

Appendix 1

Priority Neighbourhood Worker (PNW)

Cottingley Neighbourhood Improvement Plan Report

This is an update report on the Priority Neighbourhood Worker project. The post is employed by Health for All on behalf of the Inner and Outer South Area Committee's but is directly line managed by South East Area Support Team and located in the South East Area Support Team Offices within the Dewsbury Road One Stop Centre in Leeds.

Subject: Cottingley Neighbourhood Improvement Plan: Progress to Date

Date: 14/05/13

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update on the progress to date of the Cottingley Neighbourhood Improvement Plan. It will outline the role of the Priority Neighbourhood Worker in the process, plans going forward, key successes and areas for continued development.

2. Background

2.1 Cottingley has been highlighted as a priority area by Inner South Area Committee and in consultation with residents and partners. It is a large social housing estate, managed by Aire Valley Homes Leeds that is effectively an island due to being surrounded by railway lines and motorways. This puts pressure on residents due to the lack of access to services and suffers from recurring environmental issues.

2.2 Cottingley Neighbourhood Improvement Plan launched in May 2012, as a multi-agency working group chaired by Councillor Adan Ogilvie. It aims to improve service delivery in the area, address gaps in provision, work with local residents to gain a better understanding of the problems faced by the estate and so become more responsive to the locality.

2.3 The design of the estate means that bin collections and recycling are difficult and this results in unofficial waste collection areas where residents dump their rubbish. These areas lead to unsightly parts of the estate and further difficulties with rubbish collection. A refuse & recycling project is being rolled out in 4 phases, providing wheeled bins where possible and communal recycling bins in frames which should alleviate some of the issues associated with black bag collections.

2.4 Inner South Area Committee has funded other initiatives on the estate such as the Make a Difference Project, managed by the Cottingley Health & Wellbeing Group, Cottingley Youth Project and the demolition of the Sphynx Pub and landscaping of the area now known as Sphynx Square.

3 General Action Plan

3.1 Children & Young People

3.1.1 The PNW has worked with all youth providers convening quarterly meetings to look at how projects could work in partnership and understand the remit and delivery of each others work in order to target different young people. These meetings have been useful and it is hoped joint funding can be sought for holiday activities going forward.

3.1.2 The PNW has worked with Cottingley Youth Project and a Curriculum Development Officer to develop a resource pack around local democracy and community action to be used with the Youth Forum. It is hoped that through joint working with the Youth Service the Youth Forum can attract older members.

3.1.3 An approach was made by the PNW and Rachel Brighton, Health Improvement Practitioner, to two agencies who deliver play work across Leeds. With their assistance a bid was submitted for a play scheme in the last two weeks of the summer holidays, the grant would be held by TRAC but pay for agencies to deliver outdoor and adventure play, whilst consulting with residents about work going forward. Following this the agencies would develop a larger funding bid to deliver long term work on the estate this would include costs for volunteer training, development and capacity building.

3.2 Older People

3.2.1 South Leeds Live at Home Scheme recruited a worker 1 day a week for Cottingley who is responsible for running the newly established brunch club, followed by exercise classes at the community centre. South Leeds Live at Home Scheme have worked with residents at Dulverton Court Sheltered Housing to constitute the group and receive funding of £2500 for doing up communal garden spaces.

3.2.2 Following a referral to Business in the Community from the PNW, a volunteer day will take place at Dulverton Court to improve communal spaces.

3.3 Community Engagement

- 3.3.1 An approach was made to the board of trustees of the community centre from PNW, Cllr Angela Gabriel and TRAC members asking for the following to be considered:
- Reduced rates for community groups
 - Flat rates for children's parties
 - Better booking process
 - Creating self contained access to the community hall.
- 3.3.1 The Trustees committed to making these changes happen, the PNW has been in touch with the Vicar at Cottingley Church and the board of trustees to chase up results of this and to encourage an application to Community First for signage, website and a community notice board at the centre
- 3.3.2 The PNW is working to produce a timeline of the NIP process detailing key successes and money spent in the area, this will be distributed to all residents along with a what's on flyer and key contacts for local community groups and services.
- 3.3.3 The PNW is working with TRAC and AVH media interns to develop "welcome to your area" information to be distributed on Cottingley and available online.

3.4 Employment & Skills

- 3.4.1 The PNW worked with Learning Partnerships and Cottingley Primary Academy to put on a Learning Market at the Primary School on April 18th, the event was well attended by agencies and the public.
- 3.4.2 The PNW conducted a consultation about what people would like to see on the estate in relation to employment and skills, the majority response was around access to computers and support to use them, several people felt support from agencies such as Job Centre Plus and access to training courses would also be beneficial.
- 3.4.3 PNW supported AVH to bid for £3000 to the Welfare Reform Group to establish a computer "drop in" in Cottingley. This money can now be used to develop a project.
- 3.4.4 Relationships have been developed with a wide range of agencies who could potentially support an IT and Job Skills drop in on Cottingley. The PNW has convened a meeting about this on 22nd May. Agencies attending include Union Learn, South Leeds Community Radio, AVH, Credit Union, JCP, Learning Partnerships, Cottingley Children's Centre and Get IT Together. Any sessions delivered will work to promote and signpost to The Point resource at White Rose Centre.
- 3.4.5 A welfare reform changes drop in event is being developed with AVH.

3.5 Health

3.5.1 The Neighbourhood Improvement Plan incorporated a pre-existing Health and Wellbeing Action Plan. There are various initiatives being delivered around a health agenda:

- Monthly Men's Group – Health For All
- Exercise Class – Active Lifestyles
- Health Table — Health for All
- Smoking Norms Work — Space 2
- Health Champions – Leeds City Council
- Global Families - Health for All
- Various 0-5's exercise and wellbeing classes – Cottingley Children's Centre

4 Environmental Action Plan

4.3 AVH Property Improvements

4.3.1 Replacement of doors and lifts at Cottingley Towers & Heights is in progress. New entrance area at Dulverton Court is near completion.

4.4 Dropped Curbs

4.4.1 A successful consultation between residents and Highways managed through TRAC led to the implementation of dropped curbs where necessary for disabled access.

4.5 Parking on Match Days

4.5.1 Yellow lines installed and are enforceable.

4.6 Shops

4.6.1 Roof and floor of shopping precinct have been made good, problems persist due to design of shops, attracting low level ASB.

4.6.2 The Post Office is not yet re-opened, a letter writing campaign was instigated amongst residents. Officers continue to liaise with the Post Office, however due to the salary offered being considerably lowered there are concerns that nobody will take up this opportunity.

4.7 Litter Picking

4.7.1 Significant improvements have been made to this service:

- § Weekly manual litter pick on Tuesdays, following refuse collection, covering the vehicular routes on the estate.

- § Aire Valley Homes caretaking team attending site each Tuesday to support clean-up after refuse collection.
- § Weekly mechanical clean of the vehicular routes on the estate – increased from fortnightly from 1st May.
- § Reactive fly tipping removal team within Locality Team.
- § Extra funding secured. Looking to recruit a five day litter picker for the estate (Mon-Fri) with community direction of the resource and close links with AVH TMOs. Recruited during May and in place in June (all being well).
- § Additional enforcement post to be recruited to cover some housing estates, including Cottingley Hall. Again recruiting during May to be in place in June.

4.8 Refuse & Recycling Project

- 4.8.1 Slow progress is being made with this project after highways delayed works after discovering tree roots.
- 4.8.2 To date, offers of support from the PNW, AVH and TRAC to help disseminate advice and information to residents regarding this project, have not been taken up.
- 4.8.3 The project is set to be rolled out in 4 Phases, Phase 1 has already presented various challenges. To ensure future barriers are overcome it would be a good idea to continue to take a partnership approach to the delivery of this project. The Environmental Sub Group could be used as a channel to progress this further.

5 Support to Groups

5.1 TRAC

- 5.1.1 The PNW has supported the group to make contributions to the NIP process and to become involved in the organisation of the winter and summer fair.
- 5.1.2 £2500 has been granted for the development of a fortnightly Community Café, plans are to be progressed.
- 5.1.3 Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances the groups AGM has been postponed until they are in a place to properly advertise and recruit to posts so that this opportunity to further engage residents is not wasted.
- 5.1.4 The group continue to hold regular meetings with good attendance, have a very active Facebook page and run coffee mornings for elderly residents at Dulverton Court.

5.2 In Bloom

5.2.1 The PNW supported the In Bloom group to get AVH Panel funding and has drafted a Community First bid with them. The PNW has been in regular contact with the Back 2 Front Project, a growing project which Space 2 are running in the area, trying to keep this tied into the plans of the In Bloom group.

5.1.2 The PNW supported the group to run a gardening session in Sphynx Square.

5.2 Fairs

5.3.1 The PNW has assisted to organise both winter and summer fairs with residents and other agencies, encouraging residents to take ownership of the fairs as community events. After this, the first year of resident involvement it is hoped that fairs can become an important resident volunteering opportunity co-ordinated through TRAC.

6 Areas for Continued Development

6.1 At the time of writing there are two NIP meetings remaining. There are several projects on going that will require further input from the PNW:

6.2 **Children's Activities** – ensure positive relationships are established between Children's Work agencies and community members to ensure the effective development of a funding bid for on-going work.

6.3 **Community Centre** - continue to liaise with the board of directors regarding changes to centre and work to establish new relationships with two Methodist ministers who will be covering Cottingley following the current Vicar's departure.

6.4 **Employment & Skills** – get agreement from agencies to run computer access sessions.

6.5 **Recycling & Refuse** - Consistent complaints are made around rubbish and litter and until this problem is cracked it will remain a barrier to people having pride in the estate. Significant progress is being made around litter picking which needs to be coupled with significant progress around both refuse collection and the infrastructure for refuse collection. To ensure future barriers are overcome it would be a good idea to continue to take a partnership approach to the delivery of this project. The Environmental sub group could be used as a channel to progress this further.

7 Future Plans

7.1 NIP

7.1.1 It is proposed that the NIP meet again in 3 months time in September to review progress on remaining issues, a further meeting will be scheduled for December to again review progress, at this point a decision will be made as to steering group meetings going forward.

7.2 TRAC

7.2.1 The PNW will continue to offer support to TRAC. Following the pattern established in Outer Areas, where, following a NIP, relationships with community groups were maintained and the group offered a package of support as a Supported Area. TRAC will be supported to maintain regular meetings with good attendance from services and residents, develop their café project, run a winter and summer fair and to be a key conduit for the development of children's work on the estate.

7.3 Partnership Working

7.3.1 There have been some great examples of partnership working through both the Health & Wellbeing Group and the NIP (such as the winter wellbeing event), workers have found this empowering and it encourages innovation and lack of duplication in work. The Health and Wellbeing Group has decided to continue to meet as a networking opportunity for people working at service delivery level in Cottingley and it is hoped this will continue to facilitate partnership working.

8 Budget To Date

Project	Contact	Amount
Cottingley Brunch Club	Jayne Holland	£400
Cottingley Youth Forum	Ali Gilfillan	£500
Men and Boy's Activity Group	Rachel Brighton	£400
Dulverton Court Christmas Dinner	TRAC	£250
Winter Wonderland	TRAC	£250
DJ Lessons	Youth Service	£120
TRAC Running Costs	TRAC	£200
White board Dulverton Court	Dulverton Court	£50.22
Community Notice Board	TRAC	£59.99
Promoting NIP achievements and	PNW	£380.00

activities		
Bouncy castle, sumo suits, and face paints	Cottingley Youth Project	£200.00
Total		£2,810.21p
Remainder		£189.79p