



Report of the South East Area Leader

Report to Outer East Area Committee

Date: 11th of September 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.

Recommendations

3. Area Committee will be requested to:
 - note the report and raise any queries.

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.

2 Background information

- 2.1 The Area Committee Business Plan focuses 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 Civic Conversation in Garforth

- 3.1.1 Open Spaces was presented as an 'experiment in civic conversation.' Held as part of Garforth Arts Festival, the event was encouraged by Leeds City Council's Chief Executive and SE Area Leader and funded by Outer East Area Committee.
- 3.1.2 Held in a school hall, 50 individuals attended including councillors, retired people and representatives from the public and private sector. Children comprised almost three quarters of participants.
- 3.1.3 Anyone wishing to start a conversation posted it on an "agenda wall". Throughout the day 53 conversations were held ranging from "What is money for? How do I deal with the anxiety of 21st century life? Is racism a problem in local schools? Do town centres need shops? Can teenagers say what they want? Is pop music the voice of youth? Is self confidence important? Is feeling safe over-rated? Is enough being done to hit clean air targets?"
- 3.1.4 To ensure people spoke their mind, no records were kept but at the end of the day all participants were invited to make a summary. Everyone was highly complimentary and said it was a great way to share ideas on an equal basis. One sixth form student was heard to say to his friend "I think that was the best event I've ever been to."
- 3.1.5 Organisers agreed that if the process is to develop, it should include a broader range of children than "Gifted and Talented" and holding it in a community space such as a village hall or old peoples' home would attract a broader range of adults.

3.2 Whitkirk Primary School Traffic

- 3.2.1 To meet increased demand for school places in 2010 Education Leeds raised intake at Whitkirk Primary (Temple Newsam) from 332 children to 420 by 2015. As this increase required no new build, planning permission was not required and Highways were not consulted.
- 3.2.2 However the rise in numbers, national increase in car usage, lack of alternative parking and the Primary School's boosted nursery and evening provision has created a "perfect storm" meaning residents in all adjoining roads are increasingly inconvenienced and angry at the situation.
- 3.2.3 Local Ward Councillors and Area Support have led on trying to find a solution to this ever worsening problem. The school, Highways, Children's Services, Planning and Police have all attended meetings with Area Support Team (AST) who, with the Police, regularly meet with the angry residents.
- 3.2.4 Ward Councillors and AST have encouraged support for a turning circle to be created within the school gates. Following site visits, Highways, Children's Services, Planning and the school head agreed the turning circle idea should be recommended however school governors said they could not see how it could operate safely and so refused to progress it. They suggested parking restrictions on roads could resolve the problem.
- 3.2.5 In July the Deputy of Head of Highways Services undertook a site visit with Ward Members and AST and agreed the preferred way forward remains a turning circle within the school. Ward members and residents also support this option.
- 3.2.6 Consequently AST have asked Highways to provide drawings for a safe turning circle within the school grounds. Once received, discussions will commence with Ward Members as to how they would like the project implemented.

3.3 Neighbourhood Planning Pilot in Kippax

- 3.3.1 Kippax Neighbourhood Planning Team (KNPT) has been established and held two meetings. At its most recent there were 30 attendees including the three Ward Members.
- 3.3.2 A committee of 8 has been appointed, and will form 4 main groups covering the geographic areas of Kippax North, Kippax East, Kippax Central and the High Street. Over the coming month they have been asked to familiarize themselves with the area and current and future needs and opportunities.
- 3.3.3 The Chair of KNPT has met with AST and Planning's appointed officers accompanied by Chief Planning Officer Phil Crabtree.
- 3.3.4 A process has been agreed with AST to support KNPT as needed while giving it freedom to produce an independent community plan.
- 3.3.5 KNPT holds its next full meeting on 25th September 2012.

3.4 Older Person's event week 2012

3.4.1 This year's 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. These included:

- A wider variety of raffle prizes
- Water on tables to help with tablets etc

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

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

3.5 Community Payback

3.5.1 Area Committee has agreed funding support for Community Payback projects in the Outer East area for 2012/13.

3.5.2 In the last quarter there have been 45 days worked on OE Area Committee projects equalling approximately 2050 hours labour plus the supervisor's time.

3.5.3 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.

3.5.4 Particularly throughout the summer months, a large proportion of Community Payback's work involves return visits to maintain graveyards. In bloom sites etc. With increased take-up for the service this is putting pressure on available resources.

3.5.5 As a result, all repeat users have been told they must send in requests for all bookings. This will ensure the service is open to and benefits as many groups as possible.

3.5.6 In addition Community Payback have confirmed they will send AST monthly details of all projects undertaken on behalf of Outer East Area Committee.

3.6 Community Forums

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

- Swarcliffe Forum, 27th June – The minutes attached as **Appendix 1**
 - Halton Moor Forum, 10th July – The minutes attached as **Appendix 2**
 - Halton Forum, 12th July – The minutes attached as **Appendix 3**
 - Cross Gates Forum, 18th July – The minutes attached as **Appendix 4**
 - Whinmoor Forum, 24th July – The minutes attached as **Appendix 5**
- 3.6.2 At the last OE AC members approved AST discussing with individual forum chairs options for new ways of working with the intention of bringing new impetus to the group and a greater number of participants.
- 3.6.3 Each Forum Chair is being asked if there are any changes they would like to see in the running and promotion of the Forum.
- 3.6.4 Kippax and Methley: Meet at venues around the area, encourage teenagers to attend to say what they want, invite guest speakers of interest to all areas, have localism updates, encourage media, Facebook and poster publicity of meetings. The 17th October meeting is being held at Allerton Bywater and Continental are asked to attend.
- 3.6.5 Halton Moor: Get Facebook and poster coverage and include in ENE homes, school newsletters and Leeds Weekly News. Ensure forum is seen as an implementation mechanism, invite guest speakers, work actively with partners to improve the area for all age groups and in particular youth, have a special consultation process with youth, discuss the “Bedroom Tax” at the next meeting.
- 3.6.6 **Halton: Increase publicity and ensure relevant officers attend to discuss proposals and update on decisions taken by their team. Of key importance is to draw in and connect with more members of the local community and increased publicity is vital for this.**

3.7 Cricket Coaching

- 3.7.1 Kippax – between 50 and 80 children attended during the week of coaching in Kippax.
- 3.7.2 Whitkirk – between 120 and 148 children attended during this week of coaching. There was such a large number of girls attending that the club will now be establishing a junior girls team for the first time in the clubs existence.

3.8 Partnerships and Area Committee Sub Groups

- 3.8.1 Area Chairs meeting. The meeting of Area Chairs was held on 12th March which were approved on 13th July. The minutes are attached as **Appendix 6**.
- 3.8.2 Environmental sub-group. The Environmental sub-group meets one hour prior to each Area Committee meeting and is chaired by Cllr Mitchell. Today’s meeting includes Locality Working updates and appraisal of how agencies feed into this meeting. The minutes of the sub group held on the 3rd July 2012 are attached as **Appendix 7** .

- 3.8.3 Divisional Community Safety Partnership (DCSP). The most recent meetings of the DCSP was held on the 6th of September 2012. The minutes are not available for this meeting.
- 3.8.4 Health & Well Being Partnership. The South East Health and Well Being Partnership meeting was held on the 6th of June 2012. The minutes are attached as **Appendix 8**.
- 3.8.5 Kippax Traders Group: To help rejuvenation of the High Street a Kippax Traders Group was set up with help from AST. Along the High Street in the past year, 2 premises have been rebuilt, 8 new shops received planning permission, 5 additional businesses opened with plans for 3 more and projects are being discussed for a new layout for the High Street. The traders group has helped with much of this and is increasingly carrying out their own projects including tidying up dishevelled shops, flag flying for the Olympics and proposing reintroduction of a village festival. Recent minutes are attached as **Appendix 9 and Appendix 9a**.
- 3.8.5 Swarcliffe Good Neighbours Gardening Project. In the last quarter the Project worked on 190 gardens comprising 133 with free maintenance work and 57 with follow up visits. In terms of wards there were 55 in Temple Newsam, 32 in Kippax & Methley, 86 in Crossgates & Whinmoor and 17 in Garforth & Swillington.

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. Other community engagement examples within this report are Civic Consultation (3.1) and Neighbourhood Plan (3.3)

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 There are no new resource implications contained in this report 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.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 Area Committee is requested to:
note the report and raise any queries.

7 Background documents 1

- 7.1 Outer East Area Committee report – Local Authority appointments to outside bodies July 2012
- 7.2 Well Being report July 2012.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.