



Report of the Director of Environments & Neighbourhoods Directorate

South Leeds (Outer) Area Committee

Date: Monday 21st June 2010

Subject: Area Managers Report

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

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.

This report provides Members with an update on actions and achievements of the Area Management Team relating to priorities and work of the Area Committee since the Area Committee meeting in March 2010.

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 based on the Area Delivery Plan priorities, 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 Background Information

- 2.1 Members will recall at the March Area Committee, a new format was introduced based on the Area Delivery Plan themes and priorities. Ward Members confirmed priorities for 2010/11 during the recent round of ward member briefing meetings and the 2010/11 Area Delivery is elsewhere on the agenda for consideration and approval.

3.0 Updates by Theme: Culture

3.1 Morley Literature Festival

- 3.1.1 Area Management Team have started working with the Morley Literature Festival Committee on payment for of the £10,000 Well being Funding approved by Members to support the 2010 Festival.
- 3.1.2 The Festival Committee held their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 23rd March and elected a new committee. Cllr Bob Gettings was elected as Chair. Discussions at the AGM considered among other things the possible role of high profile personalities as patrons of the festival. The Director is working with the Committee on developing this further.
- 3.1.3 The Director announced in April that £1,150 has been secured from Sports Relief towards workshops for a comic book themed day for young people during the festival week. The Festival Committee are continuing to work with the new Director to secure match funding and ensure a successful Festival for 2010 that marks its fifth anniversary.

3.2 Community Centres

3.2.1 Community Centres Sub Committee

The Outer South Community Centres Sub Committee last met on 12th May and the minutes and action plan are attached at **Appendix 1 & 2**.

4.0 Updates by Theme: Enterprise and Economy

- 4.1 A Town Centre Management Report is presented elsewhere on the agenda for Members consideration. At its meeting of 19th May 2010 Morley Town Council agreed to continue to support town centre management work in Morley with £10,000 funding.

4.2 Investment Partnership South Leeds

The first Partnership Engagement Group (PEG) meeting took place on Tuesday 23rd February Chaired by Steve Williamson of Re'new. More than 30 people attended and contributed to workshop sessions to develop work that had been scoped at the 10th October 2009 event at Elland Road. The next PEG will take place at Tiger 11 Thursday 8th July 5.30 to 8.00pm.

4.3 Town & District Centre Regeneration Scheme

4.3.1 Local Shops Initiative

Of the 16 Local Shops Initiative application forms distributed to empty premises, only 3 applications have been received. The closing date has been extended. Currently one application has been approved to the value of £2,600, two applicants have been agreed in principle and asked to submit further information.

4.3.2 Pedestrian Trail

The painting and replacement of street furniture along Queen Street in the town centre is progressing and following some delays due to the need for unplanned excavation work is scheduled to be completed by August.

4.4 Town & District Centre Regeneration Scheme: Morley Bottoms

The new Project Team continues to meet to coordinate this scheme. The scheme position is as follows.

The current scheme in Morley Bottoms has 4 components:

1. Affordable Housing
 - Grant to be finalised
 - Sod cutting ceremony to take place
 - Hoardings erected prior to demolition
 - Demolition by 30th June
 - Lettings plan to develop
2. Enforcement
 - Property at Queens Street not sold.
 - 1-3 Brunswick Street requires follow up.
3. Highways
 - New lay-by formally adopted.
4. Planning
 - No current issues

4.5 South Leeds Employment, Education and Training Group

To further strengthen links between the SLEET group and the Outer South Area Committee, the most recent minutes available are attached at **Appendix 3**.

5.0 **Updates by Theme: Learning**

5.1 Children Leeds South Leadership Team

To further strengthen links between the Children Leeds South Leadership Team and the Outer South Area Committee, the most recent minutes available are attached at **Appendix 4**.

6.0 **Updates by Theme: Environment**

6.1 Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group

The Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group met on Thursday 22nd April to discuss Environmental issues and actions highlighted in the Area Delivery Plan (ADP). The Minutes (**Appendix 5**) and Action Plan (**Appendix 6**) are presented for Members information. The Group approved their Terms of Reference for 2010/11 and they are attached (**Appendix 6a**) for members to receive.

6.1.1 Ginnel Mapping

Area Management (AMT) continue to lead the development of a ginnel map for Rothwell. A draft map was presented at the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group. Amendments are still being made with the assistance of Neighbourhoods Services Research Officer but on completion, an electronic version will be available for Members and Officers. A series of issues have been identified with regard to maintenance of ginnels outlined in the meeting minutes. Members are asked to consider which Outer South Ward should be mapped next.

6.1.2 Skip criteria

The Outer South Area Committee criteria for 2010/11 community skip provision was approved at the last Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group meeting. They are attached at **Appendix 6b** for Members to receive.

6.1.3 Additional Litterbins

At the last meeting, Streetscene confirmed that they have capacity to install and maintain an additional 32 litterbins for the Outer South. A proposal is presented in the Well being Report for Members to consider. Following approval by Members, Area Management Team will work with Streetscene on a clear and reasonable timeline to deliver the project in 2010/11.

6.2 Conservation Audits

6.2.1 The Area Committee commissioned four conservation area appraisals in the Outer South; in Morley, Rothwell, Oulton and Woodlesford. An up-to-date appraisal can make all the difference when determining planning applications and fighting planning appeals in the conservation area; recently-adopted conservation area appraisals are now being used to inform planning decisions, fight appeals and to help secure heritage-led regeneration funding. The appraisals are being used to successfully prevent unsuitable development in conservation areas and to encourage the enhancement of the areas.

6.2.2 The programme of Conservation Area Appraisals and Boundary Reviews for the Area Management South continues to progress.

- Morley Conservation Area Appraisal and Boundary Review is awaiting approval with further work being undertaken in light of a number of consultation responses.
- Rothwell and Oulton Conservation Area Appraisals and Boundary Reviews have been completed following their public consultation. The final appraisal documents and boundary changes have been adopted and became operational on 17th May 2010. The appraisals can be viewed here - http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Environment_and_planning/Conservation/Conservation_area_appraisals.aspx
- Initial work is beginning on the proposal for a new conservation area in Woodlesford. An exhibition introducing the appraisal process and the idea of a conservation area for Woodlesford was displayed at an open day event for the Oulton with Woodlesford Neighbourhood Design Statement at the Parish Rooms on 2nd May 2010. Research and preliminary site visits are underway. The Conservation Unit is hoping to work closely with the newly formed Residents Group for the village. The provisional timetable is to have a draft of the document completed by August followed by a 4-6 week period public consultation.

6.3 Heritage Open Days

6.3.1 'Celebrate Your Community' is English Heritage's open invitation to be part of Heritage Open Days either as visitors or hosts. This annual 'free-of-charge' event held every September is co-ordinated in Leeds by Leeds Civic Trust with support from Leeds City Council. The event has links with 2010 being 'Year of the Volunteer' and the 'Cultural Olympiad' being planned as part of the 2012 Olympics.

- 6.3.2 Heritage Open Days is an annual celebration of local architecture, history and culture. It can be concluded from the statistics above that there is potential in Leeds for more events and certainly more visitors.
- 6.3.3 In trying to widen the focus of Heritage Open Days throughout the city, Leeds Civic Trust is approaching all 10 Area Committees to seek their assistance, to help identify potential participants from within the local community, who may host one or more events in their area. This year's 4-day event takes place between Thursday 9th – Sunday 12th September.
- 6.3.4 Historical societies, church and residents groups, building owners and individuals with local knowledge, are examples of from where people may be found to host events. Involvement is flexible within the 4 days. Any interested parties should be directed to Leeds Civic Trust, who would be pleased to supply more information if needed.

6.4 Oulton & Woodlesford Design Statement

- 6.4.1 The Oulton & Woodlesford Design Statement funded by the Area Committee is now in the final stages of the consultation process and it is envisaged a draft document will be presented to the Planning Department in the Summer Months. A draft consultation document was exhibited at a public meeting on the 1st and 2nd May at All Saint's Parish Hall, Woodlesford. Members of the community were invited to view the draft and make comment on the content. The event was well advertised and in excess of 150 residents attended and provided very positive comment and feedback. Leeds City Council's Principal Design Officer has also viewed the draft document and has given positive comments on the statement and its important role as a document for the community once it is adopted.
- 6.4.2 The draft design statement was available to view in the Oulton Institute until the end of May to give those who could not attend the exhibition on the opportunity to comment. Any amendments will be made in June with a view to present the initial draft to the Planning Department for discussion.
- 6.4.3 In July and August the group hopes to have completed the consultation process with the Council and look to having a 6 week formal consultation period for any interested parties to make any formal representation or comments. In the autumn the final document will be presented to the Council for formal adoption and then finally put the document out for print and make it available to the Council, interested parties and the public before the end of the year.

6.5 Site Based Gardeners

- 6.5.1 Following a briefing of Members from all Outer South Wards with colleagues from Parks & Countryside the following locations were agreed for this work. Parks & Countryside will action this schedule following confirmation of the £30,000 funding from this Area Committee.

Ardsley Robin Hood

Smithy Lane Recreation Ground & Lowry Road (POS)

Morley South

Lewisham Park & Hembrigg Park

Morley North

Drighlington Common/Park & Churwell Park

Rothwell

Shayfield Recreation Ground Carlton Village already covered by mobile team & Woodlesford Recreation Ground has a dedicated site based gardener.

7.0 Updates by Theme: Transport

- 7.1 The 'New Generation Transport (NGT) Scheme: Current Position and Public Consultation Results' report has been circulated directly to Outer South Councillors by the new generation transport team.

8.0 Updates by Theme: Health and Well Being

8.1 Health and Well being Partnership

- 8.1.1 The South East Health and Wellbeing partnership met on the 24th February. The most recent minutes available are attached at **Appendix 7**.

8.2 Garden Maintenance

- 8.2.1 Following approval by the Area Committee, Area Management has been working with Morley Elderly Action on mapping clients of the 2009/10 garden maintenance schemes operating in Outer South. This work highlighted areas with limited numbers of clients to be targeted with publicity for 2010/11 scheme.
- 8.2.2 Following the sudden death of Neil Lennox, Area Management Team are in the process of arranging a meeting with the new Operations Manager at Morley Elderly Action to progress this project and ensure Members concerns regarding capacity and equity across the four wards are resolved.

9.0 Updates by Theme: Thriving

9.1 Divisional Community Safety Partnership (DCSP)

- 9.1.1 The DCSP are keen to maintain a strong link between the partnership and the Area Committee. Councillor Robert Finnigan attends the DCSP as the Outer South Area Committee representative. An executive summary of the May meeting is available at **Appendix 8**.
- 9.1.2 In his role as Area Committee representative on the DCSP, Cllr Finnigan recently attended a meeting of the Morley Tasking group. The Area Community Safety Co-ordinator has been exploring how Members involvement can be enhanced in Tasking given its current guise as an Officer lead meeting. A proposal for further involvement is being prepared in consultation with NPT Inspectors. Further updates will be provided to the Committee in due course.
- 9.1.3 Operation Champion took place in Oulton and Woodlesford on 16th/17th March 2010. It was well attended by a wider range of agencies and achieved good results. A full overview of what was delivered can be found at **Appendix 9**. The next Champion in Outer South is due to take place in Ardsley Robin Hood ward in October.

9.2 CCTV

9.2.1 Area Management Team has circulated to Members a CCTV report and a briefing note regarding the development of a city wide CCTV strategy. The development of an overarching strategy has caused the work on developing future schemes in Outer South to cease; this includes the project at Manor Road shops Rothwell.

9.3 Youth Service Activities

9.3.1 A full programme of Youth Service activities in the Outer South are outlined in **Appendix 10**.

10.0 **Updates by Theme: Harmonious Communities**

10.1 Year of Volunteering

10.1.1 Area Management continues to support the South East Area Management link with Leeds Year of Volunteering and to deliver the Outer South Area Committee programmed for Year of Volunteering. Including; linking the Siegen Circle with key contacts at Voluntary Action Leeds to support their Year of Volunteering event in September, attending the monthly Theme Leads Meeting at Enterprise House and exploring linking promotional activities across Area Management.

10.1.2 As part of the Outer South Area Committee programme of activities to support the Year of Volunteering, a Volunteer Support Fair was arranged for Saturday 20th March at Tingley Youth and Community Centre. The event showcased the varied voluntary organisations working in the Outer South and provided information for them on training and funding available, and also provided information to local residents on how to become a volunteer. An evaluation of the event is attached at **Appendix 11**.

10.1.3 A full report on the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan Programme and Supported Area work is given in the Priority Neighbourhood Worker update report, presented elsewhere on the agenda.

11.0 **Recommendations**

11.1 The Area Committee is asked to:

- a) note the above information and make comment as appropriate.
- b) Confirm the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Terms of Reference and Community Skip criteria for 2010/11 as outlined in 6.1.
- c) Agree the next Ward to have a ginnel location map compiled as outlined in 6.1.
- d) Confirm £30,000 funding and locations outlined in 6.5 for the Site Based Gardeners Project.

Background Papers:

- Area Managers 15th March 2010
- Well Being Report 15th March 2010
- 'Department of Communities and Local Government: Extra Support for Town Centres', Regeneration Management Team Meeting, 14th October 2009
- Conservation Area Reviews 10th September 2007