

Report of: Jane Maxwell, East North East Area Leader

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

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To Note

Community Committee Update Report

Purpose of report

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

Main issues

1. Since the last Community Committee, work has progressed in a number of areas, including via ward member meetings and the local Neighbourhood Improvement Partnerships.
2. Over the last several months, there has been a number of high profile criminal incidents in Inner East which have contributed to concerns about violent crime in the area. To date, there continues to be a recorded rise in violent crime in Gipton & Harehills and Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, namely assaults.
3. Of most concern in recent weeks has been three murders that have occurred in the Harehills area. These incidents, although not connected, have had a significant impact on the community of Harehills.
4. In late January 2017 Raheem Wilks was the victim of a fatal shooting that occurred at Toosharps Barbers, Gathorne Terrace. To date there have been a number of arrests and two individuals charged with murder. The Police continue to work closely with local community and there have been no specific reports of any tensions or community issues.

5. On 10th February 2017 Irfan Wahid was fatally stabbed on Harehills Lane. Irfan was a 16 years old and the male charged with his murder is also a 16 year old. This incident has had a large media response and has had a wide impact in the community. From the day of the incident Police have worked with the family, the community and other partners to reduce any perceived tension in the community. A full and extensive Community Impact Assessment (CIA) has since been completed and no apparent tensions have been reported in the community. The Police have continued to work in wider community and are doing everything they can to provide reassurance and visibility.
6. On Sunday 12th February 2017 a Polish male was fatally stabbed at an address on Bexley Mount. A Polish male has been charged with his murder. This was an isolated incident and early communications have taken place with the Polish community to ensure that they are aware of the circumstances of the incident. There has been no apparent community impact and no tensions reported as a result of the incident.
7. All three incidents have been dealt with by the Homicide and Major Investigations Team (HMET), however the Partnership Working Area (PWA) teams have been extensively involved in local community engagement and reassurance work and this work continues to be the primary focus over the coming weeks.
8. Although there have been 35 less reported robberies in Inner East than the previous year, the darker nights period has seen a significant rise in burglary offences across the PWA. The Killingbeck and Seacroft area have experienced a spike and this accounts for 50% of all burglaries across Inner East. There have been some significant arrests in relation to these offences, including a 15 year old male who is believed to be responsible for a large number of these offences. This male has been charged with a number of burglary offences and is currently going through the judicial process. There has been plain clothes and proactive work across the PWA to try and tackle this issue and the PWA are managing a number of offenders through the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) process. Additionally, three males have been arrested for a number of burglary dwelling offences in the East End Park area and have all been remanded in custody awaiting trial.
9. As reported to the committee previously, there have been concerns raised about levels of anti-social behaviour taking place in Inner East, particularly in the Killingbeck and Seacroft and Gipton & Harehills wards. In South Seacroft, there is a particular issue with nuisance motorbikes. A team of males who reside in the Seacroft area are believed to be stealing bikes from across Leeds (in particular the city centre) and bringing them back to Seacroft. The Police currently have a live operation running to tackle this issue. A number of males have been charged with offences. In Harehills, there has been a successful piece of work in the Sandhurst and Dorset area where high levels of ASB were being reported. There has been a multi-agency approach to tackling this issue and as per the recent meeting the calls have dramatically reduced.

10. Since 1st January, the Killingbeck and Seacroft ward have experienced on average 2.74 ASB calls per day. The figures for Gipton & Harehills are 1.89 ASB calls per day and 1.55 calls per day for Burmantofts & Richmond Hill.
11. A meeting of the Inner East Environmental sub group took place on 2nd February. Of particular note to the committee was an issue concerning the adoption of a new opt-in recycling service in Harehills. This was introduced earlier this year and has so far been mooted as a success. Before the opt-in service was introduced, the refuse collection service would typically collect around 20 tonnes of green bin material per month in Harehills. Of that 20 tonnes, on average at least 50% would either be totally rejected or classed as heavily contaminated, meaning at least half the green bin waste collected in Harehills was not suitable for recycling. This in turn made the good recycling hard to extract from contaminated loads, and resulted in financial penalties to the Council. Following the implementation of opt-in recycling the service are now collecting less green bins in Harehills (typically now around 13 tonnes per month) however no loads have since been rejected and the amount classified as heavily contaminated is now under 10%. This means that even though the service are collecting less green bins, they are actually recycling more waste, and saving money on high contamination charges.
12. Following on from the successful Harehills Conversation Dinner that took place on 12th October, the next steps to formalise the establishment of a residents group in Harehills were progressed on 7th February when local residents, ward members, partner agencies and the Communities Team met at Ark to discuss a way forward. The meeting produced some open and honest views and opinions about how the group could work together to encourage some local improvements. A follow up meeting is planned for the end of March.



13. As an example of really positive community engagement in Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, partners from the Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership have come together to establish a fortnightly pop up community Hub based at St Hilda's Church. Housing, the Compton Centre, St Vincent's, Money Buddies and Connect for Health have worked with the Communities Team to establish customer service sessions which will be delivered twice a month. The sessions will be delivered on a rota basis by the respective partners. The service has been developed with the active involvement of local residents and the Church and responding to the high level of need in that local community. Over the first two sessions the Pop Up has supported 7 residents and the hope is that numbers will increase as the word spreads within the community.

St Hilda's Church

Pop Up Community Hub

Advice Drop-in Service
Every 2nd & 4th Monday of the month 1-3pm

Not sure where to get help or who to ask? Pop in and see us.

The drop in will have two trained advisors at each session who will be able to deal with enquiries on a wide range of issues including:

- Housing
- Jobs and Training
- Council Services
- Benefits
- Health and Wellbeing
- Money issues and debt
- Support for older people
- Find out about local services, what's on in the area

If your enquiry can't be solved there and then we will take your details and make sure someone contacts you **within 3 days**.



14. On 22nd February, a group of organisations came together to undertake a community clean-up at Wyke Beck Pond in Killingbeck. The pond and surrounding woodland forms part of the Wyke Beck Valley nature reserve. The event was organised by the Wyke Beck Valley Friends Association who brought together the East North East Locality Team, LCC Park Rangers, Groundwork Leeds, as well as community volunteers from the local Asda and McDonald's stores to help with the clean-up. As well as removing a significant amount of litter from the pond and surrounding areas, volunteers also made bird and bat boxes to be put up in the surrounding woodland to encourage wildlife habitation in the area. A further clean-up in Wyke Beck Valley is planned for 28th March and new volunteers are welcome to come along and take part.



15. Further to the successful Inner East Youth Summit that took place on 6th March, a report outlining the outcomes of the event was presented to the Children & Young People subgroup on 14th February. This report is attached as an appendix (Appendix 1). The youth summit brought together 70 young people from across the area and 20 activity providers. The findings from the event, detailed in the report, will be used to inform decisions made regarding Youth Activity Fund applications for youth provision during the summer holidays this year. Looking forward, there are plans to utilise the young people who attended the event as a consultation group to engage further on the council's youth offer in Inner East.
16. Following on from the report and workshop session on Leeds' bid to be the 2023 Capital of Culture at the community committee meeting in September, a new website has recently been launched to continue the consultation and to provide more information about the preparations for the Leeds bid. The website is called Leeds 2023: Get Involved, and can be viewed at <http://leeds2023.co.uk/get-involved/>
17. It was reported to the last Community Committee in December that the Department for Communities and Local Government had approved in principle a Community Led Local Development Strategy from the Communities Team ENE in a bid to acquire European funding to support local employment and enterprise. Another important milestone has been reached in this process. On the 31st January the East Leeds

Local Action Group, supported by the Communities Team, formally submitted their stage 2 submission to both the DCLG and DWP. Subject to gaining approval by both government departments, the £3m fund is anticipated to go “live” in November 2017.

18. To recap, the geography covered by the bid is nominally badged as ‘East Leeds’. This area comprises of Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton & Harehills, Killingbeck & Seacroft and Chapeltown (part of the Chapel Allerton Ward). The rationale behind wrapping a funding bid around this cluster of neighbourhoods (population circa 82,000) is that collectively this area has 41 of the 52 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) that are in the most deprived 10% nationally. The CLLD fund is essentially split into two parts. One strand relates to providing pathways to employment opportunities for those deemed furthest from the job market (European Social Investment Fund); the other strand is about creating opportunities for local enterprises to flourish (European Regional Development Fund - ERDF).
19. The vision behind the East Leeds bid strategy is develop a local, visible and integrated pre-employment offer which helps participants to take the steps they need to overcome barriers and progress to employment. Underpinning this vision are three objectives, namely:
 - To commission a network community organisations based ‘opportunity’ shop sessions as a front door to key worker and integrated service support which includes home visits.
 - To build on the strengths of our local employer asset base in the East Leeds CLLD area and encourage local employers to provide experiences for socially isolated and marginalised residents which enable progress to employment.
 - To develop customised support which enables participants to progress along self-employment pathways.
20. When the outcome of the stage 2 submission is known this will be communicated to the Community Committee.
21. Adult Social Care in Leeds is focussing on developing its approach to Strengths Based Social Care (SBSC) through establishing a range of ‘innovation sites’ to test out the model.
22. SBSC is an approach that changes the nature of the conversation from eligibility for services to shared problem solving and solutions that build on strengths, both personal and those of the community. The kind of conversation will depend on the problem presented.
 - Conversation 1 seeks to provide information and advice about resources in the community and connect people to these but, importantly, a follow-up contact to check if the advice provided has solved the problem
 - Conversation 2 seeks to provide short-term but intensive support when someone is in crisis to enable them to get back on their feet

- Conversation 3 is where someone needs additional long-term support to get on with their life and would follow on once short-term solutions have been tried.

23. Members may be familiar with a piece of work being done in Armley based around these conversations, with a focus on people registered with 2 GP practices and the establishment of a 'Talking Point' at New Wortley Community Centre. In the East North East area there are two established Innovation Sites. The first of these involves the Chapeltown Neighbourhood Care Management Team which has been using the SBSC approach with people referred to it since January. The second establishes a Rapid Response Team that will be responsible for dealing with all urgent referrals in the area for the first 72 hours, dealing with the immediate crisis and ensuring the person's safety and handing over to the relevant Neighbourhood Team for further care. The adoption of these initiatives will result in a more responsive service.

24.

25. Neighbourhood Teams are now co-located with their Leeds Community Health Care colleagues in shared buildings. The Seacroft Team moved to Killingbeck Court with health colleagues January and the Chapeltown Team moved to Tribeca House, also with its health colleagues in February. Both offices provide not only fantastic facilities for staff, but also greater connectivity and communication amongst health colleagues.

26. An action tracker document has been created to help drive forward the priorities and achieve defined and measurable outputs from the community committee meetings. This document is attached at Appendix 2. It provides a review of all agreed community committee actions, including those established in the community committee workshop sessions.

Conclusion

27. The work of the Communities Team in partnership with council departments, external partners and with elected members is working towards the priorities of the Community Committee and the aspirations of the new neighbourhood improvement approach. This programme of work should be seen as a work in progress which is consolidating the Community Committee's role as a local decision-making body by strengthening the links between the local authority and the communities it serves.

Recommendations

1. Members note the contents of the report and make comment where appropriate.