

Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods & Housing Department

Inner North West Area Committee

Date: 29th March 2007

Subject: Key Messages from Area Forums and Area Committee Themed Sub Groups

Electoral Wards Affected:

Headingley
Hyde Park & Woodhouse
Kirkstall
Weetwood

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

Executive Summary

This report updates Members on key messages from ward forums and sub groups that have taken place since the last Area Committee.

1.0 Background Information

1.1 The following forums are covered by this report, if meetings have taken place since the last area committee.

- Headingley Forum
- Kirkstall Burley Forum
- Hyde Park & Woodhouse Forum
- Streetscene Sub Group
- Community Safety Sub Group
- Children and Young People's Sub Group
- Transport Sub Group
- Planning Group
- Street Drinkers Group
- Housing Strategy Group

2.0 Key Messages

2.1 Details of issues for action and for information are identified below.

2.2 Headingley Forum

7th March

- The forum called for additional policing in Headingley on St Patrick's Day.
- The forum requested that a meeting be set up with police, LCC, resident representatives and senior Co-op managers to discuss concerns about the 24 hour alcohol license at the Cardigan Road Co-op.
- The forum requested a public meeting on proposals for Headingley Cricket ground following the success of the Leeds Girls' High School meeting.
- The forum resolved that the universities in Leeds should work more closely in partnership with other agencies such as the Police and LCC to resolve local problems.
- The forum supports the Headingley Development Trusts progress with their proposals to maintain Headingley Primary School as a community asset.
- The forum supported investigations into CCTV monitoring of bus lanes.

2.3 Hyde Park & Woodhouse Forum

31st January

- The forum requested more detailed consultation on the development of the Leeds Girls' High School site, as they felt the consultation instigated by Grimleys before Christmas was unsatisfactory.
- The group were concerned about the lack of consultation regarding the proposed improvements to Woodhouse Moor and wanted the opportunity to work with Parks and Countryside to improve consultation and communication.
- The forum expressed concern about some elements of the scheme to redevelop the BBC site on Woodhouse Lane and plan to write to the Planning Department to object to these elements.
- The forum felt that applications for purpose built student accommodation should be controlled/restricted. It was felt that the Council was moving in the right direction by promoting family friendly housing, but that there are still some issues regarding access to affordable housing and balanced communities.
- Residents are asked to report all community safety and non-emergency police issues to 0845 606 606.

2.4 Kirkstall Burley Forum

5th February

- The BTCV Hollybush Centre has received planning permission for a building extension and applications are now being made to fund this. The centre is now open on the first and third Sundays of each month between 12pm and 4pm, anyone is welcome to drop in and take part in gardening tasks.

2.5 Streetscene Sub Group

Key Messages

26th February

- Request that streetscene carryout an audit of green bin stickers in the area. There have been reports that a number of bins do not have these.
- Monthly reports for the Environmental Pride Teams (CAST as was) to be re-established.
- Request that the remaining 2006/07 skips budget (approx. £800) be used to contribute towards the cost of a caged van and crew during the student change over period.

2.6 Community Safety Sub Group

Key Messages

13th March

- The sub group proposed a multi-agency approach to tackle youth nuisance and anti-social behaviour in the Ivesons. The Community Safety Co-ordinator agreed to follow this up.
- The sub group are submitting funding bids to Area Committee for Police Off Road Motorbikes (£4,770) and Anti Climb Paint (£3,000).

2.7 Children and Young People's Sub Group

Key Messages

15th March

- Members are reminded they can access information on education and children and young people's services through the Leeds Learning Network. Logins can be obtained if Members do not already have.
- Leeds Play Network have funding available for a 6 week programme of Street Play activities in the inner North West. Both councillors and community members are asked to pass intelligence to Leeds Play Network on where young people cause, or are viewed to cause, a problem so that activities can be targeted in these areas.
- Leeds City Council's Executive Board approved, on 14th March, the Leeds Play Strategy. The Children and Young People's sub group would like to show its commitment to the strategy.
- The sub group supports the Youth Service application for funding to provide 2 mobile youth buses.

2.8 Transport Sub Group

A meeting of the Transport Sub group is to be held on 20th March.

2.9 **Planning Group**

Key Messages

12th February

- The maintenance of Rosebank Millennium Green has been paid for by the interest accrued on a commuted sum, granted when the green was created. However, the interest gained is no longer sufficient to cover maintenance costs and further funds are urgently needed. Hyde Park and Woodhouse Councillors have agreed to work with the organisation to find a solution.

12th March

- The Planning Group is disappointed by the Planning Inspectorates decision to allow the appeal at 45 St Michael's Lane for the development of potential student cluster flats. Whilst the Inspector has considered the criteria set out in Policy H15 of the Unitary Development Plan Review (which refers to the Area of Housing Mix), the conclusions drawn are very site specific. As such, the group feels that any other sites where purpose built student accommodation is proposed must be determined on their merits. As such, this appeal should not prejudice future decisions on planning applications on other sites.
- The Planning Group considers that the recent public meeting to discuss the Leeds Girls' High School sites was a success. The group notes that the sites are of strategic importance in delivering quality development and wider community benefits.
- The Planning Group considers that a public meeting should be arranged to discuss the issues in relation to the potential re-development of the Kirkstall Lane end of Headingley Stadium. The stadium owners have previously given a commitment to engage fully with the local community before submitting any further significant planning applications.
- The Planning Group is pleased to hear that Avtar Properties are now no longer using 'To Let' boards in the area. It is hoped that other letting agents will follow their lead in the future.

2.10 **Street Drinkers Group**

26th January

- Following discussions regarding the DPPO at the city wide Violent Crime Group, it was felt, at Superintendent level, that there is not a need for a DPPO covering Hanover and Woodhouse Squares and Little London. It is felt that the police already have the power to deal with street drinkers without a DPPO.
- The group support an application to Area Committee for alcohol and drugs outreach work in the area.
- It was decided that an application for DPPOs covering nuisance areas should be put on hold for the time being with a view to pursue this later in the year when further discussions have been held and more evidence collated. An application for funding of DPPOs should still be submitted to Area Committee to be developed later in the year.

2.11 **Housing Strategy Group**

20th March

- The group met for the first time to discuss the possibility of developing a Housing Strategy for the Area of Housing Mix. The group agreed that the next stages would be a review of existing research and the development of a research plan. A seminar will be held in the summer to involve wider partners and identify funding. The group plan to approach the Area Committee for match funding for the development of future research when costs and other partners have been established.

3.0 **Recommendations**

- 3.1 The Area Committee is asked to:-
- a) note the contents of the report; and
 - b) consider the request from the Streetscene Sub Group (2.5) to use the remaining 2006/07 skips budget to contribute towards the cost of a caged van and crew during the student change over period.