

NORTH EAST (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 18TH MARCH, 2013

PRESENT: Councillor G Wilkinson in the Chair

Councillors N Buckley, A Castle, D Cohen
P Harrand, A Lamb and M Robinson

80 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed all in attendance to the March meeting of North East (Outer) Area Committee held at Treetops Community Centre, Squirrel Way, Moortown, Leeds 17.

81 Late Items

There were no formal late items of business to consider, however the Chair agreed to accept the following as supplementary information:-

- Minutes of the North East (Outer) Area Committee Special Meeting held on 6th December 2013 (Agenda Item 7a)) (Minute 85 refers)
- Wellbeing fund – late application for funding from the Paradise Way project, Leeds City Council (Agenda Item 11)(Minute 90 refers)

The documents were not available at the time of the agenda despatch, but subsequently made available to the public on the Council's website.

82 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors J Procter and R Procter.

83 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests

There were no disclosable pecuniary and other interests declared at the meeting.

84 Open Forum

In accordance with paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to 10 minutes for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee.

On this occasion, there were no matters raised under this item by members of the public.

85 Minutes/Notes of Previous Meetings

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday, 8th July, 2013

RESOLVED –

- a) That the minutes of the meetings held on 3rd December 2013 and 6th March 2013 be confirmed as a correct record.
- b) That the notes of the meeting held on 4th February 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and that this Committee formally ratifies the recommendations taken at that meeting.

86 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- a) East North East Homes Leeds Grounds Maintenance report (Minute 54 refers)

The East North East Area Officer informed the meeting that outstanding information in relation to this issue had been e mailed to Members of the Committee at the end of January 2013.

87 Children's Services Area Committee Update report

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report updating the meeting on Children's Services developments.

The report provided a summary of performance at Area Committee level with a broader summary of city level performance and built on previous reports with additional local context and tracking of local indicators.

The following representatives were in attendance and responded to Members' queries and comments:-

- Nigel Richardson, Director of Children's Services
- Gillian Mayfield, Targeted Services Area Lead (ENE), Children's Services

Appended to the report were copies of the following documents for the information/comment of the meeting:-

- Performance Data for Outer North East Area Committee (Appendix 1 refers)
- Individual School Foundation Stage and Key Stage results 2012 (Appendix 2 refers)
- Individual School Key Stage 4 Results 2012 (Appendix 3 refers)
- Clusters – Member Leads; Cluster Chairs; Cluster Managers; LAPs (Appendix 4 refers)

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and appendices

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- Clarification as to why the forward plan with regards to cluster funding was published immediately after the Special Area Committee meeting on 6th March 2014

(The Director of Children's Services responded and outlined the reasons why the forward plan was published late. He apologised for the late publication of this document)

- Clarification of the implications of cluster funding
(The Director of Children's Services responded and outlined the procedures in relation to producing a financial case prior to releasing the monies)
- The concerns were raised in relation to the funding for the targeted aspect of the Youth Service review and the disparity this would bring across the Area Committees
- Clarification of how the Wetherby (EPOSS) cluster was performing and also within the North East Outer ward
(The Director of Children's Services responded and outlined the measures in place. He stated that more could be done with regards to sharing of best practice between clusters and this work was being developed. Reference was also made to the positive work being undertaken by the newly appointed post of Targeted Leader whose role was in part to ensure improving communications across the clusters)
- Clarification of the future of Eastmoor and why the private sector schools such as Gateways were not included in the data
(The Director of Children's Services responded and confirmed that Eastmoor would be undergoing a period of refurbishment works following a recent funding injection. He agreed to supply the Area Committee with more details on this issue via the East North East Area Leader. In relation to Gateways, he agreed that best practice could be found in all sectors of education provision in the city)
- Clarification of the current position in relation to the Firtrees School site
(The Director of Children's Services responded and agreed to supply the Area Committee with more details on this issue via the East North East Area Leader)
- The concerns expressed about the questions and challenges facing cluster funding and NEETS within the new financial year
- The need to address the increased family case work load in relation to Alwoodley Children's Centre and the limited resources in this area.
(The Director of Children's Services responded and agreed to supply the Area Committee with more details on this issue via the East North East Area Leader)
- Clarification if there was any merits in adding the NEETS and the figures of those children who were unknown together
- Clarification of the figures in relation to the Families First Leeds programme and the commencement date of the scheme.
(The Director of Children's Services confirmed that the first cohort of families were confirmed in September 2012 and the 135 households where positive outcomes were achieved related to the first claim for payment by results in January 2013)
- Clarification of the number of Leeds children who had been placed in private homes within the North East (Outer) ward

(The Director of Children's Services responded and agreed to supply the Area Committee with more details on this issue via the East North East Area Leader)

- Clarification of Aberford C of E Primary School's figures in relation Foundation Stage and Key Stage 2 results in 2012
(The Director of Children's Services responded and agreed to supply the Area Committee with more details on this issue via the East North East Area Leader)
- Clarification of the definition of persistently absent
(The Director of Children's Services confirmed that this was when attendance fell below 85%)

In concluding discussions, the East North East Area Leader welcomed the additional resources of funding for Area Committees in relation to Children's Services and agreed that the Families First approach was an opportunity that could change the way partners worked in the future, particularly in the support provided those families in difficulty.

RESOLVED-

- a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- b) That the Director of Children's Services be requested to forward case study summaries to Members of the Committee for their information/retention in relation to working with families to:-
 - Improve school attendance
 - Reduce the need for children to be looked after
 - Reduce the need for children to be on a child protection plan
- c) That approval be given in principle, to providing financial support, on a case by case basis, to young people wanting to access the National Citizen Service programme who were unable to self-fund and that this Committee notes that the Director of Children's Services would come back on this issue at a later date.

88 Development of Area Lead Role

The Assistant Chief Executive Customer Access and Performance submitted a report developing initial proposals to Area Committees for their input, shaping and feedback with a view to introducing the revised Area Lead roles in the new municipal year.

Heather Pinches, Executive Officer, Performance Management, Customer Access and Performance was in attendance and responded to Members' comments and queries.

Members were asked to comment on the following specific points:-

- was the area lead role as described right – what changes / additions / amendments might be needed? What might need to go into the more detailed job description?
- was the list of core functional areas that each area committee should appoint to right?

- do the broad elements of training/support make sense or were there gaps – what role was there for peer support?
- any other comments / suggestions particular around the key issues highlighted?

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- Clarification of the merits in establishing a local lead on health and wellbeing and the impact in different wards
(The East North East Area Leader responded and referred to the past difficulties around the role of the 'Health Champion'. He informed the meeting that the new proposals would address these difficulties by introducing a closer relationship between the Area Lead role, relevant officers and the Executive Board. He confirmed that that the needs of Members local areas would be now represented and would establish an ongoing lead in future)
- The view expressed that the word 'Champion' was inappropriate and to welcome the phrase 'Area Lead'
- To raise concerns that there was no informal mechanism in the past for Members to feedback comments and that there was a need for a combined support and challenge role in this area
- To raise concerns that the proposals would create additional responsibilities for Members with little benefit and concerns that it may blur roles between officers and Members
- To acknowledge that Health and Social Care was not a separate service, but a combined service
- To raise concerns that the phrase 'reducing health inequalities' was inappropriate and to acknowledge the fact that it was about improving the life of those people who were living in deprivation
- To raise concerns that Members were required to sit on so many committees which impacted their day to day work within the wards
- To acknowledge the fact that the Area Committee had an option of appointing Co-optees and that they could consider appointing a retired GP to take up this role

In concluding discussions, the North East Area Leader acknowledged that Members were extremely busy and agreed to take the above comments back within the consultation process. He confirmed again that the new proposals would work and stated that the new democratic process was an excellent platform in making Members voices better heard.

RESOLVED- That the contents of the report be noted.

89 Environmental Services - Consultation on the 2013/14 Service Level Agreement

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on consultation measures in relation to the 2013/14 Service Level Agreement which would be presented for approval at the July meeting cycle following further discussions at local ward Member and Environmental Sub Group meetings.

The purpose of the report was to:-

- agree the main service principles for 2013/14 as set out in section 20
- identify the continuing existing priorities and any new service issues it would like to see a focus on, within existing levels of resource;
- identify issues that it would like to see enhanced services delivered through the buying in additional local resources;
- agree the development of the new SLA for 2013/14 to be brought to the July meeting for approval based on refreshed Elected Member and Area Committee local priorities;
- note the intention for the new SLA to be complemented by improved locality focused performance reports from the Waste Management Service, with a particular focus on supporting local improvements to recycling rates and reduction in land-fill
- note the work ongoing with other complementary services such as Environmental Health and Highways to use the SLA mechanism to improve local influence and accountability on issues affecting the environmental condition and cleanliness of neighbourhoods

Appended to the report was a copy of the Area Committee Function Schedules (Appendix A refers) for the information/comment of the meeting.

John Woolmer, East North East Locality Manager, Environment and Neighbourhoods presented the report and responded to Members' questions and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- To congratulate the staff in the Environmental Services team for delivering a first class service within the North East Outer ward since the introduction of the Service Level Agreement two years ago *(The East North East Locality Manager responded and thanked Members for their kind comments. He agreed to convey these comments to staff)*
- To consider organising a special 'thank you' event for staff in the Environmental Services team *(The East North East Locality Manager responded and welcomed this suggestion. He agreed to liaise with the East North East Area Leader)*
- Clarification of abandoned and nuisance vehicles and the enforcement measures in place within Environmental Services *(The East North East Locality Manager responded and agreed to provide Members with a list of the enforcement powers that were in operation for their information/retention)*

- Clarification if any extra measures would be undertaken within the Moor Allerton area (including Lingfields and Fir Trees)
(*The East North East Locality Manager responded and confirmed that this would be addressed within the Moor Allerton Priority Neighbourhood*)

RESOLVED-

- a) That the contents of the report be noted and welcomed.
- b) That approval be given to the main service principles for 2013/14 as set out in section 20 of the report.
- c) That this Committee supports the continuing existing priorities and any new service issues it would like to see a focus on, within existing levels of resource.
- d) That this Committee supports the enhanced services delivered through the buying in additional local resources.
- e) That approval be given to the development of the new SLA for 2013/14 to be brought to the July meeting for approval based on refreshed Elected Member and Area Committee local priorities.
- f) That this Area Committee notes the intention for the new SLA to be complemented by improved locality focused performance reports from the Waste Management Service, with a particular focus on supporting local improvements to recycling rates and reduction in land-fill.
- g) That this Committee notes the work ongoing with other complementary services such as Environmental Health and Highways to use the SLA mechanism to improve local influence and accountability on issues affecting the environmental condition and cleanliness of neighbourhoods.

90 Well-being Fund Budgets

The East North East Area Leader submitted a report providing Members with an update on the current position of the capital and revenue well being budget for the Area Committee and highlighting the applications made for consideration by the Area Committee.

Appended to the report were copies of the following documents for the information/comment of the meeting:-

- Outer North East Area Committee Well-Being Budget 2012-13 (Appendix 1 refers)
- Outer North East Area Committee Well-being Budget 2013-14 – Estimated Projections (Appendix 2 refers)
- Outer North East Area Committee Well-being Budget 2012-13 (Appendix 3 refers)

In addition to the above documents, a late wellbeing application was circulated in relation to the Paradise Way project, Leeds City Council.

Carole Clark, East North East Area Officer presented the report and responded to Members' comments and queries.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and appendices.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- b) That this Committee notes the spend to date and current balances for the 2012/13 financial year in accordance with the report now submitted.
- c) That the following grant which was agreed at the February Area Committee which was inquorate be ratified:-
Alwoodley Tennis Club – New Tennis Court - £7,000
- d) That the following projects be dealt with as follows:-

Organisation	Project	Amount
MAECare	Partnership and Wellbeing for older people	Agreed £9,130 (Alwoodley ward) Agreed £1,537 (Harewood ward)
Northcall	Northcall Community Centre	Deferred
Safer Leeds	Trembler alarms	Agreed £487.50
LCC Area Support	Treetops Community Centre volunteer expenses	Agreed £1,500
LCC Sport and Active Active Lifestyles	Lifestyles and Multi sport activities	Agreed £2,445
LCC Sport and Active Active Lifestyles	Leadership Awards	Agreed £2,498.50
LCC Sport and Active Active Lifestyles	Family Activity	Agreed £1,000, subject to numbers, impacts and outcomes being included in future performance monitoring reports and feedback to clusters
East North East Homes Leeds	Moss Syke verge improvements	Agreed £4,000
Aberford and District Community Interest Company	A1/M1 Noise Abatement Study	Deferred until May 2013 meeting
Leeds City Council	Purchase of road safety signs	Agreed £669.75

Wetherby in Support of the Elderly	Memory cafes, Socials and Carers Support Group	Agreed £3,400

- e) That approval be given to funding the Paradise Way project, Leeds City Council for £1,700 in accordance with the report now submitted.
- f) That in relation to the small grant application for the Heritage of the Jewish Community, approval be given to granting £600 towards the recent Jewish Arts Exhibition (i.e. £300 Alwoodley ward/£150 Harewood ward and £150 Wetherby Ward).
- g) That the budget allocation for 2013/14 be noted, and the sums set aside for small grants, skips and community engagement be approved in accordance with the report now submitted.

(Councillor P Harrand left the meeting at 7.45pm following consideration of those projects within the Alwoodley ward)

91 Area Committee Business Plan Priorities and Performance Monitoring

The East North East Area Leader submitted a report providing a summary of key activities and projects in the Outer North East area which support the Area Committee business plan priorities.

Appended to the report was a copy of a document entitled 'Outer North East Area Committee Business Plan' for the information/comment of the meeting.

Carole Clark, East North East Area Officer presented the report and responded to Members' comments and queries.

Discussion ensued on the contents of the report.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- Clarification as to why the latest census figures were not included within the business plan
(The East North East Area Officer responded and confirmed that the latest census figures would be incorporated within the business plan)
- To note that there was no longer a farmers market held by Alwoodley Parish Council
(The East North East Area Officer responded and agreed to revise the business plan)
- To place on record the Committee's thanks to Mr A Birkbeck, Localism Officer for the work undertaken in the North East Outer ward
(The East North East Area Leader responded and agreed to convey this comment to Mr Birkbeck)

RESOLVED-

- a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.

- b) That, subject to the minor revisions above, approval be given to the arrangements for preparation of the business plan priorities for 2013/14 in accordance with the report now submitted.

92 Moor Allerton Priority Neighbourhood Update Report

The East North East Area Leader submitted a report providing an update on the progress and action being undertaken in the Moor Allerton Priority Neighbourhood.

Appended to the report was a copy of a document entitled 'Moor Allerton Partnership Neighbourhood Improvement Plan 2013/14' for the information/comment of the meeting.

Carole Clark, East North East Area Officer presented the report and responded to Members' comments and queries.

RESOLVED-

- a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- b) That this Committee notes the updated Neighbourhood Improvement Plan as outlined in Appendix of the report.
- c) That approval be given to the neighbourhood improvement priorities within the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan for the next twelve months.

93 Wetherby and Harewood Town and Parish Council Forum

The East North East Area Leader submitted a report providing the Area Committee with the minutes from the meeting of the Wetherby and Harewood Town and Parish Council Forum a held on 24th January 2013.

Appended to the report was a copy of the minutes of the Harewood and Wetherby Town and Parish Council Forum held on 24th January 2013 for the information/comment of the meeting.

The Chair referred to minute 10.02 'Area Committee business plan priorities' and requested that the word 'could' should be deleted and replaced by 'would' to read as follows:-

'In response to a comment that the priorities were not tackling day to day issues such as highway work, Councillor Wilkinson responded that the Area Committee would not take on highway issues without any transfer of budgets to the committee'

The East North East Area Officer responded and agreed to revise the minutes.

RESOLVED -

- a) That the contents of the report of the report and appendices be noted.

- b) That the issues raised be noted and through this Area Committee, the Parish Council Forum be supported in resolving those issues.

94 Area Chairs Forum Minutes

The Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy and Improvement) submitted a report on the Area Chairs Forum minutes held on 9th January 2013.

Appended to the report was a copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2013 for the information/comment of the meeting.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
b) That this Committee notes the contents of the Area Chairs Forum minutes held on 9th January 2013.

95 Dates, Times and Venues of Area Committee Meetings 2013/14

The Chief Officer (Democratic and Central Services) submitted a report seeking the Area Committee's formal approval of a meeting schedule for the 2013/2014 municipal year.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the contents of the report be noted.
b) That approval be given to the following dates as outlined in Section 3.1 of the report:-

- 8th July 2013
- 16th September 2013
- 21st October 2013
- 2nd December 2013
- 3rd February 2014
- 17th March 2014

N.B. All meetings to commence at 6.00pm (summer months) and 5.30pm (winter months)

- c) That the meeting venues continue to alternate between the Civic Hall during the winter months and at various venues held within the three wards during the summer months.

96 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday 14th May 2013 at 5.30pm (was previously 6.00pm) in the Civic Hall, Leeds.