

Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Inner North West Area Committee

Date: 24th February 2011

Subject: Key Messages from Area Committee Sub Groups and Forums

<p>Electoral Wards Affected:</p> <p>ALL</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (Referred to in report)</p>	<p>Specific Implications For:</p> <p>Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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Council Function	<input type="checkbox"/>	Delegated Executive Function available for Call In	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Executive Summary

This report provides Members with a summary of ward forums, sub groups and strategic partnerships 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, the Planning Sub Group has met twice and the Environment Sub Group twice.
- 1.2 Since the last Area Committee a Hyde Park Forum meeting and a Headingley Forum drop in session have been held.

2.0 Planning Sub Group

- 2.1 The Planning Sub Group, chaired by Cllr Monaghan, has met twice since the last Area Committee, on 8th December 2010, 12th January and 9 February 2011. Updates on a variety of planning applications and developments were provided at the meetings including:

- Cookridge Hospital: A scheme for 19 houses was approved at the last Plans Panel. A greenspace sum of £23,000 was included in the agreement but concerns were raised regarding the opening of the access road from Silk Mill Way to Hospital Road which wasn't the case in the previous approval.
- Tetley Hall: Discussions have taken place with the developer and a pre application is likely to be brought to the next Plans Panel (West) for a mix of family housing with a separate building for elderly residents. The Weetwood, Far Headingley and West Park Neighbourhood Design Statements have formed part of the considerations for the development.
- 75 Commercial Road: This application for the conversion of a grade 2 listed former doctor's surgery to residential flats is supported by Officers. The group raised concerns that this development was not for family housing.

2.2 There are three key messages from the December meeting and two from the January meeting, see 7.2

3.0 Environment Sub Group

3.1 The Environment Sub Group Chaired by Cllr Matthews has met twice since the last Area Committee, on the 9th December 2010 and the 7th February 2011.

3.2 At the December meeting, Members received service updates from the Environmental Action Team and Parks and Countryside service. Specific reference was made to the organisation of a bin stickering project to advise households of new collection dates, and challenges around finding an appropriate organisation to take responsibility for the new BMX trail at Dobby Row in Kirkstall Ward.

3.3 The February meeting received verbal updates from Environmental Services and the Environmental Action Team. Planning for student changeover was discussed, and Environmental Services agreed to highlight service delivery challenges ahead of the first planning meeting.

3.4 There was one key message from each meeting, see 7.3.

4.0 Transport Sub Group

4.1 The Transport Sub Group, Chaired by Cllr Chastney, met before the last Area Committee, on 7th December 2010, but Key Messages were not available at that time. The main items discussed were;

- Headingley Parking Strategy: The meeting was open to wider members of the public for enable a question and answer session on this topic. The group raised deep concerns regarding the progress made on the Parking Strategy since the last update. It was felt that the Strategy has no clear objective, and this restricts the group from being able to provide constructive criticism. The Chair requested clear dates be provided for what is planned.
- A660 Cycle Route Update: An update was provided on the draft design instruction, the final design instruction is imminent but no date has been set. The delay is due to internal accident rate discussions.

- 20mph zones outside schools. Highways have agreed to trial 50 20mph zones outside primary schools and have the funding for 7. The effectiveness of the trials will be measured in accident reductions. Results are expected at the end of March and will be fed back via the Transport Sub Group.

4.2 The are two key messages from the Transport Sub group, see 7.4:

5.0 Hyde Park Forum

5.1 The Hyde Park Forum met on 13th January 2011 at Woodsley Road Community Centre, chaired by Cllr Harper. The following items were raised at the meeting:

- West North West Homes: Jude Wray, Area Performance Manager, asked for WNWH tenants from the Hyde Park area to assist with neighbourhood walkabouts and identify capital improvement projects that could be supported with funding from the Neighbourhood Panel.
- Bus Services: Neil Holt from Metro attended the forum for the second time to advise that First Bus had refused requests to increase provision for the Woodsley Road / Belle Vue Road. He outlined new proposals to establish a citywide 'quality bus contract' that would enable Metro to take control of bus services from private operators, and issue one contract for the whole of Leeds. These plans have a long way to go before they can be put to the government for approval.
- Police Update: Officers from the Neighbourhood Policing Team reported on recent reductions in crime across the ward and current local priorities.
- Leeds Metropolitan Students' Union: Jo Johnson, Community Officer from LMSU updated the forum on the recent student fees protests and current community initiatives supported by student volunteers. New ideas for projects are always welcome.
- Residents raised a number of issues under 'any other business' including objections to a proposed Cycle Route through and by Woodhouse Moor, and the impact parking restrictions across the area.

6.0 Headingley Forum

6.1 A Headingley forum was held on Tuesday 8th February as a Streetscene drop in session. The session ran for 2 hours and the Police, Streetscene and EAT held stalls. Headingley residents were able to come and discuss issues relating to refuse collection recycling, litter bins and bulky waste collection with the appropriate council officers and their Councillors.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 The Area Committee is asked to note the contents of this report and the following Key Messages from Sub Groups:

7.2 Planning Sub Group

- a. Planning Sub Group recommends that Area Committee are made aware of the proposed pilot scheme to trial local community 'vanguards' in relation to Central Governments stated intentions to introduce 'Neighbourhood Plans'. Planning Group also suggests that the option of Inner North West Leeds nominating a local community to be put forward for this pilot be discussed
- b. Planning Sub Group recommends that Area Committee request that the Council raises the issue of introducing planning fees (for changes of use of C3 dwelling houses to C4 HMOs) in Article 4 Direction areas as part of the Councils consultation response on the National Planning Fee Consultation.
- c. Planning Sub Group recommends that the Area Committee requests that the option of refusing 'dropped kerbs' in the residential parking zones outlined in the Headingley Parking Strategy be pursued further during discussions as part of the introduction of the Strategy.
- d. Planning Sub Group asks that the Area Committee recognises the many years of hard work and service given both to Little Woodhouse and the Inner North West area by Freda Matthews, and thank her for her much valued contribution following her retirement from the Little Woodhouse Community Association
- e. Planning Sub Group recommends that the Area Committee provide comment on the the form that a planning policy should take in relation to HMOs following the Councils Executive Board resolution to introduce an Article 4 Direction across part of the city

7.3 Environment Sub Group:

- a. Environment Sub group asks that the Area Committee notes their disappointment that no officer from Streetscene attended the meeting and recommends that a commitment is secured from the service to attend all Environment Sub Group meetings in the future.
- b. The Area Committee is asked to review the membership of the sub group, and nominated Members are asked to confirm their attendance before each sub group meeting.

7.4 Transport Sub Group:

- a. Transport Sub Group would like to support the recommendations set out by the partnership between the seven residents' associations/neighbourhood groups of Far Headingley ("Residents") and Leeds Metropolitan University ("Leeds Met") and would ask that senior council officers attend their meetings to help support the delivery of the priorities agreed.
- b. Transport Sub Group would like to emphasis that Headingley has a unique residents only parking problem and needs a bespoke parking scheme to address all the issues as a matter of urgency

7.5 Note the dates of future meetings as follows:

- Planning Sub Group – 9th February 2011
- Little London Forum – 2nd March 2011
- Hyde Park & Woodhouse Forum – 7th April 201