

NORTH WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 12TH APRIL, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor J Akhtar in the Chair

Councillors B Atha, S Bentley, J Chapman,
B Chastney, P Ewens, M Hamilton,
J Illingworth, J Matthews, L Yeadon,
G Harper and N Walshaw

OFFICERS: Chris Dickinson, West North West Area Support Team
Stuart Byrne, West North West Area Support Team
Jason Singh, Locality Manager, West North West Area
Stephen Walker, Deputy Director, Children's Services
Mick Parker, West North West Homes
Jude Wray, West North West Homes
John Grieve, Governance Services

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Sue Buckle, SHCA, RPCC, FOWM
Sergeant Mark Pronger, West Yorkshire Police
Ben Fisher, Leeds University Union
Mercia Southon, NHPNA
Shelia Waterworth, KVCA & Local Resident
Ken Waterworth, KVCA & Local Resident
Martyn Thomas, Weetwood Residents Association
Luke Blumer, Local Resident, Leeds 6
Susie Green, NHPNA
Tony Green, NHPNA
Howard Eaglestone, SHCA
Victoria Jaquiss, Local Resident, Hyde Park
Ted Winter, RPCC
John Davision, Monkey HQ
Brien Senior, Local Resident, Leeds 6
Pervez Akhtar, SHCA
Ghaffar Karim, Local Resident
David Salinger, Local Resident
Amanda Jackson, University of Leeds

77 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

78 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Chief Superintendent Oldroyd,
West Yorkshire Police

79 Open Forum

In accordance with paragraph 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedural Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to 10 minutes for Members of the public to make representations or ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee.

Disabled Parking Bay on Kirkstall Lane – A Kirkstall resident reported that the disabled parking bays on Kirkstall Lane appeared to have been replaced by a taxi rank. As a Blue Badge Holder, the resident was seeking clarification on the use of the parking bay.

Councillor Matthews reported that he was already aware of the issue and had made inquiries with the Highways Department and was currently awaiting a response. Councillor Yeadon reported that she too was aware of the matter and had contacted the Executive Board Member responsible and a response was awaited.

The Chair suggested that investigations were currently ongoing and clarification on the use of the parking bay would be provided at the next meeting.

80 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED –

- (i) With the inclusion of two additional attendees; Chris Webb and Bill McKinnon, the minutes of meetings held on 23rd February 2012 be accepted as a true and correct record.
- (ii) In respect of the Special Meeting held on 8th March 2012, Councillor Illingworth requested the inclusion of the words “Narrowing the gap” in the section “main areas of discussion were” (Minute No. 75 refers). With the inclusion of the requested wording the minutes were accepted as a true and correct record.

81 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Members considered a report by West North West Area Support which identified a number of issues requiring further action following the last meeting of the Area Committee.

City of Leeds School – Although not raised as an issue at the previous meeting, Councillor Ewans spoke of her dissatisfaction at the manner in which the Governing Body of City of Leeds School had been “stood down”. She said there had been no discussions with the school or the Governing Body on this issue, the absence of communication and lack of courtesy was disappointing.

A number of attendees suggested that the action by Children’s Services to stand down the Governing Body without notice was deplorable.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted.

82 Area Chair's Forum

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Area Chair's Forum held on 13th January 2012 be received and noted

83 Environmental Services Development of the 2012/13 Service Level Agreement

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report which sets out the services that were to be added to the Locality Team's portfolio and which should be included in the Service Level Agreement (SLA) for 2012/13.

The report also requested Members to confirm the local priorities, operational principles and service improvements to be included in the 2012/13 Service Level Agreement

Jason Singh, Locality Manager, West North West Area presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:

- Graffiti removal
- Gully cleansing
- New litter bins for the area
- Dog Wardens
- Removal of obsolete street furniture
- Litter picks to co-inside with social use
- PCSO's to be more proactive on enforcement issues particularly around the Woodhouse Moor area
- Preparations around Olympic events

It was suggested from the floor that Ward Members and interested parties undertake a walk of the area to view the extent of graffiti activity.

In responding the Chair offered to instigate arrangements for such a walk

RESOLVED –

- (i) To note the addition of further services to the scheme of delegation (Section 26 of the submitted report refers) and the required amendment to the Street Cleansing & Environmental Enforcement Services section of the Area Committee Function Schedule as approved by Executive Board on 10th February 2012 (Appendix A refers).
- (ii) To agree the development of the new SLA for 2012/13 to be submitted to this Area Committee in June 2012 for approval based on:
 - (a) the inclusion of the additional services

- (b) the inclusion of the specific service commitments on issues that improved capacity achieved through more efficient working and a flexible local management of resources/budget now allows
 - (c) the inclusion of local service responses to challenges presented by the hosting of Olympic teams, visits to the city by the Olympic torch (and other local Olympic related events) and local events associated with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations (e.g. street parties)
 - (d) the WNW Locality Team's responses to addressing the Area Committee Member's local priorities
 - (e) the WNW Locality Team's responses to expectations for further improvements raised by Elected Members across the city as presented through Executive Board in February
 - (f) the refreshed service principles
- (iii) That arrangement be put in place for Ward Members and interested parties to undertake a walk of the area to view the extent of graffiti activity.

84 Children's Services Performance Report to Area Committees

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which provided an update on Children's Services developments including progress against the priorities of the Leeds Children and Young People's Plan at local area level. The report built on previous reports presented to this Area Committee in 2010 and 2011.

Included within the submitted report were the following appendices:

- Appendix 1 - Schedule of Information for Area Committee Reporting for 2012
- Appendix 2 - Child Friendly City Priorities
- Appendix 3 - Looked After Children, Child Protection Plan, Referrals and CAF Data
- Appendix 4 - Attendance, KS2, KS4 and Foundation Stage Data
- Appendix 5 - NEET and Known Data
- Appendix 6 - Primary and Secondary School Inspection Grades
- Appendix 7 – Children Centre Inspection Grades

Stephen Walker, Deputy Director of Children's Services presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:

- Child Friendly City Initiative
- Developing an Integrated Children's Service

- Leeds Education Challenge
- Locality Working – Children’s Services Cluster Developments
- Obesity Levels in Young Children
- Child poverty
- Welfare Reforms

Commenting on the contents of the report, Councillor Matthews suggested that the main contents of the report appeared to be common themes for all areas of the city, there were no specific issues identified for individual wards and ideally more localised information was required.

In responding Chris Dickinson, Area Management Officer said that for the purpose of future reporting arrangements Ward Members together with Children’s Services would be consulted to identify local issues and appropriate data.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That for the purpose of future reporting arrangements Ward Members together with Children’s Services would be consulted to identify local issues and appropriate data.

85 West North West homes Leeds involvement in Area Committees

West North West Homes submitted a report which provided an update on the involvement of West North West Homes (WNWHL) in the Area Committee process and making that involvement as meaningful and productive as possible.

Mick Parker, Neighbourhood Performance Manager and Jude Wray, Area Performance Manager, West North West Homes presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:

- Joint working arrangements with other agencies
- Performance issues associated with the major contractor for Council House maintenance

It was suggested that the Chair write to the Executive Member Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration requesting an investigation into the performance issues associated with the major contractor for Council House maintenance.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.

- (ii) That a further update report be submitted in six months time (autumn 2012).
- (iii) That the Chair, on behalf of the Area Committee, be authorised to write to the Executive Member Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration requesting an investigation into the performance issues associated with the major contractor for Council House maintenance.

86 Wellbeing Fund 2011-12 Monitoring Report

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access & Performance) submitted a report which provided an end of year budget position for the Wellbeing Fund 2011/12 and supplied details of recent monitoring returns for Area Committee funded projects.

Included within the submitted report were the following appendices:

- Appendix 1 – Wellbeing Budget Statement 2011/12
- Appendix 2 – Summary of Small Grant Applications received
- Appendix 3 – Wellbeing Monitoring Summary

Stuart Byrne, Inner North West Area Support Team, presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:

- Revenue Budget calculation
- Wellbeing monitoring returns for 2011/12

RESOLVED

- (i) To note the end of year Wellbeing budget position for 2011/12.
- (ii) To note the contents of the Wellbeing monitoring returns for 2011/12.

87 Area Update Report

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer & Performance) submitted a report which provided an update on the recent Sub Group business, Forum business and the current position relating to other project activity.

Included within the submitted report were the following appendices:

- Appendix 1 – Inner North West Area Committee Business Plan 2011 -15

- Appendix 2 – Inner North West Business Plan (Priorities for Action) 2011 -13

Stuart Byrne, Inner North West Area Support Team, presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:

- Student changeover
- Disappointment that the Transport Sub Group had not met for a considerable time
- The decision to refuse planning permission in respect of the Bodington Hall application had gone to appeal
- Position statement on the Tesco Store application at Kirkstall
- Design of the new litter bins for the area

RESOLVED

- (i) To note and action as appropriate the Key Messages from Sub Groups as set out in section 3 of the submitted report.
- (ii) To note the update on the work around Student Changeover.
- (iii) To receive a position statement on the Tesco Store application at Kirkstall.
- (iv) To approve the draft Area Business Plan and Action Plan for 2011-15.

88 Dates, Times and Venues of Area Committee Meetings 2012/13

The Chief Officer (Democratic and Central Services) submitted a report seeking the Area Committee's formal approval of the meeting schedule for the 2012/13 Municipal year.

The Area Committee were also requested to give consideration as to whether they wished to continue with the Committee's current meeting venue arrangements or whether they would like to any amendments to such arrangements.

John Grieve, Governance Services, presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

A number of attendees suggested that future meetings of the Area Committee should be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds.

In the discussion that ensue Members were of the opinion that some meetings should be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds, but not necessarily all.

RESOLVED – That the following dates be approved for meetings of the North West (Inner) Area Committee for the 2012/13 Municipal year (Start time 7.00pm) the venues for the meetings to be arranged by the Area Leader in consultation with Members:-

28th June 2012 (Civic Hall, Leeds)

20th September 2012

25th October 2012

13th December 2012

21st February 2013

11th April 2013

9th May 2013

89 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED – To note that the next meeting will take place on Thursday 17th May 2012 at 7.00pm in the Civic Hall, Leeds.