

Report of: The West North West Area Leader

Report to: The Inner North West Community Committee – Headingley; Hyde Park & Woodhouse; Weetwood

Report author: Nicole Darbyshire – 33 67859

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To note

Area Update Report

1. Purpose of report

This report provides members with a summary of recent sub group and forum business as well as a general update on other project activity.

- 1.1 Members are asked to note the discussions of the Inner North West Community Committee sub groups and any key messages.
- 1.2 Members are asked to note free lets that have been agreed under the new pricing policy for community centres.
- 1.3 Members are asked to note the update from the Inner North West Housing Advisory Panel (HAP)
- 1.4 Members are asked to agree the INW community plan
- 1.5 Members are asked to note the area update newsletter
- 1.6 Members are asked to note and comment on the update from the Employment & Skills team following the last Community Committee meeting in June.

2. Background information

- 2.1 An area update report is submitted at every cycle of community committee meetings, unless there is no additional business to report from sub groups or any other project activity to report. Partner organisations and council services may also contribute information to the area update report.

3. Main issues

Forum and Sub Group Key Messages

3.1 Planning Sub Group

The Inner North West planning sub group met on 13 July 2016 and 10 August 2016. They will also meet on 14 September; the Chair of the sub group will report back to the Committee meeting.

3.2 At the meeting on 13 July the following issues were discussed:

- An update on neighbourhood planning in each of the areas was received. It was agreed that it would be useful to share data for the production of the plans.
- A ward breakdown for CIL monies was requested.
- Concerns were raised about the number of illuminated signs in the area.
- The application for the changes to Headingley stadium and proposals for the Tetley Fields site were discussed and concerns raised about development on greenbelt land.
- That the length of time that members of the public have to speak at Plans Panel is not sufficient.
- Concerns were raised about the increase in density of building developments in the area. A meeting had been requested with the Planning department to discuss this further.

3.3 Key Messages

The Community Committee is asked to note the following key messages:

- There is a large amount of LED signage currently in the area and more details were requested from Planning regarding the policies for such signage.
- It needs to be considered how public rights of way can be integrated across wards.
- There needs to be a shared approach to processing and using data for the development of neighbourhood plans.
- More information was requested regarding Planning's approach to the increasing density of building developments in the inner areas.

3.3 At the meeting on 10 August the following issues were discussed:

- Each area gave a neighbourhood planning update.
- Concerns were raised about building developments that commence and then stop before completion, leaving a site partially developed.
- Clarification of what should be defined as a 'minor material amendment' was requested.
- There was a discussion about student bed spaces in the area currently exceeding demand and concerns raised that, despite this, developers are still applying to develop student bed spaces. Concerns were further raised that different planning conditions are attached to student developments and that when these developments can't be filled with students, these developments are subsequently let out / sold without certain provisions.

3.5 Key Messages

The Community Committee is asked to note the following key messages:

- Highways and Planning are asked to consider the cumulative impact that planning applications can have on an area.
- It was requested that a response be sought regarding the Boston Exchange development.
- That it be ensured that the protocol for speaking at Plans Panels be applied consistently across all Panels.
- That the effect that HMO regulations can have on care costs be explored further.
- Student accommodation issue – to raise with Planning the issue of empty student properties and how these might be used in the future. Parking issues also need to be raised.

3.6 **Environment Sub Group**

The Environment Sub Group met on 19 July 2016. The following key issues were discussed:

- The Locality team reported that the student changeover period had run relatively smoothly. It was noted that there has been an increase in ‘tatting’ (theft of items from bins and skips) and also that landlords continue to clear homes after students have left the properties, which can extend the recognised changeover period. Waste Management reported that 180 tonnes of waste were collected over the three week period.
- The first wave of an extended opt-in recycling scheme has now completed. In the 1,000 property pilot area of upper Cardigan Road in Headingley, 220 properties (25%) have opted in. Green bins were removed at the end of August, if residents want a green bin then they have to apply for one. This has had a positive effect on the quality of recycling, reducing the amount of contamination.
- The play area on Silk Mill Close has been severely damaged by fire and is now cordoned off. Options for renewal of the equipment are being investigated.
- 4 out of 8 INW parks now meet the quality park standard, an improvement from 2015.
- Highways are to implement a smart water scheme to improve the retention of yorkstone pavers, the theft of which remains an issue. Highways are also considering other replacement options.

3.7 Key Messages

The Community Committee is asked to note the discussions of the Environment Sub Group and receive any verbal update, at the Community Committee, from the sub group chair.

Children & Young People Sub Group

- 3.8 Elected Members of the Children and Young people’s sub group met on 5 September 2016. The following key issues were discussed:

- Pat Spedding from the INW Cluster gave an overview of the work that they had carried out over the summer holidays. She also provided an update on discussions around future funding for clusters and explained how funds would now go directly to schools and it was up to them whether they then wished to opt in for cluster services.
- Better Leeds Communities provided an update on the work that they've been carrying out in the local area, as they are now commissioned to deliver youth activities for the council.
- Steve Harper from the Council's youth service stated that they had no budget to deliver work in the INW area. Youth services are still working with clusters, and some of these projects may work with young people in the INW area.
- Potential funding for a project to target vulnerable young people in the Silk Mills area was discussed. Steve Harper agreed to work up some costings for a programme of work.
- The meeting heard that there was around £15k left in Youth Activities Fund monies. It was agreed that a funding application round be held, requesting applications for February half term and the Easter break. This round will open on 14 November and close on 5 December, with applications to be considered by the sub group in early January.

3.9 Key Messages

The Community Committee is asked to note the discussions of the Children & Young People's Sub Group and receive any verbal update, at the Community Committee, from the sub group Chair.

4. Free lets

- 4.1 Under the new pricing policy for community centres, free lets are now agreed on an individual basis. The table below details the free lets that have been agreed in the Inner North West area since this new policy was introduced and the financial value that this represents to the council:

Inner North West - one off free let cost upto 5th September 2016

Centre	Organisation	Amount
Little London CC	Caring Together	£42.00
Little London CC	REATS Leeds	£1,000.00
Little London CC	Caring Together	£9.00
Little London CC	Caring Together	£24.00
Little London CC	Caring Together	£312.00
Little London CC	Caring Together	£5.00
Little London CC	Caring Together	£24.00
Little London CC	Little London Art	£1,170.00
Little London CC	INW Family Service Team	£161.25
		£2,742.25
Meanwood CC	Meanwood Valley Woodcraft	£264.00
Meanwood CC	Playscheme	£55.00

Meanwood CC	Leeds Woodcraft Folk	£2,080.00
Meanwood CC	LCC Youth Service	£1,881.60

£4,280.60

£7,022.85

5. Update from the Inner North West Housing Advisory Panel (HAP)

5.1 Across Leeds there are 11 local Housing Advisory Panels (HAP's) who work closely with local housing and other Council teams to support community and environmental projects; tenant engagement activity and to help monitor and shape local housing services to meet the needs of local tenants and communities. HAP's are tenant-led forums with local Ward member representation – one member for each of the Wards within the scope of the Inner North West HAP (INW HAP).

5.2 The INW HAP recently updated their 'plan on a page' to ensure funding priorities are reflective of current local need and also contribute to both housing and wider best city priorities.

5.3 For 2016/17 the INW HAP received a delegated budget of £93,068 towards community and environmental initiatives that benefit Council tenants and their communities. Within the Weetwood and Hyde Park & Woodhouse Wards the INW HAP has so far contributed its budget towards a very successful Little London Community Day, developing a parking permit scheme in the St John's area, a secret community garden project at Iveson Primary school, extra refuse solutions at Ireland Crescent sheltered housing, new fencing and gates at Parkstone Avenue flats, and a planter and gardening tools for Eltham Court sheltered housing residents. In addition the INW HAP has contributed towards the extension of the city-wide 'community payback' scheme and the award winning Parenting Programme.

5.4 The Panel meets every two months and will consider funding applications throughout the year - although it is likely that the available budget will be committed by Christmas 2016.

5.5 Housing Leeds continue to work closely with the Communities Team colleagues and other statutory and voluntary sector partners to identify opportunities for joint projects to maximum impact for tenants, residents and communities.

6. INW Community Plan

6.1 As part of the community committee constitution, there is a requirement that community committees have a community plan which outlines the committee's work programme and priorities for the year.

Please find attached at **Appendix 1** the final version of this plan with the newly included key priorities for 2016/17.

7. Area update newsletter

- 7.1 Through discussions at area chair's forum, it has been agreed that update newsletters be produced for each of the community committees as a means of communicating business to the public. At **Appendix 2** is the latest INW area update newsletter, attached for Members information.

8. INW Community Committee, June 2016 - Adult Learning Topic Update

8.1 Overview of the event

The focus of the Community Committee meeting in June was on adult learning in the areas of Headingley, Hyde Park & Woodhouse, and Weetwood wards. A presentation was delivered which covered the purpose of adult learning in these wards and key target groups that are engaged in this provision. The current wide range of courses delivered in the area was also discussed.

The meeting then discussed ideas for courses in the area and the possible venues that could be utilised to deliver programmes for adults.

8.2 The findings

Further course ideas included:

- IT courses that helped adults to learn computing skills, but also help them to manage their finances online.
- Discrete, women only, English as a second language (ESOL) courses in the Little London area and more general ESOL courses to meet the high demand.
- Possible venues: Cardigan Centre, HEART Centre, Meanwood Community Centre and the new Welcome Inn Centre on the Silk Mills (opening later in the year).
- University mentoring programme that could provide additional support in adult learning programmes.

8.3 Proposed actions

- The Cardigan Centre has received further funding from Leeds City Council to deliver adult learning in the academic year 2016/17. As part as their allocation they will deliver ESOL courses at Little London Community Centre and will explore developing a discrete women's only programme. They also plan to deliver a range of courses at the Cardigan Centre.
- Headingley Library delivers a range of "Get on line courses". Further discussions are taking place with Leeds Rugby Foundation, who currently deliver adult learning courses, to develop further computing/ budgeting classes and ESOL provision starting in October.
- Further discussions to take place in September with Leeds University Community Mentoring programme to see if this scheme could help to support adult learning in the area.

Ward profiles to accompany the information can be found at **Appendix 3**. A ward profile for Weetwood is currently being developed, but some statistics are attached.

9. Corporate considerations

9.1 Consultation and engagement

9.1.1 Elected members have been consulted on the content of this report.

9.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

9.2.1 There are no equality and diversity issues in relation to this report.

9.3 Resources and value for money

9.3.1 There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

9.4 Legal implications, access to information and call in

9.4.1 There are no legal implications or access to information issues. This report is not subject to call in.

10. Risk management

10.1 There are no risk management issues relating to this report.

11. Conclusion

11.1 This report provides members with an update on recent sub group business and other project work undertaken by the Communities Team West North West.

12 Recommendations

12.1 Members are asked to:

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