

**Report of: The West North West Area Leader**

**Report to: The Outer West Community Committee – Calverley & Farsley; Farnley & Wortley; Pudsey**

**Report author: Harpreet Singh 336 7862**

**Date: 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

**To Note**

## **Community Committee Update Report**

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### **Purpose of report**

1. This report updates the Community Committee on the work of the three sub groups of the Committee: Environment, Business, Employment & Skills and General Purposes.
2. This report also updates the Committee on pieces of work and partnership working that has taken place in the area since the last meeting.
3. The Community Committee update report is submitted when there is additional business to report from sub groups or any other project activity. Partner organisations and Council services will also contribute information to the Update Report

### **Main issues**

#### **Sub Groups Update**

4. The Outer West Community Committee has a range of sub groups which set priorities, agree topics for consideration at Community Committee and develop action plans to address issues of thematic importance. The committee currently operates three sub groups: Environment, Business, Employment & Skills and General Purposes.
5. Detailed below is an update on the current sub group activity and issues being explored at each.

### Environment Sub Group

6. The Outer West Environmental Sub Group has continued to meet and has led some positive work to ensure that the Service Level Agreement is fit for purpose and that resources are targeted at the areas of greatest need and to deliver the greatest impact.
7. The Outer West Environment Sub Group met on the 6th November 2015 and discussed partnership working throughout the Outer West. The first partnership would focus on a coordinated approach to emptying Parks bins, Streets bins and dog bins.
8. At the next meeting services will provide maps and stickers with locations for bins in the Outer West. This would help form the basis of a trial for the area which would help save on resource, manpower and time.

### Business, Employment & Skills Sub Group

9. The Outer West Community Committee held a workshop last October which focused on delivering actions which support Business Enterprise and the Economy linked with employment opportunities. Following on from this meeting members decided to set up the Business, Employment and Skills Sub group which would look into taking this piece of work forward. There have since been two meetings which have been chaired by Executive member Cllr Richard Lewis and it has been agreed that there will be 4 meetings held a year.

Members at their most recent meeting explored some key actions in line with the key themes that emerged from the October Workshop. These key themes are as follows;

- Supporting local people into employment and providing support to schools around opportunities for apprenticeships
- More mobile library / pop up facilities in areas where there are no services such as Farnley & Wortley
- Revitalising our high street offer and supporting businesses to ensure issues are resolved easily and fluidly

### General Purposes Sub Group

10. At the Committee meeting in March, Members were asked to consider creating a General Purposes Sub Group which would allow two main purposes:
  - To allow Members to have more time to oversee current and future delegated services
  - To allow Members to focus on key local priorities with the relevant service managers outside of Community Committee meetings.
11. Meetings of the General Purposes Sub group will be arranged on request from the Community Committee.

## **West Neighbourhood Improvement Board**

12. It was agreed at the November 2014 West Neighbourhood Improvement Board (NIB) that a plan on a page be developed for each of the priority neighbourhoods. Since their November 2014 meeting, data on each area was collated and reviewed and consultation with key partners, including Public Health, Employment and Skills, Community Safety, Housing Leeds and Children's Services had been undertaken. Draft plans on a page for the Heights & Bawns priority neighbourhoods were developed and were presented at the February 2015 NIB meeting for consideration and discussion.
13. The neighbourhood improvement plans were then finalised at the first Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership (NIP) meeting which was held on the 24th April. Key themes were discussed to progress the work of the partnership and theme champions were also elected.
14. Theme champions have now devised their own action plans on area of work and set targets against actions. An action tracker will be used for each theme to monitor progress against targets. The NIP meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> September received feedback from the theme leads whom provided an update on key actions. Minutes of the meeting are attached at appendix 1.
15. West Leeds Extended Services, Farnley Cluster in partnership with Leeds Youth Service and the Outer West Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership held a mini Halloween themed fun day. The event was held at Hillside Hall, Old Farnley Community Centre on Wednesday 28th October for 0-19yrs. The event was a success despite the weather and there were various stalls to browse, face painting inflatables and children's party games.

## **Citizens @ Pudsey & Swinnow Forum & Citizens @ Tyersal Forum**

16. Both forums receive an update from the Neighbourhood Policing Team, who reported on a series of successful arrests and prosecutions in the area recently. Half of the properties targeted are through insecure doors or windows, and crime prevention advice is provided by the officers.
17. The meetings have had representation from the West North West Locality Team, Parks & Countryside, Highways, Transportation, Housing Leeds, Planning and Private Sector Housing Team.

## **Community Committees**

18. The Community Committees have been in operation for a whole municipal year. The purpose of this style of working is to engage more with the community on topics that are of wide interest and accessible to all.
19. All themed meetings have allowed the Community Committee to work with a bottom-up approach by engaging with stakeholders to envision ways to strengthen the way in which citizens are involved in local decision making.

20. A report was presented at the Full Council Meeting on 16 September which provided an overview of the progress, achievements and opportunities for the Outer West Community Committee.

### **Social Media**

21. The Communities Team have publicised a range of messages on the Outer West Social Media platforms around consultation, community events or improvements to an area, which have proven to be very popular with some posts reaching up to 3000 views. We would like to request members to share details and promote the networks to their constituents.

### **Corporate**

22. **a. Consultation and engagement** - Local priorities were set through the Area Business Plan process.

23. **b. Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration** - The Business Planning process takes into account equality, diversity, cohesion and integration issues.

24. **c. 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.

### **Conclusion**

25. The work of the sub groups is essential in the delivery of the Community Committee priorities. This report provides members with an update on recent Sub Group and Forum business and other project work undertaken by the Communities Team.

### **Recommendations**

26. To note the report including the key outcomes from the sub groups.

### **Background information**

- **None**