



Report of the Director of Environments & Neighbourhoods Directorate

South Leeds (Outer) Area Committee

Date: Monday 7th July 2008

Subject: Area Managers Report

<p>Electoral Wards Affected:</p> <p>Ardsley & Robin Hood Morley North Morley South Rothwell</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)</p>	<p>Specific Implications For:</p> <p>Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Council Function <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
	<p>Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Executive Summary

This report details a range of activities taking place within the Outer South Leeds Area, some of which are dealt with in greater detail elsewhere on the agenda.

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To bring to Members' attention in a succinct fashion, brief details of the range of activities with which the Area Management Team are engaged, and that are not addressed in greater detail elsewhere on this agenda. It provides opportunities for further questioning or the opportunity to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

2.0 Evaluation of Community Safety Projects

- 2.1 In July 2007, the Area Committee agreed £29,226.44 towards five community safety projects broken down as follows:

NPT	Project	Cost
Morley	Smartwater	£5,000
	Target Hardening	£7,500
	Pubwatch and Licensing	£7,689.24
Rothwell		
	Smartwater	£3,000
	Pubwatch and Licensing Scheme	£6,037.20
Total		£29,266.44

- 2.2 As agreed in the signed Funding Agreements and Project Delivery Statements the Neighbourhood Policing Teams for Morley and Rothwell have submitted evaluation reports on the outcomes of the community safety projects.
- 2.3 Area Committee funding towards the Morley Neighbourhood Policing Team for the Pubwatch and Licensing project was matched by West Yorkshire Police Divisional funds.
- 2.4 Three test purchase operations took place during September – December 2007. As a result 3 fixed penalty tickets have been issued for the sale of alcohol to juveniles and the purchase of alcohol by juveniles. 2 Off Licenses are being prosecuted for supplying alcohol to juveniles. This action has acted as a deterrent and resulted in a significant reduction in licensing breaches over recent months. There has also been a significant drop in offences linked to alcohol, such as Criminal Damage and Anti Social Behaviour. Area Committee support has been essential in achieving the reductions in crime and Anti Social Behaviour (ASB).
- 2.5 The second part of the licensing project was to support and develop the Morley and District Pub Watch Scheme. The scheme is developing well, with Working Men's Clubs signing up to the scheme that also includes all the Public Houses. Members of the scheme receive regular visits from a police officer to ensure that licensing laws and regulations are being complied with and that the licensed premises are being run in a professional and orderly manner. This ensures that there is a string and robust support for the members and receive regular consultation on legal requirements. These high visibility visits reassures members of the public and makes them feel safer within the environment that they live and work.
- 2.6 In respect of target hardening, The Morley & District Community Safety Panel has, during the Policing year of 2007 – 2008 attended at 560 properties Of those 379 properties, 310 of the homes of vulnerable members of the local community have been secured by the supplying and fitting of the Masterlock Key Safe. The remaining 69 properties were secured by way of the traditional target hardening methods and met the criteria of being one of the following: elderly, burglary victim, single parent and the unemployed. The Masterlock Key Safe became an important security device in combating the potential increase in insecure and sneak-in burglaries. Demand on the scheme has been high, leaving the vulnerable occupant and relatives with peace of mind of security and reducing the fear of crime.
- 2.7 Morley Neighbourhood Policing Team Smartwater project purchased 347 kits to supply victims of burglary and vulnerable residents in the Morley NPT area in 2007/08. Although the figures in relation to domestic burglaries appear to have remained static within the Morley NPT area, consideration should be given to the increase in housing development that has taken place. Shed Burglaries continue to decrease, from 2006/07 87 reported to 07/08 62 reported burglaries.
- 2.8 153 Smartwater kits remain, which will allow the project to continue for a further 3 - 4 months. This will assist in the forthcoming Police campaign of promoting property marking which is to be launched across the whole of the Force area, with a view to raising awareness, educating and informing both the public and members of the police organisation as to the benefits of property marking.

- 2.9 The Rothwell Pubwatch and Licensing Project aimed to carry out a number of test purchasing operations on off licenses and Public Houses in the Rothwell ward to target underage drinking and associated anti social behaviour. 23 Off Licenses were subject to the operations. 6 Off Licenses were found to be in breach of their license. Five were served with fixed penalty tickets and one reported for summons. The result of the operation was a marked down turn in ASB and drink related crime in the proceeding 3-4 weeks in the areas of the operation.
- 2.10 The Smartwater Project delivered by the Rothwell Neighbourhood Policing Team purchased 200 kits to supply victims of burglary and vulnerable residents in the Rothwell NPT area within the Outer South area. As a result of the project, none of the addresses provided with kits have been victims of repeat offences. The project has successfully impacted on reducing crime and the fear of crime amongst residents.
- 2.11 The original budget of £6,037.20 has an outstanding balance of £3,421.20 for the Rothwell Pubwatch and Licensing project. Members are asked to consider and approve the Rothwell Police Inspector's proposal; that following the success of the test purchase operations in reducing in acquisitive crime and anti social behaviour, that the remaining balance is used to carry out further test purchase operations over the summer period. This is a peak time for increase in alcohol related ASB.

3.0 Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group

- 3.1 The Cleaner Neighbourhoods Sub Group continue to meet quarterly to discuss environmental issues with key partners; Aire Valley Homes, Parks and Countryside and Environmental Services.
- 3.2 Issues are addressed through an action plan that incorporates Area Delivery Plan (ADP) priorities and short term issues raised by residents and members. A key issue identified has been the ownership and responsibility of ginnel maintenance. In response, the sub group have requested Environmental Services to coordinate a mapping exercise of Ginnels in Outer South. The map is being compiled in conjunction with Parks and Countryside, Highways and Aire Valley Homes the first stage of mapping is taking place in the Rothwell ward.
- 3.3 The project to purchase and operate a Glutton street cleansing machine for Morley town centre continues to progress. The relative paperwork assessing capital purchases have been completed and signed off by the Chief Regeneration Officer. Payment for the agreed match funding towards the machine has been requested from Morley Town Council. Environmental Services are working towards having the machine purchased by the end of June.
- 3.4 The Environmental Pride Task Group met on the 4th June to discuss the 2008/09 programme of environmental clean ups in neighbourhoods across the Outer South. The meeting identified aims, roles and responsibilities. A programme of locations and activities is being developed. Representatives from Aire Valley Homes (AVH) and Environmental Services attended and a new process was agreed that will utilise the regular AVH estate walkabout to create the task list of environmental improvements for the pride days to tackle. Area Management are now liaising with AVH estate management officers to identify dates for walkabouts and locations for Environmental Pride operations.

- 3.5 Area Management have been liaising with Environmental Services regarding issues raised by Ward Members on the additional litterbin allocation. The litterbins outstanding from 2006/07, 6 have been fitted in the Ardsley and Robin Hood Ward. Copies of the photos from Environmental Services have been requested for monitoring purposes and also to circulate to members for information.
- 3.6 The 2007/08 additional litterbin allocation for all wards and the additional Rothwell litterbin funding, Funding Agreements and Project Delivery Statements were sent following approval by Area Committee to Environmental Services to sign and return to Area Management. Environmental Services have stated that the audits are required to be completed on the locations to check they are suitable for litterbins to be installed. Due to the recent ongoing industrial action, environmental services staff have been engaged in closely monitoring the refuse collection routes. As a result, Environmental Services Officers have informed Area Management that there is no capacity to carry out the location checks within the next few weeks.
- 3.7 A timeline has been requested from Environmental Services for the location checks and installation to be carried out to ensure that the additional litterbin are installed as soon as possible in line with members and residents wishes.
- 3.8 Leeds Community and City Pride scheme is not in its fifth year. It rewards residents, groups, schools and businesses that have done amazing things across Leeds to improve the environment where they live, work or study. Potential projects could be clean ups, recycling schemes, community garden creation and waste minimisation projects. Closing date for submissions is the end of October 2008 and further information can be requested from info.recycling@leeds.gov.uk.

4.0 Town & District Centre Regeneration Scheme

- 4.1 As reported recently the major part of the Marsh Street works regarding the resurfacing and layout of the car park have been completed. A final project cost has been agreed with Mouchel Parkman. The Programme Board have considered a scheme and agreed a scheme for the environmental works which has been developed by Parks & Countryside. It is expected that this work will begin on site in the near future.
- 4.2 Work is still progressing on the planning for the regeneration of Morley Bottoms. The results of the traffic survey are being developed. The advertising hoarding site has been secured, which will see the construction of the lay-by start on site in July. Meanwhile, officers continue to pursue Section 215 notices on several properties.

5.0 Queensway Car Park Morley

- 5.1 Machines have now been installed at Queensway Car Park and are awaiting connection to the electricity supply from the lighting columns. However, these lighting columns are in the ownership of Morrison's who are yet to give approval of this connection. Until this approval from Morrison's is given for this connection, a final timetable can not be put in place.

6.0 Conservation Audits

- 6.1 At the September 2007 Area Committee, additional Well being funding was approved towards conservation audits for Morley and Rothwell.
- 6.2 Work is underway on the Morley Conservation Area Appraisal. A Community Conservation Officer has recently taken up their post with Leeds City Council's Conservation Section as part of a team of three charged with delivering 15 Conservation Area Appraisals by April 2009. Morley is one of the first areas to be appraised.
- 6.3 Conservation areas are places with '*special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance*'. The appraisal will clearly identify what makes Morley a special and distinctive place, identify any negative features or issues that currently detract from this special character and make recommendations for future conservation management and enhancement.
- 6.4 Initial research and analysis is underway with public consultation on a draft of the appraisal timetabled for August / September and adoption of the final appraisal by November. Community consultation is an important part of the process and vital to ensuring that the appraisal reflects what the local community values. Everyone will be encouraged to get involved and have their say.
- 6.5 In addition to this wider consultation, an advisory panel will be established to guide the production of the appraisal and will include representatives from the following groups:
- Area Committee
 - Morley Town Council
 - Morley Archive Group
 - Morley Historical Society
 - Chamber of Trade.
- 6.6 The Panel's role will be to provide local knowledge on the issues affecting the town and its historic environment.

7.0 Community Centres Update

- 7.1 Following on from the last meeting of the Area Committee in April and the decision for St Gabriel's to remain open, Area Management have provided advice and guidance to the Management Committee of St Gabriel's Community Centre. Details were provided on the lettings process, types of organisations that could use the building, procedures for reporting repairs and an exercise was undertaken to write to all local people who expressed an interest in running a session at the facility to confirm their offer and allow their details to be passed on to the management committee.
- 7.2 At the last Area Committee meeting, members highlighted the high running costs at St Gabriel's, which equated to £60 per hour and requested that information on average running costs be presented at the next Area Committee meeting. The only other facility in the Area Committees portfolio which has one main room for hire is Peel Street. As this facility is one that has been highlighted for specific action due to it's high running costs, this may not be the best comparison to draw upon. However, in

2007/08, the cost to operate Peel Street per hour came in at £19.66, which is 68% lower than that of St Gabriel's.

- 7.3 Work is ongoing at Peel Street Community Centre to decant community users – all sessions apart from the social and luncheon clubs held on Monday's and Friday's have now been relocated to other facilities in the area. Discussions are ongoing with Joseph Priestley College about future use of the facility, as they are keen to lease the building for use as an additional classroom for courses starting in September.
- 7.4 The last meeting of the Outer South Community Centres Sub Committee was held on 11th June. Agenda items included the key holding policy for users at community centres, and update on all community facilities which are part of the Area Committees portfolio and also, a forward schedule of meeting dates for the rest of the year were discussed to ensure that the sub committee meeting dates are prior to the Area Committee in order for details of the meetings and any decisions that need to be made to be presented and turned around more quickly. Minutes of the meeting held on June 11th are attached at Appendix 1.

8.0 Morley Literature Festival

- 8.1 The Organising Committee continue to meet monthly to review and discuss the preparations for the Festival. The Festival Director is currently identifying a draft programme of events that will offer a range of activities for all ages. A significant development for 2008 is the increased participation of local schools throughout the festival week. In conjunction with the Morley Literature Festival, the White Rose Centre, Royal Armouries and the Prince of Wales, Children and the Arts Trust, a project called 'Create a Quest' will be delivered with Morley Primary Schools and branded Morley Literature Festival.
- 8.2 The February Area Committee agreed to continue to support the festival and allocated £15,000 from the Well Being budget towards supporting the 2008 festival. Match funding is now being sought through sponsorship from the private sector and a application for funding to Yorkshire Arts Council.
- 8.3 The Friends of Morley Literature Festival continue to develop well. The Management Committee have adopted a constitution and opened a bank account. The first Friends event was held on the 5th June at Morley Town Hall. The Betjeman evening celebrated the works of John Betjeman and provided refreshments. The Organising Committee recognise that the Friends will play a key role in supporting some of the 2008 Festival events including the Literary Luncheon and a Literary Quiz.

9.0 Provision of Summer Activities

- 9.1 At the April Area Committee members agreed to ring fence £10,000 towards the provision of activities over the Summer period for young people.
- 9.2 Area Management have worked in partnership with Youth Service, Extended Services and the Sports Development Team to promote the funding to community groups in addition to identifying projects that can be delivered by these partner organisations to provide activities for young people.
- 9.3 A total of eight projects have been funded through the support of the Area Committee.

9.4 Morley North and Morley South

9.4.1 Chattabox Holiday Club

Holiday Children's Club for twenty, 6 – 12 year olds in the Morley North and Morley South wards. It is in partnership with Wesley Playhouse and will be based at their playhouse in Howdenclough. Transport will pick up children from the Harrop Estate and Fountain Primary School and take them to the playhouse to take part in games, stories, craft, singing and competitions. The project will offer a minimum of 10 hours over the week commencing the 25th August.

9.4.2 Football Project

To provide four, one day free football activity sessions for children aged 5 – 11yrs across the cluster areas of Morley North and Morley South. The coaches are from 'Football in the Community' and offer an opportunity for 22 children at each session to participate in a fun, physical activity that develops their team skills. Leeds United are producing flyers for the project and will take bookings through their booking office.

9.4.3 Youth Service Project

Targeting 13 – 19 year olds in Drighlington and Gildersome, the project offers them the opportunity to participate in educational and sporting activities, every day for four weeks. The project offers three activities per week but also a free bus passes to access other activities in the area e.g. Breeze during the remainder of the week. This is a joint initiative with the Extended Services Cluster of Drighlington and Gildersome and Youth Service. This project is additional work to the core service provided by Youth Service and also compliments the Drighlington Youth Service project successful through the Participatory Budgeting initiative.

9.4.4 Kick Boxing Project

Morley North and Morley South wards will benefit from kick boxing and Boxercise classes for children aged between 7 – 11 years. Weekly 2 hour sessions for four weeks during the summer holidays will provide healthy activities for a total of 48 young children. The activities are accessible to all children as the events are free of charge.

9.4.5 Physical Activities Project

The project in Morley North and the Gildersome and Drighlington Cluster will provide eight, free, high quality fun physical activities for young children. The hour and a half hour sessions will be held over two weeks of the summer holidays. Activities will include fitness circuits, movement to music and team building exercises. Each session will accommodate up to 22 young children. Sessions will be split between 4-6 year olds and 7 -9 year olds.

9.5 Ardsley and Robin Hood and Rothwell

9.5.1 Extended Services Project

Extended Services clusters in Ardsley and Robin Hood and Rothwell are working together to deliver a programme of activities. The two clusters are made up of 18 schools and approximately 10,000 children. The activities programme funded through Sure Start will include dance, drama, arts and crafts and tai chi. In conjunction with this programme they are also holding environmental activity days funded through the Area Committee. Four days will be delivered by Groundwork between 23rd July and 31st August. 32 young people will be attending each day at events across the two wards. The activities aim to increase community spirit, provide opportunities for children to experience new activities and develop their confidence. The provision will work compliment the planned Youth Service summer provision.

9.5.2 Youth Service Project

Youth Service project is aimed at 10 to 19 years of age in the two wards of Ardsley and Robin Hood and Rothwell. The programme over six weeks commencing on 21st July will provide 18 days of activities for 200 young people. This project is additional work to standard provision by the youth service. The project aims at engaging young people in diversionary activities which are challenging, educational and fun. The programme will offer additional day time activities within the local community and a package of outings to places of interest. The activities will range from drama, DJ mixing, cooking and team building exercises. The sessions will last four hours a day and will assist young people to develop life and social skills while meeting new people and experiencing new activities.

9.6 All Wards in the Outer South

9.6.1 Sports Development Project

The project will hold sports sessions at 3 different venues across the Morley wards and also 4 sessions based at the John Charles Centre for Sport where in conjunction with Youth Service, young people will be transported from Ardsley and Robin Hood and Rothwell to the venue for the activities. The three venues in the Morley wards will be Churwell, Drighlington and Lewisham Park. The sessions will be run for up to 20 young people.

9.7 The following table outlines the funding breakdown.

	Morley North Morley South	Ardsley & Robin Hood Rothwell
Youth Service	£3,560 for joint projects	£2,748.00
Extended Services		£1,624.00
Sports Development	£628.00	£628.00
Chattabox Holiday Club	£785.00	N/A
Sub Total	£4,973.00	£5,000.00
Total	£9,973.00	

9.8 Area Management are working with all partners to support the promotion of these events. Projects from Extended Services clusters will be promoted through flyers and posters distributed through schools and children centres. Youth Service will utilise their networks with agencies to promote the schemes as well as targeting young people that they are already working with.

10.0 Area Delivery Plan (ADP) Thematic Champions

10.1 At the February Area Committee, members supported the principle of future area based partnership working, of nominating Elected Members with an interest and the availability to act as champions for the specific LSP and ADP themes dealt with by the thematic sub partnerships.

10.2 It was also suggested that the same Elected Members could also be the champion for the Area Committee function/responsibility which is associated most closely with the relevant thematic sub-partnership and ADP thematic priority.

10.3 Attached at **Appendix 2** is the suggested schedule of the thematic sub-Partnerships aligned to dates of Area Committee meetings in 08/09 before which such partnerships would host a public engagement event, tabled at the April Area Committee meeting. The attached table also has a column showing which Area Committee functions/responsibilities fit with the relevant thematic sub-partnership and relevant LSP/ADP theme.

10.4 An example of how this would work would be that an Elected Member of the Area Committee would be the key link for Children Leeds South sub-partnership. In this role it is proposed that they would also act as a key link with the relevant sections of the Area Committee's Area Delivery Plan (ADP) and the Leeds Strategic Plan (Thriving Neighbourhoods & Learning) as well as act as a key link with the Area Committee's responsibility for Children and Young People.

10.5 This proposal for a Member link does not supercede any decisions and reporting processes regarding such ADP/LSP themes nor the Area Committee functions that would come to the Area Committee. Nominations would be provisional subject to ratification and approval through normal council procedures and as such will be confirmed at the first Area Committee meeting of the new municipal 08/09 year

10.6 This Area Committee is requested:

- to provisionally nominate for 2008/09 an Elected Member who would be willing to act as a champion/key link on behalf of this Area Committee for at least one of the various thematic priorities/sub-partnerships and the associated Area Committee responsibilities.
- To note that the nominations would be provisional subject to ratification and approval through normal council procedures and as such will be confirmed at the first Area Committee meeting of the new municipal 2008/09 year.

11.0 Rothwell 600

- 11.1 The organising committee for Rothwell 600 continues to flourish. The group were set up for one year to deliver the Rothwell 600 celebrations with support from the Area Management Team. The committee meet monthly to provide updates on all aspects of the work. These meetings continue to attract over 20 organisers and representatives.
- 11.2 Rothwell 600 banners have been placed on lamp columns in key locations around the town centre. 18 adverts have been placed.
- 11.3 Rothwell 600 has a finance sub-group which meets monthly to consider applications for funding support. At its last (May) meeting the vetting panel approved funding to the following organisations:
- Holy Trinity Church
 - Rothwell 600 Committee (2 lamp column banners)
 - Rothwell Carnival Radio
 - Northfield / Hopefield TARA
 - Haigh Road School
 - John O'Gaunts In Bloom
 - John O'Gaunts Tenants & Residents Association
 - Rothwell Lions
 - Northfield / Hopefield TARA also received additional support thanks to Rothwell Entertainments Committee loaning their pa and providing their insurance cover for the event.
- 11.4 There is a balance of £896.00 remaining from the £15,000 Area Committee funding, but two project applications have been received that, if approved will spend the remainder of the balance. One application is from Rothwell and District Ladies Circle for a Teddy Bears Picnic and the second from Carlton Village Residents Association for a Blue Plaque to commemorate Saint Thurstan Hunt.
- 11.5 The Rothwell 600 Organising Committee have notified Area Management that due to continued support and interest amongst the Rothwell community further funding is required. It is recommended that Members agree to match sponsorship and income that committee generate up to a maximum of £2,000 (revenue).
- 11.6 Forthcoming events appearing under the Rothwell 600 banner include: compiling a medieval calendar of local recipes, Rothwell History Society's ceremony to commemorate granting of Rothwell's Royal Charter, the schools partnership triathlon, a becks walk and a family tree event in the library.
- 11.7 May activities included a highly successful May Day and Competitive Music Festival and boundary walk.
- 11.8 Forthcoming events scheduled for the next three months include:
- July
- 4th: Farmers Market
 - 5th: Robin Hood School PTA – Fun Gala Day
 - 10th – 18th: Rothwell Carnival Radio
 - 12th: Rothwell Carnival
 - 13th: Praise in the Park

- 18th: In Bloom judging
- 19th: Carlton Gala

August

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Street Entertainers (Entertainments Committee /Town Centre Management)

September

- 7th: Horticultural Show
- 7th: Opening ceremony of Blackburn Gardens
- Oulton Church Flower Show
- Robin Hood Fair

12.0 I Love South Leeds Festival

- 12.1 Information on the I Love South Leeds Festival has been brought to the Area Committee as residents from the whole of South Leeds are encouraged to participate. Members are informed of the festival content to discuss the potential of Outer South having a greater role in a festival that celebrates and engages with South Leeds communities and agencies.
- 12.2 Inner South Area Committee have allocated £34,000 of Well being funding to the 2008 I Love South Leeds Festival. The festival has been commissioned to South Leeds Health For All to deliver for the second year running and a festival co-ordinator has been appointed to oversee the development and implementation of activities. The festival will cover the communities of Beeston, Holbeck, Cottingley, Hunslet, Middleton and Belle Isle.
- 12.3 The festival is very different than in previous two years it has been in operation. The 2008 festival comprises of three main events:-
- 12.4 Junior Superstar - children up to 11 will be in the spotlight as they get the chance to sing, dance, tell jokes and show off their creative flair. Practice days will be held across Inner South Leeds, culminating in a spectacular show.
- 12.5 Turn It Up - young musicians between the ages of 11 and 19 get the chance to show off their musical talents. There will be a number of heats leading up to the grand finale which will have a fantastic prize for the winner.
- 12.6 South Leeds Olympics - a number of various sporting events held across Inner South Leeds giving young and old the opportunity to get active.
- 12.7 There is also a new website for this years festival the address is www.ilovesouthleeds.com. This allows young people and anyone that is interested in the festival to fill in an on-line application form to register to take part in the events or volunteer to assist with the events that are taking place.
- 12.8 The festival will be evaluated and members are asked to agree receiving a copy of this evaluation for consideration.

13.0 Recommendations

- 13.1 The Area Committee is asked to note the above information and make comment as appropriate.
- 13.2 Members are asked to consider and approve the Rothwell Neighbourhood Policing Team proposal outlined in 2.11, that outstanding monies should be used to extend the licensing and test purchase scheme into the summer months.
- 13.3 Members are asked to nominate a representative from the Area Committee to the Conservation Audit Advisory Panel as outlined in 6.5.
- 13.4 Members are asked to note the minutes from the Community Centres Sub Group as outlined in 7.4
- 13.5 Members are asked to consider and nominate ADP thematic champions and note council ratification procedure for this process as outlined in 10.6
- 13.6 Members are asked to consider and approve supporting the Rothwell 600 organising committee by matching income raised by the committee to a maximum of £2,000 (revenue) as outlined in 11.5.
- 13.7 Members are asked to consider receiving an evaluation report on I Love South Leeds Festival to consider as outlined in 12.8.