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**Report of the East North East Area Manager**

**North East (Inner) Area Committee**

**Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> June 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 March 2008. It also provides a quarter 4 summary of progress against the Area Delivery Plan 2007/08.

## **Purpose of this Report**

1. This report provides Members with an update on actions and achievements since the last Area Committee meeting. Appendix 1 gives a summary of issues raised at Area Committee meetings. 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 is provided at this Area Committee meeting (appendix 2).

## **Highlights**

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

2. Phase 1 of the Oakwood Town & District Centre scheme commenced 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 consisted of resurfacing and remarking of the bays in Oakwood Clock car park and junction improvements to the car park. The car park was closed for a couple of weeks, but a letter was sent to all traders in the area week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> March to give prior notice of the works. Signs were also displayed in advance of the works to give people as much notice as possible to reduce inconvenience. The works have been completed and planning for phase 2 is now underway. The scheme will be completed by the end of 2008/09 financial year.

### **Community Centres**

4. 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 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 next meeting of Executive Board.
5. In relation to the draft lettings and pricing policy, widespread consultation took place for a period of three months from 25 February. So far nine responses have been received. The main comments to emerge are about charges and discounts rather than the principles of the policy. An analysis of the consultation will be used to inform the final draft policy which will be presented to the Area Committee in September with a view to implementation in October 2008.
6. 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. 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. Attendance at the centre by young Asian people continues to grow This in turn builds the promotion of community cohesion into our service delivery by developing cross- cultural contact at all levels.

7. A review of the Palace Youth Project has been undertaken that serves to understand current youth provision delivered from the centre 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. The findings of this review are presented in a separate report to the Area Committee.

### **Open Door**

8. Proposals to relaunch The Open Door as a youth and community centre with a customer service point for ENEH tenants continue to be developed by the Area Management Team and representatives of The Open Door management committee. The Area Management Team continue to support the Management Committee to prepare for the application for charitable status and registration with Companies House. West Yorkshire Police have indicated their willingness to extend the current lease for a further year pending extension of the peppercorn rent. This is currently being considered by the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods.

### **Priority Neighbourhoods Update**

9. 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**

10. Since agreeing that resident representation would be welcomed on the BIG partnership, members of the Tenants & Residents Association have been attending and contributing to the meetings. As a result, it was agreed at the last meeting to relaunch the estate newsletter with support from all partner agencies who will contribute articles.
11. 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. It was reported at the last meeting by the residents that there are still issues with the refuse collection. City Services have recently replaced the whole crew with agency staff and are sending a manager out with the crew on collection day. City Services commented that there are issues with residents putting bin bags out on the highway even though all residents have been written to and told not to. In the last three

weeks complaints from the estate to the contact centre have dropped dramatically so it is hoped this improvement can be sustained.

12. At the next meeting in June the partnership will consider a review of the current action plan with a view to updating the priorities and actions along the lines of the Leeds Strategic Plan.

### **IMPACT**

14. A third Environment Day was held in the Granges and Hamiltons Area on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March. Some of the outputs include bulky items and garden rubbish removed from 22 properties, 5 new empty properties identified, 10 properties litter picked and hedges cut. 15 residents joined IMPACT Residents Network. A full list of completed actions is available on request. Discussion are underway to mainstream this activity within partners organisations.
15. IMPACT Residents Network has recruited its 100<sup>th</sup> member. An initial meeting of Network members was held in March and a launch event took place in April. An event to gather young people's views on improving their neighbourhood is being planned for Spring break.
16. IMPACT meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> March discussed the new Neighbourhood Policing Teams. Inspector Reed and Sandra Fowler (community safety coordinator) informed partners about recent crime reduction initiatives including Operation Champion.
17. An Outreach group has been established by the neighbourhood manager but will be chaired by officers from LCC Jobs & Skills Section. Similar to the format used in tasking, the group have agreed a set of time-bound actions that will increase the number of people linked into Employment, Enterprise and training activity.
18. The North East (Inner) Area Committee were presented with a draft Neighbourhood Improvement Plan on 17<sup>th</sup> March 08 including a draft spending framework.
19. Completion of improvements in Shepherds Lane area.
20. Festive Light for Chapeltown Road (part two) - part one of this scheme was completed in Qtr 3 with an initial ten lamppost being fitted with electrical control equipment, part two saw an additional ten control boxes fitted in Qtr 4.
21. Completion of environmental improvements on Buslingthorpe Recreation Ground – trees, bulbs and new play equipment.

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

22. The following sub-groups have been established in Moor Allerton and meet between Moor Allerton Partnership meetings:
  - Mini MAP – Community Safety
  - Moor Allerton Children and Young People (MACY)
  - Community Engagement and Communications
  - Voluntary Community Faith Sector Forum
  - Moor Allerton Older Person's
  - Worklessness

- Environmental

23. Work continues to deliver the actions in MAP's action plan. The following information highlights progress on partner actions over the last period.

- **Education and Employment**

STEPS Programme - Five people from the Alwoodley Cluster of Schools have this month completed the Steps Facilitator Training. STEPS is a course which encourages people to think about themselves and the way they can make choices in your life. It helps people to understand why they think the way they do about themselves and their situation, realise that life is full of opportunities and learn how to pursue these opportunities with confidence. STEPS is a DVD based programme in applied self image psychology. It focuses on developing motivation to change behaviour and hence aim for excellent personal success.

The Children's Centre Manager has been appointed, and attended May's MAP meeting. Refurbishment work on the new Children's Centre is progressing well, completion of the refurbishment works **is expected to be the end of May.**

- **Community Safety**

A multi-agency 'Day of Action' was held on the Lingfield estate on the 4th April to target crime and environmental blight. The following outcomes were achieved: CCTV is now in operation at the Cranmer Bank and Lingfield shops parades, and security fencing has been installed to the rear of the Lingfield shop parade.

- **Police**

Two arrests were made, £100 was collected from outstanding warrants, 8 x Form A's (intelligence reports), 10 x Stops, 5 x stop and searches, Anti-Social Behaviour surveys x 500, 4 x Anti-Social Behaviour patrols in the Alwoodley area, 12 x CMU logs dealt with, 5 x IBIS calls (call reporting system) attended by NPT (Neighbourhood Policing Team), football tournament held with a trophy presentation, litter picking and 1 licence visit. West Yorkshire Police are working in partnership with Allerton High. They are delivering boys sports and citizenship curriculum with Years 8 and 9, drugs awareness and gang conflict with Years 9 and 10 and citizenship/ peer mentoring and KICK (karate) with the Sixth Form students. They are also delivering football sessions during the school holidays.

- **ENELH Community Involvement**

12 young people took part in the litter pick from 10.00 am – 12 noon, 6 young people from the Openhouse Youth Group attended from 11.00 am – 1.30pm and 10 adults took part including Openhouse staff, youth workers, police, parents and local residents.

- **Neighbourhood Wardens**

Patrolled the estate looking for bulky items and fly tipping, talked to residents, directed youth workers, supervised the litter pick to specific areas in need of cleaning, leaflet distribution and completing questionnaires.

- **Environmental Enforcement**

71 properties visited, 4 WIG 1's (waste in garden letters) served, 1 legal notice served and Sainsburys were visited regarding carrier bags blowing in the surrounding area. Sainsburys agreed their litter pickers will check the area more regularly.

- **Dog Warden**

Patrolled the area.

- **Thriving Communities**

A 'Massive Community Event' is taking place for Moor Allerton residents to get know each other and learn more about their local area. Organised by the Moor Allerton Partnership and the Alwoodley Cluster of Schools the event will be open to everyone who lives in the area. A number of activities for all the community are planned such as sports, music, tombola, face painting, food and refreshments and breeze adventure equipment, inflatables and the Techno Truck for young children. Each MAP partner will be represented at a stall, and will provide information on their service areas and inform local people about the opportunities available to them. It is also hoped that the event will be able to attract a number of local celebrities who were either brought up in the area or went to one of the local schools. The event will take place on 17th September at Allerton Church of England School.

A directory of community facilities and service provision is being developed. This will assist partners to signpost local residents to services and resources. It will also aid local groups and service providers to identify available local facilities and amenities.

- **Housing and the Environment**

ENEHL have agreed to undertake a schedule of 'Walkabouts' in Moor Allerton in partnership with community groups and other Leeds City Council departments. The schedule has been agreed for the 2008/9 year, and will be supported by action plans, which will be updated monthly and shared with tenant representatives. This work will inform crime and grime days, service delivery improvements and work towards improving the environmental condition of the estates as a whole.

- **Children and Young People**

A questionnaire is currently being completed by all 11-14 year olds through the Alwoodley Cluster of schools to identify what activities young people would like to participate in after school. The results will inform future provision in the area, aiming to diversify choice and opportunities and maximise participation in out of school activities.

- **Services for the Community and the Voluntary Sector**

Voluntary and community groups in Moor Allerton are experiencing more pressing and challenging problems in harnessing sustainable funding to maintain their service provision. At MAP's April meeting partners discussed ways in which to harness emergency funding. In the following days after the meeting MAP partners came together to discuss potential opportunities through joint working arrangements. MAP partners will continue to work together to support the local voluntary and community groups to sustain their service provision. This issue was also raised at the north east district Jobs, Enterprise and Training (JET) partnership and the Children Leeds North East partnership.

## **Recommendations**

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