



## Report of the Director of Environments & Neighbourhoods Directorate

### South Leeds (Outer) Area Committee

Date: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2011

Subject: Area Leader's Report

<p><b>Electoral Wards Affected:</b></p> <p>Ardsley &amp; Robin Hood Morley North Morley South Rothwell</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)</p>	<p><b>Specific Implications For:</b></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.

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 November 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 2010 Area Committee, a new format for this report was introduced based on the Area Delivery Plan themes and priorities. Ward Members confirmed priorities for 2010/11 at ward member briefing meetings and the 2010/11 Area Delivery Plan was approved at the June 2010 Area Committee.

### **3.0 Updates by Theme: Culture**

#### **3.1 Community Centres Sub Committee**

The Outer South Community Centres Sub Committee last met on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010 and the minutes and action plan were presented at the last Area Committee meeting. The next meeting is planned for 12<sup>th</sup> May.

#### **3.2 Morley Literature Festival**

Following Members approving £10,000 revenue funding at the November Area Committee, the Executive of the Morley Literature Festival Committee have confirmed the appointment of Jenny Harris as Director of the 2011 Festival.

### **4.0 Updates by Theme: Enterprise and Economy**

#### **4.1 Morley Town Centre Management**

Further to the report presented at the November Area Committee. The Morley Town Centre Management Board last met on 26<sup>th</sup> November. The minutes were presented at the last Area Committee meeting. The next meeting is planned for Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **4.2 Investment Partnership South Leeds (IPSL)**

##### **4.2.1 A roving exhibition took place in January at the following locations:**

17<sup>th</sup> Jan – Dewsbury Road One Stop Centre 10am-7pm

18<sup>th</sup> Jan – St Matthew's Holbeck 10am -7pm

21<sup>st</sup> Jan – White Rose Centre 10am–7pm

24<sup>th</sup> Jan – St George's Centre Middleton 10am-7pm

25<sup>th</sup> Jan – Morrisons Supermarket, Hunslet 10am -7pm

26<sup>th</sup> Jan – Hamara Healthy Living Centre, Beeston 10am-7pm

28<sup>th</sup> Jan – Morrisons Supermarket Café 10 – 6pm

4.2.2 Officers from the Council attended the event, along with representatives from the private sector. In total over 400 people attended the event, a number of whom completed questionnaires about the investment opportunities in the area. The questionnaires are now being analysed and the results will be reported to the next Steering Group meeting in March. However, the main issues raised were about the need for more jobs, better housing and improved maintenance of the public realm and open space.

4.2.3 [www.investsouthleeds.co.uk](http://www.investsouthleeds.co.uk) provides further information regarding IPSL and the investment strategy.

#### **4.3 Town & District Centre Regeneration Scheme**

##### **4.3.1 Local Shops Initiative**

With one project complete, there is still no movement on the other 5 expressions of interest. The Morley Town Centre Management Board is still actively promoting the scheme and it will review progress at its next meeting.

##### **4.3.2 Morley Bottoms Affordable Housing Project**

The scheme has currently been delayed by a total of 28 weeks on Fri 28/01/11 owing to issues with the weakened rock face and the recent inclement weather. However, it is still envisaged that the time can be clawed back and the scheme will be completed early September 2011.

4.4 South Leeds Employment, Education and Training Group (SLEET)  
To further strengthen links between the SLEET group and the Outer South Area Committee, the most recent minutes the most recent minutes were presented at the last Area Committee.

4.5 Rothwell Inter Agency  
The Rothwell Inter Agency last met on 22nd November 2010 and the minutes and action plan were presented at the last Area Committee meeting. The meeting planned for January 24<sup>th</sup> was cancelled. The next meeting is planned for 21<sup>st</sup> March.

## **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 are presented at **Appendix 1**. A detailed Children Services performance report is presented elsewhere on the agenda.

## **6.0 Updates by Theme: Environment**

6.1 Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group  
The Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group met on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011 to discuss Environmental issues and actions highlighted in the Area Delivery Plan (ADP). The minutes (**Appendix 2**) and action plan (**Appendix 3**) are presented for Members information.

### 6.2 Environmental Delegation

6.2.1 Further to the report submitted to the last Area Committee, the following provides a brief update on the progress towards achieving the delegation of environmental services from June/July 2011.

6.2.2 Work is progressing on the development of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) for each Area Committee, with a generic template being agreed by Area Chairs on 11<sup>th</sup> February. A first draft of the Outer South Area Committee SLA will be shared with Members at a workshop scheduled to take place on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 10am-1pm, to which you will have received an invitation on 31<sup>st</sup> January. To inform the detail of the SLAs, service resources have been allocated across the City on a wedge basis, detail of which will be available at the March workshops, if not already shared with Members. Members will have further opportunity to input and comment on their SLA prior to the final version being presented for approval at the June/July Area Committee.

6.2.3 Appointment of the three Locality Manager posts, who will manage service delivery to meet the requirements of their respective area's SLAs, is due to take place in March. Area Chairs will be involved in part of the recruitment process for the posts, with the final decision on appointments however, remaining with senior officers. As soon as the appointments are formalised Members will be informed of who their Locality Manager is.

6.2.4 At their last meeting, Area Chairs discussed the potential roles of Deputy Area Chair, Environmental Champion and Environment Sub-group. Presently, some Area Committees have one or more of these roles, whilst others have none. It was agreed that whilst the roles will remain informal, i.e. have no decision making authority, they will be a valuable mechanism for dealing with the SLA and service delivery matters in a timely manner between formal Area Committee meetings. With regard to the function that a sub-group could undertake this would be especially relevant prior to and during the initial stages of the delegation. Once the delegation is in place and effective then local arrangements can be made as to how to deal with operational issues and the SLA, agreed as a wedge and/or between the Area Committees and their Locality Manager. In some cases the sub-group may be a time limited 'task and finish group', in other areas the sub-group may fulfill a more ongoing role of overseeing the SLA outside of formal Area Committee business.

### 6.3 Ginnel Mapping

At the last Area Committee it was agreed that Morley South would become the next Ward to be mapped, Area Management have begun work with partners in the Information Team to complete this work.

### 6.4 Well being Funding

6.4.1 The Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group, have identified anti littering educational workshops for schools, and out of hours patrols and signage to tackle dog fouling, as projects that could be funded with the £3,675 revenue Well being Funding allocated by the Area Committee.

### 6.4.2 **Anti Littering Workshops**

Following the withdrawal of Robin Hood Primary School, Blackgates Primary School has been nominated to join Churwell, Newlands and Rothwell Victoria Junior School to receive support from Groundwork for a local clean up and an hour long workshop on the environment and litter with pupils.

### 6.5 Conservation Audits

6.5.1 Morley Conservation Area Appraisal: In order to respond to a number of the issues raised in the initial public consultation, it is necessary to hold a further public meeting to allow further debate of the proposals. This meeting is planned for April / May and will be held at the Town Hall. The meeting will be fully advertised with a press release, posters and a mailing to all properties within the areas of proposed boundary change. Following the public meeting the process will be written up for consideration by Chief Officers at Planning Board. If approved, the Planning Board delegated decision will be open to scrutiny for a period of three weeks. If not called in, the appraisal will then be adopted as a material consideration in the planning process and the revised boundary will go live.

6.5.2 Woodlesford Conservation Area Appraisal: The community consultation draft of the area appraisal for Woodlesford has been out to public consultation, the deadline for comment was the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2011. The revised document is available at: [http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Environment and planning/Conservation/Conservation area appraisals.aspx](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Environment%20and%20planning/Conservation/Conservation%20area%20appraisals.aspx).

## 6.6 Oulton and Woodlesford Design Statement

- 6.6.1 In February 2009, Members approved £5,600 revenue funding to support the production of a Design Statement for Oulton and Woodlesford. Total project costs stated in the detailed project application were £6,450. The remaining balance of £850 was to met through fund raising activities and sales of the finished statement.
- 6.6.2 Oulton and Woodlesford Design Statement steering group have submitted an interim evaluation report outlining; the work completed to date, a breakdown of expenditure and details of further costs required to conclude the project.

### **Work to date**

A successful consultation exercise with residents has been undertaken which involved 3 workshops and an exhibition. The group have liaised with various departments in Leeds City Council to complete a comprehensive appraisal of the 80 page draft document.

### **Accounts**

	<b>Income</b>
Outer South Area Committee	£5,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,600</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
Consultant	£4236.53
Questionnaires	£745
Workshops	£428.88
Exhibition	£176.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,587.15</b>

The steering group has acknowledged that they were overly optimistic in their original proposals for the project. The areas of Oulton and Woodlesford are diverse and the Design Statement has had to tackle their complexities. The work was more involved and to get a detailed and professional document, an extra workshop was held and additional research was undertaken. This impacted by delaying the project and increasing the costs. The group argue that in order to produce a robust Supplementary Planning Document, further work needs to be carried out including a newspaper advertisement which will publicise the consultation dates on the draft statement before it can be formally adopted by the Council.

### **Projected Costs**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
Consultant	£1531.92 inc VAT
Advertisement in Yorkshire Evening Post	£1966.80 inc VAT
Design / layout for 80 page document	£350 inc VAT
Printing for an initial 100 copies	£1000 inc VAT
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,848.72</b>

The Oulton Society will provide £350 towards the cost of design and layout of the document. The statement will be sold at £5 per copy with an estimated income of £250 - £400.

6.6.3 Members are asked to consider making a further to this project. The funding will come from the ringfenced £5,300 to Rothwell as part of last years town centre funding.

## **7.0 Updates by Theme: Health and Well being**

7.1 The South East Health and Well Being partnership met on the 27<sup>th</sup> January. Minutes from the meeting are available at **Appendix 4**.

## **8.0 Updates by Theme: Thriving**

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

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. A summary of the January minutes is available at **Appendix 5**.

### **8.2 South Leeds Youth Hub**

8.2.1 The brand-new Youth Hub building work has been completed and was handed over for operational use to the Youth Service on the 28<sup>th</sup> January. The building is undergoing snagging work and furniture continues to arrive on daily basis for internal fit. The zones will provide fantastic learning experiences to young people. Youth Service invite Members to visit the Hub for a tour at their convenience.

8.2.2 There is a small team at the centre lead by the newly recruited Centre manager, administrative assistant's caretaking and cleaning staff. The team is supported by the Youth work manager who is responsible for the youth work deliver at the centre and Middleton ward. The hub is currently opening Monday-Friday 08:00-21:30 and generating interest. There are already a number of bookings for both young people's activities and meetings. The first minibus has been delivered this week and is already being used extensively to support young people in accessing specific sessions here at the Hub.

8.2.3 The Hub Board has agreed a programme of soft opening. The first week has attracted an Intermediate youth club which has operated for 3 evening in the first week. The half term seeing a significant number of activities including:

- a dedicated studio session for the Rothwell Windmill music group;
- urban arts wall session involving young people from Tingley and St Gabriel's community centre;
- Windmill youth centre and a group from Harrops Avenue (Tingley);
- DJ session involving young people from Lewisham Park and Rose Lund;
- Sports session involving young people from Gildersome and Windmill youth centres.

8.2.4 The participation group of young people are proud of the new website [www.southleedsyouthhub.org.uk](http://www.southleedsyouthhub.org.uk) which has just gone live and young people are beginning to add blogs, posts and events. It's in the early stages and will continue to have a lot more content in the near future.

- 8.2.5 The Partnership Board continues to go from strength to strength and has already met twice this year. Land Securities, a big FTSE 100 firm with significant local interests including the ownership and operation of White Rose shopping centre, have brought their business experience to the Board alongside with Voluntary sector partners from the Hunslet Boys & Girls Club, 4Children & NHS. The Board will be welcoming the Vice Chancellor from Leeds Met University who support student placements at the centre.
- 8.2.6 Young people from across the South continue to be actively involved in every part of this project. A young person from Windmill Youth Club was on the panel that recruited the Centre manager. Initial feedbacks from large number of outer south young people have commented as to the fantastic on the activities available to them at the centre.

## **9.0 Updates by Theme: Harmonious Communities**

### **9.1 Gildersome Participatory Budgeting**

The steering group last met on the 8<sup>th</sup> February to agree final preparations for Decision Day. Decision Day will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> March at Greenside Methodist Church, Gildersome. 12 projects are presenting on the day to put forward their projects to receive funding from the initiative. Leaflets promoting the event have been distributed through the two primary schools, and posters and leaflets placed in local community buildings and shops including; the meeting hall, library, children's centre, health centre and the coop.

## **10.0 Recommendations**

### **10.1 The Area Committee is asked to:**

- a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate.
- b) consider the funding request detailed at 6.6.

## **Background Papers:**

- Area Managers 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011
- Well Being Report 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011
- 'Department of Communities and Local Government: Extra Support for Town Centres', Regeneration Management Team Meeting, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009
- Conservation Area Reviews 10<sup>th</sup> September 2007