



Report of the West Leeds Area Manager

Inner West Leeds Area Committee

Date: 18th September 2008

Subject: Wyther Community Centre

Electoral Wards Affected: Armley

Ward Members consulted

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

Executive Summary

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.0 The purpose of this report is to refer the Report to Scrutiny Board of 24th July on the closure of the Wyther Community Centre to the Inner West Area Committee in accordance with the resolution of the July meeting of the Environment and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 On 30 November 2007 Asset Management agreed to dispose of the Wyther Community Centre and it was demolished on 12 May 2008. The building was in poor condition and required significant capital investment. Only one group was using the centre and alternative accommodation was offered to them after lengthy discussions.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 On 3 April 2008 the Inner West Area Committee referred the matter to Environment and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board due to the delays in the closure and demolition of the Community Centre.

3.2 The report attached as Appendix 1 was presented to Scrutiny Board on 24th July 2008 in response to the referral, asking the Scrutiny Board to note and comment on the report on the closure and demolition of the Wyther Community Centre.

3.3 After consideration members of Scrutiny Board resolved that the report be referred to the Inner West Area Committee for their consideration. The extract from the Scrutiny Board minutes is attached at Appendix 2.

4.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

4.1 The closure of the Community Centre supported the policy for community centre provision agreed at Executive Board and referred to in the Departmental Asset Management Plan.

5.0 Legal And Resource Implications

5.1 The demolition of the building led to an annual revenue saving of £21,329 per annum, and a saving of non incurred capital of £21,200.

6.0 Conclusions

6.1 The closure of the Wyther Community Centre took considerable time due to the need to consider all the options and accommodation the one group who used the centre. It was referred to Scrutiny Board at the request of the Inner West Area Committee and has now been referred back to the Area Committee for comment.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 Members are asked to note and comment on the report on the closure and demolition of the Wyther Community Centre.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Report to Scrutiny Board, 24 July 2008

Appendix 2 Extract from minutes, Scrutiny Board, 24 July 2008

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None