

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

**Report to Outer West Area Committee**

**Date: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2013**

**Subject: Area Update Report**

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

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report informs the Area Committee of progress against the Area Support Team work programme for Outer West Leeds and local contributions to Council priorities.

**Recommendations**

1. Members are asked to:
  - Note the contents of the report, comment on any matters raised and suggest items for inclusion in future area update reports.
  - Note the enclosed appendix providing an update on the West North West Homes Leeds Outer West Area Panel minutes.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

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

## **2 Background information**

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

## **3 Main issues**

### Farsley Town & District Centre Scheme

- 3.1 The Farsley Town & District Centre scheme is now completed as well as the additional works that had been requested by Councillors to Andrew Square. The previously grassed area has been resurfaced with granite paving and York stone cobbles.

### Environment Sub Group

- 3.2 The Outer West Environmental Sub Group continues to meet to monitor the Service Level Agreement and identify relevant environmental issues. There have been some changes to the way in which the grass contract will now be managed. From a briefing that took place in April there was discussion about P&C taking on management of grass cutting.

### CCTV Farfield Avenue / Pudsey Town Centre

- 3.3 The Outer West Area Committee in January 2012 agreed to fund several community safety projects. One proposal was for a Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Camera on Farfield Avenue Farsley. The provision of CCTV on Farfield Avenue would act as a deterrent to anti-social behaviour around the local shopping parade, and is subject to part funding by WNW Homes.
- 3.4 Leeds Watch have informed that the base column and electrics have now been installed as well as the fibre kit. BT had experienced some issues following the installation of a duct that had to be re-routed due to there being asbestos being located at a joint box. BT had to lay 60 meters of new duct to connect to the nearest joint box to provide a connection to the network. As a result this had caused some delays in completing the project. The camera is now insitu and fully operational.

### Community Development Worker

- 3.5 Healthy Living Network were previously funded to undertake community development work in Swinnow and Heights and Gambles. This project has now come to an end and the Area Support Team has been supporting volunteers at the Swinnow Community Centre.

- 3.6 A committee has now been formed at the Swinnow Community Centre and it has been agreed that the Area Support Team will continue to support the Committee in taking over the management of the centre.
- 3.7 The Community Development role jointly funded by the Outer West and Inner North West Area Committees was advertised on the Voluntary action Leeds website along with all tender documentation. The closing date for applications is 17 September. There has been good interest in the proposal. Recruitment will begin at the end of September and it is expected that the successful applicant will be appointed in October.

### Business Engagement Project

- 3.8 As mentioned earlier in the agenda at its meeting of 12 April the Area Committee had agreed to set aside funding for a business engagement related project and the Area Support Team developed proposals to approach Ahead Partnership. Ahead Partnership have been approached and they have since secured support of a business support broker to undertake all the functions listed on the proposal across Outer West and Inner West. Ahead Partnership have suggested that funding could be utilised to add value to their existing project and support with an operating budget.
- 3.9 Given that the Crawshaw School partnership had been quite successful (and delivered a high return on investment) Ahead Partnership proposed that some of the funds could be allocated as catalyst funding to create a new Make the Grade partnership in the area.

### West North West Homes Area Panel

- 3.10 A copy of West North West Homes Leeds Outer West Area Panel minutes from the last meeting are attached at Appendix 1.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 4.1.1 Elected members have been consulted on the contents of this report
- 4.1.2 Community forums are held in Pudsey & Swinnow and Tyersal every quarter within Outer West Leeds to inform communities.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

- 4.2.1 This section is not applicable to this report.

### **4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities**

4.3.1 The Area Committee Functions and Priority Advisory Functions were approved by the Executive Board in June 2009, this approval was rolled forward to 2012/13 with amendments only to environmental delegations.

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

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

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

#### **4.4 Resources and Value for Money**

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

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

4.4.3 In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council Departments main stream budgets, and external partner agencies e.g. the Police and Primary Care Trust, which is in turn reflected in the fact that the Area Committee's role here is only to influence, develop and consult. However, on occasion, wellbeing funding has resourced some projects related to its roles, e.g. community engagement, area based regeneration schemes and conservation area reviews.

#### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

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

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

#### **4.6 Risk Management**

4.6.1 There are no significant risks identified in this report.

## **5.0 Conclusions**

5.1 In conclusion, the Area Progress report is in line with the functions and role of the Area Committee which are:

- Improve the quality and value for money of Council service delivery
- Improve the quality of democracy and find new ways to facilitate citizen participation in local government through the development of links between Ward Members and their communities
- To co-ordinate policy and service delivery between the local service providers.

## **6.0 Recommendations**

6.1 The Outer West Area Committee members are invited to:

- i. Note that the contents of the report and to comment on any aspect of the matters raised.
- ii. Note the enclosed appendix providing an update on the West North West Homes Leeds Outer West Area Panel minutes.

## **Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

None

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