



Report of the South East Area Manager

Inner South Area Committee

Date: Thursday 11th November 2010

Subject: Actions and Achievements report

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

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 September 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 25th March 2010.
5. Several partnerships will be responsible for reporting performance against particular ADP priorities. The Area Committee has nominated a Member representative to participate in the work of these partnerships and to act as the link between the Partnership and the Area Committee. The current member representatives are:
 - South East Divisional Community Safety Partnership: Councillor Groves
 - South Health & Well-Being Partnership: Councillor Groves
 - Children Leeds South East Partnership: Councillor Gabriel
 - South Leeds Enterprise, Employment and Training Partnership (SLEET): Councillor Driver

Culture

Community Centres

6. Further to previous Area Committee meetings, a meeting of the Inner South Community Centre Sub Committee was held with one Elected Member attending. There was a discussion about various practical issues in relation to some community centres.

Enterprise and Economy

South Leeds Employment, Enterprise and Training Partnership (SLEET)

7. The last meeting was held on 7th October and the minutes are attached at Appendix 1.
8. The main items discussed at the meeting include:

- Proposals for the future commissioning of Welfare to Work programmes. Successful organisations will be announced at the end of November.
- Universal Credit to merge all current working age benefit payments, Housing Benefit/Council Tax and Tax Credits into a single credit.
- New measures are to be introduced to help people off benefits and into work
 - Enterprise Allowance will be introduced in the next few months and encourage people to move into self-employment with some benefit payment remaining in place for up to six months.
 - Work Clubs to encourage more sharing of skills and experience
 - Work Together to promote volunteering as a way of developing work skills.
- Worklessness action plans – an update was provided. A survey has been carried out in Holbeck to identify the barrier stopping people getting back to work
- NEET agenda (Not in Employment, Education or Training) – SLEET group to work together to provide some practical solutions to address issues around NEET and the family agenda

Learning

Children Leeds Partnership

9. The minutes of the meeting held on 7th October will be available once they are approved at the next meeting of the Partnership in November.

Environment

10. The Inner South Environmental Co-ordination Group has yet to resolve how the multi-agency two day intensive clean ups are delivered given the ending of the Environmental Pride Teams in inner South.

Health and Wellbeing

South East Health & Wellbeing Partnership

11. The last meeting was held on 30th September and the minutes of the meeting are at Appendix 2.
12. The main item on the agenda at that meeting was the First Contact Signposting Scheme proposal for Leeds. First contact is a multi agency referral checklist used to increase access to and take up of services to enable people to stay safe and independent in their own homes. There are schemes currently operational in Nottingham and Newcastle. Aimed at the over 50s if a member of staff from any partner agency goes into a home e.g. police, fire fighter etc they complete a simple checklist to find out if the person has any other particular needs for services such as fire safety check, home security check, home repairs or mobility adaptations, energy saving improvements, confidential advice etc. It is run through a contact centre and funded by various organisations.

The benefits and objectives of the scheme are:

- It maximises the opportunity of the existing contacts that frontline staff have with people
- Gives frontline staff a tool to effectively refer people to preventative services
- People are helped to stay safer and more independent in their own homes by giving them easy access to a range of services

- People will get to where they need to without getting lost in the system (this is crucial as signposting can sometimes occur with little or no contact)
- Provide access to advice, information and services which enables choice and control for people
- Provide a streamlined service within the home where the person is made aware of accessible services
- Provide a service to hard to reach people
- Reduce the risk of accidents within the home and reduce hospital admission
- Identify gaps in service
- Facilitate partnership working within the statutory and voluntary sector, widening the knowledge of local community initiatives
- Determine issues affecting older people and ways of reducing the impact of these

Thriving Places

Operation Champion

13. Operation Champion took place on the 14th/15th September in the Manor Farms and Westwoods. Both areas benefited from the provision of skips funded by the Inner South Area Committee and Aire Valley Homes. The Probation Service cleared overgrown pathways in the Manor Farms. The AVH Estate Caretakers and Leeds City Council Environmental Pride teams assisted in a clean up on both areas. The Environmental Action Team delivered letters in relation to ongoing evidence gathering relating to burning waste on the Manor Farms. They also re-visited fly tipping sites to gather evidence where possible.
14. The Neighbourhood Policing Team did joint visits to ASB perpetrators with AVH and ASBU staff. They also provided crime reduction advice via the Aire Valley Homes mobile office. The Safeguarding team visited 12 addresses of victims/perpetrators of either Domestic Violence or hate crime. The Licensing Department visited 16 premises and issued 2 Fixed Penalty Notices to premises who sold alcohol to under age people. Civilian warrants visited 22 addresses; from this 1 person was arrested and 4 people made payments. HMRC visited 8 premises and quantities of illegal cigarettes were seized. DVLA did a sweep of the estate and issued tickets on 3 untaxed vehicles.
15. The Arson Task Force carried out 3 Home Fire Safety Checks and delivered information about fire safety to all homes across the estate. They also gave talks at assemblies at Westwood and St Mary's primary schools with ASBU and Police. St Phillip's school also had an assembly and was attended by the Hot Oil Display Unit to warn parents and children about the dangers of chip pan fires. The Youth Service mobile unit was in the area on both days.

Divisional Community Safety Partnership (DCSP)

16. The DCSP has benefited from the involvement of Elected Members with a Community Safety Champion representing the Area Committees on the DCSP. As a result of this involvement, the Area Committee now receives a summary of the minutes of each DCSP and the opportunity to raise issues through the Community Safety Champion. The last meeting of the DCSP was held on 22nd October and the minutes are not yet available.
17. In order to enhance this relationship, a model has been developed that will allow the Champion to play a fuller role in problem solving with the partnership through

contributions to Tasking meetings. This would involve regular attendance at both Beeston/Holbeck/Hunslet and Belle Isle/Middleton Tasking meetings. Their task during the meeting will be to represent the views of relevant ward members and enhance existing channels of communication between Members and officers. The Champion will also have a quality assurance role where they assist in tackling issues that are not making progress by taking these up with the appropriate senior officers in partner agencies. Members are asked to support a trial of this approach to be reviewed in six months. An outline role profile has been produced that shows the expectations of the role – see appendix.

Aire Valley Homes

18. The Chief Officer of Aire Valley Homes has expressed an interest in attending this and future meetings of the Inner South area Committee to provide a verbal update on current issues, discuss the evolving role of ALMOs and provide an opportunity for Members to raise and have a response to questions and concerns.

Youth activities

19. The Youth Bus run by St. Lukes Cares on behalf of the Area Committee worked with 400 young people during September across the three wards including the Manor Farms, West Granges and Sissons/Throstles neighbourhoods in Middleton Park Ward, the Arthingtons, Balmorals and Brett Gardens neighbourhoods of City & Hunslet Ward, and the Cottingley, Cardinals and Normantons neighbourhoods of Beeston & Holbeck Ward. Their report is at appendix 3 and the youth bus staff are available to meet Members for each ward.

Regeneration

Beeston Hill & Holbeck Regeneration

Single Regional Housing Pot Funded Acquisition and Demolition Programme

20. At its meeting of 25th August the Council's Executive Board approved recommendations that action on the Holbeck phase 4 acquisition and demolition scheme should be suspended pending a full review of the scheme in consultation with the local community and local ward members. In addition option appraisals have been undertaken on Cross Green Phase 3 and the Garnets schemes with the aim of establishing the most positive outcomes for local communities in the short and medium term. This has been necessary in light of the shortfall in funding required to complete the whole programme and the fact that the available funding must be spent by March 2011.
21. The adjustment of the cash flow on the programme has allowed the acceleration of demolitions on the on the projects which are nearing completion. Recommendations will be made to the Council's Executive Board at its meeting of 8th December on the future of the three schemes which have been the subject of the review.

Acquisition and Demolition schemes progress					
Scheme	Number Acquired or agreed to sell	Privately owned properties without agreement to sell	Phased demolitions	Numbers ready for demolition	Progress/comments
Beverleys	All acquisitions complete	0	ongoing	6	Site to be cleared during October. Chevin Housing Association aiming to start on site November 2010 to develop 55 new affordable homes
Holbeck phase 1	All acquisitions complete	0	ongoing	28	Site to be cleared before end March 2011. Seeking to identify funding to plant wild flower meadow in spring 2011 pending funding availability for redevelopment.
Holbeck phase 2	Acquisition of final commercial property agreed	0	ongoing	8	
Holbeck phase 3	All acquisitions complete	0	ongoing	8	
Scheme	Number Acquired or agreed to sell	privately owned properties without agreement to sell	Phased demolitions/numbers ready		Progress/comments
Holbeck phase 4	2	12	No complete blocks in LCC ownership		Under review Recommendations to be considered by Executive Board at its meeting of 8 th December
Garnets	29	15	No complete blocks ready for demolition. Phased demolition expected to commence Feb/March 2011		Under review Recommendations to be considered by Executive Board at its meeting of 8 th December

Housing PFI

22. The Beeston Hill & Holbeck Housing PFI project will comprise construction of 275 new council homes across Beeston Hill & Holbeck, refurbishment of 400 existing homes (and the Ingram Court sheltered scheme) with environmental improvements in the estate areas of Holbeck. All elements will be serviced and maintained to 'as built' standards by the PFI contractor for a period of 20 years.
23. Final Tenders have now been received from the bidding PFI consortia. These are being evaluated by the Council so that a Preferred Bidder can be selected and a Final Business Case (FBC) completed for review by the Homes and Communities Agency. Following approval of the FBC the Preferred Bidder can be announced and it will submit planning applications.
24. The timetable for the project now anticipates a 'financial close' to procurement by the end of March 2011, to allow for a commencement of PFI works and services in the early summer.
25. Ward members for Beeston & Holbeck and City & Hunslet have been briefed in detail on this, in early September.

Investment Partnership South Leeds (IPSL)

26. Because of delays in developing the draft strategy the timetable predicted at the last Area Committee has slipped. The Partner Engagement Group (PEG) meeting planned for September was postponed and it is now anticipated to go ahead before the end of the year. A report on the draft investment strategy is expected to be presented to a future meeting of the Inner South Area Committee.

Harmonious Communities

Cardinals

27. The area management team continues to co-ordinate multi-agency activity on the Cardinals estate which includes a weekly walkabout to identify and tackle a range of environmental, tenancy management issues and other issues. The walkabouts are attended by a range of agencies and a local active resident.

Community Engagement

28. We are currently working to adopt the use of the Citizens' Panel as a basis from which to undertake resident consultation, and to develop web content to underpin other engagement activities. This work complements the Area Committee's engagement with local communities by increasing the number and demographic representation of local people contributing. It also allows for consistency of approach within Leeds across the Area Committees.

Leeds Ahead support to community groups

29. Leeds Ahead had previously been working with Connaughts to support a number of the residents groups but as this possibility is no longer open they are in the process of identifying support by promoting this with their business members base and they are trying others as well to make a positive match with the groups.

Middleton Regeneration

The following is a summary received from re'new of their work in Middleton.

Middleton Regeneration Board

30. The Board met in September to agree a refreshed set of priorities that will be the focus of its attention for the remainder of this year (2010/11). The five priorities that were agreed were:
- Improving environmental conditions and feeling of safety in Middleton
 - Raising aspirations of young people through 'life coaching' careers advice and local mentoring opportunities, reducing the number of young people who are NEET
 - Promoting healthy lifestyles
 - Securing the appropriate development of housing land sites in the area
 - Improve Community Engagement
31. These priorities will be shared with the local community at the forthcoming Celebration event in October. Local people will have the chance to tell us which they feel is the most important to them and how they can get involved in helping us achieve our goals. These priorities will also address issues around integrated working, effectiveness, efficiency savings and improved community engagement.
32. We have now secured commitment from StreetScene at a local Neighbourhood level in helping us to deliver better environmental services.
33. ASDA continue to work closely with us on any local project activities. Sainsbury's have also shown an interest in getting more involved in our work.
34. It has now been agreed that re'new's Regeneration Partnership Manager will spend two days a week based in Middleton Family Centre and one day hot-desking at Dewsbury Road One Stop Centre. This will enhance existing good working relationships in the Neighbourhood and ensure that this work is connected to the wider work in SE Leeds generally.

Middleton Community Network

35. Recruitment to the network will start at the Middleton Celebration event that took place on Saturday 9th October. This will give an indication of the level of interest amongst local people to joining the network. There will be various other sign-up campaigns that will follow the initial start up, details of which are still being determined and will include leaflet drops and local surgeries where people can sign up. Leaflets will also be available at various local points in the neighbourhood.

Middleton Regeneration Board Corporate Volunteer Day

36. October 27th (Friday) – Bulb planting around the new children's play area in Middleton Park. Several members of the Regeneration Board will take part in a volunteer event to plant bulbs around the new play area in Middleton Park. Local people will also have the opportunity to help out at this event. The Middleton Sainsbury's store have been approached to support this and other projects in the area.

Middleton Community Calendar

37. ASDA have agreed to sponsor the production of the community calendar this year. The theme of next year's calendar is 'Proud to be Middleton'. The calendars will be ready for circulation mid November.

Middleton Community Banners

38. 26 banners were re-installed on Middleton Park Avenue and along Middleton Ring Road (part way). 6 new banners were designed by young people of the Friday Night Project. The Banners were supported by Aire Valley Homes, Inner South Area Committee and Middleton Bright Ideas.

Implications for Council Policy and Governance

39. No specific issues are identified.

Legal and Resource Implications

40.. No specific issues are identified

Recommendations

41. The Inner South Area Committee is asked to note the contents of this report

Background papers

- Inner South Area Committee – Inner South Area Delivery Plan, 25th March 2010
- Inner South Area Committee – Actions & Achievements report, 22nd September 2010