

Report of: Director of Communities & Environment

Report to: Council

Date: 13 September 2017

Subject: Community Committee Annual Report

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 type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" 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

1. Summary of main issues

Community committees were set up in June 2014 to improve the way the council works locally and form part of our commitment to involving our residents more closely with the priorities for their local area and decision-making on funding and services. Over the last twelve months they have continued to transform the way the council involves local people through innovative ideas and workshops. The social media activity ensures we reach over 100,000 residents every month through over 300 local stories and conversations. We are now doing things very differently and local councillors have been at the centre of these developments, leading and shaping our local response.

The Community Committees' Annual Report looks at the progress made over the last twelve months, outlines the changes which have taken place during 2016 to 2017 and gives examples of some of the work the community committees have carried out within their communities to improve the lives of local people.

The report also looks at wellbeing and youth activities funding, the role played by the community committee champions and the role the community committees undertake in bringing communities together.

Finally, the report looks ahead to the opportunities and the next steps to be taken, including:

- continuing to engage local people on the issues which concern them and which the council and its partners can work on together to improve the lives of local people;
- deploying the leadership contributions of our committees in supporting the council's aim to deliver breakthroughs in key areas such as domestic violence, health and

- wellbeing, and in the transport strategy for Leeds; and
- focussing more closely on the areas in most need, ensuring services and partners work more closely together locally to deliver better outcomes for Leeds' most deprived neighbourhoods and developing stronger more resilient communities in Leeds.

2. Recommendations

Members of council are asked to:

- receive the annual report; and
- note the work now being progressed to further improve the effectiveness, community engagement role and improvement work of the community committees.