

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens & Communities)

Report to North West (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 13th February 2014

Subject: Area Update Report

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Kirkstall, Headingley, Hyde Park & Woodhouse, Weetwood	<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

This report provides members with a summary of sub group and forum business since the September Area Committee. The report introduces a presentation on the Police Programme of Change. It also includes an update on the current position with the former Royal Park School and West Park Centre sites.

Recommendations

The North West (Inner) Area Committee is asked to:

- Note and action as appropriate the Key Messages from Sub Groups and Forums.
- Receive a presentation on the Police Programme of Change.
- Note the update on the former Royal Park School and West Park Centre sites.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report provides members with an update on recent Sub Group business and the current position relating to other project activity. This includes introducing a presentation on the Police Programme of Change. It also includes an update on the current position with the former Royal Park School and West Park Centre sites.

2 Background information

- 2.1 An Area Committee update report is submitted at every cycle of Area Committee meetings unless there is no additional business to report from sub groups or any other project activity to report. Partner organisations and Council services will contribute information to the Area Update Report.

3 Main issues

Forum and Sub Group Key Messages

3.1 Planning Sub Group

- 3.2 Planning sub group have met on two occasions since the last Area Committee. At the 13th November 2013 meeting they discussed a variety of planning applications and issues. The following issues were discussed:

- Catholic Care, developers of a 24 hour, over 55s care facility at 29 -31 Moor Road attended the meeting to give a presentation. A public exhibition in October was well attend, and 19 written responses in support of the use. Issues relating to the trees, access and parking were discussed and the developers agreed to consider alternatives were possible.
- Neighbourhood Planning issues were discussed, and updates given about the progress of local group draft plans.
- An update was given on the Core Strategy which sets out the future planning vision for Leeds over the next 15 years.
- The draft Charging Strategy for the Community Infrastructure Levy which is a new levy the Council will charge developers or landowners when they build new developments was discussed, the consultation period closed on 10th December 2013.
- The 6 week consultation on the draft Far Headingley, Weetwood and West Park Neighbourhood Design Statement closed on the 20th December 2013.
- Various planning applications were discussed.

- 3.3 At the 11th December 2013 meeting of the Planning Sub Group the following issues were discussed:

- An update was given by Ian Mackay on the Neighbourhood Planning issues in the Inner North West, particular discussion points included geographical boundaries which do not run along ward boundaries which may lead to

challenges, also where the outcomes for different groups in their plans differ along boundaries.

- There are issues within some groups as they need support with the process, with the funding, with resourcing because some groups are also engaged in other local issues such as NGT, and with gathering new support within their area. It was suggested that an advisory group is set up to support local groups with these key areas.
- Various planning applications were discussed.

Key Messages

3.4 The following key messages were noted for Area Committee.

- The Planning sub group request that Area Committee note the concerns of the group in relation to the much needed additional support and funding required for neighbourhood planning initiatives in the Inner North West area and ask that Area Committee explore options to assist the co-ordination and designation of Neighbourhood Forums in the area with a view to accessing funding streams.
- The Planning sub group also request that Area Committee note the progress being made at the newly refurbished Cardigan Centre and would encourage any contribution that the Area Committee can make to raising the profile of this community venue.
- The Area Committee are further asked to note the general discussions of the Planning Sub Group.

3.5 **Environment Sub Group**

3.6 Environment Sub Group met on 26th November 2013. The following issues were discussed:

- The WNW Environmental Services Locality Team provided an overview of the service and the delegation.
- During the period of 24th July and 1st Sept 2013 there were 358 requests for service received by the WNW Locality Team. De-leafing is ongoing, particularly at areas around schools and doctors surgeries.
- Binyard ownership issues were raised and Alison Gilliland, Service Manager for the Locality Team, gave an overview of the key ownership issues.
- Chris Baird gave an update on the work he is undertaking as Environmental Coordinator, a post which is funded through Area Committee.
- The sub group noted the update from the Waste Management team about the Executive Board report which finalises the collection changes for 80% of the city on the new system.
- Parks & Countryside provided an update on work in each ward.

Key Messages

3.7 The Area Committee are asked to note the discussions of the Environment Sub Group.

3.8 Transport Sub Group

3.9 There has been no meeting of the joint Transport Sub Group for North West (Inner) and North West (Outer) Area Committees since the last Area Committee. The sub group is due to meet on 31st January 2014.

3.10 Children and Young People's Sub Group

3.11 As agreed at the North West (Inner) Area Committee meeting on 24th October 2013, a Children & Young People's Sub Group has been established to consider Youth Activities Fund projects. The next meeting will take place on 12th February 2014.

Key Messages

3.12 Members are asked to note those projects agreed through the Youth Activities Fund as outlined within the Wellbeing Update Report.

3.13 Forum Update

3.14 Kirkstall Forum - There has been one forum held since the last Area Update Report to Area Committee, in the Burley area of Kirkstall Ward. Areas for discussion included plans for the Kirkstall Household Waste Site, future plans for the Cardigan Fields site, community safety issues, environmental issues and planning issues.

3.15 Hyde Park & Woodhouse Forum – The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 11th February.

3.16 Police Programme of Change

3.17 In June 2013 West Yorkshire Police initiated a Programme of Change strategy, to improve Force performance and transform the way services are delivered by reducing demand and thereby support the delivery of policing. Embedded within the strategy is a commitment from West Yorkshire Police to work more closely with Partners to deliver the outcomes set out in the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.

3.18 The transformation programme aims to build on existing, and develop new working arrangements, through potential co-location opportunities for Police and Partner resources to deliver a more integrated service provision. At the heart of this is the goal of ensuring communities are safe and feel safer.

3.19 The Area Committee are asked to receive a presentation on the progress of the Police Programme of Change and what this might look like for the North West Area.

3.20 West Park Centre

3.21 Demolition works began on the West Park Centre in January and the site is scheduled to be cleared by the end of March. Marketing activity for disposal of the site is not due to commence until demolition works are completed and contractors have moved off site. A report is due before Executive Board on 5th March which will provide an update on the centre's former users and will detail the outcome of the Ombudsman's investigation into the circumstances surrounding the closure.

3.22 Royal Park School

3.23 There have been ongoing discussions with members of the local community to try and find a sustainable proposal for the future of the former Royal Park School. Unfortunately, despite the significant efforts of those involved, no such proposal has been forthcoming. Demolition works will therefore commence on 17th February and are scheduled to last for 10 weeks.

3.24 The caretaker's house is to remain and the council will look at ways this can be used to complement the greenspace that will be developed on site. The friendship bench will also remain and the dragon mural will be dismantled and stored, with a view to including them in the greenspace. In the first instance the site will be grassed over while a project is developed to create a permanent greenspace solution for the benefit of the local community. The council would like community involvement in the development of the greenspace project and will shortly be seeking views from local people.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 Elected members have been consulted on the content of this report.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 There are no equality and diversity issues in relation to this report.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The Area Committee Functions and Priority Advisory Functions were approved by the Executive Board in June 2009. This approval was rolled forward to 2010/11 and is also being rolled forward to 2011/12 with amendments to the environmental delegation. The Area Functions are included in the Council's Constitution (Part 3, section 3c).

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

4.5 Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 There are no legal implications or access to information issues. This report is not subject to call in.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no risk management issues relating to this report.

5 Conclusions

5.1 This report provides members with an update on recent Sub Group and Forum business and other project work undertaken by the Area Support Team.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Members are asked to:

- Note and action as appropriate the Key Messages from Sub Groups and Forums.
- Receive a presentation on the Police Programme of Change.
- Note the update on the former Royal Park School and West Park Centre sites.

7 Background documents

None