

**Report of Area Leader – South East Leeds**

**Report to South Leeds (Inner) Area Committee**

**Date: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

**Subject: A 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
	Beeston & Holbeck City & Hunslet Middleton Park
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues and corporate governance considerations**

1. This report details a range of activities taking place within the Inner South Leeds Area, some of which are dealt with in greater detail elsewhere on the agenda.

**Recommendations**

2. The Area Committee is asked to:

- a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate.
- b) nominate appropriate Ward members for the vacant posts on sub-groups outlined in 4.0

## **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To bring to Members' attention in a succinct fashion, brief details of the range of activities with which the Area Support Team are engaged based on the Area Committee Business Plan priorities, that are not addressed in greater detail 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**

- 2.1 Members will recall at the June 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 Area Chairs Forum**

- 3.1 The Last meeting of the forum took place on 12<sup>th</sup> March with the minutes presented at a future Area Committee meeting.
- 3.2 At the last meeting Chairs meeting a report on 'Framework for Area Committee Sponsored Apprenticeships' was discussed. The report is attached for comment as **Appendix 1**.

#### 4.0 Appointment to Area Committee Sub-Groups and Neighbourhood Improvement Boards

4.1 Members are asked to confirm representation on the following sub-groups and Neighbourhood Improvement Boards (NIBs) for 2012/13:

Sub Group	Number of places	Current Appointees
Children & Young People's Sub group	3 - one Member per Ward	Cllr Angela Gabriel, Cllr Judith Blake, VACANCY
Environmental Sub-group	3 - one Member per Ward	Cllr Mohammed Iqbal, Cllr Adam Ogilvie, VACANCY
Employment & Skills Sub-group	3 - one Member per Ward	Cllr Kim Groves, Cllr Adam Ogilvie, VACANCY
Beeston, Holbeck & Hunslet NIB	4 - 2 Members per Ward	Cllr Angela Gabriel, Cllr Adam Ogilvie, Cllr Mohammed Iqbal. VACANCY
Belle Isle & Middleton NIB	3 – All Ward Members	Cllr Judith Blake, Cllr Kim Groves, Cllr Paul Trusswell
Beeston Crime & Grime Tasking	2 – Environmental Champion & Community Safety Champion	Cllr Adam Ogilvie, Cllr Kim Groves
Middleton Crime & Grime Tasking	2 – Environmental Champion & Community Safety Champion	Cllr Adam Ogilvie, Cllr Kim Groves

4.2 Each of these groups forms a key part in the delivery of priorities set out as part of the Inner South Area Committee Business Plan.

4.3 Due to ongoing discussions with Leeds Initiative, Member champion roles will be discussed as part of the September round of Area Committees.

#### 5.0 Updates by theme: Children & Families

##### 5.1 Children & Young People's Sub-group

5.1.1 At the February Area Committee meeting, Members supported the further development of the Children & Young People's Sub-group.

5.1.2 The group last met on 25<sup>th</sup> May. The minutes of this meeting will be approved at the 31<sup>st</sup> August meeting and presented to the September Area Committee.

5.1.3 Discussions at the May meeting focused on:

- Current provision
- Joint working
- Agreement to hold a special working session to explore current provision and opportunities

- Consideration of HITBase and Hamara's funding bids

## **6.0 Updates by theme: Safer Stronger Communities Board**

### **6.1 Inner South Environmental Sub-Group**

6.1.1 The last meeting of the group took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> April, the minutes of which will be approved that the 20<sup>th</sup> July meeting and presented to a future meeting of the Area Committee.

6.1.2 A full report to sign off SLA2 is presented elsewhere on the agenda.

### **6.2 Community Safety**

6.2.1 The South Leeds Burglary Group and a wide range of partnership activity continues to maintain low levels of burglary in Inner South. Aire Valley Homes, BITMO and Leeds Federated Housing Association now have processes in place to visit all victims of burglary in their properties. This will provide reassurance to residents and the opportunity to identify if further work can be done by housing providers to reduce risk of burglary on their estates.

### **6.2 Prostitution**

6.2.1 Operation Dairy continues in Holbeck on a twice weekly basis. Officers from the Neighbourhood Policing Team patrol the area in order to identify and take action on the women operating as prostitutes. There is a clear process for officers to follow that involves a series of warnings and referrals to support agencies. The NPT are working very closely with the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT) who are building cases on the women in order to reduce the ASB element of their behaviour.

6.2.2 Further steps have taken in developing a prostitution strategy for Leeds. Senior Elected Members have agreed to set up a Steering Group to develop a long term, strategic, citywide response to address the impact of prostitution on the individuals involved and the communities affected. This Steering Group will be supported by a group of officers from a range of services including Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police, NHS Leeds and the third sector. This will strengthen the work that has been done in the Holbeck area by seeking to ensure that the full range of issues and the impact on all areas of the city are addressed and to reduce the negative effects that the lack of co-ordination has created in the past.

### **6.3 Domestic Violence**

6.3.1 A number of strands of work are being progressed to enable partners to work more closely together and to improve early help and support for families affected by domestic abuse. This involves colleagues from a range of services including Safer Leeds, Police, Children's Services – Social Work, Safeguarding, Early Years and partners involved in existing MARAC arrangements and cluster support and guidance work.

- 6.3.2 One strand is the development of a triage function at Millgarth with Police Safeguarding Unit. This aims to ensure that appropriate support is offered to families where a domestic violence incident has been reported to the police and there are children in the household. A Social Worker has been allocated to the Safeguarding Unit to look at cases before referral to Children's Social Work/other Children's Services is made. This would ensure that families who consent to additional support and may not need social work involvement could be quickly signposted on to appropriate agency support and the correct cluster partnership. Partners have agreed that services working at cluster level are well placed to provide support, guidance and referral to other specialist DV services. This approach is being tested out in three clusters – JESS, Bramley and Seacroft/Manston.
- 6.3.3 The second strand is to develop the capacity and understanding of children's services cluster partnerships. A "Whole Cluster Approach" to domestic violence has been developed and is currently being trialled with schools, settings and partners working in the JESS cluster. The starting point of this is an initial session with all staff in each school in the cluster with a range of other local partners also invited. These are currently underway and once completed will be followed by a full day session for all local DV champions who will be identified in each school.
- 6.3.4 At the March meeting of the Inner South Area Committee, funding was approved for the Women's Health Matters Domestic Violence Education and Support Project. Officers subsequently have met to refine the proposed delivery of the project.
- 6.3.5 Women's Health Matters (WHM) will set up a support group for women from all three wards of Inner South who are experiencing or have experienced domestic violence. The funding will pay for worker time, crèche and room hire and refreshments. WHM are currently negotiating with local services to find venues that are safe and central to provide a suitable environment for the group. They will also ask agencies to provide room hire or crèche for no or minimal cost as this will allow them to offer further sessions to the group. It is intended that the group will run from September to March. The group will be open to all women from Inner South and will be publicised via agencies who work with women and children in each neighbourhood. Additionally, WHM will promote the group via the two Clusters that cover Inner South Leeds. Which will compliment the work described above to prove a whole cluster approach.

## **7.0 Updates by theme: Health and Wellbeing**

- 7.1 The South East Health and Well being partnership met on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2012. Minutes from the meetings are attached as **Appendix 2** for comment.

## **8.0 Updates by theme: Housing & Regeneration**

### **8.1 Holbeck Phases 1, 2 and 3 Clearance Areas**

- 8.1.1 The Council is undertaking market testing work to establish the interest and viability amongst retailers of delivering new food retail facilities in Holbeck on these sites. This is

due to be completed by the end of July 2012. Should this not result in any commercial interest for the Council to work with, it will revert back to the original proposals of providing affordable housing on the site with a development partner.

## 8.2 Holbeck Phase 4

8.2.1 Work has been completed to the Crosby's bin yards to a high degree of customer satisfaction. There have not been any subsequent incidences of fly tipping in the area.

## 8.3 Beverleys Housing Development

8.3.1 The scheme is on track to complete in August 2012. The first handover of new homes is now due to take place in June 2012. A slight delay has occurred due to inclement weather in April but the Contractors are on target to hand over properties in the first phase in June 2012.

8.3.2 The 27 shared ownership properties have been advertised in the Leeds Homes Flyer and with Whitegates Estate Agents on Dewsbury Road. To date, 9 applicants have applied to purchase the properties. The remaining 28 social rented properties have also been advertised in the Leeds Homes Flyer.

8.3.3 A Local Lettings Plan has been approved which specifies that preference will be given to those applicants with a local connection to the City and Hunslet Ward; those who are in overcrowded conditions, or willing to downsize; those in priority need; and those who have good tenancy records. A proportion of lets may also be made to applicants in Band C of the housing register provided that they have a local connection to the City and Hunslet Ward and good tenancy records.

## 8.4 Garnets Housing Area

### Demolition

8.4.1 All the target properties in the clearance areas have now been demolished with the exception of 37 – 51 Garnet Grove and 38 – 52 Garnet. These properties currently belong to Leeds Federated Housing Association and are in the process of being transferred to Leeds City Council for demolition. It was expected that the transfer would be completed in April 2012, however, the Homes and Communities Agency requested further details in relation to the property swap arrangement. These issues have now been resolved and the transfer is expected to conclude by the end of May 2012. As soon as the transfer is completed, arrangements will be made for the demolition contractors to commence demolition without further delay.

### Refurbishment.

8.4.2 The refurbishment works currently taking place on 6 properties, 66 & 72 Garnet Terrace and 64, 66, 69 & 71 Garnet Grove are nearly complete. These properties have been bought up to Decency Standards by AVHL and have been pre-allocated to applicants. Once the exchange of properties with Leeds Federated Housing Association has taken place the following properties will also be refurbished and relet by LFHA: 65, 67, 68 Garnet Grove and 63,67 Garnet Place.

8.4.3 The remaining properties at the Garnets which will not be demolished are 15 – 35 Garnet Place and 63 – 69 Garnet Place , 16 – 34 Garnet Grove and 64 – 70 Garnet Grove and 65 – 71 Garnet Grove and 66 – 72 Garnet Terrace. It is hoped that all Council owned empty properties within these blocks will be refurbished and brought back in to use during the current financial year.

#### 8.5 Middleton Housing Development Sites 1,2 & 3 (Thorpe Road)

8.5.1 Sanctuary Housing held a consultation event about the proposals for 129 new homes in Middleton on 8<sup>th</sup> May. This was followed by a presentation to the Middleton community meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> May. There was broad support for the proposals, although this highlighted the need for further work to determine the precise nature of the open space to be provided. Discussions have also been held with ward members about the opportunities to enhance pedestrian connectivity between the development sites and the new playing pitches to the rear of the leisure centre. It is anticipated that Sanctuary will submit a planning application in June.

#### 8.6 Middleton Neighbourhood Framework

8.6.1 It has been agreed that the Middleton masterplan which was originally prepared in 2009 should be refreshed to more effectively articulate future development opportunities in Middleton. This work is being progressed and during the course of June, workshops will take place involving council officers from a range of service areas, stakeholders and local members, the aim being to collate in one place the issues facing the estate and identify how future development activity can provide solutions and enhancements. It is anticipated that there will be wider public consultation later in the year with the plan being presented to the Council's Planning Board in the autumn. Once approved, the plan will inform future development proposals and will be used as a material consideration by planning services when determining planning applications.

#### 8.7 Beeston Hill & Holbeck PFI

8.7.1 Sustainable Communities for Leeds (sc4L) has been appointed as the company set to undertake large scale housing regeneration in Beeston Hill & Holbeck. Discussions are ongoing with the Council to confirm the finer details of the scheme with the refurbishment of Meynell Heights in Holbeck expected to start in 2012. New build works will start on the Folly Lane site in Beeston Hill.

8.7.2 A period of mobilisation will follow the signing of the contract with sc4L during which time there will be intensive activity within the project areas preparing residents and stakeholders for the works and Services commencement. A project launch event will be held all residents living in the project area followed by a programme of choice events for tenants and opportunities to access information on apprenticeships and employment opportunities. A service pack will be sent to all tenants whose homes will be maintained by sc4L prior to service commencement and sc4L Customer Liaison Advisors will be active in the project areas visiting those affected by the works

8.7.3 Further updates on timescales for these events will be provided at the next meeting of the Area Committee

## 8.8 Lower Kirkgate Heritage Lottery scheme update

8.8.1 At the March Area Committee members were updated on the ongoing developments at Kirkgate. Further updates will be provided where possible to future Area Committees through this report.

8.8.2 A Stage 2 bid, seeking £1.5m has been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund for Lower Kirkgate. A decision is expected by 20<sup>th</sup> July 2012. A Kirkgate Stakeholder group made of up 3rd sector partners, local businesses and the council have prepared a programme of improvements to include pop up art galleries, minor shop repairs and cleaning as a precursor to what is hoped to be a scheme launch on 31st October 2012. As a compliment to this enforcement policy is being reviewed to ensure that the THI is not undermined by breeches of planning control and that a sense of collective responsibility for the areas enhancement is cemented.

8.8.3 The stakeholder group has also submitted a High Street Innovation Fund bid to help to open up Lower Kirkgate to the rest of the city centre by re-opening the ginnels and railway arches (a decision is due to be made on 31st May 2012). Further consultation, including a First White Cloth Hall workshop is being planned for September as a precursor to the submission of a planning application for the grade 2\* listed building later in the year.

## 9 **Integrated Locality working**

### 9.1 Beeston, Holbeck & Hunslet Neighbourhood Improvement Board

9.1.1 The most recent meeting of the board took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2012, the minutes of the meeting will be presented to a future meeting.

9.1.2 The next meeting of the board will take place on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

### 9.2 Belle Isle & Middleton Neighbourhood Improvement Board

9.2.1 The last meeting of the Neighbourhood Improvement Board was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2012. The minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2012 are attached as **Appendix 3**

9.2.2 The next meeting of the board is planned for 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

9.2.3 Discussions have taken place around the employment and skills sub-group that was set up due to the pressing needs in the Middleton area. With the same issues being highlighted at the Beeston, Holbeck & Hunslet NIB meeting it was suggested that one meeting could serve both NIBs on this topic. Further developments are needed but the in-principle agreements have been made.

### 9.3 Cottingley Neighbourhood Improvement Plan

- 9.3.1 As part of the completion of the multi-agency scheme and the subsequent move to the neighbourhood improvement plan, a final report is attached as **Appendix 4** for comment.
- 9.3.2 The first meeting of the NIP meeting took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> May 2012, the minutes of the meeting will be approved at the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2012 and presented to a future Area Committee meeting.
- 9.3.3 On the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2012 TRAC held the yearly AGM meeting. Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Vice Chair positions were all appointed.
- 9.3.4 Committee members organised the Sphinx Square Opening Event on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at Cottingley Community Centre.
- 9.3.5 The event was organised to mark the completion of the first phase of the Sphinx Square and was funded by the 'Big Lottery' and supported by Groundwork Leeds.
- 9.3.6 Committee members planned a day of activities that included a performance from Dazzle Dance, a DJ, Aire Valley Homes mobile office, a Bouncy castle and sumo suits and refreshments. The event was opened by Councillor Angela Gabriel and Hilary Benn MP and over 100 local residents were in attendance.
- 9.3.7 On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May the Cottingley Fair took place at Cottingley Primary School supported by TRAC the event involved stalls from local community groups including Cottingley In Bloom.
- 9.3.8 The Cottingley In Bloom Group held its second meeting 5 residents attended and partners including Aire Valley Homes, Cottingley Primary School, Leeds In Bloom and the NHS.

#### Cottingley Recycling Project

- 9.3.9 Officers have been developing an appropriate scheme to address the refuse and recycling issues on the estate. A pilot scheme has been chosen and funding identified to install a number of collection areas that will have a significant impact on the way that waste is collected.
- 9.3.10 The pilot scheme will cost in the region of £29,000 and be funded on a 50 / 50 basis between Aire Valley Homes Leeds and Beeston & Holbeck Councillors Ward based Initiative funds.
- 9.3.11 Details on the timescales and key milestones for the project will be provided to members through the NIP and Ward based briefings.

## 10.0 Localism

### 10.1 Communities First Panels

10.1.1 Significant progress has been made in each of the panels, Health for All have provided the attached updates as the Panel Partner. **Appendix 5**

10.1.2 All three Inner South panels have approved the necessary amounts to complete 'year 1', developments for year 2 are ongoing and will be updated to the Area Committee in due course.

### 10.2 Neighbourhood Planning Front Runners Pilot

10.2.1 Following approval of the Holbeck Pilot officers from Planning and South East Area Support Team have recently met with representatives of the 3 Holbeck Groups, Holbeck Area Residents Association (Gaitskell's), Cross Ingram's Residents Association and Voice of Holbeck.

10.2.2 The purpose of the meetings was to give further background and discuss the scope of the scheme and how they can be supported to take the pilot forward.

10.2.3 Holbeck is the only inner-city neighbourhood planning area in Leeds (and there are very few nationally). A real opportunity for Holbeck and for the City to demonstrate that Neighbourhood Planning is an opportunity to improve not only inner-city areas physically but in all other aspects.

10.2.4 Reports to Executive Board will address issues of governance and guidance along with the allocation of the £20,000 funding to each of the forums.

10.2.5 A small officer project team has been put in place which will support and guide the Holbeck work. The team will agree and clarify what can be offered in terms of support. Explore governance relationships, links to other pilots, the Area Leadership Team, Beeston, Holbeck & Hunslet Neighbourhood Improvement Board and the Area Committee.

10.2.6 A stakeholder event is planned for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 11.00am to 3.00pm at St Matthews, which will be supported by Planning Aid. This drop in event will encourage community interest in the project, raising awareness by setting the scene in Holbeck and showing possible benefits of Neighbourhood Planning.

10.2.7 A further opportunity to involve the community and provide the outcomes from the 30<sup>th</sup> June event will be taken at the Holbeck Gala on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July.

10.2.8 The first meeting of the forum is planned for Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July. Issues to be considered will include recruiting the minimum of 21 members (ensuring that equality, cohesion, diversity and integration are embedded in the process), governance, funding, appointing an interim Chair, identifying support for the process, reviewing and agreeing a boundary for the plan area.

- 10.2.9 The forum will have to consider that while the focus of Neighbourhood Planning is the use of land, planning matters generally (e.g. greenspace, highways, recreation, and leisure). Other issues of community importance can be included. This is particularly relevant to the Holbeck Pilot. The success of it may well depend on what other issues can be included in the plan.
- 10.2.10 The forum should also consider related matters such as Neighbourhood Development Orders, Community Right to Build Orders and the Community Infrastructure Levy and how it might be spent.

## **11 Belle Isle Tenant Management Organisation (BITMO)**

- 11.1 Members are asked to note the BITMO update report to Area Committee in line with the one provided by Aire Valley Homes Leeds. This report will be presented for discussion at the next Middleton Park Neighbourhood Improvement Board. The report is presented for comment as **Appendix 6**.

## **12 Wellbeing Project monitoring 2010/11**

- 12.1 As part of the ongoing monitoring of completed schemes members are asked to note **Appendix 7** which gives a brief summary of the projects that have been completed in the last financial year and the successes they have achieved.

## **13 South Leeds Life Magazine – Health For All**

- 13.1 Members approved the South Leeds Life Magazine wellbeing project that was submitted by Health for All at the March Area Committee. The condition on this approval was for a distribution strategy to be developed that made sure members were happy with where the magazines were being distributed within each ward.
- 13.2 The distribution strategy is being finalised and will be sent to members via email in due course.

## **14 Inner South Area Committee Business Plan**

- 14.1 At the September 2011 Area Committee members supported the development of a business plan that outlined all delegations, ward profiles and an action setting out the main priorities of the Committee.
- 14.2 It was proposed that the business plan document be brought to the first meeting of the municipal year. Due to ongoing discussions around the Champion roles by Leeds Initiative and also the delays in final confirmation of the delegations to Area Committees, the business plan will be brought to the September 2012 Area Committee for sign off.

## **15 Corporate Considerations**

### **15.1 Consultation and Engagement**

15.1.1 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 secured at Area Committee.

### **15.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

15.2.1 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.

15.2.2 Internal and statutory partners are committed to equality and cohesion and all projects they are involved with will have considered these issues.

15.2.3 A light touch Equality Impact Assessments is carried out for all projects.

### **15.3 Council Policies and City Priorities**

15.3.1 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

### **15.4 Resources and Value for Money**

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

### **15.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

15.5.1 All decisions taken by the Area Committee in relation to the delegated functions from Executive Board are eligible for Call In.

15.5.2 There are no key or major decisions being made that would be eligible for Call In.

15.5.3 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

## **15.6 Risk Management**

15.6.1 This report provides an update on work in the Inner 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.

## **16 Conclusions**

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

## **16 Recommendations**

16.1 The Area Committee is asked to:

- a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate.
- b) nominate appropriate Ward members for the vacant posts on sub-groups outlined in 4.0

### **Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

Area Committee Summary of Key Work Report, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2012

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<sup>1</sup> 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.