

Report of Area Leader – South East Leeds

Report to: South (Outer) Area Committee

Date: Monday 15th July 2013

Subject: Priority Neighbourhood Worker Update

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Ardsley & Robin Hood Morley North Morley South Rothwell	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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

To provide members with a six monthly update on the work of the Priority Neighbourhood Worker (PNW).

To update members on the progress of Supported Areas and work to strengthen community networks.

To provide members with an outline of work being progressed around Health and Wellbeing and Community Safety agendas in priority neighbourhoods.

Recommendations

Members are asked to note:

- a) the contents of this report and make comment as appropriate;
- b) the further developments in the Health Champion programme and make comment as appropriate;
- c) and agree to the direction of travel with regard to the development of Community Safety initiatives.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1** To provide a six monthly report on the progress of the work of the PNW.
- 1.2** To present progress to date on the development of the Health Champions programme.

2 Background information

- 2.1** In July 2012 the Area Committee agreed to fund a further 3 year term from March 2013 for a PNW, working 3 days a week in Outer South. The work would build on the successful programme of NIP's and Supported Areas across Outer South. To date the PNW has engaged with resident groups and established good relationships with local community groups and offered them training and support.
- 2.2** The departure of the PNW in June 2012 provided an opportunity to review the role of the PNW and develop new schemes of work, working in partnership with other agencies and the Area Support Team, to develop targeted schemes of work around key issues in communities.
- 2.3** The December 2012 Area Committee agreed to secure the progress made to date by approving continued support to Residents Groups in priority neighbourhoods, following the model of Supported Areas.
- 2.4** The December 2012 Area Committee agreed to the development of a Health Champions programme. The PNW committed to attend Ward Based Briefings to further discuss with members the selection of their priority neighbourhoods and get comment on the progression of the Health Champions programme. Ward Based Briefings were attended in January/ February and June/July to gather feedback.
- 2.5** The December 2012 Area Committee agreed the progression of work around Community Safety, developing a scheme of work for Community Safety Champions.

3 Main issues

3.1 On-going Support to Priority Neighbourhoods

- 3.1.1** The PNW continues to support priority neighbourhoods under the agreed format of a Supported Area. A summary of work to date is detailed at **Appendix 1** and an overview of the PNW's work is provided at **Appendix 2**.

3.2 Strengthening Community Infrastructure

3.2.1 Community Heroes

- 3.2.2** Following a proposal, taken to the Area Committee by the Area Support Team, work was progressed to hold a celebration event for those volunteering their time to improve their communities. The invite list consisted of those who had received grant funding from the Wellbeing Fund and Community First over the last 3 years, including those supported by the PNW. The event, held at Blackburn Hall, attracted over 70 volunteers from across Outer South wards. Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Organisations and key local agencies and organisations also attended to promote their services to communities. The work of groups work was presented on a slide

show and awards were handed out by a local radio presenter. A great evening was had by all. Links were forged between groups and agencies and from this we have received new applications to the Wellbeing Fund.

3.2.3 Communicating Information

3.2.4 Invitees to Community Heroes formed the basis of a distribution list which has been developed. Relevant community activities, funding, training and employment opportunities and council communications are circulated to groups. The PNW is working on the creation of a monthly newsletter to condense and highlight key opportunities. This regular communication acts to strengthen relationships between the Area Support Team and community groups, allowing the PNW to provide information to a wider range of groups and it ties groups into opportunities across Leeds. We are already seeing good results from this, with groups attending events such as the South Leeds Community Network and South East CCG open day and taking up opportunities for funding. This mailing list will be circulated and ward members will be invited to comment.

3.2.5 South Leeds Community Network

3.2.6 The PNW along with Involvement and Improvement Officers from Aire Valley Homes has been promoting the work of a community group called South Leeds Community Network who aim to provide networking opportunities for community groups across South Leeds (both Inner and Outer wards) in order to share information, ideas and best practice. Links are being developed with funders and voluntary sector support agencies and there are plans to develop equipment loan schemes.

3.3 Background to the Health Champions Programme

3.3.1 Following a proposal made to the December Area Committee, the PNW has been working on the development of a new piece of work, Health Champions. Health Champions attend a training course to equip them to pass on key health and wellbeing messages to the community and signpost to a range of local health and wellbeing activities. The Health Champions model impacts at an individual level, building the confidence and self-esteem of participants - improvements can be seen in health, lifestyle choices and employability. The Health Champions also contribute to community infrastructure, they are encouraged to do an action as a result of the course. Examples of activities delivered by Champions are organised health walks, allotment and food growing initiatives, fruit tuck shops in local schools, and delivering health awareness sessions on chronic conditions.

3.3.2 The PNW would help to link champions into local community infrastructure and offer support and group development to anyone wishing to start their own community group as a result of the champions programme. These will improve pathways into community involvement, allowing varied and accessible settings for individuals to participate in community life.

3.4 Practice Health Champions & Community Health Champions

- 3.4.1** As presented to members at the February round of Ward Based Briefings there are two streams to the Health Champions work, these are Practice Health Champions and Community Health Champions. The details are outlined below.
- 3.4.2** Practice Health Champions: the South East CCG commissioned £250,000 for the delivery of a Practice Health Champions programme in April 2013. The programme will run over three years and will engage with all 44 practices across the South East CCG area. The Priority Neighbourhood Worker will provide additional support to this programme in priority neighbourhoods.
- 3.4.3** Community Health Champions: the South East CCG boundary includes the electoral Wards of Rothwell and Ardsley & Robin Hood. The electoral wards of Morley North and Morley South sit within West North West CCG, who are at present not undertaking this programme of work. Morley North & Morley South will therefore be the target of a community based programme of work entitled Community Health Champions.
- 3.4.4** The Practice Champions programme is currently on hold as the CCG have a vacancy to fill, the individual appointed will take the lead on this piece of work. The officer appointed will be working with the CCG to determine the model and approach.
- 3.4.5** We had hoped to develop both programmes simultaneously to ensure a consistent approach but due to the vacancy referenced above the Practice Champion programme initially forecast to start in April 2013 has not yet started. We are now progressing Community Health Champions, as outlined below.
- 3.4.6 Development of the Community Health Champions Programme**
- 3.4.7** An officer steering group has been established to lead on the development of the Community Health Champions Programme, this consists of; Health Improvement Officer (Jo Loft), PNW (Ellie Rogers) and Active Lifestyle Officer (Sam Coupland). Initially work will focus on Morley North but the programme will be rolled out to Morley South, concentrating on recruitment from priority neighbourhoods.
- 3.4.8** A full description of programme delivery was presented to members at the June round of Ward Based Briefings and is attached at **Appendix 1** under development of work in Morley North.
- 3.4.9** £2500 is available from the Health Improvement Team to support this work in Morley. Money will be spent on venue hire, refreshments, facilitation of sessions and the production of course materials. Depending on these associated costs we hope to be able to provide each cohort with a small budget to facilitate taking action in their community.

3.5 Community Safety Champions

- 3.5.1** As outlined in December's Area Committee Report, it was proposed that the PNW would work with partners to establish new ways of communicating community safety messages to communities. The report also outlined aspirations to develop a Community Safety Champions programme. This would have the potential to involve a peer to peer learning programme focusing on locality led problems and solutions.
- 3.5.2** The role of the PNW to date has been to provide a key link between community groups and other departments and partner agencies. The PNW has been able to work with partners to provide advice and support to groups on various Community Safety issues. This role has provided a better understanding of community safety issues in priority neighbourhoods.
- 3.5.3** The Summary of Key Work report makes reference to changes in the partnership structures supporting community safety. A separate paper is proposing changes to the Area Lead member role. In light of these changes and progress made in other areas by the PNW, it is therefore timely to review the role of the PNW in addressing community safety issues in neighbourhoods.
- 3.5.4** It is proposed that the PNW continues to work with partners to identify ways in which responses to local issues can be improved. This will include reviewing the Tasking arrangements and the role of the PNW in raising local concerns via that forum. Subject to the appointment of an Area Lead Member for Community Safety at this meeting, further discussion will take place with them in order that a proposal for further developing the role of the PNW in addressing Community Safety issues will be presented to Area Committee at a future date.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 This report is a product of consultation with Members, residents and partners and presents a proposal for Members to consider.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 Internal and statutory partners are committed to equality and cohesion and all projects they are involved with will have considerer these issues.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 The work outlined in this report contributes to targets and priorities set out in the following council policies.
- Vision for Leeds
 - Children and Youth People Plan
 - Health and Well being City Priority Plan
 - Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
 - Regeneration Priority Plan.

5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 5.1 Legal implications as a result of this report will be reflected in any subsequent Funding Agreements and Contacts to Tender that arise from projects funded from the Well being Budget.
- 5.2 All decisions taken by the Area Committee in relation to the delegated functions from the Executive Board are eligible for Call In.
- 5.3 There are no key or mayor decisions being made that would be eligible for Call In.
- 5.4 There are no direct implications for the above as a result of this report.

6 Risk Management

- 6.1 All proposals requested Well being Funding complete a section in the application process outlying the risks associated with the project and how they will be managed.

7 Conclusions

- 7.1 The Area Committee has recognised and agreed the need to provide on-going assistance to former NIP and supported areas. Groups are being supported through training, practical support and advice.
- 7.2 Groups are benefiting from opportunities to network and chances to participate in wider Leeds groups and events.
- 7.3 Work has been progressed on the development of a Community Health Champions Programme and officers are currently consulting with agencies in Morley North before finalising the details of programme delivery.
- 7.4 The Community Safety Co-ordinator for South and the PNW are currently working on approaches to community safety in communities. They will be reviewing progress to date and discussing links to Area Lead roles and tasking arrangements in developing a proposal for the Community Safety element of the PNW's role going forward. This will be presented to Area Committee at a future date.

8 Recommendations

- 8.1 Members are asked to note:
 - a) the work of the PNW in Supported Areas and make comment as appropriate;
 - b) the further developments in the Health Champions programme and make comment as appropriate;
 - c) and agree to the direction of travel with regard to the development of Community Safety initiatives.

9 Background documents¹

- 9.1 There are no background documents associated with this paper.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.