

# Inner West Area Committee

<b>Armley</b>	<b>Bramley &amp; Stanningley</b>
Cllr Harper Cllr Lowe Cllr McKenna	Cllr Atkinson Cllr Hanley Cllr Taggart

## Contents

Section		Page
1	Chair's Foreword	
2	Introduction	
3	Role of Area Committee	
4	Role of Area Management	
5	Funding	
6	Neighbourhood Profile	
7	Working in Partnership to Achieve Priorities	
8	Community Engagement and Community Cohesion	
9	Monitoring the Actions	

## Appendices

A	Action Plan	
B	Well Being Fund projects funded in 2007/8	
C	Ward Maps Showing Levels of Deprivation	

## **1. Foreword**

Welcome to the Inner West Area Delivery Plan which covers the period 2008 – 2011. Inside you will find the outcomes and priorities agreed with our partners to help deliver local and citywide aspirations. This year marks a much closer linkage between local and citywide planning with the Area Delivery Plan effectively being the local interpretation of the Leeds Strategic Plan. Rest assured that our focus will remain on how we can best improve local services and conditions in West Leeds but we should not ignore our contribution to the success of Leeds as a whole. Armley and Bramley are vibrant communities with many success stories and thriving small business history. We aim to give further support to local people to build on that success and ensure improvements in conditions for all communities in our area by seeking to further narrow the gap between our more disadvantaged areas and the rest. What is good for Armley and Bramley is good for the city of Leeds and I hope to count on your support in bringing our aspirations into effect and making a real difference.

## **2. Introduction**

Leeds City Council has a decentralised structure of decision making to provide local services which respond to local needs. There are three wedges covering the city, each comprising a number of council wards making up 10 area committees. The Inner West Area Committee consists of the electoral wards of Armley and Bramley & Stanningley.

Committee membership consists of the six ward members for the Inner West area plus co-optees from Armley and Bramley forums. It is supported by the West North West Area Management Team which also supports the work of Outer West, Outer North West and Inner North West Area Committees.

Each area committee has prepared a three year area delivery plan setting out key actions aimed at meeting local and city wide targets linked to the Leeds Strategic Plan covering the period 2008-2011. This plan provides a profile of the Inner West area, giving details of achievements during 2007/8 and flagging up key priority areas as the focus of future work by Area Management, the Area Committee and their partner organisations. The action table is attached as Appendix A.

This plan also builds on the outcomes of consultation events with local residents in Armley and Bramley and with voluntary, community and faith sector organisations held in January 2008, as well as on the results of the Leeds Residents Survey 2007 pertaining to Inner West Leeds.

A dedicated West Leeds Area Management team, based at Pudsey One Stop Centre has responsibility for co-ordinating Area Management services in both the Inner and Outer West areas.

The actions will be delivered through the Council and its partners. Many of the actions will require joint work between agencies outside Leeds City Council structures, such as Leeds Primary Care Trust, West North West Homes and the North West Police Division.

### 3. Area Committee

#### 3.1 Role

Area Committees have a lot of influence; they are making sure that local priorities are taken into account in the development of major policies and strategies.

The Committee meets approximately every two months, or six times per year. The dates are published on the Council's website and in local papers. The agenda for each meeting will be produced at least one week before the meeting and will be available in local libraries and on the Leeds City Council website <http://www.leeds.gov.uk>.

The Area Committee has a monitoring role to ensure a high standard of service delivery in the local area. It can influence the Council's policies and strategies, and provide local views to inform the Council's business planning and setting of service standards. It works closely with other agencies and with local communities to deliver against these priorities. In addition the area committee has a number of responsibility areas or functions granted through Leeds City Council Executive Board which have been steadily expanded over the last few years.

#### 3.2 Area Function Schedules

Function	Summary
Area Well Being Budgets	An annual capital and revenue allocation to each Committee to support local priorities.
Community Engagement	A local community engagement plan with some minimum requirements will be put in place and an annual report to each Committee and Executive Board on progress and future proposals will be made.
Community Centres	Responsibility for a portfolio of community centres now vested with Regeneration Service within Inner West. This covers overseeing revenue budgets, operational arrangements and the use of the centres, agreeing and implementing a schedule of charges and discounts for directly managed centres.
Community Greenspace	Area Committees will influence the development and use of community parks and be consulted about proposals for the development and use of them.
Neighbourhood Wardens	Neighbourhood Wardens deployed in specific areas which provide a local patrolling function, assistance in dealing with anti-social behaviour, co-ordination to maintain the physical

	appearance of areas and offer support to local residents with environmental and community safety issues
PCSOs, Neighbourhood Policing Teams and Multi Agency Crime and Grime Operations	This covers the deployment of PCSOs, the work of Neighbourhood Policing Teams (which are now aligned to ward and Area Committee boundaries) and multi agency crime and grime initiatives to tackle local priorities and hot spots.
CCTV	This covers fixed cameras across the area and CCTV operators who are employed to carry out 24/7 monitoring operations
Environmental Action Teams	This newly created service will be responsible for a range of neighbourhood related enforcement activities including noise nuisance, waste in gardens, overgrown vegetation, littering, placards, A-boards, graffiti, waste from domestic and commercial bins, drainage, pest control. The teams will carry out the enforcement and preventative work, rather than the litter picking, waste collection role which is done by other staff.
Street Cleansing	This covers teams of staff and specialist equipment to provide mechanical sweeping of adopted carriageways and footpaths, manual litter picking and litter bin emptying.
Highways Maintenance	This covers the annual and forward programme of planned maintenance on local roads, traffic management schemes and minor maintenance schemes to keep highways safe. The function schedule retains current arrangements whereby ward members are consulted on and informed about the progress of schemes in their ward.
Grounds Maintenance	This covers various elements of maintenance work including grass cutting, shrub and rose bed maintenance and hedge maintenance. .
Local Children and Young People Plans	Development and review of local area (wedge) Children and Young People's Plans (CYPP), as an integral part of the area delivery plan, which will identify and drive local priorities, and inform and influence the citywide Children and Young People's Plan. Area Committees will continue to take part in the development and review of the local plan thereby influencing the strategic direction of the plan in relation to the 5 Every Child Matters outcomes and local need.
Health and Well Being	Improving health and tackling health inequalities by ensuring coordinated and focused activity across Council services and with key partners such as the Leeds PCT.
Area Based Regeneration Schemes and Town and	Area Committees will have responsibility for formal consultation and monitoring of area based regeneration schemes and town and district centre projects.

District Centre Projects	
Neighbourhood Management Co-ordination	This covers the identification of priority neighbourhoods across Leeds that require more intensive resources to drive service improvements and better local outcomes. This includes improving the co-ordination of key services across the council and local partners and piloting new ways of working.
Conservation Area Reviews	This covers an initial programme of reviews in designated conservation areas as agreed by the area committee.
Advertising on Lampposts	Whilst a citywide function there will be a link to Area Committees with them having share of revenue generated from any local advertising on lampposts in their area.

The Area Committee will maintain an overview of the above services in their area and receive regular information about it. The Authority to exercise these functions will continue to be held concurrently by the Executive Board, Area Committees and relevant Directors/Chief Officers (within their scheme of delegated authority). Any proposed changes to resources relating to these functions would need to be made in consultation with the relevant service Director/Chief Officer(s) and with the agreement of the Area Committee and Executive Board where appropriate.

Like all Council bodies the Area Committee is accountable to the Executive Board and will be subject to scrutiny by the Council's Scrutiny Boards. The Area Delivery Plan requires agreement by the Executive Board, which will monitor the performance of the Area Committee.

#### **4. Area Management**

West North West Area Management is the key delivery arm of Inner West Area Committees. The mission statement of the Area Management Team is to

- Provide a service focused on local priorities, improving services and involving communities with effective monitoring of equality issues in place.
- Work with ward members to help deliver the Leeds Strategic Plan through implementation of the Area Delivery Plan and its local actions.
- Co-ordinate local service delivery and narrow the gap between the poorest communities and the rest.
- To put in place delivery arrangements to achieve measurable improvements in neighbourhoods.
- To target and manage resources to meet identified needs.
- To develop and promote community cohesion and engagement to encourage our communities to become more harmonious.

Throughout these aims we will seek to base our actions on evidence and good practice about what works.

## **5. Funding**

The Inner West Area Committee has an area budget allocation for 2008/9 of:

Capital	£ 72,600
Revenue Priorities Budget Allocation	150,440

This allocation will be topped up with any carry forward from 2007/8.

The Well-Being Fund is used to finance projects which meet the objectives of the Area Delivery Plan. Area Management are working with other services within the Council, with partner agencies and with local communities to take a strategic approach to using the Well-Being Fund which ensures best use of the funding.

A small grants fund will operate where local groups will be able to apply for grants up to £500 / £1000 to deliver projects which build local capacity and are relevant to delivering the key priorities for the Inner West area. Area Management can also provide skips for local community groups involved in clean ups.

Appendix B lists those projects funded from the Well-Being Fund in 2007/8.

## **6. Area Profile**

### **6.1 Population**

Inner West Leeds has 47,456 residents living in 21,577 households, 7.7% of whom are from BME communities.

### **6.2 The Indices of Deprivation 2007**

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
- Crime

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

### 6.3 Analysis

Overall the analysis of data shows that Inner West Leeds has improved markedly in terms of levels of deprivation between 2004 and 2007, reflecting the overall trends citywide. A total of 12 neighbourhoods in Inner West have improved and only four declined over the three year period indicating a clear narrowing of the gap between the most deprived areas and the rest.

The neighbourhoods that have improved most in 2007 compared to 2004 are the Aviaries in Armley and the Fairfields in Bramley. Other neighbourhoods showing marked improvements were the Broadleas in Bramley and Lower Wythers, the Edinburghs, Raynviles, and Gilpins in Armley. The Fairfield neighbourhood is worth highlighting here – it has improved markedly and moved out of the bottom 3% - 832 places from 3% to 5%, reflecting the success of all the joint partnership working there. Of the four other Neighbourhood Management (LAMP) areas Broadleas is the second best improvement by 735 places. The other two LAMP areas had shown smaller improvements, New Wortley by 25 places, Upper Wyther by 23 places. For those neighbourhoods that have declined Moorside in Bramley has been the most notable - by 819 places

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

Area	Ward	Improvement (places)
Aviaries	Armley	1041
Fairfields	Bramley	832
Broadleas	Bramley	735
Lower Wythers	Armley	676
Edinburghs	Armley	544
Raynviles	Armley	331
Gilpins	Armley	324
Astons	Armley	222
Landseers	Bramley	107
New Wortley	Armley	25
Upper Wythers	Armley	23
Nansens	Bramley	9

**Table 2 Decline of neighbourhoods in Inner West 2003-7**

Area	Ward	Decline (places)
Cedars and Athlones	Armley	-6
Mistress Lane	Armley	-55
New Scarborough	Bramley	-111
Moorside	Bramley	-819

## 6.4 Priority areas

The areas now in most need of attention (by rank order) are New Wortley, Fairfield, Upper Wyther and the Gilpins - these are all still in the worst 5% of deprived neighbourhoods nationally. These need to continue to be target regeneration and neighbourhood management areas in Inner West over the next three years.

**Table 3: Overall ranking of neighbourhoods in Inner West (2007 data)**

National Rank	Band	Neighbourhood	Ward
1088	5%	New Wortley	Armley
1249	5%	Fairfields	Bramley
1328	5%	Upper Wythers	Armley
1495	5%	Gilpins	Armley

Inner West area contains Leeds's most deprived neighbourhood in respect of Health Deprivation & Disability "domain" (the SOA containing Leeds Prison - Hall Lane /Armley Grove Place). The most notable "domain" improvement in Inner West is the living environment domain which has seen the number of SOAs ranked in the most deprived 20% on the national scale fall from 23 in 2004 to 19 in 2007. Inner West has scored well on improvements in employment, income, health/disability and barriers to housing data, and less well on crime and skills.

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.

## 7.0 Key achievements in 2007/8

The last year showed a marked increase in the range of partnership work building on the strengths of area management and utilising Area Committee Well Being funds appropriately to make a difference in the local area. Highlights included:

- 3 highly successful Operation Champions on Broadleas, Fairfields / Summerfields and the Wythers / Raynviles estates. Apart from the usual Police operations, community clean-ups, enforcement actions, security measures works there was much closer work with local schools. They were able to get support in promoting community / personal safety and tackling anti-social behaviour. Improved links between neighbourhood wardens, wider partners and the Neighbourhood Community Policing have developed further through tasking team meetings ensuring that hot spot areas were effectively targeted. There have been marked reductions in crime levels across the area and the Area Committee has supported initiatives such as supplying headcams for police officers to record crime as it happens, schemes challenging domestic violence, ginnel closures and diversionary activity programmes by BARCA and the Youth Service.
- Partnership work, with the local community at the forefront, ensured effective delivery of European and Safer Stronger Communities funded projects at New Wortley and Fairfield community centres where successful café and gardening projects flourish alongside a range of community organised events. Support of partner organisations has been vital in this work and work continues to ensure a sustainable future for our local centres.



- Increased youth provision through Area Committee funding support for mobile youth bus provision, support to holiday sports development activities, new multi-use games areas and wide-ranging support through large and small grants for youth activities in the patch. Progress was also made in working with partners to agree local children and young people priorities and establish better working practices / training in relation to Common Assessment Framework systems.
- Key progress made in regeneration schemes with a successful bid for £10.8 million under the Northern Housing Challenge fund to support new build in Fairfield estate and further developments in the Leeds Bradford Corridor work that led to approval for a jointly funded post to be appointed to take work further. Further work in the West Leeds Gateway on sites like Mistress Lane, feasibility studies of Armley Mills and the development of Armley Town and District centre plans have developed the overall scheme. Added to the successful Townscape Heritage Initiative bid and the work on delivering a new leisure centre in Armley this gives a flavour of the huge strides made in the last year in targeted regeneration work in disadvantaged areas.

## **8.0 Partnership working to achieve targets**

The action table attached at appendix 1 includes all planned actions by Area Management and partners under the Local Area Agreement agreed headings which were based on the original Vision for Leeds themes.

In order to achieve local and citywide targets we need to work effectively with partners to maximise use of available resources and reduce duplication of effort. Our work with partners will be fed back to the Area Committee by regular reports and through the efforts of an officer co-ordination group made up of representatives of key agencies in the area. Priority areas include;

### **8.1 Housing and Regeneration**

This role is largely delivered through Area Management and the regeneration team with support from Development, Strategic Landlord and the West North West ALMO. The aspiration is to bring about improved quality of life through mixed neighbourhoods offering good housing options and better access to services. Restructuring has taken place in both West North West ALMO and Leeds City Council Regeneration Service aimed at maximising use of available resource to work towards:

- Improvements to key town centres through work such as the Town and District Centre scheme and the Town Heritage Initiative aiming to bring about infrastructure improvements to Armley Town Centre
- Regeneration of disadvantaged areas through physical improvements funded by ALMO area panels and Area Committee Well Being funding.
- Broader based regeneration through targeted work in the West Leeds Gateway area and Leeds / Bradford corridor work.

### **8.2 Health and Well-Being**

The Primary Care Trust is finalising its structure in the move towards one trust for the city. It is still keen to ensure that locality arrangements are in place with appointments to be made to this role in the near future. Their key Public Health target is to focus on the “worst 10%” priority neighbourhoods with their main strategies in the coming year aimed at:

- Promoting health
- Tackling priority groups and neighbourhoods
- Improving urgent and planned care.

Key areas for linkage to Area Committee priorities would therefore be around the joint focus on disadvantaged areas and perhaps a shared focus on priority groups such as learning disability, child poverty, vulnerable older people, BME communities, physical disability. This would also allow a focus on quality of primary care in disadvantaged neighbourhoods

### **8.3 Children and Young People**

Each of the Children Leeds Locality Co-ordinators is undertaking a prioritisation exercise on the area based Children and Young People Plans. Area Delivery Plan priorities tie in to these and the top priorities which in West Leeds are:

- Emotional well-being
- Safeguarding young people
- Parenting support
- Progress at secondary school level
- Positive opportunities for young people

Linkage to the Area Committee is therefore tied into creating additional opportunities for young people including better integration of youth and play provision and work with the 8-13 age range, parenting support through schemes such as Signpost or other such provision and work in support of alternative curriculum work supporting improvements in attainment at secondary level.

### **8.4 Environment**

Following a restructure of Environmental Health a key link will be with the Environmental Action Team for the wedge. In addition the relevant streetscene and parks and countryside staff will be engaged. Key priorities will be to ensure a cleaner, greener and more attractive city through effective environmental management. This will entail jointly tackling problem sites or “hot spots” within local neighbourhoods. We also need to improve the quality and sustainability of the natural and built environment through work to improve parks and greenspaces. Key linkages to the Area Committee are;

- Environmental enforcement
- Private sector housing improvement / work with private sector landlords / registration of HMOs.
- Joint work within priority areas

## **8.5 Community Safety**

Key links here are with our own Community safety Co-ordinator and the North West Police Division with their relatively newly established neighbourhood Policing Teams. Work will clearly continue in support of the five Safer Leeds Partnership outcomes which are:

- Creating safer environments by tackling crime
- Improving lives by reducing harm caused by substance abuse
- Supporting victims
- Reducing offending
- Improving community confidence

Within these priorities there are clear local links with the Area Committee in terms of effective neighbourhood management tasking, supporting projects aimed at tackling domestic violence / hate crime, support for work tackling anti-social behaviour and delivery of Operation Champion initiatives in target areas.

## **8.6 Jobs and Enterprise**

The main strategic outcome here would be to bring about increased economic activity through targeted support to reduce worklessness and poverty. Leeds Ahead will be co-ordinating this element of partnership work and will involve Jobs and Skills and Job Centre Plus who both have plans to reduce worklessness focusing upon the most deprived areas. The Area Committee has worked closely with Leeds Ahead over the last year and funded specific work in this area.

## **9.0 Community Engagement and Cohesion**

### **9.1 Local Consultation**

Area Committees give local people the opportunity to have more influence on how services are delivered in the area and are welcome to attend area committee meetings.

There are two ward based forums in the Inner West Area, Armley which meets monthly and Bramley and Stanningley which meets every two months. The primary function of these is to consult widely in the community on particular issues or areas and provide the opportunity for all members of the community to be heard. They are not formally constituted bodies of the Council and they have no decision making powers but also give councillors an opportunity to meet with local residents and hear views / concerns..

The Area Committee works closely with these two forums and representatives from the forums sit on the Area Committee as co-optees.

In addition the Area Committee takes account of other local or issue based forums and residents groups in the area.

### **9.2 Events Held**

Local consultation is carried out on specific issues. Earlier this year “**What’s the Big Idea** “ events were held within the community. A wide range of agency representatives attended a further event and were likewise asked to flag up key issues in the area. The main areas of concerns raised were:

- The need for more youth activity / facilities such as skateboard parks/,playgrounds, internet café and youth shelter
- Better use of greenspace for community events and improvements to greenspace areas
- Traffic calming measures / controls
- Work to tackle youth nuisance and anti-social behaviour
- Improvements needed to health care including extended GP hours / NHS dentist issues
- Improved transport infrastructure needed
- Debt counselling / citizens advice support is limited
- Town centres like Bramley badly need a facelift if to be a focal point for the community

A **Participatory Budgeting** pilot project was carried out on Broadleas estate. Here local people developed their own ideas on how to spend a pot of money allocated to the estate and decided which projects should be funded. The actual projects are under development now but evaluation of the project suggests it is a model that could be repeated elsewhere in the area and further work is planned.

Summer / Autumn 2007 consultation took place on proposals for a conservation area for Armley and a Townscape heritage Initiative (THI) focused on Town Street and Branch Road. The THI is a lottery funded initiative able to provide grants for restoration and repair work to properties of heritage and historic interest. Response was very positive with debate about boundaries of the conservation area. The agreed conservation area was adopted in October 2007 and we were subsequently advised of the success of our bid for £1.1 million.

Autumn 2007 brought consultation on greenspaces in Armley, exhibiting plans prepared by Armley Common Right Trust and the Council. Plans for Armley Moor, Moor Top and Hill Top were well received with comments on the need to retain a consistent theme of heritage style seating across all areas, the need for more consultation on facilities and the desire to see the Moor used for more events such as farmers` markets etc.

During the last year there has also been consultation with local businesses. This included a seminar in march 2007 agreeing a strategy for delivery of skills and employment related services for West Leeds residents. A further celebration of success event was organised in conjunction with Leeds Ahead where businesses were consulted on the West Leeds regeneration plans and were able to raise concerns about crime and shop front improvements.

As one of its last acts prior to dissolution the West Leeds District Partnership, in conjunction with West Leeds Children and Young People services, held a Young People Awards event. 28 young people received awards against the Every Child Matters outcomes for acts of bravery, voluntary community action and achievement in the face of adversity. Youth Service accreditation awards were also issued and

young people were consulted about attitudes towards crime and anti-social behaviour through interactive sessions.

### **9.3 City-wide Consultation**

The Leeds Annual Residents survey (2007) aimed to measure satisfaction levels with various council services. Residents were also asked where improvements were needed and looking at the West Leeds respondents these were:

- More activities for teenagers
- More work on reducing anti-social behaviour
- Road and pavement repairs
- Reduction in crime

Whilst these were the key concerns it is worth noting that complaints about anti-social behaviour had fallen from 38% in 2005 to 235 in 2007. The proportion of complaints about roads and pavements had also dropped from 45% to 215 in the same period. Respondents from West Leeds were more likely to say that road pavement repairs, crime, traffic congestion and anti-social behaviour had got better than did the city as a whole. Respondents in west were also much less likely to have selected the lack of clean neighbourhoods as an issue in the 2007 survey ( this featured in the top 5 concerns in 2005). This result reflects the improved level of service provision in West Leeds in tackling crime, community safety, road and neighbourhood improvements over the last two years.

### **9.4 Community Cohesion**

Community cohesion is a key element of the Area Committee / Area Managements work. Much of the support work carried out at a forum level or within local community centres is aimed at creating harmonious communities where people can come together in a spirit of cooperation to improve their area. Apart from regular consultation events Inner West has developed projects celebrating the diversity that exists within our wider community and a range of faith and voluntary organisations are encouraged to take part in these. These range from celebration days held in conjunction with key partners to the higher profile fun days and the incredibly successful; I Love West Leeds event which goes from strength to strength. The Area Management plans implemented in our key target areas help to engage residents with service providers and activities such as Operation Champion, the small grants scheme and the community skip schemes operated by the Area Committee serve to support local groups with the same ambition to improve their neighbourhoods.

### **9.5 Community Centres**

Area Management have continued to work in support of community centres in West Leeds, working closely with Civic Buildings to ensure smooth booking operations and repairs within a limited budget. Key successes continue to be the partnership work undertaken at Fairfield and New Wortley Community Centres where community cafes, gardening schemes and broad ranges of classes and groups continue to

flourish. There is even a pharmacy attached to New Wortley Community Centre now with rental income being set aside to support community centre developments. In addition support has been given to the re-establishment of Moorside Community Centre and assistance given to the transfer from the Youth Service of Strawberry Lane Community Centre. This centre will soon house Jobs and Skills staff in addition to the work of Park Lane College and Armley Helping Hands which is so successful there. Following a full building survey that highlighted major maintenance issues it was decided to demolish Wyther Community Centre with assistance offered to the sole user group to relocate elsewhere in the patch. The Youth Inclusion Project (BARCA Leeds) continues to utilise the old Sandford Community Centre as a base for operations whilst also making it available for wider community events when needed.

#### **10. Monitoring the actions**

The establishment of the Local Area Agreement linked to Area Delivery Plans enshrine statutory duties to cooperate, a joint commissioning approach and extended scope for scrutiny of service providers. This plan identifies our partners and responsibility for delivery and thus provides a real tool for measuring performance and progress.

Regular reports on progress will be presented to the Area Committee by Area Management staff and others based on information supplied by council service providers and partners. An officer coordination group consisting of senior management representatives will ensure that progress is made against targets / outcomes set.