

**Report of the South East Area Leader**

**Report to Outer East Leeds Area Committee**

**Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

**Subject: A summary of Key Work**

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Garforth & Swillington Kippax & Methley Cross Gates & Whinmoor Temple Newsam		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:		

**Summary of main issues**

1. The report will detail priority work carried out in the area over recent months.
2. The report will provide the background and current working arrangements for PACT (Police and Communities Together) Meetings.
3. The report will provide minutes relating to community engagement activities, partnership meetings and meetings of Area Committee Chairs.

**Recommendations**

4. Area Committee will be requested to note the report and raise any queries.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The report will provide Area Committee with details of key activities in recent months including project work and community engagement.
- 1.2 The report provides background to PACT meetings and how these are progressing in Outer East Leeds.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 Since 2008 Area Committee has produced an annual Area Delivery Plan. In 2011/12 this will be replaced by a Business Plan with a focus on community engagement, partnership work, integrated working and locality working. This report will update Area Committee on priority work, including project work and community engagement as well as key issues for discussion.
- 2.1 The report will include relevant attachments such as community forum minutes, partnership minutes etc.

## **3 Main issues**

### **3.1 Wyke Beck Valley Pride (Temple Newsam ward)**

3.1.1 Wyke Beck Valley Pride is a 3 year project which started in November 2010. It is primarily funded through the Big Lottery Changing Spaces Programme called Access to Nature. The main focus of the project is to encourage local residents to use the natural environment around them and learn about the Wyke Beck Valley. Leeds City Council is the accountable body; the partners are LCC Regeneration Service, Parks & Countryside, Groundwork Leeds, Wyke Beck Valley Community Forum, BTCV, Leeds Ahead and Leeds Voice. To deliver this the project has 4 strands of activities:

- Environmental Education – This strand is delivered by P&C and Groundwork. It includes assemblies in primary schools, site visits, wildlife and site management courses for secondary school pupils, environmental learning days for out of school clubs, work placements for over 18's and a junior rangers club.
- Community Volunteering – BTCV have set up a weekly volunteering group; Groundwork are delivering community volunteering activities days; Leeds Ahead are delivering corporate volunteering days all with a view to increase usage of the valley and to establish 2 new friends of groups in Halton Moor and Killingbeck.
- Environmental Improvements – This strand provides tasks for the volunteers to do throughout the valley plus enhancing 2 key sites Killingbeck Fields and Halton Moor. Other capital works will include entrance features throughout the valley, path improvements and habitat creation and restoration.
- Public Participation – partners will deliver a range of activities including guided walks, biodiversity days, family wildlife events, health walks.

3.1.2 Groundwork and the Wyke Beck Valley Community Forum have been leading on the consultation with the community. Initial plans have been drawn up and they were shared with residents and Councillors at the Halton Moor and East Osmondthorpe Community Forum on the 12<sup>th</sup> July. In addition fliers have been distributed to 300 households in the Cartmel Drive area, members of the Wyke Beck Community

Forum, via the Cluster coordinator, residents who attended the Halton Moor and East Osmondthorpe Forum, the church, post office, schools, social club and there is also information on Facebook and Twitter. The fliers asked residents to attend a site visit on the 27<sup>th</sup> July or come to the Halton Moor Unity Day on the 6<sup>th</sup> August to give their comments on the scheme. Following comments received final plans will be drawn up. The scheme will be delivered by P&C and an approved contractor; residents will be involved through the volunteering programme.

3.1.3 To date 12 volunteer events, accounting for 110 volunteer days, have taken place in Primrose Valley and Halton Moor. A corporate and resident volunteer day was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> July. P&C are starting a Wildlife & Site Management Course in September 2011 at Corpus Christi High School. Taster sessions were held on 18 and 19 July. Meadowfield and Corpus Christi primary schools have expressed interest in the educational programme including site visits and assemblies. The Project Coordinator is working with Temple Moor High School linking activities and volunteering into their Duke of Edinburgh programme.

3.1.4 Halton Moor is a key site for the project in total there is £45K capital to spend in 2011/12. The work is due to take place between September 2011 and December 2011. The table below shows the breakdown of funding:

<b>Halton Moor Nature Area</b>				
	<b>Green Leeds</b>	<b>A2N</b>	<b>Area Committee Capital Budget</b>	<b>Total</b>
Preliminaries (Insurance, health & safety etc)		£2,000.00		£2,000.00
Woodland management & enhancement	£7,000.00		£3,000.00	£10,000.00
Wildflower plugs / turf	£1,000.00			£1,000.00
Pathworks	£11,000.00	£3,000.00	£6,000.00	£20,000.00
Remove existing metal features		£500.00		£500.00
Entrance enhancement at Cartmell Drive	£4,000.00	£500.00		£4,500.00
A Frames	£2,000.00			£2,000.00
Renovate outdoor gym equipment		£500.00		£500.00
Design fee		£3,500.00	£1,000.00	£4,500.00
<b>Project Total</b>	<b>£25,000.00</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>	<b>£45,000.00</b>

### 3.2 Area Committee Chairs Meetings

3.2.1 Following recommendations by the General Purposes Committee, full council approved on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2011 that minutes of the Area Chairs Forum meetings should be reported to Area Committees.

3.2.2 Area Chairs Forum minutes will only be available to be considered by Area Committees once they have been agreed as an accurate record by the subsequent Area Chairs Forum meeting.

3.2.3 The scheduled Area Chairs Forum meeting dates for 2011 / 12 are:

- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2011, 10:00am – 12:00pm
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011, 10:00am – 12:00pm
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011, 9:00am – 11:00am
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2012, 10:00am – 12:00pm
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2012, 10:00am – 12:00pm

3.2.4 All efforts will be made to include Area Chairs Forum minutes in papers issued prior to Area Committee meetings, however due to some tight deadlines between meetings, it may be necessary to table the minutes at certain Area Committee meetings.

### **3.3 Stanks and Garforth Fire Stations – local fire service changes**

3.3.1 The Station Commander covering Stanks and Garforth Fire Stations will be in attendance to take questions from Members.

3.3.2 The main purpose of his attendance is to update Area Committee with regards to how the future restructuring of West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service is progressing and how this affects West Yorkshire and the Leeds District. In addition, it will be to remind Members that in order to continue the work of the service in reducing risk more effectively we will require partners to help identify vulnerable individuals, poor standards of fire safety or sites of constant fly tipping or antisocial behaviour.

### **3.4 Area Committee sub-groups and partnership bodies**

3.4.1 **Environmental sub-group.** The Environmental champion, Cllr Katherine Mitchell, chairs the Environmental sub-group which has agreed to meet for one hour before each Area Committee meeting. The first meeting of the group was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2011 and the minutes of that meeting are attached as **appendix 1**.

3.4.2 The primary objective of the group for meetings held during 2011/12 is to ensure a Service Level Agreement for the first 6 months is in place and that robust monitoring procedures are put in place to ensure an improvement in the service over that period.

3.4.3 **Health & Well Being Partnership.** The Area Committee is represented by Cllr James Lewis on this partnership which most recently met on the 28<sup>th</sup> of July 2011. The minutes of that meeting are attached as **appendix 2**.

3.4.4 One particular issue of note relevant to the Outer East relates to 'Integrated Health and Social Care Teams' that will be established with 3 initial sites. The preferred site in Outer East will be in Garforth or Kippax because (i) most GP's in the area have carried out predictive modelling work, and (ii) a high number of referrals come from these areas. The site will be dependant upon finding suitable accommodation.

3.4.5 **Divisional Community Safety Partnership.** Cllr Katherine Mitchell represents the Area Committee on this partnership that most recently met on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2011. The minutes of that meeting were not available at the time of the mail out.

### 3.5 Community Engagement

3.5.1 At the most recent meeting of the Older Persons sub-group the dates and venues for Older Persons Week were agreed as follows:

- 26<sup>th</sup> September – Great Preston & Little Preston Village Hall
- 27<sup>th</sup> September – St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre, Swarcliffe
- 28<sup>th</sup> September – Christ Church Hall, Halton
- 29<sup>th</sup> September – Kippax Social & Welfare Club
- 30<sup>th</sup> September – Garforth Liberal Club

3.5.2 The following community forums were held since the last meeting of Area Committee:

- Halton Moor & East Osmondthorpe Forum – 12 July (minutes attached as **appendix 3**)
- Halton Forum – 14 July (minutes attached as **appendix 4**)
- Whinmoor Forum – 19<sup>th</sup> July (minutes not available at time of mail out)
- Swarcliffe Forum – 20<sup>th</sup> July (minutes not available at time of mail out)
- Cross Gates Forum – 27<sup>th</sup> July (minutes not available at time of mail out).

3.5.3 The minutes of the Cross Gates Forum held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April that were not available at the last meeting are attached as **appendix 5**.

### 3.6 Partners and Communities Together (PACT) Meetings

3.6.1 The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods and Housing has requested that information be provided to Area Committee concerning the background and effectiveness of PACT meetings.

3.6.2 PACT meetings were originally called Police and Communities Together but the title was altered in 2010. The meetings were set up as part of the Neighbourhood Policing drive that formed part of the Policing Pledge, established in 2008. The objective of PACTs was to agree local priorities within communities.

3.6.3 In the Outer East Area there are 2 Neighbourhood Policing Teams(NPT): one covers the whole of Temple Newsam and Cross Gates & Whinmoor ward; the other covers the Garforth & Swillington ward and Kippax & Methley wards.

3.6.4 **Temple Newsam/Cross Gates & Whinmoor.** This NPT has the following arrangements:

- Separate PACTs covering Swarcliffe and Whinmoor are 6 weekly and are combined with Forums every other meeting. There is a total number of 16 meetings per year
- PACTS for Crossgates, Halton/Colton and Halton Moor every month = total number of 36 per year.

Total number of PACTs in this NPT is 52 per year. The Police also attend community forums that do not have the PACT combined.

3.6.5 In terms of attendance the best attended PACT in this NPT is at Halton/Colton where up to 10 residents regularly attend and these are often representatives from Neighbourhood Watch schemes that operate within the area. All the other PACT meetings in this NPT vary from 2 to 10.

3.6.6 The NPT Inspector for Temple Newsam/Cross Gates & Whinmoor has provided a number of personal observations concerning PACT meetings:

- Most attendees are regular at their respective PACT meeting
- The only occasions where others attend is when there is a very specific issue or an incident has occurred
- PACT's have failed to reach young people probably because it is not something that many young people would want to be associated with.
- The time PACT meetings are held (evenings) is probably a busy time for people with families and therefore unless there is a burning issue few people aged from 20 – 45 attend.
- Combining PACT's with forums does not appear to have increased numbers attending.

3.6.7 In Outer East PACT meetings are organised by North East Police Division via the Police internet, Quarterly Police leaflets (posted to the vast amount of residents), Cross gates 'really useful guide', Forum letters (if incorporated). Posters are also displayed at venues and key buildings.

3.6.8 **Garforth/Kippax/villages.** This NPT has the following arrangements:

- PACT meetings are held six-weekly, or 9 per year
- Originally there were 4 per month (48 per year) but this was reduced due to low attendance.
- The meetings are held at various points across both wards.

- In Garforth the PACT is incorporated into the Community Forum.

3.6.9 Attendance is very poor with most meetings usually having a maximum of 3 people attending and on occasion there have been no attendees. There appears to have been no increase in attendance where PACTs have linked in with the established Community Forum in Garforth.

3.6.10 The views of the NPT Inspector for the villages are similar to those expressed by the Cross Gates/Temple Newsam Inspector in 4.6.5.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

4.1.1 The community forums and older persons event week outlined in section 4.5 form the main part of the Area Committees face to face community engagement strategy that is incorporated into its Business Plan. The PACT meetings outlined in 4.6 form an important part of the Policing Pledge, to engage and set policing priorities with local people.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

4.2.1 Under equality legislation the Council has a legal duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate and promote equality in relation to race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and religion or belief.

4.2.2 The work included in this report that support this legal duty includes: Wyke Beck Valley pride; local fire service changes; community engagement, especially in relation to older persons week; and partnership work.

### **4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities**

4.3.1 The proposals contained within this report contribute to the existing targets and priorities set out in the Council's Policy Framework in the following plans:

- Safer & Stronger Communities Plan
- Children & Young Peoples Plan
- Health & Well Being City Priority Plan

### **4.4 Resources and Value for Money**

4.4.1 There are no resource implications as a result of this report other than funding that has previously been agreed by Area Committee from its respective capital and revenue budgets.

### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

4.5.1 All decisions taken by the Area Committee in relation to the delegated functions from Executive Board are eligible for Call In.

4.5.2 There are no key or major decisions being made that would be eligible for Call In.

4.5.3 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

#### **4.6 Risk Management**

4.6.1 This report provides an update on project work and key issues in Outer East. Any projects funded from the Well Being Budget complete a section identifying risks and solutions as part of the application process.

### **5 Conclusions**

5.1 The report provides up to date information on key work and key issues for Area committee to consider. Members are requested to note the content of the report and raise queries relating to issues raised within the report.

### **6 Recommendations**

6.1 Area Committee is requested to note the content of the report and raise queries relating to issues raised within the report.

### **7 Background documents**

7.1 Outer East Area Committee capital budget report – February 2010.

7.2 General purposes committee report – 26<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

7.3 Outer East Area Committee report – Local Authority appointments to outside bodies July 2011

7.4 Outer East Area Committee Business Plan report July 2011.