



Report of the North East Area Manager

North East (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 4th February 2008

Subject: Area Delivery Plan quarter 3 progress report

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 progress towards the achievement of the 2007/08 Area Delivery Plan covering the quarter 3 period (October – December 2007).

Purpose of this report

1. This report provides Members with an update on progress towards the achievement of the 2007/08 Area Delivery Plan during quarter 3 (October – December 2007). It also provides more detailed information on some of the significant areas of progress in this covering report.

Highlights

2. The Volunteer Thank You Event took place on Thursday 13th December in the Lord Mayor's Banqueting Hall. The event was very well attended with over 100 representatives of inner north east voluntary and community organisations present. The entertainment was provided by Roundhay High School choir, poets from Seven Arts Centre in Chapel Allerton and Kushinkai Karate Academy. Seven Arts and the Karate Academy received support from the Well-Being Fund this year. There were also several stalls allowing the groups to showcase their activities, and a chance to mingle and network with other organisations, Council officers and members.
3. Due to changes in police staffing, the frequency and nature of activities provided from The Open Door project at 225 Lidgett Lane has changed. This creates opportunities to improve provision from the centre through increased input from other partners, for example East North East homes (ENEh) and the Youth Service. Police Community Support Officers will continue to provide a service from The Open Door from 1pm - 3pm, Monday - Friday.
4. Proposals to relaunch the Open Door as a youth and community centre, with a customer service point for ENEh tenants, are being developed by the Area Management Team and representatives of the Open Door steering group. Work is underway to generate greater resident involvement in the project and the next Annual General Meeting on 26th January is being organised in a way that will combine the more formal aspects of the AGM with an informal social event to celebrate all that the Open Door has achieved over the last year and to outline its programme of work for the year ahead. Invitations to the AGM and a questionnaire to gauge resident's awareness of the project are being circulated. This will be backed up with "door-knocking" to seek support for the project, particularly new committee members to help run the organisation.
5. West Yorkshire Police have indicated their willingness to extend the lease on the Open Door for a further 12 months from 1st June 2008 after which it is hoped to submit an application for charitable status and registration with Companies House as a not-for-profit company.

Priority Neighbourhoods update

6. The Area Committee will be aware that three neighbourhoods in the north east have been identified 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.

Beckhill Implementation Group

7. A report was presented to Asset Management Group seeking support for the commissioning of a feasibility study to look into the proposal for a multi-agency service centre to be located on the Beckhill estate. Various agencies including the PCT, Police, Education Leeds and voluntary organisations have committed funding to cover the costs of renting space in a centre on the estate. The feasibility study would look at the proposal in much more detail, including defining the exact location, size and financial viability. This would be a significant step forward for the regeneration of the estate.
8. The Meanwood dispersal zone, implemented in October 2007 has now ended. The Police led on this action which was aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour problems on the Miles Hill estate. The zone covered the surrounding estates as well to avoid pushing the problem into these areas. The legislation allowed the Police to disperse groups of any more than two individuals. Feedback indicates the zone has been very successful in reducing anti-social behaviour in the Meanwood area. As part of the exit strategy, the Youth Service have worked with the Police to try and engage many of the young people into youth programmes and activities to prevent the anti-social behaviour increasing again.
9. Members of the partnership have offered increased support to the Tenants & Residents Association. The ALMO are supporting the group by helping them produce and print a newsletter, and doing estate walkabouts. They are planning to hold a funday or quiz night in February to attract more residents to become members of the Association. A resident representative will be invited to sit on the BIG partnership for future meetings.
10. Under the environment theme, action is progressing. To try and resolve the issues around refuse collection and litter picking on the estate, City Services have agreed to send managers out with both teams until further notice. Environmental enforcement have been issuing notices to residents with waste in their gardens, this has been successful and resulted in most gardens being cleared by the residents. Where the warning letter has not had an effect, two residents have been fined.
11. Demonstrate Day took place on 1st December 2007, organised by Stainbeck Church in partnership with Leeds Youth Network. Over 80 young people from across Leeds came to litter pick on the estate, alongside residents. Skips were provided by the ALMO, bulb planting with Groundwork and litter picking equipment from City Services.
12. The ALMO redevelopment proposals are progressing. The clearance of sheltered housing blocks in Beckhill Garth commenced in December, with a view to demolition once cleared. This site will form part of a wider planning and development brief that will contribute significantly to the regeneration of the estate, through encouraging diversification of tenure and better designed housing and layout.

IMPACT

13. Festive lights have been installed along Chapeltown Road. Capital funding enabled the lamp columns to be fitted with electrical control equipment, revenue funding enabled ten festive motifs to be installed. The lights now operate every evening.

14. Groundwork have completed their improvements to Buslingthorpe Walk. There are a few snagging issues that are being addressed but the new entrance features and bulb planting have been completed.
15. 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.
16. Eight families are now engaged with the Intensive Family Support project and have taken part in social activities over the festive period. A programme of mentoring is being established for the final quarter of the financial year.
17. Theatre In Education have delivered four sessions of the play "Bad Mummy" with groups of young people from both Chapeltown and Harehills. The play enables young people to explore issues relating to domestic violence in a supported environment.
18. Safer, Stronger Communities Budget confirmed for 2008/2009.
19. IMPaCT workshop held on Community Engagement in November. Findings and key issues to be fed into priority setting for 08/09.
20. Membership forms for the IMPaCT Residents Network have been delivered to addressees. A programme of engagement activities will follow to ensure targets are met for the end of March 2008.

Moor Allerton Partnership (MAP)

21. A report was submitted to the December round of Area Committee meetings updating Members on the progress of MAP. A further update will be submitted following the next meeting on the 31st January.

Recommendations

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