

**Report of Deputy Chief Executive**

**Report to Inner West Area Committee**

**Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

**Subject: Area Update Report**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Armley and Bramley & Stanningley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" 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 is to inform the Area Committee on progress against the Area Management Team's work programme and locality priorities.
2. Progress is reported through project and service updates.

**Recommendations**

3. Inner West Area Committee members are invited to note the contents of the report, comment on any matters raised and suggest items for inclusion in future Area Update reports.

## **1. Purpose of this report**

1.1. The purpose of this report is to inform members on progress against the Area Management Team's work programme and locality priorities.

## **2. Background information**

2.1. An Area Committee Update report is submitted at every cycle of Area Committee meetings. Partners contribute collectively on projects and provide service updates.

## **3. Main issues**

Business Plan for 2011/12-13/14

3.1. The Inner West Area Management Team are currently working on a Business Plan for 2011/12-13/14, which will be presented to members at the October/December Area Committee. It is proposed that this will replace previous Area Delivery Plans, and will set out priorities for the next three years.

Priority Neighbourhoods

Fairfield LAMP

3.2. The action plan for the Fairfield LAMP has been refreshed. In the light of people leaving or changing the jobs, the attendance list has also been reviewed and revised. The revised action plan was presented at the last meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2011, and was received well by all present.

3.3. Key actions include:

- ARAMARK to design and produce the next newsletter in colour.
- The café now opens on a Wednesday and Thursday. The Bramley Primary School Head Teacher is to work with the Social Enterprise and Business Facilities Manager to consider whether some activities can be delivered from the centre so the café can be opened another day.
- Promotion of the outside catering (Spirit Café) to partner agencies.
- BARCA to deliver a new cookery course in September funded by the PCT.

Fairfield Community Centre

3.4. The Fairfield Community Centre have had a very successful Day of Action with ARAMARK. The centre has been re-painted, new signage has been put in place and a new storage area and internet room have been created. The summer events at Fairfield have been actively promoted, and an activity programme will run from September 11<sup>th</sup>. The activity programme includes the following new activities Zumba, cookery courses and line dancing. The Social Enterprise and Business Facilities Manager notes that financially the centre is on a stronger financial footing and Fairfield Community Partnership is looking to submit a five year funding bid to the Lottery to deliver programs around helping local people back into work in partnership with BARCA.

## Wythers Improvement Group

3.5. A Wythers/ Raynvilles action day and crime survey was carried out on the 8<sup>th</sup> June. Detailed information was collected from residents including some hate crime issues. As a follow on to this the hate crime coordinator has arranged to carry out some preventative work with local primary schools.

3.6. The ALMO have carried out a successful clean up day on the estate with a number of overgrown hedges being cut back. Gardens will be monitored and letters issued to residents with overgrown gardens.

3.7. A4 size bin stickers designed by children at Raynville Primary School will be distributed in the area over the summer.

## New Wortley LAMP

3.8. Draft designs have been completed by Leeds Metropolitan University for a proposed building extension to New Wortley Community Centre. The Community Centre Committee would like to extend the centre to create a large café area, and additional space for a meeting room; shop and small business space. The proposal is to build an extension to the Tong Road side of the building as phase 1 and to refurbish the existing centre as phase 2. The designs will be displayed in the community centre for comment. The next step is to discuss these options with Leeds City Councils Asset Management Department as the landowners.

## New Wortley Community Centre

3.9. New Wortley's trading position continues to improve as the café's income increases due to improved marketing and promotion in the local area. This has had a knock on effect on centre staff and volunteers who have responded well to the improvements in the café, the new menu and marketing.

3.10. An International Fun Day is being held on the 21<sup>st</sup> August and there are new activities starting in September which include Zumba and martial arts. The Social Enterprise and Business Facilities Manager notes that financially the centre's trading position continues to improve, however the centre is not profitable yet, but is getting closer to that goal.

3.11. Joint working - There has been some excellent co-operation between the Fairfield's Community Centre and New Wortley Community Centre's staff and volunteers recently. Sharing resources particularly between the two catering operations, which saves on cost and promotes joint working, is a real vision of what the future could hold.

## Regeneration Programmes Team

### 2 Branch Road

3.12. Following the building owner's guilty plea in court on 4<sup>th</sup> May, sentencing was adjourned until the 29<sup>th</sup> June to give him one final opportunity to undertake the enforcement works. During this period, the building owner undertook further work to remove debris from the Venetian of the building, wash salts and remove vegetation from the building fabric and remove signs which were attached to the building. This work was completed in advance of sentencing. The building owner was given an 18 month

conditional discharge and ordered to pay the Council's costs. He has also recently signed up to a THI Agreement which suspends further enforcement action subject to him preparing and undertaking a THI scheme on the building which if undertaken will see rotting timbers, the roof and rainwater goods replaced in addition to the reinstatement of the plaster barrel vaulted ceiling internally and the Venetian window to the front elevation of the building. It should be noted that as the works to the barrel vaulted ceiling and Venetian window are required under the Listed Building Enforcement Notice, these works will not attract grant funding. The agreement identifies key milestones which the building owner must work to. If he fails to complete tasks by the milestones, the Council reserves the right to terminate the agreement and further enforcement action will commence.

#### New Wortley Community Garden

3.13. Work is ongoing with the New Wortley Residents Association to amend the group's constitution to allow them to enter into lease arrangements. Once this is concluded, a lease will be signed between the City Council and the Residents Association to continue works on the garden at Holdforth Place.

#### New Wortley, Former Liberal Club

3.14. It is proposed to dispose of the former Liberal Club site at New Wortley for residential development. It is anticipated that there will be healthy interest in the site from smaller developers if it is disposed at auction with the benefit of outline planning consent. The site can accommodate 14 units with access along Headley Chase.

#### Armley Moor

3.15. The S106 greenspace funding which is required to support the refurbishment of the moor is still awaiting sign off. This work has been delayed while legal issues have been resolved in relation to some specific elements that the funding is to be used for. A detailed survey has also taken place to finalise the scheme costs and bills of quantities. Due to the construction of the existing pathways, there is more cost involved in resurfacing them than first thought. However, work is nearing a conclusion to finalise the detailed works at which time the S106 funding will be formally signed off. Work is expected to commence on site later in the year.

#### Town Centre Manager (TCM), Armley

##### Empty Units Town Street

3.16. Many of the units are now let on Town Street, most recently charity shops have opened. The Armley TCM has had dialogue with various letting agents who have properties in Armley to see if there is scope for new business start ups to negotiate favourable rents. In most cases there has been positive a response.

##### Budget

3.17. The TCM budget has been fully allocated and spent. There are some possibilities to lever in private funding as some companies are more willing to sponsor events, but most prefer offering manpower or goods, and not monetary contributions.

## Keep Armley Tidy

3.18. There are plans to run further 'Keep Armley Tidy' education events in other schools in the town of Armley. The plan is to liaise with the Environmental Action Team (EAT) to do deliver an educational programme along with the poster design competition. The first trial of this was a big success and the poster looked very well on the billboard when it was put up.

## Business Forum

3.19. The TCM continues to run meetings where businesses are invited along to contribute and share any information. The forum serves as a way of gauging local businesses' opinions on certain issues and gaining feedback and intelligence on what is happening in the town.

## Events

3.20. All the events for this year have been held and were very well attended, when the weather permitted. Armley Common Rights Trust were very instrumental in helping with these events. Unfortunately due to some unforeseen expenses such as paying for the billboard poster, the TCM could not run the summer celebration event.

## Littering

3.21. This continues to be one of Armley's main issues. The cleanliness of Armley Town Street seems to be a little unpredictable. Cigarette butts seem to be one of the biggest issues the town faces.

## Street Drinking

3.22. Many shops and shoppers are continually complaining about the number of people they see drinking in the street. The police have been made aware and will take appropriate measures if anyone is caught with opened containers of alcohol.

## Speeding

3.23. This continues to be a problem at the bottom end of Town Street near to the One Stop Shop and Stocks Hill. The Police have done some work to address this issue; however it continues to be a problem.

## Health and Wellbeing Team, Adult Social Care

3.24. The Health Improvement Officer (HIO) has promoted the Be Healthy Challenge child led Fun Days at the Healthy Schools meeting. The Armley cluster is to be offered staff training from the HIO in partnership with NHS Leeds for events to run in September / October. The HIO has also co-trained staff in some schools in the Bramley cluster on the Be Healthy Challenge for events to be run before the school year end. There has been some initial interest from some schools in the Armley cluster; this will be progressed after the summer holidays.

West Leeds Sport Development Unit, Learning and Leisure

3.25. The coaching scholarship has received a number of completed applications from the inner west area; a final decision on the successful applicants will be made by the end of August.

3.26. Summer holiday activities are taking place at:

- Armley Leisure Centre – Leeds United coaching and junior bodyline sessions.
- Bramley Leisure Centre
- Esprit Gymnastics holiday programme
- Stanningley Rugby League holiday camp
- Support of West Leeds Rugby Union Football Club open day

The Active Women programme

3.27. The Active Women programme is a 10 week project which is currently being implemented at Armley Leisure Centre. The project allows women to access an off peak bodyline card for a one off nominal cost of £5.00. The project caters for 15 women and at present the project is full to capacity with weekly sessions allowing women to experience new sports such as netball, football, badminton etc but also allows them to be able to access the swimming pool, fitness classes and the gym any time before 4pm during the week and all day on a weekend.

3.28. The project has been successful at engaging the target number of 15 women. A number of women have reported weight loss and better mental health, especially around confidence and self esteem. The project will be continuing over a 3 year period as there is funding from Sport England to support the project. The next project is due to start on the 8<sup>th</sup> September. If you know of anyone who may be interested in the sessions or you would like any more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

West North West Environmental Action Team

Armley hotspots

3.29. The following areas have been identified as hotspots; the Laurels area for flytipping, Little Scotlands, Salisburys's, Gilpins and Cedars for fly tipping and litter, and Raynville Crescent and Road for littering.

3.30. In Armley flytipping is a particular problem especially around bin yards. In the last two-three months Armley has had clean up days and various pieces of probation work to help tackle some of these issues within the area. Partnership working with Police has been organised for the following months as part of the Armley Burglary Reduction Campaign.

Bramley Hotspots

3.31. The following areas have been identified as hotspots; Broadlea Grove, Terrace and Hill and Summerfield Road and Terrace for litter, Hough Lane for fly tipping and litter,

Cockshott Lane and the Astons neighbourhood for litter, Westover Road back and road for fly tipping and Town Street for litter.

3.32. Stanningley Road – the full length of Stanningley Road for litter.

Teenage Pregnancy Locality Co-ordinator West Leeds, Children Leeds Commissioning Team

Bramley Cluster Action Plan

3.33. The Sexual Health/Teenage Pregnancy part of the action plan for Bramley cluster is in draft format and will be submitted by the 9<sup>th</sup> September. It includes actions to support pregnant teenagers/teenage mothers and fathers and key areas of prevention work. The 3 obsessions are incorporated into this part of the plan. The plan runs from September 2011-september 2012. Work has already begun on delivering to this plan. Tracy Wade, Children's Centre Manager at Hollybush is the cluster partnership lead for this work. Tracy will be taking over as chair of the Teenage Pregnancy tasking group on 28<sup>th</sup> September.

Young People's Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan for West

3.34. This plan is in draft and will be consulted on over the summer. The completed version should be ready to publish in October as planned. This will feed into the work of the Child Friendly City- Rights and Responsibilities group. The plan should have been successfully delivered by April 2012.

Events

3.35. A family health day is being held at Hollybush Children's Centre on the 19<sup>th</sup> August. This is to provide holistic health advice and information including sexual health and contraception. An access to contraception event led by young women is booked for the 1<sup>st</sup> September at Interplay. This is to raise awareness of and access to contraception and sexual health services. An activity based event led by young men is expected to take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> November supported by the Youth Service. This event is to discuss tackling barriers to access as young men are less likely to access health/sexual health services than young women.

The Sexual Health Mystery Shop

3.36. Outer West Youth Service is supporting the shop over the summer holidays as planned and a report should be available end of October/early November.

Sex and Relationships Education

3.37. Progress with Leeds West Academy and Swallow Hill in terms of Sex and Relationships Education is being made, and targeted support for those most at risk will be reviewed in September.

3.38. The 'Girls Talk' transitions programme has been delivered to Hollybush, Raynville and Whitecote schools and has evaluated well. Provision for boys will form part of the cluster action plan. Armley cluster are interested in commissioning some similar provision.

## Children's Commissioning Team

3.39. Support from the Locality Co-ordinator for Inner West will reduce to one day per week from October and will be reviewed in April. The aim is that delivery to the teenage pregnancy part of the Bramley cluster action plan will be on track at this point.

## Unemployment

3.40. The following information is taken from the Leeds Unemployment Bulletin – Monthly Update, June 2011, which provides an update on Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) claimants in Leeds as of May 2011.

3.41. The report states that Leeds has the second lowest JSA claimant rate of the eight Core Cities. When compared to the previous year, the JSA claimant count in Leeds has decreased at a faster rate than all of the core cities.

3.42. 59% of JSA claimants in Leeds are aged between 25 and 49, with 27% aged between 18 and 24. Those aged 50 and above account for 13% of claimants and 0.2% are under 18. There has been very little change in the proportion of claimants per age group compared to the previous month and year.

3.43. The ten localities with the highest JSA claimant rates (12.3% to 22.0%) are in the wards of: Chapel Allerton, Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton & Harehills, Armley, and City & Hunslet, Armley does not feature in the top five.

## Leeds City Credit Union, Armley Credit Union

3.44. Armley Credit Union, an initiative supported by the Inner West Area Committee, continues to grow. In the first quarter of 2011/12 (April – June 2011) there were 84 new adult members and 7 new junior members. This is comparable with 79 new adult members in the same period last year and 11 new junior members. The majority of new membership is from the postcode areas of LS12 2 (Upper Armley / the Aviaries), followed by LS13 2 (Moorside / Sandfords).

## **4. Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1. Consultation and Engagement**

4.1.1. Community forums are held on a monthly basis in Armley and bi-monthly in Bramley within Inner West Leeds to inform communities.

4.1.2. Ward Members are consulted on projects and initiatives within their ward on matters relating to the Area Management Team's work programme and locality priorities.

### **4.2. Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

4.2.1. This section is not applicable to this report.



### **4.3. Council Policies and City Priorities**

4.3.1. The Area Committee Functions and Priority Advisory Functions were approved by the Executive Board in June 2009, this approval was rolled forward to 2010/11, and rolled forward again to 2011/12 with amendments only to environmental delegations.

4.3.2. The Area Functions are included in the Council's Constitution (Part 3, section 3C).

4.3.3. Area Management Team's work programme contributes at a local level to the themes contained in the:

- Vision for Leeds
- Leeds Strategic Plan
- Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan
- Children and Young People's Plan
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
- Regeneration City Priority Plan

### **4.4. Resources and Value for Money**

4.4.1. Programmes of work outlined in this report are resourced in the main by Area Management staff and where relevant their partners which in turn provides value for money.

4.4.2. In order to meet the Area Committee's functions (see Council's Constitution Part 3, section 3C), funding is available via Well Being budgets and the Community Centres Budget.

4.4.3. In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council Departments main stream budgets, and external partner agencies for example the Police and Primary Care Trust, which is in turn reflected in the fact that the Area Committee's role here is to influence, develop and consult. However, on occasion, wellbeing funding has resourced some projects related to its roles, for example community engagement, area based regeneration schemes and conservation area reviews.

### **4.5. Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

4.5.1. This report is the report of the Area Leader for West North West Leeds who has delegated responsibility to action decisions in accordance with Area Management's work programme in accordance with part 3 of the Council's Constitution in relation to Area Committee Functions.

4.5.2. This report is not confidential, neither is it, or part of it exempt.

4.5.3. This report is subject to Call-In as the Area Committee's functions are delegated Executive ones.

## **4.6. Risk Management**

4.6.1. There are no significant risks identified in this report.

## **5. Conclusions**

5.1. In conclusion, the Area Update report is in line with the functions and role of the Area Committee which are:

- 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.

## **6. Recommendations**

6.1. Inner West Area Committee members are invited to note the contents of the report, comment on any matters raised and suggest items for inclusion in future Area Update reports.

## **7. Background documents**

7.1. None