

**Report of Area Leader – South East Leeds**

**Report to South Leeds (Outer) Area Committee**

**Date: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

**Subject: A Summary of Key Work**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Ardsley and Robin Hood Morley North Morley South Rothwell
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report presents a summary of key work taking place within the Outer South Leeds area, not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

**Recommendations**

2. The Area Committee is asked to:
  - a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate
  - b) confirm the nomination of a Ward Councillor to the Middleton Park Strategic Advisory Group.
  - c) Agree to changing the name of the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group to the Outer South Environmental Sub Group.
  - d) Approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Outer South Environmental Sub Group.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 To bring to Members' attention in a succinct fashion, a summary of key work which the Area Management Team are engaged in based on priorities identified by the Area Committee, that are not covered elsewhere on this agenda. It provides opportunities for further questioning or the opportunity to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 Members will recall at the July 2011 Area Committee, a revised title and format for this report was introduced based on proposed changes to the Leeds Initiative partnership and planning framework for the city and in an effort to be more focused on current priorities.

## **3 Area Chairs Forum**

- 3.1 Forum meetings take place on a bi-monthly basis and are chaired by the Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration. The meetings are attended by the ten Area Committee Chairs, the Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy & Improvement), the three Area Leaders and the Neighbourhood Services Co-ordinator from Leeds Initiative.
- 3.2 Following recommendations by the General Purposes Committee, the Full Council on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2011 approved that the minutes of the Area Chairs Forum meetings be a regular item for consideration at future Area Committee meetings. The scheduled Area Chairs Forum meeting dates for 2011/12 are:
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2011, 10:00am – 12:00pm
  - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011, 10:00am – 12:00pm
  - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011, 9:00am – 11:00am
  - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2012, 10:00am – 12:00pm
  - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2012, 10:00am – 12:00pm
- 3.3 Minutes will only be available to be considered by Area Committees once they have been agreed as an accurate record by the subsequent Area Chairs Forum meeting. As a result, the tight deadlines may mean that minutes will not be issued in the Area Committee papers, and it may be necessary to table the minutes at some Area Committee meetings. This scenario has arisen for the September Area Committee and papers will be tabled at the meeting.

## **4 Middleton Park Strategic Advisory Group**

- 4.1 Middleton Park is operated and managed by Leeds City Council with the majority of the land held on a 999 year lease from Wade's Charity. It is felt that Middleton Park has suffered in recent years from a lack of significant capital investment and as a consequence the park falls well short of reaching the Green Flag standard in contrast to other large parks in Leeds. Despite the condition of the parks infrastructure, it receives over 2 million visitors a year, the majority of which come from the Wards of Middleton, City and Hunslet and Beeston and Holbeck.

- 4.2 The Middleton Park Project was established to address some of the issues in the park. In June 2010 the Heritage Lottery Fund awarded £1.465 million towards the project, further funding of £287,000 has been pledged by Wades Charity and £125,000 from Leeds City Council (LCC), with a further commitment from LCC to spend £320,000 revenue funding over ten years for enhanced maintenance. Funding will support a number of improvements including, redevelopment of entrance points, the rose garden and signage, construction of a bandstand, new seating and heritage trails.
- 4.3 Following this work the park is expected to have a positive impact on the local communities and play an important role in the development of other local strategies that brings Middleton Park alongside the likes of Roundhay and Kirkstall, for it to become a destination with a broader geographical appeal across the south wedge and outside Leeds.
- 4.4 Inner South Area Committee is considering a report at their September meeting to agree to set up a Middleton Park Strategic Advisory Group (SAG). The group will be asked to look at the linkages and opportunities that will make the park a significance asset in the south of the city and bring statutory and voluntary sector partners together to identify a range of options for promoting the park to a wider audience.
- 4.5 The impact of Middleton Park on the wider geography of the South of the city means that it would be beneficial to include a nominated representative from each of the Area Committees in the South. This means that the views of a wider audience are heard and engagement techniques can be targeted more effectively in each area. Members are asked to confirm their nomination to the Middleton Park Strategic Advisory Group.

## **5 Updates by Theme: Sustainable Economy and Culture**

### **5.1 Community Centres Sub Committee**

- 5.1.1 The Outer South Community Centres Sub Committee last met on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2011. The minutes and work programme will be presented at the October Area Committee. The next meeting is planned for Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011

### **5.2 Morley Town Centre Management Board**

- 5.2.1 The Morley Town Centre Management Board met on the 29<sup>th</sup> July 2011. The minutes will be presented at the October Area Committee.

### **5.3 South Leeds Employment, Education and Training Group (SLEET)**

- 5.3.1 To further strengthen links between the SLEET group and the Outer South Area Committee, the minutes from the meeting are circulated to the Area Committee. The most recent minutes from 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2010 were presented at the January meeting.

## **6 Updates by Theme: Children and Families**

### **6.1 Children Leeds South Leadership Team**

- 6.1.1 To further strengthen links between the Children Leeds South Leadership Team and the Outer South Area Committee, the minutes from the most recent meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011 were circulated at the March Area Committee.
- 6.1.2 A full performance monitoring update on Children Services in the Outer South is provided for Members elsewhere on the agenda.

## **7 Updates by Theme: Safer and Stronger Communities Board**

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

- 7.1.1 A full update on community safety work in the Outer South, including the review of the DCSP, is provided for Members on the agenda under the Community Safety Report. Following his nomination as the Community Safety Champion at the July Area Committee, Councillor Neil Dawson will be consulted on the development of the future partnership framework for community safety.

### **7.2 Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group**

- 7.2.1 The Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group met on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2011 to discuss the Service Level Agreement (SLA) for the environmental delegation, and the future role and operating principles of the group. The minutes (**Appendix 1**) and action plan (**Appendix 2**) are presented for Members information.
- 7.2.2 Following a presentation from the Locality Manager on the SLA, Members proposed a number of additions and amendments to the draft document. A revised version is presented elsewhere on the agenda.
- 7.2.3 To support the delegation of environmental services, it was agreed that the sub group would be responsible for monitoring the SLA on behalf of the Area Committee and ensure integrated locality working. Discussions took place on revisions to the terms of reference including; increasing the number of meetings and streamlining membership.
- 7.2.4 With the aim of achieving consistency across the South East, it is proposed to Members that the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group changes its title to the 'Outer South Environmental Sub Group'. The Terms of Reference are presented at **Appendix 3** for Members to approve, reflecting the discussions at the meeting and the proposed name change.
- 7.2.5 Members were informed that proposals were in development to establish four crime and grime tasking groups across the South East. These multi agency groups would form a frontline response to specific environmental and community safety issues.
- 7.2.6 The group agreed for the action plan to be closed and appropriate issues to be incorporated into SLA.

### 7.3 Litterbins

Streetscene have confirmed that the additional litterbins funded through the Area Committee Well being budget have all been installed, except for two locations in Rothwell where poor surfaces meant they were unable to site a litterbin there. Rothwell Ward Members have been requested to identify two alternative locations.

### 7.4 Ginnel Mapping

A draft ginnel map for Morley South has been produced and a meeting has been arranged with Aire Valley Homes to progress the map to the next draft stage.

### 7.5 Groundwork Litter Project

In response to members of the sub group identifying littering around primary schools as an issue, the Area Committee commissioned Groundwork Leeds with £899 revenue funding to undertake anti littering workshops in four primary schools in the Outer South. An evaluation report (**Appendix 4**) has been submitted by Groundwork to illustrate the successful work completed in Morley Newlands Primary and Churwell Primary. Following the workshop, both schools were inspired by the project and have continued to create work around the issue. Groundwork continues to work with Blackgates and Rothwell Victoria Primary Schools to agree a suitable date to hold their workshops.

### 7.6 Conservation Audits

7.6.1 Woodlesford Conservation Area Appraisal: The new Woodlesford Conservation Area was designated on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2011. The Woodlesford Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan were approved as a material consideration in the determination of planning decisions on the same day. The new area and the appraisal are now in place to promote and protect the special character of the village.

7.6.2 Morley Conservation Area Appraisal: Following responses received during the initial public consultation, it is necessary to hold a further public meeting to allow further debate of the proposals. The date of additional public meeting is currently being arranged with Morley Town Council Clerk but it is likely to be in October and will be held at Morley 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.

7.6.3 Following the public meeting there will be a four week period for further comments. The revised boundary and appraisal will be written up for consideration by Chief Officers at the next available Planning Board meeting. If approved, the Planning Board proposed 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.

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

8.1 The South East Health and Well being partnership met on the 26<sup>th</sup> May and 28<sup>th</sup> July. Minutes from both meetings are available at **Appendix 5 and 6**.

## **9 Updates by Theme: Housing and Regeneration**

### **9.1 Town and District Centre Regeneration Scheme**

#### **9.1.1 Local Shops Initiative**

With one project complete, there have been 2 further expressions of interest. Quotes are due for consideration before progressing. The Morley Town Centre Management Board is still actively promoting the scheme and it will review progress at its next meeting.

## **10 Corporate Considerations**

### **10.1 Consultation and Engagement**

10.1.1 All projects developed are in consultation with Elected Members and local communities. Approval for a contribution from the Well being budget is secured at Area Committee.

### **10.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

10.2.1 Community groups submitting a project proposal requesting funding from the Well being budget have an equal opportunities policy and as part of the application process, complete a section outlining which equality groups the project will work with and how equality and cohesion issues have been considered.

10.2.2 Internal and statutory partners are committed to equality and cohesion and all projects they are involved with will have considered these issues.

### **10.3 Council Policies and City Priorities**

10.3.1 The projects outlined in this report contribute to targets and priorities set out in the following council policies:

- Vision For Leeds
- Children and Young Peoples Plan
- Health and Well being City Priority Plan
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
- Regeneration City Priority Plan

### **10.4 Resources and Value for Money**

10.4.1 There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

### **10.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

10.5.1 All decisions taken by the Area Committee in relation to the delegated functions from Executive Board are eligible for Call In.

10.5.2 There are no key or major decisions being made that would be eligible for Call In.

10.5.3 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

## **10.6 Risk Management**

10.6.1 This report provides an update on work in the Outer South and therefore no risks are identifiable. Any projects funded through Well being budget complete a section identifying risks and solutions as part of the application process.

## **11 Conclusions**

11.1 The report provides up to date information on key work areas of the Area Committee.

## **12 Recommendations**

12.1 The Area Committee is asked to:

- a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate
- b) confirm the nomination of a Ward Councillor to the Middleton Park Strategic Advisory Group.
- c) Agree to changing the name of the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group to the Outer South Environmental Sub Group.
- d) Approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Outer South Environmental Sub Group.

## **13 Background documents**

13.1 Minutes of the Full Council meeting, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2011

13.2 Council Constitution

13.3 Area Committee Summary of Key Work Report, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011

13.4 Area Committee Well Being Report, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011

13.5 Conservation Area Reviews 10<sup>th</sup> September 2007