

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

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

**Date: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 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) Recognise the Morley Town Centre Management Board constitution and approve the transfer of Well being funding, previously paid to Morley Town Council into the Boards new bank account.
  - c) Agree for the balance in the Participatory Budgeting costcode to be transferred into the revenue Well being budget.

## **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 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 minutes from the meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011 will be agreed at the next Area Chairs Forum on the 11<sup>th</sup> November and be presented at the December Area Committee for Members information.

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

### 4.1 Community Centres Sub Committee

- 4.1.1 5.1.1 The Outer South Community Centres Sub Committee last met on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2011. The minutes (**Appendix 1**) and work programme (**Appendix 2**) are presented for Members information. The next meeting is planned for Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011

### 4.2 Morley Town Centre Management Board

- 4.2.1 The Morley Town Centre Management Board met on the 29<sup>th</sup> July, 9<sup>th</sup> September and 30<sup>th</sup> September. The minutes are attached at **Appendices 3, 4 and 5** respectively.
- 4.2.2 Morley Town Council, Morley Chamber of Trade and the Board have approved a constitution for the Morley Town Centre Management Board. The new governance arrangements include the board having their own bank account, enabling them to apply for funding. Members are asked to recognise this constitution, attached at **Appendix 6** and approve that the Well being funding, previously paid to Morley Town Council to support town centre work as agreed by the Board, be transferred into the new bank account.

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

- 4.3.1 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.

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

#### 5.1 Children Leeds South Leadership Team

- 5.1.1 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 **Updates by Theme: Safer and Stronger Communities Board**

#### 6.1 Environmental Services Delegation

- 6.1.1 Progress with the delegation of environmental services to Area Committees is progressing, with all three Service Levels Agreements for the South and Outer East Locality Area approved at the last round of Area Committees. Environment Sub-Groups have been convened under the new arrangements, minutes from the Outer South Environmental Sub Group held on the 21<sup>st</sup> September are attached for information at **Appendix 7**.
- 6.1.2 Redesigned mechanical cleansing routes were implemented from 5th September and so far feedback from staff and Elected Members has been, with a few exceptions, positive. As planned the additional capacity days have given the service extra capacity to deal with reported issues more quickly and this should be reflected in our response times in future. When issues about the cleansing schedules have been raised we have resolved them quickly. For example, where the issue of the lack of litter picking in Ardsley and Robin Hood Ward was raised, a service proposal was presented to the Outer Environment Sub-Group to allocate resources to that area; this was agreed and is now operational.
- 6.1.3 Partnership working is also progressing following the establishment of an Integrated Environmental Services Group by the Area Leader, with positive discussions involving Aire Valley Homes and Parks and Countryside taking place. The principle of using our combined on-the-ground resources across structural boundaries is now yielding practical results. For example, Environmental Services have agreed to support an intensive clean-up in one area, and in return Aire Valley Homes have offered to spray weeds and support the service in Morley Town Centre.
- 6.1.4 The programme of work to deliver on the commitments framed in the SLA is developing. This includes work to audit and validate litter bin information, to develop our approach to clearing ginnels and widening the range of agencies that can use enforcement powers, especially in relation to dog fouling. The Locality Team will report back on progress to the December Area Committee.

## 6.2 Conservation Audits

6.2.1 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 planned for Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November (awaiting final confirmation). The meeting will be fully advertised with a press release, posters and a mailing to all properties within the areas of proposed boundary change.

6.2.2 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.

## 6.3 Grounds Maintenance Update

Since the last update to the October 2010 Area Committee, the following has been achieved by the Grounds Maintenance Contract Monitoring Team;

- Written the Contract Documentation and presented the Tender to the market.
- Through a competitive process we have awarded the Grounds maintenance contract based on 50% quality evaluation & 50 % price evaluation
- Awarded the contract to Continental Landscapes.
- New Contract to commence 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012
- Currently mobilising for the new arrangements and de-mobilising the Glendale & ATM contracts concurrently.
- From 1<sup>st</sup> January there will be 5 Client Departments including
  - Belle Isle Tenant Management Organisation
  - Aire Valley Homes, Leeds
  - West North West Homes Leeds
  - East North East Homes Leeds
  - Highways Services
- From 1<sup>st</sup> January – for those Town & Parish councils that wish to contribute to monitoring of the contract in their own areas are encouraged to do so.

Key differences between current arrangements (Glendale contract & ATM contract) and the new arrangements – from 1<sup>st</sup> January ( Continental Landscapes ) are as follows:

<b>Current (old arrangements ie Glendale / ATM)</b>	<b>Continental Contract ( from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012)</b>
Amenity grass, cut and fly, 13 times per annum, cut height 50mm	Amenity grass, cut and fly, 13 times per annum, cut height 25mm
Motorway Junctions, cut & fly, 8 times per annum, cut height 100mm	Primary Network Class 1, cut & fly, 6 times per annum, cut height 100mm (including traffic management)
	Primary Network Class 2, cut & fly, 3 times per annum, cut height 100mm (including traffic management)

Amenity Grass (Enhanced– some sheltered homes), cut & fly, upto 32 times per annum, cut height 25mm	<b>*Removed from contract*</b> All areas to be cut as Amenity grass as above.
Rough grass (Linear) , cut and fly, 3 times per annum, cut height 100mm	Rough grass (Linear) , cut and fly, 3 times per annum, cut height 100mm
Rough grass (Urban) , cut and fly, upto 3 times per annum, cut height 100mm	Rough grass (Urban) , cut and fly, 3 times per annum, cut height 100mm
Sightline grass (rural roads) , cut and fly, upto 3 times per annum, cut height 100mm	Sightline grass (rural roads) , cut and fly, 3 times per annum, cut height 100mm
Shrub beds, prune; Once per annum	Rose beds & Shrub beds; prune, weed and delitter, fork over, edge off, and apply herbicide ; all twice per annum.
Shrub beds, weed & delitter, fork over, edge off; 4 times per annum	
Shrub Beds , apply residual herbicide, once per annum	
Rose beds prune ; twice per annum	
Rose beds, weed and delitter; each month	
Privet Hedges, prune upto 3 times per annum	All hedges prune 3 times per annum
All other hedges prune twice per annum	

#### 6.4 Participatory Budgeting

6.4.1 The Area Committee have supported four participatory budgeting (PB) initiatives in the Outer South since 2008. Ongoing monitoring has been undertaken of both the projects and the budgets.

6.4.2 In June 2011, Area Management met with the previous Rothwell Families Project Coordinator to receive a further update regarding the Carers Forum Project that was awarded a £500 grant under the Wood Lane PB initiative. The funding was awarded in 2009 to the Rose Farm Day Centre and due to staffing issues, the project has not progressed any further. Over the two years, no alternative group/organisation have been identified with the capacity to continue this work and submit a revised proposal. Therefore Area Management recommend that this 2009 project be closed the £500 be transferred into the Area Committee's revenue Well being Budget. Following Members agreement, Well being report and appendix 1 will be updated to reflect this change.

6.4.3 If any constituted group in the future expressed an interest to support a scheme of a similar nature, an application to the Outer South Area Committee Small Grant could be submitted for consideration by Members.

6.4.4 In June 2009, Groundwork secured £2,109 funding from the Lofthouse 'Bright Ideas' participatory budgeting decision day to undertake work on Lofthouse estate. In conjunction with Ward Members and Area Management, Groundwork developed a proposal for £1,109 to undertake a consultation exercise aiming to strengthen residents involvement in decision making and gauge whether there is significant interest to move forward ideas for future improvements on the estate. The consultation was completed but meetings arranged by Aire Valley Homes and Members to engage and involve residents were not successful. Therefore Area Management recommend that the balance remaining from the original allocation be transferred into the Area Committee's revenue Well being Budget. Following Members agreement, the Well being report and appendix 1 will be updated to reflect this change.

## 6.5 Deployment of Morley Speed Indicator Device

6.5.1 Members approved £2,516.58 capital Well being funding to Morley NPT at the September 2010 Area Committee to purchase a Speed Indicator Device (SID). The SID has been deployed 56 times since January 2011 and 371 speed notification letters have been sent to speeding motorists. The device is used in response to complaints from public meetings such as PACT where communities are involved in setting local priorities. In August 2011, the SID was used to support the Newlands and Denshaws TARA to address residents concerns of speeding traffic outside the bus shelter on Wide Lane opposite the entrance to Newlands Drive and recently the SID was deployed everyday for a week in September on Wakefield Road, Drighlington, following complaints from local residents. In areas where speeding has been found as an issue, Morley NPT undertake follow up work with pro laser enforcement.

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

7.1 The South East Health and Well being partnership met on the 29<sup>th</sup> September. The minutes will be presented at the December Area Committee.

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

### 8.1 Town and District Centre Regeneration Scheme

#### 8.1.1 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.

## **9 Joseph Priestley College**

9.1 An update on the merger of Joseph Priestley College with Leeds City College is attached at **Appendix 8** For Members information.

## **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) Recognise the Morley Town Centre Management Board constitution and approve the transfer of Well being funding, previously paid to Morley Town Council into the Boards new bank account.
  - c) Agree for the balance in the Participatory Budgeting costcode to be transferred into the revenue Well being budget.

## **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, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011
- 13.4 Area Committee Well Being Report, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011
- 13.5 Conservation Area Reviews 10<sup>th</sup> September 2007