

**Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access & Performance)**

**Report to North West (Outer) Area Committee**

**Date: 6th February 2012**

**Subject: Area Update Report**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Adel & Wharfedale, Guiseley & Rawdon, Horsforth and Otley & Yeadon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" 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**

1. This report provides Members with information on a range of Area Committee business including key messages from forums and sub groups and project and service activity.
2. The Area Committee is asked to approve the key messages from forums and sub groups. Members are asked to note the progress made in relation to project and service activity.

**Recommendations**

3. Members are requested to note the contents of this report and to comment on any of the matters raised.

## **1. Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The purpose of the area update report is to bring together a range of information relating to Area Committee business into a single report to help limit the number of items being presented to each Area Committee meeting.

## **2. Background information**

- 2.1 The Area Committee currently has five groups looking at service provision within the delegated functions of Community Safety, Children & Young People, Environmental Services, Health & Well-being and Business & Transport. The full minutes of the last meeting of each sub group held since the last Area Committee, are attached.
- 2.2 There are currently two ward forums in the outer area for Guiseley & Rawdon and Yeadon. The forums meet on a regular basis approximately four or five times a year. The full minutes of the last meeting of the Guiseley & Rawdon sub group are attached.
- 2.3 A decision was made by Full Council that Area Chair's Forum minutes should be considered by Area Committees as a regular agenda item, these appear elsewhere on this Committee's agenda.

## **3 Main issues**

### **3.1 Environmental Services Sub Group**

- 3.1.1 There has been one meeting of the sub group since the last Area Committee held on the 12<sup>th</sup> December. The following issues were discussed:
- 3.1.2 The Locality Manager gave an update on the delegation of Environmental Services. The main focus of the Environmental Team over the last quarter in the outer north west has been deleafing.
- 3.1.3 The service is currently in talks with Parks & Countryside and WNW Homes around partnership working and localised tasking arrangements.
- 3.1.4 The Senior Area Manager for Parks & Countryside provided an update on their service and agreed to meet with Councillor Anderson to discuss Friends of Lawnswood Cemetery.
- 3.1.5 Giles Jeffs the Grounds Maintenance Contract Officer informed the meeting that the new contract had been awarded to Continental, with a start date of January 2012.
- 3.1.6 The grass cutting season is scheduled to commence at the end of February or early March 2012. A discussion took place on how the various functions of the Environmental Services may work together to minimise disruption and maximise efficiency. The Locality Manager is to meet with the Grass Contract Monitoring Officer to discuss the co ordination of services.

- 3.1.7 The Area Performance Manager from WNW Homes attended the meeting to provide an update.
- 3.1.8 Caretaker performance targets are still being met although leaf clearing is taking up a lot of their time.
- 3.1.9 Gritting is a particular issue in outer north west as half of all sheltered housing is in the area. Grit supplies have been increased and grit bins refilled to try and tackle any problems with severe weather.

### **3.2 Health & Well-being Sub Group**

- 3.2.1 The sub group has not met since the last Area Committee. A date has yet to be agreed for the next meeting.

### **3.3 Community Safety Sub Group**

- 3.3.1 The Community Safety sub group met on 7<sup>th</sup> December and received a demonstration from CASAC in relation to the vulnerability of some 'euro profile cylinders' which are a type of lock. West Yorkshire Police also provided an update in relation to current crime trends in Outer North West Leeds.

### **3.4 Children & Young People's Sub Group**

- 3.4.1 The Children & Young People's sub group has not met since their last meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November. The next meeting is planned for the 1<sup>st</sup> February and will be reported on at the March Area Committee.

### **3.5 Business and Transport Sub Group**

- 3.5.1 Following a suggestion to consider combining the Outer North West Business and Transport Sub Group and the North West Inner Area Committee Transport Group, a meeting was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> January with Chairs of the Outer North West Business and Transport Sub Group and the North West Inner Area Committee Transport Group, the Area Management Team, the Chief Officer for Highways and Transportation and the Acting Head of Transport Policy. The purpose of the group is to make links across the geographical boundaries, raise local concerns and progress pressing priorities through the Council and regional infrastructures. A proposal was put forward that would see the two groups coming together to form one group that would meet bi-annually, connected through the Council and regional infrastructures. This proposal will be worked up further and brought to the April Area Committee meeting.

### **3.6 Guiseley & Rawdon Forum**

- 3.6.1 The forum has not met since the last Area Committee. The next meeting is on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012, at Guiseley Methodist Church and will be reported on at the March Area Committee meeting.

### **3.8 Yeadon Forum**

3.8.1 The forum has not met since the last Area Committee. However the date of the next meeting has been changed the 14<sup>th</sup> March to the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2012.

### **3.9 Project and Service Update**

3.9.1 Regular ward briefing meetings are held with members from Guiseley & Rawdon ward and officers. At the 20<sup>th</sup> December meeting updates were received from the ALMO particularly in relation to repairs and Environmental Services regarding the delegation and how it is working at a ward level. Parks and Countryside also attended and gave an update on the proposals for a new play area at Springfield Park and details of the consultation process to be undertaken.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

4.1.1 Community Forums are held in the Guiseley & Rawdon ward and Yeadon. In addition, ward members are consulted on projects and initiatives within their ward.

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

4.2.1 This section is not applicable to this project.

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

4.3.1 The Area Committee Functions and Priority Advisory Functions were approved by the Executive Board in June 2009. This approval was rolled forward to 2010/11 and is also being rolled forward to 2011/12 with amendments to the environmental delegation.

4.3.2 The Area Functions are included in the Council's Constitution (Part 3, section 3c).

4.3.3 Area Management's work programme contributes at a local level to the themes contained in the:

- Vision for Leeds
- Leeds Strategic Plan
- Health and Well-being City Priorities Plan
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
- Regeneration City Priority Plan

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

4.4.1 Programmes of work outlined in this report are resourced in the main by Area Management staff and their partners which in turn, provide value for money.

4.4.2 In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council department's mainstream budgets, and external partner agencies e.g. the Police and NHS Leeds, which is in turn reflected in the fact that the Area Committee's role here is to influence, develop and consult. However, on occasion, well-being funding has resourced some projects related to its roles e.g. area based regeneration schemes and conservation reviews.

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

4.5.1 This is the report of the Area Leader for West North West Leeds who has delegated responsibility to action decisions in accordance with Area Management's work programme in accordance with part 3 of the Council's Constitution in relation to Area Committee Functions.

4.5.2 This report is not confidential, neither is it, or part of it exempt.

4.5.3 This report is subject to Call-In as it is the Area Committees functions which are delegated Executive functions.

#### **4.6 Risk Management**

4.6.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

### **5 Conclusions**

5.1 In conclusion, the Area Update report is in line with the functions and role of the Area Committee which are:

- Improve the quality and value for money of Council service delivery.
- Improve the quality of democracy and find new ways to facilitate citizen participation in local government through the development of links between ward members and their communities.
- To co-ordinate policy and service delivery between the local service providers.

### **6 Recommendations**

6.1 Outer North West Area Committee Members are requested to:

- Note the contents of the report and comment on any aspect of the matters raised.

### **7 Background documents**

7.1 None.