

**Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods**

**Inner North West Area Committee**

**Date: 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

**Subject: Key Messages from Area Committee Sub Groups and Forums**

**Electoral Wards Affected:**

**ALL**



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 Members with a summary of ward forums and sub groups that have taken place since the last Area Committee. It also provides information on future meeting dates for the Committee's forums and sub groups.

**1.0 Background**

- 1.1 Since the last Area Committee, sub group meetings have been held for Transport, Environment, Planning and Community Safety. There has also been the first meeting of the Community Centre Task & Finish Group and the Culture sub group held a Culture Conference.
- 1.2 Since the last Area Committee there has been one forum held for Kirkstall & Burley and a request for a Hyde Park & Woodhouse forum which has had to be delayed due to purdah before the 18<sup>th</sup> February by-election.

## **2.0 Transport Sub Group**

2.1 The Transport Sub Group, chaired by Cllr Chastney, met on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at Headingley Community Centre. The main focus of this meeting was to update the sub group on the New Generation Transport scheme. Nathan Huntley (Assistant NGT Planning Coordinator) and Mark Philpott (Project Manager) attended.

2.2 There were the following key messages from the Transport Sub Group;

- That the meeting had been very positive and a good job had been done in considering cyclists on the route near to the city centre but this has become less apparent as the route moves outwards.
- The sub group requests that all of the suggestions they put to the NGT team be taken into consideration, particularly with regard to route layout, and that they be kept informed of progress.

## **3.0 Planning Sub Group**

3.1 The Planning Sub Group, chaired by Cllr Bentley, has met twice since the last Area Committee, once on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009 and once on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010. The meeting discussed updates on a variety of planning applications and developments including:

- Leeds Girls High School
- Glassworks
- St Oswalds Church
- Westfield Road

3.2 The group also looked at the progress of the three Neighbourhood Design Statements and the Kirkstall Vision document. The Kirkstall Vision document was launched on the 28<sup>th</sup> January, and the Headingley & Hyde Park NDS was being printed ahead of the Planning Board, also on 28<sup>th</sup> January.

3.3 Although there were no key messages group members raised concerns regarding the following issues:

- The Crypt is soon to move from St Michael's back to St Georges and there are concerns as to the future of St Michael's as this is currently not a listed building or in a conservation area.
- Concern was expressed regarding the possible sale of the West Park Centre.

## **4.0 Environment Sub-Group**

4.1 The Environment Sub-Group met on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010 chaired by Cllr Matthews. The meeting received updates on the following:

- New research project on attitudes to waste and recycling in areas with a high student population. The research project will consult with students, private renters and permanent residents to find out their understanding of recycling and waste

collection and what more could be done to encourage domestic recycling. The draft final report will be considered at the next Environment sub group meeting.

- Refuse collection during snow and timescale for organisational route review. A software firm has been appointed to carry out the review, with a successful track record in Newcastle. The consultants will be taken around Headingley and other locations to help them understand the specific issues in this and other student areas.
- An update was provided on the Area Committee funded Environmental Action Team technical officer post, including how he caught someone fly posting. The Chair asked for more information on pro-active work, and this will be provided at future meetings.
- Parks and Countryside current initiatives including a consultation on a hot food concession for Woodhouse Moor and proposed improvements to Dagmar Road greenspace.

## **5.0 Community Safety Sub Group**

5.1 The Community Safety sub group, chaired by Cllr Bentley has met once since the last Area Committee on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010. The sub group monitors the three Area Committee funded community safety projects (Capture House, Capture Car & Off Road Bikes) and updates were provided on these.

5.2 The sub group supported the four police wellbeing applications for 2010/11, to continue with the above three projects and to provide anti climb paint.

## **6.0 Community Centre Task & Finish Sub Group**

6.1 This sub group has been established to consider the changes to the pricing and lettings policy of community centres. It will also consider any issues regarding community centres in our area including the West Park Centre and HEART centre.

6.2 The group met on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at the Civic Hall, chaired by Cllr Chastney. The group was presented with a revised proposal for a new charging structure for council managed community centres, attached at Appendix 1.

6.3 The following key message was agreed at the Community Centre Task & Finish sub group:

- That the group agreed the recommendations put forward by the Lettings Team, for revisions to the INW 2010/11 pricing & lettings policy, be approved.

## **7.0 Culture Sub Group**

7.1 The Culture Sub Group held a 'Culture Conference' on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010. This event was introduced by Cllr Chastney and held at St Chad's Parish Hall. The purpose was to bring together all of the cultural organisations in the area to explore ways of working together and promoting cultural activities in the inner North West.

7.2 Over 50 representatives of cultural organisations including; Hyde Park Picture House, HEART, Little London Arts and Kirkstall Festival attended, and feedback

from participants was very positive. The results of the consultation will go towards the development of a cultural strategy for the area.

## **8.0 Kirkstall & Burley Forum**

8.1 The Kirkstall & Burley Forum was held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010 chaired by Cllr Yeadon. The main focus of the forum was the future of the West Park Centre. Also discussed were the West North West Homes Leeds lettings policy and speeding hot spots.

8.2 Three key messages followed detailed discussion:

- That the consultation with users of the West Park Centre, carried out by Asset Management, be extended longer than the proposed one month to give people time to be made aware and respond.
- That the West Park Centre should be kept open to provide the same community and cultural facility as it does presently.
- That WNWHL and/or the strategic landlord should reassess the Choice Based Lettings policy as families are having to move away from areas that contain their support network, including school support, because no priority is given to local connection.

## **9.0 Recommendations**

9.1 The Area Committee is asked to note the contents of the report, and approve the revisions to the community centre pricing and lettings policy at Appendix 1.

**Background documents:** Appendix 1 – Community Centre Pricing Review