

Report of: the South East Area Leader

Report to: Outer East Community Committee (Cross Gates & Whinmoor, Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley, Temple Newsam)

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For decision

Outer East Summary of Key Work

1.0 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To provide a summary of key work which the Area Support Team is engaged in based on priorities identified by the Community Committee not covered elsewhere on this agenda.

2.0 Background information

- 2.1 The Community Plan has been kept up to date with progress on community engagement, partnership work, functions delegated to Community Committee, integrated working and locality working.

3.0 Main issues

3.1 Voluntary gritting of public car parks and pavements in shopping areas

- 3.1.1 In a new initiative between OE Area Support and Highways, businesses can now co-ordinate volunteers to remove ice in public car parks to make the area safer for shoppers and staff.
- 3.1.2 Highways has specific priorities for gritting during icy weather. These include roads, schools and at risk areas. It does not have the resources or available funds to do public car parks or pavements in shopping areas. However at a meeting with Area Support it was agreed there is nothing to stop businesses and the communities undertaking the gritting.

- 3.1.3 The Local Government Association notes: "There is no law against people clearing pavements or public spaces. Ministers have repeatedly welcomed "public-spirit sense" and "benefit of the doubt" should always prevail when considering litigation. The Met Office notes: "Clearing snow and ice from public spaces can help prevent slips and falls. Don't be put off clearing paths because you're afraid someone will get injured. Remember, people walking on snow and ice have a responsibility to be careful themselves."
- 3.1.4 The Outer East Environmental Sub Committee discussed this innovative scheme and approved it being advertised to traders groups and via the OE facebook. In addition Highways Maintenance has offered to facilitate training for volunteers interested in undertaking this work.

3.2 Community Safety

- 3.2.1 Operation Champion: Was delivered in Swarcliffe and Whinmoor on 13th and 14th November 2014. The Operation involved Local Police Officers, PCSO's and Crime Prevention Officers targeting Crime Prevention on 800 addresses. Each address had a full assessment and different tactics discussed with the occupants. Over 600 Crime prevention articles were funded by the Housing Advisory Panel, including fake TV's, shed alarms and driveway sensors. The addresses were chosen by the 'Super Cocooning' method on Burglary dwelling and other offences for the last year. Housing Officers attended with Police and conducted Annual Tenancy Visits. As part of the Operation, 6 locations were set up for HMRC, Taxi Licensing, VOSA and Police to check vehicles. At these points over 100 vehicles were checked over the two days; 14 vehicles were prohibited from use (MOT made invalid and taken off the road until urgent repairs made), one Vehicle Defect notice issued and one person dealt with for possession of Cannabis; Taxi Licensing took 6 taxis off the road; the DVLA seized 11 vehicles, clamped 4 and also issued 5 fines for no insurance / road tax; the off-road motorcycles issued 3 Section 59 warnings and conducted almost 100 speed checks on Coal Road; HMRC Officers recovered over £400 of unpaid fines.
- 3.2.2 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE): Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation (PACE) "training the trainer" session was delivered to relevant partners across the South East area. 40 staff were trained and are now delivering training to their teams. The session aimed to help staff to train colleagues to spot CSE issues and hold CSE conversations with families and communities. The session was funded by Safer Leeds. Further work is ongoing through the CSE Practitioners' forum about the work undertaken on CSE in school and youth settings.
- 3.2.3 Operation Flame: Was delivered in all Outer East wards in the run up and weekend after bonfire night. Partners included Fire Service, PCSOs / PCs, Housing Leeds and the locality team. Partners notified the environmental action team of any materials which could be used in un-official bonfires and they were quickly removed. PCSO's directed young people to youth provision and the ASB Team and Police undertook pro-active visits to reduce ASB during this period.

- 3.2.4 Legal Highs - new psycho-active substances: 2 half-sessions were held at Elland Road Police Station for staff to attend and learn more about what legal highs were and the impact on communities. This is a growing concern in relation to young people but also in relation to drug users switching to legal highs or taking a combination of illegal drugs and legal highs. Approximately 50 staff from the South East Locality attended and positive feedback was received. Further sessions are planned in 2015.
- 3.2.5 Tackling Burglary: West Yorkshire Police and Housing have been working together to tackle burglary which increases during the winter months. (Particularly when the clocks go back.) The work has included engaging with residents in streets where burglaries occurred last year and providing packs which can include timer switches, door chimes, property marking information (encouraging immobilise.com and recording serial numbers) and other useful information to reduce the risk of burglary. This work will continue through the winter months focusing on areas where burglaries occur.
- 3.2.6 Awareness: Over the Christmas period, PCSOs engaged with the public in local shopping centres and supermarkets to raise awareness of crime reduction, by encouraging shoppers to lock cars, keep valuables out of sight and leave a light on at home or use timer switches to deter burglars when out shopping

3.3 Wellbeing Packs

- 3.3.1 Meetings have been held to build on the success of last year's delivery of winter warmth packs to the elderly.
- 3.3.2 The renamed Wellbeing Packs will be available for older and vulnerable tenants and residents. Last year the packs contained clothing however feedback showed people will this year appreciate food.
- 3.3.3 In addition to the grant being sought from Wellbeing, funding has already been committed from the Public Health Locality Team and Housing Leeds Area Panel.
- 3.3.4 The packs will again be made available through the area's neighbourhood networks. The initial requests have been: Garforth NET: 550, Cross Gates Good Neighbours: 100, Swardcliffe Good Neighbours: 150, HOPE: 50, Rothwell Live at Home (Methley): 15. Housing Leeds and the Community Committee will also identify vulnerable residents who would benefit from a parcel.
- 3.3.5 In addition to the funded items, Leeds Foodbank has obtained several donated products, which will enable the food packs to even better benefit the elderly and vulnerable in the Outer East area.
- 3.3.6 In 2015 each pack is set to contain: teabags, coffee, biscuits, sugar, porridge, a tin of stewed steak, rice pudding, 2 tins of soup as well as a flask and a fleece blanket.

3.4 Community Facilities

- 3.4.1 In the Outer East, the Council has identified two community facilities upon which it is undertaking consultation to determine whether they should be sold.
- 3.4.2 The premises are Fieldhead Community Centre in North Whinmoor and Kippax Kabin on Main Street, Kippax.
- 3.4.3 The Fieldhead CC consultation is being held with the school, local forum and the rugby club.
- 3.4.4 Following discussions with the youth service, consultation over Kippax Kabin will now take place with the parish council, traders group and vulnerable adults group. It will not be possible to raise the matter at Kippax forum as it does not meet until 25th March.

3.5 Youth Activities Fund

- 3.5.1 Five activities have been approved by Area Champions since the last Community Committee meeting:

Organiser	Event	Date	Cost
Brigshaw Cluster	2x mini Breeze at Kippax	Oct 2014 & Feb 2015	£ 1,250
Temple Newsam Leaning Partnership	Activity programme	winter 2014 - summer 2015	£14,160
INSPIReD	Hero's & Villains Stop motion Animation		£ 450
Groundwork Leeds	Micklefield Primary urban rangers	Jan-March 2015	£ 1,795
LCC Youth Service	Villages 1/2 term programme	February 2015	£ 2,000
TOTAL			£19,655

- 3.5.2 This leaves a remaining budget of £24,800 in the Outer East Youth Activity Fund.

4.0 Conclusions

- 4.1 This report provides up to date information on key areas of work for the Community Committee.

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1 The Community Committee is asked to:
- Note the content of the report and seek any clarifications

Background documents: None.