

**Report of Assistant Chief Executive, Customer Access and Performance**

**Report to Full Council**

**Date: 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

**Subject: State of the City Report 2012**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: N/A Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report introduces the State of the City Report 2012. The report is a factual based analysis of the city in 2012 and will be a useful document to support policy making and aid understanding of the progress being made against key issues and priorities.
2. The State of the City Report was commissioned by the Leeds initiative Board and will be used by the Board to assess progress in delivering improved outcomes for the people of Leeds.
3. The report has identified a range of cross-cutting issues that, whilst not new, if unaddressed will impact on our ability to bring about improved outcomes for the people of Leeds. Despite these challenging times the report does highlight that Leeds is a diverse and resilient city and that progress is being made across a range of areas.
4. The report will be published on the council's website and partner organisations will be able to link to the report from their own site.

**Recommendations**

5. Full Council note the contents of the State of the City Report 2012; and
6. Full Council use the issues emerging from the report to inform action and debate.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Introduce the second annual State of the City Report for Leeds; and
- Summarise the process undertaken to produce the report; and

## **2 Background information**

2.2 The State of the City report is part of a family of strategies and plans for the city: the Best City Vision 2011 to 2030; the City Priority Plan 2011 to 2015 and the Council Business Plan 2011 to 2015.

2.3 The report was developed involving colleagues across the partnership. It provides a factual overview of what's happening in the city in 2012 and is structured around the five priorities in the Best City Vision. It sets out a range of key facts about the city, the challenges it faces and the way in which all partners will work together to secure the best possible outcomes for the people of Leeds.

2.4 The report describes the progress made across a range of key issues since last year and draws upon a number of case studies which exemplify the positive work, effective partnership working and innovation that is taking place across the city. The report provides links to more detailed information such as analysis and research and also provides links to the Leeds Observatory which is a web based tool for disseminating a wide range of data and information about the city and its communities.  
<http://www.westyorkshireobservatory.org/Leeds>

2.5 The report will be used as a key source of information about the city and will support the Leeds Initiative Board in reviewing overall progress against the City Priority Plan as well as their role in providing constructive challenge on progress in relation to the emerging issues.

2.6 The report will be published on the Leeds Observatory. Weblinks will be provided from the council's website and also be made available to partners to publish on their own websites.

2.7 The State of the City Report 2012 and Executive Summary was endorsed by Leeds Initiative Board on 7<sup>th</sup> September subject to a number of minor amendments which have now been completed.

3 On 7<sup>th</sup> November Executive Board agreed that the State of the City Report 2012 be received by Members of Full Council on 28 November 2012.

## **4 Main issues**

4.1 The State of the City Report is very much a factual based analysis of the city in 2012 and will be a useful document to support policy making and aid understanding of the progress being made against key issues and priorities.

4.2 The report will be published on the council's website and partner organisations will be able to link to the report from their own websites. It will be accompanied by a number of case studies related to the content of the report which demonstrate examples of positive outcomes for communities, innovation or effective partnership working.

- 4.3 Feedback on the report will be gathered in order that the report can be improved and developed next year. Feedback and areas for further analysis emanating from the debate around the report will be very useful in shaping the report for next year to meet the requirements of users. Feedback can be sent by email to: [research&intelligence@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:research&intelligence@leeds.gov.uk)

## **5 Corporate Considerations**

### **5.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 5.1.1 There has been engagement with key stakeholders during the production of the report as well as with the council's Strategic Planning and Policy Board, Corporate Leadership Team and the Leeds Initiative Board.

- 5.1.2 The Full Council Meetings on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012 and 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013 will provide Members and Partners with an opportunity to come together and have a deeper understanding of issues which the city faces, understand the contribution which all partners make to tackling these issues, and an understanding of how we will work together to drive improvements.

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

- 5.2.1 The issue of deprivation features across the report and is highlighted as a key issue. There is an acknowledged link between deprivation and many of the equality groups. To support the State of the City Report an annual Equality and Diversity Position Statement is also being produced which will be available in December 2012.

### **5.3 Council policies and City Priorities**

- 5.3.1 The report is structured around the Vision for Leeds themes and provides a high level summary of the current issues and challenges in these areas.

### **5.4 Resources and value for money**

- 5.4.1 There are no resources or value for money issues.

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

- 5.5.1 There are no legal implications.

### **5.6 Risk Management**

- 5.6.1 There is a risk that failure to adequately address the issues of poverty and inequality will impact on our ability to bring about improved outcomes for communities. Following last year's State of the City Report and Member and Partner Full Council meeting each Strategic Partnership Board has identified specific areas of focus relating to poverty and inequality which has been woven into their delivery plans. A basket of indicators is currently under development to track progress against these issues.

- 5.6.2 The impact of Welfare Reform is being monitored through the joint corporate performance and risk management reporting on a quarterly basis. A Welfare Reform Board has also been established including relevant partner organisations to prepare for the changes.

## **6 Conclusions**

- 6.1 This is the second annual State of the City report for Leeds. It presents a high level overview of the issues and challenges affecting the city. The report will be used as a key source of information about the city and will be used by the Leeds Initiative Board as a check on overall progress against the City Priorities. The report identifies a number of issues that, whilst not new are cross cutting and will impact on our ability to bring about the improved outcomes for communities we are looking to deliver.
- 6.2 The State of the City Member and Partner Full Council Meetings aim to provide an opportunity for Members and Partners to come together to discuss and debate emerging issues from the State of the City Report. However, this should not be the only forum to discuss emerging issues and ongoing discussions and action is necessary to make real changes moving forward.

## **7 Recommendations**

- 7.1 Full Council note the contents of the State of the City Report 2012; and
- 7.2 Full Council use the issues emerging from the report to inform debate and action.

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

- 8.1 None

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<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.