

Report of the South East Area Leader

Report to Outer East Area Committee

Date: 20 March 2012

Subject: Summary of Key Work

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Garforth & Swillington Kippax & Methley Temple Newsam Cross Gates & Whinmoor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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. The report will detail priority work carried out in the area over recent weeks.
2. The report will provide minutes relating to recent community forums and engagement activities, partnership and sub-group minutes and minutes of Area Chairs (that will be presented on the day).
3. The report will provide details of key issues affecting the Outer East area.

Recommendations

4. Area Committee will be requested to note the report and raise any queries.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The report will provide Area Committee with details of key issues and activities in recent months including project work and community engagement.
- 1.2 The report will provide Members with minutes relating to recent community forums and engagement activities, sub group and partnership meetings and minutes of Area Chairs meetings.

2 Background information

- 2.1 In 2011/12 Area Committee approved a Business Plan with a focus on community engagement, partnership work, functions delegated to Area Committee, integrated working and locality working. This report will update Area Committee on priority work, including project work and community engagement as well as key issues for discussion.
- 2.2 The report will include relevant attachments such as community forum minutes, partnership minutes etc.

3 Main issues

3.1 Garforth Car Parking Strategy

- 3.1.1 As part of the Council's review of car parking in its town and district centres a strategy for Garforth was developed in late 2011. Highways are now liaising with partners to agree funding and dates for introduction of the schemes.
- 3.1.2 A meeting was to be held with Aire Valley Homes, Highways and Area Support on Monday March 5th to decide whether to demolish all or some of the garages in Main Street Car Park. If demolition is approved it will increase parking capacity in the area.
- 3.1.3 Area Support and Highways are to meet to agree the preferred timetable for implementing all other aspects of the strategy.
- 3.1.4 There is a request today for Members to approve £5,000 from the Wellbeing budget to support this project.

3.2 Grafton Villas Long Footpath

- 3.2.1 This particular long footpath/ginnel in Cross Gates has suffered from regular crime and ASB over a number of years with many residents that live along the footpath demanding its closure. Initially closure was sought under the CROW Act (Countryside & Rights of Way). This proved difficult to secure and therefore the alternative option of gating the footpath and providing keys to residents was put forward as a viable solution.
- 3.2.2 A recent consultation exercise with local residents was overwhelmingly supported. A planning application has now been submitted and Highways recently started

removing the york stone and tarmac the footpath; the area was cleared of weeds and litter by the Community Payback Team.

3.2.3 It is anticipated that subject to planning approval the project will be completed in the second week of May 2012.

3.3 White Laithe Shops (Whinmoor)

3.3.1 Security at the White Laithe shops has been a problem for several years. Safer Leeds have recently carried out consultation in the area which agreed problems would be lessened through installation of security gates to the alley way beside the NISA store.

3.3.2 The gate being funded by Area Committee on condition it is locked unlocked daily and the store owner is responsible for management and maintenance of the gate.

3.3.3 The planning decision is expected in early April after which it will take around a week to make and install the gate and so it is likely to be also be completed in May.

3.4 Community Payback

3.4.1 Area Committee has agreed funding support for Community Payback projects in the Outer East area for 2011/12.

3.4.2 The number of Community Payback referrals has increased over recent weeks and the service had received 54 referrals by March 2012.

3.4.3 Projects for this period have ranged from litter picking at Cock Beck to flower tub painting in Mickfield, decorating at Colton Primary School and litter picking around Garforth Academy.

3.5 Recycling and energy recovery facility

3.5.1 At the request of local Ward Members a public meeting was held at Halton Moor Community Centre to discuss plans for a Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility at the former Wholesale Market site.

3.5.2 A leaflet drop was carried out to ensure people living near the site were aware of the meeting. They were also invited to provide questions in advance which would be answered at the meeting.

3.5.3 Questions submitted were used as the framework for the talk from Veolia and LCC Waste Management. The questions were also displayed at the meeting so the audience could be confident they received comprehensive answers.

3.5.4 Minutes of the meeting are attached as **Appendix 1**.

3.6 Environmental Services Delegation

3.6.1 The service level agreement with Environmental Services was approved by Area Committee at its meeting held in September 2011.

3.6.2 The Locality Working team for South Outer East dealt with 527 requests from 6th October 2011 – 29th February 2012. The SOE Team have provided the following information for Members:

- 49% of these requests were proactively identified by the officers whilst on patrol thereby resolving issues before they impacted on the community.
- Patrols of all areas are undertaken by the officers on a daily basis with officers calling in to local housing offices and community centres to show a visible presence to residents and pick up any environmental issues.
- Officers regularly attend forums and residents meetings across the committee area.
- 63 Legal notices were served by the team including:
 - 38 for waste in gardens and other domestic waste issues. 5 for commercial waste issues. 9 for obstruction or damage of the highway. 2 for prevention of damage by pests.
 - Fixed Penalty notices were issued for: 3 littering offences, 5 dog fouling and 5 litter in gardens.
 - A resident of Halton Moor was prosecuted for flytipping on the estate and received a fine and costs totalling £315. Three other prosecutions have been submitted to court and are awaiting hearings.
 - Work with Community payback has resulted in a number of ginnels and other pieces of miscellaneous land across the wards being cleared and cut back. The areas of Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe have particularly benefited recently from some intensive work.
 - All enforcement officers are now fully trained and able to enforce Dog Control Orders, including dog fouling, dog exclusion zones and dogs on leads in prescribed areas.
 - Our street cleaning teams are now trained to report incidents of environmental crime, fly tipping, bins left on streets, illegal advertising etc. to their colleagues in enforcement. Thus providing a more proactive and joined up service.

3.7 Biannual Meeting of Tasking Chairs

3.7.1 The Tasking Chairs and senior Police covering East and North East Wards meet on a biannual basis to discuss issues and agree projects for the coming months.

- 3.7.2 Each tasking area will annually undertake a minimum of four Police led multi-agency initiatives to combat crime and grime through Operation Champion. Rather than having annually fixed dates, the Operations will take place as and when appropriate so that they can more effectively solve problems and local issues.
- 3.7.3 The Operation Confidence surveys between the Police and the Community will be reduced to twice yearly from April 2012. The process will be reviewed at the end of the year and, if affordable, it is anticipated it will probably return to 3 times a year in 2013/14.
- 3.7.4 Tasking meeting dates will continue to be determined by the Police's Central Intelligence Unit and will continue to run in the current form.

3.8 Community Engagement

3.8.1 The following community forums recently met:

- Garforth & Swillington Forum 24th January 2012 – The minutes attached as **Appendix 2**
- Swarcliffe Forum 1st February 2012 – The minutes are attached as **Appendix 3**

3.9 Area Chairs Meeting

3.9.1 The Area Committee Chairs meeting was held on the 5th March. The minutes will be distributed on the day of the meeting.

3.10 Olympic Torch Route

- 3.10.1 Area Committee approved funding to support school cluster involvement with the Olympic torch's arrival in Leeds.
- 3.10.2 All School Clusters in the area have been notified of the opportunity and one has already prepared a full programme of events. Clusters will acknowledge local Councillors providing funding in any promotion/publicity surrounding their projects.
- 3.10.3 Area Support is attending a meeting to discuss detail of the Torch Route and the celebration which is to be held in Temple Newsam Park.

3.11 Partnerships and Area Committee Sub Groups

- 3.11.1 **Environmental sub-group.** In the absence of Cllr Mitchell the role of Chair has temporarily been passed to Cllr Murray. The Environmental sub-group has agreed to meet for one hour before each Area Committee meeting. The notes of the meeting held on the 14th of February 2012 are attached as **Appendix 4.**
- 3.11.2 The main item considered by the sub-group is Service Level Agreement 2 for 2012/13. There is a separate item on today's agenda to discuss this in more detail.
- 3.11.3 **Divisional Community Safety Partnership.** The next meeting of the DCSP is to

be held on 23rd March 2012. The Minutes of the last meeting held on the 15th of December are attached as **Appendix 5**.

3.11.4 **Health & Well Being Partnership.** The South East Health and Well Being Partnership met on the 26th January 2012. The minutes were not available at the time of mail out.

3.12 Halton Moor – Wyke Beck Valley Pride

3.12.1 The work to improve this site in Halton Moor has now started. The main improvements have been or will be:

- § Upgrades to the paths including cutting back the edges and resurfacing with bitmac; the majority of the paths will be resurfaced but particular focus will be given to the main path which forms part of the Wyke Beck Way cycle way.
- § The old damaged metal structures on the path down from Cartmell Drive will be removed and the path will be resurfaced with bitmac as the stones are now uneven and a number are damaged. The area around the paths will be grass seeded as will be semi circle where the old play are used to be.
- § Woodland management and thinning of trees. Parks & Countyside(P&C) have done quite a bit of thinning work with volunteers in the area, however, more substantial cutting needs to be done by a contractor. P&C's Natural Habitat Manager has worked closely with Groundwork to identify trees that need cutting back.
- § The main entrance to the valley from Cartmell Drive will be tidied up but there will be no significant improvements as it is part of a development site.
- § The 2 access points to the Levens will be repaired and the gates painted.

3.12.2 The Project Coordinator is organising volunteer groups to help out whilst the work is ongoing. The kind of work they assist with will be clearing the edging of some of the paths, thinning of trees and grubbing out, painting the gym equipment and access points.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 The community forums outlined in section 3.8 and the public meeting in 3.5 form the main part of the Area Committee's face-to-face community engagement strategy that is incorporated into its Business Plan.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 Under equality legislation the Council has a legal duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate and promote equality in relation to race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and religion or belief.

4.2.2 The main section of this report provides details of activities around community engagement and the delegation of environmental services to Area Committees that support this legal duty.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The proposals contained within this report contribute to the existing targets and priorities set out in the Council's Policy Framework in the following plans:

- Safer & Stronger Communities Plan
- Children & Young Peoples Plan
- Health & Well Being City Priority Plan

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 There are no resource implications as a result of this report other than funding that has previously been agreed by Area Committee from its respective capital and revenue budgets.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

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

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

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 This report provides an update on project work and key issues in Outer East. Any projects funded from the Well Being Budget complete a section identifying risks and solutions as part of the application process.

5 Conclusions

5.1 The report provides up to date information on key work and key issues for Area committee to consider. Members are requested to note the content of the report and raise queries relating to issues raised within the report.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Area Committee is requested to note the content of the report and raise queries relating to the report.

7 Background documents

7.1 Outer East Area Committee report – Local Authority appointments to outside bodies July 2011

7.2 Outer East Area Committee Business Plan report July 2011.

7.3 Well Being report February 2012.