

**Inner North East Area Committee**  
**Business Plan 2013-14**



Picture to take

Roundhay Live, 2012

Chapelton Heritage Improvements

Awaiting photo when scheme complete



Moorland Avenue Environmental Improvements, Moortown

Meanwood Valley Urban Farm consultation, 2012

**Chapel Allerton**  
**Moortown**  
**Roundhay**

## **Inner East Area Committee Business Plan 2013/14**

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For more information about this business plan please contact:  
East North East Area Management  
Tel: 0113 336 7644  
Email: [east.north.east@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:east.north.east@leeds.gov.uk)

## **Section 1**

### **Executive Summary**

This business plan brings together a range of documents relating to the work of the area committee. It provides details of the roles and responsibilities of the area committee, information on the wellbeing budget, and information about the communities it serves.

It also sets out the priorities for the Inner North East Area Committee in 2013/14 and a communication plan has been agreed to ensure that local residents have the opportunity to get involved in shaping service delivery for their community.

There are three priority neighbourhoods within Inner North East Leeds, Chapeltown, Meanwood 6 estates and Queenshills. Each of the three priority neighbourhoods has an action plan to address the priorities agreed by the council, its partners and local residents. This business plan sets out the framework for improving our priority neighbourhoods.

Finally the plan sets out our commitment to equal opportunities and community cohesion. The council achieved an 'Excellent Standard' for equalities in May 2011, and the Area Committee has a role to play in supporting the council in maintaining this standard.

## **Section 2**

### **Chairs Foreword – to be agreed with new chair**

Welcome to the Inner North East Area Committee Business Plan,

*Cllr*

Cllr  
Inner North East Area Committee Chair

## Section 3

### Area Committee Roles and Responsibilities

There are ten area committees covering the city of Leeds made up of local councillors. This business plan sets out the priorities and focus of work for the Inner North East Area Committee. The plan will be revised and refreshed each year to ensure that the priorities are still relevant.

Their purpose is to improve the delivery and co-ordination of local council services and improve the quality of local decision making. The priorities for the Area Committee are based on local consultation and engagement with partners and are set out in a local Community Charter that is produced annually.

The council has given specific responsibilities to the Area Committees known as Area Functions. These include:

- Area Well Being budgets – a budget to be spent on local priorities
- Community Centres
- CCTV
- Neighbourhood Management co-ordination
- Street Cleansing & Environmental Enforcement Services

### Membership of the Area Committee:

Roundhay Ward	Cllr Ghulam Hussain (Chair) Cllr Christine Macniven Cllr Bill Urry
Moortown Ward	Cllr Rebecca Charlwood Cllr Sharon Hamilton Cllr Alex Sobel
Chapel Allerton Ward	Cllr Jane Dowson Cllr Eileen Taylor Cllr Mohammed Rafique

The area committee meets seven times per year:

Date	Venue
May	Leeds Civic Hall
June 2012	Reginald Centre
September 2012	Leeds Civic Hall
October 2012	Reginald Centre
December 2012	Leeds Civic Hall
January 2013	Reginald Centre
March 2013	Leeds Civic Hall

## **Function Schedules**

The Area Committee have functions delegated to them by the Executive Board and these are set out in the Area Committee Functions Schedule. Decisions taken by the Area Committees in relation to Executive Functions are subject to call in. The 2011/12 Function Schedule is included in the Council's Constitution (Part 3, Section 3c).

### **Community Centres:**

In relation to each community centre identified by the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods as within the Committee's area, to:

- oversee controllable revenue budgets, operational arrangements and the use of the centres;
- agree and implement a schedule of charges and discounts for directly managed centres;
- make asset management and investment proposals to ensure the portfolio is sustainable and meets local needs.

Under the current Functions Schedule there are three community centres delegated to this Area Committee, 53 Louis Street (currently on a long term lease to Feel Good Factor), Mandela Centre and Palace.

There is an ongoing review corporately in relation to community centres looking at the current delegation and market rental assessments.

The two centres currently managed by the Area Support Team on behalf of the Area Committee both have steering groups established with representatives from the users of the centres on each. Action plans have been developed for each centre which highlights work to be undertaken to further enhance and develop each centre, including increasing usage.

The action plans will be used to monitor improvements to the centres and reports will be provided to the Area Committee to report on progress, which will include information from Corporate Property Management on budget and maintenance and the corporate review of the Market Rental Assessments.

### **Well Being Fund:**

*To take decisions about, and monitor activity relating to the use of the annual capital and revenue allocation to each Committee.*

The wellbeing fund is used to support the priorities identified by the Area Committee in consultation with the local community. It is administered by the Area Support Team on behalf of the Area Committee.

The Area Committee has a Well Being Working Group with member representative from each Ward which meets to consider applications made for funding. The group also meet with groups making applications for funding to ask questions and ensure that the projects meet the needs and priorities as identified.

In addition to considering new applications the group also receives feedback on projects that are ongoing and completed so that evaluations of their impact and outcomes can be considered. This process is to be revitalised over the coming year to improve feedback to members and allow improved monitoring and evaluation to take place.

The Area Committee receives update reports to each Area Committee meeting with current budget positions and feedback from the Well Being Working Group. At each Area Committee meeting members will:

- be asked to consider new proposals for wellbeing funding;
- receive updated budget positions;
- receive feedback on completed projects.

See section 4 for more information and budget plan

### **Neighbourhood Management:**

*To agree priority neighbourhoods (through the approval of the Area Business Plan); and to agree and monitor Neighbourhood Improvement Plans for the Committee's area.*

The Area Committee have approved funding to continue to pay for the appointment of a Neighbourhood Manager to support delivery of the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan and to target inequalities within the Priority Neighbourhoods.

The Priority Neighbourhoods for the Inner North East have been agreed as Chapeltown (including Scotthalls), Meanwood 7 Estates (including Stonegates estate) and Queenshills (which falls within the Moor Allerton Partnership priority area).

Neighbourhood Improvement Plans will be approved on an annual basis and will set out actions to target the priorities identified within each priority neighbourhood.

Community Leadership Teams are also being established for each of the priority neighbourhoods, which offer opportunities for local residents to get involved in shaping their local community and overseeing the delivery of the neighbourhood improvement plans.

Reports will be provided three times a year to highlight achievements and provide performance management information.

### **Environmental Services:**

*To develop and approve annual Service Level Agreements to achieve as a minimum, the service standards set by Executive Board. Via the Service Level Agreement (SLA), to determine the principles of deployment of the available resources by:*

- *the identification of priorities for service delivery annually (both geographical and in terms of types of services delivered)*

- *The agreement of the most appropriate approaches to be taken to achieve local environmental cleanliness and quality.*

*To be responsible for monitoring and reviewing the delegated activities in relation to the service outcomes specified in the SLA.*

*To be responsible for negotiating amendments to the SLA with service providers to accommodate unforeseen events or patterns of service failure, during the course of the SLA.*

The Area Committee has established an environmental sub group with a member representative from each ward. They meet on a regular basis to oversee the development and implementation of the SLA. Feedback from these meetings will form part of the regular reporting to the Area Committee to performance manage the delegation.

Reports and performance information will be provided to every Area Committee meeting to enable members to review the implementation and delivery of the SLA.

#### **CCTV:**

*To maintain an overview of the service in the Committee's area and receive regular information about it.*

The Area Committee will receive an annual report to provide an update in relation to CCTV, in addition regular reports will be provided to members via email.

#### **Priority Advisory Functions**

These are the services where the Area Committees have an enhanced role in influencing service delivery.

<b>Role</b>	<b>Summary</b>
Community Engagement	Each Committee will agree a local community engagement plan based on an agreed template to ensure consistency across the city. Information on how Area Committees have delivered on their community engagement plans, will be included in an annual report to the Executive Board, which outlines achievements from the previous year to deliver the Area Delivery Plans, and future priorities.  See Section 9 for more information
Community Greenspace	This covers 73 community parks vested with the Parks and Countryside Service. These include a wide variety of recreation facilities, sports pitches, play areas, formal and informal horticultural features.  Area Committees will influence the development and use of community parks and be consulted about proposals for the



	<p>development and use of them, for example proposals for refurbishment and installation of new play equipment.</p> <p>The Area Committee receives an annual report on the Parks and Countryside Service.</p>
PCSOs, Neighbourhood Policing Teams and Multi Agency Crime and Grime Operations	<p>This covers the deployment of PCSOs, the work of Neighbourhood Policing Teams (which are now aligned to ward and Area Committee boundaries) and multi agency crime and grime initiatives to tackle local priorities and hot spots. The arrangements enable staff to work more closely together on the ground and improve consultation with and reporting arrangements to the Area Committees.</p> <p>The Area Committee receives an annual report from the Divisional Community Safety Partnership</p>
Highways Maintenance	<p>Area Committees will be asked to comment on annual and forward programme of planned maintenance of local roads, on traffic management proposals affecting local roads and minor maintenance schemes to keep highway safe.</p>
Local Children and Young People Plan	<p>Area Committees will continue to influence the strategic direction of actions within the area delivery plan in relation to the 5 Every Child Matters outcomes and local need.</p> <p>The committees will have a local democratic oversight, demonstrated by endorsing the plan and local priorities identified within it. Committees will have a monitoring function, ensuring the 5 Every Child Matters outcomes and the improved integration of children's services are embedded as part of the delivery objectives of the Children Leeds Area Partnership expressed through the Community Charter, Neighbourhood Improvement Plans and school cluster plans.</p> <p>Progress is reported to the Area Committee through an annual report from Children's Services and reports on the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans.</p>
Health and Well Being. (including Adult Social Care)	<p>As part of their responsibility to promote local well being Area Committees have an important role in helping to improve health and tackling health inequalities by ensuring co-ordinated and focused activity across Council services and with key partners such as NHS Leeds at the local level.</p> <p>Adult Services and NHS Leeds have organised their resources to work more effectively at a local level helping Area Committees through regular reporting arrangements to influence local priorities and action, and monitor the health and well-being targets linked to the Leeds Strategic Plan.</p>

	The Area Committee receives an annual report from the East North East Health and Wellbeing Partnership.
Area Based Regeneration Schemes and Town and District Centre projects	Also consistent with the promotion of well-being Area Committees will have a role in relation to influencing, assisting and endorsing key aspects of area based regeneration schemes and town and district centre projects. They will be supported in this by officers in the Regeneration Service.
Conservation Area Reviews	This function covers a programme of reviews in 17 designated conservation areas. In each case to assess its special character, to propose any changes to its boundary and to make proposals for its management. Area Committees agreed reviews in these areas and ward members have been directly involved in consultation work.

## **Section 4**

### **Well Being Budget**

The wellbeing fund is used to support the priorities identified within the Community Charter and Neighbourhood Improvement Plans. A spending plan for 2013/14 was approved at the January Area Committee. New spending proposals are discussed at the Well Being Member Working Group and decisions on spending are made by the Area Committee.

Area Management work in partnership with agencies and service providers to ensure an efficient and effective use of the funding, and where possible, request match funding to be secured to ensure leverage is achieved.

Wellbeing funding is used to provide something new or significantly enhance and add value to an existing project. It cannot be used to fund the everyday running costs of a community organisation, pay for costs relating to projects with religious or political aims or pay for any projects/part of projects that have already taken place.

Organisations applying for wellbeing funding must be able to demonstrate that they:

- Have appropriate management arrangements and finance controls in place
- Have relevant policies to comply with legislation and best practice e.g. equal opportunities, child protection
- Demonstrate they have the experience and/or ability to undertake the project
- Are clear on how you will measure the success of the project
- Are not able to fund all of the costs for the project themselves or from other grants

Tables 1 shows how the revenue budget was spent in 2012/13 and Table 2 sets out the spending plan for 2013/14.

**Table 1** - Inner North East Area Committee wellbeing revenue budget  
2012/13

To be added when 2012/13 budget expenditure finalised

**Table 2** Spending Plan for 2013/14

<b>New Allocation based on 2012/13</b>	<b>£161,810</b>
<b>New suggested amounts:</b>	
LCC Neighbourhood Manager	£35,000
Community Payback	£7,500
Festive Lights	£12,500
Volunteer TQ, Charter and Consultation	£1,000
Community Skips	£2,000
Young People's Activities	£35,000
Small grants	£10,000
Chapel Allerton ward pot	£10,000
Moortown ward pot	£10,000
Roundhay ward pot	£10,000
Area Committee Apprentice	£4,680
Welfare Reform	£2,500
Chapelton CCTV	£7,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£147,680</b>
<b>Remaining</b>	<b>£14,130</b>

## Section 5

### Ward Profiles

#### CHAPEL ALLERTON WARD

##### Ward Members:

##### ***Councillor Jane Dowson (Labour)***

*Council Appointments inc:* Advisory Executive member and Leeds Admissions forum.

*Appointments to outside bodies etc:* 11-19 (25) Learning and Support Partnership, Bradford University Court, Cluster - CHES (Chapeltown Extended Schools and Services), Groundwork Leeds, Joint Consultative Committee (Teachers), Leeds Initiative - Children's Trust Board, Leeds Initiative - Leeds Education Challenge Board, Leeds Schools Foundation and Pupil Referral Unit Management Committee KS2/3.



##### **Inner North East Area Committee wellbeing working group**

##### ***Councillor Mohammed Rafique (Labour)***

*Council Appointments inc:* General Purposes Committee, Scrutiny Board (Children and Families) and Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture) (Chair).

*Appointments to outside bodies etc:* None.



##### **Inner North East Area Committee Employment, Enterprise and Training Champion**

##### **Inner North East Area Committee environmental sub-group**

##### ***Councillor Eileen Taylor (Labour)***

*Council Appointments inc:* Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, Joint Plans Panel and North and East Plans Panel.

*Appointments to outside bodies etc:* Cluster - NETWORKS (Meanwood and Chapel Allerton) and People First



##### **Inner North East Area Committee Community Safety Champion**

#### **The ward as a place:**

Chapel Allerton ward is socio-economically and culturally diverse and is situated just north of the city centre. It contains some of the most deprived areas in the city in the neighbourhoods of Chapeltown, Beckett and Scott Hall. In contrast Chapel Allerton village has prospered with more businesses moving in, house prices increasing and an explosion of a bar and restaurant culture.

Historically Chapel Allerton and Chapeltown were essentially interchangeable as names for what we now know as Chapel Allerton. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century

the Chapeltown area was probably the most affluent part of Leeds and saw the first signs of the outward spread of residence and development as the city expanded. Many of the large terraced housing and tree lined streets remain, providing arguably some of the grandest properties and street scenes in Leeds.

Recently Chapeltown attracted funding through the Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) bringing £1.1m of investment into restoring historic buildings along Chapeltown Road within its conservation area.

Buildings have been adapted over the years by successive communities who have settled in the area as places of worship and for a range of social uses. Chapeltown is now the centre of the city's British African-Caribbean community.

The Chapel Allerton part of the ward has become a much sought after place to live, particularly amongst young professionals. It is lively and has a developing arts culture with active involvement from local residents and businesses, supporting keenly by local ward members. Ward Members have been very keen to provide support to the village centre through public realm improvements (e.g. festive lights, planting/summer flowers, new railings). They see this is an important contribution to helping the local economy in these difficult times.

There are a large number of active community groups across the ward which are supported by the local ward members.

#### **Socio-economic/demographic description of the Ward:**

The resident population of Chapel Allerton ward is 20,889, 2.91% of the Leeds Local Authority living in 10,600 households. The ward can be broken down into three key areas;

##### *Chapel Allerton Village*

- Ranked 77 on the Leeds Neighbourhood Index it covers the wider Chapel Allerton village area
- Contains approximately 7,000 people living in 3,200 households.
- Has a higher than average proportion of working age people.
- Has a diverse ethnic population with 21% of people coming from BME communities.
- 75% of households are in owner occupation and 14% are rented in the private sector. Semi detached housing accounts for 42% of the stock with terraced housing accounting for a further 30%. Just over 52% of properties are classified in Council Tax bands A and B with 31% in C.
- Across the individual domains the scores are generally higher than the averages for the city

##### *Chapeltown*

- Is ranked 7th in the Leeds Neighbourhood Index, the lowest in Inner North East.
- It contains approximately 8,100 people living in 4,100 households.

- The age breakdown shows a slightly higher than average proportion of children and young people.
- The area has a diverse ethnic and cultural population with over 60% of people coming from BME communities (predominantly Black Caribbean, Pakistani and Indian), 17% of the population are Muslim and 7% are Sikh.
- 51% of households are in owner-occupation, 21% are renting from the local authority (through an ALMO) and 12% are privately rented. Terraced housing accounts for 36% of the stock and semi-detached housing for a further 32%. Just over 25% of stock is flats or bedsits. 59% of properties are classified in Council Tax Band A and 30% Band B.
- Scores are lower than average for the city across all Neighbourhood Index domains but notably for Low Income (where it is ranked 1) and Economic Activity (where it is ranked 9).

#### *Meanwood 6 Estates*

- This area is ranked 21 on the Leeds Neighbourhood Index and covers the estates of Beckhills, Miles Hills, Potternewton, Sholebroses and Scott Hall Road area and Farmhills and Sugarwells.
- This area contains approximately 6,400 people living in 2,650 households.
- Age breakdown shows a higher than average proportion of children and young people.
- The area has a diverse ethnic population with 22% of people coming from BME communities.
- 50% of households are renting from the local authority (through an ALMO) and 33.5% are owner-occupiers. Semi-detached housing accounts for 36% of the stock, terraced housing for 30% and purpose built flats a further 20%. 75% of properties are classified in Council Tax Band A.
- Across the neighbourhood index the scores are lower than the averages for the city, most notably within the Economic Activity and Health domains.

#### **Schools**

- Six primary schools in the area – Bracken Edge, Chapel Allerton, Hillcrest, Holy Rosary and St Anne's Catholic Primary school, Millfield and St Matthew's Cof E – that sit in the CHESS cluster of schools.
- No high schools in the area and so most pupils have to travel out to Carr Manor, Allerton Grange and Roundhay schools in neighbouring Moortown and Roundhay wards and other secondary schools in the wider area, some travelling as far as Wetherby.
- The Chapel Allerton ward is one of those being significantly affected by the increase in birth rates and is an area in need of an increase in primary education provision. Bracken Edge Primary school has already been expanded to accommodate this.
- Miles Hill primary school was on Beckhill Approach, and had 170 pupils. The school was closed in 2007, and demolished in 2008. At the same time the estate children's play area in the former school grounds was closed

and the site is still not in use although it has been recently linked with regeneration plans through either the Housing PFI Round 6 or the Affordable Housing Strategy.

### **Main council facilities (including parks, visitor attractions etc)**

- There are four major parks which are all well used and supported by Members:
  - ◊ Potternewton Park – a spacious and attractive park that has recently benefited from a number of improvements and is also a base for the Chapeltown Carnival activities.
  - ◊ Norma Hutchinson Park – smaller playground and sports field, previously called Buslingthorpe Recreation Ground it was renamed in 2009 to commemorate the local councillor Norma Hutchinson who died in 2004.
  - ◊ Potternewton Playing Fields
  - ◊ Chapel Allerton park
  - ◊ Reginald Park – newly built behind The Reginald Centre
- Scott Hall Leisure centre – very well used and refurbishment costing £0.5m in 2009 for new changing facilities and gym extension. The centre would still benefit for further investment which Members are keen to see.
- There are three council run community centres in the ward Prince Philip Centre, Mandela Centre and Palace. Ward members have recently invested some of their Ward Based Initiative funding to provide improvements at Mandela and Palace which are part of the delegated portfolio of the Area Committee. The Area Support team continue to provide help to develop sustainable activity and centre management arrangements.
- Chapel Allerton and Chapeltown both have their own libraries with the Chapeltown one now being based in the new Reginald Centre
- There are five Children's Centres that serve the area in Chapeltown, Scott Hall, Chapel Allerton, Meanwood and Shakespeare Children's Centre.

### **Main non-council facilities:**

The area is home to a wide range of community and creative organisations including:

- Feel Good Factor – a very successful local community sector organisation which has attracted investment in renovating a council property in Chapeltown (large terraced house) to base their activity from. They are commissioned by the PCT/NHS to provide local health advocacy, training and advice. Their Chair, Andy Taylor, is an ex-Director of LCC and also is involved in Unity Housing locally. They are supported by local members.
- Northern School of Contemporary Dance, a modern conservatoire dance school recognised as a world-class contemporary dance institution with nearly 200 students. Based in a old synagogue on Chapeltown Road
- Host Media centre – providing good quality office space to new/small businesses. Renovated building which received funding via Yorkshire Forward/EU. Now run by Unity Housing on behalf of Leeds City Council.



- Leeds West Indian Centre (famous for its club nights, particularly the monthly *SubDub*) and Chapeltown Carnival which is second only in size to London's Notting Hill Carnival, and is Europe's longest-standing Caribbean carnival.
- East Street Arts at Union 105 (Chapeltown Road).
- Seven Arts Café and Performance Centre in Chapel Allerton Village.
- RJC Dance Studios at the Mandela Centre.
- Chapel Allerton Hospital is one of Leeds' main hospitals, though it does not have an Accident and Emergency department.
- Meanwood Urban Valley Farm - a registered charity opened in 1980, spans a 16.5 acre site and is open to visitors every day. The services delivered to the community include, environmental education services to schools, holiday play schemes, employment and training programmes and a leisure resource that is open to visitors every day. The project is supported by the ward members and has received Area Committee funding to deliver a summer activity programme for young people.
- Stainbeck Police Station in Chapel Allerton is the divisional headquarters for the large North East Leeds division, covering as far out as Wetherby.
- Chapel Allerton Lawn Tennis and Squash Club - which is 132 years old.

### **Development/regeneration plans**

There are two priority neighbourhoods in the Chapel Allerton area - Chapeltown & Scott Hall and Meanwood 6 estates.

Despite being situated directly adjacent to each other the two neighbourhoods have a very different physical appearance, notably in housing stock. Meanwood is largely post war estate type and system built properties, Chapeltown significantly older and more diverse. The ethnic make up of the two estates is also different with Chapeltown having a far greater diversity by comparison with Meanwood which is a largely White British neighbourhood. However as would be expected in deprived urban estates the issues encountered are similar although the tactics and challenges different.

Chapeltown was a SSCF funded Intensive Neighbourhood Management area and as such benefited from increased funding and from a Neighbourhood Manager coordinating local service delivery and increasing local engagement during this time. In Meanwood, while work has taken place historically it has not had the intensity of coordination and improvement of a Neighbourhood Manager.

However, with the support of local members the Area Committee now funds the Neighbourhood Manager post and their remit is to cover the two priority neighbourhoods of Chapeltown and Meanwood. They are currently focusing on establishing a "team neighbourhood" approach, building on local tasking arrangements, and establishing resident led Community Leadership Teams.

The area also benefits from a number of additional regeneration plans in various stages of development, these include:

- Townscape Heritage Initiative Project being undertaken on improving shop frontages in Chapeltown Road
- PFI Round 6 housing project which is looking to develop Brownfield sites within the Beckhills, part of Meanwood 6 estates.
- Affordable Housing project which is also looking to develop additional properties in the Meanwood 6 estates area.
- A feasibility study examining the potential regeneration of the three Local Authority owned community centres within Chapeltown has been completed and is hoped will act to start identifying investment opportunities for these and link them to an overarching community centres strategy.

### **Key Priorities/Areas of Concern**

- High infant mortality rate at 10.9 per 1000 (highest nationally outside London) in Chapeltown (although there appears to be some questioning of the validity of these statistics).
- Continuing the investment momentum along the Chapeltown Road corridor with enforcement on empty/derelict sites along Chapeltown Road where necessary.
- Reduce the benefit dependency and worklessness in both areas.
- Reduce ASB and burglary and concern about crime.
- Improve the street and open space environment within the Meanwood area.
- Improve engagement with young people and provision of accessible services for them (utilising the voluntary sector and high schools).

### **Key Successes:**

- Improvements to the long standing derelict spaces on Chapeltown Road and positive momentum for inward investment along this key corridor.
- The new Reginald Centre is now open and offers a wide range of council and health facilities for residents, including a job shop and the new Reginald Park had a successful open day and is now an attractive well used local park.
- The improvement of key relationships amongst the council, police, housing and community sector has seen more effective local working and greater involvement of elected members in helping make a difference – all supported by the work of the Area Support Team.
- A series of coordinated clean up days and enforcement activities have taken place utilising different services in Meanwood and improving cleanliness.
- A multi agency operation has been running in the Meanwood area targeting ASB and criminal activities and promoting public confidence. This has resulted in a dramatic increase in reporting to the Police and partner agencies and through coordinated responses significantly improved the effectiveness of interventions. The operation has been identified by Safer Leeds as good practice and sits within the local development of a “Team Meanwood” by Area Management.

- Chapel Allerton had a successful Festive Lights Switch On with 2012 being the biggest and best event yet.

## **MOORTOWN WARD**

### **Ward Members:**

#### ***Councillor Sharon Hamilton (Labour)***

Council Appointments inc: Joint plans panel and Plans Panel (City Centre).

Appointments to outside bodies etc: Cluster - NEXT (North East Extended Together: Moortown and Roundhay) and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority



**Inner North East Area Committee environmental sub-group**

#### ***Councillor Alex Sobel (Labour)***

Council Appointments inc: Member Management Committee and Scrutiny Board (Children and Families).

Appointments to outside bodies etc: Adoption Panel – Leodis, ALMO East North East Area Panel and Leeds Jewish Welfare Board.



#### ***Councillor Rebecca Charlwood (Labour)***

Council Appointments inc: Licensing Committee.

Appointments to outside bodies etc: ALMO - East/North East Homes Leeds, Dial Leeds, Leeds Women's Aid and Moor Allerton Elderly Care



**Inner North East Area Committee wellbeing working group**

### **The ward as a place:**

The resident population of Moortown is 22,065, 3% of the Leeds area, and whilst the ward as a whole is relatively affluent, 2 neighbourhoods around the Queenshills, including the Leafields, and Stainbeck Ave continue to experience high levels of deprivation. The ward essentially covers the two areas known as Meanwood (although some of this area is also found in Chapel Allerton and Weetwood wards) and Moortown. The area further north than the ring road is often referred to as Moortown but is in the Alwoodley ward.

The name Meanwood goes back to the 12th century, and is of Anglo-Saxon derivation: the Meene wude was the boundary wood of the Manor of Alreton. Dwellings and farms near the wood were known by a variety of local names including Meanwoodside until 27 August 1847 when the parish of Meanwood was established.

Captain Lawrence Oates (of the ill-fated Scott expedition to Antarctica) often resided in Meanwood. There is a monument to his bravery located close to Holy Trinity Church and the Lawrence Oates School (closed 1992) was named after him. There is also a new monument in Meanwood Park.

A skirmish, between Royalist and Parliamentary forces, also took place in Meanwood, during the English Civil War. It is said that the "Beck ran red", with the blood of the fallen, hence, the place name "Stainbeck".

There are a number of nineteenth-century industrial buildings in Meanwood Valley at the sides of Meanwood Beck as the Meanwood Valley was a place of industry as long ago as 1577 and continued up to the nineteenth century, with the Meanwood Beck (then much larger) providing water and power for mills (corn, flax, paper), dye works and tanneries.

The 1841 census listed 144 houses, including 3 large ones, Carr House (Carr Manor), Meanwood Hall and Whalley House (now demolished). Most were stone cottages, now gone, with the exception of a few houses on Monkbridge Road. Hustler's Row remains as a group of 1850 stone cottages, named after John Husler, a quarry owner. Most houses today are located in council and private estates, including the most recent large development of the Woodleas, just off Tongue Road.

The area is covered by a number of active community groups, mainly based around environmental concerns. They include Friends of Meanwood Park, Friends of Highwoods, Moortown in Bloom, Meanwood Valley Partnership and Friends of Allerton Grange (although the Allerton Grange boundaries both Moortown and Roundhay Wards). There is also a Moortown Community group who are producing a neighbourhood design statement for the area and are linked in with the Moortown in Bloom group.

### **Socio-economic/demographic description of the Ward:**

Moortown ward is broken down into three distinct areas, which whilst none are deprived as a whole do have pockets within them that include the Queenshills in the Carr Manor area and Stonegates in the Meanwood area.

#### **Carr Manor**

- Ranked as 61 on the Leeds Neighbourhood Index across the individual domains.
- The area is located in the Inner North East. It is bounded by the Ring Road to the north, Scott Hall Road to the east, Stainbeck Lane to the south before cutting back up through Meanwood.
- It contains approximately 8,300 people living in 3,300 households.
- The age breakdown shows a higher than average proportion of older people.
- Within the low income domain the area has a slightly higher than average proportion of older person households that are in receipt of LA administered benefits.
- The area has a diverse ethnic and cultural population with 25% of people coming from BME communities; 6% of the population are Jewish, a further 6% Sikh, 5% Muslim and 3.5% Hindu.
- Owner-occupation is the predominant tenure although 13% of households are renting from the local authority (through an ALMO).

- Semi-detached housing accounts for 66% of the stock with purpose built flats accounting for 18%.
- Almost 32% of properties are classified in Council Tax Bands A and B and a further 53.5% in Band C.

### **Meanwood**

- Ranked 59 on the Leeds Neighbourhood Index, the lowest in Moortown ward.
- The area is located in the Inner North East. It is bounded by the Ring Road to the north, Parkside Road to the west, cutting down to Green Road and along to the junction of Meanwood Road and Grove Lane, then along Stainbeck Road before cutting up to take in the Parklands to rejoin the Ring Road.
- It contains approximately 7,000 people living in 3,000 households.
- The age breakdown broadly reflects the averages for the city with a diverse ethnic population with 18% of people coming from BME communities.
- Owner-occupation is the predominant tenure although 16% of households are renting from a housing association or other registered social landlord.
- Semi-detached housing accounts for 50% of the stock with detached housing accounting for 20% and terraced housing a further 16%.
- 40% of properties are classified in Council Tax Bands A and B and 40% in Band C.
- It should be noted that in the health domain it has a higher than average incidence of circulatory disease mortality.

### **Moortown Central**

- Ranked 89 on the Leeds Neighbourhood Index the area performs above the city averages in all domains.
- The area is located in the Inner North East. It is bounded by the Ring Road to the north and stretches down through central Moortown as far as Allerton Grange.
- It contains approximately 8,200 people living in 3,000 households.
- The age breakdown shows a much higher than average proportion of older people.
- The area has a diverse ethnic and cultural population with 21% of people coming from BME communities. Almost 12% of the population are Jewish and over 6% are Sikh.
- Owner-occupation is the predominant tenure although 10% of households are renting from private landlords. 57% of the stock is semi-detached housing, 22% purpose built flats and a further 14% is detached housing.
- Almost 75% of properties are classified in Council Tax bands C – E. Although it should be noted that within the housing domain the area records a significant number of properties that have been empty for 90+ days and also high levels of housing turnover.

**Schools:**

- There are four primary schools in the area – Carr Manor, Moortown, St Urban's and Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Primary School.
- There are also two high schools Carr Manor and Cardinal Heenan Catholic High, this and the catholic primary school reflect the long standing catholic community in the ward. Both high schools have been rebuilt and redeveloped under the Private Finance Initiative.
- Pupils also travel to Allerton Grange High school, which is just across the ward boundary in Roundhay ward.
- Moortown ward is affected by the rise in birth rates and the age range of Carr Manor High School now goes from 4 to 18 to make it a through school. The primary provision has been established on land adjacent to the school and has been open since September 2012.

**Main council facilities (including parks, visitor attractions etc):**

There is only one major park in the area - Meanwood Park.

- It covers approximately 29 hectares, and has large open areas and mature trees. Meanwood Beck runs through it, crossed by many small footbridges. The southern end has a children's playground, recently redeveloped, a new older children's playground and an area with picnic tables.
- The park does suffer from a large number of professional dog walkers in the area and the recent implementation of the Dog Control Orders met with negative feedback from them.
- The Meanwood Valley Trail passes through Meanwood Park. It is believed that the artist John Atkinson Grimshaw based some of his fairy paintings in Meanwood Park.

There are however a number of other green spaces in the area including:

- The Meanwood Valley, which acts as a green corridor linking countryside to the inner city.
- Playing fields at Carr Manor and King Alfred's, which are subject to discussions for improvements.
- Moorland Rise, Parkside and Stonegate Road allotments which are all well used and an important resource for the local community.
- There are no council run community centres in the ward but just outside, in Weetwood ward, is Meanwood Community Centre.
- There is also a children's centre at Carr Manor Children's Centre.

**Main non-council facilities:**

- Moortown ward has seven places of worship with both a synagogue and catholic church, which reflects its longstanding Jewish and Roman Catholic communities, these are; Immaculate Heart of Mary RC Church, Moortown Baptist Church, Moortown Methodist Church, Meanwood Methodist Church, Meanwood Valley Baptist Church, All Nations Community Church and Sinai Synagogue.

- The area has two main shopping centres at Meanwood junction and Moortown corner. The shopping centre at Meanwood has recently seen the opening of a Waitrose shopping centre and three new bars which is helping to improve the area and increase its desirability. The rest of the shops, and some of those at Moortown corner, however have seen better days. Near to Moortown Corner is a large Marks and Spencer Simply Food supermarket, serving the wealthy North Leeds population.
- Moortown has a number of none council community venues that can be rented, including Meanwood Cricket Club and Meanwood Working Men's Club, but the largest and most well used is the Marjorie and Arnold Ziff Centre at Moortown. The centre opened in 2005 and is the hub of all major Jewish activities in the city. Marjorie Ziff has been made an MBE for services to the community in Leeds. The 81-year-old has served the city's Jewish community for nearly 60 years alongside her husband, Arnold, who died in 2004. Their charitable donations have supported dozens of local and international groups, including Leeds Jewish Blind Society, Leeds Metropolitan University and the Royal College of Music. The building also houses the local Jewish radio station Radio JCom, who have been supported through Area Committee wellbeing funding in the past to help them become established.
- Moortown is home to St Gemma's Hospice for the terminally ill. It is situated to the south of Moortown Corner on Harrogate Road. They have many charity shops around Leeds, assisting funding for the hospice.
- Numerous sporting clubs exist in Moortown ward including Moor Allerton Sports and Social Centre, which has bowls, tennis and indoor activities, a Rugby Union football club and two cricket clubs. The Meanwood Cricket Club has existed since 1870, and their present ground since 1895. The cricket club won the League Cup a record six times 1989-2002, appearing in eight finals in the space of 12 years and also claimed a League and Cup double in 1998.

#### **Key priorities and regeneration plans:**

- Part of the Moor Allerton Partnership (MAP) priority neighbourhood area falls within the Moortown Ward and an action plan has been developed to tackle inequalities which are seen on the Queenshill Estate.
- Offices of the Leeds Jewish Housing Association, who have recently redeveloped the area for the benefit of its clients with additional housing, including sheltered housing.
- Plans are being submitted for the former Yorkshire Bank site for redevelopment which will attract a significant section 106 amount to be used to provide improvements to greenspace in the area subject to agreement and consultation.

#### **Key successes:**

- Relationship with local community groups in Meanwood and Moortown in order to organise Christmas Lights Switch Ons and sponsorship of Festive Lights

- Meanwood Park, improving and aiming for Green Flag status, recently had the Children's playground renovated and heritage lighting has been installed through the park.
- In the Stonegates there has been an increase in reporting which is welcomed. Anecdotal information from surveys and visitors to agencies indicates that this work has seen a significant improvement in the estate already and this continues to improve through the strong partnership that has been established. The work in the Stonegates has proved so successful it was the subject of a best practise visit by the Chief Constable for West Yorkshire and has also been mirrored in the approach being taken in another part of the city.

## **ROUNDHAY WARD**

### **Ward Members:**

#### ***Councillor Ghulam Hussain (Labour)***

*Council Appointments inc:* Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, Licensing Committee, Licensing Sub Committee (SEV's), Scrutiny Board (Health and Well-being and Adult Social Care) and Scrutiny Board (Regeneration),

*Appointments to outside bodies etc:* Leeds Faith Forum, Leeds Racial Equality Council and Locality Board - East North East Area Leadership Team.



#### **Inner North East Area Committee Chair**

#### **Inner North East Area Committee Environmental Champion**

#### **Inner North East Area Committee environmental sub-group (chair)**

#### ***Councillor Christine Macniven (Labour)***

*Council Appointments inc:* Joint Plans Panel, North and East Plans Panel, North East (Inner) Area Committee and Scrutiny Board (Resources and Council Services).

*Appointments to outside bodies etc:* Care and Repair (Leeds), Cluster - NEXT (North East Extended Together: Moortown and Roundhay), Community Action for Roundhay Elderly, HCT Group Regional Advisory Committee, Leeds Ahead Board, Leeds Partnerships NHS Foundation Trust and Roseville Advisory Board.



#### **Inner North East Area Committee Children's Champion**

#### **Inner North East Area Committee wellbeing working group**

#### ***Councillor Bill Urry (Labour)***

*Council Appointments inc:* Scrutiny Board (Children and Families) and Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture).

*Appointments to outside bodies etc:* ALMO East North East Area Panel, Re'new (Leeds) Ltd and WYITA Passenger Transport Consultative Committee.



#### **Inner North East Area Committee Health and Wellbeing champion**



## **The ward as a place:**

The population of Roundhay Ward is 22,837. Although the ward as a whole is largely affluent and prosperous (e.g. neighbourhoods of Roundhay, Oakwood and Street Lane), two neighbourhoods around the Lincombe and Brackenwood areas continue to display higher levels of deprivation.

The word 'Roundhay' comes from 'Rond-haeg', a round hunting enclosure or deer park and was first mentioned in about 1153. It was formerly a hunting park for the DeLacy family of Pontefract Castle. Later on coal and iron ore were mined and a smelting furnace is recorded in 1295. Once these were exhausted (woodland had been burned for fuel) the area turned to farming, with a small township until 1803.

In this year the park estate was bought by Thomas Nicholson, who commenced an extensive programme of landscaping and also built himself a grand Mansion House. This area is now known as Roundhay Park the “jewel in the crown of Leeds” and the toast of the city after joining four other parks in being awarded the prestigious Green Flag award. Roundhay Park comprises over 700 acres of parkland, lakes and woodland.

After the Second World War housing continued to fill in available spaces, with smaller residences built in the grounds of larger ones, and large houses being converted to flats, a process which still continues today, often bringing with it the kind of issues associated with Houses of Multiple Occupation.

Oakwood is home to the Oakwood Clock, a large clock that was built in 1904 by Potts and Sons to the design of Leeming and Leeming and is sited at the bottom end of Roundhay Park. It was first designed as the centrepiece of Kirkgate Market, Leeds and after the design of Kirkgate Market was revised it was considered that this clock would no longer be suitable for the building, and the idea to place it in Oakwood came about. The clock is now in a bad state of repair and a survey that was carried out last year put the cost of renovation at around £100k. A new community group has recently been set up and are trying to raise funding for this by a number of means including a raffle. Local Roundhay ward members have donated £10,000 of wellbeing funding to the cause.

## **Socio-economic/demographic description of the Ward:**

The area is broken down into four super output areas, with two being more deprived than the other two. Compared to the rest of the city however the ward is not deprived.

### *Brackenwood and Gledhow*

- This area is ranked 75 on the Leeds Neighbourhoods Index. Across the individual domains the scores are generally higher than the averages for the city, the only exception being the health domain where the score is slightly lower than the average for the city.
- It contains approximately 6,100 people living in 2,500 households.

- The age breakdown broadly reflects the averages for the city.
- It should also be noted that in the education domain the area performs less well in terms of achievement at the foundation stage.
- The area has a diverse ethnic population with 16% of people coming from BME communities.
- Owner-occupation is the predominant tenure although 19% of households are renting from the local authority (through ENE Homes ALMO). Semi-detached housing accounts for 48% of the stock, purpose built flats 18% and detached housing 15%.
- 43% of properties classified in Council Tax Bands A-B and 49% in Bands C-E.

#### Oakwood and Gipton Wood

- This area is ranked 60 on the Leeds Neighbourhood Index. Across the individual domains the scores are generally slightly higher than the averages for the city.
- It contains approximately 8,400 people living in 2,800 households.
- The area has a diverse ethnic and cultural population with 32% of people coming from BME communities (predominantly Indian and Pakistani). 12% of the population are Muslim and almost 5% are Sikh.
- 78% of households are in owner-occupation. Semi-detached housing accounts for 50% of the stock with detached housing accounting for 20%.
- Just under 66% of properties are classified in Council Tax Bands B and C.

#### Roundhay

- This area is ranked 96 on the Leeds Neighbourhood Index. The area performs above the city averages in all domains.
- It contains approximately 6,400 people living in 2,200 households.
- The area has a diverse ethnic population with 20% of people coming from BME communities.
- Owner-occupation is the predominant tenure. Almost 70% of the stock is semi-detached housing, and a further 13% is detached housing.
- Almost 73% of properties are classified in Council Tax bands C – E.

#### Roundhay Park

- This area is ranked 88 on the Leeds Neighbourhood Index. The area performs above the city averages in all domains although it should be noted that within the housing domain the area records a significant number of properties that have been empty for 90+days.
- The area is located in the Inner North East and is bounded to the north by Shadwell Lane, to the east by the Ring Road, to the south by Roundhay Park itself before cutting up through Roundhay.
- It contains approximately 6,000 people living in 2,500 households.
- Age breakdown shows a slightly higher than average proportion of older people.
- The area has a diverse ethnic population with 15% of people coming from BME communities. Over 8% of the population are Jewish.
- Owner-occupation is the predominant tenure although 14% of households are renting from a private landlord. 33% of the stock is semi-detached housing, 24% purpose built flats and a further 22% is detached housing.

- Over 44% of properties are classified in Council Tax bands D-H.

### **Schools**

- Roundhay ward is served by five primary schools Roundhay School, Gledhow Primary School, Talbot Primary School, Kerr Mackie Primary School and St. John's Church of England Primary School.
- There are two high schools: Roundhay and Allerton Grange, which is on the border with Moortown.
- There is also the East Specialist Inclusive Learning Centre on the eastern edge of the ward.
- Roundhay High School is a 'high-performing' 11–18 comprehensive school with technology specialist status. In 2004 it celebrated its centenary, which coincided with the transformation of its buildings and facilities by a massive rebuilding and investment programme. It is one of the most over-subscribed schools in Leeds and was found by Ofsted in May 2012 that 'Roundhay is a good school. It does many things outstandingly well. In particular, the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the students is outstanding.'
- The ward is affected by the rise in birth rates, particularly because the schools in the area are for the main already oversubscribed. This is an issue that ward members are concerned about.

### **Main council facilities (including parks, visitor attractions etc)**

- Roundhay Park is a grand, Victorian park, over 700 acres (2.8 km<sup>2</sup>) of parkland, lakes and woodland and the only major park in the area. It includes scented gardens for the blind, National Plant Collections, Canal Gardens, the Monet and Alhambra Gardens, plus Tropical World which attracts visitors all year round. In 2005 the Friends Garden was opened, located alongside Canal Gardens and the Rainbow Garden. The Upper Lake is maintained as a wildlife area, and the larger Waterloo Lake is used for fishing. Roundhay Park also provides the venue for many special events including sporting events, flower and animal shows, music festivals/concerts and a bonfire and firework display. Facilities at Roundhay Park also include tennis courts, a skateboard park, sports pitches, bowling greens, a sports arena, a golf course and fishing. The popular lakeside cafe overlooks Waterloo Lake: it was damaged by fire in 2007 but restored and re-opened in 2008.
- The Park is also home to The Mansion built in 1811. The Mansion stood empty for many years following the departure a catering firm. However events and catering company 'Dine' were appointed by Leeds City Council to run The Mansion and in 2009, after substantial refurbishment and gaining a civil ceremony licence, The Mansion re-opened to the public. The venue now contains a restaurant and cafe, a visitor's centre and also hosts private functions.
- The other greenspaces in the area include Gipton Wood, Gledhow Valley Wood, The Bumps playspace (refurbished recently to a high standard) and Gledhow Valley, Lidgett Lane and Roundhay Allotments. Local residents have established "Friends of" groups to promote and protect most of these parks and green spaces including Roundhay Park and Gledhow Valley

Woods. These voluntary groups work together with the Council and other agencies to protect and enhance the natural beauty of these areas. Ward members are well connected to the groups and supportive of their aims and priorities.

- Sports/Play pitches – adjacent to Roundhay Park is a vast complex of sports pitches (mainly football and cricket) known as Soldiers Field, These are very well used, particularly on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings.
- Roundhay Planning Forum is a local voluntary group who were set up to produce a Roundhay Design Statement, which is now completed and has been accepted as supplementary planning guidance. They also get involved in other planning issues from a community perspective.
- There is a library in the ward situated in Oakwood.
- There is a community centre at Brackenwoods (most other venues are based around local places of worship).

#### **Main non-council facilities:**

- There are seven places of worship in Roundhay ward, predominantly Christian; All Nations Community Church, St. Edmunds CE Church, Roundhay Methodist Church, Lidgett Park Methodist Church, St. Andrew's URC Church, Roundhay Evangelical Church, Society of Friends (Quakers) and Sinai Synagogue. Other religions are served by places of worship in surrounding wards.
- The area around the Oakwood clock is the site of the very successful Oakwood Farmers' market. Held on the third Saturday of the month since March, 2008 it is organised by local residents in conjunction with *Roundhay Environmental Action Project*. It was the second farmers' market in Leeds to receive FARMA accreditation due to its true local nature. Regular stalls and 'feature' stalls provide a range of local products including: jams, meats, eggs, chocolates, bread and wide range of locally grown fruits and vegetables. Seasonal holidays are celebrated with local musicians, artists and performers.
- The main shopping areas in the ward are at Oakwood and Street Lane. There are several public houses, banks and shops along Street Lane. At the opposite end of the park at Oakwood Clock, there are two supermarkets, a Co-op and a Tesco. Away from Street Lane, various areas of Roundhay have other local amenities (corner shops etc.).
- Roundhay is home to Leeds Carnegie RUFC, who were originally founded after the merger of the Headingley and Roundhay Rugby Union Clubs, and the Roundhegians who were originally the old boys association of Roundhay School but now operate as a Rugby Club for the whole of Roundhay. They play at their Chelwood Drive ground at the west end of Roundhay, near Moortown. Leeds Golf Club is situated within Roundhay Park and is the home to Del Verde Mediterranean restaurant.
- Other sporting and activity venues in the area include Gledhow Sports and Social Club, North Leeds Bowling Club, North Leeds Cricket Club, 208 Squadron Air Training Corps and the White Rose Canoe Club based at Roundhay Park.

## **Key Priorities/Areas of Concern**

- The Open Door project is a community building (owned by LCC) on the shopping parade on Lidgett Lane, initially funded through West Yorkshire Police paying the peppercorn rent and utilities bills. The facility was open to support tackling anti-social behaviour in the area and to provide a building for various local partners to deliver services from. Unfortunately due to lack of local use this facility has now been closed and discussions are taking place with third sector providers in the hope this building can continue to have some community access.
- Planning applications have been approved for the redevelopment and extension of the Tesco site on Roundhay Road. There was mixed response to the development with concern that it will negatively impact on the smaller businesses in the Oakwood Centre. The scheme is currently awaiting progress from Tesco's.

## **Key successes**

- Area Committee Wellbeing funding has continued to enable festive lights in both the Oakwood and Street Lane shopping parades aimed at attracting shoppers and supporting the local business community.
- Roundhay Park is a key attraction in the area and wellbeing funding has been used to increase local use. A new Roundhay parkrun has been established by a local group and an Olympic style sports day was held in the summer.
- The Area Support Team supported Roundhay Environmental Action Project (REAP) in putting on their first and second Roundhay Live events. The team were also in attendance on the day and spoke to a wide range of local residents about the area.
- The Community Payback team paid for by the Area Committee has been used to great effect on Geldhow Valley Wood road clearing leaves and general accumulation of rubbish.
- Wellbeing funding has also supported the Roundhay Planning Forum to produce a Neighbourhood Design Statement for the area to supplement the city's LDF.

## Section 6

### **2013/14 Priorities – Supporting Leeds be the Best City ...**

Below outlines the Area Committee priorities and actions for 2013/14 along with progress made to date in relation to each. The Area Committee priorities will be reviewed annually. This is what the Area Committee will do based on the new integrated locality working design principles and follows outcome based accountability methodology. Baseline data and performance measures will be agreed with partners and set out in the progress reporting to the Area Committee.

#### **Health and Wellbeing**

1. Promote healthy life choices to the community and run projects that support this, for example stop smoking initiatives.
2. Tackle health inequalities across the area.
3. Run projects and work with other organisations to address money poverty issues people are experiencing.
4. Increase walking and cycling through improving and promoting local walking/cycling routes, including ginnels.

#### **Children and Young People**

5. Reduce the number of young people not in Employment, Education or Training.
6. Tackle child poverty and support the setting up of an Inner North East food bank.
7. Increase activities in the area for young people, particularly during the holidays.
8. Build better links between local schools and community groups.

#### **Living Environment**

9. Protect green spaces, including use of environmental enforcement and action
10. Improve local green spaces and parks, including Allerton Grange fields.
11. Encourage local food growing at home and other suitable public areas.
12. Support allotments through reducing waiting lists and improving security.
13. Reduce the number of empty homes and derelict properties, where appropriate through planning enforcement.

#### **Communities**

14. Tackle inappropriate parking in both residential and commercial areas.
15. Improve highways through the influence of local highways schemes and identification of key roads.
16. Support events that bring people together and improve community spirit and relations.
17. Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour through partnership working with the police and other agencies.

#### **Business**

18. Creation of jobs and training for local people, to link in with possible new free wifi scheme.
19. Better reuse of old buildings, not just for housing.
20. Improve local shopping areas through floral initiatives and festive lights.

## Section 7

### Priority Neighbourhoods

The Area Committee has agreed to establish and support five priority neighbourhoods in the Inner East area with effect from April 2010. These are:

- ✓ Chapeltown (inc. Scothalls)
- ✓ Meanwood7 Estates (inc. Stonegates)
- ✓ Moor Allerton (inc. Queenshills)

These priority neighbourhoods have also been agreed at city level through the corporate Neighbourhood Policy Group, at the East North East Officers Coordination Group and through area based partnerships such as the Divisional Community Safety Partnership and Children Services Leadership Teams

Each priority neighbourhood represents a gathering of super output areas (SOAs) that fall in the 10% most deprived according to the latest statistics.

**Neighbourhood Managers:** To support the development of new arrangements and the implementation of action plans for each priority neighbourhood, the Inner North East Area Committee fund one Neighbourhood Manager post within the Area Support team to report to the Area Committee. This is an annually reviewable funding agreement, with in principle agreement for 3 years.

**Neighbourhood Improvement Plans (NIPs):** The Neighbourhood Manager is responsible for pulling together annual Neighbourhood Improvement Plans (NIPs) for each of the priority neighbourhoods. Each NIP identifies the key domains that the Neighbourhood Index is showing as having the most urgent need to address and where appropriate target the super output areas (SOAs) that are demonstrating the greatest inequalities.

Each NIP will include:

- An introduction
- The top local priorities for the year from which the detailed action plan will be developed and implemented. These will be the main focus of partnership activity/actions for the year ahead and relate to the key inequalities that the Area Committee are seeking to make the greatest impact on
- Map of the area

- A summary of neighbourhood index analysis and where available annual neighbourhood surveys
- A framework for roles and responsibilities in delivering and overseeing the NIPs
- Action Plan

**Community Leadership Team:** The Area Committee aims to introduce a Community Leadership Team (CLT) for each priority neighbourhood. The key aims and purpose of each CLT is:

- To bring together residents from different parts of the community to form a team that can share knowledge and skills and build relationships between active residents.
- To support and develop existing civic roles of residents in the neighbourhood.
- To oversee the development and implementation of the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan (NIP) on behalf of the Area Committee.
- To report progress on the NIP to the Area Committee and raise concerns where it feels agreed priorities are not being adequately addressed.
- To provide opportunity for public debate on agreed local priorities.
- To provide a mechanism for local consultation to be steered through.

**Local Management Team:** Local Management Teams with representatives from service providers, including the voluntary and community sectors have responsibility for delivering the agreed Neighbourhood Improvement Plan (NIP).

This team will take responsibility for ensuring the delivery of the various actions, projects and initiatives taking place in the priority neighbourhood and support to the development of Team Neighbourhood.



## Section 8

### Partnership and Integrated Working:

Locality Working is about working better with a wide range of services, organisations and residents to improve the 'offer' in local communities. It focuses on better coordination and cohesive service delivery which is able to best meet the needs of local people.

Area Committee will nominate champions for partnership roles to support the locality agenda.

#### Current Area Committee Champions

Environmental Champion	Cllr Ghulam Hussain
Health and Well being Champion	Cllr Sharon Hamilton
Community Safety Champion	Cllr Eileen Taylor
Children's Champion	Cllr Christine Macniven
Area Employment, Enterprise and Training Partnership	Cllr Mohammed Rafique

East North East Leadership Team: The team was established in September 2011, chaired by a member of the corporate leadership team, and oversee the development and successful implementation of local integrated services that improve outcomes in east north east neighbourhoods.

The new locality working approach is outlined in the design principles agreed by Executive Board in December 2010 (a copy of the design principles is available on request).

## **Section 9**

### **Community Engagement Plan 2013-14**

#### **Introduction**

This 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.

It sets out how services will interact and build good relationships with residents across the neighbourhoods of Inner North East Leeds to identify and tackle issues that require services to plan and work together.

It is not a strategy for how individual services will engage with their own clients on delivering their own business objectives; although there will often be a cross over which provides opportunity for key partners to sign up to the strategy

There is a strong tradition of partnership working in the Inner North East area; the strategy seeks to build on that. It sets out a formal structure to how engagement will work in neighbourhoods, roles to be shared amongst partners and how the strategy will support development of a “team neighbourhood” approach to working in priority neighbourhoods.

The strategy will inform a forward plan for each ward which will set out a programme of partnership engagement for the year. This is not to say that this is everything that will happen, but provides a framework on which further local activities and events can be developed as opportunities and need arise.

#### **Background**

Area Committees in Leeds have a number of roles that have been delegated by Executive Board. One of those roles is “Community Engagement”. The role is formally defined as follows:

*Overview of local engagement activities linked to improvement of local services and Area Delivery Plan priorities.*

Area based community engagement plan to be produced setting out minimum standards including:

- Community profile – update of local intelligence twice a year with information about local stakeholders and how to reach local communities
- Calendar of planned communication and engagement activities - including a minimum of one ward based engagement event per annum linked to priority setting and themed discussions at Area Committees
- Additional activities with particular neighbourhoods and communities linked to Area Delivery Plan priorities
- Annual report to Area Committees and Executive Board to give overview of progress.

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.

The new approach enable a wider cross section of the community to be reached which represented the demographical make up of the area using new approaches, making the most of what is already out there.

What the existing arrangement and pilots have shown is that holding event/meeting led engagement alone will only reach those able and willing to come along. The capacity of local services to attend and hold such events are limited and so therefore are the opportunities for residents to have a say on how priorities are agreed.

- **How will we engage?**

When talking to partners the general opinion is that the public are still unaware of the Area Committee and it is important we raise its profile as well as consult them on a regular basis. Therefore we need to employ a range of methods and approaches giving people the maximum opportunity to access

information, engage and debate on local issues. To this end we will continue with the current engagement methods of:

- using existing opportunities where services/organisations already bring together residents that could potentially be used as mechanisms for discussion, debate and consultation. These are:
  - ⇒ School /Youth Councils
  - ⇒ Good Neighbour Schemes/Luncheon Clubs
  - ⇒ Disabled groups
  - ⇒ Parent Associations/Children Centre Parent Groups
  - ⇒ Tenant and Resident Associations
  - ⇒ Police and Communities Together (PACT) Meetings
  - ⇒ Community galas/school and church fairs
- 2 x community engagement events a year to fit in with the business plan planning cycle (formats to be agreed with relevant ward members to maximise attendance and local relevance)
- continued development of resident networks and priority neighbourhood surveys
- Police and Community Together (PACT) meetings every 4/6 weeks; with invited guests from partner agencies depending on priority issues raised by residents – with feedback on issues agreed at previous meeting
- meetings of new Community Leadership Teams (CLT) to oversee engagement, neighbourhood improvement plan progress and report to Area Committee. To incorporate an open meeting focusing on a key priority and a “have your say” item.
- community conference (as part of one of the above CLT meetings) which brings together front-line staff and residents to share information, build relationships and plan improvements for the coming year.
- Press Release after Area Committees
- Key messages to be sent out the local partners and groups after Area Committee
- Chapeltown and Harehills forum to be set up to look at Community Cohesion in the area
- Area Committees to be themed where possible to allow interest groups to choose relevant committees to attend
- Key groups also to be personally invited to Area Committee when relevant to help stimulate debate and get involved
- To continue to make sure the Inner North East community group database is up to date and we have email addresses and mobile numbers where available to facilitate quicker communication
- Use of current partner newsletters and websites to update people on the work of the area committee and consultation
- Use of citizens panel
- To investigate the use of social media and other technologies to increase communication channels
- Improve links with community radio stations in the area

All the above mechanisms demonstrate value for money and deliver the aim of improved communication efficiently given resources.

### **Area Committee Ambassadors**

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.

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. Ongoing support is available from the Area Support Team to all Ambassadors.

We currently have four Ambassadors from:

- Roundhay Environmental Action (REAP)
- Gledhow Valley Conservation Area
- Roundhay CARE Connect
- Friends of Allerton Grange

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.

The Area Committee will also hold a Volunteer Thank You event in the summer to say thank you to all those in the area who put in great effort to try and make the area better.

This Area Business Plan will also be produced in the form of a Community Charter for the Inner North East. This gives a chance for the Area Committee's priorities to be shared easily with the public, partners and organisations in the area to help facilitate partnership working and gives feedback from the previous year.

### **Community Leadership Teams in Priority Neighbourhoods**

The strategy includes the establishment of new Community Leadership Team (CLT) for each of the five priority neighbourhoods. The purpose of the CLT will be to:

- bring together residents from different parts of the community to form a team that can share knowledge and skills and build relationships between active residents
- support and develop existing civic roles of residents in the neighbourhood
- oversee the development and implementation of a Neighbourhood Improvement Plan (NIP) on behalf of the Area Committee

- report progress on the NIP to the Area Committee and raise concerns where it feels agreed priorities are not being adequately addressed
- provide opportunity for public debate on agreed local priorities
- provide a mechanism for local consultation to be steered through

Membership will be restricted to local councillors and residents only. The Area Committee appoints the Chair annually. The core membership will consist of:

- local Governing Bodies to nominate a parent or community governor resident in the area
- local tenant and resident associations to nominate a local resident
- Community Champions – selection to cover a range of skills and background
- youth councils and/or school councils to nominate local young people
- Good Neighbour and Elderly Action groups to nominate local older people
- local Children Centres to nominate a local parent from their advisory boards
- further places will be filled by local residents to bring contributions from the business sector, disabled residents and other significant elements of the community not represented through the above.

The CLT meetings will be open to the public to attend and will be split into 2 parts:

- (a) Business meeting (45mins) – covering responsibilities such as monitoring the NIP
- (b) Open meeting (45mins) – providing opportunity for discussion on an agreed local priority plus a “have your say” item at the end

Although the whole meeting will be open to the public to attend, the business meeting part will be restricted to discussion between the agreed membership through the Chair. This is to help ensure all members feel able to contribute with an equal voice and that business can be conducted within a manageable timeframe. This will allow more time for the second part of the meeting to be opened up to others present to contribute through the Chair. This part will be themed on a particular local priority identified in the NIP and enable relevant organisations to be present where appropriate.

The inaugural meeting of the Chapeltown Community Leadership Team will take place in March 2011 and the Meanwood meeting shortly after this.

## Section 10

### Commitment to Equalities and Cohesion:

Building on and simplifying the existing legal framework the Equalities Act 2010 requires public bodies to have:

- Due regard to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity, and;
- Foster good relations across all protected characteristics.

The ambition for Leeds is to be the best city in the UK. By adopting the Equalities Review definition of an equal society we place people at the heart of all that we do and value the contribution diversity has in all aspects of our lives. We recognise that there are still areas of inequalities. To help tackle these our approach to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration focuses on:

- the effects organisational barriers can have on a diverse population, and
- practical ways of removing or reducing those barriers.

Leeds City Council achieved an 'Excellent' standard for equalities in May 2011.

The Area Support team are responsible for ensuring that equality standards are embedded in all Area Committee work.

Community cohesion is a key priority for the Area Committee and their work within local communities is aimed at developing harmonious communities where people can come together in a spirit of cooperation to improve their area.

Project planning documents are completed for projects undertaken in the area which follow the Delivering Successful Change principles and also incorporate equalities screening.

All projects funded by Area Committee Well Being funding must demonstrate:

- Equality and diversity issues have been considered in the planning of the project.
- How equality and diversity issues have shaped the project delivery.
- What the impact of the project will be on different groups.
- How the project will promote good community relations between different groups.
- How barriers that might prevent different groups from being involved will be overcome.