

Report of Area Leader – South East Leeds

Report to South Leeds (Inner) Area Committee

Date: Wednesday 21st September 2011

Subject: A Summary Of Key Work

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Beeston & Holbeck City & Hunslet Middleton Park
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? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues and corporate governance considerations

1. This report details a range of activities taking place within the Inner South Leeds Area, some of which are dealt with in greater detail elsewhere on the agenda.

Recommendations

2. The Area Committee is asked to:
- a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate.

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To bring to Members' attention in a succinct fashion, brief details of the range of activities with which the Area Management Team are engaged based on the Area Delivery Plan priorities, that are not addressed in greater detail elsewhere on this agenda. It provides opportunities for further questioning or the opportunity to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 Members will recall at the June 2011 Area Committee, a revised title and format for this report was introduced based on proposed changes to the Leeds Initiative partnership and planning framework for the city and in an effort to be more focused on current priorities.

3.0 Area Chairs Forum

- 3.1 Forum meetings take place on a bi-monthly basis and are chaired by the Deputy Leader of Council and Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration. The meetings are attended by the ten Area Committee Chairs, the Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy & Improvement), the three Area Leaders and the Neighbourhood Services Co-ordinator in Leeds Initiative.
- 3.2 Following recommendations by the General Purposes Committee, full council approved on the 26th May 2011 that minutes of the Area Chairs Forum meetings be a regular item for consideration at future Area Committee meetings. The scheduled Area Chairs Forum meeting dates for 2011/12 are:
- Friday 17th June 2011, 10:00am – 12:00pm
 - Monday 5th September 2011, 10:00am – 12:00pm
 - Friday 11th November 2011, 9:00am – 11:00am
 - Friday 13th January 2012, 10:00am – 12:00pm
 - Friday 2nd March 2012, 10:00am – 12:00pm
- 3.3 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. As a result, the tight deadlines may mean that minutes will not be issued in the Area Committee papers, and it may be necessary to table the minutes at some Area Committee meetings. The minutes of the June meeting are attached at **Appendix 1**

4.0 Updates by theme: Sustainable Economy & Culture

4.1 South Leeds Employment, Enterprise and Training Partnership (SLEET)

- 4.1.1 To further strengthen links between the SLEET group and the Inner South Area Committee, the minutes from the meeting are circulated to the Area Committee. The minutes of the 22nd November meeting were presented at the January Area Committee meeting.

4.2 Community Centres Sub Committee

4.2.1 The Inner South Community Centres Sub Committee last met on the 18th July 2011. The minutes are included as **Appendix 2**. The next meeting is to be confirmed

5.0 **Updates by theme: Children & Families**

5.1 Children Leeds South Leadership Team

5.1.1 To further strengthen links between the Children Leeds South Leadership Team and the Inner South Area Committee, the minutes from the meeting are circulated to the Area Committee. The most recent minutes were presented at the March meeting.

5.1.2 A full report on Children's Services Performance Reporting is presented in a separate report at this meeting.

5.2 Community Sports Project Update

5.2.1 The June Area Committee meeting agreed £4,600 to Community Sports to run a multi sports activity camp at the John Charles Centre for Sport to be run in the week 15th to 19th August. Signpost also planned a similar programme of activities in the same week at the same location and they would be targeting some of the same young people from the area. In addition it is worth noting that the Signpost camp is free to participants but there is a charge to the camp funded by the Area Committee.

5.2.2 It would not make sense to have two camps running at the same time, so the camp that was funded by the Area Committee was not run. Instead Members are asked if the funding can be used to hold the Camp at a later date, perhaps at the October half-term.

5.3 Joseph Priestley College Update

5.3.1 It has been confirmed that the Minister of State has approved the merger between Joseph Priestley College and Leeds City College. The Joseph Priestley Corporation will be dissolved from August 1st 2011 with all undertakings transferred to Leeds City College.

6.0 **Updates by theme: Safer Stronger Communities Board**

6.1 A full update on community safety work in the Outer South, including the review of the DCSP, is provided for Members on the agenda under the Community Safety Report. Following his nomination as the Community Safety Champion at the July Area Committee, Councillor Kim Groves will be consulted on the development of the future partnership framework for community safety.

6.2 Environmental Sub Group

6.2.1 The Inner South Environmental Sub-group met on 12th August to discuss the role of the group and the associated SLA. Minutes of the meeting are on **Appendix 3**.

6.3 South East Environment Action Team (E.A.T)

6.3.1 The Team received 553 requests for service between 1/6/11 and 10/8/11 in Inner South:

Issue	No. of issues
Domestic Waste	227
Commercial Waste	146
Noise Nuisance	89
Littering/Dog Fouling cases	26
Highways Issues	49
Empty/nuisance properties	16

6.3.2 38% of these cases were identified proactively by officers whilst out on patrol, allowing the team to resolve environmental issues before they impact further on the community and result in complaints.

6.3.3 95% of customer complaints were responded to within the service target of 5 working days.

6.3.4 Within this period 149 legal notices were issued. 35 of these were fixed penalty notices issued for littering and dog fouling. 45 notices were issued to occupiers requiring them to use their bin yards correctly. A further 11 cases have been reported to legal Services for prosecution in the coming months.

6.3.5 Successful prosecutions were taken for:

- Resident of Bismark Drive – Noise Nuisance, fine of £80 with £150 costs and confiscation of all noise making equipment.
- Costa Coffee Albion Place – Leaving waste outside on footpath, fine £1000 with £2,354 costs.

6.3.6 Bin yard clearance project completed. 46 yards on the Harlech's, Trentham's, Clovelly's, Linden's, and parts of the Woodviews cleared. Approximately 25 tonnes of waste removed. The yards are now checked on a weekly basis and remain largely clear. 3 instances of flytipping by residents are being pursued for enforcement action.

6.3.7 A project is ongoing to encourage occupiers on the Belvedere's to clear their gardens of waste. 26 addresses received warning letters. All but 6 have now tidied their land. 3 fixed penalties for £100 have been issued to those who have not complied and action is pending for the remaining 3. The scheme will be rolled out to nearby streets in the future.

6.3.8 As of the 1st August the team no longer deals with noise nuisance issues as they are now investigated by the city wide Noise & Environmental Protection Team. Environmental enforcement and cleansing for the city centre has also been moved to a dedicated city centre team.

6.4 Middleton Regeneration Partnership Board

- 6.4.1 Middleton Regeneration Partnership Board has met twice in this financial year and had made progress with several new key strategic priorities, including the affordable housing plan for Middleton. Working relationships are now in place to help this area of work progress and a sub group will be established to lead this piece of work, which will report to the Board each quarter.
- 6.4.2 Work to understand the Neighbourhood index in more detail in order to inform future project activity has also taken place. Local information and intelligence has been shared with various agencies and service providers to inform future service delivery plans and targeted activities.
- 6.4.3 Support has been provided in the development of specific targeted work in the Manor Farm area, working to reduce worklessness and levels of those whom are NEET and to improve environmental conditions. Work is also underway to develop a more community led approach to some of the environmental activity, increasing community confidence and pride in the area.
- 6.4.4 Michelle Anderson, Regeneration Programme Manager has now joined the Board. Michelle will lead on actions which primarily support housing growth in line with the priorities set out in the Housing & Regeneration City Priority Plan and the Middleton Master Plan
- 6.4.5 Improving services locally
One of the Boards key priorities is to improve educational attainment and the skills of local people. Work is currently underway with Library service to help improve access to services for local people. One to one information sessions have been arranged with front line services to ensure we are maximising the use of these services to improve local outcomes. A programme of free IT training and media sessions are being developed for everyone in the community to access.
- 6.4.6 Middleton What's on
Work to further develop a what's on guide for agencies and the local community is currently being worked up. The website has been developed to include a blog and a twitter account on which people can have conversations about local issues. A face-book page has also been created by the local community group which has created a large following of many local people. Further work to develop the use of social media will be looked at this year.
- 6.4.7 Middleton Day - Saturday 9th July
Over 400 local children and families attended what was a truly amazing community event. Lots of fun new activities were made available for everyone to experience. Useful information and services were on hand to help with local community concerns on the day. Two local community members were professional trained and gained a qualification in food safety and hygiene. These volunteers lead the community BBQ.

6.4.8 Middleton Community Network

The network is still developing slowly, with a membership of some 30 new community members seeking to be engaged in the regeneration. Work to further develop the network will continue during 2011/12. It is hoped that members of the network will increase as a result of more local initiatives having a greater impact in the neighbourhood

6.4.9 Middleton Volunteer projects

Middleton Day attracted over 10 local community Volunteers to help plan and deliver the event. A further event is being planned to provide environmental help in Middleton Park.

6.4.10 Community Engagement

Work is underway with existing community groups to develop their capacity to be further engaged. We now have a Tenant Board rep who helps to disseminate information to and from local community groups. Two of the local community groups have for the first time started to work together to help each other deliver community events and have started to share information and contacts. Web links to each others websites are available. The aim is to improve connections and relationships, increase community capacity and confidence by strengthening community engagement and participation.

6.4.11 Other events

Work is being planned to develop a Christmas Market that will benefit both Middleton and Belle Isle communities.

6.4.12 Improving services in Belle Isle

Support has been provided to 6 Belle Isle steering group meetings to help develop and improve services in Belle Isle. Further work is planned for the next quarter to provide support and advice in exploring the benefits and opportunities in merging the work in Middleton and Belle Isle.

6.4.13 Work with Leeds Federated Housing Association and Places for people has begun in order to share good practice, connect local community groups, pool resources and maximise the use of community facilities in both Middleton and Belle Isle.

6.4.14 Regeneration Programmes is now working closely with BITMO to further develop the scope of the Community Garden Project which is funded under the lottery's Awards for All.

7.0 Updates by theme: Health and Wellbeing

7.1 Multi Agency referral Scheme (MARS)

7.1.1 The MARS scheme trial in Belle Isle ran until 31st July. The project was a great success with 57 residents being engaged & 95 referrals being passed to partner agencies. The nature of the pilot means that work will need to be carried out to rationalise the proposed roll out of the project citywide along with discussions to confirm availability of partner agencies to deal with the increased workload this would bring. The proposals are being developed and updates will come to the Area Committee when all wards will benefit from this project.

7.2 The South East Health and Well being partnership met on the 26th May and 28th July. Minutes from both meetings are available at **Appendix 4 and 5**

8.0 Updates by theme: Housing & Regeneration

8.1 Holbeck phases 1, 2 and 3

8.1.1 The combined site is now cleared.

8.1.2 Chevin Housing Association has submitted proposals to the Homes and Communities Agency for the provision of 39 new, quality affordable homes on the site subject to contract and planning approval. Contract negotiations will take place with the Homes and Communities Agency over the next 2 months. It is expected that an announcement regarding the confirmed affordable homes programme will be made at the end of September.

8.1.3 A temporary area of greenspace has been provided on the cleared site. A wildflower meadow has been planted following the importation of improved soil to the site and has begun to flower.

8.1.4 The scheme has been funded from savings to the programme arising from the withdrawal of funding from the Holbeck phase 4 scheme.

8.2 Holbeck Phase 4

8.2.1 The Council has now withdrawn from this former demolition scheme. Formal approval is being sought to bring these homes back into use under the management of Aire Valley Homes following Decent Homes improvements.

8.2.2 Formal approval for improvements to a number of bin yards in the former target area is anticipated in the very near future.

8.3 Beverleys

8.3.1 Chevin Housing Association has recently commenced work on site to develop 55 affordable homes. A sod cutting ceremony took place on 15th July which was attended by Cllr Peter Gruen, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods and Housing and Local ward member, Cllr Nash. It is anticipated that the development will be completed by summer 2012.

8.4 Garnets

8.4.1 Demolition of the first 20 properties has been completed. Preparations are underway to commence demolition of a further 26 properties over the next 2-3 months. The remaining 30 properties will be demolished once the final 3 residents can be successfully rehoused and a property exchange with Leeds Federated Housing Association (LFHA) has been completed.

8.4.2 LFHA will take ownership of 5 properties within the Garnets area which have been acquired by the Council for demolition and will refurbish and bring them back into use. In addition a further 7 properties will be refurbished and brought back into use for management by AVH subject to formal approval.

8.4.2 Officers have been working closely with The Garnets Community Group and the first newsletter produced by the group was delivered to local homes at the end of May. The newsletter sought the views of the local community on the provision of temporary green space but unfortunately response was minimal. Options will be discussed at the Groups next meeting.

8.5 Recreations

8.5.1 In line with the Area Committee decision in February officers have been developing a programme of demolition works to a number of bin yards in the area. The yards have caused numerous flytipping issues and do not enhance the appearance of the streets. This project, funded by the Inner South Area Committee will compliment the project on the neighbouring Crosby's. Works will include clearance of the yards and removal of the front and middle walls to leave an open space. This opening up will enhance the visibility and therefore reduce flytipping.

8.5.2 Dependant on the final costs around 10 yards will be improved, having a significant impact to the environmental issues on the estate.

8.5.3 **Appendix 6** is an update report prepared for the Beeston & Holbeck Ward Members outlining the possible options.

9.0 **Locality Integrated working**

9.1 Cottingley

9.1.1 A multi-agency project has started on Cottingley with the aim of tackling a range of environmental issues. At the first meeting of the steering group a number of agencies and services together with residents were able to identify the main issues. A 'day of action' focusing on environmental issues to launch the initiative was also agreed and will take place on Friday 23rd September.

9.1.2 Also included in this work will be a scheme to explore the provision of appropriate recycling facilities on the estate. An initial audit of the estate is being carried out by Streetscene Services throughout September with further work to be coordinated through the Cottingley Multi-agency steering group meetings. **Appendix 7** is a copy of the minutes of the August Cottingley Multi-agency steering group.

9.2 Beeston Hill Residents Voice

9.2.1 The former Cross Flatts Forum is being supported as the Beeston Hill Residents Voice and the group is now meeting monthly. Various services are attending the meeting with the aim of developing an integrated approach to locality working. The meetings have

identified a number of crime and grime issues which are being tackled. A job description for Community Champions has been developed and the aim is to invite local residents to take on this role.

9.3 Beeston Hill & Holbeck Regeneration Board

9.3.1 At the last meeting of the board (25th July) discussions took place around the scope of the group and it an play a key roll in the integrated locality working strategy for this area. A name change and new operating guidelines have been discussed and will be reported here at a future meeting..

9.4 Manor Farms

9.4.1 The success of Super Saturday has been built on with fortnightly walkabouts that have identified a series of issues. These issues have ranged from illegal tipping to untidy gardens. The frequency of the walkabouts has meant that in a relatively short space of time the estate has improved. **Appendix 8** is a full report on the success of the project.

9.5 Hunslet Library update

9.5.1 The Area Committee at its meeting in February agreed a capital wellbeing funding of £70,529 for essential repairs to Hunslet Library with the aim of safeguarding the fabric of the building and enhance its appearance, thereby providing an improved library facility for the local community. Subsequently, following discussions between Library and Information Service and Corporate Property Management (CPM) it was agreed to investigate the possibility of securing additional funds to achieve a more comprehensive roof repair; to date £60K has been approved in principle.

9.5.2 The roofing works will need to be tendered and completed before the internal works start. It is anticipated that works on the roof will start in October 2011 followed by a programme of internal works commencing end of November. The Library and Information Service intend to manage the project in partnership with CPM with a proposed completion date in March 2012.

9.5.3 Internally works will see the library re-planned, taking into account services such as book stock, IT, events and learning sessions which will be tailored to meet the needs of current users and potential users.

9.5.4 The Library and Information Service and CPM are also looking for other funding to renew the heating boiler and install solar panels, this will not delay progressing the work outlined above.

10.0 Corporate Considerations

10.1 Consultation and Engagement

10.1.1 All projects developed are in consultation with Elected Members and local communities. Approval for a contribution from the Well being budget is secured at Area Committee.

10.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

10.2.1 Community groups submitting a project proposal requesting funding from the Well being budget have an equal opportunities policy and as part of the application process, complete a section outlining which equality groups the project will work with and how equality and cohesion issues have been considered.

10.2.2 Internal and statutory partners are committed to equality and cohesion and all projects they are involved with will have considered these issues.

10.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

10.3.1 The projects outlined in this report contribute to targets and priorities set out in the following council policies:

- Vision For Leeds
- Children and Young Peoples Plan
- Health and Well being City Priority Plan
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
- Regeneration City Priority Plan

10.4 Resources and Value for Money

10.4.1 There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

10.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

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

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

10.6 Risk Management

10.6.1 This report provides an update on work in the Outer South and therefore no risks are identifiable. Any projects funded through Well being budget complete a section identifying risks and solutions as part of the application process.

11.0 Conclusions

11.1 The report provides up to date information on key work areas of the Area Committee.

12.0 Recommendations

12.1 The Area Committee is asked to:

- a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate
- b) agree the funding of the sports camp at 5.2.2 to October half term

13.0 Background documents

13.1 Minutes of the Full Council meeting, 26th May 2011

13.2 Council Constitution

13.3 Area Committee Summary of Key Work Report, 21st June 2011

13.4 Well Being Report – 21st June 2011

13.5 Late information for Agenda item 8 Inner South Wellbeing Budget, 5th February 2011