

Report of East North East Area Leader

Report to Inner North East Area Committee

Date: 27th January 2014

Subject: Priority Neighbourhood Update Report

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| Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): | <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. The primary focus for the Neighbourhood Manager for Inner North East is to address key issues in the two priority neighbourhood areas, Meanwood (Seven Estates) and Chapeltown. The priorities for each area and the progress made to date are attached in the appendices for information.
2. As work on the two priority neighbourhoods progresses the Neighbourhood Manager's scope will widen to undertake some concentrated work in the other priority areas within the Inner North East.
3. This report provides an update on the key areas of work the Neighbourhood Manager is currently focusing on, highlights the achievements; the challenges faced and provide information on progress made to date. In the absence of a neighbourhood index for this financial year work is on-going to provide background information and statistical data to evidence progress made on the key priorities. This will be brought back to area committee in March.
4. The key areas of work in progress as summarised in this report are:
 - Taking a lead on social housing investment and regeneration in the priority neighbourhoods.
 - Maximising community engagement within the area through development of Community Leadership teams (CLTS). Tackling employability and poverty issues.
 - Maintaining and improving issues surrounding health and wellbeing.
 - Addressing environmental and community safety Issues.

- Young people and youth development
- Development of the Chapeltown Cultural Quarter
- Community safety and community cohesion following recent violent events in the priority Neighbourhood areas.

Recommendations

5. The Area Committee are asked to:

- Note the content of this report
- Note the progress made on priorities in the Chapeltown and Meanwood seven Estates and the actions and initiatives developed.

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. Following a new Neighbourhood Manager coming into post in May 2013 a report with an update on priorities was agreed and presented at Area Committee in September 2013. Six months on this report provides an update on progress made by the Neighbourhood Manager.

2 Main issues

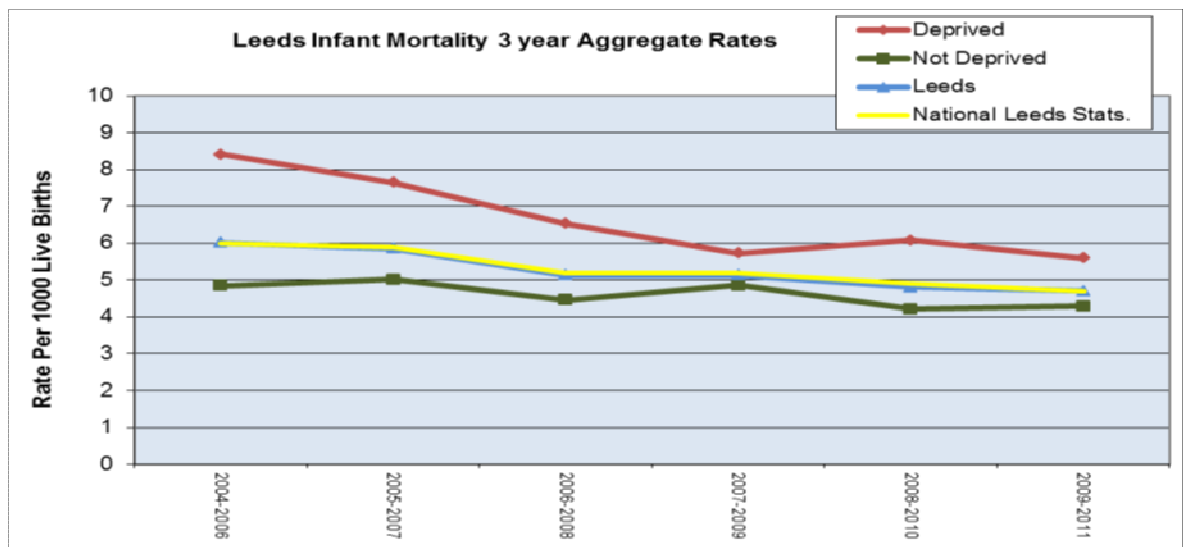
2.1 Employability, training, anti-poverty strategy achievements and challenges in Meanwood and Chapeltown

- 2.2 Dealing with employability and training continues to be a priority, especially with the welfare reform changes now bringing challenges. Work is being carried out in the areas with partner agencies to ensure affected individuals receive full support and advice to understand the benefit changes and gain access to work and training. Updates and feedback are provided through the local management group meetings and an action plan has been developed with partners to address issues where there are gaps. In November a seminar was held with partner agencies focussing on maximising employment and training for young people aged 16-25 in the CHESS and NETWORKS areas.
- 2.3 Key representatives gave presentations on support provided and outlined achievements made and challenges still faced in assisting young people into work.
- 2.4 Following the presentations, partner agencies then conducted a SWOT analysis highlighting issues that still need addressing and how they can work together. It is clear that there are a lot of good services available for young people across the city but further work needs to be undertaken to ensure access to these services are maximised. Further initiatives need to be set up at a local level where necessary. For example there are plans to set up a job shop at Carr Manor school. Following the employment event an action plan is now being developed and has been circulated to partners. A further meeting has been set for the middle of January to finalise this plan and work will continue to maintain and enhance partnership working. Development and take up of the apprentices' scheme with local employees continues. However work is required with partner agencies to increase marketing of apprenticeships to 18-24 year olds.
- 2.5 With regard to getting adults into employment it is clear that the pre-employability work undertaken in some areas needs to continue within the community. For example issues with getting adults into sustainable employment include one to one mentoring work in building self-esteem and we need to work on confidence issue. Support with key interview training for people if they have never had a job or have been out of work for some time needs to be provided. The GIZ a job

scheme that was run by Zest in Meanwood proved very successful in dealing with these issues. Unfortunately the funding has run out for this but work is being undertaken via the local management teams to look at securing funding to provide this scheme or a similar model both in the Meanwood and Chapeltown area. It is recognised that poverty is an issue in this climate for those employed but on minimum wages as well as those people who are unemployed. It is now vital to gain an understanding of the views of residents within the area whether or not they are accessing services to support them into work or training. This work is to be undertaken through the community leadership team and via consultation with local residents and partners.

2.6 Health and Wellbeing

- 2.7 Chapeltown remains the area with the highest levels of income deprivation. Work on health and wellbeing has continued with a lot 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.
- 2.8 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. Good progress has been made as illustrated in the graph below with the latest Infant Mortality rate being 5.6 per 1000 in 'deprived Leeds'. The local target set is to reduce the infant mortality rate in 'deprived Leeds' to 5.5 per 1000 live births by 2015.
- 2.9 The Chapeltown reducing infant mortality demonstration site programme brings together a range of partners working in the area with the aim of reducing infant mortality and improving antenatal, postnatal and infant health. A broad range of programmes and initiatives have been developed in the area which, along with other programmes across the city, is contributing to the narrowing in the gap in Infant Mortality rates between the deprived and not deprived Leeds.
- 2.10 Work has been undertaken to assist in the establishment of a small voluntary organisation which provides support to families in the Chapeltown, Meanwood and Harehills areas who have experienced the loss of a baby. This group is now progressing well and has commenced its activities.



- 2.11 The Chapeltown Health and Wellbeing Partnership and Harehills Healthy Living group have now merged to form the Chapeltown and Harehills Health and Well-being Partnership. The first meeting was held in October 2013. This is a joint forum for partners who will work together around issues relating to health and wellbeing in the area.
- 2.12 Health Is Everyone's Business training was delivered in October 2013 to professionals working in ENE Leeds. This programme is around developing knowledge and awareness of public health issues, and the development of staff skills to support them to do very simple work with colleagues, service users, clients, friends and family. Partners from both the Meanwood and Chapeltown areas were represented at this training.
- 2.13 Plans to create a community gym in Norma Hutchinson Park are progressing well. Funding of £26,000 has been collated and secured from local businesses and housing associations, including Together Housing group; Unity Housing Association; Housing Leeds Inner North East area panel; Taste Café and the LCC groundwork project support fund. INE Area committee also contributed at December's meeting. The final plans for the equipment have been agreed following consultation with steering group members and local residents who will be using the gym. Planning is now underway to put into place mechanisms to enable effective monitoring of the gym to evidence usage and positive quantifiable outcomes. The main client user-group is Spartan Fam and they will be running weekly keep fit events at the new outdoor gym. Discussions have also been on-going with the lead officer from active Leeds. They aim to look at the feasibility of developing a circuit training activity to cater for those members of the community who have less advanced fitness ability. In addition there is a need to create opportunities for usage for a diversity of different groups in the area.
- 2.14 Leeds Get Active has been working well with partners in the Meanwood area to encourage physical fitness of all ages. A weekly walk has taken place for several months now from the local church. This has proved to be so successful with over twenty people a week participating in this exercise. This will continue to be run by volunteers and hosted by Zest. Further work is underway with Leeds Get Active and community members to get their feedback on what activities they would like

to see happen in their area and to identify some green space in the area to run activities outside for people in the summer.

2.15 Environmental and Community Safety and Community Cohesion Achievements and Challenges in Chapelton and Meanwood

- 2.16 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. Tasking meetings continue to provide a good way of engaging with key partners and contributing to a preventative approach to tackling crime and issues of antisocial behaviour in the areas. Overall crime in the Chapel Allerton Ward continues to decrease with a drop of fifty five reported crimes in the last year. The main priority crime types are all fairly stable. Burglary dwelling figures remain in the green but there is only a reduction of fourteen offences in the than last year. There has been some burglary dwelling activity in Chapelton and Meanwood. This has led to extra officers patrolling the areas at the optimal times of offending, and visits to every victim. Police have made some arrests which appear to have had stopped the small spike in activity. Interestingly just over the border in Moortown Ward there has been a similar pattern. The police are currently seeking a well-known burglar who is wanted for an offence in this area and maybe responsible for some of the Meanwood offences.
- 2.17 Public confidence stands at 65.2% which is high compared across the Force. Customer Satisfaction stands at 87.4% this has increased significantly in the last twelve months. Both of these figures have benefited from a new vehicle crime procedure both in terms of officers actually attending reports and follow up ring backs to victims. There is also a reduction in the BME satisfaction gap which is good. Partnership work in the Stonegates area continues through regular tasking meetings and this is progressing well. Outreach work with young people in the Stonegates area has now commenced and is also progressing well.
- 2.18 Following a serious incident of crime in the Chapelton area in late November several meetings have now taken place with police; statutory and voluntary youth services and community groups to identify how we can move forward. This work will be fed into the NIPS, gang prevention strategy and the independent advisory group. An action day was held in the Sholebrokes area in December. The purpose of the day of action was to target drugs, anti-Social behaviour and environmental rubbish. On this day a rubbish collection was conducted and key information received from residents and passed on to police on criminal activity, including vital information around the theft of fridge motors.
- 2.19 Following the death of Nelson Mandela hundreds of people took part in a remembrance walk from the city centre to Chapelton and celebrations continued in the community throughout the weekend following his death. These events were organised by community members in the Chapelton area and supported by the local area management team. The atmosphere in the community was very good in the Chapelton area at this difficult time. A sad event which proved to unify community members in a celebration of Mandela - a reminder of the fight undertaken against apartheid and what this means to the local community.

- 2.20 Partnership work and funding from the area committee enabled a roller disco to be held in the Chapeltown area at the Mandela Centre on bonfire night. This proved popular once again and worked effectively as a diversionary activity to prevent crime and any anti-social behaviour in the community on this night. The event attracted ninety four young people in total. Approximately half of those that attended participated in the roller skating element of the evening. Chapel Allerton Neighbourhood policing team fed back that Chapeltown remained quiet in terms of policing resources and only experienced a few minor issues relating to firework safety /Anti-social behaviour. Approximately half of those that attended were taken home safely by minibus. School age children were asked to leave by half past ten following feedback from parents the previous year. Positive feedback was given to staff on the evening from young people whom expressed that the event was enjoyable and they were pleased it was taking place.
- 2.21 Work continues in dealing with derelict buildings in the area to minimise the disruption caused to the community. Secure fencing has now been put around 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 this building. Work on keeping the area environmentally sound continues. Removal of a bollard on Oak Road leading to better access is progressing. This should be finalised within the next few weeks. The progress on development of the Jyoti and mobile site continues to be chased up with the owners.
- 2.22 Young People and Youth Development achievements and challenges in the Chapeltown and Meanwood areas.**
- 2.23 Both the voluntary and statutory sectors provide a range of activities and outreach work in the priority neighbourhood areas. A range of consultation with both partner agencies and a forum for young people is being developed to ensure funding is spent efficiently and effectively with full community consultation. The new structure of the youth service is in place now and partnership work is being undertaken with both the statutory and voluntary sector to provide both universal and targeted provision for young people. Revised activity programmes were developed for the Chapel Allerton and Moortown wards, which commenced early in the New Year.
- 2.24 A range of provisions are being provided including structured activities; targeted outreach and mobile provision via a youth work bus. This work links into the NIP priorities and through community safety work identified at tasking and anti-social behaviour meetings (ASB) meetings. Outreach work takes places twice a week now in the Stonegates area and Shelobrokes areas of Chapeltown following issues identified through tasking and partnership work. Groups have now been set up by both voluntary and statutory partners to support vulnerable young women. Resources have also now been put into the Meanwood area to support activities held at Stainbeck Church for young people.
- 2.25 Work continues with voluntary sector partners to assist them to secure and sustain their services within the current commissioning and financial environment. The Chapeltown and Harehills youth forum has now been formed and is in the earliest stages of its development. Two meetings have been held to date. This

piece of work proves challenging but with some hard work and clear direction being put in place should provide a useful forum for partners to work together on youth provision. This will ensure that the most vulnerable young people are identified and worked with to maximise their potential.

2.26 Chapelton Cultural Quarter

- 2.27 Work in developing the Chapelton Cultural Quarter (CCQ) is now progressing with key representatives from the West Indian Centre; Northern School of Contemporary Dance; UNITY; Wesley Holiness Church; RJC Dance and regeneration colleagues fully on board. 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. The intention is to offer the use of an extended building on the Mandela Centre site. The project wants to establish a sustainable community hub with artistic, cultural and educational scope with a particular, but not exclusive emphasis on black artistic talent. The hub will provide opportunities to attend affordable community, inspired artistic and creative events as well as educational programs.
- 2.28 A memorandum of understanding has now been drawn up and agreed by all partnership agencies. This document outlines the specific roles and responsibilities of each partner. A draft job description is been developed and will be completed by the beginning of February. Initially recruitment for a project manager will be for on a voluntary basis. As the project develops potentially a permanent post will be created. Research is being undertaken to secure funding for the project. RJC Dance has submitted a funding application to the Arts Council for a new sprung dance floor with a seating area.

2.29 Social Housing Investment and Regeneration

- 2.30 Chapelton Achievements and Challenges:
- 2.31 The Chapelton housing investment strategy is continues to be undertaken with key housing providers and partner agencies to maximise suitable housing provision in the area. A seminar was held in October to give feedback to staff at ground floor level and get an update on their perspective. Key issues identified by staff that are now been worked on include:
- Further localised work with partners to reduce issues of poverty.
 - Marketing and localised work on mutual exchange seeks to identify what gives people the incentive and motivation to do a home swap. Localised events to promote mutual exchange and increase take up and identify how to maximise this are now been undertaken. There is an increased demand locally for one bed properties, but lack of supply.

2.32 Environmental issues: - Meanwood Neighbourhood Management priorities, achievements and challenges

- 2.33 Environmental issues within Meanwood continue to improve. There are, however, still significant issues with rubbish dumping and fly tipping within the Beckhills

area which are being worked on by the locality team. A hotspot team from the locality department now works with the probation service from Beckhill House on a Friday afternoon with people on community service clearing up areas on the Beckhills estate.

- 2.34 Work on the long awaited regeneration of the Beckhills Estate is now starting to progress. A plan to clear two sites, develop new social housing and a new play area has been drafted by the regeneration team. The Neighbourhood Manager, partner agencies and the locality team are working together to ensure the plans are being linked closely to the priority neighbourhood issues. These include prevention of crime, anti-social behaviour, health and environmental issues. An initial consultation has been held at the Meanwood Seven Estates Management meeting. Further engagement with local residents will be undertaken at the next Meanwood Community Leadership team meeting (CLT) in late January. Following this a full consultation plan to ensure total community engagement is being developed. This includes holding a specific workshop with young people living in the Meanwood area to get their views on their recreational needs.

2.35 Focus for the next period

- 2.36 In addition to the continuation of the projects highlighted within the report and included in the neighbourhood action plans appended, work for the coming period will be to focusing on assessing the needs and priorities for other parts of the Inner North East.
- 2.37 Historically the Queenshills Estate has been part of the Moor Allerton Partnership and actions are included in the neighborhood improvement plans for Inner North East. As updated at the December Area Committee meeting, preliminary work has been undertaken in these two areas to identify priorities, This has included undertaking a postcode audit of users of the Moor Allerton facilities to review access by people from the Queenshills estate and identify what further resources are needed. One of the issues identified is a lack of activities for young people in the Brackenwood area. In order to address this, a youth club is going to be set up at Brackenwood Community centre. There is also going to be a multi-agency day of action targeting burglary on the Brackenwoods estate as statistics show that this is a key issue in the area. A full 2014/15 NIP for the Brackenwoods and Queenshills will be presented to March Area Committee for approval. This will be one of the priorities of the Area Officer over the coming months The Brackenwoods Estate in Roundhay, whilst not falling into the bottom 10% most deprived, has challenges on crime, anti-social behavior, unemployment that would benefit from a neighbourhood management approach. Again this will be a prioritised locally over the coming months.
- 2.38 In developing actions for the wider area the Neighbourhood Manager will consult with members through ward meetings to develop action plans and present them to a future Area Committee meeting for approval.

3 Corporate Considerations

3.1 Consultation and Engagement Overview and Development

- 3.1.1 Meanwood/Seven Estates and Chapeltown.
- 3.1.2 Community consultation of engagement continues through a variety of partnership meetings and the through the Community Leadership team in Meanwood. In order to maximise input of all partners and local residents a new approach to community engagement is being looked at for the priority neighbourhood areas, in line with the revised structure and procedural changes of the area committee.
- 3.1.3 Meanwood/Seven Estates current consultation.
- 3.1.4 Consultation and engagement is on-going through liaison with community groups as well as the Meanwood Seven Estates management meeting. Two Community Leadership Team meetings were scheduled, one in September and another is to take place in late January. Work is on-going to recruit new members to this group. A drop in session for local residents to raise issues and receive support from the Neighbourhood Manager is going to be held every two weeks at Stainbeck Church community café.
- 3.1.5 Chapeltown
- 3.1.6 Developing a Community Leadership Team in the area has proved to be a challenge. Work is now under way with The Chapeltown Community Development Trust (CDT) to develop a community leadership team. Given the current issues and challenging needs of the area a bottom up approach is going to be taken to develop this forum.
- 3.1.7 The Chapel Allerton Community First panel
- 3.1.8 As mentioned in an earlier report the Community first panel continues to work well using the allocated funding provided for Chapel Allerton by the Community Development Foundation (CDF). There has been a good selection of applications received this year and all the money has been spent from this current financial year. Successful projects receiving funding included: Apna Sports Group; Irish Arts Foundation; Meanwood Valley Baptist Church working with InterAct; Yorkshire Adabee Arts Forum; Impact Sports & Art; BHI identity project; Feel Good Factor Roots project.

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 Best Council

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

3.5.1 Not applicable in this instance

3.6 Risk Management

3.6.1 Not applicable in this instance.

4 Conclusions

4.1 Work being taken in the priority neighbourhoods is making steady progress. Actions in the more challenging parts of Roundhay and Moortown wards now needs to be focused on, and partnerships developed to tackle this. This will form part of the basis for the work programme of the Neighbourhood Manager over the future period.

5 Recommendations

5.1 The Area Committee are asked to:

- Note the content of this report;
- Note the new priorities identified for the Chapeltown and Meanwood 7 Estates, actions and initiatives developed;
- Contribute to the development of actions to address issues in priority Neighbourhoods in the Moortown and Roundhay wards and report back to future meetings.

6 Background documents¹

6.1 None

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