

Report of Area Leader-South East Leeds

Report to South Leeds (Outer) Area Committee

Date: Monday 2nd July 2012

Subject: Priority Neighbourhood Worker –Outer South

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Ardsley & Robin Hood Rothwell Morley North Morley South
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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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

To provide Members with a six month update on the Priority Neighbourhood Worker (PNW) project from September 2011 to March 2012 as part of the Wellbeing funding monitoring process (**Appendix 1**).

To report on the arrangements to recruit to the vacant PNW post following the resignation of Nicky Greening, with effect 22nd June 2012.

Building on the successful Outer South Priority Neighbourhood Worker project the report outlines the development of a new programme of work which will incorporate the health and community safety themes. Members are asked to consider a proposal to address some of the ongoing issues by developing a new model of working in priority neighbourhoods.

Recommendations

Members of the Outer South Area Committee are requested to:

- a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate
- b) Agree a further 3 year term for the Priority Neighbourhood Worker Project from March 2013
- c) Consider and agree to the development of the proposal outlined in the report.

1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To provide Members with a six month update on the Priority Neighbourhood Worker (PNW) project from September 2011 to March 2012 as part of the Wellbeing funding monitoring process (**Appendix 1**).
- 1.2 To report on the arrangements to recruit to the vacant post following the resignation of Nicky Greening, with effect 22nd June 2012.
- 1.3 Building on the successful Outer South Priority Neighbourhood Worker project the report outlines the development of a programme of work which will incorporate the health and community safety themes. Members are asked to consider a proposal to address some of the ongoing issues by developing a new model of working in priority neighbourhoods.

2.0 Background information

- 2.1 In September 2008, the Area Committee renewed its commitment to supporting deprived neighbourhoods by approving a revised programme of Neighbourhood Improvement Plan (NIPs) and three years funding for a Priority Neighbourhood Worker (PNW).
- 2.2 Members received a full evaluation of the Priority Neighbourhood Worker and the 2008-11 NIP programme at the March 2011 Area Committee, and agreed to extend the PNW project for a further two years to 31st March 2013, subject to annual Executive Board approval of future Well being Budgets.
- 2.3 The role of the PNW had always involved developing community empowerment and the capacity of residents to organise and represent their area. This work includes supporting residents with training and developing their role in planning, organising and managing their own community initiatives and projects. In September 2008, Members recognised that beyond the NIP a stronger and more robust agreement was required to define this ongoing critical work. The 'Supported Area' was developed and agreed as a means to achieve this.
- 2.4 In Sept 2012 the PNW became a shared resource with the Inner South Area Committee. The PNW currently works 3 days in the Outer Area and 2 days in the Inner. The work in the Inner area involves leading the Cottingley Neighbourhood Improvement Plan which commenced in May 2012 and providing support and guidance to the Tenants & Residents Association Cottingley (TRAC), developing

capacity of residents to organise and represent their area, including supporting residents with training and developing their role in planning, organising and managing their community initiatives and projects.

- 2.5 The final Outer South Neighbourhood Improvement Plans in Springbank and Moorlands and Asquith and Ingles in Morley North are now completed. This provides an opportunity to review the project and consider the development of new work based on the successful elements of the PNW.
- 2.6 Officer discussions have recognised the success of the project to date in supporting residents, improving their capacity to provide leadership in their communities and the ongoing need to support local resident groups in key neighbourhoods. By developing a rolling programme of work it is planned to secure the progress made to date, while developing resident groups to address priority issues in their area. This will involve residents supported by the PNW developing partnership work, with the Health & Well-being Improvement Manager and Area Community Safety Co-ordinator.

3.0 Six Monthly Monitoring Update

- 3.1 The attached monitoring report (**Appendix 1**) has been written by the Priority Neighbourhood Worker and outlines achievements of the project September 2011 – March 2012.

4.0 Future Working

- 4.1 To develop a new programme of work focusing on priority neighbourhoods in each of the Outer South Wards.
- 4.2 The neighbourhoods will selected from the former NIP programme and will be decided by the Area Committee.
- 4.3 Outlined below is a summary of future key work that is dependant on the PNW to deliver:
 - Establish a network of volunteers from the local communities who have an interest in health and wellbeing
 - Establish information and support sessions
 - Identify training needs of volunteers
 - Signpost residents to a range of local health and wellbeing activities
 - Build capacity of groups to deliver new model ways of working that can potentially be replicated across the city
 - To be active in promoting campaigns to communities in the Outer South

5.0 Health and Wellbeing

- 5.1 Leeds JSNA Statistics have identified health issues associated with higher levels of deprivation within the four priority neighbourhoods. These include obesity, poor diet, and alcohol misuse, smoking, coronary heart disease, cancers and neoplasms.
- 5.2 One of the areas identified within the South East Health and Wellbeing Partnership Priorities Plan is the need to improve communications, community engagement and community capacity building in order to enhance community knowledge of healthy lifestyles and increase awareness of health and wellbeing services within the area.
- 5.3 Within the City Health and Well - Being priorities there is an identified need to enable people who are the poorest to improve their health the fastest. By building health capacity and maximising resources the community engagement programme, which includes community capacity building, will help reduce the health inequalities gap.
- 5.4 The purpose of the community capacity building project is to encourage local communities to engage with the health and wellbeing agenda. The main aim is to enhance capacity within the local community through the use of community health champions with a view to empowering the individual and the community so that they can increase responsibility and control for their own health and that of the people around them.
- 5.5 The project will recruit volunteers from the local community who have an interest in health and wellbeing. The volunteers would attend short information sessions to learn more about a variety of health and wellbeing issues that could affect themselves, their family, their friends and the wider community. Information on lifestyle issues, such as smoking, alcohol, healthy eating and physical activity, along with the wider wellbeing issues of financial inclusion and fuel poverty would be introduced through a series of training sessions aimed at providing key health and wellbeing messages to be passed onto the community and also to support signposting to a range of local health and wellbeing activities.
- 5.6 In order to aid the development of the community health champions and allow shared learning it is envisaged that forums would be established in key neighbourhoods in Outer South. It is expected that this will contribute to work being developed in the south east and link to an overarching network group for the wedge.
- 5.7 This extension to community capacity building programmes has been successful in many cities throughout the United Kingdom. The main outcome of all the programmes has been community empowerment in health and wellbeing. An evaluation of the Community Health Champion role, which was led by Judy White from Leeds Metropolitan University, revealed a solid body of evidence on the benefits of engaging community members in promoting health and many cities have successfully adopted a flexible health champion approach to put in place a model of empowerment.

6.0 Community Safety

- 6.1 The aim of the role would be to develop new ways of working with communities that reduce the likelihood of them becoming victims of crime.
- 6.2 The community safety issues to be addressed by the role will be agreed in a number of ways:
- Crime data for each of the neighbourhoods will be used to identify any particular crime concerns to be addressed. If there is a crime that is higher than average or of particular concern to the communities, we will look to see how work can be done with residents to alleviate its impact or to prevent it happening
 - Whilst numbers of burglaries are generally low in all four Outer South wards, burglary remains a priority for the city. Examining the data will identify if there are any particular concerns or hotspots in the neighbourhoods to be targeted. Even if there are no hotspots, the proposed change in the PNW role presents an opportunity to develop a model of working with communities to disseminate burglary reduction and other messages. The work would link to the citywide Burglary Reduction Promotions and Communications Delivery Plan
 - The South Leeds Alcohol Harm Reduction Plan has a number of themes relating to the health and community safety impact of alcohol in local communities. Issues to be addressed include encouraging the reporting of alcohol related ASB and underage alcohol sales for example. The Alcohol and Community Safety group also has plans to develop a series of co-ordinated campaigns during November 2012 to address the interlinked issues of alcohol and domestic violence.
- 6.3 The PNW role will build on the capacity of the groups to model ways of working that can potentially be replicated across the city. This would look to move beyond approaches that “give” information to communities and work out how best to really influence change in people’s behaviour. The proposed role would explore the best fit in terms of each locality to share information that people can then share with others that promotes change and reduces the risk of them becoming a victim of burglary or other crime type.
- 6.4 16 Day of Action to reduce violence against women and National Alcohol Awareness Week – November 2012. These two campaigns are run independently of one another until now. Both take place during November so there is an opportunity to harmonise them and deliver some overlapping messages to raise awareness of the harm of both and support available. The PNW could have a role in working with community groups to develop the messages and them to deliver them.

7.0 Management

- 7.1 The PNW would continue to be employed by Health for All and managed by the South East Area Support Team. The current work programme provides the PNW with a clear plan of work, agreed by the Area Committee and would be revised in the light of the changes reported here and proposals to develop role to incorporate three days a week to support targeted work in the Outer South Leeds. South East

Support Team would manage this work to ensure that the PNW time is split between Inner and Outer South.

8.0 Benefits

8.1 The following are some benefits which have been identified if the new approach is developed

- Communities better engaged in health and wellbeing agenda
- Residents take on responsibility and have better control of their health and wellbeing
- Increased awareness and knowledge of health and Wellbeing themes giving residents the opportunity to make better lifestyle choices
- Better uptake of Health and Well-being services and activities
- Communities' awareness raised of community safety themes reducing the likelihood of them becoming victims of crime
- Effectively delivery of key messages and current crime concerns passed on to communities within the Outer South
- Awareness raised with residents of harm and support services available through campaigns and promotion of interlinking issues.

9.0 Corporate Considerations

9.1 Consultation and Engagement

9.1.1 This report is a product of consultation with Members, residents and partners and presents a proposal for Members to consider.

9.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

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

9.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

9.3.1 The work outlined in this report contributes to targets and priorities set out in the following council policies.

- Vision for Leeds
- Children and Youth People Plan
- Health and Well being City Priority Plan
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
- Regeneration Priority Plan.

10 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 10.1 Legal implications as a result of this report will be reflected in any subsequent Funding Agreements and Contacts to Tender that arise from projects funded from the Well being Budget.
- 10.2 All decisions taken by the Area Committee in relation to the delegated functions from the Executive Board are eligible for Call In.
- 10.3 There are no key or mayor decisions being made that would be eligible for Call In.
- 10.4 There are no direct implications for the above as a result of this report.

11.0 Risk Management

- 11.1 All proposals requested Well being Funding complete a section in the application process outlying the risks associated with the project and how they will be managed.

12.0 Conclusions

- 12.1 The Priority Neighbourhood Worker Project has delivered a successful programme of work in recent years. This work including the NIP programme has been well received by all the communities involved. Resident leaders in these communities harbour a high level of appreciation and goodwill towards this work. This is due in no small part to the work of Nicky Greening. But, it is worth noting that this appreciation is also directed to the Area Committee and Elected Members who have supported the work.
- 12.2 This report and appendix forms part of the Well being Budget monitoring requirements by presenting an evaluation report to Members and accounting for the revenue Well being funding allocated.
- 12.3 Members are asked to note the resignation of the PNW with effect from Friday 22 June 2012 and agree that this provides an opportunity to consider the future role of the PNW project.
- 12.4 Following a briefing with the Inner and Outer Area Committee Chairs the recruitment process to appoint to the vacant post has been put in place. Following advert and shortlisting, interviews will take place mid-July with a view to the new PNW being in post in September.

13.0 Recommendations

- 13.1 Members are asked to:
 - a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate
 - b) Agree a further 3 year term for the Priority Neighbourhood Worker Project from March 2013
 - c) Consider and agree to the development of the proposal outlined in the report.

14.0 Background documents

- 14.1 Outer South Area Committee, Priority Neighbourhood Worker and Neighbourhood Improvement Plans 2008-11 14th March 2011
- 14.2 Outer South Area Committee, Priority Neighbourhood Worker Update June 2010
- 14.3 Outer South Area Committee, Priority Neighbourhood Worker Update November 2009
- 14.4 Outer South Area Committee, Priority Neighbourhood Worker Update June 2009
- 14.5 Outer South Area Committee, Priority Neighbourhood Worker and Neighbourhood Improvement Plans September 2008