Target Ward Update - Burmantofts & Richmond Hill

Burmantofts & Richmond Hill Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership (NIP)

The NIP is a collective of council services, third sector partners and the ward members who work together towards an agreed set of priorities to bring improvements within the ward. At its meeting in November, the NIP agreed a set of themes and a number of priorities on which to focus co-produced programmes of work. Early opportunities from this first meeting focused around the theme of communication, with an agreement to undertake some service mapping with the aim of co-producing a service directory to be shared with partners and residents. The intention is to improve awareness of services operating in the area and local activities to help forge greater connectivity between those services and improve local arrangements and engagement.

A further meeting of the NIP took place on 14th February which focused on the poverty theme. Conversations centred on the impact of Universal Credit, personal debt, mental health and the reliance on Food Banks. Outcomes from the session included a realisation of the importance of I.T. assets and a willingness to make those available for advice and support sessions to take place in so that they are close for claimants to travel to and the need to strengthen and enhance the ward's food distribution offer. The partnership agreed that the focus theme for the next meeting would be mental health.

Enhancing local youth offer

Since the summer, work has taken place with youth providers to map youth work in areas where antisocial behaviour issues have been reported. This piece of work has resulted in LCC Youth Services re-organising their provision in the ward, putting provision in place for the Bellbrookes and Cross Green as well as plans to move their mobile provision in East End Park into Richmond Hill Academy. This provision is set to start after the Easter half term school holidays. Where possible, youth provision is being linked into other provision in the area to enhance it. Officers have worked closely with external youth providers and the ward members to explore areas where further provision can be funded through Wellbeing and placed into areas of need.

Further strategic work to address antisocial behaviour has also taken place specifically in the Bellbrookes and East End Park. In the Bellbrookes, the Communities Team have worked with the housing charity Canopy to engage with local families to communicate key community messages, culminating in a multiagency action day in the summer, which included a community clean-up. The council's antisocial behaviour team (LASBT) have also undertaken follow-up door-knocking exercises in the area. CCTV options are also being looked at following several incidents of vandalism at St Cyprian's Church. In response to reports of antisocial behaviour in East End Park over the summer, the Neighbourhood Response Team comprising of the Police and LASBT officers undertook a piece of engagement work there for a four week period. The exercise built closer

relationships within the community and resulted in some positive actions including assisting with getting a resident affected by antisocial behaviour re-housed.

Motorbike action plan

In response to regular reports of the antisocial use of motorcycles across the ward, the Communities Team have worked closely with the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT), council departments and third sector partners to explore options around how to tackle the issue. An action plan is being drawn up which will focus on several different approaches, including enforcement, intelligence gathering, promotion of reporting, physical barriers in 'hot-spot' areas and education within schools. There is also the potential to develop options around diversionary youth work in communities where the problem is most prominent.

Food provision

The Communities Team is engaging with partners from the NIP who are involved in food provision to enhance the local food provision offer. Indications from within the community point to an increasing demand for this type of service, and this has been recognised by other third sector organisations who keen to help. This piece of work will look to coordinate activity better between partners, to create opportunities for cross referrals and to establish new food provision in the ward to meet the growing need.

Environment

The Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team have undertaken focussed enforcement activity on residential properties and local businesses in Lincoln Green, the Clifton's and Nowells and the Bellbrookes with positive results in terms of high levels of compliance (up to 90% in some cases) and noticeably cleaner and tidier communities. Duty of care visits are continuing to take place across the ward, including at Lincoln Green and Osmondthorpe Lane and the team are also undertaking proactive approaches to graffiti removal and fly tipping enforcement, in one example utilising evidence captured by a CCTV camera funded by the Community Committee.

Third Sector support

Support has also continued for third-sector led activity across the ward. Planning work has begun for the annual summer events Lark in the Park and Burmantofts Gala. These large events are planned and delivered through strong partnerships underpinned by the Communities Team. The Communities Team have also worked to support St Hilda's church and recently-formed charity Cross Green Growing Together in the Cross Green area to help grow their community role in the area.

Priority Neighbourhood update: Lincoln Green and the Cliftons and Nowells

ABCD in the Priority Neighbourhoods

Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) begins by finding out what the people living in a community care enough about to work on together to change, develop and/or sustain. It recognises and celebrates the uniqueness of neighbourhoods and the interdependencies of communities. Key to the approach is finding and recognising the assets of an area; these can be anything that can be used to benefit the local community. The assumption is that, given the tools and the

opportunity, small groups of local residents can change the things that they believe need changing in their community better than anyone else.

Lincoln Green and the Cliftons and Nowells have received funding from Adult Social Care to run an ABCD project for 12 months. Touchstone and Learning Partnerships will each employ a part time Community Builder who will identify and connect local residents together around their ideas for change. This approach will directly link with the Core Team (s) increasing the active involvement of the community in the neighbourhood improvement agenda.

Lincoln Green

Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust

Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust (LTHT) have committed to connecting to the Core Team work as part of their "Anchor" institution role. They have indicated strong support for the priority 1% approach and have agreed to test out new ways of working in a smaller geography which they hope will better connect the Hospital to the nearby community. Plans include developing an employability programme between LTHT and the Core Team to help resident's access work, voluntary work to support a focus on increasing MMR immunisation rates and also the potential to support local work around enhancing learning in the community with potential mentoring schemes.

Cliftons and Nowells

Hate Crime and ASB

The Nowells area has seen a significant amount of hate crime that reached crisis point in the late spring of 2017. The work of the Core Team increased the confidence to report and the team quickly organised a series of community conversations through door knocking activity. As a consequence of language barriers, MAP (Migrant Access Project) volunteers supported local practitioners and agencies to talk to as many residents as possible. This helped to build community confidence and provided further evidence about perpetrators and victims of hate crime. In addition, a number of families received increased targeted support to address their complex circumstances and challenges. This included both victims of crime and children, young people and families with offending behaviour.

The Core Team developed a targeted work programme to enhance community activity and youth provision in the area, and LEODIS were deployed with other local partners to address hate crime and ASB activity. The local Children's Centre was opened up in the evenings and additional youth provision was developed including a package of support through Active Leeds, Youth Service, YIP, Leeds United and Dance Action Zone Leeds. Up to 30 local young people are now regularly attending activities, a number of the young people have previously been perpetrators of hate crime. Community enforcement was strengthened by the introduction of an ASB PSPO and targeted environmental works. The Core Team also worked with the Communities and Environment Directorate to submit a project for funding as part of a Home Office bid led by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The bid was successful and as part of this West Yorkshire wide programme, £45k will be allocated to developing a community-led children and families hub project in the Nowells.

As a result of this targeted programme of work the crisis was significantly reduced and work can now take place to develop community confidence and increase community activity. During this period of intensive work, recorded crime decreased by 70% from May to September 2018 and the number of reported police incidents reduced by 70% between May and September 2018. This is an overall reduction on the same period in the previous year. Leodis reported that the Core Team arrangements improved the effectiveness of the Leodis role and contributed to the development of a more sustainable improvement programme.