

Report of ENE Area Leader

Report to Inner East Area Committee

Date: 7th February 2013

Subject: Area Update Report

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Gipton & Harehills, Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Killingbeck & Seacroft	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input 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

1. This report provides Members with recommendations from its sub groups and has minutes attached
2. The report also details the draft priorities for the 2013/14 Inner East Area Committee Business Plan for Councillors approval, and provides information on the community engagement activity carried out in preparation of this.

Recommendations

3. That Members note the contents of the report and make comment where appropriate.
4. Members are asked to approve the proposed 2013/14 priorities for the Area Committee Business Plan.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1** To provide members with an overview of the work being carried out to address the Area Committee's priorities
- 1.2** To provide Members with an update on the community engagement work carried out to identify priorities for 2013/14 and present those draft priorities.

2 Background information

- 2.1** At its meeting in June 2012 the Area Committee agreed to holding four sub groups to assist in carrying out Area Committee business. Membership was agreed to be one member of each ward sitting on each sub group, officers are invited to advise as appropriate.

The four sub groups are; Environmental Sub Group; Community Centres Working Group; Health & Wellbeing Sub Group and the Planning Sub Group. The groups each meet 6 yearly in line with the Area Committee cycle.

- 2.2** In 2010-11 a new Community Engagement Strategy was approved and adopted by the Area Committee; prior to this the Community Engagement Strategy was based around holding three community events per year in each ward.

The new approach was adopted to address concerns regarding the number of residents attending events and the volume of resource required to facilitate the events. It was recognised that new approaches and methods of engagement were required to ensure that a true representation of the local community was achieved.

The new engagement strategy adopted in 2010 included the development of a "community leadership team" for each priority neighbourhood. This is to help provide that facility and support residents' civic role within their neighbourhood. A revised version of this strategy was approved by the Inner East Area Committee as part of its 2012-13 Business Plan in March 2012.

- 2.3** As part of its Business Plan the Inner East Area Committee promotes a partnership approach to neighbourhood improvement. In line with this a number of locality and theme based working groups exist across the Inner East, concentrating on combining resources to achieve best value for money and the most effective service to local residents.

3 Main Issues

3.1 Sub Groups

At its meeting in June 2012 the Inner East Area Committee agreed membership of a number of sub groups to make recommendations for progress against key headings in the Area Committee work plan. The headings below contain updates on the work carried out by these sub groups.

3.1.1 Environmental Sub Group

The Environmental Sub Group met on 15th January 2013 and discussed how

services can better work together to improve service delivery of grounds maintenance and fly tip removal. Minutes are attached in full at **Appendix A**.

3.1.2 Community Centres Working Group

The Sub group met on 10th January 2013 and discussed the future of some of the community centre provision. Full minutes are attached at **Appendix B**.

3.1.3 Health & Wellbeing sub group

The sub group met on 22nd January 2013 and agenda items included priority setting and updates on projects to reduce diabetes and obesity. Minutes are attached in full at **Appendix C**.

3.1.4 Planning Sub Group

The Planning Sub Group was scheduled to meet on 21st January 2013, but unfortunately due to the bad weather it had to be cancelled. The meeting is rescheduled for 7th February and minutes will follow.

3.2 2013/14 priority setting

3.2.1 The new Area Committee business plan includes a section on Priorities and Action and it is this section that is being revised in preparation for the full business plan to be presented at the March Area Committee for approval.

3.2.2 It sets out how the Area Committee will address physical, social, economical and environmental issues in the inner east. These priorities are used to agree the spend of Area Committee wellbeing money and influence how services are prioritised in the area. Progress against the actions are then reported back to area committee at regular intervals throughout the year, as agreed in the forward plan.

3.2.3 In order to set these priorities Area Support Team staff have carried out the following consultation:

1. Surveys distributed throughout all local networks for completion and return
2. Door to door surveys carried out as part of Operation Champion in both Harehills and Gipton
3. Consultation with residents at the 3 Community Leadership Teams (CLTs); Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton and Seacroft
4. Attending existing community events to speak to residents about priority setting.
5. Discussions with partners at partnership meetings in each neighbourhood to incorporate professional opinions and local knowledge.

3.2.4 Residents were also asked if they had any suggestions for actions to address their issues. The results will feed into the Business Plan and Neighbourhood Improvement Plans as well as being shared with partners to feed into the service planning of individual services.

3.2.5 Each year statistics ranking small super output areas within Leeds, are compiled to compare how the physical, social and environmental indicators in these areas, rate alongside national and city wide averages. This information will also be used to inform Area Committee priorities for 2013/14. A table detailing the ranking of each SOA in the Inner East along with areas for concern and action is appended at **Appendix D**.

3.2.6 As each neighbourhood within the Inner East is designated as a priority neighbourhood, the Area Committee agreed at its December 2012 meeting to fund 3 Neighbourhood Managers to deliver its priorities intensively within the 5 neighbourhoods of Seacroft, Gipton, Harehills, Burmantofts and Richmond Hill. A Neighbourhood Improvement Plan (NIP) is written and revised annually for each neighbourhood, using the same consultation material mentioned earlier. Revised NIP's will be brought to March Area Committee for approval.

3.3 **2013/14 Draft priorities for approval**

The priorities below are the main issues that the research above highlighted the Area Committee should focus on and dedicate resource to. The Neighbourhood Improvement Plans for each area have greater detail as to how these and neighbourhood specific issues will be tackled.

3.3.1 **Best City for.... Communities.**

Our communities will get the backing they need to help local people lead their lives successfully. We will encourage community spirit and local activity, but recognise that it will take high-quality public services working with local people to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour effectively and to keep our neighbourhoods clean and green. To do this in Inner East Leeds we will;

- § Work as a team with all council departments, police, health, housing providers and other organisations to tackle the problems identified in our communities and support residents groups who want to improve their local environment.
- § Promote restorative practices as the way we do business with our partners and residents.
- § Provide advice and practical help with home security to reduce the risk of burglary and continue to provide CCTV in areas which are hotspots for crime and anti social behaviour
- § Support local communities to put on events, galas and festivals throughout the year for the whole community to enjoy.

Best City for.... Health & Wellbeing.

There are a range of social, economic and environmental factors that affect people's health in Leeds , which cause some people to have poorer health than others. To improve this in Inner East Leeds we will;

- § Fund projects in our neighbourhoods to support and empower those affected by Child Sexual Exploitation, Domestic Violence and mental health issues.
- § Provide opportunities for people to take part in physical activity locally and support campaigns which promote healthy lifestyles.
- § Support work to reduce alcohol abuse and alcohol related anti social behaviour in our neighbourhoods.
- § Support work to reduce tobacco use, including niche tobaccos, in our neighbourhoods.

Best City.... For children and young people

Leeds will be a child-friendly city where the voices, needs and priorities of children and young people are heard and inform the way we make decisions and take action. To achieve this in Inner East Leeds we will;

- § Provide a range of activities such as; school holiday activities, sports and art activities for young people to enjoy in their local neighbourhood, in local venues
- § Provide targeted support to young people to reduce the risk of them not being in education, employment or training
- § Promote the representation of young people on the CLT's so that their voices are heard by the major decision making bodies.

Best City.... To live

Leeds needs investment in new homes and our aim is to attract maximum investment from the private sector and government. We will finalise our housing planning policy to grow the city in a sustainable way, while maintaining the distinctiveness of communities and a green city. We will improve our existing homes, making them more energy efficient and easier to heat. In Inner East Leeds we will;

- § Support local communities to develop Neighbourhood Plans for their neighbourhood to ensure that residents are able to influence development in their area.
- § As funding becomes available undertake works to improve our community parks, play areas, allotments, sports pitches and community centres.
- § Work with partners to bring about the physical regeneration of Inner East Leeds

Best City..... for Business

The global economic recession has affected Leeds, as much as anywhere else in the country, and we need to work to ensure that jobs are created and that local people can access those jobs to promote a sustainable recovery. We will make sure new developments create skills and opportunities through apprenticeships. To achieve this in Inner East Leeds we will;

- § Fund the employment of a young unemployed person from the Inner East, for 12 months, as a Level 2 Business & Administration apprentice to the Area Support Team, its partner agencies and a business sector partner.
- § Where possible ensure that IT facilities are available at our community venues to allow people to access Job Search facilities, and support the provision of job search assistance in our community buildings.
- § Work to ensure that the impact of welfare reform changes on local people is minimised by offering support, advice and assistance.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.5 In each of the priority neighbourhoods, there are a range of different community engagement and consultation methods being employed. In Gipton, Seacroft, Burmantofts and Richmond Hill, Community Leadership Teams are the main community involvement mechanism in place. Harehills priority neighbourhood links with the community via the Chapeltown & Harehills Forum. In Burmantofts there is also a Neighbourhood Improvement Board in operation. These collectives have been directly involved in the priority setting for the current priorities we are working towards as part of the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans, which in turn link into the Area Committee Business Plans and Charter priorities.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 An equality screening document was completed as part of the development of; Neighbourhood Improvement Plans; 'Local Management Teams' which are a central function of the officer working groups; and Community Leadership Teams.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The priorities of the Area Committee Business Plan directly link into the council 'Best City' priorities for Leeds

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 The Team Neighbourhood approach brings a range of services together to utilise officer resources more effectively on tackling key neighbourhood issues

4.4.2 In order to achieve priorities, funding sources will be joined up together as far as possible to maximise the way in which funding is invested on local priorities

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

4.5.2 There is no exempt or confidential information

4.5.3 In line with the Council's Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules, agreed at Full Council May 2012, all decisions taken by Area Committees are not eligible for Call In

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.4 There are no major risks associated with the content of this report.

5 Conclusions

5.1 As highlighted above, there are a number of actions ongoing to achieve Area Committee priorities and fulfil its work programme, but despite this, the Area Support Team recognises that there is still a significant amount of work to be done to achieve the Area Committee priorities. Therefore this report will be a regular item at the Inner East Area Committee to update you of progress.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Inner East Area Committee are asked to note the contents of this report and comment as appropriate.

6.2 Members are asked to approve the draft priorities for the 2013/14 Inner East Area Committee Business Plan.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 None

¹ 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.