



Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Executive Board

Date: 8 October 2008

Subject: Area Delivery Plans 2008/09

Electoral Wards Affected:

All

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In

(Details contained in the report)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of the Area Delivery Plans for 2008/09 that were recently agreed by the Area Committees and developed with the involvement of Council Services and partner agencies. The Plans will guide the work of the Area Committees throughout 2008/09, and set out key actions and improvements for each area. They also provide a mechanism for directing resources and a framework for investing Well Being budgets in each of the areas.

The agreed actions set out within the Delivery Plans will enable Committees to address local priorities which are specific to their area. Appendix 2 highlights the priority areas for action in 2008/09 and shows how the locally focused work undertaken by each of the Area Committees contributes to the delivery of service improvement priorities across the themes of the Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11.

Executive Board is asked to endorse the 10 Area Committee Delivery Plans for 2008/09.

1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the 10 Area Delivery Plans for endorsement by the Executive Board.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.0 Area Committees play an important role in the delivery and coordination of local services. They aim to improve the quality of decision making by strengthening the role of elected members in making decisions which impact upon the areas they represent and by engaging local people in discussion about the issues that matter to them most. They also play a key role in developing partnerships with local service providers such as the Police, Primary Care Trust and Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS) organisations.
- 2.1 On an annual basis, Area Committees are required to prepare an Area Delivery Plan for endorsement by the Executive Board after the Council's budgets have been set. These plans detail local priorities within the context of the Leeds Strategic Plan and the key actions to be delivered to contribute to the achievement of its objectives and targets.
- 2.2 On 16th July 2008, the Council launched the Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11. This details the outcomes and priorities the Council has agreed with its partners and includes the Local Area Agreement for the City. The achievement of these outcomes and priorities will contribute to the delivery of the longer term aspirations for the city as set out in the Vision for Leeds 2004 to 2020.
- 2.3 The 2008/09 Area Delivery Plans have sought to integrate the strategic priorities identified within the Leeds Strategic Plan with the specific and varied needs of individual areas. However because of the way in which both plans were developed it was necessary to develop the plans in tandem and the ADPs had to be agreed by Area Committees in advance of the finalisation of the Leeds Strategic Plan. Therefore 2008/09 is seen as a transitional year, to allow Area Committees to realign some actions and activities where required.

Headline Achievements 2007/08

The increased opportunities to influence and improve local services through delegated functions to Area Committees, has marked a significant step change in locality working over recent years, and partly as a result of this, real improvements are being seen in many of the neighbourhoods within Leeds. In 2007/08 Area Committees were delegated responsibility for overseeing a range of local services, these include:

- Overseeing the allocation, approval and monitoring of **Area Well Being budgets**.
- Operation of the **Community Centres** portfolio.
- Locally based **CCTV cameras**.
- Provision of a range of services, via uniformed patrols of **Neighbourhood Wardens** to reassure, reduce anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime
- Provision of a range of services, via uniformed patrols of **PCSO's** to reassure, reduce anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime
- Area based **Youth Service** programmes targeted at 13 – 19 year olds; centre based youth work, detached youth work, Connexions project work with individuals and small groups

- Provide **recycling banks** at suitable locations throughout the city to enable the public to dispose of items such as glass, plastic, etc
- Scheduled cleansing and maintenance of **public conveniences**

3.2 In addition to these formal delegations, under the general wellbeing powers operated by area committees, a wide range of projects and programmes have been undertaken to tackle local problems and build upon local opportunities.

3.3 A summary of headline achievements against Area Delivery Plan priorities in 2007/08 is included at Appendix 1. Examples taken from each of the Area Committees gives some indication of the breadth and range of actions undertaken:

Inner East:

- The Area Committee commissioned Probation Services to establish a dedicated Community Payback team. The initiative, which delivers major local environmental improvements, won the Howard League for Penal Reform 2008 national award for “outstanding schemes”, and was nominated for the West Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board’s Justice Award.
- The Area Committee continues to supported Neighbourhood Management in its area, using local inter-agency “tasking teams” to tackle crime and grime. Successes include: Community clean ups, local youth diversionary activities, local Smartwater schemes, joint enforcement work, dispersal orders and much more.

Outer East:

- The regeneration of Kippax High Street, completed in May 2008 as part South and East teams Town & District Regeneration programme, has been welcomed by traders and Kippax Parish Council. The programme has delivered a new forecourt and parking areas to shop fronts; a viewpoint area on a previously derelict site; the creation of a community garden at Cross Hills and new street furniture along the High Street.
- Intensive Neighbourhood Management (INM) in Halton Moor & Osmondthorpe has seen environmental concerns and issues of community safety addressed by a partnership formed through the INM programme. Projects have included increased CCTV coverage; the establishment of a community house; the creation of a ‘Hate Crime Group’ to tackle this ongoing problem; various other schemes to improve the environment. The results have been very impressive with reports of hate crime having reduced from a peak of up 15 per month to the current level of 1 or 2 per month. This success has led to the project making the final of the *‘Regional Making a difference awards – stepping up to the challenge’* category.

Inner North East:

- The Inner North East Area Committee implemented a new engagement strategy. This resulted in 3 events in each ward and allowed people the opportunity to identify the priorities in their area, which has subsequently informed the area delivery plan. Other elements of the strategy include the distribution of a 'Take Action Card' for residents.
- The Chapel Allerton K-Fund was a small grants scheme funded via ERDF Objective 2 money, with match funding from the Well Being Fund. A total of £60k worth of funding was distributed. The funding directly contributed to 28 people gaining employment as a result of the support given. The project was able to access a total of £99.5K in funding from other sources outside of Leeds City Council

Outer North East:

- Wetherby Market Square Town and District Centre scheme was completed during 2007/8. The scheme, which was managed by the Area Team, involved widening the pavements in front of the shops, installing new street furniture, upgrading the street lighting, and providing a new large York Stone paved area in front of the Town Hall. This scheme was successful in winning a national urban transport design award.
- The Moor Allerton Partnership was established in 2006 as a multi agency partnership to tackle issues in the area relating to health, education, employment, crime, housing and the environment. Area Management have responsibility for driving forward action in this area through partnership working.

Inner North West:

- Improving Little London – the Little London intensive management scheme has led to a major improvement in crime and grime locally, so that by 2007 the area was no longer in the worst 3% areas within the National Indices of Deprivation.
- Provision of funding to the Youth Service to provide a mobile bus to enable the Service to provide a wider range of outreach work across the area.

Outer North West:

- Provision of four designated public place orders for Horsforth, Guiseley, Yeadon and Otley and support for additional police resources to help implement them to reduce anti social behaviour in the town centres.
- Major improvements to the car parks in the visitor attraction of Chevin Forest Country Park to help improve the tourism offer locally.

Inner South:

- Work undertaken by the Beeston Hill and Holbeck Regeneration Board contributed to and helped secure major housing regeneration schemes including Regional Housing Board funding For Holbeck and PFI for Beeston Hill and Holbeck.
- Other regeneration work included the delivery of an Intensive Neighborhood Management Scheme which resulted in cleaner streets and less anti-social behavior in the area; funding to the dedicated pride team, the family intervention project, the neighbourhood safety project and the provision of an additional enforcement officer.

Outer South:

- The Outer Area Committee undertook an extensive pilot of Participatory Budgeting (PB). This helped to promote local community pride and cohesion. In particular it acted as the basis for the development of greater understanding and cooperation

between the Council and Drighlington Parish Council. This work was instrumental in Leeds being named by the DCLG Minister Hazel Blears as being a leading authority on (PB).

- As part of the regeneration of Rothwell, work undertaken by the Area Committee resulted in the development of a much improved Marsh Street car park. For the first time integrating into one car park what had previously been two.

Inner West:

- Heritage lottery funding of £1.4 million has been secured for Townscape Heritage Initiative for Armley Town Street, as part of the development plans for the West Leeds Gateway Regeneration Area.
- A successful participatory budgeting pilot project in the Broadleas, Bramley has led to four new environmental projects being developed by the community with funding from the City Council.

Outer West:

- Joint working with Bradford Council led to the securing of £200,000 funding over two years from Leeds and Bradford Councils to develop the corridor between the two cities; £11 million has been successfully bid for from the Northern Housing Challenge Fund – this will be used for housing development in three locations.
- Major improvements to Pudsey Town Centres through the Town and District Centre schemes has led to securing of major new retail and transport investments; the Farsley Town Centre improvements have provided a better environment around the library and Town Street.

4.0 Area Action Plan Priorities for 2008/09

- 4.1 For 2008/09, in addition to the services mentioned above, Area Committees will acquire the responsibility for overseeing neighbourhood management activity. Committees will lead on the identification of priority neighbourhoods requiring specific coordinated activity in order to improve environmental or quality of life type issues. This will include the **Intensive Neighbourhood Management** programmes funded through the safer stronger communities fund and smaller programmes funded predominantly through Area Committees such as neighbourhood improvement plans.
- 4.2 In addition, a number of enhanced roles to influence, develop and consult with local people and service providers have been added to the responsibilities of Area committees. These cover a wide range of themes, including:
- The coordination of **Local Engagement Activity** linked to the improvement of local services and Area Delivery Plan priorities
 - Influencing the development and use of **Community Green Space**, and consultation on proposals to improved these
 - Overview of **Police Community Safety Officers (PCSOs), Neighbourhood Policing Teams and Multi Agency Crime and Grime Operations** in each ward
 - Influencing the development and delivery of activity undertaken by the **Environmental Action Teams**
 - **Street Cleansing** - involvement in discussions about priority service developments, service planning and proposals on significant issues and or changes to services
 - Commenting on annual and forward programmes of planned maintenance, traffic management proposals and minor maintenance scheme to **local Highways**

- Become Champions for the development and delivery of children's services, linked to the establishment of **Local Children and Young People's Plans** and act to influence where appropriate
- To influence and become an important conduit for the early identification of **Health and Well Being** priorities for within localities
- **Review of 16 Conservation areas**
- Influencing **Grounds maintenance** activity and contractual requirements.
- Consultation and monitoring of **area based regeneration schemes**, and **Town and District centre** projects
- **Advertising on lamp posts**, a potential source of income for Area Committees over the next 15 years

Further work will take place this year to clarify the detail of these responsibilities and to formalise arrangements for their operation.

- 4.3 Appendix 2 highlights priority actions for each Area Committee which will contribute to the achievement of strategic outcomes under the 8 themes of the Leeds Strategic Plan. The 8 theme consist of: Culture, Enterprise and the Economy, Learning, Transport, Environment, Health and Wellbeing, Thriving Places and Harmonious Communities.
- 4.4 The Leeds Strategic Plan encompasses the Local Area Agreement for the city, and Area Delivery Plans have been developed to contribute to the delivery of targets against the city's key performance indicators. This should help to strengthen local service improvements, and ensure that the Council and it's partners work together to maintain excellence in service delivery.
- 4.5 The table below provides a brief example from each Area Delivery Plan of a priority action for 2008/09.

Inner East:

- Activities are being commissioned from Sports Development to assist in the delivery of ADP objectives to enable more people to become involved in sports. The activities will aim to have an impact on the confidence of young people and extend the range of provision currently available to younger children, not catered for by Youth Services. Two sites in the locality are being used to enable a wide participation of children across inner East.

Outer East:

- In Methley, a £350k project to provide rugby and football pitches along with changing facilities, car parking and a new access road to the site has already started. Outer East Area Committee have contributed £65k of the capital costs and Area Management staff have been involved in the consultation process with users and local residents.

Inner North East:

- To enter into partnership with the Unpaid Work Team in Probation Services to establish a regular programme of referrals and work in the inner north east area to tackle environmental issues highlighted through Tasking meetings, the Area Management Team and Ward Councillors. This will form part of the strategy to develop and improve the effectiveness of Tasking meetings.

Outer North East:

- A number of Environmental projects will be supported across the Outer North East Area through the award of grants to local community and residents groups, Parish Councils, In Bloom organisations, Schools and Churches. The aim of the grant

scheme is to provide local people with an opportunity to improve the environment of their street, neighbourhood or village by equipping them with the resources required to carry out the work. Grants can be used for any type of environmental project including bulb planting, creating edible landscapes, installing benches, and public art.

Inner North West:

- Tackle the environmental issues of the area exacerbated by the large number of students and multi occupied houses by developing environmental enforcement, education activities and proactive work with the Universities

Outer North West:

- Deliver the planned improvements via the Town and District Centre regeneration scheme to Otley Market Place and Yeadon High Street

Inner South:

- The Area Committee will seek to improve the amount of available community space, for example by helping to fund a bespoke radio suite for Leeds 11 FM, part fund the conversion of the former Beeston library for community purposes and transferring community assets to appropriate voluntary sector organisations.
- As part of the regeneration plan for Middleton, the Area Committee will oversee the development of an economic regeneration strategy for the estate.

Outer South:

- Continued improvements to open spaces will be achieved through the provision of area committee funded site based gardeners and support for 'in bloom' groups.
- The area committee funded neighbourhood development worker will help to ensure that local people are fully involved in the design and delivery of neighbourhood improvement plans in three areas.

Inner West:

- Support the local economy through the successful development of the pilot Catalyst Centre for small business in Bramley and the employment of a Town Centre Manager in Armley

Outer West:

- Support the further development of the four year old innovative West Leeds Festival, including the major event of the festival which this year will be in Calverley and Farsley ward.

4.6 Area Committees will receive regular progress reports on the Area Delivery Plans over the course of the year and the plans will help direct how the Committees' resources are deployed.

5.0 Implications for council policy and governance

5.1 The development and delivery of a comprehensive annual programme of locally targeted activity linked to local service improvements, is a fundamental role for Area Committees.

5.2 Under the Council's constitution each Area Committee is required to prepare an Annual Area Delivery Plan for endorsement by the Executive Board after the Council's budgets have been set. The work described in this report and the recommendation comply with existing Council policy and governance arrangements.

6.0 Legal and resource implications

- 6.1 Work to date has been based on an understanding that the main resource implications for the Area Delivery Plans will be met through existing mainstream resources and some elements of grant based funding, whilst this available. New schemes and priorities will be met either by realigning existing budgets, attracting additional external funding or from Well-being revenue budgets in 2008/09 and the 3 year Well-being capital allocation.
- 6.2 External funding is also being sought from a range of sources such as the Learning and Skills Council, Big Lottery, European Funding and Yorkshire Forward to deliver actions across some key areas, such as worklessness, the environment and health related activities.
- 6.3 Area Management Teams will also work closely with Town & Parish Councils, voluntary, community and faith sector organisations and partner agencies to deliver priorities and resource actions.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 Each of the Area Committees has continued to make considerable progress overseeing the effective implementation of their Area Delivery Plans.
- 7.2 The 2008/09 plans have been developed in parallel with the Leeds Strategic Plan, which was published in July 2008. As a result, 2008/09 is seen as a transitional year, and work will be undertaken to ensure that Area Delivery Plans are fully aligned to the indicators and outcomes that the Council and it's partners have signed up to.
- 7.3 The plans will guide the work of each of the committees over the year ahead and provide a mechanism for directing local resources. Executive Board endorsement is therefore requested for all 10 Area Delivery Plans for 2008/09.

8.0 Recommendation

- 8.1 The Executive Board is asked to endorse the 2008/09 Area Delivery Plans produced by the Area Committees.

Background papers

Area Deliver Plans:

Inner East
Outer East
Inner North East
Outer North East
Inner North West
Outer North West
Inner South
Outer South
Inner West
Outer West

Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11

Area Committee Roles for 2008/08 – Executive Board report 16 July 2008