

**Report of the Assistant Director (Citizens & Communities)**

**Report to: Inner South Community Committee**

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**Date: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015**      **For decision**

## **Inner South Community Committee Summary of Key Work Report**

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### **Purpose of report**

1. To bring to Members' attention, a summary of key work which the Area Support Team are engaged in based on priorities identified by the Community 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.

### **Background information**

2. The Community Committee has a Community Plan that is updated throughout the year where actions are detailed against the Community Committee priorities. This report provides regular updates on some of the key activities between Community Committee meetings including project work, community engagement, partnership work, functions delegated to Community Committee, Community Champions roles and actions, integrated working and locality working.

### **Main issues**

#### **3.0 Updates by theme: Children's Services Community Champion: Cllr Angela Gabriel**

##### **3.1 Children & Families Sub Group**

- 3.1.1 An invitation to apply for Youth Activities Funding went live on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October and the closing date for applications was Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014. The Children & Families Sub Group will review applications at their next meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015. The Youth panel will also consider the applications, feedback and indicate their preferences. Members agreed at a previous meeting to receive by email

recommendations made by the sub group and indicate their support or otherwise for these recommendations.

- 3.1.2 Members will recall allocating funding to develop a directory of Youth Activities for children, young people and their families in the Inner South area. Work on the directory is progressing well, it is anticipated that the final copy will be ready for distribution by early March 2015.

#### **4.0 Updates by Theme: Employment, Skills & Welfare Community Champion: Cllr Kim Groves**

##### 4.1 Employment, Skills and Welfare Board

- 4.1.1 An action plan has been agreed by the board and is currently being populated by board members. A copy of the action plan is available on request.

- 4.2 Members are asked to consider ring fencing **£6,000.00** from the 2015/16 budget allocation to the Inner South Employment, Skills & Welfare Board to fund small programmes of partnership work or initiatives identified by the board. These programmes of work and proposals for funding from wellbeing funds can be considered and approved by the Committee outside of Community Committee meetings.

##### 4.3 Welfare Reform Workshop – 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014

- 4.3.1 In December Councillor Kim Groves Chaired a workshop style review of the impact of welfare changes in the area. Participants included Neighbourhood Improvement Officer, Area Support Team, Customer Services, Housing Services, Credit Union, Chapeltown CAB and BITMO. The workshop aimed to identify the key welfare changes that had impacted most on people's lives; what those impacts were; who had been affected most and whether there were any additional support measures that could be implemented locally that would mitigate some of the adverse effects.

- 4.3.2 The workshop concluded that to a large extent the support measures that had been put in place had been effective in terms of mitigating the harshest of the changes on peoples' lives. However, it concluded that there was a need to better connect people most in need of help with local support.

- 4.3.3 A number of actions were identified and it was agreed that the South Leeds Debt Forum would incorporate these actions into the 2015 action plan.

##### 4.4 South Leeds Debt Forum

- 4.4.1 Members of the forum discussed the outcome of a welfare reform workshop held in December chaired by Councillor Kim Groves. A number of key priorities had emerged at this workshop. The Debt Forum agreed to incorporate these into the 2015 action plan.

- 4.4.2 An update was provided on the Money Buddies project. The first three (out of ten) volunteers have been recruited. They are currently undergoing training and induction

and will start supporting clients in February. The next wave of recruitment is underway.

4.4.3 A programme of front line staff training for Housing Leeds and Adult Social staff will be delivered over the coming year. The training will cover all aspects of financial inclusion and aims to better equip front line staff to recognise the signs of money related stress and provide guidance on where to source appropriate support. The training will be delivered by Leeds City Credit Union, Ebor Gardens Advice Centre and the Illegal Money Lending Team.

4.4.4 The Debt Forum will meet next on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2pm at BITMO Gate.

## **5.0 Updates by theme: Environment & Community Safety**

### **Community Champion: Cllr Adam Ogilvie**

#### 5.1 Inner South Environmental Sub Group

5.1.1 The next meeting of the Inner South Environmental Sub Group is due to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

5.1.2 A Community Committee workshop on the new Zonal working arrangements will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 6pm to 8pm. Venue to be confirmed.

#### 5.2 Community Safety

5.2.1 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) – Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation (PACE) training the trainer session was delivered to partners across the South East area in September 2014. The aim of the session was to equip staff to go back to their work places and train their colleagues to be able to spot CSE issues and have conversations with families and communities about CSE. The session was funded by Safer Leeds and was attended by 40 staff. Further work is ongoing with partners about the work undertaken on CSE in school and youth settings and is developed through the CSE Practitioners forum. Attendees from session have now started delivering sessions to their colleagues.

5.2.2 Operation Flame was delivered in all Inner South wards in the run up to bonfire night and the weekend after. This is a multi-agency coordinated operation to tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental issues leading up to and including mischief night and bonfire weekends. Various partners such as Fire Service, PCSOs / PCs, Housing Leeds and Environmental Locality Team worked together in the lead up to this period including. The aim was for partners to report any material which could have been used in un-official bonfires to the Environmental Action Team for removal, and PCSO's to direct young people to youth provision. The Anti-Social Behaviour Team and Police also undertook pro-active visits to reduce anti-social behaviour during this period.

5.2.3 Legal Highs (New psycho-active substances) - 2 half sessions were held at Elland Road in October for staff to attend and learn more about what legal highs were and the impact on communities. This is a growing concern in relation to young people but also in relation to drug users switching to legal highs or taking a combination of

illegal drugs and legal highs. Approx 50 staff from the South East Locality attended and positive feedback was received. Further sessions are planned in 2015.

- 5.2.4 During the winter months West Yorkshire Police and Housing have been working together to tackle burglary which increases at this time of year (particularly when the clocks go back). The work has included engaging with residents in streets where burglaries occurred last year and providing burglary packs which can include items such as timer switches, door chimes, property marking information (encouraging joining immobilise.com and recording serial numbers) and other useful information to reduce the risk of burglary. This work will continue through the winter months focusing on areas where burglaries are occurring.
- 5.2.5 Over the Christmas period, PCSOs engaged with members of the public in local shopping centres and supermarkets to raise awareness about crime and crime reduction. This included encouraging shoppers to lock cars, keep valuables out of sight and leave a light on at home or use timerswitches to deter burglars when out shopping.
- 5.2.6 Work has started to support the Beeston, Cottingley and Middleton Jess Clusters to work towards the Quality Mark in domestic violence. The Leeds Domestic Violence team will work with the cluster to identify domestic violence lead officers in schools and the cluster, delivering training at various levels and supporting staff in dealing with domestic violence. The BCM and Jess clusters are one of 9 clusters across the city piloting this work.

## **6.0 Updates by theme: Health and Wellbeing Community Champion: Cllr Paul Truswell**

The following work provides an update of the Health & Wellbeing activities taking place:

- 6.1 **Social Prescribing** - Plans to progress Social Prescribing programme are well underway with high levels of interest and engagement from the voluntary sector following discussions at the SE health and wellbeing partnership forum event that was held in November 2014. The partnership programme is being overseen by the health and wellbeing executive core group and the SE CCG have committed to resourcing the 'single point of access' approach.
- 6.1.2 **Health Presence in Locality Hub** - Plans are underway to address the need for more health presence in the locality hub. A health trainer service will be provided at both St George's Hub in Middleton and at Dewsbury Road One Stop Centre from February 2015. The health trainers will take referrals from One Stop Centre staff and frontline workers and provide an assessment of health and wellbeing need of individuals; one to one support to individuals to improve their health and wellbeing; signpost and where needed provide advocacy role to assist individuals to access local health and wellbeing activities. The provision is being funded in the first instance for the pilot programme by the LCC Locality Public Health budget and monitoring to be reported into the South East Health and Well Being Executive Core Group and to the South East CCG.

6.1.3 **Alcohol** - The South Leeds Licensing Framework has been finally endorsed by Licensing Committee following a successful one year trial. As well as the restrictions on advertising and quantity sales etc. a further revision has been made to limit the sale of cheap super strength ciders and lagers.

## **7.0 Updates by theme: Adult Social Care Community Champion: Cllr Judith Blake**

### **7.1 Older Persons Working Group**

7.1.1 The Inner South Community Committee Older People's Working Group was established on the 13th January 2015 and the Terms of Reference was agreed. The overall aim of the group is to focus on co-ordinating support to older residents within the Inner South area. The group is chaired by the Community Committee Champion for Adult Social Care, Cllr Judith Blake.

7.1.2 The initial topic for the group focused on the Wellbeing Pack Scheme (formerly Winter Warmth Pack scheme) delivered in 2013 and the challenges in ensuring that packs were delivered to the most vulnerable members of the community. The group proposed that a tailored scheme would be aimed at reaching the most vulnerable throughout the year and suggested that Wellbeing packs be considered. A number of partner agencies have agreed to support distribution to ensure resources are targeted appropriately.

7.1.3 A funding of £4,000 has been secured from Public Health. It is proposed the project is match funded by Inner South Community Committee to support projects that benefit the most vulnerable in the area.

7.1.4 Following the success of the Older Persons day Celebration event held at the Civic Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014, the Community Committee agreed to support another event for 2015. The event will be designed to provide a day of entertainment and fun for older people as well as an opportunity to gather information from various organisations about the services they provide for older people, including information and advice about living in their own homes with comfort, dignity, and security for as long as they choose. Details of the event are as follows:

Event date: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015  
Location: Civic Hall, Banqueting Suite  
Timing: 10.30am – 3.30pm

7.1.5 Terms of Reference and minutes from the meeting are available on request.

7.1.6 The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

## **8.0 Integrated Locality working**

8.1 Beeston and Holbeck Neighbourhood Improvement Board (NIB)

8.1.1 The last meeting of the board was held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at Elland road Police Station. Discussions focused on the emerging improvement Plan in conjunction with partners and agencies. A workshop was held on 'how might local people get more involved in local decision-making?' The minutes of the meeting and outcome from the workshop are available on request. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015.

## 8.2 City and Hunslet Neighbourhood Improvement Board (NIB)

8.2.1 The last meeting of the board was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> November at Hunslet Methodist Church with good representation from organisations across all services and local residents. The meeting was held in a workshop style approach providing the opportunity for groups on each table to identify a number of priorities and work strands that can be progressed. A number of key priorities had emerged at this workshop and will be incorporated into the 2015 improvement plan. The outcomes from the workshop are available on request

## 8.3 Belle Isle & Middleton Neighbourhood Improvement Board (NIB)

8.3.1 The last meeting was held on 28th January 2015 at St Georges Centre. Among the items discussed was an update on Social Prescribing, what it is, how it will be implemented and the impact for local people, Money Buddies project and a strategy to address Domestic Violence. The minutes of the meeting are available on request

## 8.4 Town and District Centres 2 Programme (T&DC2)

8.4.1 The Inner South Community Committee is asked to note the following update on the Dewsbury Road District Centre is to be funded under the T&DC2 programme.

8.4.2 Four projects have been identified through the consultation and discussions with Ward Members.

1. Wild Flower meadow along the boundary of New Bewerley School MUGA.
2. Environmental improvements to layout of land around access and egress to the car park at Dewsbury Road One Stop Centre.
3. Options for site of new crossing at Tesco to be explored. Approval from Tesco sought to use part of their car park.
4. Options for site at junction of Trentham Street to be developed.

8.4.3 The installation of the new pedestrian crossing opposite Tesco is timed for implementation in February/March. The rationalisation street of signage and railings has been implemented.

8.4.4 The advertising hoarding outside the Dewsbury Road One Stop Centre has been removed for safety reasons and is likely to rebuilt.

8.4.5 A scheme for improvements to pedestrian footways and associated works has been agreed with Highways. Prior to further consultation with Members, highways will also explore modifications to resident car parking around retail and commercial premises. Improvements to car park signage is also being explored.

8.4.6 The town team is developing a stronger identity and links to East St Arts and The Tetley will see a public art design specification developed for this part of Dewsbury Road. Contact with Aldi continues to develop positively and may bring additional investment opportunities to the T&DC2 scheme.

8.4.7 The Tetley has started the banner design workshops with pupils from New Bewerly, Hunslet Moor and St Francis of Assissi Primary Schools. The pupils will work with an artist to design banners for the lampposts along Dewsbury Road. Opportunities for street art will also be pursued during the design stage.

## **9.0 Localism**

### **9.1 Community First Grants**

9.1.1 The Community First Grants programme has now come to an end. Work is underway to pull together an evaluation of the scheme. The outcome of this will be shared at a future Community Committee.

## **10.0 Conclusions**

10.1 The report provides up to date information on key areas of work for the Community Committee.

## **11.0 Recommendations**

11.1 The Community Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate.
- b) Consider ring fencing **£6,000.00** from the 2015/16 budget allocation to the Inner South Employment, Skills & Welfare Board

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

There are no background documents associated with this paper.

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