

Report of Deputy Chief Executive

Report to West (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 20th February 2013

Subject: Area Update Report

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

Summary of main issues

The Area Update Report provides Members with information on key services and other activities delivered in the inner West area, including the transfer of Bramley Baths to the community and Healthy Living Network's new hub on Armley Town Street. The report also provides an update on the Area Committee's Business Plan and seeks Members' views on priorities and actions for the 2013/14 Business Plan refresh.

Recommendations

2. Inner West Area Committee Members are invited to:

Note the contents of the report, comment on any matters raised and suggest items for inclusion in future Area Update reports

- Note the progress made against the Area Committee's Business Plan and comment on priorities and actions for the 2013/14 refresh.

1 Purpose of this report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members on progress against the Area Support Team's work programme and local priorities.

1.2 The report also provides an update on progress against actions in the Inner West Area Committee's Business Plan.

2 Background information

2.1. An Area Committee Update report is submitted at every cycle of Area Committee meetings. Partners contribute collectively on projects and provide service updates.

3 Main issues

3.1 Inner West Area Committee Business Plan

3.2 In March 2012, the Area Committee approved its Business Plan 2011-2015. Appendix 1 shows progress against the actions in the plan and what the impact has been on local communities. Members will note that the format of the plan has changed. This was done to bring all four West North West Area Committee Business Plans onto a common template.

3.3 The Business Plan is refreshed each year, and it is proposed that the themes will change from the old Leeds Initiative headings to the Council Plan's 'Best City For..' priorities. The refresh will not substantially change the plan, but the Committee is asked to consider whether the current actions are relevant and whether any new ones should be added.

3.4 Healthy Living Network

3.5 Healthy Living Network have leased a premises on the corner of Mistress Lane and Town Street in Armley to provide a hub for the local community. Opening soon, it will provide activities, space for people to make and sell crafts and a structured volunteering programme.

3.6 The organisation also has permission to cultivate the derelict land opposite the hub, which is currently boarded up, overgrown and attracts anti-social behaviour.

3.4 The hub will also offer cooking sessions and specific work to help young people with mental health issues, however the development of further activities at the centre will be driven by consultation with local residents.

3.5 Inner West Neighbourhood Improvement Programme

3.6 The Inner West Neighbourhood Improvement Board met in December and discussed how to deliver improvements around the three priority themes of Employment & Learning, Health & Wellbeing and Improving Learning Outcomes.

3.7 The West North West Area Support Team is working with the theme leads to develop a neighbourhood improvement plan that will be presented to the Board and Area Committee for approval in March.

3.8 Bramley Baths

- 3.9 The asset transfer of Bramley Baths into community management has successfully taken place. Bramley Baths is now managed by Bramley Baths & Community Limited (an Industrial Provident Society) for the benefit of the community. Officers from the council's Asset Transfer Unit and Sports Unit provided valuable support to the enterprise - which has been led by a hard working group of volunteers - the Friends of Bramley Baths.
- 3.10 During December 2012 refurbishments and re-decoration work to improve the facility took place - including repairs and upgrades to the wet-side changing rooms and replacement of lockers on the side of the pool. The baths will continue to open for 49 hours a week enabling people to use the gym, swim, take swimming lessons, use the steam room and enjoy a fitness class programme. The longer term ambition is to increase opening hours, based on demand. The service for local schools who use the Baths to teach children to swim, has continued uninterrupted. The Recreation Room (formerly The Studio) is now available to hire for classes, meetings, parties and already local community & voluntary groups are exploring this option. Bramley Baths will continue to accept LeedsCard discounts for their services and to promote the LeedsCard to customers.
- 3.11 The baths received high profile publicity through the Guardian newspaper on 2nd January 2013 - a two-page photo-spread from the New Year's Day Big Dip event reached a nationwide audience. The Big Dip drew 100 people in for a mass-plunge into the pool to celebrate the new era, and was well received with many participants posting positive comments and photos on social media. Plans for a March open-weekend and associated special events, a February half-term programme for children, and Easter holiday family & child-friendly activities - are in development. The baths team, led by manager Danny Whiteley, are working hard to reach new groups and organisations with affordable, relevant services and would welcome any potential opportunities for bookings or new relationships that the Inner West Area Committee would like to recommend.
- 3.12 A billboard advert promoting Bramley Baths will appear on the community billboard space on Stanningley Road from mid-February and inside the baths, there is now a small exhibition of found photographs, showing the building and its patrons at swimming galas and other events from 1904 onwards. The management are hoping visitors will help to identify the people in these photographs, and a collection of albums and news clippings that relate to the life and history of this community building.
- 3.13 The Friends of Bramley Baths would like to thank the members of the Inner West Area Committee for their support to keep the baths open during the transfer period. For further information please contact danny@bramleybaths.com, 0113 214 6000.
- 3.14 Leeds City Council Youth Service
- 3.15 Bramley Update:
- The Bramley School of Rock sessions have focussed on health issues and have been making healthy snacks.

- Youth workers supporting the Ganner's mobile provision have helped three young people get job interviews.
- The Friday generic youth club has focussed on mental health issues and also hosted an awards night to celebrate the young people's achievements.
- Young people from the Participation Group have attended citywide training on consultation and have contributed to an Executive Board report on Youth Services in the city.

3.16 Lazer Centre Update:

- Seven young carers from West Leeds have joined a regular group at the centre with lots of activities planned for the coming term.
- Eight girls from the travelling community have joined a group supported by Chiva and it is hoped that more young people from this community will begin to access the centre.
- The centre has a number of activities supporting young people aged 14-19 not in education, employment or training, and workers go into local communities to find more NEET young people to work with, as well as taking referrals from the Armley cluster.
- There are currently 30-40 local young people attending Friday night sessions, and new activities planned for the centre include archery and in line skating.

3.17 Armley Update

- Young men from the Wythers have started a twelve week motorbike course.
- Young people from New Wortley helped interview Casual Activity Workers during a recent recruitment drive, and also decided how to spend £250 from the curriculum budget at the centre.
- Attendance at the Friday night session at Strawberry Lane community centre has increased, with young people from different backgrounds mixing together. The recent DJ workshop was extremely popular.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1. Community forums are held on a monthly basis in Armley and bi-monthly in Bramley within Inner West Leeds.

4.1.2. Ward Members are consulted on projects and initiatives within their ward on matters relating to the Support Team's work programme and locality priorities.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1. This section is not applicable to this report

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 rolled forward again to 2011/12 with amendments only to environmental delegations.

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

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

- Vision for Leeds
- Leeds Strategic Plan
- Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan
- Children and Young People's 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 Support Team staff and where relevant their partners which in turn provides value for money.

4.4.2. In order to meet the Area Committee's functions (see Council's Constitution Part 3, section 3C), funding is available via Well Being budgets and the Community Centres Budget.

4.4.3. In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council Departments main stream budgets, and external partner agencies for example the Police and Primary Care Trust, 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.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This report is the report of the Area Leader for West North West Leeds who has delegated responsibility to action decisions in accordance with the Area Support Team'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.

4.5.1 This report is not subject to Call-In.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no significant risks identified in this report.

5. Conclusions

5.1 The Area Update report provides Members with information on a range of services and activities in the inner West and asks the Committee to note progress against the Inner West Business Plan.

6 Recommendations

6.1 The Area Committee is asked to:

- Note the contents of the report, comment on any matters raised and suggest items for inclusion in future Area Update reports.
- Note the progress made against the Area Committee's Business Plan and comment on priorities and actions for the 2013/14 refresh.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 None

¹ 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.