



Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Inner North West Area Committee

Date: 3rd April 2008

Subject: Area Manager's Report

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| Electoral Wards Affected: ALL <input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report) | Specific Implications For: Ethnic minorities <input type="checkbox"/> Women <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled people <input type="checkbox"/> Narrowing the Gap <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Council Function <input type="checkbox"/> | Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/> |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of progress on a number of projects in Inner North West Leeds as follows:-

- Report on the residents survey 2007 as it affects Inner North West Leeds;
- Report on the 2007 neighbourhood statistics as they affect Inner North West Leeds;
- Developments in the area: an update on Royal Park Primary School, Headingley Primary School, Neighbourhood Management, Headingley Town & District Centre scheme, Little London regeneration scheme and Operation Champion;
- Partnership working in West and North West Leeds; and
- An update on the Regeneration restructure as it affects the area.

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report provides Members with information about issues in the area which are not addressed elsewhere on the agenda.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 The priorities of the Inner North West Area Committee are set out in the Area Delivery Plan agreed by Members in February 2007. This report updates Members on a number of specific actions under this plan.

2.2 The results of the 2007 residents survey and the IMD Neighbourhood statistics give an up to date picture of trends over the past three years within the local area. These will help inform the Area Delivery Plan for the Area Committee 2008-11. This report also identifies progress in major project and proposals for future partnership arrangements.

3.0 Main Issues

Report of Leeds Annual Residents Survey 2007

3.1 This section of the report examines the key findings from the 2007 Leeds Annual Survey as it relates to North West Leeds. The City Council commissioned QA Research to undertake the 2007 Leeds Annual Survey, following on from the work that they did in 2005 (Leeds Annual Survey). The aim of the survey is to measure satisfaction levels with various City Council services. Copies of the full report are available separately.

3.2 Residents were asked the top things they considered most in need of improvement in the North West Leeds. In 2007 the top five were:-

- Road and pavement repairs 36%;
- Activities for teenagers 24%;
- Low level of ASB 19%;
- Low level of traffic congestion 19%; and
- Clean neighbourhoods 14%.

While some of the issues are the same for North West residents as for the city as a whole (for example road and pavement repairs, anti social behaviour and activities for teenagers), the responses from North West also rank traffic congestion and clean neighbourhoods in the top 5. The proportion of respondents saying that traffic congestion need improving fell however, from 32% in 2005 to 19% in 2007, and crime fell from 24% in 2005 to 13% in 2007.

3.3 The survey asked people whether they felt specific services in their area had got better, worse or stayed the same over the last 12 months. The results show overwhelmingly that people feel that things have stayed the same over the last 12 months. Comparison with the 2005 results shows that the issues have largely remained the same, with activities for teenagers replacing crime in the priority list – reflecting improvements in the headline crime figures. It should be noted that respondents from the North West said that road and pavement repairs have got worse (42% compared to 29% in 2005), as has the amount of affordable decent housing (32% compared to 19% in 2005).

3.4 The areas where residents in North West thought that the council's priorities should be when deciding how to spend its money in 2008 are:-

- Road and pavement repairs 39%;
- Activities for teenagers 26%;
- Traffic congestion 21%;
- Tackling crime 20%;
- Tackling ASB 20%; and
- Affordable decent housing 20%.

These results are broadly in line with those for the city as a whole. They do indicate a need for the Area Committee to continue with efforts to tackle crime, grime, disrepair and activities for teenagers and affordable housing provision.

The Indices of Deprivation 2007

3.5 The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 was published in December 2007. It updated the previous survey undertaken in 2004 and therefore allows a direct comparison to see how neighbourhoods are progressing, and to measure the success of measures to tackle health poverty and improvement of services. The seven “domain” statistics measured are as follows:-

- Income deprivation;
- Employment deprivation;
- Health deprivation and disability;
- Education, skills and training deprivation;
- Barriers to housing and services;
- Living environment deprivation; and
- Crime.

In addition, there are two supplementary indices that measure Income Deprivation Affecting Children and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People.

3.6 Overall the analysis of data shows that Inner North West Leeds has improved markedly in terms of levels of deprivation between 2004 and 2007, reflecting the overall trends citywide. The numbers of SOAs in the worst 20% nationally has fallen from 20 in 2004 to 10 in 2007.

3.7 The most notable improvements within the individual domains have been crime and disorder where the numbers of neighbourhoods within the most deprived 10% on the national scale fell from 37 in 2004 to 16 in 2007 and living environment where the numbers of neighbourhoods within the most deprived 10% on the national scale fell from 32 in 2004 to 20 in 2007.

3.8 The neighbourhoods within the worst 20% that have improved most in 2007 compared to 2004 are Little London/Lovell Park from 816 in 2004 to 2104 in 2007 – crime and housing, Servia Hill (the adjacent area) improving by 696 places and Hawksworth Wood by 217 places overall.

Table 1: Improvements of neighbourhoods in Inner North West 2003-7

| Area | Ward | Improvement (places) |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Little London/Lovells | Hyde Park and Woodhouse | 1288 |
| Servia Hill | Hyde Park and Woodhouse | 696 |
| Hawksworth Wood | Kirkstall | 217 |

3.9 The areas now with the highest levels of deprivation in Inner North West Leeds in rank order are Hawksworth Wood (worst 5% nationally) Little London and Servia Hill (worst 10% nationally), Silk Mills, Woodhouse Carr, Burley, West Park, Ivesons, Woodsley Road and Lea Farm (in the worst 20% of deprived neighbourhoods nationally).

Table 2: Overall ranking of neighbourhoods in Inner North West (2007 data)

| National Rank | Band | Neighbourhood | Ward |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1042 | 5% | Hawksworth Wood | Kirkstall |
| 2104 | 10% | Little London | Hyde Park/Woodhouse |
| 2422 | 10% | Servia Hill | Hyde Park/Woodhouse |
| 3701 | 20% | Silk Mills | Weetwood |
| 4001 | 20% | Woodhouse Carr | Hyde Park/Woodhouse |
| 4285 | 20% | Burley | Kirkstall |
| 4685 | 20% | Latchmeres | Kirkstall |
| 4671 | 20% | Ivesons | Weetwood |
| 5175 | 20% | Woodsley Road | Hyde Park/Woodhouse |
| 6204 | 20% | Lea Farm | Kirkstall |

It should be borne in mind that some of the statistics in the IoD series are not completely up to date and hence do not reflect more recent changes.

Developments in the Area

3.10 Royal Park Primary School

Further consultation work was undertaken in February in an attempt to increase the response rate to the questionnaire on the use of community space at Royal Park to one hundred. This involved a day of door knocking in the vicinity of the school with a member of the Royal Park Community Consortium, as well as attendance at a public meeting held by the Consortium. Through this additional work the target number of completed questionnaires has been achieved. The consultation period will formally close at the end of March, after which time a final specification for the space will be submitted to the Rushbonds, to help inform their development of the scheme.

3.11 Headingley Primary School

The outcome of Headingley Development Trust's application to the Community Asset Transfer Fund was expected at the end of March. At the time of writing this report a decision had not been received, a verbal update will be given at the Area Committee should anything further be heard.

3.12 Neighbourhood Management

Little London remains one of the priority neighbourhood management areas. Further detail of the successes of the Little London scheme and changes to its delivery for 2008/09 can be found as a separate agenda item.

3.13 Neighbourhood management continues in the NIP areas of Hawksworth Wood (Kirkstall), the Silk Mills (Weetwood) and the Harolds (Headingley). Action plans are now in place for all three areas, and are being delivered through agreed partnership routes with the likes of Streetscene, West North West Homes, the police and environmental enforcement.

3.13 Town and District Centres update : Headingley

The design and development of the scheme has now been commissioned, which will be undertaken by the Strategic Design Alliance, a partnership between the city Council and Jacobs Baktie. It is anticipated that work on design development will commence in the first quarter of 2008/09. In order to fully engage with all relevant stakeholders Area Management will be undertaking consultation throughout the design process, including re-establishing the Headingley Town Centre Strategy Group, and speaking to local business owners.

Headingley has also been identified by a citywide survey as being one of the two worst district centres for parking. In light of this a parking strategy for the area is scheduled to be developed, involving a more in-depth local study, and consultation with local residents and businesses and ward Councillors. The outcome of the study will identify improvements required and associated investment needed.

3.14 Regeneration – Little London

The procurement phase for the Little London regeneration scheme is well underway. Four consortium bids were successful in getting through the initial pre-qualification stage. All four have since submitted an outline of the solutions they would use to achieve the Council's required objectives for the regeneration of the area. In April 2008, following evaluation of these outline solutions three consortiums will be successful in progressing to the next stage of procurement, involving submission of detailed solutions.

Mechanisms for the involvement of tenants and residents in the evaluation process of the bids are presently being developed by Council officers. Tenants and residents are being asked to volunteer if they wish to be involved to this extent and will be supported through the process by training and independent guidance. A number have already come forward, through recently established Neighbourhood Forums, to express an interest in this.

In addition to the above, the Council is currently applying for Outline Planning Permissions for the four development sites within the regeneration scheme. These are Carlton Gate, Cambridge Road, Leicester Place and the Community Hub. In order to make residents aware of these applications a newsletter will be distributed to each household within the regeneration area, and a drop-in event organised. The outcomes of the four applications are expected to be known by the end of July.

3.15 Community Safety - Operation Champion

An Operation Champion was held in Little London between 20th and 24th February. The operation included involvement from the police, fire service, West North West Homes, Streetscene and the DVLA. The outcomes of the operation are still being gathered and evaluated, and will be shared with local ward members when available.

Partnership working

- 3.17 The joint North West and West District Partnership funding A2E bid for 2008-10 funding was unfortunately unsuccessful. Staff from Area Management will work with the successful winners of the contract (Archway, Touchstone, Learning Partnerships)

to ensure that the needs of lone parents and those young people not in education employment and training are provided for by the new services.

- 3.18 Under the new arrangements for Area Committees to scrutinise local partnership working, the first seminar with Inner North West Area Committee, led by the Crime Reduction Partnership, is scheduled to take place prior to the next Committee on 3rd July 2008.

Regeneration Restructuring

- 3.19 The proposals for restructuring Area Management and the new roles of Area Committees were reported to Area Committee in December 2007. Subsequent to this time Area Managers for the three new Area Management areas have been agreed as follows: Rory Barke- North East, David Richmond - South East and Steve Crocker – North West and West. The Deputy Area Manager for North West and West will be Jason Singh, the former Area Co ordinator for North West Leeds. The North West and West team will cover 13 wards and four area committees. It will have bases in both the former North West and West Area.
- 3.20 Little London regeneration staff will now come under the management of the new City Regeneration Office manager, Christine Addison. Appointments are being made to posts within the team structure, this will be completed by summer 2008.
- 3.21 The new Environmental Action Team manager for North West and West Leeds is Ruth Lees, formally the Environmental Health manager for West Leeds. The EAT team will work closely with Area Management and will be co located to enable a comprehensive approach to tackling crime and grime.

4.0 Council Policy and Governance, Legal and Resource Implications

- 4.1 The Area Delivery Plan for Inner North West is administered through North West and West Leeds Area Management team. This report had indicated progress on tackling a number of projects crucial to delivering the next Area Delivery Plan 2008-11.

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1 Inner North West Area Committee Members are invited to note the contents of the report and to comment on any aspect of the matter raised.