

BASFORD AND BESTWOOD AREA COMMITTEE – 27TH MAY 2009

Title of paper:	EVALUATION OF AREA TWO COMMITTEE IN 2008/09	
Authors:	Councillors Wildgust (Chair) and Newton (Vice-Chair)	Wards affected: Basford & Bestwood
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Relevant Council Plan theme(s):		
Choose Nottingham		X
Respect for Nottingham		X
Transforming Nottingham's Neighbourhoods		X
Supporting Nottingham People		X
Serving Nottingham Better		X
Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):		
This report outlines the achievements of the Area Committee in 2008/09.		
Recommendation(s):		
1	Note the achievements of the Area Committee in 2008/09;	
2	Record the appreciation of the Area Committee for the contributions made to its work by partner organisations, community representatives and officers.	

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 As the Area Committee embarks on its programme of work in the 2009/10 municipal year, it is opportune to reflect on the achievements in the past year, particularly on the Transforming Neighbourhoods agenda, and to thank partner organisations, community representatives involved for their contributions to these and the officers for their work in supporting these and going the extra mile to ensure their success.
- 1.2 Set out below are some of the issues considered and initiatives supported during the past year:

Tribute

Pat Chambers, Bestwood Estate Community Centre (Nottingham Neighbour of the Year Award) and Kerry Quigley (Community Champion Award) for their hard work and commitment within the community.

Achievements

The Area 2 Neighbourhood Team, including staff from NMT, NCH, Street Scene, Highways, Parks and Open Spaces, Bestwood and Basford Children's Centres, Police, Play and Youth services, Education, Bestwood Directions and Health were runners-up in the GEM Award for Transforming Nottingham's Neighbourhoods Award in March 2009.

Joint delivery and planning of community events

They have demonstrated the success of our joint working through our programme of local events for the area which in the last 12 months have included jointly delivering

over 35 different community activities aimed at supporting local residents to: get on well together in their local area, feel they can influence local decisions and improve overall satisfaction with the area – as well as bringing back some good old fashioned community spirit! The joint planning and delivery of events has also had a sustainable outcome as more of the community are keen to get involved in future events and/or engage with local services. Examples include:-

- Whitemoor Family Fun Day;
- Area 2 Alive and Kicking Event;
- Vernon Parklife;
- Southglade Parklife;
- The Big Turn-On – Beckhampton Road Christmas lights parade;
- Bestwood BAFTA's;
- Super Learning Week – Top Valley Engineering College;
- supporting Nottingham in Bloom initiatives and supporting 5 local schemes to take part;
- the introduction of quarterly Basford Forums.

Making a Difference

- The % of residents in Area 2 who feel Nottingham City Council keeps them informed about the services and benefits it provides is 65% - up 24%;
- The % of Area 2 residents who feel their local neighbourhood is a place where people from different backgrounds and different circumstances get on well together is 72% - up 11%;
- The % of Area 2 residents who feel their local neighbourhood is a place where residents respect ethnic difference is 72% - up 13%;
- Crime in Bestwood beat is down more than 10% than last year to date. Vehicle crime is down by 49% from last year to date. 54% reduction in ASB in Stockhill;
- Street Scene: Area 2 has been awarded the best district 4 times within the last year and has come joint first twice. Excluding the city centre, we are number 1 for cleanliness across the City;
- Parks and Open Spaces: Currently overseeing massive investment and improvement in parks across the area to be completed by 31st March 2009. These included Vernon Park, Heathfield Park, Chediston Vale Park and Southglade Park;
- Nottingham City Homes: Estate assessment results have seen Bestwood rising from 0 stars in September 2007 to 2 stars in September 2008, and Basford move from 2 stars to 3 stars;

All of the above achievements and successes have only been able to happen because of hard work, commitment and drive of all the staff across departments and agencies who work within Area 2.

Approved Schemes and Projects Supported

- Spending Profile 2008/09 – Ward Member Budget Allocations;
- Area Capital Resources – Allocation;
- Footpath Gating Orders - Neston Drive, Cinderhill and between Bagnall Road and Greenwich Avenue, Basford;

- Bestwood Live and Kicking Event on Saturday 28 February 2009 (Part of Bestwood Week of Action) (£3,000);
- Bestwood Forum Newsletter and Southglade Parklife Event (£5,000);
- Southglade Christmas Lights Celebration (£2,000);
- Top Valley Dance Academy (£1,000, subject to match funding from Area Committee One);
- Community Based Fitness Gymnasium – contribution to first year’s revenue costs;
- Bestwood Christmas Lights - funding for the maintenance;
- Area Based Grant – endorsement;
- Nottingham in Bloom Neighbourhood Initiatives;
- Bestwood Family Fun Day.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 To recognise the efforts of those involved in delivering the work of the Area Committee and to reflect on the positive difference made in the Basford and Bestwood ward areas.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 None

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY)

- 4.1 None.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS AND EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS)

- 5.1 The funds allocated to this Committee are used to address the diverse needs of the various sections of the community and reduce inequalities within the community.

6 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

- 6.1 None.

7 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

- 7.1 Minutes of the Area Committee during 2008/09.