

## **Priority Neighbourhood Worker Project – Six Month Update**

This is an update report from the recently appointed Priority Neighbourhood Worker (PNW) to November 2012. The post is employed by Health for All on behalf of the Outer and Inner South Area Committees but is directly line managed by South East Area Support Team and located in the South East Area Support Team Offices within the Dewsbury Road One Stop Centre in Leeds.

### **Change In Post**

In June 2012 the PNW Nicky Greening resigned and a review of the work undertaken by the PNW was undertaken. Following consultation with Outer and Inner Area Committee Chairs, an enhanced job description was developed and recruitment took place over the Summer. The new PNW Ellie Rogers was appointed and started work on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

The PNW has carried out a review of the work previously undertaken across Outer South and made contact with the supported groups. The PNW has attended residents group and surveyed groups using a questionnaire. From this work three categories of support have been identified detailing the different levels of support available to groups (**Appendix 2**).

The PNW has researched and met with others providing similar support to communities and compiled a list of resources available. The focus has been around providing support to encourage independence and to avoid duplication of services available. As a result of this the PNW will work more closely with Voluntary Action Leeds, Health for All and the Involvement and Improvement Officers based at Aire Valley Homes in order to better co-ordinate support to groups. In conjunction with partners it is proposed to organise an annual conference for residents groups. This event will offer workshops, opportunities to share best practice, opportunities to develop individuals and groups and to foster a mentoring network between Residents Groups.

The PNW will help to develop strong connections between groups, service providers, local councillors and the wider voluntary sector, acting as a link to training and funding opportunities and encouraging groups to join such networks over time. There will be an emphasis on group development, ensuring the content and management of meetings is developed and valued as well as much more practical elements such as organising events, this should help sustainability.

The summary below shows work with groups to date and a description of the proposed levels of support. Members are invited to comment on this schedule and further discussions will take place with Members during the next round of Ward Based Briefings.

## Supported Areas

### 1. John O'Gaunts

High Support

- Assistance was provided to leaflet for the AGM
- Attended the AGM where a new committee was voted in
- Met with the committee several times
- Support has been given in developing policies, risk assessments, booking venues, chairing meetings and obtaining funding
- The group will be receiving bespoke training from Voluntary Action Leeds around committee roles and other aspects of running a community group
- Support is being provided for planning a Christmas event for families on the estate
- Support is being provided to establish a coffee morning on the estate, starting on 23<sup>rd</sup> November
- The group will be meet fortnightly once as a committee and once for public meetings
- Continued support will be provided to help develop and promote ideas, projects and group roles.

### 2. Rothwell TARA

Low Support

- The group has requested assistance with increasing numbers at meetings and to occasionally attend meetings
- The group met on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2012 where introductions were made
- It has been observed that older members of the group feel threatened by younger members of the community, there are plans to work with the Youth Service and PCSO's to engage these young people in the work of the Residents Association
- Support will be provided to help increase numbers at meetings and the PNW will attend meetings as and when requested

### 3. Tingley TARA

To be determined

- Although contact has been made with Tingley TARA a completed questionnaire has not yet been returned

- Awaiting dates of the next meetings.

#### **4. Thorpe Community Group**

High Support

- There are only two remaining committee members and a meeting hasn't been held for several months
- An AGM has been planned and advertised in the village
- Discussions have taken place around holding a Christmas event

#### **5. Robin Hood TARA**

Medium Support

- PNW has attended a committee and an open meeting
- Support has been requested in developing group roles and in engaging young people in the worker of the TARA, there are plans to develop a programme of work around this.
- Support has been given around policy development
- Support to plan a winter celebration event being held in the community orchard
- Training for the group will be organised in the new year

#### **6. Newlands & Denshaws**

Medium Support

- The group have asked that the PNW attend meetings and provide assistance with events
- A meeting was held regarding the establishment of a committee to oversee the running of the old post office as a community venue. PNW is working alongside the Small Groups Development Worker at Voluntary Action-Leeds to provide legal, funding and practical advice with these plans.

#### **7. Harrops & Askey TARA (Former Harrops & Bridge Street NIP)**

To be determined

- Contact has been made, awaiting dates of the next meetings.

#### **8. Oakwell & Fairfax**

To be determined

- Follow up contact to be made

**9. Asquith & Ingles**

To be determined

- Follow up contact to be made

**10. Springbank & Moorlands**

To be determined

- Follow up contact to be made.

**Levels of support:**

High	Groups
<p>Role development &amp; assistance to identify and procure training beneficial to group members                      Personal development with group members using outcome star/volunteer pack                      Constitution &amp; Policy writing                      Attendance at meetings and support with administering and facilitating meetings                      Support to make links with key partners e.g.- AVH, elected members, police                      Assistance in applying for funding both finding opportunities and drafting funding bids                      Support to plan and run projects and events                      Access to peer “mentoring scheme” and support in this relationship if required                      Annual Review of group activities &amp; support needed                      Attendance at Better Together Event</p>	<p>John O’Gaunts TARA                       Thorpe Community Group</p>
Medium	Groups
<p>Monthly phone call to nominated member for update on progress and to discuss any issues                      Attendance at meetings as and when requested and to disseminate information                      Personal development with group members using outcome star/volunteer pack                       Sharing information largely through email:                      Forwarding all community funding opportunities to group including Well Being fund                      Forwarding all training opportunities to the group                      Forwarding relevant community events &amp; schemes                       Available via phone and email for support when needed e.g.:                      Recruitment                      Funding                      Making new relationships with partners                       Annual Review of group activities &amp; support needed                      Attendance at Better Together Event                      Access to peer “mentoring scheme”</p>	<p>Robin Hood TARA                       Newlands &amp; Denshaws</p>

<b>Low</b>	<b>Groups</b>
<p>Sharing information largely through email: Forwarding all community funding opportunities to group including Well Being fund Forwarding all training opportunities to the group Forwarding relevant community events &amp; schemes</p> <p>Available via phone and email for support when needed e.g.: Recruitment Funding Making new relationships with partners</p> <p>Annual Review of group activities &amp; support needed Attendance at Better Together Event Recruitment of members as volunteers in a “mentoring scheme” and support in this</p>	<p>Rothwell TARA</p> <p>Tingley TARA</p>