



Report of the South East Area Manager

East Outer Area Committee

Date: 9th February 2010

Subject: Well Being Budget (Revenue) 2009/10

Electoral Wards Affected: All Outer East Wards

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in 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 an update on expenditure and project work in 2009/10.

1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.1 The Well Being Budget allocation for 2009/10 is £244,127 which includes £23,400 carry over from 2008/9.
- 1.2 This report will inform Members how the budget has been spent in 2009/10 to deliver outputs and outcomes against Area Delivery Plan priorities, focusing on the following areas:
- Gardening and decorating scheme
 - Community Safety – through its 3 ‘tasking teams’
 - Community Centre’s
 - Community Engagement

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The budget for 2009/10 is £244,127, with £23,400 carried over from 2008/9.

2.2 In 2009/10, the Area Committee had total commitments of £83,500 leaving £160,627 available to spend on other project work. The committed projects are:

- CCTV maintenance and monitoring costs - £38,500
- 50% contribution to Warden for Swarcliffe pending warden review - £15,000 (includes on costs)
- 100% contribution to Warden for Garforth & Halton pending warden review - £30,000 (includes on costs)

2.3 The remainder of the budget was allocated against the priorities listed below. There is a slight over allocation of just over £300.

- Small Grants - £10,000
- Dedicated 'Community Payback' Probation scheme for Outer East - £15,000
- Tasking Teams (4 Teams with £10k in each budget) - £40,000
- Gardening Service - £38,000
- Community Engagement £20,000
- Additional activities for young people - £32,000
- Support for directly managed community centre's - £6,000

3.0 MAIN ISSUES

3.1 Gardening Scheme/decorating scheme for vulnerable residents

3.1.1 In 2009/10 the gardening scheme for OAP's and disabled residents was delivered by Swarcliffe Good Neighbours Scheme (SGNS). A new dimension to this project was added in 2009 when SGNS recruited a decorator to carry out work on the homes of the elderly at affordable prices. The total number of gardens completed in 2009 was 351 and to date there have been 32 decorating referrals.

3.1.2 The breakdown of gardens completed by ward is as follows:

- Kippax & Methley – 109
- Garforth & Swillington – 64
- Temple Newsam – 117
- Cross Gates & Whinmoor - 61

3.1.3 SGNS have now submitted an application to continue this project in 2010/11 and can deliver the project this year at the same cost as last, £38,000.

3.1.4 SGNS are having discussions with the Youth Service and John Smeaton High School about taking on an apprentice painter and decorator to work with the qualified decorator in 2010/11. To date there has been 25 decorating requests with 14 having been completed. The breakdown of decorating jobs completed by ward is as follows:

- Kippax & Methley – 10
- Garforth & Swillington – 1

- Temple Newsam – 2
- Cross Gates & Whinmoor - 1

3.1.5 This project now delivers a gardening service, a decorating service and will hopefully be in a position to provide a decorating apprenticeship to a young person that lives locally in 2010. Having considered the excellent feedback from this project in 2009 and considering the new dimensions to this service since Area Committee started delivering a gardening service in 2004, Area Committee is recommended to continue to fund SGNS to continue this work in 2010/11.

3.2 Small Grants

3.2.1 The details of all small grants processed since the beginning of the financial year are detailed on Appendix 1.

3.3 Tasking Teams

3.3.1 This section of the report will give examples of some of the work undertaken by the tasking teams in 2009/10, how the budget has been spent, and some of the outputs delivered. It will also ask Area Committee to consider a request to fund security from the tasking budget at Bronze Tanning Studio, Manston Approach.

3.3.2 Cross Gates & Whinmoor.

- Provided 50 shock alarms and 50 mini door chimes to vulnerable residents in the areas experiencing increased burglary.
- Improvements to security at St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre including the installation of security grilles. This was after the centre experienced problems with attempted break in's and increased nuisance.
- Environmental improvements in Stanks Grove and Stanks Way, including the lopping of trees to ensure better CCTV coverage.

3.3.3 Garforth & Swillington and Kippax & Methley.

- Additional street lighting provided to Highfield Place (off Main Street) increasing security to 2 shops and 6 dwellings.
- Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) in place in Kippax and Allerton Bywater from 5th of November 2009. This order makes it illegal to drink alcohol in public places in these areas. Garforth acquired a similar status in 2006.
- Police Operation Budapest carried out over 6 weeks in October and November to address asb/violence/crime and rowdiness associated with drinking in Garforth and Kippax. The tasking budget was used to provide additional Police hours and delivered the following outputs: 29 arrests, 104 stops, 17 test purchases with 2 failures, 22 alcohol seizures, 43 follow up visits to parents.

3.3.4 Temple Newsam.

- Environmental works including tree lopping in Firbank Grove and Esthwaite Gardens to improve CCTV coverage.
- Provided 100 window shock alarms to residents in Halton Moor experiencing highest levels of burglary.
- Production and distribution of 2000 fliers advertising services provided at Halton Moor Community House. This facility provides PCSO and Neighbourhood Warden surgeries; drop ins, youth activities, general community use. The tasking budget has also funded security improvements to the community house.

3.3.5 Bronze Tanning Studio, Manston Approach (Cross Gates)

3.3.6 The tasking budgets for Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley and Temple Newsam are now fully committed. The budget for Cross Gates & Whinmoor has a balance of just under £4,000. A request has been received from Bronze Tanning Studio on Manston Approach (Cross Gates) to provide shutters to either side of the premises. This is after a number of recent incidents of anti-social behaviour. The cost of this work is £3,350.

3.3.7 The Police have confirmed that there have been two complaints received in the last three quarters but currently do not class this location as a hotspot area for crime and ASB. The two complaints are:

- Front window smashed - reported to Police summer 2009
- Telephone wire cut - reported to Police 09/01/10 (wire to the rear of shop)

3.3.8 The shop is part of a parade that is privately owned by a businessman living abroad. His business portfolio is extensive and managed by Carter Towler Chartered Surveyors, Queen Street, Leeds.

3.3.9 The following information has been provided by Carter Towler:

- The lease on each shop makes the leaseholder responsible for security to the premises
- The two adjacent shops either have or will be installing their own shutters

3.3.10 Carter Towler have agreed to speak to the owner when he visits the UK in February to determine if he is prepared to contribute 50% of the total cost of this work should Area Committee consider funding the other half of the cost from the tasking budget of Cross Gates & Whinmoor.

3.3.11 There are three options open to Area Committee: to fund the proposal in full; not to fund the proposal at all; to support the proposal with a 50% contribution towards the cost. South East Area Management has sought advice from Environment and Neighbourhoods Finance section. They have advised that a recommendation be put to Area Committee not to support this project with any funding from the Well Being Budget on the following grounds:

- There is no benefit to the wider community

- The owner or leaseholder is responsible for the security if his/her business
- To fund such a project would set a dangerous precedent
- Funding this project is likely to increase the value of a private property using public funds

3.3.12 The Police have confirmed that they will liaise with the leaseholder of the tanning salon and ensure that patrols are aware of their concerns.

3.4 Community Centre's

3.4.1 Area Committee awarded £6,000 to support work that would encourage more people to use its community centre's, get more people involved in managing their community centre's and improve facilities, signage, security etc to its community centre's .

3.4.2 Appendix 2 provides details of how this money has been spent in 2009/10.

3.5 Community Engagement

3.5.1 Community Forums are the main means of engaging local people in Outer East and the Well Being Budget has been used to fund the costs of running these meetings. There have also been a number of engagement events held such as the Community Safety event and Learning Market both held in Garforth in 2009.

3.5.2 The Older Persons Week is exclusively funded from the Well Being budget. In 2009 the 5 days of events attracted over 100 elderly people each day. As well as providing a good day out the events delivered outputs in relation to services being able to engage with elderly residents on matters of importance. The fire service and fuel savers now see this annual event as their best opportunity to engage with this group in Outer East Leeds.

3.5.3 Area Committee provided financial support to a number of fun days and galas held across the area. The numbers of galas was lower than usual which was in the main due to the unpredictable weather experienced over recent years.

4.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

4.1 The details described in this report and the recommendation fits with existing Council policy and governance arrangements.

5.0 LEGAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no new legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

6.1 The Well Being funds continue to be used to improve service delivery in Outer East Leeds and meet Area Delivery Plan outputs and outcomes at a local level. This report updates Area Committee on some of the work undertaken.

- 6.2 The report will recommend that Area Committee fund Swarcliffe Good Neighbours to deliver a gardening and decorating scheme in 2010/11 at a cost of £38,000. The report will also recommend that Area Committee do not commit any Well Being funds to improve security at Bronze Tanning Studio, Manston Approach.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Area Committee is requested to note progress and raise any questions.
- 7.2 Area Committee is recommended to fund a gardening and decorating scheme for elderly/disabled in 2010/11 delivered by Swarcliffe Good Neighbours.
- 7.3 Area Committee is requested not to support the proposal to fund any cost of the scheme to provide security shutters to Bronze Tanning Studio.

Background papers

Outer East Area Committee Report 8 July 2008 – Area Delivery Plan 2008-11

Executive Board Report 16 July 2008 – Area Committee Roles 2008/09