



SCRUTINY BOARD (NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING)

Meeting to be held in Civic Hall, Leeds on
Wednesday, 7th February, 2007 at 10.00 am

A pre-meeting will take place for ALL Members of the Board
in a Committee Room at 9.30 am

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

J Akhtar	-	Gipton and Harehills
S Armitage	-	Crossgates and Whinmoor
D Atkinson	-	Bramley and Stanningley
P Ewens	-	Hyde Park and Woodhouse
R Finnigan	-	Morley North
A Gabriel	-	Beeston and Holbeck
G Hyde	-	Killingbeck and Seacroft
M Phillips	-	Garforth and Swillington
R Pryke (Chair)	-	Burmantofts and Richmond Hill
M Rafique	-	Chapel Allerton
D Schofield	-	Temple Newsam

Please note: Certain or all items on this agenda may be recorded on tape

Agenda compiled by:
Governance Services
Civic Hall
LEEDS LS1 1UR
Telephone No:

Hannah Bailey

247 4326

Principal Scrutiny Adviser:
Sharon Winfield
Telephone No: 247 4707

A G E N D A

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded.)</p>	
2			<p>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC</p> <p>To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public.</p>	
3			<p>LATE ITEMS</p> <p>To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.</p> <p>(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes.)</p>	
4			<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>To declare any personal / prejudicial interests for the purpose of Section 81 (3) of the Local Government Act 2000 and paragraphs 8 to 13 of the Members Code of Conduct.</p>	
5			<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>To receive any apologies for absence.</p>	
6			<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - 10TH JANUARY 2007</p> <p>To receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th January 2007.</p> <p>(Copy attached.)</p>	1 - 6

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
7			<p>MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 8TH JANUARY 2007</p> <p>To receive and note the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 8th January 2007.</p> <p>(Copy attached.)</p>	7 - 12
8			<p>PERFORMANCE INDICATORS</p> <p>To consider the report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development detailing performance information relating to Neighbourhoods and Housing.</p> <p>(Report attached.)</p>	13 - 20
9			<p>SAFER LEEDS PARTNERSHIP PROSTITUTION STRATEGY</p> <p>To receive the report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing setting out the contents of the recently ratified Safer Leeds Partnership Prostitution Strategy.</p> <p>(Report attached.)</p>	21 - 34
10	All Wards		<p>ASYLUM SEEKER AND REFUGEE SERVICE UPDATE</p> <p>To consider the report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing providing Members with an update on the new Asylum Support and Accommodation Contract and related information.</p> <p>(Report attached.)</p>	35 - 42
11			<p>THE LEEDS SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME</p> <p>To consider the report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing briefing Members on the Supporting People programme in Leeds.</p> <p>(Report attached.)</p>	43 - 46

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
12			<p>NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS UPDATE</p> <p>To consider the report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing updating Members on the Neighbourhood Wardens Service in Leeds.</p> <p>(Report attached.)</p>	47 - 56
13			<p>DEPARTMENTAL PUBLICATIONS</p> <p>To consider the report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing providing Members with information, including associated costs, of all publications within the department.</p> <p>(Report attached.)</p>	57 - 66
14			<p>MONITORING REPORT</p> <p>To consider the report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development providing Members with monitoring information in relation to two inquiries (Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions and Affordable Housing) undertaken during the previous Municipal Year.</p> <p>(Report attached.)</p>	67 - 96
15			<p>WORK PROGRAMME</p> <p>To consider the report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development on the Board's work programme.</p> <p>(Report attached.)</p>	97 - 104
16			<p>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Wednesday 7th March 2007 at 10:00 am (pre-meeting for Board Members at 9:30 am.)</p>	

Agenda Item 6

SCRUTINY BOARD (NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING)

WEDNESDAY, 10TH JANUARY, 2007

PRESENT: Councillor R Pryke in the Chair

Councillors D Atkinson, P Ewens,
R Finnigan, G Hyde, M Phillips, M Rafique
and D Schofield

67 CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair opened the January meeting of the Scrutiny Board (Neighbourhoods and Housing) by wishing those present a Happy New Year.

68 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

69 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was reported that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Armitage and Gabriel.

70 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - 6TH DECEMBER 2006

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th December 2006 be approved as a correct record.

71 MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 4TH DECEMBER 2006

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 4th December 2006 be noted.

72 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD - 13TH DECEMBER 2006

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on 13th December 2006 be noted.

73 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which afforded Scrutiny Board Members the opportunity to put questions to the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing.

Appended to the report for Members' information was performance monitoring information relating to BV212 (average time taken to re-let local authority housing) and BV66a (rent collected by the local authority as a proportion of rents owed on Housing Revenue Account (HRA) dwellings.) This information had been referred to the Board by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Neil Evans, Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing and Simeon Perry, Strategic Landlord Officer, Neighbourhoods and Housing, had been invited to attend the meeting to answer Members' questions.

To summarise, the discussion focussed on the following topics:

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- The accuracy of recent press coverage regarding the number of people currently on the waiting list for council accommodation;
- Research into social housing which is currently ongoing to determine the extent of housing shortages in the city;
- The average time individuals can expect to be on the register whilst waiting to be re-housed, including the reduction in this figure for those in a priority category;
- The numbers of first-time tenants who are evicted from Council properties, and the issues surrounding these evictions, such as rent arrears and anti-social behaviour;
- What steps were being taken to tackle the problem of evicted Council tenants going into private accommodation in problem areas of the city to ensure that issues were resolved and not simply displaced;
- The latest update on the status of Leeds as a Respect Action Area;
- The projected costs of the extra support workers required to implement new schemes associated with the Respect Agenda;
- The need for the Authority to work in partnership with the Police to ensure that breaches of anti-social behaviour orders are effectively tackled.

The Chair thanked Officers for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the discussion be noted.

74 INQUIRY INTO REGENERATION IN BEESTON HILL AND HOLBECK

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report updating Members on the progress of the Inquiry into Regeneration in Beeston Hill and Holbeck, focussing particularly on the role of the private rented and development sectors. In relation to this issue, Mr Frantzis, a private landlord who owned a substantial number of properties in the Beeston Hill area, was invited to the meeting to give his views on progress being made in the regeneration of the area.

The following Officers attended the meeting:
 Neil Evans, Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing;
 John Bracewell, Neighbourhood Renewal Manager;
 Chris Kwasniewski, Regeneration Project Manager;
 Mark Ireland, Environmental Health Service Manager.

Members were given a brief update on the PFI bid in relation to regeneration in the area, which had been submitted to the Secretary of State in early 2006. Officers confirmed that the Government had announced that the bid had been unsuccessful just prior to the Christmas period. However, it was reported that the Authority had been placed on a reserve list to be considered as a priority for any future monies and also allocated a case officer to assist with this. Whilst disappointed to have missed out on the first round of funding, Members expressed satisfaction at the positive feedback received from the Government

on the bid and the fact that discussions were ongoing with a few to securing funding in the next round, expected to be around July 2007.

The Chair then invited Mr Frantzis to address the meeting to give his view on the progress made in regenerating the area from the perspective as a private landlord. Members heard that Mr Frantzis had moved into the area in the mid 1980's when the area was in decline, however in the past few years he had noticed improvements in the area and made the following points:

- The feeling that progress in the area had been made by the efforts of both the Council and private landlords;
- The view that the population in the area was becoming less transient and the stabilising effect of this;
- The need to tackle empty properties and absentee landlords as a matter of urgency, as empty, run-down dwellings had a negative affect on the community as a whole;
- The noticeable improvement in some shop frontage standards, particularly where new businesses were emerging, and the impact this had upon the area.

Members noted the points made by Mr Frantzis and thanked him for his attendance at the meeting. The Board then went on to discuss issues arising from the report with Officers, where the following points were made:

- The need to target empty properties and encourage them back into use, despite the difficulties inherent in making a compulsory purchase;
- The benefits of encouraging smaller landlords with only one or two properties to join accreditation schemes as a part of the regeneration process;
- Whether street-cleansing in the area could be increased to add further impetus to the regeneration scheme and confidence of the local community;
- The future of several derelict sites in the area and moves to secure a housing development on the former Matthew Murray site;
- The news that money had been secured to improve shop frontages along the main Dewsbury Road, whilst investigation was ongoing as to whether traffic could be diverted away from this main route to make the area more attractive for local shoppers.

The Chair thanked Officers for their attendance at the meeting and contribution to the discussion. It was suggested by the Chair that the Board attend one of the area's community forums as part of the investigation to allow them to meet residents and assess the impact of the regeneration scheme upon local people.

RESOLVED –

- a.) That the contents of the report in relation to the role of the private rented sector in Beeston Hill and Holbeck be noted;

- b.) That the views and comments of Mr Frantzis, a private landlord in the area, be noted;
- c.) That the contents of the report in relation to the role of private developers and complementary improvements to service delivery and environmental factors be noted;
- d.) That a final report is drawn up to summarise the main conclusions from the scrutiny of the regeneration in Beeston Hill and Holbeck and to make any appropriate recommendations.

(Councillor Finnigan joined the meeting at 11:05 am during consideration of this item.)

75 AREA MANAGEMENT REVIEW

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing presented a report detailing the context and background to the current area management review, the initial findings and proposed next steps. Members were informed that the review had commenced in early 2006 with an external audit of area management by KPMG. This highlighted a number of issues to be considered as part of the review regarding the effectiveness of Area Committees, their impact upon local communities and whether their remit could be extended.

The Board heard that following the KPMG audit an Area Management Review Board was established to examine their findings and discuss how best to take the work forward. Whilst the progress made by Area Management in the past two years was praised by the Review Board, a number of issues were identified as potential shortcomings that needed to be addressed. These included the need to devise indicators to measure performance, the need to formally evaluate community engagement activities to determine the levels of success and the need to consider the adequacy of services provided by Streetscene and Youth Services in meeting local needs.

Neil Evans, the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing, and Martyn Stenton, Partnerships Manager, Neighbourhoods and Housing, attended the meeting to present the report and respond to Members comments and questions.

The Board discussed the following issues in relation to the report:

- The benefits of devolving local issues to a local level via the Area Committee model;
- Acknowledgment of the positive role Area Committees have established in place of the old Community Involvement Teams (CITs);
- The direction of current discussions regarding delegating control of matters such as street cleansing and youth services to Area Committees;
- Whether the matter should be referred to Executive Board for further consideration.

Following the discussion, the Chair sought Members views on the possibility of referring the matter to Executive Board to ask that they consider further

delegation to Area Management. The Board agreed that this should be actioned.

The Chair thanked Officers for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

RESOLVED –

- a.) That the contents of the report be noted;
- b.) That the work that has taken place to date be noted;
- c.) That the Executive Board be made aware of the Scrutiny Board's comments on the levels of delegation to Area Management.

76 SOCIAL ENTERPRISE FRAMEWORK AND ACTION PLAN

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing and the Director of Legal Services presented a joint report which set out the key drivers for the development of the Social Enterprise Framework and Action Plan and identified the benefits of developing a coherent corporate approach to promoting and supporting social enterprise. A copy of the Social Enterprise Framework and Action Plan was appended to the report for Members' information.

The Board heard that the plan had been devised in order to raise the profile of Social Enterprise in the city, devise a corporate approach to the issue and provide support to new and existing partners. Members were informed that the plan was the result of research and consultation undertaken by a working group representing a number of Council departments.

Sue Wynne, Regeneration Partnership Manager, Neighbourhoods and Housing, attended the meeting to present the report and respond to Members' comments.

The Board discussed the following points in relation to the report:

- The need for more 'joined-up' thinking between council departments on the issue of Social Enterprise;
- The benefits of approaching the issues from a grassroots perspective in order to enable local people to gain the most from local opportunities;
- Ongoing work to address these issues by raising the profile of Social Enterprise, linking relevant organisations and developing a strategic corporate approach in conjunction with the Procurement department;
- The need for Social Enterprise ventures to operate as viable businesses;
- The practicality of utilising successful Social Enterprise initiatives to provide Council services.

The Chair thanked Officers for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

RESOLVED –

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- a.) That the contents of the report be noted;
- b.) That the approach outlined in the Framework and Action Plan be endorsed.

77 WORK PROGRAMME

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which detailed the current work programme of the Board, including scheduled and unscheduled items.

Appended to the report for Members' information was a copy of the Forward Plan for January to April 2007.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and the revisions to the Work Programme be noted.

78 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 7th February 2007 at 10:00 am (pre-meeting for Board Members at 9:30 am.)

(The meeting concluded at 12:25 pm.)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 8TH JANUARY, 2007

PRESENT: Councillor G Driver in the Chair

Councillors B Anderson, B Cleasby,
B Lancaster and T Leadley

Apologies Councillors J Bale, P Grahame and
R Pryke

61 Late Items

The Chair gave notice that in accordance with his powers conferred under Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, he had agreed to accept as a late item of urgent business a revised and updated version of the report of the Director of Development regarding Planning Services Performance, containing information not available at the time of agenda despatch (Agenda Item 8, Minute No 65 refers), in view of the fact that the Leader of the Council and the Director of Development were scheduled to attend the meeting to discuss this issue.

Later other information was also circulated late in connection with the Committee's inquiry into 'Narrowing the Gap' (Agenda Item 7, Minute No 64 refers), which the Chair agreed to accept in order to expedite the Committee's business in the most efficient manner.

62 Declaration of Interests

Councillor Leadley declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item 8, Planning Services Performance (Minute No 65 refers) in his capacity as a Member of Plans Panel (West) and the Development Plans Panel.

Councillor Cleasby also declared a personal interest in respect of the same item in his capacity as a Member of the Development Plans Panel.

63 Minutes - 4th December 2006

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2006 be confirmed as a correct record.

64 Scrutiny Inquiry - Narrowing the Gap

Further to the Committee's ongoing Inquiry regarding the Council's 'Narrowing the Gap' (NtG) initiative, the Committee received evidence from the Leeds Initiative, the Government-approved Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for Leeds, concerning its role in helping deliver the 'Narrowing the Gap' thematic

objective outlined in the Vision for Leeds II strategy covering the period 2004 to 2020.

In addition to the reports of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development and the Leeds Initiative circulated with the agenda, Andrea Tara-Chand of Leeds Initiative and Steve Williamson, Chair of the Narrowing the Gap Executive of the Leeds Initiative, attended the meeting, gave a presentation on the work of the Leeds Initiative in this particular area and responded to Members' queries and comments. Apologies were submitted on behalf of Kathy Kudelnitsky, Director of Leeds Initiative, who was ill.

Andrea Tara-Chand and Steve Williamson set out the background and context for the NtG objective:-

- The evolution of the Leeds Initiative and the 'Vision for Leeds' into the Government-approved LSP for the City;
- The three current aims of the partnership – summarised as 'Going Up a League', 'Leeds as a Regional Capital' and 'Narrowing the Gap' – between the most disadvantaged residents and communities and the rest of the City;
- Recent developments such as Local Area Agreements and the emphasis of the recent Government White Paper on 'strong and prosperous communities';
- The index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 statistics and how the NtG Executive was adopting a comprehensive approach to the physical, social and economic regeneration of the worst areas of deprivation;
- The role and objectives of the NtG Executive and its links to other Leeds Initiative Strategy Groups, such as the Leeds Economy Partnership, and also to the District Partnerships working at local level;
- The strong links and partnership between the NtG Executive and the City Council, particularly the Neighbourhoods and Housing Department via its Partnerships, Regeneration and Resources Teams;
- The Achievements of the NtG Executive since its inception in 2004;
- Its future priorities in terms of tackling issues such as worklessness, the development of Intensive Neighbourhood Management Areas, taking forward the community engagement and cohesion agenda and establishing links and developing benefits from the 'Going Up A League' (GUAL) objective;
- How the Council and Councillors might help to achieve the NtG objectives.

In response to Members' queries and comments, in brief summary the following issues were discussed:-

- The effectiveness of District Partnerships, the need to establish stronger links between District Partnerships and Area Committees and the leading role which Area Committees could play in driving forward the community engagement and cohesion agenda;

- Political leadership at both strategic and local level in helping to achieve the NtG objectives;
- The suggestion that the Council needed to establish one Department to tackle worklessness issues;
- Clarity on the part of the Council regarding its role – provider of services, or commissioner of services;
- How the Council might assist to make best use of the services of the voluntary and community sector, say via procurement policies, employment and training initiatives and support structures to encourage sustainable community involvement and initiatives;
- The role of the Council in encouraging greater partnership working;
- The relationship and possible tensions between NtG and the GUAL objectives, the encouragement of the use of local labour and the benefits of the Government making greater resources available to LSPs
- The role of education in tackling worklessness, and the current lack of emphasis nationally on vocational qualifications and training.

The Chair thanked the representatives of the Leeds Initiative for their very useful contribution to the Committee's NtG Inquiry. He was certain that the Committee would be returning to many of the themes and issues discussed this morning.

RESOLVED – That the information be noted for the time being and be incorporated by the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development in the final Inquiry report.

65 **Quarter 2 Performance Highlight Report - Planning Services Performance**

Further to Minute No 58, 4th December 2006, the Committee considered in more detail the issues surrounding current planning performance levels, in particular the speed with which applications were dealt with by the Development Department, the number of times applications were referred back by Plans Panels for further consideration and the number of Plans Panels decisions subsequently overturned at appeal.

In attendance at the meeting were Councillor Andrew Carter, Leader of the Council, whose portfolio was Development, Jean Dent, Director of Development, Phil Crabtree, newly appointed Chief Planning and Development Services Officer and Steve Speak, Chief Strategy and Policy Officer, Development Department, who all responded to Members' queries and comments.

In brief summary, the main areas of discussion were:-

- The background to the situation whereby the Department had been failing to meet Government targets for the time taken to process major, minor and other planning applications, and what had been done and was being done to tackle that situation;

- The fact that in the main, the situation was improving and the Department was now meeting those targets, although there remained some areas where the situation remained fragile, and had the potential of undermining the Council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) position;
- The consequences for the Council of possibly being designated as a Planning Standards Authority (i.e. in need of improvement) and the effect this could have on the Council's CPA rating;
- The high percentage of appeals allowed against decisions of the Plans Panels and measures being taken or contemplated in this regard, including compulsory training for Plans Panel Members, a possible reduction in the numbers of Members on Plans Panels and other possible constitutional changes, in an effort to achieve a balance between the need for a level of local democracy and the requirements for the Panels to operate in an efficient and consistent manner.

The Chair thanked the Leader of the Council and the officers of the Development Department for their attendance, and for the information which they had imparted. It was clear that fundamental issues were being addressed. Nevertheless, the Chair felt that the Committee would still wish to meet with Plans Panel Chairs to further explore the issues highlighted and how these might be addressed. The Leader of the Council welcomed the continued involvement of OSC in these matters.

RESOLVED – That the information be noted for the time being, and arrangements be made to invite the Chairs of Plans Panels to attend a future meeting.

66 Performance Management and Financial Health Monitoring - Report to Executive Board

Further to Minute No 46, 6th November 2006 and Minute No 58, 4th December 2006, the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted the Committee's proposed submission to the Executive Board containing the Committee's recommendations regarding the performance management and financial health monitoring process, and OSC's role in this process.

RESOLVED – That the proposed submission be approved and submitted to the Executive Board as this Committee's input to the scrutiny of the budget, in line with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

67 Scrutiny Commission - Avoiding Alcohol Misuse in Leeds - Recommendation Monitoring

Further to Minute No 17, 3rd July 2006, and Minute No 46, 4th December 2006, the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a progress report on the work of the Working Group established by the Committee to monitor the implementation of the recommendations of this Scrutiny Commission.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

68 The Registration of Requests to Waive or for Exceptional Use of Contracts Procedure Rules

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report regarding instances of the waiving or exceptional use of Contracts Procedure Rules. It was a requirement of the Rules that this information was periodically reported to a Scrutiny Board.

Members raised several queries during the consideration of this item:-

- The need to ensure that service users were consulted, as appropriate, before officers took delegated decisions;
- The extensive use of particular, or one contractor, in some instances e.g. by Connexions for support services to young people, the reasons behind this and whether or not it represented value for money;
- Why the Leeds Youth Service did not appear to commission the provision of any of its services from outside organisations;
- The need for the Council's List of Approved Contractors to be sufficiently robust to avoid the necessity to use only one or a limited number of contractors;
- A request for the Committee to be supplied in future with an explanation of the standard waiver rules or reasons, e.g. Para or Category 1 etc;
- Members sought assurances regarding the safeguards in place to ensure probity on the part of officers in awarding contracts or waiving Contracts Procedure Rules.

In summary, the Chair felt that the Committee required the presence of Procurement Unit officers, and possibly others, at the meeting in order to respond to Members queries before the report could be signed off.

RESOLVED – That a decision be deferred.

69 Request for Scrutiny

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development drew Members attention to a request from Councillor Harris, Joint Leader of the Council, for the Committee to scrutinise an Audit Report carried out by Leeds City Council auditors on a Bradford MDC contract to secure an external partner to help with their asset and facilities management service, to ascertain whether there were any possible project management lessons which Leeds might benefit from as a result of this audit investigation.

RESOLVED – That a report be submitted to the February OSC meeting.

70 Work Programme

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted the Committee's current work programme, updated to reflect decisions take at previous meetings, together with a relevant extract of the Council's Forward Plan of

Key Decisions and a copy of the minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on 13th December 2006.

Further to Minute No 65, the Committee agreed to invite the Chairs of the Plans Panels to a special OSC meeting, to be arranged by the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development.

RESOLVED – That subject to the above, and any other changes necessary as a result of today's meeting, the Committee's work programme be approved and accepted.

71 Dates and Times of Future Meetings

Monday 5th February 2007

Monday 5th March 2007

Monday 2nd April 2007

All at 10.00 am (Pre-meeting at 9.30 am)



Originator: S Winfield

Tel: 2474707

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Neighbourhoods and Housing)

Date: 7th February 2007

Subject: Quarter Three Performance Report

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In November 2006, the Board was informed of new arrangements for reporting performance management information to scrutiny, which had been agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Members have previously received information on the new arrangements for scrutinising performance management information and the Board is now receiving performance information relating to Neighbourhoods and Housing, attached to this report. Overview and Scrutiny Committee is invited to refer any particular matters of concern to individual Scrutiny Boards for further investigation. Overview and Scrutiny Committee meets on 5th February. Any referrals relevant to this Scrutiny Board will be reported verbally at the Board meeting.

2.2 Officers will be in attendance at the meeting to respond to member's questions arising from the performance information.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 It is recommended that the Board considers the quarter 3 performance information and highlights any areas for further scrutiny.

Neighbourhoods and Housing Scrutiny Board Report Qtr3 2006/07

Reference	Title	Rise or Fall	Frequency	Units	Last Years Result	Target	Qtr1	Qtr2	Oct	Nov	Dec	Qtr3	Predicted Full Year Result	Predicted Year End Traffic Light	Comments
BV-66a CPA-H6	Rent collected by the local authority as a proportion of rents owed on Housing Revenue Account (HRA) dwellings.	Rise	Monthly	%	96.15	97.10	94.74	95.60	95.96	95.89	95.81	95.81	96.18		Strategic Landlord has reviewed how the definition of BV66a is being interpreted and a meeting was held with housing Finance 12/01/07 to agree what exclusions etc can be applied. This is currently being tested and the final impact should be known by the end of January.
BV-126 LPSA 11	Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households	Fall	Monthly	No.	23.85	23.60	5.80	6.90	2.40	2.10	2.20	6.70	25.40		
BV-127 a	Violent crime per year, 1000 population in the Local Authority area.	Fall	Monthly	No.	25.06	23.60	6.60	6.30	2.00	1.90	1.80	5.70	24.60		
BV-127 b	Robberies per year, per 1000 population in the Local Authority area.	Fall	Monthly	No.	1.82	1.80	0.40	0.60	0.25	0.22	0.20	0.70	2.20		
CP-CS50	Reduce overall crime levels in Leeds by 35% by 2008	Rise	Monthly	%	23.90	30.00	22.90	22.20	22.60	22.70	22.70	22.70	22.70		
BV-174 CP-CS1	The number of racial incidents recorded by the authority per 100,000 population	Rise	Quarterly	No.	249.44	256.94	59.89	5.55				55.58	208.86		YTD submissions as follows: CED=143, CityS=15, CorpS=0, Dev=1, L&L=6, ALMOs=66, NH=4, SS=1 There have been also 2 blank forms returned with no named department. Total YTD for LCC=236. Education Leeds submit on a term time basis (3 terms only) Q1=351 and Q3=282.
BV-203 CPA-H22	The percentage change in the average number of families placed in temporary accommodation.	Fall	Quarterly	%	3.88	5.00	21.51	22.60				25.80	25.80		Calculation - 369 households placed. This equates to an average of 351 across the three quarters of 2006/07. Average in 2005/06 279. Therefore 25.8% increase. Due to reduction in social housing lets. Likely this trend will continue due to various regeneration initiatives. Strategic Commissioning (Supporting People) and Housing Needs are working on plans to tackle this.
BV-175 CPA-H19	The percentage of racial incidents that resulted in further action	Rise	Quarterly	%	96.00	98.00	94.00	100.00				100.00	98.00		Confirmation is being sought from the ALMOs that action has been taken as per their returns.

Reference	Title	Rise or Fall	Frequency	Units	Last Years Result	Target	Qtr1	Qtr2	Oct	Nov	Dec	Qtr3	Predicted Full Year Result	Predicted Year End Traffic Light	Comments
BV-212	Average time taken to re-let local authority housing.	Fall	Monthly	Days	63.00	40.00	49.40	47.10	48.20	47.60	47.00	47.00	50.00		A mini audit of BV212 took place in late November - ALMO file evidence is being tested to check that processes have been strengthened following the 2005/06 KPMG audit. Weaknesses were found in the audit and were fed back to the respective ALMOs. An overall report will be presented to Customer and Tenancy Services Managers meeting on 24/01/07
BV-66d	Percentage of local authority tenants evicted as a result of rent arrears.	Fall	Monthly	%	0.27	0.26	0.04	0.12	0.18	0.18	0.21	0.21	0.28		As BV-66a
BV-183a CPA-H14	The average length of stay in bed and breakfast accommodation of households which include dependent children or a pregnant woman and which are unintentionally homeless and in priority need	Fall	Monthly	Weeks	0.45	0.50	0.00	1.00	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.50		The total length of residence is 10 days for two families, this equates to an average stay of 5 days per family, or 0.7 weeks. This result places the indicator within the upper threshold.
BV-184a CPA-H1	The proportion of local authority homes which were non-decent at 1st April 2004	Fall	Monthly	%	47.54	43.50	42.50	43.95	42.71	40.98	41.49	41.49	35.00		In year progress has been affected by data cleansing and the project planning development. However, at this stage we are still predicting to achieve year end target of 35%. There have been some changes to the Decent Homes Standard which will require a further change to the calculation method during 06/07. Decency sub group are currently reviewing processes so that the revised standard can be reported. ALMOs and SL continue to work on data cleansing of data prior to the migration of data into Keystone system. Actions have been agreed to address issues raised as part of the 05/06 audit - these will also be co-ordinated through the Decency Sub Group. The Project Planning development which allows decency works to be updated on a property by property basis has now gone live and will support more accurate updating of decency information.

Reference	Title	Rise or Fall	Frequency	Units	Last Years Result	Target	Qtr1	Qtr2	Oct	Nov	Dec	Qtr3	Predicted Full Year Result	Predicted Year End Traffic Light	Comments
BV-184b CPA-H2	The percentage change in the proportion of non-decent LA homes which are not decent between 1st April 2004 and 1st April 2005	Rise	Monthly	%	9.45	19.00	0.17	-1.96	-0.88	2.33	2.01	2.01	19.00		In year progress has been affected by data cleansing and the project planning development. However, at this stage we are still predicting to achieve year end target of 19%.
BV-213 CPA-	Number of households who considered themselves as homeless, who approached the local housing authority's housing advice service(s), and for whom housing advice casework intervention resolved their situation.	Rise	Monthly	No.	1.00	2.00	0.27	0.32	0.10	0.17	0.08	0.35	2.00		
BV-66b CPA-H	The number of local authority tenants with more than seven weeks of (gross) rent arrears as a percentage of the total number of council tenants.	Fall	Monthly	%	7.42	7.00	7.62	7.49	7.40	7.38	7.36	7.36	7.00		As BV-66a
BV-66c	Percentage of local authority tenants in arrears who have had Notices Seeking Possession served	Fall	Monthly	%	30.12	27.00	7.95	13.69	14.94	16.14	17.98	17.98	24.00		As BV-66a
CP-HAS50	Reduce the number of homeless people in Leeds per 1000 households, as defined by the Council.	Fall	Monthly	No.	5.85	5.64	1.42	1.24	0.50	0.47	0.35	1.32	5.48		Forecast there will be 1750 homeless acceptances in 2006/07. There were 424 homeless acceptances in Qtr3.
LKI-HMA4 CPA-H5	The average time taken to complete non-urgent responsive repairs	Fall	Monthly	Days	16.78	12.00	10.13	11.93	11.32	11.89	12.00	12.00	13.00		ALMOs are closely monitoring the performance of their contractors to try to achieve upper threshold by year end. Performance is also being monitored through the Cross ALMO Repairs KPI Meeting which meets monthly.
BV-128	Vehicle crimes per 1,000 population	Fall	Monthly	No.	17.23	16.90	4.40	4.10	1.60	1.60	1.40	4.50	17.00		
BV-225 CPA-	Action against domestic violence (DV) provision and effectiveness of LA services designed to help victims of DV and prevent DV	Rise	Quarterly	%	90.90	100.00	90.90	100.00				100.00	100.00		
LKI-HMA7 CPA-H4	The percentage of urgent repairs completed within Government time limits	Rise	Monthly	%	88.46	97.40	91.12	92.16	94.86	94.65	94.86	94.86	96.00		ALMOs are closely monitoring the performance of their contractors to try to achieve upper threshold by year end. Performance is also being monitored through the Cross ALMO Repairs KPI Meeting which meets monthly.

Reference	Title	Rise or Fall	Frequency	Units	Last Years Result	Target	Qtr1	Qtr2	Oct	Nov	Dec	Qtr3	Predicted Full Year Result	Predicted Year End Traffic Light	Comments
BV-183b CPA-H15	The average length of stay in hostel accommodation of households which include dependant children or a pregnant woman who are unintentionally homeless and in priority need	Fall	Monthly	Weeks	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
BV-214 CPA-H	Proportion of households accepted as statutorily homeless who were accepted as statutorily homeless by the same Authority within the last two years.	Fall	Monthly	%	7.12	6.00	6.18	5.30	4.75	4.40	4.23	4.23	4.00		This is comfortably within target and within the CPA mid threshold.
BV-63 CPA-H11	Energy Efficiency - the average SAP rating of local authority owned dwellings	Rise	Quarterly	No.	61.20	64.00	62.10	62.70				64.10	65.00		Energy Unit and ALMO's are carrying out a data cleansing exercise prior to data migration into the Keystone data management system
BV-198	The number of problem drug-misusers in treatment per thousand head of population aged 15-44	Fall	Monthly	No.		8.20	10.20	10.80	11.10	11.40			12.00		Due to the way this indicator is reported, the result for December and Quarter 3 is not available until the end January.
BV-64 CP-PSH2	The number of private sector dwellings that are returned into occupation or demolished as a direct result of action by the local authority	Rise	Monthly	No.	1724.00	1,000.00	294.00	1,840.00					5,000.00	Not Applicable	Monthly returns / contributions from revenues dept have increased due to better queries being devised that capture more interventions. Audit work begun to ensure accuracy of reporting. Qtr3 data is not available for this indicator and will be reported in Qtr4.
BV-217 CP-EN51	Percentage of pollution control improvements to existing installations completed on time.	Rise	Quarterly	%	97.00	90.00	95.24	100.00				100.00	90.00	Not Applicable	
LKI-EH8 CPA-H18	Percentage of private sector homes vacant for more than 6 months	Fall	Quarterly	%		2.69	2.38	3.03					2.69	Not Applicable	Percentage is based on the latest figures for Private Sector properties obtained from Council Tax. Figures for quarter 3 are not available and will be reported in quarter 4.
BV-166a CPA-E27	Score against a checklist of enforcement best practice for environmental health	Rise	Annually	%	96.70	96.70	96.70	96.70				96.70	96.70	Not Applicable	
BV-166b CPA-E21	Score out of 10 against a checklist of enforcement best practice for trading standards	Rise	Annually	%	100.00	100.00							100.00	Not Applicable	
CP-HM53	Reduce the percentage of Leeds households that are vulnerable and suffer from fuel poverty.	Fall	Annually	%	14.30	13.50							27.50	Not Applicable	This is the figure for the year produced in Oct. The report is based on 20,000 self assessments from across the city. Fuel poverty has increased dramatically due to increases in fuel costs, which are uncontrollable in terms of the authorities activities.

Reference	Title	Rise or Fall	Frequency	Units	Last Years Result	Target	Qtr1	Qtr2	Oct	Nov	Dec	Qtr3	Predicted Full Year Result	Predicted Year End Traffic Light	Comments
BV-202	The number of people sleeping rough on a single night within the area of the local authority	Fall	Annually	No.	1.00	10.00									
BV-74a CPA-H12	The percentage of all council tenants, or a representative sample of council tenants, stating that they are satisfied with the overall service provided by their landlord when surveyed.	Rise	Annually	%											
BV-74b	Satisfaction of ethnic minority local authority tenants (excluding white minority tenants) with the overall service provided by their landlord.	Rise	Annually	%											
BV-74c	Satisfaction of non-ethnic minority local authority tenants with the overall service provided by their landlord.	Rise	Annually	%											
BV-75a CPA-H13	Satisfaction of council housing tenants with opportunities for participation in management and decision making in relation to housing services provided by their landlord.	Rise	Annually	%											
BV-75b	Satisfaction of ethnic minority council housing tenants (excluding white minority) with their opportunities for participation in management and decision-making in relation to housing services provided by their landlord.	Rise	Annually	%											
BV-75c	Satisfaction of non-ethnic minority council housing tenants with their opportunities for participation in management and decision making in relation to housing services provided by their landlord.	Rise	Annually	%											
CP-CS2	Increase the percentage of racial incidents recorded by the authority per 1,000 population	Rise	Annually	%											
CP-CS3	Increase the percentage of local people who feel that they belong to their local area	Rise	Annually	%											
CP-CS51ai LAA- SSC18a	Reduce the number of people who have a fear of crime by: increasing the % of people surveyed that feel safe walking alone in their area during the day	Rise	Annually	%											

Reference	Title	Rise or Fall	Frequency	Units	Last Years Result	Target	Qtr1	Qtr2	Oct	Nov	Dec	Qtr3	Predicted Full Year Result	Predicted Year End Traffic Light	Comments
CP-CS51a LAA-SSC18b	Reduce the number of people who have a fear of crime by: increasing the % of people surveyed that feel safe walking alone in their area after dark	Rise	Annually	%											
CP-CS51c	Reduce the number of people who have a fear of crime by: c) reducing the % of residents who believe that people using or dealing drugs is a very big problem in their area	Fall	Annually	%											
CP-CS51d	Reduce the number of people who have a fear of crime by: d) reducing the % of people who feel that drunkenness and rowdiness is a very big problem in their	Fall	Annually	%											
CP-CS57	Reduce the number of young people who have a fear of crime	Fall	Annually	No.											
CP-CS58	Reduce the number of first time offenders who are under 18 years of age by 5%	Fall	Annually	No.											
CP-HM50	Improve the quality of life of people living in the most disadvantaged areas of the city by narrowing the gap between them and the rest of Leeds	Fall	Annually	%											
CP-SC51b LAA-SSC16a	Reduce the number of people who have a fear of crime by: b) reducing the % of residents who feel that anti-social behaviour is a very big problem in their area	Rise	Annually	%											

Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing

Scrutiny Board (Neighbourhoods and Housing)

Date: 7th February 2007

Subject: Safer Leeds Partnership Prostitution Strategy

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report is prepared to offer an insight into the background for the Safer Leeds Partnership's Prostitution Strategy which was presented to the Safer Leeds Executive at their January meeting for final ratification. The Strategy is attached as appendix 1.

1.2 The Leeds Strategy has been prepared as a direct result of the Government's national Prostitution Strategy that was agreed and circulated in April 2006 and has been adopted in principle by a large number of the key cities across the UK where prostitution, particularly street based activity, has been identified as a major concern to communities in terms of crime and anti-social behaviour.

2.0 Safer Leeds Prostitution Strategy

2.1 The Leeds Strategy will be supported by a fully costed implementation plan once 2007/08 budgets for health, drug care and housing which are key aspects of the strategy have been confirmed by central Government.

2.2 The key themes of the Leeds Strategy are in line with the national approach, i.e.,

- Prevention
- Tackling supply and demand
- Developing routes out
- Ensuring justice

2.3 Intelligence obtained for recent police activity across the city has identified in excess of 250 women engaged in street based prostitution. It is envisaged that

there are similar numbers working in saunas and off street premises albeit confirmation of this proves extremely difficult. The majority of these women identified in the first group are using Class A drugs and many are committing crime to sustain the habit, either for themselves or their pimp.

2.4 Both history and more recent research within the national Strategy have confirmed that dealing with prostitutes by arrest and imprisonment has failed to solve the problem within any of our UK cities. Whilst the Leeds Strategy adopts the recommended holistic approach to the problem by focussing on the individual needs of the woman and offering ways out of prostitution, it maintains a resolute response to those who choose to ignore the options available and supports firm action through the Courts to all who commit crime. Kerb crawlers are specifically targeted for attention as they present an identified problem to females within communities that suffer from prostitution.

2.5 In conclusion, to be affective the Strategy must be adopted by a multi-agency response as enforcement alone will not solve or improve this problem within the city. Commitment by stakeholder partners both in resources and funding is essential if Leeds is to follow the success of cities like Glasgow where significant change has occurred over the past five years due to an open dialogue between the public and voluntary sectors.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 Members are requested to note the information provided and to make any comments and recommendations as appropriate.

**PROSTITUTION STRATEGY
FOR
LEEDS**

(Last amended 03.01.07)

PROSTITUTION STRATEGY FOR LEEDS

Introduction

Recently published research by the Home Office has established that over 80,000 women across the UK are allegedly involved in prostitution. In London, where the majority of the research was focused, there are between 3000 to 6000 women working in 700 brothels. In the same city it was stated that 8.9% of men have paid for sex in the last ten years.

In 2004, nationally there were 1744 convictions for loitering or soliciting with an additional 808 convictions for kerb crawling.

In January 2006 the Government published its document 'A coordinated Prostitution Strategy - and a summary of responses to *Paying the Price*' which sets out its approach to combating the anti-social issues of prostitution and addresses key areas of prevention and support to women by developing routes out to those who are seeking to exit prostitution. The key objectives of the national strategy are to:

- Challenge the view that street prostitution is here to stay
- Achieve an overall reduction in street prostitution
- Improve the safety and quality of life for communities affected by prostitution, including those directly involved in prostitution.
- Reduce all forms of commercial sexual exploitation.

Leeds has a prolific sex industry with informed intelligence suggesting that in excess of 250 women are working on the streets of the city with an estimated similar number further working from off-street premises in brothels and saunas. This level of activity has been identified as having a significant impact on crime figures in two policing areas of the city (Chapelton and City & Holbeck) where street prostitution is overt with a resulting negative effect on communities and business investment.

Over the past two years Leeds has made many positive changes to the activities related to prostitution both in the enforcement of the law and the support mechanisms required to assist women working as prostitutes to change their lifestyles, improve their health and seek more work and training opportunities. The publication of the Government's strategy document acted, in many ways, as an endorsement of the actions already on-going across the city by the partnership agencies linked through Safer Leeds.

Whilst we acknowledge that the main focus and language of the Leeds strategy is street based prostitution, it is essential that our services can also meet the needs of off street sex workers, the victims of trafficking and males engaged in prostitution. In line with the national strategy, the Leeds strategy is focused on the following key areas:

- Prevention – As national statistics indicate that over half of those involved in street prostitution enter at a young age (about 13/14 yrs) a clear message is required in relation to the dangers involved in prostitution. This must be supported by targeted intervention measures for both young people identified in need of help and those already engaged in the system seeking help and support. Similarly we must ensure that Police activities are also alert to the issues of trafficking and women forced to work as prostitutes in off-street premises against their will.
 - Tackling Supply and Demand – with a concentrated focus on the demand side of the market through tackling kerb crawlers and individuals who exploit women for commercial gain. We will apply a rigorous use of both civil and criminal law to reduce the level of street prostitution across the city. We will strive to engage all stakeholder agencies to improve environmental measures to further deter kerb crawling and enhance the confidence of communities of our commitment to the problem
 - Developing routes out – through the development of dedicated support projects moving beyond harm minimisation in providing real opportunities for women to move on in their lives. These services will strengthen existing partnerships with the Police and the Drugs Intervention Programme through working with women engaged in prostitution committing crime to fund drug misuse.
 - Ensuring Justice – through an encouragement of proactive policing and optimal utilisation of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. We are seeking to encourage training and capacity building of our staff and increase the confidence of the community in the criminal justice system. Continued support for the Incident Reporting Scheme currently in operation across the city will confirm the city's commitment to the vulnerable women and young people who utilise this facility.
- And of most importance....**
- Delivering the strategy – through establishing a clear policy based on the provision of appropriate tools and using good practice models to underpin it. The strategic leadership will be through the Safer Leeds Partnership and will focus on community involvement and linking with the national Respect agenda.

Prevention

Our approach will focus on the following key areas:

- The identification of children at risk of sexual exploitation and developing opportunities for early intervention.
- Focussed work with looked after children and young people in care

- Focussed work with children experiencing Domestic Violence and/ or affected by sexual abuse.
- Work with children and young people affected by sexual exploitation by a third party such as pimps and traffickers
- Raise awareness among parents and carers about sexual grooming and involve them in work supporting interventions
- Children missing from home
- Young people using drugs
- Reduction in truancy rates and increased awareness about sexual exploitation
- Increase in the number of prosecutions against those sexually grooming and exploiting children through designated police teams, Child and Public Protection Units and Operation Pentameter.
- Increase understanding and awareness in all adult drugs services to identify and support those involved in or at risk of becoming involved in prostitution.

As part of challenging the objectification of women and the view that street prostitution is here to stay, we will make key links with the Leeds Domestic Violence strategy to raise public awareness of the impacts of prostitution on individuals, families and communities.

We will further seek to ensure a robust application of the key principles of *Every Child Matters: Change for Children* with the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to coordinate and implement activities to promote safety for children across Leeds. The LSCB functions will include:

- Developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the care of the local authority.
- Ensuring that safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is taken into account in the planning and commissioning of children's services
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the local authority and board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- Advising them on ways to improve
- Better use of the Common Assessment Framework to provide a coordinated range of services.
- A holistic approach to support and protection. Experience has taught us that providing adult services for young people is inappropriate and that dedicated child focused services are essential.

We further need to improve PHSCE lessons on sexual health, internet safety, relationships and exploitation. Effective links with schools, Connexions and Pupil Referral Unit's and the Youth Justice Board will seek to provide better information and advice available for young people.

Tackling Supply and Demand

One of the most important elements of an effective strategy is the visible impact that the delivery of the strategy has on the communities in which prostitution is openly active.

The Chapeltown area has had a long-standing problem with prostitution and the key streets around Spencer Place, Leeds 8 have been the focus for overt street prostitution with a high media coverage in the 1980's throughout the series of 'Ripper' murders. More recently, however, the area covered by City and Holbeck which stretches from the established properties in Lower Beeston, to the city centre along the waterfront and into the new residential area of Holbeck has seen in excess of 200 women engaged in prostitution which equates to nearly 80% of those known to be involved in street prostitution in the city.

Changing patterns of prostitution has led to the issues becoming more overt with more women working throughout the majority of the day.

In Leeds, we will continue to target those men who travel to parts of the city to solicit prostitutes for sex. Whilst it is acknowledged that addressing the issue of demand is both complex and linked to behavioural activity, previous research in other parts of the country (Ward et al 2005) has shown that activity by Police to target kerb crawlers and imposing visible and highly punitive sentences has not resulted in any significant increase in prosecutions and the steady increase in the demand for sexual services remains.

Whilst the initial response to this form of police activity is often equated to a displacement of the problem to other areas, the facts are that this is not the case if the enforcement of demand activity is also supported by substantial exiting options for the women. Many of the answers can also be attributed to wider changes in sexual attitudes, divorce rates and the commercialisation of other sex markets etc.

However, kerb crawlers still offer the following threats to communities:

- Unwanted propositioning of local residents, particularly women walking to and from their homes or workplaces in key times of the day
- Residents who seek to complain are fearful of identification

In addition, active prostitution within a community also brings with it the following problems:

- Hazardous waste - condoms and needles which can be potentially infected with Blood Borne Viruses such as Hepatitis C and HIV
- Increased traffic brought about by kerb crawlers seeking women for sex at all hours of the day and night
- Increased crime and disorder, particularly violence including an increase in sexual offences, street robberies and the visible activity of drug dealing on the streets
- Sex in public places

- Significant impact on the economic viability of businesses, property values and economic regeneration of the areas...

The resulting impact on a community is invariably a change of daily life, fear of victimisation and an embarrassment about the area in which they live.

In delivering the Leeds Strategy we will:

Robustly apply all legal sanctions within the law with particular focus on the powers contained within the Sexual Offences Act 2003 and other supporting civil and criminal legislation:

- Driving disqualifications for kerb crawlers
- Forfeiture of vehicles used by convicted kerb crawlers
- Injunctions
- Anti Social Behaviour Orders
- Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC).

Whilst we acknowledge that ASBO's alone are somewhat limited in what they can achieve with prostitutes due to their failure to identify underlying causes of prostitution, we will ensure that, where used, they are supported by strong packages of wrap-around care and ..

- Use a range of Pre-charge diversion through cautions, conditional cautioning, drug testing and referral for treatment through the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP)
- Utilise voluntary referrals through outreach
- Use appropriate prosecution measures for women engaged in prostitution who have failed to take up the offer of support to move away from prostitution and continue to pursue criminal activities to acquire cash.
- Work with Police and support agencies to deliver effective interventions in tackling drug dealing and drug related crime
- Develop robust responses to intervene where individuals are being forced/co-erced into prostitution.
- Seek strong support from our partners to provide and sustain services that will continue to protect our communities from prostitution

We will also further develop our links with the Local Criminal Justice Board to further raise the awareness of the Crown Prosecution Service to the complexities of prostitution and the need to utilise all aspects of the Sexual Offences Act and the powers contained within it to support victims, deal positively with offenders and reassure communities of the level of seriousness with which prostitution is seen across our city.

Developing Routes Out

The majority of women involved in street based prostitution in Leeds are identified as having substance misuse addiction and additional health related problems. Many will also have additional complex needs and issues such as homelessness, disrupted family lives, poverty, low educational attainment, experience of local authority care, experience of violence and abuse, serious physical and mental health problems.

It is essential therefore that Leeds further develops its existing range of holistic services in order to assist women to be able to successfully exit from prostitution. Current activities include housing support, specialist nurse provision and needle exchange. It is also essential to recognise that exiting can be a long and complex process often requiring long term support.

Evidence has shown that outreach is indispensable in providing support to women seeking to exit prostitution. Not only does outreach engage women with services but it allows them to develop trusting relationships to provide a solid basis from which more sensitive issues can be discussed and resolved in relation to their existing positions. Outreach can also act as a broker for mainstream services that have invariably become disengaged from the woman, such as a GP or benefits and housing. Modern outreach agencies invariably have adapted their service to provide one worker capable of dealing with all aspects of a wrap-around service and thereby enhancing confidence in their client.

Recent developments in Leeds to increase support options for women have included the introduction of a fortnightly multi agency case conference. The purpose of the case conference is to aid a co-ordinated approach to care planning in order that those engaged in street based sex working have increased opportunities to access appropriate services to;

- reduce harm caused to the individual's health and wellbeing and exit from street based prostitution.

Alongside this it also intends to disrupt and challenge illegal and anti-social street behaviour related to street based prostitution.

Harm Reduction

Research evidence confirms that effective harm reduction strategies are one of the key motivators to engage drug misusers into treatment. It is imperative that Leeds has an effective harm reduction programme that runs alongside the Prostitution strategy for those women engaged in prostitution who use drugs.

The city also provides an expansive needle exchange programme and as stated above, a mobile outreach service to distribute sterile injecting equipment to women engaged in prostitution has been an integral part of Leeds harm reduction service for several years.

Further to the above, Leeds has recently established a dedicated medical service for women engaged in prostitution to enable them to obtain health advice, drug support

and counselling from a qualified GP and supporting team. It is envisaged that this philosophy will be expanded into the work of new and existing service providers in areas when prostitution is apparent.

Advice, information and prevention materials for women involved in prostitution, especially young people on issues such as drug misuse, sexual health and personal safety will be provided at contact points throughout the city.

Finally, we will continue to clear areas of discarded paraphernalia from sex activity and injecting through funding of public cleansing services

Drug Treatment

With the obvious links between prostitution and drug use, the first steps on an exit route must look at ways to address the woman's drug use in a way that will allow her to improve her health and opportunities for work or skills improvement and maintaining stable accommodation .

In Leeds, the results obtained from drug testing have shown us that in excess of 90% of the street based women engaged in prostitution are Class A drug users with the majority using opiates and crack cocaine.

To address the problem in Leeds we must establish:

- Increased availability and accessibility to drug treatment services for those involved in street prostitution, including:-
 - protocols for fast-track into immediate assessment and treatment
 - female only provision
 - provision for pimp/partners
- Increased availability of diversion schemes linked to local support projects
- Increased closure of crack houses with links to local projects to support those who have been 'displaced'

The Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) has been developed to use contact between individuals and the criminal justice system as an opportunity to engage with them in a constructive way by assessing their needs and agreeing a care plan to provide appropriate treatment and support.

Currently in Leeds we are developing a dedicated drug treatment clinic for women sex workers and we have also allocated specific resources within the DIP to engage and support women.

Housing

Homelessness or insecure housing is another key issue that must be addressed in order for a women to successfully exit from prostitution.

On a general basis being a woman engaged in prostitution should not be a reason to exclude women from the allocation of housing nor from homelessness services. However the successful placement of women previously engaged in prostitution and who have led a very chaotic lifestyle has often proved difficult both for the woman and those members of the community who have been housed in her close proximity. It is widely known from national research that instances have occurred where women who have been engaged as prostitutes have been excluded from a council's housing register on the basis that they have convictions or are subject to an anti-social behaviour order because of prostitution. Whilst placing someone on an ASBO may be an appropriate step to address such actions, our policy in Leeds will continue to be that it should never be an automatic assumption that this should preclude them from accessing social housing. It will always be important that any housing service takes positive action to assist this vulnerable group to address their support needs.

It is clearly important and understood that women engaged in prostitution and their support workers have a good understanding of their rights to apply for housing and will regularly challenge decisions that are perceived to be against their interests. A person can be treated as vulnerable and therefore in priority need to be rehoused for 'other special reasons' which may include aspects of confidentiality, protection etc. It should also be recognised that a person involved in prostitution may have a range of other support issues and needs, such as general offending, history of custody, drug use, and being subject to violence/abuse. In Leeds we will consider all these factors to determine whether a housing duty is owed on the basis of that individual's vulnerability.

Leeds City Council fully accepts that it has a legal duty to secure suitable temporary accommodation for homeless households who are unintentionally homeless and in priority need. The council also has a duty to give housing advice to any person who requests it in order to assist that person to secure accommodation. Clearly the council will need to consider a persons experiences such as prostitution when they consider what type of temporary accommodation is suitable. The Leeds Supporting People team is aware of the needs of women engaged in prostitution and are commissioning housing support services to meet the needs of such vulnerable people.

Street sex workers may often have accommodation that they are at risk of losing due to issues such as violence and harassment. The council, similar to other areas across the country, is establishing a sanctuary scheme which will involve the installation of security measures to establish a safe room in the persons own home. It is clear that women previously engaged in prostitution may well benefit from this scheme which will prevent them, in certain circumstances, becoming homeless.

The council recognises that all households will require a housing option. There is no doubt that the contraction of the housing stock means it is increasingly difficult to access social housing in the city. The council has established a private sector letting

scheme which is often accessed by vulnerable households. This is an option which may be available for women engaged in prostitution. Increasingly the supporting people programme is commissioning floating housing support services for households living in private accommodation enabling them to receive the housing support that they require. Such support would help women engaged in prostitution not only access private housing options but also to sustain this accommodation.

Health Issues

Studies have shown that women involved in street based prostitution can experience very poor physical and mental health. They are often not registered with a GP and have little access to health care provision. The research studies further confirm the links between women engaged in prostitution and their vulnerability to domestic violence and the long term impact in relation to their personal health and education.

Mental health is a further significant issue in a number of cases related to current, on-going or past experiences of abuse related to either drugs or violence. Women often present for health care with advanced medical conditions as they report a great reluctance to go to hospital sooner as they fear how they will be dealt with by staff.

The types of health needs can include; Wound Care, Nutrition, Chronic Diseases. Acute medical problems, Access to regular medication, Addiction Issues, Self Harm, Sexual Health – including contraception and cervical screening.

Currently Hep B vaccinations and a nurse clinic is provided on an outreach basis.

Through this strategy we must establish:

- Increased availability and accessibility to appropriate health care provision.
- Dedicated health care support for women engaged in prostitution.
- Increased awareness within mainstream health providers of issues faced by those engaged in prostitution.

Ensuring Justice

Prosecution of individuals who exploit young people and groom them to be involved in prostitution and other allied activities are far and few. Information collected by projects supporting women involved in prostitution and young people at risk of being sexually exploited is currently not shared effectively between police divisions.

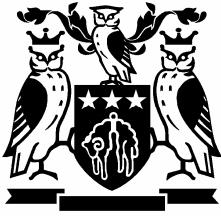
Through this strategy we must establish:

- Designated staff to proactively involve in preventive and investigative tasks
- Develop information sharing protocols among and between criminal justice agencies and voluntary sector organisations

- Encourage and train all stakeholders to engage in identifying signs of risk among children and young people and in putting an initial response in place
- Develop multi-agency partnership working to ensure victims and survivors of sexual exploitation have equal opportunities to access justice

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Originator: Sharon Hague

Tel: x768481

Report of the Director or Neighbourhoods and Housing

Neighbourhoods and Housing Scrutiny Board

Date: 7th February 2007

Subject: Asylum Seeker and Refugee Service update

Electoral Wards Affected:

All

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Executive Summary

To provide Scrutiny with an update on:

- The delivery of housing and support services to asylum seekers in Leeds.
- The key issues relating to this customer group.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 To provide members with an update on the new Asylum Support and Accommodation Contract and related information.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 Leeds City Council (LCC) is part of a partnership of ten local authorities in the Yorkshire and Humberside region that form the Yorkshire and Humberside Public Sector Group (YHPSG), as a function of the Yorkshire and Humberside Consortium for Asylum Seekers and Refugees. Leeds provides services to discharge duties under 2 separate Home Office contracts through this partnership structure; Section 95 Support and Accommodation Services and Induction Centre Services.

2.2 Support and Accommodation Services

- 2.3 The YHPSG entered into a 5 year contract with NASS in 2000 to provide support and accommodation services to asylum seekers dispersed to Leeds, this contract expired in October 2005 and a short term extension until the end of April was agreed to allow negotiations around a further contract to conclude.

- 2.4 On May 1st 2006 YHPSG entered into a new 5 year "Target Contract" to provide 50% of the regions bedspaces for asylum seeker accommodation. The additional 50% is contracted to the private sector and divided between 3 organisations: Angel Group 20%; United Property Management 20%; and Priority Property Management 10%. This provides a total of 8842 bedspaces for the region.

2.5 Induction Centre Services

- 2.6 The Regional Induction centre is based across two sites – Barnsley and Leeds and is made up accommodation and wrap around services, delivered by both the voluntary sector and the two partaking local authorities.

- 2.7 Hillside Reception Centre was established as Leeds Induction Centre in June 2003 and provides short term self contained, fully catered accommodation for up to 75 newly arrived asylum seekers awaiting dispersal. Service users are accommodated at the centre for 7-10 days and during that time undergo health screening and complete the necessary formalities to obtain support while their claim for asylum is considered. They are also provided with information and briefed on their rights and responsibilities while in this country and the formalities of the asylum support process.

- 2.8 Current contracts are in the process of being negotiated and extended for 12months terminating on the 31st of March 2008.

2.9 Sunrise

- 2.10 Sunrise (Strategic Upgrade of National Refugee Integration Services) is the centre-piece of the national refugee integration strategy, Integration Matters, which was published by the Home Office on 9 March 2005. The integration strategy seeks to empower refugees in three main ways: to achieve their full potential; to contribute to their communities; and, to access the services to which they are entitled.

- 2.11 The Sunrise integration model is a personal caseworker approach to managing the transition from asylum seeker to refugee. With the use of a Personal Integration Plan the caseworker spends a total of 17 hours providing support helping the new

refugee to meet initial critical needs such as housing, health and education and ensure that the refugee accesses mainstream benefits and employment advice. Longer term support is reviewed regularly and continues for up to a year through quarterly reviews.

- 2.12 On the 31st July 2005 Leeds City Council in partnership with Sheffield City Council (SCC), Refugee Council (RC) and Refugee Housing Association (RHA) entered to an agreement to pilot Sunrise services across Leeds and Sheffield. The service is open to those who have been granted refugee status in accordance with the UN Convention on Refugees; or humanitarian protection or discretionary leave in the UK as a result of their asylum application. All referrals for the service are made via a notification process from the Home Office.
- 2.13 This grant agreement has been further extended for an additional 12 months and will now terminate in October 2008. The Government is in the process of publishing guidance on the national roll out of integration services.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Distribution

- 3.2 Over the last 5 years the procurement of private sector asylum accommodation has occurred without, local authority consultation and thus resulted in increased concentrations of accommodation in small pockets of the most deprived wards around the city. Historical concentrations have been in LS 7, 8, 9 & 11, due to the affordability of private sector stock.
- 3.3 The terms of the new contracts now place a requirement on all providers to support local authorities by consulting in regard to the appropriateness of the procurement of asylum accommodation. The local authority recognises the pressures distribution places on local communities and local services and is keen to seek ways to redress the balance, disperse current densities and manage future dispersal more effectively. To inform consultation consideration is given to: Licensing regulations; the impact on Housing market renewal initiatives and Housing Strategies; densities and tensions.
- 3.4 Unfortunately there was no requirement to apply the consultation framework to any accommodation which had been procured under the terms of the old contract, and this could be transferred to new contracts without consultation. A large proportion of existing accommodation in Leeds transferred between new and exiting providers, thus not requiring local authority consultation.

3.5 Volumes

- 3.6 The new Yorkshire and Humberside Public Sector Group contract is based on regional and not local volumes. The contracted upper volume for the local authority providers across the region is 4,421 with the Leeds local authority contribution being a maximum of 767 bedspaces.
- 3.7 Within the contract there is no contractual stipulation on how the overall regional total, (8842 bedspaces) should be distributed across the region, or guidance in regard to upper volumes for each city/town and for the private sector side this will be heavily influenced by availability and price of accommodation. Previous thresholds were set at 0.5% of a cities population and for Leeds this equated to a maximum of 3637 individuals. At its peak Leeds never exceeded 2700 individuals. At the end of December 2006 there were 2461 Asylum seekers in Leeds.

- 3.8 Leeds local authority uses ALMO accommodation to deliver their responsibilities to the Regional Home Office Support and Accommodation Contract. The new contract is a reduced volume to the previous contract (2000-2006) and therefore the number of units of accommodation required has reduced around the city. Over all the service has reduced their portfolio by 46 properties since the start of the new contract. The reductions have been focused on wards with higher densities of both public and private sector asylum seeker accommodation, these being Beeston& Holbeck, Gipton Harehills and Richmond Hill..
- 3.9 Overall the volumes of properties utilised within the public sector contract has fallen considerably over time. At its peak in 2004/5 the authority was utilising 380 properties, in comparison with the 330 in 2006/7.
- 3.10 A more sophisticated approach to managing volumes and distribution is now being sought through a Regional Strategic Coordination Group (RSCG). Part of the RSCGs responsibility is to monitor the implementation of asylum seeker dispersal into the region, in particular its impact on community cohesion, housing and health services, and to take strategic decisions relating to cluster areas, overall numbers and languages of dispersed asylum seekers.
- 3.11 7 sub themed sub groups, locally engage in and support the work of the RSCG: Housing and Community Cohesion; Health Interest; Employment; Community Legal Services; Community Development; Education & Young People and Refugee Integration. Where issues cannot be resolved at a local level the RSCG have a remit to consider and make recommendations to the appropriate authority.
- 3.12 Section 4
- 3.13 Section 4 accommodation is available to asylum seekers who have exhausted all appeal rights and are no longer entitled to stay in their NASS accommodation. Acceptance for support is subject to a number of requirements including the cooperation with your return home. Historically this accommodation has been outside all other asylum seeker accommodation provision. The Home Office entered into separate contracts with private providers and no requirement to engage with stakeholders or provide information to local authorities existed. This resulted in local authorities having little or no knowledge of the numbers, location and make up of this group of individuals and sometimes inappropriate placement.
- 3.14 Within the new contracting arrangements (established in 2006 with the Yorkshire And Humberside Public Sector Group) the Home Office included a clause allowing for inclusion of S4 cases. The Home Office has now indicated a wish to bring the section 4 cases into line and will commence terminating all existing contracts with Section 4 providers and transferring their support over to Target Contract holders. This transition process was to have started on 1st December and would have been expected to be completed by March 07. Due to delays within the Home office this is still under discussion.
- 3.15 The Yorkshire Humberside Public Sector Group wish to centrally coordinate the dispersal of some of these service users and re-proportion where they are accommodated and address the issues of density in some areas. The success of this is dependent on the ongoing discussions with the Home Office.
- 3.16 New Asylum Model (NAM)
- 3.17 As part of the implementation of the Government's Five Year Strategy for Asylum and Immigration to speed up the asylum process and improve decision making, The

Immigration and Nationality Directorate (IND) has begun piloting NAM processes in Leeds Induction Centre and establishing asylum case management teams in Leeds. Caseworkers will have end to end case ownership of new asylum seekers dispersed to Yorkshire and Humberside and be responsible for seeing the case through to conclusion. They will also act as a single point of contact about the progress of the case for the claimant and others until the case is concluded through integration or removal. NAM aims to process all asylum claims and serve substantive decisions on asylum claims on day 21. If a negative decision is served most applicants will have the opportunity to appeal and be entitled to support whilst this is being considered. This will usually take up to 3 months.

3.18 Refugees

3.19 Upon receiving leave to remain refugees have the same access to public services and support as all other established members of the community. If they are in NASS funded accommodation they will be given a maximum of 28 days notification and will have to secure alternative accommodation and access mainstream services within this very limited timescale. Refugees have an established local connection with the area they are dispersed as an asylum seeker, and can only be eligible for social housing assistance on receipt of leave to remain in the same city/town.

3.20 SUNRISE was established to provide support to newly granted refugees integrate by bridging the gap between NASS support and mainstream services and employment, through channeling resources and support into the initial 28 day transition period.

3.21 The SUNRISE pilots have been hailed a success and a model will be rolled out nationally in late 2007. The Leeds model is a partnership of four leading refugee agencies in Leeds and Sheffield. The service has networked, developed links and partnerships with a range of agencies since its inception in 2005 and established referral procedures and joint working agreements with stakeholders. However, funding restrictions of the pilot limit the access of this service to those who are resident in the Leeds 7, 12 and 13 postcodes areas of the city on receipt of leave to remain.

3.22 The Leeds model has a take up rate of 79% for the service. Of 239 notifications of cases eligible for SUNRISE support 190 chose to access the service. Those opting out did so for a variety of reasons for example, moving out of the area, already settled and able to access services independently, had alternative support arrangements in place.

3.23 Destitution

3.24 Once a negative decision has been served and all appeal rights exhausted NASS will terminate support on those with no dependant minors and the provider of accommodation will be required to ensure that the individual vacates the accommodation. A failed asylum seeker has no recourse to public funds and if they are not eligible for section 4 there is little alternative. The Home Office does not track, detain or deport all these individuals and therefore this group are left vulnerable to destitution and exploitation. For such individuals the options are limited to seeking assistance from voluntary sector groups, staying with members of the community or friends or becoming involved in illegal or criminal activity to provide funds. It is likely that most support themselves through illegal working.

3.25 At present there are no conclusive statistics to evidence how many people are destitute in the City due to withdrawal of NASS support. This is a growing concern

amongst many public facing organisations with anecdotal evidence to suggest there are a significant number of individuals affected.

- 3.26 The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust has commissioned an inquiry to find out the extent of the problem in Leeds and its impact. The aim is to highlight the plight of destitute asylum seekers and to make practical proposals for new approaches which may improve the situation for both settled communities and for new arrivals. As possible solutions emerge they will be explored and discussed with policy-makers, politicians and others.
- 3.27 To aid the work of the commissioners, research has been gathered data from different sources. Interviews included Leeds policy-makers and service providers, and representatives of refugee agencies and groups.
- 3.28 The commissioners will consider these findings and hold a day of hearings and discussions in early 2007. They will use this experience and the research findings to produce constructive recommendations.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are requested to note the contents of the report

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Report of the Director of Neighborhoods and Housing Department

Neighbourhoods and Housing Scrutiny Committee

Date: 7 February 2007

Subject: The Leeds Supporting People Programme

Electoral Wards Affected:	Specific Implications For: Ethnic minorities <input type="checkbox"/> Women <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled people <input type="checkbox"/> Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/>
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1. Purpose Of This Report

1.1. The purpose of this report is to brief members on the Supporting People programme in Leeds.

2. Background

2.1. Supporting People is the national programme for funding and commissioning supported housing services for vulnerable people. The programme aims to assist vulnerable people to ultimately live independently in the wider community through the provision of high quality, strategically planned, complementary housing support services. The programme also aims to ensure that such services deliver value for money.

2.2. The programme covers a wide range of supported housing services: ranging from the provision of a warden service in sheltered housing schemes to the provision of permanently staffed direct access hostel accommodation for homeless households.

2.3. Leeds City Council has been designated by the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) to be an administering authority for the Supporting People programme. The Leeds Supporting People Team, which administers the programme on a day to day basis, sits within the Neighbourhoods and Housing Department.

2.4. An underlying principle of the Supporting People programme is the partnering relationship between the administering authority and other key stakeholders. The Leeds Supporting People Partnership was established in 2003 to coincide with the implementation of the programme. The partnership comprises representatives from the Local Authority (Neighbourhoods and Housing and Adult Social Care), Health and Probation. The Partnership manages the fund, on behalf of the administering authority, through a Commissioning Body.

- 2.5. All decisions relating to the review, commissioning and funding of services need to be considered and ratified by the Commissioning Body. Decisions made by the Commissioning Body need to be unanimously agreed by the three partner representatives. Each Commissioning Body partner has an equal voting right: the two Council representatives share a vote.
- 2.6. Funding for the Supporting People programme is paid in two parts: programme grant which is used to fund the provision of services and administration grant which is used to fund the provision of the Leeds Supporting People team. The programme grant allocation for 2006/07 awarded to the Leeds Supporting People partnership is £32.9 million.
- 2.7. The administration grant allocation for 2006/07 is £523,000. The grant contributes to the cost of the Supporting People team. This grant has not been increased over the term of the programme and therefore does not cover pay inflation or other increased costs of administering the programme such as the costs associated with competitive tendering.
- 2.8. The DCLG obliges each Supporting People Partnership to set out how it intends to spend the fund, what client groups will receive support and how improvements will be made to current service delivery. The Supporting People Strategy for each partnership needs to set out how these actions will be taken.
- 2.9. The Supporting People strategy was updated last year to ensure it better reflected the challenges facing the programme. The strategy was approved by Executive Board in December 2006. One of the key challenges facing the programme has been the need to deliver requisite budgetary savings.

3. Budget

- 3.1. The Supporting People programme grant is a cash limited budget. In 2006/07 the Leeds Supporting People partnership received a programme grant allocation of £32.9 million. The programme has been subject to significant cuts in grant allocation in recent years: in 2003/04 the Leeds Supporting People partnership received £35.9 million in programme grant allocation. The reduction of grant has obliged the partnership to identify opportunities to make efficiency savings in grant spend.
- 3.2. The partnership has been able to deliver the requisite efficiency savings through a number of sources: through the decommissioning of non-strategically relevant services, subjecting services to competitive tender and negotiating revised contract values based on accepted value for money tests such as a cap on the proportion of overhead costs to total expenditure, and ensuring that no services could be commissioned where the unit cost was placed within the upper quartile of regional or national costed services for a particular client group.
- 3.3. By the end of 2006 the partnership had generated efficiency savings of £6.5 million from the spend position in 2003/04.
- 3.4. The focus on achieving budget efficiency savings has meant that the partnership is currently forecasting that there will be a cash surplus of approximately £415,000. It is also forecast that there will be a contractual surplus of approximately £1.7 million in 2007/08.

3.5. The improved financial position of the programme has enabled the partnership to agree to pay an inflationary uplift of 2.4% to all service providers in 2007/08.

4. New Commissioning Priorities

- 4.1. The updated Supporting People strategy sets out the priorities for the commissioning of new services to address identified gaps in service provision. The updated Supporting People strategy identifies the following as the priorities for new service commissioning: additional floating housing support for older people, housing support services for people involved in offending who have related drug dependency issues and additional housing support that is designed to prevent homelessness.
- 4.2. The updated Supporting People strategy has noted the key principles relating to improving housing services for older people to promote choice in accommodation options, to promote independence and to assist older people wherever possible to maintain their existing homes.
- 4.3. Currently in Leeds 95% of support is tied to residence in a sheltered housing scheme. The remaining 5% of provision which is floating housing support is only accessible if the person is a social housing tenant.
- 4.4. The Older Peoples Housing Strategy has identified that 67% of older people in the city are homeowners and this is likely to rise to 80% in the next ten years. Vulnerable home owners can only access housing support through the Supporting People programme if they leave their existing home and move to sheltered or other social housing.
- 4.5. This conflicts with the principles of promoting choice, independence and assisting people wherever possible to maintain their existing homes. The partnership has noted that over 2000 pensionable age home owners have current housing applications on the Leeds Homes Register. It is reasonable to assume that a proportion of these people would prefer to stay in their existing homes if they were able to access housing support at that address.
- 4.6. The priority for action is therefore to commission additional units of floating housing support which are targeted at vulnerable older home owners. A pilot service which will be managed by Leeds South Homes has been developed and agreed at the Commissioning Body in January 2007.
- 4.7. Joint work between the Supporting People partnership and the Safer Leeds partnership has identified that a priority for new commissioning is the additional provision of housing support services of offenders who have contact with the Leeds Drug Intervention Programme (DIP). It is estimated that these offenders are responsible for 25% of burglary and vehicle offences in Leeds. Research by NACRO has also identified that offenders who are in stable accommodation are between 20 and 50% less likely to commit further offences.
- 4.8. A particular priority group is women who are involved in prostitution and are routed through the DIP. It has been identified that there are between 15 and 20 women who have acute housing needs that make it problematic for them to access suitable temporary and/or permanent accommodation. The Supporting People partnership and Safer Leeds are in the process of developing a proposal for a floating support service which will be considered by the Supporting People Commissioning Body, and if agreed, will be subject to a competitive tender process.

4.9. The partnership is only able to commission a finite number of units and therefore it is essential that service users move on and secure settled housing solutions. However, it is also imperative that services can prevent a person becoming homeless and needing to access services wherever possible. The Supporting People partnership currently commissions one service which has a core aim of preventing homelessness. The wider strategic context seeks to prevent homelessness wherever possible and the partnership will support this aim by increasing the provision of services that are designed to prevent homelessness.

5. Audit Commission Inspection

- 5.1. The Leeds Supporting People partnership was subject to an Audit Commission inspection in January 2007. The inspection focused on the management and governance of the programme rather than the effectiveness of service provision.
- 5.2. It is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to give feedback at a round table meeting in mid-March. No firm date has been given for the publication of the final report but it is likely to be in mid to late May.
- 5.3. Following receipt of the final report, the Supporting People partnership will develop an action plan to address any recommendations made by the Audit Commission.

6. Conclusions

- 6.1 The Supporting People partnership has had to respond to significant challenges over the last three years: notably relating to the need to deliver significant efficiency savings. However, the partnership now has a favourable budget position and is now able to pay service providers an inflationary uplift in 2007/08 and to begin to address identified gaps in service provision through new commissioning.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 To note the contents of the report.



Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing

Neighbourhoods and Housing Scrutiny Committee

Date: 7th February 2007

Subject: Neighbourhood Wardens Update

Electoral Wards Affected:

All Area Committees except
North West Outer

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The report provides an update on the Neighbourhood Wardens Service.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Scrutiny Board received a report at its meeting in November which outlined the findings of a study on the impact of PCSOs and Neighbourhood Wardens across four wards in Leeds. The study found that PCSOs and Wardens are highly valued and have generally made a significant impact in Leeds but did highlight the ongoing debate regarding their roles and responsibilities, particularly in terms of environmental enforcement work.

2.2 The Neighbourhood Warden Service in Leeds was originally set up in December 2000 with initial funding from the Home Office and SRB. Additional funding from the then ODPM, NRF, SRB and the Council's Community Involvement Teams /Area Committees and ALMOs led to an increase in numbers of wardens to current levels.

2.3 Whilst temporary and external funding led to a growth in the service, it also brought a number of issues including:

- Morale and commitment of staff
- Uncertainty about continued service provision
- Variations in quality, service inflexibilities and supervision and deployment issues

2.4 Although the above issues arose, the service became established as a valued service which supports work taking place in a number of neighbourhoods to improve them and the services delivered in them. As a delegated Area Committee

function the opportunity was taken to establish a permanent structure for the service and better integrate it with area working. As part of a restructuring of the service in Spring 2006, it was transferred to the Regeneration Division with the wardens being line managed by Area Community Safety Co-ordinators who also transferred to the Regeneration Service.

3.0 MAIN ISSUES

3.1 Overview of Wardens Service

3.2 The main aim of the Service is to provide a positive impact within priority neighbourhoods by improving public reassurance at a local level through:

- the reduction of crime and anti social behaviour
- improving the liveability aspect of communities – e.g. appearance of streets and public spaces

3.3 Neighbourhood wardens link in with other agencies and service providers including Neighbourhood Policing Teams in working on localised initiatives to tackle crime and grime such as Operations Banrock, Apollo, Arrow and Cava. These are aimed at improving the quality of life in neighbourhoods through targetted multi-agency actions.

3.4 Wardens provide support to other localised crime reduction and environmental improvement activity including reporting abandoned vehicles, untaxed vehicles, vehicles displaying valuables, working closely with the Anti Social Behaviour Unit on new and existing cases and monitoring breaches of Anti Social Behaviour Orders. The wardens report incidents of flytipping, littering, graffiti and vandalism to relevant agencies and monitor hotspot areas for these incidents.

3.5 The neighbourhood warden service works in partnership with statutory, voluntary and community groups, neighbourhood and local forums, street scene services and networks to provide:

- Local public reassurance and deterrence to communities within the target areas by providing a highly visible presence.
- Work with partners on specific crime reduction activity to reduce crime levels.
- Liaison with partners to ensure affirmative action is taken to improve the physical environment of the targeted neighbourhoods
- Support for local groups and projects to foster social inclusion and community cohesion

3.6 The Service operates flexibly within communities providing a wide range of services to residents as they become the 'eyes and ears' of the community across the areas they work.

3.7 They carry out regular patrols of their defined target areas, dealing with a wide range of issues including crime, anti social behaviour, abandoned vehicles, untaxed

vehicles, dumping of rubbish, graffiti and discarded needles and other environmental matters.

- 3.8 The wardens carry out initial enforcement action on waste in gardens on behalf of City Services enforcement teams. This involves issuing warning letters and gathering evidence.
- 3.9 The enforcement role with regards environmental crime is important as a contribution to improving the environment which in turn improves the quality of life for residents with a heightened sense of well being and less fear of crime.
- 3.10 Neighbourhood wardens operate as part of the area management teams, supervised and tasked through the area management structure in line with local area plans, based around priority needs for targeted neighbourhoods.
- 3.11 Neighbourhood wardens currently operate in the following neighbourhoods, set out by inner and outer committee area, alongside which are those super output areas (building blocks for census data) in red text (reference numbers only) featured in the most deprived 3% in the country and those featured in the worst 5% in the country in blue text (reference numbers only), and those in the worst 10% - 20% in green also covered by the same warden patches:-

East Inner:

Richmond Hill/East End Park E01011626
Osmondthorpe (part) E01011622
North Seacroft E01011662
South Seacroft E01011663, E01011667
Ebor Gardens E01011338, E01011348
Lincoln Green E01011675
Harehills E01011426
North Gipton E01011431, E01011339, E01011427
South Gipton E01011342, E01011346
Crossgates

East Outer:

Osmondthorpe (part) E01011622
North Whinmoor & Scholes (part) E01011720
Swarcliffe E01011723, E01011724
East Leeds Villages e.g, Kippax, Methley, Swillington, Micklefield etc.
Halton Moor E01011624
Halton & Colton

West Inner:

Broadleas & Ganners E01011324, E01011326, E01011332
New Wortley E01011363, E01011294
Fairfields E01011337

North East Inner:

Moor Allerton (part) E01011510
Meanwood E01011354, E01011355, E01011357
Chapelton E01011361, E01011357, E01011360

North East Outer:

Moor Allerton (part) E01011559, E01011560
 North Whinmoor & Scholes

North West Inner:

Burley E01011678, E01011681
 Hyde Park E01011448, E01011444, E01011672, E01011670
 Little London & Woodhouse E01011679, E01011671
 Hawksworth Wood E01011485, E01011487

South Inner:

Belle Isle & Hunslet E01011473
 Cottingley E01011318
 Beeston Hill E01011372, E01011375, E01011312, E01011364, E01011371,
 E01011373
 Far Beeston E01011321
 Holbeck E01011368
 Middleton E01011491, E01011492, E01011493, E01011494, E01011497

South Outer:

John O'Gaunts & Wood Lane E01011632

- 3.12 Whilst the vast majority of work is targetted in the worst 3% / 5% / 20% SOAs in Leeds, there is a small amount of work in other neighbourhoods. This reflects local priorities due to the nature of crime and environmental problems in those areas.
- 3.13 For 2007/08, to operate the full permanent structure and the additional temporary posts paid for with Area Committee/ALMO contributions the following amounts will be required:

Funder	Contribution Requested for 07/08
Leeds City Council Neighbourhoods and Housing Core Budget	£420k - to be confirmed as part of budget setting process in February
NRF	£762k – represents £582k received in 06/07 and additional £180k required to meet full budget shortfall anticipated
Area Committee, ALMO and Housing Association funded posts	£348k – all currently being confirmed for 07/08
Total	£1,530k

- 3.14 Once the budget position is confirmed for these various different funding sources the pattern of deployment and filling of vacancies for the start of the new financial year can be determined.

3.2 Recent Achievements of the Wardens Service

- 3.21 This section highlights recent achievements of the service and is based on monitoring information for Quarter 3 of 2006/07. Detailed information is compiled quarterly on the service and is required to draw down the external funding which the service relies on.

3.22 Between October and December 2006 the neighbourhood wardens:

- spent 132 days on multi agency crime and grime operations
- actioned 537 incidents of crime and anti social behaviour
- visited 963 vulnerable residents
- undertook a total of 1750 high visibility public reassurance patrols
- dealt with 1,718 incidents of fly tipping, arranged the removal of 404 incidents of graffiti and 42 instances of hazardous waste
- reported 507 issues to the Highways Service including faulty street lights, damaged railings, potholes and damaged footpaths
- reported 67 untaxed vehicles
- carried out 867 enforcement actions regarding untidy gardens and fly tipping
- undertook joint operations with the Police e.g. Smartwater property marking for vulnerable residents
- assisted with an audit of Houses in Multiple Occupation to support the work of Environmental Health colleagues

3.23 Over coming months, as part of the Authority's work as a Respect Action Area, it is anticipated that wardens will continue to be involved in a range of multi agency activities to tackle anti social behaviour and improve the environment of a range of priority neighbourhoods.

3.3 A Week in the Life of a Neighbourhood Warden

3.31 The Scrutiny Board has been looking at the Regeneration in Beeston Hill and Holbeck in recent months and this has highlighted a number of issues relevant to the Wardens Service. To complement this Scrutiny enquiry and to give a more local flavour of the work done by Neighbourhood Wardens, the appendix to this report gives an overview of the work done by a Neighbourhood Warden in the Beeston Hill area during a week in January 2007. This provides members with a snapshot of tasks done by the Wardens, the agencies they work with and their pivotal role in the neighbourhoods they serve in terms of identifying issues, gathering evidence, liaising with different service providers and providing information to residents.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

4.1 Members of the Scrutiny Committee are asked to note the current position regarding the Neighbourhood Wardens Service.

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The Week in the Life of a Neighbourhood Warden

This schedule provides a snapshot of the work being undertaken by Neighbourhood Wardens. It notes a number of key issues dealt with each day for a warden in Beeston Hill in January 2007.

Activity	Outcome
Day 1	
Dewsbury Road One Stop Centre (DROSC), to check and respond to e-mails and complete the weekly log, which is a summary of the work undertaken from the previous week.	There is a clear audit trail of the work the Wardens complete.
Meet with Neighbourhood Safety Liaison Officer to walk around the Bismarck's and Disraeli's, checking for bricks and litter. The police have been particularly concerned regarding debris and its use in anti social behaviour e.g. stones thrown through windows etc.	Make sure that issues are resolved quickly and in a co-ordinated manor in the Intensive Neighbourhood Management area. Arrange community clean ups as required and respond to police concerns regarding debris.
Receive a phone call from a resident in the area regarding a garden letter that was issued the previous week. Discuss with the resident what needs to happen to ensure that no further action is taken.	Encourage the resident to clear the garden, keep it tidy and take pride in the enhanced environment.
Liaise with the enforcement officer over the phone regarding gardens.	Make sure that enforcement is up to date with the letters the wardens have issued and are ready to take action if the resident exceeds the required notice period.
Report empty properties, smashed windows and rubbish in the gardens to Environmental Health. The fire service has highlighted a particular problem in this area with rubbish fires.	Make sure that the properties are secured. Find the owner of the property and request that they clear the garden.
Phoned Council Tax to obtain the names of residents for garden letters. Sent the information to enforcement, via the e-mail.	Warning letters sent to residents.
Received information regarding suspected drug dealing, and passed the information on to the local PCSO.	Help to reduce crime in the area.
Day 2	
Patrol – Normantons speak to young people while they are on their way to school. Talk generally about what they are doing and what's happening in the area.	When young people get to know the wardens they generally chat about what is happening in the area, this can prove to be a good source of information about what is happening

Appendix

	in the area.
Visit New Bewerley school to see Head Teacher regarding having Youth Offenders working on and around the school site e.g. litter picking.	Cleaner school site and a working relationship with the school.
Liaised with the Youth Offending Service to arrange a start date for the Youth Offenders.	Improved working relationship with the Youth Offending Service.
Patrol the area – Flaxtons, Beverleys and Fulhams, Lindens	High visibility - reassurance to the residents.
Patrol Longroyds – take photographs near barrier at the side of the motorway to highlight a litter problem.	High visibility - reassurance to the residents. The quick reporting of environmental issues.
Visit the DROSC for a meeting with my line manager to discuss arrangements regarding a new starter.	Update on current developments.
Speak to Area Management regarding a community clean up.	Agreed funding for the clean up and improved environment for residents.
Patrol the Waverleys – talk to local young people and remind them to stay away from the Mariners Centre.	Help to reduce reports of anti social behaviour.
Day 3	
Meet with the Enforcement Officer to patrol Burlington Road to identify untidy gardens and issue garden letters.	Joint working with a key agency. High profile enforcement cases make residents think twice about ignoring the garden letters.
Meet with a Police Officer to visit two residents regarding racist comments towards their families. Pass on relevant information and refer the incident to the appropriate agencies.	Demonstrate that this behaviour will not be tolerated and reassurance to the victims of crime.
Patrol the area, highlight illegal dumping on Hird Street refer this to enforcement.	High visibility - reassurance to the residents. The quick reporting of environmental issues.
Visit Tunstall Road Community Centre to engage with local residents.	Better informed residents and improved profile for the Warden.
On patrol visit local shops and speak to owners regarding any issues they may have with anti social behaviour or any other issues they may wish to discuss.	High visibility - reassurance to shop owners. Able to pass on their concerns or any patterns of ASB in the area to the local police.
Day 4	
On patrol – phoned by another Warden to assist with the removal of a fallen tree across a busy footpath.	Removing a health and safety issue, that could not be resolved by Streetscene because of the demands on the service during the high winds.
Give a talk to local residents at the Hammara Centre on; domestic violence, ASB and environmental issues. Meet with a local police officer regarding this talk.	Raise awareness of local service provision and increase access to services for local residents.

Appendix

On patrol speak to elderly couple about the dog fouling in the area, give them the relevant numbers to phone but pass on their concerns to the dog warden service. Cross Flats park is a major concern regarding dog fouling.	Residents encouraged to report issues directly and increase access to services.
To Holbeck Police Station for the regular police briefing. We are updated on local police intelligence and we are able to assist the police in identifying and locating people.	Continue to develop the excellent working relationships between the Wardens, PCSO's and Police. Regular communication between the Wardens, Police and PCSO outside of the briefings.
Visited the Tahira pensioners group to discuss environmental issues and any other issues they wanted to raise.	Improved knowledge of local residents on how to deal with/ report these issues.
Return to DROSC to write up notes and e-mail referrals.	There is a clear audit trail of the work the Wardens complete and referral to other services
Day 5	
Leaflet drop on my patch informing residents of the Cross flats forum taking place on the 23 January.	Residents informed of the forthcoming forum.
Collect energy saving light bulbs for distribution to local older peoples groups.	Increasing crime prevention measures and better safety by reducing the cost of keeping their homes lit.
Burlington Road - over flowing skip is a potential fire hazard, phone the skip company and ask them to remove it. Speak to local residents to make them aware that action has been taken.	The removal of a potential fire hazard. Plus a clear demonstration to the fire service that we have taken on board their concern and will endeavour to assist in reducing arson fires in the area.
Local police inspector phones to highlight racist graffiti on the bridge near the Golden Lion Hotel. Went to site however the police intelligence was incorrect. No further action taken.	Although no action was required this demonstrates the good working relationship/communication the Wardens have with the police.
Patrol the area.	High visibility - reassurance to the residents. The quick reporting of environmental issues.

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Originator: Debra
Scott/Isobel
Smith
Tel: 2475951

Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing

Scrutiny Board

Date: 07th February 2007

Subject: Departmental Publications

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In
(Details contained in the report)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Scrutiny Board have requested a report from the department on departmental publications and associated costs.

This report provides an outline of the range of publications being produced across all divisions within the department and the costs associated with the design and print of these publications. The vast majority of these are external publications for the benefit of customers and directly support service delivery.

It also sets out the department's approach to the use of printed material as a communication method. The paper points out that the department has previously reviewed its publications and reduced its expenditure and continues to examine the cost effectiveness of this method of communication.

Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 The report provides Members with information, including associated costs, of all publications within the department. It also advise of steps taken to rationalise the use of publications and reduce costs and demonstrates the department's commitment to providing cost effective communications.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 The department is committed to providing a consistent and professional image and produce publications that are clear and easy to understand. We understand that the department can help to create a powerful brand identity to promote Leeds City Council and our services to all our customers.
- 2.2 We aim to ensure all publications are designed in accordance with the Corporate Communications Guidance and in conjunction with the Council's Corporate Identity Manual.
- 2.3 The department has previously undertaken a review of its publications and steps have been taken to resolve some of the main issues and identify savings. For example, we have reviewed the number of publications and their target audiences to avoid duplication and streamline distribution methods. We have also reviewed and where appropriate restricted the need for full colour print and glossy finishes and, where appropriate, have reduced the number of smaller printing jobs which are less cost effective than larger bulk prints, whilst being mindful of their shelf life. We have sought to increase the use of the council newspaper as the main communications tool between the department/council and the wider Leeds community and we have also now put many publications on the website.
- 2.4 The current list of publications is shown together with costs where possible in the appendix to this report.

3.0 The purpose of the Department's Publications

- 3.1 The department includes services that rely heavily on external promotion e.g. Health promotion, energy efficiency and, where the provision of information and advice to customers is their core business, the distribution of publications is carefully considered alongside other communication channels.
- 3.2 Costs are sometimes shared with other partner organisations, e.g. Leeds Landlord Accreditation Scheme Newsletter and publications created externally are used where possible to reduce costs e.g. PCT leaflet on smoking used by Environmental Health.
- 3.3 Some printing of formal legal documents and supporting guidance is inevitable, e.g. HMO licences, tenancy agreements.
- 3.4 The only publication that is not aimed at customers or the wider public is the Department's staff newsletter which is one of our main staff communication methods and is used to reach all 1,060 staff, some of whom do not have access to the intranet. It provides them with important information on what is happening across the Department and the Council and keeps them informed of key developments. It also provides information about the work of particular service teams, publicises social events and helps to celebrate success. This publication is produced three

times a year and costs £1700 per issue. After the first few issues a telephone survey of the newsletter was undertaken using a small sample of staff and we received positive feedback about its content and the value of it as a method of communication.

4.0 Resource implications

4.1 Costs identified from the department's financial accounts are detailed below. These costs may not be a completely true reflection of money spent on publications and the costs associated with them (design and print) as some costs may be being absorbed with other budgets, e.g. printer overhead costs or be part of a partnership arrangement with costs being met from other budgets. In addition, not all printing costs will be associated with formal publications but it gives an indication as to the volume of expenditure in these areas.

A comparison is made between actual expenditure in 2005/06 and projected expenditure for 2006/07. It is anticipated that there will be a significant reduction in expenditure this year.

4.2 **Total spend 2005/06** (Combined Publications and Printing) = £235 376

(Publications £7507 + Printing £227 869)

4.3 **Total spend 2006/07 (predicted)** (Combined Publications and Printing) = £121 469

(Publications £8465 + Printing £113 004)

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 The department relies to some extent on publications for the effective promoting and delivery of its services. It has taken steps to reduce expenditure on printing and publications and make the most cost effective use of printed material. Expenditure on printing and publications has reduced over the last two years and the department continues to explore other channels as a means of publicising its services.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 Members are asked to consider the information contained in this report.

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Neighbourhoods and Housing

Departmental Publications Appendix A



Service	Publication Type	Audience/Content	Frequency and No of copies	Format	Design and Print	Cost	Recharges/ Comments
Regeneration							
West Leeds Area Management	Area Committee Newsletter		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 2 Newsletters 2006 ◆ One print run (One off) ◆ X 100 per Newsletter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour/Glossy 	External Print	£50 per 100	
	District Partnership Annual Report		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ One print run ◆ X 100 			Approx £100	(from DP budget from LI)
North West Area Management Team	Newsletters	Update to residents in Little London on the regeneration scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ X 2 Newsletters ◆ One print run (One off) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour ◆ 1 sided 		Approx £200 - £300	Central PFI Little London Communications Budget to be recharged
South Area Management	Outer South Area Committee Newsletter	Contacts working in Outer South Leeds. Community and Volunteer Groups. Partner Agencies. Other Council Departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Quarterly ◆ 1000 copies produced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour ◆ 4 sides A4 	In House Production and Print	£240 per quarter	Office Printer/Consumables used and paid from Admin Budget. Recharged to Area Committee Budget
	Inner South Area Committee Newsletter	Contacts working Inner South Leeds. Community and Volunteer Groups. Partner Agencies. Other Council Dept's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Quarterly ◆ 1000 copies produced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour ◆ 4 sides A4 	In House Production and Print	£240 per quarter	Office Printer/Consumables used and paid from Admin Budget. Recharged to Area Committee Budget
	Middleton Neighbourhood Improvement	Distributed door to door to residents in the affected area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Quarterly ◆ 1700 copies produced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour ◆ 2 sided A4 	In House Production and Print	£204 per quarter	Office Printer/Consumables used and paid

Service	Publication Type	Audience/Content	Frequency and No of copies	Format	Design and Print	Cost	Recharges/Comments	
	Plan Newsletter						from Admin Budget. Recharged to Area Committee Budget	
	Cottingley Neighbourhood Improvement Plan Newsletter	Distributed door to door to residents in the affected area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 2 Newsletters produced in 2006 ◆ 1200 copies produced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour ◆ 2 sided A4 	In House Production and Print	£144 per quarter	Office Printer/Consumables used and paid from Admin Budget. Recharged to Area Committee Budget	
	"I love Beeston and Holbeck" Newsletter	Contacts working in the area. Community and Volunteer Groups. Partner Agencies. Other Council Departments. To the public through mailing lists, community venues and meetings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 2 per annum ◆ 2500 copies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour/Glossy ◆ 8 sided A4 	External Print	£671 each time		
Environmental Health								
Home Maintenance Pack	Advice pack	External for home owners in Leeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ One print run ◆ 5000 copies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour/Glossy 			Produced in 2001/2002 Bulk Print. No future requirements to print	
Beeston Hill Private Rented Sector	Newsletter	External	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Twice per year (due to end in March 2007) ◆ 1200 copies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour/Glossy ◆ 4-6 pages 	Designed In House Printed Externally	£649 each time.	due to end in March 2007	
Food/Health Promotion Team	Food for Thought Magazine	External for Food Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bi-Annual ◆ 4500 copies each time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour/Glossy ◆ 8 page ◆ A4 	Design, print and mailing arranged externally	£1821 each time		
Aviaries Newsletter	Newsletter	Internal/External To all owners and occupiers in the Aviaries area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Twice per year ◆ 1400 each time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour/Glossy 		£830 each time		

Service	Publication Type	Audience/Content	Frequency and No of copies	Format	Design and Print	Cost	Recharges/Comments
		To all Ward members Anybody else with a financial interest in the area.					
Leeds Landlord Accreditation Scheme	Newsletter for members (Produced for the Landlord)	External (produced with Wakefield, Calderdale and Kirklees)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Quarterly ◆ 450 copies per Qtr for LCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour/Glossy 	Designed and Printed Externally	£652.45 per Qtr (£1.45 per copy)	
Leeds Landlord Accreditation Scheme	Enquiry pack	External for those considering joining the scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ On-going 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour/Glossy 	One off design Printed Externally		Produced in 2001 (One off Bulk Job) Reprinting will be needed in the near future (costs to be determined as Leeds City Council logo/branding will need to be updated)
Leeds Landlord Accreditation Scheme	Membership pack	External - detailing full membership benefits for landlords	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ On-going 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Colour/Glossy 	One off design Printed Externally		Re-printed only when stocks run out or there is a change to be made. Many publications have been made available on the website to reduce the amount of printed material required.
Health and Safety	Information leaflets on various topics	External	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ On-going 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Full colour photocopy 			No print runs in 2006 and no budget allocated for 2007. Some literature may be produced internally. (Office Printers/Consumables will be used)
Home	Information and	External - to inform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ On-going 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Full colour 	One off design	Design Cost	Reprinting will be

Service	Publication Type	Audience/Content	Frequency and No of copies	Format	Design and Print	Cost	Recharges/ Comments
Improvement Assistance (HIA) Pack	Enquiry Pack	owner occupiers in Leeds of the availability of assistance to improve their homes via a loan/grant which in turn generates income via a charge made by LCC for providing this service			cost in November 2005 External Printing	£370. £575 spent for 2000 copies of booklets and 2000 forms	needed in the near future. Costs to be determined.
Top tips to being a considerate neighbour	Flyer	External	♦ On-going (As above)	♦ Full colour photocopy ♦ A5 flyer	Designed In House Printed Externally	£650 for 5000	Reprinting arranged as and when needed
Drainage advice leaflet	Leaflet	External	♦ On-going (As above)	♦ Two colour/glossy ♦ A4 folded	Designed In House Printed Externally	£292 for 1000 copies	Reprinting arranged as and when needed
Statutory Nuisances	Booklet – Taking your own action	External	♦ On-going (As above)	♦ Two colour photocopy ♦ A4 folded ♦	Designed In House Printed Externally	£329 for 2000 copies	Reprinting arranged as and when needed
Burglar alarm keyholder registration	Booklet	External	♦ On-going (As above)	♦ Colour/Glossy ♦ A4 folded	Designed and Printed Externally	£1010 for 1000 copies	Reprinting arranged as and when needed
Environmental Health Services Enforcement Policy	Policy Booklet	External	♦ Every 2-3 years depending on policy change.	♦ Colour/Glossy ♦ A5	Designed In House Printed Externally	£504 for 3000 copies	Reprinting arranged as and when needed
Environmental Health Services Enforcement Poster	Poster	External	♦ Annual	♦ Colour/Glossy	Designed and Printed Externally	£105 for 25 posters	
Safer food better business	Poster	External for food businesses	♦ On-going (As above)	♦ Colour ♦ A4	Print ed Externally	£56 for 400	
Noise service	Flyer (with or without credit card (ccrd) style attachment)	External	♦ On-going (As above)	♦ Colour ♦ 1/3 A4	Leaflet designed In house. Ccrd designed external.	£288 for 2000 (leaflet only) £950 for 1000 (leaflet with	

Service	Publication Type	Audience/Content	Frequency and No of copies	Format	Design and Print	Cost	Recharges/ Comments
						card)	
Community Safety							
	Community Safety Leaflet	External – All homes in Leeds	◆ Annual	◆ Colour/Glossy ◆ 16 Page ◆ A5	Designed and Printed Externally		Free last year – supported by advertising.
Housing Services							
Leeds Homes	Flyer	External – advertising available properties	◆ Weekly	◆ Colour/Glossy ◆ 8 page supplement		£2565 per week to produce and distribute.	Costs cover artwork, 9000 individual copies that are distributed mainly by Ad Trader and a further 14000 copies in the Ad Trader Publication
Strategic Landlord	Newsletter	External – ALMO reorganization. Informing tenants of changes.	◆ One print run	◆ Colour/Glossy			
Supporting People	Poster	Awareness raising	◆ One print run ◆ 500 copies	◆ Colour/Glossy ◆ A4	In House design. External Print.	£140 for 500 copies	Paid for using the Supporting People Administration Grant from the DCLG
	Leaflet	Awareness raising	◆ One print run ◆ 4500 copies	◆ Colour /Glossy	In House design. External Print.	£1260 for 4500 copies	Paid for using the Supporting People Administration Grant from the DCLG
	Directory of Services		◆ One print run ◆ 500 copies	◆ Colour Front and Back ◆ 36 page ◆ Available electronically	In House design. External Print.	£708 for 500 copies	Paid for using the Supporting People Administration Grant from the DCLG

Service	Publication Type	Audience/Content	Frequency and No of copies	Format	Design and Print	Cost	Recharges/ Comments
Support Services							
Service Improvement Section	Staff Newsletter	All Neighbourhoods and Housing Staff	◆ 3 x per annum	◆ Colour/Glossy ◆ 12 page	External Design and Print	£1775 each time	
Finance	Right to Buy Pack	Pack issued to tenants on demand when applying to purchase their home.		◆ Folder Glossy	External Design and Print	£3900 for 5000 copies of the folder and 3 documents we supply	
	Leasehold Guide Booklet	Issued to tenants on demand. Provides information to tenants seeking to buy their flat/maisonette under RTB		◆ Glossy Cover ◆ 32 pages	External Design and Print	£2963 for 5000 copies	

Report of the Head of Scrutiny Support and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Neighbourhoods and Housing)

Date: 7th February 2007

Subject: Monitoring Report

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Following a number of inquiries during the previous municipal year, provision is made for the Board to monitor the implementation of any agreed actions and recommendations on a six monthly basis. The updates on each of the recommendations are attached to this report.

1.2 The inquiries included in this monitoring report are:

- Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions – this inquiry was undertaken by the previous Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Board and covered the methods employed by the Council and its partners to intervene before anti-social behaviour orders are issued.
- Affordable Housing – this inquiry was undertaken by the previous Neighbourhoods and Housing Scrutiny Board

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 Members are requested to note the updates on the recommendations and to decide whether further scrutiny is required and which recommendations are now completed.

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SCRUTINY BOARD (NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING)

Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions - Monitoring of Recommendations

Recommendation	Department	Response
<p>RECOMMENDATION 1</p> <p>That the department report back to the Board progress on previous recommendations relating to anti-social behaviour.</p>	NHD	To be scheduled in the work programme at the appropriate time.
<p>RECOMMENDATION 2</p> <p>That the Scrutiny Board receives a detailed appraisal of the Safer Leeds Strategy and an update on progress made on the action plan.</p>	NHD	<p>Safer Leeds Strategy is included in the Board's work programme for this year.</p> <p>Update An update report on the Safer Leeds Strategy was presented to Scrutiny Board in November 2006</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 3</p> <p>Whilst noting the work already taking place we recommend that the police and the Anti-Social Behaviour Panels work towards preventing multiple</p>	NHD	<p>We accept that working towards preventing multiple breaches should take place and the ASBU will encourage partners to utilise individual support orders and other diversionary measures which assist in preventing multiple breaches.</p> <p>The ASB panels will develop a more effective process for tracking orders and breaches to manage cases "post" ASBO.</p> <p>We support the recommendation that all breaches are dealt with robustly and prioritised</p>

<p>breaches of ASBOs, particularly where the behaviour represents a serious breach and that first time breaches are dealt with robustly.</p>		<p>for the arrest of the individual although the Police and ASBU have no control over sentencing tariffs sent by the court.</p> <p>Update Prosecutions for ASBO breaches are the responsibility of West Yorkshire Police, the ASBU works closely with the Police to ensure that all breaches are dealt with effectively. The sentences laid down for breach of ASBO are determined by the Court in line with sentencing guidelines. A process of annual review for all juvenile ASBOs (under 18) is now in place to consider the relevance and effectiveness of each order. The process was introduced in during the November 2006 round of ASB panels and will be monitored to ensure that the orders and prohibitions are appropriate for the individuals.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 4</p> <p>That the Neighbourhoods and Housing department researches the reasons for breaches of orders to determine how they can be tailored more effectively to individuals with the aim of minimising breaches.</p>	<p>NHD</p>	<p>The conditions placed on individuals are recommended by Officers however the final decision on such conditions is made by the Courts. Every effort is made to ensure that the conditions recommended are based on evidence of the individuals behaviour and the impact of that behaviour on the local community.</p> <p>We are aware that the Home Office are undertaking research into the use of ASBOs and we will await the outcome of that research and review our policies in line with its recommendations.</p> <p>Update. In November 2006 the National Audit Office published a report <i>Tackling Anti- Social Behaviour [HC99 Session 2006-7]</i> . The report considered the work of the Home Office's Anti Social Behaviour Unit which was set up in 2003 and the measures introduced by the Home Office since 1997 to deal with ASB. The research found that over half of their sample cases breached their Anti Social Behaviour Order with a third doing so on five or more occasions.</p>

			Orders	No. of orders Breached	No. Of Breaches
		The number of anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) issued by Leeds City Council in the Leeds local authority area between 01 January and 31 December 2001, number of breaches and times breached.	5	4	13
		The number of anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) issued by Leeds City Council in the Leeds local authority area between 01 January and 31 December 2002, number of breaches and times breached.	1	1	4
		The number of anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) issued by Leeds City Council in the Leeds local authority area between 01 January and 31 December 2003, number of breaches and times breached.	64	27	97
		The number of anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) issued by Leeds City Council in the Leeds local authority area between 01 January and 31 December 2004, number of breaches and times breached.	164	110	512
		The number of anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) issued by Leeds City Council in the Leeds local authority area between 01 January and 31 December 2005, number of breaches and times breached.	89	67	235
		The number of anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) issued by Leeds City Council in the Leeds local authority area between 01 January and 31 October 2006, number of breaches and times breached.	97	47	132
		<p>Further analysis of breaches within Leeds has found: of the 420 orders secured in Leeds 256 (61%) have been breached on 993 occasions. 13% (55) of all orders issued account for 54% (530) of all breaches 39% (164) of orders granted have never been breached. 31% (129) of all orders issued have been breached on only 1 or 2 occasions.</p>			

		<p>From the information shown above it can be seen that although the number of orders in the period 1st Jan 06 – 31st Oct 06 have increased compared to the same period last year the number of breaches have reduced.</p> <p>This can in part be attributed to the fact that case law from prosecutions for breaches of ASBOs has resulted in “tightening” up the terms for prohibitions within orders to ensure that they are more easily enforced and understood by the defendant.</p> <p>ASBU staff and partners from the agencies who sit on the 4 ASB panels that make the decisions on the suitability of an ASBO for an individual have received training from Legal Services to ensure guidance resulting from case law and good practice is incorporated into the decision making process.</p> <p>The Council and Police however have no control over the sentencing given out for breach of an ASBO which are set out in sentencing guidelines for the Courts.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 5</p> <p>We recommend that the Neighbourhoods and Housing department consider how other measures are utilised before ASBOs are put in place in order to preserve the ASBO as a measure of last resort, in most cases. We also recommend that ASBOs are not used routinely in circumstances involving domestic violence or where</p>	<p>NHD</p>	<p>We do not use ASBOs routinely for domestic violence or mental health issues however the panel process allows for professionals to agree on the most appropriate measure for dealing with a particular set of circumstances. We will use all the available tools to deal with ASB and when we believe that using an ASBO is appropriate then we will do so. We do not agree that they should be used only as a last resort.</p> <p>Update Although legal outcomes clearly demonstrate where actions have been taken to deal with ASB much of the work of the unit aims to resolve cases without the need to use legal measure if possible through prevention and diversion work. Analysis of cases closed between August and October 2006 found that 105 cases were closed due to no further complaints. The most common activities undertaken to resolve</p>

<p>there are mental health issues.</p>		<p>the ASB was the use of ABCs (acceptable behaviour contracts) and ASB warnings (pre legal action warning). Other measures include other warnings/cautions (Housing caution/ Notice of Intention to seek possession, verbal warnings by Police, ASBU or ALMO, referral to diversionary schemes.</p> <p>In the period June- November 2006 the ASBU entered into 66 ABCs with individuals. Further analysis to measure the success of ABCs has established that of the 524 used by the unit (since recording began) only 25 individuals receiving an ABC have progressed to an ASBO. (less than 5%).</p> <p>The circumstances surround Domestic Violence would usually exclude the opportunity to use ASBO legislation (the definition states "... causing harassment, alarm of distress to one or more people not of the same address...") There may be occasions when the behaviour resulting in domestic violence impacts on people outside the immediate household and under these circumstances an ASBO may be appropriate. In addition the ASBU and Police are represented on MARACs (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) where cases involving high risk victims and perpetrators of Domestic Violence are considered and any decision to use an ASBO would be done in consultation with these groups.</p> <p>In relation to both domestic violence and mental health cases any decision regarding the use of an ASBO would be made through the ASB panel process where representatives from relevant partner agencies including social services would consider the whole circumstances of a case before approving a course of action.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 6</p> <p>We recommend that the Neighbourhoods and Housing Department submit a further report to the Board detailing whether joint</p>	<p>NHD</p>	<p>We will continue to evaluate and review our working practices in relation to dealing with ASB. The ASB strategy advisory group made up of representative from a wide range of statutory and non statutory agencies monitors the use of ASBOs and other powers on a quarterly bases as does the Safer Leeds Partnership.</p> <p>We will continue to take into account research being undertaken into this field of work and would question the value of another report to Scrutiny board considering the remit</p>

<p>working between different services to support ASBOs is successfully and effectively employed.</p>		<p>and scale of this enquiry. (see response to recommendation 4)</p> <p>Update On 22nd January 2007 Leeds will be announced as one of 40 Respect Areas chosen to drive forward the Government's Respect Action Plan. The Respect Action Plan builds upon the previous work to address anti-social behaviour (asb) by broadening ("deepening, widening, furthering") the approach to tackling asb.</p> <p>The Council have committed to delivering five key elements of the plan these being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing Family Intervention Projects (FIPs) • Establishing parenting programmes • Demonstrating openness and accountability through Face the People Sessions • Using the full range of tools and powers • Adoption of the Respect Housing Standard <p>A report was taken to Executive Board on 24th January 2007 setting out the implications for the Council. A small group of officers leading on the key elements of the plan will monitor the impact of the plan and report directly through to the Respect Task Force on its implementation.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 7</p> <p>That the Positive Actions for Young People scheme is evaluated and assessed according to its impact on anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>We also recommend that</p>	<p>Learning and Leisure</p>	<p>PAYP has been fully evaluated by Learning and Leisure and has continued to receive a "good" assessment every 6 months by Connexions West Yorkshire.</p> <p>External funding from a variety of sources has increased for 2007/08 in recognition of the effectiveness and achievements of the scheme.</p>

<p>should the evaluation of the scheme confirm its success, it is appropriately funded to allow further development and greater capacity.</p>		
<p>RECOMMENDATION 8</p> <p>That where further operations, such as Operation Chariot, are proposed, consideration is given to extending activities to the district centres within Leeds, taking into account the type of issues specific to the area.</p>	NHD	<p>Decisions on where multi agency operations take place are determined by local partners at local problem solving meetings and are developed to take into account the issues relevant to that area.</p> <p>Update The Divisional Community Safety Partnerships (DCSP) are aligned to Area Management Areas and are supported by Area Community Safety Co-ordinators. Each DCSP develops an action plan based on local problem profiles. The ASBU is represented by a Team Leader at each DCSP and good practice resulting from operations such as Operation Chariot are considered alongside other options when action plans are being developed.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 9</p> <p>That the Anti-Social Behaviour Panels periodically review their workloads and membership to ensure that capacity is maximised and that input from other organisations, particularly in the voluntary sector, is utilised effectively.</p>	NHD	<p>We recognise the value that the voluntary sector can make to reducing ASB. There are some issues relating to the personalised data that is shared at the ASB panels that would make it difficult for voluntary sector organisations to be involved at that level. However, there is a role for such organisations when it comes to local delivery of services such as diversionary schemes and further work will be done to engage with such organisations.</p> <p>Update The Home Office published updated guidance on the use of ASBOs which included recommendations on the procedures and processes that should be in place for decision making on the use of an ASBO. ASB panel procedures have been reviewed in light of</p>

<p>We also recommend that where the use of supported measures is increased by the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, this is matched by an increase in capacity in the Anti-Social Behaviour Panels.</p>		<p>these recommendations. (see recommendation update 3)</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 10</p> <p>That the Director of Children’s Services and the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit consider and review the implications of the Children Act with regard to anti-social behaviour measures, and update the appropriate Scrutiny Board of any issues arising.</p>	<p>NHD</p>	<p>Update Social Services are represented on the ASB panels and at a local level when discussions are taking place on individual cases.</p> <p>Neighbourhoods and Housing Department have established a departmental steering group considering the implementation of Every Child Matters and Community Safety are represented on the Parenting Strategy Steering group which is led by Children’s Services. The development of the Parenting Strategy for Leeds is a key achievement target for Leeds as a Respect Area. (see recommendation 6)</p> <p>Community Safety have also contributed to the recent review of the Children’s and Young People’s plan specifically under the priority areas “Positive Contributions” and “Staying Safe”</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 11</p> <p>That consideration is given to the provision of additional PCSOs and Neighbourhood Wardens throughout the city to support the various strategies for tackling anti-social behaviour.</p>	<p>NHD</p>	<p>Update By the end of this financial year the number of PCSOs match funded by Leeds City Council will increase to 170 .</p>

<p>RECOMMENDATION 12</p> <p>That Ward Members are systematically kept informed of anti-social behaviour issues and activities within their Ward by Council departments and ALMOs, within the constraints of the law. We recommend that a mechanism be established that will allow the ‘two way’ sharing of information from Ward Members. We also recommend that Council departments and the ALMOs ensure that the same level of communication occurs between themselves.</p>	NHD	<p>Update</p> <p>Leeds Community Safety is currently revising its website to provide more accurate and up to date information. West Yorkshire Police have developed a website providing information on activities being undertaken at a local Neighbourhood Policing Team level this site is very useful in finding up to date information on activities taking place at a ward level to deal with anti social behaviour. The Community Safety website will provide a link to the NPT site once completed.</p> <p>The home page for the NPT site is http://www.wypnpt.org/</p> <p>Members can report Anti Social Behaviour problems through the ASB contact number which is 0113 3984701 where details will be logged and forwarded to the most appropriate agency.</p> <p>A web based reporting form is being developed which can be accessed through the Leeds City Council Website.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 13</p> <p>That the Youth Service reports back to the Scrutiny Board on the progress of the Revizit scheme and how it might be implemented more widely</p>	Learning and Leisure	<p>Revizit is delivered jointly by the Youth Service and the Youth Offending Service. It was a pilot project in West Area but has been rolled out across all five areas in the second half of 2006/07.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 14</p>	Learning and Leisure	<p>. .These issues have formed part of the inquiry conducted at the end of 2006 by</p>

<p>That appropriate Scrutiny Board receives information from Youth Services regarding the distribution of resources, the relationship with the ‘narrowing the gap’ agenda and whether there is scope for further developing ways of ‘rewarding good behaviour’ in young people.</p>		<p>Children’s Services Scrutiny Board into Youth Services. An inquiry report is due out shortly.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 15</p> <p>That consideration is given to Youth Services working more actively with 8 – 13 year olds, should funding allow.</p>	<p>Learning and Leisure</p>	<p>This issue was raised within the Children’s Services Scrutiny Board inquiry.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 16</p> <p>That the Youth Offending Service analyse the reasons for non-attendance for parent programmes in order to devise alternative methods of making contact with parents of young offenders.</p>	<p>NHD</p>	<p>Firstly the YOS is pleased to report that attendance at parenting programmes has increased significantly since the YOS gave evidence to scrutiny board and we now achieve our nationally set target for attendance on parenting programmes by the parents of young offenders.</p> <p>That said it still remains difficult to engage a number of parents in the programmes. The YOS analysis of the reasons are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fear of the unknown – many parents think they will be treated negatively, or “shown up” in a public forum. • Many parents lack confidence in being able to participate in a group setting. • A lack of provision of suitable child-care, particularly given that the behaviour of some of the children makes them difficult to cater for using “standard” child minding resources.

- Some less experienced YOS staff lack confidence in “selling” programmes to parents.

The last of these issues is being resolved internally by the YOS through training and supervision. The others can be overcome by working with parents in advance of sessions, to build up their resolve and confidence. YOS officers continue to undertake these tasks, but it remains both time-consuming and resource-intensive.

Update

The YOS has progress to report in terms of parenting interventions. The YOS is close to achieving the target set by the Youth Justice Board for attendance by parents on parenting interventions.

Leeds YOS has coordinated a successful bid to the DfES for an early intervention parenting pathfinder project which has been titled “*All Relative*”. A team of 3 parenting project officers has been recruited to provide Webster Stratton parenting programme to parents of young people (aged 8 – 13) who are at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour or crime. It is anticipated that anti-social behaviour enforcement officers will be a key source of referrals to the programme. The 2 year project, which is being evaluated by the DfES will be commencing in the next few months.

The *All Relative* project will pay particular attention to the “engagement phase” and to overcoming barriers to parental participation on the programme given that securing attendance on the entire 16 week Webster Stratton programme is crucial to successful outcomes.

All relative has also received funding from RESPECT to employ an educational psychologist to work intensively with parents of young people exhibiting anti social behaviour and resolve any critical issues relating to parenting.

<p>RECOMMENDATION 17</p> <p>That, should the scheme ultimately be judged to have been successful, the Neighbourhoods and Housing department considers the long term funding for Signpost, both through mainstream budgeting and through funding from other partners beyond March 2006 and that a city wide application of the scheme be considered.</p>		<p>This scheme will be expanded from 2006 into other areas using Safer & Stronger Communities fund and NRF. While this funding isn't mainstream it will support the scheme over the next two years and will be developed to meet the Governments RESPECT agenda.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 18</p> <p>That Education Leeds provides to a future Scrutiny Board an update on its policies regarding truancy prevention, including information on the guidance provided to parents and the latest information on initiatives such as the City Centre Truancy Sweep.</p> <p>We also recommend that</p>	<p>Education Leeds</p>	<p>(i) Education Leeds, Education Welfare Service can provide Scrutiny Members with updated reports on strategies and policies regarding attendance improvement and truancy prevention as requested; including City Centre and local area Truancy Sweeps, Attendance Champions Initiatives, Target School action and use of Legal interventions, including Parenting Orders, Contracts and Penalty Notices.</p> <p>An update report on the impact of these initiatives and the Attendance Strategy can be found on the Education Leeds site http://infobase.leeds.gov.uk/documents/viewdoc.aspx?cid=4727 and the Annual Attendance and Exclusions report 2005/06 http://infobase.leeds.gov.uk/documents/viewdoc.aspx?cid=10696</p> <p>New initiatives to improve attendance and reduce persistent absence from September 2006 include:</p>

such Truancy Sweeps are done as regularly as possible in order to maintain the momentum and the profile of the message

- The appointment of an Anti-bullying Communications Champion, working alongside the successful Attendance Champions Initiative.
- Launch of the multi-agency 'Speak out against bullying' initiative and 'Talking Leeds DVD'.
- Re-engage with the Rhino's Initiative, a joint strategy between Education Leeds and Leeds Rhino's to coach and mentor 50 vulnerable pupils identified in years 9 and 10 at high school to prevent the risk of missing education
- Introduction of the city wide Children Missing Education (CME) Procedures.
- Targeted support and intervention with 15 Persistent Absence Target High Schools from December 2006 (including DfES and National Strategies support).
- Targeted Child Employment sweeps in the city centre and markets.
- Launch of the Holidays in term time campaign with Leeds co-op
- Refocusing of the Education Welfare Service from January 2007.
- The appointment 40 PSAs (Parent Support Advisers) to support the Attendance and Exclusions Strategy from December 2006.

(ii) Truancy Sweeps are planned activities with WYP, under the Crime and Disorder Act and as such must be undertaken with the cooperation and permission of the Police who have the legal power to stop and detain truants if necessary.

This academic year the EWS and WYP have carried out 17 Sweeps and stopped 96 pupils. EWO's participate in truancy sweeps as part of their SLA with Schools, however not all schools are supportive of this strategy and the use of EWO time. As further delegation of front line Services to schools occur, there will be less flexibility and further constraints on EWO's which may restrict participation in truancy sweeps.

We are currently seeking funding to develop a dedicated 'sweep' in the East of the City with a view to this being deployed as a strategy across all 5 wedges in the future.

Summary of Legal Cases autumn Term 2006/07

		<p>Total number of Legal cases = 78 Number of cases withdrawn = 14 Fast Track = 20 Parenting Orders = 2 Penalty Notices = 42</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 19</p> <p>That consideration is given by Education Leeds to introducing business and enterprise and other vocational skills into schools to channel young people's entrepreneurial interests and that any examples of this type of project currently being undertaken by schools be circulated to the Board.</p>	<p>Education Leeds</p>	<p>Education Leeds have been working closely with Enterprise Advisory Service and the Learning & Skills Council to form Leeds Enterprising Schools Partnership which has been established to support schools in developing their Enterprise Education capacity.</p> <p>The Partnership Programme provides:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Management briefing on Enterprise Education capacity building • Briefing for key staff on Ofsted Enterprise Inspection Criteria • Support for key staff in completing the Enterprise Progression Guide • Support in identifying gaps in provision • Access and support to Staff Development Programmes • Access and support to Activity Brokering Services • Access and support to materials provision/development • Access and support to business and employer engagement programmes • Access and support to match funding activities <p>Enterprise Funding - All secondary schools have been awarded funds, between £15,000 and £20,000 per annum, to support the inclusion of enterprise programmes into the curriculum at KS4 and there is an expectation that all KS4 students will experience the equivalent of 4 days of enterprise activities a year.</p> <p>As a result of this there are many commercial organisations offering services to schools most of which are 'events' of one day duration.</p>

	<p>Education Leeds Education Business Partnership (EL EBP) support schools throughout the city to deliver enterprise events, examples include:</p> <p>Everyday Economics Project Fifty five Year 10 students at Priesthorpe High School worked with business volunteers on an Enterprise project that simulated the running of a business. The objectives were to develop students' financial awareness and their understanding of how businesses operate and the role they play in the economy.</p> <p>Coca Cola visit GCSE Business Studies students from Wortley High School visited Coca Cola Enterprises in Wakefield. The objective was to develop business knowledge including marketing, sales, production and distribution.</p> <p>Enterprise Day Bright Futures and Business Dynamics delivered an Enterprise event for Crawshaw High School . The objective was to develop the communication, problem solving and personal financial awareness of 205 Yr 10 students.</p> <p>Stock Market Challenge Activity Bruntcliffe High School is running the Stock Market Challenge project from December 05 to April 06 with the aim of developing the economic understanding of 280 Yr 10 students. The project entails the students researching companies and then (a virtual exercise only) buying and selling of shares.</p> <p>'Newsletter' Literacy & ICT Activity at Yorkshire Post Newspapers Education Leeds EBP worked with the Education 'Newsroom' at Yorkshire Post Newspapers to offer one-day activities for students that involved using Quark Express software to write articles for a newsletter. At the end of the activity each student left with a colour copy of a 4 page newsletter. The schools that took advantage of this activity were Woodkirk, Wortley, Roundhay, Priesthorpe, Lawnswood, South Leeds and Crawshaw High Schools.</p>
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	<p>Forensic Science Workshops CSI Workshops is a company that delivers forensic science workshops in High schools that are designed to inspire and enthuse students about scientific careers. Students learn about the retrieval of finger prints, foot prints and the analysis of blood spatter patterns. They use this knowledge to work in teams on a crime scene with a view to identifying the culprit. Education Leeds EBP supported 7 Leeds High Schools to purchase workshops for Year 10 and Yr 11 students. Participating schools in January and February 06 were City of Leeds, Morley, Temple Moor, Allerton, Horsforth, Woodkirk, St Mary's Menston and Boston Spa High Schools.</p> <p>During Enterprise Week, in November, a number of funding bodies support enterprise events on a regional basis inviting schools from across West Yorkshire to take part in competitive events such as the Real Business Challenge sponsored by Coca Cola Enterprises. Throughout the year many schools organise their own enterprise programmes.</p> <p>Over the past two years DTI have sponsored Enterprise Advisers to work with schools to advise on the development of enterprise skills but this programme is due to finish in July 2006.</p> <p>EL EBP also supports Enterprise activity for students indirectly, by organising Teacher Professional Development Placements in industry, for example, training teachers in the use of Debtcred, the High Sheriff's financial literacy project and Face to Face Finance, sponsored by Royal bank of Scotland. Both of these programmes are free to Leeds High Schools and are an important component of developing an understanding of enterprise. Also a wide range of professional development opportunities are offered for teachers to experience enterprise in industry, for example, Tesco have provided placements for teachers wishing to gain an understanding of the retail industry.</p> <p>One of the key challenges in schools is to ensure that the concepts of 'being enterprising' are integrated into the curriculum and not considered as another subject to</p>
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teach. The key skills are learning to work in a team, learning to respond positively to change and challenging circumstances and developing a creative approach to problem solving. An enterprise programme should also include an element of financial awareness.

A wide range of vocational subjects are available to students in Leeds, many of which include work placements and a reduced timetable at school. An example of a creative approach to course development is the BTEC Environment course run by Joseph Priestley College with the support of South Leeds CLC which provides students with laptops that can be used in the field to follow and record course materials.

However, many of these courses are taken up by students who are disaffected with school rather than students who are disaffected with the curriculum. Another challenge therefore is to introduce vocational subjects for students of C/D borderline and above ability who have the motivation to learn but need a more interactive approach to their learning and demand a greater understanding of the relevance of their learning to their everyday lives. In support of this need Education Leeds EBP has developed resources for the BTEC First Diploma in Retail working with nine partners in the retail industry, the Sector Skills Council and Park Lane College. The course is running at Pudsey Grangefield school where students are offered a wide range of opportunity to visit companies related to the retail industry and encouraged to learn independently with the teacher acting as a facilitator. Similar resources are under development to support BTEC Hospitality and Art & Design courses due to start in September 2006.

Education Leeds EBP has also supported the creation of resources for vocational qualifications through the Teacher Professional Development Placements programme by identifying companies willing to collaborate in the production of classroom resources. The first resource is a case study based on Rhodia UK Ltd, a local chemical company. Created by two Leeds science teachers the resource is designed to support the teaching of the Applied Science GCSE and comprises a DVD with presentations about the company history, products and H&S regulations. It also includes printed copies of actual company documents including H&S reports, risk assessments, H&S Policy,

		<p>Company Training Policy, company structure, job descriptions.</p> <p>Leeds has a very well developed an extensive Vocational Offer that is available to all 14-16 Year olds across the city. A wide range of organisations are involved in the delivery of this provision including; FE Colleges, work-based learning providers, City Learning Centres, LCC Jobs & Skills Department and Voluntary and community Sector organisations as well as schools themselves. Currently around 2,500 young people in Year 10 and 11 spend at least one day per week undertaking a vocational programme outside the school, studying for one or more of nearly 100 different qualifications. Several of the programmes available such as the Young Apprenticeship Scheme and Job Guarantee Scheme involve extensive workplacements.</p> <p>Details of all the vocational programmes available to young people in Leeds are contained in the 14-16 web-based prospectus available at www.vocationallearningleeds.org</p> <p>The Education Business Partnership Team within Education Leeds, supported by a grant from West Yorkshire Learning and Skills Council, are driving forward a number of enterprise programmes which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">□ During 2006/07 all high schools will be supported in developing an action plan to support the introduction of enterprise across the curriculum□ An Enterprise Forum has been established to which Enterprise Coordinators in all high schools are invited. This meets each term and offers an opportunity for training and dissemination of ideas.□ Working with the Business and Enterprise schools to support delivery of enterprise programme 'Project Business' and support the training of staff in identified schools.□ Individual, city wide and regional enterprise challenges for high schools supported by a range of business partners e.g. Real Business Challenge with Coca Cola Enterprises and Flat Pack Challenge with IKEA; Rotary Club Technology Challenge.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Five day programmes involving a whole year group (Y7 & Y9) and all curriculum areas developing, producing and marketing a new product or service e.g Candy Company, promotional campaign for British Legion. ❑ Mini enterprise programme for SEN groups in conjunction with John Smeaton High School ❑ Teacher Professional Development days in industry which result in the development of new classroom based curriculum support materials e.g. visit to chemical company to support delivery of science. Visit includes input on how principles of enterprise can be introduced into curriculum. ❑ Just The Job programme supports Y6 children from 15 inner city primary schools to engage in a number of lessons explaining the world of work followed by visits to two local companies. This involves 45 companies and 700 children. <p>The LEGI funding recently awarded to the city will provide an opportunity to expand on this foundation and, in particular, provide additional support for schools in some of our most deprived areas.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 20</p> <p>That as an Authority we are robust in our enforcement and that enforcement protocols are quickly put in place.</p> <p>We also recommend that an analysis of the Government's Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaign is provided to the appropriate Scrutiny Board, detailing the lessons learnt.</p>	Legal Services	<p>The only time when an application will come before the licensing committee is if the applicant has a relevant offence and the police object. In such instance the committee has two options - reject or grant the application. The Act does not appear to allow for the grant subject to conditions.</p> <p>Where an existing personal licence holder is convicted for a 'relevant offence' before the Magistrates, he is duty bound to advise the Magistrates that he is the holder of a Personal Licence. In this instance it is the Magistrates who decide on the penalty to be applied - revocation or suspension of licence.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 21</p>		<p>The Scrutiny Commission has now ceased, however, the licensing aspect falls under the remit of Overview and Scrutiny.</p>

<p>That the Scrutiny Commission undertaking an inquiry into the misuse of alcohol receives the comments and recommendations from Scrutiny Board (Environment and Community Safety) on enforcement and reviews for licences.</p>		
<p>RECOMMENDATION 22</p> <p>That Council departments consider how ‘good news’ press releases can emphasise the positive contributions being made by young people.</p>	NHD	<p>Update Leeds Community Safety now has a communications officer in place and a communication plan has been developed. Where possible positive contributions from young people will be emphasised within the press and publicity although sometimes we are not able to make the most of positive stories.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 23</p> <p>That the department continues to study best practice from other authorities and where appropriate apply it to this Council’s own approaches to tackling anti-social behaviour.</p>	NHD	<p>Update The ASBU is continually seeking to identify good practice. We are members of the Social Landlords Crime and Nuisance Group which publishes a quarterly magazine highlighting good practice and new initiatives nationally. In addition as a Trailblazer Authority and soon to be Respect Area we are involved with events to update on good practice and contribute to decisions on changes and improvements to activities for dealing with ASB. The Head of Community Safety is the lead officer for ASB and a Director of the National Community Safety Network (a Community Safety Practitioners organisation).</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 24</p>	Learning	

<p>We recommend that wherever possible the Youth Council is given a higher profile and that the Youth Council itself seeks creative ways of representing more widely the views of young people across the city, particularly around the issue of anti-social behaviour.</p>	<p>and Leisure</p>	<p>The Youth Council's profile is increasing steadily. An exciting new development, the introduction of Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Fund, will help considerably from 2006/07 onwards.</p> <p>LYC is now responsible for making decisions about the allocation of more than £900,000 per year to fund youth work schemes designed and submitted by groups of young people from across the city. Some schemes will hopefully target anti social behaviour. LYC will be joined on the decision panel by young people from ROAR (Reach Out and Reconnect). ROARs involvement will help to ensure a broader representation of young people.</p> <p>Update</p> <p>Good progress has been made in the last 6 months. For example, the Youth Council has been consulted about implementation of Youth Matters and has started to make decisions about the allocation of Youth Opportunity Funds and Youth Capital Funds.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 25</p> <p>We recommend that bodies, (public and voluntary) working within the community should look for further opportunities to involve young people in community projects, which allow contact between the different sections of the community. We also recommend that the Council continues to encourage the involvement of young people</p>	<p>Democratic Services</p>	<p>A Young People's Scrutiny Forum is currently undertaking an inquiry under the auspices of Scrutiny Board (Children's Services). There are also discussions taking place within Democratic Services regarding the continued emphasis on engaging with young people and encouraging them to find their voice within the democratic process.</p>

in the democratic functions of the Council, such as the Scrutiny process and the work of Area Committees.		
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Scrutiny Board (Neighbourhoods and Housing)

Inquiry into Affordable Housing 2005/06 – Monitoring of Recommendations

Recommendation	Comment from department
<p>RECOMMENDATION 1</p> <p>That the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing takes forward the proposal to promote moves for people under occupying council properties, and also that possible management incentives for ALMOs to promote the policy sensitively are considered.</p>	<p>Following the debates held at the Scrutiny Board, a revised Lettings Policy was implemented in April 06. It sets out a number of incentives for customers living in council or Housing Association homes who are underoccupying their homes to move. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • awarding Priority Extra where appropriate; • greater promotion and support from ALMO staff for those moving; • allowing ALMOs to consider making financial payments to help customers move. <p>The department feels that it is difficult to make financial incentives to help ALMOs deal with underoccupation.</p> <p>The number of council tenants moving to smaller accommodation rose from 63 in 2004/5 to 175 in 2005/6. This increase is partly due to the introduction of the revised Lettings Policy, and partly to rehousing those displaced by clearance schemes. In these circumstances, many customers are let homes based upon their housing need, and rehoused in smaller properties.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 2</p> <p>That mutual exchange marketing is further developed by the Strategic Landlord and ALMOs.</p>	<p>Mutual Exchanges have been advertised weekly in the Leeds Homes flyer and on the Leeds Homes website since 2005. In addition, Housing Associations also advertise their mutual exchanges through Leeds Homes.</p> <p>Mutual Exchanges have increased from 22.2 per month in 05/6 to 25.7 per month in 06/7.</p>

<p>RECOMMENDATION 3</p> <p>That the Neighbourhoods and Housing department encourage Registered Social Landlords to advertise their available properties through the choice based lettings scheme.</p>	<p>Leeds Federated HA and Unity HA advertise almost all their properties through the Leeds Homes choice based lettings scheme. In quarters 1-3 of 2006/7, Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) advertised 131 properties . Negotiations are ongoing with 10 other RSLs to advertise their properties.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 4</p> <p>That the Neighbourhoods and Housing department develops stronger links with RSLs, particularly in establishing nomination agreements.</p>	<p>The Council re-launched the need for nominations in 2006 by developing new strategic and operational monitoring structures. Officers meet each RSL monthly to discuss their nominations performance. Strategic Landlord Group monitor this.</p> <p>All RSLs are expected to sign an agreement stating that they will let a minimum of 50% of their properties to council nominations. 19 RSLs have signed agreements, covering 85% of RSL stock in the city.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 5</p> <p>That a profile of the housing register is made to find the average length of time a customer waits for rehousing, and the sizes of households who need rehousing.</p>	<p>Strategic Landlord group can now give ALMOs the average length of time taken to rehouse customers by priority band, and homeless customers. This information will also be useful for customers, so that they can make informed decisions on where to bid for a home.</p> <p>In addition, reports are now available giving the average length of wait by ethnicity and age.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 6</p> <p>That the Affordable Housing Task Group develops further affordable</p>	<p>The Chief Housing Services Officer, on behalf of the Affordable Housing Task Group, submitted a report to Executive Board in November 2006. This gave details of the</p>

<p>housing schemes in Leeds, and takes note of key research findings and best practice being established nationally.</p>	<p>Affordable Housing Strategy, and the mechanisms that should be considered to deliver affordable housing in the public and private sectors.</p> <p>The Housing Market Assessment, including the needs assessment for affordable housing across the city (based on national guidelines set out by the Department of Communities and Local Government), is nearing completion. It was carried out under procurement rules by Outside UK. Since the last assessment in 2003, the need for affordable homes has increased on a year by year basis from 480 to 1889 units. These figures, together with the final report, have yet to be formally agreed. However, it is unlikely that the need figure will be lower than this, given the pressures on all sectors of the housing market.</p> <p>Research is also being carried out to understand why customers are increasingly seeing social housing as a route into the housing market. The research, which should be completed early in 2007, seeks to understand whether new groups of customers wish to be rehoused to social housing, or whether the increase in demand is due to a combination of reducing housing stock due to right to buy applications, and stock investment appraisals.</p> <p>Both the Assessment of Need and the research are fundamental to the Affordable Housing Delivery Plan that has been agreed by Executive Board.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 7</p> <p>That clear criteria for access to affordable housing is developed for all schemes, maintaining local links, and giving priority to those who have been displaced through regeneration schemes.</p>	<p>The Affordable Housing Delivery Plan that has been agreed by Executive Board set out a broad strategic framework to develop the criteria for access to affordable housing. Neighbourhoods and Housing and the Development Department are working closely to develop standardised section 106 agreements. They are also working to ensure that affordable housing requirements in new and existing planning applications are met in line with the Supplementary Planning Guidance, and that local needs are met.</p> <p>With the current pressures on social housing from decanting secure tenants and residents, work is ongoing with the Regeneration Partnerships Division of</p>

	Neighbourhoods and Housing to see how additional affordable housing, developed either by public or private sector funding, can assist with regeneration schemes and rehousing of those displaced.
<p>RECOMMENDATION 8</p> <p>That a co-ordinated approach to marketing affordable housing is established to ensure that those who are eligible are given opportunity to benefit from the schemes.</p>	The final report of the Housing Market Assessment will inform and advise on housing need across all tenures. Development Department and Neighbourhoods and Housing are working to ensure a co-ordinated approach towards the marketing of affordable housing. Neighbourhoods and Housing are also working closely with RSLs, who will be either managing or marketing properties, taking local requirements into account.
<p>RECOMMENDATION 9</p> <p>That the appropriate Scrutiny Board receives a progress report on the Golden Triangle Partnership</p>	A report on the activities of the Golden Triangle Partnership will be developed and reported to the appropriate scrutiny board in May 2007.
<p>RECOMMENDATION 10</p> <p>That the future target attached to BVPI 64 is high enough to ensure that it drives continued improved performance.</p>	The Empty Property Strategy has been revised and updated to cover the period 2006 – 2010, and stretched targets were incorporated and agreed at Executive Board on 15 th November 2006.
<p>RECOMMENDATION 11</p> <p>That the department considers future funding arrangements for the Empty Property Team.</p>	Environmental Health Services intend to apply for an extension of the NRF funding to support the Empty Property Team over 2007/08. They will submit a further bid for another EHO post to help with the high level enforcement actions that are required in

	<p>the existing target areas at Cross Green, East End Park, Harehills, Chapeltown, Beeston and Holbeck. Discussions have taken place with the Chief Regeneration Officer about relaxing the current boundaries the team are working in, so that they can work in the traditional student accommodation areas of Headingley, Hyde Park, Meanwood and Kirkstall, which are beginning to show signs of un sustainability in this particular niche of the housing market.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 12</p> <p>That the department reports to the appropriate Scrutiny Board on the Housing Market Assessment once this is complete.</p>	<p>A report on the outcome of the Housing Market Assessment will be reported to the appropriate scrutiny board in April 2007.</p>

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Originator: S Winfield

Tel: 24 74707

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Neighbourhoods and Housing)

Date: 7th February 2007

Subject: Work Programme

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Attached at appendix 1 is the current work programme of the Board which includes scheduled and unscheduled items.

1.2 The Forward Plan for February to May 2007 is at appendix 2.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Board is requested to receive and make any changes to the attached work programme following discussions at today's meeting.

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SCRUTINY BOARD (NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING) - WORK PROGRAMME - LAST REVISED JANUARY 2006

Appendix 1

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES	DATE ENTERED INTO WORK PROGRAMME
Meeting date: 7th March 2007			
Inquiry into Regeneration in Beeston Hill and Holbeck	To agree the Board's final report		July 06
Financial information (SRHP)	To receive information on the Single Regional Housing Pot		December 06
Meeting date: 11th April 2007			
Annual Report	To agree the Board's contribution to the Scrutiny Annual report		June 2006
Partnership working – District Partnerships and Area Delivery Plans			

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LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

For the period 1 February 2007 to 31 May 2007

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made)
Leeds Affordable Warmth Strategy Recommendation and adoption of the new strategy.	Executive Board (Portfolio: Neighbourhoods and Housing)	9/2/07	The Draft Affordable Warmth Strategy will be issued for submission to Executive Board following the consultation process.	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing
Single Homeless Provision (Hollies and Pennington Place Hostels) Tender To accept tender and award contract to preferred bidder.	Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing	26/2/07	Undertaken at early stages of procurement timetable. Leeds Housing Services Joint Consultative Committee (JCC), Portfolio holder for Housing Services.	The report and tender documents	Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made)
A revision of the Neighbourhoods and Housing Lettings Policy Approval of the revised Lettings Policy.	Executive Board (Portfolio: Neighbourhoods and Housing)	14/3/07	Customers waiting to be rehoused, Existing tenants, the ALMOs, Belle Isle Tenant Management Organisation, RSLs, Leeds Tenants Federation, Legal Services, Voluntary agencies	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing
Day Services for Older People - Commissioning To approve recommendations arising from stakeholder consultation	Executive Board (Portfolio: Adult Health and Social Care)	14/3/07	Follows previous report submitted in February 2006	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Social Services Officer
Award of Clinical Waste Contract To award the Clinical Waste Contract	Director of City Services	1/4/07	Market, Department, CPU, Legal	Award Report	Director of City Services

NOTES

Key decisions are those executive decisions:

- which result in the authority incurring expenditure or making savings over £500,000 per annum, or
- are likely to have a significant effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards

Executive Board Portfolios

Executive Member

Central and Corporate

Councillor Mark Harris

Development

Councillor Andrew Carter

City Services

Councillor Steve Smith

Neighbourhoods and Housing

Councillor John Leslie Carter

Leisure

Councillor John Procter

Children's Services (Lead)

Councillor Richard Brett

Children's Services (Support)

Councillor Richard Harker

Adult Health and Social Care

Councillor Peter Harrand

Customer Services

Councillor David Blackburn

Leader of the Labour Group

Councillor Keith Wakefield

Advisory Member

Councillor Judith Blake

In cases where Key Decisions to be taken by the Executive Board are not included in the Plan, 5 days notice of the intention to take such decisions will be given by way of the agenda for the Executive Board meeting.

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