

Report of : Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities)

Report to : West (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 25th March 2014

Subject: Area 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

This report provides a summary of the Area Committee's Business Plan for the year 2013/14 and successes in meeting objectives.

The report asks Councillors to discuss and agree upon a name for the new Community Committee.

Recommendations

The Area Committee is asked to:

Recommend future direction for the next years Business Plan;

Decide upon and propose a name for the new Community Committee.

1. Purpose of this report

1.1.1. The purpose of this report is to highlight the activities undertaken and achievements made in meeting the objectives set out in the Business Plan.

1.1.2. It also requests Councillors to agree upon a new name for the Community Committee.

2. Background information

2.1.1. The Area Committee approved the revised Inner West Business Plan at its meeting on 26th 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

2.2. The Business Plan, in Appendix 1, has been updated, filling in the 'What is the impact?' column.

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'

3.2. Objective 1: Promote healthy lifestyles and tackle health inequalities

3.2.1. The Inner West has some notable trends in health that focus around obesity, hypertension, high levels of smoking, and mental health issues particularly with 50+year old men.

3.2.2. Activities undertaken through the Business Plan were aimed at getting people engaged to guide them through to healthier living and get them actively

participating in exercise. This has been very successful and the Healthy Living Network has significantly exceeded the targeted number of contacts. The Leeds Let's Get Active free sessions at Armley have some of the highest attendance in the city. The free gym sessions at Bramley Baths have attracted lower numbers, and publicity and the time of the offer are being reviewed.

3.2.3. Other activities looked to deliver training on health and mental health issues to staff – and these have been delivered.

3.2.4. The MARS referrals project was a successful in pilot in that it showed that multi-agency working is valuable and effective, but it was hampered in the minimal structure and resources that were available to run this. The project did not generate the number of referrals that had been stated in the Business Plan but it's value was acknowledged and it is being rolled out citywide, launching in April 2014.

3.2.5. **Recommendations for FY14/15:**

- Work with the new joint Healthy Living Network / Barca community health improvement teams to identify opportunities for closer partnership working to help residents in our priority neighbourhoods improve health outcomes for themselves and their families.
- Support front line staff, who have had training, with information as to where to send / signpost people, linking in to provisions that maybe being delivered through the community hub.
- Encourage the use of the MARs online system, when launched, by multiple agencies across the Inner West.
- Strengthen the mental health training and guidance tools for front line staff.

'Best City For ... Children & Young People'

3.3. Objective 2: All children and young people in Leeds have access to out of school activities.

3.3.1. Through the Youth Activities and Wellbeing Funds the Area Committee sought to give 50 people benefit; in the end 270 young people attended sessions with free swim session at Bramley Baths and the Armley Saturday Night Project being among the most popular.

The National Citizenship Scheme however did not reach its target of 30 young people, but did have 21 complete the scheme.

3.3.2. Recommendations for FY14/15

- Continue to support activities for children and young people through Youth and Wellbeing Funding
- Continue to support the Saturday Night Project which is highly popular and can deliver targeted provision to children not attending school or at risk of offending.
- Link ESOL provision to schools where there is high need for language training.
- Work with Children's Services to support work on the Principles and practise for meeting EYFS progress being in place within the next 12 months.

'Best City For Business'

3.4. Objective 3: Provide opportunities for people to get jobs, volunteer or learn new skills.

3.4.1. The Area Committee has successfully delivered on these initiatives – the Job Squad launched and being effective in increasing access to job shops, the Destinations Team which has focused on specific children at risk of NEET and is an approach that is being rolled out in other areas, and 11 regular volunteers working at community centres and the Hub.

3.4.2. Recommendations for FY14/15

- § A recent Employment and Skills Area Committee highlighted the continued need to provide accessible training and to make information about jobs and employers highly visible.
- § Activities could focus on linking provisions of training and services better across the whole area and taking sessions to people in their communities. Working with the Armley One Stop Centre as they move to becoming a Community Hub would also be a recommendation.
- § Facilitate closer engagement between those involved in the Employment and Skills agenda and schools and academies to engage in skills aptitude focused work and pathways to employment.

3.5. Objective 4: Provide opportunities and facilities to enable local people to access and engage in sport and cultural activities.

3.5.1. The Area Committee funded 6 community events, including the Christmas lights switch on which has a growing popularity.
Area Committee funding helped provide a new boxing facility at Bramley Villagers and floodlights for the Phoenix Rugby Club at Bramley Park.

3.5.2. Recommendations for FY14/15

- Consider linking of funding for this objective to the Leeds Lets Get Active project for the sports
- Work towards community involvement in the World War 1 commemorations, such as the Bramley War Memorial.

'Best City For Communities'

3.6. Objective 5: Make better use of our community buildings

3.6.1. There has been success in delivering these activities – with a gardening club at the New Wortley Community Centre, 1 new service at Fairfield Community Centre and a Job Club at the Broadleas Hill centre.

The debate around community building usage is likely to change subtly over the next year as work is done to configure the Armley One Stop Centre into a community hub, which will have associated 'pop up' provisions in communities.

3.6.2. Recommendations for FY14/15

- Further work to promote the accessibility and use of Community Centres by and with their communities
- Work closely with services to bring together through co-location, and to identify where mobile (pop up) services are needed in communities, and where those services can be located.

3.7. Objective 6: Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, with a particular focus on reducing burglary rates

3.7.1. The activities focused around target hardening and burglary. Much work done on this is through regular tasking meetings and operational work of involved teams.

Funding for target hardening was difficult to disperse to the desired level but the money is being well utilised for work that the Private Sector Housing team are doing in the Edinburghs.

3.7.2. Recommendations for FY14/15

- Target most vulnerable properties through the crime reduction officers
- Continue support for Operation Optimal and offender management
- Continue with action days in burglary hotspots
- ASB priority operations to tackle ASB and durgs in New Wortley and Armley
- CSE – develop awareness of CSE in front-line staff across west Leeds
- Domestic Violence – working with clusters and public health and holding an OBA session
- Easter European community engagement (POMOC)

4. Objective 7: Engage with local communities to strengthen community activity and involvement in local decision making.

4.1.1. Regular community forums have been held throughout the year and in both wards and have been important opportunities for discussion with communities.

Recruitment of individuals to the Neighbourhood Partnership has been more challenging with only 1 regular attendee instead of the 4 aimed at.

Youth engagement has been more successful with 75 young people consulted over Youth Activities spend.

4.1.2. **Recommendations for FY14/15**

- Forums and engagement will become more important with the introduction of Community Committees in June, and there may be some impact and changes as a result.
- Develop a pilot for engagement with the community in Bramley.

5. Objective 8: Improve the local environment and our parks and open spaces.

5.1.1. Closer working with and between Housing Leeds and Environments teams has led to improvements in the look of local neighbourhoods.

There still remain some problems with bin yards, but the Private Sector Housing's work in the Edinburgh's will contribute to assisting with one of the worst bin yard areas.

5.1.2. **Recommendations FY14/15**

- Whilst significant improvements have been made to the community parks in the Inner West over the past year, there is a desire to move them closer to Quality Park Status. Further discussions needed with Parks & Countryside as to how this can be achieved.

6. Objective 9: Improve public service co-ordination working together with local residents to improve our most deprived neighbourhoods.

6.1.1. The Neighbourhood Partnerships have slightly increased attendance and some productive outcomes have been achieved.

The Neighbourhood Improvement Board has been active in focusing on 3 themes and has had key achievements of –

Setting up and piloting a Destinations team around NEET, which has been successful in tackling some difficult issues. The pilot has been picked up to take across the city.

Initiating a 'Community Index' of intelligence, piloted in the Broadleas, which through workshops, attended by a broad array of stakeholders from services, third sector and communities, identify priorities for a community and encourages co-production of activities to meet objectives for those priorities. The process and

intelligence framework itself is being looked at as a case study and maybe translated across the city.

Establishing a working group to target CCG funding to priority health issues within the Inner West.

6.1.2. Recommendations FY14/15

- To continue with the ongoing activities of the NIB

7. Naming of the Community Committee

7.1. Members are asked to consider and agree on a place-based name for their new community committee at their Area Committee meeting, so that the new committees can be formally constituted at the council's AGM on 9 June 2014. Having consulted with the Chair of the Area Committee the following suggestions have been made to stimulate discussion.

Here are a few examples that may assist.

Inner West:

Armley, Bramley and Stanningley Community Committee
Armley and Bramley Community Committee

West Outer :

Community Committee for Calverley & Farsley, Farnley & Wortley, Pudsey
Calverley & Farsley, Farnley & Wortley, Pudsey Community Committee
Pudsey Community Committee (including Calverley & Farsley, Farnley & Wortley)

North-West Outer

Community Committee for Adel & Wharfedale, Guiseley & Rawdon, Horsforth, Otley & Yeadon
Adel & Wharfedale, Guiseley & Rawdon, Horsforth, Otley & Yeadon Community Committee
Wharfedale & Aireborough Community Committee

North-East Inner

Community Committee for Chapel Allerton, Moortown, Roundhay etc.

8. Corporate Considerations

9. Consultation and Engagement

9.1. 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.

10. Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

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

11. Council policies and City Priorities

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.

12. Resources and value for money

13. 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.

14. Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

15. 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.

16. Risk Management

17. 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.

18. Conclusions

19. 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.

20. Work is taking place to provide more quantitative local information to help monitor progress.

21. Recommendations

22. Members are asked to :

23. Receive a verbal update from Inspector Fran Naughton and comment on any possible issues or concerns about the forthcoming changes.

24. Background documents¹

¹ 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.

25. None

