

**Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens & Communities)**

**Report to Outer West Area Committee**

**Date: 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

**Subject: Area Update Report**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): 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? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

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

**Recommendations**

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.
- Receive a presentation from Superintendent Mabs Hussain and comment on any issues or concerns about the forthcoming changes.
- Agree and propose a name for the new Community Committee

## **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**

### Community Safety – Police Programme of Change

- 3.1 In June 2013 West Yorkshire Police initiated a Programme of Change strategy, to improve Force performance and transform the way services are delivered by reducing demand and thereby support the delivery of policing. Embedded within the strategy is a commitment from West Yorkshire Police to work more closely with Partners to deliver the outcomes set out in the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.
- 3.2 The transformation programme aims to build on existing, and develop new working arrangements, through potential co-location opportunities for Police and Partner resources to deliver a more integrated service provision. At the heart of this is the goal of ensuring communities are safe and feel safer.
- 3.3 Superintendent Mabs Hussain will update the Area Committee on the progress of the Programme of Change and what this might look like for the Outer West Area.

### Place-based name for the new Outer West Community Committee

- 3.4 Members are asked to consider and agree on a place-based name for their new community committee at their Area Committee meeting, so that the new committees can be formally constituted at the council's AGM on 9 June 2014. The following suggestions have been made to stimulate discussion:

- Pudsey & West Community Committee
- Community Committee for Calverley & Farsley, Farnley & Wortley, Pudsey
- Calverley & Farsley, Farnley & Wortley, Pudsey Community Committee
- Pudsey Community Committee (including Calverley & Farsley, Farnley & Wortley)

### Environment Sub Group

- 3.5 The Outer West Environmental Sub Group continues to meet to monitor the Service Level Agreement and identify relevant environmental issues. Leaf clearing will be the main priority for the remainder of the year and work will be undertaken with Continental Landscapes.

### Fly tipping

- 3.6 There have been recent reports of fly tipping near Woodhall Lane near the Blue Pig public house through a gated path. This section of Woodhall Road is not recorded on the Definitive Map of public rights of way or on the List of Streets and consequently it isn't a proven highway that the Council are responsible for. Additionally the route is not situated on Leeds City Council land.
- 3.7 The public are using the way as a bridleway - on foot, pedal cycle and horseback. The Public Right of Way Team (PROW) would like this access to be maintained as the route forms a link to a connecting recorded public bridleway and other rights of way in the area.
- 3.8 In an effort to prevent fly tipping a lockable gate, with a gap for the public, was installed at the eastern end of the road at its junction with Woodhall Lane by the Public Rights of Way Service in 2011, with Area Committee funding. At the time the PROW Service distributed keys to those with private access. There have been difficulties with maintaining the lock on the gate and is being regularly left unlocked by users with private rights.
- 3.9 The Environment Team have met with officers from Bradford City Council and agreed to remove all fly tipping on the Bradford boundary which sits in the middle of Woodhall Lane.
- 3.10 The meeting also explored the placement of a bund across, half way down the lane. This would continue to allow pedestrians and horse owners to use the lane but prevent vehicles from using it as a cut through and fly tipping.

### Pudsey Public Conveniences

- 3.11 The public toilets in Pudsey town centre had benefited from significant investment over the years but were continually coming into disrepair requiring continued investment, which was not financially viable. As a result numerous discussions and meetings took place for almost 3 years regarding the feasibility of relocating the public toilets from their current position into the Pudsey leisure centre.
- 3.12 Aside from the estimated cost of the works exceeding the available budget, there were fundamental design issues that were raised by Corporate Property Management (CPM). Highways eventually confirmed the plans were not feasible to engineer a path to provide the required gradient for a conventional ramped access to meet the Disability Equality Duty. Councillors requested a meeting to finalise or reconsider the project. Cllr Ogilvie and Cllr Yeadon were invited as Executive board members to the meeting with representatives from Asset management, Social Services, Area Support to progress the matter.
- 3.13 At the meeting, alternative plans for male and female only toilets were discussed as there were existing provisions for disabled toilets in Pudsey. However two issues were raised;
1. There were drainage problems at the leisure centre, and

2. DDA compliancy (i.e. removing of the disabled toilet facilities).

- 3.14 In response to item 2 an advisory report was provided by the Building Standards team. The report explored the duties and obligations under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to making changes to the disabled persons toilet provision in Pudsey. Following a further meeting with the Corporate Property management, Building standards and Equality Team, a potential way forward was agreed with ward members. This was to demolish the toilets and spend the funding to improve the entrance to the Park.
- 3.15 The demolition works have now taken place and the park entrance is being reinstated.

#### Forum Update

- 3.16 The Tyersal and Pudsey & Swinnow forums continue to meet with the next meetings planned for April. There has been a steady increase in the number of residents attending the Pudsey Forum and Tyersal Forum has continued to develop. The Neighbourhood Policing Team provided an update including the areas crime statistics.

#### Swinnow Community Centre

- 3.17 The Area Support Team are continuing to support the Swinnow Committee in taking over the management of the Swinnow Community Centre. The grand re-opening took place on the 5<sup>th</sup> October which was a free event that saw a great turnout from the local community. Local councillors, MP's and businesses were invited to the event which hosted a free buffet, silent auction and a discussion on planned events for the centre. A number of events are scheduled to raise funds to support the running of the centre.

#### Welfare Reform Update

- 3.18 At the April Area Committee meeting last year members agreed to allocate a sum of money to fund Welfare Reform projects to support residents affected by the Welfare Reform Changes. As agreed by members the Area Support Team have met with Cllrs A Blackburn, Hardy and Jarosz on a number of occasions to consider projects. Members have agreed on a proposal to hold 3 debt awareness events in the Outer West with one event taking place in each ward.
- 3.19 The Area Support Team have been in touch with Shontal who are a not for profit organisation that specialises in 'Financial Literacy using Live Theatre.' They work across the community with an aim to prevent debt through education. The performances are hard hitting and feature individuals affected by debt due to varying circumstances and situations. Are Support Team have also suggested inviting partners to attend to put on stalls and provide advice services.

- 3.20 The dates and venues for these events are as follows;

- 18 March Farsley Farfield Primary School.
- 19 March Swinnow Community Centre
- 20 March Cobden Primary School

## **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, 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**

4.1 The Outer West Area Committee members are invited to:

- Note that the contents of the report and to comment on any aspect of the matters raised.
- Receive a presentation from Superintendent Mabs Hussain and comment on any possible issues or concerns about the forthcoming changes.
- Agree and propose a name for the new Community Committee

#### **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.