



Report of the Director of Environments & Neighbourhoods Directorate

South Leeds (Outer) Area Committee

Date: Monday 30th November 2009

Subject: Acting Area Managers Report

<p>Electoral Wards Affected:</p> <p>Ardsley & Robin Hood Morley North Morley South Rothwell</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)</p>	<p>Specific Implications For:</p> <p>Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Council Function <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Executive Summary

This report details a range of activities taking place within the Outer South Leeds Area, some of which are dealt with in greater detail elsewhere on the agenda.

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To bring to Members' attention in a succinct fashion, brief details of the range of activities with which the Area Management Team are engaged, and that are not addressed in greater detail elsewhere on this agenda. It provides opportunities for further questioning or the opportunity to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

2.0 Rothwell Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) ASB Well Being Project

2.1 At the September Area Committee meeting, Members approved £5,000 for community safety projects in the Rothwell NPT areas of Rothwell, Oulton, Woodlesford, Robin Hood, Lofthouse and Carlton. The £2,250 for 150 Smartwater kits was approved and project delivery is now underway. Members requested additional information for the second project regarding funding additional policing hours to carry out uniformed and under cover patrols to target Anti Social Behaviour.

2.2 Based on information gathered at Policing and the Community Together (PACT) meetings, the Inspector for Rothwell NPT has identified the following areas for the project to target:

- **Rothwell Town Centre and Carlton**
Jailyard Car park and Morrison's car park.
Rothwell Park at Weekends.
The Green in Carlton Village
- **Lofthouse and Robin Hood**
One Stop Centre on Leadwell Lane in Robin Hood
- **Oulton and Woodlesford**
Problems with off road bikes behind John O'Gaunt estate and fields in Oulton.

2.3 The NPT Inspector has identified strong partnership links to ensure the project achieves its outcome to reduce Anti Social Behaviour. Supported by Tasking meetings the ASBU and Aire Valley Homes will be integrated into the NPT scheme. The Parks and Countryside Parkwatch Off Road Bike team will also support the NPT Off Road Bike team when targeting this element of ASB.

2.4 A clear monitoring process was agreed to account for the 100 hours funded by the Outer South Area Committee and the match of 100 hours from core NPT time. Evaluation of the initiative is expected to show what has been achieved including notices served, arrests and positive dispersals.

2.5 Rothwell NPT have confirmed that the Outer South Area Committee will be promoted as funder of the project, with additional promotion through the Rothwell Record.

3.0 Smithy Lane Recreational Ground

3.1 The Smithy Lane Recreational Steering Group met on Monday 26th October at Westerton Community Centre to continue to progress the development. The tendering process to identify a contractor and deliver the scheme has been updated to try and ensure best value for money for the scheme. Parks and Countryside Landscape Section are now managing and delivering the project in house and working directly with the play manufacturer, Record. The project plan has been amended to reflect this change and submitted to Play England (Playbuilders Fund) for approval. A condition of the Playbuilder Grant is that the works must be completed by 31st March 2010.

3.2 The Group agreed to begin work on the children's playground and landscaping improvements. Equipment for the playground to be ordered by early November with the aim to begin work on site before Christmas.

3.3 Rothwell Youth Service Manager is working with young people to resubmit a bid to the Youth Capital Fund for funding towards equipment.

4.0 Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group

4.1 The Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group met on Tuesday 24th November to discuss Environmental issues and actions highlighted in the Area Delivery Plan (ADP). Area Management continue to work on additional dog warden patrols and ginnel mapping in Outer South.

4.2 Dog Fouling – Out of Hours Dog Warden Patrols
At the June Area Committee, Members agreed to fund £2,000 to commission the Dog Warden Team to undertake out of hours patrols. The Dog Warden Team proposal includes additional patrols in September to early November, carrying out two micro

chipping events and raising the profile of reporting dog fouling and the health issues that can be caused as a result of leaving dog waste on the streets. This promotional activity includes wardens distributing a leaflet whilst on patrols and articles in About Leeds, Outer South newsletter, Aire Valley Homes newsletter. Information has also been sent to the Morley Observer and Rothwell Record to assist in promoting the scheme. The Dog Warden Service has been hampered with delivering the final rota of patrols due to illness in the team and the remaining additional patrols have been rearranged for around the end of November.

Members have received an email update on work to date by the Dog Warden Service as part of the Area Committee project and also had an opportunity to comment on the locations for the patrols to target.

4.3 Ginnel Mapping

Following a Members Area Management (AMT) have co-ordinated a meeting with all relevant partners to actively assist and partake in a ginnel mapping exercise in Outer South. This recent meeting involved Cllr Stewart Golton, AMT, Public Rights of Way and Aire Valley Homes. It was initially agreed to pilot mapping in the Rothwell Ward. Three key records were identified to help inform the debate; Street Registry Map, Definitive Map and Land Ownership Records. The next steps will see partners reviewing this information to identify ginnels and landownership in Rothwell.

4.4 Community Skips

During the ongoing industrial action by refuse workers this service has been identified as a resource that could be used outside of its intended purpose by encouraging local residents to use them to dispose of their household waste. It is also considered to pose a possible environmental health risk due to the likely high levels of waste accumulating around the skips with no service available to clean any significant debris left following the removal of the skip. In the light of this it has been decided to suspend the community skip provision temporarily. When the industrial action is ended, the community skip provision will be reinstated.

5.0 Community Centres – Pricings and Lettings

- 5.1 Further to a report presented to Area Committee in October highlighting the need for a review of Pricing & Lettings policy discount schedules, an exercise has been undertaken to re-look at the discount categories agreed by the Area Committee in 2007. Following the recent Outer South Community Centres Sub Committee, a revised discount schedule has been developed. The discount schedule is now more detailed and provides further examples for the Lettings Unit to assess applications for room hire to ensure that groups are apportioned the correct levels of discount and therefore being charged the correct lettings fees. The revised discount schedule is attached at **Appendix 1** for members to endorse, in order that the policy can be implemented from 1st April 2010.

6.0 Town & District Centre Regeneration Scheme

6.1 Morley Bottoms

Recent developments in the progress of this project have required changes in the method of managing the delivery of the scheme. The Chapel Hill scheme was initially transferred to City Development, as there was every possibility that the scheme would become primarily about property acquisition and landscaping. However, following the decision of the Housing & Communities Agency (HCA) Chapel Hill has now become an “affordable” housing scheme. Given this turnaround and the existing relationship between LCC and HCA, the scheme has been transferred to the Affordable Housing Delivery Team in Environments and Neighbourhoods. A new project manager has been designated and a transfer meeting has been held between the two services. The new project team met on 23rd November and received an update on progress, while clarifying the roles and responsibilities of the team.

Currently, the scheme position is as follows.

Morley Bottoms has 4 components:

1. Lay by and public realm work: Lay by has been completed but the scheme could be extended if Project Board supports the “pedestrian trail” to Queen Street.
2. Chapel Hill social housing development: 22 affordable units.
3. Planning enforcement.
4. Highways improvement.

6.2 S215 Enforcement Action

Work still not done to repair timber pilaster between 1 and 3 Brunswick St, though scaffolding, which was impeding access to the pilaster has now been removed. To pursue matter with both owners to get works finally completed as it is not clear where the property boundary is. Other works now satisfactorily completed. Check required that glazing is in place but it might be advantageous to maintain a screen to the shop windows pending users taking over the premises. To discuss applying some artwork to boarding fixed to main shop windows with Town Centre Manager and owners.

2a Queen St

To prosecute for non compliance with Section 215 Notice. Case officer asked to complete witness statements and schedule of exhibits in the next two weeks so we can instruct our prosecuting solicitor to issues a Court summonses.

As previously reported the other S215 cases relating to run down premises have been successfully resolved.

6.3 Ongoing investigations by Highways into how highways improvements can best be delivered at Morley Bottoms. The lay-by on Chapel Hill has been completed, but still requires adopting by the highways authority.

6.4 Outlined in the Well being Report is a funding bid requesting a capital contribution from the Morley North and Morley South Wellbeing Capital allocation to support the delivery of the project.

7.0 Coalfields Regeneration Trust Funding

- 7.1 Following the update to the October Area Committee, Area Management has been working with key partners but notably Health for All, Aire Valley Homes and Rothwell Children's Centre to progress the Rothwell Families Project targeting Wood Lane and John O'Gaunt's estates and funded through the Coalfields Regeneration Trust.
- 7.2 The bid includes the employment of a dedicated worker for John O'Gaunt's and Wood Lane estates with a remit to improve the opportunities and access residents have to health, training and skills services. The bid also includes funding for sessional workers and child care.
- 7.3 A Steering Group has been established and the first meeting was held on Friday 16th October at Rose Lund, Rothwell Children's Centre. The Steering Group will direct the project, ensure sustainability issues are addressed and create a forum for partners to demonstrate how they are actively supporting this regeneration programme. Pat McGeever, Chief Executive of Health for All was elected Chair of the group with Cllr Steve Smith a member of the group, representing Rothwell Elected Members. Terms of Reference were agreed and 8 key priorities for the temporary coordinator to begin work on were agreed. These priorities included an audit of provision, equipment for the Mother's Pride Teatime Club, establishing a Teatime Club in Wood Lane, location for the new coordinator, internet access at Rose Lund, healthy exercise classes and research into basic Math's and English classes. The Steering Group's next meeting is on Thursday 17th December.
- 7.4 Interviews for the coordinators post took place at the end of October but no candidates were deemed suitable. Following discussions with CRT, the job description has been modified to a community development role on a lower pay scale and managed by the Health for All 7 Day Response Team Manager; the funding saved will be used to commission specific elements of enterprise work when needed.

8.0 Mobile Youth Provision 5-12 years

- 8.1 St Luke's CARES have been commissioned by City Wide Play Services to deliver Play Work, for young people aged 5 to 12 years of age, in parts of South Leeds – Churwell, Middleton, Beeston and Millshaw areas, with the option of piloting a session or two in Outer South – considering Rothwell, Ardsley and Morley North. St Luke's CARES have visited all the areas, spoken with local young people/residents and other providers where possible. Area Management are now linking with St Luke's CARES to ensure that Members and all key partners delivering activities for children and young people in the Outer South are engaged in the process of identifying gaps in provision for 5-12yrs, and ensuring the new provision complements current delivery.
- 8.2 The Children and Young People's Working Group and the next round of Ward Member Briefings have been identified as the most appropriate forums to achieve this. Representatives from St Luke's CARES are attending the next Children and Young People's Working Group on 20th November.

9.0 Recommendations

- 9.1 The Area Committee is asked to:
- a) note the above information and make comment as appropriate.

Background Papers:

- Area Managers 19th October 2009
- Community Engagement 22nd June 2009
- Well Being Report 22nd June 2009
- Conservation Area Reviews 10th September 2007