sources, some of which include:
 - Operational incident data (empirical evidence)
 - Predictions of future demand and risk
 - Fire engine turnout data (activity and demand at certain times of the day, week, year and seasonal variations)

- Changes in profiles of communities (new houses, commercial buildings etc.)
- 4.5. This information is used, along with professional judgement and experience to support the changes, to ensure they have minimal impact upon local communities.
 - 4.6. When considering any changes the approved Risk Based Planning Assumptions (RBPA) contained in the Community Risk Management Strategy are used and these determine the expected time it should take for a fire engine to get to an emergency. The RBPA varies depending on the likelihood of a fire occurring and the potential impact of that fire on property and life.
 - 4.7. When developing these proposals, future performance is predicted based on plans for emergency cover already approved for implementation, including the five new fire stations approved as part of the 2012/13 IRMP Action Plan. The community safety activity that will continue to be provided to reduce risk in all communities is also taken into account and this focuses on areas affected by these proposals.

5. Fire Prevention Services

- 5.1. The prevention of a fire or other incident is the number one priority. Fire prevention activity has long played a key role in significantly reducing the incidence of fire and associated deaths and injuries, both in domestic and commercial premises. A modern fire and rescue service is now involved in a much wider community safety role, for example, supporting reductions in road traffic collisions, youth engagement programmes and health/wellbeing programmes. With this wider role and by working in partnership with other organisations, WYFRS makes a valuable contribution in support of a safer society.
- 5.2. Successful fire prevention and fire protection services will reduce the likelihood of emergencies occurring. In 1996, a free Home Fire Safety Check service commenced as part of a programme to increase smoke alarm ownership in households and this service was expanded in 2005 when the new Community Safety Strategy was launched. This programme has been very successful in reducing fires and related deaths and injuries. Having completed the programme the approach is now being revised, targeting the most vulnerable and high-risk people in communities.
- 5.3. WYFRS youth engagement programmes include the Young Firefighters Scheme (YFF). The scheme works in partnership with local schools to reduce fire and community risk through a structured education programme resulting in a recognised qualification. The programme increases self-esteem and builds the confidence of young people. With the ongoing support of partners, this excellent initiative will continue to deliver an extremely important local service.
- 5.4. Following the introduction of the Arson Task Force, there has been a significant reduction in the number of deliberate fires. This small proactive team not only gives advice, but also physically removes the risk of fire; for example, by removing flammable materials that may be adjacent to houses and other property. The initiative will continue to focus on areas of high risk, using a variety of approaches in a more flexible way.

6. Fire Protection Services

- 6.1. Fire Protection services mainly focus on the enforcement of fire safety regulations in occupied buildings under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. The Service also works with communities to provide advice and guidance on the

identification and elimination of fire risk in buildings. In the unlikely event of a fire occurring, the fire precautions in buildings, along with the training of those people who occupy the buildings, should ensure they escape safely.

- 6.2. A team of specialist Fire Protection Officers, supported by firefighters on fire engines undertake inspections of buildings. Inspections are prioritised based on those premises presenting highest risk and the Risk Based Inspection Programme is approved each year by the Authority. Enforcement is undertaken in accordance with the principles of Better Regulation set out in the Statutory Code of Compliance for Regulators, to ensure that there is no unnecessary burden imposed on businesses.

7. Emergency Response Services

- 7.1. The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 places a duty on fire and rescue authorities to make provision to respond to incidents such as fires, road traffic collisions and other emergencies within their area and in other areas in line with mutual aid agreements.
- 7.2. An emergency response service is provided every minute, of every hour, of every day across the whole of West Yorkshire. In addition to firefighting, WYFRS can respond to a wide range of other emergencies with specialist equipment and specially trained firefighters, including; responding to collapsed buildings; undertaking rope rescues; dealing with chemical spills; rescues from flooding; and other complicated rescues.
- 7.3. An integral part of a firefighter's daily routine involves giving fire safety advice in the form of fire safety demonstrations, talks to children in schools, undertaking inspections of buildings and conducting home fire safety checks, including fitting smoke alarms where necessary.
- 7.4. Reference has already been made to the Risk Based Planning Assumptions, which are used to ensure fire engines are in the correct locations throughout West Yorkshire to ensure that they arrive at an emergency as quickly as possible. The Risk Based Planning Assumptions for an area will vary depending on the likelihood of a fire occurring and the impact of that fire; the priority being fires where it is suspected that people may be involved (life risk incidents). The second priority is to attend fires involving property (without life risk) and finally there are planning assumptions for all other smaller incidents.
- 7.5. The table below provides a description of WYFRS risk categorisation and the Risk Based Planning Assumptions (response times) for incidents occurring in these areas.

Risk Area	Life	Property	Other	Description
Very High	7 mins	9 mins	11 mins	Areas possessing high levels of life risk, deprivation, commercial premises and people. These areas pose a very high risk of multiple fatalities or extensive injuries.
High	8 mins	10 mins	12 mins	Areas possessing high deprivation levels, a predominance of commercial premises and high numbers of people. These areas pose a high risk of multiple fatalities and extensive injuries.
Medium	9 mins	11 mins	13 mins	Suburban city areas and small towns with lower deprivation levels and varied commercial risk. These areas pose a moderate risk of fatalities or extensive injuries.
Low	10 mins	12 mins	14 mins	Small market towns relatively affluent suburbs with low deprivation levels and lower commercial risk. These areas pose a low risk of fatalities or extensive injuries.
Very Low	11 mins	13 mins	15 mins	Areas of low population density limited concentration of commercial and industrial risk. These areas pose a very low risk of fatalities or extensive injuries.

8. Resilience Planning and Major Incidents

- 8.1. Resilience in the context of fire and rescue authorities can be defined as the capacity and capability to work together with other emergency services to deliver a sustained, effective response to major incidents, emergencies and disruptive challenges. WYFRS works very closely with partners in the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum, where plans are developed for major events to ensure compliance with the Civil Contingencies Act.
- 8.2. Although day-to-day services generally focus upon local risks and smaller incidents, major incidents can and do occur at any time and without any warning. Major incidents are difficult to predict and challenging to respond to, however, in spite of this, WYFRS must be continually prepared. A significant amount of time is therefore spent planning for major emergencies to ensure there is capacity to respond and, at the same time, deal with the normal day to day demand. The reductions in funding against the backdrop of increasing frequency of extreme weather conditions, the ever present threat of terrorism and the existence of major chemical processing sites, represents real challenges and WYFRS must remain flexible and alert if it is to rise to these challenges.
- 8.3. As resources have been rationalised in light of reduced demand and funding, there has been a reduction in the number of fire engines available 24hrs each day.

However, occasionally there are unusual peaks in demand, for example a major incident, or a large number of smaller incidents, during flooding or grass fires in dry weather for example. Resilience Pumps have therefore been introduced to provide a cost-effective means of bolstering the number of fire engines available in response to significant events. These fully equipped fire engines are strategically located and are crewed during periods of high operational demand and they help to manage the short-term impact of these types of event. There is currently one Resilience Pump at Pontefract and one at Keighley, which were introduced following recent changes in emergency cover in those areas. It is intended that there will be an increase in the number of these fire engines as the proposals contained in this document are introduced.

- 8.4. Section 7 above referred to the specialist capabilities that WYFRS has to deal with a variety of major incidents. The Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Team can deal with emergencies involving large rail, road, aircraft and collapsed structures. There is also a High Volume Pump (HVP) that is used at major flooding incidents to remove water and at large fires to deliver water. Specialist equipment is available to deal with hazardous materials and the Incident Response Unit (IRU) provides the capability to decontaminate large numbers of people. WYFRS also has a specialised response capability for a range of terrorist incidents and following recent investment by the Authority, specialist water rescue teams across west Yorkshire can respond to major flooding and other emergencies on or near water.

9. Risk modelling methodology

- 9.1. The provision of a fire and rescue service in West Yorkshire is the responsibility of the Fire and Rescue Authority, which must ensure that the best possible service is delivered with the resources available. In so doing, it must take account of statutory obligations, local risks, affordability, value for money and a wide range of other associated considerations. Since the publication of the first IRMP in 2004, the operating environment for fire and rescue services has changed considerably, with further changes imminent. It is therefore important that plans take full account of such factors.
- 9.2. The assessment of risk is the initial stage of the IRMP process and requires quantitative and qualitative analysis of risks, hazards and threats. It is essential to ensure that this risk assessment methodology is robust, objective and analytical, as the results will underpin and influence decisions; the results of the risk assessment will determine the allocation of resources. Research has shown a direct correlation between deprivation and the incidence of fires, along with associated casualties and fatalities. A range of tools, including specialist software applications, are used to assist in the analysis of risk and not only look at empirical data, but also predict future performance. A number of other factors are included within the risk assessment including lifestyle factors, for example prevalence of smoking and drinking in an area, and these are brought together in a risk matrix.
- 9.3. The time it takes for a fire engine to get to a fire is an extremely important part of the overall vision to “Make West Yorkshire Safer”, so it is important that, with limited resources, fire engines are located in the best locations where fires are most likely to occur. Attendance to all types of emergencies is considered but the focus is upon getting fire engines to where people may be at risk. The Authority’s Risk Based Planning Assumptions determine where to allocate and deploy fire engines in a way that accounts for the different types of incidents and the varying levels of risk within West Yorkshire.

- 9.4. The response time of the first fire engine is most important, but some fires require more than one fire engine to deal with them successfully. The speed of response of supporting fire engines is therefore taken into account in the Planning Assumptions, particularly in areas where the likelihood of the incidents needing more than one fire engine is greater.
- 9.5. Firefighters visit premises to obtain information relating to buildings, people and hazardous materials. This information is accessible via mobile data terminals on fire engines and is vital, not just in bringing the incident to a successful conclusion, but also for firefighter and public safety.
- 9.6. The latest analysis has identified that the significant reductions in risk and demand has resulted in generous provision in some areas and also, in certain circumstances, some fire stations are not ideally located to provide response into areas at greater risk of fire and other emergencies. It is therefore important to realign diminishing resources to the latest risk profile of the County. In most cases this means the merger of a number of fire stations, but in a small number of cases this means removal of dedicated resources from very low risk areas altogether, where nearby fire engines can provide an appropriate emergency response; the important measure being the ability to meet the Risk Based Planning Assumption relative to the risk.

PROPOSALS FOR REVISIONS TO EMERGENCY COVER

10. The proposals at a glance

10.1. In December 2011, the Authority approved the implementation of the first phase of a programme of proposals to revise emergency cover arrangements across West Yorkshire for implementation between 2012 and 2015 (IRMP Action Plan 2012/13). Listed below is a summary of the second phase of this major programme of change which, if approved, will be implemented between 2013 and 2020 to take account of the significant reduction in risk and demand and the anticipated reduction in funding over that period. More detailed information on each area affected by these proposals can be found in Appendix 1 of this consultation document but a summary is provided below.

10.2. The Bradford District

10.2.1. **Proposal 1** - Fairweather Green Fire Station currently has two fire engines. It is proposed that one of those fire engines should be replaced with a new Fire Response Unit (a smaller fire engine used for incidents of a less serious nature). The Fire Response Unit will cover the City of Bradford and the surrounding areas, ensuring that fire engines remain available for incidents of a more serious nature.

10.2.2. **Proposal 2** - Two fire stations serve the Haworth and Keighley area. The fire stations have three fire engines, one at Haworth and two at Keighley. This is a generous provision relative to risk and activity. Haworth is a Retained fire station (part time) covering a very low risk area with few fires. When the appliance is not available (currently 27% of the time) fire cover is provided from Keighley. It is therefore proposed to close Haworth fire station and remove one of the two fire engines from Keighley fire station. The remaining fire engine at Keighley will then cover the area.

10.2.3. **Proposal 3** - Risk and activity in the areas covered by Idle and Shipley fire stations have reduced dramatically. It is therefore proposed to merge the two stations and build a brand new fire station with one fire engine at an optimum location between the two existing stations.

10.2.4. **Proposal 4** - Odsal fire station currently has two fire engines. It is proposed that one of the fire engines will be replaced with a Command and Enhanced Logistics Support Unit (a vehicle used to support command and control at major incidents).

10.3. The Calderdale District

10.3.1. **Proposal 5** - Implementation of changes to emergency cover in Calderdale has already commenced, with the merger of Elland and Brighouse fire stations as part of IRMP Action plan 2012/13. Halifax fire station still has two fire engines, one of which is a Combined Aerial Rescue Pump (CARP). Risk and demand have fallen considerably and no longer justify two fire engines and it is now proposed that one of these fire engines is removed leaving the CARP and keeping the fire engine at Illingworth fire station.

10.4. The Kirklees District

10.4.1. **Proposal 6** - Three Retained (part time) fire stations at Marsden, Slaithwaite and Meltham currently serve the Colne Valley area. The entire area is very low risk with very few fires and three fire stations is a generous provision relative to risk. It is therefore proposed that the fire station at Marsden is closed and emergency cover provided from the nearby stations. Changes in Kirklees District already approved include a merger between Dewsbury and Batley fire stations.

10.5. The Leeds District

10.5.1. **Proposal 7** - Risk and activity in the areas covered by Stanningley fire station, which has two fire engines and a number of specialist vehicles, have reduced dramatically and it is therefore proposed that one fire engine is removed.

10.5.2. **Proposal 8** - The areas covered by Hunslet and Morley fire stations are served by three fire engines, one at Morley and two at Hunslet. Changes in risk and demand support the merger of these two fire stations and the removal of one fire engine. It is therefore proposed that a brand new fire station containing two fire engines is constructed in an optimum location to replace those at Hunslet and Morley. This merger also supports the proposal affecting Garforth and Rothwell.

10.5.3. **Proposal 9** - Cookridge and Moortown fire stations currently have one fire engine at each station serving an area where there are now significantly fewer fires and other emergencies. It is therefore proposed that these two stations are merged and a brand new fire station with a single fire engine constructed in an optimum location to replace those at Cookridge and Moortown.

10.5.4. **Proposal 10** - Garforth and Rothwell fire stations currently cover an area with very low numbers of fires and other emergencies. Rothwell fire station is in need of replacement due to its age and condition. These two fire stations currently have one fire engine at each station. It is proposed that these two stations are merged and a brand new fire station, with a single fire engine, constructed in an optimum location to replace them.

10.6. The Wakefield District

10.6.1. **Proposal 11** – A number of changes and station mergers in the Wakefield District have already been completed as part of the Five Towns Project, which commenced a number of years ago. Since that time, the number of fires and other emergencies has fallen significantly and further revisions in and around Wakefield City area are appropriate. Wakefield fire station currently has two fire engines, one of which is a new Combined Aerial Rescue Pump (CARP). It is proposed that one fire engine from Wakefield is removed, leaving the CARP and at the same time it is proposed to build a brand new fire station to replace Ossett fire station at a location closer to Wakefield. This will be in an optimum location to continue to provide excellent cover for the area currently served by Ossett fire station and provide back up into the City of Wakefield.

11. The impact of these proposals

11.1. Earlier in this consultation document the methodology used to determine the most effective locations for resources was explained. It has therefore been possible to minimise the impact of the proposals by measuring response times against the Risk Based Planning Assumptions. By measuring the overall impact of the proposals across West Yorkshire it can be predicted that, following all the proposed changes, the increase in the average time it takes get a fire engine to all incidents will only be seconds. The table below shows the impact by risk area and by incident type.

Risk	Life	Property	Other
Very High	7 secs	5 secs	7 secs
High	18 secs	14 secs	15 secs
Medium	26 secs	24 secs	23secs
Low	46 secs	52 secs	53 secs
Very Low	25 secs	29 secs	25 secs
Average	24 secs	23 secs	22 secs

11.2. Whilst comparison between current and predicted overall average attendance times to emergencies across West Yorkshire is useful, it is also important to consider the local impact. As would be expected, the Risk Based Planning Assumption ensures that resources are allocated to those areas most likely to experience a fire. These are the very high risk areas and the impact of the changes in these areas is as follows:

- All Risk Based Planning Assumptions will be met
- There will be an improved initial response into four wards
- There will be an increase of less than one minute in nine wards
- No ward will receive an increase of greater than one minute

11.3. Analysis of the predicted attendance times at a ward level across the whole of West Yorkshire for all risk bands from very high to very low shows that, when measured against the Risk Based Planning Assumption, the impact is minimal:

- Response times to all but three wards is within the RBPA
- 23 wards will benefit from improved response times, or remain the same
- 84 wards will have their response time extended by less than one minute
- 11 wards will have their response time extended between one and two minutes

- 6 wards will have their response time extended by more than two minutes
 - The emergency response time to three wards will be outside the Risk Based Planning Assumption but these are all low or very low risk areas with large parts of the Wards being very rural and scarcely populated. Two of these Wards are already outside the RBPA and the majority of the population within the wards is covered by the RBPA.
- 11.4. Several fire stations are nearly 50 years old and in need of significant capital investment. Some fire stations are no longer in the best location for optimum emergency cover. The approval of the proposals contained in this consultation document will ensure that, by 2020, there will be a smaller number of modern purpose built fire stations in the best locations to deliver the most effective emergency response with the resources available.
- 11.5. The operational fleet will mainly comprise of front line fire engines, some of which will have a combined high-reach capability (the CARPs referred to earlier). In order to ensure the front line fire engines are available when needed, a further Fire Response Unit will be introduced to attend smaller incidents. A modern fleet of specialist vehicles and equipment will continue to support these fire engines and provide an effective response to a wide variety of incidents including complex search and rescue operations, flooding, moorland fires and hazardous materials incidents.
- 11.6. Firefighter safety remains paramount and the Authority will continue to invest in the highest quality equipment and operational clothing for firefighters and ensure they are trained to the highest possible standards.
- 11.7. It has been identified that firefighters have sufficient capacity to increase the time they spend on community safety initiatives and enforcing fire safety regulations. In light of this, significant savings have been made by reducing the number of specialist non-operational staff employed in these areas of work and transferring this activity to firefighters. This will include improved targeting of people and buildings most at risk.
- 11.8. In order to ensure that none of the proposals disadvantage any group disproportionately, a detailed Equality Impact Assessments of each proposal individually and of the package of proposals collectively has been completed.
- 11.9. In spite of the financial challenges, these proposals will ensure that WYFRS remains one of the best performing fire and rescue services in the country. Although there will be fewer staff and fire stations, employees will be working far more flexibly and using a range of modern fire engines and techniques to match the varied demands on services. Improvements in community safety will continue, resulting in fewer fires and related deaths and injuries; West Yorkshire will be a safer place to live, work and visit.

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

12. Communication and Engagement Strategy

- 12.1. In June 2011, the Authority approved a communication and engagement strategy to support the major changes that are necessary to modernise West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service in the face of reduced risk and demand and significant reductions in funding.
- 12.2. The strategy recognises that there will be public concern about changes to emergency cover in an area and therefore intends to provide as much information as is reasonable and practical and the process follows recommended best practice. The Government recently revised its guidance on public consultation and the strategy has been reviewed in light of this latest guidance and it remains appropriate. The approach used by the Authority to develop its strategy can be summarised as follows:
- Detailed consideration of the effect each proposed action could have on the community and its aspirations.
 - Identification of those individuals and organisations likely to be significantly affected.
 - Tailored communication and engagement activity to ensure key stakeholders are informed, involved and consulted when appropriate.
- 12.3. In order to capture a full range of opinions and interact with communities, formal public consultation will take place over a 12 week period from 7 September until 30 November 2012.
- 12.4. Open dialogue with individuals or organisations affected by these proposals will be encouraged to provide the opportunity for views to be expressed and proposals will be published on the website and in print.
- 12.5. The Authority will have sight of the consultation responses at their meeting in December 2012 before it makes any decisions on the proposals.
- 12.6. You are therefore asked to consider these proposals and the reasons for them. If you want to share your views, it is requested that you do this in writing by 30 November 2012 via email or post, by contacting:

Hannah Stoneman
Consultation Coordinator
West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters
Oakroyd Hall, Bradford Road, Birkenshaw
West Yorkshire
BD11 2DY

Email: consultation@westyorksfire.gov.uk

Further information regarding consultation is available by contacting:

Tel 01274 655 717.

Proposal 1 – Fairweather Green

Fairweather Green Fire Station currently has two fire engines. It is proposed that one of those fire engines should be replaced with a new Fire Response Unit (a smaller fire engine used for incidents of a less serious nature). The Fire Response Unit will cover the City of Bradford and the surrounding areas, ensuring the fire engines remain available for incidents of a more serious nature.

Key Points:

- Operational incidents in the Fairweather Green area have reduced by 37% over the last 10 years. Since the addition of the second fire engine in 2002/3, serious fires have also reduced by 52%.
- The risk levels in the five wards affected by this proposal range from very high to very low risk.
- Dealing with minor fires in the Bradford District using a smaller vehicle will release fire engines to attend emergencies of a more serious nature.
- All predicted emergency response times in the area will remain within the Risk Based Planning Assumption.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. Fairweather Green fire station provides the initial emergency response to the Thornton and Allerton, Clayton and Fairweather Green, Toller, Heaton, and Manningham wards. The fire station covers an area containing approximately 29,000 dwellings and a population of approximately 83,000.
- 1.2. The Fairweather Green station area is classified as high risk but this varies for each ward and ranges from very high to very low risk. The fire station has two fire engines each continually crewed, with five firefighters on one fire engine and four firefighters on the other and is located within three miles of the other fire stations at Odsal and Bradford. In common with the rest of West Yorkshire, these surrounding fire stations provide back up and support in the event of a major incident.
- 1.3. A Fire Response Unit has been successfully introduced in Leeds District and responds to a range of minor incidents instead of a larger fire engine. It is crewed by three firefighters and is available when the vast majority of small fires occur.
- 1.4. Replacing a larger fire engine at Fairweather Green with a Fire Response Unit to respond across Bradford District will ensure other fire engines are available for critical incidents such as house fires.

2. Assessing the impact of the proposal

- 2.1. Prior to 2003, Fairweather Green fire station had one fire engine and since the addition of a second fire engine, serious fires have reduced by 52%.

- 2.2. The fire engines at Fairweather Green are used 5.6% of the time at incidents compared to an average of 9.6% for those based at Bradford. The replacement of a fire engine with a Fire Response Unit will increase the use of the remaining fire engine to around 8%.
- 2.3. During 2011/12, fire crews attended 1456 operational incidents in the areas covered by Fairweather Green fire station including 72 dwelling fires and 29 road traffic collisions. In comparison, they attended 2049 operational incidents in 2002/03, therefore emergency calls have reduced by 29% over 10 years and are now well below the levels they were the fire station was upgraded to two fire engines
- 2.4. It is predicted that the Fire Response Unit would attend around 1,500 incidents each year and provide an effective response to nuisance calls. There will also be fewer disturbances to other important activities undertaken by firefighters including community safety and training. Most importantly, fire engines will remain available for incidents where life and/or property are at risk.
- 2.5. The attendance time to an emergency in all of the wards covered by Fairweather Green fire station will be within the time set by the Risk Based Planning Assumptions approved by the Fire and Rescue Authority. A detailed explanation of the RBPA is available in this consultation document and in the Community Risk Management Strategy found on the website www.westyorksfire.gov.uk.
- 2.6. Due to the presence of the FRU in the area and other changes in the Idle and Shipley area (see Proposal 3 below), the response times to all wards will improve apart from the Thornton and Allerton ward where the predicted attendance time will increase by just six seconds.
- 2.7. The package of proposals also includes a merging of the fire stations at Idle and Shipley and building a new fire station north of Bradford city centre. The new station would reduce emergency response times into the higher risk wards of Manningham and Toller.
- 2.8. The proposal would have no discernible impact on countywide emergency response times.

3. Risk Levels and Risk Reduction

- 3.1. Priorities, objectives, and targets will focus upon risk reduction in the wards most affected by this proposal and over time, the risk profile in all of the wards will reduce. This will form part of the Bradford District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area.
- 3.2. In the period 2009 to 2012 12,326 Home Fire Safety Checks were delivered within the five wards affected by this proposal. This has contributed to the reduction of risk in these wards; for example, since 2011 the WYFRS risk rating for the Heaton ward has reduced from high to medium risk.
- 3.3. Some of Fairweather Green's wards comprise of diverse communities and risk reduction in these areas is delivering very good results with dwelling fires reduced by a quarter over five years. The long-term commitment to a fire station in this area will help the Bradford District and Local Area Risk Reduction Teams continue to reduce risk.
- 3.4. Revised plans will be developed to continue to reduce risk in the area as far as possible commencing April 2013. The plan's priorities would be as follows:

- Reducing the number of dwelling fire related injuries in the very high-risk ward of Manningham by working with other agencies.
- Making the high-risk Toller ward a safer place to live through targeted activities aimed at preventing incidents in the first place.
- Reducing commercial property fires in the medium risk ward of Heaton and continuing the on-going programme of Home Fire Safety Checks.
- Making the low risk Thornton and Allerton and Clayton and Fairweather Green wards safer place to live through targeted activities aimed at preventing incidents in the first place.

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are considered when determining operational response arrangements. Bradford Royal Infirmary is the principle life risk in this area and work will continue with the NHS Foundation Trust to reduce the likelihood of fires and other emergencies occurring. Detailed plans are also in place to deal with any incidents at the hospital in an effective manner.
- 4.2. Fire engines from Bradford Fire Station can respond to the hospital as quickly as fire engines from Fairweather Green and the proposals will therefore have no effect on current emergency response arrangements to the hospital.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Fairweather Green fire station area contains 2054 commercial buildings. Of these, 65 pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid fire spread or collapse.
- 5.2. Crews have access to information for all of these higher risk sites by using mobile data terminals on each fire engine. They also regularly visit many of these sites to ensure that information is current and relevant. Where appropriate, operational plans for specific sites are developed.
- 5.3. One fire engine dealt with 88% of emergency calls in this area during 2011/12. The arrival time of the second or subsequent fire engines is still important for firefighter safety and the likely delay between the first fire engine arriving and the second has been assessed and it is generally less than it is in other parts of the county. The very good distribution of fire engines in Bradford District will continue to meet the low demand for a second fire engine.

6. Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1. This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a significant reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries. The proposal for the FRU has a positive impact upon service delivery in other parts of West Yorkshire, particularly in Bradford, by ensuring other fire engines are available to respond to more serious incidents.

Proposal 2 - Keighley and Haworth

Two fire stations serve the Haworth and Keighley area. The fire stations have three fire engines, one at Haworth and two at Keighley. This is a significant overprovision relative to risk and activity. Haworth is a Retained fire station (part time) covering a very low risk area with few fires. When the appliance is not available (currently 27% of the time) fire cover is provided from Keighley. It is therefore proposed to close Haworth fire station and remove one of the two fire engines from Keighley fire station. The remaining fire engine at Keighley will then cover the area.

Key Points:

- The risk levels in the four wards affected by this proposal vary from very high to very low risk, with the very high risk areas close to Keighley fire station (Keighley Central).
- Operational incidents in Keighley and Haworth have reduced by 29% since 2006/7.
- Very few emergencies occur in Haworth and WYFRS attended just two dwelling fires during 20011/12, both of which were insignificant incidents.
- Recruitment and retention of part time (Retained) firefighters is problematic. Haworth's fire engine is unavailable for emergency calls 27% of the time due to Retained firefighters being unable to provide cover during certain times.
- With the exception of the lesser populated parts of the Worth Valley ward, the attendance time to emergencies will be within the Risk Based Planning Assumption (response times).
- Fire engines based at Bingley, Haworth, Keighley and Silsden are among the least active in the County. These proposals will bring the activity of these fire engines more in line with others.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. The fire stations at Keighley and Haworth currently provide the initial emergency response for the Keighley Central, Keighley East, Keighley West, and Worth Valley wards. The areas covered by these fire stations contain approximately 24,000 dwellings and have a population of approximately 60,000.
- 1.2. The areas covered by Keighley are classified as high risk and Haworth as very low risk. The risk levels for the individual wards vary from very high risk to very low risk.
- 1.3. Keighley fire station currently has two fire engines with 44 staff to continually provide nine firefighters on duty. It is within four miles of the fire stations at Haworth, Bingley and Silsden.
- 1.4. An additional Resilience Pump is also located at Keighley to be utilised during periods of unusually high demand or for larger incidents. It is intended to keep this additional fire engine at Keighley.

- 1.5. Haworth fire station has one fire engine crewed by Retained on-call (part-time) firefighters who live or work within close proximity to the fire station.
- 1.6. There are a number of challenges in providing continuous emergency cover in very low risk areas, where Retained firefighters crew the fire engines. There are on-going difficulties in recruitment and retention of suitable staff and challenges for individuals in ensuring they remain available to respond (they must stay within five minutes travel time from the station). The normal number of part time firefighters employed at a Retained fire station is 12. Haworth's fire engine is currently not available due to crew shortages for 27% of the time and cover is provided from the nearby station at Keighley.
- 1.7. Fire crews attended 845 incidents in Keighley during 2011/12 including 48 dwelling fires and 16 road traffic collisions. During the same period, fire crews attended just 64 operational incidents in Haworth including two dwelling fires and three road traffic collisions. The dwelling fires in Haworth were insignificant, requiring the attendance of one fire engine for a short period. Total emergency calls each year in the areas covered by both these fire stations has reduced by 29% over the past five years and dwelling fires in Haworth have halved.
- 1.8. The low levels of risk and demand no longer justifies the provision of three fire engines for the area and emergency response can be adequately provided by one fire engine based at Keighley and closing Haworth fire station.
- 1.9. The ideal location for a fire station to cover the Keighley and Haworth area is to the south of the town centre closer to Haworth (approx. 1.5 miles from the existing fire station at Keighley and 2.7 miles from Haworth), this would ensure that the entire area is within the response times laid down in the Risk Based Planning Assumption. However, the existing fire station still provides a very good base to respond to the vast majority of emergency incidents, therefore, the cost of a new fire station is very high relative to the benefit, unless the current site can be sold to fund a new fire station.

2. Assessing the impact of the proposal

- 2.1. The fire engines based at Bingley, Haworth, Keighley and Silsden are among the least active in the County. The combined total of operational incidents in the areas provided with cover by these resources is well below that in Bradford fire station's area alone. Keighley's fire engines are utilised at operational incidents for approximately 3.6% of the time they are available compared to 9.6% for those based at Bradford. This proposal will mean that the remaining fire engine at Keighley will be utilised for 6.1% of the time it is available and more in line with the average use for other fire engines at similar fire stations.
- 2.2. Analysis of the wider area included consideration of a merger between Shipley and Bingley fire stations, however the Keighley/Haworth proposal increases the longer term value of Bingley, which supports Keighley, and increases its average operational use from just 2.9% to 6.2%, providing fire and rescue cover appropriate to current levels of risk and demand.
- 2.3. Removing a fire engine from Keighley and closing Haworth has no discernible impact on the average emergency response times for a fire engine into the Keighley Central, and Keighley East and Keighley West wards. There is an impact in certain parts of the very low risk ward of Worth Valley although the majority of dwellings in this ward (approximately three quarters) still fall within the Risk Based Planning Assumption for the area (11 minutes) and Haworth town centre in particular is still covered.

- 2.4. Building a new fire station south of Keighley town centre would reduce emergency response times into the Worth Valley but it would slightly increase response times to the higher risk wards of Keighley Central and Keighley East.
- 2.5. These proposals do not have any significant countywide impact upon emergency response times.

3. Risk Levels and Risk Reduction

- 3.1. Priorities, objectives, and targets will focus upon risk reduction in the wards most affected by this proposal and over time, the risk profile in all of the wards will reduce. This will form part of the Bradford District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area.
- 3.2. During 2009/12 6,707 Home Fire Safety Checks were delivered in the wards affected by this proposal. The area contains diverse communities and there is economic variation between wards. Community safety activities in these areas are delivering very good results with dwelling fires reduced by 24% over five years. The long-term commitment to a fire station in this area will help the Bradford District and Local Area Risk Reduction Teams continue to reduce risk.
- 3.3. Revised plans will be developed to continue to reduce risk in the area as far as possible commencing April 2013. The plan's priorities would be as follows:
 - Reducing dwelling fires in the very high-risk ward of Keighley Central by carrying out targeted Home Fire Safety Checks
 - Reducing the number of rescues in the high-risk ward of Keighley East by working with other agencies and by carrying out targeted Home Fire Safety Checks
 - Supporting local businesses in the Keighley Central ward by reducing commercial property fires
 - Ensuring that the very low risk Worth Valley and Keighley West wards remain safe places to live and work through targeted activities aimed at preventing incidents in the first place

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are considered when developing operational response arrangements. Airedale General Hospital presents the principal life risk for these areas and there are also several large industrial buildings, a shopping centre and three national heritage sites. The MAJ Limited industrial site also falls within the remit of the Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) regulations.
- 4.2. Removing a fire engine from Keighley and closing Haworth fire station would have little impact upon the time taken for the first fire engine to reach most of these sites in the event of an emergency. Relocating Keighley fire station south of its current location would increase the time taken a fire engine to respond to most of the higher risk sites.
- 4.3. This proposal will increase the response time for the first fire engine to the Bronte Parsonage Museum in Haworth but it will still be within the response time laid down by the Risk Based Planning Assumption for the area. Work with the occupiers of these

premises will continue to reduce the likelihood of a fire occurring and to protect the most valuable parts of the building and particular items in the event of a fire.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Keighley and Haworth fire station area contains 2229 commercial buildings. Of these, 155 pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid fire spread or collapse.
- 5.2. Crews have access to information for all of these higher risk sites using mobile data terminals on each fire engine and regularly visit many of these sites to ensure the information remains current and relevant. Where appropriate specific operational plans are developed for these sites.
- 5.3. Just one fire engine deals with the majority of incidents attended in this area and during 2011/12 one fire engine dealt with 84% of emergency calls. The arrival time of the second or subsequent fire engines is still important for firefighter safety and the time it will take for the second appliance to arrive has been assessed and the very good distribution of fire engines in the Bradford District ensures that the time taken for supporting appliances to arrive is acceptable.

6 Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1 This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a significant reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries. Ultimately, the sale of the fire station site at Haworth will generate capital receipts to reduce the borrowing requirements of the Authority.

Proposal 3 - Idle and Shipley

Risk and activity in the areas covered by Idle and Shipley fire stations have reduced dramatically. It is therefore proposed to merge the two stations and build a brand new fire station with one fire engine at an optimum location between the two existing stations.

Key Points:

- Operational activity and the number of incidents in the Idle and Shipley area has reduced by 34% over the last five years.
- The proposal for a Fire Response Unit in Bradford based at Fairweather Green will further reduce the demand on fire engines in the area.
- All predicted emergency response times in the area will remain within the Risk Based Planning Assumption.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. The fire stations at Idle and Shipley currently provide the initial emergency response for the Idle and Thackley, Eccleshill, Bolton and Undercliffe, Windhill and Wrose, Baildon and Shipley wards. These fire stations cover an area that contains approximately 41,000 dwellings serving a population of around 96,500.
- 1.2. The overall area covered by Idle and Shipley fire stations is classified as medium risk but the distribution of risk is different in each ward and ranges from medium to very low risk.
- 1.3. Both of the fire stations have 24 staff in order to provide one fire engine continually crewed by five staff.
- 1.4. During the evaluation of options, a number of alternative locations for the new fire station was considered along with alternative proposals including a merger between Shipley and Bingley fire stations. The overall analysis supports the merger of Idle and Shipley fire stations and building a new fire station north of Bradford city centre, approximately two miles from the existing fire stations.

2. Assessing the impact of the proposal

- 2.1. The fire engine at Idle is currently utilised at operational incidents for 5.6% of the time it is available and the fire engine at Shipley is utilised for 5.4% of the time. This proposal would result in the fire engine being utilised for 12.1% of the time; a very cost effective resource when compared to other fire engines.
- 2.2. Fire crews attended 1399 operational incidents in Idle and Shipley during 2011/12. By comparison, in 2006/7, they attended 2116 operational incidents, therefore, emergency calls have reduced by 34% over five years.
- 2.3. The attendance time to an emergency in all of the wards will be within the time laid down by the Risk Based Planning Assumptions approved by the Authority. Clearly, by moving to a new fire station site, some areas will see a reduction in the average time

the fire engine takes to arrive and other areas will see an increase. Response times will increase to some of the lower risk wards but will improve significantly for a number of the higher risk wards, including Manningham.

- 2.4. One of the proposals is to provide a smaller vehicle (Fire Response Unit) to deal with minor incidents in the Bradford District, including Idle and Shipley. This will ensure that fire engines remain available for fires of a more serious nature and also reduces the disruption to training and community safety activity carried out when firefighters are not responding to incidents.
- 2.5. The proposal would have a minimal impact on countywide emergency response times.

3. Risk Levels and Risk Reduction

- 3.1. During 2009/12 9,251 Home Fire Safety Checks were delivered within the six wards affected by this proposal. This has contributed to the reduction in risk in these wards with fewer house fires now occurring.
- 3.2. The proposal for a new fire station to serve the communities of this area represents a significant investment and long-term commitment. Priorities, objectives, and targets focus upon risk reduction in the wards most affected by this proposal and over time, the risk profile in all of the wards will reduce. This plan will form part of the Bradford District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area.
- 3.3. A revised plan will be developed to continue to reduce risk in the area as far as possible commencing April 2013. The plan's priorities would be as follows:
 - Reducing dwelling fires in the medium-risk wards of Eccleshill and Shipley by targeted Home Fire Safety Checks initiatives and working with other agencies
 - Reducing dwelling fires and road traffic collisions in the low risk ward of Windhill and Wrose by targeted Home Fire Safety Checks initiatives and working with other agencies
 - Ensuring that the low and very low risk wards of Bolton and Undercliffe, Idle and Thackley and Baildon remain safe places to live through targeted activities aimed at preventing incidents in the first place

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are considered when developing operational response arrangements. The fire engines based at Idle and Shipley form part of the first response to a number of these sites. Bradford Industrial Museum and the Salts Estate are important to national heritage. This proposal would not affect the time taken to reach Bradford Industrial Museum, but would increase the attendance time to Salts Estate. Work with occupiers of such premises will continue to reduce the likelihood of a fire occurring and to protect the most valuable parts of the building and particular items in the event of a fire.
- 4.2. The industrial and manufacturing sites occupied by George Barkers and Company, Manor Coatings, and Regent Greeting Cards Limited are important to the local economy. These proposals will slightly increase the response time for the first fire engines to all of these sites and work will continue with the owners of these premises to reduce the risk of fire and its effects.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Idle and Shipley fire station areas contain 3124 commercial buildings. Of these, 115 pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid fire spread or collapse. Crews have access to information for all of these higher risk sites using mobile data terminals on each fire engine and regularly visit many of these sites to ensure the information remains current and relevant. Where necessary, specific operational plans for these sites are developed.
- 5.2. During 2011/12 just one fire engine dealt with 89% of emergency calls in this area. The arrival time of the second or subsequent fire engines is still important for firefighter safety and an assessment of the time it will take for the second appliance to arrive has concluded that, due to the very good distribution of fire engines in the Bradford District, the time taken for supporting appliances to arrive is acceptable.

6. Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1. This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a significant reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries. Ultimately, the sale of the two fire station sites at Idle and Shipley will generate capital receipts to reduce the borrowing requirements of the Authority.

Proposal 4 - Odsal

Odsal fire station currently has two fire engines. It is proposed to that one of the fire engines will be replaced with a Command and Enhanced Logistics Support Unit (a vehicle used to support command and control at major incidents).

Key Points:

- Emergency calls in Odsal have reduced by 19% during the five-year period 2006/07 to 2011/12.
- The risk levels in the seven wards affected by this proposal range from very high to very low risk.
- The proposal for a Fire Response Unit in Bradford based at Fairweather Green will further reduce the demand on fire engines in the area.
- Due to changes at other stations and the introduction of the Enhanced Logistics Support capability as part of the Command Unit functionality, it is proposed to site this vehicle at Odsal, the specialist logistics station.
- All predicted emergency response times in the area will remain within the Risk Based Planning Assumption.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. Odsal fire station provides the initial emergency response for the Tong, Little Horton, Wyke, Wibsey, Royds, Queensbury and Northowram and Shelf wards. The areas covered by the fire station contain approximately 40,000 dwellings and have a population of approximately 99,000.
- 1.2. The areas covered by Odsal fire station are classified as very high risk overall but the distribution of risk varies in each ward and ranges from very high to very low.
- 1.3. The fire station was built in 1965 and has two fire engines and 44 staff who provide a continual crew of nine staff. It is located within four miles of other fire stations in Bradford, Fairweather Green, and Cleckheaton.
- 1.4. WYFRS has a new specialist vehicle, known as the Command Unit. This vehicle provides support for command and control at major incidents. This vehicle also provides enhanced logistical support (ELS) in the event of a major incident of regional or national significance, for example wide area flooding or a terrorist attack. The Government provides funding to the Authority to provide this ELS capability as part of national resilience arrangements. The Command Unit is currently at Batley fire station and is alternately crewed with the second appliance. Plans for the merger of Batley and Dewsbury fire stations are well advanced and this new station will be the Hazardous Materials specialist station (currently this is Dewsbury), with Detection Identification and Monitoring equipment etc. located there. Odsal is currently the specialist Logistics station for WYFRS and therefore, with the changes proposed for Batley, it is logical to re-site the Command Unit to Odsal.

2. Assessing the impact of the proposal

- 2.1. The fire engines at Odsal are currently utilised at operational incidents for 5.6% of the time they are available, compared to one of the busier stations (Bradford) which are utilised for 9.6% of the time. This proposal would result in the fire engine being utilised for 8.3% of the time it is available, still below the activity of the busier fire engines.
- 2.2. This proposal provides opportunity to permanently crew the Command Unit, ensuring a professional and resilient command and control function for large or protracted incidents in West Yorkshire and fulfil obligations for Enhanced Logistics Support as part of national resilience arrangements.
- 2.3. Fire crews attended 1737 incidents within the areas covered by Odsal fire station during 2011/12, including 71 dwelling fires and 41 road traffic collisions. In comparison, they attended 2139 operational incidents in 2006/07 including 108 dwelling fires and 51 road traffic collisions. Emergency calls have therefore reduced by 19% and dwelling fires by over 34% in five years.
- 2.4. Plans to provide a Fire Response Unit in Bradford District will further reduce the amount of time that local fire engines spend dealing with small “nuisance” fires. This means that there will be fewer disturbances to community safety and training activities and more importantly, fire engines will remain available for incidents where life or property are at risk.
- 2.5. The attendance time to an emergency in all of the wards covered by the new fire station will be within the time set by the Risk Based Planning Assumptions approved by the Fire and Rescue Authority. A detailed explanation of the RBPA is available in this consultation document and in the Community Risk Management Strategy found on the website www.westyorksfire.gov.uk.

3. Risk Levels and Risk Reduction

- 3.1. 10,072 Home Fire Safety Checks were delivered during 2009/12 in the wards affected by this proposal. The area contains diverse communities and there is economic variation between wards. Community safety activities in these areas are delivering very good results with dwelling fires reduced by 35% over five years. The long-term commitment to a fire station in this area will help the Bradford District and Local Area Risk Reduction Teams continue to reduce risk.
- 3.2. Priorities, objectives, and targets focus upon risk reduction in the wards most affected by this proposal and over time, the risk profile in all of the wards will reduce. This will form part of the Bradford District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area. A revised plan will continue to reduce risk in the area as far as possible commencing April 2013. The plan’s priorities would be as follows:
 - Reducing dwelling fires and related injuries in the very high-risk ward of Tong by carrying out targeted Home Fire Safety Checks
 - Supporting local businesses in the Tong and Little Horton wards by reducing commercial property fires
 - Reducing arson in the Tong and Little Horton wards

- Making the low and very low risk Royds, Northowram and Shelf, Queensbury, Wyke and Wibsey wards safer places to live through targeted activities aimed at preventing incidents in the first place

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are taken into account when considering operational response arrangements. There are 20 higher-risk commercial and industrial buildings within the Odsal fire station area. These include three sites; BASF, NU Farm and Kemira Chemicals, which fall within the remit of the Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) regulations. WYFRS will continue to work closely with the occupiers of these sites and their on-site industrial fire teams
- 4.2. St Luke's Hospital presents the principal life risk in this area and work will continue with the NHS Foundation Trust to reduce the likelihood of fires and other emergencies occurring. Detailed plans are also in place to deal with any incidents at the hospital in an effective manner.
- 4.3. There is no significant impact on the time it will take the first fire engine to arrive at these sites and Odsal is well supported by other fire engines based in Bradford. For example, fire engines from Bradford fire station can respond to St Luke's Hospital as quickly as Odsal. The proposals will therefore have little effect on current emergency response arrangements.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Odsal fire station area contains 2573 commercial buildings. Of these, 108 pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid fire spread or collapse.
- 5.2. Crews have access to information for all of these higher risk sites using mobile data terminals on each fire engine and regularly visit many of these sites to ensure the information remains current and relevant. Where appropriate, specific operational plans are developed for these sites. These factors assist in reducing the risk to firefighters.
- 5.3. One fire engine can deal with the majority of incidents in this area; during 2011/12, one fire engine dealt with 88% of emergency calls. The arrival time of the second or subsequent fire engines is still important for firefighter safety and the likely response time of the second fire engine into Odsal is generally faster than other areas of the County due to the very good distribution of fire engines in Bradford District and surrounding areas.

6. Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1. This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a significant reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries.
- 6.2. The dual role of the Command Unit for West Yorkshire and the Enhanced Logistics Support function for national resilience is an extremely cost effective way of delivering a high quality service. The likelihood of the Command Unit being mobilised outside of West Yorkshire at the same time as it is required in West Yorkshire for a major incident

is extremely low. There is a spare Command Unit with limited capability and this is currently under review with a view to replacing this aging vehicle with a more modern purpose built but smaller vehicle that will complement and enhance the capability of the larger vehicle and provide additional resilience.

- 6.3. The current arrangements for providing a command facility at operational incidents use the alternate crewing system, whereby crews can respond on different vehicles depending on the type of call, and this has presented some operational challenges. This proposal will improve the current position whilst complementing the specialist logistics function currently operated from Odsal fire station.
- 6.4. There is a recognition that there may be a need to make some structural alterations to house the new Command Vehicle at Odsal fire station.

Proposal 5 - Halifax

Implementation of changes to emergency cover in Calderdale has already commenced, with the merger of Elland and Brighouse fire stations as part of IRMP Action plan 2012/13. Halifax fire station still has two fire engines, one of which is a Combined Aerial Rescue Pump (CARP). It is now proposed that one of these fire engines is removed leaving the CARP and keeping the fire engine at Illingworth fire station.

Key Points:

- During the five-year period 2006/07 to 2011/12, emergency calls in Halifax have reduced by 35% and the number of serious fires has reduced by 45%.
- The risk levels in the five wards affected by this proposal range from high risk to very low risk.
- All predicted emergency response times in the area will remain within the Risk Based Planning Assumption.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. Halifax fire station provides the initial emergency response for the Town, Park, Skircoat, Warley and Sowerby Bridge wards. The area covered by the fire station contains approximately 29,000 dwellings and has a population of approximately 65,500.
- 1.2. The Town ward is classified as high risk, the Park ward as medium risk and the remainder as very low risk. The overall station area risk level is high risk.
- 1.3. The fire station was built in 1970 and has two fire engines continually crewed by a total of ten staff, with a total station establishment of forty-eight. One of the fire engines is a Combined Aerial Rescue Pump (CARP) and the intention is to keep this fire engine at Halifax station. The station is located within four miles of Illingworth fire station and five miles from Mytholmroyd fire station and the location of the new Rastrick fire station.
- 1.4. Fire crews attended 944 operational incidents in Halifax during 2011/12. By comparison, they attended 1462 incidents during 2006/7, therefore emergency calls have reduced by 35% over five years.

2. Assessing the impact of the proposals

- 2.1. Calderdale's fire engines are amongst the least operationally active in the County. For example, the fire engines based at Halifax respond to 40% fewer emergencies than those at Huddersfield and half as many as those at Leeds fire station; both these stations have two fire engines. The two fire engines at Halifax are currently used at operational incidents for 5.6% of the time they are available and those at Illingworth 4.4% of the time. Removal of one fire engine from Halifax would increase the utilisation of the remaining Halifax and Illingworth fire engines to 8.4% and 6.2% respectively.

- 2.2. The attendance time to an emergency in all of the wards covered by Halifax and Illingworth fire stations will still be within the time set by the Risk Based Planning Assumptions approved by the Fire and Rescue Authority. A detailed explanation of the RBPA is available in this consultation document and in the Community Risk Management Strategy found on the website www.westyorksfire.gov.uk.
- 2.3. One option considered during research was the merger of Halifax and Illingworth fire stations with a new station to serve both areas. The negative impact of this proposal for certain areas of Calderdale was greater than the option of keeping one fire engine at both existing fire stations.
- 2.4. The proposal would have a minimal impact on countywide emergency response times.

3. Risk Levels and Risk Reduction

- 3.1. WYFRS delivered 5,863 Home Fire Safety Checks during 2009/12 in the wards affected by this proposal. The area contains diverse communities and there is economic variation between wards. Community safety activities in these areas are delivering very good results with dwelling fires reduced by approximately 21% over five years. The long-term commitment to a fire station in this area will help the Calderdale District and Local Area Risk Reduction Teams continue to reduce risk.
- 3.2. Priorities, objectives, and targets focus upon risk reduction in the wards most affected by this proposal and over time, the risk in all of the wards will reduce. This will form part of the Calderdale District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area. Plans will be revised to continue to reduce risk in the area as far as possible commencing April 2013. The plan's priorities would be as follows:
 - Reducing dwelling fires and rescues in the high-risk Town ward by targeted initiatives and working with other agencies.
 - Making the medium risk Park ward a safer place to live by reducing commercial property fires and continuing the on-going programme of Home Fire Safety Checks.
 - Ensuring that the very low risk wards of Skircoat, Sowerby Bridge, and Warley remain safe places to live through targeted activities aimed at preventing incidents in the first place.

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are considered when developing operational response arrangements. The fire engines based at Halifax form part of the first response to a number of these sites. Shibden Hall and Bankfield Museum are part of the national heritage and the business centres located at Copley and Dean Clough are important to the local economy. Calderdale Royal Infirmary continues to present the principal life risk in the area.
- 4.2. This proposal would have no impact upon the time taken for the first fire engine to reach these sites in the event of an emergency.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Halifax fire station area contains 3,688 commercial buildings and 138 of these pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid fire spread or collapse.

- 5.2. Crews have access to information for all of these higher risk sites by using mobile data terminals on each fire engine. They also regularly visit many of these sites to ensure that information is current and relevant. Where appropriate specific operational plans for these sites are developed.
- 5.3. During 2011/12, one fire engine dealt with 85% of emergency calls in Halifax area. The arrival time of the second or subsequent fire engines is still important for firefighter safety and the likely response time of the second fire engine has been assessed. Because the demand for a second fire engine in Halifax is relatively low and fire engines based in the Calderdale District and other surrounding areas can meet this demand, the arrival time of a second appliance is not of concern.

6. Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1. This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a significant reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries.
- 6.2. Halifax fire station is too big for its current purpose and several areas of the site are no longer used; this proposal will result in even less space being required. It is therefore appropriate to consider how to reduce the costs of running this site. Options include the construction of a new smaller station nearby (or even on the same site) or renting off or selling the spare capacity. Rebuilding would require major capital investment but there may be potential to recover these costs through the sale of the land, possibly aligned to the local authority strategic development plans. Some of WYFRS fire stations are shared with other emergency services and this arrangement has mutual benefits. The practicalities of these options will be further considered if the proposal is approved.

Proposal 6 - Marsden

Three Retained (part time) fire stations at Marsden, Slaithwaite and Meltham currently serve the Colne Valley area. The entire area is very low risk with very few fires and three fire stations are a generous provision relative to risk. It is therefore proposed that the fire station at Marsden is closed and emergency cover provided from the nearby stations. Changes in Kirklees District already approved include a merger between Dewsbury and Batley fire Stations.

Key Points:

- Fewer emergency calls occur in Marsden than any other fire station area and only three dwelling fires occurred during 20011/12.
- Marsden's fire engine is currently unavailable for emergency calls 28% of the time due to staff being unable to provide on call cover in the area and other fire stations adequately provide cover during these periods.
- Closing the fire station will have very little effect upon emergency response times.
- All predicted emergency response times in the area will remain within the Risk Based Planning Assumption.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. Marsden fire station provides an emergency response service for the Colne Valley ward. It supports similar Retained Duty System (RDS) resources based at Meltham and Slaithwaite. It is within four miles of the other fire stations at Meltham and Slaithwaite and is just 7 miles from Huddersfield fire station. It has one fire engine crewed by on-call (part-time) firefighters who live or work within close proximity to the fire station.
- 1.2. The fire station covers an area that contains approximately 1,690 dwellings and has a population of just 3,862. The area covered by Marsden fire station is classified as very low risk.
- 1.3. There are a number of challenges in providing continuous emergency cover in very low risk areas, where Retained firefighters crew the fire engines. There are on-going difficulties in recruitment and retention of suitable staff and challenges for individuals in ensuring they remain available to respond (they must stay within five minutes travel time from the station). The normal number of part time firefighters employed at a Retained fire station is 12. Marsden is currently not available due to crew shortages for 28% of the time, mainly between 0800 and 1700hrs each day when it is only actually available for 38% of the time between these hours. Fire engines from Slaithwaite and Meltham provide cover for Marsden when the fire engine is unavailable.

2. Assessing the impact of the proposals

- 2.1. The fire engine at Marsden has the lowest operational activity levels of all WYFRS fire engines and it is used just 0.4% of the time (an average of less than six minutes each day) compared with around 5% for whole-time crewed fire engines and 1.4%, for the fire engines at Meltham and Slaithwaite.
- 2.2. In 2006/7 fire crews responded to 65 emergency calls in Marsden and by 2011/12, this already low number has fallen to just 48 emergency calls, including three dwelling fires and two road traffic collisions. This is a 26% reduction over five years.
- 2.3. Despite the very low incidence of fire and other emergencies, the Colne Valley ward has two fire stations. Slaithwaite's fire engine is available more often than the one at Marsden but also has low operational activity levels. The closure of Marsden fire station would marginally increase the use of Slaithwaite's fire engine and would not compromise public safety.
- 2.4. The attendance time to an emergency in all of the wards currently covered by Marsden fire station will still be within the time set by the Risk Based Planning Assumption approved by the Fire and Rescue Authority after it is closed. The average predicted response time will actually be one minute quicker than the RBPA, clearly demonstrating a generous provision with the current arrangements. A detailed explanation of the RBPA is available in this consultation document and in the Community Risk Management Strategy found on the website www.westyorkshire.gov.uk.
- 2.5. This proposal would have no impact upon countywide emergency response times.

3. Risk Levels & Risk Reduction

- 3.1. WYFRS has delivered almost 1,000 Home Fire Safety Checks during 2009/12 in the Colne Valley ward. This service has contributed to keeping the level of risk and the number of house fires at a lower level than most other areas of the county.
- 3.2. Because local roads are generally single carriageway country lanes, the Colne Valley ward experiences a number of road traffic collisions. Part of the M62 motorway also passes through the Colne Valley ward and this contributes to a significant number of these incidents, although the reality is that the first fire engines sent to the motorway are not from Marsden due to the location of the junctions. Work will continue with partners on a range of road safety initiatives to reduce road traffic collisions. These are having an impact, with road traffic collisions across West Yorkshire reducing by 24% in the last five years.
- 3.3. WYFRS priorities, objectives, and targets focus upon risk reduction in the wards most affected by this proposal and over time, the risk profile will reduce in all of the wards. This will form part of the Kirklees District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area. A revised plan will be developed to continue to reduce risk in the area as far as possible commencing April 2013. The plan's priorities would be as follows:
 - Undertaking Home Fire Safety Checks in households, which have not been previously visited
 - Playing a vital role in arson reduction campaigns
 - Working with local businesses to reduce commercial property fires
 - Working with partners to reduce the number of road traffic collisions.

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are considered when developing operational response arrangements. Standedge Tunnel is the only high-risk site in Marsden and detailed plans exist to deal with a significant incident in the tunnel
- 4.2. The moorland around Marsden represents a risk and fires on the moors can be extremely damaging for the environment. Larger moorland fires require the attendance of more than one fire engine and during 2010 a modern fleet of specialist vehicles were introduced, including three purpose built wildfire units, to deal with such incidents. One of these units is located at Holmfirth fire station and it forms part of a response package to moorland incidents in the Holme Valley and Colne Valley wards.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Marsden fire station area contains just 124 commercial buildings and only six of these pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid fire spread or collapse.
- 5.2. Crews have access to information for these higher risk sites by using mobile data terminals on each fire engine. They also regularly visit many of these sites to ensure that information is current and relevant. Where appropriate, specific operational plans are developed for these sites.

6. Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1. This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a significant reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries. Ultimately, the sale of Marsden fire station will generate capital receipts to reduce the borrowing requirements of the Authority.

Proposal 7 – Stanningley

At a glance – the key points of this proposal

Risk and activity in the areas covered by Stanningley fire station, which has two fire engines and a number of specialist vehicles, have reduced dramatically and it is therefore proposed that one fire engine is removed.

Key Points:

- The risk levels in the five wards affected by this proposal range from very high to very low risk.
- Operational incidents in the Stanningley area have reduced by 28% since 2006/7.
- All predicted emergency response times in the area will remain within the Risk Based Planning Assumption
- The Leeds District Fire Response Unit is further reducing demand on resources in this area.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. Stanningley fire station currently provides the initial emergency response for the Armley, Bramley and Stanningley, Calverley and Farsley, Farnley and Wortley and Pudsey wards. The fire station covers an area that contains approximately 36,500 houses and has a population of around 85,500.
- 1.2. The area covered by Stanningley fire station is classified as high risk overall, with individual wards ranging from very high to very low risk.
- 1.3. Stanningley is a modern fire station and has two fire engines continually crewed by nine staff. It is located within four miles of other fire stations in Leeds and Bradford.
- 1.4. The success of the Fire Response Unit (FRU) in dealing with smaller fires and less serious incidents in the Leeds District allows fire engines to remain available for emergency calls of a more serious nature. The FRU has reduced the operational activity of fire engines and those based at Stanningley respond to 46% fewer emergencies than those at Leeds fire station.
- 1.5. These proposals make more efficient use of resources at Stanningley and neighbouring stations where activity levels have also reduced dramatically.

2. Assessing the impact of the proposals

- 2.1. Fire crews attended 1195 operational incidents in Stanningley during 2011/12 and by comparison, in 2006/7 they attended 1661 operational incidents. Therefore, emergency calls have reduced by 28% over five years.
- 2.2. The fire engines at Stanningley are used just 5.2% of the time at incidents, compared to an average of 10.4% for those based at Leeds fire station. The proposal means that a single fire engine at Stanningley will increase its activity to spend approximately 8.1% of its time at operational incidents.
- 2.3. The attendance time to an emergency in all of the wards covered by Stanningley fire station will still be within the time set by the Risk Based Planning Assumptions approved by the Fire and Rescue Authority. A detailed explanation of the RBPA is available in this consultation document and in the Community Risk Management Strategy found on the website www.westyorksfire.gov.uk.
- 2.4. The proposal would have a minimal impact on countywide emergency response times.

3. Risk Levels and Risk Reduction

- 3.1. WYFRS delivered 11,000 Home Fire Safety Checks during 2009/12 within the five wards affected by this proposal. This activity has contributed to the reduction of risk in these wards. In the past five years the number of incidents in Stanningley's area has reduced by 28% and this reduction is continuing, with a reduction in the number of house fires of almost 10% since the beginning of 2011.
- 3.2. The area currently covered by Stanningley experiences a number of road traffic collisions. Although road safety is not the primary responsibility of the Fire and Rescue Service, work with partner organisations in a range of road safety initiatives is having an impact and road traffic collisions across the Stanningley area have reduced by 21% since 2010.
- 3.3. WYFRS priorities, objectives, and targets focus upon risk reduction in the wards most affected by this proposal and over time, the risk in all of the wards will reduce. This forms part of the Leeds District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area. A revised plan will be developed to continue to reduce risk in the area commencing April 2013 and the plan's priorities would be as follows:
 - Targeted activities will reduce the current risk profile in Bramley and Stanningley from high to medium risk.
 - Working with other agencies and fire prevention activity will reduce the current risk profile in Calverley and Farsley from low to very low risk.
 - The Armley, Farnley, and Pudsey wards are currently very high, high, and medium risk respectively and they will be made safer places to live through targeted activities aimed at preventing incidents in the first place.
 - Work with partners to further reduce the number of road traffic collisions will continue.

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are considered when developing operational response arrangements. The highest risk sites within the Stanningley area include Stanningley Tunnel, Sunny Bank Mills and Fulneck School.
- 4.2. These proposals will have no impact upon the time it takes the first fire engine to arrive at these sites and work with occupiers of such premises to reduce the likelihood of a fire occurring and to protect the most valuable parts of the building or particular items in the event of a fire will continue.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Stanningley fire station area contains 2279 commercial buildings. Of these, 147 pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid fire spread or collapse.
- 5.2. Crews have access to information for all of these higher risk sites by using mobile data terminals on each fire engine. They also regularly visit many of these sites to ensure that information is current and relevant. Where appropriate specific operational plans for these sites are developed.
- 5.3. The majority of incidents in this area are dealt with using just one fire engine and during 2011/12, 86% of incidents were dealt with in this way. The arrival time of the second or subsequent fire engines is still important for firefighter safety and therefore the time for the second appliance arriving is assessed. With the very good distribution of fire engines in Leeds District and the surrounding areas, coupled with the introduction of the new Fire Response Unit, the low demand for a second fire engine can be adequately met.

6. Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1. This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a significant reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries. This proposal has no discernible impact on public and firefighter safety in the area and very little impact upon service delivery in other parts of West Yorkshire.
- 6.2. Stanningley fire station also contains some specialist equipment for the removal and delivery of water. The Hose Layer and High Volume Pump are used very infrequently and therefore they are alternately crewed with the second fire engine. Changes to procedures will be introduced to ensure that the removal of this fire engine does not affect the availability of these specialist resources.

Proposal 8 – Hunslet and Morley

The areas covered by Hunslet and Morley fire stations are served by three fire engines, one at Morley and two at Hunslet. Changes in risk and demand support the merger of these two fire stations and the removal of one fire engine. It is therefore proposed that a brand new fire station containing two fire engines is constructed in an optimum location to replace those at Hunslet and Morley. This merger also supports the proposal affecting Garforth and Rothwell.

Key Points:

- Operational activity for fire engines based at Hunslet and Morley area has reduced by 31% since 2006/7.
- The risk levels in the six wards affected by this proposal range from very high to low risk.
- The location of the new station will provide good motorway access and excellent links to other high-risk areas via Leeds Ring Road.
- The Leeds based Fire Response Unit will further reduce the demand on fire engines in these areas.
- All predicted emergency response times in the area will remain within the Risk Based Planning Assumption.
- A single fire station containing two fire engines, serving both areas, will align operational activity to other areas of West Yorkshire.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. The fire stations at Hunslet and Morley currently provide the initial emergency response for the Ardsley and Robin Hood, Beeston and Holbeck, City and Hunslet, Middleton Park, Morley North and Morley South wards. These fire stations cover an area that contains approximately 51,500 houses and has a population of approximately 118,500.
- 1.2. The areas covered by Hunslet and Morley fire stations are classified as high risk and medium risk respectively. The risk for individual wards ranges from very high to low risk. Building a new fire station between Hunslet and Morley will ensure a fire engine is located where it will provide optimum benefit for local communities and meets the demands of a high quality modern fire service.
- 1.3. There is currently an establishment of 24 firefighters at Morley fire station to ensure a minimum of five on the one fire engine and the establishment at Hunslet is 44 firefighters to ensure there are nine on the two fire engines at any time.
- 1.4. A number of alternative locations for the new fire station have been considered and the best solution is to construct a fire station with two fire engines in the South Leeds area approximately two miles from each of the existing fire stations. This provides the best

emergency response times into the wards currently covered by the two fire stations of Morley and Hunslet.

2. Assessing the Impact of the Proposals

- 2.1. In 2006/07 fire crews from Hunslet and Morley attended 3008 operational incidents, including 157 house fires and 96 road traffic collisions. In 2011/12 this had fallen to 2068 operational incidents, including 91 house fires and 67 road traffic collisions. This represents a significant reduction in risk over the past five years and emergency calls have reduced by over 31% and house fires by 42%.
- 2.2. Currently the fire engines at Hunslet are utilised at operational incidents for 6.9% of the time they are available and the fire engine at Morley is used just 4.4% of the time. Both of these are lower than average for the same type of fire station. The fire engines at the new fire station would be utilised at operational incidents for 9.2% of the time, which is a far more efficient use of the resources and more in line with the average utilisation for similar fire stations.
- 2.3. The attendance time to an emergency in all of the wards covered by the new fire station will be within the time set by the Risk Based Planning Assumptions approved by the Fire and Rescue Authority. A detailed explanation of the RBPA is available in this consultation document and in the Community Risk Management Strategy found on the website www.westyorksfire.gov.uk.
- 2.4. These proposals would also reduce emergency response times for fire engines into the very high-risk ward of Beeston and Holbeck.
- 2.5. The Fire Response Unit in Leeds District will continue to reduce the amount of time that local fire engines spend dealing with small “nuisance” fires. This means that there will be fewer disturbances to community safety and training activities and more importantly, fire engines will remain available for incidents where life or property are at risk.
- 2.6. The proposal would have a minimal impact on countywide emergency response times.

3. Risk Levels and Risk Reduction

- 3.1. WYFRS delivered 12612 Home Fire Safety Checks during 2009/12 within the six wards affected by this proposal. This activity has contributed to the reduction of risk in these wards and in particular a dramatic reduction in serious house fires.
- 3.2. Due to the road and motorway network, the area currently covered by Hunslet and Morley experiences a number of road traffic collisions. Work with partners in a range of road safety initiatives have helped reduce road traffic collisions in the area by 13% since 2010 and the location of the new station will provide excellent motorway access and good links to other high-risk areas via Leeds Ring Road.
- 3.3. The proposal for a new fire station to serve the communities of this area represents a significant investment and long-term commitment. Priorities, objectives, and targets focus upon risk reduction and form part of the Leeds District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area. A revised plan will be developed to continue to reduce risk in the area as far as possible commencing April 2013, the plan’s priorities would be as follows:

- Through targeted activities aimed at preventing incidents in the first place, the risk in the Beeston and Holbeck ward will be reduced.
- The risk in Morley South, Morley North and Ardsley and Robin Hood wards will also be reduced by working with other agencies and targeting the homes most at risk of fire.
- The higher risk wards of City and Hunslet and Middleton Park will be made safer places to live by working with other agencies to identify and support vulnerable individuals.

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are considered when developing operational response arrangements. The Royal Armouries Museum, Morley Railway Tunnel, and Kodak Polychrome are some of the higher risk sites within the Hunslet and Morley areas. The response time from the new station to these sites will still be good and work with occupiers of such premises will continue to reduce the likelihood of a fire occurring and detailed plans are in place for potential emergencies occurring at all of these sites.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Hunslet and Morley fire station areas contain 5261 commercial buildings. Of these, 243 pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid fire spread or collapse.
- 5.2. Crews have access to information for all of these higher risk sites by using mobile data terminals on each fire engine. They also regularly visit many of these sites to ensure that information is current and relevant. Where appropriate specific operational plans for these sites are developed.
- 5.3. During 2011/12, 87% of incidents were dealt with by one fire engine. The arrival time of the second or subsequent fire engines is still important for firefighter safety and the area still experiences a significant number of incidents where two fire engines are required. The fire engines from Hunslet also regularly provide back up into surrounding areas, and the new fire station will be one of the more active stations in West Yorkshire, providing cover also for part of the Rothwell area. It is therefore appropriate to have two fire engines at this new station.

6. Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1. This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a significant reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries. Ultimately, the sale of the two fire station sites at Hunslet and Morley will generate capital receipts to reduce the borrowing requirements of the Authority.

Proposal 9 – Cookridge and Moortown

Cookridge and Moortown fire stations currently have one fire engine at each station serving an area where there are now significantly fewer fires and other emergencies. It is therefore proposed that these two stations are merged and a brand new fire station with a single fire engine constructed in an optimum location to replace those at Cookridge and Moortown.

Key Points:

- Operational incidents in the Moortown and Cookridge areas have reduced by 26% since 2006/7 and house fires have reduced by 21%.
- Overall operational activity for fire engines based at Cookridge and Moortown has reduced by 33% over the last five years.
- Dealing with smaller fires in the Leeds District using the Fire Response Unit ensures other fire engines remain available to attend emergencies of a more serious nature.
- The risk levels in the seven wards affected by this proposal range from high to very low risk.
- All predicted emergency response times in the area will remain within the Risk Based Planning Assumption.
- The merger of these two fire stations will align the emergency response provision with other areas that have similar risk profiles.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. The fire stations at Cookridge and Moortown currently provide the initial emergency response for the Adel and Wharfedale, Alwoodley, Chapel Allerton, Horsforth, Moortown, Roundhay and Weetwood wards. These fire stations cover an area that contains approximately 68,000 houses and has a population of around 158,000.
- 1.2. The areas covered by Cookridge and Moortown fire stations are classified as medium and high risk respectively, with individual wards ranging from high to very low risk. The high risk areas of Moortown are in the Chapel Allerton ward and these can already be adequately covered from Leeds Fire Station.
- 1.3. Both of the fire stations have one fire engine continually crewed by five staff and are relatively close to other fire stations located in Leeds and Stanningley. The Fire Response Unit is also currently located at Moortown and this vehicle provides cover for the whole of Leeds District.
- 1.4. A number of alternative locations for the new fire station have been considered and an ideal site would be in north Leeds approximately two miles from Cookridge and Moortown between the two existing fire stations in the area of the ring road in Weetwood.

2. Assessing the impact of the proposals

- 2.1. Cookridge and Moortown fire engines have extremely low operational activity levels and are currently used just 4.7% and 6.3% of the time respectively. The fire engine at the proposed new station will be used at incidents for 8.5% of the time, which is more in line with activity at similar fire stations.
- 2.2. In 2006/7 fire crews at Cookridge and Moortown attended 2006 operational incidents. In 2011/12 they attended 1475 incidents therefore, emergency calls have reduced by 26% over the past five years.
- 2.3. The attendance time to an emergency in all of the wards covered by the new fire station will be within the time set by the Risk Based Planning Assumptions approved by the Fire and Rescue Authority. A detailed explanation of the RBPA is available in this consultation document and in the Community Risk Management Strategy found on the website www.westyorksfire.gov.uk.
- 2.4. The proposal would have minimal impact on countywide emergency response times.

3. Risk Levels and Risk Reduction

- 3.1. WYFRS delivered 10,885 Home Fire Safety Checks during 2009/12 within the seven wards affected by this proposal. This activity has contributed to the reduction of risk in these wards.
- 3.2. Cookridge and Moortown attend a number of road traffic collisions and although road safety is not the primary responsibility of the Fire and Rescue Service, work with partners in a range of road safety initiatives is having an impact and road traffic collisions in the Cookridge and Moortown areas have reduced by 19% since 2010/11.
- 3.3. The proposal for a new fire station to serve the communities of this area represents a significant investment and long-term commitment. Priorities, objectives, and targets focus upon risk reduction and form part of the Leeds District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area. A revised plan will be developed to continue to reduce risk in the area. Commencing April 2013, the plan's priorities would be as follows:
 - Making the Chapel Allerton, Roundhay, Horsforth, Adel and Wharfedale and Moortown wards safer places to live through targeted activities and by working with partners
 - Reducing the low risk profile of the Alwoodley ward to very low risk
 - Reducing the medium risk profile of the Weetwood ward to low risk
 - Continuing to reduce the number of road traffic collisions by working with partners.

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are considered when developing operational response arrangements. Harewood House is important to the country's heritage and is located within the Cookridge and Moortown area. The proposals have minimal impact on the first fire engine response times to this site and work will continue with occupiers of such

premises to reduce the likelihood of a fire occurring and to protect the most valuable parts of the building and particular items.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Cookridge and Moortown fire station areas contain 4263 commercial buildings. Of these, 51 pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid fire spread or collapse. Crews have access to information for all of these higher risk sites by using mobile data terminals on each fire engine. They also regularly visit many of these sites to ensure that information is current and relevant. Where appropriate, specific operational plans for these sites are developed.
- 5.2. During 2011/12, 86% of incidents were dealt with by one fire engine. The arrival time of the second or subsequent fire engines is still important for firefighter safety the time taken for the second appliance to arrive is assessed. With the very good distribution of fire engines in Leeds District and the surrounding areas, coupled with the introduction of the new Fire Response Unit, the low demand for a second fire engine can be adequately met.

6. Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1. This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries. Ultimately, the sale of the two fire station sites at Cookridge and Moortown will generate capital receipts to reduce the borrowing requirements of the Authority.
- 6.2. The Fire Response Unit (FRU), recently introduced for the Leeds District, and based at Moortown, spends a significant amount of the time dealing with incidents in and around the City of Leeds. The location of the new fire station to replace Cookridge and Moortown may not be the best location for the FRU and it will therefore be necessary to consider its relocation as part of these proposals.

Proposal 10 – Garforth and Rothwell

Garforth and Rothwell fire stations currently cover an area with very low numbers of fires and other emergencies. Rothwell fire station is in need of replacement due to its age and condition. These two fire stations currently have one fire engine at each station. It is proposed that these two stations are merged and a brand new fire station with a single fire engine constructed in an optimum location to replace them.

Key Points:

- Operational incidents in the Garforth and Rothwell area have reduced by 23% since 2006/7 and serious fires have reduced by 15%.
- Operational activity for fire engines based at Garforth and Rothwell has reduced by 34% over the last five years.
- The risk levels in the five wards affected by this proposal are low or very low risk.
- Each of the existing fire engines are currently used at incidents for less than 4% of the time and this is much lower than in similar areas in the County. A single fire engine serving both areas will align operational activity to other areas of West Yorkshire.
- All predicted emergency response times in the area will remain within the Risk Based Planning Assumption.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. Last year it was planned to introduce a more flexible duty system for firefighters at Rothwell, along with a refurbishment of the station and purpose built accommodation for firefighters who would be on call. Since that time further research has been carried out along with a condition survey of Rothwell Fire Station. The conclusion reached is that a merger of Rothwell and Garforth fire stations is a more sustainable and cost effective way of providing emergency cover.
- 1.2. The fire stations at Garforth and Rothwell currently provide the initial emergency response for the Garforth and Swillington, Kippax and Methley, Rothwell, Ardsley and Robin Hood and Temple Newsam wards. These fire stations cover an area that contains approximately 33,000 dwellings and has a population of around 80,000.
- 1.3. The area covered by Garforth and Rothwell fire stations are classified as low risk overall, with individual wards being low or very low risk.
- 1.4. There are currently 24 firefighters at each station working shifts to ensure each fire engine is continually crewed by five staff.
- 1.5. Building a new fire station between Garforth and Rothwell will ensure a fire engine is located where it will provide optimum benefit for local communities and meets the demands of a high quality modern fire service.

- 1.6. A number of alternative proposals and locations for the new fire station have been considered, including a merger between Rothwell and Morley fire stations, and the best solution is to construct a new fire station in the Swillington area.
- 1.7. The general location for a new fire station would be approximately three miles from each of the existing stations to provide the best emergency response times into the wards currently covered by these fire two stations. A further proposal to merge Morley and Hunslet fire stations has a positive impact in the Rothwell area.

2. Assessing the impact of the proposals

- 2.1. In 2006/7, fire crews in Garforth and Rothwell attended 1125 operational incidents. During 2011/12, they attended 868 operational incidents therefore, emergency calls have reduced by 23% over five years.
- 2.2. The fire engines at Garforth and Rothwell have the lowest operational activity levels in West Yorkshire for those that are crewed by firefighters working continuous shifts. These fire engines are currently used just 3.7% of the time at incidents compared to an average of 5% for other fire engines in similar areas; this indicates a generous provision relative to risk and cost. The fire engine from the proposed new station would be in use at incidents for 5.4% of the time, still below the activity levels of many similar fire stations.
- 2.3. The attendance time to an emergency in all of the wards covered by the new fire station will be within the time set by the Risk Based Planning Assumptions approved by the Fire and Rescue Authority. The Rothwell ward also benefits from another related proposal in this document to merge Hunslet and Morley fire stations. A detailed explanation of the RBPA is available in this consultation document and in the Community Risk Management Strategy found on the website www.westyorksfire.gov.uk.
- 2.4. The proposal would have a minimal impact on countywide emergency response times.

3. Risk Levels and Risk Reduction

- 3.1. WYFRS delivered 9,324 Home Fire Safety Checks during 2009/12 within the five wards affected by this proposal. This activity has contributed to the reduction of risk in these wards; for example, since 2011 the risk rating for the Temple Newsam ward reduced from medium to low risk.
- 3.2. Due to the road and motorway network, Garforth and Rothwell attend a number of road traffic collisions. Although road safety is not the primary responsibility of the Fire and Rescue Service, work with partners in a range of road safety initiatives are having an impact, with road traffic collisions across West Yorkshire reducing by 24% in the last five years.
- 3.3. The proposal for a new fire station to serve the communities of this area represents a significant investment and long-term commitment. Priorities, objectives, and targets focus upon risk reduction and form part of the Leeds District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area. A revised plan will be developed to continue to reduce risk in the area. Commencing April 2013, the plan's priorities would be as follows:
 - The Rothwell, Ardsley and Robin Hood risk profiles will be reduced from low to very low risk through targeted risk reduction activities.

- Garforth and Swillington and Temple Newsam wards are currently medium and low risk respectively. They will become safer places to live through targeted activities aimed at preventing incidents in the first place.
- The Kippax and Methley ward is currently very low risk and ongoing work in this area will sustain this, whilst at the same time working with partners to identify and assist particularly vulnerable individuals.

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are considered in operational response arrangements. Lotherton Hall and Temple Newsam are important to the country's heritage. This proposal would reduce the time taken to reach Temple Newsam, but would slightly increase the time taken to reach Lotherton Hall. Work with occupiers of such premises will continue to reduce the likelihood of a fire occurring and to protect the most valuable parts of the building and particular items in the event of a fire.
- 4.2. There are also two industrial sites falling within the remit of the Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) regulations. Rocol Limited is located in Garforth and Bayfords Energy Limited in Rothwell. This proposal would reduce the time taken to reach both these sites in the event of an emergency.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Garforth and Rothwell fire station areas contain 1777 commercial buildings. Of these, 104 pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid-fire spread or collapse. Crews have access to information for all of these higher risk sites by using mobile data terminals on each fire engine. They also regularly visit many of these sites to ensure that information is current and relevant. Where appropriate specific operational plans for these sites are developed.
- 5.2. During 2011/12, 87% of incidents in this area were dealt with by just one fire engine. The arrival time of the second or subsequent fire engines is still important for firefighter safety and operational procedures take this into account. The likely delay between the first fire engine arriving and the second is generally shorter in this area than in other low and very low risk areas. With the very good distribution of fire engines in Leeds District and the surrounding areas, coupled with the introduction of the new Fire Response Unit, the low demand for a second fire engine can be adequately met.

6. Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1. This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries. Ultimately, the sale of the two fire station sites at Rothwell and Garforth will generate capital receipts that will reduce the borrowing requirements of the Authority. The condition survey carried out on Rothwell fire station has highlighted the need for major refurbishment and the cost of this work has been estimated as being close to the cost of a brand new fire station. Therefore, taking into account the reduction in risk and demand in the area and the financial constraints facing the Authority, this proposal represents the most appropriate solution.

Proposal 11 – Wakefield and Ossett

A number of changes and station mergers in the Wakefield District have already been completed as part of the Five Towns Project, which commenced a number of years ago. Since that time, the numbers of fires and other emergencies has fallen significantly and further revisions in and around Wakefield City area are appropriate. Wakefield Fire Station currently has two fire engines, one of which is a new Combined Aerial Rescue Pump (CARP). It is proposed that one fire engine from Wakefield is removed, leaving the CARP and at the same time it is proposed to build a brand new fire station to replace Ossett fire station at a location closer to Wakefield. This will be in an optimum location to still provide excellent cover for the area currently served by Ossett fire station and provide back up into the City of Wakefield.

Key Points:

- The risk levels in the 10 wards affected by this proposal are high to very low risk when compared to other parts of West Yorkshire.
- Emergency calls in these areas have reduced by 29% during the five-year period 2006/07 to 2011/12.
- The fire engines in these areas are currently under-utilised; these proposals would increase use of local resources.
- All predicted emergency response times in the area will remain within the Risk Based Planning Assumption with the exception of part of the Wakefield Rural ward, which is already outside the Risk Based Planning Assumption.
- Targeted community safety and risk reduction activities will continue, focussing on the areas most affected by these proposals prior to implementation.

1. Overview

- 1.1. The fire stations at Wakefield and Ossett currently provide the initial emergency response for the wards of Wakefield East, Wakefield North, Wakefield South, Wakefield Rural, Wakefield West, Ossett, Stanley and Outwood East, Horbury and South Ossett, Crofton Ryhill and Walton, Wrenthorpe and Outwood West.
- 1.2. The fire stations cover an area containing approximately 62,000 dwellings and have a population of around 150,000. The areas covered by Wakefield and Ossett are classified as high and low risk respectively although the distribution of risk varies significantly, with wards ranging from high to very low risk.
- 1.3. The construction of Wakefield fire station took place in 1963 and there are two fire engines based there, one of which is the Combined Aerial Rescue Pump. Ossett was constructed in 1972 and there is one fire engine based there.
- 1.4. A number of changes and station mergers in the Wakefield District have already taken place as part of the Five Towns Project, which commenced a number of years ago. Since that time, the numbers of fires and other emergencies has fallen significantly. Investment in specialised equipment in the area for example the new CARP and water rescue equipment has also taken place.

- 1.5. A number of alternative options for emergency cover for Wakefield and Ossett have been considered and the optimal solution is to keep one fire engine at the existing Wakefield fire station and to replace Ossett fire station with a brand new station on the outskirts of Ossett and to the west of Wakefield towards the M1 motorway.
- 1.6. This general location for the new fire station is approximately three miles from the existing fire stations and this provides the best emergency response for the wards currently covered by the fire stations at Wakefield and Ossett.

2. Assessing the impact of the proposals

- 2.1. The fire engines at Wakefield are currently utilised at operational incidents for approximately 5.2% of the time they are available. The fire engine at Ossett is currently utilised at operational incidents for approximately 4.7% of the time it is available. These proposals mean that the two fire engines would spend around 7.1% of their time at operational incidents, bringing them more in line with the activity of fire engines at similar fire stations.
- 2.2. In 2006/07, fire crews attended 2359 operational incidents in Wakefield and Ossett. During 2011/12 they attended 1676 operational incidents, therefore emergency calls have reduced by 29% over five years. The combined number of operational incidents in these areas is less than some areas of the county provided with two fire engines, for example Bradford, Huddersfield, and Leeds.
- 2.3. The attendance time to an emergency in all of the wards covered by the new fire station, with the exception of parts of the Wakefield Rural ward, will be within the time set by the Risk Based Planning Assumptions (RBPA) approved by the Fire and Rescue Authority. The parts of Wakefield Rural ward are already outside RBPA in any case and the area has very few emergencies. A detailed explanation of the RBPA is available in this consultation document and in the Community Risk Management Strategy found on the website www.westyorksfire.gov.uk.
- 2.4. The Ossett ward will benefit from approved plans to merge the fire stations at Dewsbury and Batley fire stations and response into this ward would still be faster than that set down by the RBPA.

3. Risk Levels and Risk Reduction

- 3.1. WYFRS delivered 11,610 Home Fire Safety Checks during 2009/12 in the ten wards affected by these proposals and there are significantly fewer house fires as a result.
- 3.2. Due to the road and motorway network, Wakefield and Ossett attend a number of road traffic collisions. Although road safety is not the primary responsibility of the Fire and Rescue Service, work with partners in a range of road safety initiatives is having an impact, with road traffic collisions across West Yorkshire reducing by 24% in the last five years.
- 3.3. The proposal for a new fire station to serve the communities of this area represents a significant investment and long-term commitment. Priorities, objectives, and targets focus upon risk reduction and form part of the Wakefield District Risk Reduction Plan, which is the primary risk reduction strategy for the area. A revised plan will be developed to continue to reduce risk in the area as far as possible. Commencing April 2013, the plan's priorities would be as follows:

- Reducing dwelling fires in the high-risk wards of Wakefield North and Wakefield East by targeted Home Fire Safety Checks initiatives and working with other agencies
- Supporting local businesses in the Wakefield East and South wards by reducing commercial property fires
- Working closely with partner agencies to reduce the occurrence of road traffic collisions in the Wakefield Rural ward
- Ensuring that the very low risk wards of Ossett, Horbury and South Ossett, Wakefield West, Stanley and Outwood East and Wrenthorpe, Outwood West and Crofton Ryhill and Walton remain safe places to live through targeted activities aimed at preventing incidents in the first place

4. Special Risks and High Risk Sites

- 4.1. West Yorkshire contains a number of specific sites that represent special or high risks and these are considered when developing operational response arrangements. The fire engines based at Wakefield and Ossett form part of the first response to a number of these sites.
- 4.2. Pinderfields Hospital represents the principal life risk for these areas but they also contain several large industrial buildings, two shopping centres, a prison and two national heritage sites. The Brotherton Essco industrial site also falls within the remit of the Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) regulations. These proposals would have very little impact upon the time taken for the first fire engines to reach these sites in the event of an emergency.

5. Firefighter Safety

- 5.1. The Wakefield and Ossett fire station areas contain 5390 commercial buildings and 256 of these pose a higher risk to firefighters due to their construction and the potential for rapid-fire spread or collapse. Crews have access to information for all of these higher risk sites by using mobile data terminals on each fire engine. They also regularly visit many of these sites to ensure that information is current and relevant. Where appropriate specific operational plans for these sites are developed.
- 5.2. During 2011/12, 86% of incidents in the area were dealt with by just one fire engine. The arrival time of the second or subsequent fire engines is still important for firefighter safety and the time taken for the second appliance arriving is assessed and in the case of this proposal it remains acceptable. The relocation of Ossett fire station closer to Wakefield has a positive impact on emergency response into Wakefield and the surrounding stations also provide good emergency cover.

6. Organisational Impact Assessment

- 6.1. This proposal is part of a package of proposals designed to address a reduction in grant funding from central government and to realign emergency cover appropriate to risk and demand following a significant reduction in the numbers of fires, and associated deaths and injuries. Ultimately, the sale of the Ossett fire station site will generate capital receipts that will reduce the borrowing requirements of the Authority.
- 6.2. If this proposal is approved, Wakefield fire station will be too big for its purpose and it is therefore appropriate to consider how to reduce the costs of running the site.

Options include the construction of a new smaller station nearby (or even on the same site) or renting off or selling the spare capacity. Rebuilding would require major capital investment but there may be potential to recover these costs through the sale of the land, potentially aligned to the local authority strategic development plans. Some of WYFRS fire stations are shared with other emergency services and this arrangement has mutual benefits. The practicalities of these options will be further considered if the proposal is approved.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Appendix 2

ATF	Arson Task Force (a team set up to reduce arson in West Yorkshire)
CARP	Combined Aerial Rescue Pump (a fire engine with a high reach firefighting and rescue capability)
CRMS	Community Risk Management Strategy (a document that represents the foundation for the future plans of WYFRA)
FRU	Fire Response Unit (A smaller fire engine used for incidents of a less serious nature)
HFSC	Home Fire Safety Check (the fitting of smoke detection and the giving of fire safety advice to householders)
HVP	High Volume Pump used to pump and supply large volumes of water
IRMP	Integrated Risk Management Planning (a process of determining risk and developing plans to address the risks in the area of a fire and rescue authority)
IRU	Incident Response Unit (equipment to deal with decontamination of people)
RESPONSE	The time it takes a fire engine to attend an incident
RTC	A Road traffic collision
RDS	Retained Duty System (firefighters that work part time on call)

RBPA	Risk Based Planning Assumption (Guidance times based on risk for fire engines to attend incidents)
TRU	Technical Rescue Unit (a fire engine with advanced rescue capabilities)
USAR	Urban Search and Rescue (a team and equipment to deal with rescues at large scale and/or complex incidents)
WHOLE TIME	Firefighters that work full time hours
WYFRA	West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (the body made up of elected councillors from the constituent District Councils of West Yorkshire who are appointed to oversee the delivery of the fire and rescue service)
WYFRS	West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (the organisation which delivers a fire and rescue service in the county of West Yorkshire)
YFF	Young Firefighter scheme (a course set up to give training and development to young people)

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

Report to North West (Outer) Area Committee

Date: 5th November 2012

Subject: Well-Being Fund Budget Report

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

Summary of main issues

This report seeks to update Members on the current amount of capital and revenue funding committed and available via the Area Committee well-being budget for wards in the Outer North West area.

In addition, the report seeks approval for new projects and to note approvals for small grants and skips given since the last Area Committee.

Recommendations

The Area Committee is asked to:

- note the amount of revenue well-being budget available for 2012/13
- review the new project applications submitted for the Area Committee's consideration.
- note the approvals for small grants and skips given since the last Area Committee.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on the current amount of revenue and capital funding committed and available via the Area Committee well-being budgets for wards in the Outer North West. It seeks approval for new projects and provides details of small grant applications received since the last Area Committee.

2 Background information

- 2.1 At the June 2012 meeting Members were informed of the new revenue well-being allocation for the Outer North West Area Committee of £160,940 for the financial year 2012/13 (£40,235 per ward). The allocation has been based on the 2010/11 formula of 50% population and 50% disadvantage. The carry forward of uncommitted well-being funds from 2012/13 will continue.
- 2.2 There is no additional well-being capital allocation for 2012/13. However, Area Committee's can continue to commit capital resources in 2012/13 if they still have uncommitted funds available from their previous allocations.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 Following projects agreed at the last meeting, a total of **£270,738** remains available for supporting revenue priorities in the area.
- 3.2 The table at 3.3 includes details per ward of the total available revenue for 2012/13 including carry-forward from the 2004/05 to 2011/12 financial review, amounts already committed from September 2012 and the balance remaining.

3.3 Table 1: Revenue

Ward	2012/13 allocation plus carry forward	Amounts committed since Sept 2012	New Balance
Adel & Wharfedale	£128,354	£8,500	£119,854
Guiseley & Rawdon	£35,952	£3,750	£32,202
Horsforth	£50,684	£5,779	£44,905
Otley & Yeadon	£78,527	£4,750	£73,777

- 3.4 There are no capital funds remaining for 2012/13. The table below details the total capital spend for 2012/13.

3.5 Table 2: Capital

Ward	Carry forward from 2011/12	Total spent 2012/13	Balance remaining
Adel & Wharfedale	£0	£0	£0
Guiseley & Rawdon	£32,625	£32,625	£0
Horsforth	£0	£0	£0
Otley & Yeadon	£17,960	£17,960 (includes £5000 repayable loan)	£0 (plus £5,000 repayable loan).

4 Well-being Projects

4.1 Details of new expressions of interest requesting funding from the well-being budget are detailed below. The Area Committee is asked to consider the projects.

4.2 **Name of Project:** Horsforth Live at Home Gardening Scheme
Ward Affected: Horsforth
Name of delivery organisation: Horsforth Live at Home Scheme
Amount requested: £1,225 revenue

Funding is required to continue the subsidised gardening scheme that maintains the gardens of older people living in Horsforth. Currently 7 local gardeners are employed. Each client receives a gardening service that is subsidised for 2 hours per month, per garden for the 8 month long growing season.

4.3 **Name of Project:** OPAL in the Community
Ward affected: Adel & Wharfedale
Name of delivery organisation: Older People's Action in the Locality (OPAL)
Amount requested: £2,450 revenue

OPAL is running several community projects that are in need of support to help their development.

- Fire Safety project (£520) - This involves OPAL volunteers (trained by West Yorkshire Fire Service) visiting people in their own homes to give fire safety information and if, necessary, fit smoke alarms and the Firefly Safety System.
- Intergenerational Project (£850) - Each year OPAL work with Ralph Thoresby High School to offer an intergenerational Christmas party for 150 OPAL members. The students staff and parents organise, prepare and serve the food whilst OPAL is responsible for organising the transport.
- Out and About Group (£1080) - OPAL has direct contact with 700 older people in the Leeds 16 area. Many are aged 85 years and over and OPAL are noticing that some of these people, who were once quite active, and attended coach trips

are no longer able to do so. Funding will be used to hire transport to take people on local trips of 30 minutes away and lasting an afternoon only.

4.4 Name of Project: Adel Players Theatre Sound System

Ward affected: Adel & Wharfedale

Name of delivery organisation: Adel Players

Amount requested: £4,957 revenue

Adel Players are an amateur theatre group that have been in existence since 1945, and currently have around 45 active members. The stage equipment used by the group is old and not suited to the requirements of modern productions. In particular the lighting circuits are underpowered and currently unable to provide adequate lighting. In addition, limited sound equipment, scenery flats and associated equipment have been in use for several decades and need upgrading. The grant will be used to help install new lighting circuits, purchase new stage quality lamps, improve sound production equipment and create new stage equipment such as scenery flats. In addition, in order to improve access and enjoyment for people with a hearing disability, a high quality induction loop system for the main hall will be installed.

4.5 Name of Project: Lawnswood Community Percussion Band

Ward affected: Adel & Wharfedale

Name of delivery organisation: 2527 (Lawnswood Squadron Air Cadets

Amount requested: £6,385 revenue

Lawnswood Air Cadets plan to create a percussion marching band to perform at local community events and parades. They hope to set up a training programme to teach cadets band instruments and are also planning to join the new BTEC in Music qualification. The Air Cadets have already performed at local events and church fetes using borrowed equipment from a unit nearby. It is now no longer possible to borrow instruments and the cadets would like to purchase their own new instruments to continue to develop and progress. The new equipment will mean a band of 30 cadets is formed with new instruments including drums, belle lyres and cymbals. The funding will also allow the purchase of protective instrument cases, some uniform items and a mace.

4.6 Name of Project: Upgrading of lay-bys in Church Lane, Adel

Ward affected: Adel & Wharfedale

Name of delivery organisation: Perennial Gardener's Royal Benevolent Society

Amount requested: £5,000 revenue

The aim of this project is to improve parking provision by upgrading the existing lay-bys opposite Adel St John the Baptist Church. It will involve the laying of concrete kerb stones and resurfacing the area with tarmac.

5 Small Grants

5.1 The following table details the small grant allocations per ward and the total spend on small grants in 2012/13.

5.2 **Table 3: Small Grants**

Ward	Allocation	Details of spend	Balance remaining
Adel & Wharfedale	£3,000	£1,649	£1,351
Guiseley & Rawdon	£3,000	£1,468	£1,532
Horsforth	£3,000	£875	£2,125
Otley & Yeadon	£3,000	£1,419	£1,581

5.3 The following small grant applications are reflected in the above table and are presented for information:

- Pool Primary School Early Years Play (£500 A&W)
- Formation of Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum (£468 G&R)

5.4 The following table details the number of skips per ward and the total spend on skips in 2012/13.

5.5 **Table 4: Skips**

Ward	Allocation	Details of spend	Balance remaining
Adel & Wharfedale	£1,000	£365	£635
Guiseley & Rawdon	£1,000	£354	£646
Horsforth	£1,000	£117	£883
Otley & Yeadon	£1,000	£486	£514

5.6 Due to changes in Government Landfill Tax Legislation, the Leeds City Council skip contract holder was allowed to increase the cost of a skip temporarily to £162 per skip to reflect these changes for the period of 28th May 2012 to 31st July 2012. Following contract negotiations between the skip contract holder and the Leeds City Council Sustainable Development Unit, the agreed contractual costs to the Council for a standard sized skip is £124. This price came into affect from 1st August 2012.

6 Corporate Considerations

6.1 Consultation and Engagement

6.1.1 Local ward members have been consulted on new projects being presented at this meeting of the Area Committee.

6.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

6.2.1 All well-being funded projects are considered prior to their submission to Area Committee for their impact on Equality and Diversity and Cohesion and Integration.

6.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

6.3.1 The Area Committee Functions and Priority Advisory Functions were approved by the Executive Board in June 2009. This approval was rolled forward to 2011/12 with amendments made to the environmental delegation. The Area Functions are included in the Council's Constitution (Part 3, section 3C).

6.3.2 The Area Support Team's work programme contributes at a local level to the themes contained in the: Vision for Leeds; Leeds Strategic Plan; Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan; Children and Young People's Plan; Safer and Stronger Communities Plan and the Regeneration City Priority Plan.

6.4 Resources and Value for Money

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

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

6.4.3 In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council departments mainstream budgets, and external partner agencies e.g. the Police and NHS Leeds, which is in turn reflected in the fact that the Area Committee's role here is only to influence, develop and consult. However, on occasion, wellbeing funding has resourced some projects related to its roles, e.g. conservation area reviews.

6.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

6.5.1 This is a report of the Area Leader for West North West Leeds who has delegated responsibility to action decisions in accordance with the Area Support Team's work programme in accordance with part 3 of the Council's Constitution in relation to Area Committee Functions. This report is not eligible for call-in.

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

6.6 Risk Management

6.6.1 Risk implications and mitigation are considered on all well-being applications.

7 Conclusions

7.1 The report outlines potential projects through the Area Committee's well-being budget. These are projects which assist in the work programme of the Area Support Team. The report outlines the budget remaining for the Area Committee's use for the rest of the financial year.

8 Recommendations

Members of the Outer North West Area Committee are requested to:

- Note the current position of the well-being budget as set out at sections 2 and 3.
- Consider and agree the projects as outlined at 4.0.
- Note the small grant and skip approvals detailed at 5.0.

9 Background documents

None

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

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Report author: Gerry Burnham
Tel: 0113 3367870

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

Report to North West (Outer) Area Committee

Date: 5th November 2012

Subject: Area Update Report

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

Summary of main issues

This report provides Members with a summary of sub groups business since the September Area Committee and provides information on project and service activity in the outer north west area.

Recommendations

Members are requested to note the contents of this report and comment on any of the matters raised.

1 Purpose of this report

1.1 The purpose of the area update report is to bring together a range of information relating to Area Committee business into a single report to update Members on recent sub group and forum business since the last Area Committee.

2. Background information

2.1 The Area Committee currently has six groups looking at service provision within the delegated functions of Community Safety, Children & Young People, Environmental Services, Health & Well-being and Transport as well as a Policy Group.

- 2.2 There are currently two ward forums in the area for Guiseley & Rawdon and Yeadon. The forums meet on a regular basis throughout the year.
- 2.3 Holt Park has been identified as a priority area in outer north west Leeds and as such it was agreed to revisit the work of the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan (NIP). Alongside this it was agreed to set up two meetings with local residents and service providers from Leeds city Council, West Yorkshire Police and West North West Homes to try and gauge whether there was local interest in a community forum. The meetings took place on the 16th September and 18th October, an action plan is currently being developed and the outcomes of the forum will be reported on at the next Area Committee.
- 2.4 A decision was made by Full Council that Area Chair's Forum minutes should be considered by Area Committees as a regular agenda item, these appear elsewhere on this Committee's agenda.

3 Main issues

3.1 Environmental Services Sub Group

- 3.1.1 There has been one meeting of the sub group since the last Area Committee held on the 24th September. Details of items discussed and actions from the meetings are attached at appendix 1.

3.2 Health & Well-being Sub Group

- 3.2.1 The Health & Well-being Sub Group has not met since the last Area Committee meeting on the 24th September. The next meeting has been arranged for 20th November 2012 and will be reported on at the next Area Committee.

3.3 Community Safety Sub Group

- 3.3.1 There has been one meeting of the Community Safety Sub Group since the last Area Committee held on the 24th September. Details of items discussed and actions from the meeting are attached at appendix 2. The next meeting has been arranged for the 8th January 2013.

3.4 Children & Young People's Sub Group

- 3.4.1 There has been one meeting of the Children & Young Peoples sub group since the last Area Committee on the 24th September. Details of items discussed and actions from the meetings are attached at appendix 3.

3.5 Transport Sub Group

- 3.5.1 The Transport Sub Group has not met since the last Area Committee on the 24th September. There is a joint inner and outer north west meeting on the 24th October and will be reported on at the next Area Committee.

3.6 Policy Group

- 3.6.1 The Policy Sub Group has not met since the last Area Committee on the 24th September. The next meeting of the Policy Sub Group is on the 14th November and will be reported on at the next Area Committee.

3.7 Guiseley & Rawdon Forum

- 3.7.1 The forum last met on the 19th September 2012. Attached at appendix 4 are details of items discussed and actions from the meeting.

3.8 Yeadon Forum

- 3.8.1 The Yeadon forum has not met since the last Area Committee. The next forum has been scheduled for the 31st October and will be reported on at the next Area Committee.

3.9 Holt Park Forum

- 3.9.1 The first meeting took place on Tuesday 18th September with a follow up meeting on the 16th October. Officers from West Yorkshire Police, Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Safer Leeds, West North West Homes, Environmental Services and Highways were in attendance. An action plan is being developed following these meetings and an update will be provided at the December Area Committee.

3.10 Project and Service Update

3.10.1 Neighbourhood Planning

At the Area Committee on the 24th September a paper was presented on Neighbourhood Planning. This followed a request from elected members asking the Area Support Team to raise the profile of neighbourhood planning in the non-parished areas of Aireborough.

The Area Committee agreed that community workshops would be organised in Guiseley, Rawdon and Yeadon to build upon the interest already expressed in neighbourhood planning, in particular to stimulate interest from the wider community. The workshops were to build upon the work already undertaken in the area (mainly by Wharfedale and Airedale Review Development - WARD) and would seek to raise awareness, ensure a broad representation of interests and agree issues that a neighbourhood plan could address.

Since the Area Committee it has subsequently come to light that WARD is planning 'pop-up shops' in the same locations. Following discussions with Strategic Planning it would appear the Area Support Team would be duplicating what WARD plan to do and this could lead to confusion within local communities.

Further discussions are currently being held with Members, the Area Support Team, Ian Mackay (Forward Planning, City Development) and WARD, the outcome of which will be reported at Area Committee.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 Community Forums are held in the Guiseley & Rawdon ward, Yeadon and Holt Park. In addition, ward members are consulted on projects and initiatives within their ward.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 A key principle of locality working is a focus on delivering the best outcome for residents across the area. This principle underpins equality and community cohesion, seeking to engage with local communities through forum meetings, and improve service provision through regular sub group meetings.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The Area Committee Functions and Priority Advisory Functions were approved by the Executive Board in June 2009. This approval was rolled forward to 2010/11 and is also being rolled forward to 2011/12 with amendments to the environmental delegation. The Area Functions are included in the Council's Constitution (Part 3, section 3c).

4.3.2 The Area Support Team's work programme contributes at a local level to the themes contained in the: Vision for Leeds; Leeds Strategic Plan; Health and Well-being City Priorities Plan; Safer and Stronger Communities Plan and the Regeneration City Priority Plan.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

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

4.4.2 In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council department's mainstream budgets, and external partner agencies e.g. the Police and NHS Leeds, which is in turn reflected in the fact that the Area Committee's role here is to influence, develop and consult. However, on occasion, well-being funding has resourced some projects related to its roles e.g. area based regeneration schemes and conservation reviews.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

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

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

5 Conclusions

5.1 This report provides Members with an update on recent sub group and forum activity undertaken by the Area Support Team.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Outer North West Area Committee Members are requested to note the contents of the report and comment on any aspect of the matters raised.

7 Background documents

7.1 None

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

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Outer North West Area Committee

Environmental Services Sub Group



Note of 24th September 2012 Meeting 12.00 noon St Margaret's Parish Centre, Horsforth

Present

Cllr Anderson (Chair) – Adel & Wharfedale Member
Cllr Cleasby – Horsforth Ward Member
Cllr Wadsworth – Guiseley & Rawdon Ward Member
Cllr Campbell – Otley & Yeadon Ward Member
Jason Singh – Locality Manager Environment & Neighbourhoods
Alison Gilliland – Service Manager Environment & Neighbourhoods
Andrea Smith – Environmental Health Officer
Paul Hurrell – WNW Homes
Gerry Burnham – WNW Area Management

Apologies

Guy Smithson

Key Issues discussed:

1. Delegation of Environmental Services Update

Ward Plans are currently being developed. Members are currently meeting with Officers from Environmental Services.

JS provided brief details of the Regulatory Team restructure.

AG circulated the ONW stats for the period 21st June – 17th September. To be circulated with meeting note.

Leaf clearing will commence from October, some cleaning blocks will have to be 'stood down' to support the leaf clearing programme.

Gully crews are busy due to the inclement weather. Collapsed gullies are a big scale issue.

The Locality Managers are to meet with Russell Martin in Highways to discuss the Capital Programme.

Dog fouling is still a big problem in the area. More generic signage has been ordered advising that monitoring is taking place and providing telephone numbers. It was suggested that an email address should also be included.

2. Parks & Countryside Update

No update was received.

3. West North West Homes Update

Paul Hurrell provided an update on the work of the Neighbourhood Estate Team. Details to be circulated with the meeting note.

Actions

There were no outstanding actions from the previous sub group meeting.

1. Continental website address to be sent to the Liberal Democrat office to circulate to Outer North West Members. **GB**

2. Four blocks were stood down in Horsforth on the 5th August. Officers to look into this and provide Members with an explanation. **JS/AG**

3. Once the Locality Managers have held discussions regarding the Capital Programme Russell Martin to be advised that Members would like to meet with Senior Highways Officers. **JS**
4. The Dog Warden who usually covers ONW is currently off sick. JS to speak with Helen Freeman if this becomes long term. **JS**
5. Dog Control Orders – Cllr Campbell has been unable to obtain a map showing where orders are in place. Environmental Services to look into this. **JS/AG**
6. The sub group agreed that the next SLA should include enhancement proposals to meet the concerns of Councillors and residents. **JS/AG**
7. The following suggestion were made:
 - § Email addresses are provided on signage.
 - § A leaflet is produced providing education and enforcement information on Environmental Services.

Next Meeting

Monday 5th November 2012, Guiseley Methodist Church, Off Oxford Road, Guiseley, LS20 9EP.

Outer North West Area Committee

Community Safety Sub Group



Note of 18th September 2012 Meeting 12.00 noon Otley Police Station

Present

Cllr Fox (Chair) – Adel & Wharfedale Member
Cllr Collins – Horsforth Ward Member
Cllr Wadsworth – Guiseley & Rawdon Ward Member
Cllr Lay – Otley & Yeadon Ward Member
Zahid Butt – Safer Leeds
Insp Richard Coldwell – Neighbourhood Policing Team
Neil Goldup - CASAC
Angela Mawdsley – Leeds Anti- Social Behaviour Team

Key Issues discussed:

1. Area Committee Funded Projects update on:
 - § Target Hardening – last year all targets were met. This year all wards except Guiseley & Rawdon are on track in relation to progress to date. Additional resources will be deployed in the Guiseley & Rawdon area to provide advice on Euro profile locks.
 - § Off Road Bikes – the Team continues to be appreciated by members of the public and compliments the work of the neighbourhood policing team.
 - § Capture Cars – this initiative is now 'live' and the car is being deployed in outer north west hotspot areas.
2. Police Update:

Inspector Coldwell provided an update on current crime figures. Overall crime continues to fall. April to September there has been a reduction of 20%. Overall confidence in the Police is at 68%, satisfaction is at 85%
3. Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team LASBT

LASBT provided information on the performance of the Team.

Actions

There were no outstanding actions from the previous sub group meeting.

1. Off Road Bikes – Members were asked to feed in any areas of concern to be added to the regular patrols and help promote the dedicated telephone number **0113 2395092**.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 8th January 2013, 10.00am, Otley Police Station.

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Outer North West Area Committee

Children & Young People Sub Group



5th October 2012 Meeting
10am Civic Hall, Leeds

Present:

Cllr P Latty (Chair), Cllr Fox, Cllr Downes, Cllr Collins, Inspector Coldwell – WYP, Sylvia Shatwell – Barnardo's Willow Young Carers, Sue Rumbold - Children Services, Zoe Tyler – AST

Apologies:

Neil Bowden – Youth Service

Key Issues discussed:

1. Matters arising
ZT updated Members on the fostering thank you and recruitment events happening. Members and the Police were satisfied with the report submitted from Inglewood Home.
2. Young Carers – Sylvia Shatwell - Barnardo's Willow Young Carers
SS clarified the definition of young carers and explained the three tier approach to providing support. SS is working closely with the Clusters and is already seeing great results. Looking to pilot the MACA scheme to identify more young carers. There are 8 identified young carers within the ONW wards. Anyone can make referrals to the service. Forms can be found on their website www.barnardos.org.uk/willow. SS to contact Members if funding is required for the KOKO computer scheme.
3. Police update – Inspector Coldwell
Crime stats are very good across the board. Public confidence is back up to 68% which is the highest in West Yorkshire. Held an Open day at the beginning of September which raised £650 for charity. The Police are looking for bids from local charities that support diversionary activities for young people to apply for part of the £650 raised. Bids need to be in by the 1st December.
4. Child Friendly City – Sue Rumbold
SR handed out copies of the Child Friendly City information packs. The project is focusing on the top 3 wishes children feel will make Leeds a child friendly city. SR talked through some of the projects happening across the city – Greggs are sponsoring breakfast clubs in schools. There are currently no specific projects in ONW. Members suggested Holt Park as an area to look at. SR asked Members to recommend local business who would be interested in getting involved.
5. Date of next meeting
4th January 2013 – Otley Police Station, 10am -12 noon

Actions:

1. Ben Whitehead to attend the Sub Group to talk about fostering events. **ZT**
2. Chase Members invites to the fostering thank you and recruitment events. **ZT**
3. Members to forward names of business who may be interested in getting involved in the Child Friendly City project to Sue Rumbold. **Members**

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Outer North West Area Committee

Guiseley & Rawdon Forum



19th September 2012 meeting
7pm, Community room, Aireborough Leisure Centre

Key Issues discussed:

1. Matters arising from the previous meeting

Metro Customer Services confirmed residents can use their concessionary pass from 09:30am up to and including the last service of the day (up to midnight). The exception is special services, such as football and party in the park specials and night buses (such as the 95 service after midnight). Metro apologise for misinforming the July meeting.

2. Neighbourhood Policing Update – PC Maynard & PCSO Wood

The crime stats for April 12 – Sept 12:

- Crime is down by a total of 680 offences compared to this time last year
- Theft from motor vehicle down 35 offences
- Burglary dwelling down 99 offences
- Criminal offence down 78 offences
- User satisfaction – 85%
- Public confidence up 68% - one of the highest in the area
- Fear of ASB – down to 6.6% - lowest in the force

The Police and Partners are carrying out an Action Day on 18th October on the Westfield's to engage with residents about ASB issues. An operation is planned to target drugs in problem pubs in the area. A number of thefts from motor vehicles and sheds have been reported. Residents were reminded not to keep property on view and to register their property on www.immobilise.com. Residents asked for the attending Officers to pass on their condolences to the families of the Officers killed in the line of duty in Manchester.

3. SHLAA process – Robin Coghlan, Policy Team Leader

RC explained the SHLAA process and circulated copies of the 2011 site allocation map which highlights possible sites that have been identified for future development. The Plans Panel have removed Parkinson Park from the SHLAA. RC took questions from the floor. A resident raised concerns that his land had been put forward to the SHLAA by a developer.

4. Date and time of next meeting

Wednesday 21st November, 7pm, venue tbc

Actions:

1. Update on the status of the Neighbourhood Forum. **ZT**
2. Circulate dates of the consultation regarding the site allocations. **ZT**
3. Future agenda items – Hospital trust, proposed changes to Fire Service and bin collection. **ZT**
4. Investigate whether any funding is available from the No Cold Calling project for Renton Avenue. **ZT**

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

Report to North West (Outer) Area Committee

Date: 5th November 2012

Subject: Area Chairs Forum Minutes

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. This report formally notifies members of the decision made by full council that Area Chairs Forum minutes should be considered by Area Committees as a regular agenda item at future Area Committee meetings.
2. The report also includes background information regarding the Area Chairs Forum meetings.

Recommendations

3. The North West (Outer) Area Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and to consider the minutes from the Area Chairs Forum meetings at this and future Area Committee Meetings.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to formally notify Members that the minutes of Area Chairs Forum meetings will be brought to Area Committee meetings as a regular agenda item, and to give a brief overview of the Area Chairs Forum meetings.

2 Background information

- 2.1 Area Chairs Forum meetings take place on a bi-monthly basis and are chaired by the Deputy Leader of Council and Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration.
- 2.2 Meetings are attended by the ten Chairs of the Area Committees, the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer, Access & Performance), the three Area Leaders and the Neighbourhood Services Co-ordinator in Leeds Initiative.
- 2.3 Agenda items focus on issues relating to services delegated to Area Committees, future delegations of services, locality working and any other issues that can be influenced by, or have an impact on, Area Committees.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 Following recommendations by the General Purposes Committee, full council approved on 26th May 2011 that minutes of the Area Chairs Forum meetings should be considered by Area Committees, and that this should be a regular agenda item for Area Committee meetings.
- 3.2 Area Chairs Forum minutes will only be available to be considered by Area Committees once they have been agreed as an accurate record by the subsequent Area Chairs Forum meeting.
- 3.3 The scheduled Area Chairs Forum meeting dates for 2012 / 13 are:
 - Friday 13th July, 2012
 - Tuesday 11th September 2012
 - Friday 2nd November 2012
 - Thursday 10th January 2013
 - Thursday 7th March 2013
- 3.4 Attempts will be made to include Area Chairs Forum minutes in papers issued prior to Area Committee meetings, however due to some tight deadlines between meetings, it may be necessary to table the minutes at certain Area Committee meetings.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 There has been no need to publicly consult on the inclusion of Area Chairs Forum Minutes on Area Committee agendas, however the matter has been discussed by the General Purposes Committee.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 There are no equality and diversity issues in relation to this report.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The inclusion of Area Chairs Forum minutes on Area Committee Agendas is a revision to the Area Committee Procedure Rules within the Constitution agreed by full council on 26th May 2011.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no risk management issues relating to this report.

5 Conclusions

5.1 Full Council has approved the recommendations of the General Purposes Committee to include the Area Chairs Forum minutes as a regular item at future Area Committee meetings.

6 Recommendations

6.1 The North West (Outer) Area Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and to consider the minutes from the Area Chairs Forum meetings at this and future Area Committee Meetings.

7 Background documents

None.

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

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**Area Chairs Forum
Friday 13th July 2012
Committee Room 3, Civic Hall**

Attendance:

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

Officers: J. Rogers, K. Kudelnitzky, R. Barke, S. Mahmood

Minutes: S. Warbis

Attending for specific items: Steve Carey, Lelir Yeung, Cllr Blake, Cllr Dowson

Item	Description	Action
1.0	Apologies	
1.1	Cllr A McKenna, Cllr J McKenna, Cllr Wadsworth, Jane Maxwell, Beth Logan	
2.0	Minutes and Matters Arising	
2.1	The minutes of the previous Area Chairs Forum meeting on 12 th March 2012 were agreed as an accurate record.	
2.2	<u>6.13 of previous minutes – Apprenticeships</u> North East outer will be looking at the apprentice option at their meeting in September and if proceeding will be looking to take on someone living in their area. South Inner, while supporting the idea of apprentices have reservations over whether wellbeing money is the most appropriate way to fund posts. South Inner will be revisiting in September but looking at options for the following financial year. Outer West are doubtful they have funding for this year but will be looking at the options for 2012/13. East Inner are looking to directly support a NEET in their area and see this as part of a wider programme for apprentices involving the ALMO. It was clarified that in the option being proposed to Area Committees the apprentice post would be managed by officers in the Area Teams but would gain experience through placements with other partners such as the police. It was re-emphasised that Area Committee involvement in supporting apprentices would show their commitment to the council wide ambitions for apprentices.	
3.0	Area Chairs Forum Terms of Reference	
3.1	Draft terms of reference were brought to the meeting and were adopted by the forum.	
4.0	Update on Presupposing for Welfare Reforms	
4.1	Steve Carey, Chief Revenues and Benefits Officer, attended and brought a report to provide an update on the implementation of the Government's Welfare Reforms and the approach being taken in Leeds to address the issues caused by the reforms.	
4.2	The focus has been on preparing for the reforms at a local level and looking at what we can do as an authority to help those most vulnerable to the impact of the reforms. There has been targeting of advice to people who we know will be affected through mail shots and followed up by visits.	
4.3	The view has been taken to inform people of what the likely impact will be now, although the implications will not take effect for another 8 months in some cases. General information has been displayed in One Stop Centres, GP	

	surgeries, Libraries etc.	
4.4	Voluntary Sector organisations have been briefed on the impact of the reforms and work has also been carried out amongst clusters and head-teachers forum and other organisations that will have contact with vulnerable groups.	
4.5	There will however be groups of people for who it is more difficult to predict the implications of the reforms, and other groups for who it is harder to get information to. There is therefore a need to involve the Area Support Teams and Area Committees to identify these groups and assist in getting advice and information to them.	
4.6	It is anticipated that the introduction of Universal Credit will lead to problems including access to online systems and support, and payments being made in arrears, including those to cover rent. The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) is looking at providing support in exceptions which may include rent support going straight to landlords in some cases, however in principal the DWP wants people to take responsibility for paying their own rent.	
4.7	Leeds is looking to develop a wrap around service for support tailored to individuals and move away from the rigid prescribed approach taken by the DWP. Executive Board has given approval for a council tax support scheme for certain groups but further consultation is required to establish what other support may be appropriate.	
4.8	The ALMOs in Leeds are also identifying which of their tenants will need support in the transition to Universal Credit payments, and work is also being carried out to assess the councils capacity for online access for Universal Credit claims.	
4.9	There are some concerns about how Jobcentre Plus will be accountable locally for it's provision of benefits support. At the moment there is no process in place.	
4.10	Concerns were raised by Area Chairs over the impact that would be seen in inner city areas and large council estates as rents become less affordable and pressures are put on people to move out of areas into smaller properties / houses of multiple accommodation. Also the issue of tenants being in arrears as benefit payment schedules change, and the move to monthly payments. It was agreed that Third Sector organisations would be vital in providing support and that the council should be promoting services such as credit unions and local support networks.	
4.11	It was pointed out that although the council will have the ability to provide some discretionary housing payments, this would need to be targeted, and it would be impossible to provide support to everybody that needed it. Members of the public would be looking to the council for help and it needs to be made clear that difficulties that occur are not the result of Local Authority policies, and communications on what options are available needs to be clear.	
4.12	LCC and the ALMOs are monitoring the increase in customer contacts regarding Welfare Reforms and the impact that this is having on resources and capacity.	
4.13	Concerns were raised as to how effective information distribution had been so far. There was a feeling that particularly private tenants were not taking in the messages of how they could be affected. It was recognised that mail shots would not always be read and it was pointed out that joint work with the Citizen's Advice Bureau was taking place to raise awareness with their customers, and that commissioning of support services for targeted groups was being looked at.	
4.14	The issue was raised of increased vulnerability of members of the community with mental health problems and particularly those being discharged from	

	hospitals. Steve Carey said that there had been sessions with the NHS but agreed that there could be a focus on providing information to those discharging patients and those providing outreach care.	
4.15	Area Chairs mentioned that local Elected Members are likely to get an influx of individual cases and that they needed to be armed with the information of what support is available and what the options are. Steve Carey mentioned that there is an intention to contact all elected members when the policy on discretionary rent support is finalised to make councillors aware of the policy and the routes for referral. There will also be briefings to the local MPs.	
4.16	There have been constructive sessions with Steve Carey and the Area Leaders to look at how Area Support Teams can provide intelligence on communication strategies, vulnerable groups, third sector partners and other local approaches to supporting people vulnerable to Welfare Reforms.	
4.17	It was agreed that a report is needed for Area Committees on the impact of Welfare Reforms and how Area Support Teams and Area Committees can play their part in helping local people. The report needs to be tailored to the individual circumstances of each Area.	SC/ALs
4.18	CLlr Gruen asked for a report to be considered for Cabinet on Welfare Reforms, detailing the options for support that are available and detailing a communication plan for reaching vulnerable people.	SC
5.0	Review of Area Working – Next Steps	
5.1	James Rogers gave a verbal update on initial progress of the Review of Area Working – Next Steps.	
5.2	The All Party Members groups had met twice, the second meeting having taken place yesterday, and have signed off the project plan outline and the communication plan.	
5.3	Engagement will commence with a number of sessions open to all Elected Members to explore their views of what is currently working and what isn't, what functions they feel are appropriate for Area Committees, how we can improve local engagement etc. Invitations will be sent in the next few days.	
5.4	In September there will be wider consultation with partners, community groups etc. There will also be an examination of finances to look at how budgets are allocated and potential for using section 106 money and capital receipts locally.	
5.5	A community engagement plan will be developed and it was suggested that, regardless of the review, more work should be undertaken to optimise the ongoing engagement of members of the Citizen's Panel within local areas.	ALs
5.6	Geography will be looked at to examine issues relating to boundaries for Area Committees, Parishes, Clusters, Neighbourhood Policing Teams etc. although this is not the emphasis of the review.	
5.7	The delegations and responsibilities of Area Committees will be looked at and it is vital that members views area at the heart of this. There will also be a consideration of local partnership arrangements.	
5.8	The review will look at different models from other parts of the country and will also look to build on and share good practice that is evident in the different areas of Leeds.	
6.0	Equality Improvement Priorities 2011-2015	
6.1	Lelir Yeung, Head of Equalities, attended to present a report on the Equality	

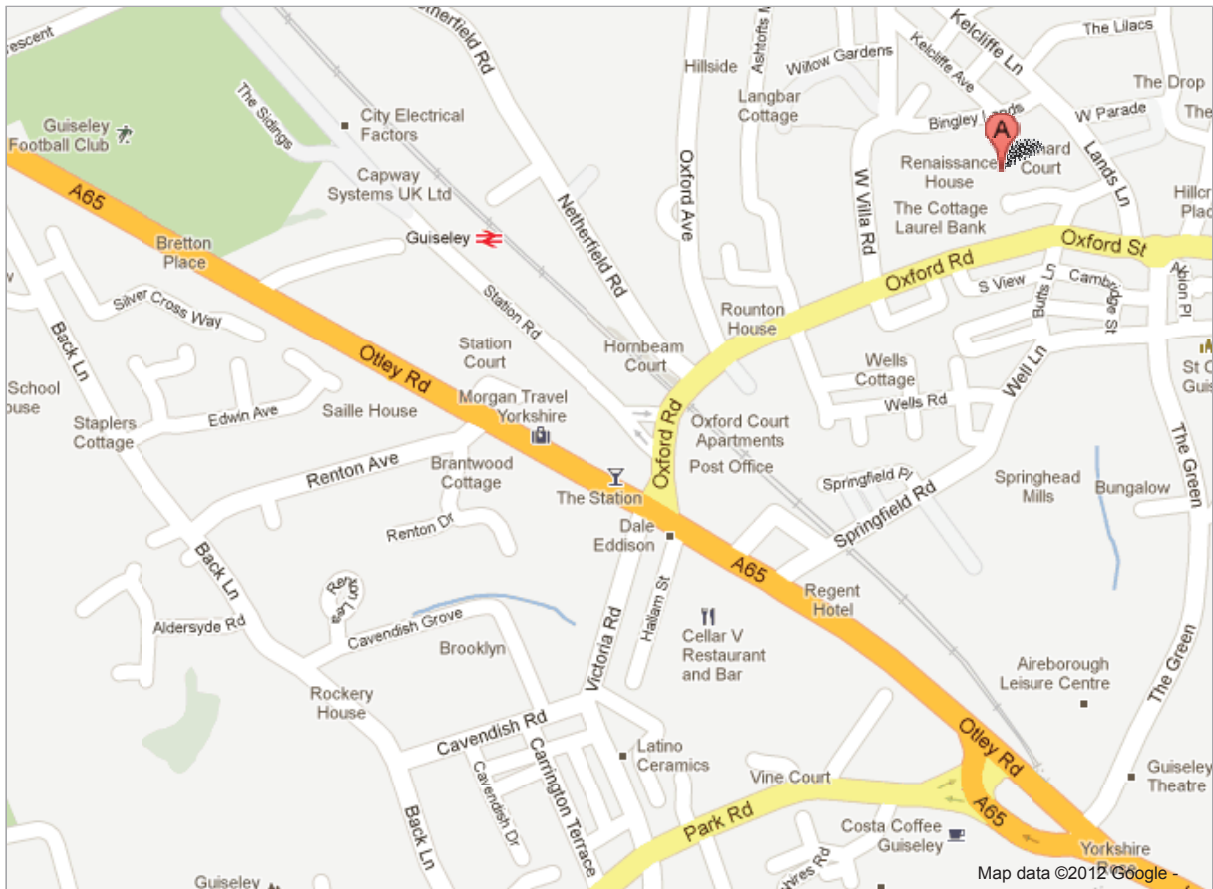
	Improvement Priorities 2011-2015.	
6.2	The Equality Improvement Priorities and revised Equality and Diversity Policy are going through Executive Board and Scrutiny Boards and there is a view to also take them to Area Committees. Lelir Yeung invited comments from Area Chairs on the priorities and how these could be taken into the Areas.	
6.3	Member Champions have been involved in ensuring that the right priorities have been set and part of their role is to update and inform members of their respective parties.	
6.4	It was explained that these are the high level equality priorities linked to the City Priority Plan and that it is necessary to get beneath issues to look at specific areas such as access to employment for specific communities.	
6.5	Reference was made to the underperformance at school of children in ethnic minority groups and the knock on effect that this can have for opportunities in adult life.	
6.6	It was acknowledged that there continue to be some significant issues for the city, which is why plans need to be in place to attempt to get at the root of problems.	
6.7	It was mentioned that the Members Champion group was a good forum to challenge services on what actions are being taken to address problems. Performance measurement has been carried out but there needs to be more appraisal of what has had the most impact and how this can be built on.	
6.8	Cllr Hussain mentioned that he had been involved when the equality unit was set up in the 1980s and had hoped that approaches agreed then would have been embedded within 5 years. It is right that there are city wide plans but it is also important to have area plans that target need at a local level. It is also important to bring in partners to develop plans and to measure what difference is made.	
6.9	It was mentioned that there was a need to have an equality focus locally, and that this was in all likelihood built into the devolved functions already. It was stated all cabinet members should be conversant with the plan and it should be influencing every portfolio.	
6.10	It was agreed that a piece of work needs to be carried out by Lelir Yeung and the Area Leaders to identify how the Equality Improvement Priorities are reflected in localities and how action can be identified and progressed at a local level with member support. It was agreed that Lelir Yeung would work with the Area Leaders to determine how the Equality Improvement Priorities can be made more relevant within local areas.	LY / ALs
7.0	Scrutiny Enquiry Report – Fuel Poverty	
7.1	Kathy Kudelnitzky, Chief Officer Localities and Partnerships, tabled a paper outlining a recommendation from the Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) relating to the establishment of Fuel Poverty Champions for each Area Committee. A draft response was tabled and views were asked from attendees for suggested amendments.	
7.2	It was raised that if Area Committees were to take on new functions there would be a need for Area Committees to operate differently in terms of sub groups and champions and that it was important for any roles to be effective. It was also noted that more roles and functions would add to the workload of Area Committee members.	
7.3	It was mentioned that there was a limited resource with an increasing remit. 10	

	Area Committees, 3 Area Leaders, one Chief Officer. There needed to be shared practice amongst the Area Committees and an efficient model needed to be developed, allowing for the differing needs of each area.	
7.4	It was also mentioned that there needed to be a level of political coordination with better links between the work of Executive Board and Area Committees.	
7.5	Area Leaders referred to the timeliness of the Review of Area Working. Pressures will be put on the Area Support Teams and the Area Committees and there will be a need for services to respond and the organisation to mature to meet the demands.	
7.6	In light of the ongoing review it was agreed that a response for the Scrutiny Board Fuel Poverty report recommendations should be drafted to state that Area Committee Fuel Poverty Champions will be considered in the Review of Area Working along with the wider issue of members roles and links to services and partnerships.	SW
8.0	Youth Service Review Update	
8.1	A discussion took place amongst attendees at the forum meeting prior to the arrival of Cllr Blake who was attending to provide an update on the Youth Service Review.	
8.2	Area Committees have previously expressed that they feel that they can have a beneficial impact on Youth Services in their areas and are keen to be involved in the review of the service and to have more of an influence in the future.	
8.3	Cllr Gabriel mentioned that she had been interviewed by the appointed consultant and her view was that the service would need to become a more targeted and specialised service. It was important to utilise voluntary and community based groups to deliver activities in their area. Area Committees could have a role in influencing this.	
8.4	Cllr Hyde had also been interviewed by the consultant. He felt that there was potential for commissioning to be carried out at three levels: local, intermediate and city wide and that Area Committees could be heavily involved in this. Parameters could be set centrally but Area Committees have insight into the local priorities and should have the ability to influence or commission provision from the youth service and also private and community organisations.	
8.5	Rory Barke had also been interviewed by the consultant and felt that there was scope for the expertise within Youth Services to be used to develop and support local providers.	
8.6	Cllr Blake joined the meeting with Cllr Dowson to provide an update on the Youth Services Review.	
8.7	There is a lot of history to the agenda involving different experiences in different parts of the city. There has been a lack of satisfaction from members over aspects of provision, but specifically around a lack of awareness of intended provision and a lack of information regarding the impact of the service.	
8.8	Many Local Authorities have withdrawn from providing Youth Service provision but this is not the view taken in Leeds. LCC needs to be able to influence approaches for the youth of the city or there is a danger that children will be poorly served in the future.	
8.9	There have been cross party talks about Youth Services issues. There have previously been changes to the formula for allocating resources and this needs to be looked at again in light of the changing population in Leeds.	

8.10	There is a will to devolve resources down to a local level, to clusters and beyond, and there is a will to empower Area Committees and move some commissioning down to a local level. To meet the differing needs in differing areas.	
8.11	A consultant has been brought in with an objective eye and he will be interviewing all of the Area Chairs individually. He will also be collecting local views through interviews in the patches to get a view on past experiences, future aspirations, and how local people can be involved in developing the service.	
8.12	A report will be pulled together which will be subject to further consultation with members and eventually for Executive Board approval. It will be important to acknowledge that all areas are different, with differing dynamics of youths, differing degrees of community infrastructure and differing opinions of how provision should be run, and these views need to be reflected in the report.	
8.13	It was agreed that Ken Morton should be invited to the next Area Chairs Forum meeting to provide an update on the Review of Youth Services and provide feedback on the consultation carried out by the consultant.	SW
9.0	Any Other Business	
9.1	<u>Items for Future Area Chairs Forum Meetings</u> Area Chairs were invited to suggest items for future forum meetings. Items suggested were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Area Working • Update and Overview of Clusters • Third Sector Review • Sharing Good Practice Between Area Committees • Welfare Reform further update 	
9.2	Cllr Gabriel gave her apologies for the next meeting.	
10.0	Date of Next Meeting	
10.1	Tuesday 11 th September 2012, 13:00 – 15:00, West Room - Civic Hall	

Agenda Item 13

To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the Print link next to the map.



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