

Report of Area Leader – South East Leeds

Report to South Leeds (Outer) Area Committee

Date: Wednesday 15th May 2013

Subject: Summary of Key Work

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Ardsley and Robin Hood Morley North Morley South Rothwell
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

This report presents an update on the key work taking place within the Outer South Leeds area, not covered elsewhere on the agenda

Recommendations

The Area Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate

1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To bring to Members' attention in a succinct fashion, a summary of key work which the Area Support Team are engaged in based on priorities identified by the Area Committee, that are not covered elsewhere on this agenda. It provides opportunities for further questioning or the opportunity to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

2.0 Background information

- 2.2 Members will recall at the July 2011 Area Committee, a revised title and format for this report was introduced based on proposed changes to the Leeds Initiative partnership and planning framework for the city and in an effort to be more focused on current priorities.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Area Chairs Forum

- 3.1.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2013 were approved at the meeting on 1st March 2013 and are attached at **Appendix 1**. The minutes of the meeting held on 1st March were approved at the meeting on 3rd May 2013 and are attached at **Appendix 1A**. The minutes of the 3rd May meeting will be approved at the next meeting scheduled for 13th June and minutes will be presented to a future Area Committee.

4.0 Updates by theme: Children & Families

4.1 Children & Young People's Working Group Update

- 4.1.1 The Outer South Children & Young People's Working Group next meet on Thursday 23rd May 2013. The group is currently reviewing the Terms of Reference and membership.

5.0 Updates by Theme: Sustainable Economy and Culture

5.1 Community Centres Sub Committee

- 5.1.1 The Community Centres Sub Committee last met on 27th February 2013 and draft minutes were included in previous papers. The next meeting takes place on 15th May and minutes will be presented to a future Area Committee.

5.2 Rose Lund Community Centre

- 5.2.1 As part of Environment and Neighbourhoods community centres review, a number of centres have been identified that would be more appropriately vested with another directorate due to the nature of the activities taking place. The Rose Lund Community Centre, Rothwell ward, is one of those identified, with the majority of activity being delivered by Children's Services. They provide Children's Centre services from the building Monday to Friday. There is some evening and weekend use by youth service and DAZL dance. Discussions have been held with Children's Services who are happy to take on this centre as it would enable them to enhance children's services in the area, particularly for two year olds. The revenue budget would transfer alongside the building so there would be no negative impact on Children's Services, or the users.

- 5.2.2 The Outer South Community Centres Sub Group are supportive of this proposal, as are Rothwell ward members although they would like Children's Services to promote the centre to local people through attendance at tenants and residents meetings.
- 5.2.3 The transfer from Environment and Neighbourhoods to Children's Services will take place when all reporting has been completed. This will then mean the centre will be taken out of the portfolio of centres delegated to Outer South Area Committee.
- 5.2 The Point Steering Group
- 5.2.1 The Point Steering Group last on 5th March 2013 and minutes and the minutes are attached at **Appendix 2**. The next meeting will take place on 1st July 2013, minutes will be presented to a future Area Committee.
- 5.3 Morley Empty Shops Fund
- 5.3.1 The Empty Shops Fund is available for shops in Morley and landlords can apply for a maximum of £2,600 towards the costs of replacing shop fronts. An application has been made for a new shop front at 30-32 Chapelhill, Morley. The application is currently being considered by Morley Town Centre Management Board. Area Committee will be kept informed of progress.
- 5.4 Wesley Street Public Conveniences
- 5.4.1 The public convenience at Wesley Street, Morley has been closed and unused for a number of years. It is located adjacent to a car park on the outskirts of the city centre. Wesley Street is a back street as opposed to a main thoroughfare and any change of use should only have a positive impact on the surrounding environment. Demolition of the building is estimated to be in the region of £25,000 and the Council would then retain the financial liability of managing the land. Disposal would create a capital receipt for the Council as well as save money on demolition and maintenance.
- 5.4.2 Before the building can be sold, it needs to be declared surplus to the requirements of Environment and Neighbourhoods. The Acting Chief Asset Management Officer will then be requested to authorise the property to be declared surplus to the Council's requirements and arrange for it to be sold.
- 5.4.3 Consultation has taken place with members of Morley Town Centre Management Board, Morley Town Council and Morley North and South Ward Members and there is no objection to the disposal of the property.
- 5.4.4 Area Committee are informed that the building will now be declared surplus to requirements.
- 6.0 **Updates by Theme: Safer and Stronger Communities Board**
- 6.1 Outer South Environmental Sub-Group
- 6.1.1 The Outer South Environmental sub-group met on Wednesday 24th April and the draft minutes and supporting documents are attached at **Appendix 2**.

7.2 **Community Safety**

7.2.1 Crime and Grime Partnership

The next meeting of the Partnership has been postponed to May 2013. An update on progress will be presented at a future Area Committee meeting.

7.2.2 The Outer South Area Committee continues to be represented on the Crime and Grime Partnership by its Environmental Champion (Cllr Karen Bruce) and Community Safety Champion (Cllr Neil Dawson).

7.2.3 Morley Police Station

Further to previous updates given to the Area Committee. There has been no further update from the Police on this issue.

7.3 **Wellbeing projects**

7.3.1 Cold Calling Control Zones

Cold Calling Control Zones in Outer South have been launched in all four wards. Feedback from residents has been positive. This project has now been completed.

7.3.2 Tingley Crescent Alley gates

There is a £230 underspend against this project as the cost of the Gating Order Notice was lower than anticipated. However, since installation of the gates it has become necessary to remove some barriers as they are sited behind one of the recently installed alleygates which providing a climbing aid for youths to get over the locked gates. The cost of removing the barriers is £226.90 and Area Committee is asked to agree to the underspend being used to cover the cost of removing the cycle bars.

8.0 **Updates by Theme: Health and Well being**

8.1 The South East Health and Well being partnership met on the 24th January 2013 and 28th March 2013. Minutes are included at **Appendix 4**.

8.2 **International Day of Older Persons**

8.2.1 The International Day of Older Persons is celebrated annually on 1st October and is aimed at recognising the contributions of older persons and examines issues that affect their lives. Area Committee is asked to allocate £2,000 to deliver an event that coincides with the International Day of Older People. South East Area Support Team would like to engage with neighbourhood networks to plan an event that coincides with the International Day of Older Persons. Members are asked to consider ring-fencing £2,000 from wellbeing funds to support such an event.

8.3 **Welfare Reform Funding for South Leeds**

8.3.1 Members will know that £20,000 funding has been allocated to address issues around Welfare Reform. The aim of the funding is to engage and support individuals and families in South East Leeds in relation to the promotion of welfare reforms and managing the impact of the welfare reforms on individuals and

families. A specification based on the following was developed and circulated to groups that it was felt could deliver projects against it:

- Briefing sessions for frontline staff groups, including the voluntary & community sector working in South Leeds to enable them to better understand the impact of the welfare reforms
- Activity that informs tenants in the private rented sector and in priority Neighbourhood's in South Leeds about the welfare reforms.
- Activities that increase local staff and public awareness in relation to accessing affordable credit and safe savings, how to report an illegal money lender, how to refer to independent impartial money advice and avoiding scams and fraud to reduce the potential impacts of welfare reforms on an individuals/family income.
- Activities that promote signposting and referral through to other services which provide financial support.
- Activities providing budgeting advice and debt management.

8.3.2 The South East Welfare Reform Group considered 5 expressions of interest and agreed the following actions:

- Two bids were highlighted for further work. The group felt other bids did not fit criteria or offer best value.
- Public Health to consult further to ensure best value, identify any additional funding and no duplication of service. As part of this process Area Committee Chairs were briefed along with Councillor Truswell Inner Health & Wellbeing Champion. Following this round of consultation the 2 projects highlighted are agreed for implementation.

8.3.3 £17,000 has been allocated to West Yorkshire Trading Services to run the Financial Fitness Leeds Project. This project aims to improve the financial health and wellbeing of residents in the South East. A delivery programme will be drafted with Trading Standards and shared with Members before implementation. It is likely that the focus will be on Inner South East Wards. Workshops will be delivered in key community "hubs" providing residents with a better understanding of the potential impacts of the impending Welfare Reforms, increasing knowledge, skills and understanding of banking, budgeting and money management, empowering them to make more informed financial choices, enabling them to become more confident consumers, using preventative concepts to avoid financial difficulties. A case study of the programme is attached at **Appendix 5**.

8.3.5 Area Committee is asked to consider whether they would like allocate Wellbeing funds to buy-in to this programme of work and establish an enhanced Financial Fitness Project Programme in their respective areas.

- 8.3.5 £3,000 has been allocated to the Aware Group, Aire valley Homes to introduce new free internet access points in Cottingley Towers which will increase engagement with services, especially of those not currently represented as part of a community or voluntary group and build on the capacity of residents to cope with the changes of the Welfare Reform.
- 8.3.6 The South East Area Leadership Team (ALT) and the South East Welfare Reform Group will monitor implementation and provide evaluation of the projects, with updates to Area Committees through Summary of Key Works.

9.0 Updates By Theme: Housing and Regeneration

9.1 Conservation Audits

- 9.1.1 Following a further round of public consultation that ran from January to March 2012, all consultation responses are being reviewed and considered and amendments made to the appraisal and proposed boundary as appropriate. The project was discussed at Planning Board on 29th November 2012. The appraisal and boundary review may also be considered by Executive Board. If approved, the revised boundary will be designated and the appraisal will be adopted as a material consideration in the planning process.

10.0 Localism

11.0 Integrated Locality Working

11.1 Community Heroes Event

- 11.1.1 The Community Heroes Event took place on 16th April and provided an opportunity for Area Committee to say thank you to Community Heroes for the work that is done in local communities. Over 70 people attended and the groups had the opportunity to meet other community groups, councillors, funders and voluntary sector organisations to share best practice and find out about services and support available to them. The groups were invited to share pieces of work they were particularly proud of.
- 11.1.2 Feedback from the event is currently being collated and a further update will be provided at a future area committee.

12.0 Corporate Considerations

12.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 12.1.1 Projects are developed to address priorities in the Area Committee Business Plan. The production of this plan is informed by Local Councillors and local residents. All projects developed are in consultation with Elected Members and local communities. Approval for any contribution from the Well being budget is received at the Area Committee.

12.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 12.2.1 Community groups submitting a project proposal requesting funding from the Well being budget have an equal opportunities policy and as part of the application process, complete a section outlining which equality groups the project will work with and how equality and cohesion issues have been considered.
- 12.2.2 Internal and statutory partners are committed to equality and cohesion and all projects they are involved with will have considered these issues.
- 12.2.3 A light touch Equality Impact Assessments is carried out for all projects.

12.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

- 12.3.1 The projects outlined in this report contribute to targets and priorities set out in the following council policies:
- Vision For Leeds
 - Children and Young Peoples Plan
 - Health and Well being City Priority Plan
 - Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
 - Regeneration City Priority Plan

12.4 Resources and Value for Money

- 12.4.1 There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

12.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 12.5.1 All decisions taken by the Area Committee in relation to the delegated functions from Executive Board are not eligible for Call In.
- 12.5.2 There are no key or major decisions being made that would be eligible for Call In.
- 12.5.3 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

12.6 Risk Management

- 12.6.1 This report provides an update on work in the Outer South and therefore no risks are identifiable. Any projects funded through Well being budget complete a section identifying risks and solutions as part of the application process.

13.0 Conclusions

- 13.1 The report provides up to date information on key areas of work for the Area Committee.

14.0 Recommendations

- 14.1 The Area Committee is asked to:
- a) Note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate.

15.0 Background documents¹

15.1 There are no background documents associated with this paper.

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.