

Report to East Oldham District Executive

Update on the work of the East Oldham District Team

Portfolio Holder:

Cllr A Shah, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods

Officer Contact: Helen Lockwood, Executive Director, Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods

**Report Author: Simon Shuttleworth, District Coordinator
Ext. 4720**

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Reason for report

To update the District Executive on the work of District Team.

Recommendations

That the District Executive notes the report presented

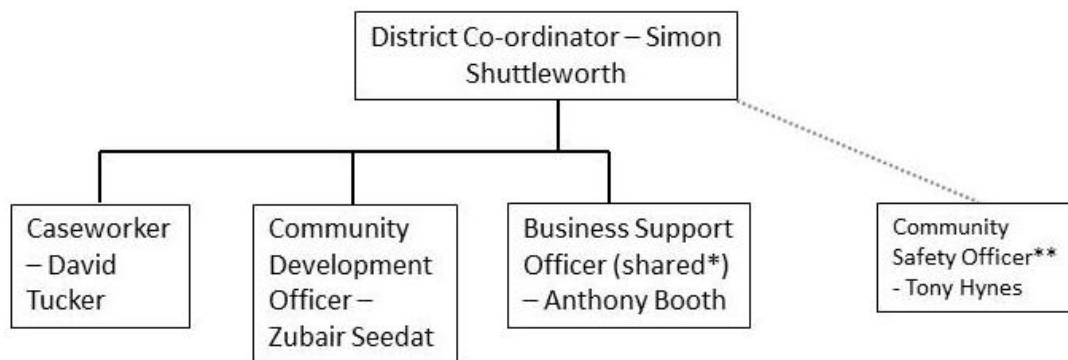
Update on the work of the East Oldham District Team

1.0 Background

Oldham Council's District Teams were set up in early 2013. The aim of the teams is to support Ward Councillors in their capacity as local leaders and members of the District Executives, and to join up with other services to ensure delivery meets the need of the local area. This report sets out the structure of the East Oldham District Team, along with key pieces of work that the team is engaged in.

2.0 District Team Structure

The District Team for the East Oldham District is structured as follows:



* the Business Support Officer for East Oldham is shared with the West Oldham District Team and the Stronger Communities Team, and also carries out functions for the Community Safety Team.

** the Community Safety Officer sits within the District Team, but is managed by the Community Safety Manager, and has responsibilities outside of the direct work of the District Team.

3.0 Roles

While the below are the core roles within the team, members of the District Team endeavour to be flexible, and regularly act outside of their core role, in order to meet the needs of the district, and to support the wider team.

3.1 District Co-ordinator

- Leads the District Team.
- Works with Members to agree key priorities, and to support them in their role as local leaders.

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- Work with Members, partners and community organisations to deliver against these priorities – for example through the use of the district budget to commission activity, or through developing a partnership approach to local issues.
 - Works with Council services to ensure that projects and service changes are developed in a way that takes account of local factors.
 - Co-ordinates activity and collaborates across a range of partners and local organisations to meet local need.
 - Links in with and informs discussions at a strategic level which will impact on or redesign local delivery.
 - Acts as a liaison, and deploys the resources of the team, in the event of a major incident, to help provide community engagement and support.

3.2 Community Development Officer

- Deputises for District Co-ordinator.
- Supports the development and growth of local community organisations.
- Supports community organisations looking to apply for grant funding.
- Delivers and develops community engagement activity, to ensure residents have an opportunity to have their say, and work alongside the Council and partners.

3.3 Caseworker

- Progresses casework and correspondence on behalf of the 12 Councillors in East Oldham.
- Liaises with other services to provide updates and potential solutions to identified issues.
- Identifies key opportunities for the team to develop work within the area, based on incoming casework. For example, by linking people who are interested in making a difference in the area to work being carried out by the Community Development Officer
- Supports with presence at events, community engagement activity, etc.
- Recording and tracking of Councillor and District budget allocations.

3.4 Business Support Officer

- General administration and finance support for the team (shared with other teams)

3.5 Community Safety Officer

- Working with the Police, housing providers and other partners to develop an evidence case and plan for action around specific individuals.
- Preparing files and attending court to give evidence in order to obtain Criminal Behaviour Orders, closure orders, and injunctions.
- Preparing and processing paperwork for Public Space Protection Orders. These are primarily in order to allow for alleygating schemes to go ahead, but can be used in other circumstances.

It should be noted that the Community Safety Officer for East Oldham also covers the Town Centre, including dealing with issues in the night-time economy, shoplifting, etc

4.0 Key pieces of work – 2017/18

4.1 Overarching

- Supporting the development of funding bids for the Emerging Communities work – over £900,000 successfully granted for this work, to start late Summer 2018.
- Thriving Communities – supporting the development of the approach to partnership work around population wellbeing, closer working with GP clusters and Place Based Integration.
- Organisation of commemorative event around Walter Mills V.C.

4.2 Alexandra Ward

- Setting up and supporting delivery by the Hathershaw Team – over £25,000 brought in as an initial project budget for delivery in this area. Engagement work and initial environmental pilots carried out. Numerous reports dealt with.
- Working in partnership with the Holts and Lees Place-Based Team. Supporting the ROC action group with key issues identified within the community.

4.3 St James' Ward

- Project support and community engagement around the delivery of drainage measures in Stoneleigh Park.
- Development support to help the growth of activity at Sholver Community Centre.
- Worked to support Members around development of a solution to access issues at Beal Valley.
- Work with the Friends of Stoneleigh Park, local residents and the Parks team to facilitate the development of a masterplan for the park.
- Supporting Members to consult local people around future developments at Afghan Park.

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- Supporting in the setting up of the new luncheon club at Moorside Cricket Club.

4.4 St Mary's Ward

- Clean Glodwick – supporting the work of the Ghazali Trust and Chai Women's group in developing the Clean Glodwick initiative.
- Engagement in Roundthorn / Clarksfield – work to develop community engagement in this part of the Ward, including supporting work by the Salvation Army to develop a new community group in the area, and the early stages of an environmental campaign in this area.
- Ongoing support for the work of the OL1 group in St Mary's, including the recent launch of the "Bread and Butter Thing" provision, providing low-cost food to local residents.

4.5 Waterhead Ward

- Big Local – supporting the work of the Big Local Partnership.
- Engagement in Clarksfield – working with local Members, IF Oldham and the Clarksfield Community Group to support the development of a number of local projects.
- Arundel Street – working with the above partners and the Parks team, to support the redevelopment of the space here, and encourage greater community use.
- Veg In the Park – supporting the development of the plan to provide a new building in Waterhead Park, to allow the growth of further activity by the VIP project.

4.6 Community Safety

- Public Space Protection Orders completed for three alleygate schemes. Four more PSPO's in train (funding agreed). At consultation stage with 12 potential schemes.
- Workaround nuisance caused by off road bikes in a number of locations across the area, including 9 home visits in partnership with First Choice Homes.
- 9 Criminal Behaviour Orders made at magistrates Court on prolific Offenders from various addresses in Oldham/Manchester/Rochdale. File build, statements, drafting of legal documents and Court appearances. Three unsuccessful applications for CBO's, and four currently being compiled.
- Sanctuary surveys – 22 security surveys completed for victims of domestic violence, referred via Independent Domestic Violence Advocates.
- 10 security surveys carried out at other locations.
- Numerous visits to victims of anti-social behavior.
- 14 multi-agency warning interviews conducted.
- Delivered around Boroughwide / town centre projects including:
 - Various town centre initiatives, dealing with shoplifting, violence, ASB and other offenses.
 - Work with Police on a project to reduce football-related violence amongst young people.

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- Operation Treacle - Borough wide multi agency project to reduce firework related ASB/crime, evening patrols with Police, visiting hotspot locations and visiting retail outlets selling fireworks.
 - Travel safe – Boroughwide project tackling issues around the Metrolink stops
 - Safe for Summer – Boroughwide project to keep young people safe over the Summer holidays

4.7 Casework

- 1,597 pieces of Councillor casework processed (April 17 – March 18).
- 13 neighbourhood walkabouts carried out with Members (April 17 – March 18).
- Many pieces of casework progress into pieces of project work for the team, for example identifying residents reporting issues who wanted to form community organisations, or volunteer to get involved locally.

5.0 Key ongoing and upcoming work – 2018/19 onwards

The work plan of the team will be shaped by the District Plan process, as directed by Members. In addition, the following is a brief reflection of some of the currently planned / ongoing work.

5.1 Overarching

- Emerging Communities – supporting the development and operation of the new Emerging Communities Team, by integrating their work into that carried out by the team at a local level.
- Thriving Communities and GP engagement – continuation of current involvement in overall development. Work to involve Members in this work as and when it impacts on East Oldham.
- Holiday hunger – development of a pilot around activities and healthy food provision over the Summer holidays, to inform a future funding bid.
- Continue to work to identify external funding that can support additional delivery in the area.

5.2 Alexandra Ward

- Development of work identified via Hathershaw Team, including continuation of work around developing alleyway spaces.
- Progress pilot community safety lighting scheme.

5.3 St James' Ward

- Continue to support the development of Sholver Community Centre.
- Support the development and implementation of the Stoneleigh park masterplan.
- Support the refurbishment of Afghan Park.

5.4 St Mary's Ward

- Clean Glodwick – ongoing support for this work, to ensure it becomes successfully embedded.
- Engagement in Roundthorn / Clarksfield – further support to develop the new community group here.
- Roll out of multi-agency work in the Roundthorn area, working with Police, Selective Licensing, Environmental Services and other partners, to build trust and develop community networks.
- Further support for OL1, who have ambitions to launch a cinema club, various new environmental projects and run a health and wellbeing event.
- Develop work with partners and the community to address key issues identified in the Glodwick area.

5.5 Waterhead Ward

- Engagement in Clarksfield – continued support for the work of the Clarksfield Community Group, in developing activity and provision to meet local needs, particularly looking at improvements to alleyway spaces and work to support residents wanting to take on responsibility for the Arundel Street Park space.
- Continued support for the VIP group, to help them to expand the network of people and groups using the site once the new building is installed.
- Continue to work with the Big Local partnership, to develop provision in the area.