

**Report of East North East Area Leader**

**Report to Inner East Area Committee**

**Date: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

**Subject: Inner East Priority Neighbourhood Update**

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Burmantofts & Richmond Hill Gipton & Harehills Killingbeck & Seacroft		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input 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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:		

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report provides an overview of the progress being made against the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan priorities in Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton, Harehills and Seacroft priority neighbourhoods.
2. There are a number of key actions highlighted which have been undertaken in each of the priority neighbourhoods to give Members a flavour of the wide range of work which is underway.

**Recommendations**

3. For the Inner East Area Committee to note the achievements highlighted in this report and comment as appropriate.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Inner East Area Committee with an update on the work which has been undertaken across the priority neighbourhoods between April and September 2012.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 In March 2010, five areas were identified as priority neighbourhoods by the Inner East Area Committee. The areas given priority neighbourhood status were:
- Burmantofts
  - Gipton
  - Harehills
  - Richmond Hill
  - Seacroft
- 2.2 To enable the delivery of neighbourhood management across these areas, neighbourhood manager posts are funded by the Inner East Area Committee for Burmantofts & Richmond Hill and Gipton & Seacroft. Work in Harehills priority neighbourhood is covered by Area Support Team staff, as there isn't a neighbourhood manager funded for this locality.
- 2.3 The principles of the Area Committees neighbourhood management approach are to:
- Strengthen the role of the Area Committee in overseeing progress made in each priority neighbourhood against the agreed, key deprivation indicators and the link with the Community Charter.
  - Establish a setting for managers of local service providers to meet, take responsibility developing partnership working and activities that tackle the agreed key NIP priorities
  - Establish a clear role for representatives of the community in overseeing the development of the NIP action plan and assessing the effectiveness of actions in delivering improvements to the key priority indicators approved by Area Committee; including effective community engagement.
  - Support the role of Elected Members in leading neighbourhood improvement and community engagement.
  - Support the civic role of residents and the development of their capacity to inform decisions relating to the most effective use of local resources
  - Improve the accountability of local partnership working

## **3 Priority Neighbourhood Updates between April and September 2012**

- 3.1 The section below highlights key activities undertaken across each of the priority neighbourhoods over the last six months. Achievements are shown under each of the NIP priority themes which were endorsed by Inner East Area Committee in March 2012.

### 3.2 **Burmantofts & Richmond Hill (BRH)**

#### ***Improve the local environment***

- A project to address ongoing issues with refuse collection and fly tipping has been implemented in the Kitsons, Dents, Oxleys and Clarks area of Richmond Hill. All households received a wheeled bin, with an identifying bin sticker on, so enforcement staff knew which property the bin belongs to. The bin stickers were designed by pupils of Richmond Hill Primary School, who were presented with a certificate of achievement and a prize at an environmental awareness event held at the school in May.
- Environmental Improvement Zone (EIZ) work has commenced in the Nowells and Bellbrookes areas of Burmantofts. Officers of the Locality Team have undertaken perception surveys with local residents in the neighborhoods and a number of warning letters have been issued. The areas are now being revisited to ensure that any environmental issues highlighted have been addressed.
- The first phase of the flower bed work on Beckett Street is now complete. Flower beds are to be dug in at a number of other locations around the Lincoln Green area, ready to be planted in Spring 2013.
- Concrete barriers have been installed on Lincoln Road to prevent issues of fly tipping. Since the barriers have been put in place, there have been no issues, whereas previously, Environmental Services crews had to remove rubbish from the area at least twice a week.
- New bins have been installed in Lincoln Green Shopping Square and a package of environmental improvement are being put together to improve the appearance of the area.

#### ***Reduce levels of crime and anti social behaviour***

- Fortnightly burglary reduction activity continues to take place across the BRH ward, target hardening burglary hotspots. Since April, over 700 properties have been visited and provided with burglary reduction advice.
- Attack alarms and purse bells purchased for older people living at St Cyprian's Sheltered Housing complex to reduce the fear of crime
- A multi agency steering group has been established to plan and deliver future Operation Champion activities.
- BRH Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspector was involved in the summer holiday activity commissioning decision panel, along with Ward Councillors and the neighbourhood manager to ensure that holiday activities were situated in appropriate locations, in line with anti social behaviour data

#### ***Tackle worklessness including NEET***

- A Steps to Work course was operated from IT Suite Richmond Hill Community Centre.
- All funding for the IT Suite at Lincoln Green Community Centre has been secured. However, work has been delayed due to Commercial Asset Management providing permission to install an aerial on the roof of the unit where the centre is located.

#### ***Improve physical health & emotional wellbeing***

- Work is underway to support Ebor Gardens Advice Centre to establish a debt forum. One of the priorities over the coming months will be to run a 'Stop Loan

Sharks' campaign led by Area Support Team in partnership with the Government funded team for Yorkshire & The Humber who focus on this particular issue.

- Designs have been finalised for the Rookwoods Recreation area, which will be located just off Rookwood Road. The designs incorporate play equipment as well as a trim trail, so children and young people will be able to have fun as well as getting active.

#### ***Increase levels of community confidence***

- A Neighbourhood Improvement Board has been established for the Burmantofts MSOA ranked one in the city. The board, chaired by Councillor Peter Gruen, brings together a wide range of agencies along with residents living in the particular neighbourhood to tackle key issues intensively over the next six to nine months.
- Support has been given through funding and assistance in organising Live on the Drive, Lark in the Park and Torch in the Park events in the East End Park area.
- An organising committee is in the process of being established to run a Burmantofts Community Gala in 2013. A number of local residents have already expressed an interest in becoming involved and Arcadia, located on Torre Road, have agreed to host the event on their playing fields.
- BRH Community First programme continues to be supported by the Neighbourhood Manager. At the time of writing this report, nearly 50 project applications have been considered, with just over £40,000 for funding allocated to variety of schemes taking place across the ward.
- Community forums for Burmantofts and Richmond Hill took place. The Burmantofts meeting focussed on issues of Welfare Reform and Richmond Hill had a presentation from Friends of the Earth, Veolia and LCC in relation to the Waste Treatment Facility.
- The first meeting of the BRH Community Leadership Team took place on 11<sup>th</sup> September. This was an introductory meeting for residents with a civic role in their community. The meeting discussed local priorities and this information will be fed into the development of the 2013/14 Neighbourhood Improvement Plan for the area.

### **3.3 Gipton**

#### ***Reduce crime and anti Social Behaviour***

- 25% less victims of crime compared to the same period last year
- Resident led Operation champion carried out in the St Wilfrid's area to investigate potential Hate crime offences. :
  - Victim/reassurance visits to all victims of crime and ASB.
  - Residents were provided with crime prevention advice, trembler alarms
  - Visit we carried out to known problem addresses - Led by housing and ASB team with the support of police,
  - Youth services promoting activities within the area
  - WYP carried out visits to all new residents within the last six months
  - Support agencies, including GIPSIL gave advice on how services can be accessed.
  - probation and ENEHL caretakers cutting back high hedges , litter pickers in operation

- Area Support Team and Cluster partners funded a range of diversionary activities throughout the summer holidays and successfully engaged young people in activities such as football, dance, film and media. The activities saw young people brought together from different parts of the wards to participate in activities. We have also seen a positive affect on crime and Anti social behaviour in the area resulting in 170 less victims of crime compared to the previous year
- A burglary reduction open day was held at Henry Barran Centre in September. Customers were given advice on home and personal safety, trembler alarms and other safety equipments such as light timers were distributed to residents.
- Local police community safety officers have worked with the children at St Nicholas's school to raise awareness of road safety. The children have created some posters, three of which will be made into road signs and placed along the school railings.
- To enable a speedier response to the community two mountain bikes have been purchased for the PCSO's in the ward.

### ***Improve the local environment***

- Wykebeck way initiatives have included nature walks, tree planting, wildlife awareness sessions, and installation of new benches. Autumn adventures! Are planned for the coming months.
- To reduce/ prevent fly tipping, Ally gating has been installed at Amberton Approach to the side of the shops.
- A project to install alley gates to an open area of land on Lawrence Road that attracts youths is ongoing
- Coldcotes Circus shops are included in the new EIZ's, which are continually monitored for compliance by the shop owners

### ***Reduce levels of worklessness and NEETs inc. persistent absenteeism***

- The Compton Centre and the Henry Barran Centre is used as a drop in facility for young people who are NEET.
- Over 60 applicants attended an Apprenticeship open day for ENEHL in July.
- A 'NEET sweep', targeting all known NEETs and visiting their home addresses to offer advice and support has been carried out in the area .
- Guidance & Support Group has been established to address persistent absenteeism and young people who are NEET .This also incorporates agencies and services that are able to offer help and support to families and young people with complex needs.
- Henry Barran Centre and Compton Centre drop in sessions for Jobs and Skills. Two mobile Jobs and Skills advise and support staff also work in the area.
- East North East Homes Leeds ran a skills week for tenants and families to help them with practical skills around the home
- The off site provision at Henry Barran centre in partnership with Co-Op Academy is now well established in the second year of running

- Pinnacle People are actively visiting people claiming DWP benefits that require either training or support to get back into work

### ***Increase levels of community confidence***

- Harehills and Gipton Community first panel have recommended £13,369.00 to be awarded to local groups that will deliver projects within the ward, including: Gipton Together, Hamara, Getaway Girls, Archway, Leeds Ahead, Kidz Klub and CATCH
- Successful events include have included Gipton Gala and Family day at the Children's centre.
- The new Dame Fanny Waterman Community Centre comprises of two meeting rooms, hall and a multi use games area. An open day was held 22<sup>nd</sup> September was well attended by the community.

### ***Promote physical health and emotional wellbeing***

- To help victims of domestic violence, A Daisy mentoring Women's group is in place by Women's Health matters
- Area Support Team and Cluster partners funded a range of diversionary activities throughout the summer holidays and successfully engaged young people in activities such as football, dance, film and media. The activities saw young people brought together from different parts of the wards to participate in activities
- A New hall and MUGA have been installed at Dame Fanny Waterman Centre to encourage physical activities

## **3.4 Harehills**

### ***Reducing crime and anti social behaviour***

- An Olympic Community Festival was held at Banstead Park to coincide with the torch passing through Harehills. The event was attended by over 2000 people coming together to take part in sporting competitions and family activities. There was positive feedback from a number of residents, with one quoted in the Yorkshire Evening Post "Our community really pulled together today and it was great to see".
- 25% less victims of crime than this time last year.
- A Designated Public Places Order has been established to cover the whole of Harehills. This gives police the power to remove alcohol from anyone holding an open drink in a public place, such as those street drinking or drinking in parks. This will reduce the level of drink related crime and anti social behaviour.
- A programme of diversionary holiday activities was created for the 6 weeks of summer. The activities were as visible as possible, including being held in locations such as Banstead and Ashton Park and large banners were placed around Harehills advertising them. ASB statistics will be used at the end of summer to compare to last year to assess the success.
- To compliment increased nightly police patrols during Ramadan, the porta-cabin at Hovingham School was opened as a 'drop in' for young people between 10pm and 2am. Refreshments and recreational equipment were provided and 15-20 different young people attended each night instead of roaming the streets. It is intended to continue a drop in youth club at this location from 7-10pm over the winter months to reduce ASB.

- A Responsible Dog Owners day was held at Harehills Park involving the Dogs Trust, ENEHL, WYP and LCC Dog Wardens. A large number of dogs were chipped and joint patrols carried out between the Dog wardens and PCSO's to remind owners of their responsibilities. As the day was very popular it is intended to repeat the operation at Banstead Park in October.

### ***Improving the Environment***

- Plans have been drawn up to resurface Ashton Park MUGA, refurbish the play equipment and install 'Ashton Park' signage and community noticeboards. S106 money has been approved by ward Members and the project will commence in Q4.
- Work is ongoing to transform land behind Hovingham School into a recreation area. Whilst un-developed the land is still being used for drug taking so a needle pick has recently been carried out and temporary fencing installed.
- A project is underway for school children to design 'don't tip in my bin-yard' signs which will be produced as portable signs and moved between problem bin yards, being put up for short periods of time to retain impact
- Work is being carried out to identify a pilot binyard, on a street where the yards are no longer needed for bin storage, to look at transferring sole ownership to one resident who can then maintain it as private land.
- A group of interested residents is being established to look at a 'Keep Harehills Tidy' campaign, this will include residents and Landlords and the group will act as an 'Environment Watch', taking responsibility for their local area along the lines of a Neighbourhood Watch.

### ***Improving Health & Wellbeing***

- A series of drop in football tournaments were held at Ashton Park in the week leading up to the Olympic Torch, these were really popular so multi sport activity has been provided at Ashton & Banstead Parks three times a week over the summer.
- Funding has been secured to provide a 12 week Leeds United football course at Ashton Park from September and the Youth Strategy partnership are looking at recruiting local volunteers to train to run Rounders games on a regular basis, to encourage wider age ranges and women to take part in sporting activity.
- To coincide with the implementation of the DPPO the Youth Services Health Bus is being deployed on a regular basis with advice on alcohol abuse and sexual health.
- A project is currently being developed to deploy the Health Bus to areas frequented by young people and using a free healthy food café and sport activities, encourage young people to engage and be signposted to projects on issues such as sexual exploitation or alcohol use.
- Funding has been identified to do some work to tackle 'niche tobacco' use, i.e. Shisha pipes and chewing tobacco which are particularly prevalent in Asian communities. A working group is being established to take this forward.
- A celebratory event for older people is planed for the 25<sup>th</sup> October to take place at the Echo Centre. This will provide an opportunity for older people to try out a variety of new activities and provide them with information on services such as Health thru warmth events and financial capability services.

### ***Improving life chances for young people***

- A truancy sweep of Harehills Lane was carried out to sign post truants to support services such as the Czech drop in at Hovingham as it was identified that there are a number of parentally approved absences in the area and that this could be a cultural barrier to accessing education.
- A number of young people were used as volunteer stewards at the Olympic Community Festival which helped them to gain valuable work experience.
- The Harehills cricket team, established through a summer drop in programme to combat ASB last year, continues to go from strength to strength with one of the young people being chosen to play for Yorkshire.
- A porta cabin has been acquired from Hovingham School to run as a Youth 'hub'. A project is being worked up for this to become a stable centre for young people to attend. There will be a range of activities from martial arts, to youth club sessions running weekly, building up trust with the young people so that sessions such as gun and knife crime education can take place to a receptive audience.
- Weekly Saturday morning football sessions at Ashton Park are being established. These will be coached in partnership with a coach from a local amateur side so that there is a progression route for the hard to reach young people who congregate here, into positive structured activity.

### **3.5 Seacroft**

#### ***Reduce the levels of crime and anti social behaviour***

- 504 fewer victims of crime compared to the same period last year.
- Burglary has seen a 59% reduction, equating to 109 fewer victims , this can largely be attributed to three following initiatives:-
  - A burglary reduction initiative is underway on the top ten streets in the ward. The initiative includes an environmental audit to identify vulnerable properties, target hardening of the properties including installing toughened glass to rear windows, victim reassurance visits, perpetrator enforcement by WYP and tenancy enforcement by ENEHL.
  - Nine CCTV cameras have been installed in strategic locations within the parklands area of the ward. The locations were selected where crime analysis identified persistent issues around burglary, crime and anti-social behaviour.
  - A bespoke twelve month project to address Anti Social behaviour by youths is in operation which is funded by WYP, Safer Leeds, Area Support Team and Cluster Manager. The project comprises of two detached youth workers being deployed five nights a week in term time to interact and engage with local youths. The location of the detached work is determined by partner local knowledge, ASB complaints and WYP ASB identified spots.
- Area Support Team and Cluster partners funded a range of diversionary activities throughout the summer holidays and successfully engaged young people in activities such as football, dance, film and media. The activities saw young people brought together from different parts of the wards to participate in activities. We have seen a positive affect on crime and Anti social behaviour in the area

#### ***Improve the local environment***

- A pilot scheme has been introduced in the parklands area of Seacroft to address untidy gardens and waste in gardens. The pilot will bring together the enforcement



powers of both East North East Homes and Environmental Enforcement Team who will issue fines where warning to clear the gardens are not adhered to

- An A frame has been installed on Fairfax Close to prevent motorbikes accessing the parklands fields.
- A project has been agreed to change the traffic flow outside Our lady's School on Pigeon Cote Road. Double yellow and single yellow lines will be in force on the road, preventing double parking; the school will adopt the verge outside the school to create a school garden.
- Environmental Improvement Zones are in force on Black Shops, Boggart Hill shops, Monkswood Hill shops and Dib lane.

### ***Reduce levels of worklessness and NEETs inc. persistent absenteeism***

- Guidance & Support Group has been established to address persistent absenteeism and young people who are NEET. This also incorporates agencies and services that are able to offer help and support to families and young people with complex needs.
- Partners in the ward have been awarded £75,000 to deliver a new innovative project called Opportunities in Inspirational Learning young people aged 14-25+ in an area of the City which is recognised as having high NEET, worklessness and benefit claimants. Leeds 14 is also recognised as having above average young people living within the area. £50,000 was granted from JIMBO's Fund and £25,000 from ENEHL . The O.I.L project will deliver motor vehicle maintenance courses which will be accredited and provide an opportunity for progression onto further training, education, volunteering opportunities and or employment.
- A sweep of all not known young people who are NEET was carried out in June to determine a more accurate position on the level of NEETS .
- Pinnacle People are actively visiting people claiming DWP benefits that require either training or support to get back into work
- To increase attendance, reduce teenage conception and reduce ASB a project called "On Street " is in operation. The project has elements :
  1. Attendance Support and Challenge - Daily referrals of absenteeism are made to a mobile who visit the home
  2. Bus Stop - A mobile 3in1 bus is deployed three nights a week to support the reduction of teenage contraception and SDI's,
  3. Hotspot Detached– A mobile detached youth work team work in identified hot spots five nights per week .

### ***Increase levels of community confidence***

- An open day was very well attended at Alston Lane community centre. "Tell us what you want" Questionnaires were completed with the community
- Successful events included the over 60's fund raising day at Alston Lane, Denise Healy family day and church fun days .
- A range of activities have been supported in the community , incl; Kick boxing, breath easy classes, mums group , prize bingo Sundays.
- Well attended Community Leadership Team, with guest speakers relevant to the NIP priorities .
- Killingbeck and Seacroft Community First Panel have recommended £17,486 of funding to be awarded to local groups to deliver projects within the ward , including : South Seacroft Friends and Neighbours, North Seacroft Good Neighbours, Seacroft

Village Hall management Committee, Leeds Tigers, Seacroft Parish children and young people programme, Seacroft Green Resident Association, Seacroft Gala committee, East Leeds Youth Theatre, LS14 Trust .

### ***Promote physical health and emotional wellbeing***

- A Breath Easy Group to support people with COPD
- Area Support Team and Cluster partners funded a range of diversionary activities throughout the summer holidays and successfully engaged young people in activities such as football, dance ,film and media . The activities saw young people brought together from different parts of the wards to participate in activities
- A Body and Soul project that aims to reduce the sexual violence, intimidation, coercion and abuse experienced by girls and young women in East Leeds. The project will start by delivering a 12 week rolling programme of sessions in Alston Lane and / or Dennis Healey Community Centre in Seacroft
- To reduce the risk of known young children who are at risk rising over the summer holidays , a summer school club was funded for children between the ages of five and eight.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.6 Consultation and Engagement**

4.6.1 In each other the priority neighbourhoods, there are a range of different community engagement and consultation methods being employed. In Gipton and Seacroft area, a Community Leadership Team is the main community involvement mechanism in place. Harehills priority neighbourhood links with the community via the Chapeltown & Harehills Forum. In terms of Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, two community forums have been operational, a Community Leadership Team is forming and residents are involved in the Burmantofts Neighbourhood Improvement Board. These collectives have been directly involved in the priority setting for the current priorities we are working towards as part of the NIPs.

4.6.2 To compliment this, other community consultation has been undertaken at community galas and festivals, to link with local people who may not be involved with or aware of the other community engagement mechanisms in place across the wedge.

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

4.7.1 An equality screening document has been completed as part of the development of the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans. If any major projects are set to be delivered as part of the NIP priorities, an equality screening exercise will be completed prior to implementation.

### **4.8 Council policies and City Priorities**

4.8.1 The content of the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans link directly into the City Priority Plans, Vision for Leeds and Council Business Plan.

### **4.9 Resources and value for money**

4.9.1 The Team Neighbourhood approach brings a range of services together to utilise officer resources more effectively on tackling key neighbourhood issues.

4.4.2 As part of the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan, funding sources will be joined up together as far as possible to maximise the way in which funding is invested on local priorities.

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

4.5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

4.5.2 There is no exempt or confidential information contained in this report.

4.5.3 There are no key decisions associated with this report, so it is not subject to call in.

#### **4.11 Risk Management**

4.11.1 There are no major risks associated with the content of this report.

### **5 Conclusions**

5.1 As highlighted above, there are a number of actions being delivered across all of the Inner East priority neighbourhoods. Real progress is being made to deliver sustainable improvements against all of the local priorities. Despite current successes, it is acknowledged that this hard work must continue to build upon the activities already underway.

### **6 Recommendations**

6.1 Inner East Area Committee are asked to note the content of this report and comment as appropriate

### **7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

7.1 None

<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.