

Report of: Jane Maxwell, East North East Area Leader

Report to: Inner East Community Committee – covering the wards of Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton & Harehills, Killingbeck & Seacroft.

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For decision

Community Committee Update Report

Purpose of report

1. This report provides an update on the work programme of the Inner East Community Committee, its recent successes and current challenges.

Main issues

2. Since the last Community Committee, work has progressed in a number of areas, including through the Committee's sub groups and local partnerships, which are currently evolving into Neighbourhood Improvement Partnerships.

Sub Groups

3. As of the date of writing this report, no sub groups have met since the date of the last community committee. The Inner East Environmental Sub Group is due to meet on 30th November. Issues on the agenda to be discussed at this meeting include; long term burial provision, an update on the Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility and a new service level agreement for the East North East Locality Team. An update of this meeting will be provided at the next community committee on 24th March 2016.

Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership/s

4. Across the East North East area, a more robust neighbourhood improvement framework is being established. This includes the formation of local Neighbourhood Improvement Partnerships, building on the previous neighbourhood management model and providing the opportunity to target smaller neighbourhoods where there is a need to accelerate progress.

5. Within the priority neighbourhoods identified within Inner East Community Committee, the following progress and challenges should be noted:
6. **Harehills** - Meetings have continued with the Harehills Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership (NIP) which has now been extended to wider partners across Harehills. In particular, discussions have centered on how the Harehills NIP will feed into the Inner East Neighbourhood Improvement Board. Further meetings are scheduled to take place in December and January.
 - 6.1. The 'Keep Harehills Tidy' campaign has now been launched, with organisations, businesses, residents and schools all invited to play an active role in supporting the campaign. This piece of work is on-going and partners will be asked to contribute practical solutions, to help with publicity and marketing as well as to collectively support change in Harehills to make it a place that is kept clean and tidy.
 - 6.2. Several partners came together in October, including Hamara, Getaway Girls and Together for Women to work a small group of eastern European women in Harehills to help them set up an established women's group. The group will be named 'Women's Time' and will be hosted from Getaway Girls. The group will provide a space for the eastern European community to socialise, cook, engage in physical activities and to get advice and assistance around health and wellbeing issues.
7. **Burmantofts & Richmond Hill** - The Area Officer has continued to develop key stakeholder relationships in the ward. This engagement work has focused on securing support for The Burmantofts and Richmond Hill Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership to be launched in December. Partners have welcomed the proposed approach and have been forthcoming with suggestions for how to make it effective.
 - 7.1. The Area Officer continues to actively support and follow up on issues raised at existing partnership structures in the ward, namely the ward tasking meeting, the BRH Health and Wellbeing Partnership and the Community Leadership Team (CLT). The Area Officer, (with the support of members), has organised two CLT meetings to date. This well attended forum provides an opportunity for residents to raise local issues, share good news stories and contribute to the neighbourhood improvement agenda. The last two meetings have focused on planning and parking issues in the ward.
 - 7.2. The Area Officer has provided support to a number of projects in the ward including the development of a fresh food luncheon club at Lincoln Green Community Centre; the development of a new tea time family support club at Project Hope Leeds and has supported Zest Health for Life to develop activity around the domestic violence agenda following the last Inner East Community Committee. The Area officer has also worked alongside Public Health England to carry out a targeted community vaccination programme against Hepatitis A.
8. **Gipton & Seacroft** – Both Gipton and Seacroft wards have a Local Management Team in place that are working well to deliver actions against the priorities agreed within the

Neighbourhood Improvement Plan. To make sure work is taking place in the areas of most need and towards the correct priorities, the Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership will be revisited in the New Year where discussions will turn towards the Neighbourhood Improvement Board. A collaborative approach with collective priorities has brought additional resources and funding to the communities in the region of £173,600.

8.1. Various pieces of work are ongoing to increase community cohesion and engagement, including:

Seacroft

- Assisting LS14 trust to write a CCG bid to tackle health, social isolation and employment concerns with Seacroft. The bid, if successful will attract £50K and will concentrate on the LSOA of Boggart Hill. The proposed projects include healthy growing, cooking and eating, physical activity, improved use of Rein Park and employment and training opportunities.
- Planning permission has been applied for the proposed MUGGA at Seacroft Park.
- Three 'operation champions' have been held throughout the neighbourhoods. The themes of the operations have been crime, environmental issues and antisocial behaviour consultation.
- Seacroft winter gala will be held on 12th December
- Neighbourhood Plan forum meeting was held on 25th November
- Free Saturday Meal offered at St James Church

Gipton

- Consultation on the activities the community would like to be delivered from Gipton Fire Station.
- Consultation on the activities the community would like to be delivered at Henry Barran Centre (as a result of this, Boxing sessions are now being held there).
- An Operation Champion will be held in the coming weeks, concentrating on the new-build homes.
- A Child Sexual Exploitation briefing has been delivered to seven parents in Gipton.
- The establishment of a community café and food bank.

8.2. Several pieces of work are in progress which promote emotional wellbeing and physical health, including lung health, and stop smoking advice. Both Gipton and Seacroft have a Health Improvement Group which looks at priorities and activities to improve health within the community, including walking and riding groups, healthy cooking classes, a 'pay as you feel' café, a vulnerable men's group and a women's friendship group.

8.3. Work towards employment and skills and NEETs includes weekly 'opportunity shops' in Gipton and Seacroft which offer support with job searches, job applications and CV writing as well as creating opportunities around volunteering and work experience.

Community Champions

9. Work is ongoing to develop the role of the Community Champions. In addition to their role in supporting the work of the sub groups, referred to earlier in this report, the community champions continue to support work within their portfolio. The community committee chair has committed to bi-monthly community champion meetings to ensure that champions in post are able to share their key areas of work and identify any areas of overlap. The meetings are also an opportunity to share good practice and address any challenging issues collectively.

Community Committee Performance Management Framework

10. A new performance management framework has been developed to help drive forward the priorities and achieve defined and measurable outputs from the workshop discussions which have formed an important part of community committee meetings.

10.1. This document provides a review of all agreed workshop actions with each action being allocated a progress rating of red, amber or green. Each of the community champions will be able to review and monitor progress against key actions within their local portfolio. Not only will this process serve as a useful mechanism for community champions to readily identify areas of good practice and any cases where we are struggling to make progress, it also allocates actions to a named individual and organisation and therefore provides clear accountability around any actions arising from the community committees.

10.2. The Community Committee Performance Management Framework is attached at Appendix 1.

11. At the last community committee, a report was received from the Senior Communities Librarian (Inner East) updating the committee on the work of the library service in inner east. As part of the discussion that followed the presentation of the report, members requested a breakdown of lending figures for the fixed library sites in inner east and also for the mobile library vehicle fleet which stops at various locations within the community committee boundary. The lending figures from Compton Road, Crossgates and Seacroft libraries are provided in Appendix 2 of this report.

11.1. The Leeds City Council mobile library service operates across the City of Leeds from its base in Seacroft. It is served by a fleet of nine vehicles. Five of the vehicles are classed as community mobile libraries carrying book stock and delivering services in communities, three are designated for the use of older people, and one is specifically assigned to Children and Families.

11.2. All mobile library vehicles cross community committee boundaries, and the performance information of book issues and visitors are collected and reported by each different vehicle, but not on individual stops. As a consequence of this, there is not as yet an established mechanism for compiling performance figures on a ward or

Community Committee boundary basis. The mobile library service manager has been alerted to the fact that members of the committee have requested this information and it may be that such a process is established in the future.

11.3. As a further update, the mobile library services unit will be moving into Citizens and Communities Directorate, from City Development Directorate before the end of this financial year.

12. At the January Community Committee, a workshop was held on social isolation and discussion centered around what could be done to reduce social isolation in East North East. Updates on multi-partner projects that have taken place towards this outcome are contained with Appendix 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Community Events

13. A series of diversionary activities took place in Harehills on 4th and 5th November 2015 to provide positive activities for young people to engage in around Bonfire Night. The Area Officer for Harehills worked in partnership with Safer Leeds, CATCH, LCC Active Lifestyles, LCC Youth Services, ENE Locality Team, West Yorkshire Fire Service and West Yorkshire Police to provide advice to young people in Harehills and signpost them to a series of recreational activities being delivered from the Hovingham Hub and the MCS Bilal Centre by CATCH and LCC Youth Services. Several weeks before, the team worked with the same partners to distribute leaflets across the Harehills and Chapeltown area publicising these events. These activities were delivered as a result of community committee funding approved at the last committee meeting in September.
14. East End Park bonfire and firework display took place on 5th November, one of the six bonfires organised by Leeds City Council. The event was judged to be great success with over a thousand people in attendance.
15. The first of three ward visits in the Inner East organised by the Communities Team (ENE) took place on 8th November with the Leader of Council, Cllr Judith Blake, and Chief Executive, Tom Riordan, visiting Gipton & Harehills. The visiting party, which also included the Community Committee Chair, Cllr Asghar Khan, and local ward member, Roger Harington, undertook a tour of the ward taking in local points of interest and key pieces of collaborative work. The tour concluded with a visit to the Compton Centre Community Hub where the visiting party undertook a floor walk to meet staff and see the numerous services being delivered from the centre.
16. At the September community committee, a workshop took place which sought people's views about how the community committee could support and contribute to the 16 Days of Action campaign against domestic violence and abuse in Inner East Leeds. The campaign ran from 25th November to 10th December. The workshop, which involved elected members, local residents, third sector organisations and officers from the council's community safety and commissioning teams, was the conduit for some insightful and constructive conversations about how there could be better awareness raising around domestic violence and abuse. Some of the ideas from this session were

used to inform a programme of events and activities organised by Communities Team ENE.

16.1. These activities included;

- An action walk from the Reginald Centre in Chapelton to the Compton Centre in Harehills involving local councillors and partners. The walk included a key note speech from the community champion for community safety and environment, Cllr Brian Selby, and ceremonial tying of white ribbons onto trees within the grounds of the Compton Centre. Children from Harehills Primary School also performed two songs at the Compton Centre containing key messages about community harmony and respect for others. Awareness raising publicity was also handed out to members of the public along the route.
- Information stalls at the Compton Centre and the Reginald Centre.

16.2. Actions specific to Gipton and Seacroft include:

- An awareness raising walk at Harehills Park and the Village Green in Seacroft.
- Promotional boards within customer locations – One Stops centres, Libraries, community centres, churches, children centres etc.
- Pledge cards for employees and agencies and customers.
- Christmas trees were put up early and used as “pledge trees” to display the pledge cards.

16.3. Longer term multi agency initiatives include:

- A “journey so far “ story from survivors that attend the Blossoms and Daisy’s support groups
- Consistent multi – agency training for front line services
- Emergency funding for vouchers to give individuals fleeing violence access to children’s provisions
- Bespoke items containing emergency contact details (Lipsil/nail file).

17. Members of the committee also agreed to set aside £1500 from their Wellbeing budget to support local groups and organisations to deliver projects which support the 16 Days of Action campaign. In response to this, the Communities Team ENE received five applications which were subsequently approved by ward members. The applications are contained within Appendix 7 of this report

Ward Issues

18. Good progress has been made on the Harehills Lane Town and District Centre scheme which benefits both Gipton and Harehills and Burmantofts and Richmond Hill wards. The refurbishment of the Bellbrookes car park has been completed and a number of positive comments have been received by local residents and businesses. The majority of the Highways works have also been completed incorporating traffic calming measures and resurfacing and the barrier between the car park and Harehills Lane has been replaced with an attractive dwarf wall and railing feature. Communities Team ENE are working with the Regeneration Team (Leeds City Council) and East Street Arts to

coordinate a public art project in and around Harehills Lane. Local schools have been approached as part of the discussions to involve local young people in the design of the art sculpture to be installed within the grounds of the Compton Centre and the design of 'welcome' banners on lampposts. A panel has been arranged for 1st December to evaluate the final designs for the public art. The banners will be complimented by hanging baskets in the spring.

Communications & Social Media

19. The Communities Team ENE have continued to use the Community Committee Facebook pages to provide details of work of the committee as well advertising community events and local opportunities.
20. At the time of writing, the Inner East Community Committee Facebook pages had been "liked" by 225 people, an increase from 209 at the time of the last Community Committee in September. The Facebook pages continue to be an important communications tool between the council and local residents and services.

Challenges and Opportunities

21. *Community Led Local Development* - Members may recall that in early 2014 they were briefed on a European funding initiative called Community Led Local Development (CLLD) which is part of the current ESIF programme. CLLD is not for general "community development" and its use is restricted to the development of the economy and to support people into employment. It cannot be used as "continuation funding" for existing projects or activities. Funding can come from both the ERDF and ESF funds within the programme. A number of Members subsequently attended early consultation meetings and other activities designed to help consider what a local economic strategy would look like. There have, however, been significant delays at a national level in the published timetable; so although activity has continued at a local level to prepare for the eventual bidding process, these have mostly been confined to occasional meetings at a local level of people who indicated they wished to help frame the bid, and meetings of the city wide co-ordinating group which has "kept the pot boiling" by preparing the ground for the eventual implementation of CLLD bidding processes.
- 21.1 There are three proposed areas based on deprived communities in inner Leeds. Each will require a (separate) Local Action Group (LAG) which will be responsible for developing a Local Development Strategy and leading any resulting CLLD programme. A LAG is a partnership comprising the public, private and third sectors and must also have an Accountable Body, which may be the local authority, to manage/ oversee the expenditure in accordance with the ESIF regulations.
- 21.2 A CLLD area must have a population of between 10,000 and 150,000, falling within the top 20% most deprived LSOAs, and the programme area must form a cohesive geography. The programme must also have a minimum size of €3m public sector funding input, and there is an overall requirement for 50% matched funding for all activity.

21.3 The bidding process is now open, providing an opportunity for Leeds to apply for a 'preparatory stage' funding of up to £20k European funding, which must be equally matched by other funding, to identify and establish the local action group, the accountable body, refine the areas and produce a Local Development Strategy. By the end of November 2015, the preparatory bids will be submitted and it is anticipated that approvals for those areas which are invited to proceed to the next stage will be announced in January, with the actual final bid being developed over a six month period which will involve detailed local consultation. At this point in time, within the overarching criteria, no absolute commitments as to the exact geographical boundaries or activities to be delivered will be made. These decisions will be made as part of the process to create a local development strategy in 2016; and the earliest that we would expect to see any spend, should those later bids be accepted, will be Spring 2017.

21.4 Community Committees and individual Members will have the opportunity to fully participate in this development process if the preparatory bids are agreed at national level.

21.5 Further information can be obtained from Beth Logan, Policy and Performance Manager, beth.logan@leeds.gov.uk

Conclusion

22 There are a number of actions on-going to achieve the Community Committees' priorities and fulfil its work programme and tangible progress has been made in improving the way that the Community Committee, supported by the Communities Team (ENE), serves as local decision-making body. However, the Community Committee recognises that there is still a significant amount of work to be done going forward.

Recommendations

23 That members note the contents of the report and make comment where appropriate.

Background information

- Link to the Facebook Page for the Inner East Community Committee: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerEast>
- Link to the Priority Setting report that was approved by the Inner East Community Committee in March 2015: <http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/documents/s128842/2%20-%20Priority%20setting%20report.pdf>
- The above may be regular background papers, please add any others as appropriate