

Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods & Housing Department

Inner North West Area Committee

Date: 29th March 2007

Subject: Neighbourhood Improvement Plan Update

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 provides an update on the neighbourhood improvement areas in Inner North West Leeds, including the development of Neighbourhood Improvement Plans (NIPs) and actions delivered. The neighbourhood improvement areas are Hawksworth Wood (Kirkstall), Silk Mills and Ivesons (Weetwood), Harolds and Thornvilles (Headingley) and Little London & Woodhouse (Hyde Park & Woodhouse).

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the neighbourhood improvement schemes that are taking place in Inner North West Leeds.
- 1.2 The report outlines the draft neighbourhood improvement plans (NIPs), actions to date and information on future developments

2.0 Background

- 2.1 At October's Area Committee Members were informed that an introductory meeting for each ward would be arranged with the Neighbourhoods Initiatives Co-ordinator. These meetings have now taken place, with ward Members confirming the locations of NIP areas as being Hawksworth Wood, Silk Mills and Ivesons and Harolds and Thornvilles.

- 2.2 Following discussions with ward Members, draft neighbourhood actions plans have now been developed for these areas.
- 2.3 In addition, the Little London & Woodhouse Neighbourhood Improvement plan has been drafted through numerous neighbourhood meetings and extensive partnership working.
- 2.4 The following sections outline the details of each of these plans, including actions to be undertaken, work to date and next steps.

3.0 Hawksworth Wood

- 3.1 The draft neighbourhood action plan can be seen at appendix 1. Key points for delivery of this plan include:-
- work to reduce the ASB caused by young people riding motorbikes;
 - road safety/speeding awareness campaigns;
 - initiatives to reduce dog fouling;
 - improved parking, reduced parking on grass verges;
 - improved community awareness of activities/events by providing community notice boards.
- 3.2 To date meetings have taken place with road safety officers to map and investigate speeding issues, with the neighbourhood warden planning on working with a group of local people to use the Speed Indication Device (SID). Publicity information and stickers for 30 mph zones have been provided to Hawksworth Wood Community Association (HWCA) to raise awareness of speeding issues on the estate.
- 3.3 The next steps for this plan are to make sure that it is fully representative of local need and present it to HWCA for comment. There are also proposals from Leeds Voice to help develop community capacity in the area and support local projects/initiatives. This work needs to link with the development and delivery of the neighbourhood action plan. Officers will work with Leeds Voice to co-ordinate these actions and develop the plan.

4.0 Silk Mills and Ivesons

- 4.1 The draft neighbourhood action plan can be seen at appendix 2. Key points for the delivery of this plan include:-
- work to improve services for young and older people;
 - environmental enhancements, specifically to grass verges;
 - improvements to the shopping areas;
 - reducing litter;
 - community safety assurance issues.
- 4.2 To date a community clean event has been organised to clear a section of woods in the Ivesons. A residents meeting has also been held in the Iveson's to discuss what residents view as the area's key issues. In addition £9,000 of Area Committee grass verge improvement funding has been allocated to Silk Mill Drive.
- 4.3 The next steps for this plan are to ensure that it is in line with local needs, and to engage with services, especially for younger and older people. Work will also be carried out to identify possible improvements to the area's shopping parades.

5.0 Harolds & Thornvilles

- 5.1 The draft neighbourhood action plan can be seen at appendix 3. Key points of this plan include:-
- road maintenance and improvement schemes;
 - innovative ways to pilot streetscene initiatives to tackle waste and fly tipping;
 - audit of HMOs;
 - enforcement of the 'To Let' boards directive;
 - audit of dormer developments.
- 5.2 Neighbourhood Wardens have been tasked with undertaking a number of audits in the area and to follow up some of the key action points with service providers. Groundwork have been asked to cost up bin yard improvement schemes by Streetscene. The area has also been included in the static Operation Apollo boundaries, meaning it will be the focus of regular additional enforcement and streetscene activity. Requests for information have been made for a number of the actions, these will be followed up and progressed over the coming weeks.
- 5.3 In addition, the Burley Network is keen to work with ward Councillors on the development and implementation of this plan. It has asked that the plan be presented at a Burley Network meeting for discussion. The network is keen to see delivery of actions in the area, and would like to work in partnership with statutory services to implement the plan.

6.0 Little London & Woodhouse

- 6.1 This neighbourhood improvement plan has been developed by partners through neighbourhood management meetings held in the area. The plan is different to what has been provided for the other 3 areas, as Little London has been identified as a city wide priority area for the implementation of Neighbourhood Management. For this reason the plan has to be very comprehensive and link to the city wide delivery of the Local Area Agreement in line with funding requirements. The Little London & Woodhouse Improvement Plan is available from Area Management upon request.
- 6.2 The draft plan has been submitted to the North West District Partnership Board for approval on 27th March.
- 6.3 Key sections for action in the plan include crime and grime, health and wellbeing, education, training and employment and facilities and community.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 Members are asked to note the contents of the report and comment on the action plans outlined in the appendices.