

**Report of: Julie Wood, Senior Communities Librarian North East Area**

**Report to: Inner North East Committee - Chapel Allerton, Moortown and Roundhay**

**Date: 21st September 2015**

## **Libraries update in Inner North East Area – Chapel Allerton, Chapeltown and Oakwood**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input 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

### **1. Purpose of this report:**

This report introduces a presentation to be given at the Inner North East Community Committee on the work of the public libraries in the Area.

#### **1.1 The presentation will:**

- Highlight work done in Chapel Allerton, Chapeltown and Oakwood libraries
- Contain specific information/feedback about the Lego and board games events, funded by the ward councillors
- Outline proposals for future work

### **2. Background**

**2.1** Leeds Library and Information Service provide 35 libraries across the city including a major Central library, as well as 6 mobile libraries, Library at Home service, a

service for 3 prisons, and a school library service. The principle purpose is to *provide access to information, knowledge and varied reading choices through books, online resources and well informed staff*. The vision is *'To provide the world at your fingertips'* : a physical place in the heart of the community, access to a virtual space using community and information networks and a friendly face to support and guide people to access whichever services they need.

2.2 Our work is underpinned by the Council's Values: Working as a team for Leeds; Being open, honest and trusted; Working with communities; Treating people fairly; Spending money wisely. We have an Annual Service Plan, which outlines the priorities for the year ahead, with contributions from library teams' city wide.

2.3 The service provides access to a wide range of books and electronic material recorded in the public access catalogue. Information provision incorporates electronic resources, also available online for library members, with individual enquiries supported locally or via Enquiry Express- an information hotline. A wide variety of basic learning sessions are offered at sites across the city along with a programme of local and national events that introduce people to libraries and their services.

2.4 The objectives of Leeds Library & Information Service are to help people, both locally and regionally, of all ages and backgrounds in the following areas:

- Development of information handling skills
- making informed decisions and so improve their quality of life
- encouragement of innovation and creativity
- contribution to personal, community and economic wellbeing

### **3. Main Issues**

3.1 In April 2014 a bid for £800 was submitted to the INE committee to provide Lego and Board Games for the Inner North East libraries (Chapel Allerton, Chapeltown, and Oakwood). – The bid was to hold Lego and board game events in all three branches, and consult with children and young people to ascertain if there was interest in holding regular sessions.

3.2 'Build your Lego Dream' and 'Board Games Fun' events have been held in all three libraries during July and August, and have proved to be very popular, as the presentation slides will illustrate. – In total, almost 200 children have attended the events.

3.3 As a result of the events consultation, regular Lego / Minecraft Lego and Board Game clubs will be set up in these libraries, ensuring the continuation of the project.

3.4 Other work delivered, or in planning, includes:

- Chapeltown Arts Festival
- Chapel Allerton Festival
- Oakwood & Roundhay Festival
- Workshops with the Northern Ballet at Chapeltown and Oakwood libraries

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 The Community Committee is asked to receive a presentation from the Senior Communities Librarian for the Inner North East, providing an update on the work libraries are delivering in local communities; with an emphasis on the children's events held during the summer.