

**Report of East North East Area Leader**

**Report to North East (Inner) Area Committee**

**Date: 28<sup>th</sup> January 2013**

**Subject: Inner North East Area Committee Priorities and Consultation**

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Chapel Allerton, Moortown and Roundhay		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" 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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:		

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report gives an update on the Inner North East Area Committee Ambassadors project, which was initiated in an attempt to get more people involved in consultation.
2. It also allows a discussion to take place with the Ambassadors already appointed who have been invited to the meeting at the request of the Area Committee at their meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

**Recommendations**

2. The Inner North East Area Committee is requested to note the update provided and discuss any suggestions on improving the scheme.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 This report gives an update on the Inner North East Area Committee Ambassadors project, which was initiated in an attempt to get more people involved in consultation.
- 1.2 It also allows a discussion to take place with the Ambassadors already appointed who have been invited to the meeting at the request of the Area Committee at their meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 At the June 2011 Area Committee meeting the Delegated Roles and Functions of the Area Committee were presented along with a forward work programme detailing how the roles and responsibilities would be discharged and action taken during 2011/12.
- 2.2 Since then an Area Committee Business Plan, which takes the forward work programme a stage further and sets out in more detail the work of the Area Committee, was created. This replaces the old Area Delivery Plan (ADP).
- 2.3 The Business Plan was developed to provide a consistent approach and framework across the City following the direction from Councillor Gruen, Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration and James Rogers, Assistant Chief Executive, Policy Planning and Improvement. The plan provides a business planning framework with the main headings that the Area Committee are expected to adopt with information beneath to reflect the local circumstances.
- 2.4 The Area Committee Business plan provides a complete set of papers relating to the area, which will be refreshed annually. The actions and priorities will be monitored at the Area Committee meetings and performance managed.
- 2.5 The Inner North East Area Business Plan 2012/13 was approved at the Area Committee meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2012.
- 2.6 Included in the Business Plan was a Community Engagement Plan 2012-13, which strategy sets out how the Area Committee will ensure residents across the Inner North East area have opportunity to influence priorities set out in the Area Business Plan and other responsibilities delegated to the Area Committee.

## **3. Main issues**

### **3.1 Area Committee Ambassadors**

- 3.1.1 At the September Area Committee meeting it was agreed that the Area Support Team would seek community ambassadors to run consultation sessions in the community based on the Six Hats by de Bono. This exercise was also sent out to

community groups to complete in paper form if they did not have the capacity to become ambassadors.

- 3.1.2 The ambassador role can be undertaken by members of community groups or partner agencies and two workshop style events were run in early Autumn to take Ambassadors through the process themselves and give them the relevant material to reproduce it at their meetings.
- 3.1.3 From this round of consultation we received replies from four people who wanted to become Ambassadors from:
- § Roundhay Environmental Action (REAP)
  - § Gledhow Valley Conservation Area
  - § Roundhay CARE Connect
  - § Friends of Allerton Grange
- 3.1.4 A package of support was put together for the Ambassadors to use with their group including copies of the survey and an explanation of how to run the session. Ongoing support was also available from the Area Support Team to all Ambassadors.
- 3.1.5 Although for some the timescales were tight Ambassadors managed to feedback more surveys than all the other groups on the mailing list put together, which was a promising start. They have also been asked to carry out further consultation with groups to fit into the next round of consultation and this is still ongoing.
- 3.1.6 At the December meeting the Area Committee asked for the Community Ambassadors to attend the next meeting to discuss the role and an invite was sent out to all.
- 3.1.7 The intention is to keep developing the role through discussions with key groups and organisations in the area to try and encourage more Community Ambassadors to help with consultation in the future.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 4.1.1 As recommended in a report to the Area Committee in September 2011 the Area Committee's Engagement Plan is now included as part of the Area Business Plan and covers the Community Charter.
- 4.1.2 The priorities identified are based on consultation that has occurred in the current cycle.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

- 4.2.1 Consideration is given to the equality impact of projects to deliver the promises within the charter and in funding projects to local groups through light touch equality impact assessments and the completion of project planning documentation.

4.2.2 Where a negative equality impact is identified action will be taken to mitigate the impact or risk.

### **4.3 Council policies and City Priorities**

4.3.1 The themes in the Community Charter mirror the themes and priority outcomes at a city wide level and also reflect the delegated functions and priority advisory functions.

### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

4.4.1 The Well-Being Fund is used to finance projects which support the promises in the Area Business Plan and Community Charter. Area Management work with Council services, partner agencies and local communities to take a strategic approach to Well-Being Fund expenditure to ensure best use of this funding.

### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

4.5.1 In line with the Council's Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules, all decisions taken by Area Committees are not eligible for Call In.

4.5.2 There are no key or major decisions included in this report.

4.5.3 There are no legal implications relating to this report.

### **4.6 Risk Management**

4.6.1 Not applicable under this section.

## **5 Conclusions**

5.1 The Ambassador role is working well but needs more encouragement for groups to nominate someone for this role.

## **6 Recommendations**

6.1 The Inner North East Area Committee is requested to note the update provided and discuss any suggestions on improving the scheme.

## **7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

7.1 Area Committee Roles and Functions 2009/10

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.