

EAST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 2ND JULY, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor B Selby in the Chair

Councillors A Hussain, D Hollingsworth and
G Hyde

16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Brett, Harington, Morgan, Pryke and Taylor.

17 Area Delivery Plan 2008/11 Update

The report of the East North East Area Manager provided Members with an update of progress on actions in the 2008-11 Area Delivery Plan (ADP).

Members attention was brought to the following issues outlined in the report and of relevance to the ADP:

- The ADP was a live document and would be updated as circumstances changed.
- Priority actions would be linked to the Leeds Strategic Plan (LSP) and would detail local action and involvement of partner agencies.
- The ADP would assist in determining the Committee's work programme.
- The production of a Community Charter for residents which highlighted the aims of the ADP.
- The changes to funding with the end of Neighbourhood Renewal Funds.

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

- Distribution of the Community Charter – suggested via Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) or with the About Leeds newspaper. Also suggested to be referred to in About Leeds. Members were asked to inform Area Management if there were any known problem areas for receiving deliveries.
- Role of Neighbourhood Wardens.
- Partnership working and arrangements.
- Local schemes and initiatives such as the Community Payback scheme and Community Grocers in Burmantofts and Richmond Hill.

RESOLVED -

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Thursday, 24th September, 2009

- (1) That the refreshed ADP for 2009 – 10 be approved.
- (2) That the list of ADP pledges set out in appendix B for inclusion in the household community charter to be produced late summer 2009 be approved.
- (3) That the request to approve that up to £90k be earmarked from the 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13 Wellbeing revenue budgets to enable the continued employment of 2 dedicated neighbourhoods managers for Inner East to tackle the priority neighbourhoods identified within the Area Delivery Plan be agreed. The approval is subject to further consultation with Members on the exact role and remit of the neighbourhoods managers beyond 2009/10 and a full proposal being brought back for approval in the September/October cycle. The full application will include details of any match funding proposals which it is anticipated will reduce the amount needed from Wellbeing.

18 Wellbeing Capital Update and Scheme Proposal

The report of the East North East Area Manager informed Members of the 2009/10 well-being allocation which amounted to £42,000 per ward. The report also asked the Committee to consider a capital project from the Burmantofts and Richmond Hill capital well-being allocation to the value of £5,890 for car park improvements at Red Road Allotments.

RESOLVED - That funding of £5,890 for the construction of a car park at the Red Road Allotment site from the Burmantofts and Richmond Hill capital Wellbeing be approved.

19 Community Engagement

The report of the East North East Area Manager reminded Members of the Area Committee's enhanced role in supporting community engagement with responsibility for overseeing the work of the Area Management Team in relation to community engagement activity in the Inner East Leeds Area.

The report provided Members with an update on local community engagement activity and feedback from community engagement events held during Spring 2009. It also detailed arrangements for events in Summer and Autumn 2009 and a community engagement planner was provided giving a wide range of events taking place during the following year.

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

- Concern regarding Community Engagement Issues across Inner East Leeds – attention was brought to feedback from events that had been detailed in the report.
- Concern regarding communication for East North East Leeds ALMO.
- How to sustain interest and attract people to events – how to publicise events and the use of suitable venues.
- How to contact and encourage hard to reach groups.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the feedback from the Spring events be noted
- (2) That support for the arrangements for summer and autumn events be endorsed
- (3) That the community engagement calendar be noted

20 Neighbourhood Wardens Restructure Proposals

The joint report of the Chief Officers for Regeneration and Health and Environmental Action services had been submitted to all the council's Area Committees and provided information about the restructuring proposals for the Neighbourhood Warden Service.

It was reported that issues leading to the proposed restructure had included the end of Neighbourhood Renewal Funds and changes to the role of the wardens which had seen more of an emphasis on environmental issues following the success of the Police Community Support Officers and the Neighbourhood Policing Teams on community safety matters.

The Chair welcomed Graham Wilson, Head of Environmental Action Services to the meeting.

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

- The number of Neighbourhood Wardens would be reducing from 30 to 23.
- A new job description had been created and was detailed in the report.
- The value of the Neighbourhood Wardens to the communities they served.
- The Area Committee role in deployment of Neighbourhood Wardens.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted

21 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 24 September at 6.00 p.m.