

Report of the South East Area Leader

Report to Outer East Area Committee

Date: 3rd of July 2012

Subject: Summary of Key Work

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Cross Gates & Whinmoor Garforth & Swillington Kippax & Methley Temple Newsam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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 type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" 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. The report will detail priority work carried out in the area over recent weeks.
2. The report will provide minutes relating to recent community forums and engagement activities, partnership and sub-group minutes and minutes of Area Chairs.
3. The report will provide details of community forums for 2012/13 and forums chairs.
4. The report will request funding from Swarcliffe PFI credits for continuation funding of the Community Environment Support Officer (CESO).

Recommendations

5. Area Committee will be requested to:
 - note the report and raise any queries.
 - agree forum dates and chairs
 - approve £77,002 of Swarcliffe PFI credits for funding of the CESO post.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The report will provide Area Committee with details of key issues and activities in recent months including project work and community engagement.
- 1.2 The report will provide Members with minutes relating to recent community forums and engagement activities, sub group and partnership meetings and minutes of Area Chairs meetings.
- 1.3 The report will confirm community forum dates, forum chairs and Member champions
- 1.4 The report will update on PFI credits and request continuation funding for the post of CESO.

2 Background information

- 2.1 In 2011/12 Area Committee approved a Business Plan with a focus on community engagement, partnership work, functions delegated to Area Committee, 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.
- 2.2 The report will include relevant attachments such as community forum minutes, partnership minutes etc.

3 Main issues

3.1 Olympic Torch Relay

- 3.1.1 Area Committee approved funding to support Outer East school cluster's involvement with the Olympic torch arriving in Leeds.
- 3.1.2 The area's four school clusters each agreed commemorations for the event and to acknowledge local Councillors providing funding in any promotion/publicity:
 - Brigshaw Cluster – Medals for “Olympic” sports day featuring 3,000 pupils from Trust schools and 220 visiting from Asia, Europe and Africa. 1,000 T-shirts in Olympic colours for participants in Olympic build-up.
 - Temple Newsam Cluster – Designing Olympic themed T-shirts, banners, flags, and items that young people can keep as a memento of when the Olympics came to Britain.
 - Garforth Cluster – Olympics themed medals and trophies
 - Manston Cluster – Sports days and events with an Olympic theme – no funding required as this had already been planned by the cluster.
- 3.1.3 Area Support attended meetings to discuss details of the Torch Route and the celebration in Temple Newsam Park on 24th June.

3.2 Neighbourhood Planning Pilot in Kippax

- 3.2.1 £80,000 was awarded to Leeds for Neighbourhood Planning Pilots. On 16 May the Executive Board agreed that Kippax, Holbeck, Otley and Boston Spa should each receive £20,000.
- 3.2.2 Operating as a sub-committee of the parish council, a representative group of key individuals will design a neighbourhood plan for the parish council area. The plan will show what development the local community would like over the coming years. The proposals must be in accordance with the overarching Leeds Development Plan (UDP core strategy site allocations plan) and be in accordance with statutory EU legislation, and documents regarding human rights and equality etc. and approved in a referendum.
- 3.2.3 The pilot is at an early stage with the sub-committee being formed, partnerships discussed and existing documents studied.
- 3.2.4 The Council is establishing a neighbourhood plan steering group to provide corporate support for neighbourhood plan processes.

3.3 Community Payback

- 3.3.1 Area Committee has agreed funding support for Community Payback projects in the Outer East area for 2012/13.
- 3.3.2 The number of Community Payback referrals has increased since the beginning of 2012 with as many jobs completed in the final quarter as the two previous quarters combined.
- 3.3.3 There have been 61 projects for the year. The vast majority of work involves clearing vegetation, litter clearing and general improvements to the appearance of neighbourhoods. The work is fairly evenly spread across all 4 wards.

3.4 Older Person's event week 2012

- 3.4.1 Planning has commenced for this years OPEW. It will run 1-5 October 2012 to coincide with the International Day of Older People on 1 October. Some good ideas were submitted via the 2011 comments cards and these will be incorporated into the 2012 event.
- 3.4.2 Venues / days agreed (subject to venue availability) as:
- Monday – Great Preston Village Hall
 - Tuesday – St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre, Swarcliffe
 - Wednesday – Kippax Band Club
 - Thursday – Christ Church, Halton
 - Friday – Garforth Liberal Club
- 3.4.3 Entertainment:
- Hoped to have live background organ music during the stalls / information
 - Afternoon entertainment ideas include Darren Rivers, an Elvis tribute

- Potential to have local high schools choirs / bands for additional entertainment and make the event intergenerational

3.5 Grafton Villas Long Footpath

- 3.5.1 This particular long footpath/ginnel in Cross Gates has suffered from regular crime and ASB over a number of years with many residents that live along the footpath demanding its closure.
- 3.5.2 Initially closure was sought under the CROW Act (Countryside & Rights of Way). This proved difficult to secure and therefore the alternative option of gating the footpath and providing keys to residents was put forward as a viable solution.
- 3.5.3 The gates were erected and access restricted to residents backing on to Grafton Villas in May 2012.

3.6 White Laithe Shops (Whinmoor)

- 3.6.1 Security at the White Laithe shops has been a problem for several years. Safer Leeds have recently carried out consultation in the area which agreed problems would be lessened through installation of security gates to the alley way beside the NISA store.
- 3.6.2 The gate was funded by Area Committee on condition it is locked and unlocked daily and the store owner is responsible for its maintenance.
- 3.6.3 The gate was erected in May 2012.

3.7 Mary Portas Funding - Shop Posters

- 3.7.1 Central Government has provided £100,000 to Leeds to improve regeneration of high streets. Outer East has been granted £10,000 to get transfers for windows designed and produced which, with permission from the owner, can be placed in empty shop windows around the district. These transfers can be moved to new locations once existing shops have been let or the transfer is needed elsewhere. The transfers will have corner branding noting Outer East Area Committee ownership.
- 3.7.2 Discussions are now underway to determine how this project will be delivered.

3.8 Strategy for funding Christmas Lights in Town & District Centres

- 3.8.1 In 2011 City Council funding for Christmas Lights was reduced to the city centre. All 4 of the village / town switch ons in Outer East went ahead in 2011 but Well Being support and a one-off grant supplemented the subsidy formerly provided from LCC's Events budget for Garforth, Kippax and Methley.
- 3.8.2 This year's event will potentially provide an even greater drain on OE Well Being as the one-off grant (provided by an outside body) will not be available and current estimates suggest approximately £15,000 could be needed to cover

Garforth, Kippax and Methley. This assumes the Parish Council will again be willing to largely fund the event in Kippax.

3.8.3 OE Area Support is looking at mechanisms used elsewhere to identify how funding support could be encouraged from the private sector.

3.8.4 The study does not include Cross Gates which has its own mechanism for raising funds.

3.9 Community Forums

3.9.1 The following community forums have met since the last AC:

- **Whinmoor Forum, 27th March** - The minutes attached as **Appendix 1**
- **Halton Moor Forum, 3rd April** - The minutes attached as **Appendix 2**
- **Cross Gates Forum, 4th April** - The minutes attached as **Appendix 3**
- **Halton Forum, 12th April** - The minutes attached as **Appendix 4**
- **Garforth & Swillington Forum 23rd April** – The minutes attached as **Appendix 5**

3.9.2 Community Forum dates 2012/13

Forum	1 st Meeting	2 nd Meeting	3 rd Meeting	4 th Meeting
Cross Gates	18 July 2012	10 Oct 2012	09 Jan 2013	03 April 2013
Garforth & Swillington	23 July 2012	15 Oct 2012	21 Jan 2013	15 April 2013
Halton	12 July 2012	11 Oct 2012	17 Jan 2013	4 April 2013
Halton Moor	10 July 2012	09 Oct 2012	15 Jan 2013	09 April 2013
Kippax & Methley	-	17 Oct 2012	-	17 April 2013
North Whinmoor	24 July 2012	16 Oct 2012	22 Jan 2013	16 April 2013
Swarcliffe	27 June 2012	03 Oct 2012	30 Jan 2013	10 April 2013

3.9.3 Community Forum Chairs 2012/13

3.9.4 The forum Chairs for 2012/13 will be:

- Whinmoor – Cllr Peter Gruen
- Cross Gates – Cllr Pauleen Grahame
- Swarcliffe – Cllr Suzi Armitage
- Halton – Cllr Mick Lyons
- Halton Moor/Osmondthorpe – Cllr Kathryn Mitchell
- Garforth & Swillington – Cllr Andrea McKenna
- Kippax & Methley – to be confirmed at the meeting

3.10 Civic Conversation

3.10.1 Open Spaces - The Red Ladder Company is working with Garforth Academy to deliver an 'Open Space Conversation' for young people who attend the Academy, elderly people from the villages, business leaders, community leaders, elected representatives and anyone who wants to share their views. The project is about

having an open conversation and instilling civic pride through an inter-generational conversation that cuts across all issues and individuals.

- 3.10.2 The Open Space forum is a new concept for the area and allows 100 individuals to emphasise what is of interest to them. It may be the state of the roads, what their elected representatives say, how children react with older people etc. It is up to those present to raise the items and develop the discussions.
- 3.10.3 Ward Members for Garforth & Swillington have expressed support for this application.

3.11 Partnerships and Area Committee Sub Groups

- 3.11.1 **Environmental sub-group.** The Environmental sub-group meets one hour prior to each Area Committee meeting and has been chaired by Cllr Mitchell and Cllr Murray respectively during 2011/12. The environmental delegation service level agreement is being reported to this Area Committee meeting. The minutes of the sub group held on the 20th March 2012 are attached as **Appendix 6**.
- 3.11.2 **Divisional Community Safety Partnership (DCSP).** The most recent meetings of of the DCSP was held on the 23rd of February and the 24th May 2012.. The Minutes for the meeting held on 23rd February are attached as **Appendix 7**. Minutes of the May meeting are not yet available for distribution.
- 3.11.3 **Health & Well Being Partnership.** The South East Health and Well Being Partnership meeting was held on the 6th of June 2012. The minutes of that meeting are attached as **Appendix 8**.

3.12 Swarcliffe Good Neighbours Gardening Project.

- 3.12.1 Following a request made at the last OE Area Committee Ken Hill from SGNGP is attending today's meeting to give a presentation.
- 3.12.2 In the last month 22 gardens were completed for first time users of the service.
- 3.12.3 All first time users completed response forms which show 100% satisfaction with the scheme.

3.13 Swarcliffe PFI Credits

- 3.13.1 Swarcliffe PFI credits has been used to provide a number of improvements and additional services in Swarcliffe, including:
- Improved parking to Stanks Drive, Swardale Green, Swardale Road and Langbar Close
 - Renewal of the kitchen at St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre
 - Provision of new benches and information boards
 - Providing a Community Environment Support Officer (CESO).

3.13.2 The funding for the post of the CESO was for 3 years and this ends in April 2014. The request to Area Committee is that PFI credits are used to ensure a CESO position remains in Swarcliffe until at least April 2017.

3.13.3 The cost is broken down as follows:

- 2014/15 - £25,036
- 2015/16 - £25,662
- 2016/17 - £26,304

3.13.4 If approved this will leave a remaining balance of £12,671.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 The community forums outlined in section 3.8 and the public meeting in 3.5 form the main part of the Area Committee's face-to-face community engagement strategy that is incorporated into its Business Plan.

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 main section of this report provides details of activities around community engagement and the delegation of environmental services to Area Committees that support this legal duty.

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:

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

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 The only resource implications relates to PFI credits, other than funding that has previously been agreed by Area Committee from its revenue budget.

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 no longer 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 or undertaken by the Area Support Team are risk assessed.

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.

5.2 The report also requests funding from Swarcliffe PFI credits for continuation funding of the CESO post.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Area Committee is requested to:
note the report and raise any queries.
agree forum dates and chairs
Approve £77,002 of Swarcliffe PFI credits for funding of the CESO post.

7 Background documents

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

7.2 Outer East Area Committee Business Plan report July 2011.

7.3 Well Being report February 2012.