

**Report of the South East Area Manager**

**Outer East Area Committee**

**Date: 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

**Subject: Area Managers Actions and Achievements report**

**Electoral Wards Affected:**  
 Garforth & Swillington  
 Kippax & Methley  
 Temple Newsam  
 Cross Gates & Whinmoor

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

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 September 2009. It also provides information on current ongoing projects.

## **Purpose of this report**

1. This report provides Members with an update on actions and achievements around the Area Delivery Plan priorities since the last Area Committee meeting in September, it also provides members with an overview of the current projects that the Area Management Team are working on.

## **Background Information**

2. The ADP has been developed following the headings contained within the Leeds Strategic Plan and the Vision for Leeds. It is a local expression of the city's commitment to the Local Area Agreement and partnership working. The themes of the ADP are:
  - Culture
  - Harmonious Communities
  - Enterprise and Economy
  - Transport
  - Environment
  - Health and Wellbeing
  - Thriving Places
  - Learning.
3. The Area Delivery Plan for 2008-11 was approved by this Area Committee and a refreshed version of the plan was endorsed by the Area Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

## **Updates by Theme**

### **Culture**

#### **Providing new and improved leisure facilities in Outer East**

4. The Multi Use Games Area in Kippax was completed in September 2009. This was funded from Grantscape, Youth Service funding and S106. The project was the brainchild of 'Kids United' of Kippax who had lobbied for facilities for young people over several years.
5. Work has started to provide a new drainage system to sports pitches at Skelton Woods in Whinmoor funded from S106, Grantscape and Area Committee capital. The poor drainage system has made the pitches unplayable for some time but on completion they will be available to local football teams.

### **Community Centres**

6. The new Pricing and Lettings Policy was set to go live from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009. The policy is currently being trialled by the Council's Lettings Unit but this has raised a number of issues regarding discount categories. A number of groups have received invoices that have since been changed and in many cases this has been due to inadequate information being provided on the lettings form. It is anticipated that some amendments may be made to the policy in order to clarify this.

### **Enterprise and Economy**

#### **Supporting community enterprise projects**

7. Outer East Area Committee funded the gardening scheme that was delivered by Swarcliffe Good Neighbours thereby creating jobs for two gardeners. As this project

comes to an end for the year Swarcliffe Good Neighbours has set up a decorating scheme for pensioners at affordable prices. This too will create a number of jobs for local people.

### **Addressing worklessness in priority neighbourhoods**

8. This is a one year project funded by Yorkshire Forward that provides an officer to help people get back into work in the Osmondthorpe estate. The Target for this project is to reduce the working age claim rate in the worst performing neighbourhoods by 2% which equates to a reduction of 50 in Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe. Progress on this project will be reported to Area Committee through the ADP update report in December 2009.

## **Learning**

### **Jobs & Learning Market**

9. As part of the Area Committees community engagement plan a 'Jobs and Learning Market' was held at Strawberry Fields Primary School (Garforth) on September 23rd. The event was led by Learning Partnerships which is a Leeds based educational charity that works with children, young people and their families.

The focus of the event was to support economically excluded members of the community and to raise their awareness of education, training and employment opportunities. Local colleges, training and employment agencies, children's services, youth service and voluntary organisations etc were also involved to showcase their services.

Over 100 people attended the event of which 9 were actively looking for work; 20 wanted to get on a training course; 8 were interested in attending job search workshops; 15 were interested in volunteering; 8 were interested in starting up in business.

A New Opportunities Programme event will now be held at Fusion Court in Garforth during December to engage with the people who fed back from the Learning Market event and help get them back into work, training or volunteering.

### **Jobs Employment & Training (JET) Partnership**

10. The minutes of the most recent JET Partnership meeting, set up to improve employment and training opportunities, are attached at the end of this report. Cllr Tom Murray represents Area Committee on this partnership. See **Appendix 1**

## **Environment**

11. A number of environmental projects are currently being worked up for the Swarcliffe estate funded from PFI credits. These include:
  - Pitches at St Gregory's Primary School are now being maintained by Swarcliffe Good Neighbours for community use and a current proposal is to mark out and fit goal posts for a junior size pitch

- 11 bins and 4 benches are soon to be installed across the estate
  - 5 Welcome stones are to be installed at entrance points to Swarcliffe
12. The Probation service ‘community payback’ scheme in Outer East has delivered a number of environmental projects over recent months. These have included the following:
- Tidying up and strimming Allerton Bywater Churchyard
  - Re-painting footbridge over Cock Beck/Langbar Garth
  - Clearing up skate park at Garforth

## **Health and Wellbeing**

### **Health and Well-Being Partnership**

- 13 The local area health and well-being partnership has been set up for the South East wedge of the city. The partnership will meet formally in September and October. Members of the partnership will examine local profile health data to decide which health improvement priorities to focus on. The partnership will report to the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board. Their work will be led by 3 newly appointed Health Improvement Managers, employed by Leeds City Council Adult Social Care and NHS Leeds. Cllr Suzi Armitage will represent the Area Committee on this partnership. Minutes of the first meeting which was arranged to set up these arrangements are attached on **Appendix 2**.

### **Supporting vulnerable people**

- 14 An Outer East priority under this theme is to increase the number of vulnerable people helped to live at home. Support has been provided to the various elderly network schemes to help with projects such as luncheon clubs, gardening schemes and the new decorating scheme.

## **Thriving Places**

### **Creating Safer Environments**

15. Operation Champion in Cross Gates & Whinmoor in early October helped deliver the target hardening scheme, funded by Area Committee, to properties in the Kelmscotts estate.

### **North East Divisional Community Safety Partnership ( DCSP).**

16. The DCSP are keen to maintain a strong link between the partnership and the Area Committee. Councillor Mark Dobson will represent Outer East Area Committee on this partnership. Minutes of the last meeting are available in **Appendix 3**.

### **Neighbourhood Wardens**

17. The wardens have continued to work alongside the Neighbourhood Policing Team and ASBU in dealing with problems of anti-social behaviour. They have been involved in recent champion operations and are all members of the 'tasking teams.' The wardens in Swarcliffe and Whinmoor have recently been key players in work aimed at identifying and prosecuting individuals involved in serious ASB in and around shopping parades in Stanks and Whinmoor.
18. As previously mentioned in section 10 of this report Swarcliffe PFI credits have funded a number of environmental projects in the area. This funding will also be used to improve security at St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre and provide CCTV at Stanks Parade shops. Area Management staff are also investigating the potential to install CCTV at Fieldhead Carr shopping parade where there have also been instances of ASB.

### **Tasking Teams**

19. The following are examples of projects and actions that have been delivered over recent months by the 3 Tasking Teams in Outer East Leeds:
  - Project to provide additional Police hours on weekend evenings to address drunkenness and rowdy behaviour have delivered the following outputs: 29 arrests, 104 stops, 17 test purchases with 2 failures, 22 alcohol seizure, 43 follow up visits to parents.
  - Covert work to identify individuals involved in serious ASB and crime in Swarcliffe and Whinmoor. Further steps now being taken to from ASBU against identified perpetrators.
  - Increased services being delivered at the recently launched Community House in Halton Moor to tackle community safety issues including improved signage and promotion material to increase awareness of services.
  - Operation Champion was delivered in the Cross Gates and Whinmoor ward. The operation included the remaining target hardening work to improve the security of vulnerable properties in burglary hotspot areas funded by Area Committee. 31 properties have been referred for works to reduce the risk of becoming the victims of burglary. The operation also focussed on awareness raising and delivering crime prevention messages across burglary hotspots in the ward.

### **Regeneration**

20. The final phases of Town & District Centre regeneration programmes in Garforth, Cross Gates and Halton started on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September. As previously reported to Area Committee the bulk of the work is to install new street furniture. The three schemes will be on site at the same time and will all have been completed by the end of October.
21. At its meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2009 the Micklefield Regeneration Forum approved the final design for the 'Phoenix' artwork feature to be erected in front Peckfield Business Park. The unveiling of the artwork is scheduled for the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October.

22. The Intensive Neighbourhood Management Programme delivered by Re'new in Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe will end when Safer Stronger Communities Funding (SSCF) ends in April 2010. In its final year the focus has been on supporting and building the capacity of community organisations in the area.

## **Harmonious Communities**

### **Community Forums**

23. Minutes of the following community forums are attached at the end of this report. These minutes are from meetings held before the last meeting of Area Committee but were not available at the time of that meeting:

- Swarcliffe – 1 July 2009
- Whinmoor – 6 July 2009
- Cross Gates – 8 July 2009

### **Older Persons Week**

24. The event this year was the most successful week ever with over 800 people attending 1 or more event. The various services have also praised the planning of the event which gave them an opportunity to engage with an often difficult to reach group.

## **Implications for Council Policy and Governance**

25. No specific issues are identified.

### **Legal and Resource Implications**

26. No specific issues are identified

### **Recommendations**

27. The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report and raise any questions.

### **Background reports:**

Outer East Area Committee, Area Delivery Plan 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009