

Report of **The Director of Adult Social Services and
The Director of Public Health**

Report to **Executive Board**

Date: **16th December 2015**

Subject: **Out of the Shadows: TIME TO SHINE PROJECT**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

On 08 September 2014, following a competitive application and interview process, the city of Leeds was awarded a grant of £6 million from the Big Lottery Fund. Leeds was one of the 15 successful areas to be awarded funding, selected from an original 100. This significant allocation will provide funding for a wide range of innovative and targeted interventions to be spent over six years on services to tackle issues of loneliness and isolation amongst older people in the city.

The pioneering bid was developed in the initial stages by Leeds City Council (LCC) and latterly by the Leeds Older People's Forum (LOPF) in consultation with hundreds of older people, carers and community organisations across the city. LCC and LOPF have a strong history of collaborative working, with LOPF having an excellent reputation within the city as being the voice of older people and the Third Sector representative group.

The 'Time to Shine Project' aims to reach at least 15,000 older people in Leeds who are currently living under the shadow of loneliness and social isolation. The project will bring these people 'out of the shadows', providing them with meaningful opportunities for social contacts, which offer them pleasure and purpose in life. The project will harness the power of the city's voluntary sector in delivering even more localised and personalised support than has previously been achieved; breaking down barriers and building stronger communities.

Working with a wide range of partner organisations including LCC, Voluntary and Business Sectors the project will build on the excellent work already being done across Leeds and focus on the more vulnerable, hard to reach people. The project will:

- Put older people at the heart of managing and designing the work
- Provide Loneliness Training - a programme of awareness sessions and comprehensive values based training

- Develop inter-generational links
- Improve connections with older people from street level upwards
- Provide support and friendships at home through befriending, arts, food and hobbies aimed at carers, people with dementia and frail elders
- Increase number of volunteers in local communities
- Engage older people as researchers to complete a local evaluation of the project, using data to inform service development and sharing learning with commissioners to influence system change.

To date 15 delivery partners have been commissioned to deliver innovative, targeted activities over the next two years. A full list of these projects is at appendix A.

The Time to Shine Project has been instrumental in raising the profile of social isolation within local communities and across the city. As a result a number of events, activities and projects have been initiated ensuring that the issue remains a priority and enabling more socially isolated people to be reached and to benefit from the work happening across Leeds.

This work reports to the Ageing Well Board and the Breakthrough Project on 'Making Leeds the Best City to grow Old In.' It contributes to the achievement of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy's (JHWS) aim for Leeds to be a healthy and caring city for all ages, where people who are the poorest will improve their health the fastest. The work will contribute to the delivery of two of the outcomes; (a) that people in Leeds will live full and active independent lives and (b) that people will live in healthy and sustainable communities.

This report is intended to provide an update on the progress made in the development and delivery of the project. It describes the outcome following the commissioning of a number of activities including the local evaluation and the wider impact that the project has had on raising the profile of social isolation across the city.

Recommendations

Members of the Executive Board are recommended to:

- Welcome the progress made in the development and delivery of the 'Time to Shine' project.
- Recognise the positive impact that the work on tackling loneliness and social isolation will have and the contribution it will make towards the breakthrough project 'Making Leeds the Best City to Grow Old In'.
- Commend the excellent work of Leeds Older People's Forum in leading the project.
- Receive an annual report updating members on the progress of the project.
- Note the lead officers responsible for ensuring updates are brought are the Consultant in Public Health (Older People) and the Head of Commissioning, Adult Social Care.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to brief Executive Board members on the 'Time to Shine' project and the progress made in the development and delivery of its project plan. It describes the outcome following the commissioning of a number of activities including the local evaluation and the impact that the project has had on raising the profile of loneliness and social isolation across the city.

2 Background information

- 2.1 There are 246,000 older people living in Leeds, of whom around 14,500 are aged over 85. It is estimated that around 15%, or 37,000 older people can be described as lonely or socially isolated, due to factors including fear, living alone, retirement, personal and financial circumstances, the digital divide, public attitudes and ill-equipped outdoor and indoor public spaces.
- 2.2 LCC is working to address these issues through the 'Making Leeds the Best City to Grow Old In' breakthrough project, the Ageing Well Board and a broad range of intervention services and ways of working; notably the Neighbourhood Networks, asset-based community development and targeted work in areas such as libraries, museums and sport. Leeds is also a member of the UK and the World Health Organisation Global Network of Age Friendly cities.
- 2.3 In early 2013 the Big Lottery Fund introduced its 'Fulfilling Lives: Ageing Better' programme, aimed at reducing social isolation and loneliness amongst older people (defined as 50+). A bid from Leeds, led by the Local Authority, was one of 32 selected from 100 initial applications, to go through to the second round of the programme. A condition of submitting a stage two bid was that it should be led by a voluntary sector organisation and the LOPF, as both the 'local voice of older people' and the third sector older people's network, was identified as the lead organisation.
- 2.4 The Big Lottery's Ageing Better programme is one of its strategic investments. The programme takes two approaches: outcomes based and using a 'test and learn' approach. Each Ageing Better project must test out methods for identifying and supporting socially isolated older people, contributing to a national and local evidence base.
- 2.5 Older people must be at the heart of the work: meaningfully involved in the design, commissioning, delivery and evaluation of the project.
- 2.6 Twelve core partners, including LCC, provided leadership in preparing the round two bid, with a significant amount of practical, 'in kind' assistance being provided to produce the submission in time for the deadline.
- 2.7 The second stage application was submitted on the 30 April 2014 and Leeds heard that its bid, for approximately £1 million per year over six years was successful on 08 September 2014.
- 2.8 The work reports to the Ageing Well Board which is jointly chaired by Public Health and Adult Social Care and will be a key deliverer of Leeds' ambition to be the best city to grow old in. It also complements the Council's 'Better Lives' vision and the growing need for preventative strategies that divert people from a need for medical or social care support. It will support the work of the Health and Social Care Transformation Programme, particularly the work on self management.
- 2.9 As part of developing the bid to Big Lottery the Council's Public Health Intelligence team produced a model for analysing the number of older people who were potentially social isolated or lonely within each ward and Community Committee area. This work was developed further by colleagues in Adult Social Care to aid future locality based work and was tested by the University of Leeds.
- 2.10 In addition a number of the Community Committees have chosen social isolation as one of their priorities which has now been taken forward by both the Health and Adult Social

Care champions. The commitment and support of Elected Members has resulted in a number of activities being developed and delivered in partnership with local communities to address social isolation within their localities.

The Time to Shine Project

- 2.11 On 08 September 2014 the city of Leeds was awarded a grant from the Big Lottery Fund of £6 million to be spent over six years on measures to tackle issues of loneliness and isolation amongst older people in the city.
- 2.12 The aim of the 'Time to Shine' project is defined as ensuring that lonely, isolated people have meaningful opportunities for social contacts which offer them pleasure and purpose in life.
- 2.13 To focus the project, work was undertaken to identify gaps in current service provision and identify those at greatest risk of social isolation and loneliness. A mixed method was employed, including reviews of local literature, asset mapping by ward and data analysis. As a result, older people identified as 'most at risk' are those:
- Living lives mainly restricted to their homes, through disability, dementia, physical or mental ill-health and caring;
 - Coping with the social and emotional void after loss of a partner, friend or role and struggling to emerge from those shadows;
 - With specific cultural needs relating to ethnicity, faith or sexuality; or
 - In poverty.
- 2.14 The Leeds approach is to build on the existing infrastructure e.g. LOPF, older people's voluntary sector organisations, key initiatives such as social prescribing; to go deeper and wider into communities and reach more socially isolated older people.
- 2.15 A 'test and learn' approach is being taken with learning being fed into the project on an ongoing basis to inform the delivery. In addition, findings will be shared with delivery partners and commissioners to influence policy, practice and provision.

Vision

- 2.16 The vision of the project is that 'Older people in Leeds need not experience loneliness and isolation as an inevitable consequence of ageing' and that the project will offer opportunities for fulfilment by breaking down barriers and building strong communities.
- 2.17 The project's vision is to deliver measures to overcome loneliness and isolation in a target cohort of 15,000 Leeds older people who are living under the shadow of loneliness.

Approach

- 2.18 The project aims to provide personalised activities, acting at individual, neighbourhood and city-wide levels to build circles of support. It will develop preventive social networks as well as supporting lonely people out of isolation.
- 2.19 This will be delivered through five main areas of work:
- **Catalysts** – working to change society's attitudes using intergenerational and cross sector approaches. This will include Loneliness Training - a programme of awareness sessions and comprehensive values based training for anyone who has contact with older people.

- **Connections** - Better connections with older people from street level upwards will be crucial within local neighbourhoods and across services, businesses and communities, creating wider and stronger networks.
- **Capacity** will be built by nurturing small community groups and strengthening volunteer bases. This will offer opportunities for younger older people and promote inter-generational approaches, building social capital and the infrastructure for future developments
- **Creating Support** - Work to develop support and friendships at home and help for people to get out will be put under way, offering weekend and evening activities. Social opportunities will be developed in the home environment including care homes, such as befriending, arts, food, hobbies aimed at carers, people with dementia and frail elders.
- **Co-production** - Older people will co-produce, manage and design activities and engage in their development, evaluation and the dissemination of learning.

3 Main Issues

- 3.1 Over the last year LOPF, together with key partners have made significant progress in developing and delivering the structures and processes within which the Time to Shine project will operate.

Partnership Board

- 3.2 The Partnership Board is chaired by the Chair of LOPF and is responsible for the strategic oversight of the project.
- 3.3 The membership of the Board was developed through an engagement event where expressions of interest were sort from interested partners. These were evaluated by a panel comprising of individual older people rather than representatives of organisations.
- 3.4 There are 12 Core Partners on the Board and this is a real strength of the project. LCC has two seats on the Board (representatives from Adult Social Care and Public Health). The Board is governed by a Partnership Agreement which came into operation on 1st April 2015.
- 3.5 The Partnership Board has three main sub groups which have oversight for evaluation, selecting delivery partners and risk management. LCC representatives provide advice and input into these sub-groups.
- 3.6 A separate providers group has also been established following the first complete round of selecting the delivery partners.
- 3.7 Older people have been placed at the heart of the decision making; the Time to Shine Partnership Board must at all times consist of at least 75% of older people and 50% of the Time to Shine Providers Group must also be older people.

Project Plan

- 3.8 The project plan was submitted to Big Lottery Fund on the 22 December 2014. The plan was assessed whilst further preparatory work took place during January to April. The project officially started on 1 April 2015.

- 3.9 The detailed plan covers issues of governance and the objectives, roles and responsibilities of LOPF and the delivery partners. It provides details of where funding will be targeted and the approaches that will be used. It defines project outcomes and change indicators and, importantly, provides an explanation of how older people will lead the project and be involved at all levels. The project plan addresses issues such as financial planning and financial appraisal, monitoring and evaluation, equalities, risk analysis and the overall exit strategy and sustainability of the project.

Recruitment of programme management and support team

- 3.10 LOPF has grown as an organisation to meet the challenge of overseeing this major programme and has recruited to a number of posts to form a project team responsible for delivering the project plan including the following:
- Programme Manager: Responsibility for the delivery of the plan, including governance. Contract management and support of delivery partners.
 - Evaluation and Monitoring Officer: the interface between delivery partners and the local and national evaluation. Supporting delivery partners to develop their monitoring systems. Reporting on project progress on outcomes
 - Administration Officer: project administration support, data entry of monitoring information and communications.

Commissioning of Delivery Partners

- 3.11 The first round of commissioning for delivery partners was between January and May 2015. The commissioning process for each activity included a workshop, application form and interviews for shortlisted applicants.
- 3.12 £1,082,900 has been committed through this first round of commissioning to deliver projects over the next two years.
- 3.13 15 delivery partners have been commissioned and are starting to work with older people and recruit volunteers. Appendix A outlines the range of organisations and activities commissioned to date.
- 3.14 Gaps have been identified in the coverage of projects in terms of geographical areas and target groups and these will be focussed on in the next round of commissioning.
- 3.15 Two citywide projects are still to be commissioned:
- Providing support to isolated older people identified through health and social care e.g. social prescribing, Hospital to Home, Memory Support Workers.
 - Action research into the needs of socially isolated learning disabled older people. Identifying where people are and developing social support.

Local and National Evaluation

- 3.16 The local evaluation has been commissioned from a partnership between the University of Sheffield and two Leeds based universities, Leeds Beckett and Leeds Trinity.
- 3.17 The Centre for International Research on Care, Labour and Equalities (CIRCLE) will lead the partnership to provide rigorous, academic, independent and objective evaluation but

at the same time work closely with LOPF to ensure the evaluation meets the needs of the Forum, the core partnership, Big Lottery and complements the work of the national evaluators ECORYS.

- 3.18 Involving older people in the evaluation and as 'peer researchers' forms a key element to the evaluation approach. Training and support will be provided through the Academy of Community Research (ACR)¹. The ACR is a national programme of support to assist 'communities' gain a greater understanding of research through learning.
- 3.19 Delivery partners will be required, as part of their contractual requirements, to provide data on the users of the services which will be utilised for both national and local evaluation purposes. Training and support will be provided at the beginning of each delivery cycle to delivery partners. The workshops will be jointly developed and delivered by the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer at LOPF and the research team.
- 3.20 The evaluation will consist of:
- Focus groups and semi-structured interviews with a sample of older people who will be tracked at three points in the project. This will provide an in-depth qualitative understanding of the impact that the participants' involvement in Time to Shine has had in terms of: the key anticipated project outcomes (for example decreasing unwanted social isolation, increased confidence, increased participation); unintended/unanticipated outcomes; what has worked well, what has not worked so well; any specific groups that have particularly benefited, or any specific locations; particular processes that have been successful or unsuccessful.
 - Case studies will be collected involving focus groups with service users, semi-structured interviews with delivery partners and key stakeholders and documentary analysis. The case studies will capture:
 - A comparative study of different types of 'connections': social prescribing; seniors network; and street links, in three areas of the city to understand the strengths, limitations and costs of the different approaches and how they relate to the social and topographical context within which they work.
 - Innovative Service Interventions (relating to food, exercise and IT) to examine the nature of the people engaged, how successful each are in reaching target groups, for example, men or housebound older people, and why.

The local evaluation will involve older people as peer researchers.

- 3.21 ECORYS have been commissioned by the Big Lottery Fund to deliver the national evaluation. The evaluation will consist of:
- Area impact study
 - Case studies
 - A Common Measurement Framework that involves participants answering a questionnaire at the beginning and end of the intervention.

¹ <http://care-connect.leeds.ac.uk/academy-of-community-research>

Testing of a Social Isolation Index

- 3.22 Two social isolation indexes have been developed; the first for the initial Time to Shine bid and the second to further target local work. These have been tested by the University of Leeds.
- 3.23 The research recommended that the second index was not used by Leeds City Council to target areas. They concluded that if a social isolation index is to be developed further factors should be included e.g. gender, the 'younger old', and those with complex needs, such as substance misusers or prison leavers. Overall, this research suggests that attempting to predict social isolation at the individual level alone may be problematic, though some factors, such as disability, seem to be highly relevant. Following the recommendations made by the University of Leeds further work is now being undertaken to add place based indicators into the index.
- 3.24 Nationally this piece of work is being recognised by other local authority areas focussing on social isolation. Locally the findings have been shared at the Healthy Leeds Unloneliness Conference on 17 July 2015. Furthermore the results are being disseminated to the Community Committees to support local action and the 'Time to Shine' Partnership Group.

Raising the profile of social isolation across the city

- 3.25 The 'Time to Shine' Project has been instrumental in raising the profile of social isolation across the city. As a result a number of events, activities and projects have been initiated ensuring that the issue remains a priority and enabling more socially isolated people to be reached and benefit from the work happening across the city.
- Historypin – Additional funding has been secured by Historypin from Big Lottery Fund to increase the provision of accessible and sustainable social activities for older people at risk of social isolation by unlocking greater capacity within cultural organisations to deliver community heritage activities that involve and benefit older people. Leeds will be one of three areas across the country that will be working to pilot the project. Delivery is expected to start in January 2016.
 - The Unloneliness Conference - On 17 July, partners from across health and social care met for the city's first Unloneliness Conference. A number of influential speakers shared their insight on the diverse and multi-faceted impact of social isolation on Leeds. This event aimed to encourage more people in the city to take an assets-based approach to working with communities to help reduce social isolation. Participants were invited to map the assets in their communities and develop outcomes-based solutions to local loneliness.
 - Age Friendly Smart Cities programme - an innovation lab has been held focussed on how technology can help to spot and report signs of social isolation in our communities and neighbourhoods. The event was attended by technologists, members of the Neighbourhood Networks and LCC staff. Three ideas are now being worked into a pilot project, one of which will be taken forward to be tested in the community.
 - Yorkshire Evening Post (YEP) Campaign to End Loneliness: The Hidden Epidemic – through their award winning work the YEP has campaigned for loneliness to be recognised as a health priority and to encourage their readers to volunteer for support services. They have highlighted many of the services delivered within the city to address social isolation including the Neighbourhood Networks.

Next steps

- 3.26 Commencement of front-line delivery from all delivery partners.
- 3.27 The sub-group responsible for Selecting Delivery Partners is working to refine the commissioning process in preparation for the next round of commissioning activity.
- 3.28 Two further citywide projects are to be commissioned.
- 3.29 Roll out of the Leeds Community Foundation small funds scheme.
- 3.30 Further refinement of the social isolation index taking account of the recommendations made by the University of Leeds research team. Additional indicators will be added to the index with a view to strengthening the reliability of the tool.
- 3.31 Local and national monitoring systems will be developed and embedded. Training for delivery partners will be provided and the first 6 month progress report produced.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.6 In drawing up the bid, and developing the vision for 'Time to Shine', some 863 older people, carers, community workers and decision makers from across the city were consulted.
- 4.1.7 The Core Partnership comprises 12 organisations with an interest in representing the needs of older people: Age UK Leeds, Alzheimer's Society, Care & Repair Leeds, Circle (University of Sheffield), Feel Good Factor, Growing Old Gracefully, Leeds Irish Health and Homes, Leeds Older People's Forum (lead partner), Men who have sex with men: action in the community (MESMAC), Public Health (Leeds City Council), Tenfold (Leeds Learning Disability Forum), and West Yorkshire Playhouse.
- 4.1.8 The project plan includes a section on how older people will lead the project and be involved at all levels, which satisfied the assessors and final approval has been granted.
- 4.1.9 Involving older people in the evaluation and as 'peer researchers' forms a key element to the evaluation approach.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 Work has been undertaken to identify gaps in current service provision and identify those older people at greatest risk of social isolation and loneliness. From this a number of groups have been identified and the project aims to focus on these including older men, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender older people (LGBT), black and minority ethnic (BME) elders and learning disabled older people.
- 4.2.2 Plans are in place for engaging beneficiaries at all levels and in particular in engaging with hard-to-reach groups and overcoming communication barriers.
- 4.2.3 An equality impact assessment has been completed on the project plan.

4.3 Council Policies and Best Council Plan

- 4.3.1 The approach set out in the 'Time to Shine' project reflects the Council's vision to be both the best city in the UK, the best council in the UK and to be both age friendly and dementia friendly.
- 4.3.2 Its ethos reflects the objectives and outcomes within the Best Council Plan (objective 4: Delivering the better lives programme and the outcomes: to stay independent for as long as possible and to live safely and with dignity). It also recognises the requirements of the 2014 Care Act.
- 4.3.3 In addition the project supports the delivery of the JHWS including the overarching aim: to improve the health of the poorest the fastest, Outcome 2: People will live full and independent lives; and outcome 5: people will live in healthy and sustainable communities.
- 4.4 The project will contribute towards the delivery of the breakthrough project 'Making Leeds the Best City to Grow Old In.'
- 4.4.4 There are links between health, social inequality and social isolation; many factors associated with social isolation are unequally distributed in society.

4.5 Resources and value for money

- 4.5.1 The 'Time to Shine' project has secured £6 million of funding into the city and with further funding also being secured to deliver additional projects to tackle social isolation.
- 4.5.2 Work undertaken by Council officers to support the development and delivery of the project has taken place within existing Council budgets.
- 4.5.3 Whole-system savings can be anticipated in helping people maintain better physical and mental health with a reduced need for costly social care and medical interventions.
- 4.5.4 The evaluations will be used to inform future commissioning activity, including options for when this programme funding ends.

4.6 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.6.1 There are no legal implications for the Council

4.7 Risk Management

- 4.7.1 An analysis of risk and a plan for managing risk is a part of the project plan and has been approved by the Big Lottery Fund.
- 4.7.2 The Partnership Board has three main sub groups one of which has oversight for risk management.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 Loneliness and social isolation blight both individual lives and society through unhappiness and ill-health. The project has consulted widely among Leeds's older people and professionals and organisations who work with them. It has identified those groups who are most at risk and the barriers lonely people face in building social contacts.

- 5.2 The 'Time to Shine' Project has made significant progress over the last year to develop and implement its project plan. This has included the commissioning of 15 delivery partners to provide a number of innovative activities across the city to address social isolation within the community. A total of £1 million has been committed through this first round of commissioning.
- 5.3 The 'Time to Shine' Project has been instrumental in raising the profile of social isolation across the city and a number of events, activities and projects have been initiated ensuring social isolation remains a priority for the city.
- 5.4 The positive engagement and initial successes, including winning the bid in the first instance, demonstrates the value of effective co-production with communities.

6 Recommendations

Members of the Executive Board are recommended to:

- 6.1 Welcome the progress made in the development and delivery of the 'Time to Shine' project.
- 6.2 Recognise the positive impact that the work on tackling loneliness and social isolation will have and the contribution it will make towards the breakthrough project 'Making Leeds the Best City to Grow Old In'.
- 6.3 Commend the excellent work of Leeds Older People's Forum in leading on the project.
- 6.4 Receive an annual report updating members on the progress of the project.
- 6.5 Note the lead officers responsible for ensuring updates are brought are the Consultant in Public Health (Older People) and the Head of Commissioning, Adult Social Care.

7. Background documents²

None

² The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

Appendix A: Activities Commissioned in the first two years of the Time to Shine Project

Activity Strand /Project Name	Area of Delivery	Delivery Organisation	Project description
Age Friendly Leeds	City-wide / neighbourhoods	Leeds Older People's Forum	Working in partnership with Leeds City Council to deliver the Age Friendly agenda in Leeds in relation to social isolation and loneliness focusing on neighbourhoods.
Loneliness Training	City-wide /neighbourhoods	Leeds Older People's Forum	Programme of awareness sessions and comprehensive training to a wide range of participants.
Seniors' Networks	Tower blocks in Wykebeck Valley area of Gipton	Action for Gipton Elderly (AGE)	Using an asset based community development (ABCD) approach more isolated older people in Gipton will develop the confidence, interest and networks to be more engaged in their communities in meaningful ways. Friendships will develop over shared interests.
Community Connect	3 rural areas in North Leeds: tbd	Rural Action Yorkshire (RAY)	Three village halls will become 'Community Hubs' capable of identifying and responding to the needs of their village's older residents, who may be experiencing or at risk of social isolation and loneliness.
Seniors Networks BME Cara Project	City-wide (50% beneficiaries will be men)	Leeds Irish Health and Homes	Cara means friend in Irish. The Cara project will be about creation of and sustainment of friendship networks for older Irish people in Leeds.
Seniors Networks BME	Citywide. Working with the South Asian communities	Health for All with the Sangam Forum	Isolated south Asian elders will be less socially isolated through increased social contact provided by volunteers and peers who understand their cultural needs.
Street Links	North and East of the ward	Richmond Hill Elderly Action	'Build a chain of connections between older people, street agents (neighbours), RHEA, statutory and voluntary agencies and the community culminating in an unbroken circle of support for our most vulnerable, lonely and socially isolated older people.
Culture and Arts activities	Delivered in localities, people's own homes and in care homes. First target areas: Rothwell, Gipton and Morley	Yorkshire Dance in partnership with the LEAF Consortium	Our consortium will co-produce an integrated 2-year programme giving socially isolated older people the opportunity to connect through cultural encounters, creative participation and engagement. Culture Buddies invites all older people across the city to come together to spark new friendships, experiment, re-imagine themselves, forge social adventures, have their say and take their place in their neighbourhoods and city.

Activity Strand /Project Name	Area of Delivery	Delivery Organisation	Project description
Digital Inclusion Digital Angels	Target groups include BME and LD elders.	TBC	The project will connect with older people within Leeds communities who are feeling isolated and alone. It will encourage new digital friendships, gently opening doors to new worlds on-line and off.
Walk with Me	Chapel Allerton, Chapeltown and Harehills.	Feel Good Factor	An intergenerational project which will see volunteers (16+) being linked to older people to provide support and encouragement to get out of the house.
Walk with Confidence	City-wide	Age UK Leeds	The project, Walking with Confidence, will identify older people who are socially isolated and restricted to their own homes, who would benefit from support to walk and get around outside of their home.
Dinner Dates: 'Raat Di Roti' Project (or 'The Evening Meal' project).	People isolated within their home environment	Touchstone' Sikh Elders	Reducing isolation among frail elderly Sikh and other Punjabi people who have little or no support. It will bring together people of different generations and similar cultural backgrounds to share a nutritious meal. It will foster a greater sense of community and promote healthy lives and social inclusion among participants.
More than a mealtime – time together!	Crossgates	Cross gates and District Good Neighbours	The project has two strands: 1. Consideration of people confined to the home Recruit and train young people to act as volunteer befrienders to housebound older people, with some kind of shared meal acting as the focus for the visits. 2. Focus on times outside of office hours Strand 2 will aim to make it easier for single older people to eat out in company in our local area by reserving shared tables and providing a sociable volunteer to facilitate the gathering.
Dinner Dates	Citywide	Health for All with Happy Chinese Families	Isolated Chinese seniors will have increased sense of wellbeing and self-worth through experiencing substantial, ongoing friendship, support and social contact provided by younger volunteers who understand their language and cultural needs.
Small Funds	Citywide	Leeds Community Foundation	A broad range of groups in Leeds will be able to access Small Funds in order to significantly increase their capacity to reach the most socially isolated older people in Leeds. Groups will to be able to pilot and develop ideas; learn from their own and others' experiences and disseminate the learning.

Activity Strand /Project Name	Area of Delivery	Delivery Organisation	Project description
LGBT Community Development	Citywide	Yorkshire MESMAC & Age UK Leeds	A programme of bespoke services for older LGBT people. A community development worker and steering group of at least ten LGBT older adults will work together to create new activities which will be fun and easy to access. The team will also work to strengthen the LGBT inclusivity of existing services, through training and partnership work, and delivering a truly “gay old time” to people across Leeds