

**REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE
CHADDERTON AREA COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
2003/2004**

Purpose

To review the work of the Chadderton Area Committee.

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 This report attempts to summarise the work of Area Committee during the municipal year 2003-04 under 5 headings:

- Public Question Time
- Influencing Services / Promoting Community Cohesion
- Using Area Committee budgets to support the community and voluntary sector and other priorities.
- Key achievements.
- Key issues and further actions required

2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

2.1 Eighty-one public questions / enquiries have been received either directly at the Area Committee meetings or as a result of publicity of the Area Committee meetings. The Area Manager has endeavoured to obtain an answer on all issues raised and replied to questions directly at the Area Committee meetings.

2.2 The Co-optees were surveyed about the Area Committee meetings including public question time and they preferred to have verbal questions at the Area Committee meeting as their priority which will need considering when reviewing the Area Committees work.

2.3 If question time accurately reflects the views of local people, it is clear that anti social behaviour and lack of youth facilities is the biggest single issue of concern to local people.

2.4 Environmental issues also figure prominently, confirming the results of the Area Planning survey work where residents of Chadderton expressed they would like their area to be cleaner.

3.0 INFLUENCING SERVICES / PROMOTING COMMUNITY COHESION

- 3.1 Appendix 1 summarises the work of the Area Committee in relation to service provision and community cohesion.
- 3.2 The Area Committee has received a number of presentations during the year and was invited to comment on several issues.
- 3.3 Comments have been received regarding the increasing number of presentations and this will be addressed during the next year.
- 3.4 Community involvement is very important and extends to all aspects of the Area Committee work. The Area Committees role and structure is set up to engage effectively with local people, community groups, businesses, services and schools to bring them together. However the attendance to the meetings is quite low and something that requires work on.

4.0 USING THE AREA COMMITTEE BUDGETS TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY / VOLUNTARY SECTOR AND OTHER PRIORITIES

- 4.1 Appendix 2 provides a summary of how the various budgets have been used. The summary confirms that most projects have a strong community cohesion theme. There are also clear links between the projects and the Area Committee priorities and Corporate Plan themes.
- 4.2 A new application system has been agreed between the Area Managers and Minor Grants section to streamline the process. The new application form includes a section on how the applicant will support community cohesion in their area.

5.0 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 5.1 Meetings were held at key venues in the Area and accessible to residents.
- 5.2 On most occasions, the meeting Agenda was manageable and meetings finished in time.
- 5.3 Employment of an Area Manager to deal with issues raised at Area Committee and create an area action plan
- 5.4 Involvement in the Urbed visioning process and Mediation Northern Ireland workshops.
- 5.5 Successful involvement in the issues along Broadway and the agreement to develop a route management strategy
- 5.6 Successful involvement in developing the Area Plan and initiating the Action Plan development that was formulated by the co-optee sub-group

- 5.7 Presence of Police at all meetings to take on local issues and address them with support from the Community Safety Unit.
- 5.8 Installation of alley-gates in the Turf lane / Granby Street area.
- 5.9 Successful expansion of the Festive lights and production of the 'images of Chadderton' calendar.
- 5.10 Introducing delegated budget allocation that has direct links to the themes in the 'influencing of service' report.
- 5.11 Awarding of grants to local groups
- 5.12 The employment of a Community Solutions Officer stemming from the approved Chadderton Litter plan to tackle environmental issues.
- 5.13 The starting of a Youth Alliance group where the Area Manager and youth representative attend and feedback information.
- 5.14 Successful links established with OMBC Environmental Services. This has resulted in quick and efficient response to questions and queries raised by residents either at the Committee meetings or in writing /by telephone to Area Manager.

6.0 KEY ISSUES AND FURTHER ACTIONS REQUIRED

- 6.1 Low public attendance at Area Committees. Requires further marketing, publicity and promotion.
- 6.2 Too many topics presented for consultation at the meetings that are often rushed through. On occasions it was felt that Area Committees were exploited for consultation purpose. Area Manager should be notified well in advance to assist in Agenda planning.
- 6.3 The Area Committee should be made aware of the options available, including costs, stemming from presentations or reports to be able to make decisions at the meeting.
- 6.4 The delegated budget for 2004/5 has been reduced and will require careful administering with a suggestion by the Area Manager to split the budget in to several smaller pots for simple allocation.
- 6.5 Production and implementation of the area action plan to give the Area Committee a focus and drive improvements forward for the area.

APPENDIX 1

| INFLUENCING SERVICES / PROMOTING COMMUNITY COHESION | |
|--|---|
| SERVICE / ISSUE | ACTION / OUTCOME |
| Chadderton Area Plan | Several presentations and meetings held. Area Committee's comments incorporated into the Area Plan. Action Plan to be prepared. |
| Community Cohesion | Two presentations given. Community cohesion is a theme influencing all the Area Committee's work. Community development work supported through Delegated Budget. Festive lights scheme used for celebration. Area Committee represented on the Oldham Good Relation project, facilitated by Mediation Northern Ireland |
| Community Safety | Several presentations given. Chadderton Community Safety Panel set up. Crime Prevention budget of £7,500 allocated to Chadderton and used for an alley-gating scheme. Regular attendance of the Police and Crime Reduction officer to the Area Committee. |
| Street Cleansing | Presentation by OMBC Street Cleansing Manager. Comments made. Sub Group established. Litter Plan developed and funding allocated. |

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|--|---|
| | Employment of a Community Solutions Officer. |
| Youth | Presentation by Youth Service. Comments made. Alliance group has started. Youth Sub Group to be set up. Presentation by Sports Development on how the Open for Action programme operates in Chadderton. |
| Oldham Vision | Presentation by URBED consultants, Comments made. Final document being prepared. |
| Unitary Development Plan (UDP) | Presentation by OMBC officers. Comments made. |
| Primary Care Trust LIFT programme | Presentation by PCT officers. Comments made. Planning permission granted for 2 new health centres at North and South wards. |
| Children's' Centres | Presentation by OMBC officers, Comments made. Proposal made for a centre in South Chadderton. |
| British Telecom Payphones – consultation on removal of payphones | Some payphones removed. |
| New Opportunities Fund Fair Share Initiative | Several presentations made. Funding confirmed for 3 projects. Delivery Plan being drawn up. Projects to be implemented during 2004/5. |
| Housing Market Renewal Fund (HMRF) | Reports given. Comments on priorities made. |
| Groundwork Prince's Trust | Presentation made and funding allocate for a door-step green project. |
| Highways Agency | Presentation received. Comments made for the Route Management Strategy. |

APPENDIX 2

Chadderton Area Committee - Year End March 2004

(DELEGATED AND MINOR GRANTS BUDGET 2003 / 04)

| | Delegated Budget | Minor Grants |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Budget for the Year 2002 / 03 (including 01/02 b/f) | 27,652 | 14,700 |
| <u>Less:</u> | | |
| Actual Net Expenditure to 31st March 2003 | <u>-12,825</u> | <u>-320</u> |
| Balance being underspending for the Year Carried Forward | 14,827 | 14,380 |
| <u>Add:</u> | | |
| Budget for the Year 2003 / 04 | 39,050 | 2,960 |
| Total Funds Available 2003 / 04 | <u>53,877</u> | <u>17,340</u> |

Actual Expenditure from 1st April 2003 to 4th March 2004

| | £ | 0 |
|--|---------|---|
| Chadderton Congregational Church | -917 | |
| Mills Hill Church youth group | -750 | |
| Chadderton Congregation Churches-Marquees | -600 | |
| Chadderton Cricket Club (Refurbishment) | -1,900 | |
| "Door Step Green Project" | -5,000 | |
| St.Annes A.R.L.F.Club | -1,000 | |
| Hollinwood Amateur Rugby League Club | -3,700 | |
| Chadderton Historical Society | -450 | |
| Life For Life | -458 | |
| Friends of Foxdenton Park | -500 | |
| | -15,275 | |
| Christmas lights switch on (Chadd.Town Hall) | -301 | |
| Chadderton Calendar-Summit Studios | -1,910 | |
| Lighting material for sports centre | -2,260 | |
| Installation of lights | -9,129 | |
| | -13,600 | |
| <u>Cash Collection:</u> | | |
| Contribution towards 2003 Xmas Lights (£4,359.85) | 4,360 | |

Outstanding Commitments Not Yet Paid

2003 / 04

| | | | |
|--|---------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Chadderton Cong.Churches - (£1000 - £600) | -400 | St.Mark's Church, Chadd. | -7000 |
| Contribution to the litter plan | -25,000 | -25,400 | |
| Balance of available funds for 20004/05 | | <u>3,962</u> | <u>10,340</u> |