



Report of the East North East Area Manager

North East (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 22nd June 2009

Subject: Area Delivery Plan Update Report

Electoral Wards Affected:

Chapel Allerton
Moortown
Roundhay

Ward members consulted
(referred to in this report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

x

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

Executive Summary

This report provides Members with an update on actions and achievements of the Area Management Team relating to priorities and work of the Area Committee since the Area Committee meeting in March 2009. It also provides information on current ongoing projects. A full report to update on progress against the Area Delivery Plan will be provided to the October Area Committee.

Purpose of this report

1. Members will recall that the refreshed Area Delivery Plan was approved at the March Area Committee with ward meetings serving to focus on ward specific actions within the plan. It was agreed that a full progress report was to be submitted to the October Committee.
2. This report provides Members with an update on actions and achievements around the Area Delivery Plan since the last Area Committee meeting. The Area Profile that provides an overview of the Inner North East has been updated and is to be tabled at the meeting. It also provides members with an overview of the current projects that the Area Management Team are working on. A separate report provides more detailed information and feedback in relation to Community Engagement and the planned cycle of activity.

Updates by Theme

Culture

Community Centres

3. The Mandela Centre and Palace Youth Centre were transferred to Environment and Neighbourhoods Department on 1st February 2008. The responsibilities for the management of the centres now falls to the Area Management Team. It is currently envisaged that budgets and an operational pricing and discount policy will be in place from October 2009. At this point the Area Committee will have responsibility to oversee the financial management and effective operation of the centres.

Mandela Centre

4. The Young Person's Steering Group has been re-established and continues to meet on a regular basis managing the development of the upstairs rooms. Questionnaires have been distributed to young people who use the centre and they have provided feedback to the main steering group. The main steering group will provide further direction and a plan of projects for the young people's steering group to lead on.
5. As the centre is developed as a 'youth hub' a project to support and develop the young person's steering group is being progressed and delivered through the West Yorkshire Youth Work Association (WYYWA). The project will:
 - Work with youth workers and others to recruit a range of users from the centre and possibly some non users to look at increasing the range of feedback and ideas.
 - Team building to enable members of different groups to work together.
 - Work with the young people over sessions to develop a product that establishes the identity of the group; its aims and function. This will include creating the steering group's "brand" and promotional material.
 - Work with the young people to look at their circles of influence and how they can be a positive influence with their peers.
 - Develop their understanding of service provision, budgets, local infrastructure etc
 - Work with the group to develop and finalise their constitution.
 - Take the group on an away day to experience team building and to create an action plan for the next year.

6. Internal painting and refurbishment for the centre was funded through a successful LS Cash bid by the Area Management Team. Work to develop the chill out rooms upstairs is still ongoing with the painting outstanding, but will be completed by September at the very latest. New furnishings and equipment for these rooms is currently in storage. New signage for the outside of the building is currently being procured.

The Palace

7. The Area Management Team have actively been seeking proposals from organisations about how the rooms in the building can be better used and have met with a number of organisations based in the local area. This includes the Youth offending Team, People in Action, Somali Family Services, Deen Enterprises and East Street Arts. An assessment of the building is also taking place around health and safety and to establish rental costs for rooms. Contact has also been made with Business in the Community, who have made proposals in the past to decorate and improve this facility as part a corporate responsibility agenda. Painting to the inside of the building will be considered by the Probation Community Payback Team if this is not an option.
8. Meetings have been held with various cultural groups who are in their infancy to look into the feasibility of them working together and using top floor rooms as office 'share' space. They are being encouraged to work together to source funding and equipment. Work is ongoing to scope out what activities the groups will provide and times that they require the building. They are looking to use rooms on the top floor, which will compliment services provided and seeks to assist in Community Cohesion in the area.
9. The invisible Circle Education Team will be moving into the building shortly.
10. The ground level painting has now been completed by probation services, a report on the heating in the building and whether this can be extended upstairs has now been obtained and funding for this is currently being investigated by the Area Management Team. Quotes and planning permission for new signage to the building is being investigated.

Open Door

11. The Open Door has been open since March 2008 as a youth and community centre with a customer service point for ENEHL. The project is now staffed by ENEHL on Mondays and Thursdays and Police Community Support Officers Monday to Friday 1-3.
12. The project is currently working with Leeds University to look at a worker to support them. Area Management have been asked to step back from the project and support as and when required only.

Parks and Open Spaces

13. Work is ongoing to the improvements to Meanwood Park with funding now approved via Children's Big Lottery and section 106 monies. Consultation on equipment planned for the site is ongoing with a view to the scheme being completed by March 2010. If approved additional funding through Play Builders will provide extra facilities for the 15-19 year old users.

14. Phase 1 of the Stonegate Road playing field developments are underway with plans being drawn up and consultation with nearby residents will take place. It is anticipated that this phase will include a Gaelic football pitch and MUGA installation and refurbishment of the changing facilities.
15. Groundwork have now completed proposed plans for the 'Bumps' project in Roundhay. Funding through Play Builders and Groundwork is now being considered and work will start on site as soon as this is finalised.

Enterprise and Economy

Oakwood Town & District Centre Scheme

16. The Oakwood Town & District Centre scheme commenced on site on 31st March 2008. The primary aim of the scheme is to contribute towards increasing the economic vitality of the district centre through having an impact on business activity. The scheme proposes to do this through making improvements to the environmental appearance of the area and by improving car parking facilities. Phase 1 consisted of resurfacing and remarking of the bays in Oakwood Clock car park and junction improvements to the car park. This work was completed in February 2008.
17. Phase 2 of the project started work on 17th November 2008 and will address construction of the new parking area on Roundhay Road, lighting of the clock car park and replacement of street furniture. This work is on-going and there no issues to report. Street furniture has now been agreed with Ward Members and a contemporary design has been chosen. Tenders were submitted for the street furnishings and this work is still outstanding but is due to be completed shortly. Final siting of the furniture the furniture will be agreed with Parks and Countryside and members to ensure that they fit in with any future environmental improvements that may be undertaken to the area.

Learning

18. Work is ongoing with various groups interested in using space at Palace community centre to support homework and after schools learning activities. Proposals for use of the space are being gathered and collated with a view to setting up rooms to be shared and used by various groups. Community and faith groups are being actively encouraged to use the space together to assist in tackling community cohesion issues.
19. A programme of activities continues to be delivered through the Networks and Chess clusters and booklets publishing these are circulated around the area through schools, community groups and partners to encourage uptake.

Environment

20. Also please see actions within Priority Neighbourhoods update below for additional projects which link to this theme.
21. It is requested that the area committee nominate an environmental champion to represent the committee, this role falls outside of the Appointment to Outside Bodies.

Roundhay Tree Management Project

22. The Forestry team are in the process of producing work schedules and costings for the next phase of category 2 works. The management plan showing all categories of work and proposed timescales should be completed within the next three months. A schedule and costing for category 3 works is now being focussed on and will be submitted to members in due course.

Probation Services

23. At the March Area Committee it was approved to fund the scheme for a further 12 months following a successful trial period. The scheme is developing well and attracting positive feedback from Councillors, residents and groups who have utilised it. Further work is ongoing to develop and increase the number of referrals. A breakdown of referrals and work completed for the 3 months March to May 2009 is attached as appendix 2 to this report. Members requested that a mechanism be built in to the scheme so that they can provide feedback to the probationers when a job was well done; a draft letter attached as appendix 3 for members to approve, along with wording for a poster to publicise the scheme.
24. A dedicated contact to coordinate the probation work has been identified within the Area Management Team (Nick Clarkson) and work is ongoing to develop the referral and feedback processes across the two Area Committees that have commissioned this extra service in the East North East, thus ensuring greater consistency and efficiency.

Health and Wellbeing

25. Support is ongoing to the schools sports partnership to ensure that there is a comprehensive programme of sporting activities for young people across the area particularly during the school holiday periods.

Thriving Places

26. Multi agency operations and operation champion days are ongoing, further information can be found within the priority neighbourhoods update below.
27. Branding for Oakwood is being explored with the possibility of working with local school children, residents and an artist.

Harmonious Communities

Priority Neighbourhoods update

28. The Area Committee will be aware that three neighbourhoods in the north east have been identified as priority areas for multi-agency action to help narrow the gap between these areas and the rest of the city. This is based on deprivation indicators. All three neighbourhoods are wholly or partly in the inner area – Chapeltown (IMPACT partnership), Beckhill (Beckhill Implementation Group) and Moor Allerton (MAP). Area Management staff are responsible for driving forward action in these areas through partnership arrangements supported by a Neighbourhood Manager currently paid for by locally managed Safer Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF) monies. The following are progress updates from the partnership groups.

IMPACT

29. Chapel Allerton Neighbourhood Tasking has started the "Street Shapers" initiative in the Granges area of Chapeltown. It brings together all the different social landlords and the Area Management Team and the Neighbourhood Policing Teams to conduct a joint neighbourhood audit and conduct a reassurance mapping crime survey. The reassurance mapping survey includes questions that had previously been part of a "quality of Life survey" that was a separate exercise conducted by the IMPACT team. Results from the neighbourhood audit and the reassurance mapping will be fed back to residents at the June PACT meeting.
30. A Community Cohesion Pilot is beginning to be developed in the IMPACT area - as one of three pilots being developed across the city. This pilot will be an integral part of the Chapeltown Gang Prevention Strategy and the steering group that has been established to help coordinate that work. There is an emerging consensus that the pilot should focus on improving the quality and quantity of interactions between different groups of young people. Work is just beginning with colleagues in children's services to scope a project outline.
31. A piece of targeted clean-up work will shortly be starting at the former Frankland Place Nursery. The site has been raised through Chapel Allerton Neighbourhood Tasking as an area of concern. Officers from the Neighbourhood Police Team, Corporate Property Management and Asset Management have come together with the Area Management Team to plan a joint clean up in early June
32. Main issues highlighted were: High proportion (recurrent) of needles located in bushes, vice issues at back of building, cover and poor natural surveillance encourages issues, poor lighting, litter including needles and detritus from drug use. The effects of the clean up will be reviewed after three months.

Beckhill Implementation Group

33. The BIG partnership has successfully delivered a programme of Healthy Living activities funded through a grant from NHS Leeds. The group has received an award from NHS Leeds for - "Awareness, understanding and appreciation of addressing wider determinants of health through developing ongoing partnership." Details of the healthy living activities were provided in the last actions and achievements report to the Area Committee.
34. The group has also successfully organised a BIG Fun Day on 17th April at Carr Manor School with considerable support from the Networks Cluster Coordinator. Activities on offer included mobile Quasar, Bingo, DJ workshop and drumming circle, mini climbing wall and a balloon release. The winning balloon travelled to Bamber Bridge (69.7 miles) in 2 hours. 120 people attended the event with the majority from the Beckhill Estate. To encourage residents to attend, the whole estate was sent a flyer via probation, posters were put up on lampposts and Carr Manor produced a booklet of activities for young people over the Easter break. BIG partners were very pleased with this turn out as previous attempts at similar kinds of events have not been so successful.
35. An Operation Champion is currently being organised through Chapel Allerton Neighbourhood Tasking in the Beckhills estate for late May.

Moor Allerton Partnership (MAP)

36. The Moor Allerton priority neighbourhood spans both outer and inner North East. Area Management staff are responsible for driving forward action in these areas through partnership arrangements. The Moor Allerton Action Plan has been reviewed to bring it in line with the Area Delivery Plan theme headings, a new plan will be introduced which will set out actions for 2009/10.

Community Engagement

37. Please see separate report.

Community Charter

38. The committee agreed that a new, easily accessible version of the ADP, which could be understood and held to account by residents, should be produced. This "community charter" would contain a report back of last year and a list of priority actions/pledges for 2009/10. It would provide a way for local residents to monitor and hold accountable the work of the Area Committee and a link with the committee's engagement strategy. Included will be a calendar wall chart of key local events such as PACT meetings, school fairs, community galas, area committee meetings/engagement events etc. Work is continuing to produce the Charter and a mock up will be demonstrated at the meeting. The Area Committee is asked to approve the list of 20 key ADP actions/pledges that will form the main part of the charter together with 5 key achievements from last year as a report back (as provided in Appendix 1). These will be subject to converting to plain english and adding specific local actions where appropriate. The charter will be distributed as widely as resources available will allow and is anticipated to be ready by late summer.

Recommendations

39. The Area Committee is requested to note the contents of this report and:
- a) Approve the new area profile document.
 - b) Approve the new documentation to support the probation community payback scheme.
 - c) Nominate a member to act as Environment Champion.
 - d) Approve the list of ADP pledges set out in appendix 1 for inclusion in the household community charter to be produced late summer 2009.