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**Report of the North East Area Manager**

**North East (Inner) Area Committee**

**Date: 4<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

**Subject: Community Safety Report**

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**Electoral Wards Affected:**

Chapel Allerton  
Moortown  
Roundhay

**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

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**Executive Summary**

This report provides Members with a summary of recent community safety actions and achievements, including the work of Neighbourhood Wardens.

## **The purpose of this report is to**

1. Brief Members on progress of community safety initiatives in inner north east Leeds.
2. Report on Neighbourhood Warden activity from April to October 2006.
3. Report on Well Being Fund expenditure on community safety related issues.
4. Brief Members on NE Leeds Police Division.

## **Main Points**

5. The position of Area Community Safety Officer was transferred from Community Safety to Area Management as from 1 April 2006. The Neighbourhood Wardens were also transferred to Area Management at the same time, with the Area Community Safety Officer becoming responsible for their line management.
6. The Area Committee agreed Well Being Funds to upgrade a warden post to a supervisor post, to assist with management of the service. Hannah Smith came into post as supervisor warden on 1 August 2006 but will terminate her employment with the council on 7 December 2006. The post was active for two months.
7. On 1 July 2006, Killingbeck and Stainbeck Police Divisions merged to become the NE Leeds Division. The new division covers 52% of the Leeds Metropolitan District. Chief Superintendent Marc Callaghan is the NE Leeds Divisional Commander. The division has been in a period of transition since July with operational areas being streamlined whilst some movement of staff and services has taken place between the two main police stations of Killingbeck and Stainbeck. For example, the Stainbeck Crime Reduction Unit is now based at Killingbeck.
8. The Divisional Community Safety Partnership (DCSP) has not met since March 2006 due to staffing and merger issues. The next DCSP will take place on 29 November 2006.
9. The inner Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) are headed by Inspector Andrew Briggs and Inspector Jim Croft. Inspector Briggs has responsibility for all of the inner area apart from Chapeltown. Inspector Croft has responsibility for Chapeltown with the remainder of his area being in East Leeds. The WYP Neighbourhood Policing web site is an excellent source of up to date information organised by NPT areas. The web address is [www.wypnpt.org](http://www.wypnpt.org).
10. Recruitment of an additional 99 council funded PCSOs to the city is ongoing and will continue until April 2007.
11. Joint police and partners Tasking meetings have taken place every fortnight since late February 2006. Representatives from the following services attend – NE Homes, ASBU, Youth Service, Unity Housing, Connect Housing, Leeds and Yorkshire HA, Chevin HA, Wardens, police, Health, City Services, Environmental Health. These are action orientated meetings that address immediate issues.
12. Deployment of LCC's mobile CCTV unit has been reviewed by LeedsWatch. The vans now work in each police division area on a three week rolling cycle. Local

deployment is by agreement between NPT Inspectors and Area Community Safety Officer.

13. Community Safety initiatives have continued to take place in the priority areas of Chapeltown and Meanwood but initiatives have also been developed in the Queenshills area and other neighbourhoods not previously covered by area action plans.
14. Although community safety work has continued to be delivered since April, the main priority has been to facilitate the transition of the wardens service from being a centralised service to an area based service.
15. Further information on all issues mentioned above can be found in the Appendices.

### **Recommendations**

16. Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

### Inner NE Neighbourhood Wardens

- 1 Prior to the transfer of the service to Area Management in April 2006 the warden allocation for the area was 4.5 (Alan Booth covers part of Moortown ward and part of Alwoodley ward). At the point of transfer, with the demise of the city centre warden scheme, the area also had a city centre warden allocated to the NE wedge.
- 2 The Inner NE Area Committee allocated Well Being Funds to upgrade one warden post to that of supervisor, to assist in the management of the wardens. Hannah Smith was recruited as supervisor warden and started on 1 August 2006 but ends her employment with LCC on 7 December 2006 to take up a post elsewhere. This leaves a vacant post.
- 3 Shift work that was planned to take place has been postponed due to a lack of supervision on late shifts.
- 4 Each warden has specific responsibility for a particular area but all work together as a team when required. They are involved in a wide range of activities, examples of which are described below.

#### Training

- 5 Since April 2006, wardens have taken part in the following training, to enhance their skills:

Course Title	No of wardens
Lotus Notes Essentials	5
Lotus Notes Intermediate	4
Word Essentials	5
Work Shadowing	1 with Fire Service 1 with Police Sergeant
Crime Prevention	6
Taxi Marshalling (safe working)	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>24 sessions</b>

#### 6 Warden Activity October 2006

Since the beginning of October, systems for recording warden activity have been amended which now allows reports to be produced at a neighbourhood level. Prior to October, it was not possible to provide this information. The type of activity that is recorded on the system includes reports to services such as fly-tipping, graffiti, abandoned and untaxed vehicles, street lighting, overgrown hedges, environmental health issues, hazardous waste, discarded needles, crime, anti social behaviour.

Ward	Neighbourhood	Actions
Chapel Allerton	Beckhills	194
	Miles Hills	25
	Potternewton	17
	Scott Halls	40
	Chapel Allerton	53
	Newton Lodges	2
	Farm Hills	11
	Sugarwells	6

	Chapelton	214
<b>Total</b>		<b>562</b>
<b>Moortown</b>	Queenshills	35
	Stonegates	45
	Carrholms	11
	Stainbecks	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>95</b>
<b>Roundhay</b>	Brackenwood	32
	Gledhow	2
	Gipton Woods (area not woods)	19
<b>Total</b>		<b>53</b>
<b>Grand total</b>		<b>710</b>

Of the actions listed above about half were environmental issues with Chapelton and the Beckhill estate having the most referrals to services to remove waste. Other issues reported include street lamps not working, water leaks, broken / missing paving stones, identifying missing or damaged street signs.

### **Empty Properties**

Joint work has recently taken place between the warden service and the Empty Properties Team (EPT). The wardens work to a list provided by the EPT to see if the properties have been brought back into use. If the properties are still empty the wardens check to see if the building is secure and free from waste in the garden. They also identify new empty properties, not on the list provided by the EPT. This information is fed back to the EPT so they can raise charges against property owners if Environmental Health have to pay for making properties secure and removing waste. This type of action encourages owners to make sure their properties are occupied quickly rather than laying empty for years and being an eyesore in the area.

During October, 50 empty properties were checked. Eleven of those are now occupied but a further seven newly identified empty properties were added to the list, resulting in a net figure of 46 empty properties in the area targeted (Chapelton).

### **Waste in Gardens**

The warden service has also recently started working in partnership with city services environmental enforcement officers. The wardens identify gardens with unacceptable levels of waste. This can include un-bagged domestic refuse, builders waste, furniture, white goods and other household paraphernalia.

They issue a city services letter that requests the occupier to remove the waste within seven days. Contact details of various council services are included in the letter to help residents help themselves. The properties are revisited after seven days. If the waste has been cleared there is no further action.

If the waste is not cleared, a second letter is issued. If the property is cleared after the third visit, no further action is taken. If it is not cleared, the issue is referred to city services for enforcement action to be taken. This could be a fixed penalty notice or, if the occupier does not pay, a court appearance.

City services provided all wardens with digital cameras to assist in the recording of waste in gardens. Photos and copies of letters sent to residents are sent to city services when enforcement action is to be taken.

Properties in the Mexboroughs, Saviles and Methleys in Chapel Allerton ward have had a huge amount of waste in gardens therefore in August 2006 the wardens organised a clean up prior to enforcement action. In less than one day over 10 tons plus 14 overflowing skips of rubbish was removed from the Mexboroughs.

28 first waste in garden letters have been issued up to the end of October. Of those, six gardens were cleared by the second visit. Six gardens have failed the check after receiving a second letter so have been referred to city services for action. The remainder have had a second letter but not their final check.

### **Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)**

The Housing Act 2004, which was implemented on 6th April 2006, introduced the mandatory licensing of high risk HMOs (that is those with five or more unrelated occupiers on three or more storeys). The effect of the Act makes it an offence to operate a licensable HMO without having made an application for a licence.

It is believed that there is about 8000 licensable HMOs in Leeds but to date Environmental Health have only received about 2200 applications. The wardens are assisting Environmental Health by helping to identify HMOs in the areas they cover. Details of properties fitting the criteria will be referred to Environmental Health so they can be added to the database and checked by EHOs at a later date.

### **Operation Arrow**

The wardens participate in every Operation Arrow. The nature of their involvement depends on the area covered. They work with services such as estate caretakers, helping to remove waste, with ASBU delivering letters and leaflets, with CASAC and the police on burglary reduction initiatives and with other agencies as and when required.

Three Operation Arrows took place in October 2006.  
18-19 October – Meanwood area and Scott Halls / Methleys  
23 October – Queenshills  
30 October – Brackenwood and Gledhow

The outputs from Operation Arrows are available on request from Trudie Canavan or Hannah Rees.

### **BRIL**

The Well Being Fund allocation for the BRIL scheme has been promoted jointly by wardens and PCSOs. Take up for the scheme increased as a result of potential recipients being able to talk to officers about the scheme. The majority of take up so far has been in Chapel Allerton ward therefore Moortown and Roundhay wards will be prioritised for targeting in the next promotional exercise.

### **DVLA**

Wardens contribute to reducing vehicle crime by making note of parked vehicles (make, model and registration number) that have items on display such as mobile

phones, laptops, shopping. The details are sent to the DVLA who in turn issue a letter to the owner of the vehicle reminding them that they are vulnerable to vehicle crime by leaving goods on display. The wardens are deployed to areas where vehicle crime is a problem so they can identify problem vehicles during their patrol.

### **Tasking**

The wardens participate in tasking meetings that take place every fortnight. This is a multi-agency meeting attended by those providing a front line service. Problems are shared and solutions found at these action oriented meetings.

### **Welfare Visits**

Victims of crime or ASB are visited by wardens as and when required. Recent examples of this type of work include assisting an elderly man to have his windows repaired that were damaged by youth whilst he was in hospital. Another couple of elderly residents received visits from wardens several days running as ASB was being committed very near their sheltered housing.

### **Community Engagement**

Wardens attend various community events such as residents meeting, forums, and fun days, to provide information about the warden service and to gather information from residents about their areas.

### Anti Social Behaviour Orders

Currently, in inner north east Leeds there are 37 ASBOs in operation. There are two types of ASBO – one is pursued by LCC ASBU officers and is independent of any other legal control, the other, known as a ‘bolt on’ is applied for by West Yorkshire Police in association with a criminal conviction. This means the ASBO is ‘bolted on’ to their sentence and usually has reference to the crime they have committed. An example of a ‘bolt on’ is – a drug dealer is convicted for dealing so the terms of his bolt on ASBO might be not to associate with fellow drug dealers (named in the ASBO terms), or to visit an area where he has dealt drugs.

A number of the Chapel Allerton ASBOs were connected with Operation Cape in which drug dealers in Little London, but who lived in Chapel Allerton ward, were issued with ASBOs to break up the drug dealing gangs that were operating in the area several years ago.

Leaflets can be distributed in areas when ASBOs are approved so that residents area aware of who is in receipt of an ASBO as well as the nature of the terms. The age and vulnerability of the person receiving an ASBO is taken into account when the discussion on leafleting takes place. The government is keen to see fewer ASBOs in future (and more support to prevent ASB) but more leaflets for those who have them. The distribution of leaflets assist residents and others to report breaches.

<b>Ward</b>	<b>ASBO</b>	<b>Bolt On</b>	<b>Leaflets</b>
Chapel Allerton	22 of which 13 breached	7 of which 2 breached	8 ASBO 0 Breach
Moortown	4 of which 1 breached	0	1 ASBO
Roundhay	3 of which 2 breached	1 of which 1 breached	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>



### Well Being Fund

The following table shows the amount of funding either committed or spent from the 2006-07 budget.

<b>Alleygating</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Committed</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Total</b>
£75,000 allocated	Carrholm Grove, planning permission		135	
	Wensley Green planning permission		135	
	Carrholm Grove Gates	8,580*		
	Wensley Green Gates	9,520*		
	Queenshill Shops	1,890		
	Miles Hill fencing	13,696		
	Riviera Gardens planning permission	135		
	Riviera Gardens Gates	3,798		
<b>Total</b>		<b>37,484</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>37,754</b>

- Note: These quotes are likely to rise due to the delay between receiving them and work starting. Steel and fuel prices have risen considerably since the quotes were received therefore revised quotes will be submitted when a firm start date can be agreed.

<b>Burglary Reduction</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Total</b>
£18,750 allocated	BRIL	5,838.58*	5,838.58
<b>Total</b>			<b>5,838.58</b>

\* Note: A further 70 referrals have been received so costs on these will not be known until the work has been carried out.

<b>Other</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Total</b>
£16,442 allocated			
	Breeze Event – community safety freebies for young people attended Breeze in north east	50	50
	Beckhill calling cards	150	150
	Distraction Burglary Theatre events	150	150
	Warden honorarium	900	900
	Pride in where you live	4,375	4,375
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,625</b>	<b>5,625</b>

### **Alleys and ginnels**

A group was established in 2005 to address issues related to alleys and ginnels. Representatives from the following agencies participate – Leeds NE Homes, West Yorkshire Police, LCC Community Safety, LCC NE Area Management, Groundwork, ward member. There are currently 12 areas of concern on the schedule of work.

- The Carrholms and Wensley Green ginnels are being addressed through Gating Orders. This work is ongoing.
- St Martins and Newton Park View ginnels will be addressed through Gating Orders though work will not recommence on these areas until the Gating Orders are approved for the two areas mentioned above.
- Miles Hill View / Crescent is being progressed by Leeds NE Homes, and match funded through Well Being Fund.
- Leeds NE Homes are also progressing work in other areas of the Chapel Allerton ward with match funding being provided through SSCF.
- Queenshill Shops is being led by Leeds NE Homes, and match funded through Well Being Fund.
- Uplands area is being led by LCC NE Area Management. Environmental improvements are being investigated for this area which is unlikely to be gated.

## Divisional Community Safety Partnership (DCSP)

Although the DCSP hasn't met since March 2006, actions from the sub groups have been achieved. These are shown below.

### Meanwood

Meanwood Intensive Family Project Co-ordinator now in post and working with identified families. One Operation Arrow completed this quarter on 18-19 Oct targeting Meanwood. Outputs available separately. Two properties provided with additional target hardening through Well Being Fund (vulnerable, repeat victims). ASB has reduced both as result of agencies providing activities for young people and enforcement action being taken against non-participants. Two ASBOs achieved. For ginnel work, see **Ginnels and Alleys**.

### Chapelton

Police continuing high arrest rate for dealers. Police to survey Chapelton residents regarding policing of the area. More injunctions against users being pursued. Links between police, LCC and other agencies have been made with migrant Polish community in order to reduce tensions and improve quality of life. Waste in Gardens (WIGs) letters being issued by wardens then followed up with enforcement action by City Services. Action plans to address ASB in Gathornes and Newton Lodges have been developed. Operation Balance (robbery focus) ran in Chap and Harehills in July. Wardens participated by having street presence up to 10 p.m. Robbery reduced during this period. For ginnel work see **Ginnels and Alleys**

**Tasking Meetings** have been established by NE Area Management and Chapelton Police. Inner ones take place fortnightly while the outer one takes place monthly. They began on 28 Feb 06. Tasking meetings were reviewed through questionnaires for participants and meeting of managers on 19 July. Agreed to split off Chapelton tasking to take in Harehills part of INM area. First meeting of this group to take place on 7 Nov 06.

**Ginnels and Alleys**. Planning applications for gating and fencing in Carrholms and Wensley green were approved on 11 Sept but progress in carrying out the work has been hampered by lack of clarity on process for obtaining Gating Orders as all the ginnels are public rights of way. As a result, further work on other ginnels has been postponed.

### Community Cohesion

This group had its last meeting in June as it had achieved most of what it set out to do. It was agreed that the notes from this last meeting would be passed to the new INM for Burmantofts when they are in post as it was felt that this was the most appropriate place to locate this piece of work. T Canavan and B Yearwood need to meet with Neighbourhood Manager for the area, to brief her on this work. Other cohesion work has taken place in Chapelton with Polish community.

### Domestic Violence

No DV group in Stainbeck area anymore.

### ASB

ASB work is developing in Chapelton, a previously neglected area. ASBU officer and police working on joint action plans.

### Tension Monitoring

Fed tensions info to LCC Community Cohesion officer and attend monthly city wide tensions monitoring group on behalf of LCC Com Safety Officers.

### NE Inner Area Committee Community Safety Sub Group

Elected Members plus area management and community safety officers and police meet regularly to discuss community safety issues.