



Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

To: Outer North West Area Committee

Date: 30 March 2009

Subject: Area Managers Report

Electoral Wards Affected:

Adel & Wharfedale
Guiseley & Rawdon
Horsforth
Otley & Yeadon

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council Function

Delegated Executive Function available for Call In

Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform members of progress on a number of projects in Outer North West Leeds as determined by the Area Delivery Plan 2008-11, which is in turn governed by the Area Committees functions and roles as agreed by Executive Board in July 2008.

1.0 Purpose of This Report

1.1 This report informs Members of the progress against Area Committee functions and roles as agreed by Executive Board in July 2008.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The Area Management Review agreed by Executive Board in November 2007 proposed to further develop the responsibilities of the Area Committees during 2008/9. To this end, Area Committee functions and enhanced roles were agreed in July 2008.

3.0 Main Issues

Environment

3.1 Following the last Area Committee meeting, well being funding has been allocated to a series of 'Environmental Action Days' which will take place across the area during

March and April. The first event was scheduled for March 14th in Horsforth. Each event will see environmental action teams, dog wardens and parking attendants patrolling known hot spots and issuing fines to anyone littering, parking unlawfully or failing to clean up after their pets. Shops and businesses will also be targeted regarding A-boards and use of their commercial bins.

- 3.2 Again, following the last Area Committee meeting a series of Streetscene/ Environment sub groups have been set up to discuss and suggest ways forward for dealing with the recommendations that were highlighted in the Streetscene report. A report will be presented to the June Area Committee.
- 3.3 Groundwork Leeds in partnership with Holt Park TARA are organising an Environmental Week in Holt Park during week commencing 30th March. Partners include Future Footprints Groundwork, West Yorkshire Probation, Holt Park TARA, Streetscene, ASDA, West North West Homes, Sanctuary Housing, West Yorkshire Police Service, Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Fire Service and Holt Park Junior Wardens. A list of environmental tasks has been drawn up for a mixture of corporate volunteers, community members and Groundwork Volunteers to complete throughout the week. This will include tidying communal areas, supporting vulnerable people move bulky waste, and other general environmental activities. The week will also include distribution of information on services available in the area, followed by a celebration event on the Friday 3rd April.

Thriving Communities

- 3.4 Town and District Centre Regeneration – In 2006, funding was allocated to two schemes in Outer North West – Otley Market Place and Yeadon High Street. A further two projects – the restoration of the Brook Crompton clock in Guiseley and the refurbishment of the former Horsforth library were then added. Work on all schemes has been progressed by staff from Area Management in consultation with local ward members.
- 3.5 The scheme to enhance the market place in Otley is nearing completion and is expected to be fully completed by the end of March. There were delays to the scheme due to the adverse weather conditions experienced in February, however at the time of writing the work to re-lay the setts is 90% complete. Street furniture is on order and will be put in place over the coming weeks. Whilst there have been a few complaints regarding the loss of disabled car parking on the market place, (spaces were relocated to nearby streets) there have been many favourable comments made regarding the scheme from local traders, market traders and members of the public.
- 3.6 The scheme to improve and enhance the High Street in Yeadon will commence work on April 20th. The contractors are North Midland. A meeting has been arranged for April 16th in order to provide the opportunity for Highways and the contractor to meet with local traders to explain the programme and how the work will be carried out. An invitation to the event will be sent to shopkeepers on the High Street. There will also be a display regarding the scheme at the Yeadon community engagement event on April 25th.
- 3.7 The Strategic Design Alliance (SDA) has been appointed to provide a brief for the plinth design, refurbishment and relocation of the former Brook Crompton Parkinson

Building Clock Tower to the new (currently under construction) Netherfield Road car park in Guiseley. Tenders for the work are expected to be issued in late April with a start on site programmed for mid June.

- 3.8 Work on the design for the new youth centre for Horsforth and the new Area Management offices is continuing and is being undertaken by Corporate Property Management.
- 3.9 Following the Area Committee Community Safety sub group held on 6 March, an additional Area Committee has been requested to discuss the project proposals that require funding that were put forward to the sub group by West Yorkshire Police. The meeting will allow the opportunity for all members to be made aware of the projects that the Police require funding for and it will be arranged for early May (in addition to the normal calendar of meetings)

Stronger Communities

- 3.10 It was agreed at the last Area Committee to hold three community engagement events across the area with key partners invited to display information about what they do and the services they provide as well as providing an opportunity to allow consultation with residents on their priorities in order for them to have an influence on the Area Delivery Plan. The first event was held on the 10th March in Horsforth. There was a good turnout from both public and partners and the information received is currently being processed and dealt with. The next events are in Guiseley on the 1st April and Yeadon on the 25th April.

Learning

No update received.

Health and Wellbeing

- 3.11 The first North West Health and Wellbeing Partnership is scheduled to take place on March 19th. It is hoped the Partnership will provide a forum for agencies to work together to improve the health and wellbeing of local communities, ensure that high quality health and social care services are available when and where they are needed, and that inequalities in health are tackled. A report on the outcomes of the event will be provided at a future meeting
- 3.12 The Department of Health has confirmed in principle an allocation of £32m of PFI credits for a new health centre in Holt Park which will combine services provided by adult social care, youth and sports services, NHS Leeds and the local community. As well as swimming pools and a gym, the centre will contain meeting rooms, activity rooms, treatment and consulting rooms, daytime opportunities for people of all abilities and potentially a cafe/bar. Over the next six months Leeds City Council will establish and work with a Holt Park Stakeholder Group and NHS Leeds to develop the precise mix of services and facilities to be included.

- 3.13 The well being centre will replace Holt Park's existing health centre and leisure centre and improve the accessibility of care and support as well as leisure services for the Holt Park local community and surrounding area.

Enterprise and Economy

No update received.

Culture

- 3.14 A number of galas, carnivals and events are taken place over the summer months and include Horsforth Sports Day 14th June; Horsforth Healthy Living Week 15-20th June; Horsforth Children's Festival 20th June; Otley Carnival 20th June and Horsforth Gala 27th June.
- 3.15 The North West Sports Alliance and the St Mary's 'On the right track' school sport partnership is being held on the evening of 12 May at Trinity and All Saints College. The event is being held with the aim of creating and building stronger links between schools and local sports clubs and sport and activity providers. The event will provide an opportunity for young people to see what sports and activities are available to them in their local community as well as allowing a chance for clubs to promote their services and recruit new members and volunteers.

Transport

- 3.16 A report regarding local accessibility planning is covered elsewhere on the agenda.

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 4.1 The Area Delivery Plan for Outer North West is administered through the West North West Leeds area management team.
- 4.2 Well being projects develop from Outer North West's Leeds Area Delivery Plan and through consultation with Area Committee members. The plan helps to fulfill the Council's Corporate Plan objectives by aiming to create better neighbourhoods and confident communities.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 5.1 In order to meet the Area Committee's functions, funding is supplied via Well Being budgets and the Community Centres Budget.
- 5.2 In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council Departments mainstream budgets, and external partner agencies e.g. the Police and Primary Care Trust, which is in turn reflected by the fact that the Area Committee's role here is to influence, develop and consult. However, wellbeing funding has resourced some projects here e.g. area based regeneration schemes and conservation area reviews.

6.0 Conclusions

6.1 The functions and roles of the Area Committee aim to:

- Improve the quality and value for money of Council service delivery
- Improve the quality of democracy and find new ways to facilitate citizen participation in local government through the development of links between Ward Members and their communities.
- To co-ordinate policy and service delivery between the local service providers.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 Outer North West Area Committee members are invited to:

- note the contents of the report and comment on any aspect of the matters raised
- suggest items for inclusion on future agendas

Documents referred to in this report:

Executive Board Report July 2008.