

Report of: The South East Area Leader

Report to: Outer East Community Committee (Cross Gates & Whinmoor, Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley, Temple Newsam)

Report author: Pete Mudge

Date: Tuesday 13th June 2017

For decision

Outer East Community Committee Forward Plan 2017-18

Purpose of report

1. This report introduces the Outer East Community Committee Forward Plan for 2017/18. It details the meeting dates and sets out proposed workshop themes. It also highlights the role of the Champions and the work of the Committee in relation to the Council Constitution and associated delegations which are managed through its sub group structure on behalf of the Community Committee. The report also reviews the Committee and its sub structure operations in 2016/17 and makes recommendations for continued improvement.

Background information

2. Leeds City Council has agreed a constitution which sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. Some of these processes are required by law, while others are a matter for the Council to choose.
3. In order to give local citizens a greater say in Council affairs, Community Committees were established to represent all areas of the city. The Constitution states that the Executive can make arrangements for the Community Committees to discharge of some functions for which the Executive is responsible. The Executive has identified a number of functions that Community Committees exercise decision making on, however the Executive remains ultimately responsible for these services and may remove or limit a Committee's powers. As with the Executive, in exercising their powers Community Committees must make decisions which are in line with the Council's overall policies and budget. The Community Committees involves all the Councillors from the wards within each Committee area and meetings are held in public.

Outer East Community Committee structure

4. The Outer East Community Committee has put in place a sub structure to provide support, monitoring of performance and, when required, decision making to delegations it is responsible for. These are:
 - Children & Young People's Sub Group
 - Environmental Sub Group
 - Community Committee Champions meetings
 - Temple Newsam Ward Based Briefing
 - Forums (Crossgates, Garforth & Swillington, Halton, Halton Moor & East Osmondthorpe, Kippax & Methley, Swarcliffe, Whinmoor)
5. Driving the work of the Community Committee through the sub groups are the Community Committee Champions. The Champions' role aims to provide local leadership for each theme, whilst acting as a critical interface with services. Meeting and working with service leads, Community Committee Champions are well placed to shape the local agenda around each theme. Information on activities by theme is included in the Community Committee Update Report.
6. Alongside the Community Committee, 7 forums provide a focussed perspective of local issues. Led by ward members, the forums aim to offer a platform for engagement with local people to:
 - address social exclusion, inequality and disadvantage experienced by people living in the defined boundary;
 - take action to improve residents' quality of life through better and more appropriate public and community led services
 - support the economic regeneration of the area
 - fully involve the community in the development of proposals to improve their area.

Outer East Community Committee workshops 2016/17 (last year)

7. Community Committees were established to build on the successes of Area Committees with an enhanced focus on community engagement and in particular, increase the attendance and active involvement of local people at Community Committee meetings.
8. The only Ward Based Briefing involving OE Communities is for the Temple Newsam Ward.
9. Community Committees continue to work to improve community engagement in local decision making. Themed workshops provide a forum for Councillors, residents and services to consider issues affecting their communities and find solutions. The workshops topics for 2016/17 were determined in collaboration with service leads and Community Committee Champions and Chair.

10. The Outer East Community Committee held 4 workshops in 2016/17 covering key issues in the area:

- Adults & Health – Making Leeds the best city to grow old in
- Highways - Public Transport in Outer East Leeds' consultation
- Community Health Council – Your Health & Your Healthcare
- LASBT / Police - Community Safety in Your Neighbourhood

11. Actions from each of the workshops have been fed back to services and through relevant sub groups of the Community Committee where key partners are helping to deliver the actions and improve service delivery.

12. Attached at Appendix 4 is the draft forward plan for Outer East Community Committee and workshops for 2017/18. Members are asked to consider the forward plan and are welcome to suggest topics for workshops in 2017/18. Proposed topics will then be considered and agreed in collaboration with Community Committee Champions and service leads.

Conclusions

13. The new ways of working has enabled engagement with a range of services and stakeholders on a number of topics across the area and provided a platform to make connections with all involved including residents and service users.

14. Greater publicity and communication is a key role in promoting the Community Committee and new ways of engagement with residents and local groups has started including banners being placed at various locations within the ward. The Facebook page and Twitter accounts are updated regularly with information about events and meetings. This also provides an opportunity for residents to post comments or questions before the Community Committee.

Recommendations

15. The Community Committee is asked to:

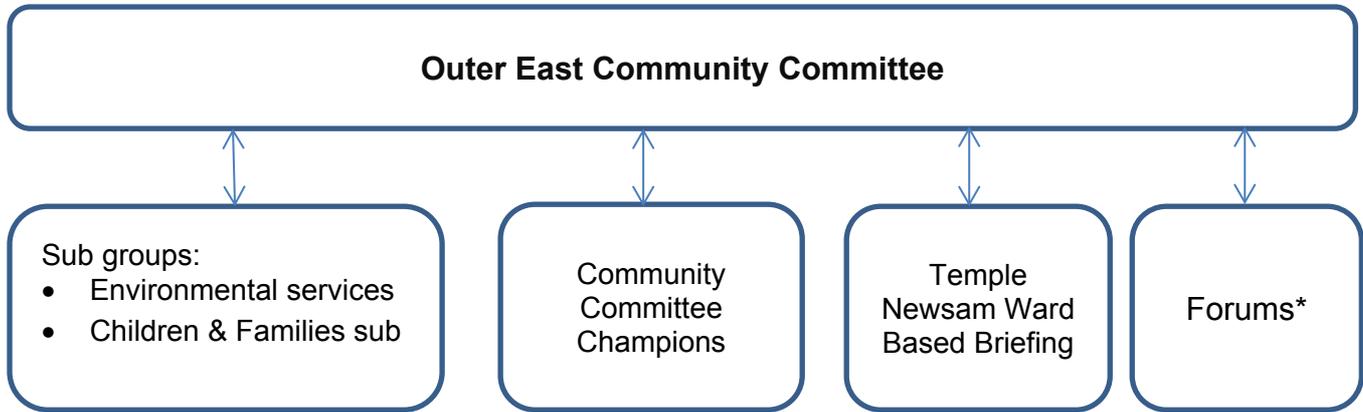
- a. note the content of the report and make comment as appropriate;
- b. consider scope and content of future Community Committee agendas;

Background documents¹

There are no background documents associated with this document.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.

The structure of the Outer East Community Committee can be illustrated follows:



***Outer East Forums:**

- Crossgates
- Garforth & Swillington
- Halton
- Halton Moor & East Osmondthorpe
- Kippax & Methley
- Swarcliffe
- Whinmoor

