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NORTH EAST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

Meeting to be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds on
Monday, 2nd September, 2013 at 4.00 pm

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

J Dowson	-	Chapel Allerton;
M Rafique	-	Chapel Allerton;
E Taylor	-	Chapel Allerton;
S Hamilton (Chair)	-	Moortown;
R Charlwood	-	Moortown;
A Sobel	-	Moortown;
G Hussain	-	Roundhay;
C Macniven	-	Roundhay;
B Urry	-	Roundhay;

Agenda compiled by:
Helen Gray
Governance Services Unit
Civic Hall
LEEDS LS1 1UR
Telephone: 24 74355

East North East Area Leader:
Rory Barke
Tel: 3367627

A G E N D A

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded)</p> <p>(*In accordance with Procedure Rule 25, written notice of an appeal must be received by the Head of Governance Services at least 24 hours before the meeting)</p>	

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
2			<p>EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <p>1 To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report.</p> <p>2 To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information.</p> <p>3 If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-</p> <p>RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:-</p> <p>No exempt items or information have been identified on the agenda</p>	
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 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.</p>	

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5			APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
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 OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>To confirm as a correct record the attached minutes of the meeting held on 17th June 2013</p>	1 - 8
8	Chapel Allerton; Moortown; Roundhay		<p>UPDATE ON WELFARE BENEFIT CHANGES</p> <p>To consider the report of the Chief Officer, Welfare and Benefits providing an update on Welfare Benefit changes</p>	9 - 56
9	Chapel Allerton; Moortown; Roundhay		<p>CHILDREN'S SERVICES - UPDATE</p> <p>To consider the report of the Director of Children's Services which informs the Area Committee about local outcomes for children and young people in order to support the involvement of the area committee in improving these outcomes by providing an update on the work of the directorate and of the Leeds Children's Trust, including local children's cluster arrangements. The progress made against local and national agendas is also highlighted. The report also summarises performance at area committee level, with a broader acknowledgement of city level performance and highlights the key issues for Children's Services including Ofsted inspection, basic need, and child friendly city priorities</p>	57 - 70

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10	Chapel Allerton; Moortown; Roundhay		<p>INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE: UPDATE ON THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF YOUTH SERVICES AND DELEGATED FUNCTIONS FOR AREA COMMITTEES</p> <p>To consider the report of the ENE Area Leader on proposals for spending the budget delegated to the Area Committee for universal youth activities – which are defined as those activities offering opportunities for play, arts, sport and cultural activities with young people age 8-17 years enabling young people to play, have fun, get creative, and have new experiences both after school and during the school holidays</p>	71 - 78
11	Chapel Allerton; Moortown; Roundhay		<p>PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOOD UPDATE REPORT</p> <p>To consider the report of the ENE Area Leader outlining the key areas of work the new Neighbourhood Manager is currently focussing on; highlights the achievements and the challenges faced and providing information on progress made to date. The new Neighbourhood Manager commenced in post in May 2013 and has initially focussed on addressing key issues in the two priority neighbourhood areas, Meanwood (Seven Estates) and Chapeltown. Action plans for both these areas have now been developed and each areas priorities' have been updated</p>	79 - 88
12	Chapel Allerton; Moortown; Roundhay		<p>AREA UPDATE REPORT</p> <p>To consider the report of the ENE Area Leader providing an update on community engagement as laid out in the business plan and on all priorities agreed by the Area Committee at the March meeting. The report also sets out the proposals for consultation with local groups and residents to be undertaken during Autumn 2013 to identify the priorities for the 2014/15 Area Committee Business Plan</p>	89 - 100

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13	Chapel Allerton; Moortown; Roundhay		<p>WELLBEING REPORT</p> <p>To consider the report of the ENE Area Leader providing an update on the current position of the wellbeing revenue budget for the Inner North East Area Committee and the details of applications submitted for funding</p>	101 - 110
14			<p>MINUTES OF THE AREA CHAIRS FORUM</p> <p>To note the minutes of the Area Chairs Forum meeting held 3rd May 2013</p>	111 - 120
15			<p>DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING</p> <p>To note the date and time of the next meeting as 14th October 2013 at 4.00 pm in the Reginald Centre</p>	

Agenda Item 7

NORTH EAST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 17TH JUNE, 2013

PRESENT: Councillor S Hamilton in the Chair

Councillors J Dowson, M Rafique, E Taylor,
G Hussain, R Charlwood, C Macniven,
A Sobel and B Urry

1 **Late Items**

No formal late items of business were added to the agenda however Members were in receipt of an additional document "Agenda item 10 Appendix A Part 4 (Environment Improvement Zone report)" which had been omitted from the initial agenda despatch. (minute 8 refers)

2 **Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests**

There were no declarations of interest

3 **Open Forum**

No matters were raised under the Open Forum

4 **Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the following meetings be agreed as a correct record:

11th March 2013

17th May 2013

5 **Matters Arising**

11th March 2013

Minute 82 Children's Services – Members requested that information previously required in respect of ward Member representation on the NETWORKS Cluster and the future of the North East Learning Centre be presented as soon as possible

Minute 88 Priorities – The Area Officer reported that the Committee needed to appoint the membership of the sub groups for the new Municipal Year. NEIAC agreed to address consider this later in the agenda

6 **North East Divisional Community Safety Partnership Annual Report**

The North East Divisional Community Safety Partnership (NEDCSP) submitted a report updating the Area Committee on the overall performance of the NEDCSP and the Neighbourhood Policing Teams for 2012/13 and provided an overview of the work undertaken by the partnership within the locality to reduce crime and disorder.

Beverley Yearwood, ENE Area Community Safety Co-ordinator and Superintendent Richard Jackson attended the meeting and highlighted the key message that overall, there had been a sustained reduction in the number of reported incidents of crime within the locality.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday, 2nd September, 2013

(Councillors Rafique and Sobel joined the meeting at this point)

Members discussed the following issues:

- The measurement of public confidence
- The effective targeting of POCA resources and the need to consider joint commissioning schemes. Members also noted the measures in place to ensure that POCA funding did not duplicate Wellbeing funds
- The impact of CCTV installations on crime statistics and whether crime is dispersed into other areas and incidents of cross boundary burglary
- The importance of ensuring incidents of domestic violence and addressing the perception of what constitutes domestic violence are prioritised
- The effectiveness of the Trembler Alarm initiative
- The impact of the welfare reform programme on reported crime in respect of burglary/theft
- Members also commented on the membership of the NEDCSP funding Panel

RESOLVED –

- a) That the contents of the report be noted
- b) That the Area Committee resolves to continue supporting the Divisional Community Safety Partnership in relation to prioritising the new Safer Leeds Priorities and tackling Burglary Dwelling during 2013/14 through partnership work at neighbourhood level.

7 West Yorkshire Fire Service - Annual Report

The Area Committee received the Annual Report from West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) providing an update on performance 1/4/12 – 31/3/13 and the revised approach to targeting risk reduction in the East Leeds Area. The report also provided information on the progress of the Firefly project.

Station Commander Nigel Kirk (Gipton Fire Station) attended the meeting and introduced newly appointed Station Commander B Bush (Moortown Fire Station) noting the Service restructure which now mirrored the structure of the local Divisional Community Safety Partnership

St Cmdr. Kirk highlighted the overall reduction in the number of recorded incidents in the area; although acknowledged that three areas of concern remained in respect of malicious calls, special service calls and secondary fires. Additionally, the number of accidental fires had not significantly reduced and further targeted work with partners would be required to address this.

NEIAC also received an update on the current position in respect of the proposals for the York Road fire station and the relocation of the Moortown fire station

Members discussed the following:

- The nature of accidental fires recorded in Roundhay Park

- Noting that incidents would most likely be attended by both WYFRS and the police; whether a joint “diversionary tactic scheme” could be established with the aim of reducing the number of specific incidents
- The role, importance and take-up of the Young Fire Fighters Scheme operated in each Division. Members commented that they supported this type of initiative and acknowledged receipt of an invitation to attend a future Young Fire-fighters session in the future
- The reduction in the number of recorded non-dwelling fires and whether the change in the approach to and provision of environmental services had made a positive impact on the data. It was agreed that the environment sub group would consider this issue further

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and the discussions be noted and

- a) That officers be requested to make arrangements for Members of the AC to attend a Young Fire-fighters session in the future
- b) That the environment sub group be requested to further discuss the data in respect of non-dwelling fires in relation to the local delivery of environmental services

8 Environmental Service Level Agreement

The Area Committee considered the report of the ENE Locality Manager, Environment & Neighbourhoods providing a comprehensive end of year performance report for the 2012/13 Service Level Agreement and setting out the details of the SLA for 2013/14, including new commitments, particularly in the light of the new delegated responsibility for Street Cleansing and Environmental Enforcement Services

John Woolmer, ENE Locality Manager attended the meeting to present the report and drew Members attention to the following key issues:

- The number and nature of customer requests received during 2012/13
- The new elements to be incorporated into the Service for 2013/14, including elements previously provided by the ALMO and additional environmental services.
- Prevention and engagement to remain a priority to ensure the new services tie into the existing SLA

(Councillor Rafique left the meeting at this point)

NEIAC welcomed the positive outcomes reported and the improvements to the locality delivered by the Team and commented on the public perception of the locally delivered services. Additionally, the need to establish measurable targets for service delivery was highlighted and it was agreed that Area Lead and environment sub group would pursue effective locality measures

RESOLVED

- a) That the contents of the report be noted
- b) That the end of year performance report for the 2012/13 SLA be noted;
- c) That approval be given to the Service Level Agreement for 2013/14 as summarised in sections 46-48 of the submitted report and provided in Appendix B.

9 Investing in Young People: Update on the Future Direction of Youth Services and Delegated Functions for Area Committees

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report providing an update on the recommendation of Executive Board in respect of the future direction for the provision of youth services in Leeds and setting out the responsibilities delegated to Area Committees for Youth activity funding.

The report included specific matters for the AC to address and those responses would inform the July Executive Board report in respect of targeted youth work services. NEIAC considered the issues raised in respect of:

- how the activity funding will be delivered building on the Breeze brand
- how the AC could link to other possible funding streams to maximise activity for children and young people
- how children and young people will be involved throughout the planning, decision making and evaluation of the activity funding.

Vicki Marsden, Strategic Play Officer, Childrens Services, attended the meeting and highlighted that the overall Area Committee youth activities budget was ring-fenced as £250k for 2013/14 rising to £500k in 2014/15. NEIAC youth activities budget was £25,835 - 2013/14 and £51,670 - 2014/15 with a clear expectation that young people would be involved in the application and decision making process.

The Area Leader highlighted that the 2013/14 funding would need to be allocated to schemes during this year and could be used to augment funding already committed to existing schemes. Looking ahead, the new Area Lead Member may wish to pursue engagement with the Youth Council and relevant commissioning bodies prior to the new financial year to deliver appropriate schemes with 2014/15 funding.

NEIAC noted discussions in respect of:

- The need to ensure that children and young people with physical and cognitive challenges were included within the scheme as it was noted that the local Specialist Inclusive Learning Centre was not included within the schools partnership cluster
- The development of an event, organised by young people for young people, to consult them on what provision they sought for 2014/15
- Recognition that, although small scale schemes were welcomed; there may be a need to advocate strategic spending
- Consideration of schemes for younger children, noting that the Youth Service targeted the 8-17 years age range,

RESOLVED –

- a) That, having considered the issues, the contents of the report and the comments made by Members be noted
- b) That the Area Committee Chair and new Area Lead for Children work with the Executive Member to shape the July Executive Board report in respect of targeted youth work services.

10 Appointment of Area Lead Members, Cluster Representatives and Corporate Carers

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday, 2nd September, 2013

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customers and Communities) submitted a report requesting that the Area Committee (AC) make appointments to the Area Lead Members roles, Clusters and Corporate Carers Group. The report also asked the AC to nominate their representative on the Corporate Carers Group and; in light of the development of the Area Lead Member for Children's Services; it was proposed that these roles are combined. Nominations to local Children's Services Cluster partnerships across the city were also formalised as an AC appointment.

NEIAC considered the following Roles suggested in Section 3 of the report:

- Environment & Community Safety
- Children's Services
- Employment, Skills and Welfare
- Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care

With regards to nominations to the local cluster partnerships, NEIAC was disappointed to note that only one nominee was sought for the NETWORKS partnership as the AC had made a representation previously that NETWORKS covered both the Moortown and Chapel Allerton wards and a nominee should be invited from each. NEIAC therefore were minded to nominate two representatives to the NETWORKS partnership.

RESOLVED –

a) That appointments be made to the following Area Lead Member roles for North East Inner Area Committee:

Environment	Councillor M Rafique
Community Safety	Councillor E Taylor
Children's Services	Councillor C Macniven
Employment, Skills and Welfare	Councillor G Hussain
Health and Wellbeing	Councillor A Sobel
Adult Social Care	Councillor R Charlwood

b) That confirmation be given that Councillor C Macniven - the Area Lead Member for Children's Services - will also fulfil the role of the committee's representative on the Corporate Carers Group.

c) That the following Councillors be appointed as member representatives to the local Children's Services Clusters relevant to the North East Inner Area Committee

CHESSE (Chapelton & Harehills extended schools and services)	Councillor J Dowson
NETWORKS (Meanwood and Chapel Allerton)	Councillor A Sobel Councillor E Taylor
N.E.X.T. (North East Extended Together: Moortown and Roundhay)	Councillor S Hamilton Councillor C Macniven

11 Local Authority Appointments to Outside Bodies

NEIAC considered the report of the Chief Officer (Democratic and Central Services) outlining the procedure for the Committee to make and confirm appointments to those organisations (Outside Bodies) which fall within to the Committee to make an appointment. The report included a copy of the Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules at Appendix 1 and a schedule of the four appointments to be made at Appendix 2 in relation to the following organisations:-

- Moor Allerton Elderly Care (1)
- Community Action for Roundhay Elderly (CARE) (1)
- Chapeltown CAB (1)
- ENE ALMO Area Panel (2)

The comments made in respect of whether the CARE organisation was still operating were noted.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the following appointments be made:
 Moor Allerton Elderly Care – Councillor Sobel
 Chapeltown CAB – Councillor G Hussain
 ENE ALMO Area Panel – Councillors B Urry and S Hamilton
- b) That in respect of the appointment to Community Action for Roundhay Elderly, further information was requested on whether the Group still operated prior to an appointment being made

12 Wellbeing Fund

The ENE Area Leader submitted a report providing an update on the current position of the wellbeing revenue budget for the Inner North East AC and including applications made for funding for consideration. The comments of the wellbeing working group in respect of the applications were noted.

RESOLVED -

- a) That the contents of the report be noted
- b) That having considered the project proposals and recommendations of the working group, the decisions in respect of the funding applications be as follows:

Lime Tree Community Project	£1,240	DEFER consideration of the Lime Tree Community Project application. NEIAC noted that the information accompanying the application was out of date
Gledhow Cricket Club Improvements	£2,000	Agreed in full
New World Steel Orchestra		Agreed to fund up to £2000, subject to match funding being made available from other sources
Leeds Islamic Centre	£2,500	Agreed to fund £2,500 subject to the East Inner AC match funding
Chapel Allerton Arts Festival	£2,875	Agreed in full

- c) That the current budget position be noted

13 Membership of the Area Committee Sub Groups

Further to minute 88 of the meeting held 17th March 2013, the Area Committee considered appointments to the sub committees for the forthcoming Municipal Year and

RESOLVED – That, the following be agreed

- a) Environment Sub Group – Councillors G Hussain, S Hamilton and M Rafique
- b) Wellbeing sub group – Councillors R Charlwood, J Dowson and C Macniven

14 Minutes of the Area Chairs Forum Meeting

RESOLVED – To note the contents of the minutes of the Area Chairs Forum meeting held on 1st March 2013

15 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

RESOLVED – To note the date and time of the next meeting as Monday 2nd September 2013 at 4.00 pm, in the Civic Hall, Leeds

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Report author: S Carey, D
Roberts, S Hughes
Tel: 67630

Report of Chief Officer, Welfare and Benefits
Report to Inner North East Area Committee
Date: 2nd September 2013
Subject: Update on Welfare Benefit changes

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. Significant welfare changes were introduced in April 2013 and the impact of these changes has seen more tenants fall into arrears with their rent and their Council Tax. Steps have been taken to mitigate the impact of the changes, including changes to recovery processes, and support is being provided to those tenants who engage with the council about their arrears.
2. The Discretionary Housing Payments scheme, which provides support to tenants affected by the welfare changes, is on track to spend the full £1.9m budget with the bulk of this spend going on those deemed to be priority cases within the Council's policy. Further funding may be available this year from DWP but this is subject to a bidding process and details of the process have yet to be announced.
3. The Local Welfare Support scheme, which has replaced the Social Fund scheme in Leeds, provides goods and services rather than cash to those in need. The spend in the 1st quarter clearly shows that there will be an underspend against this fund and, as a consequence, proposals will be developed and taken to Executive Board for alternative uses of this funding. Proposals will also be developed on potential Local Welfare Support schemes for 2014/15. It is intended to discuss these proposals for the 14/15 scheme with Area Committees ahead of an Executive Board recommendation.
4. The roll out of Universal Credit has started with a further 6 small areas announced as Universal Credit sites. The main roll out of Universal Credit is now not expected until late 2014 or even later. Nevertheless, preparations continue and one of the key

aspects of the preparations relates to tackling high cost lenders in the city. A plan of action has been developed that includes city-wide and locality-based events and the report seeks input from Area Committees for the programme.

5. Section 4 of the report highlights actions taken in the locality in preparation and response to the changes to support residents.

Recommendations

6. The Committee is asked to:
 - 6.1. Note the information about the impact of the welfare reforms;
 - 6.2. Note the information about the campaign against high cost lenders and contribute to options for locality-based events and initiatives to support the campaign;
 - 6.3. Note the work on going in East North East to mitigate the impact of the changes;
 - 6.4. Members are requested to consider the impact on the local area and how further work may be undertaken to mitigate the impact within the Inner North East area.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The report provides an update of the impact of the welfare reforms at both a city-wide and ward-level basis and also provides information on arrangements that have been put in place to support tenants.
- 1.2 The report details some of the preparations that are underway for Universal Credit with a focus on locality-based support that can be provided. A key element of the preparations for Universal Credit and a response to the welfare reforms is a programme of work aimed at tackling the issue of payday and high cost lending in the city. The report provides information about this programme and seeks input from Area Committees on how the programme of activity can work at a locality level.

2 Background information

- 2.1 As part of the Government's programme of welfare reforms, changes to Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit and the Social Fund came into effect from April 2013. These changes mean that:
 - Working age social sector tenants deemed to have one or more spare bedrooms see their Housing Benefit reduced;
 - The majority of working age households see their Council Tax Support reduced by 19%; and
 - Funding allocated to the Crisis Loans and Community Care Grants elements of the Social Fund is devolved to local councils.
- 2.2 In recognition of the difficulties these changes may cause for some families, the Government increased funding to local Councils for Discretionary Housing Payments schemes. Funding for Leeds increased from £800k in 12/13 to £1.9m in 13/14.
- 2.3 Further welfare changes came into effect later in the year.
 - Personal Independence Payments (PIP), which replaces Disability Living Allowance, came into effect from June 2013 for new claims only. The main programme of reviewing DLA cases to see whether they will transfer to PIP, starts in October 2015 although DLA claims that are due to be reviewed before then will be considered for PIP earlier;
 - The Benefit Cap comes into effect in Leeds from 12th August 2013 and will see around 424 families lose some or all of their Housing Benefit.
- 2.4 A number of analyses have been carried out on the total impact in Leeds of the programme of welfare changes. Sheffield Hallam University estimates that the changes see a loss of benefit of £232m a year in Leeds, while the LGA's analyses estimates the loss in Leeds at £171m a year.

2.5 The welfare changes come at a time when there is significant concern about the growing use of payday and high interest rate lending which is a growing sector of the unsecured lending market.

High Cost Lenders (HCL)

2.6 According to a recent analysis by Price Waterhouse Coopers and the Local Data Company, statistics show retail store closures have climbed tenfold in one year. However, pound shops, pawnbrokers, charity shops, cheque cashing, payday loan shops and betting shops are bucking the trend and showing considerable growth. The table below shows the ‘risers and fallers’ by business type across the UK’s top 500 town centres during 2012:

Risers	Net Change (%)	Fallers	Net Change (%)
Cheque Cashing/Payday Loans	+20.0	Card & Poster Shops	-23.4
Pound shops	+13.0	Computer Games	-45.0
Pawnbrokers	+13.2	Women’s Clothes Shops	-7.2
Charity shops	+2.7	Recruitment Agencies	-15.1
Betting Shops	+3.3	General Clothing	-8.7
Supermarkets	+3.6	Health Foods & Products	-24.7
Coffee Shops	+3.4	Banks & Financial Institutions	-2.9

Table - Top risers and fallers by business type in 2012 (Source: Local Data Company)

2.7 Work was undertaken in 2012 to try to determine the numbers of money shops in Leeds city centre and in district centres. This is not straightforward because there is no clear planning or industrial classification to distinguish these types of shops. **However, from available sources of information a list was compiled and is attached to this report at Appendix 6**

2.8 The high cost lending market (Home Credit, Pawn Brokers, Money Shops, Payday Lenders, rent-to-buy) was estimated by the OFT to be £7.5 billion in loans to consumers in 2008¹. The equivalent figure for payday loans at that time was £900 million but it is reported that this figure will have more than doubled by 2011. It is further estimated that 5 million people in the UK access high cost credit of which 2 million use payday lenders.

2.9 If this national picture is equated to the Leeds population it means that up to 60,000 people in Leeds may use high interest lenders including approximately 22,500 people who may take out Payday loans. In addition to the social cost, this market represents a potentially huge impact on the Leeds economy. Based on national data, the high cost market in Leeds could be in the region of £90m. If everyone using high cost credit in Leeds had access to affordable sources this could reduce the cost of borrowing by up to £60m in a year to Leeds families. Even a 10% penetration into this market would represent a significant annual gain for Leeds communities and the economy.

¹ OFT, Review of High Cost Credit, June 2010

- 2.10 According to research company Data Monitor, the payday lending market could account for £3.4bn of loans by 2014.
- 2.11 The StepChange debt charity, which provides a national debt counselling service, has said that more than twice as many people who sought help with debts in 2012 had payday loans compared with 2011. It helped 36,413 people last year who had payday loan debts, some 20,000 more than the previous year. They also reported that 42% of their clients under age 25 had payday loans. This is a fourfold increase in just 2 years.
- 2.12 Earlier this year the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) undertook a review of the businesses of the top 50 payday lenders (which together account for around 90% of the payday market by turnover). The review found a number of examples of non-compliance with the industry code of practice including:
- Failing to show the APR interest of their loans;
 - %age APR or calculated examples not prominent enough on their sites;
 - Omitting or downplayed information about the costs and risks to the borrower;
 - Not conducting adequate affordability assessments;
 - Actively promoting rolling over loans for an extended term when borrowers would be better served by a repayment plan;
 - A number of firms were using aggressive debt collection practices.
- 2.13 As a result, the sector will face advertising curbs and be under closer supervision. The government wants to limit the number of adverts shown per hour on TV and ensure that terms and conditions are displayed more prominently.
- 2.14 The OFT also required the companies to take immediate steps to address areas of non-compliance or risk losing their consumer credit licence. After the end of the 12 week deadline set by the OFT, 14 of the companies indicated that they were to withdraw from the payday lending market (1 company failed to respond). In addition the OFT has referred the whole of the industry to the Competition Commission, which has wider powers to deal with some of the issues identified for the protection of consumers.

Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)

- 2.15 The new financial services regulator – FCA - will take over the Financial Services Authority's consumer financial watchdog powers and have powers to cap the cost of payday loans, but not until 2014. The FCA will be granted this key weapon, along with other ways to keep rogue lenders in check. There will however be a 'legal loan sharks' window of opportunity before regulators can limit charges in 2014.

The FCA will also have powers to create rules which will:

- Limit the length of a payday loan
- Impose a limit on the number of times a payday loan is rolled over
- Make a payday loan agreement unenforceable
- Force money or property to be returned to consumers and redress to be given to consumers by a firm

- 2.16 While the regulator will have these powers, it has to assess whether they need to be used. In a recent report (March 2013) from the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS), the Government Minister indicated that whilst: "the Government recognises that a cap might be appropriate at some point in the future" "The Government does not believe that a total cost of credit cap is the best way to address the concerns in the pay day lending market at this time."
- 2.17 In response to these concerns the council is launching a campaign to tackle high cost lenders and information about this campaign is contained in the main issues part of this report.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 Appendix 1 provides data on the impact of the welfare changes as at the end of July 2013. The data is shown at both city-wide and ward level and, where appropriate, at ALMO level. The main issues to note are set out below.

Social sector size criteria (under-occupancy)

- 3.2 The number of tenancies affected has reduced since the start of April but continues to remain high at 7,834 across the city. The reduction in tenancies affected is fairly consistent across the ALMOs and is likely to reflect the intense activity undertaken to ensure that new and existing tenants are aware of the changes and their implications.
- 3.3 However, the level of rent arrears is increasing as a result of under-occupancy. Of the 7173 ALMO tenants that were affected by under-occupancy at the start of April 2013, 1,934 already owed rent – this equates to 27%. At the end of July 2013, 3,821 of the 6,296 tenants affected owed rent – this equates to 60%. It is clear from this that many tenants are struggling to cope with the changes.
- 3.4 In April 2013, Executive Board agreed a revised rent arrears recovery approach that recognises those who can't pay. The approach focuses on maximising income and signposting to support for issues around debt and budgeting for those tenants who engage with ALMOs about their rent arrears. The Committee may also be aware that consideration is being given to reclassifying some properties where the design of the property means that it would be appropriate to treat the properties as having one bedroom less. Around 850 properties are under consideration and approx..280 are also affected by the under-occupancy rules.
- 3.5 A more detailed review of how tenants are dealing with the under-occupancy changes will be undertaken in the autumn. This will look at tenants who have moved to more affordable accommodation, tenants who are managing to pay the extra rent and tenants who are struggling to cope with the extra costs.

Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP)

- 3.6 The funding for Discretionary Housing Payments has increased to £1.9m for 13/14 to help deal with issues arising from under-occupancy and the Benefit Cap (see 3.18). This is an increase of £900k on the £1m spent on DHPs in 12/13 –

the vast majority of the spend in 12/13 went on private tenancies as a result of changes to Local Housing Allowance rates.

3.7 The policy for the allocation of DHPs was agreed t Executive Board and priorities spend on the following groups:

- Disabled tenants in significantly adapted properties
- Tenants with child access arrangements
- Tenants approaching Pension Credit age
- Foster carers and kinship care
- Pregnant women allocated an additional room for the baby.

3.8 At the end of July 2013, £864k of the £1.9m spend has been committed and, with Benefit Cap coming into effect from 19th August 2013, it is estimated that the full £1.9m allocation will be spent. The breakdown of committed spend to date shows that:

- £572k (66%) has been spent on under-occupancy cases; and
- £292k (34%) has been spent on other cases, mainly private rented sector.

3.9 Following the outcome of a recent judicial review against the under-occupancy changes brought by disabled tenants – which concluded that the under-occupancy changes did not impact on the tenants’ human rights – the Government has announced an additional £20m for DHPs. Councils will be able to bid for additional funds from this £20m although the bidding process has yet ti be announced.

3.10 Spend against the DHP allocation will continue to be closely monitored and, should the circumstances allow it, the policy will be relaxed to support more applications.

Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme

3.11 Nearly 33,000 households have seen their Council Tax Benefit reduce by 19% as a result of the localisation of Council Tax Support and reduced Government funding. Of these, almost 25,000 previously had their Council Tax met in full by Council Tax Benefit. All Pension Age cases are protected from any reduction and a further 10,000 working age cases have been protected from any reductions under the Council’s scheme – these are households where a severe or enhanced disability premium is applicable, where the householder is a lone parent with a child under 5, a carer or a war pensioner or war widow.

3.12 Council Tax collection is down at the end of June 2013 compared to the same point last year by 0.46% which equates to £1.3m less. The overall collection rate is 37.19% with the collection rate for CTS cases at 25.6% and 22.6% for those previously getting full benefit. Following a Central and Resources Scrutiny Board Working Group on recovery approaches, additional reminders have been built into the process and, where appropriate, payment arrangements are accepted where payments are below the level of the weekly or monthly liability. Despite these arrangements, 3,000 CTS cases have been summonsed and liability orders

obtained. This is a legal requirement in order to secure payments directly from DWP benefits.

The Council will need to decide whether to keep the existing scheme or change the scheme for 14/15. Options will be developed for consideration by Executive Board and a public consultation exercise undertaken if changes are proposed.

Local Welfare Support Scheme

- 3.13 Leeds received £2.8m scheme funding for a Local Welfare Support scheme.
- 3.14 A Local Welfare Support Scheme, approved by Executive Board, was put in place with effect from April 2013. The scheme is designed to provide emergency support and to provide help to people and families who need support to remain in the community. Unlike the Social Fund scheme delivered by Jobcentre Plus, the Council's scheme is largely non-cash based. Residents who need help are provided with the goods and services they require. This is in line with most other councils. The approved scheme also agreed to set aside up to £500k to support initiatives which promoted Leeds City Credit Union and increased provision of debt and benefit advice.
- 3.15 As at the end of July 2013, £361k had been spent on providing support to residents and a further £375k allocated to support Leeds City Credit Union and a range of debt and benefit advice initiatives. The scheme has also been adjusted to provide help during the summer to families who would be entitled to Free School Meals during school terms but who are struggling to feed their children during the school holidays.
- 3.16 The adoption of a non-cash based scheme seems to have reduced demand for the scheme and there is likely to be a significant underspend this year. This position is mirrored across West Yorkshire Councils. As the funding for the Local Welfare Support Scheme is not ring-fenced any underspend can be used as the Council sees fit. Options therefore include channelling funding into other initiatives, increasing DHP funding or using the funding to provide a hardship fund for CTS cases. Recommendations will be presented to Executive Board shortly.
- 3.17 Work has now started on developing a scheme for 2014/15 and it is intended to bring a consultation paper to the next round of Area Committees in order to inform proposals to Executive Board later in the year.

Benefit Cap

- 3.18 The Benefit Cap, which limits to £500 a week the amount of benefit a non-working family can receive, was launched nationally from 15th July 2013 with cases in Leeds starting to be capped from 19th August 2013. Around 424 families affected by the Cap and work has been ongoing to ensure that families are prepared for the Cap.
- 3.19 Appendix 2 provides a ward breakdown for the cases affected by the Benefit Cap. The cases most seriously affected have been considered a by a casework team

consisting of Families First, Children's Services, Housing Options, ALMOs and the Benefits Service. In most of these cases a move to cheaper accommodation is not an option because a) there are likely to be difficulties in finding primary school places for families with more than one primary school age child and b) a number of these cases lose all or most of their Housing Benefit making most alternative housing unaffordable. In these cases, Discretionary Housing Payments will be made.

- 3.20 Working with ALMOs and Housing Associations, visits have been made to most families affected. Contact has also been made by Jobcentre Plus to advise tenants about the help they can get with moving into work – families working more than 16hrs (lone parents) or 24hrs (couples) are exempt from the Benefit Cap.
- 3.21 It should be noted that Discretionary Housing Payment funding for the Benefit Cap is expected to be reduced from £75m in 13/14 to £45m nationally in 14/15. With this in mind most families are being asked to contribute up to £50 towards the cost of their rent from their remaining minimum benefit of £500 a week where possible. It remains the intention to ensure that none of the families are faced with eviction and further work will be carried out with families where this a real risk.

Preparations for Universal Credit

- 3.22 Following the Pathfinder phase of Universal Credit in Tameside, the DWP has rolled out Universal Credit to 6 more areas from October 2013. The areas are: Hammersmith, Rugby, Inverness, Harrogate, Bath and Shotton and this constitutes the start of the national roll out. A further announcement is expected in the autumn on future roll outs but it is unlikely that we will see any significant roll out of Universal Credit in Leeds until nearer the end of 2014 or even later.
- 3.23 Preparations are continuing for Universal Credit with the main focus being on preparing tenants for a digital claims process, developing a Local Support Services Framework, tackling high cost lenders and putting in place arrangements for dealing with direct payments of the housing element of Universal Credit to tenants.

a) Preparing for a digital claims process:

DWP remains keen to support a digital process for Universal Credit although the 'digital by default' intention has been softened and replaced by a 'digital where appropriate' approach. Nevertheless, this remains a key element of the preparations for Universal Credit. The emphasis of our reparations is on raising awareness of the need to claim online, supporting residents to become more proficient at online activity, providing facilities to get online and developing support arrangements for those that will struggle to manage an online claim.

The Council's network of OSCs, Libraries and Children's Centres will be important in facilitating and supporting users to get online. There are also other public facing PCs that can be used and the network of public PCs is shown at appendix 3.

As part of the awareness-raising campaign, a special mobile unit operated by Libraries and Information Services and a mobile Union Learn unit will be used across the city to promote online activity, encourage users to get online and promote classes aimed at making people more confident in going online. This will be supported by a poster campaign and information targeted to tenants with the campaign tied in with the launch of an online application process for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support which could launch in the new year.

b) Developing a Local Support Services Framework

DWP recognises that local councils are essential partners in helping deliver Universal Credit and is looking for local delivery partnerships to be created between Jobcentre Plus District Managers and Local Authorities. These partnerships are intended to provide face to face support for vulnerable residents who may struggle with getting online, struggle with budgeting or need high levels of support to manage a Universal Credit account.

The DWP has now said that full details of the partnership arrangements, funding arrangements and required outcomes will not be provided until autumn 2014 – this will allow local councils to put in place a Local Support Services Framework for 2015/16. This statement, alongside a commitment from DWP to maintain Housing Benefit administration funding throughout 2014/2015, strongly supports the suggestion that Universal Credit will not be rolled out in a significant way during 2014. Nevertheless, work is underway to see how the council and Jobcentre Plus can work together to manage the impacts of the welfare changes.

c) Dealing with direct payments to tenants

Tenants getting Universal Credit will normally also receive the housing benefit element as part of their Universal Credit payment and will be expected to make arrangements to ensure their rent is paid regularly. It is expected that tenants with significant levels of rent arrears will continue to have the housing element paid directly to their landlords – early analysis shows that 1049 ALMO tenants have arrears of 8 weeks or more (in value) and would be expected to have their housing element paid to their landlord.

Leeds has developed a proposition which makes local councils responsible for decision-making around direct payments as part of the planned migration of HB cases to Universal Credit. Under the proposition, the council would check that the tenant is able to manage direct payments. This check would include a check on rent arrears, ownership of an active bank account, awareness of the need to set up payment arrangements and monitoring of initial compliance with the requirement. The proposition, which is at appendix 4, has been issued to DWP and a response is awaited.

High cost lenders campaign

- 3.24 In June 2013, Executive Board approved a campaign to tackle high cost lenders in the city. The key elements of the campaign are:

- Coordinate activity across public, private and the third Sector to deal with high cost lending
- City Wide High Profile campaign
- Local Neighbourhood promotion and education Campaign
- Build Capacity for alternative affordable credit
- Reduce dependency on and use of HCLs
- Provide direct support for those caught up in HCL

3.25 Appendix 5 provides an update on the campaign and welcomes contributions from the Area Committee on locality-based events that would support the campaign.

3.26 A number of city wide initiatives have been providing support to citizens for many years involving a broad network of partner organisations. Some key services include.

Leeds City Credit Union

3.27 A key partner in the battle to tackle high cost lenders is Leeds City Credit Union (LCCU). LCCU is working closely with the Council and other partners to develop support for residents who do not have access to affordable banking services. As part of the Local Welfare Support Scheme adopted by the Council, the Executive Board approved a recommendation that an element of the scheme funding should be used to support, among other things, promotion and development of Leeds City Credit Union services and increased provision of advice and support.

Headrow Money Line

3.28 The Community Development Finance Institution (CDFI) operating as Headrow Money Line, is a sister organisation to LCCU and started lending in November 2012. In the initial months of trading, Headrow Money Line (HML) is taking a deliberately cautious approach to lending in order to embed systems and to protect against risk. HML is providing affordable credit to many of the residents who have been turned down currently for credit union loans. In so doing it will enable these residents to have access to the broader network of support either provided directly through HML or through partner agencies.

3.29 HML offers a source of credit which is significantly lower in cost and therefore much more affordable than payday loan companies, doorstep and similar lenders. CDFI's operating around the country charge interest in the region of 40% to 70%. HML is currently operating at the higher end of this range in order to ensure security of the business and give time to assess the impact of bad debt provision. Although this seems high, it is significantly lower than the typical rate charged by doorstep lenders (300% and above) or of some "payday" lenders (up to 4000% plus).

Leeds Advice Partners

- 3.30 A partnership of advice agencies provide debt and welfare rights advice, along with the Councils own Welfare Rights Unit. This service is becoming increasingly important given the many changes to the benefits system highlighted in this report. The City Council is currently undertaking a review of advice provision with the intension of ensuring a more comprehensive coverage of support in all the areas of the city where there is a need and delivering advice in a more integrated way. The new service is planned to be introduced during 2014.

4 *ENE Welfare Reform Project Team/Locality Actions*

- 4.1 In November 2011 the East North East Area Leadership Team requested that a task and finish project team be established to work in the locality developing and delivering actions to support residents and mitigate the impact of the welfare changes. A project team was established and have been meeting and delivering actions since that time.
- 4.2 The project team has representatives from various departments within the council as well as external partners and the voluntary sector. An action plan (linked to the city wide action plan) has been developed and this forms the focus for action.
- 4.3 During the run up to the implementation of under occupancy in April 2013 the focus of the work of the project team was to ensure that as many front line staff were briefed on the changes as possible within the area. The aim of this was to enable them to work effectively with clients to ensure that they were prepared for the changes and aware of what the impact would be. A total of 173 staff were trained, and an additional 20 staff at Leeds City College attended the briefing sessions.
- 4.4 Since the implementation of the welfare changes there has been a significant increase in the number of clients visiting advice services including the CAB seeking support. This has ranged from advice on sanctions and discretionary housing payments, to debt and arrears advice.

East North East Homes Leeds (ENEHL)

- 4.5 Between October 2012 and March 2013 ENEHL undertook visits to all of their tenants affected by the under occupancy changes. Of the 2644 cases affected by under occupation 96% of these had a successful contact. The same exercise was completed by Housing Associations in the area (Unity, Connect and Leeds Federated). The visits highlighted how the changes would affect the customer and the likely shortfall in rent that tenants would face.
- 4.6 The following options were discussed in detail with the customer:
- Ensuring all eligible benefits are being claimed;
 - Ascertaining income details and prioritising expenditure;
 - Identifying eligibility for DHP and supporting referral;
 - Supporting tenants to register a housing application;
 - Promoting mutual exchange;
 - Supporting tenants to set up a bank account or direct debit;
 - Budgeting and debt advice; and

- Referring vulnerable tenants for specialist support through the Independent Living Teams, Adult Social Care or Children's Services.
- 4.7 Appendix 7 shows the up to date position at the end of July 2013 regarding the outcomes of the under occupation visits by ward.
- 4.8 In addition to the above ENEHL have held a number of mutual exchange swap shops and this has led to an increase in the number of mutual exchanges taking place within the area. The total number of mutual exchanges involving tenants under occupying their homes to move to smaller properties is 50. This includes those who undertook a mutual exchange from July last year in advance of the charge as a result of support/advice visits undertaken.
- 4.9 Work is continuing with the Illegal Money Lending Team to look at tackling loan sharks and scams. Staff briefings have been undertaken on loan sharks and scams, particularly focusing on the elderly and vulnerable. Operation Champions are taking place throughout all ENEHL area offices to highlight the risks of borrowing from loan sharks and promoting more affordable credit through Leeds Credit Union.
- 4.10 ENEHL continue to work closely with Leeds City Credit Union and are funding another money advice and budgeting service position up until the end of this financial year. This will provide additional budgeting to customers in financial difficulty and promote ethical and affordable lending.
- 4.11 Staff roles have been realigned to ensure that dedicated staff are available to support customers affected by under occupation.
- 4.12 The Benefit Cap comes into effect in Leeds 12th August 2013. During July all customers affected by the Benefit Cap have been contacted by the Debt and Benefit Advisors to check benefit entitlement and offer advice and assistance in dealing with the effects of the benefit cap.
- 4.13 Work has commenced in relation to the introduction of Universal Credit. Lead Officers are attending seminars and researching best practice and working with other ALMO's and Local Authorities. The Annual Tenancy Visit is to be revised to begin to capture the additional data needed in preparation of Universal Credit.
- 4.14 The arrears process has been revised to ensure that more support is given to customers who are struggling to pay their rent. This is ensuring that rent collection is being maximised but customers are not facing losing their home if another alternative solution can be agreed. This can be evidenced by looking at the number of letters sent in April compared to how many Notices of Intent to Seek Possession (NISP) have been served. For example at week 2, 175 automatic stage one letters were issued. This increased to 735 at week 3, when the under occupation arrears cases were introduced.
- 4.15 The number of cases progressing to letter two stage at week 5 reduced significantly to 297. At week 13, week commencing 25th June only 81 of these cases had a NISP served. Appendix 8 shows the arrears rate by ward for ENEHL.

- 4.16 It can be clearly seen that the number of cases progressing through the arrears process is reducing and the majority of customers are being supported in making payments or pursuing other options such as downsizing, either via CBL or mutual exchange.

Commissioned Project

- 4.17 Funding was secured through the former PCT and the Inner East and Inner North East Area Committees to delivered targeted work with residents impacted by the changes. Feel Good Factor (FGF) won the contract to deliver this work and have now commenced the work that they were commissioned to deliver regarding supporting vulnerable members of the community.
- 4.18 Door knocking commenced in May 2013 and the community health educators have been going out every fortnight since. The feedback that they have received is that people are positive about the door knocking but in denial about the eviction process. People are interested in the Budget and Debt Advice Courses. FGF will continue this approach over the summer.
- 4.19 The Money Matters course is running in Chapeltown. It is a four weeks course; the take up has been low. They are also running the course through Brackenedge Primary School and the Harehills Bangladeshi Centre. The Credit Union and Green doctor have been involved in the course and this is proving effective and popular with the clients who said that it is a friendly service. The Migrant Community Advisor is on board with FGF to pass on information and help reach the vulnerable groups in the area.

Digital Inclusion

- 4.20 Further work to refresh information on digital access across the area is being completed with a questionnaire having been sent to all groups and contacts across ENE Leeds, this is part of a programme being completed across the City.
- 4.21 Once information is collated, work will be undertaken to look at how promotion can be delivered in the best way, focussing on digital access rather than welfare reform so that areas such as the Outer villages embrace digital access.
- 4.22 Details of events and meetings which can be used to promote digital access are being considered. A range of options for activities to get people online will be offered, tailored to different areas; these will include the use of mobile provision, mentoring and volunteering as well as utilising IT provision already available.
- 4.23 This will link with the on-going work as part of the Get IT together project which is focussing on the inner areas.
- 4.24 ENEHL have also been running digital inclusion and qualification sessions with 47 people attending since June 2013, to date 25 people have achieved City & Guilds Start IT Entry Level 3 Award in online basics. In 2012/13 a total of 93 people completed a digital inclusion course with 57% of those achieving accreditation.

Debt Prevention and High Interest Lenders

- 4.25 PC's, PCSO'S and NPT's are to be trained in dealing with loan sharks by Trading Standards; this will include what is defined as harassment.
- 4.26 A meeting has taken place with a representative of the illegal money lending team, Community safety and West Yorkshire Police. The Leeds ALMOs are planning further campaigns this year. Further meetings are planned to look at the outcomes of the work to target illegal loan sharks and approaches to high interest and other doorstep lenders aiming to prevent debt wherever possible.
- 4.27 A DVD has been produced highlighting the issues of loan sharks and this is to be shown in GP's surgeries. The DVD is also being looked at to roll out into Schools and Children Centres.
- 4.28 It has been identified by the project team that there are already many different support events/activities being delivered across ENE that could be linked together to provide an incentives support package for residents to engage with. Referrals to the package could be made from various agencies. This is now being developed as a project feeding in to the Welfare Reform Project Team.

Employability

- 4.29 ENEHL have been delivering job seeking skills programmes, during 2012/13 there have been 4 courses run with 33 tenants completing the programme. 100% of those achieved a level 1 BTEC in Work Skills. Following the programme 47% of participants gained employment with 7 being taken on as ENEHL apprentices. Since March 2013 a further 2 programmes have taken place and a further programme planned to commence in October 2013.
- 4.30 Colleagues from Children's Services, Employment & Skills, Leeds City College, Leeds College of Building, igen, Business in the Community, Economic Development and the Area Support Team have been working together on a pilot to consider how the NEETs and worklessness agendas could be tackled more effectively within the Networks cluster area.
- 4.31 The group agreed that there were opportunities for improvement in terms of partnership working and outcomes for local communities. Several factors informed the decision to focus on the Networks cluster area, for some time limited, intensive work. The area is identified as a priority neighbourhood by the Area Committee and partners; there is a commitment from the Targeted Services Leader to ensure the employability agenda is combined with the Families First programme; the area has a high school and there are therefore opportunities for transition work. Although the area has significant challenges, it was felt that it would be a manageable area to work on initially, with lessons learnt being used to inform future work in priority areas. It has been agreed that the focus will be on the wider employability agenda as the NEETs issues is not as prevalent within the Networks cluster area – 5.7%, compared with a city-wide figure of 6.7%..
- 4.32 Partners have submitted data for the area which has been collated by the Area Support Team. This includes families being supported through the Families First programme, JSA statistics, NEETs and 'not known' figures, businesses in the area and any plans they have for expansion or contraction as well as information

on Employment and Skills and Leeds City College provision and commissioned activity and how this is being accessed by local residents within the cluster area. It was also suggested that a number of case studies would be useful to identify where people are not accessing appropriate provision or where provision is not operating seamlessly. These are currently being identified.

- 4.33 The pilot group has agreed that now the data has been collated to provide an overview and the issues above identified, it is now vital to gain an understanding of the views of residents within the area, including those who access and those who are not accessing services to support them into work or training. A simple questionnaire has been drafted and frontline staff such as family support workers, housing officers, children's centre workers, other RSL front line staff, pastoral support staff within schools, Job Centre Plus and Employment and Skills outreach workers will be asked to complete 10 questionnaires with local residents they are in contact with. This will hopefully result in a total return of up to 300.
- 4.34 The group will reconvene in the autumn along with some of the front line workers who have been engaged in the questionnaires. In the meantime, a draft action plan is being drawn up to summarise suggested issues and actions to date. The next meeting will be used to develop the action plan and identify specific interventions that could be implemented to improve outcomes for local residents within the Networks Cluster area.

Further work:

- 4.35 The project team will be linking in with the Leeds Foodbank project to see how we can support and assist in developing the project in our area.
- 4.36 A member of the project team is now attending the Financial Inclusion Steering Group and East Leeds Debt Forum to ensure that projects and issues are communicated back to the team and benefits of initiatives maximised in the locality.
- 4.37 Unity HA are converting houses in the Sholebrook and Stratford Court areas of Chapeltown into one bedroom accommodation to support single people affected by under occupancy.

5 Corporate Considerations

5.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 5.1.1 The report provides information on progress in implementing the welfare changes and the impacts of the changes and is not a report which requires public consultation.

5.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 5.2.1 The Government's welfare changes have implications for equality and diversity and have been subject to equality impact assessments. Similarly, the

development of Discretionary Housing Payments and Local Welfare Support schemes have also been subject to equality impact assessments.

5.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 5.3.1 The on-going development of responses to the welfare changes and preparations for changes still to come is aimed at supporting City Priorities around health and wellbeing and poverty. Cross-sector working, particularly with the advice sector and 3rd sector organisations such as the Credit Union, is aimed at ensuring tenants and residents receive support to manage the changes.

5.4 Resources and value for money

- 5.4.1 The report is for information only and does not have any resource implications directly. The on-going development of initiatives to tackle high cost lenders and put in place support for vulnerable tenants has resource implications. These are expected to be met from funding streams for local welfare scheme and local support services framework, once announced.

5.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 5.5.1 There are no legal implications relating to this report.

5.6 Risk Management

- 5.6.1 The programme of welfare changes increases the risk of rent arrears and Council Tax arrears. Changes to the recovery process along with the application of the Discretionary Housing Payment scheme are aimed at mitigating the risks.

6 Conclusions

- 6.1 Many tenants are struggling to cope with the welfare changes that came into effect from April 2013 and this has seen increases in rent arrears and Council Tax arrears. On-going preparations for Universal Credit recognise the impact of the changes to date and focus on tackling high cost lending, increasing financial inclusion and supporting tenants to get online to manage benefit claims.
- 6.2 Potential reductions to Discretionary Housing Payments funding in 14/15 mean that further work is required to move tenants away from dependency on DHPs and into more sustainable and affordable renting solutions.

7 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- 7.1 Note the information about the impact of the welfare reforms;
- 7.2 Note the information about the campaign against high cost lenders and contribute to options for locality-based events and initiatives to support the campaign;
- 7.3 Note the work on going in east north east to mitigate the impact of the changes;

7.4 Members are requested to consider the impact on the local area and how further work may be undertaken in Inner North East area to mitigate the impact.

8 Background documents²

8.1 N/a

App 1_ monthly update

App 2_ LWS advice updates

App 3_ ward breakdown Benefit Cap

App 4_ Local public PCs

App 5_ Direct payment proposition

App 6_ High cost lending update

App 7_ ENEHL Visit Outcomes

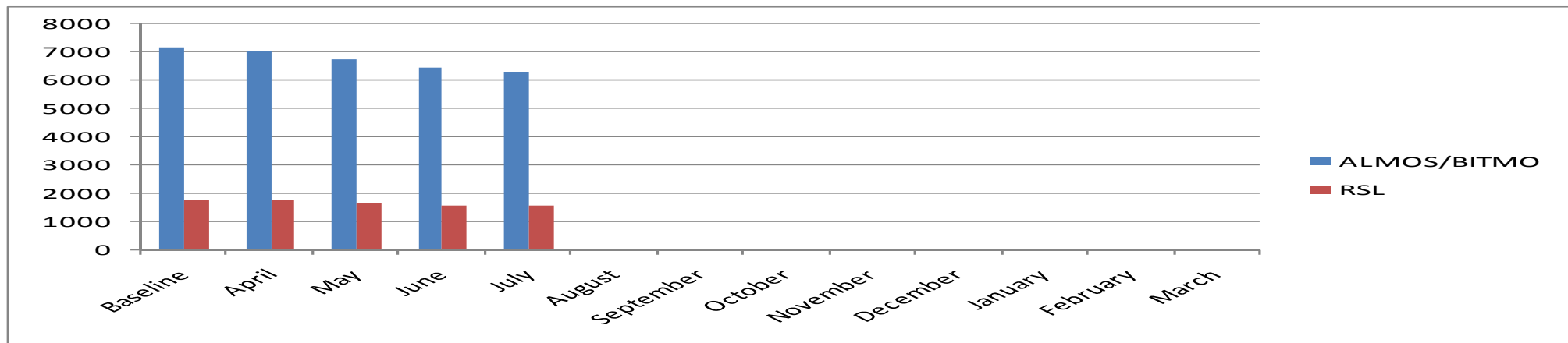
App 8_ Arrears Rates by Ward

² The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

Under occupancy statistics

The number of tenancies affected by under-occupancy during July were:

- ALMOs : 6,296



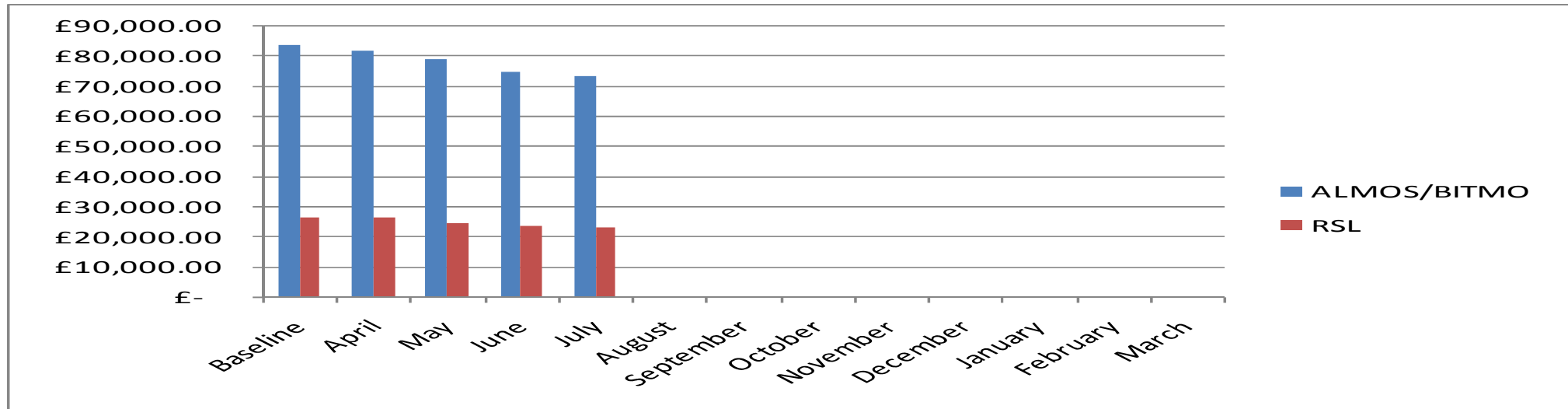
- HAs : 1,538

2013/14	Baseline	April	May	June	July	August	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	January	February	March
WNW	2473	2411	2348	2276	2227								
AVH	1633	1605	1539	1469	1449								
BIT	241	235	227	225	221								
ENE	2777	2733	2614	2465	2399								
Not Known	49	53	0	0	0								
ALMO TOTAL	7173	7037	6728	6435	6296								
HAs	1766	1743	1629	1567	1538								
City Total	8939	8780	8357	8002	7834								

Under-occupancy statistics

The weekly loss of Housing Benefit is:

- £ ALMOs £72,922.01
- £ HAs £ 22,841.63



WEEKLY LOSS IN HB FOR CLAIMS AFFECTED BY UNDER OCCUPATION - BY ALMO & RSL

	Baseline	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
AVH	£ 18,832.92	£ 18,648.48	£ 18,098.36	£ 17,276.29	£ 16,998.67								
BIT	£ 2,893.22	£ 2,830.73	£ 2,736.83	£ 2,687.28	£ 2,652.50								
ENE	£ 32,336.11	£ 31,812.13	£ 30,615.62	£ 28,524.64	£ 27,634.07								
WNN	£ 28,715.03	£ 27,889.65	£ 27,177.72	£ 26,202.42	£ 25,636.77								
Not Known	£ 562.19	£ 600.76	£ -	£ -	£ -								
ALMO TOTAL	£ 83,339.47	£ 81,781.75	£ 78,628.53	£ 74,690.63	£ 72,922.01								
HA/RSL	£ 26,173.89	£ 26,068.00	£ 24,430.95	£ 23,398.87	£ 22,841.63								
CITY TOTAL	£ 109,513.36	£ 107,849.75	£ 103,059.48	£ 98,089.50	£ 95,763.64								

NUMBER OF CLAIMS WITH CHILDREN AFFECTED BY UNDER OCCUPATION

2013/14	Baseline	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
ALMOS/BITMO	-	1735	1651	1571	1517								
RSL	-	612	580	558	547								
CITY TOTAL	-	2347	2231	2129	2064								

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY UNDER OCCUPATION

2013/14	Baseline	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
ALMOS/BITMO	-	2819	2668	2529	2419								
RSL	-	1114	1035	1009	987								
CITY TOTAL	-	3933	3703	3538	3406								

NUMBER OF UNDER OCCUPIED CLAIMS WITH RENT ARREARS BY ALMO

2013/14	Baseline	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
AVH	450	1067	998	954	882								
BITMO	60	144	149	146	139								
ENE	663	1801	1668	1565	1406								
WNN	746	1600	1555	1484	1394								
Not Known	15	40	0	0	0								
TOTAL	1934	4652	4370	4149	3821								

Ward breakdown

	ALMO NUMBER	ALMO £	RSL NUMBER	RSL £		ALMO NUMBER	ALMO £	RSL NUMBER	RSL £
Adel and Wharfedale	33	£ 432.15	15	£ 169.95	Horsforth	105	£ 1,227.11	7	£ 170.60
Alwoodley	125	£ 1,387.52	35	£ 592.83	Hyde Park and Woodhouse	287	£ 3,148.81	133	£ 2,109.14
Ardsley and Robin Hood	61	£ 741.17	34	£ 452.59	Killingbeck and Seacroft	590	£ 7,102.39	67	£ 886.27
Armley	403	£ 4,306.47	99	£ 1,501.42	Kippax and Methley	84	£ 1,179.38	16	£ 242.46
Beeston and Holbeck	304	£ 3,297.04	37	£ 497.42	Kirkstall	337	£ 4,071.92	24	£ 333.74
Bramley and Stanningley	309	£ 3,732.27	30	£ 421.91	Middleton Park	483	£ 5,671.49	91	£ 1,269.29
Burmantofts and Richmond Hill	614	£ 6,420.96	115	£ 1,692.63	Moortown	43	£ 489.73	82	£ 1,317.19
Calverley and Farsley	59	£ 744.92	7	£ 132.97	Morley North	75	£ 842.70	18	£ 262.12
Chapel Allerton	277	£ 3,265.02	153	£ 2,448.51	Morley South	134	£ 1,471.47	19	£ 296.48
City and Hunslet	187	£ 2,170.55	120	£ 1,863.72	Otley and Yeadon	84	£ 937.13	19	£ 279.50
Cross Gates and Whinmoor	135	£ 1,626.24	30	£ 432.70	Pudsey	127	£ 1,551.41	25	£ 389.51
Farnley and Wortley	281	£ 3,188.82	16	£ 143.63	Rothwell	141	£ 1,810.84	46	£ 639.69
Garforth and Swillington	62	£ 754.88	3	£ 46.98	Roundhay	66	£ 712.51	42	£ 693.42
Gipton and Harehills	357	£ 4,081.02	149	£ 1,968.40	Temple Newsam	259	£ 3,262.03	46	£ 706.34
Guiselley and Rawdon	47	£ 558.56	8	£ 108.85	Weetwood	138	£ 1,569.59	16	£ 245.39
Harewood	25	£ 350.16	0	£ -	Wetherby	50	£ 623.43	9	£ 132.49
Headingley	14	£ 192.32	27	£ 393.49					

Discretionary Housing Payments as at 31.07.13

Priority Group	Total requests	Awards	% of awards	No award	% where no award	Ave Weekly award	Total cost of awards made
Sig adapted	498	309	62%	189	38%	£ 13.64	£ 195,538.24
Child access	322	246	76%	76	24%	£ 11.80	£ 137,773.77
Approach PC age	60	54	90%	6	10%	£ 15.77	£ 26,353.42
Housing & birth	21	19	90%	2	10%	£ 11.02	£ 2,121.07
Exceptional circs	547	341	62%	206	38%	£ 13.78	£ 188,305.04
Foster Carers	23	23	100%	0	0%	£ 15.48	£ 17,011.53
Not in priority group	550	10	2%	540	98%	£ 19.68	£ 5,077.27
Number of UO cases	2021	1002		1019		£ 15.45	£ 572,180.34
LHA cases affected by welfare changes	338	240		98		£ 30.61	£ 164,021.71
Benefit cap cases	None	None		None		None	None
Cases not in above categories	590	235		355		£ 26.41	£ 128,222.47
Total of DHP claims	2949	1477		1472			£ 864,424.52
Total spend to date	£ 402,912.94						
DHP Budget	£ 1,924,162.00						

Local Welfare Scheme statistics as at 31.07.13

Calls offered

Date	Offered	Abandoned	To CSO's	Eligible Applications	Awards
Apr-13	1896	768	1128	366	283
May-13	1866	711	1155	454	395
Jun-13	1737	600	1137	428	377
Jul-13	2151	803	1348	526	462
Total	7650	2882	4768	1774	1517

Decisions	
Outcome	Totals
Awarded	1517
Not awarded	257
Total	1774

Value of awards			Breakdown Of Goods	
Item	Value	Number	Goods	Total
Store Cards	£ 7,010.00	232	Dryer	8
ASDA baskets	£ 38,456.10	659	Cooker	393
Fuel (cash)	£ 10,602.30	527	Fridge	322
White / Brown Goods	£ 234,009.81	608	Bed	235
Flooring	£ 67,183.19	193	Bedding	32
Travel	£ 1,138.00	4	Curtains	11
Removal	£ 2,773.09	10	Washer	91
Total	£ 361,172.49	2233	Sofa	34
			Microwave	14

Breakdown Of Non Awards

Reason	Total
Referred to DWP	34
Single – not met emergency criteria	126
No response to our phone calls	50
Previous Claims	2
Living with family – not met emergency criteria	21
Cancelled / withdrawn by customer	24
Total	257

Local Council Tax Support

NUMBER OF CLAIMS AFFECTED BY 19% LCTS scheme

2013/14	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
ALL CLAIMS	34042	33535	32995									

Weekly Value Of Loss Of Benefit For Claims Affected By 19% LCTS scheme

2013/14	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
ALL CLAIMS	£ 85,364.44	£83,811.83	£82,003.06									

The average weekly reduction in May is equivalent to an additional **£4,264,159** per annum that needs to be paid by customers on Council Tax Support.

Council Tax Group		Comments
Elderly	30186	National prescribed scheme: no change to entitlement
War Pensioners	33	Protected: no change to entitlement
Severe Disability	2371	Protected: no change to entitlement
Enhanced Disability	5004	Protected: no change to entitlement
Carer	1524	Protected: no change to entitlement
Lone Parent Child Under 5	6600	Protected: no change to entitlement
Other	32512	No protection: entitlement reduced by 19%
Total	78230	

Local Council Tax Support: breakdown by ward of numbers with additional 19% to pay

WARD	Number Of Claims	WARD	Number Of Claims
Adel and Wharfedale		Horsforth	
Alwoodley		Hyde Park and Woodhouse	
Ardsley and Robin Hood		Killingbeck and Seacroft	
Armley		Kippax and Methley	
Beeston and Holbeck		Kirkstall	
Bramley and Stanningley		Middleton Park	
Burmantofts and Richmond Hill		Moortown	
Calverley and Farsley		Morley North	
Chapel Allerton		Morley South	
City and Hunslet		Otley and Yeadon	
Cross Gates and Whinmoor		Pudsey	
Farnley and Wortley		Rothwell	
Garforth and Swillington		Roundhay	
Gipton and Harehills		Temple Newsam	
Guiseley and Rawdon		Weetwood	
Harewood		Wetherby	
Headingley			

Affect Of Council Tax Support On Council Tax Collection Rate

Council Tax Liability Of Claims Previously In Receipt Of 100% Council Tax Benefit

2013/14	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
	£ 4,056,000.00	£ 4,039,000.00	£ 3,998,000.00	£ 3,971,000.00								

Number Of Reminders Issued To Customers Affected By The 19% Reduction In Benefit

Comparison Of Overall Council Tax Collection Rate (Both CTS and Non CTS Cases)	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
Council Tax Liability Of All CTS Claims Affected By The 19% Reduction In Benefit	£ 3,202,500.00	£ 3,202,500.00	£ 3,202,500.00	£ 3,202,500.00								
2013/14 2013/14 to 2012/13	-0.15%	-0.44%	-0.34%	-0.46%								
	£ 7,399,000.00	£ 7,431,000.00	£ 7,441,000.00	£ 7,447,000.00								

Council Tax Collection Rate For CTS and Non CTS Claims

Collection Rate	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
Overall	10.1%	19.3%	28.20%	37.19%								
CTS Claims (Prev On 100% Benefit)	6.9%	12.4%	17.6%	22.6%								
All CTS Claims	7.9%	14.2%	20.0%	25.6%								

Appendix 2 – Ward breakdown of Benefit Cap cases

WARD NAME	Number Of Claims	Total Weekly Loss	Average Weekly Loss
Adel and Wharfedale	2	£169.26	£84.63
Alwoodley	2	£194.26	£97.13
Ardsley and Robin Hood	5	£345.74	£69.15
Armley	21	£1,630.47	£77.64
Beeston and Holbeck	25	£1,660.83	£66.43
Bramley and Stanningley	24	£1,707.81	£71.16
Burmantofts and Richmond Hill	35	£2,166.03	£61.89
Calverley and Farsley	6	£417.93	£69.66
Chapel Allerton	26	£1,547.52	£59.52
City and Hunslet	34	£2,252.90	£66.26
Cross Gates and Whinmoor	8	£513.29	£64.16
Farnley and Wortley	13	£1,067.52	£82.12
Garforth and Swillington	2	£52.43	£26.22
Gipton and Harehills	53	£3,522.65	£66.47
Guiseley and Rawdon	1	£59.80	£59.80
Harewood	5	£424.07	£84.81
Headingley	3	£233.18	£77.73
Horsforth	4	£98.98	£24.75
Hyde Park and Woodhouse	16	£1,095.59	£68.47
Killingbeck and Seacroft	27	£1,483.36	£54.94
Kippax and Methley	3	£92.18	£30.73
Kirkstall	17	£963.45	£56.67
Middleton Park	34	£1,929.13	£56.74
Moortown	4	£212.22	£53.06
Morley North	7	£265.66	£37.95
Morley South	3	£235.38	£78.46
Otley and Yeadon	4	£138.10	£34.53
Pudsey	2	£136.29	£68.15
Rothwell	5	£257.23	£51.45
Roundhay	8	£424.26	£53.03
Temple Newsam	16	£1,272.73	£79.55
Weetwood	7	£541.06	£77.29
Wetherby	2	£165.17	£82.59
Grand Total	424	£27,276.48	£64.33

Appendix 3 – Public PCs

Type of Org	Name of Org	Address	Wedge	Ward	Cost/Limitations	Host Service	Ad Hoc / Drop-in	Number of PC,s	Public use
Community	LATCH (Leeds Action to Create Homes)	176 Chapeltown Rd Leeds, West Yorkshire LS7 4HP	ENE	Chapel Allerton	For Latch Tenants, Volunteers and ex tenants - Free Drop in		Yes	1	
Community	Northcall Community Centre	53-55 Cranmer Bank, LS17 5JD	ENE	Moortown	Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9-2 drop in IT - (50p charge) + a class on a Tues 10-12		Yes	6	Yes
Community	RETAS - Refugee Education & Training Advisory Service Leeds	233-237 Roundhay Road, Harehills, Leeds LS8 4HS	ENE	Harehills	Free - Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrant groups only classes and drop-in facilities		Yes	9	Yes
Community	Shantona Women's' Centre	Care of Bangladeshi community Centre, Roundhay Road, LS8 5AN	ENE	Harehills	Free Women only classes for all ages		No	8	Yes
Community Venue	Archway Resource Centre	95 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS8 5AQ	Inner North East	Chapel Allerton	Membership Req'd - free drop in access	3rd Sector	No	5 PC's	
Community Venue	Stainbeck Church	Stainbeck Church, Stainbeck Road, Leeds, LS7 2PP	Inner North East	Moortown	Free, drop in community café	Partner	No	5 Laptops	

ENE ALMO	ENE ALMO	Button Hill, LS7 3DA	Inner North East	Chapel Allerton	Free, drop in. For ENE Tenants only	ENE ALMO	No	1 PC	
Housing Ass	Leeds Jewish Housing Association	The Marjorie and Arnold Ziff Community Centre, Leeds LS17 6AZ	Inner North East	Moortown	Availability is at set times only	Partner	No		
Housing Ass	Unity Housing Association	113-117 Chaptletown Road, Chapeltown, Leeds, LS7 3HY	Inner North East	Chapel Allerton		Partner	No		
Library	Chapel Allerton Library	Chapel Allerton Library, 106 Harrogate Road, Leeds, LS7 4LZ	Inner North East	Chapel Allerton	Free but pre-booking is recommended	Libraries	Yes	6 PC's	
Library	Chapelton Library	The Reginald Centre, 263 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, LS7 3EX	Inner North East	Chapel Allerton	Free but pre-booking is recommended	Libraries	Yes	8 PC's	
Library	Oakwood Library	Oakwood Library, 1 Oakwood Lane, Leeds, LS8 2PZ	Inner North East	Roundhay	Free but pre-booking is recommended	Libraries	Yes	8 PC's	
Mobile Library	Arlington Road	Arlington Road, LS8 2RU	Inner North East	Roundhay	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Bentley Lane	Bentley Lane, LS6 4AJ	Inner North East	Moortown	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Brackenwood	Borough Avenue, LS8 1LR	Inner North East	Roundhay	Free, Community, Weekly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	

Mobile Library	Bus Terminus	Green Road, LS6 4JP	Inner North East	Moortown	Free, Community, Weekly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Davies Avenue	Davies Avenue, LS8 1LR	Inner North East	Roundhay	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	East Moor Road	East Moor Road, LS8 1AE	Inner North East	Roundhay	Free, Community, Weekly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Elmete Mount	Elmete Mount, LS8 2NU	Inner North East	Roundhay	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Forest Hill	11 Park Crescent, LS8 1DH	Inner North East	Roundhay	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Homegarth House	5 Wetherby Road, LS8 2JU	Inner North East	Roundhay	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Maple Croft	Shadwell Lane, LS17 6AN	Inner North East	Moortown	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Marks and Spencers car Park	371 Harrogate Road, LS17 6DW	Inner North East	Moortown	Free, Community, Weekly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Moorfield House	Stonegate Road, LS17 6HW	Inner North East	Moortown	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Nicholson Court	25 Fitzroy Drive, LS8 4AP	Inner North East	Roundhay	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
Mobile Library	Northbrook Croft	Hill View Mount, LS7 4QZ	Inner North East	Chapel Allerton	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	

Mobile Library	Towers Square	Towers Square, LS6 4NP	Inner North East	Moortown	Free, Older People, Fortnightly	Libraries	Yes	2 PC's	
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Proposition for a greater role for Local Authorities and Social Landlords in the delivery of Direct Payments.

Introduction

In order to successfully deliver Universal Credit, Local Authorities and DWP need to work closely together.

A key feature of Universal Credit is the intention to include the rent element in the monthly payments to Universal Credit customers. The rationale for this is about preparing people for the world of work where they would be required to take responsibility for paying all their housing costs. The potential benefits of the approach need to be balanced against the risks arising from direct payments: increased collection costs, increased rent arrears, homelessness, debt and impact on investment and self-financing regimes. The risks almost exclusively fall on social landlords, private landlords and local councils.

The operation of the direct payment and payment exceptions scheme is critical both to the success of the Universal Credit scheme itself and in ensuring customers make a successful transition to a new regime. The current proposals for the administration of direct payments and payment exceptions centre around an assumption in favour of direct payments at the start of the claim with payment exceptions being considered where information is

- a) presented to Universal Credit administrators for consideration; or
- b) identified through the Local Delivery Partnerships while supporting vulnerable customers.

These arrangements seem more suited to a 'steady state' Universal Credit operation but are less suitable for the implementation and migration phase of Universal Credit.

This paper sets out propositions for delivering direct payments that would:

- a) reduce the financial risk to landlords and councils;
- b) provide support to DWP in delivering Universal Credit; and
- c) deliver an effective direct payments process that helps prepare tenants for the world of work

The propositions build on the experience and expertise that councils have developed around operating direct payment schemes.

Roll out of Universal Credit

There are likely to be distinctive phases for the roll out of Universal Credit based around:

- new claims;
- natural migration;
- managed migration;
- steady state.

New claims/steady state claims

In both the new claims and steady state phases, customers moving onto Universal Credit will in the main be people moving from employment to unemployment, people experiencing a change of circumstance that brings them within the scope of Universal Credit or people moving from a household where Universal Credit was already in payment. They would normally have been making rent payments themselves or, if vulnerable, would be supported onto Universal Credit as part of the Local Delivery Partnership. A supported arrangement would allow for a payment exception to be identified.

These cases still represent a risk but an assumption in favour of direct payment could be argued. The challenge that 'steady state' presents is around those who fail to cope with monthly direct payments and the need to deal with this.

Proposition 1: In these cases, local councils would be responsible for making a decision around payment exceptions and dealing with expectations about a return to direct payments.

The advantages of this are:

- effective liaison arrangements already exist between landlords and local councils to allow for confirmation of the arrears position and its impact;
- tenants are more likely to present to local councils in the first place if threatened with eviction proceedings or when faced with homelessness;
- the decision on payment exceptions would be taken based on its effectiveness in preventing homelessness and in the context of overall costs to the public purse;
- debt and money advice and budgeting support would all be delivered locally including promotion of Credit Unions;
- the activity would fit with local councils' responsibilities to provide other financial support such as emergency payments and discretionary payments

Natural/managed migration

The process of natural and managed migration presents significantly different challenges.

Firstly, large numbers of tenants will migrate to Universal Credit probably local authority area by local authority area. They will move from a position of having their rent paid directly to their landlord with other benefits payments coming through on a mixture of fortnightly, 4-weekly or monthly payments to a position of having a single benefit payment paid monthly in arrears. The payment will include the rent. The changeover will not be gradual. The date of the first payment of Universal Credit is unlikely to reflect the pattern of previous payments. Tenants and landlords will see rental payments interrupted and will need to distinguish between structural arrears and other arrears.

Secondly, some tenants will not be prepared for or able to cope with direct payments at this time and some may fall to be payment exceptions because they have significant rent arrears or special arrangements are in place because of current possession orders or because some tenants are deemed to be high risk

Proposition 2: that local councils and/or social landlords would be responsible for assessing the suitability for a tenant to move to direct payment as part of the managed migration process.

Under this proposition, tenants would not be moved onto direct payments until the suitability test had been applied and would only move onto direct payments where the suitability test was met. The suitability test would cover issues such as whether the tenant had a bank account, debt issues, rent arrears or other factors that meant the tenant needed more support before taking full responsibility for direct payments.

Different approaches could be applied to tenants depending on whether they were getting full or partial benefit (and so were already making rent payments directly), the length of time a tenant had been on Housing Benefit (more recent claims would be likely to have a recent history of paying rent direct; long term claims may need more support)

Landlords/councils would be expected to put in steps to support customers to move to direct payments where this was appropriate

The advantages of this approach are:

- it would ensure that tenants were aware of their responsibilities on transfer to Universal Credit;
- it would result in a number of tenants moving onto direct payments straightaway;
- it would identify people unsuitable for direct payment right at the start of the process;
- it would reduce the costs and problems associated with a failure to effectively manage direct payments;
- it would deliver a more supportive approach to implementing Universal Credit;
- it recognises that a number of tenants are likely to visit their local council or landlord when they are notified they are migrating to Universal Credit.

The managed migration process, with its letter giving notice of migration, easily allows for this proposition to be built in.

The natural migration process will see tenants faced with the same sudden change as those in the managed migration caseload. The migration will occur when a relevant change of circumstance occurs and more difficult to plan for. Tenants moving under a natural migration will not be transitionally protected and could face reductions in benefit income caused by both the change in their circumstances and also if they are in a category where Universal Credit is less generous.

Proposition 3: the natural migration process will see Housing Benefit services given notice to end Housing Benefit cases in natural migration cases. As part of this process, councils should be given responsibility for assessing the suitability for tenants to move onto direct payments in line with proposition 2.

The advantages of this approach are largely the same as above. The added advantage is that tenants facing reductions in benefit income could be given added budgeting support.

There would be costs implications arising from these propositions for councils/social landlords and further work is required to quantify the costs. However, a more measured and supportive approach to establishing direct payments could see other costs reduce in the long-term and could lead to fewer failures by tenants to manage direct payments, fewer enquiries to DWP offices and a reduction in likely rent arrears.

Appendix 5 – High cost lenders action plan

Priority area	Actions	Involvement/Partners	Action Progress
Develop understanding of the scale of the issue in Leeds	1. Financial profiling at SOA level	FI Team, Regional Policy Team	Discussions with Salford University on feasibility of mapping Leeds research data against nationally available data.
	2. Mapping of provision of HCL through mapping of local financial services	Area Management	Baseline data set out in Executive Board Report, September 2012, to be supplemented by local knowledge.
	3. Utilise data analysed during the Advice Sector Review to map current resources and activity to tackle debt issues across Leeds	FI Team, Environment and Housing Commissioning Team	
Coordinate activity across public, private and 3 rd Sector to deal with HCL	4. Presentation to Financial Inclusion Steering Group on HCL campaign	FI Team	Presented to Steering Group on 3 July 2013
	5. Coordinate activity across ALMO's to ensure that best practice is delivered uniformly across city.	LCC Housing Management Service Area Management	ENE and AV both employ a dedicated CU staff member to work closely with tenants.
	6. Encourage all social housing providers to engage with best practice examples	LCC Housing Management Service Area Management	
	7. Area Management Locality working to coordinate partners at a community level	Area Management	
Develop Communication Plan in two parts. 1. City Wide High Profile campaign	8. Develop an overarching communication plan for producing a comprehensive promotion and marketing plan warning of the problems of HCL's and promoting alternatives ie. LCCU.	FI Team Corp. Comms.	Communications Plan developed and currently seeking marketing agency to deliver the plan via a tender exercise. Interviews to take place on 3 September.
	9. Engage major sports organisations in campaign against HCLs and promoting alternatives particularly LCCU;	FI Team	Met with Leeds Rugby, LUFC and YCCC. Leeds Rugby and YCCC keen to be involved. Further letter sent out to LUFC following their management changes.
	10. Engage with major public and private sector employers and the banking sector to support the campaign	FI Team LCCU Area Management	Discussions held with Chamber of Commerce. LCC Chief Exec article circulated in Chamber of Commerce bulletin.

2. Local Neighbourhood promotion and education Campaign	11. Engage with Leeds's Universities and NUS to support the campaign	FI Team	Met with University of Leeds, Student Advice. Letter to 2 Leeds universities seeking action on payday lending
	12. Engage with local media to seek their involvement in the campaign	FI Team Corp. Comms.	Contact made with YP reporter
	13. High profile public meeting/media event to launch campaign	FI Team	Conference to take place on 25 October
	14. Investigate the use of "void space" on advertising hoardings, both public and private sector	FI Team Corp. Comms.	Meetings have taken place with relevant officers and possibilities being explored
	15. Investigate prominent banner adverts on public buildings	FI Team Corp. Comms. Area Management	See 13
	16. Ban websites carrying adverts for HCLs;	FI Team Corp. Comms.	List of 190 payday lenders compiled and forwarded to LCC IT. Also sent to all other WY authorities and York who have agreed to block websites. Date agreed – 2 September. Internet redirect pages prepared and press release ready for issue.
	17. Discourage contractors promoting HCLs;	Corp. Procurement	
	18. Develop campaign website to support HCL campaign with advice and information about partner services	FI Team Corp. IT Services	Met with IT services and temporary web pages have now been set up until new campaign branding in place.
	19. Develop a social media campaign through Facebook, Twitter etc	FI Team Corp. Comms.	
	20. Develop promotional and educational material to support local campaigning activity against HCL and promoting LCCU	Corp. Comms. Area Management	
	21. Provide comparisons between HCLs and more affordable options;	FI Team LCCU	Case studies prepared with LCCU
	22. Provide guidance on dealing with money issues that avoid using HCLs;	Advice Agencies LCCU Area Management	
	23. Create programme of events to keep issue fresh, raise awareness of issues and to raise awareness of frontline role;	FI Team Area Management	

	24. Provide briefing and training to frontline staff;	All Directorates Public Health Area Management	
	25. Develop HCL toolkit for frontline staff;	Advice Leeds All Directorates Area Management	
	26. Link with illegal lending team campaigns where appropriate;	Illegal Money Lending Team Area Management	IMLT are members of the FI Steering Group and work regularly with partners across the city
	27. Investigate advertising on side of council vehicles	LCC Transport Corp. Comms. Area Management	
	28. Work with Secondary Schools to develop media for education on HCL's possibly utilising such as "Shontal" theatre group	Children's Services Area Management	
	29. Investigate possibility to produce video production of the "Shontal" play for use by community groups and schools	FI Team Corp. Comms.	
Build Capacity for alternative affordable credit	30. Develop a programme of initiatives to support the delivery of expanded credit facilities through LCCU and Headrow Money Line (CDFI)	FI Team Corp. Comms. Area Management	See 8 above. A package of support initiatives agreed and funding provided to LCCU to implement.
	31. Engage with the banking sector to seek their support for working closely with LCCU to enhance provision	FI Team LCCU	Meeting set up with some banking partners and LCCU preparing for a larger meeting in the Autumn
Reduce dependency on and use of HCLs	32. Set costs reduction targets for ALMO tenants;	ALMO's LCC Housing Services	
	33. Promote alternative options including CDFI, LCCU Payday Loans and LCCU Budgeting Accounts;	Corp. Comms. Area Management	See 8 above
	34. Use control zones in worst affected areas to discourage doorstep lenders visiting homes in the area;	ALMO's Area Management	
	35. Support social enterprise models for furniture re-use;	FI Team Citizens and Communities Directorate	

	36. Investigate possibility of developing a “Brighthouse” social model for white goods and furniture	FI Team Citizens and Communities Directorate	
	37. Link in with fuel poverty activity, including Wrap-up-Leeds, Warm Front and Community Energy Together (switching scheme)	Fuel Poverty Officer Area Management	Regular dialogue takes place with the Fuel Poverty Officer
	38. Work with employers to educate and support staff about Payday Loans and alternative arrangements	FI Team Area Management	
	39. Work with Public health to tackle lifestyle issues	LCC Public Health Area Management	
	40. Discourage HCL as a way of paying council/utility bills	LCC Revenue Division	
	41. Work with Food Banks and other anti-poverty initiatives	FI Team Citizens and Communities Directorate Area Management	
Provide direct support for those caught up in HCL	42. Increase money, debt and benefits advice	FI Team Env. And Housing Commissioning Team	
	43. Include debt review in rent/Ctax arrears cases;	LCC Revenue Division, Corporate Debt Team ALMO's	
	44. Ensure a unified approach to debt collection by utilising the Corporate Debt Team and coordination through the Corporate Debt Liaison Group	FI Team LCC Revenue Division, Corporate Debt Team	Next meeting of the Corporate Debt Liaison Group taking place on 4 October
Measure the impact of the approach	45. Agree indicative KPIs	FI Team	
	46. Review and refresh approach as required	FI Team	

Appendix 6 - Legal Credit Activity in Leeds

Details of Credit Businesses Based in Leeds

Businesses involved in Consumer Credit activity (loans, brokerage, debt collection, debt management) are required to hold a Consumer Credit Licence, issued by the Office of Fair Trading. As the local regulator of consumer credit West Yorkshire Trading Standards Service (WYTSS) is sent details of any new or amended application for a Consumer Credit licence for their comments, e.g. that a person is fit/unfit to hold such because of convictions, etc.

A list of all businesses in West Yorkshire with a Consumer Credit Licence was formerly maintained by WYTSS but there is now a national register kept on line (link below) and the West Yorkshire service has to rely on this national register for local information.

<http://www2.crw.gov.uk/pr/Default.aspx>

Legal High Cost Credit Providers in Leeds

The following high cost home collected credit lenders are based in Leeds:

Adamson Finance - 135 Otley Old Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS16 6HH

CLC Finance - Unit 4, Meadow Court, Millshaw, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS11 8LZ

Fowlers Permanent C& S LTD - 53 Stanningley Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS12 3ND

Leeds & District Clothing & Supply Co Limited - 164 Harehills Lane, Harehills, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS8 5JP

Naughton Finance Ltd - Mayflower House, 14 Pontefract Road, Leeds, LS10 1SG

Martin Oddy & Co - 4 Griffin House, Station Road, Morley, LS27 8JW

Park Finance Co Ltd - 9 Ring Road, Seacroft, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS14 1AT

Pioneer Finance - 2 Holly Tree Lane, Colton, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS15 9JF

However in addition to these businesses there are a number of other businesses that operate 'rounds' in Leeds, including Provident and West Riding Family Finance (Bradford); D & J McGuinness, J R Naylor and Provida Loan (Wakefield); and Shopcheck (Birstall) plus some businesses from Rotherham, Chester, Solihull and Worcestershire.

All businesses involved in small cash loans are required to place their details on the Lenders Compared website – www.lenderscompared.org.uk – which lists all the businesses who will offer such credit by postcode and includes rates, payment periods and other key terms and conditions. It is interesting to note that some businesses operate at a very local level. There are for example some businesses that will offer loans in Seacroft but not Morley or the city centre.

The Lenders Compared web-site lists loans (a) which offer a number of repayments and (b) loans between £50 and £800. As such it does NOT include the high cost short-term payday loan businesses such as Wonga or Quickquid; or high cost loan businesses offering medium sized loans (£1,000 - £5,000) such as Ocean Finance. Most of these businesses operate regionally or nationally and advertise via newspapers, television and increasingly via the internet (especially using formats specifically tailored for mobile phones).

Lenders Compared does also NOT pick up businesses which offer high cost loans based on a security (usually a car - often referred to as log-book loans) who use a range of archaic financing tools that mean they are not legally defined as either "small amount" or "multiple payment" credit service. There are a number of such businesses that operate in but are not based in Leeds.

Below is a list of shops operating in Leeds by postcode which has been compiled by the Economic Policy Team. The list may not be fully comprehensive as there is not one simple data source for this information, some shops may be part of national groups which are registered outside of Leeds and due to the provisos indicated above. However, this is probably the most up to date list available at the current time.

Credit shops operating in Leeds

POSTCODE		
LS1	Money Shop	2 Call Lane, Leeds LS1 6DN
	Money Shop	25-27 The Headrow, Leeds LS1 6PU
	Pawnbrokers/payday loans	8 New Market Street, Leeds LS1 6DG
	Finance 321	57 Great George Street, Leeds LS1 3AJ
	Ramsdens 4 Cash	11-12 Kirkgate, Leeds LS1 8BY
	Herbert Brown Pawnbrokers	19 Kirkgate, Leeds LS1 6BY
	Cash Shop	26 New Market Street, Leeds LS1 6DG
	Cash for Gold	35 Vicar Lane, Leeds LS1 6DS
	Ramsdens 4 Cash	49 New Briggate, Leeds LS1 8JD
	Brown and Gold Cash for Gold	Park Cross Street
LS2	Money Shop	38 Eastgate. Leeds LS2 7JL
	Money Shop – Ramsdens	49 New Briggate, Leeds LS2 8JD
	Cash Converters	21 Eastgate, Leeds LS2 7LY
	Everyday Loans	Unit 2 Merrion Centre, Leeds LS2 8NG
	Herbert Brown Pawnbrokers	12 Eastgate, Leeds LS2
	The Money Shop	2 Call Lane, Leeds LS2
	Herbert Brown Pawnbrokers	40-42 Merrion Centre, Leeds LS2 8NG
	Brighthouse	Merrion Centre, Leeds LS2
LS7	Automoney	122 Potternewton Lane, Leeds LS7 2EG
LS8	Cash Converters	254 Roundhay Road, Leeds LS8 5RL
	Money Shop	243 Roundhay Road, Leeds LS8 4HS
	One Stop Money Shop	83 Roseville Road, LS8 5DT
	Cash Converters	164 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS8 5JP
LS9	Cash Converters	76 Lincoln Green Road, Burmantofts, LS9 7SU
	Automoney/Log book loans	577 York Road, Leeds LS9 6NH
	Ramsdens 4 Cash	314 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 7BG
LS10	NFL Cash Direct	Pontefract Road, Stourton, Leeds LS10 1SP
	Naughton Finance Limited	Mayflower House, 14 Pontefract Rd, Leeds LS10 1SG
LS11	Cash Converters	211 Dewsbury Road, Beeston, Leeds LS11 5FZ
	Cash Express	247 Beeston Road, Leeds LS11 7LR
	Shopacheck	Oakhurst Avenue, Dewsbury Road, Leeds LS11 7HL
	Cash Xpress	2 Parkfield Mount, Leeds LS11 7PA
	CLC Finance	Unit 4, Meadow Court, Millshaw, leeds LS11 8LZ
LS12	Cash Converters	6-8 Town Street, Armley, Leeds LS12 3AB
	Log book loans	
	Money Shop	26 Town Street, Leeds LS12 3AB
	One Stop Money Shop	12 Town Street, Leeds LS12 1UX
	Cash Generator	41-43 Town Street, Leeds LS12
	Fowlers Permanent C&S Ltd	53 Stanningley Road, Leeds LS12 3ND

LS13	Cash Converters	30 Bramley Shopping Centre, Leeds LS13 2ET
	Albemarle and Bond Pawnbrokers	25 Bramley Centre, Leeds LS13 2ET
	Cheque Centre	21 Bramley Centre, Leeds LS13 2ET
	Brighthouse	27-29 Bramley Shopping Centre, Leeds LS13
LS14	Cash Converters	853 York Road, Leeds LS14 6AX
	Park Finance Co Limited	9 Ring Road, Seacroft, Leeds LS14 1AT
LS15	Money Shop	14 Station Road, Crossgates, Leeds LS15 7JX
	Cheque Centre	25 Crossgates Shopping Centre, Leeds LS15 8ET
	Herbert Brown	39 Crossgates Shopping Centre, Leeds LS15
	Pawnbrokers and cheque cashing	36 Austhorpe Road, Leeds LS15 8DX
	Cash Generator	7 Crossgates Shopping Centre, Leeds LS15 8ET
	Ready Steady Dough	Park Approach, Leeds LS15 8GB
	Cash Express	241 Selby Road, Leeds LS15 7JR
	Cash for Gold	243 Selby Road, Leeds LS15
	Pioneer Finance	2 Holly Tree Lane, Colton, Leeds LS15 9JF
	Brighthouse	Cross Gates Shopping Centre, Leeds LS15
LS16	Adamson Finance	135 Otley Road, Leeds LS16 6HH
LS18	Carloantoday	164 Town Street, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 4AQ
	ScrapGold	85b Town Street, Horsforth, Leeds LS18
LS20	Shopacheck	5-8 Richmond Terrace, Leeds LS20 8BP
LS22	One Stop Money Shop	21 Market Place, Wetherby, Leeds LS22 6LQ
	Brown and Gold – Cash for Gold	10 North Street, Wetherby, LS22 6NN
LS27	Ramsdens 4 Cash	62 Queen Street, Morley, Leeds LS27 9BP
	Martin Oddy and Co	4 Griffin House, Station Road, Morley, LS27 8JW

Appendix 7 Social Sector Size Criteria By Ward - Update on Contacts/Visits Undertake to the end of July 2013 (January 2013)

	Alwoodley	Burmantofts Richmond Hill	Chapel Allerton	Gipton & Harehills	Harewood	Killingbeck and Seacroft	Moortown	Roundhay	Temple Newsam (ENEHL only)	Weetwood (ENEHL only)	Wetherby
Total Number of Tenants Affected per list provided by Welfare & Benefit Service July 2013	104 (131)	516 (575)	250 (332)	305 (341)	15 (14)	486 (546)	32 (39)	50 (54)	203 (225)	14 (13)	32 (43)
Completed Visits / Contacts	100 (127)	487 (539)	237(310)	293 (322)	13 (12)	465 (540)	31 (36)	50 (50)	196 (215)	14 (11)	32 (41)
No response to contacts	4 (4)	29 (36)	13 (22)	12 (19)	2 (2)	21 (6)	1 (3)	0 (4)	7 (10)	0 (2)	0 (2)
Family Size Dispute	0 (12)	8 (49)	1 (36)	1 (25)	0 (0)	0 (49)	1 (1)	0 (8)	4 (19)	1 (1)	0 (3)
Property Size Dispute	0 (3)	7 (11)	5 (38)	0 (3)	1 (1)	7 (18)	1 (1)	0 (2)	5 (7)	0 (0)	1 (1)
Transfer Requested * see below	10 (17)	81 (84)	33 (46)	51 (56)	2 (1)	82 (95)	4 (6)	1 (2)	41 (37)	3 (2)	4 (6)
Registered for a Mutual Exchange	4	27	11	6	2	12	1	1	9	0	1
Cover Shortfall from Income / Benefits **	79 (99)	393 (422)	187(208)	223 (227)	13 (12)	305 (320)	22 (28)	37 (36)	145 (140)	12 (7)	25 (31)
Seek Employment **	35 (47)	176 (192)	60 (77)	57 (80)	4 (3)	144 (156)	9 (14)	15 (19)	47 (47)	5 (5)	9 (11)
Plan to move to other tenure **	1 (2)	0 (0)	1 (0)	2 (4)	0 (0)	1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (3)	0 (0)	1 (1)
Seek Lodger **	4 (5)	12 (17)	5 (7)	3 (2)	2 (2)	43 (54)	1 (1)	2 (3)	2 (1)	1 (1)	0 (0)
Foster Carers	0 (0)	1 (3)	1 (3)	2 (2)	1 (0)	1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)
In adapted Properties	1 (1)	13 (18)	4 (7)	10 (13)	1 (1)	6 (11)	1 (1)	2 (3)	10 (15)	2 (1)	4 (4)
Access to Children or Applying	14 (13)	36 (31)	15 (24)	11 (7)	0 (0)	12 (14)	1 (1)	5 (5)	5 (4)	0 (1)	0 (1)
Tenants considered High Risk ***	23 (52)	107 (230)	42 (129)	57 (147)	1 (3)	104 (295)	9 (20)	12 (22)	43 (99)	3 (6)	2 (1)

* Bedroom Requirements of those requesting a transfer	Alwoodley	Burmantofts Richmond Hill	Chapel Allerton	Gipton & Harehills	Harewood	Killingbeck and Seacroft	Moortown	Roundhay	Temple Newsam (ENEHL only)	Weetwood (ENEHL only)	Wetherby
1 Bedroom	6 (10)	64 (60)	17 (16)	28 (34)	2 (1)	45 (49)	2 (3)	1 (2)	21 (22)	3 (1)	3 (3)
2 Bedrooms	4 (7)	16 (23)	12 (21)	20 (20)	0 (0)	28 (29)	2 (2)	0 (0)	16 (13)	0 (1)	0 (2)
3 Bedrooms	0 (0)	1 (1)	4 (9)	2 (2)	0 (0)	6 (13)	0 (1)	0 (0)	2 (0)	0 (0)	0 (1)
4 Bedrooms	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)	3 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)

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

*** Tenants classed as high risk are those where an income and expenditure assessment has been undertaken and they have insufficient income to pay the Housing Benefit charge or have refused to provide income and expenditure details.

Appendix 8

East North East Homes Leeds by Ward

Arrears on Under Occupiers

	<u>Arrears @ Week 52</u>		<u>Arrears @ Week 14</u>	
Alwoodley	£	11,433.88	£	15,380.67
Burmantofts and Richmond Hill	£	44,565.53	£	56,613.22
Chapel Allerton	£	29,434.49	£	36,035.20
Gipton and Harehills	£	14,052.90	£	24,173.86
Harewood	£	242.95	£	964.71
Killingbeck and Seacroft	£	41,477.11	£	63,510.15
Moortown	£	2,040.61	£	2,933.36
Roundhay	£	2,733.69	£	4,575.23
Temple Newsam	£	13,412.80	£	23,126.63
Weetwood	£	-	£	561.38
Wetherby	£	3,035.87	£	3,735.95
Grand Total	£	162,429.83	£	231,610.36

Data Point Week 14 (9th July 13)

Report of Director of Children’s Services

Report to North East Inner area committee

Date: 02 September 2013

Subject: Children’s Services area committee update report

Are specific electoral wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of ward(s):	Chapel Allerton, Moortown, Roundhay	
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number:		
Appendix number:		

Summary of main issues

1. This report summarises performance at area committee level, with a broader acknowledgement of city level performance.
2. The rising child population in Leeds is a key challenge with regards places at schools. This is already a known issue in primary schools, and is becoming increasingly evident in secondary schools.
3. There are six per cent more children looked after in the Inner North East in June 2013 than June 2012, counter to the citywide reduction of five per cent. Attendance in both primary and secondary schools declined in 2012/13 compared to 2011/12. Eighty-eight per cent of primary schools, and 75 per cent of secondary schools, are rated as good or better by Ofsted.

Recommendations

4. Area committees are requested to note the content of this report.
5. Area committees are asked for feedback on the report.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 Children's Services directorate provides six-monthly area committee reports, in March and September. These reports inform members about local outcomes for children and young people, and support the involvement of area committees in improving these outcomes by providing an update on the work of the directorate and of the Leeds Children's Trust, including local children's cluster arrangements. The progress made against local and national agendas is also highlighted.
- 1.2 The report summarises performance at area committee level, with a broader acknowledgement of city level performance. Key issues for Children's Services are highlighted, including Ofsted inspection, basic need, and child friendly city.

2 Background information

- 2.1 Children's Services' aspiration is for Leeds to be a child friendly city, with high aspirations and strong outcomes for children, young people, and families. This will be achieved by delivering the Children and Young People's Plan, focusing on the three obsessions; involving all communities and sectors in developing a child friendly city; and embedding the principles of restorative practice and Outcomes Based Accountability.

3 Main issues/key developments within Children's Services

Ofsted inspection

- 3.1 In terms of child protection, safeguarding, and children looked after services, the directorate received positive feedback from Ofsted earlier this year. Firstly in the thematic inspection of the Independent Reviewing Officer Service, and secondly during the pilot of elements of the Ofsted inspection of services for looked after children and care leavers. Ofsted have not inspected safeguarding arrangements in Leeds since 2011, indicating that Leeds is regarded much more positively than in the past, and is gaining a national reputation for innovation and improvement.
- 3.2 Ofsted are introducing a new framework, *the inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers* in November 2013. This significantly raises standards and expectations of local authorities, in conjunction with the earlier change in Ofsted judgements from 'adequate' to 'requires improvement'. Despite this raising challenge and the changing inspection focus, work in Children's Services over the last 18 months has made a significant impact. Preparations are underway to ensure that the directorate is able to demonstrate to Ofsted the progress that has been made, and the continuing journey to excellence.
- 3.3 Targeted local authority inspections of support for school improvement have also been introduced by Ofsted. Preparation work is underway within the directorate, although the amount of schools rated good or better by Ofsted (83 per cent of primary schools, up seven percentage points from December; 58 per cent of secondary schools) suggests that Leeds may not be amongst the first tranche of services inspected.

Basic need

- 3.4 The rising child population in Leeds is a key challenge in ensuring there are sufficient places at schools. This is already a known issue in primary schools, and is becoming increasingly evident in secondary schools. Since the basic needs programme began in 2009, 1,020 additional reception places have been approved. A further 98 have recently been the subject of statutory notice and are awaiting a final decision; 45 more places were consulted upon during the summer term.
- 3.5 For the next three school years (2014 to 2016), 50 additional forms of entry are required to manage the increase in pupil numbers, with 22 of these additional forms of entry required for 2014. Of the 22 forms of entry, approximately one third is permanent provision, and two thirds are bulge cohorts to manage a short-term, one off increase in pupil numbers.
- 3.6 For secondary places, the pressure from the current known birth rate has already been seen in the south for September 2013 admissions to Year Seven; by 2017 there will be no spare places across the city. To meet the emerging need, as many as seven new secondary schools may be required to accommodate this pressure, and discussions with existing schools and academies about their potential to expand will take place.
- 3.7 Leeds has been awarded a £13.8m share of £820m made available by the DfE for new school places, as part of the targeted basic need programme. The places must be delivered by September 2015.

Cluster governance

- 3.8 The recent review of area working identified the need to more clearly understand the relative roles and responsibilities of area committees and other partnership bodies, including clusters used in Children's Services. The member relationship between area committees and clusters is central to this.
- 3.9 Member management committee recommended in March to strengthen local working arrangements with elected member representatives to Children's Services clusters to be appointed by area committees. This establishes a formal link between area committees and clusters, and enables and supports the building of closer working arrangements to better support the needs of children and families across the city.

Child Friendly City

- 3.10 146 ambassadors, including the Olympian Nicola Adams, and Leeds Rhinos player Danny McGuire, are helping to promote Child Friendly Leeds. 131 organisations have made pledges of support (BT, Marks and Spencer, and First Direct being amongst the headline organisations), all striving to make Leeds the best city (in which to grow up) in the UK.
- 3.11 The CBBC in Leeds event, in late July, attracted over 38,000 people. Child Friendly Leeds activities were hosted in major council venues in the city centre. There will be a 'takeover day' in November, and January 2014 will see the inaugural Child Friendly Leeds awards.

4 Performance update

4.1 Appendix one (page nine) provides data and commentary on current performance for the area committee, which is summarised below. Data from the same period 12 months ago is used where possible for direction of travel/progress analysis. Figures may be rounded up/down in the following commentary.

4.2 Further, more detailed information is available via the following websites:

- The cluster profile (<https://www.leedsinitiative.org/ClusterDataProfile.aspx>).
- The West Yorkshire observatory (<http://www.westyorkshireobservatory.org/>).
- The Department for Education's 'in your area' website (<http://www.education.gov.uk/cgi-bin/inyourarea/areasearch.pl?search=Leeds>).

Inner North East area committee commentary

Children and young people are safe from harm - obsession: number of children in care

4.3 72 children looked after at the end of June 2013 come from the Inner North East area committee area, four higher (six per cent higher) than the same point 12 months ago. This is counter to the five per cent reduction in the citywide number. The Inner North East area committee area has the third lowest number of children looked after of all area committees, just five per cent of the cohort. Eleven children and young people entered care between April and June 2013, a sharp rise from the same period 12 months ago.

4.4 There are twice as many children and young people subject to a child protection plan at the end of June 2013 than the same point 12 months ago (63 vs 32). This is the highest percentage rise seen by any area committee, significantly different to the negligible 0.3 per cent rise seen in the citywide figures. Appendix one contains a breakdown of the numbers by clusters in the Inner North East area.

4.5 21 per cent more CAFs (17 in 2013; 14 in 2012) have been initiated in the Inner North East area committee area in the three-month period between April and June this year when compared to last year.

4.6 10 per cent fewer requests for service (470 vs 520) and 28 per cent fewer referrals (147 vs 205) were received from the Inner North East area committee area in the first three months of 2012/13 when compared to the same period 12 months ago. Both these reductions are significantly higher than the citywide reductions of four (requests for service), and three per cent (referrals). The conversion rate (percentage of requests for service that become a referral) has reduced from 39 per cent in April to June 2012 to 31 per cent in April to June 2013. This eight percentage point reduction is the largest percentage decrease across all area committees.

Children and young people do well at all levels of learning and have the skills for life - obsession: young people in education employment or training
- obsession: attendance

4.7 The percentage of 'not known' young people in the Inner North East area committee area has reduced from four per cent in June 2012 to two per cent in

June 2013. The percentage of young people identified as NEET has remained at 4.5 per cent.

- 4.8 There is a correlation between a reduction in not known rates, and a rise in NEET levels; the status of more young people is known after sweeps and telephone calls. Targeted support offers mean that the NEET cohort is better informed and supported in trying to find/access education, employment, or training.
- 4.9 Primary school attendance in the Inner North East area committee area declined by a little more than half a percentage point to 95.3 per cent in 2012/13 compared to 2011/12. This is slightly above the citywide reduction of half a percentage point in the same period. Secondary attendance levels reduced slightly, by just 0.2 of a percentage point, to 94.6 per cent across the same period. This is the best attendance levels of all area committees.
- 4.10 There was a sharp rise in the number of primary school pupils persistently absent, from 154 in 2011/12 to 182 in 2012/13 (an increase of 28; an 18 per cent rise). Three per cent (seven) more secondary school pupils were persistently absent in 2012/13 (233) compared to 2011/12 (226).

Children and young people choose healthy lifestyles, and voice and influence

- 4.11 The number of children and young people committing an offence reduced from 67 in 2011-12 to 57 in 2012-13, a 15 per cent drop. This is smaller than the citywide reduction of 30 per cent.

Local Ofsted inspections

- 4.12 One primary school in the Inner North East area is rated as inadequate (Hillcrest Primary), one primary school that was satisfactory is now good, with 88 per cent of primaries currently rated good or better by Ofsted (seven percentage points higher than December). One of the four secondary schools in the area has seen its Ofsted rating drop from good to requires improvement (Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School), meaning 75 per cent of secondaries in the area are rated good or better (down from 100 per cent in December)
- 4.13 There are no children's homes in the Inner North East area committee area.

City commentary

- 4.14 The following paragraphs summarise partnership progress against the CYPP indicators, including the three obsessions. Appendix two (page 13) contains CYPP obsession indicator graphs and charts by area committee.

Children and young people are safe from harm

- 4.15 Children looked after numbers (1,358) are at their lowest point since November 2009, with June's figure five per cent lower than the same point 12 months ago. More children and young people entered care between April 2013 and June 2013 than the same period 12 months ago, but the numbers leaving continue to rise.

- 4.16 The number of children and young people subject to a child protection plan is virtually unchanged from a year ago at 897 (894 in June 2012). It is, however, six per cent lower than the December 2012 figure of 956.
- 4.17 Four per cent (311) fewer requests for service (contact received by the Duty and Advice Team), and three per cent (89) fewer referrals (those requests for service that were deemed to require Children's Social Work Service involvement), were received between April and June 2013 compared to the same period a year ago.
- 4.18 Twenty-seven per cent more CAFs (65) were initiated in the first three months of 2012/13 compared to the same period a year ago; this is equivalent to 22 additional CAFs per month.
- 4.19 There are five per cent more Council-employed foster carers (an increase of 28, to 578) in June 2013 than in December 2012. This should rise further in the coming months, as fourteen independent fostering agency foster carers may become Council-employed. The number of family placement foster carers is four higher in June 2013 (108) than December 2012 (104).

Children and young people do well at all levels of learning and have the skills for life

- 4.20 Primary school attendance declined by half a percentage point to 95.3 per cent between half-terms one to four in 2011/12 and half-terms one to four in 2012/13. Reception attendance information is now included in primary attendance rates after a national change. Almost thirteen per cent more primary age pupils (207) were persistently absent in the current reporting period compared to the previous one.
- 4.21 Attendance at secondary school remained level at 93.7 per cent between half-terms one to four in 2011/12 and half-terms one to four in 2012/13. Half a per cent fewer secondary school age pupils (16) were persistently absent across the same two periods.
- 4.22 Absence in the autumn term is in line with national rates, as is the decline seen between the two periods. Although attendance has declined slightly, the most recent figures are the second best attendance rates recorded in Leeds.
- 4.23 NEET and 'not known' levels have significantly reduced across the city; NEET sweeps and the use of Welfare Call have contributed to this. Young people identified as NEET are offered targeted support to help them with pathways to EET. The graphs in appendix two show the changes in the last 12 months for each area committee, especially the reduction in the not known cohort.
- 4.24 Complementing the core devolved youth contract support programme in Leeds, local clusters and/or partnerships of clusters are being funded to deliver local innovation projects (eg providing provision of targeted mental health, counselling, and bespoke motivational programmes). The aim is to contribute to the reduction of 16 to 17 year-old NEETs in localities by increasing young people's experience and qualifications, so they have the opportunity to continue in education and successfully find work.

Children and young people choose healthy lifestyles

- 4.25 Survey work and analysis on free school meal data are still underway. An update will be provided to area committees in a later report.

Children and young people are active citizens who feel they have a voice and influence

- 4.26 The number of young people committing an offence between April 2012 and March 2013 was almost a third lower than the same period in 2011/12, reflecting the national trend.

Ofsted inspections

- 4.27 Eighty-three per cent of primary schools (180) are rated as good or better in July 2013, seven percentage points higher (15 more schools) than in July 2012. Four fewer primary schools are rated as outstanding across the same period, and three more primary schools are rated as inadequate.
- 4.28 The percentage of secondary schools rated as good or better has reduced by three percentage points to 58 per cent in July 2013, from 61 per cent in July 2012 (one less school). One more secondary school is rated as inadequate.
- 4.29 There have been no inspections of children's centres in Leeds since the last update report. A new inspection framework begins in September; an update to area committees will be provided later.
- 4.30 73 per cent (eight) of the eleven directly managed local authority children's homes in Leeds are currently rated good or outstanding, a significant improvement from 36 per cent (four) that were good or outstanding at 31 December 2012. The other three children's homes are currently rated adequate/satisfactory.

5 Corporate considerations

5.1 Consultation and engagement

- 5.1.1 This report is for area committee meetings, which involve a wide range of partners and stakeholders. Consultation and engagement is integral to the work of Children's Services and the Children's Trust, as evidenced in child friendly city work.

5.2 Equality and diversity/cohesion and integration

- 5.2.1 Equality issues are implicit in the information provided. The differences shown illustrate that there are different levels of need and of outcomes across the city. Additional equality analysis of the information provided is undertaken.

5.3 Council policies and city priorities

- 5.3.1 A significant proportion of the information included in this report relates to the city priorities for children and young people and the outcomes contained in the CYPP.

5.4 Resources and value for money

5.4.1 There are no resource implications in this report.

5.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

5.5.1 This report is not eligible for call in, due to being a Council function.

5.6 Risk management

5.6.1 There are no risk management implications in this report. The priorities reflected in this report are monitored through Leeds City Council performance and, where appropriate, risk management processes.

6 Conclusions

6.1 Not applicable, as this report is information based.

7 Recommendations

7.1 The Inner North East area committee is requested to note the content of this report.

7.2 The Inner North East area committee is asked for feedback on the report.

8 Background documents¹

8.1 There are no background documents to accompany this report.

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

Appendix one: performance data for Inner North East area committee

Autumn 2013 Children's Services performance update

Measure	Leeds	Inner NE	Current data period	Highest	Average	Lowest			
1. Number of children and young people 0-19	173,462	17,458	January 2013	24,510	17,289	11,609			
2. Percentage of children and young people	n/a	10.1%	January 2013	14.1%	10.0%	6.7%			
3. Number of primary schools	218	16	Current	28	22	15			
4. Number of secondary schools	36	2	Current	6	4	2			
4a. Number of through schools	2	2	Current	2	0	0			
5. Number of children's centres	58	6	Current	11	6	3			
<p>Commentary</p> <p>The Inner North East area committee has 10.1 per cent of the city's 0-19 population, (17,458 children and young people). There are 16 primary schools, two secondary schools, two through schools, and six children's centres located within the area committee boundary.</p>									
Keeping children safe from harm	Leeds	Inner NE			Current data period	Highest	Average	Lowest	
		Current reporting period	Previous reporting period	Direction of travel					
6. Number of children looked after	1,358	72	68	↔	30 June 2013	389	131	22	
7. Number of children entering care	106	11	...	↔	Apr-Jun 2013	32	14	5	
8. Number of children subject to a child protection plan	897	63	32	↔	30 June 2013	217	88	15	
9. Number of CAFs initiated	308	17	14	↔	Apr-Jun 2013	55	30.2	17	
10. Number of requests for service	8,695	470	520	↔	Apr-Jun 2013	1,701	794	347	
11. Number of requests for service leading to a referral	2,964	147	205	↔	Apr-Jun 2013	635	282	83	
12. Number of LCC-employed foster carers	578	67	69	↔	30 June 2013	83	50	23	
12a. Number of family placement foster carers	108	16	16	↔	30 June 2013	16	11	6	

Commentary

72 children looked after at the end of June 2013 come from the Inner North East area committee area, four higher (six per cent higher) than the same point 12 months ago. This is counter to the five per cent reduction in the citywide number. The Inner North East area committee area has the third lowest number of children looked after of all area committees, just five per cent of the cohort. Eleven children and young people entered care between April and June 2013, a sharp rise from the same period 12 months ago.

There are twice as many children and young people subject to a child protection plan at the end of June 2013 than the same point 12 months ago (63 vs 32). This is the highest percentage rise seen by any area committee, and is significantly different to the negligible 0.3 per cent rise seen in the citywide figures. 21 per cent more CAFs (17 in 2013; 14 in 2012) have been initiated in the Inner North East area committee area in the three-month period between April and June this year when compared to last year.

10 per cent fewer requests for service (470 vs 520) and 28 per cent fewer referrals (147 vs 205) were received from the Inner North East area committee area in the first three months of 2012/13 when compared to the same period 12 months ago. Both these reductions are significantly higher than the citywide reductions of four (requests for service), and three per cent (referrals). The conversion rate (percentage of requests for service that become a referral) has reduced from 39 per cent in April to June 2012 to 31 per cent in April to June 2013. This eight percentage point reduction is the largest percentage decrease across all area committees.

Do well in learning and have the skills for life	Leeds	Inner NE			Current data period	Highest	Average	Lowest
		Current reporting period	Previous reporting period	Direction of travel				
13. Primary school attendance levels	95.3%	95.3%	96.0%		2012-13 HT 1-4	96.2%	95.3%	93.9%
14. Secondary school attendance levels	93.7%	94.6%	94.8%		2012-13 HT 1-4	94.6%	93.3%	91.1%
15. Number of pupils persistently absent at primary	1,839	182	154	æ	2012-13 HT 1-4	417	184	83
16. Number of pupils persistently absent at secondary	3,067	233	226	æ	2012-13 HT 1-4	474	307	162
17. Number of NEET ⁱ	1,501	106	108		30 June 2013	330	149	47
17a. Percentage of NEET ⁱ	6.7%	4.5%	4.5%		30 June 2013	10.5%	6.2%	2.6%
18. Number of 'not knows'	1,283	51	102		30 June 2013	408	116	41
18a. Percentage of 'not knows'	5.5%	2.2%	4.3%		30 June 2013	14.5%	4.7%	2.2%

Commentary

Primary school attendance in the Inner North East area committee area declined by a little more than half a percentage point to 95.3 per cent in 2012/13 compared to 2011/12. This is slightly above the citywide reduction of half a percentage point in the same period. Secondary attendance levels reduced slightly, by just 0.2 of a percentage point, to 94.6 per cent across the same period. This is the best attendance levels of all area committees. There was a sharp rise in the number of primary school pupils persistently absent, from 154 in 2011/12 to 182 in 2012/13 (an increase of 28; an 18 per cent rise). Three per cent (seven) more secondary

school pupils were persistently absent in 2012/13 (233) compared to 2011/12 (226).

The percentage of 'not known' young people in the Inner North East area committee area has reduced from four per cent in June 2012 to two per cent in June 2013. The percentage of young people identified as NEET has remained at 4.5 per cent.

Voice and influence	Leeds	Inner NE			Current data period	Highest	Average	Lowest
		Current reporting period	Previous reporting period	Direction of travel				
19. 10-17 year olds committing an offence	672	57	67		Apr 12 - Mar 13	167	67	18
Ofsted inspections	Leeds	Inner NE			Current data period	Highest	Average	Lowest
		Current reporting period	Previous reporting period	Direction of travel				
20. Percentage of primary schools good or better	83%	88%	81%	æ	31 July 2013	93%	82%	68%
21. Percentage of secondary schools good or better	58%	75%	100%		31 July 2013	75%	56%	25%
22. Percentage of children's centres good or better	81%	100%	100%		31 July 2013	100%	88%	60%
23. Percentage of children's homes good or better	73%				31 July 2013	100%	58%	0%
Ofsted judgement - Inner North East	Current period: 31 July 2013				Previous period: 31 Dec 2012			
	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Inadequate	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Inadequate
24. Primary schools	5	9	1	1	5	8	3	0
25. Secondary schools	0	3	1	0	0	4	0	0
26. SILCs (citywide)								
27. Pupil referral units (citywide)								
28. Children's centres	1	2	0	0	1	2	0	0
29. Children's homes								

Commentary

One primary school in the Inner North East area is rated as inadequate (Hillcrest Primary), one primary school that was satisfactory is now good, with 88 per cent of primaries currently rated good or better by Ofsted (seven percentage points higher than December). One of the four secondary schools in the area has seen its Ofsted rating drop from good to requires improvement (Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School), meaning 75 per cent of secondaries in the area are rated good or

better (down from 100 per cent in December)

There are no children's homes in the Inner North East area committee area.

Secondary schools	Current period		Previous period		Direction of travel	
	Ofsted	Attendance	Ofsted	Attendance	Ofsted	Attendance
Allerton Grange High School	2	93.3%	2	93.8%		
Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School	3	95.1%	2	94.7%		æ
Carr Manor High School (through school)	2	93.9%	2	93.9%		
Roundhay School (through school)	2	96.0%	2	96.1%		

Key: AY - academic year FY - financial year HT - half term ... data below five (suppressed for confidentiality)

Ofsted grades: 1 = Outstanding, 2 = Good, 3 = Satisfactory/Requires Improvement, 4 = Inadequate

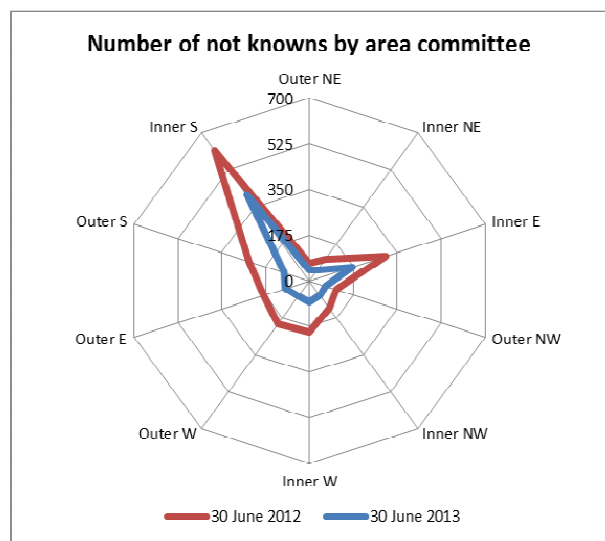
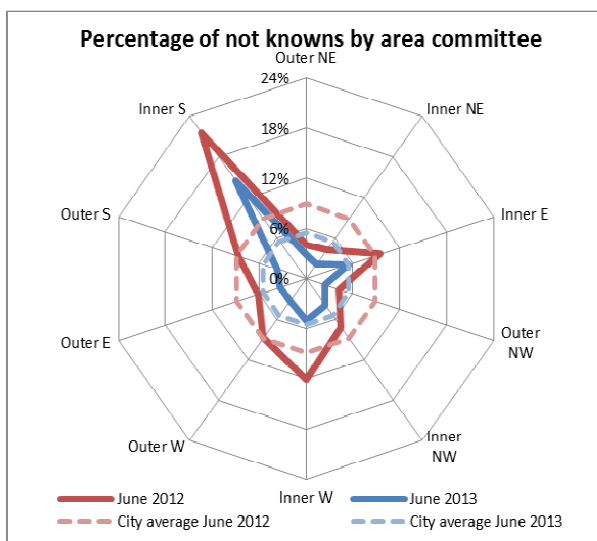
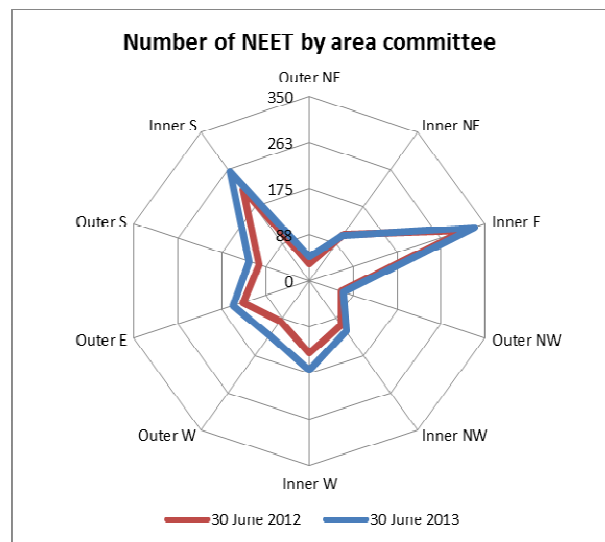
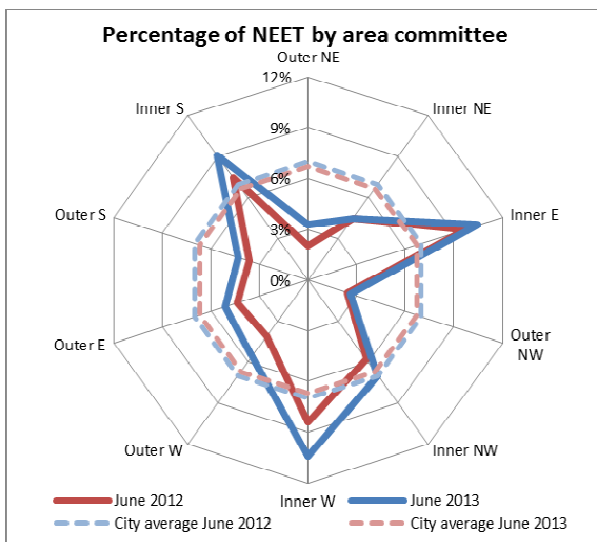
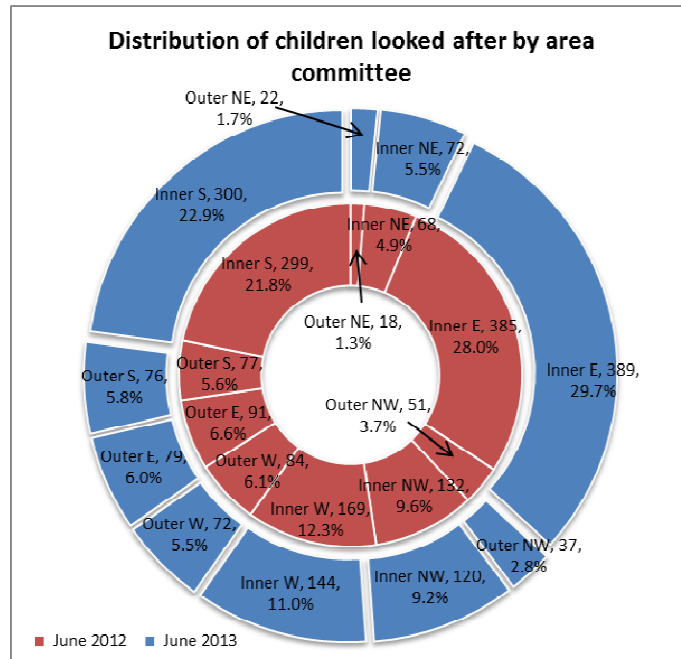
ⁱ The citywide figure reports 'adjusted NEET' (see data definitions), the area committee figures do not take account of 'adjusted NEET'

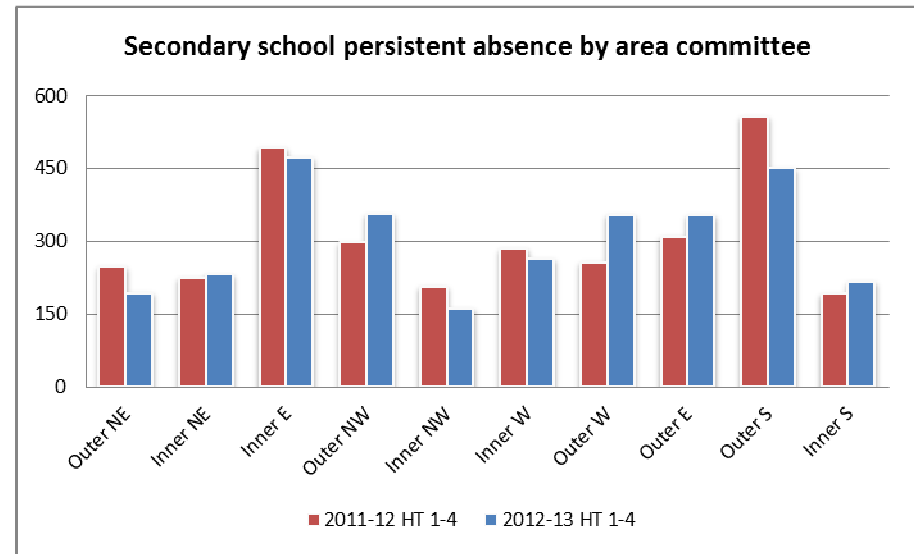
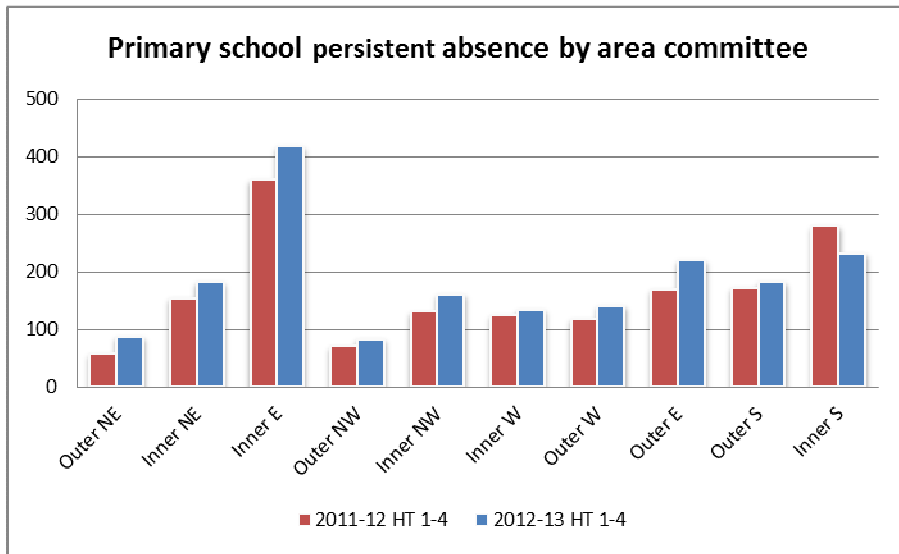
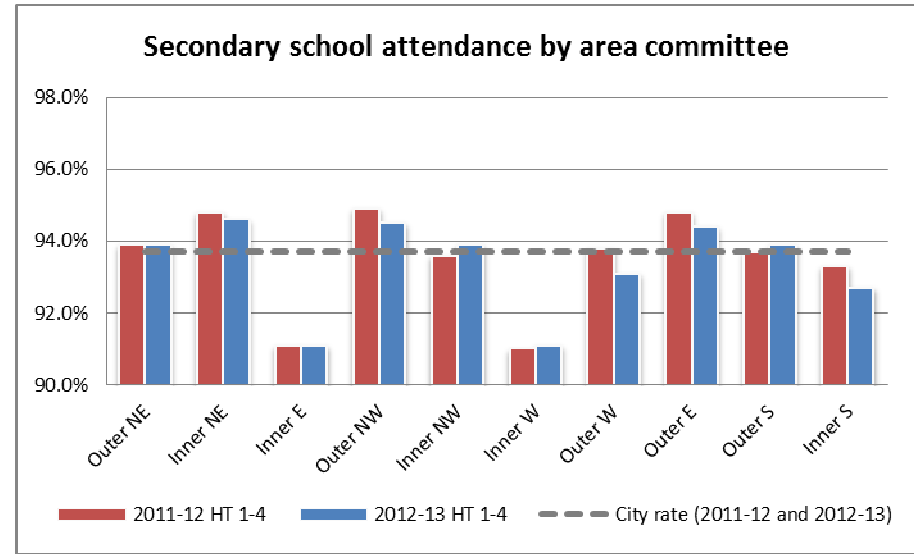
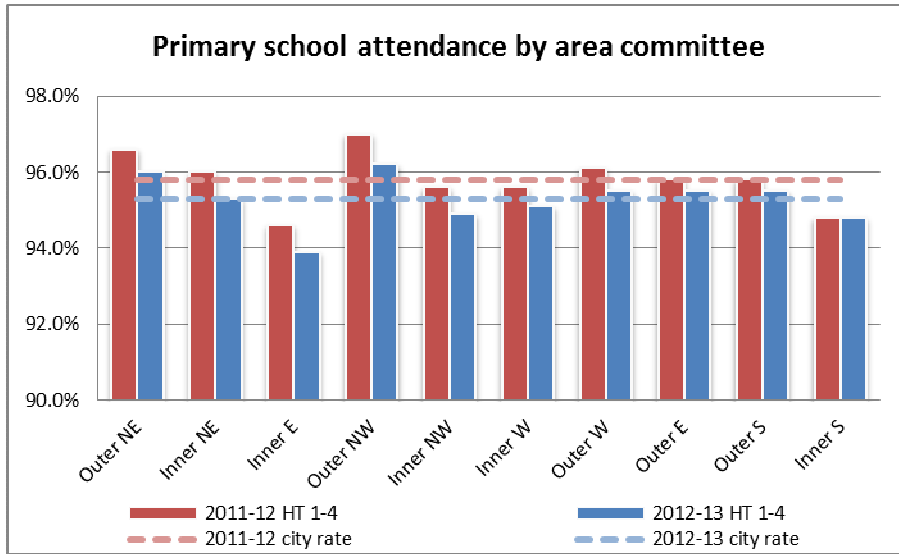
Children subject to a child protection plan at June 2012 and June 2013, with numbers by associated clusters

	Percentage of cluster population in Inner North East area committee area	CPP numbers at 30/06/2012	CPP numbers at 30/06/2013	0-18 (not inc 18) pop Jan 12	0-18 (not inc 18) pop Jan 13
Leeds	-	894	897	-	-
INE area committee	-	33	62	17,458	17,246
ENE - Alwoodley*	25%	5	<5	4,647	5,600
ENE - C.H.E.S.S.	27.5%	27	49	7,439	7,556
ENE - N.E.X.T.	100%	9	14	8,181	7,880
ENE - NETWORKS	100%	18	36	5,526	5,686

* On 1 April 2013 Wigton Moor Primary moved from EPOSS to Alwoodley. As some data-sets pre-date this boundary change, data for some indicators is only available by the previous boundaries. This will be updated over time.

Appendix two: CYPP obsessions - graphs and charts







Report author: Carly Grimshaw
Tel: 33 67610

Report of the ENE Area Leader

Report to: North East Inner Area Committee

Date: 2nd September 2013

Subject: Investing in Young People: Update on the Future Direction of Youth Services and Delegated Functions for Area Committees

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

Summary of main issues

1. In March 2013 the Council's Executive Board approved a new allocation to the overall Area Committee budget ring-fenced for youth activities of £250k in 2013/14 and £500k in 2014/15.
2. As a result, the budget ring-fenced for youth activities allocated to the Inner North East Area Committee is £25,835 in 2013/14 and £51,670 in 2014/15.
3. Following the announcement of this funding at the June 17th Area Committee meeting, proposals for allocating this budget need to be worked up in conjunction with Elected Members, council officers, partners and young people.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Inner North East Area Committee:

1. Agree to re-invest 50% of this year's Youth Activity Funding - £12,917 – into the 2013 Summer Holiday Activities programme.
2. Agree to the convening of a special Wellbeing working group to include representatives of School and Youth Councils to help develop a process for allocating the Youth activity funding both in 2013/14 and in future years.

3. Approve the allocation of the remaining £12,917 for 2013/14 to be done using consultation already carried out for the summer holiday programme.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Area Committee with proposals for spending the budget delegated to the Area Committee for universal youth activities.
- 1.2 Universal youth activities can be defined as activities offering opportunities for play, arts, sport and cultural activities with young people age 8-17 years enabling young people to play, have fun, get creative, and have new experiences both after school and during the school holidays.

2 Background information

- 2.1 In March 2013 Executive Board agreed, as part of the new model for Youth Services a new allocation to the overall Area Committee budget ring-fenced for youth activities of £250k in 2013/14 and £500k in 2014/15, with a clear expectation that young people help to shape decision making around the spending of this resource, against an agreed set of outcomes. This funding is to support play, arts, sports and cultural activity for young people aged 8-17.
- 2.2 This budget has been split between the ten Area Committees based on NHS population data of young people aged 8 – 17. The Inner North East Area Committee is £25,835 in 2013/14 and £51,670 in 2014/15.
- 2.3 The report presented to the June 17th 2013 meeting of the Area Committee asked Elected Members to consider, in respect of the universal funding, how it could be delivered in each area building on the Breeze brand, how it can link to other funding streams and how children and young people will be involved throughout the planning, decision making and evaluation of the activity funding.
- 2.4 Organisations providing youth activities funded by the budget can be a community or voluntary group, a commercial organisation operating on a non-profit basis or a council department. All organisations must be registered with the Breeze Culture Network, and in registering will be required to submit their safeguarding and equality policies.
- 2.5 Providers will be required to keep registration forms and a register of attendance and have attendees fill out evaluation forms (which will be supplied). Providers must complete monitoring reports at agreed intervals, templates for which will be supplied and agree to unannounced spot check visits to check that safeguarding procedures are being followed. They will also sign a funding contract/SLA to agree the details of what will be delivered.
- 2.6 Providers are expected to capture data using young people's Breeze cards whenever possible and a hand held scanner for this method will hopefully be provided and utilised in the future.

- 2.7 Providers will be required to list their activity on the Breeze website through the Breeze Culture Network, provide information to be included in the Cluster 'What's on' guides, webpages and mail shots and agree to the council sharing information about the work supplied in reports or promotional newsletters with other statutory bodies, VCF organisations, for use in surveys and consultations. This may include the providers contact name and details.
- 2.8 In 2011 the Area Committee commenced organising a programme of summer holiday activities, in partnership with the Extended Services Clusters, and created a process by which they commissioned a full and varied timetable of activities for children and young people across the inner north east in consultation with local young people. This process has been used as a template for the recommendations which were agreed at Executive Board and which are detailed in paragraphs 2.4 to 2.7.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 The timescale pressures of spending the current year's Youth Activities Fund budget are significant, particularly given the Area Support Teams experiences of the timeframes involved in commissioning youth activities. Given the resources that the Area Committee has already invested in young people's activities this year and the increasing pressures on the Wellbeing budget, it is suggested that 50% of this year's allocation- £12,917 – be re-invested into the 2013 Summer Holiday Activities programme.
- 3.2 Should this recommendation be approved by the Area Committee, this would allow £12,917 of Wellbeing money, already earmarked for like-for-like universal youth activities, to be returned to the Area Wide budget and reallocated to other Area Committee priorities.
- 3.3 It should be noted that the amount the Area Committee has available to spend in its Area Wide Wellbeing budget has been significantly depleted as a result of the decision to allocate £35,267, or 25% of the available budget, to children & young people's activities. This decision was made by Area Committee in the absence of any money specifically for this purpose being available. Other Area Committees across the city have used the Youth fund for this purpose, where it has been available, or allocated some of it to cover Wellbeing fund spend in the manner suggested.
- 3.4 Using 50% of this year's youth activities allocation towards the 2013 Summer Holidays Activities programme is considered prudent given that the funding will be lost if not spent by 31st March 2014. There is a very real risk that spending the full allocation of £25,835 by April 2014 would not be achievable and a significant proportion of this money could be lost.
- 3.5 It is proposed that a special meeting of the Wellbeing working group is convened as a matter of urgency involving a number of young people who are representatives of school or youth councils in the area. This group will help develop a process for allocating this funding both in 2013/14 and in future years.

- 3.6 For this financial year the group would use consultation carried out for the summer holidays to agree what types of activities should be commissioned.
- 3.7 Timescales mean that the group would need to bring recommendations for spend for Bonfire night diversionary activities to the next Area Committee meeting in October so that the money can be approved.
- 3.8 A key element of allocating any future monies will be the involvement of young people. The Sub Group could explore ways of involving young people in the commissioning of youth activities, be that via existing best practice such as a Youth Council or the National Citizen Service or by other means that could be developed in tandem with colleagues in Children's Services.
- 3.9 It is suggested that the group build on best practice already established with the summer holiday programme and that consultation events involving young people take place in quarter four of this financial year allowing a full programme of events for the year to be approved by Area Committee at its March/ April meeting in 2014.
- 3.10 The youth activity funding also creates further opportunities to link with area cluster partnerships, schools and other partners to maximise activity and opportunities for children and young people.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 Further engagement with young people and partners are fundamental to any delegation model
- 4.1.2 Young people have been involved in training to support the commissioning process in localities through a range of workshops supported by the Children's Services Voice and Influence team, Youth Service and voluntary sector partners.
- 4.1.3 It will be the role of the Area Support Team to ensure that young people – particularly those from Inner North East Leeds – are trained in supporting the commissioning process and are actively involved in the funding working group.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 Youth activity funding delegated to Area Committees can support cohesion and integration in localities where identified as a local need with children and young people. The process envisaged encourages participation and engagement of young people and partners.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 In order to support the delivery of the Children and Young People's Plan the activities will support the outcome: Children and Young People Have Fun Growing Up by providing play leisure, culture and sporting opportunity for all 8-17 year old across the city.

- 4.3.2 This process will also support the outcome: children and young people are active citizens who feel they have a voice and influence, the activities fund will increase participation, voice and influence in localities around the city.
- 4.3.3 This process will also support the aim to make Leeds the Best City... for children and young people as set-out in the City Priority Plan for 2011 – 2015 and the Vision for Leeds 2011- 2030.
- 4.3.4 This process will also help make Leeds a Child Friendly City. The activities and projects provided need to support what children and young people have told us is important to them:
- There are places and spaces to play and things to do, in all areas and open to all
 - More staff in places and spaces children and young people go
 - Things to do all year round, not just during holidays
 - Families and young people informed about what is going on across the city and how to get there e.g. bus routes

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 The 8-17 populations by wards have been based on data received from NHSLeeds. The data is based on addresses of children and young people registered with GP's. This has been shown to be the most comprehensive, accurate and up to date source of data for the population of children and young people. The number of young people per ward is as follows:

Ward	Area Committee	8-17 population	allocation
Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	Inner East	3107	9283
Gipton & Harehills	Inner East	4797	14332
Killingbeck & Seacroft	Inner East	3530	10547
Inner East		1434	34162
Chapel Allerton	Inner North East	2859	8542
Moortown	Inner North East	2469	7377
Roundhay	Inner North East	3319	9916
Inner North East		8647	25835
Alwoodley	Outer North East	2490	7439
Harewood	Outer North East	2309	6899
Wetherby	Outer North East	2062	6161
Outer North East		6861	20499
East North East		26942	80495

- 4.4.2 The budget allocation for each area committee is as follows:

Local Breeze Activity				
Area Committee	Area	8-17 population	2013 /14 allocation	2014/15 allocation
<i>Inner East</i>		11434	34162	68323
<i>Inner North East</i>		8647	25835	51670
<i>Outer North East</i>		6861	20499	40997
	East North East	26942	80495	160990
<i>Inner South</i>		8322	24864	49728
<i>Outer East</i>		9701	28984	57968
<i>Outer South</i>		10080	30116	60232
	South	28103	83964	167927
<i>Inner North West</i>		5986	17884	35769
<i>Inner West</i>		5423	16202	32405
<i>Outer North West</i>		9451	28237	56474
<i>Outer West</i>		7771	23218	46435
	West North West	28631	85541	171083
		83676	250000	500000

4.5 Approve the esLegal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 None.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 A Project Plan will be developed for the Youth Activities Fund spend including identifying any potential risks and how they can be mitigated.

4.6.2 As part of the commissioning process, all prospective bids will be subject to the same scrutiny as other Wellbeing applications. Applicants will also be subject to rigorous checks regarding their safe guarding procedures.

5 Conclusions

5.1 In conclusion, the Youth Activity Fund creates an opportunity to build on activity provided locally meeting identified need on a Ward by Ward basis. The process of involving children and young people in the decision making supports Leeds being a Child Friendly City and ensures children's needs are central to the process.

5.2 Locality budgets for activity will generate opportunity for creative ways to work across partnerships in localities.

6 Recommendations

It is recommended that the Inner North East Area Committee:

6.1 Agree to re-invest 50% of this year's Youth Activity Funding - £12,917 – into the 2013 Summer Holiday Activities programme.

- 6.2 Agree to the convening of a special Wellbeing working group to include representatives of School and Youth Councils to help develop a process for allocating the Youth activity funding both in 2013/14 and in future years.
- 6.3 Approve the allocation of the remaining £12,917 for 2013/14 to be done using consultation already carried out for the summer holiday programme.

7 Background documents¹

- 7.1 None

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

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Report author: Kath Wood
Tel: 0113 336 7634

Report of East North East Area Leader

Report to North East Inner Area Committee

Date: 02rd September 2013

Subject: Priority Neighbourhood Update Report

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

Summary of main issues

1. A new Neighbourhood Manager commenced in post in May this year. The new manager will initially focus on addressing key issues in the two priority neighbourhood areas, Meanwood (Seven Estates) and Chapeltown. Action plans for both these areas have now been developed and each areas priorities have been updated. These are attached in the appendices for information.

2. As work on the two priority neighbourhoods progresses and develops the Neighbourhood Manager's scope will widen to undertake some concentrated work in the other Neighbourhood areas within the Inner North East. All of the work carried out will take a partnership approach and address key community and neighbourhood issues aiming to reduce deprivation, inequalities and ensure prosperous effective communities.

3. This report outlines the key areas of work the Neighbourhood Manager is currently focussing on; highlights the achievements; the challenges faced and provides information on progress made to date.

4. The key areas of work in progress as summarised in this report are:
 - **Tackling employability, training and dealing with the impact of the welfare reform.**
 - **Maintaining and improving issues surrounding health and wellbeing.**

- **Addressing environmental and community safety Issues items including issues of waste; dealing with derelict buildings; crime prevention and anti-social behaviour.**
- **Helping young people and youth development: - working with statutory agencies and supporting voluntary agencies within the commissioning agenda.**
- **Development of the Chapeltown Cultural Quarter**
- **Taking a lead on social housing investment and regeneration in the priority neighbourhoods.**

Recommendations

The Area Committee are asked to

1. Note the content of this report;
2. Note the new priorities identified for the Chapeltown and Meanwood 7 Estates, actions and initiatives developed;
3. Contribute to the development of actions to address issues in priority Neighbourhoods in the Moortown and Rounday Wards to report back to a future meeting.

1. Background information

- 1.1 The Neighbourhood's Improvement priorities were agreed at the Area Committee in March 2012. At this time the Area Committee agreed to extend funding for a Neighbourhood Manager post for a further two years. With the departure of the previous Neighbourhood Manager and commencement of a new one this report provides an update on the actions and priorities developed.

Chapelton Neighbourhood Management priorities, achievements and challenges

Employability, training and dealing with the impact of the welfare reform.

- 2.1 Dealing with employability and training continues to be a priority, especially now with the impact of the welfare reform taking hold. Work is being carried out in the area with partner agencies to ensure affected individuals receive full support and advice to understand the benefit changes and gain access to work and training.
- 2.2 Unity Employment Services continue to offer support and advice to tenants and help people into work. So far during Unity's period of involvement 36 people have gone into training and 14 into voluntary work. This financial year ten people have gained employment, five commenced training and three secured voluntary work. Support on gaining employment and key life skills continues to be successfully provided by Re'new and Learn Direct.
- 2.3 Work has been carried out by East North East homes (ENE) and Leeds City Council (LCC) to identify which residents in the area will be impacted by the welfare reform changes and under occupation. Visits have been made to affected individuals to ensure support is offered. Further details of this work are covered in a separate report to the Area Committee.
- 2.4 There is some appetite for a recruitment and training day to be held in the area in autumn, to follow on from the Chapelton Carnival. Work is in progress with recruitment agencies, employers and partner agencies and members of the community to potentially hold this type of event.
- 2.5 Colleagues from Children's Services, Employment & Skills, Leeds City College, Leeds College of Building, igen, Business in the Community, Economic Development and the Area Support Team have been working together on a pilot to consider how the NEETs and worklessness agendas could be tackled more effectively within the Networks cluster area.
- 2.6 The group agreed that there were opportunities for improvement in terms of partnership working and outcomes for local communities. Several factors informed the decision to focus on the Networks cluster area, for some time limited, intensive work. The area is identified as a priority neighbourhood by the Area Committee and partners; there is a commitment from the Targeted Services Leader to ensure the employability agenda is combined with the Families First programme; the area has a high school and there are therefore opportunities for transition work. Although the area has significant challenges, it was felt that it would be a manageable area to

work on initially, with lessons learnt being used to inform future work in priority areas. It has been agreed that the focus will be on the wider employability agenda as the NEETs issues is not as prevalent within the Networks cluster area – 5.7%, compared with a city-wide figure of 6.7%..

- 2.7 Partners have submitted data for the area which has been collated by the Area Support Team. This includes families being supported through the Families First programme, JSA statistics, NEETs and 'not known' figures, businesses in the area and any plans they have for expansion or contraction as well as information on Employment and Skills and Leeds City College provision and commissioned activity and how this is being accessed by local residents within the cluster area. It was also suggested that a number of case studies would be useful to identify where people are not accessing appropriate provision or where provision is not operating seamlessly. These are currently being identified.
- 2.8 The pilot group has agreed that now the data has been collated to provide an overview and the issues above identified, it is now vital to gain an understanding of the views of residents within the area, including those who access and those who are not accessing services to support them into work or training. A simple questionnaire has been drafted and frontline staff such as family support workers, housing officers, children's centre workers, other RSL front line staff, pastoral support staff within schools, Job Centre Plus and Employment and Skills outreach workers will be asked to complete 10 questionnaires with local residents they are in contact with. This will hopefully result in a total return of up to 300.
- 2.9 The group will reconvene in the autumn along with some of the front line workers who have been engaged in the questionnaires. In the meantime, a draft action plan is being drawn up to summarise suggested issues and actions to date. The next meeting will be used to develop the action plan and identify specific interventions that could be implemented to improve outcomes for local residents within the Networks Cluster area.

Health and wellbeing

- 2.10 Chapeltown remains the area with the highest levels of income deprivation. Work on health and wellbeing has continued with much of the initiatives being linked to income. In terms of key health issues in the area, the prevalence of diabetes is much higher than the Leeds overall figure. Recorded levels of obesity are also slightly higher than the city as a whole. Latest national statistics show that the infant mortality rate in Leeds has fallen again to 4.7 per 1000, this is the lowest ever achieved in Leeds. However, certain wards in Leeds including Chapeltown have persistently higher levels of infant mortality than the rest of the city. The Leeds Infant Mortality task group has set successive targets to narrow the gap in Infant Mortality between 'deprived Leeds' and more affluent parts of the city. The local target set is to reduce the infant mortality rate in 'deprived Leeds' to 5.5 per 1000 live births by 2015.
- 2.11 Plans are now developing to create a community gym in Norma Hutchinson Park. Local people have been making use of the children's playground equipment for keep fit. In order to prevent further damage to children's facilities and meet the fitness needs and desires of the local people agreement has been reached to build specialist fitness equipment into the park to encourage people from all parts and

ages of Chapeltown to use it. A steering group with local organisations on board has met twice to discuss the development of the project and two sessions of consultation have taken place with local group members. Approximately 100 responses from people of all ages have been returned, all being really positive about a fitness area in the park. Work is now concentrating on the specific equipment needed. Groundwork are going to be submitting a funding application to INE committee in the near future.

Environmental and Community Safety

2.12 The work on community safety continues. An effort to support families where there is a perceived risk of members engaging in criminal activity is on-going and progressing well. Partnership working in resolving community safety issues continues to be very successful. Tasking meetings provide a good way of engaging with key partners and contributing to a preventative approach to tackling key criminals and issues of antisocial behaviour in the area. The gang prevention strategy group continues to operate and demonstrates good and effective work between statutory youth services, the voluntary sector and the police. The IAG meeting held in Chapeltown is chaired by the police every quarter. This provides a good means of communication between the police, community members and partner agencies to review key issues of concern.

2.13 Work is taking place to deal with derelict buildings in the area to minimise the disruption caused to the community. Enforcement and building control sections of Leeds City Council (LCC) are involved in working with the owners of the Old Sikh temple on Chapeltown Road to ensure the building remains safe and secure. Work is also on-going to ensure progress is made towards the future regeneration of the building. There are also highways issues to address in this area, which are being progressed. In order to ensure all community members are consulted and kept up to date with progress on developments in the area a meeting with residents is planned for late September.

Young People and Youth Development

2.14 Both the voluntary and statutory sectors provide a range of activities and outreach work. A full summer activity programme is in place and underway for the school holiday period. Given the current economic climate with funding cuts voluntary organisations face challenges to sustain and develop services. The Neighbourhood Manager is working with these organisations to support them in to acquire funding and sustain their services.

2.15 Work has also commenced to develop the youth delegation agenda. A range of consultation with both partner agencies and young people is being carried out to ensure funding is spent efficiently and effectively.

Chapeltown Cultural Quarter

2.16 Work is under way to develop the Chapeltown Cultural Quarter (CCQ). Representatives from the West Indian Centre; Northern School of Contemporary Dance; UNITY and regeneration colleagues meet regularly with the Neighbourhood Manager. This enables the group to develop ideas about a new Mandela Centre as a first class performance, sports and cultural venue with wider links in that vicinity.

2.17 There are several buildings used by the community, all related to existing cultural activities. In order to make the most of scarce resources and current aspirations, the project is looking to consolidate the activities of the Leeds West Indian Centre and aspects of the current Mandela Centre as well as the Carnival Committee to offer the use of an extended building on the Mandela Centre site. The aim of the project is to establish a sustainable community hub with artistic, cultural and educational scope with a particular, but not exclusive, emphasis on black artistic talent within the Leeds City Region. The hub will provide opportunities to attend affordable community, inspired artistic and creative events as well as educational programs. It will also:

- Encourage and inspire the community to participate in arts and culture
- Provide a community owned asset that will improve economic and social opportunities within the Chapeltown area as well as within the wider region.

Social Housing Investment

2.18 Following an initial housing market assessment a housing investment strategy for the Chapeltown area has been developed. Work is being undertaken with key housing providers and partner agencies to develop both regeneration and community cohesion in the area. From September 2013 this strategy is to be handed over to ENE area support team. Operational housing staff were consulted via workshops twelve months ago and contributed to this strategy. A half day seminar, aiming to provide feedback progress and update the plan is set to take place in late September and co-ordinate this work. The main focus of the strategy is to achieve greater collaboration across the social housing organisations operating in the area to ensure the provision of good quality, fit for purpose housing in the short to medium and long term. Thus maximising the impact of the investment plans of those organisations.

2.19 Key pieces of work include:

- Collaboration and encouragement of good practice with private landlords operating in the area.
- Improving private sector housing generally and stimulating private sector investment.
- Development of new fit for purpose housing schemes on the appropriate sites in the area.

2.20 It is hoped that once this strategy is agreed and adopted it can be used as a template to develop further strategies in mixed tenure areas.

Meanwood Neighbourhood Management priorities, achievements and challenges

Environmental and Regeneration Issues

2.21 Environmental issues within Meanwood continue to improve although monitoring is required to ensure that fly tipping and vegetation cutting back is completed effectively. There are significant issues with rubbish dumping and fly tipping within the Beckhills area which are being worked on. Within the last month enforcement action was successfully taken against a local resident who had caused significant environmental issues with fly tipping on the Beckhills estate. Effective marketing of

the financial penalty that he received sent a clear message out to community members. This was a useful preventative measure. A new hotspot team are now in place throughout the Inner North East Area and are doing concentrated work on clearing the area and carrying out enforcement work in targeted zones. This work is progressing well and good feedback has been received.

- 2.22 One piece of work which should make a significant impact upon this area is the regeneration of the Beckhill estate following the clearance of some properties in the Beckhill Approach / Garth area. Regeneration in this area stalled slightly due to internal restructure issues but is now set to commence again in September this year. It is hoped that the development will also allow for provision of a play space and sports area for young people. This is a much needed commodity within this area especially given its specific needs. It is hoped that this will not only provide the area with a facelift and potentially provide employment opportunities or placements for local people, but also supply some capital to be able to complete additional works to improve the remainder of the estate.
- 2.23 Discussions are in motion to look at developing the Beckhill hill centre into a community hub where local people can drop in and attend to access key resources. Research is being undertaken into both what the gap in provisions is and what local residents need. For example there have been discussions about developing a job shop and IT facilities to enable people a space to access and develop skills in using the internet. Any work that is undertaken will need to link into the asset review being conducted throughout Leeds.

Community Safety

- 2.24 Crime and community safety work is proceeding satisfactorily and the anticipation is that a significant improvement will occur over the results from the previous year with burglary in particular much reduced across Chapel Allerton. Tasking meetings and good partnership working with both the police and voluntary agencies continue to provide a useful method of preventing key issues of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 2.25 There has been an increase with nuisance motorbikes /quads in the Meanwood area. A multi-agency approach has been taken to address this and there are plans to put up gates to prevent access to the areas where the crime is most prevalent. Partnership work in the Stonegates area continues through regular tasking meetings and this is progressing well.

Focus for the next period

- 2.26 In addition to the continuation of the projects highlighted within the report and included in the action plans appended, work for the coming period will be to focus on assessing the needs and priorities for other parts of the Inner North East.
- 2.27 Historically the Queenshills Estate has been part of the Moor Allerton Partnership and actions included in the NIP for this area. It is acknowledged that further work needs to be undertaken as a separate focus on this neighbourhood, this will be one of the priorities of the Neighbourhood Manager along with the Area Officer over the coming months.

- 2.28 Furthermore the Brackenwoods Estate in Roundhay, whilst not falling into the bottom 10% most deprived, has challenges that would benefit from a neighbourhood management approach, again this will be a priority for the Neighbourhood Manager over the coming months.
- 2.29 In developing actions for the wider area the Neighbourhood Manager will consult with Members through Ward meetings to develop action plans and these will be presented to a future Area Committee meeting for approval.

3 Corporate Considerations

3.1 Consultation and Engagement

Meanwood/Seven Estates area

- 3.1.1 Consultation and engagement is completed through community groups as well as the Beckhills Implementation Group (BIG) in Meanwood. There has been some discussion about changing the name of the group to reflect the fact that it covers issues within the whole of Meanwood area (Seven estates including Stonegates). The group are still undecided about changing the name and a vote will take place next meeting on this issue. Until recently there was a separate sub group to discuss health issues impacting on the area but this was not well attended. To save resource time and ensure all health issues are covered a specific section on health is now a standard item on the agenda at the BIG meeting. A community leadership team was set up and was successfully running in Meanwood up to around twelve months ago, two meetings took place and were well received. With the departure of the last Neighbourhood Manager and several months gap before recruitment of new manager, this team needs to recommence and be fully embedded into the area. Members have been contacted and a meeting has been set for late September. There is future progress with regeneration on the Beckhill estate in the pipeline to commence before the end of the year. This should enable a positive start to revitalising the group and assist full participation of community members in the area.

Chapelton area

- 3.1.2 Consultation within Chapelton is currently through a number of sources. These include the Independent Advisory Group; resident and public meetings and through community representatives at groups which focus on the key areas in the Neighbourhood Improvement plan. Developing a community leadership team in the area has proved to be a challenge. However work is underway to recruit members to develop members for such a team, following the working example of Meanwood. This is a key priority. It should ensure full participation of community members in the areas development.
- 3.1.3 There was a separate health and wellbeing meeting held in the area but there was some duplication with issues overlapping with the Harehills area. Following consultation there is now a combined health and wellbeing group for the Harehills and the Chapelton area.

The Chapel Allerton Community first panel

3.1.4 The Community first panel continues to work well around the allocated funding provided for Chapel Allerton by the Community Development Foundation (CDF). There has been a good selection of applications received this year with only £3,500 remaining for this funding round which ends in March 2014. Key projects in the area have been funded through this scheme These Include:

- Apna Sports Group
- Irish Arts Foundations
- Meanwood Valley Baptist Church working with InterAct
- Yorkshire Adabee Arts Forum
- Impact Sports & Art
- BHI identity project
- The Feel Good Factor Roots project.

3.1.5 There has been a lack of applications received from the seven estates area, so organisations need to be encouraged to apply for this funding.

3.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

3.2.1 Equality and Diversity are monitored through the NIP's and in identifying inequalities and looking to resolve associated issues this information forms a crucial part of all work in priority neighbourhoods.

3.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

3.3.1 The work links directly to overall city wide plans through the Vision for Leeds.

3.4 Resources and Value for Money

3.4.1 The work here looks to streamline existing resources, creating an integrated approach to issues with associated improvements in value for money.

3.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

Not applicable in this assistance

3.6 Risk Management

Not applicable in this instance.

4 Conclusions

4.1 The approach being taken in the priority neighbourhoods is working well. New key aims have been identified and good progress is being made. Work to develop actions in the more challenging parts of Roundhay and Moortown Wards now needs to be focussed on, and partnerships developed further to tackle these. This will form part of the basis for the work programme of the Neighbourhood Manager over the future period.

5 Recommendations

The Area Committee are asked to

- 5.1 Note the content of this report;
- 5.2 Note the new priorities identified for the Chapeltown and Meanwood 7 Estates, actions and initiatives developed;
- 5.3 Contribute to the development of actions to address issues in priority Neighbourhoods in the Moortown and Rounday Wards to report back to a future meeting.

Background documents

Chapeltown and Scott Hall NIP
Meanwood NIP

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

Report of East North East Area Leader

Report to North East (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 2nd September 2013

Subject: Area Update report

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

Summary of main issues

1. This report contains an update on community engagement as laid out in the business plan and provides a comprehensive update on all priorities agreed by the Area Committee at the March meeting.
2. The report also sets out the proposals for consultation with local groups and residents to be undertaken during Autumn 2013 to identify the priorities for the 2014/15 Area Committee Business Plan.

Recommendations

3. The Inner North East Area Committee is requested to note the update on Community Consultation, Volunteer Thank You event arrangements, Moor Allerton Partnership and Area Committee priorities update.
4. The Area Committee is asked to agree the proposed method of consultation for the autumn round of consultation.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report seeks Area Committee approval for the proposed method of consultation for Autumn 2013 and feeds back on community consultation and engagement over the last quarter.
- 1.2 The report gives an update on consultation and progress made in relation to addressing the 2013/14 agreed priorities and highlights their RAG (Red, Amber or Green)status.
- 1.3 The report also provides an update on work by the MAP (Moor Allerton Partnership) which is relevant to the Moortown ward.

2 Background information

- 2.1 At the March 2013 meeting a refreshed Area Committee Business Plan was presented and approved, this provided a complete set of papers relating to the area, including actions and priorities, to be performance managed by the Area Committee.
- 2.2 Included in the Business Plan was a Community Engagement Plan 2013-14, this strategy sets out how the Area Committee will ensure residents across the Inner North East area have opportunity to influence priorities set out in the Area Business Plan and other responsibilities delegated to the Area Committee.
- 2.3 The priorities for 2013/14 and the achievements from 2012/13 are publicised in the Inner North East Community Charter which is distributed via community contacts and networks throughout the inner north east area.
- 2.4 The Area Committee has held a Volunteer Thank You event every year for the past eight years to show community volunteers how much their work is valued. The event was initially held at the end of the calendar year, in December, but due to issues with attendance was last year moved to a summer date which was found to be much more successful.
- 2.5 The Moor Allerton Priority Neighbourhood includes the Lingfields, Firtrees, and Cranmer areas in Outer North East Leeds bounded by Harrogate Road to the east, Nursery Lane to the north, and Black Moor Road to the east. To the south it extends over the ring road to Stonegate Road to include the Queenshills/Leafields area which is in Inner North East Leeds.
- 2.6 Delivery of the NIP action plan is the responsibility of the Moor Allerton Partnership (MAP), a partnership of statutory and voluntary organisations. The MAP partners include Leeds City Council, East North East Homes Leeds (ENEHL), Leeds Jewish Housing Association, West Yorkshire Police, Job Centre Plus, MAECare, Northcall, IGEN , Churches Together and Groundwork Leeds

3 Main issues

3.1 Community Engagement

- 3.1.1 Building on previous years, a 9th annual Volunteer Thank You event is planned for Saturday 14th September to take place at Meanwood Valley Urban farm. Funded entirely by the Inner North East Area Committee it is the committee's way of celebrating people who give their time and goodwill through volunteering activities in Chapel Allerton, Roundhay and Moortown wards.
- 3.1.2 The event will take the form of a marketplace style event for the community groups wishing to showcase their work, BBQ with live music performances will be provided. As detailed in the Community Engagement Strategy, this event forms one of the two Community Engagement events promised as it will also provide an opportunity to feedback to the community on Area Committee priorities and consult on priorities for 2014/15.
- 3.1.3 Further to this, the Area Support Team will also hold a stall at the Rock the Clock event to be held in Oakwood on 7th September to feedback and consult on future priorities.
- 3.1.3 Links have been strengthened with partners at West Yorkshire Police and the Roundhay PACT (Partners and the Community Together) meeting, previously run by the police, has been expanded. Representatives from all of the active groups in the area have been invited to sit around a table with Councillors, Police, the Area Support team and other partners as requested by the group, to discuss priorities in the area and how we can work together to achieve them.
- 3.1.4 The PACT meeting also provides a networking opportunity for the groups and strengthens links with the Area Committee. The first meeting of this style was held on 7th August and attendance was nearly a seven fold increase on previous PACT attendance. It is intended to follow the same model with the Moortown PACT meeting.
- 3.1.5 It is hoped that this will in turn encourage more residents perhaps not currently involved in groups to attend as publicity and awareness is increased.
- 3.1.6 In the Chapeltown and Meanwood priority neighbourhoods a similar model of community engagement is being established by the Neighbourhood Manager, the Community Leadership Team (or CLT), as detailed in the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan report elsewhere on this agenda.
- 3.1.7 It is intended to use these mechanisms to carry out the autumn series of consultation, necessary to set the overall themes and priorities for the Area Committee for 2014/15.
- 3.1.8 Below is a timetable of the consultation showing how it feeds into the priority setting for 2014/15

September-November	Priority setting discussions at CLT's and PACT meetings with resident group representatives
December	Report back on themes to Area Committee
January/February	Winter consultation with partners
March	Draft business plan presented

3.2 Area Committee Priorities Update

- 3.2.1 As agreed at the March 2013 Inner North East Area Committee an update on the Area Committee priorities is attached at **appendix 1**, which reports back on all priorities and shows a Red, Amber or Green status which reflects how far developed the actions are at this stage in the year.
- 3.2.2 Area Committee lead member roles were agreed at June 2013 Area Committee and discussions are currently underway to look at how these roles can best be supported to drive work under each of the themes within the Inner North East.
- 3.2.5 The Inner North East Area Committee Charter 2013/14 has also been produced on schedule this year and already gone out to all groups on the mailing list for distribution and promotion amongst their members and for display in public venues.
- 3.2.6 As agreed at the Area Committee's March 2013 meeting the Charter was this year produced at no cost, it has been designed 'in-house' and distributed electronically where possible with copies being printed by the Area Support Team if requested. Feedback so far has been very positive regarding this change.

3.3 MAP priority neighbourhood update.

- 3.3.1 Churches in North Leeds in partnership with The Trussell Trust (www.trusselltrust.org) will be starting a 'foodbank' to cover areas within North Leeds. The foodbank will provide short term emergency food items to help people in crisis, and will be based in Moortown Methodist Church. At the foodbank centre people will have access to other services such as signposting to local services, befriending and prayer for those who request it. All food given out by the foodbank is donated by the general public across North Leeds.
- 3.3.2 Local agencies and organisations have been approached to see if they will be willing to become a registered foodbank distributor. The distributors will hold vouchers which they can give to an individual or family in crisis to take to the distribution centre. The food bank provides three days food.
- 3.3.3 A new comprehensive programme of classes and workshops is being offered by Leeds Jewish Welfare Board. The launch of its new project 'The Venue@theMAZCC' on 28 July attracted close on 250 people to its taster showcase. The Open Day unveiling highlighted an all-embracing schedule of fifty classes which officially commences in September. The event raised awareness of the Marjorie and Arnold Ziff Community Centre as a highly attractive and competitive venue for parties, events, conferences and meetings. On offer at the centre are classes that include guitar and ukulele classes open to all ages and abilities.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 As recommended in a report to the Area Committee in September 2011 the Area Committee's Engagement Plan is now included as part of the Area Business Plan and covers the Community Charter.
- 4.1.2 The priorities identified are based on consultation that has occurred in the current cycle.
- 4.1.3 The sub-groups are not subject to any consultation or engagement needs.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 Consideration is given to the equality impact of projects to deliver the priorities within the charter and in funding projects to local groups through light touch equality impact assessments and the completion of project planning documentation.
- 4.2.2 Where a negative equality impact is identified action will be taken to mitigate the impact or risk. Currently work is being progressed to ensure that groups reflective of the whole community attend the PACT meetings.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 The themes in the Community Charter mirror the themes and priority outcomes at a city wide level and also reflect the delegated functions and priority advisory functions.
- 4.3.2 The sub groups also reflect the delegated functions of the Area Committee.

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 The Well-Being Fund is used to finance projects which support the priorities in the Area Business Plan and Community Charter. Area Support Team staff work with Council services, partner agencies and local communities to take a strategic approach to Well-Being Fund expenditure to ensure best use of this funding.
- 4.4.3 The Inner North East Area Committee also provides the funds for the community Charter. This year £3,000 has been allocated for Community Engagement and the community Charter.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.4 In line with the Council's Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules, all decisions taken by Area Committees are not eligible for Call In.
- 4.5.5 There are no key or major decisions included in this report.
- 4.5.6 There are no legal implications relating to this report.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 Not applicable under this section.

5 Conclusions

5.1 The Area Business Plan sets out the key priorities for the year that links to city wide policies and provides a framework for the spend of the Wellbeing Budget.

The Community Charter translates this into a user friendly document that can be sent out to local groups to let them know what the Area Committee is focussing on in the current year.

This report updates Members on the work carried out in the first six months of 2013/14 to address these priorities. Although lots of good progress has been made the Area Support Team is aware that there is still more work to be done to achieve the priorities set out in the Business Plan as we move forward into the final two quarters of the year.

6 Recommendations

7 The Inner North East Area Committee is requested to note the update on Community Consultation, Volunteer Thank You event arrangements, Moor Allerton Partnership and Area Committee priorities update.

8 The Area Committee is asked to agree the proposed method of consultation for the autumn round of consultation.

9 Background documents¹

9.1 None

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

Priorities For Action:

Priority	How will this be achieved?	Outcomes/Measures	Progress/Concerns to Highlight	Flag Status
Children & Young People	Tackle child poverty and support the setting up of an Inner North East food bank.	Food bank to be established in Inner North East.	A North Leeds food bank is due to open based at Moortown Methodist Church providing short term food for people in crisis in the Inner & Outer North East areas. The foodbank is to be run by the Trussel Trust.	Green
	Increase activities in the area for young people, particularly during the holidays.	Full programme of well attended, successful positive activities to be put on throughout school holidays and key times. Success to be measured using self-monitoring by young people.	<p>A full programme of activities has been created for young people throughout the school holidays, jointly with the Clusters.</p> <p>Universal Youth provision funding has been delegated to the Area Committee and a mechanism is to be agreed (elsewhere on this agenda) for young people to decide its spend in the area.</p>	Green
	Build better links between local schools and community groups.	School Governors and community groups working together issues and events in their community.	The Roundhay PACT meeting has been expanded to include representatives from all of the active residents groups in the area. The agenda will be widened to include issues that affect all partners' priorities and School Governor representatives will be invited to attend. This formula is also to be replicated in the Moortown ward and a Community Leadership Team is being established in Chapeltown and Meanwood which will achieve a similar result.	Amber
	Reduce the number of young people not in Employment, Education or Training.	Keys statistics recording the number of NEETs will show a reduction in numbers in the Inner North East.	The Area Committee has funded an apprentice post to employ a young person currently NEET from the Inner North East. Recruitment is currently underway for this post.	Amber

Living Environment	Protect green spaces, including use of environmental enforcement and action	Higher measured satisfaction rate in local people regarding their local environment. Reduction in complaints to the council.	<p>A Hotspot team has been created by the Area Committees Environmental Enforcement Team (EAT team) to provide additional cleanliness and enforcement action around areas with council housing stock. This primarily affects the Chapeltown and Meanwood areas.</p> <p>A restructure of East North East Homes is due for completion soon which will result in additional staff resource being allocated to the EAT team, initial discussions on how this will look will be presented to the Environmental Sub Group in October.</p>	Green
	Improve local green spaces and parks, including Allerton Grange fields	Increased visitor numbers to parks and green spaces in the area. Local residents engaged in healthy positive activity in the local area. Fewer complaints to the council regarding maintenance and standards.	<p><u>Allerton Grange Fields</u> are now vested with Parks and Countryside, the Friends of group are actively engaging in fund raising for improvements and Councillors are considering funding to provide Interpretation Boards to welcome visitors to the greenspace.</p> <p><u>Norma Hutchinson Park</u>- Fund raising is nearly complete to install the Trim Trail exercise circuit. Councillors and the Neighbourhood Manager are steering this work and are expecting to have all of the funding in place by the end of September which will then enable them to put the work out to tender.</p> <p><u>Roundhay Park tennis courts</u>- Consultation has now been completed on a scheme to improve 8 of the courts at Roundhay Park, including providing space for junior tennis. Visitors voted overwhelmingly for the tennis courts to be improved, further consultation</p>	Green

			was then carried out on different visitor groups to determine support for different plans, over 100 people responded. A meeting is to take place with the Friends of group, Parks & Countryside, the Lawn Tennis Association and Councillors to finalise plans with a view to improvements being in place for next year's tennis season. Councillors have put aside s106 funding to pay for this.	
	Encourage local food growing at home and other suitable public areas.	Well used Feed Leeds beds throughout the area and local people able to eat healthy produce.	<p>Feed Leeds programme is established and edible produce beds are in place throughout the area for residents to pick. The Area Committee's Environmental Sub Group has requested that more is done to ensure beds are sited in the more deprived areas.</p> <p>The Area Committee is considering an application to fund the Black Health Initiative to run a project which will see young people establish and maintain vegetable gardens at the homes of elderly residents in the area.</p>	Green
	Support allotments through reducing waiting lists and improving security.	Attractive, secure allotments available for all who want them within a reasonable waiting period. Local people able to grow healthy produce and maintain a healthy diet.	Opportunities to support this priority have not been identified in these first two quarters but discussions are to be held with Parks and Countryside to look at ways in which the Area Committee can support this work.	Red
	Reduce the number of empty homes and derelict properties, where appropriate through planning enforcement.	Number of properties specified as derelict reduced and properties brought back into use.	Work is on-going to bring the Jyoti building in Chapeltown back into a more reasonable state of repair. The Neighbourhood Manager is working closely with Planning Compliance on this and also on the issues surrounding the Sikh Temple in Chapeltown. Further information will be presented elsewhere on this agenda as part of the NIP update.	Amber

			The Asset Review work, currently lead by Sharon Hughes for the East North East, is underway to identify which council owned properties in the area can be brought back into use, disposed of or made better use of.	
Communities	Tackle inappropriate parking in both residential and commercial areas.	Fewer complaints to the council and police.	Residents in Moortown have been supported to create attractive planting on grass verges so as to prevent parking. Money has also been set aside for birds mouth fencing to be used as identified.	Green
	Improve highways through the influence of local highways schemes and identification of key roads.	Improve the appearance of the area and reduce complaints to the council.	Work is on-going to link in with a highways scheme on Harrogate Road in Chapel Allerton. Plans are to widen the carriageway and the Area Committee will ensure this links in with improvements to the shop frontages, such as with the use of flower planters and street furniture. Road signs on Scott Hall Road are to be improved and signs erected to Welcome visitors to Moortown.	Amber
	Support events that bring people together and improve community spirit and relations.	Reduce community tensions, increase in the number of people actively involved in their community.	The successful Chapel Allerton Arts Festival has received Area Committee funding again this year. A group of residents in Oakwood are being supported to put on a music event entitled 'Clock Rock and Two Empty Barrels' in Oakwood Village. It will have stalls and events for all of the community and raise money for the Oakwood Clock.	Green
	Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour through partnership working with the police and other agencies.	Reduction in key figures which record instances of crime and ASB.	A Burglary Action Plan has been drawn up for the Roundhay ward and partners are working together to carry it out. Three days of action have taken place on the Easterly Road corridor with Police road blocks checking cars and partner agencies checking for tax discs, illegal fuel and	Green

			<p>carrying out Environmental Visual Audits, ASB visits and reassurance leafleting in surrounding streets.</p> <p>The Tasking teams continue to operate in each neighbourhood and the Gang Prevention Strategy Group in Chapeltown has received a very positive Peer Review which was undertaken by the Home Office. The area has been praised for <i>having "Active Community leaders who have a strong insight into community tensions and offending behaviour"</i>.</p>	
Business	Better reuse of old buildings, not just for housing.	Regeneration of key areas which supports the local community and urban shopping districts.	The Asset review is underway in consultation with Members, seeking to reduce and make best use of council owned buildings	Amber
	Improve local shopping areas through floral initiatives and festive lights.	Improve the appearance of key routes and urban shopping districts.	Flower arrangements have been place along a number of the main district centres in the area, including Chapletown Road, Chapel Allerton and Oakwood village. Festive lights and switch on events are being planned to take place as in previous years across the area.	Green
Health & Wellbeing	Promote healthy life choices to the community and run projects that support this, for example stop smoking initiatives.	Reduction in the number of people dying from lifestyle related diseases.	<p>Feel Good Factor are commissioned by LCC's Public Health team to carry out Stop smoking work and sign post smokers to appropriate groups in Chapeltown.</p> <p>The Area Committee is considering applications to run a Junior Fun run and a gardening project which promotes healthy eating.</p>	Amber
	Run projects and work with other organisations to address money poverty	Reduction in the impact of the welfare reforms in the Inner North East.	A multi-agency welfare reform team is working to address poverty issues arising from both the Welfare Reforms and wider	Green

	issues people are experiencing.		economic factors. A report is being presented on progress at September Area Committee (elsewhere on this agenda).	
	Increase walking and cycling through improving and promoting local walking/cycling routes, including ginnels.	More accessible cycling and walking routes, actively promoted through voluntary and community sector groups in the area.	Feel Good Factor are commissioned by LCC's Public Health team to carry out Walking for Health groups in Chapeltown.	Amber

Report of East North East Area Leader

Report to North East Inner Area Committee

Date: 2nd September 2013

Subject: Wellbeing Fund Revenue Budget 2013/14

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Chapel Allerton, Moortown, Roundhay		
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:		

Summary of main issues

1. This report provides members with an update on the current position of the wellbeing revenue budget for the Inner North East.
2. Applications made for funding are included in the report for member's consideration.

Recommendations

3. Members are asked to note the contents of this report, and
4. Consider the following project proposals and approve the working group recommendations where applicable:
 - Agree to fund £1,500 towards the Roundhay Junior Park Run
 - Agree to fund the £2,960 requested for the BHI- Identity Programme
6. Note the current budget position.

Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The report provides members with an update on the current position of the revenue Wellbeing funding for the Area Committee and sets out applications made for consideration by the Area Committee.

1 Background information

- 2.1 Each of the ten Area Committees receives an allocation of revenue funding. The amount of funding for each Area Committee is determined by a formula based on population and deprivation in each area which has been previously agreed by the Council's Executive Board.
- 2.2 It has been agreed that the revenue wellbeing budget for the Inner North East Area Committee for 2013/14, based on these calculation is £161,810. This is the same revenue budget that was allocated last year.
- 2.3 The Area Committee have nominated a representative from each ward to form a Wellbeing Member Working Group to consider applications made for funding and also receive feedback and evaluations regarding projects that have already been funded.
- 2.4 It should be noted that at the last wellbeing working group on Wednesday 24th July 2013 no ward member from the Moortown ward was able to attend and so the recommendations included in this report are from the Chapel Allerton and Roundhay representatives only.
- 2.5 The Area Committee wellbeing fund is used to commission activity and projects to support the priorities in the Area Committee Business Plan and promoted in the Community Charter. Applications are also accepted from organisations in the local area who can demonstrate that their project supports the Community Charter promises. These projects are monitored quarterly on progress, with a final evaluation taking place when the project is completed.
- 2.6 The current budget position for the revenue Wellbeing budget is provided at **Appendix 1** for Members information.
- 2.7 Community organisations can apply for a small grant up to the value of £500 to support small scale projects in the community; these are approved by ward members. **Appendix 2** provides a summary of applications approved by Councillors outside of this meeting.
- 2.8 Once projects are completed applicants are required to submit monitoring reports to the Area Committee to evaluate its success, these are submitted to the Area Support Team. None of the projects funded by the Area Committee this financial year have completed as yet, but a summary of the success of funded projects will be included as an appendix to this report for consideration at future meetings.

3 Main Issues - New Applications for Consideration

- 3.1 **Project:** Roundhay Junior Park Run
Applicant: Parkrun UK
Amount applied for: £1,500

Priority supported: Best City for Children & Young people and Best City for Health & Wellbeing.

- 3.1.1 This project is to set up and establish a free, weekly, timed 2km run in Roundhay Park for children aged 4-14, every Sunday morning. The run will be staffed entirely by volunteers and will be free for anyone to participate
- 3.1.2 Once initial start-up costs have been met, the event will be self-sufficient and require no further fund raising. It is facilitated by the national, not for profit organisation, 'Parkrun UK' who provide half of the start-up costs as well as training for volunteers and local management committee members.
- 3.1.3 The start-up costs will pay for all of the equipment needed, such as; the computer software that produces the results and statistics for the runners, high tech stop watches, barcode scanners, high visibility T shirts for all participants and cones and bollards. They will then be supported by Parkrun for any future costs which may arise.
- 3.1.4 The Wellbeing sub group discussed the existing adult park run which already takes place at Roundhay Park, and questioned why the two resources could not be shared. The applicants advised that the two committees and events operate separately, and that ultimately these start-up costs are required by Parkrun UK in order for them to support the establishment of the event. Once set up, Parkrun will then support the project for the duration of its lifespan with no other external funding ever being required. The Sub Group were reassured that this initial outlay would then ensure that the event continued to take place on a weekly basis for the foreseeable future.
- 3.1.5 The group has to raise 50% of the start-up costs, to match Parkrun. They are applying for £1,500 from Area Committee, £1,500 from other sources and Parkrun will provide £3,000.
- 3.1.6 The Wellbeing working group recommended that the project be funded to the full £1,500 requested.

3.2 Project: Identity Programme (Lets Grow 2gether)
Applicant: Black Health Initiative (BHI)
Amount applied for: £2,960
Priority Supported: Best City for Environment

- 3.2.1 The aim of the Identity Programme is to increase young people's knowledge and awareness of their heritage so as to promote their pride and self-worth and to increase community cohesion. To achieve this BHI are aiming to run different projects under the Identity Programme umbrella, which all contribute towards this aim. Lets Grow 2gether is one of these sub projects.
- 3.2.2 Lets Grow 2gether is an intergenerational gardening project to take place in the gardens of elderly residents. Young people will establish and cultivate vegetable gardens in exchange for learning stories about their heritage from the elderly residents.

3.2.3 The project is to last a year and once this period has ended the group intend to sustain it through partnership work with religious establishments who have 'tithes' money that can be used. The elderly participants will be identified via care networks in the area and the young people from BHI's existing Teenage Health & Wellbeing Group and also advertised in local schools.

3.2.4 The funding will pay for; a sessional worker, a van, basic tools, seeds, bulbs and compost.

3.2.5 The group are requesting £2,960, the Wellbeing Working Group recommended that the full amount be funded.

3.4 Wellbeing Budget 2013/14

3.4.1 The Inner North East Area Committee last year did well in spending or allocating most of its 2012/13 budget. Carried forward to this year that wasn't spent was:

- Chapel Allerton Ward Pot - £2,145.71
- Moortown Ward Pot - £9,770.81
- Roundhay Ward Pot - £3,691.96
- Area Wide - £5,804.88
- Total - £21,413.36

3.5.1 The allocation of revenue wellbeing funding for 2013/14 is again £161,810. This is the same amount of revenue funding as the Inner North East Area Committee received last year.

3.5.2 Below are the new figures for this financial year showing the amount of funding left in each of the area pots.

Funding / Spend Items	Chapel Allerton Ward Pot	Moortown Ward Pot	Roundhay Ward Pot	Area Wide	Total
Balance b/f from 2012-13	3,745.71	12,400.81	7,038.58	41,464.88	64,649.98
Schemes Approved from 2012-13 budget to be spent in 2013-14	1,600.00	2,630.00	3,346.62	35,660.00	43,236.62
Amount of b/f budget available for new schemes 2013-14	2,145.71	9,770.81	3,691.96	5,804.88	21,413.36
New Allocation for 2013-14	10,000	10,000	10,000	131,810	161,810.00
Total available for new schemes in 2013-14	12,145.71	19,770.81	13,691.96	137,614.88	183,223.36
Amount remaining	10,147.45	7,971.58	4,797.76	35,491.49	58,408.48

3.5.3 Attached at **Appendix 1** is a full breakdown of wellbeing funding for 2013/14 and amounts already allocated, including ward pot funding.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 The local community and VCFS groups are consulted and the well being fund grant process is shared with them via the community engagement strategy and events that are attended. In addition feedback is provided via the Community Charter. Consultation on the priorities within the Community Charter is undertaken on an annual basis and shapes the priorities which the Well Being Fund is used to deliver.
- 4.1.2 The Wellbeing Member Working Group considers the applications for funding and makes a recommendation for the Area Committee to consider.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 Well Being Funding is used to ensure that inequalities within the local area are addressed through local projects and schemes and equality impact assessments carried out where necessary.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 The Wellbeing Fund projects seek to contribute to the City Priorities by improving the local area and addressing inequalities in the Inner North East.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

- 4.4.1 All relevant applications to the wellbeing fund are requested to get three quotes for the work to make sure it is good value for money.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 In line with the Council's Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules, all decisions taken by Area Committees are not eligible for Call In.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 Not applicable under this section.

4.7 Conclusions

- 4.7.1 The above groups have applied for funding to the Inner North East Area Committee and the Area Committee is asked to consider its budget and whether it would like to fund the applications.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report, and
- 5.2 Consider the following project proposal and approve the working group recommendations where applicable:
- Agree to fund £1,500 towards the Roundhay Junior Park Run
 - Agree to fund the £2,960 requested for the BHI- Identity Programme

6 Background documents¹

None

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

Funding / Spend Items	Chapel Allerton Ward Pot	Moortown Pot	Ward Roundhay Pot	Area Wide	Total
Balance b/f from 2012-13	6,375.71	9,971.58	3,873.96	43,974.49	64,195.74
Schemes Approved from 2012-13 budget to be spent in 2013-14	4,229.27	-	182.00	34,660.00	39,071.27
Amount of b/f budget available for new schemes 2013-14	2,146.44	9,971.58	3,691.96	9,314.49	25,124.47
New Allocation for 2013-14	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	131,810.00	161,810.00
Total available for new schemes in 2013-14	12,146.44	19,971.58	13,691.96	141,124.49	186,934.47
Schemes in Progress brought Forward					
CA11 Festive Lights - New Chapelton Light	1,100.00				1,100.00
CA20 Move seat outside Chicken to Go	500.00				500.00
CA22 Supply and install 1x drop down bollard with keys Chapelton Road	200.00				-
CA23 Chapel Allerton Library Refurbishment	2,429.27				-
RH14 Refill two grit bins adjacent to West Park Grove			182.00		182.00
INE:12.55.LG Area Committee Apprentice post				6,240.00	6,240.00
INE:12.58.LG Welfare Reform Support				2,500.00	2,500.00
INE:12.69.LG Relocation of Back Chapelton Road Planter				1,420.00	1,420.00
INE:12.71.LG BCTV Inkwell project				2,000.00	2,000.00
INE:12.72.LG Festive Lights 2013/14				12,500.00	12,500.00
INE:12.73.LG Chapelton CCTV 2013/14				7,500.00	7,500.00
INE:12.77.LG Irish Arts Community Participation				2,500.00	2,500.00
Earmarked Schemes Brought Forward Sum	4,229.27	-	182.00	34,660.00	39,071.27

2013-14 New Schemes	Chapel Allerton	Moortown	Ward Roundhay	Area Wide	Total
Chapel Allerton					
CA01 Chapelton & Chapel Allerton Planters	1,734.00				1,734.00
CA02 Cold Calling Signs - Roxholme Terrace	79.50				79.50
CA03 Plaques for planters x 3 (£16 each)	48.00				48.00
CA04 Paint & Paintbrushes - Mary Seacole (Homebase)	62.49				62.49
CA05 Replacement Chess Pieces - Mary Seacole	75.00				75.00
Moortown					
MT01 Meanwood Caretaker		5,000.00			5,000.00
MT02 Grit Bins		3,000.00			3,000.00
MT03 Festive Lights		1,000.00			1,000.00
MT04 Signage		1,000.00			1,000.00
MT05 Birdsmouth Fencing Pot		2,000.00			2,000.00
Roundhay					
RH01 Oakwood Village Caretaker			5,000.00		5,000.00
RH02 Roundhay Floral Displays			3,245.00		3,245.00
RH03 Roundhay Floral Displays - 70L water bowser			649.00		649.00
Summer Projects					
INE/13/01/SP National Citizenship Service Project for Young People				3,500.00	3,500.00
INE/13/02/SP Chapel Allerton & Moortown Summer Holiday Programme				2,000.00	2,000.00
INE/13/03/SP Environmental Summer Playscheme				4,000.00	4,000.00
INE/13/04/SP Roundhay Holiday Activities				1,390.00	1,390.00
INE/13/05/SP Hip Hop Don't Stop				1,898.00	1,898.00
INE/13/06/SP One Community Tackle it Media				4,000.00	4,000.00
INE/13/07/SP Chapelton YIP Holiday Outdoor Activities				3,442.00	3,442.00
INE/13/08/SP Summer Street Beat				1,692.00	1,692.00
INE/13/09/SP £3 Summer at the Works				800.00	800.00
INE/13/10/SP Phoenix Dance Theatre Transition Project				2,145.00	2,145.00
INE/13/11/SP Pick up a Paintbrush				620.00	620.00
INE/13/12/SP Multi Sports Camp				2,190.00	2,190.00
INE/13/13/SP Young Leaders Award				2,195.00	2,195.00
INE/13/14/SP RJC Dance Summer School				2,160.00	2,160.00

Well-being Small Grants

Project Name	Organisation	Amount Requested	Project Summary
Artistic achievers carnival project	Artistic Achievers	£500	A young person, mentored by RJC dance, applied to run a project to help a group of young people design and create their own carnival costumes for Chapeltown Carnival. The funding paid for all of the materials and equipment needed.
Open week-summer school	Moor Allerton Sports & Social Centre	£500	This project was to run a week's summer school for young people during the summer holidays. The sports and social centre held bowls, bridge, table tennis, tennis, pool and chess amongst other activities
Off Road bikes	West Yorkshire Police	£500	<p>This application was for funding to cover the lease costs to retain 2 off road motorcycles within the North East Police division for 12 months at a total cost of £5,670. The INE agreed to partial funding to compliment funding from other Area Committees.</p> <p>The aims of the service are to reduce complaints of anti-social behaviour relating to nuisance motorbikes and noise, increase public confidence and contribute towards increased safety in green spaces and public places.</p>
Button Hill Residents Association trip to the coast	Button Hill Residents Association	£400	This project was to take 15 to 18 elderly & infirm residents from Chapeltown for a day trip out to the coast. The funding would be used to pay for the bus with a tail lift so that they can take people with wheelchairs.
Play days.	Carr Manor Children's Centre	£500	The aim of the project is to provide an easily accessible community play group for families. The play group will aim at giving children aged 0-5 years a stimulating environment that will support children's learning and development through play. The play group will also aim to provide opportunities for parents/carers to support their children to enjoy and achieve. The group will run once a week until April 2014.

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Attendance:

Councillors: P. Gruen (Chair), G. Hyde, G. Hussain, G. Wilkinson, A. McKenna, A. Gabriel, K. Bruce, J. Akhtar, P. Wadsworth, J. McKenna, J. Jarosz
Officers: J. Rogers, K. Kudelnitzky, R. Barke, S. Mahmood, J. Maxwell

Minutes: S. Warbis

Attending for specific items: H. Pinches, I. Mackay, K. Morton, Cllr. J. Blake, P. Broughton

Item	Description	Action
1.0	Apologies	
1.1	None	
2.0	Minutes and Matters Arising	
2.1	The minutes of the previous Area Chairs Forum meeting on 1 st March 2013 were agreed as an accurate record.	
2.2	Cllr Gruen thanked the efforts of the Area Chairs and officers over the previous year with this being the last meeting before the new municipal year. Good progress has been made over the use of and monitoring of Area Committee budgets, and also regarding the review of area working and the development of new and improved delegations.	
2.3	<u>3.9 of previous minutes – Financial Inclusion</u> The March round of Area Committee meetings came too quickly after the last Area Chairs Forum meeting for David Roberts to arrange attending meetings with his presentation on Financial inclusion. David Feeney is able to attend future meetings if Area Chairs feel this is appropriate.	
2.4	<u>5.9 of previous minutes – Transform Leeds Programme</u> It was agreed that discussions regarding transform Leeds would continue outside of this meeting.	
2.5	<u>6.7 of previous minutes – Environmental Enforcement Fines</u> The question had been raised as to whether income from environmental fines could be used in the areas where they had been gathered. The meeting was informed that although this was possible, in practice there is little left over after costs for administering the fines are taken into account.	
2.6	<u>7.1 of previous minutes – Health</u> Due to diary commitments it was not possible to arrange appropriate attendance at this meeting to have a focused agenda on health matters. It was agreed that this would be arranged for a future meeting.	Sarn Warbis
3.0	Area Lead Member Report	
3.1	Heather Pinches attended to provide an update on progress in the development and implementation of the Area Lead Member role.	
3.2	A report is being taken to the Executive Board meeting on 9 th May which is asking for Area Committees to appoint to the roles in the new municipal year. Concerns over capacity of Area Committees and the number of roles has been taken into account, and details of the number and scope of the new roles will be considered at the Annual General Council Meeting as necessary amendments to the constitution are made.	
3.3	It was felt that a background supporting brief for the role would be more	

appropriate than a prescriptive description, to enable some consistency across Area Committees but to also allow appropriate local variations. A draft supporting brief indicating the potential content was circulated.

3.4 Heather Pinches informed the meeting that a report is being taken to Member Management Committee on 4th June to give Area Committees the role of appointing elected members to school clusters.

3.5 Concerns were raised over the increased work for Area Committees and resulting pressures on agendas at meetings. It was explained that in areas where the current champion role is working effectively there wouldn't be an increase in workload. The intention is to build in close links with appropriate executive members and also establish effective support from and links to relevant services. The new roles will be closely monitored and adjustments will be possible as the roles develop.

4.0 Neighbourhood Planning

4.1 Ian Mackay attended to give an update on Neighbourhood Planning.

4.2 There has been progress since his last attendance at the Area Chairs Forum. There have been 14 designations in parished areas with 4 more on the verge of being designated. 18 expressions of interest have been received including 14 from non-parished areas.

4.3 Meetings with Area Chairs to discuss the role of Area Committees in Neighbourhood Planning went well. Although there is no formal role in the process Area Committees have a critical role in influencing and promoting neighbourhood plans.

4.4 There are now better relationships between communities and planning officers in many areas. Links need to be established with Neighbourhood Planning activity and other Area committee work.

4.5 Ian Mackay went through a table identifying the role of Area Committees at various stages in the neighbourhood planning process. This had been drawn up following discussions with elected members. The key roles are seen as being promoting plans and encouraging communities, consultation on plans drawn up, delivery/monitoring of non-planning elements of neighbourhood plans.

4.6 Area Chairs mentioned good work that was being carried out in Inner West and Outer South in encouraging and informing communities about neighbourhood plans and Ian was thanked for his efforts in these areas.

4.7 It was mentioned that there were some practical issues around the capacity of staff in Area teams and planning to manage the amount of interest that had been generated. There were also issues about the level of support that LCC can give to communities while plans are being developed.

5.0 Youth Services Review

5.1 Cllr Judith Blake and Ken Morton attended to provide an update on the review of youth services.

5.2 It is important to link up LCC youth activity funding with other streams. There has been a recent government announcement about additional sports resource going into primary schools. Ken Morton has also been talking to schools about the post 16 agenda and issues around efficiencies regarding small 6ht form provision.

5.3 A briefing note provided an initial estimate of youth Activity budget to be allocated to each Area Committee in 2013/14 and the increased allocation in 2014/15. Budgets should be transferred over to Area Committees during this

month.

5.4 Vicky Marsden will be co-ordinating the transition of responsibility. Sessions are being organised with members to map existing provision. Area Support Teams will be provided with named links within Children's Services and City Development to provide support with youth work, sport, arts, music experience and connections.

5.5 Cllr Gruen requested a timeline to be drawn up and brought back to this meeting outlining the stages when provision will be transferred over to Area Committees.

Ken Morton

5.6 Some concerns were raised by Area Chairs over the level of funding being transferred for breeze activities in 2013/14. It was questioned what was the total amount in pounds, including staffing costs, that was being delegated. It was raised that members would be more interested in the £2.53m targeted youth budget rather than small activity budgets. It was also raised that there was a risk of more work being put onto the Area Support Teams. Issues were also raised regarding asset transfers, particularly regarding the South Leeds Hub.

5.7 It was pointed out that this delegation was a positive step forward and included new money for Area Committees to spend to add value to their local areas. More would be delegated next year.

5.8 Cllr Blake pointed out that there was a real attempt to bring more influence to the Area committees here. There will be support from within the service, particularly around commissioning. It was vital that young people could contribute and also feedback on performance.

5.9 Ken Morton added that a team will be pulled together to support the Area Teams, and this will include a role in quality assurance over the commissioned provision. This team will evolve over time.

5.10 Cllr Gruen asked for a paper to be brought back to Area Chairs detailing how commissioning could be carried out more locally, to meet both local needs and central requirements.

Ken Morton

5.11 It was also requested that capacity issues needed to be discussed openly between Ken Morton and Area Leaders on how the teams in Children's Services can link to the Area Teams. Cllr Akhtar offered to be involved in discussions on capacity and engagement particularly in relation to reaching into Muslim communities.

**Ken Morton
/ Area
Leaders**

5.12 Cllr Blake informed the meeting that early intervention grant funding had been removed by government which has affected the capacity for youth work. Much of the resource is tied up with staffing and external providers which needs to be rationalised before handing over to Area Committees. A paper on the targeted youth formula should be going to Executive Board in June. A restructuring of Youth Services is underway, and although the proposals are not firm yet, they are radical. There will be a review of management posts, an intention to increase the number of Youth Support Workers, and a review of 9-5 roles.

5.13 Regarding the South Leeds Hub, there have been issues with the facility not meeting the needs of the whole of South Leeds and there are now options to bring in a partner to improve the facility. Discussions will take place between Cllr Blake and local Members as options are developed.

6.0 Locality Asset Planning

6.1 Paul Broughton attended to provide an update on the asset review and talked through a presentation handout.

- 6.2 The review is about rationalising the LCC asset portfolio in the face of increasing financial pressures. It will attempt to tackle the issues of a backlog in required maintenance and repairs, and the financial burden associated with this, and also will look to realise the capital value of some of our assets.
- 6.3 Previous attempts to rationalise assets have always had some service perspective; this is the first time that rationale has been based on the needs of localities. There are many buildings in use that could be linked better with other services and that could be used to integrate services more effectively.
- 6.4 The locality approach to looking at assets will look at:
- The citizens and households in an area
 - The condition of properties
 - What services local people need
 - Where do current visitors come from
 - Changes in customer demands
- 6.5 Work is being undertaken with Area Leaders and Area Team staff using Area Committee areas as a starting block. Pilots will be undertaken in each of the three areas to identify issues around stock profiles, customer needs and service requirements. There are some services that clearly need a locality base and others that clearly don't.
- 6.6 The asset review will consist of a two stage process focusing on quick wins and medium to longer term approaches. The pilots will inform the approaches taken in other areas.
- 6.7 Leeds is also taking part in the "one public estate" programme, along with 11 other councils, which is a government approach to looking at assets used by communities.
- 6.8 It was requested that the presentation should be emailed to Area Chairs.
- 6.9 The question was asked as to what the policy was for the use of any capital receipts. Currently 15% of receipts will remain for use in the locality. It was suggested that there needed to be more pace to the work on asset disposal and that there should be better use of external agencies. Also that there should be better exit strategies across the council, and that asset transfers should be sped up with less time arguing about rents and rebates.
- 6.10 It was generally agreed that services should be focussed on activities and not buildings. There needs to be better use of assets and this will need a move away from parochial attachments to buildings.
- 6.11 The next steps will be informed discussions with Members in pilot areas and establishing approaches for each of the areas.
- 7.0 Wellbeing Budgets**
- 7.1 A positive story has resulted from a lot of hard work by Area Committees and Area teams. There was a £366k carry forward at the end of 2012/13 opposed to approx. £1m the previous year. Thanks were given to all concerned.
- 8.0 Area Leaders Annual Roundup**
- 8.1 A report was circulated outlining the key achievements and future challenges for each of the Area Leader's areas. See appendix 1.
- 8.2 Positive comments from Area Chairs included:
- good work with faith leaders forum, Jobfair and Asian Women's groups
 - environmental delegation embedded and working well
 - anticipation for the Youth Service delegation

**Sarn
Warbis**

- innovative and fresh approaches from Area Staff
- good use of wellbeing money
- neighbourhood networks are extending the reach into communities
- agendas of meetings becoming more localised
- the work of Youth Councils
- the work of Planning Officer with parish councils
- welfare reform support – partnership approach
- themed approach to Area Committee meetings
- partners working better together
- outcomes improving

8.3 Challenges highlighted included:

- tackling fear of crime in certain areas
- promoting the use of sub groups
- improving engagement with wider communities by Area committees and services
- joined up commissioning

8.4 There was general thanks to the Area Leaders and their teams for their efforts and commitment in the current climate for local government.

8.5 It was highlighted that three years ago there had been frustrations within Area Committees and there had been a concerted effort to reinvigorate them. The work carried out on the environmental delegation, and the re-engineering of the service would be used to inform changes to other services.

8.6 It is important that Area Committees don't allow certain parts of their areas to be neglected, and that initiatives and focus should be spread across the whole area.

8.7 It was mentioned that there should be concerted efforts to raise the profile of Area Committees and to promote the work that is carried out and supported by Area Committees. It was mentioned that at the moment the titles of area committees don't have much meaning to residents. People could not explain what Inner South or Inner North East meant to them.

9.0 Any Other Business

9.1 It was agreed that the Housing Management review should be brought to the next meeting.

Sarn Warbis

9.2 It was requested that future Area Chairs Forum meetings should be scheduled on Fridays or Mondays where possible.

Sarn Warbis

10.0 Date of Next Meeting

10.1 Friday 28th June 2013, 11:00 – 13:00, Committee Room 4 - Civic Hall

Area Committees

Achievements and Challenges of Locality Working 2012-2014

Area Chairs Forum 3 May 2013

EAST NORTH EAST

2012/13 Achievements

- Excellent start to the environmental services delegation/SLA to Area Committees. Increased satisfaction reported from Councillors, Parish Councils and the public. New Environmental Improvement Zones working well to improve targeted 'grot spot' areas.
- Area Leadership Team priorities being successfully addressed to-
 - Work in partnership to reduce numbers of NEETS in ENE Leeds Welfare Reform partnership project team has raised awareness, increasing digital access, targeting vulnerable families, established new projects supporting getting people back into work.
 - Multi-agency locality action agreed to tackle the priorities identified by the ALT consideration of the JSNA data
 - Work begun to embed restorative practices as the 'way we do business' across partner agencies involved in the ALT.
- Neighbourhood Planning supported with the ENE Parish Councils and now starting across the inner East Area linked to the existing community leadership teams.
- Total Crime across North East Police Division reduced by 10.6% (2,290 less crimes) during 2012/13 compared with the previous year, an improvement on the 7% reduction made last year. Overall year to date offences for burglary is down 28.35% on the same period last year (833 less offences).
- Collaboration between the Area Support Team, the police, ENEHLtd, and two private sector businesses to support two new apprentices funded by the inner NE and inner East Area Committees.
- Generally improving indices of multiple deprivations across the ENE priority neighbourhoods – supported by a 'team neighbourhood' approach and community leadership teams overseeing Neighbourhood Improvement Plans.
- Partnership support for gang prevention work, community cohesion activities, youth activities (successful diversionary projects linked to key dates such as bonfire night) and the new 'families first' initiative.

2013/14 Challenges

- Implementation of the actions from the Review of Area Working.

- Delivery of the asset rationalisation agenda whilst improving service delivery and making significant savings.
- Remaining responsive to the issues arising from Welfare Reform.
- Development of neighbourhood planning in the inner urban areas.
- Supporting new delegations to Area Committees and the wider locality working agenda.
- Improving integrated partnership work to address worklessness.

SOUTH EAST

2012/13 Achievements

- Area Committee chairs delivered a refreshed approach to Area Committee business. Cross ward and cross area committee working improved considerably with sharing of resources increasingly normalised. 90% of wellbeing fund spent, committed, or approved within the financial year
- Ginnel priority lists developed and mechanical sweeping routes revised leading to improvements in the cleanliness of the environment and response rates. Crime and grime collaborative arrangements reviewed and revised by Area Champions.
- Employment and Skills Board pilot delivered aligning employability and skills, NEET, welfare reform, and the enabling of local economies. 'Windows of Opportunity' project delivered. South East NEET Reduction Plan developed and currently being implemented. Frontline staff briefings on welfare reform for 150 staff delivered improving knowledge, awareness and the quality of customer response.
- South Leeds Community Life Magazine, South Leeds Life Blog and Middleton and Belle Isle Neighbourhood Improvement Board Facebook page established for a modern 'sociable' approach to communication, improving resident engagement levels.
- Project to reduce smoking rates initiated, action plan developed and weekly smoking cessation drop-in clinic delivered. Local Alcohol Licensing Policy for South East Leeds developed and being implemented. Obesity review completed and next steps being considered.
- Neighbourhood Plans (planning) in rural and urban areas underway supporting local people to shape their area with further planning areas being considered. Neighbourhood Framework developed and delivered in consultation with local residents shaping their places alongside their local elected members.
- Derelict land redeveloped through 3rd Sector social enterprise approaches providing for greater local ownership. Derelict and nuisance properties substantially reduced improving local conditions for residents. Community centres successfully supported towards community led operations providing for greater local ownership.
- Neighbourhood Improvement Plans delivered with and alongside residents improving the quality of the environment and access to local services to improve outcomes.

- 27 community events supported e.g. Beeston Festival, Morley Literature Festival and Older Peoples Event Week improving the civic life of areas. 2 Area Committee celebration events delivered highlighting the achievements of projects funded by Area Committee and promoting local groups & services.
- Excellent programme of out of school activities for children and young people delivered and a further comprehensive programme of children and young people activities commissioned to improve NEET levels, attendance, and transition to high school.

2013/14 Challenges

- Maximising employability and skills
- Shaping our local neighbourhood economies
- Minimising the impact of poverty
- Maximising the efficient and effective use of local council assets and their rationalisation.
- Implementing new delegations & the actions of the Area Working Review.
- Tackling significant local health and wellbeing issues.

WEST NORTH WEST

2012/13 Achievements:

- Environmental delegation well embedded. Environmental sub-groups working well and leading to member-led improvements and challenge.
- Good progress on developing a working relationship with West CCG. Local discussions and priorities have influenced the CCG resource priorities e.g. specific programme of investment in alcohol identified and community well-being around suicide prevention and joint working with the WellBeing Centre developments.
- Local partnership infrastructures in place to respond to challenges in disadvantaged communities and support integrated working at locality level. Examples include Neighbourhood Boards and new format for Community Forums increasing community involvement.
- Over 50 Community Forums have taken place and new forum events have been developed. Various community events have been supported such as Christmas Lights, community fund days and community days of action. Social media has been piloted as a way of communicating with residents and it is attracting 1,080 followers.
- Enabling community asset transfer to local community organisations. Strong support from Area Committees to facilitate the development of locally-led and community responsive asset transfers.
- Good progress with the Big Local project – elected Community led-Board in place, community profile complete and a programme for community engagements in place.

- Progress with Neighbourhood Planning and engagement with Area Committees. A number of Neighbourhood Forums have been supported. Effective working relationships are in place with the Town Councils.
- The Council's Partnership around Student Changeover and Fresher's week continues to improve. There has been excellent resident and partner engagement and last year was viewed as very successful. Despite continued environmental challenges there has been an improvement in resident satisfaction with the management of the changeover process.
- Good progress through Area Committees and the Area Leadership Team to drive programmes of work focused on:
 - Employability –locally-led programmes for some of the inner city communities and working with partners and clusters on local action to support targeted work with people who need access to training support and job guidance.
 - Welfare Reform – good partnership with the ALMO and Health to promote better understanding of the Welfare Reform changes.
 - Health and Well Being – Locally led programmes of work on Suicide Prevention and Alcohol misuse
 - Communities- Locally led approach to Operation Optimal to reduce burglary.

2013/14 Challenges

- Further work to integrate environmental services locally using the opportunities of the Parks and Countryside delegation and the ALMO Review
- Asset Review – managing the change and exploring the new opportunities around the reconfiguration of the asset base
- Implementing the Area Review and driving the pace of and shaping new delegations
- Driving a local approach to Poverty – focusing on Employability, Welfare and Debt.

Authors

Rory Barke – Area Leader ENE
 Shaid Mahmood – Area Leader SE
 Jane Maxwell – Area Leader WNW

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