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**Report of the South East Area Manager**

**Inner South Area Committee**

**Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010**

**Subject: Actions and Achievements report**

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**Electoral Wards Affected:**

Beeston & Holbeck  
City & Hunslet  
Middleton Park

Ward members consulted  
(referred to in this 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

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**Executive Summary**

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. It also provides information on current ongoing projects.

## **Purpose of this report**

1. Members will recall that the refreshed Area Delivery Plan was approved at the March 2010 Area Committee with ward meetings serving to focus on ward specific actions within the plan.
2. This report provides Members with an update on actions and achievements around the Area Delivery Plan since the last Area Committee meeting, it also provides members with an overview of the current projects that the Area Management Team are working on.

## **Background Information**

3. The ADP for 2008/9 – 2010/11 has been developed following the headings contained within the Leeds Strategic Plan and the Vision for Leeds. It is a local expression of the city's commitment to the Local Area Agreement and partnership working. The themes of the ADP are:
  - Culture
  - Harmonious Communities
  - Enterprise and Economy
  - Transport
  - Environment
  - Health and Wellbeing
  - Thriving Places
  - Learning.
4. The Area Delivery Plan for 2008-11 was approved by this Area Committee and a refreshed version of the plan was endorsed by the Area Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

## **Area Partnerships and developing local actions**

6. The Area Delivery Plan will be the local expression of the Leeds Strategic Plan and therefore it will be a partnership document, and partners are involved in putting it together. This is achieved through thematic based area partnerships set up under the umbrella of the Leeds Institute, with increasing accountability and direct links to Area Committees.
7. The following is a list of the partnership groups in the south east area:
  - South East Divisional Community Safety Partnership
  - South Health & Well-Being Partnership
  - Children Leeds South East Partnership
  - South Leeds Enterprise, Employment and Training Partnership (SLEET)
8. The ADP refresh begins to make clearer which partnership will be responsible for reporting performance against which ADP priority. The area committee have nominated a Member representative to participate in the work of these partnerships and act as the link between the partnership and the area committee. A separate report to this meeting requests confirmation of these positions.
9. In addition, the area committee have identified Members to act as champions for the specific themes of the ADP. Members are asked to confirm if they wish to continue in their role as theme champion. This role falls outside of the Appointment to Outside Bodies as outlined in the separate report to this meeting. Ward member briefings will be used as an opportunity to pick up any issues and monitor progress on the ADP themes

with the relevant champions. The current member champions under each theme are as follows:

- Culture – Councillor Iqbal
- Enterprise & Economy – Councillor Davey
- Learning – Councillor Driver
- Transport – Councillor Nash
- Environment – Councillor Ogilvie
- Health & Wellbeing – Previously Councillor Coupar
- Thriving Places – Councillors Blake and Gabriel
- Harmonious Communities – Councillor Gabriel

10. Area based partnerships are important in determining local actions that can be taken to support the delivery of improvement priorities. Area committee champions have an opportunity to influence the partnerships and help shape action plans by sharing their knowledge of the area. Also to build links between other statutory agencies and the work of the council. It is suggested that all champions will have officer links to their particular theme. The area management team will facilitate and support member involvement to raise any issues at area committee as appropriate.
11. The ADP will continue to include local priorities and actions as identified by elected members and residents through local engagement activity, including the allocation of well-being funds. Where these do not naturally sit within a themed partnership, the ADP will make clear which service will report progress to the Area Committee on that particular action.
12. The Area Management Team will work with members through their individual ward member meetings on further actions they would like to see included in the plan. Where these are ward specific actions, progress will also be reported at ward member meetings and included in Actions and Achievements reports at every Area Committee meeting rather than wait for the 6 month ADP review.

## **Updates by Theme**

### **Culture**

#### **Community Centres**

- 13 It is requested that a meeting of the Inner South Community Centres Sub Committee be convened as soon as possible. A meeting date has been attempted to be established since November 2009 but has been unable to do so. It is vital that a representative from each ward attends the session as discussions need to take place around budgets and priorities for investment in Area Committee facilities across Inner South Leeds.

#### **Heritage Open Days**

- 14 'Celebrate Your Community' is English Heritage's open invitation to be part of Heritage Open Days, either as visitor or hosts. The annual free event, held every September, is coordinated by Leeds Civic Trust with support from the council. 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 event takes place between Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2010. Historical societies, churches and resident groups, building owners and individuals with local knowledge are examples of where people may be found to host events. Involvement is

flexible within the 4 days. Any interested parties should be directed to Lynda Kitching, Leeds Civic Trust, Tel:2439594

## **Enterprise and Economy**

### **South Leeds Employment, Enterprise and Training Partnership (SLEET)**

- 15 There has not been a meeting of this partnership since 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010. A verbal update of the meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> June can be provided at the meeting.

## **Learning**

### **Children Leeds Partnership**

16. Minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March are attached at appendix 1. At the time of writing, minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May were not available. These will be circulated to members of the area committee outside of this meeting as soon as they become available.
- 17 The Beeston Hill & Holbeck Neighbourhood Cluster and LS10XS ( Belle Isle & Hunslet Cluster) have merged to form JESS – the Joint Extended Schools and Services Cluster. This includes The South Leeds Academy. A summary of recent activity is provided at appendix 2.

## **Environment**

18. Community clean ups, led by Neighbourhood Wardens, have been carried out in Burlington Road and in the Normantons/St Lukes area.
19. A programme of intensive clean-ups has been developed for 2010. Members are invited to suggest specific locations for these intensive clean-ups which involve various agencies working in partnership to tackle particular problems. In April Streetscene and AVHL worked together to clear Czar Street, this included removing over 200 tyres and cutting back very hard overgrown bushes in the central traffic islands. The intensive clean up in May took place in the Brett Gardens/Folly Lane/Waverley Garth area, with the June clean up planned for the Manor Farms.
20. The raised planter at the junction of Rowland Road and Dewsbury Road has been cut back by a team from the Probation Service under the direction of one of the Neighbourhood Wardens.

## **Health and Wellbeing**

### **South East Health & Wellbeing Partnership**

21. Minutes of the meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> March and 27<sup>th</sup> May are attached at appendix 3.

## **Thriving Places**

### **Operation Champion**

22. Operation Champion took place in the Rochefords / Hemingways area of Hunslet on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> April. Due to annual leave and changes in staff, the results are still being collated. They will be circulated to ward members as soon as they are available and a full report will be presented to the September area committee meeting.

### **Divisional Community Safety Partnership (DCSP)**

23. The summary of the minutes of the May meeting of the DCSP are attached at appendix 4.

### **CCTV**

24. The area management team has circulated to Members a CCTV report and a briefing note regarding the development of a city-wide CCTV strategy.

### **Neighbourhood Wardens**

25. The area management team continue to manage two neighbourhood wardens working across the inner south while going through the Managing Workforce Change process. The wardens have been undertaking a number of tasks on behalf of the Inner South Environmental Co-ordination Group, as well as carrying out clean up activity, supporting Operation Champion and patrolling hotspot neighbourhoods.

## **Regeneration**

### **Beeston & Holbeck Regeneration**

#### **Beverleys Acquisition and Demolition Progress**

26. Demolition of all but 6 properties has now taken place. These are expected to be demolished in July, once party wall issues with the shop at the corner of Rowland Rd/Lady Pit Lane have been resolved. Chevin Housing Association have submitted a bid to the Homes and Communities Agency for grant funding to develop 55 new 2, 3 and 4 bed roomed houses, each with its own private garden. The houses will be for rent and shared ownership. A decision on this funding bid has been delayed due to the general election but is now anticipated in June. A planning application was submitted at the end of February for this development. A decision on the planning application is due on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Subject to planning approval and success in its funding bid, Chevin HA aim to be on site late summer 2010 to commence the redevelopment and expect completion of the development by March 2012.

#### **Holbeck Acquisition and Demolition Progress**

27. Agreement is still required around the purchase of privately owned commercial premises at the corner of Runswick Street/Top Moor side. Negotiations are ongoing with the owner towards reaching an agreement on the purchase of this property. However, if agreement cannot be reached, formal approval will be sought to make a CPO for the acquisition of these premises. If a CPO is required this could result in a delay of up to two years before redevelopment can commence. All other interests have now been acquired.

Chevin HA are progressing proposals towards the submission of a planning application which if approved will underpin the case for CPO if required.

The first phase of demolition was completed in March and the cleared area has now been sown with wildflower meadow seed. Around 100 children from Ingram Road Primary School took part in an activity day based around the seed sowing. Further phases of demolition are due to take place over the coming months now that all residents have been rehoused.

#### **Phase 4 acquisition and demolition in Holbeck**

28. The Councils Executive Board at its meeting on 26 August 2009 approved proposals to acquire and demolish a further 20 properties in the Crosby's area of Holbeck.

To date, 11 valuations have been carried out on the 14 privately owned properties. One of the privately owned properties has been acquired by the Council and a further owner has agreed to sell pending re-housing.

Valuations of the properties affected, in a number of cases, are significantly lower than the prices paid by owners who have acquired these properties in recent years, which would leave owners in negative equity should they agree to sell. This is a significant cause for concern especially in view of the fact that all of the funding allocation for the scheme will need to be spent by 30th March 2011 or will be lost to the authority.

For this reason it has been proposed that a proportion of funding originally allocated to this scheme should be made available to support the budget for a group repair scheme in Cross Green with the intention that funding will be sought post 2008/11 for completion of the Crosbys scheme. It is expected that the Councils Executive Board will consider this proposal at its meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> June and a verbal update can be provided at the area committee meeting.

#### **Garnets Acquisition and Demolition Progress**

29. At its meeting of 13th May 2009 the Councils Executive Board approved proposals to acquire and demolish 112 properties in the Garnets area of Beeston.

To date of the 43 properties which were originally privately owned 15 properties have been acquired and a further 12 owners have agreed to sell to the Council.

16 Aire Valley Homes tenants and 6 Leeds Federated Housing Association tenants remain to be rehoused.

#### **PFI**

30. Following the update to the March area committee meeting the council has been able to make some progress in achieving signoff from the Homes and Communities Agency to the project documentation that would enable a Call for Final Tenders from the two bidding consortia, Regenter and Sustainable Communities for Leeds (SC4L). Although a final programme can still not be confirmed, it is anticipated that this will now be possible within the next month.

Demolition and clearance of the Holbeck Towers site is now well underway and is programmed for completion at the end of July. The work is being undertaken in-house by the council, which is seeking to ensure minimum impact on local residential amenity during this period.

For the sites in Beeston Hill re-housing of tenants from the following sites has now commenced, managed by Aire Valley Homes - 1-21 Coupland Road, 15-44 Coupland Place, 1-41 & 2-20 St Luke's Green, 131-159 & 165-183 Malvern Road.

### **Harmonious Communities**

#### **Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker**

31. Members of the area committee will recall that it was agreed at the meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> March to cease funding for the Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker (PNDW) with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010. An exit strategy is currently being put in place to

ensure that all groups supported by the PNDW are supported by other partner organisations to ensure their sustainability. The following summarises the position at the time of writing this report:

- White Rose Residents Association are reasonably self sufficient but Aire Valley Homes will attend meetings and support where necessary.
- Garnets Community Association is in the process of becoming a formal committee with residents taking on roles of chair, secretary and treasurer. Leeds Federated Housing Association and Leeds Tenants Federation will continue to support this group.
- West Granges & Winroses Community Group. Residents were appointed to committee roles at the AGM meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May. This group will be supported through Belle Isle Tenants Management Organisation.
- Hunslet Hall Road Forum. A local resident has taken on the role of chair and will also provide secretarial support to the group. Leeds Tenants Federation will also assist the group with any training or support they require to get the group fully established. West Yorkshire Police have also made a commitment to support the group by delivering leaflets to promote the meeting and generate attendance.
- CAD Beeston. A local resident has taken on the role of secretary for the group. One of the Beeston & Holbeck Ward Councillors will continue to chair the meeting. Leeds Tenants Federation will also provide support to ensure that members of the group are adequately trained for the role.

32. The PNDW has also put together support packs for each of the community and residents groups outlined above which include templates for leaflets, minutes and agendas, key contact numbers of organisations and venues, as well as copies of policy documents such as a constitution. It is also proposed that the Area Committee provide a one-off £500 support grant in the form of a small grant to the community groups that are now resident led to assist with printing costs and any small scale community activity which they wish to undertake.

33. The section below provides a summary of work undertaken by the Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker between March and June:

#### **West Granges and Winroses (West Granges & Winroses Community Group)**

- The intergenerational bowling project has commenced with 10 children from Windmill Primary School and residents from four BITMO managed sheltered housing complexes coming together to play bowls on the Belle Isle Circus bowling green and on the Nintendo Wii. The children and the older people have formed the Windmill Seniors and Juniors Bowling Club. An official launch of the project will be taking place on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June. Maintenance of the green is currently being looked at by BITMO.

#### **Garnets**

- The resident chair has since moved out of the area however the group are looking to form a committee as soon as possible and it is hoped that the next group meeting will be the AGM, where committee members will be formally elected.
- A workshop is due to be held at the Beeston Festival on 12th June with young people from the area to design banners for the gable ends of houses in the regeneration area of the Garnets. The designs will then be judged by the

Garnets Community Association and the winning four entries will form part of the design for the banners.

### **Northcotes and Greenmounts (Hunslet Hall Road Forum)**

- The inter faith community clean up was a success with 20 volunteers working in the area including youth groups, religious organisations and British Gas. Waverley Garth and an area of the Northcotes was the focus for the clean-up and the intensive litter picking made an immediate impact on the area. Feedback indicates that volunteers enjoyed the day which included lunch at the Sikh Temple on Ladypit Lane.

### **Cardinals (Whiterose Residents Association)**

- The Whiterose Residents Association continues to be enthusiastically attended by residents proactively working to improve the area. They were nominated and became finalists in the Aire Valley Homes Leeds Community group of the year.

## **Community Engagement**

### **Volunteer Thank You Event**

34. On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April, Inner South Area Committee's Volunteer Thank You Event took place in the Lord Mayor's Banqueting Suite, Civic Hall. 120 people attended from over 30 different community organisations from across Inner South Leeds. The purpose of the event was to recognise and value the work of these organisations, demonstrated by the presentation of a 'Certificate of Appreciation'. The event also gave groups the opportunity to have a stall to showcase their activities as well as network with other groups from the area. Feedback from all attendees of the event was positive with requests made for similar future events. Some positive joint working opportunities have also arisen from the event, for example, Westwood Community Association have offered to provide advice to Terra Arts Association on fundraising for arts projects and Friends of Holbeck Cemetery will provide advice and guidance to the new group, Friends of Hunslet Cemetery.

### **I Love South Leeds Festival**

35. The programme of activities for the 2010 festival has been finalised and are now underway:
- **South Leeds Superstar.** All school and community auditions have now taken place. The first two community heats will take place at Beeston Festival and Belle Isle Gala. The last community heat takes place at Hunslet Festival on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June and grand finale will be held at Holbeck Gala on 10<sup>th</sup> July. The winner of South Leeds Superstar will also secure a place in the "Find Your Talent", city-wide final, to be held in December at Leeds Town Hall. The prize will also involve a mini 'boot camp' which will take place in the October half term holiday, where winners will be supported to get ready for the performance in December.
  - **Turn It Up.** A programme of six activity workshops and taster sessions will be running as part of this strand of the festival. South Leeds Community Radio has been commissioned to run this element of the festival.
  - **South Leeds Olympics.** Four activities will be running as part of this strand of the festival:
    - Sports Week starting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August will offer a one week sports camp for young people aged between 8 and 12 years old
    - DAZL will operate 15 dance workshop sessions at various venues across Inner South Leeds



- A football tournament managed by The Cupboard Project at John Charles Centre for Sport will take place on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August and will be open for both girls and boys to enter
- Middleton Mile will be delivered by Total Sports Coaching, who has been working in a number of schools across Inner South Leeds providing sporting activities. It is likely that the Middleton Mile will take place on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July and be themed to link in with the football World Cup Final which will be taking place later on that day.

### **Middleton Regeneration**

36. A strategic planning session is planned for partners on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June. A separate report on the future development of the strategy and support to the partnership is presented to this meeting.

### **Implications for Council Policy and Governance**

37. No specific issues are identified.

### **Legal and Resource Implications**

38. No specific issues are identified

### **Recommendations**

39. The Inner South Area Committee is asked to;
- a. note the contents of this report;
  - b. confirm theme champion roles for the specific themes of the ADP as outlined in paragraph 9.

### **Background Papers**

- Inner South Area Committee 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010 – Inner South Area Delivery Plan