



Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods & Housing Department

Inner North West Inner Area Committee

Date: 26th October 2006

Subject: Little London Update

Electoral Wards Affected:

ALL

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

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:

This report outlines how neighbourhood management is being delivered in the Little London & Woodhouse area. From June 2006 a number of projects have been operating in the area, focusing on reducing inequalities in the living environment, and the health & wellbeing of tenants and residents.

Two working groups have been established to move the Crime & Grime and Health, Education and Employment agendas forward. The first few months of neighbourhood management have focused on building relationships between agencies and finding common ground in service delivery, as well as developing projects and making services more responsive to community needs.

By the end of 2006, service targets will be set for the next 3-4 years, focusing on 'narrowing the gap' and reducing inequalities and deprivation. All agencies are currently working together on developing this information and will be signed up to a Neighbourhood Improvement Plan for the area in early 2007.

Members of the Inner North West Area Committee are asked to consider the contents of this report and comment/make recommendations on the development of neighbourhood management in the Little London & Woodhouse area.

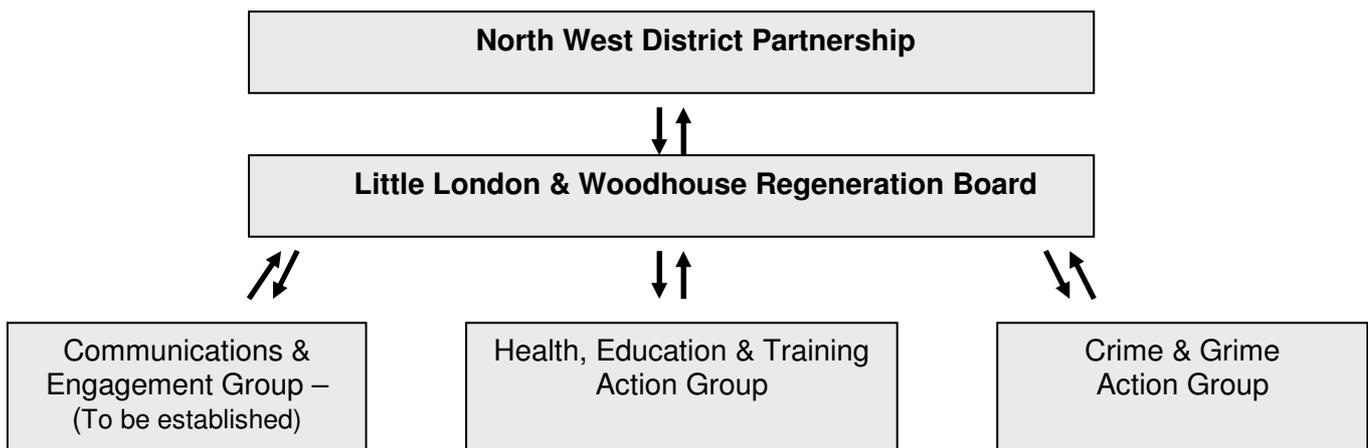
1.0 Background

- 1.1 Leeds City Council has been granted £4.8 million Stronger, Safer Communities Funding (SSCF) over 4 years, and £2.1 million Cleaner and Greener Capital funding over two years. This funding is being used to deliver a programme of Intensive Neighbourhood Management over a four year period. This work is in line with the Local Area Agreement and is managed through the District Partnerships of the Leeds Initiative.
- 1.2 The Intensive Neighbourhood Management programme focuses on neighbourhoods in the worst 3% Super Output Areas of deprivation across the city. The Little London & Woodhouse Neighbourhood Management area has one SOA in the worst 3% deprivation, and has therefore been allocated limited SSCF capital and revenue funding (£86,700 2006/07, £108,000 2007/08, £86,000 2008/09 and £54,000 2009/10) and £147,000 capital funding 2006 -2008).
- 1.3 To enable a programme of neighbourhood working to be fully developed for the area Neighbourhood Renewal Funding (NRF) has been used to supplement the above funding to deliver a programme of health, wellbeing and social projects. A total of £287,000 NRF funding has been allocated to Little London & Woodhouse Neighbourhood Management – Health & Wellbeing priorities for 2006/07.
- 1.4 Area Committee funding has also been allocated to expand additional police and streetscene services across Inner North West Leeds.

2.0 Accountability & Strategic Overview

- 2.1 North West Area Management has employed a Neighbourhood Initiatives Coordinator to manage the delivery of the neighbourhood management project in Little London & Woodhouse (map attached at **appendix 1a**), as well as developing Neighbourhood Improvement Plans for other neighbourhoods across North West Leeds.
- 2.2 The Neighbourhood Initiatives Coordinator has developed a system by which agencies and local people are involved in the delivery and development of the neighbourhood management agenda. Two theme based groups (Crime & Grime, and Health, Education & Employment) have been established.
- 2.3 During the past four months, these meetings have been used to outline neighbourhood management and the projects which are being funded through Neighbourhood Renewal Funding (NRF) and Safer, Stronger Communities Funding (SSCF). There have also been discussions around community engagement in the neighbourhood management process, presentations on initiatives such as Extended Services (Extended Schools), and prioritisation of projects for capital spending. The broad aims of these meetings are as follows:
 - Project delivery direction and development in response to local needs
 - Tenant and resident engagement in service delivery and shaping priorities
 - Joint working between service providers to meet local needs, thinking 'smarter' about service provision and sharing resources

- 2.4 All of these aims will be brought together through the development of a three year Neighbourhood Improvement Plan for the area, which will be launched in early 2007. In turn, the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan will be part of the wider regeneration strategy for the Little London area.
- 2.5 Two of the key challenges for the above groups for the remainder of the 2006/07 financial year are to: develop an effective community engagement strategy for Neighbourhood management using existing mechanisms of engagement and building on these (this will be linked to PFI communications work through a communications group); and adopting a Neighbourhood Improvement Plan, which all agencies are signed up to the deliver, for the next three years.
- 2.6 In addition to the above groups, the Little London & Woodhouse Neighbourhood Board, once established, will feed into the District Partnership. Through the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and delivery of this in line with the 'narrowing the gap' agenda, the District Partnership will have a strategic overview of the delivery of neighbourhood management in Little London & Woodhouse to link into city wide LAA objectives.
- 2.7 The structure and accountability routes for neighbourhood management, linked to PFI proposals, are shown below:



3.0 Project Development & Progress to Date

- 3.1 As indicated above, the overall programme of neighbourhood management in Little London & Woodhouse aims to deliver a range of service delivery improvements focusing on Crime, Grime, Heath, Education and Employment, funded through NRF, SSCF and Area Committee contribution. These improvements to services are complemented by small scale capital investment through the Cleaner and Greener funding. The table in **appendix 1b** outlines the projects operating in the area, highlighting progress to date and outcomes. **Appendix 1c** provides details of expected outputs for 2006/07 for all funded projects.
- 3.2 In addition to the above some of the key achievements from June to September are as follows:
- All projects started and staff recruited for projects

- Crime & Grime, and Health, Education & Employment groups established with the Neighbourhood Board and 'on the ground' staff briefing session planned for early November 2006
- Two policing operations in Little London & Woodhouse undertaken
- Consultation and development of capital projects for 2006/07
- Multi agency youth diversionary motorcycle project developed and implemented
- Car parking enforcement days co-coordinated
- Health & Wellbeing working group developed a health grants system and all agencies working in partnership to deliver health outcomes (PCT lead)

3.3 Discussions have also been held with LCC Development Department regarding Leeds's Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) bid. This bid aims to develop Catalyst Centres to engage with local people to develop enterprise opportunities. These centres will also be used to connect local communities to work opportunities by becoming a co-ordination vessel for accessing existing support for people looking for work and wanting to develop local enterprises. It has been suggested that if the bid is successful a mini catalyst centre could be developed in Little London. The outcome of the bid is due in November 2006.

3.4 The neighbourhood management project is also looking for a local office space within the Little London & Woodhouse area. This space will provide a base for all the neighbourhood management projects operating in the area and would allow for better communication between projects and the community which they serve. This space will also be shared with other projects such as the Neighbourhood Warden scheme.

4.0 Forward Planning & Measures for Success

4.1 All of the projects outlined in appendix 1b will be reviewed as part of the neighbourhood improvement plan process. The review will enable agencies to measure the impact of the services against the required project outcomes and direct resources effectively for the future. It is envisaged that this review will inform NRF requirements for next year, with funding needs for projects being examined for April 2008 to link into mainstream budgeting.

4.2 However, it is important to note that neighbourhood management is not just about delivering the outputs and outcomes as indicated by funders through SSCF and NRF. Little London & Woodhouse Neighbourhood Management is about working together as service providers to deliver improved service standards, through working smarter and sharing mainstream resources to achieve joint outcomes. A recent publication by DCLG states that "*Neighbourhood Management is about **change management** – change in the culture and organisation of service delivery agencies and other bodies, and in the way they relate to one another and the communities they serve*".

4.3 In practice this means that the themed sub groups (as discussed in 2.2) and working groups, which are being established will allow agencies to come together to focus on combating specific service issues and/or failures in order to respond to community requirements, and improve the quality of service provision in the area. Discussions held through these groups and agreed actions to improve service delivery will be captured in the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan, which all agencies operating in the area will be required to sign up to.

4.4 Although key outcomes and methods of delivery will be outlined in the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan, which will be developed for early 2007, the following are the main strategic outcomes that neighbourhood management is being measured against for Stronger Safer Communities Funding in line with the LAA:

- Reduce crime, anti social behaviour and drug abuse
- Improve the livability of areas making them cleaner and greener with a safer environment (linked to wider regeneration proposals)
- Promote cohesive communities and empower them to influence local decision making

4.5 Exact measurements for baselines are yet to be defined in the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan. However, data is currently being collected through a range of methods, including ENCAMS data, a perceptions survey (which is being coordinated citywide but will be something that we can build on locally), police community safety audits, and a health needs analysis. This data will form the baseline for 2006, and will enable us to measure the impact and progress made against the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan over four years.

4.6 The PCT is in the process of setting health and well being baselines and outcomes to measure against over the next four years. This is in line with current NRF investment in the area, but also the PCT objective to make health improvements in the worst 3% deprived areas in line with the neighbourhood management agenda. These baselines, outcomes and methods of delivery will be outlined in the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan.

4.7 In line with the above, education and worklessness data will also be analysed to provide a baseline for the area, with outputs and methods of delivery information being developed and provided for the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan. A working group on Education and Employment is due to meet soon to discuss the issues, service delivery and improving/measuring service outcomes effectively.

5.0 Links to potential PFI programme development

5.1 Neighbourhood management has a key role to play in helping to develop and monitor parts of the PFI initiative, such as grounds and estate maintenance contracts, and community safety elements, e.g. redeveloping some areas of the estate through secure by design, CCTV positioning, lighting.

5.2 In addition, the Health, Education & Employment group has expressed an interest in looking at the community centre situation in Little London. They wish to establish a time limited working group to look at this and come to some short and long term solutions. This could be the forum which enables community organisations and residents to engage with the planning process for the central area.

6.0 Additional Neighbourhood Improvement Planning Areas

6.1 In addition to the above and following the neighbourhood management report that went to Area Committee on 29th June, the Neighbourhoods Initiatives Coordinator is in the process of developing mini neighbourhood management initiatives across Inner North West Leeds.

6.2 These initiatives aim to focus on small geographical areas with specific issues that affect these areas, looking at working with local people and service providers to combat these issues.

6.3 By the time of this Area Committee meeting the Neighbourhood Initiatives Coordinator will have met/planned to meet with ward Members to discuss neighbourhoods in their area.

7.0 Little London Regeneration Plan

7.1 Attached at Appendix 2 is the draft Little London Regeneration Plan. This plan outlines the proposals for both physical and service delivery regeneration in the area.

7.2 A timetable for approval of the regeneration plan is shown below for information.

District Partnership (for comment)	9 th October 2006
Inner North West Area Committee (for comment)	26 th October 2006
Inner North West Area Committee (for approval)	7 th December 2006
Little London & Woodhouse Neighbourhood Regeneration Board (for approval)	January 2007
District Partnership (for approval)	January 2007
Narrowing the Gap Executive (note only)	January 2007
Executive Board	February 2007

8.0 Recommendations

8.1 Members of the Area Committee are asked to:

- a) Note the contents of this report, and
- b) Provide comments on the development of Neighbourhood management, and
- c) Provide feedback on the draft Regeneration Plan for Little London, and
- d) Agree to receive, for approval, a final version of the Plan at the next meeting.