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**Report of the North East Area Manager**

**North East (Inner) Area Committee**

**Date: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2006**

**Subject: Area Committee Working Groups**

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**Electoral Wards Affected:**

Chapel Allerton  
Moortown  
Roundhay

**Specific Implications For:**

Ethnic minorities   
Women   
Disabled people   
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 informs Members of the issues raised at the Area Committee Working Groups held since the last meeting of the Area Committee. It also asks Members to consider proposals to change the existing arrangements.

## **Background Information**

1. At the Area Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2005, Members agreed to establish four Working Groups – Youth Issues, Community Safety, Well-Being Fund and Voluntary Organisations and Community Group Support. The Groups have no decision making powers, tabling recommendations for consideration by the Area Committee.
2. One of the primary roles of the Working Group is to drive the achievement of actions in the Area Delivery Plan.

## **Feedback from the Working Groups**

### **Community Safety – 10<sup>th</sup> August 2006**

3. Progress report on Area Committee Action Plan 06/07 community safety section – The group ran through a progress report on community safety actions in the Area Delivery Plan. The majority are progressing well, particularly the multi-agency Operation Arrows that have taken place in each ward at various times during the year, targeting particular neighbourhoods.
4. Alleys and ginnels update – Trudie Canavan updated the group on progress with the Carr Holm and Wensley Green ginnels. Unfortunately the process is taking much longer than envisaged due to the need to do a gating order as well as gain planning permission for each gate. A gating order requires detailed information, including crime statistics to be pulled together. The Council is required to appoint a Responsible Officer to approve the gating order and as this is the first time this has been dealt with by the authority, has put a delay on the original plan to have the gates installed by Autumn 2006. The Uplands and Copgrove ginnels will be improved through environmental and security measures rather than gating.
5. Future of the community safety working group - The working group see great benefit in continuing with the meetings and have found them useful for developing the commissioning approach to deliver the community safety actions in the Area Delivery Plan. For the future, scrutinising community safety issues referred by the Area Committee could be a primary function of the group. A suggestion was made that Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators could be involved in the process of identifying priorities for the Area Delivery Plan. This could be through the working group or through attendance at forum meetings where the community's priorities for the area are identified to inform the Area Delivery Plan. We will obtain the names and addresses of all the Co-ordinators in inner north east and make sure they are included on the forum invitation databases.

### **Youth Issues – 8<sup>th</sup> August 2006**

6. Yes Cyber Well-Being Fund application – The Area Committee referred this application to the working group for detailed discussion and asked them for a recommendation for the September meeting. The details of this discussion and the recommendation are contained in the separate Well-Being Fund report.
7. Progress report on Area Committee Action Plan 06/07 children & young people section – An updated quarter 2 monitoring report was circulated, the details of which are contained in Appendix 2 of the Actions and Achievements report. Neil Bowden

highlighted the additional activities and programmes the Youth Service have been able to run as a result of the Well-Being Fund commissioned at the last Area Committee.

8. Future of the Youth Issues Working Group – Councillor Lobley outlined proposals to streamline the reporting processes for the working group and the Area Committee. The group discussed, and agreed that subject to full Area Committee support, the Youth Issues group should take on a more scrutinising role and deal with single issues or themes that require discussion rather than taking progress reports.
9. Youth Development Worker – An update report was presented and discussed. Full details of this can be found in appendix 1.

### **Well-Being Fund Working Group – 24<sup>th</sup> July 2006**

10. The recommendations of this group are contained in the separate Well-Being Fund report.

### **Future of the Working Groups**

11. The working groups have been running since April 2005. Their primary function is to allow detailed discussion on issues of concern to the Area Committee to take place and to drive the achievement of the Area Delivery Plan. Membership was established with one Member from each ward nominated to attend a themed working group.
12. Initially the working groups covered youth issues, community safety, Well-Being Fund and voluntary and community sector. The voluntary and community sector working group was set up primarily to deal with the issues that arose around Well-Being Fund applications from voluntary organisations for core costs and the desire by the Area Committee to offer a more sustainable solution to these organisations. This group oversaw the development of the Grant and Fundraising Advice post, which once agreed and appointed, ceased to need to meet.
13. The youth issues working group has primarily received progress reports on the children and young people's section of the Area Action Plan, which is then also reported to the Area Committee meeting. At their August meeting, the group discussed changing the focus and taking more of a scrutiny role for youth issues that could be referred by the Area Committee for discussion, with progress reports dealt with directly through the actions and achievements report to the Area Committee.
14. The community safety working group has been crucial to the development of commissioning Well-Being Fund to deliver many of the community safety actions in the Area Delivery Plan. However, since then it has primarily received progress reports which could be dealt with through the Area Committee. The group discussed what the future role should be, and agreed that there is still a need for a community safety working group. For the future, scrutinising community safety issues referred by the Area Committee could be a primary function of the group.

### **Recommendations**

15. The Area Committee is requested to note the contents of this report and consider the recommendations of the Working Groups.