

Report of the South East Area Manager

Outer East Area Committee

Date: 9th February 2010

Subject: Actions, Achievements and update 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 details of actions and achievements of the Area Management Team relating to priorities and work of the Area Committee since the Area Committee meeting in December 2009. It also provides an update on issues relating to the work of the Area Management Team.

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 December, 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 7th July 2009.

Updates by Theme

Culture

Providing new and improved leisure facilities in Outer East

4. The new children's playground has now completed Glebelands in Garforth. This was funded from Grantscape, S106 funding and Area Committee capital.
5. The newly refurbished Garforth Library was completed on the 18th of December 2009. The library will also incorporate One Stop Centre services for the area.

Enterprise and Economy

Addressing worklessness in priority neighbourhoods

6. This project, funded by Yorkshire Forward, has been extended until the end of 2010. It provides an officer to help people get back into work in the Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe estates. The Target for this project is to reduce the number of claimants of Job Seekers Allowance in the worst performing neighbourhoods by 2%, which equates to a reduction of 50 in Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe. To date 20 families have received intensive support; 50 have been supported back into employment eg CV assistance, guidance, voluntary placements; 3 people have been assisted into obtaining full time work.

Learning

Jobs Employment & Training (JET) Partnership

7. The JET partnership met on the 7th of December. The minutes of the meetings held on the 2nd of November (appendix 1) and 7th of December (appendix 2) are attached at the end of this report. This partnership, set up to improve employment and training opportunities, is represented from the Area Committee by Cllr Tom Murray.
8. The partnership has agreed to investigate the hiring of a stall in Kirkgate Market where staff would be placed to provide advice and assistance to those looking for help in finding work or training.

Children Leeds – East Leadership Team

9. The Area Committee champion for the above partnership is Cllr Tom Murray. The work that this partnership is involved in crosses the boundaries of a number of themes in the Area Delivery Plan. The minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd of October 2009 are attached at the end of this report (appendix 3).

Environment

10. Welcome stones have been installed in 5 locations on entrances to the Swarcliffe estate. The contract was project managed by Groundwork Leeds and funded from Swarcliffe PFI credits. There are two 'in bloom' groups in the area that intend to plant flowers and shrubs in front of the stones to improve the attractiveness of the entrances into Swarcliffe. Both 'Swarcliffe in Bloom' and 'Whinmoor B in Bloom' have previously been involved in environmental projects across the estate and anticipate having an increased number of volunteers in 2010.
11. The bin strike affected community clean ups over recent months but there are plans in all 4 wards to have clean ups in the New Year.

Health and Wellbeing

Health and Well-Being Partnership

12. The local area health and well-being partnership has been set up for the South East wedge of the city. The partnership met formally on the 17th of November and a second meeting was held on the 14th of January 2010. 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. The minutes of the 17th November meeting and 14th January 2010 meeting are attached at the end of the report (appendix 4 and 5).

Supporting vulnerable people

13. Swarcliffe Good Neighbours continue to provide a redecorating programme across the area for elderly and disabled residents. The project hopes to be able to take on 1 apprentice painter and decorator in the near future from John Smeaton High School.

Thriving Places

Creating Safer Environments

14. The North East Divisional Community Safety Partnership met on the 12th of November and the minutes of that meeting are attached at the end of this report (appendix 6). Cllr Mark Dobson represents the Area Committee on this partnership.

Tasking Teams

15. Tasking Team meetings were held on the following dates:
 - Temple Newsam – 2nd December 2009
 - Cross Gates & Whinmoor – 2nd December 2009
 - Garforth/Kippax & villages – 6th January 2010.

16. In Cross Gates & Whinmoor a major concern is the level of anti-social behaviour around the Stanks Parade shops. CCTV has now been installed and the Police are working with ASBu and the Neighbourhood Warden and other partner agencies. In January several camera positions will be changed to try improving the scope of the area they cover and make identification easier. The Neighbourhood Warden has trained all Neighbourhood Policing Team staff on how to use the cameras and download images.

Regeneration

17. The final phases of Town & District Centre regeneration programmes in Garforth, Cross Gates and Halton were completed in December 2009. These three schemes are now in the defects period.
18. Micklefield Regeneration Forum agreed the final designs for environmental improvements near Garden Village and along Great North Road. These projects will now be tendered with a contract expected to be let in Spring 2010. .
19. 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.

Improvements from Swarcliffe PFI credits

20. This budget of £350,000 has been delegated to Area Committee and future proposals and approvals will be reported to Area Committee. A number of projects have been funded and a number of projects are in developmental stage. These are detailed below:
 - Installation of football goal posts on land adjacent to St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre, Sledmere Lane and Farndale View at a cost of £3,800 including necessary grass cutting and required top soil. This work has now been completed.
 - Internal improvements to St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre including installation of dishwasher. Total cost of scheme is £2,850. There was a cost increase of £712 with this project due to its ineligibility for discount This work has now been completed.
 - Installation of CCTV system at Stanks Parade to tackle ongoing community crime and anti social behaviour concerns. The cost of the scheme including associated electrical works to the building is £7,415. This work has now been completed.
 - Installation of two further community information notice boards is now being progressed. These will be located near Mill Green School and near the Dennils (Church Lane) at a cost of £2,579. Three other information boards have already been installed on Whinmoor Way, near Swarcliffe shops and in the grounds of St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre.

- Target hardening to older people's properties on the Dennil estate. The work will include fitting of door chains and spy holes. Total cost of project is £300. This work has now been completed.
- Both 'Whinmoor B in Bloom' and 'Swarcliffe in Bloom' have been awarded £2,000 each to support them in making environmental improvements across the estate. One project will to create flower beds in front of the welcome stones now installed at entrances to the estate. Total cost of project is £4,000 and both groups have now been awarded the grants.
- The installation of additional 6 litter bins across the estate at a cost of £400 per bin including installation. Total cost of project is £2,400. This work has now been completed.
- Development of a climbing wall for young people and associated works. The maximum cost for this work will be £30,000. There have now been further discussions with Parks & Countryside and this project will not progress due to ongoing maintenance commitments.
- Installation of a graffiti wall at a cost of up to maximum of £4,000. There have now been further discussions with Parks & Countryside and this project will not progress due to ongoing maintenance commitments.
- Development of an additional Welcome Stone to compliment the stones planned for across the estate to be located at the entrance to the Dennil estate. The stone will be at a maximum cost of £3750. This proposal was supported by Area Committee at its meeting on 8 December 2009. However a subsequent consultation exercise with residents had a return of 18 against the proposal and 24 for the proposal. A decision is pending on whether or not to proceed with this proposal.
- Install key pad to St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre at a cost of £170. This work has now been completed.
- Area Committee approved in principle to the funding of the Neighbourhood Warden type post at a cost of £82,914 over 3 years at the meeting held on 8 December 2009. This proposal will be progressed at the conclusion of the Neighbourhood Warden restructure.

21. There is a proposal being brought forward by Housing Services to install parking bays at various locations on the estate. The cost of this scheme is not known at this time but is anticipated to cover a large proportion of the remaining £200,000 left in the budget. A report is being prepared by Housing Services concerning this scheme. Area Committee are requested to commit the remainder of the budget to this project subject to the scheme specification and delivery being acceptable to Cross Gates & Whinmoor Ward Members.

Thorpe Park

22. A report on this subject has been sent to all Outer East Members; a further report will be included on the agenda for the meeting in March 2010.

Harmonious Communities

Community Forums

23. The following forums have been held since the last meeting of Area Committee on the 8th of December 2009.
- Whinmoor – 14 December 2009
 - Cross Gates – 13 January 2010
 - Kippax & Methley – 25 January 2010
 - Swarcliffe – 3 February 2010
24. At the Area Committee meeting held on the 8th of December 2009 the Cross Gates Forum minutes of the 14th of October 2009 were not available. These are now attached at the end of this report (appendix 7).

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.
28. The Committee is recommended to commit the remaining £200,000 of the Swarcliffe PFI credits towards a project to provide additional parking bays on the estate. This is subject to the scheme specification and delivery being acceptable to Cross Gates & Whinmoor Ward Members.

Background reports:

Outer East Area Committee, Area Delivery Plan 7th July 2009

Area Managers Report to Area Committee 27th October 2009

Actions, achievements and update report to Area Committee 8th December 2009