



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

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Report of the Assistant Chief Executive: Planning, Policy & Improvement

Outer West Area Committee

Date: 8th July 2011

Subject: Area Progress Report

Electoral Wards Affected:

Calverley & Farsley
Farnley & Wortley
Pudsey

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in 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

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1.0 Purpose Of This Report

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2.0 Background Information

2.1 The Area Committee has received regular reports on progress against the Outer West Area Delivery Plan (ADP). This was due to run until March 2011 and so is not now a current document. However, the actions contained within the ADP are still relevant as many of them are ongoing into 2011/12. This report therefore provides an update against relevant actions and partner agencies' progress on local improvements.

3.0 Main Issues

Culture

- 3.1 Outer and Inner West funding for the I Love West Leeds festival has now been confirmed for 2011/12. This year's rotating festival will take place in Bramley Falls Wood Park and feature a mix of performances and activities for all the family, free of charge to everyone. The main body of the festival will include three weeks of events across West Leeds. Highlights include outdoor film screenings in Armley, Farnley and Farsley, a music trail in Pudsey, family activities in Bramley shopping centre and an orchestra in Bramley Baths. Schools are creating customized washing lines and bunting for display during the festival. Full festival listings will be available in the brochure which are currently being printed and should be available from 8th June for distribution. Assistance may be required for distribution this year, either physically or electronically.
- 3.2 Works to create the Swinnow Moor play area are progressing well. Parks & Countryside will be starting the remaining works w/c 27th June and should be completed before the end of July with the exception of the replacement trees that were vandalised. If funding can be found, these will be planted in October / November.

Enterprise & Economy

- 3.3 Work is progressing with Phase 2 of Farsley Town and District Centre Scheme, which compliments work already carried out at Phase 1. Andrew Square Car Park has been re-modelled and re-surfaced, with the car park now providing an additional parking space and a disabled parking bay. In addition, streetscene works have been carried out which include the installation of heritage street lighting and traffic safety barriers upon the high street.
- 3.4 Remaining work will see the upgrading and re-opening of the public toilets in Farsley, and landscaping of a neighbouring public right of way which is widely used to access the Town Street. There has been a slight delay in progressing with this part of the scheme, due to the fact that the tender response was somewhat higher than the tender estimate. However, steps have since been taken to modify the specification of the scheme, in order for a re-tendering exercise to be undergone, which should see works commence to the toilet block in late summer 2011.
- 3.5 In addition, following the advertisement of a Creation Order by Public Rights of Way to secure permission to turn the existing informal public right of way into a formal footpath, which will in turn secure its future maintenance, an objection has been encountered from a local resident to this proposal. Consequently, this part of the scheme is on hold until a resolution has been reached with the Planning Inspectorate about this concern.
- 3.6 A full report on the work of the Town Centre Manager will be submitted to the September meeting of the Area Committee.
- 3.7 The TCM has reported that many of the vacant retail units are now occupied, including the Bathroom Shop opening on Lidget Hill, a new café due to open on Lowtown in the former Café Atlanta premises, the former Gillies Lillies on the corner of Manor House Street and Robin Lane to open as a hairdressers and the former Quicksilver betting shop on Church Lane is now an estate agents.

- 3.8 The next event in Pudsey is the Pudsey Food Festival, being run in conjunction with Leeds Loves Food Week. The TCM is awaiting confirmation from Markets Service as to whether they are able to provide any budget to support events in the market. Teddy Bears picnics have taken place in Pudsey Park once a month on Sundays in May and June and will also run in July and August. These have been arranged to tie in with the summer bands in the park series. They have been well attended although are dependant on the weather.
- 3.9 Currently there is no central funding available for the Christmas lights switch-on events in Farsley or Pudsey. However, the ward Members and officers from Area Management and the Events Team are meeting to explore how smaller community events with lights could be delivered potentially with Area Committee funding. Within the Well-being budget report on this agenda, there is a request for a maximum of £5,000 for a Farsley event and £8,000 for a Pudsey event. The Business Forum and TCM are pursuing discussions with Stuart Andrew MP regarding the BBC potentially attending the Pudsey Children in Need event that runs on the same evening as the lights switch-on.
- 3.10 The Pudsey Business Forum continues to meet to drive forward projects to support the town centre. The TCM and Chair of Pudsey Business Forum met with the Area Management Officer to agree a set of actions and communication systems between all parties. Most actions have now been completed and communications between the TCM and Business forum has been improved.
- 3.11 A full report is included elsewhere on this agenda which updates Members on how Jobcentre Plus has now internally restructured internally to reflect how it wishes to move forwards as a business. The Relationship Manager at Jobcentre plus will provide a presentation on the customer journey and programmes and provision that will support the revised approach.

Learning

- 3.12 The Youth Service have been delivering a number of activities across Outer West. Nearly 50 young people in groups from Swinnow, Pudsey Crawshaw, Tyersal, Farsley, Calverley & Farnley came together for the Area Committee funded SERIOUS FUN Night Challenge on Friday 17th June based at Herd Farm, taking part in a range of outdoor team building activities at night. After the night challenge 27 of the young people stayed on to take part in a full weekend residential experience at Herd Farm. The theme was making friends and supporting each other.
- 3.13 Fifteen young people, 11 from Outer West took part in a days training to become West Leeds Sexual Health 'Mystery Shoppers' run by the Youth Service and the NHS Sexual Health Team. These same young people will complete 4 each x 15 = 60hrs mystery shops over the summer holidays, assessing and measuring advertised venues of the 3 in 1 service in West Leeds. These are measured against the 'You're Welcome' standards. All the young people will be accredited to the Leeds Youth Award. It is hoped that this group will form the basis of an Outer West youth committee as the Youth Service strives to deliver better work against the 'participation' agenda.
- 3.14 A DoE Open Access session is now running in Pudsey Sports Centre on Friday afternoon / tea time. This is open to young people from across Outer West and will include support, training, access to expeditions and other areas of DoE work.

- 3.15 The mobile Youth Van is now has the appropriate sign writing to advertise the provision. The Youth Service is currently are awaiting delivery of a new DVD / CD / flat screen as the current one is broken.
- 3.16 A joint initiative led by the Youth Service with support from the NPT and West Leeds Healthy Living Network saw an open meeting held at Swinnow Community Centre where boys from the estate were invited to discuss their views around helping run a boys group. Whilst nothing was promised, the three agencies agreed to invite the boys to a further meeting over the next month.
- 3.17 Parks and Countryside are in the process of resolving issues with the West Leeds Country Park Visitor Centre. The remote controlled electronic operated doors are now complete. Property Management are awaiting the costs for a solution to make the steps DDA accessible (lift or ramp) and also the costs for reconfiguring the DDA toilet.
- 3.18 The Community Sports Officer is currently promoting the Coaching Scholarship for applications and the closing date is the end of August. He is looking to run extra holiday sessions at Pudsey Leisure Centre using Leeds Utd and Commando Joe (junior military fitness training). All clubs in Outer West have been offered support and Farsley CC, Pudsey St Lawrence and Gymagic are all looking to run summer camps. Athletics coaches are attending a summer Owlcotes community event. The Community Sports Officer hopes to run some provision in Swinnow and Tyersal in conjunction with Extended Services, dependant on whether the schools wish to participate.

Transport

- 3.19 The Lidget Hill lay-by highway works have been completed and Highways have an order in with Metro to relocate the bus shelter and with Parks and Countryside to provide planting. The work starting on site was delayed to take account of traders' concerns regarding the impact on the busy Easter trade. The outstanding works should be completed by the end of July.
- 3.20 The Section 278 works for Cemetery Road are currently out to consultation with local residents and Highways are considering the responses before finalising and issuing the scheme. All Traffic Regulation Orders in Pudsey are now sealed and are being put into effect. Some signs are still to be installed advertising the new two hour restrictions within the Robin Lane car park.
- 3.21 The pedestrian guardrails within the centre of Pudsey are due to be repaired on 21st June. The Area Committee were approached last year with a few to replacing these with heritage style guardrails. However, the Committee felt that the expenditure was not warranted and that repairs would be more appropriate in the current financial climate.

Environment

- 3.22 Work is continuing to take place on the enhanced Environmental Services delegated functions to Area Committees. A full report outlining progress is attached elsewhere on this agenda.
- 3.23 An Outer West Environmental Sub Group is now well established and has met three times since the last Area Committee. It consists of Councillors David Blackburn, Jarosz and Wood. The group has agreed that they will act as joint champions for

Outer West rather than nominating one Member as Environmental Champion. The group has been meeting monthly to try and inform the issues which need to be picked up in the Service Level Agreement.

- 3.24 The key issues identified by the sub group are general littering and the requirement for additional litter bins, dog fouling, particularly within parks and enforcement against littering and dog fouling. In addition, ginnels appear to be a particular problem area, especially where there is multiple ownership. The sub group is starting to tackle these issues for example requesting funding for a barrier to prevent fly-tipping on Woodhall Road, requiring the Environmental Action Team to publicise the dog fouling enforcement action and requesting additional litter bin emptying within Pudsey Park at weekends to reduce littering.

Health & Wellbeing

- 3.25 The Executive Member for Children's Services, Councillor Judith Blake, chairs the Corporate Carers Group that brings a number of Councillors together to lead in monitoring key issues and performance information relating to the City's looked after children. Earlier this year the membership and approach of the group was reviewed. A letter from Councillor Blake to Area Committee Chairs is attached at **Appendix 1**. This outlines the requirement for the Area Committee to nominate a representative to the Corporate Carers Group.
- 3.26 The Robin Lane Medical centre in Pudsey is running a patient and public consultation event on Saturday 25th June 2011 from 2pm-4pm at the centre. The Medical Centre recently acquired Manor House building on Robin Lane, next to Pudsey leisure centre and the bus station. The building has been purchased with the aim of establishing a Health & Wellbeing Centre covering the following:
- Social care, family and early years
 - Healthy lifestyle
 - Community development and leisure
 - Community café
 - Community eye clinic
- 3.27 The Health and Wellbeing Centre aims to work in partnership with a wide range of health and social care related public providers including the voluntary sector. The proposal aims to bring together a range of services so that patients have improved access to resources that will improve their lives. In view of this, the opinions of the public and interested stakeholders are being sought in order to help identify which services would be most appropriate for the community. The event will also provide opportunities to learn more about the proposal and ask questions. The proposals will also be presented at the Pudsey & Swinnow forum on 29th June.
- 3.28 The Health Improvement Officer has undertaken a mapping exercise to establish what health and wellbeing provision already exists in Pudsey. This will help to inform the proposals for the Health and Wellbeing centre.
- 3.29 Early discussions have taken place regarding proposed new Adult Social Care (ASC) provision at Pudsey Leisure Centre. Plans are currently being drawn up by Corporate Property Management and a project team has been established to take the work forward.

Thriving Places

- 3.30 A Community Safety update report is attached elsewhere on this agenda and the Community Safety Co-ordinator for West Leeds and Inspector Cawkwell will provide an update to the Area Committee.
- 3.31 The Police and Environmental Action Team have planned a three day initiative (12th-14th July 12-2pm) in Pudsey town centre to tackle ASB and littering. This will hopefully include representatives from the school. Although local school children are important in terms of supporting trade in the town centre, their presence needs managing to prevent the town centre becoming unattractive to other customers.
- 3.32 The Community Development Worker for Swinnow, employed by Healthy Living Network Leeds and funded by the Area Committee has now been in post for six months. She has submitted a quarterly progress report which is attached at **Appendix 2**. This outlines progress since January 2011 and targets for the next three months. A Family Fun Day took place on Saturday 5th March at Swinnow Community Centre which was well attended.

Harmonious Communities

- 3.33 West North West Area Management team are currently planning their involvement in the 2011 European Year of the Volunteer. This will be based around the themes of poverty and homelessness, supporting young people and children, environment, sport, culture and arts and health and well-being.

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

Member Consultation

- 4.1 Members are consulted on projects and initiatives within their wards. In addition each Leeds Strategic Plan theme has a Member champion to progress work in this area.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 5.1 In order to meet the Area Committee's functions, funding is available via Well Being budgets and the Community Centres Budget.
- 5.2 In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council Departments mainstream budgets, and external partner agencies e.g. the Police and Primary Care Trust, which is in turn reflected in the fact that the Area Committee's role here is only to influence, develop and consult. However, wellbeing funding has resourced some projects here e.g. community engagement, area based regeneration schemes and conservation area reviews.

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 The functions and roles of the Area Committee aim to:
- Improve the quality and value for money of Council service delivery
 - Improve the quality of democracy and find new ways to facilitate citizen participation in local government through the development of links between Ward Members and their communities
 - To co-ordinate policy and service delivery between the local service providers.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 Outer West Area Committee members are invited to note the contents of the report and to comment on any aspect of the matters raised.

7.2 The Outer West Area Committee is asked to nominate a representative to the Corporate Carers Group.

Background Papers:

None