



Report of the North East Area Manager

North East (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 3rd December 2007

Subject: Actions and achievements since the last Area Committee meeting

Electoral Wards Affected:

Chapel Allerton
Moortown
Roundhay

Ward members consulted
(referred to in this report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

x

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

Executive Summary

This report provides Members with an update on actions and achievements of the Area Management Team since the last Area Committee meeting in September 2007.

Purpose of this report

1. This report provides Members with an update on actions and achievements since the last Area Committee meeting. Members will recall that they have agreed to receive quarterly, detailed reports giving progress on the individual actions in the Area Delivery Plan this year. The quarter 3 report will be provided at February's Area Committee meeting.

Highlights

2. The Chapel Allerton community engagement event took place on 22nd October from 3-7pm at Space@Hillcrest in Chapeltown. Over 50 residents attended for the 'planning ahead' style event and were able to raise issues that will be turned into priorities for action in the 2008/09 Area Delivery Plan. There is an extensive feedback and evaluation report on the community engagement events elsewhere on this agenda.
3. Work is progressing well in achieving the actions identified in the 2007/08 Area Delivery Plan, particularly through using the commissioning process. This has enabled quite a few local voluntary organisations to be commissioned to deliver projects that specifically deliver ADP actions. There is still Well-Being Fund revenue available under each theme heading and Area Management officers are developing new ideas for projects that can be commissioned over the coming months. Members have also been emailed for ideas for projects that could be worked up and commissioned from the relevant theme pot.
4. Members have suggested locations for resident parking schemes of various different types across all three wards. These have been sent to Highways for feasibility assessment and costing up. It is likely that the total cost of the schemes will be more than is left available in the additional £50,000 Well-Being Fund allocated for this purpose. The Area Committee may need to consider topping up from their general capital allocation. More details will be provided at the February Area Committee meeting.
5. Planning for this year's Volunteer Thank You event is coming on well. The date has been agreed as Thursday 13th December in the Lord Mayor's Banqueting Hall. The Lord Mayor will be in attendance. A letter asking groups to put the date in their diary has been sent out, with the formal invitations being sent out shortly. The entertainment this year will feature Roundhay High School choir, local poetry and a display of karate skills by the Kushinkai Karate Academy. The Karate Academy have received Well-Being Funds this year.

Priority Neighbourhoods update

6. The Area Committee will be aware that the North East District Partnership has identified three neighbourhoods as priority areas for multi-agency action to narrow the gap between these areas and the rest of the city. This is based on deprivation indicators. All three neighbourhoods are in the inner area – Chapeltown (IMPACT partnership), Beckhill (Beckhill Implementation Group) and Moor Allerton (MAP). Area Management staff are responsible for driving forward action in these areas through partnership arrangements. The following are progress updates from the partnership groups. The MAP update is a separate report on this agenda.

Beckhill Implementation Group

7. The partnership discussed a paper 'a way forward' at their meeting in October. This was as a result of partners questioning the effectiveness of the partnership. As a result, the Chair held individual meetings with members of the partnership to discuss the situation and identify possible solutions, which informed the paper. The partnership has agreed to focus on the following priorities and has identified actions under each one:
 - a. Community involvement
 - b. Increasing volunteering
 - c. Concentrating on getting basic services right
 - d. Improving communications
8. A dispersal zone has been implemented in Meanwood, including the Beckhill estate. The police have led on this action and it is primarily aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour problems on the Miles Hill estate, Beckhill and the other surrounding estates have been included to avoid pushing the problems into these areas. The zone came into effect on 19th October and allows the police to disperse groups of any more than 2 individuals. Notices have been posted around the area and in the Yorkshire Evening Post. The Youth Service have increased their outreach work in the area to compliment the zone and are hoping to engage with the young people to get them involved in programmes and activities.

IMPACT

9. Second Environment Day held on Wednesday 14th November in Spencer Place/Gathorne Terrace area. Seven skips worth of rubbish was removed on the day, trees were cut back, a number of gardens and hedges were tidied up. Wardens, Environmental Enforcement officers and PCSOs were on hand to offer advice and support. As part of Leeds Legal week, volunteers leafleted the area and every door was knocked to let people know the event was happening. There is a programme of follow up work from the event including distribution of leaflets to inform people not to feed the birds.
10. The Environment Day pilot a "Take Action Post Card" as a way for residents to put their views across on the key issues that should be tackled on the Day. 15 were returned with specific information on key environmental priorities for the area. These have been passed to the relevant agencies to action and will be monitored in a months time.
11. IMPACT's November meeting focused on the theme of Building Good Community Relations – a subject which is has touched on before. Presentations were given by the a number of partners which can be viewed on www.chapeltown/org
12. Chapeltown Road Festive Lights – Electrical Control Equipment has been fitted in ten lamp columns to enable them to be hung with festive lights. The lights are now operating every evening.
13. Shepherds Lane Environmental Enhancement Project – At the beginning of December Groundwork will be tendering out to secure the contractor for this project. It is anticipated that work will begin on site in January.
14. Street Scene improvements -In 2005, the District Local Environmental Quality Survey (DLEQS) showed that an average 33% of streets in the IMPACT area had

unacceptable levels of litter and detritus compared to a city figure of 20%, by 2006 the figure in the area had dropped dramatically to just 5.6%, well below the city average of 17% for the same year. The biggest improvement was recorded in the Spencer Place, Gathorne Terrace, Shepherd's Lane. This is largely due to the additional resources that have funded the Environmental Pride team, a dedicated Environmental Enforcement officer and a dedicated Environmental Health officer.

15. A second residents survey is being undertaken by EastNorthEast Homes to look at current perceptions of anti-social behaviour and crime. This will enable further comparisons to show how perceptions have changed over the course of the last year.

Recommendations

16. The Area Committee is requested to note the contents of this report.