

**Report of : Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities)**

**Report to : West (Inner) Area Committee**

**Date: 6<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

**Subject: Business Plan Update Report**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Armley, Bramley & Stanningley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report updates the Area Committee on new initiatives and partnership working within the area that contribute the priority themes outlined in the Area Committee's Business Plan.
2. The report includes information a range of projects including the Neighbourhood Improvement Board, Youth Activities Fund and Leeds Lets Get Active.

**Recommendations**

3. The Area Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and
  - i) Agree to establish an Inner West Child-led Children and Young Peoples Board to support the Youth Activities Fund.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to highlight new initiatives and partnership working that contributes to the Inner West Business Plan.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 The Area Committee approved the revised Inner West Business Plan at its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2013. The Plan is aligned to the 'Best City For...' corporate priorities and lists a range of actions under nine improvement objectives which are:

- Promote healthy lifestyles and tackle health inequalities
- All children and young people in Leeds have access to out of school activities
- Provide opportunities for people to get jobs, volunteer or learn new skills
- Provide opportunities and facilities to enable local people to access and engage in sport and cultural activities
- Make better use of our community buildings
- Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, with a particular focus on reducing burglary
- Engage with local communities to strengthen community activity and involvement in local decision making
- Improve the local environment and our parks and open spaces
- Improve public service co-ordination working together with local residents to improve our most deprived neighbourhoods

## **3 Main Issues**

- 3.1 This section outlines some new initiatives across the two wards that contribute to the corporate 'Best City' priorities and the Area Committee's business plan.

### **'Best City For ... Health & Wellbeing'**

#### **Leeds Get Active**

- 3.2 Leeds Get Active is an 18 month pilot project to offer universal free activities that offer a step towards a healthier lifestyle. This project began on 1<sup>st</sup> October and people have been encouraged to sign up on-line [www.leedsletsgetactive.co.uk](http://www.leedsletsgetactive.co.uk) or in local leisure centres. Free swim and gym sessions are being offered along with local community activities. Approximately 4000 people have signed up to this so far. Both Armley Leisure Centre and Bramley Baths are offering free sessions details of which can be found at the Leeds Let's Get Active website.

### **Healthy Living Network**

- 3.3 Healthy Living Network Leeds and Barca-Leeds have agreed to begin negotiations to progress a potential merger. A process of due diligence will need to be undertaken by both organisations. However, it is not envisaged that there will be any insurmountable issues and both are keen to progress the merger discussions as soon as possible.
- 3.4 As an interim measure, Barca-Leeds have agreed to provide day-to-day management support to the Board of Healthy Living Network Leeds to maintain service delivery and ensure that staff are supported and engaged in the process. Staff and key stakeholders from both organisations have been informed and we will endeavour to keep all stakeholders up to date with any progress.

### **Drug and Alcohol Meeting with Rachel Reeves MP**

- 3.5 Following complaints from local residents about increasing drug crime and the lack of activities for children in New Wortley, a public meeting was called on the 12<sup>th</sup> September at Castleton Primary School.
- 3.6 Ward Members, the Police and Crime Commissioner along with officers from Children's Services, Community Safety and the Area Support Team all attended to hear residents' concerns. A range of issues were raised by members of the public, and services have committed to do more in the local area. Three main action points were agreed at the meeting:
- Support the Residents' Association in their bid to build a children's play area on Jaily Fields;
  - Take action against drug dealing and increase reporting by the local community;
  - Tackle anti-social street drinking on Armley Town Street.
- 3.7 Since the meeting partners have met to explore options for working with the community to address these issues. The Police and Community Safety have established a local project team to tackle anti-social street drinking on Armley Town Street. An additional lead inspector has been assigned and in the interim the Police will be introducing increased patrols to enforce the Designated Public Places Order (DPPO). In addition to the increased Police response a West Yorkshire Police volunteer from the Eastern European community will assist with any language/ cultural barriers. The local project team led by Inspector Nick Boyles and Gill Hunter, will be working with partners to develop a longer term strategy that builds on working with local businesses and residents groups.
- 3.8 The Area Support Team will work with the New Wortley Residents Association to explore the options and resource implications around the idea for a play area on Jaily Fields.
- 3.9 The issue of potential drug dealing has been discussed further with the Police. Work is taking place through the local community and voluntary organisations to work with residents to increase reporting. A further update will be provided in December once

a local action plan has been agreed. The Police and Community Safety will keep local Members updated on further developments.

## **‘Best City For ... Children & Young People’**

### **Youth Activities Fund**

- 3.10 The Area Lead Member for Children and Young People (Cllr Caroline Gruen) and the Area Support Team have met with clusters and local partners to outline the next steps for the Youth Activities Fund. An initial discussion with partners has started to identify perceived gaps in local provision such as a lack of holiday and weekend provision in a number of communities. The younger age group of 8-11 seems to have access to less local provision as a number of activities are focused on the older age group. The analysis from the summer activities has not been finalised at this stage, but should provide helpful information on the activities that children and young people would like to be able to access locally.
- 3.11 Youth Service activities will be reconfiguring over the next year as the shift in emphasis moves towards more targeted youth work activity. The Area Lead will continue to meet with Youth Service colleagues to identify any potential changes early and review the options for re-provision as part of the youth activities fund, where appropriate and in conjunction with ward members.
- 3.12 Initial conversations suggest that a way forward maybe to co-produce a youth activities programme with the clusters, who already run a number of activities during term time. There are challenges about how to co-ordinate the local programme within the existing resource envelope. Options to support local delivery are being discussed with partners and will report back to the December meeting.
- 3.13 The Area Lead is keen to ensure the Inner West has an effective consultation and engagement programme with children and young people. The partner’s consulted to date are supportive of this as a way forward in the Inner West. The initial conversations in the summer proved helpful to understanding the needs of children and young people but a more sustainable model is required for on-going engagement work. The proposal is to work with the clusters and partners to develop a child-led Children and Young Peoples Board. This group will meet regularly with members and local partners to develop a local programme of activity for children and young people. In addition, members can also visit other local groups of children and young people to seek a more informal view of issues for children and young people. It is hoped by bringing these two dimensions together the Area Committee will be able to have a good understanding of the issues faced and aspirations for things to get involved with locally. Partners are keen to work with this model and discussions are underway to identify resources to support the Children and Young Peoples Board through Children’s Services.

## **Pilot of a Pathway Planning Process in the Inner West**

- 3.14 In May 2013, schools and partners agreed to trial a process of identifying the most vulnerable young people in Year 11 who the school are most concerned may become NEET without extra support. Partners agreed to meet to discuss if collectively we can identify a learning pathway for the young person and support them during the transition. The process was trialled in Swallow Hill, Leeds West Academy and Farnley Academy. Presently they have been able to identify a potentially suitable pathway for 84 of the 90 learners. A review of the success of the project will take place in September to see how many of the young people started their course and again at the end of October to see how many still remain on their course.

## **‘Best City For .... Business’**

- 3.15 The Armley festive light switch on event will take place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November from 5.30 – 7pm. Young people will once again take centre stage with performances supported by Interplay Theatre Company and Breeze Leeds. Local businesses will be encouraged to open late, and the new Town Street Hub will have a stall promoting their greengrocer and other activities.

The Bramley event is organised by the Bramley Lights Committee and will take place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November at the shopping centre. It will feature performances from local artists including Dene Michaels of Black Lace fame. The Bramley Shopping Centre have provided funding for the event.

## **‘Best City For Communities’**

### **Area Lead Members**

- 3.16 Discussions have taken place between the Area Lead Members and the Executive Portfolio Holder. Lead Members will now be actively involved in discussions about shaping of future themed Area Committee meetings.

### **Neighbourhood Improvement Board**

- 3.17 The Inner West Neighbourhood Improvement Board met on the 5<sup>th</sup> September. The main discussion topic was around preventing young people from becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) and moving existing NEET young people into education, employment or training. Children’s Services established a pilot ‘Destinations Team’ to work with the 90 year 11 pupils teachers felt were most at risk of becoming NEET.
- 3.18 IGEN is a private company contracted to deliver work across the City to reduce the number of NEET young people and work with those furthest away from the job market. IGEN employs a team of advisors to work one to one with young people to identify any barriers to employment, and provide emotional and practical support to help them into education, employment or training. Members were interested to find out more about

the service and the Area Lead for Employment, Cllr McKenna, is arranging a visit to find out more about how their contract with the council works.

- 3.19 The Health & Wellbeing report outlined a proposal to work more closely with the West Leeds GP Clinical Commissioning Group to commission services in the priority neighbourhoods that contribute towards improving the wider determinants of health. The Board welcomed the proposal and the opportunity to work more closely with the new CCGs.

### **Neighbourhood Partnership**

- 3.20 Both Neighbourhood Partnerships met during September. The meetings were well attended and partners came prepared to engage in the debates. Key actions include:

- Establishing a mobile and outreach service on the Wyther estate to support people into jobs and training.
- Develop a communications strategy, starting with a newsletter to promote all the services available in the priority neighbourhoods.
- Supporting Barca to turn their building on Broadlea Hill into an accessible community centre
- Piloting a project where youth or community workers accompany housing officers to their initial visits to new tenants age 16-24 to promote local services, especially job shops and training opportunities.

- 3.21 Partners are putting more resources into the priority neighbourhoods including a new worker in New Wortley employed by Healthy Living Network, and a project team tackling hate crime on the Wythers. Barca have confirmed they are to receive a further year's funding to carry out community development work on the Fairfields and Broadleas, and Leeds Council's Public Health Team has released two members of staff to spend a day a week in New Wortley on community development work. They are currently speaking to a range of local people not currently engaged with the residents' association or other organisations. The aim of this project is to recruit more active citizens who can influence local service delivery and share information with their network of friends and family.

### **Bramley Park Floodlights**

- 3.22 Work started on site in Bramley Park to install the floodlights on 14<sup>th</sup> October and is likely to take 2 weeks to complete. A 'turning on' event is being organised by Parks & Countryside involving local Ward Members.

### **Employability and Welfare Reform**

- 3.23 The Area Support Team and partners are working with Employment and Skills to host a West North West Apprenticeship event on the 26<sup>th</sup> November. The event will take place at Pudsey Civic Hall and will target young people in year 11, the aim being to introduce and inspire young people about the benefits of apprenticeships. Education Business Partnership will be supporting the event with six employers all of

whom have apprenticeship opportunities to run workshops for young people in an Employer Zone. The National Apprenticeship Service will also be attending and representatives from Leeds Pathways will run an information and registration session which will be in an Apprenticeship Zone. There will also be various training providers running information stands in a Learning Provider Zone.

- 3.24 The Area Support Team and Public Health are working with the Clinical Commissioning Group Public Health Lead and outreach employability partners to develop a GP employability referral pathway operating from within a GP practice as a pilot initiative.
- 3.25 Partners will be supporting Housing Leeds to deliver their 'arrears week' in October with a focus on illegal money lending and high interest loans.

### **Community Safety**

- 3.26 Darker Nights Campaign - Historically an increase in the number of burglary offences can be seen during the months of October and November, leading up to and following the clocks going back, therefore the division has a plan in place to combat them. The plan focusses on crime prevention in key areas such as the top 10 streets for insecure break-ins. Operation Optimal, multi-agency actions days and media campaigns will also be used. Working with Housing Leeds there will be 300 properties target hardened focussing on the most vulnerable street on the Broadleas.
- 3.27 Hate Crime - There have been issues raised in relation to hate crime which appears to be focussing on Eastern Europeans living on the Broadleas. Information is being shared and actions developed to address this problem with the Police, Housing Leeds and the Leeds anti-social behaviour team. The Hate crime Multi- agency risk assessment conference meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> October will also focus actions around these concerns. There is on going multi-agency work in the Wythers to tackle incidents of ASB and Hate Crime which has resulted in 1 evection and several housing cautions being issued.

### **Asset Review**

- 3.28 Since May 2013, the West North West Area Support Team (AST) has been supporting the city wide Asset Review an element of the Budget Plus Programme and led by Paul Broughton. The review aims to see a reduced asset base that is more efficient and effective in delivering integrated services to our customers and achieves significant savings for the council.
- 3.29 The AST has supported the Asset Review project team to work with local elected members in the production of a comprehensive list of assets for each Area Committee area. This has included supporting ward briefings with elected member and adding local context on usage, sensitivities, and leasing and management arrangements. This work is on-going and it is anticipated that all ward briefings will have been completed by September. Fortnightly meetings are being held to progress asset review work in the localities and are led by a member of the central Asset Review project team.

- 3.30 The Inner West Area Committee area is the pilot area for the west north west, although the asset review is being undertaken across the whole of the west north west. A workshop was held at Armley Lazer Centre with service managers to explore their needs and the needs of the community and to look at the potential for a change and improvement in the delivery of those services from the available asset base. The Inner West ward members have been briefed on the work through the General Purposes sub group. This work will be on-going as the Asset Review group explore some of the ideas and issues that have come forward.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 4.1.1 All Wellbeing funded projects require applicants to outline their consultation ahead of any grant being awarded.
- 4.1.2 The community events listed in the report provide the Area Support Team and other services with an opportunity to consult with local residents, the results of which will influence the delivery of the Business Plan.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

- 4.2.1 The Business Plan takes into account equality, diversity, cohesion and integration issues

### **4.3 Council policies and City Priorities**

- 4.3.1 The themes in the Business Plan mirror the themes and priority outcomes at a city wide level and also reflect the delegated functions and priority advisory functions.

### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

- 4.4.1 As outlined in the Function Schedule 2011/12, the Wellbeing budget delegated by Executive Board is used to finance projects which meet the needs of the Area Delivery Plan or its successor (the Business Plan). Members of the Area Committee are keen that wherever possible the use of Wellbeing brings in additional match funding to the area.

### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

- 4.5.1 There are no legal implications as a result of this report, and there are no key or major decisions being made that would be eligible for Call In.

### **4.6 Risk Management**

- 4.6.1 All Wellbeing applicants are asked to identify risks associated to the successful delivery of their project. These are assessed by the Area Support Team, and all projects are monitored quarterly against set targets.



## **5 Conclusions**

- 5.1 There are several new initiatives in the inner West area that contribute to the delivery of the Inner West Business Plan highlighted in this report. The Area Support Team continues to look at opportunities to develop projects and promote new ways of working to achieve the objectives outlined in the Plan.
- 5.2 A half year Business Plan monitoring report will be presented to the 18<sup>th</sup> December Area Committee. Work is taking place to provide more quantitative local information to help monitor progress.

## **6 Recommendations**

- 6.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report and highlight any further areas of work that Members would like partners to prioritise.

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

- 7.1 None

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.