

Public Document Pack



WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

Meeting to be held in Stanningley Amateur Rugby League Club, Coal Hill Drive, Leeds, LS 13
1PA (Map attached). on
Thursday, 29th March, 2007 at 9.00 am

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

J Harper	-	Armley
A Lowe	-	Armley
J McKenna	-	Armley
D Atkinson	-	Bramley and Stanningley
T Hanley	-	Bramley and Stanningley
N Taggart	-	Bramley and Stanningley

Co-opted Members

Jean Bedford	-	Bramley Forum
Hazel Boutle	-	Armley Forum
Peter Green	-	Bramley Forum
Morgan Pugh	-	Armley Forum

Agenda compiled by:
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Area Manager: Steve Crocker
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A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF COUNCIL FUNCTIONS AND EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

There are certain functions that are defined by regulations which can only be carried out at a meeting of the Full Council or under a Scheme of Delegation approved by the Full Council. Everything else is an Executive Function and, therefore, is carried out by the Council's Executive Board or under a Scheme of Delegation agreed by the Executive Board.

The Area Committee has some functions which are delegated from full Council and some Functions which are delegated from the Executive Board. Both functions are kept separately in order to make it clear where the authority has come from so that if there are decisions that the Area Committee decides not to make they know which body the decision should be referred back to.

A G E N D A

Item No	Ward	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>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p>	
3			<p>EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC</p> <p>To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public</p>	
4			<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>	
5			<p>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</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>	

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
6			<p>OPEN FORUM / COMMUNITY FORUMS</p> <p>In accordance with Paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, at the discretion of the Chair a period of up to 10 minutes may be allocated at each ordinary meeting for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee. This period of time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair. No member of the public shall speak for more than three minutes in the Open Forum, except by permission of the Chair</p>	1 - 4
7			<p>MINUTES</p> <p>To confirm as a correct record the attached minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2007.</p>	5 - 10
8			<p>COMMUNITY SAFETY</p> <p>To note a report of the West Leeds Area Manager introducing Inspector Steve Thomas from West Yorkshire Police Authority who will give an update on Community Safety Issues in West Leeds.</p> <p>(Executive Function) - 5 mins</p>	11 - 12
9			<p>FOOTPATHS AND GINNELS CLOSURES/GATING ORDERS</p> <p>To consider the report of the West Area Manager which seeks approval for supporting the proposed criteria for prioritising requests for closure of footpaths/ginnels in West Leeds.</p> <p>(Executive Function) - 5 mins</p>	13 - 18
10			<p>INNER WEST AREA COMMITTEE WELL-BEING BUDGET</p> <p>To consider a report of the West Leeds Area Manager seeking approval for new projects in the Inner West area.</p> <p>(Executive Function) - 5 mins</p>	19 - 46

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
11			<p>AREA MANAGERS REPORT</p> <p>To consider a report of the West Area Manager which informs Members of progress on Crime and Grime Tasking, Project Champions, Northern Challenge Housing proposals, Worklessness in West Leeds, Local Enterprise Growth Initiative and the West Leeds District Partnership programme.</p> <p>(Executive Function) - 5 mins</p>	47 - 54
12			<p>WYTHYER IMPROVEMENT GROUP</p> <p>To consider a report of the West Leeds Area Manager which briefs Members on the first 16 months of the Wyther Improvement Group (WIG).</p> <p>Executive Function - 5 mins</p>	55 - 62
13			<p>LEEDS ENTERPRISE GROWTH INITIATIVE (LEGI) FOR WEST LEEDS</p> <p>To consider a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which informs Members of the action taken in West Leeds following the successful allocation of funds. The Inner West Area Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and to support the proposed action plan for LEGI West.</p> <p>(Executive Function) - 10 mins</p>	63 - 66
14			<p>THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN REVIEW 2007</p> <p>To consider a report of the Director of Children's Services which asks the Committee for their support and input into the ongoing review of the Leeds Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP).</p> <p>(Council Function) - 10 mins</p>	67 - 72

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
15			<p>A PLAN FOR DELIVERING AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN LEEDS</p> <p>To consider a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which sets out the background to the establishment of the Affordable Housing Task Force and the subsequent production of the Affordable Housing Delivery Plan.</p> <p>(Executive Function) - 10 mins</p>	73 - 82
16			<p>DATES, TIMES AND VENUES OF AREA COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2007/08</p> <p>To consider the report of the Chief Democratic Services Officer which requests Members to agree the dates, times and venues for meetings of the West Inner Area Committee during the 2007/08 Municipal Year.</p> <p>(Council Function) - 5 mins</p> <p>MAP OF TODAY'S VENUE</p> <p>Stanningley Amateur Rugby Club, Coal Hill Drive, Leeds, LS13 1PA</p>	83 - 86



Armley Community Forum

Date: 16th January 2007

Present: Cllr Harper (Chair), Cllr Lowe, Cllr McKenna, C Clark, Tom Maynard, S Hellewell, S Welsh, R Edwards, E Bowes, K Lemm, D Peck, D and I Penman, B Holmes, B & K Draper, D & M Stead, J Groughton, S Guy, J Grainger, J Kerry, N Wordsworth, H Gardiner, P Fathers, D Newsome, M Pugh, Cllr A Harrison J Ford, J Parsons, A Willis, Hon Ald. B Nelson, Don Laxton, J Ramell, J Scroggie, B Röhle, E & B Rayworth, J Gill, H & D Boutle, E Bearman, A Covey, B Jasko, M Ndzinga, J Tomlinson, J Arnold, C Mackey, S Marsden, N Powell, P Stewart, L Clarke.

	ACTION
1.00 WELCOME	
1.01 Cllr Harper welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year. She informed everyone of the good news that St Ives Mount has been voted the friendliest street in Britain. She also imparted the sad news that Mr Keith Mulligan, local resident and longstanding member of the forum had died.	
2.00 APOLOGIES	
2.01 Harry Shields, Diane Maynard, Karen Anderson, Kevin Donnelly. (Ian Jones attended for Kevin)	
3.00 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING	
3.01 The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record with no amendments or matters arising from them.	
4.00 MATTERS ARISING	
4.01 (8:01) Todds Butchers on Town Street has closed, and there is a proposal for the premises to re-open as a Bookmakers. The forum is opposed to this proposal and a petition was passed around for people to sign and send to the Magistrates Court to oppose the licensing application.	
4.02 (8:02) Cllr Lowe has written to City Services Enforcement and is awaiting a response.	
4:03 (9:02)To report back under the Planning agenda item.	
5.00 POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES	
5.01 The PCSOs are still operating weekly surgeries.	
5.02 Armley has been quiet over the Christmas and New Year period.	
5.03 More PCSOs have been recruited and will be starting in February.	
5.04 The final eviction took place in the Aviaries last Friday which has resulted in a vast improvement in the area over the weekend.	
5.05 Armley Park and Stride is to be established where parents will park in the Liberal Club car park and walk with their children to Armley Primary School. Cllr McKenna suggested that for the first few days PCSOs attend to walk with the children to give a clear message that this is a safe activity. PCSOs will discuss with the school. Alan Robinson (Highways) is liaising with the school	PCSOs

5.06	to establish the best route and any additional lighting requirements. Cedars – 2 motorbikes had been seized this evening. Cllr H suggested a youth work presence on the Cedars, this was noted by Ian Jones (youth worker).	Ian Jones
5.07	Car break ins – PCSOs will bring crime prevention information to a future meeting.	PCSOs
5:08	Moorfield Rec, still a problem with fires. PCSOs have spoken with individuals, and stressed that all incidents must be reported to the Neighbourhood Policing Team. Call the emergency services for any fires which could cause danger to life and limb. Mobile CCTV would not be effective as it would be difficult to identify who started the fires.	
5:09	Cllr Harper thanked the PCSOs for their work.	
6.00	Bramley Fire Station	
6.01	Richard Edwards (Planning Officer) informed that a planning application had been submitted for converting the former fire station to an education and fire demonstration centre. The scheme includes a new roof and extension to the existing building. The frontage with the vehicle doors will remain. Sarah Laidlow-Moore from the Fire Service was unable to attend, but will attend a future meeting to discuss further.	
7.00	Highways	
7.01	Alan Robinson, Traffic Management, informed the forum that maintenance works are due to be carried out to the viaduct. This means that one lane of Viaduct Road will have to be closed for a 12 week period, during June, July and August. Traffic will only be able to travel in the Kirkstall to Armley direction on Viaduct Road. Travel from Armley to Kirkstall will have to be via Armley gyratory and Wellington Road.	CC
7:02	Alan also reported on the traffic study following improvements to the Armley Grange junction. There has been an increase in traffic on Armley Grange Drive which is likely to be due to closure of Armley Grange Avenue and possibly the works being carried out at Henconnor Lane. A further study – Origin and Destination Survey – will be carried out to identify how much ‘rat-running’ is taking place. If a high proportion of traffic is ‘rat-running’ traffic management measures can be considered.	
7:03	There has been significant accident reduction at the junction. 44 accidents between 1999 and March 06. Since March 06 only 2 slight accidents.	
7:04	Feedback from the forum is that the junction is much safer.	
7:05	Other issues raised for following up: Armley Ridge Road – a number of potholes, needs resurfacing.	AR
7:06	Westerley Croft – damaged kerbs and footpaths have still not been reinstated following the demolition of maisonettes.	AR
7:07	St Ives Mount – sand nears clearing up following works.	AR
7:08	Mikes Carpets junction, difficult right turn towards the city. This is due to a capacity issue with the traffic lights. Cllr Lowe has looked into this previously and has a detailed explanation of why an extra filter light cannot be installed which she can share with interested people.	Cllr Lowe
7:09	Station Road carparking. A count has been undertaken and consultation carried out. AR will arrange a meeting outside of the forum to discuss further.	AR
7:10	Discussion about red bus stop markings. In one instance road re-surfacing took place over the newly painted bus stop markings.	
7:11	In response to a request for a crossing for Canal Road, Alan agreed to ask for a traffic count to be undertaken as a first step in assessing whether the	AR

area met the criteria for a crossing.

8.00 Planning

8.01 Mistress Lane hoardings. These have temporary planning permission for 3 years, and will be reviewed annually. The backs will be tidied up. The site at Mistress Lane will be put on the market soon. Frustrations were expressed about the slow progress in redeveloping the site.

8:02 Amber taxis haven't complied with the condition of the planning consent to close the Gang. SH to follow up with Planning Enforcement.

SH

8.03 SH will check if planning permission is required for a change of use on Todd's Butchers.

SH

8:04 Meetings have taken place to discuss Mike's carpets, but no further progress. Action has been taken against the illegal hoardings, further enforcement is needed.

8:05 Armley Prison, undergoing some refurbishment.

8:06 Bexley's Carpets, permission granted for 20 flats.

8:07 Armley Tennis Club – application received for 10-12 units.

8:08 Tower works – still issues to resolve around design, access and S106 agreement.

8:09 Revised plans submitted for Hall Road flats with fewer units than the original application. SH will ask the relevant planning officer to contact Cllr Lowe.

SH

8:10 Sarah to check when the application for the West Leeds School is going to panel.

SH

9:00 Feedback from sub-groups

9:01 Not reported due to time constraints. See summary sheet attached.

10.00 Any other business

10:01 Cllr Harper reported that there is a proposal to change the name of Armley Leisure Centre to reflect a wider area. The forum agreed unanimously that the name should remain Armley Leisure Centre.

10:02 New yellow lines are needed for Carrcrofts/Moder avenue.

AR

10:03 There is a follow up Participatory Appraisal course on Thursday 25 Jan.

10:04 Emma Bearman provided further copies of the Armley calendar, which has been a great success.

11.00 DATE & TIME of NEXT MEETING –

Tuesday 20th February, 7pm Armley One Stop Centre

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WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY, 2007

PRESENT: Councillor J Harper in the Chair
Councillors D Atkinson, T Hanley, A Lowe,
J McKenna and N Taggart

Co-optees Hazel Boutle - Armley Forum
 Morgan Pugh - Armley Forum
 Peter Green - Bramley Forum

63 **Chair's Opening Remarks**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the West (Inner) Area Committee's first meeting at the Moorside Community Centre.

64 **Late Items**

The Chair reported one late item of urgent business, a report by the West Leeds Area Manager outlining the changes to the Community Safety Partnership structure for West Leeds with the development of tasking meetings based on the Inner and Outer West areas.

The Chair indicated that in accordance with Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, she had agreed to accept this report as a late item of urgent business in order to inform Members that the tasking teams will commence in February 2007.

65 **Declaration of Interests**

Councillor J Harper declared a personal interest as Chair of Sure Start and School Governor of West Leeds High School (Agenda Item 10 and Minute 73 refers).

Councillor A Lowe declared a personal interest as a Board Member of West/North West Homes ALMO, School Governor Raynville Primary School and Intake High School of Arts College (Agenda Item 10 and Minute 73 refers)

No other declarations were made at this point in the meeting.

66 **Open Forum / Community Forums**

The agenda made reference to the provision contained in the Area Committee Procedure Rules for an Open Forum Session at each ordinary meeting of an Area Committee, for members of the public to ask questions or to make representations on matters within the terms of reference of the Area

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Thursday, 29th March, 2007

Committee. On this occasion, no matters were raised under this item by those members of the public who were in attendance.

The minutes of the Armley Community Forum meeting held on 21st November 2006 were submitted for information and noted.

67 Minutes - 7th December 2006

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 7th December 2006 be confirmed as a correct record.

68 Matter Arising from the Minutes

Wyther Community Centre (Minute No. 51 refers)

Steve Crocker, West Leeds Area Manager updated the Area Committee on the proposed closure of the Wyther Community Centre on 12th January 2007. It was reported that the Twilight Twirler Group had illegally occupied the building, Councillor J L Carter, Executive Board Member for Neighbourhoods and Housing and whose portfolio included responsibility for Community Centres, had intervened and, following a proposed contribution made by Sellarbrook Construction to provide funding for the group for a year, the City Council was in negotiations with the group and were now in the process of drawing up a one year lease for them to sign by the beginning of March 2007.

69 West Leeds Holiday Sports Programme

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a report introducing Richard Ashworth, Learning and Leisure Department, Community Sports Officer for West Leeds who gave a brief report on the West Leeds Holiday Sports Programme for last year, which was supported from the Well-Being Fund and provided a range of activities for young people in the school holidays.

The Community Sports Officer for West Leeds informed the meeting of the great success of the West Leeds Holiday Sports Programme last year and how well received the programme had been by both the young people and their parents. Parents were keen to put their children's names down and to get lists sorted out should there be another programme for 2007. The officer went on to inform the meeting that nothing like this had been arranged in previous years and it would be easier this year to do more, such as target the 12+ year age group and it was felt that there was room to develop that further. It was the intention of the Community Sports Team to work with Leisure Centres as well to bring more partnership into the programme.

The West Leeds Area Manager welcomed the update report and informed the meeting that the sports programme was a tremendous success last year as it had provided diversionary activities for those children in areas where anti-social behaviour during holiday periods in West Leeds had been at its greatest.

The Chair thanked Richard Ashworth for his presentation.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Thursday, 29th March, 2007

RESOLVED - That the report be noted and that the West Leeds Area Manager be instructed to submit a report on the West Leeds Holiday Sports Programme for 2007 to the next meeting.

70 Late Item - Tasking

In accordance with Minute No.64 above, the West Leeds Area Manager submitted a report informing Members of the changes to the Community Safety Partnership Structure for West Leeds with the Development of Tasking meetings based on the Inner and Outer West areas focusing on crime, anti-social behaviour and grime.

Members were informed that the first of the Tasking meetings were to be held in February 2007.

Gill Hunter, Community Safety Officer, West Leeds Area Management presented the report and, together with Inspector Steve Thomas, West Yorkshire police, responded to Members' questions and comments.

In brief, the following issues were raised:-

- Youths breaking windows and security lights in the Ashlea Court Sheltered Housing Complex in the Cross Grassmere area.
- Concern was expressed at the lack of communication with the Neighbourhoods and Housing and Social Services departments who were unaware of the incident that occurred at Ashlea Court.
- Members expressed concern at the response time for the Wardens and the Police to arrive when the incident occurred at Ashlea Court.
- The need to install security cameras at the Ashlea Court Sheltered Housing complex
- The vulnerability of the elderly in the Bramley and Stanningley Ward where an elderly lady was struck down and her bag stolen just before Christmas.
- The proposals to promote Neighbourhood Watch in the West Leeds area and the need to report regularly to Community Forums.
- The numerous requests for ginnel closures and the lengthy process to get them closed.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That the West Yorkshire Police and Community Safety Officer submit a report to the next meeting with regard to the recent incident in the Cross Grassmere area.
- (c) That a report on Neighbourhood Watch be submitted to future Community Forum meetings..
- (d) That the West Area Manager report back to the next Area Committee on proposals for prioritising future work on ginnel closures.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Thursday, 29th March, 2007

(Councillor Taggart arrived at the meeting at 9.20 am and Councillor McKenna arrived at the meeting at 9.30 am during consideration of the above item).

71 Community Safety Issues - Inner West Leeds

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a report and Inspector Stephen Thomas gave a brief update on community safety Issues in the West Leeds area.

Inspector Thomas informed the meeting of the recent appointment of a new constable who would be part of the Neighbourhood Police Team, which would mean positive changes for the West Inner area.

RESOLVED – That the update report be noted.

72 Inner West Area Committee Well-Being Budget 2006/07

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a report to update Members on the current amount of capital and revenue funding remaining for Wards in the Inner West area for the financial year 2006/07 and the commitments already approved. The report and appendices also sought approval for new projects commissioned by the Area Committee.

Carole Clark, Area Management Officer, presented the report and, together with the West Leeds Area Manager, responded to Members' questions and comments.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the amount of Well-Being Budget remaining for the Inner West Area Committee be noted.
- (b) That the following decisions be taken in respect of new projects and requests for funding from the Well-Being Budget contained in appendices attached to the submitted report:
 - (i) People Matters - Approved £2,500 (Revenue) subject to funding being sought from all Area Committees as this is a city-wide project.
 - (ii) St Margaret's Church Security Gates – Approved £1,000 (Capital)
 - (iii) Sikh Sports & Cultural Centre – Approved £10,000 (Capital), subject to success of the lottery bid and further research on service users at the Centre
 - (iv) I Love West Leeds Federation Director – Approved, £25,000 (Revenue)
 - (v) Christ Church Building Project – Approved £10,000 (Capital), subject to contributions being made from other sources.
 - (vi) Neighbourhood Warden for New Wortley – Approved £29,000 (Revenue) for 2007/08

- (c) That the applications for Small Grants and Skips as outlined in paragraph 3.2 of the report be approved.
- (d) To confirm the small grant decision for two summer band concerts in Armley Park at a cost of £600 and, that the Chief Recreation Officer be requested to organise a further two summer band concerts in the Bramley area at a further cost of £600.
- (e) That the application for Consultation and Engagement expenditure as outlined in paragraph 4.0 of the report be approved.
- (f) That the variation report from British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) to deliver additional work with money remaining from the 2005/2006 funding be approved.
- (g) That further information be incorporated in reports on any future new projects to include the Wards affected, page numbers instead of Appendix numbers and what percentage of the budget the cost of the project relates to.
- (h) That the Chair write a letter of protest to the Lead Member for Neighbourhoods and Housing on behalf of all Members of the Inner West Area Committee expressing concern about the proposed reduction in Area Management Teams and the lack of any consultation with the Area Committee on the process that is being used to restructure Area Management.

73 Draft Area Delivery Plan 2007/2008

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a report on the content and format of the Area Delivery Plan for 2007/08 which provided details of how the plan supported the Leeds Local Area Agreement and the Council's strategic objectives, how the Area Committee functioned, details of the Well-Being Budget, an update on what had been achieved in the priority areas during 2006/07 and an action plan for 2007/08.

Carole Clarke, Area Management Officer and Steve Crocker, West Leeds Area Manager presented the report and responded to Members' questions and comments.

Referring to the map Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 for the Armley Ward, Members felt that the park area should be emphasised in green.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the proposed final Area Delivery Plan (ADP) including its key themes and in particular the Action Plan, attached to the submitted report, with its actions and outcomes be approved.
- (b) That the use of the ADP for the Area Committee; the links to the Leeds Local Area Agreement and the ways the ADP will be implemented, including the Area Management Team developing a work programme based on the ADP and the need for Area Committee decisions and requests of the Area Management Team where possible to be in line with

- its agreed ADP, be noted.
- (c) That the next steps in approving the ADP regarding Executive Board decisions, be noted.
 - (d) That a foreword by the Chair of West Inner Area Committee be included in the final Area Delivery Plan for 2007/08.

74 A Plan for Delivering Affordable Housing in Leeds

RESOLVED – That, in view of the absence of an officer from the Neighbourhoods and Housing Department to present this report, consideration be deferred to the next West (Inner) Area Committee meeting.

75 Armley Townscape Heritage Initiative

The West Leeds Area Manager tabled a revised report regarding how the Leeds Townscape Heritage Project would be developed and managed over the next 10 months to meet the deadline for the Stage 2 submission in October 2007. The report also detailed key milestones, together with the risk management plan associated with the project development.

Carole Clark, West Area Management Officer presented the report and, together with Steve Crocker, West Area Manager responded to Members' questions and comments.

RESOLVED – That the report and the management and milestone details outlined in paragraph 3.1 and 3.2 of the report be noted.

76 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 29th March 2007 at 9.00 am at the Stanningley Amateur Rugby Football Club.



Originator: Carole Clark

Tel: 3950965

Report of the West Leeds Area Manager

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 29 March 2007

Subject: Community Safety Issues, Inner West Leeds

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley, Bramley & Stanningley

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

Executive Summary

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.0 This report introduces Inspector Steve Thomas from West Yorkshire Police who will give an update on Community Safety Issues in Leeds for the past 6 weeks.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The Pudsey Weetwood Divisional Community Safety Partnership is responsible for delivering actions to reduce crime and disorder in the West Wedge. It is made up of representatives from key statutory agencies.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Community Safety is one of the priority areas for the Area Committee. Regular reports are received from West Yorkshire Police on key issues and activity in the Inner West Area.

4.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

4.1 Tackling crime and disorder and addressing the fear of crime is a top priority for the citizens of Leeds as evidenced by previous consultation undertaken on a citywide and local level.

4.2 The citywide community safety partnership, Safer Leeds, has identified a number of key priority themes for 2005 – 2008. These are:

- Acquisitive Crime;
- Anti-social behaviour;
- Drugs;
- Reassurance;
- Violent Crime;

Locally delivered actions will contribute to these priorities.

5.0 Legal And Resource Implications

5.1 The West Area Management Team includes an officer with specific responsibilities for Community Safety who co-ordinates activity and acts as the link officer with West Yorkshire Police.

6.0 Conclusions

6.1 Crime and Community Safety is a priority for the Area Committee, and a representative from West Yorkshire Police, Pudsey Weetwood Division, attends the Inner West Area Committee meetings to provide a regular update on key issues.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 Members are asked to note the update from West Yorkshire Police.



Report of the West Leeds Area Manager

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 29th March 2007

Subject: Footpaths and Ginnels Closures/Gating Orders

Electoral Wards Affected:
Bramley & Stanningley
Armley

Specific Implications For:
Ethnic minorities
Women
Disabled people
Narrowing the Gap

Council Function

Delegated Executive Function available for Call In

Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report

Executive Summary

1.0 This report gives an overview of the current position in relation to requests for ginnel and gating orders from members of the community who are experiencing issues of crime and Anti-Social Behaviour associated with a footpath or ginnel in their neighbourhood.

2.0 Purpose Of This Report

2.1 This report aims to provide members with a criteria by which requests made to West Leeds Area Management to investigate potential ginnel closures and gating orders may be prioritised and taken forward..

3.0 Background Information

During 2004/05 Community Safety employed a closure of Right of Way Officer (CROW) whose remit was to consider and prioritise issues relating to request received from Ward Members, Police and the general public in relation to problematic footpaths and ginnels and areas suitable for alley gating throughout the whole of Leeds.

The Crow Officer focused on those ginnels that were in high crime areas and where there was little or no resistance from local residents to either alley gating schemes or footpath closure.

The process for gaining a closure and alley gating or gating order is complex and a time consuming piece of work and, as a consequence, during this period one footpath was closed in Leeds and two alleygating schemes progressed.

The CROW Officers post was temporarily funded and when the funding ended

the post ceased. Community Safety received Stronger and Safer Communities funding to prioritise funding an alleygating officer's post to develop schemes on the highways, but not to progress requests for closure or gating orders on public footpaths. Since this period, there has been no overall strategy for dealing with requests for the closure/gating of problem public footpaths/ ginnels in Leeds. Community Safety will offer guidance to the promoting agency on closure/gating of footpaths, but no longer undertakes this work.

In East Leeds , the East Leeds Areas Committee have funded a two year temporarily CROW officer's post who's remit is to undertake an assessment of all the footpath/ ginnel requests in East Leeds. Part of this post is to prioritise those which may be suitable for closure, whilst looking at a variety of possible solutions, depending on the issues and status of the ginnels referred.

In North East Leeds the Area Community Safety Co-ordinator has been focusing resources pursuing the gating of one ginnel which has been on going for over 12 months.

In West Leeds the Area Community Safety Co-ordinators has worked with the Police, Community Safety, partner agencies, and local residents and conducted an assessment of some of the ginnels referred and has developed some solutions. However there has been an increase in requests for the closure/gating of ginnels and since April 2006 there have been fourteen referrals forwarded to Area Community Safety Co-ordinator from Community Safety requesting assistance in closing footpaths/ ginnels , seven of these requests have been in the last 3 months. With this increase it is felt that a clear process is required to assist the team in prioritising this work and making appropriate responses to the public and other bodies.

4.0 Main Issues

- 4.1 Given that there are no additional resources within the Area Management Team to deal with these requests it was agreed that, whilst wishing to support local residents in their concerns, realistically the team would only be in a position to consider two requests for closures or gating orders in one year.
- 4.2 The success of gaining a closure or gating of a ginnel often depends on the following
- a) Status of the foot path or ginnel - is it a public Right of Way?
 - b) Is the ginnel or footpath adopted by Highways, thus making this a Public Right Of Way
 - c) Is there evidence of high crime?
 - d) Is there support from key agencies and local residents?
 - e) Is finance in place to fund the scheme
- 4.3 This would mean that an assessment would be made on each ginnel and a criteria devised that would assist on identifying which two ginnels the team would prioritise for possible closure/gating per year and seek to identifying other solutions for the other ginnels through the multi-agency Crime & Grime meetings, perhaps through

increased patrolling, the formal logging of incidents and focused action plans..

4.4 Criteria for Prioritising Closure & Gating of Public Footpaths & ginnels

In order to assist the Area Management Team in prioritising closure and gating request a criteria has been developed in which local residents have to have met before consideration is given to pursuing any closure or gating order.

These are:

- Evidence of High Crime and Anti-social Behaviour over a 3 year period
- Evidence of alternative solutions having been attempted to deal with the issues raised before looking at closure/gating
- Support from Highways, Police, Community Safety, Ward Councillors
- Support from Rights of Way Officer
- A record of Anti-social Behaviour incidents recorded by local residents
- Part of or willing to establish a local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

4.5 For the 2007 period, two ginnels that meet the above criteria have been prioritised for potential closure. These are Nancroft Mount in Armley and Wellington Mount in Bramley.

5.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

5.1 The need for Leeds City Council to comply with the Highways Act 1980 (Gating Orders) Regulations 2006 and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

6.0 Legal And Resource Implications

6.1 Before any closure or gating order can be progressed, funding has to be in place to cover the administration and legal costs of any order. Also finance would need to be in place to pay for the costs associated with any closure which would include gates, fencing, keys, and the maintenance of this, and any costs associated with relocation of main services due to a footpath closure.

6.2 Further more if there are objections that cannot be resolved by agreement, then a public enquiry may need to take place which would incur further costs.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 The process for gaining a closure order or gating order is complex and time consuming with no guarantees of being successful. Agreeing a procedure that prioritises two ginnels a year, with funding set aside by Area Committee, will ensure that we are focussing on those ginnels that we would most likely succeed in closure or gating. At the same time officers / partners would continue to look at other solutions for those ginnels that would prove almost impossible to close.

8.0 **Recommendations**

8.1 That members support the proposed criteria for prioritising requests for closure of footpaths /ginnels in West Leeds.

8.2 That members agree the two priority ginnels identified in 4.5.

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Originator:
Rebecca M Boon

Tel: 395 1970

REPORT OF THE: West Leeds Area Manager

MEETING: Inner West Area Committee

DATE: 29th March 2007

SUBJECT: Inner West Area Committee Well-Being Budget.

Electoral Wards Affected: Armley, Bramley & Stanningley	Specific Implications For: Ethnic minorities Women Disabled people Narrowing the Gap
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Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides details of the amount of well-being capital and revenue funding available for the financial year 2006-2007 and the commitments already approved. Members are asked to note information on the remaining well-being fund and comment on the new applications and consider them for approval.

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE THIS REPORT

This report seeks to update members on the current amount of capital and revenue funding committed and available via the Area Committee Well-Being Budget for wards in the Inner West area. It seeks approval for new projects commissioned by the Area Management Team.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 The capital and revenue allocation for Inner West is:

Capital Allocation 2004-2007 - £253,793
Revenue Allocation 2006-2007 - £144,628 (2% increase on 2005/6 allocation)

2.2 The amount of Revenue projects approved by the Area Committee in 2005-06 was £168,439 out of a total budget of £161,130.39 (Allocation of £141,793 + underspend of £19,337.39 from 2004-05). This leaves an overspend of £7,308.61. Allowing for this overspend, an amount of £137,320 is available to spend for 2006/7.

2.3 The amount of Revenue approvals to date (including the overspend in 2005/06) is **£174, 448.22 creating an overspend of £37,127.83**

2.4 The amount of Capital approvals to date is **£277,446.33** from an allocation of £253,793 for 2004-2007. There is therefore an **overspend of £ 23,653.33**

3.0 MAIN ISSUES

3.1 YOUTH BANK UPDATE

A sum of £5250 was approved at the December 2006 Area Committee for a youth bank project. This was subject to BARCA providing a progress report on this project for the March Area Committee. A verbal update will be given at the meeting.

3.2 NEW PROJECTS

The Area Management team in partnership with key agencies has developed new projects which seek to improve the performance indicators for the relevant services and deliver improvements to communities and their neighbourhoods. Details of these commissioned projects are attached as Appendices or in the main body of the report. A list of the commissioned projects and requests for funding for consideration is shown below:

Appendix	Project Title	2007/08	2008/09	Ward
1	Henconner Lane Roundabout	£1,500 Revenue		Bramley & Stanningley
2	Community Engagement Project	£10,583 Revenue		Bramley & Stanningley
3	West Leeds Wardens	£2,000 Revenue		Bramley & Stanningley
4	Town Street Tales	£9,490 Revenue		Armley
5	Sports Holiday Programme	£5,000 Revenue		Armley, Bramley & Stanningley
6	Bin Yard Refurbishment	£9,500 Capital		Armley
7	Motorbike Signs	£2,080 Capital		Bramley & Stanningley
8	Barrier to rear of Stanningley Road Shops/Houghley Lane	£2,000 Capital		Armley
9	Gates for Nancroft Mount	£3,775 Capital		Armley

3.3 Small Grants & Skips

Ward	Organisation	Amount
	Small Grants	
Armley	Castelton Primary School Canoeing Project	£500.00
Armley	St Bart's Primary School Canoeing Project	£500.00
Armley	Wyther Youth Shelter	£500.00
Bram & Stann, Armley	Read Me Use Me Guide	£500.00
Bram & Stann	Burglars Blight (Church of the Nazarene)	£500.00
	TOTAL OF SMALL GRANTS	£ 2,500
	Skips	
	Ace Clean Up	
	Ace Bin Yard Clean Up	104.00
	Wyther Env't Clean Up	104.00
		450.00
	TOTAL	£ 658.00

4.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

4.1 Well Being projects support the actions contained in the Inner West Area Delivery Plan. This Plan contributes to the priorities of the Departmental, Council and Corporate Plans by aiming to create better neighbourhoods and confident communities.

5.0 LEGAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The financial resource implications of well-being projects will be processed through the Area Management's well-being budget. Staff resources will be provided by Area Management and partner agencies.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

6.1 The well-being fund provides financial support for key projects in the Inner West Area.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The Area Committee is asked to:

- a) note the financial current status of the Well-Being Budget, capital and revenue.
- b) comment upon and approve where appropriate requests for funding for large and small grants and skips

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Area Committee Well-being Fund – Project Proposal
Inner West Area Committee

Appendix 1

Project Name: Roundabout SponsorShip at Bramley/Henconner Lane Roundabout

Lead Organisation: Parks and Countryside Dept of Learning and Leisure in partnership with Inner West Leeds Area Committee.

Project Delivery - How will the project be delivered? (list any partners involved in the project):

The roundabout will be planted and maintained by the Parks and Countryside section of Dept of Learning and Leisure, Leeds City Council.

Project Summary (include a brief description of the main activities, why the project is needed and links to key priorities):

The project is a continuation of work undertaken last year to plant and maintain the roundabout at a busy junction in Bramley. It will carry the Inner West Leeds Area Committee sign which helps to raise the profile of the Committee in working with local people in Bramley and Stanningley The project will also contribute to the Leeds in Bloom Scheme and help to improve the environment of the locality and the city.

Outcomes (summarise the main outcome/output/benefit the project will achieve):

- Improved local environment at a significant junction for traffic
- Supporting the Leeds in Bloom Initiative
- Raising the profile of the Inner West Area Committee in working with local people.
- Working with fellow council departments to deliver improvements.

Project Cost. Please indicate

How much the project will cost? (List all partners and their contributions)

£1,500 from Inner West Area Committee

Identify which geographic areas will benefit:

Bramley and Stanningley and Upper Armley

How much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue)

£1,500 revenue

Who will be in receipt of the financial order. (name of the organisation and contact details) Malcolm Simpson, The Nursery, Leeds City Council, Red Hall lane, Leeds. LS17 8NB .

Tel 237 5251

Approved
Date

Not Approved
Date

Please return this form to Rebecca Boon, West Area Management Team, Pudsey Town Hall, Lowtown, Pudsey, Leeds, LS28 7BL or via email to rebecca.boon@leeds.gov.uk

Area Committee Well-being Fund – Project Proposal
Inner West Area Committee

Appendix 2

Project Name: Community Engagement Project

Lead Organisation: Bramley Elderly Action

Project Delivery - How will the project be delivered? (list any partners involved in the project):

Bramley Elderly Action to deliver additional Community Development work around services for older people and the wider community in partnership with Leeds West Homes, West Leeds Healthy Living Network and the Primary Care Trust.

The project is to employ a Home Support Worker and a Healthy Living Support worker

Project Summary (include a brief description of the main activities, why the project is needed and links to key priorities):

The project is for Bramley Elderly Action to do some community development work, to take forward ideas which have come up during a community consultation exercise on perceptions of quality of life for older people in Bramley. This consultation, funded through the Healthy Leeds Special Grants Programme, will continue over the next few months and access more people, particularly targeting those who may be isolated and not have the opportunity to access information, support and services. So far the teams have been to local pubs, community and leisure centres, the housing office, lunch clubs sheltered housing and activity groups and have spoken to a wide range of people.

Some of the issues which have come up relate more to issues of community engagement, community involvement and community safety and we want to do some development work on these. We also want to develop more work with the wider community, building on the relationships that have been established through the consultation and helping groups around the area address these and any future issues that this consultation brings up. We feel that this is a move towards improving community cohesion and sustainability as well as choice for older people through encouraging neighbourhoods to be more involved in the provision of activities.

We very much want to be able to do the community development but it is currently outside the remit of our present funding streams and would require increased worker hours. We would like the Area Committee to consider a grant of £10,583 to support this work for the coming year. This would enable us to develop projects which would become self-sustaining or to assess the viability of projects to apply for long term funding. Proposed activities that would be delivered with the additional support are:

Neighbourhood Events such as coffee mornings, presence at GP surgeries, Inter generational activities etc., all with the aim of encouraging older people to meet with one another and with key workers such as neighbourhood wardens, PCSOs, area management to enable them to engage more with their community and give feedback about issues which are of importance to them in settings which are supportive and

enabling. We also want to develop supportive leisure and learning activities for older people to encourage them to take up wider opportunities for lifelong learning.

Outcomes (summarise the main outcome/output/benefit the project will achieve):

- Improved awareness of community safety issues in older people and the wider community
- Increased knowledge of and use of community resources
- Improved awareness in older people and the wider community
- More people knowing one another - greater community cohesion
- Improved confidence & well-being of older people - less vulnerable to crime
- Increased awareness of available resources
- Increased opportunities for older people to contribute on local issues
- Greater use of community facilities
- Increased skills and knowledge for older members of the community
- Increased use of community facilities
- Lifelong learning

Project Cost. Please indicate

How much the project will cost? (List all partners and their contributions)

Home support Worker 1 day per week £5,323
Healthy Living support worker 1 day per week £5,260

Total Revenue Cost of £ £10,583 for 1 year revenue.

Identify which geographic areas will benefit:

Bramley and Stanningley

How much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue)

£10,583 Revenue

Who will be in receipt of the financial order. (name of the organisation and contact details)

Bramley Elderly Action,
331, Upper Town Street.
Bramley.
Leeds.
LS13 3JX

Tel No 236 1644 Contact Jayne Learoyd

Approved
Date

Not Approved
Date

Please return this form to Rebecca Boon, West Area Management Team, Pudsey Town Hall, Lowtown, Pudsey, Leeds, LS28 7BL or via email to rebecca.boon@leeds.gov.uk

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Area Committee Well Being Fund – Proposal
Inner West Area Committee

Appendix 3

Project Name: West Leeds Neighbourhood Wardens

Lead Organisation: Area Community Safety Co-ordinator

Project Summary:

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

The Neighbourhood wardens in West Leeds link in with other agencies and service providers including Neighbourhood Policing Teams in working on localised initiatives to tackle crime and grime. They also provide local public reassurance 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

Since moving into the Area Management Structure, the wardens in West Leeds have been involved on joint initiatives to tackle crime and disorder in West Leeds. This has included Operation Apollo, Light up campaign, and multi-agency multi-storey flats initiatives. The wardens have also attended local forums and events.

In order to build on this work and develop localised projects within Inner West we are seeking approval for a budget in which items can be purchased to assist with promoting the Wardens services and to deliver small projects.

The type of items we would be looking to purchase are personal attack alarms that the wardens to give to vulnerable residents, property marking kits, fluorescent armbands for children, and useful merchandise that can be used at local summer events such as Armley Funday, I Love West Leeds and , Breeze events and other local events.

Projects developed would fit into the priorities of the Inner West Crime & Grime Tasking meetings, to assist in the delivery of actions to reduce crime & Disorder.

A list of what the monies has been spent on will be provided to the Area Committee.

Outcomes (please summarise the main outcome / output / benefit the project will achieve):

This pot of money would enable the wardens to be in a position to respond to emerging issues by identifying small projects that would assist in reducing Crime & Disorder. This would give reassurance to victims of crime/vulnerable residents as well as promoting the wardens service.

Project Cost (please indicate how much the project will cost, how much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue):

£2000

£2000 is also being requested to the Outer Area Committee

Identify which geographic areas will benefit and which Area Committee (Inner or Outer) you are applying to: Inner West

State who will receive the funding for this project:

Area Management Community Safety budget

Area Committee Well-being Fund – Project Proposal
Inner West Area Committee

Appendix 4

Project Name: Town Street Tales

Lead Organisation: Leeds Youth Service

Project Delivery - How will the project be delivered? (list any partners involved in the project):

Through Mark Metcalf Youth Development Worker (9-13yrs) & Philip Spellacy (Professional Development Team) in partnership with Interplay, Armley Extended Schools, New Wortley Community Centre and APPLE.

Project Summary (include a brief description of the main activities, why the project is needed and links to key priorities):

To deliver a number of arts-based projects undertaken with young people and community artists linking to the Townscape Heritage Initiative for Armley.

Project title – History figures.

Life size figures are to be cut from MDF or plywood, painted and decorated by young people to depict characters from Armley's past including famous people, but also Romans, Normans, Iron Age peoples. These cut out shapes can be fixed to walls with screws, glue or industrial Velcro. There are a number of possible sites – shopkeepers and property owners would naturally be approached to give consent. Suggested duration of display for a minimum of three months.

Project title – I Love Armley.

Stone wall opposite Mikes Carpet Store on Stanningley Road to have large cut out MDF or plywood letters depicting 'I Love Armley' [with love in the shape of a cut out heart] and on wall around corner examples of healthy eating e.g fruit and vegetables, with another agreed slogan from the young people involved in the project.

Project title – Graffiti project.

The Pizza Shop owner at the top end of Armley Town Street will be approached for permission for a large mural perhaps depicting 'I love West Leeds' that will be designed and painted in a partnership project between community artists and local young people.

Project title – Transport through the ages

Geldard's coach company will be approached to see if they'd consider having a board of images of transport through the ages, painted by young people, mounted on their outside wall.

Short term - It will involve young people in schools, youth clubs and churches in a series

of worthwhile projects that will also help improve the visual appearance of Armley Town Street.

Long term - It is envisaged that this will be only the start of a series of community arts initiatives in Armley.

Outcomes (summarise the main outcome/output/benefit the project will achieve):

The project will address the key priorities of Street Scene, Community Safety and Young People by:

Involving children, young people and community artists. The extended schools co-ordinator has been approached and, hopefully once funding has been achieved, discussions will start on which children would most benefit from being asked to get involved in the project and lessons will be arranged accordingly.

Linda McHale, Youth Service Area Worker, has agreed to co-ordinate work with young people aged 13 plus with plans to organise Saturday morning sessions with the community artist alongside a worker from the Youth Service. Leaflets and advertising will take place to make sure that local young people who'd like to get involved know who to approach to do so.

Christchurch and New Wortley Community Centre have both reacted with enthusiasm to the proposed project and have said that some of the children they are working with would be pleased to get involved whilst parents involved with the APPLE project at Armley Primary School would like to see some of their children getting involved.

Anyone working on the project [s] will ensure that everyone is welcome, will ensure that no bullying takes place and that the projects reflect the make up of the area, which includes people from all different backgrounds and beliefs. The brief history paper that has been written to assist with the project reflects the changing face of Armley.

Project Cost. Please indicate

How much the project will cost? (List all partners and their contributions)

The cost of the project is £9,490 revenue.

Partners on the project are Interplay, local Armley schools, New Wortley Community Centre and APPLE.

Identify which geographic areas will benefit:

Armley

How much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue)

£9,490 Revenue

Who will be in receipt of the financial order. (name of the organisation and contact details)

Mark Metcalf
Strawberry Lane Centre,
Strawberry Lane.
Leeds.
LS12 1SF

Tel 0113 231 9834
mark.metcalf@leeds.gov.uk

Approved
Date

Not Approved
Date

Please return this form to Rebecca Boon, West Area Management Team, Pudsey Town Hall, Lowtown, Pudsey, Leeds, LS28 7BL or via email to rebecca.boon@leeds.gov.uk

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Area Committee Well-being Fund – Project Proposal
Inner West Area Committee

Appendix 5

Project Name: West Leeds Holiday Sports Programme (Inner West)

Lead Organisation: Community Sport, Sport and Active Recreation – Learning and Leisure Leeds City Council

Project Delivery - How will the project be delivered? (list any partners involved in the project):

The Leeds City Council Community Sports Officers for West Leeds, part of the City's Sports Development Unit, will organise a variety of sports activities during the school holidays (Easter, Summer and May & October half terms) using community sports coaches and casual sports coaches from the Leeds City Council coaches database. The activities will use current facilities such as local sports clubs, schools, the LAZER centre and leisure centres. The project will work in partnership with sports clubs, Priesthorpe Schools Sports Partnership, Extended Services Clusters, Leisure Centres, Youth Services, YIP, Police, the Area Management team and other relevant agencies.

Who is the project mainly for and approximately how many will benefit?

Young people aged 8-19 from the West Leeds Area. Hopefully more that 500 young people will be engaged on the programme throughout the summer.

Project description

Whilst the detail of the programme remains flexible to fit in with the particular needs of the community, we are broadly looking at working in three areas. Firstly, working closely with Extended Schools/Services clusters to build sport and activity into the holiday programmes and other activities which they will be leading on during the year. We will also look to provide holiday programmes and activities in partnership with Leisure Centres and the Youth Service particularly targeted at 11+ age group. Finally, following on from the success of last years holiday camp programme, we will look to organise and run numerous holiday sports camps around the area based at schools and local sports clubs. This programme will consist of multi-sport camps, where coaches would come in to deliver a wide range of sports (eg football, cricket, rugby, athletics, dance etc) to groups of 8-13 year olds. We will be looking to organise football tournaments to be held at the LAZER Centre for teams to take part in from all over West Leeds. We will also, in conjunction with the Youth Service, be organising sports sessions for 13-19 year olds at locations within local communities, particularly targeting hot spot areas. The programme will also be built around the Breeze on Tour festivals and encourage attendance there too.

What will the project achieve?

Short term

We will be attempting to provide a complimentary programme of activities which are accessible within local communities and showcase the kind of activities which are available to them.

All these activities will be at nominal cost to the young people, of say £1/£2 per day.

Long term

We hope to engage 100s of young people from the West Leeds area in positive activities during the school holidays. We want to get more young people active to improve their health and well-being. We want to provide diversionary activities to reduce the amount of anti-social behaviour which occurs during the holiday period.

We want to showcase the various activities which are on offer to young people from the West. We want to get young people to access local sports clubs and facilities and then for them to continue to participate in these activities on an ongoing basis.

We want to target the areas of most need and provide opportunities for those young people who cannot access the more expensive, commercially run programmes which run during holiday programmes.

Project Summary (include a brief description of the main activities, why the project is needed and links to key priorities):

We will be particularly targeting the activities at key deprived areas within West Leeds as directed by West Leeds Area Management.

Outcomes (summarise the main outcome/output/benefit the project will achieve):

The project hopes to engage with 250 young people in inner west neighbourhoods.

Project Cost. Please indicate

How much the project will cost? (List all partners and their contributions)

£5,000 from Inner West Area Committee

£5,000 is also being sought from Outer West

Identify which geographic areas will benefit:

Deprived neighbourhoods within Armley, Bramley and Stanningley.

How much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue)

£5,000 Revenue.

Who will be in receipt of the financial order. (name of the organisation and contact details)

Richard Ashworth,
Headingley Annexe,
8, North Lane.
Leeds.
LS6 3HE

Tel: 0113 274 9364

Richard.ashworth@leeds.gov.uk

--

Approved Date

Not Approved Date

Please return this form to Rebecca Boon, West Area Management Team, Pudsey Town Hall, Lowtown, Pudsey, Leeds, LS28 7BL or via email to rebecca.boon@leeds.gov.uk

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Area Committee Well-being Fund – Project Proposal
Inner West Area Committee

Appendix 6

Project Name: Improving the bin yards in the Cedars to provide a safer, cleaner area.

Lead Organisation: Environmental Health services (West Team) Dept of Neighbourhoods and Housing, Kent Road, Leeds. LS28 8BN

Project Delivery - How will the project be delivered? (list any partners involved in the project):

The lead partner is Environmental Health Services and the partners are West Leeds Area Management, City Services, West Leeds ALMO

Project Summary (include a brief description of the main activities, why the project is needed and links to key priorities):

The project is for the residents of the Cedars who live in non ALMO properties ie either owner /occupiers or private rented properties. 144 households will benefit in the immediate area and many other households in the wider area.

The bin yards in this area of the Cedars have been the target for both anti social behaviour, race crime and illegal activities. Bins have been overturned, emptied, removed and set on fire in a nearby field. Through multi agency working this area has now been cleared, cleaned and new bins provided (90). A number of bin yards have now been made secure and several have had the wall lowered and railings added. The project will complete this work ensuring that all the affected bin yards are made good and suitable gates and locks provided to them.

Short term

An improvement in the visual appearance in the area. A safer area for people to store their refuse. Currently there is a significant amount of anti social activity including race crime where blocks from a nearby path are pulled up and thrown through the windows of one of the houses on the Cedars. It is hoped that by removing these hide outs there will be a significant reduction in anti social behaviour as the areas will no longer be available for use for drug taking and other illegal activities (several residents have alleged that this is going on).

Long term

Hopefully an improved pride in the neighbourhood resulting in other improvements within the area and antisocial activities and illegal activities in the area cease.

Outcomes (summarise the main outcome/output/benefit the project will achieve):

To reduce anti-social behaviour and opportunity for criminal activity, to enhance the physical appearance of the binyards in the neighbourhood.

Project Cost. Please indicate

How much the project will cost? (List all partners and their contributions)

£ 9,500 from Inner West Area Committee

Identify which geographic areas will benefit:

Armley

How much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue)

£9,500 revenue

Who will be in receipt of the financial order. (name of the organisation and contact details) Ruth Lees/ Jamie Friel, Env't Health Services, Kent Road. Leeds. LS28

Tel 214 6255

Approved

Date

Not Approved

Date

Please return this form to Rebecca Boon, West Area Management Team, Pudsey Town Hall, Lowtown, Pudsey, Leeds, LS28 7BL or via email to rebecca.boon@leeds.gov.uk

Area Committee Well Being Fund – Project Proposal
Inner West Area Committee

Appendix 7

Project Name: Pudsey Weetwood Off Road Bike Scheme

Lead Organisation: West Yorkshire Police/Area Community Safety Co-ordinator

Project Summary:

The Pudsey Weetwood Division have been proactively tackling nuisance motor bike riding in West Leeds with the off road bikes team. To provide additional support to the team, the police have requested for four signs to be placed at key locations in Bramley Fall woods. This is an area in West Leeds that has been identified by the police for attracting nuisance off road motor bike riding. The signs will assist the police in raising the awareness to motorbike riders that they are not authorised to use motorised vehicles in the woods and the consequences if do. The signs also explains the actions that the police can take which included seizure of their vehicle. The police have requested four signs to provide maximum coverage, to be placed at the key access points to the woods. The signs would act as a deterrent to motorbike riders and warn people of the consequences should they be apprehended.

City Signs, recommend the sign which are detailed below, to use in such locations. They are able to supply and fit the sign as directed by the police.



Outcomes (please summarise the main outcome / output / benefit the project will achieve):

Because the signs fall under Section 34 of the Road Traffic Act, this gives the police additional powers to confiscate motor bikes that are operating illegally in Bramley Fall woods. It is anticipated that the signs will also act as a deterrent and reduce the number of complaints of anti-social behaviour relating to motor bikes.

Project Cost (please indicate how much the project will cost, how much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue):

4 signs @ £520 each (fitted) = £2,080.00 Capital

Identify which geographic areas will benefit and which Area Committee (Inner or Outer) you are applying to: Inner West Bramley Ward

State who will receive the funding for this project:

Steve Wray
Support and Facilities
City Services Dept
Leeds City Council
Tel 214 4217

Area Committee Well-being Fund – Project Proposal
Inner West Area Committee

Appendix 8

Project Name: Installation of a physical barrier to back road of Stanningley Road
Shops and Houghley Lane

Lead Organisation: Highways section of City Services in partnership with West Leeds
Area Management team

Project Delivery - How will the project be delivered? (list any partners involved in the project):

The barrier will be installed by City Services.

Project Summary (include a brief description of the main activities, why the project is needed and links to key priorities):

The road serving the rear of the shops is used as footpath for local residents accessing the Wyther neighbourhood from the top of the estate. The road is also used for refuse collection and deliveries to the shops. Unfortunately it is also used as a cut through for those using illegal motorbikes who present a real danger to pedestrians using the path or the footpath on Houghley Lane where the back road exits.

In the past mushroom-shaped bollards have been installed to prevent this but they have been removed from the ground and are now scattered about the site. A more substantial barrier shaped like an A frame is necessary to prevent access by vehicles but to permit pedestrians to still use this route.

This project would improve safety for local residents and also people visiting the shops.

Outcomes (summarise the main outcome/output/benefit the project will achieve):

- Improved safety for local residents near a busy shopping parade.
- Working with fellow council departments to deliver improvements.

Project Cost. Please indicate

How much the project will cost? (List all partners and their contributions)

£2,000 from Inner West Area Committee

Identify which geographic areas will benefit:

Armley

How much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue)

£2,000 capital

Who will be in receipt of the financial order. (name of the organisation and contact details) Faisal Mamujee, Highways section at City Services

Approved
Date

Not Approved
Date

Please return this form to Rebecca Boon, West Area Management Team, Pudsey Town Hall, Lowtown, Pudsey, Leeds, LS28 7BL or via email to rebecca.boon@leeds.gov.uk

Area Committee Well-being Fund – Project Proposal
Inner West Area Committee

Appendix 9

Project Name: Nancroft Mount gates

Lead Organisation: Community Safety

Project Summary:

The local residents of Nancroft Mount contacted Community Safety because of long-standing issues of Crime and Anti-social behaviour associated with a ginnel which leads between the back of Nancroft Mount and Brooklyn Place. The local residents have complained over a number of years to their local ward Councillors, Police, ASB unit and have suffered vandalism to their property, burglary, and nuisance /ASB . Evidence of substance misused with drug related paraphernalia have also being found in the ginnel.

Below are the crime figures for the 2 streets, which are relatively high for a small number of houses.

Over the last 3 years there have been 27 offences committed on Nancroft Mount. Top offence types were Theft from Motor Vehicle and Burglary Dwelling offences.

Offence Description	Offences
Theft From Motor Vehicle	5
Burglary Dwelling	4
Damage to Dwelling	3
Possess Class C Controlled Drug - Cannabis	3
Breach of ASBO	2
DTMV	2
Theft Steal in Dwelling	1
Assault Occasioning ABH - s47	1
Theft - non specific	1
Burglary Other	1
TWOC	1
Obtain property by cheque/credit card fraud	1
Arson Endangering Life	1
Possess Class B Controlled Drug - Amphetamine	1
Total	27

Over the past 3 years there have been 20 offences committed on Brooklyn Place.

Offence Description	Offences
Damage to Motor Vehicle	3
Damage Property - non specific	3
Burglary Other	2
Theft from Motor Vehicle	2
Damage to Dwelling	2
Possession With Intent to Supply Class C Drug - Cannabis	1
Burglary Dwelling - Aggravated	1
Breach of Anti-Social Behaviour Order	1
Possession With Intent to Supply Class A Drug - Crack	1
Burglary Dwelling	1
Theft - Steal in Dwelling	1
Arson Endangering Life	1
Fear or Provocation of Violence (S.4 POA)	1
Total	20

Investigations has taken place to establish the status of this ginnel and I have been informed by Leeds City Council Rights Of Way Officer that this ginnel is not a public Right of Way. I have also spoken to the Highway Section who have informed me that the ginnel has not been adopted, therefore not a public Right of Way so they would have no objections to the gating of this area.

The local residents have undertaken consultation, and all residents living on Nancroft Mount and Brooklyn Place have completed a questionnaire to say that they support the gating of this area.

The police, local ward members and Community Safety support the gating of the ginnel.

Outcomes (please summarise the main outcome / output / benefit the project will achieve):

The proposals are to install fencing and 3 gates with access keys for all residents. The keys system is used throughout schemes in Leeds as this provides the best security. One key can be used to lock all of the 3 gates. This will mean that the only people who have access to the rear of the properties, are the local residents who live there. This will greatly reduce the opportunity for crime and anti-social behaviour to occur at this location.

Keys will be provided for the utilities companies and City Services so access can be gained by these services as and when required.

Project Cost (please indicate how much the project will cost, how much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue):

The cost for purchasing and the erecting of railings and 3 gates to the access points, plus 30 keys is **£7550.77** including VAT

Community Safety have agreed to fund 50% of the costs

Total amount requested from Inner West Area Committee - **£3,775.00** Capital

Identify which geographic areas will benefit and which Area Committee (Inner or Outer) you are applying to: Inner West Armley

State who will receive the funding for this project:

Community Safety



Originator: Steve Crocker

Tel: 3950966

Report of the West Leeds Area Manager

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 29 March 2007

Subject: Area Managers report

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley and Bramley

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap x

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform members of progress on Crime and Grime Tasking, Project Champion, Northern Challenge Housing proposals, Worklessness in West Leeds, Local Enterprise Growth Initiative, and the West Leeds District Partnership programme.

Inner West Area Committee members are invited to note the contents of the report and to comment on any aspect of the matter raised

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.1 This report informs members about actions on a number on a number of Area Committee priorities over the last three months

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The priorities of the Inner Area Committee are set out in the Area Delivery Plan agreed by members in February 2007. This report updates members on a number of specific actions:

- “Crime and grime” tasking and Project Champion
- Northern Challenge Housing proposals for Bramley
- Worklessness funding in West Leeds
- Local Enterprise Growth Initiative
- The West Leeds District Partnership programme

3.0 Crime and Grime Tasking and Project Champion

3.1 The new the “crime and grime” tasking structure reported to the last area committee has now been put in place in West Leeds. The multi-agency tasking structure involves monthly intelligence sharing meetings of Area Management, Pudsey Weetwood Police, the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, Leeds West Homes, West Leeds Environmental Health, Youth Service/Barca, City Services Enforcement Teams and other agencies. Tasking action plans have now been put in place for both Inner and Outer West. The model being developed is based on the police’s successful tasking-led approach; focused on the gathering and analysis of intelligence within a defined area and tasking out of priority actions which will have maximum impact in the month ahead. The partnership has established two tasking teams commencing February 2007 based on the Inner and Outer wedges of West Leeds to work effectively in relation to priority crime and grime issues and hot spots.

2.2 The “Operation Apollo” neighbourhood programme has now been revised and revamped. Given the success of the programme in tackling local crime and grime issues, and following advice from the Home Office, the new programme is to incorporate a longer series of activities within a specific neighbourhoods rather than just three days. The first one of these new “Operation Champion” took place in Inner West Leeds w/c 19th – 28th March 2007 in the Wythers. At the same time Leeds West and North West ALMO delivered the Wyther Environment week.

Northern Housing Challenge Leeds Bradford bid

2.3 A joint bid for £28 million was submitted jointly between the Leeds and Bradford City Council in October to secure funding to develop affordable housing in East Bradford and West Leeds.

2.4 The proposal was a unique bid between Leeds and Bradford to build on their potential as an economic powerhouse and building on the promotion of

'cross border' initiatives by the Yorkshire and Humberside Housing Board and Yorkshire Forward. The work has been developed as part of the joint Leeds Bradford corridor initiative between the two cities. The whole scheme will build 1000 new homes either for sale or rent as well as creating 50 permanent jobs and 50 training places. The target area in West Leeds is the Fairfield Estate, which falls within the most deprived 3% of neighbourhoods in the country.

2.5 The Government and the Housing Corporation have agreed to include the bid in the 2008 Housing Corporation Affordable Housing programme to be worked up into a full scale proposal. The intention is for building work to commence in 2008/9 and would run through to 2012/13

Worklessness in West Leeds

2.6 There are concerns that West Leeds is not getting an appropriate share of the funding available in the city to tackle worklessness. The concerns relating to this funding are as follows.

2.7 The City Council currently managed by Leeds City Council are summarised below:-

Table 1: LCC worklessness funding 2007/8

Programme	Funding agency	Geographical focus	Commitments	Amount
NRF worklessness	Department for Communities and Local Government	Focus on most deprived SOAs	Fully allocated to 9 projects	£2,066,390
Skills Theme Chest	Learning and Skills Council	Activities at a city wide level and in Aire Valley, Beeston Hill, Gipton and Harehills	Fully allocated to 4 projects with	£2,111,350
SRB 6	Yorkshire Forward	Aire Valley	Fully allocated	£625,953
Objective 2	European Union	O2 area	Fully allocated to 27 projects	£4,175,284
Access to Employment	Yorkshire Forward/ European Union	O2 area where matched with EU funds	Currently being commissioned 1 st Round March 2007 2 nd round Sept 2007	£1,143,000

2.8 The above programmes include both allocated and unallocated funds. Where funds have been allocated to specific projects and agreed delivery activities it has been relatively straightforward to identify resources by area. Where this information has yet to be provided or resources have yet to be allocated to specific projects these have been split evenly across all areas to provide indicative figures on the resources available to each area.

Indicative figures across the Leeds wedges are:-

Table 2: Wedge funding for worklessness 2007/8

Locality	Indicative targeting of funding	Percentage of total available resource
East	3,395,512	34
South	2,805,442	27
North East	2,324,618	23
North West	1,127,816	11
West	468,589	5
Total	10,121,596	100

2.9 The above table demonstrates that the West Leeds district has the smallest share of the available resources. This reflects the fact that West Leeds is largely excluded from the geographical target areas for some funding streams such as Objective 2. It also reflects the fact that the parameters set for these funding streams by the funding agencies require resources to be targeted to areas with the highest concentrations of worklessness.

2.10 The tables below detail the total numbers and the concentrations of Job Seeker Allowance and Incapacity Benefit claimants and this shows that areas experiencing the highest levels of worklessness are inner East and South Leeds. However the numbers in West are not reflected by the funding available – there is a marked shortfall

Table 3 Job Seekers Allowance claimants Oct 2006

Locality	Number of claimants	Proportion of all claimants %
East	8,965	29
South	7,435	24
North East	4,185	13
North West	5,365	17
West	5,270	17

Table 4 Incapacity Benefit Claimants Oct 2006

Locality	Number of claimants	Proportion of all claimants %
East	3,958	30
South	3,060	22
North East	1,856	13.5
North West	2,674	19.5
West	2,109	15

2.11 This data supports the view that members and the West Leeds District Partnership have been articulating for some time that the wedge is being underfunded given our level of need on the four current funding streams (NRF worklessness, Skills Theme Chest, SRB 6 and Objective 2). This discrepancy is further increased if one includes the first round of the Access to Employment funding which is targeted at Objective Two areas only so excludes most of West and also by the recent Job Centre Plus Deprived Areas Fund which are targeted at Wards elsewhere in the city.

2.12 The second round of Access to Employment funding, to be commissioned in September 2007 will be available to parts of West Leeds. This will be worth £2.5 million. Given the underfunding in West there it will be important to press for part of this funding stream to be targeted at West Leeds and Inner West in particular.

Local Enterprise Growth Initiative

2.13 The Local Enterprise Growth Initiative is an item elsewhere on the agenda. The following is a summary of the current position. The Government has provided funds of £15.9 million to be invested in activities to support business development during the next four years 2009-2012

2.14 A sub group of the West Leeds District Partnership has been looking at a possible strategy for the Wedge in relation to this. This group has come up with the following overall objectives:

- a) To focus on the most disadvantaged area of Armley Bramley and Wortley, seeking both ways of bringing those operating in the black economy to set up mainstream growing businesses as well as supporting traditional start ups.
- b) To consider establishing West Leeds Family Learning Centre as a managed workspace and adult skills training centre, owned and run by a Development Trust.
- c) To create a Business Network, fostered by the Development Trust, to support start up and growing businesses, particularly looking to establish enterprise along Armley Town Street and within the West Leeds Gateway Regeneration area.
- d) To create a long term shift in perception of West Leeds as an interesting place to live where creative and enterprising things happen.

2.14 West Leeds traditionally slips off the regeneration funding map because, once aggregated, the indices of disadvantage do not look severe enough. Yet its general indexed position, putting the West as slightly more disadvantaged than the city as a whole, hides pockets of intense poverty, particularly in the inner-west area.

2.15 There are 12 West Leeds super output areas in the 10% most deprived in the country, but the LEGI target areas show a much higher level of deprivation in two key areas of concern – overall poverty and education and skills

Table 4: Inner West Leeds selected deprived neighbourhoods and skill levels

Selected West Leeds ward/SOA areas	Index of Deprivation (2 = in worst 2% SOA's nationally)	Index of Skills (1= in worst 1% SOA's nationally)
Armley ward		
Clydes	3.5	3
Gilpins	3.5	7.5
Upper Wythers	3.5	1
Bramley ward		
Broadleas	6.5	1
Fairfields	2	1

2.16 Not all of these neighbourhoods are in the bottom 3% in the overall index but they are very close to it and (worryingly) on the index of education and skills, perhaps the most important indicator of future economic prosperity, four areas are in the most disadvantaged 1% in the country.

2.17 This raises the prospect of these areas slipping further behind in the next generation if urgent action is not taken.

2.18 The West Leeds District Partnership has taken the lead in bringing forward a LEGI development programme for West Leeds.

1) A LEGI Steering Group has been formed which includes representatives from the West Area Management Team, Education Leeds, Ward members, Leeds Ahead, Camberwell Project, and the private sector.

2) Several businesses have been approached to give their backing to the West Leeds initiative including

- ASDA
- Grangevale Developments
- Elite Forwarding

3) A business engagement programme is underway culminating in a seminar in March that will establish a local business network.

4) A number of business and voluntary sector individuals have come forward as interested in building the Development Trust and involving the voluntary sector in the enterprise initiative.

5) The Area Team have engaged The Camberwell Project to advise on how to take forward the LEGI work

2.19 Proposals for West Leeds will be put to the Leeds City LEGI board in May 2007

West Leeds District Partnership issues

2.20 The West Leeds District Partnership Executive met for its quarterly meeting on March 16th 2007. The partnership welcomed new members Clare Warren, the new Chief Executive of West North West Homes, and Frank Zagajewski, from one of the wedges largest businesses, Farnell in One.

2.21 The Partnership received presentations on current changes within the Leeds PCT and the implications for West Leeds (a separate item is included on this agenda) and on how West Leeds was faring in terms of fuel efficiency and fuel poverty.

2.22 The Partnership considered a proposal that it should consider merging with the North West District Partnership. This would mirror the new boundaries of West and North West ALMO and the Pudsey Weetwood Police Division. The suggestion was agreed in principal but to proceed through developing working relationships initially on matters of common concern, moving towards a possible merger later in the next 12 months.

2.23 A forward programme for the District Partnership was agreed as follows

1. Worklessness Seminar: 23 March 2007 West Leeds Family Learning Centre (jointly with North West)
2. Managing Neighbourhoods better seminar: July 20th 2007
3. Review of West and North West Regeneration Action Plans: joint work September 2007 onwards
4. Joint seminar/event on community cohesion (another “know your community day”) autumn 2007

2.24 The main theme for the West Leeds District Partnership Executive on 16th June 2007 will be an analysis of the “state of the wedge” after three years of District Partnership work – how are we doing on narrowing the gap?

2.25 The main theme of the September Annual General Meeting on September 30th will be a celebration of young people’s achievements- to be organised through the Children Leeds West partnership

3.0 Conclusions

3.1 Significant progress has been made across a range of the Inner West Leeds Area Committee priorities over the last three months as identified in this report

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

4.1 The work of the West Leeds Area Management Team in delivering the Area Delivery Plan for Inner West Leeds is part of the Council's corporate agenda in achieving closer working and better services.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

5.1 The Area Delivery Plan and the Strategy Success are administered through West Leeds Area Management team. This report had indicated that new resources are being brought into the West wedge to tackle the problems identified in plans.

6.0 Recommendation

6.1 Inner West Area Committee members are invited to note the contents of the report and to comment on any aspect of the matter raised



Originator: Gavin Forster/
Dawn Bailey Leeds PCT

Tel: 39 50977

Report of the West Leeds Area Manager

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 29th March 2007

Subject: Wyther Improvement Group (WIG)

Electoral Wards Affected: Armley

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

Council Function

Delegated Executive Function available for Call In

Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report

Executive Summary

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.1 To brief Members on the first 16 months of the Wyther Improvement Group, known as WIG.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The Wyther Improvement Group

Leeds PCT (West area) and Leeds West Homes on behalf of the West Leeds District Partnership are leading on the improvement plan for the Wythers estate in the Armley Ward, this is an area which is in the worst 10% of multiple deprivation nationally.

The focus of the work has been to regenerate the local area and lift it out of the high levels of deprivation that is currently experienced by residents in this area.

The main issues in the area in order of priority include education, income and worklessness, crime, housing and the environment, health.

A detailed action plan has been developed and is being implemented in partnership with local organisations and residents addressing the main priorities in the area.

- 2.2 The WIG partnership is chaired by Councilor Alison Lowe and its membership is made up of over 20 local organisations and tenants in the Wythers area. Members of the WIG participated in a series of workshops to identify the main priorities and aims and objectives to address these priorities. They are as follows:

PURPOSE

To work with all relevant agencies to deliver tangible improvements in the Wythers Neighbourhood.

GOAL

To deliver economic, social and physical improvements to the neighbourhood and residents such that it is raised from the bottom 10% of deprived neighbourhoods in the country. That is from 1305 to 3483

KEY AREAS FOR ACTION: Education, Income Employment and Training, Health, Crime and anti social behaviour, Housing and the environment

EDUCATION

Aim: To increase the educational attainment of children living on the Upper Wythers estate targeting children and families on Wythers Estate

Objectives:

To target action and services to children living on Wythers estate to raise KS1, KS2, KS3 results

To promote existing adult learning opportunities to parents and residents on the Upper Wythers

To promote partnership working in the area to further develop education and training opportunities.

INCOME, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Aim: To increase income levels of residents in the Wythers Estate

Objectives:

To reduce unemployment through the promotion of training and employment opportunities.

To ensure benefit uptake is maximised on the Upper Wythers

HEALTH

Aim:

To reduce incidence of Obesity, Smoking and Teenage pregnancy on Wythers estate targeting children and families.

Objectives

To reduce the teenage pregnancy rates on the Wythers estate through increased availability of c cards and by promoting self esteem sessions to vulnerable young people.

To increase access to fresh fruit and vegetables and exercise programmes to Wythers residents

To work with LESS to target all known smokers and offer smoking cessation classes.

CRIME & ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

To be agreed

HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

To engage local community and partner organisations in initiatives to improve the local environment.

To improve maintenance standards and usage of public open spaces

To reduce the need for enforcement by promoting diversionary activities

To enable residents and families to fully participate in current activity on Wythers

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Over the past 16 months the WIG group have met on a monthly basis to address the objectives with the partners from the voluntary and statutory sector. To date the following achievements have been noted under the priority headings:

Education, Training and Employment:

This work has been focused in the following two areas, addressing education attainment of Wythers children in KS1, KS2 and KS3 in Raynville, Hollybush and West Leeds High.

Increasing adult education and training opportunities for residents of the Wythers estate

Education attainment

In addressing education attainment of Wythers children in KS1, KS2 and KS3 in Raynville, Hollybush and West Leeds High an education attainment group has been established led by extended schools with membership from Raynville and Hollybush head teachers and children's centre manager. Actions have been developed on the following:

Promoting nursery provision and uptake on the Wyther estate

Identifying those children on the Wythers with low education attainment and targeting these families with adult education opportunities and additional family support.

Additional transitional support for Wythers children entering West Leeds High

Adult Education

In increasing adult education and training opportunities for residents of the Wythers estate the following progress has been made:

Increased partnership working between Raynville school and WLFLC in providing training opportunities to Wythers residents

Funding for Northern college places secured and Skipco courses at Northern College are going ahead targeting Wyther residents

Jobs and skills open days have been held at Raynville School targeting Wythers residents with increased numbers of residents accessing courses.

Arts and crafts 10 week course delivered for Wythers residents

Housing and Environment:

Wythers community house is completed due to be opened on the 18th march. However the Kitchen is still in need of a cooker, fridge etc and we have had difficulty obtaining funding for this. This has had a major impact on plans to use the house for community events and needs to be resolved. Please could Area Committee advise on funding streams.

Litter Picking day led by LWH was a success with 11 skips being filled involving local school children followed up with sessions at school for children. This initiative won the Community Prides Award from the Leeds City Council.

Environmental week has been planned for 19th March 2007 led by LWH in partnership with other local organisations. The week is packed with activities including coffee mornings, input from the road safety team, Dogs Trust, fruit and vegetable stall, fuel savers promotion, bean planting and many other activities with an environmental theme. The Community House will be the focal point for the week.

Estate walkabouts at different times of the day have commenced at the request of the Tenants Association they have been carried out early morning and are now taking place at different times with good effect.

Connaught and LWH are going to be working in partnership to tackle health and safety issues on building sites. They are proposing to carry out this training in schools in the next few months.

Another initiative is tackling ASB. The aim is to raise awareness and make children knowledgeable about personal safety. ASB unit have some video packages for primary and High School children.

Leeds West Homes is engaging with Raynville Primary School through the 'Worker of the Week' award, which rewards improving attendance and behaviour as well as academic performance.

Work has been completed on the void properties 2/2a Wyther Park Place and a tenancy has been secured. A window replacement programme is due to start this financial year. Additionally, significant improvement work has been completed to system built properties on the upper Wythers estate . Leeds West Homes is also funding environmental improvements

on the estate to improve quality of life for residents, and the concept of 'decent homes in decent neighbourhoods' is considered fundamental to what WIG is trying to achieve.

The kitchens on the Borrowdales are to be replaced.(Connect Housing)

10K secured for highways work from highways and Area management. Recommendations currently being finalized and work to commence in the new financial year.

Youth Intervention and Engagement

There are 8 new staff starting at the youth service which will have increase the availability of youth workers on the Wythers,

A BMX group has taken place, targeting Wythers children, which has had an educational focus as well as a fun activity.

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Vacant Police Sergeant post filled to cover the Wythers Estate.

A senior warden has joined they will be responsible for the enforcement of gardens and any other environmental enforcement.

Police drop in at Raynville established in response to the WIGs request, continuing to be received well by residents and being used to get advice and share information

Police have been into Raynville and Hollybush schools to meet children and build relationships

Operation Strikeback took place in November with positive results. It involved putting in place preventative measures, horseback police presence, and use of force wide resources.

Also, operation Apollo was carried out in November with some positive results.

Health

Weight management courses have been delivered through extended schools at Holly bush primary targeting parents and carers living in Wythers area

LESS (smoking cessation service) has been established in Raynville targeting Wythers residents

Self esteem courses delivered at West Leeds High to be targeted at Wythers young people

Breastfeeding café based at Venerable Bede targeting the LS12 area particularly Wythers Mums has been a success with over 100 mums from the LS12 area attending.

Debt

Action plan developed and being targeted in the Wythers estate

LCCU Leaflet drop completed by YOT team

Increase in membership as a result

Year 7 Collection point at Intake started

Money management workshop commenced in Jan 07 funding agreed

Working with St Vincent's and Cab to increase provision with new resources in Wythers

St Vincents advice worker based at Hollybush childrens centre funded by SS Bramley.

West Leeds Family Learning Centre has a money management course running for 4 weeks after Christmas

Money management course running at Hollybush School on 16th for parents and carers.

3 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

3.1 WIG is part of the *Narrowing the Gap* agenda

4 Legal And Resource Implications

4.1 The WIG is currently led by the Leeds PCT (West area) and LWH. The Public Health Manager, Leeds PCT, Dawn Bailey provides coordination and leadership of the WIG in partnership with Mick Parker, Customer and Tenancy Services Manager from LWH. The hours contributed to this agenda by the PCT is approximately 80 per year with a similar contribution from LWH. Both of these posts are being reviewed under the organisational changes in the Leeds PCT and LWH. Future commitment to this work therefore is under review with immediate effect although both the PCT and the new ALMO, (west north west homes Leeds) are likely to be able to continue contributing to this agenda after the organizational changes.

5 Conclusions

The WIG has developed and coordinated some excellent initiatives with tangible outcomes, with no additional funding provided. All of the initiatives have been developed through partnership working, with LWH being the main contributor, particularly through Claire Tabert the Project Officer. These tangible outcomes include

- Cleaner living environment after successful litter picking initiatives and dog excrement clean up, awarded with the Community City pride award

- The refurbishment of the Wythers House with the support and lobbying of the WIG
- Improved relationship between Police and residents through active initiatives with Raynville and Hollybush schools and the local residents.
- Improved behavior of young people on the estate as reported by the newly appointed Warden (temporary)
- Increased numbers of residents participating in WLFLC adult learning courses including northern college course
- Increased membership of LCCU by residents
- Active education sub group to address education attainment of Wythers children on behalf of Children's Leeds West Strategy Group.
- Increased number of Wythers residents engaging in smoking cessation sessions.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 To gain commitment from both Leeds PCT and LWH that they are able to continue providing leadership and coordination to the WIG.
- 6.2 To explore funding opportunities for the WIG as there is currently no additional funding to administer this work (Urgent priority to provide kitchen equipment for the Wythers House)
- 6.3 For the partnership and area management to support the maintenance and housekeeping of the Wythers Community House.
- 6.4 To continue building the partnership to contribute to the main objectives of the WIG in partnership with the tenants and residents of the Wythers.



Originator: Rebecca M Boon

Tel: 395 1970

Report of Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 29th March 2007

Subject: Leeds Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) for West Leeds

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley
Bramley & Stanningley

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council Function

Delegated Executive Function available for Call In

Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report

1.0 Executive Summary

1.0 The Leeds LEGI bid “Sharing the Success” was approved by government on the 6th December 2006. The bid secured £15.6m over the first three years to deliver an ambitious enterprise programme targeted at tackling ‘worklessness’ issues in the 31 Super Output Areas (SOAs) within the city which feature in the worst 3% of SOAs nationally. The main bid outlines £36M regeneration programme with each £1 of LEGI funding matched by £1.35 of public/private sector finances.

1.1 The programme was developed in collaboration with the Leeds Initiative, the Local Strategic Partnership and the Leeds Local Area Agreement. This report advises Inner West Area Committee on progress in implementing the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) in West Leeds

2.0 Purpose of the Report

2.1 To inform Inner West Area Committee of the action taken in West following the successful allocation of funds to Leeds. The Inner West Area Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and to support the proposed action plan for LEGI West.

3.0 Background Information

3.1 LEGI is designed around a central concept of ‘enterprise-led regeneration’ which uses enterprise in all forms to tackle disadvantage and poor quality of life outcomes

(such as worklessness and social exclusion) in deprived communities. For inner west this means focusing on the most deprived areas of New Wortley, Fairfield, Broadleas, and Wyther communities where there is persistent and long standing problems of worklessness.

- 3.2 LEGI is looking at three 'headline' outcomes focusing on the themes of Engaging People, Engaging Business and Engaging Investors. This will be achieved through implementing a strategy and action plan :
- to increase the total level of entrepreneurial activity;
 - to reduce failure rates and improve sustainability of locally owned businesses
 - to encourage inward investment into deprived areas this will be achieved.
- 3.3 A city wide LEGI Programme Board has been established with the first initial meeting held on the 8th March 2007. In line with government guidance the Board is relatively small (between 10 and 12 representatives), private sector led and representative of the key partners/sectors involved in delivering the LEGI programme. The City Council is formally represented on the Board by the Chief Regeneration Officer (Neighbourhoods & Housing Department) and the Executive Member for Development/or his nominee. Terms of reference for the board are enclosed in Appendix A. A city wide programme manager who will work with and report to the board is currently being appointed.

4.0 Leeds LEGI Programme for West

- 4.1 The central plank to the strategy is a Catalyst Centre for West Leeds. The centre will provide a physical presence for enterprise, learning and development serving our deprived communities. The centre will be designed and run by a network of entrepreneurs and will be owned by a not-for-profit Community Interest Company (CIC). It will be directed by a Development Trust made up of local representatives from the private and community sectors. This is at an early stage of development and independent consultants - The Camberwell Project - have been appointed to prepare a bid to the total funding allocation in order to secure a specific amount of funds for west Leeds and to explore the possible siting of the Catalyst Centre in West. It is important to find a key location and building which will provide a springboard for business activity in West. A site that could be utilised for such a centre is West Leeds Family Learning Centre which will come within the control of Area Management on 1st April 2007. Discussions re this site as a venue are at an early stage.
- 4.2 Another strand of the LEGI funding will support increased activity for business support and brokerage services in the west through Leeds Ahead. This social enterprise is currently appointing a business broker for West and North West.
- 4.3 Funding though LEGI is also available to work with potential entrepreneurs in schools with the assistance of Enterprise Ambassadors. Education Leeds are leading on this aspect of the work and discussions are taking place with those schools which serve pupils resident in the worst 3% neighbourhoods.

5.0 Current Activity

- 5.1 To date a LEGI West Steering Group has been formed with representation from Ward members, Area Management, Leeds Ahead, Private Investors (Elite Forwarding), Jobs and Skills at West Leeds Family Learning Centre, Education Leeds, Community Engine and The Camberwell Project. The group have met on three occasions to co-ordinate an action for west Leeds. .
- 5.2 The action plan includes the work currently being undertaken by The Camberwell Project which will be ready mid March ready for submission to the main LEGI project Board late March. In conjunction with this a social enterprise company called Community Engine are contacting all local businesses and potential business activity in the west area for a business seminar and 'launch' of LEGI West on 22nd March 2007
- 5.3 Following this event, a Worklessness Seminar is being held on March 23rd where all the agencies addressing worklessness in West Leeds are meeting to discuss what is actually provided, by whom and what has been achieved. Any gaps discovered at this seminar will be addressed by joint funding applications to ensure that all need is met. The information collected at both these events will form part of the business case to be submitted for LEGI funding.
- 5.4 The need to create a Development Trust who will be responsible for the management and direction of the Catalyst Centre is also being explored and is in the early stages of development

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 Having secured funding to support the growth of enterprise and address worklessness via LEGI city wide, it is the role of the LEGI west group to secure funding for west Leeds which will tackle worklessness and deprivation in the poorest communities in west Leeds

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 Ward members are asked to note the contents of this report.

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Report of the Director of Children's Services

Report to Council Area Committees

Date: 15 March 2007

Subject: The Children and Young People's Plan Review 2007

<p>Electoral Wards Affected: All</p>	<p>Specific Implications For:</p> <p>Equality and Diversity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community Cohesion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the gap <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
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Executive Board Decision

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report asks the committee for their support and input into the ongoing review of the Leeds Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). To support this, the report provides a summary of the purpose, content and structure of the CYPP, and highlights the issues and concerns that are emerging through the evaluation work of services and partners.

1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The Government introduced the requirement to produce a Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) in 2005 as part of the Children Act 2004. It replaces a number of statutory plans, such as the Education Development Plan. The Children and Young People's Plan is an important element in Every Child Matters, helping to drive forward the integration of local children's services and the development of children's trust arrangements.
- 1.2 In 2005/06 Children Leeds completed a wide scale consultation exercise involving nearly 9,000 stakeholders including children and young people, parents and carers, staff and partners. The first Children and Young People's Plan 2006-2009 for Leeds was produced in May 2006 and outlines the strategic vision for improving outcomes in Leeds.
- 1.3 This year the government has introduced an annual review process which requires council's to involve a wide range of partners and stakeholders in the review of existing activity and priorities in order to publish a Children and Young People's Plan Review.
- 1.4 The Review is to measure progress against milestones, take account of new circumstances and maintain the momentum of change. It must provide a clear evaluation of the impact of the actions taken to improve outcomes for children and young people.

1.5 The Children and Young People's Plan Review must be produced by 14th June 2007 and submitted to Ofsted as the self assessment part of the Annual Performance Assessment for Children's Services.

2.0 Reviewing the Children and Young People's Plan in Leeds

2.1 The Children and Young People's Plan Review process started in December 2006 as part of the regular performance monitoring of progress. It has involved the analysis of key performance information, needs analysis work and the review of feedback from the DfES Priorities Meeting, the Annual Performance Assessment and discussions with the regional National Strategies team from the DfES.

2.2 We are now in the consultation and engagement phase with local stakeholders which involves a series of events for example:

- Children Leeds Open Forum
- A children and young people event
- News of elected members (see below)
- Focus group work with parents and carers
- Partner engagement through workshops around the 5 every child matters outcomes
- Children Leeds Partnership and Integrated Strategic Commissioning Board.

2.3 We are very keen to seek the views and input of elected members to help inform the review. There have been a series of children's services member seminars, with the last two sessions focused on identifying the key priorities for elected members across the city for children and young people and understanding the implications for local services.

2.4 However, not all elected members were able to attend or input to the seminars, therefore, it is important to gain the views of local elected members through the Area Committees. This consultation process is taking place in the March/ April cycle of area committees in order to get input to help develop the Plan and meet the deadlines for producing the plan and gaining Executive Board approval. Discussions will also take place with Scrutiny both in developing the plan with a final draft of the plan.

3.0 Framework for the Review

3.1 As this is a review of the existing plan there is a framework within which local priorities are identified, following the extensive process last year (described in para 1.3). This is set out here as a reminder.

3.2 The vision already established in the Children and Young People's Plan is that:

all children and young people in Leeds to be happy, healthy, safe, successful and free from the effects of poverty.

3.3 There are ten aims linked to the every child matters outcomes which are:

Be healthy	Stay safe	Enjoy and achieve	Make a positive contribution	Achieve economic Wellbeing
A healthy start and healthy lifestyles	Safe, secure and cared for	Achieve personal learning goals	Valued by families, communities and services	Confident and skilled to thrive in work and adult life
Mentally and emotionally healthy	Safe in communities	Enjoy and learn through play, sports and arts	Value peers, families and communities	Live in thriving families and communities

3.4 Underpinning these aims is the 'Transforming services' programme, which deals with Integrating Services, management and governance, e.g. Extended Schools and the new children's trust arrangements.

3.5 To achieve our vision and aims partners have committed to a new and shared approach which includes the following:

- Personalising services with a child-centred approach
- Partnership with all stakeholders
- Participation with children, young people and families to ensure they are involved in decisions that affect their lives
- Community focus
- Inclusion, equality and diversity – working to counter discrimination and support community cohesion
- Early intervention and prevention – identifying risks and needs early and responding quickly
- Ambitious and a 'can do' culture that makes the extra effort to get things done.

3.6 The Children and Young People's Plan links into the Leeds Initiative vision for Leeds and the Council's Corporate Plan.

4.0 Emerging Priorities in the Review so far

4.1 The needs analysis and performance review work have identified a number of emerging priority areas for improvement. These include:

4.2 See attached Appendix A

4.3 We recognise from the discussions at the elected member seminars that members have a significant amount of experience and information relating to their case file work which can inform the priorities for children's services and identify key service challenges. It is within this context that we would like to members views on the following questions:

- ***Does the list of emerging priorities reflect your experience of what matters to local children, young people, families and communities?***
- ***What are the top priorities for your area in relation to children, young people and families?***

5.0 Next steps

5.1 We will develop a draft Children and Young People's Plan by the end of April 2007 on the basis of the needs analysis and consultation and this will be on the Children Leeds website

(www.childrenleeds.co.uk) for consultation during early May. The Plan will then start the approval process to gain approval at Executive Board on 14 June 2007.

6.0 Developing local Children and Young People's Plans

6.1 One of the key pieces of learning from the West Project that has been underway in the last twelve months is the value of having a more local expression of the city-wide Children and Young People's Plan. This process was very inclusive and took a local needs analysis and the city-wide Children and Young People's Plan to distil local priorities for people to work on through partnership working.

6.2 We therefore recognise that it is important to turn the city-wide plan into local action that address local need across the city so, in the coming months locality enablers from children's services will be working with local stakeholders to establish locality plan for children services. This will involve workshops with local partners and elected members to identify key priorities for agreed joint action. The information collected through this round of area committees will be used to inform the starting point for these plans.

6.3 There will also be a forward programme of involvement with area committees through the locality enablers and monitoring the impact of the development and implementation of locality plans and the citywide Children and Young People's Plan. The proposed schedule is outlined below:

- Regular attendance of locality enablers to discuss the development of locality plans and their successful implementation – starting from June 2007;
- Wedge based Children Leeds Open Forums in June;
- Workshops with local elected members and Children Leeds partners to develop action plans for improving services to children and young people and to improve integrated working between all key services;
- September review of the city-wide Children and Young People's Plan;
- March end of year Children and Young People's Plan and locality plan review to support the development of the annual review for 2008.

6.4 These locality plans will be brief and focussed on priorities for actions and connections to be made. As such, they will need to feed in and from any other local planning that is done at an Area Committee or District Partnership level.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 The Area Committee is asked to:

- Identify priorities that reflect local understanding of what matters to local children, young people, families and communities for inclusion in the Children and Young People's Plan review and locality plans.
- Agree to the proposed schedule of ongoing engagement of children services through the locality enabler role.

CYPP Review 2007

CYPP Review - Emerging Issues

Be Healthy

- Teenage conceptions and sexual health
- Mental health and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- Dentistry
- Looked After Children health and dental health checks

Stay Safe

- Timeliness of reviews and assessment
- Stability of placements for Looked After Children
- Bullying and harassment
- Domestic Violence

Enjoy and Achieve

- Secondary attainment and progress
- Attendance
- Schools in challenging circumstances
- Progress against national Foundation Stage targets and Key Stage 2, 3 and 4 'Floor Targets' for minimum attainment levels in schools
- Outcomes for vulnerable groups, particularly Looked After Children, some Black and Minority Ethnic heritage groups and those from deprived neighbourhoods

Make a Positive Contribution

- School exclusions and behaviour
- First time entrants into the Youth Justice System
- The proportion of young offenders engaged in education, training or employment
- Participation of some hard to reach groups, particularly engaging Looked After Children in their care planning and review

Achieve Economic Wellbeing

- The proportion of young people Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET), particularly some vulnerable groups such as care leavers, those with learning difficulties or disabilities and those from deprived neighbourhoods
- The proportion of young people aged 19 with Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications

- Support for hard to reach families in relation to childcare and other issues e.g. housing, worklessness etc.

Service Management

- Integrating working and ICT Projects – ContactPoint, Common Assessment Framework etc
- Workforce reform
- Children’s trust arrangements, particularly performance and resource management



Originator: Ernie Gray
Megan Godsell
Tel: 76765/78276

Report of: Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing

Meeting: Inner West Area Committee

Date of meeting: 29 March 2007

SUBJECT: A Plan for Delivering Affordable Housing in Leeds

Electoral Wards Affected:

**Armley
Bramley & Stanningley**

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

Executive Summary

This Report sets out the background to the establishment of the Affordable Housing Task Force, and the subsequent production of the Affordable Housing Delivery Plan, 'Making the Housing Ladder Work'. The report also forms a response to the "Right to Rent" delegation to the Council in September.

The report sets out the housing market conditions in Leeds at the moment and the issues of affordability and the economic implications of not providing sufficient affordable housing.

The concept of a 'Housing Ladder' is explained and how there are rungs of the ladder, which are missing in certain areas. The consequences of not having the right mix of housing to meet different needs, requirements and aspirations are also considered.

It describes where existing policy and procedures can be improved and puts forwards a number of proposals in order to increase the supply of affordable housing.

Executive Board is requested to support the Affordable Housing Delivery Plan and note that further exploration is needed in relation to the setting up of new vehicles to deliver affordable housing solutions.

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to describe the key components of the plan for the delivery of Affordable Housing in Leeds – “Making the Housing Ladder Work” that has been developed by the Corporate Affordable Housing Task Group. Copies of the plan are now available on the intranet.
- 1.2 The report recommends Executive Board to:
- Support the principles of the Plan
 - Authorise Officers to deliver the key actions
 - Request a report on an SPV, the primary objective of which would be to deliver more affordable housing in Leeds.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 Leeds is a vibrant, successful and modern city with a thriving quality of life and it is set to grow further in the future. In order to ensure that Leeds can develop and grow, it is essential that there is a range of good quality housing that can meet the needs, requirements and aspirations of its citizens.
- 2.2 The Council has responded to the government’s agenda to create balanced mixed sustainable communities by the development of the large scale regeneration schemes such as the PFI scheme at Swarcliffe and the proposed schemes at Holbeck Moor and Little London, together with the EASEL initiative. However members have become concerned that over recent years increasing numbers of citizens can no longer afford to buy housing or get access to social housing.
- 2.3 In response to these concerns a corporate ‘Affordable Housing Task Force’ was established in July 06, chaired by the Chief Housing Services Officer from the Department of Neighbourhoods and Housing. This group has been looking at increasing the provision of affordable housing across the City.

The key issues the Task Force has focused upon are:

- How the lack of affordable housing may compromise the economic strength of Leeds
- The increasing difficulties for first time buyers
- The mismatch of the demand for social housing and its supply.
- How vulnerable groups, like the elderly and disabled are experiencing problems in getting the housing they need in the areas they want to live
- How poor quality housing in areas with high levels of deprivation can impede proposed regeneration initiatives
- How a range of high quality housing can be developed across the city for all the people of Leeds as well as the incoming population.

2.4 In September 2006 a deputation from Leeds Tenants Federation, 'Right to Rent Campaign' was heard by full Council. The campaign is calling for increased social rented housing. The Affordable Housing Delivery Plan in part responds to this campaign but seeks to cover the full range of affordable housing that can be provided in Leeds and the mechanisms to improve access to existing housing. The Plan stresses the importance of ensuring that there is sufficient affordable housing to meet current and future needs across the city.

2.5 The plan sets out the priorities and actions that will need to take place in the short, medium and long term, to increase the provision of affordable housing across the City.

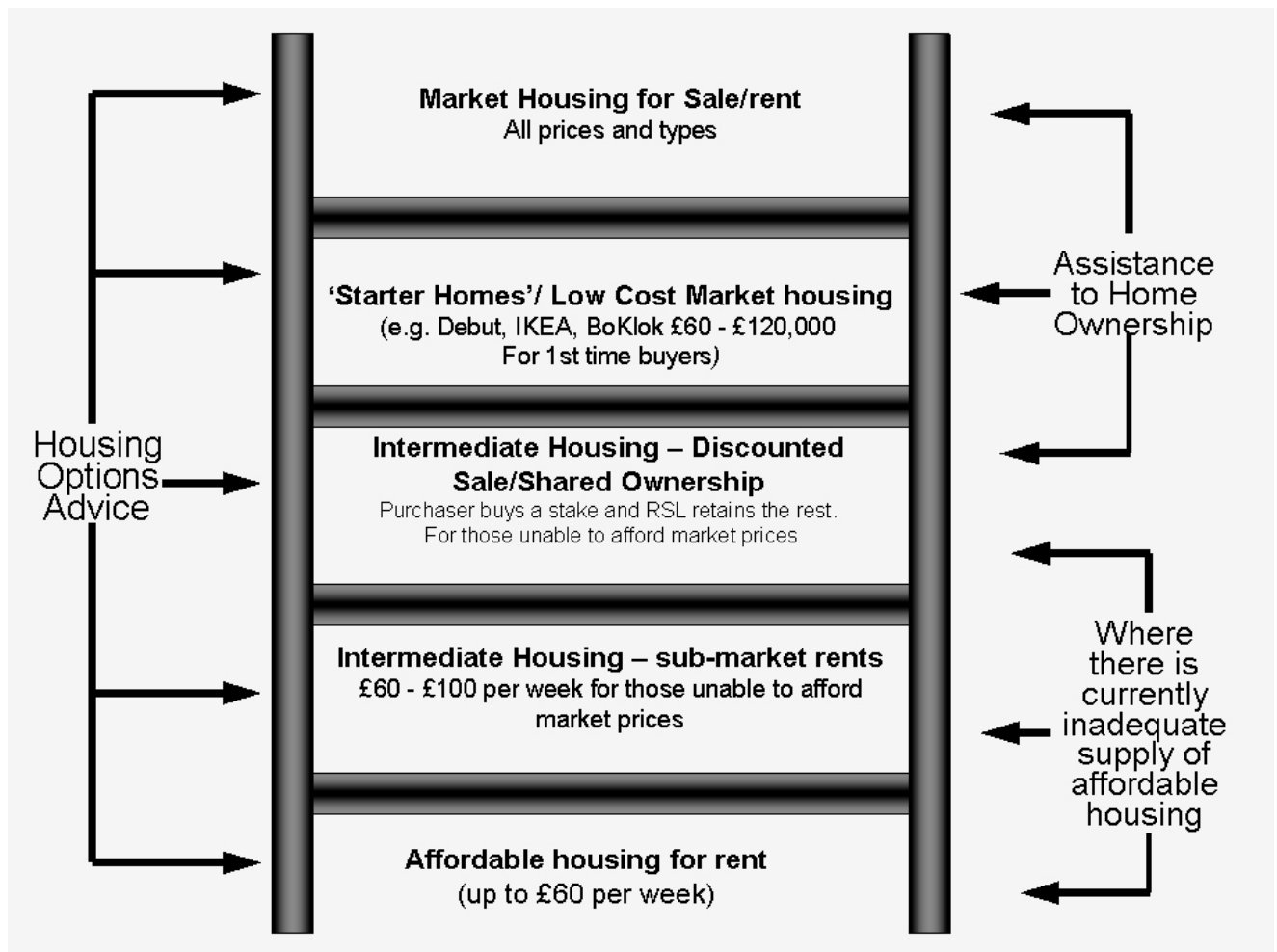
3.0 Affordable Housing Plan 'Creating a Housing Ladder'

3.1 In the past affordable housing tended to be seen as being social housing for rent provided either by local authorities or Registered Social Landlords. In view of the escalation of property prices over the last five years, however, the question of the affordability of home ownership has become ever more pressing. As part of the Affordable Housing Plan, the concept of the "local housing ladder" has been developed. This seeks to establish a range of housing for sale, shared ownership and rent.

3.2 Putting an effective 'local housing ladder' in place will need a mix of 'supply side' measures to increase the supply of affordable housing and 'demand side' measures to improve access to existing housing in the market. In the Affordable Housing Delivery Plan, the 'rungs' of the ladder are explored and explained in more detail.

3.3 The Chief Housing Services Officer is presenting the aims and objectives of the Plan to key Members, Department Heads, and Partner organisations over the next 3 months. This will ensure that all those involved directly and indirectly in the provision of affordable housing will have a better understanding of the issues, and the steps being taken by the Council to increase the supply of affordable housing.

The Local Housing Ladder



3.4 Why there is a Need for Additional Affordable Housing

The Plan explains how the Leeds Housing Market has not been working effectively enough to provide the range of housing which is needed. The social and personal consequences of a lack of supply are well known, manifesting themselves in extended council waiting lists, homelessness and over crowding. There is also a real threat that a lack of suitable housing as described by the "housing ladder" will hold back economic growth within the city

Economic growth will generate substantial job growth for key workers and those in low paid, short term and part time jobs, in the service, retail, leisure and catering industries. It is essential that suitable housing is available, other wise it may be difficult for employers to fill vacancies, thus restricting economic growth.

Other issues which the plan covers include:

- Home ownership has become increasingly unaffordable. At the moment only 4 out of 102 postcodes in Leeds have house prices affordable to those on below average incomes. The city average income for a single person is £22,000 per

annum based upon 2005 figures. A single income of £18,571 or dual income of £22,414 is needed to afford the cheapest back to back of £65,000. The city wide average for house prices according to the latest HM Land Registry information is £159,000.

- Reduction in social housing stock and lettings. There are almost 27,000 fewer social rented homes now compared to 1980. A further reduction of up to 10,000 is predicted by 2016 which will reduce the council housing stock to below 50,000.
- There is also the issue of neighbourhoods across Leeds where there is no access to housing for those on low to average incomes. Providing appropriate housing can help maintain neighbourhoods and ensure the viability of schools, shops, post offices etc and so protect the sustainability of the area.
- Regeneration issues, such as creating mixed tenure housing, promoting low cost home ownership and shared equity in areas of deprivation can help diversify demographic profiles, and enable the housing ladder to operate effectively and ensure more affluent households remain in the area.
- Statutory duties and obligations are also explored in more detail in the Plan and the consequences for not meeting these requirements are explained.

4.0 Increasing Affordable Housing through Existing Routes

4.1 There is a need to further develop existing approaches and programmes to enhance affordable housing provision and improve access for those unable currently to access housing through the open market. There is recognition that in a lot of areas across Leeds the preferred route to home ownership is through shared ownership arrangements. The following mechanisms are in operation at the moment but in order to increase provision needs to be improved and accelerated.

- **Land release (Less than best)**

Disposal of Council owned land at 'less than best' consideration is a tool open to the Council in conjunction with its partners to support the development of affordable housing. Schemes of this nature would, in the main relate to funding by the Housing Corporation through their Approved Development Programme (ADP).

The Housing Corporation has been charged by central government to increase affordable housing supply across the country. One of the mechanisms that the Housing Corporation is now using is to place a ceiling of £5,000 per plot on land values for the provision of affordable housing. This will increase the supply of affordable housing, but will be on the basis that the land owners will take a significant reduction in the value of the land.

This mechanism places difficulties on the Authority, which resulted in a below average allocation to the city for the ADP 2006/08 programme.

To attract future ADP resources, together with any other public funding for affordable housing, a more strategic commitment to making sufficient land available at less than best consideration for affordable housing is required.

This could deliver a higher overall level of grant funding from the Housing Corporation and lever in significant private sector investment to the City to improve the supply of affordable housing and also support the traditional housing market.

- **A more sophisticated ‘evidence based’ approach to delivery**

A robust and continuous housing market assessment and local housing market tracking, will form the basis for geographical focus on “hot spots” in terms of need for market restructuring or where affordability pressures are greatest.

- **Full integration of Housing and Planning in Delivering Affordable Housing**

The use of the Council’s planning powers to require a certain proportion of new developments to be affordable housing, has gradually developed as way of increasing new affordable housing across the City. Close and effective working relationships between the Neighbourhoods and Housing and Development Departments of the Council are key to increasing the supply of new affordable housing. More effective joint working between the two departments will deliver speedier responses to planning applications, streamline the project management of affordable housing schemes and improve targets for affordable housing completions.

- **Proactive approach to Council owned miscellaneous properties**

These are council owned properties which have been leased to Registered Social Landlords and supported housing agents. A number of these properties have been returned to the Council, and do not form part of the ALMO Decency portfolio. A starter home initiative is being piloted on the current void properties, and will be reported to Executive Board.

5.0 How Can Affordable Housing Supply Be Further Increased

5.1 The following represent short-term priorities for action that should be considered to enable progress to be made, to enable significant change in the provision of new affordable housing:

- **Consideration of a ‘Special Purpose Vehicle’ (SPV)**

Modelling of a range of different SPV needs to be explored. This would involve less than best consideration being agreed for cleared Housing Revenue Account land, previously used as council housing, up to an agreed value sufficient to maximise Housing Corporation Grant Funding and private investment within the city, over initially a five-year period. The Housing Corporation has stated that schemes are only supported where land costs do not exceed £5k per unit.

A comprehensive and planned approach needs to be developed towards land use to lever in investment for affordable housing development. A city-wide SPV Land agency should be established to hold HRA land to an agreed value, created from clearance of council housing or regeneration schemes, to maximise the ADP and private investment in affordable housing for the city.

While the Council would need to satisfy itself that the other alternatives for the sites were less attractive, (i.e. an open market scheme or commercial use) there would be a predisposition to treat the land for affordable housing.

A pilot exercise is being undertaken to map out HRA land designated redevelopment. To date land in the region of 5.56 hectares has been identified. Over the last two years in Leeds 95 dwellings per hectare is the average number of units built on new developments, however a majority of these have been flats. For new family accommodation, per hectare, the new build rate is in the region of 50 units per hectare. The average grant per unit received from the Housing Corporation is £33,066; added to private finance per unit of £106,309, would give levered investment of £139,375 per unit.

Therefore, should the 5 hectares of land be offered for affordable housing, this would fund approximately 250 new units; the grant funding levered in would be in the region of £8.3 million and the total grant plus private finance levered in would be in the region of £34.8 million, compared to the estimated value of the land of approximately £6.4 million.

Corporate Asset Management Working Group in September 2006 considered a report outlining the proposal to develop a Special Purpose Vehicle. It was agreed in principle that developmental work commence in order to produce a report to Executive Board in early 2007.

- **Proactive Marketing and Monitoring of low cost home ownership schemes**

There needs to be increased involvement in the marketing of low cost home ownership options. This will involve establishing a database of interested persons and closer liaison with RSLs to ascertain when the schemes are ready to sell. Close monitoring will also be required as accurate clear and timely data is required in respect of delivery, type and the location of units of schemes under construction and completed.

- **Identify the missing 'Rungs' from the Ladder**

There is a pressing need to identify which forms of tenure are absent across Leeds to help fill the missing 'rungs' from the 'housing ladder'. This will assist in the provision of appropriate housing in those areas.

- **Section 106 Agreements**

More flexibility and closer monitoring of S106 agreements for affordable housing is required. A policy is being discussed in relation to the collection of commuted sums in city centre areas on developments over 166 dwellings in order to provide affordable family housing elsewhere in the city.

- **Private Developers/Financial Institutions**

It is proposed to establish closer links with private developers who specialise in starter home products and make contact with financial institutions to research financial products to support access to home ownership.

- **ALMOs and Social Housing Grant**

ALMOs are able to take part in the Housing Corporation's National Affordable Housing Programme, either bidding for social grant themselves or in partnership with others. ALMOs that do this are expected to demonstrate their capacity to manage the risks related with acquiring new stock and demonstrate that they can continue to deliver the core business. ALMOs need a three star rating to bid direct and a two star rating to bid in partnership.

- **Long Term Future of ALMOs**

As round 1 and round 2 ALMOs near the completion of their decency programmes, the government together with ALMOs and Local Authorities is looking at the longer term future for ALMOs. One consideration is over the future funding of ALMOs. It is being considered whether or not ALMO funding could be outside the Public Sector

Borrowing Requirement (PSBR). If this was achieved then ALMOs would be able to borrow money on the open market with a view to funding the development of additional affordable housing. The results of this review will be published in a white paper in early next year. The reorganisation of the ALMOs into larger units places them in a better position to take advantage of these potential freedoms.

6.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

6.1 The Affordable Housing Delivery Plan is complementary to the Vision for Leeds, the Corporate Plan, Leeds Housing Strategy, the City Wide Regeneration Plan and the Corporate Asset Management Strategy.

6.2 The Affordable Housing Task Group is a corporate group and includes representatives from Neighbourhoods and Housing and Development Department, led by the Chief Housing Services Officer. The officers and partnership representatives of the Group are fully supportive of developments and proposals. However it is recognised by the Group that a programme of consultation needs to be carried out to include, key Councillor Members and Partner organisations including the Housing Corporation and Government Office. A detailed programme of consultation is being undertaken by the Group.

7.0 Legal and Resource Implications

7.1 The legal and resource implications of increasing affordable housing by improving current procedures and introducing new vehicles e.g. the SPV will require further analysis and will be reported at a future Executive Board meeting

8.0 Conclusion

8.1 The Affordable Housing Delivery Plan outlines how the housing 'ladder' is not working properly across many areas of Leeds and describes the extent of the problems facing those unable to buy or rent on the open market.

8.2 The Plan outlines and provides a strategic framework for improved access to existing housing and provision of new affordable housing for those unable to afford to buy or rent on the open market. It sets out the approach that will be taken in Leeds, based upon enabling access to a range of housing by operating 'local housing ladders'.

8.3 The Plan also features a range of actions that are needed over the coming years to enable an adequate provision of access to affordable housing to take place. It also identifies the key priorities for the short term.

9.0 Recommendations

That the Area Committee:

- Note the contents of the report
- Support the principles of the Plan for Delivering Affordable Housing in Leeds and the key actions required for delivery
- Note that a proposal to develop a 'Special Purpose Vehicle' in respect of cleared Council land is being developed as one of the key mechanisms to deliver affordable housing solutions on the scale required

- Agree that progress on delivering the 'Affordable Housing Delivery Plan', be reported back to Area Committee.

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Originator: Andy Booth

Tel: (0113) 2474356

Report of the Chief Democratic Services Officer

West (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 29th March 2007

Subject: Dates, Times and Venues of Area Committee Meetings 2007/08

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council Function

Delegated Executive Function available for Call In

Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report

Executive Summary

The purpose of the report is to request Members to give consideration to agreeing the dates, times and venues of their meetings for the 2007/08 municipal year which commences in May 2007.

1.0 Background Information

- 1.1 The Area Committee Procedure Rules stipulate that there shall be at least six ordinary meetings of each Area Committee in each municipal year (May to April).
- 1.2 The Procedure Rules also state that each Committee will agree its schedule of meetings for the year at its first meeting in the municipal year. If this was strictly adhered to, unfortunately it would mean that none of the dates and times would be agreed early enough to appear in the Council's official diary.

2.0 Options

- 2.1 The options are:
 - To approve the list of dates and times provisionally agreed with the West Inner Area Manager based on the existing pattern;
 - To consider other alternative dates;
 - To continue to meet at 9.00 am, or to consider alternative times;

- To continue to alternate suitable venues between the wards of Armley and Bramley & Stanningley.

3.0 Meeting Dates

- 3.1 The following provisional dates have been agreed in consultation with the West Inner Area Manager. They follow roughly the same pattern as last year, i.e. Thursdays in June, September, October, December, February and April:-

28th June 2007, 20th September 2007, 25th October 2007, 6th December 2007
7th February 2008 and 3rd April 2008.

- 3.2 A similar pattern of meetings is being suggested in respect of the other 9 Area Committees, so that for co-ordinated purposes, all Committees are meeting in the same basic cycle and months. Whilst Members have discretion as to which actual dates they wish to meet, they are requested to take into consideration that any proposed substantial change to the cycle, e.g. changing months rather than dates within the suggested months, will cause disruption and lead to co-ordination problems between the Area Committees.

4.0 Meeting Days and Times

- 4.1 Currently the Committee meets on Thursdays at 9.00 a.m. and the above suggested dates reflect this pattern.
- 4.2 Meeting on set days and times has the advantage of certainty and regularity, which assists people to plan their schedules. The downside might be that it could serve to exclude certain people, for instance, who have other regular commitments on that particular day or who might prefer either a morning meeting or a meeting later in the evening after normal work hours.
- 4.3 For these reasons, some Area Committees have chosen to vary their meeting days and times, alternating between different weekdays and holding daytime and evening meetings alternatively. Others, however, have chosen a regular pattern similar to this Committee's existing arrangements – it really is a matter for Members to decide.

5.0 Meeting Venues

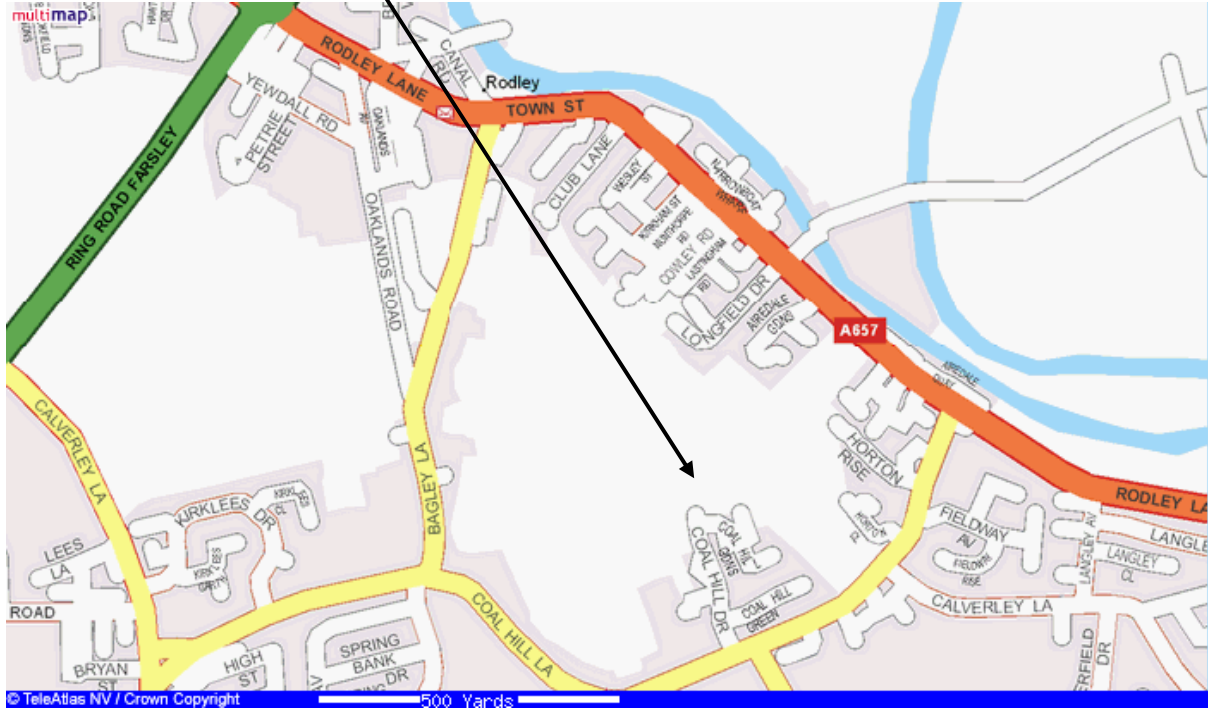
- 5.1 Currently the Committee alternates venues between the three wards which has proved to be a successful arrangement.
- 5.2 If the Committee were minded to request the officers to explore possible alternative venues, then the considerations Members and officers would have to take into account are matters such as cost, accessibility – particularly for people with disabilities – and the facilities available at the venue, e.g. IT facilities for presentations etc.

6.0 Recommendation

- 6.1 Members are requested to consider the options and to decide their meeting dates, times and venues for 2007/08 in order that they may be included in the Council's official diary for 2007/08.

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Stanningley Amateur Rugby Football Club, Coal Hill Drive, Leeds, LS13 1PA



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