

Report of: The South East Area Leader

Report to: Inner South Community Committee (Beeston and Holbeck, City and Hunslet, Middleton Park)

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Date: Wednesday 15th June 2016

For decision

Inner South Community Committee Forward Plan 2016/17

Purpose of report

1. This report introduces the Inner South Community Committee Forward Plan for 2016/17. It details the Community Committee meeting dates and sets out workshop themes. It also highlights the role of the Community Committee Champions and the work of the Community Committee in relation to the Council Constitution and associated delegations which are managed through its sub group structure, including Neighbourhood Improvement Boards (NIBs) on behalf of the Community Committee.

Background information

2. Leeds City Council has agreed a constitution which sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. Some of these processes are required by law, while others are a matter for the Council to choose.
3. In order to give local citizens a greater say in Council affairs, Community Committees were established on the basis of representing inner and outer areas of the City. The Constitution states that the Executive to make arrangements for the discharge of some functions for which the Executive is responsible by Community Committees. The Executive has identified a number of functions that Community Committee exercise decision making on. However the Executive remains ultimately responsible for these services and may remove or limit a Committee's powers. As with the Executive, in exercising their powers Community Committees must make decisions which are in line with the Council's overall policies and budget. The Committees involve all the Councillors from the Wards within each Committee area and meetings are held in public. The following areas are delegated to Inner South Community Committee:

- Wellbeing budget
- Environmental Services
- Youth Activities Fund
- Facilities (Community Centres)
- Parks & Countryside..

4. The Inner South Community Committee has put in place a sub structure to provide support, monitoring of performance and when required decision making to the delegations it is responsible for.

These are:

- Children and Families Working Group
- Environmental sub group
- Older Persons working group
- Inner Employment, Skills and Welfare Board
- Debt Forum

Information on the activities of the sub groups is included in the Community Committee Update Report.

5. Alongside the Community Committee the three Ward based Neighbourhood Improvement Boards (NIBs) provide a more focused perspective on local issues. Led by Ward Members the NIB bring together partners to drive change and improvement so that neighbourhoods become an increasingly attractive and popular place to live. Each Board aims to provide strong local leadership that champions the needs of residents and work across service boundaries to plan and coordinate services and local developments. The City & Hunslet and Beeston & Holbeck NIBs have recently moved towards an 'open space' approach with more engagement with local people around key issues. This approach may be considered at the Belle Isle & Middleton NIB as we progress through 2016.
6. Driving the work of the Community Committee through the sub groups and the Neighbourhood Improvement Boards are the Community Committee Champions. The Champion role aims to provide local leadership for each theme, while acting as a critical interface with services. Meeting quarterly with service leads, Community Committee Champions are well placed to shape the local agenda around each theme, working with services.
7. Community Committees were established to build on the successes of Area Committees with an enhanced focus on community engagement and in particular, increase the attendance and active involvement of local people at Community Committee meetings. Themed workshops were introduced to provide a forum for Councillors, residents and services to consider issues affecting their communities and find solutions. The topics were determined in collaboration with service leads and Community Committee Champions.

8. The Community Committee held 4 workshops in 2015/16 covering key issues in the area, they were:
 - Community Safety – ‘Legal Highs’
 - Children & Young People – ‘better engagement and things to do’
 - Health – ‘Best start for 0-2 year olds’
 - Employment & Skills – ‘Destinations for young people’
9. The Forward Plan is included at **Appendix 2**. Members are asked to consider the forward plan, agree themes for workshops and note the NIB structure and Ward based briefings.

Main issues

10. While the new Community Committee format has proved successful in the Inner South area opportunities do exist to further develop this approach. The following are points for consideration:
 - In part this success has been due to managing down the number of reports that would previously have come to this Community Committee, together with showcasing local issues determined by the champions at themed workshops. Members may want to consider scope of future agendas.
 - Service delegations are currently managed through the sub group structures. Through the Community Champion leadership the sub groups play an increasingly part in driving service improvements locally. The Update Report keeps Community Committee apprised of progress. These updates can form the basis of an annual report from each respective sub group.
 - Community Committee Champions have played an active role in shaping the agenda and working with service leads which has had a positive impact. The Community Committee Champions role has proved more successful in shaping the local service agenda when working with a designated service lead. This connectivity with services is essential if we are to achieve increased service improvement and local influence on service delivery, especially when dealing with those services delegated to the Community Committee. There is a need to develop the role of the champions to monitor performance and service improvements.
 - The use of Facebook and features such as video by the Chair and Champions to promote Community Committee events has been effective in reaching a wider audience and securing attendance at Community Committee workshops. We will continue to explore innovative ways to develop the use of social media through profiling the role of the Chair and Community Committee Champions.
 - Throughout the year different styles of workshops were introduced. The aim being to try and make the workshops and interactive. A recent example is the ‘Future destinations for young people’ workshop held at Cockburn High School. A number of stall holders were invited to provide information to children in years 9, 10 and 11 of

high school to come get further information about destination available to them after they leave high school. This was a successful way of engaging young people who were able to share their experiences and concerns with us without feeling intimidated within a formal setting.

11. Attached at **Appendix 1** is the draft forward plan for Inner South Community Committee and Workshops for 2016/17. Members are asked to consider the forward plan and consider and suggest topics for each of the themed meetings scheduled in 2016/17. Proposed themes will then be considered in collaboration with Community Committee Champions and service leads.

Recommendations

12. The Community Committee is asked to:
- a. note the content of the report and make comment as appropriate
 - b. consider scope and content of future Community Committee agendas

Background documents¹

Appendix 1 -Draft forward plan for Inner South Community Committee and Workshops for 2016/17

Appendix 2 – forward plan for Inner South

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.

PROPOSED FORWARD PLAN FOR 2016/17 COMMUNITY COMMITTEE AND WORKSHOPS					
Core Business		Appeals against refusal of inspection documents Exempt information Late items Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests Apologies for absence		Minutes of last meeting Open Forum Update Report Wellbeing Review of previous themed meeting	
Community Committee and Workshop date	Workshop Theme	Ideas for Workshop Topic	Community Committee Champion	Service Lead/Key contributors	Others
15 th June 2016	Highways & Traffic Management	Focusing on specific highways and traffic issues in Inner South	TBC	Nick Hunt - Highways T&DC Public Health – walking audit West Yorks Police	
7 th September 2016	Community Safety	Local Policing Priorities for Inner South	TBC	Zahid Butt	
7 th December 2016	Culture	European City Of Culture	TBC	Leanne Buchan Local businesses	
15 th February 2017	Adult Social Care and Health and Wellbeing	Health focus - in partnership with Public Health/ Adults	TBC	Mick Ward Joanne Davies Rachel Brighton	

There is potential to have reserve themes should any of the planned workshops have to be deferred. Members are also encouraged to consider emerging priorities as themes. Suggestions are:

- Parks & Recreation – best use of provision in the area
- Prevent

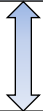
Inner South Community Committee



- Sub Groups
- Children's & Families
 - Environmental
 - Older Persons
 - Community Centres
 - E&S Board



Community Committee Champions



Ward based briefings



- Neighbourhood Improvement Boards
- Beeston and Holbeck
 - City and Hunslet
 - Middleton Park