

NORTH EAST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 16TH MARCH, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor M Lobley in the Chair

Councillors J Dowson, R Harker, V Kendall,
E Taylor and P Wadsworth

58 Declaration of Interests

Councillor Lobley declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item, 14, Wellbeing Budget and Safer Stronger Communities Fund – Project/Activity Proposals, with regards to the request for funding for the Chapeltown Townscape Heritage Training Project and his position as Chair of Re'new. (minute No. 68 refers). He withdrew from the meeting during the discussion on this item.

59 Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Harris, Lancaster and Rafique.

60 Open Forum

The agenda made reference to the provision contained in the Area Committee Procedure rules for an Open Forum Session at each ordinary meeting of an Area Committee, for members of the public to ask questions or to make representations on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee. On this occasion, no matters were raised under this item by those members of the public who were in attendance.

61 Minutes

RECOMMENDED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2009, be confirmed as a correct record.

62 Area Committee Meeting Dates 2009/10

The report of the Democratic Services Officer asked Members to consider proposed dates and times for meetings of the North East Inner Area Committee for the 2009/10 Municipal Year. A copy of the Area Committee's Forward Plan for 2009/10 was also appended to the report.

RECOMMENDED – That the North East Inner Area Committee continues to meet at 4.00 p.m. on the following dates, venues to be confirmed:

Monday, 22 June 2009

Monday, 7 September 2009

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on 22 June 2009

Monday, 19 October 2009
Monday, 7 December 2009
Monday, 1 February 2010
Monday, 15 March 2010

63 Policing Pledge

The report of the East North East Area Manager provided the Area Committee with information on how the new force-wide 'Policing Pledge' would be delivered and implemented across the North East Police Division. It also included information on new four-weekly Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings and consultation on how Elected Members would like to be involved.

The Chair welcomed the following to the meeting:

- Chief Superintendent Gerry Broadbent
- Chief Inspector Chris Rowley
- Inspector Andy Briggs
- Beverley Yearwood, Community Safety Co-ordinator

In relation to performance figures, it was reported that main areas of success showed reductions in incidences of criminal damage and robbery. There was, however, a rise in domestic burglaries and this was to be a priority area and targeted by the North East Police Division in the next 12 months along with a focus on offender management, anti-social behaviour and firearm related crime. It was also reported that public satisfaction levels in North East Leeds were the highest in West Yorkshire and attention was brought to the Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings that would be taking place every four weeks.

Members were also informed of Operation Buzzer and a burglary initiative scheme that was to take place in the Roundhay, Alwoodley and Moortown areas. Operation Buzzer was aimed at reducing the sale of alcohol to minors and the subsequent anti social behaviour; and Members were made of aware of the initiative to provide Smartwater property identifying kits which had been proven to deter burglars. Members were asked to consider providing support for these projects from Wellbeing funds.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the introduction of the neighbourhood PACT meetings be supported.
- (2) That the monitoring of progress against agreed area priorities continues to be made through the Area Delivery Plan and six-monthly performance reports from Divisional Community Safety Partnership to Area Committee.
- (3) That £5,114 be approved from Wellbeing Funds for Operation Buzzer.

- (4) That the request for funding towards the burglary initiative be deferred to the next meeting of the Wellbeing Fund Working Group.

(Councillors Wadsworth and Harker joined the meeting during the discussion on this item at 16.30 and 16.35 respectively).

64 Well-Being Budget and Safer Stronger Communities Fund – Project/Activity Proposals

The report of the East North East Area Manager contained details of proposed projects/activities to deliver local actions relating to agreed themes and outcomes of the Area Delivery Plan. The projects had been discussed by the Wellbeing Group and their recommendations had been outlined. The latest financial position of the Wellbeing budget was also provided.

The report also provided an updated analysis of spend on the four-year Safer Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF) programme targeted at neighbourhoods in Chapeltown and Harehills and delivered through an Intensive Neighbourhood Management approach. This included a breakdown of the intended spend for 2009/10 for the Area Committee's approval.

With regards to the proposed projects/activities for which funds were sought, the Area Committee requested further information regarding the Chapeltown Townscape Heritage training Project and the capital bid for Leeds Black Elders.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That the following amounts of Wellbeing budget be approved:
 - (i) £5,690 – Festive Lights – to transfer cost from Roundhay ward revenue pot to capital (2008/09)
 - (ii) £33,049 – Festive Lights – capital (2009/10)
 - (iii) £1,980 – Festive Lights – revenue (2009/10) – with a commitment to meet future revenue costs as set out in Section 10, Appendix C
 - (iv) £1,150 – Nu-vision – revenue
 - (v) £2,956 – Allerton Croft Security Fencing – capital
 - (vi) £2,520 – BEST Education – revenue
 - (vii) £15,000 – Community Payback Scheme 2009/10 – revenue
- (3) That the following Wellbeing requests be deferred
 - (i) £5,049 – Leeds Black Elders – capital
 - (ii) £2,500 – Chapeltown Townscape Heritage Training Project
- (4) That the proposed spending programme for SSCF monies allocated to the Chapeltown and Harehills INM cluster, to be overseen by the local Impact partnership as set out in appendix D, be approved.

(Councillor Harker left the meeting at the conclusion of this item).

65 Environmental Action Teams and Streetscene

The report of the East North East Area Manager provided a response to issues raised by Members at the February Area Committee in relation to papers presented on the Environmental Action Teams and Streetscene Services.

The Chair welcomed the following to the meeting:

- Roger Foyle, Environmental Services
- Graham Wilson, Health and Environmental Action Services
- Phil Gamble, Health and Environmental Action Services

In response to Members questions and comments, the following issues were discussed:

- The proposed use of District Local Environmental Quality Surveys (DLEQs). It was reported that these measured environmental quality issues based on different environmental factors. There would need to be a commitment of resources to carry out DLEQs as existing resources did not provide the capacity. Other methods of measuring the quality of environmental factors were perception based.
- Enforcement issues and gathering intelligence.
- How to prioritise work.
- Litter bins – how they were funded, collection of rubbish.
- The use of Ward Member meetings for engagement with Elected Members.

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) That the content of the report and responses made to questions raised at the February meeting as set out in Appendix A and B be noted.
- (2) That the reporting procedures and local targets proposed by the services be noted.

66 Tackling Fuel Poverty

The report of the Fuelsavers Team sought support from the Area Committee for actions and targets to be established at a local level to eradicate Fuel Poverty in the City in line with the Leeds Affordable Warmth Strategy 2007 to 2016.

The Chair welcomed Alan Jones, Fuelsavers Manager to the meeting.

Members attention was drawn to the Council's objectives in reducing fuel poverty and relevant national performance indicators. It was also reported that a thermal imaging flyover of the City was proposed to identify households that could benefit from extra insulation and support with fuel saving measures.

In response to Members questions and comments, the following issues were discussed:

- Private sector rented properties – issues relating to grants and enforcement.
- The thermal imaging exercise was due to take place in October 2009.
- Links to Area Delivery Plan objectives.

RECOMMENDED -

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That the request for funding towards the Thermal Imaging Flyover be deferred to a meeting of the Wellbeing Group.

67 Probation Services Achievements

The report of the East North East Area Manager provided the Committee with an assessment of the delivery of the contract with the Probation Service to provide a dedicated Community Payback service for Inner North East through a locally managed referrals system.

The report detailed main achievements of the service to date and Members were asked to feedback any ideas and comments to Area Management, particularly in relation to the identification of locations that could be targeted for clearing of snow and ice when necessary.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

68 Waste Strategy Report

The report of the Head of Performance and Communication (Environmental Services) requested the Area Committee to note the current status of the Residential Waste Treatment PFI project. Members of the Area Committee were requested to provide feedback on the proposed strategy for communication and community engagement for the Residual Waste Treatment PFI project.

In brief summary, the following issues were discussed:

- The proposals would be covered in community engagement events in the Inner North East area although there would be no specific community engagement targeted in the area.
- Would the proposals create employment opportunities for local people?

RECOMMENDED – That the current status of the Residual Waste PFI project be noted.

69 Area Delivery Plan (ADP) Refresh

The report of the East North East Area Manager presented a refresh of the Area Delivery Plan 2008-11. It explained the context for the plan including its links to the Leeds Strategic Plan and actions planned relating responsibilities delegated to Area Committee by the Executive Board, both around Council functions and partnership working. The report summarised the Inner North East area priorities around which the work of the Area Management Team will be focused in 2009/10 on behalf of the Area Committee.

In brief summary, issues discussed included the following:

- Accountability of partner organisations in relation to their work for and with the Council.
- Youth Service issues – it was suggested that a sub group be established to carry out a ‘task and finish’ exercise into youth provision in the Inner North East area.

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) That the annual refresh of the ADP 2008-11 be approved.
- (2) That the intention to use ward member meetings to bring forward and track any new local actions that relate to the agreed priorities be noted.
- (3) That the continued connectivity with the annual cycle of ward based engagement events be noted.
- (4) That the intention to provide a 6 month review of performance against the ADP priorities at the October/December meeting be noted.
- (5) That the proposal that a neighbourhoods charter be produced for 2009/10 as the public facing, resident friendly version of the ADP be approved.

70 Actions and Achievements

The report of the East North East Area Manager provided Members with an update on actions and achievements relating to priorities and work of the Area Committee since the Area Committee meeting in February 2009.

Highlights detailed in the report included the following:

- Oakwood Town & District Centre Scheme
- Community Engagement
- Roundhay Tree Management Project
- Community Centres
- Open Door Project
- Priority Neighbourhoods Update

It was reported that the recent ‘Take Action’ events had been well attended and Members thanked Area Management staff for their participation and arranging the events.

The Chair also asked that thanks be recorded to Jeremy Keates for his work with the Inner North East Area Management team and wished him luck with his new post.

RECOMMENDED – That the report be noted.