



## Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

### Inner North West Area Committee

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2008

Subject: Area Manager's Report

<p><b>Electoral Wards Affected:</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)</p>	<p><b>Specific Implications For:</b></p> <p>Ethnic minorities <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Women <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Disabled people <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
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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"/>
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### 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, which are not addressed elsewhere on the agenda:-

- Area Delivery Plan 2008/11;
- Woodhouse Moor;
- Leeds Girls' High School;
- Headingley Primary School;
- Headingley town centre parking
- Little London regeneration scheme;
- Royal Park;
- Post Office closures;
- Community Safety initiatives; and
- Neighbourhood Improvement Areas.

#### 1.0 Area Delivery Plan 2008/11

1.1 Community consultation events were held in May, one in each ward, seeking views on which of the citywide improvement priorities were most relevant to the Inner North West, and therefore appropriate to include in the Area Delivery Plan (ADP) 2008/11.

1.2 The consultation also provided attendees with an opportunity to suggest any new, area specific priorities not part of the citywide plan.

- 1.3 A total of 48 residents attended the events, providing valuable information, not only on their viewed priorities for the area, but also suggesting associated actions which would help to achieve improvements in the priorities.
- 1.4 The Members Working Group, agreed by the Area Committee at its April 2008 meeting, has met three times. It has discussed the mechanism and outcomes of the consultation and decided on which improvements priorities to include within the plan. It is anticipated that they group will meet at least once more before the draft ADP is presented to the Committee at its special meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> July.

## **2.0 Woodhouse Moor**

- 2.1 Following a busy weekend on the Moor in May, in terms of barbecues, anti social behaviour and litter, a series of multi agency meetings have been held to put into place an action plan to tackle/prohibit the reoccurrence of such behaviour.
- 2.2 Parks & Countryside has put additional resources on the Moor, especially at weekends, to deal with nuisance behaviour and the increased need for litter clearance. A bottle bank has also been placed on the Moor.
- 2.3 Environmental Enforcement Officers are being tasked with regular patrols of the Moor during weekends.
- 2.4 In addition to the above the police have tasked PSCOs with carrying out regular patrols of the Moor, to monitor behaviour.
- 2.5 Since the weekend referred to in May there has been no large scale nuisance on the Moor.
- 2.6 The police successfully stopped a planned 'pillow fight' party on Woodhouse Moor that had been widely promoted via Facebook. The originator of the invitation to the party was tracked down and visited by the police.

## **3.0 Leeds Girls' High School**

- 3.1 Following a deputation from the Leeds Girls' High School Action Group to Full Council on 16<sup>th</sup> January a report was taken by Executive Board on 11<sup>th</sup> June, to give consideration to the current Leeds Girls' High School (LGHS) position.
- 3.2 Executive Board made the following resolutions:-
  - (a) That the principle of any public greenspace requirement associated with a residential scheme, to comply with UDP Policy, being mainly provided at Ford House Garden be supported;
  - (b) That, over and above what is required by UDP Policy, and subject to it being affordable to the Council support be given to negotiations for the acquisition of the land south of Victoria Road, for use as informal greenspace, through a negotiated agreement, and that officers be authorised to continue to investigate this with the school; and
  - (c) That it be further noted that any proposal that the Elinor Lupton Centre become a licensed premises would not be supported by this Board and that the proposed use

of the sports hall and swimming pool by a private operator with a 'community access agreement' would be supported by this Board.

- 3.3 The LGHS Action Group held community drop-in sessions/workshops in May, where views were gathered in order for the group to produce their own planning brief for the LGHS site.

#### **4.0 Headingley Primary School**

- 4.1 Following on from the last Area Committee a meeting was held between Headingley Development Trust (HDT), local Councillors and Council leaders. The meeting was requested in light of HDTs unsuccessful funding application to the Community Asset Fund.
- 4.2 The meeting discussed HDTs need for either more time, or further funding assistance in order for them to meet the 30<sup>th</sup> June deadline for securing the refurbishment costs of the school building.
- 4.3 Presently neither an extension of time, nor any more funding have been agreed by the Council. HDT has however made an application to the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

#### **5.0 Headingley Town Centre Parking**

- 5.1 Headingley was recently highlighted as having one of the worst district centre parking provision in the city. In response the Council is planning to undertake a more detailed assessment of parking in the district centre, anticipated to be commenced in October.
- 5.2 The assessment will look at both existing provision and options for improvement within the town centre.

#### **6.0 Little London Regeneration Scheme**

- 6.1 The Council has just entered into the Detailed Solutions stage of securing a consortium to deliver the Little London regeneration scheme. The stage involves taking forward three bidding consortium with a view to them submitting further detail of their proposed solutions for the delivery of the scheme.
- 6.2 Following evaluation of submissions at the end of Detailed Solutions the Council will make a decision on progressing two of the remaining consortium.
- 6.3 Regular briefing sessions are taking place with ward Councillors and monthly project updates are being produced for all key stakeholders.

#### **7.0 Royal Park**

- 7.1 Contracts are close to being exchanged between the Council and Rushbond Group. The terms of the contract include the final fit out specification for the community space within the redeveloped building.
- 7.2 The next stage in the process will be for Rushbond's to submitted a planning application for the scheme. It is anticipated that this will take place in autumn/winter.

## **8.0 Proposed Post Office Closures**

- 8.1 Local campaigns have begun following the Post Office's announcement that it proposes to close local post offices in both Far Headingley and Little London.
- 8.2 Public meetings have been held in both areas, with petitions being raised and local residents asked to write individual letters of objection before the consultation closing date of 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

## **9.0 Community Safety**

- 9.1 The latest Operation Champion to take place in the inner north west was held in April, focusing on Headingley and Burley (including around Ash Road, the Stanmores, Thornvilles, St Annes and Latchmeres).
- 9.2 The results of the Operation included:
- 8 truants returned to school;
  - 3 civil court fines paid;
  - 19 DVLA tickets issued;
  - 6 untaxed cars seized (DVLA);
  - 5 cars seized (police);
  - 2,560 vehicle registrations checked through ANPR; and
  - 1,000 newsletters delivered.
- 9.3 An action day is planned to take place on 25<sup>th</sup> June in Hawksworth Wood. The day will see fifteen agencies undertaking a joint operation to tackle a range of issues, including nuisance gardens, home fire safety, tenancy enforcement and graffiti removal.
- 9.4 A similar action day has been proposed for the Silk Mills, linking in with the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan (see below).

## **10.0 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas**

### **10.1 Hawksworth Wood**

Speeding Traffic problems in the Hawksworth Wood area have been tackled.

Measures put in place include:

- The use of a SID – (Speed Indication Device) used in the area; and
- Slow down 30 mph stickers distributed through the Community Association and Neighbourhood Wardens

### **10.2 Silk Mills**

A neighbourhood improvement survey was delivered to over 600 households in the Silk Mills area in early February 2008. 161 responses (27% response rate) were received which are now being analysed with a view to holding a community action day sometime in late spring/summer 2008.

The Silk Mills play area was formally opened at a community event in May 2008.

### 10.3 Harold & Thornville

The Neighbourhood Improvement Plan has been reviewed. Listed below are suggested improvements which will be included in the plan:

- £10,000 for bin yard improvements has been secured, which will include modernisation of some bin yards, improved signage and ensuring each property has the correct number of bins and that stencilling has been carried out (the funds are £2,000 from the Area Committee and £8,000 from ward Councillors);
- Regular checks to be made for graffiti and incidents reported to the graffiti removal team;
- Glass recycling facilities to be made available;
- Improvements to greenspaces, including ensuring gardens are kept tidy; and
- Improvements to bollards and street signage.

In order to develop the plan further residents have been sent a letter asking what they think about where they live and what improvements could be made. Residents are also being asked if they would be interested in joining a residents' association or neighbourhood watch scheme.

### 11.0 Recommendations

- 11.1 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.