

Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

To: Inner West Area Committee

Date: 23rd June 2009

Subject: Area Managers Report

Electoral Wards Affected:
 Armley
 Bramley & Stanningley

Ward Members consulted
 (referred to in report)

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

The purpose of this report is to inform members of progress against Leeds Strategic Plan and the Inner West Area Delivery Plan.

1.0 Purpose of This Report

1.1 This report informs Members of the progress against Leeds Strategic Plan and the Inner West Area Delivery Plan.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The Area Delivery Plan is the delivery of the Leeds Strategic Plan in the Inner West area. This report identifies progress against the themes of the Leeds Strategic Plan. Appendix 1 provides a more detailed account of progress against actions in the Area Delivery Plan for 2008/09.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Environment

3.1.2 Field of Dreams

3.1.3 In April 2007 St Bartholomew's Primary School, Armley, applied to the People's Millions, Big Lottery, for a grant to create an informal community garden on designated public space adjacent to St. Bartholomew's Primary School. The application was successful and they were awarded £79,930.

3.1.4 Parks and Countryside are due to commence works shortly, and it is envisaged that the scheme will be completed by August.

3.2 Thriving Communities

3.2.1 The Impact of the Recession on Inner West Leeds.

3.2.2 The impact of the recession is now starting to feed through to unemployment levels. In Leeds as a whole the Job Seekers allowance register increased by 23,281 in April 2009 up by 10,806 on April 2008. The top 10 occupations involved in people losing jobs are:

1. Warehousing
2. Retail
3. Office assistants
4. Van drivers
5. Customer care
6. Laborers
7. Joiners
8. Process and plant workers
9. Cleaners
10. Packers

3.2.3 In April 2009 3693 vacancies were notified in Leeds, a decrease of 45% on April 2008. The top ten vacancies in Leeds currently are in:

1. Care assistants
2. Sales reps
3. Telephone sales
4. Cleaners
5. Other sales occupations
6. Security
7. Call centres
8. Customer care
9. Office assistants
10. Retail

3.2.4 In Inner West Leeds the number of unemployed job seekers allowance claimants has doubled between May 2008 and April 2009 from 1077 to 2044. For Armley ward the rate of unemployment is now 7.1% and in Bramley 4.8% as against a Leeds figure of 4.3% (source Leeds Economy Bulletin Spring 2009). Alongside this from August 2008 figures there were 1345 claimants of Incapacity Benefits in Armley (8% of working age population) and 1225 in Bramley and Stanningley (7.5% of working age population). From these same figures there were 490 Lone Parent claimants in Armley (3% of working age population) and 420 in Bramley and Stanningley (3% of the working age population).

- 3.2.5 The number of investment enquiries coming to the Council has also fallen sharply in Inner West over the last five quarters, from 100 industrial enquires to 46, from 51 office enquiries to 32, from 55 retail enquiries to 35 and 42 land enquiries to 13.
- 3.2.6 A number of local companies have announced redundancies for example Heidelberg in Bramley with the loss of 20 jobs. On the positive side there have been examples of new jobs such as at Elite group (over 200 new jobs in the past 12 months) and Tesco store in Bramley that now employs 180 staff.
- 3.2.7 With increased numbers of people looking for work Job Centre Plus have introduced additional support when people first become unemployed. This includes:
- One to one coaching
 - 1 day provider led seminars
 - Access to discretionary funds for “one off” cash help to improve an individual’s immediate job prospects
 - Three Week work trials
- 3.2.8 And for those unemployed for 6 months:
- £1000 recruitment subsidy for employers to employ someone from the JSA register and access to in work training up to £1500 through Train to Gain funding
 - Work focussed training
 - Work focused volunteering
 - Help for customers starting in self employment (£50 per week for individuals over 25)
- 3.2.9 The Government’s Future Jobs Fund has recently been announced – this aims to provide 18-24 year olds on 12 month job seekers allowance with 150,000 new jobs nationally in a Community Task Force, in the Care sector, Retailing and other sectors. The subsidy unit cost will be £6500 for every job of 25 hrs of more created. The funding will last 18 months. Local Authorities, including Leeds, are being tasked to work with partners to submit proposals to a bidding process by end June 2009, with the first jobs being available in October 2009.
- 3.2.10 Within West and North West Leeds a number of schemes are now helping people get into employment. The A2E worklessness programme is now operational through advisors based in Fairfield Community Centre, New Wortley Community Centre, Strawberry Lane, Hollybush and Wyther Community House. A second scheme – the Inner West Leeds worklessness pilot match also now commenced. The scheme is known as “4 Families” will work with a number of families and individuals on the New Wortley, Fairfield and Wyther estates to help get people back into the workforce. If this model is successful the plan will be to roll it out within Leeds. The West Area Committee is joint funding this project (hence the greater coverage in Inner West than anywhere else in the City). Inner West is the only area committee to support this type of work – a far sighted decision given the impact of the recession locally.

3.2.11 Worklessness Pilot

3.2.12 The aim of the pilot is to reduce worklessness amongst a number of targeted neighbourhoods across the city, which are Halton Moor, Osmondthorpe, Gipton and New Wortley. In Inner West the areas covered will be New Wortley, the Wythers and the Fairfields, due to an injection of funding from the Inner West Area Committee. The pilot will offer intensive wrap around support to identified families/ individuals to encourage them to address the barriers they face in moving into and staying in work. The pilot is a new person-centred approach to address the needs of individuals and to work in partnership with a broad spectrum of statutory and voluntary sector service providers.

3.2.13 The proposed approach aims to coordinate activity in the neighbourhoods and is intended to demonstrate that there are efficiencies to be achieved by effectively joining up services and responding to the individual needs of people. The pilot will establish a network of Family Mentors to work across the target neighbourhoods to utilise a wide range of sources of support personalised to the needs of the individuals. The support will cover a wide range of elements dependent on individual needs; from signposting to partner organisations to personal development plans and wrap round support.

3.2.14 The project has recruited six new members of staff, an Administrator, two Family Mentors who are currently in post, one of which is in Julie Baird who is working in the Inner West area, with the remaining Family Mentors due in post shortly.

3.2.15 The project location in Inner West is New Wortley Community Centre, but also linking in with BARCA on the Wythers, Fairfield Community Centre, Jobs and Skills, Hollybush Primary School and St Bartholomew's Primary School. Some outreach work has been undertaken to meet local agencies in order to inform them about the project and to get new referrals. Referrals are starting to come into the project with 17 to date across the programme areas.

3.2.16 Integrated Money Advice Pilot

3.2.17 Work is underway to roll out an integrated money advice pilot to be run in two areas in Leeds involving a coordination of services from multiple partners. The areas chosen for the first pilots are South Seacroft followed by Armley.

3.2.18 Partners would include: LCC Welfare Benefits and Rights, Debt Advice Agencies, Housing ALMO's, Social Care, NHS PCT, LCC Corporate Debt Team, Leeds City Credit Union, Customer Services One Stop Centres and Contact Centre, Energy Advice. A report on financial inclusion, the credit crunch and debt, money advice services in Leeds is also a separate item on this agenda.

3.2.19 The South Seacroft pilot commenced in February and is ongoing; the Armley pilot is due to start at the end of June. The pilot has also been extended to include the Fairfield neighbourhood in response to incorporating the third priority neighbourhood in Inner West as part of the Local Area Management Plan (LAMP) work. A report will

be taken to the Narrowing the Gap group in autumn which will outline the findings of the pilots.

3.2.20 Jobs and Skills Update

3.2.21 Fairfield Community Centre

3.2.22 Jobs and skills have established a jobshop session (every Thursday am), even though numbers are still quite low they have increased over the past two months. They attended the 'Your Communities Your Priorities event to promote Jobs and Skills services and network with other agencies working in the area and they are working in partnership with 4Families to support workless families in the area.

3.2.23 New Wortley Community Centre

3.2.24 Due to demand two members of staff now cover the jobshop at the New Wortley Community Centre, which runs every Wednesday 10-12pm and 1-3pm. They are working in partnership with 4Families to support workless families in the area. In addition to working in partnership with Accent Housing and Lovell's on a social housing project on the Farrow Estate which will not only create new housing association properties but opportunities for apprenticeships, short placements and jobs. These opportunities are for local people only. The project will also support small local businesses such as the local sandwich shop which the contractors will use on a regular basis.

3.2.25 Strawberry Lane Community Centre

3.2.26 Jobshops and IT provision sessions are now running two days per week. WWW (Work Well West) is a session running every Thursday offering support from four agencies who support people with mental health issues back into employment. Partners are Jobs and Skills, Stocks Hill Day Centre, Working Minds and Leeds Mind Dove Services. Jobs and Skills are also continuing with the established jobshop session at Armley One Stop Shop.

3.2.27 Hollybush Annexe

3.2.28 An increase in the Adult Learning offer has attracted new people to the centre, for example they now run a conversation club which is an ideal setting for people who have confidence issues or who are returning to learning or the labour market after a long period of time. All Adult Learning classes are full and have a waiting list. The jobshop provision which runs every Thursday is now covered by two members of staff due to demand.

3.2.29 Wyther Community House

3.2.30 The jobshop was introduced just over a month ago (every Friday pm); they are now in discussion with BARCA to look at changing this session to another day. They are working in partnership with 4Families to support workless families in the area.

3.2.31 Neighbourhood Wardens

3.2.32 There are four Neighbourhood Wardens working in Inner West funded through Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, Safer Stronger Communities Funding, Area Committee and West North West Homes Leeds funding. The wardens are based on the Wyther estate, Broadlea, Fairfield, and New Wortley area.

3.2.33 Warden report – a full report on the future proposals for neighbourhood wardens is presented elsewhere on this agenda.

3.2.34 Recently, the Wardens, have been involved in:

- Supporting Clean Up Days in the Clydes and Bruces
- Supporting the Wyther Action Day, particularly the local community in clean-up activities
- Delivering the SmartWater initiative and supporting Operation Impact in the Wyther estate
- Supporting the Chill Out Night Café in New Wortley in trying to divert young people into activities.
- Undertaking a leaflet drop in the Lincrofts regarding the ginnel closure, and across Armley promoting the 'Your Communities Your Priorities' event
- Supporting the 'Street Clear Up' on Armley Town Street
- Attending at the 'Your Communities Your Priorities' event
- Supporting a clean-up in the ginnels on the Clydes and Bruces
- Supporting Probation in clearing gardens in New Wortley
- Undertaking a leaflet drop in relation to needle awareness.
- Supporting the Dreamscheme in the Wyther in taking a number of young people bowling.
- Support to clear the Blue Bell Woods.

3.3 Stronger Communities

3.3.1 Community Centres

3.3.2 There are five community centres in Inner West, these being Moorside Community Centre, New Wortley Community Centre, Fairfield Community Centre, Strawberry Lane/ St. Batholomew's Centre and Wyther Community House. All of these are leased to independent organisations who manage the centres via their management committees. The exceptions are Strawberry Lane/ St Batholomew's Centre, which is vested with Environments and Neighbourhoods Directorate of Leeds City Council and Wyther Community House, which is managed by West North West Homes Leeds. The Heights Centre, which although located in Outer West, is part of the Inner West Community Centre Consortia group and is close to the Armley ward boundary.

3.3.3 The community centres are a valuable asset in engaging with residents in deprived communities. They offer many services and facilities, as well as being a local focus from which partner agencies can deliver initiatives, such as worklessness and health.

However within the next 12 months most of the community centres (with the exception of Strawberry Lane/ St Bartholomew's) will run out of funding. Consequently a Community Centre Consortia group has been convened to address the impending funding issues and deliver a more sustainable management model.

- 3.3.4 To date a proposed business model has been drawn up as to how the community centres can be managed. This involves a lead organisation taking responsibility for managing the centres and co-ordinating the day to day running (recruitment, legal issues such as health and safety, organisation of staff etc.), which will free up community centre staff and volunteers to engage with local people and to develop and deliver programmes of work. A similar model exists in Huddersfield and has proved to be very successful; a visit by the Community Centre Consortia group has taken place.
- 3.3.5 To address the lack of funding bids have been submitted to a consortia of funding organisations including the Tudor Trust, HBOS, and the Getty Foundation. The bid seeks funds to finance key staff, maintenance and capital issues for a three year period. The bid is at Stage 1 and if successful will move to Stage 2 with a final decision being made in early 2010. Verbal feedback from two of the funding organisations has so far been positive, funds from all three funding organisations is required to secure the £500,000 needed over the three years.
- 3.3.6 New Wortley Community Centre
- 3.3.7 Interim funding for the Community Development Worker/ Centre Manager was secured in October 2008 from the Inner West Area Committee and NHS Leeds (formerly Primary Care Trust). This amounts to £20,000, and will ensure the continuation of services until September 2009. A further bid for interim funding has been submitted to the Area Panel of West North West Homes Leeds for £5,000 to continue to fund the centre manager's post until January 2010. If this is unsuccessful, as noted above funding is only secured until September 2009.
- 3.3.8 Strawberry Lane Centre/ St Bartholomew's Centre
- 3.3.9 Strawberry Lane/St Bartholomew's centre is the only directly managed centre in Inner West Leeds. This centre is fully occupied by Armley Helping Hands and Park Lane College respectively with a small area currently occupied by Jobs and Skills.
- 3.3.10 Moorside Community Centre
- 3.3.11 Moorside continues to provide services to the local community. Although funding has been provisionally allocated for the installation of a sports pitch the community association wanted to undertake public consultation to clarify local need in the new year. This consultation is now complete and the consensus from the community is that a garden area would be more beneficial. This will engage both old and young residents in learning the benefits of growing their own food. Further investigation into this is ongoing.

3.3.12 Wyther Community House

3.3.13 The Community Development worker has been working extensively with partners to develop a range of projects that specifically target the needs of the locality. Regular events are now held with the unpaid service team, which have led to improvements both to the centre but also to the estate as a whole.

3.3.14 Extended Services has successfully secured funding through PAYP to deliver a graffiti and media project, which has linked into the Community Cohesion work.

3.3.15 A Youth Sub-Group is being developed to co-ordinate and develop youth activities in the Wyther.

3.3.16 Fairfield Community Centre & Fairfield LAMP

3.3.17 The centre has recently played host to two large community engagement events. Area Management Team's 'Your Communities, Your priorities' event, which gave the residents of Bramley the opportunity to have their input in the revision of the Area Delivery Plans for Inner West. They also hosted West North West Homes' 'Credit Crunch Event', which gave advice and support to local people in these difficult financial times.

3.3.18 Through joint working with NHS Leeds a regular Tea Dance event is now being held at the centre, this will provide light exercise for those who may not be able to get through their normal week.

3.3.19 The Community Cafe is going from strength to strength with three older people luncheon clubs being supported through outside catering. The developments are ongoing to set up the catering arms as a social enterprise which will hopefully provide healthy affordable meals to more and more local people

3.3.20 Community Engagement

3.3.21 Partnership events – themed discussions

3.3.22 Under the new arrangements for Area Committees to scrutinise partnership working, the first themed event with Inner West Area Committee took place in September around the theme of Children and Young People.

3.3.23 The second themed event took place in October around the theme of Community Safety, with a particular focus on drugs. December's themed event prior to the Area Committee focused on business and economy.

3.3.24 A review of the outcomes and performance to date of the themed meetings took place at the February Area Committee and it was agreed to pilot the health themed meeting through the Bramley and Armley Forums, after the 'Your Community Your Priorities' events. The outcomes of these events will be discussed at a future Area Committee meeting.

3.3.25 'Your Community - Your Priorities'

3.3.26 The 'Your Community Your Priorities' community engagement events follow on from last year's 'What's the Big Idea' community engagement events and were held on dates when there would normally have been a community forum. The Bramley event, 26th March, was held from 4.00pm-8.00pm at the Fairfield Community Centre and the Armley event, 21st April, was held from 4.30pm-8.00pm at Armley-One-Stop-Centre. The marketplace style layout included stands reflecting the ADP themes, including Jobs and Skills, Environment, Community Safety, Older People & Health, Children and Young People. Each service was able to consult visitors on their key priorities to implement the Leeds Strategic Plan and Inner West Area Delivery Plan in 2009/10.

3.3.27 The Area Management Team prepared a stand which displayed information about projects that have been funded by the Area Committee and with which the Area Management Team have been closely involved. A system of theme prioritisation was also trialled through this event. This involved residents completing a questionnaire, there were also 'take action' cards for residents to record issues and face-to-face discussions at the themed stands with partners.

3.3.28 It was important to attract as many people as possible to the 'Your Community - Your Priorities' community engagement events to ensure a representative range of views are heard from all parts of the community especially, for instance, young people. The events were promoted well in advance and enhanced with extra attractions, including locally provided musical entertainment by the children from both Bramley Primary School and Castleton Primary School, and refreshments. The musical entertainment was very well received and a popular element of the events.

3.3.29 The Armley event was held on the same day and venue as the Armley Forum to maximise on numbers attending. Fifty eight people attended the event in Armley, and out of these twenty three completed the questionnaires, and seven people filled in a take action card. On average between 30-45 attend the monthly Armley Forum.

3.3.30 The following partners attended the Armley ADP event:

1. Highways,
2. Leeds Ahead,
3. Environmental Services(Education),
4. Interplay,
5. Community Safety,
6. Neighbourhood Warden,
7. Police,
8. Fire Service,
9. Development,
10. Highways,
11. City Projects,
12. Youth Service,
13. Armley Leisure Centre,
14. Town Centre Manager
15. BARCA Leeds

3.3.31 The Bramley event was held on the same day as the Bramley Forum to maximise numbers, but at a different venue. On average between 15-25 people attend the Bramley Forum. Twenty people attended the event, and out of these ten completed the questionnaires. The following partners attended the Bramley event:

1. Highways,
2. Youth Service,
3. WNWHL,
4. Jobs and Skills,
5. Extended Services,
6. Interplay, Streetscene,
7. Community Safety,
8. Neighbourhood Warden,
9. Police and
10. BARCA Leeds

3.3.32 **Community Cohesion Project**

3.3.33 In September 2008, The Chief Regeneration Officer produced a paper for the Stronger Communities Strategic Outcomes Group proposing the delivery of a Cohesion and Integration Pilot Programme. The paper acknowledged that much good work on cohesion at neighbourhood level had taken place across the city, but identified the need for a more focussed and targeted approach within certain areas to improve cohesion and community relations.

3.3.34 Area Management Teams (AMT's) were each asked to identify a suitable neighbourhood on their patches to undertake the pilots. These were : -

- Chapeltown and Harehills IMPaCT Area in North East Leeds
- Middleton in South Leeds
- Armley in West Leeds

3.3.35 The paper outlined the need to pilot and evaluate different interventions in different neighbourhoods in order to build effective community relations, and to gain an improved understanding of how to measure and improve cohesion at the local level.

3.3.36 The Area Management Team are leading on this piece of work and have set up a steering group made up of representatives from West Yorkshire Police, Leeds Voice, West North West Homes Leeds, Safer Leeds, Stop Hate UK, Extended Services and the Armley Town Centre Manager, to take this project forward.

3.3.37 The steering group identified four priority areas to focus activity within Armley, these being the Wythers, Moor Top, Cedars, New Wortley and the Clydes. The Wythers has been identified as the first target neighbourhood. The methodology for identifying the key cohesion issues is being developed through a cohesion audit, which is nearing completion. This has required a detailed demographic information gathering exercise, and additional, more qualitative information from key local partners.

3.3.38 It is important that work delivered through this project is embedded into existing structures, namely:

- The Wyther Improvement Group (WIG)
- New Wortley Local Area Management Plan (LAMP)
- West Leeds Multi-Agency Hate Crime Focus Group
- West Inner Crime and Grime Tasking Meeting

3.3.39 The Area Management Team will report progress on this project to future Area Committee meetings.

3.4 Enterprise and Economy

3.4.1 Armley Town Street Town and District Centre Regeneration Scheme (TDC) and Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI).

3.4.2 Progress to Phase 2 of the Armley Town Centre improvement scheme is now underway. Presently this includes working with local businesses and the appointed contractor with regard to the public realm works. This scheme seeks to improve the vitality and viability of Armley town centre for workers, residents and visitors, reverse the physical decline and increase the popularity of the area as a desirable place to work and shop. It will also contribute to improving the general appearance of Armley town centre and is an element of the West Leeds Gateway Regeneration Programme (WLGRP).

3.4.3 The works include resurfacing pavements, replacing kerbs, street furniture and public art. SEC will install the Heritage style lighting columns, and there will be hanging basket brackets to at least four columns on Town Street. It is envisaged that on site works will commence in July and completed by November of this year.

3.4.4 The Townscape Heritage Initiative has recently been launched. It is located within the Armley Conservation Area which covers most phases of the town's development from the 17th to the 20th century. It will strengthen the heart of the town by repairing and replacing the shop frontages to commercial properties and reviving the Town Moor. This will help to complement the work planned under the Town and District Centres scheme, which focuses on improvements to public realm surrounding the THI targeted shops frontages. Two THI officers have been appointed; Jessica Ashton and Wyn Jones, Wyn Jones will cover the Armley THI scheme.

3.4.5 West Leeds Gateway Update

3.4.6 The West Leeds Gateway is one of the city's key regeneration initiatives aimed at narrowing the gap between the most disadvantaged people and communities in West Leeds and the rest of the city. The council's case for focusing on West Leeds lies not only in the area's high levels of deprivation but also in the realistic opportunities for sustainable intervention by the council and other agencies which will ensure that West Leeds is well positioned to take advantage of anticipated future economic growth in Leeds and across West Yorkshire.

3.4.7 Informal consultation on the AAP with key stakeholders and Council Departments prior to formal 6 week deposit is now scheduled to be carried out May-June 2009.

The 6 week formal deposit (consultation) will now take place from September 2009. Submission to Secretary of State is expected by 29 January 2010 followed by the Public Inquiry in May 2010. If these timescales are maintained, this will result in the Adoption of the Plan sometime in August 2010. The Strategic Delivery & Investment Plan will form part of the AAP (as an appendix) and is scheduled to be presented to the WLG Programme Board in June 2009 for approval.

- 3.4.8 A new West Leeds Gateway Stakeholders' Advisory Group has been set up, which seeks to establish a more strategic and focused remit capable of aligning the social and economic priorities for West Leeds, in particular, worklessness, skills development and neighbourhood management with the physical work programme.
- 3.4.9 Two meetings have been held, the first meeting was held on the 3rd February and the second on the 7th April. Work to align the social and economic priorities with the physical workprogramme, governance arrangements and Terms of Reference is underway.
- 3.4.10 Town Centre Manager Update
- 3.4.11 Shop Local Armley
- 3.4.12 It was decided by the businesses at the Business Forum that they did not want a dedicated launch day for this campaign. It was felt that a constant flow of information on an ongoing and growing approach would be more effective. In implementing this approach laminated 'Shop Local' posters have been produced and distributed to the businesses in Armley. Many of the shops are displaying them. Promotional material is being printed and this will be distributed once all the merchandise is ready to go. The Town Centre Manager will then promote this initiative at local events and press coverage on the day that the merchandise is distributed. Merchandise includes, printed 'Shop Local' environmentally friendly shopping bags, car stickers, badges, fridge magnets and t-shirts. All will display our 'Shop Local' logo and slogan.
- 3.4.13 In conjunction with the 'Shop Local' initiative, the Town Centre Manager intends to run a loyalty card scheme with the help of participating retailers. This will involve members of the public collecting from participating retailers a reward card. The proposals for this scheme are still being developed.
- 3.4.14 Town Street Clear Ups
- 3.4.15 The Town Street Clear Ups have proven to be a big success in bringing together the multi-agencies. The 'Street Clear Ups' were designed to raise awareness to members of the public and businesses on various issues covering a wide range to topics. The focus has moved onto in some instances looking at enforcement matters. It is felt that members of the public and businesses have been very supportive.
- 3.4.16 There has been a significant improvement in many of the problem areas, with fly tipping, general grime. The area is now much improved in cleanliness with all shopkeepers aware of their responsibilities. The Environmental Action Team, Neighbourhood Wardens Community Pay Back scheme, and the Police have been

very helpful in offering advice and support with issues arising. There has been a focus on clearing graffiti, and litter dropping, especially cigarette butts. At the last 'Clear Up' day there were mounted officers and the Neighbourhood Police Team made 24 stops, with 1 arrest and a CID 8 for possession of cannabis, 8 tickets, 4 summons and 2 drivers were suspended and had their vehicles seized. This was done in conjunction with the Taxi Licensing Enforcement officer. There are still issues with the Designated Public Place Order which is being tackled. The next 'Clear Up' is planned for the 23rd June.

3.5 Culture

3.5.1 Summer Bands

3.5.2 The following summer bands have been booked:

- Tenderloin Ragtime Orchestra to perform at Armley Moor on Wednesday 22 July as part of the Armley Fun Day 2pm - 4pm
- Stanley Newmarket Colliery Band to perform at Bramley Park on Sunday 14 June 2.30pm - 4.30pm
- Linthwaite Band to perform at Bramley Park on Sunday 28 June 2.30pm - 4.30pm
- Knottingley Silver Band to perform at Armley Moor on Sunday 21 June 2.30pm - 4.30pm

3.5.3 The preparation work for Armley Fun Day is currently underway. As is the organisation of activities that will enhance the Summer Band performances on the 21st June, this may include fairground rides for small children, a healthy eating van selling jacket potatoes and healthy drinks, fruit juices etc and a dog show.

3.5.4 Street Athletics Event

3.5.5 Sport and Active Recreation Community Sports and partners organised a Street Athletics event on the Monday 8th June, at the Wyther Park Community House between 3.30pm -8.30pm. Street Athletics is an Athletics Showcase where people aged 8-19 years old can take part in a 60m sprint as well as other activities including an agility challenge, street caged football music, healthy BBQ, men's health information and general community information, market style stalls with games and information on young peoples services in the area. Darren Campell and Linford Christie will be attending the main event in July and will be involved in starting the sprint races. Every participant will be invited to the main event at Leeds Thomas Danby College in July 2009.

3.5.6 I Love West Leeds

3.5.7 The 'I Love West Leeds' Festival has got through to the final of the Regeneration and Renewal magazine awards for 2009, the only project in Leeds to do so. Jane Earnshaw the Festival Director, Area Management Team and some of the local people and services who help make it happen each year are meeting the judges on 17th June at Interplay in Armley.

- 3.5.8 'I love West Leeds' is now in its 5th year and has grown each year and now reaches an audience of 10,000 and had 3800 local residents taking part in projects last year.
- 3.5.9 "Regeneration isn't only about building houses, environmental improvements and offering training and employment opportunities it is about building communities. What better way to build communities than to bring residents and businesses together to celebrate and create, use their imaginations and have fun? ILWL does this in spades, and I hope it continues getting bigger and better over time" Taken from a letter of support from a West Leeds resident.

3.6 Transport

3.6.1 Leeds Core Cycle Network

3.6.2 Leeds City Council is developing designs for a network of core cycle routes in Leeds that will improve conditions for cyclists and encourage cycling as a way of getting around. Each route will be signed and use a combination of cycle lanes, tracks, quiet roads and junction improvements to link to housing, Leeds city centre, schools, employment sites, parks and greenspace, and the wider bridleway and cycle route network. The proposed Core Cycle Network builds on existing facilities and will also be complimented by other improvements. The proposed Leeds Core Cycle Network include the following:

1. East Middleton Spur
2. Leeds Station to Universities
3. Middleton to City Centre
4. Adel Spur
5. Cookridge to City Centre
6. North Morley Spur
7. Scholes to City Centre
8. Rothwell to City Centre
9. Chapel Allerton to City Centre
10. Bramley to City Centre
11. Farnley to City Centre
12. Garforth to City Centre
13. South Morley to City Centre
14. A64 York Road Corridor Improvements
15. Alwoodley to City Centre
16. Wyke Beck Valley
17. Penda's Way

3.7 Children and Young People

3.7.1 A draft role description for the 'Children and Young People's Champion' has been co-developed with Cllr Chastney (as Deputy Executive Lead Member for Children's Services) and agreed by Cllr Golton for further discussion and finalising. Views are welcomed from the Area Committee on the draft role description. Please see Appendix 2.

3.8 Internal Audit

- 3.8.1 The Council's Internal Audit has reviewed Area Committee Controls. In January 2009 Audit completed a report and action plan with recommendations relating to governance arrangements, partnership working, risk management and Well-being procedures.
- 3.8.2 A citywide task group, (with officers from the three Area Management Teams and Regeneration Resources), have addressed the recommendations relating to the Well-being Fund in order to streamline processes and improve accountability and transparency. Consequently a new range of standardised application forms, guidance for applicants and funding agreements have been produced for small grants, large projects and commissioned activity. In addition monitoring expenditure and payment of funding are now more compliant with LCC's financial regulations. Should Members wish to see the new forms and guidance etc; the Area Management team can make these available.
- 3.8.3 Further work will be undertaken to develop a shared risk register for Area Management; produce area profiles to help inform local priorities and needs, support the move towards a commissioning framework for local resources; and ensure that local governance arrangements for partnership work are consistent.

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 4.1 The Area Delivery Plan for Inner West is administered through the West North West Leeds Area Management Team.
- 4.2 Well-Being projects develop from Inner West's Leeds Area Delivery Plan and through consultation with Area Committee members. The plan helps to fulfill the Council's Corporate Plan objectives by aiming to create better neighbourhoods and confident communities.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 5.1 In order to meet the Area Committee's functions, funding is supplied via Well Being budgets and the Community Centres Budget.
- 5.2 In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council Departments mainstream budgets, and external partner agencies e.g. the Police and Primary Care Trust, which is in turn reflected by the fact that the Area Committee's role here is to influence, develop and consult. However, wellbeing funding has resourced some projects here e.g. area based regeneration schemes and conservation area reviews.

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 The functions and roles of the Area Committee aim to:

- Improve the quality and value for money of Council service delivery
- Improve the quality of democracy and find new ways to facilitate citizen participation in local government through the development of links between Ward Members and their communities.
- To co-ordinate policy and service delivery between the local service providers.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 Inner West Area Committee members are invited to:

- note the contents of the report and comment on any aspect of the matters raised
- suggest items for inclusion on future agendas

Background Papers

Executive Board Report July 2008.