



## Report of the Director of Environment & Neighbourhoods

### Inner North West Area Committee

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> June 2007

### Subject: Key Messages from Area Forums and Area Committee Sub Groups

#### Electoral Wards Affected:

Headingley  
Hyde Park & Woodhouse  
Kirkstall  
Weetwood

Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

#### 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

This report updates Members on key messages from ward forums and sub groups that have taken place since the last Area Committee, as well as updates on previous key messages.

### 1.0 Background Information

1.1 The following forums are covered by this report, if meetings have taken place since the last Area Committee.

- Headingley Forum
- Kirkstall Burley Forum
- Hyde Park & Woodhouse Forum
- Streetscene Sub Group
- Community Safety Sub Group
- Children and Young People's Sub Group
- Planning Group
- Street Drinkers Group
- Housing Strategy Group

### 2.0 Key Messages

2.1 Details of issues for action and for information are identified below.

## 2.2 **Headingley Forum**

### Update on previous issues:

7<sup>th</sup> March

- The Police carried out patrols on St Patrick's Day (17<sup>th</sup> March), no issues were reported.
- A meeting has been set up between the Police and the Co-op at the end of June, the outcome of which will be fed back to the Headingley Forum.

### New Messages:

12<sup>th</sup> June

- The forum is supportive of moving forward with a Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP) for takeaway food outlets in Headingley, however response from residents to the recent consultation was low.

## 2.3 **Hyde Park & Woodhouse Forum**

### Update on previous issues:

31<sup>st</sup> January

- Further consultation has taken place on plans for the Leeds Girls' High School site, as well as two public meetings having been held.

### New Messages:

23<sup>rd</sup> May

- The forum requested that a noise nuisance action group of senior officers and councillors be set up before the next meeting with terms of reference established. There needs to be more co-ordination between the Council's noise unit, the police and the universities' helplines in order to find a way forward.
- The forum were concerned about the lack of progress regarding Highways' consultancy report which was due in March 2007. The group requested that the findings of the report be circulated to the group immediately, by letter or email.
- The forum felt concern around the issues of parking and wanted to advise students about bringing cars to the city. This message will be put in writing to the universities.

- The forum expressed its view on the Designated Public Places Order for the ward. They would like to see Woodhouse Lane and Hyde Park Road included in the area. Forum members would also like to see the boundary meet the border of the Headingley DPPO so drinkers are not displaced to between the two areas.

#### 2.4 **Kirkstall Burley Forum**

##### New Messages:

21<sup>st</sup> May

- The forum urged the Council to make improvements to the unsightly waste transfer facility in Kirkstall that suffered fire damage a number of years ago.
- The forum recognised the importance of local sports pitches and support Kirkstall Crusaders request for more dedicated pitches in the area.

#### 2.5 **Streetscene Sub Group**

##### Update on previous issues:

26<sup>th</sup> February

- Remaining 2006/07 skips budget (£500) used to contribute towards the cost of extra streetscene services during the student changeover period.
- Request made that monthly Environmental Pride Team (ex CAST) be re-established, this should be shortly available to send out to Members.
- Streetscene to carry out an audit of green bin stickers throughout the area over the coming months.

##### New Messages:

17<sup>th</sup> April

- The sub group stressed the importance of receiving CAST/Environmental Pride Team monthly reports from Streetscene.
- The sub group supports the continuation of a funding pot for improvements to grass verges, as detailed in the Well-being report.

12<sup>th</sup> June

- The sub group proposes that the Area Committee commits the remaining £9,169 Kirkstall Road, Otley Road and Cardigan Road funding to the replacement of York Stone along their footpaths.

- The sub group would like to see more litter picking teams operating on the key arterial routes that pass through the inner north west area.

## 2.6 **Community Safety Sub Group**

### Update on previous issues:

- Youth nuisance and anti-social behaviour in and around the Ivesons has decreased. If issues arise again the Community Safety Co-ordinator will arrange a multi agency response.

### New Messages:

21<sup>st</sup> May

- The police are carrying out a pilot project with licensing to look at how takeaway licenses are enforced in the inner north west. Police data shows that premises that breach their license by opening late are attracting people on the way home, increasing incidents of violent and criminal damage in the area.

## 2.7 **Children and Young People Sub Group**

### New Messages:

17<sup>th</sup> May

- The sub group supports the need for community access to any sports hall that is developed on the Leeds Grammar School site.
- Leeds Play Network have funding available for a 6 week programme of street play activities in the inner north west. Both Councillors and community members are asked to pass intelligence to Leeds Play Network on where young people cause, or are viewed to cause, a problem so that activities can be targeted in these areas.

## 2.8 **Planning Group**

### New Messages:

14<sup>th</sup> May

- The Planning Group requests the support of the Area Committee in supporting Preferred Option PO-08 of the City Centre Area Action Plan, which seeks to encourage the development of purpose built student accommodation in the city centre. However, the Planning Group suggests a rider that this only refers to areas of the city centre, outside the Area of Housing Mix.
- The Planning Group requests the support of the Area Committee in expressing concern about the inclusion of purpose built student accommodation in the

proposals for Kirkstall District Centre. Concern is also expressed about the potential reduction in the levels of affordable housing proposed.

- The Planning Group requests the support of the Area Committee in defending the Council's case in the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the re-development of the BHS site, Bridge Road, Kirkstall.
- The Planning Group requests the support of the Area Committee regarding the renewal application for a purpose built student accommodation scheme on a site at the junction of Park Lane / Hanover Square. The group considers that whilst this scheme has been approved before, the proposals are now contrary to the spirit of Policy H15 and the Area of Housing Mix. In addition, the requirements of quality in design have increased since the first application.
- The Planning Group notes that St Michael's School, St John's Road, is to close next year. The group is unsure of any future plans for the site, but wishes to be involved early on in any discussions.

13<sup>th</sup> June

- A number of Councils have pointed out that the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987, as amended, is inadequate. Bath and North East Somerset Council, Southampton City Council and Newcastle City Council have lobbied central government to revise the Use Classes Order to deal with Houses in Multiple Occupation. It is requested that Leeds City Council also drafts a motion to the same effect.
- The Planning Group considers that progress needs to be made on initiating work on an Area Action Plan for Inner North West. It is anticipated that a paper setting out key issues will be brought to Area Committee in September.
- Progress is being made on a Neighbourhood Design Statement for the Headingley and Hyde Park areas. It is anticipated that all members of the group will meet shortly to take things forward.

## 2.9 **Street Drinkers Group**

### New Messages:

6<sup>th</sup> June

- Consultation on the inner DPPO has started. Various groups and organisations will be contacted over the coming weeks. Boundaries have been drafted, but may change over the coming weeks to accommodate the views of those consulted. Work is also underway to collect the evidence required to show that a DPPO is needed. This includes data / statistics from Police and the ASB Unit along with letters / comments from residents, groups and organisations. The project will take approximately 5 months to conclude (2 months consultation and 3 months for the legal aspect).

- An increased drinking culture amongst younger people congregating on Woodhouse and Hanover Square has resulted in serious assaults on older street drinkers.
- The group suggested the need to commission specialist workers in the alcohol and drugs field to provide outreach work in the area.
- The group supported an immediate short-term response in an attempt to address the problems:
  - The Police would apply maximum effort during the summer months when the street drinking problems usually increase. They will target patrols to key times, make their presence felt and make arrests where appropriate.
  - The ASB Unit will issue ASBO Warnings and apply for ASBOs for persistent offenders
  - Youth Services, where possible, would look to divert the young people away from street drinking and encourage alternative activities in the area.

## 2.10 Housing Strategy Group

### New Messages:

20<sup>th</sup> March and 8<sup>th</sup> May

- The group met for the first time to discuss the possibility of developing a Housing Strategy for the Area of Housing Mix. The group agreed that the next stages would be a review of existing research and the development of a research plan.
- A seminar was held on 18<sup>th</sup> June with research on housing issues presented and workshops on tackling these issues, specifically in the inner north west area.

## 3.0 Recommendations

- 3.1 The Area Committee is asked to:
- a) note the contents of the report; and
  - b) decide whether to agree to the Hyde Park & Woodhouse Forum request for a noise nuisance action group to be set up; and
  - c) agree to the remaining £9,169 road improvement fund being spent on replacing missing York Stone along Kirkstall, Otley and Cardigan Roads; and
  - d) decide whether to support the Planning Group requests that;
    - i. the Area Committee supports Preferred Option PO-08 of the City Centre Area Action Plan; and
    - ii. the Area Committee expresses concern about the inclusion of purpose built student accommodation in the proposals for Kirkstall District Centre; and
    - iii. the Area Committee defends the Council's case in the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the re-development of the BHS site in Kirkstall; and
    - iv. the Area Committee objects to the renewal application for a purpose built student accommodation scheme on a site at the junction of Park Lane/Hanover Square.