

SOUTH (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor A Ogilvie in the Chair

Councillors J Blake, D Congreve,
K Groves, E Nash, A Ogilvie and
P Truswell

14 Election of Chair

In the absence of Councillor Gabriel, Councillor Ogilvie was elected Chair for the meeting.

15 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

16 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no resolutions to exclude the public.

17 Late Items

There were no late items submitted to the agenda.

18 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests'

There were no declarations made.

19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Gabriel, P Davey, and M Iqbal.

20 Minutes - 20th June 2012

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th June 2012 were approved as a correct record.

21 Open Forum

In accordance with Paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to 10 minutes for members of the public to make representations or ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee.

On this occasion, there were no members of the public present.

22 Sports and Active Recreation Officers Update

The South East Area Leader submitted a report which outlined the current roles of the Sports and Active Recreation officers and provided contact information for relevant staff.

Andrew Wilson, Club Development Officer and Sam Coupland Active Lifestyles Officer were in attendance to highlight the work they undertake and to answer Member questions.

Members considered the report and began by asking the officers present about linking up their work with local amateur rugby league clubs and other sports clubs who need players. Questions were also put to officers about the costs of accessing this service for young people, costs of funding the activities and whether Officers had the resources to capture the potential interest in sports and active recreation in inner south Leeds.

Members highlighted to officers present that consideration should be given to maximising the green spaces within the area which outside school hours are underused.

Members asked to be updated on projects to be circulated to allow better synergy with other local initiatives.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

23 Community Right to Bid

The Acting Chief Asset Management Officer submitted a report which updated the Area Committee on developments with Community Right to Bid and advised of the implementation date.

Neil Charlesworth (Community Asset Officer) was in attendance to answer Member questions.

Members considered the report and asked how Community Right to Bid worked and how an interest could be registered.

Members expressed a cautionary note as in many cases it might be difficult to raise the finance to bid for property.

Discussion also took place on the comparison between Community Right to Bid and the right to run services. The Area Leader, Shaid Mahmood advised on the differences between the two initiatives.

This topic will be picked up as part of the Neighbourhood Improvement Boards to give a more local insight in to its role.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

24 Proposals for Changes to Fire Service Emergency Cover in West Yorkshire.

West Yorkshire Fire Service submitted a report which provided the Area Committee with the opportunity to discuss potential issues arising from the proposed merger of Hunslet and Morley Fire station.

Nick Smith, District Fire Commander and Peter Lau Station Commander delivered a power point presentation with Members about fire services in south Leeds, response times, the reduction in risk over the last few years and the building of a new fire station with the merger of Hunslet and Morley fire stations.

Members put forward their opinions on the proposals which included concerns about the cost of building a new fire station compared to keeping the existing stations open.

Members carefully considered the response times to emergencies and how these would be effected by the merger. Concern was expressed over the loss of fire staff following the merger and how this might effect public confidence in the service provided.

Members questioned the fire officers as to the numbers of smoke alarms fitted and what approaches were being taken to fit more fire alarms in domestic properties and reducing fire risks.

Members to be provided with requested information on response times directly.

RESOLVED – that the contents of the report be noted.

25 Remobilisation of the New Generation Transport (NGT) Scheme: Current position and Public Consultation

The NGT Project Manager, Andrew Wheeler, presented a report of the New Generation Transport Team which provided an update on the NGT scheme including its rationale.

Vanessa Allen, NGT Planning and Urban Design Manager, was also in attendance to inform the Area Committee about the Transport Works Orders which will be used to progress the scheme.

Members asked questions about the route and in what order it would be constructed. Members suggested that instead of building the route all at once whether it might be sensible to construct the southern line first to minimise disruption across the City.

Concerns were also raised about the integration of bus services and ensuring that services in the south of Leeds are not damaged by the introduction of NGT and its proposed route.

Members also questioned officers present about the expansion of NGT to other areas of the City and how parking would be managed for people wishing to leave their cars on the outskirts of the city and travel to the centre using NGT.

Members asked that NGT officers might consider naming the Penny Hill stop 'Hunslet Library' and also requested that consideration be given to holding a competition amongst local schools for the design of the NGT vehicles.

Members to be provided with layout plans of the Stourton Park & Ride site to identify any issues with increasing traffic on the Belle Isle side of the site.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the report and on going consultation be noted; and
- (b) that Members suggestions be taken into consideration by the NGT management team.

Following discussion of this item, due to time constraints, the Chair requested that all reports requiring the Area Committee to take a decision be heard before items not requiring decisions, owing to the risk that the meeting would become inquorate when Councillor Nash left at 8:30pm.

26 Transfer of Belle Isle Foundation to Childrens Services - Family Contact Centre and office base for the South Locality Safeguarding Team.

The South East Area Leader submitted a report which sought approval for the disposal of the Belle Isle Foundation Unit so that it can be used by Children's Services.

RESOLVED – that the Area Committee approve the disposal of the Belle Isle Foundation Unit so that it can be used by Children's Services.

27 Wellbeing report

The Area Officer presented a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance). The report provided:

1. Confirmation of the 2012/13 revenue allocation and the 2011/12 carry forward figure.

2. An update on both the revenue and capital elements of the Well being budget.
3. Details of revenue funding for consideration and approval.
4. Details of revenue projects agreed to date (as shown at Appendix 1 to the report)
5. Members were also asked to note the current position of the Small Grants Budget

Members discussed ring fencing of money and requested further action be taken to put this money to good use.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the contents of the report be noted;
- (b) that the position of the Well Being Budget as set out at paragraph 3.0 of the report be noted;
- (c) that the points raised under ring fencing arrangements set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report be noted and brought to the next Member Meeting for discussion
- (d) Members supported the proposed ringfencing of £130,000 (2013/14) for Children & Young People's work as part of the new process for funding.
- (e) that that Well Being revenue projects previously agreed, as shown at Appendix 1 to the report, be noted;
- (f) that the following be agreed in respect of Wellbeing funding allocations, as detailed within paragraph 4.0 of the submitted report:

Name of Project	Name of Delivery Organisation	Decision
Youth Provision	St Luke's Care	£28,301 (October 2012 – March 2013)(Revenue) All three wards. APPROVED
Middleton Friday Night Project	Breeze Team	£5,000 (Revenue) Middleton Park Ward. APPROVED
Off Road Bikes	West Yorkshire Police	£3,952 (Revenue) All three wards. APPROVED
Dream Radio Drama	Dream Reality	£15,000 (Revenue) All

		three wards. NOT APPROVED
Atha Street Bollards	LCC Highways	£790 (Revenue) Beeston & Holbeck ward. APPROVED

(g) that the small grants situation as set out in paragraph 5.0 to the report be noted.

28 Appointment of Area Committee Representation upon Leeds Initiative Area Based Partnership Groups

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) and the Chief Officer (Democratic and Central Services) submitted a report which provided background to local Member representation upon Leeds Initiative area Based Partnership Groups, and invited the Committee to determine the elected Member appointments to those groups.

RESOLVED – The Area Committee resolved that:

- (a) Area Committee Champion to the South East Health and Wellbeing Partnership – Councillor Truswell
- (b) Area Committee Champion to the South Leeds Crime and Grime Group – Councillor Groves

29 A Summary Of Key Work

The Area Leader submitted a report which provided brief details of the range of activities with which the Area Support Team are engaged based on the Area Committee Business Plan priorities & actions, that are not addressed in greater detail elsewhere on this agenda. It provided opportunities for further questioning or the opportunity to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

Officers present confirmed that a meeting has been scheduled relating benefits and charges.

RESOLVED -

- (a) that the report be noted; and
- (b) Members approved the Inner South Area Committee Business Plan action plan attached at Appendix 13 to the report.

30 Children's Services Update Report to Area Committees - Inner South

Area Head of Targeted Services (South East Leeds), Martyn Stenton presented a report of The Director of Children's Services which provided the Area Committee with an update on Children's Services Developments.

The Chief Officer (Partnership and Development Business Support) Sue Rumbold was in attendance to help answer Member questions.

Members considered the resources of Children's Services in South Leeds and whether these were enough to deal with the number of cases especially as the clusters are only meeting every 12 weeks. Officers highlighted the increase of resources in the area and the better retention of staff following a difficult two year period for Children's Services.

Members also agreed that the new arrangements will take a while to settle down and that the recent increase in interventions has improved the service.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

(Councillor Nash left the meeting at 08:30pm at the end of discussion of this item, this left the meeting inquorate and limited the decision making powers of the Area Committee)

31 Community Safety Activity in 2011/2012 in Inner South

The Area Community Safety Officer presented a report of The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report which provided the annual update form the Area Community Safety Co-ordinator on activity in Inner South to deliver the key outcomes agreed for both Safer and Stronger Communities.

Inspector Paul Ackerman and Sgt Dennison were also in attendance to answer member questions.

Members questioned the officers present about the ward risk matrix table for the city (see paragraph 3.2.2 for the report) particularly what the colours meant and the reasons behind Middleton Park ward becoming of high concern in March and April 2012.

Discussion took place on the classification of offences and how they should be split out; specifically the difference within violence and that domestic violence against young people should be a separate category, information was also requested with regards to Children in care effected by such violence.

Although not in attendance Councillor Gabriel and Councillor Gruen, through the Area Leader, wanted to convey to members that as a result of the discussions at the Inner South Area Committee meeting in September 2011, there is now a city wide initiative around prostitution. With the successes that

have already been achieved, Cllr Gruen wanted to pass on his thanks for initiating this work. .

RECOMMENDED –

- (a) that the contents of this report be noted;
- (b) that the approach outline at paragraph 6.1.3 to the report to deliver Community Safety and environmental agendas in Inner south Leeds during 2012/13;
- (c) that a further report be submitted to consider the issues raised at paragraph 6.2.3 to the report; and
- (d) that further information be provided to Members in relation to violence against children in care.

32 Dates, Times and Venues of Future Meetings

6:30pm, 21st November 2012, Venue, Civic Hall, Leeds.