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**Report of the North East Area Manager**

**North East (Inner) Area Committee**

**Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

**Subject: Actions and achievements report**

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**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

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

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**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 February 2008.

## **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 4 summary report will be provided at June's Area Committee meeting. Appendix 1 gives a summaries of issues raised at Area Committee meetings.

## **Highlights**

### **Oakwood Town & District Centre Scheme**

2. Phase 1 of the Oakwood Town & District Centre scheme will commence on site on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008. The primary aim of the scheme is to contribute towards increasing the economic vitality of the district centre through having an impact on business activity. The scheme proposes to do this through making improvements to the environmental appearance of the area and by improving car parking facilities.
3. Phase 1 will consist of resurfacing and remarking of the bays in Oakwood Clock car park and junction improvements to the car park. It will also introduce Traffic Regulation Orders to reduce waiting time to four hours with no return within an hour for the car park and existing on street parking on Roundhay Road. This will prevent people from parking in Oakwood all day and then using the bus service to get into Leeds for work. This problem of 'park and riders' was raised by residents and traders as a significant issue during consultation for the Oakwood scheme. Phase 1 will necessitate the car park being closed for approximately 4 weeks. A letter will be sent to all traders in the area week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> March to give prior notice of the works.

### **Beckhill feasibility study**

4. Following the last Area Committee meeting, the feasibility study looking at a mini joint service centre for the Beckhill estate has been commissioned. The study will consider various locations and assess the occupier requirements in designing and costing up a scheme. It is hoped the feasibility report will be completed ready for a report back to the Area Committee in June.

### **Community engagement**

5. The three community engagement events have been arranged and organised for March. This has been the main focus of effort by the area management team since the last Area Committee meeting. The events are scheduled for:
  - Moortown 10<sup>th</sup> March 5.30-8.30pm, Cardinal Heenan High School
  - Chapel Allerton 12<sup>th</sup> March 5.30-7.30pm, Technorth Centre
  - Roundhay 20<sup>th</sup> March 4-8pm, Roundhay High School
6. As agreed previously by members, the events will be interactive. They will provide an opportunity to highlight what has been achieved this year through the current Area Delivery Plan, and provide feedback to how the priorities identified at the autumn events will be used to inform the next Area Delivery Plan. This will be done

using an interactive activity which will give residents the opportunity to have spending power using 'Monopoly' money. Residents will be able to use their money to give an indication of what their priorities are against themes including community safety and provision for young people.

7. Following the event the area committee can use the findings to inform the commissioning of activities in support of achieving the ADP outcomes using their Well-Being Funds. Residents will receive feedback and see that they have influenced how funding is allocated, and how services are delivered in their local area. The findings will be incorporated into the Well-Being Fund report for the June meeting.

### **Community Centres**

8. The Mandela Centre and Palace Youth Centre were transferred to Environment and Neighbourhoods Department on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2008. The responsibilities for the management of the centres has been delegated to the Area Committee and this will be formally covered by the Area Function Schedule which is due to go to the Executive Board in April 2008.
9. Mandela CentreThe Mandela Centre and Palace Youth Centre were transferred to Environment and Neighbourhoods Department on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2008. The responsibilities for the management of the centres have been delegated to the Area Committee and this will be formally covered by the Area Function Schedule which is due to go to the Executive Board in April 2008.
10. A three month community and user consultation period on the draft Pricing and Lettings Policy began on 25<sup>th</sup> February. The draft policy and schedule of discounts, endorsed by the Area Committee at its February meeting, has been sent to current users of the Mandela Centre and Palace Youth Project for their comments. In addition, it will be presented to the IMPaCT partnership meeting in March and at the Chapel Allerton ward meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March where partners and residents will be invited to comment on the proposals. The Area Project Officer from the North East Area Management Team will be available to answer queries and concerns relating to the draft policy on March 18<sup>th</sup> from 5 pm – 7pm at the Mandela Centre. An analysis of the consultation will be used to inform the final draft policy which will be presented to the Area Committee in June with a view to implementation in October 2008.
11. Work is continuing at the Mandela Centre to develop an expanded programme of educational, vocational, career and social activities to meet the needs of young people in the area. A steering group of representatives of users of the centre meet regularly and have agreed to extend the membership of this group to include representatives of other voluntary sector organisations working with young people. These are REEMAP, Leeds Reach, Space2 and Chapeltown Junior Youth inclusion Project. This will bring additional management expertise and provide the links to ensure a more holistic approach to youth work and interventions. An Annual General Meeting to formalise the group as a management committee is being planned for April 08.
12. A steering group of young people has been established to lead on the development of the Mandela Centre as a youth hub for Chapeltown. A residential team building event, funded by the North East Inner Area Committee is being organised that will aim to build the confidence and leadership skills of the group.
13. A review of the Palace Youth Project is underway. The review will serve to understand current youth provision delivered from the project and across the inner

north east area. In the context of the Community Centres Review the review will allow the Area Committee to appropriately manage their priorities and resources and help inform decisions about future provision and investment.

14. The review is being undertaken through discussion with a wide range of local stakeholders who are familiar with the facility. Current users have been notified of the review. A report outlining the review will be presented to the Area Committee in June.

### **Open Door**

15. 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 management committee. Work to generate greater resident involvement in the project included circulating a questionnaire and invitations to the AGM held on 26<sup>th</sup> January. This was backed up with “door-knocking” to seek support for the project, particularly new committee members to help run the organisation. The AGM was relatively well attended and 4 new resident representatives were elected on to the management committee. Councillor Paul Wadsworth was re-elected as Chair. The Area Management Team continue to support the Management Committee to prepare for the application for charitable status and registration with Companies House

### **Priority Neighbourhoods update**

16. 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**

17. At the last meeting the BIG partnership discussed and agreed a protocol for all members. This was prompted by previous discussions and requests for resident representation on the partnership. The protocol will apply to all members of the partnership and covers how to deal with confidential items that might be discussed at meetings. An invitation for residents to attend BIG meetings has been given to the Beckhill Tenants & Residents Association.
18. The partnership received an update on issues relating to the Miles Hill School site. An options appraisal was carried out by Asset Management and Area Management in December 2007. Services committed funding to a project to have a centre on the estate where they could rent space to deliver services to residents. Unfortunately this would only take up 40% of the existing school building so the Council’s Asset Management Group agreed to the demolition of the school on this basis. It was also discussed that there might be better sites for a service centre on or around the estate. Area management are now looking at this in more detail, and this is being supported by Asset Management Group. Following the Area Committee’s decision to support funding the feasibility study, this work was commissioned at the end of

February. Partners who have committed funding in the past were asked to reconfirm their commitment to the project.

19. The partnership have supported increased environmental enforcement activity on the estate. 200 flytipping warning letters have been sent to residents living in part of the estate where the worst flytipping spots are. The letter also includes details of exactly how residents should deal with their refuse. It has been negotiated and agreed with City Services that the refuse will not be collected from the highway but will be taken from the bin stores within properties. Residents have been notified of this change, with the aim of reducing the amount of litter and refuse on the streets.

### **IMPACT**

20. At the January meeting, the IMPACT partnership reviewed the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan 07/08 and held priority setting workshop. The Index of Deprivation 2007 results were discuss and some broad priorities were set for consideration in the 08/09 Neighbourhood Improvement Plan which is covered by a separate report to this meeting.
21. The final Environmental Action Event is being held on 11th & 12th March in the Granges/Hamiltons area. This is the third such event that has been organised through the Tasking Forum. A Best Kept Garden Competition is being held as well as the usual clean up activities.
22. An Outreach Networking Event was held on Friday 22nd February to explore how ways of doing more coordinated employment outreach. Over 25 people came along. The vast majority of attendees believed there was scope for more partnership work and wanted the INM team to act as the hub for more activity in the new financial year.

### **Moor Allerton Partnership (MAP)**

23. Work is progressing to deliver the options of the Moor Allerton Partnership (MAP). The following information highlights. The following information highlights progress on partner actions over the last period.
24. The first of four planned career days was held in the Lingfields and Fir Tree estates at Open House. The focus of the day was to attract those persons on incapacity benefit and lone parents to attend the event to offer them support into work and/or training. As a result of the event nine people were referred onto work and training services.
25. Following the success of funding for CCTV cameras at the Cranmer Bank shops parade, partners are working to secure funds for the further hotspot areas in Moor Allerton.
26. A Voluntary Community Faith Sector (VCFS) workshop was held in November 2007, since then a VCFS forum has been established which links to MAP subgroups and MAP meetings. The forum are exploring ways in which to become more involved with the work of MAP and engage the wider local community.
27. A community event is being planned for the summer in partnership with the Alwoodley Cluster of Schools to promote the work of MAP and the Alwoodley Cluster of Schools.

28. Reported schemes to date from Environmental Health regarding their 'Health Through Warmth' project for Moor Allerton area included up to £27,500 of energy efficiency improvements to the homes of the elderly residents in the area, up to £7,000 of essential repairs to the homes of elderly residents in the area and at least fifty vulnerable residents less likely to have a serious and potentially life threatening fall in their home, all for £2,200 worth of resource input into the project.
29. A duvet exchange event was also held on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2008 and a sloppy slipper event is being held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2008. The outcomes from both events are aimed at 'Health Through Warmth' and reducing falls in the home, whilst also enabling the sharing and accessing of information on a wide range of council and other services.

### **Recommendations**

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