



**A meeting of the Council will be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 13th September, 2023 at 1.00 pm**

**Members of the Council are invited to attend and transact the following business:**

- 1 Minutes of the last Meeting** 5 - 22

To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023.
- 2 Declaration of Interest**

To disclose or draw attention to any interests in accordance with Leeds City Council's 'Councillor Code of Conduct'.
- 3 Communications**

To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor, the Leader, Members of the Executive Board or the Chief Executive consider appropriate.
- 4 Deputations**

To receive deputations in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.
- 5 Report on Appointments** 23 - 26

To consider the report of the City Solicitor on appointments.
- 6 Report on Community Committees** 27 - 70

To consider the report of the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment presenting to Council the Community Committees' Annual Report which looks at the progress made over the last twelve months the report also looks forward and mentions the challenges & next steps for the committees. In particular it sets the scene for the Community Committee Review that will take place over the coming months. The review will also support the actions identified through the LGA Peer Review and will consider how the committee infrastructure can improve community engagement and empower people so that they can become more involved in their local community and influence how services are delivered.

7	<b>Report Annual Report of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee</b>	71 - 86
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To consider the report of the Chief Officer Financial Services presenting to Council the Annual Report of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, Council are requested to receive and consider the annual report reflecting the work of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee in the 2022-23 municipal year.

8           **Executive Questions**

To deal with executive questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.

9	<b>Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Executive Board</b>	87 - 112
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To receive the minutes in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i).

10	<b>White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Lamb) - Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ)</b>	113 - 114
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This Council in principle rules out the introduction of an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in Leeds.

11	<b>White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Carlisle) - Economy</b>	115 - 116
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This Council recognises the immense importance of building a strong local economy. We celebrate work including the Inclusive Growth strategy, but note that established economic systems are failing to enact broad social, economic, and environmental benefits – locally, and across the world.

We are committed to deepening our relationship with and commitment to the work of bodies including the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) and the New Economics Foundation, especially around the unique importance of ‘community wealth building’. Local authorities have a key part to play in recalibrating local economies, to ensure maximum wealth, opportunities, and wellbeing for local communities.

Council will therefore create a 10 year strategy – with clear and measurable outcomes – based upon the so-called Preston Model, to become the UK core city with the most locally-focused economy, rooted in systemic commitments to redirect investment into the local economy, and thereby help build a fairer and more resilient city and region.

It has been reported that when he was Chancellor, Rishi Sunak refused to properly fund a school rebuilding programme.

Council utterly condemns this and calls on the Government to urgently fund vital school repair projects in Leeds.



Tom Riordan CBE  
Chief Executive

Civic Hall  
Leeds  
LS1 1UR

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the City Council's website on the internet - at the start of the meeting the Lord Mayor will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed. The images and sound recording may be used for training purposes by the Council. Generally the public gallery is not filmed. However, by entering the Council Chamber and using the public seating area you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the City Solicitor.

Note to observers of the meeting – To remotely observe the meeting please use the link below and click 'link to view the meeting recording'.

[Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://leeds.gov.uk/council-and-democracy)

#### **Third Party Recording**

Recording of this meeting is allowed to enable those not present to see or hear the proceedings either as they take place (or later) and to enable the reporting of those proceedings. A copy of the recording protocol is available from the clerk.

Use of Recordings by Third Parties– code of practice

- a) Any published recording should be accompanied by a statement of when and where the recording was made, the context of the discussion that took place, and a clear identification of the main speakers and their role or title.
- b) Those making recordings must not edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or comments made by attendees. In particular there should be no internal editing of published extracts; recordings may start at any point and end at any point but the material between those points must be complete.

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Proceedings of the Meeting of the Leeds City Council held  
Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 12th July, 2023

**PRESENT:** The Lord Mayor Councillor Al Garthwaite in the Chair.

**WARD**

**ADEL & WHARFEDALE**

Barry John Anderson  
Caroline Anderson

**ALWOODLEY**

Lyn Buckley  
Dan Cohen  
Neil Buckley

**ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD**

Stephen Holroyd-Case  
Karen Renshaw  
Mike Foster

**ARMLEY**

Andy Parnham  
Alice Smart  
James McKenna

**BEESTON & HOLBECK**

Andrew Scopes  
Annie Maloney  
Gohar Almas

**BRAMLEY & STANNINGLEY**

Tom Hinchcliffe  
Kevin Ritchie  
Caroline Gruen

**BURMANTOFTS & RICHMOND HILL**

Nkele Manaka  
Luke Farley  
Asghar Khan

**WARD**

**CALVERLEY & FARSLEY**

Peter Carlill

Amanda Carter

**CHAPEL ALLERTON**

Jane Dowson  
Eileen Taylor  
Mohammed Rafique

**CROSS GATES & WHINMOOR**

Pauleen Grahame  
James Gibson  
Jessica Lennox

**FARNLEY & WORTLEY**

David Blackburn  
Mark Swards  
Adrian McCluskey

**GARFORTH & SWILLINGTON**

Suzanne McCormack  
Mark Dobson  
Sarah Field

**GIPTON & HAREHILLS**

Asghar Ali  
Salma Arif  
Arif Hussain

**GUISELEY & RAWDON**

Oliver Edwards  
Eleanor Thomson  
Paul Alderson

**HAREWOOD**

Ryan Stephenson  
Matthew James Robinson  
Sam Firth

**HEADINGLEY & HYDE PARK**

Abdul Hannan  
Jonathon Pryor  
Alison Garthwaite

**HORSFORTH**

Raymond Jones  
Emmie Bromley  
John Garvani

**HUNSLET & RIVERSIDE**

Paul Wray  
Mohammed Iqbal  
Ed Carlisle

**KILLINGBECK & SEACROFT**

Katie Dye

David Jenkins

**KIPPAX & METHLEY**

Michael Millar  
Mary Elizabeth Harland  
James Lewis

**KIRKSTALL**

Andy Rontree  
Hannah Bithell  
Fiona Elizabeth Venner

**LITTLE LONDON & WOODHOUSE**

Abigail Marshall-Katung  
Kayleigh Brooks  
Javaid Akhtar

**MIDDLETON PARK**

Emma Pogson-Golden  
Wayne Dixon  
Sharon Burke

**MOORTOWN**

Mahalia France-Mir  
Sharon Hamilton  
Mohammed Shahzad

**MORLEY NORTH**

Robert Finnigan  
Robert Gettings MBE JP

**MORLEY SOUTH**

Wyn Kidger  
Oliver Newton

**OTLEY & YEADON**

Ryk Downes  
Colin Campbell  
Sandy Edward Charles Lay

**PUDSEY**

Simon Seary  
Dawn Seary

**ROTHWELL**

Diane Chapman  
Barry Stewart Golton  
Conrad Hart-Brooke

**ROUNDHAY**

Jordan Bowden  
Zara Hussain  
Lisa Martin

**TEMPLE NEWSAM**

Nicole Sharp  
Debra Coupar  
Helen Hayden

**WEETWOOD**

Julie Heselwood  
Izaak Wilson  
Emma Flint

**WETHERBY**

Penny Stables  
Norma Harrington  
Alan James Lamb

## 16 **Announcements**

(a) The Lord Mayor welcomed members to this meeting of Full Council and reminded those present that the meeting was to be streamed live.

(b) The Lord Mayor informed Council that the meeting would be adjourned for a short break at an appropriate time in the afternoon.

(c) The Lord Mayor congratulated all those recipients from Leeds or who work and volunteer in Leeds and who had been recognised in His Majesty The King's 2023 Birthday Honours List. The Lord Mayor offered their warmest congratulations on the receipt of the award.

(d) The Lord Mayor informed Council that Leeds City Council had been granted the 2023 Gold Award by the Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme in recognition of its support for the armed forces community.

(e) The Lord Mayor on behalf of Council, congratulated Councillor Ryan Stephenson on the safe arrival of baby Toby who was born on 6 June and reported that both mother and baby were doing well and in good health.

(f) The Lord Mayor informed Council of the recent death of Honorary Alderman Moira Dunn.

Council stood in silent tribute.

## 17 **Minutes of the last Meeting**

It was moved by Councillor Flint, seconded by Councillor Stephenson and

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 be approved.

## 18 **Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interests.

## 19 **Communications**

The Chief Executive informed Council that a response to a Council resolution in March on Energy Costs had been received from Andrew Bowie MP, Minister for Nuclear and Networks, Department for Energy Security & Net Zero and Amanda Solloway MP, Minister for Energy Consumers & Affordability.

The responses had previously been circulated to all Members of Council.

## 20 **Deputations**

One deputation, Colostomy UK was admitted to the meeting and addressed Council, and it was

**RESOLVED** – That the subject matter in respect of the deputation be referred to the Director of Adults and Health and the Director of Strategy and Resources for consideration in consultation with the relevant Executive Member(s).

## 21 **Procedural Motion**

It was moved by Councillor Flint, seconded by Councillor Farley and

**RESOLVED** - That Council Procedure Rules 2.2 (order of business) , 3.2 (30 minute for questions) and 11.4(a) (oral answers to questions) be suspended to allow Questions to the Mayor of West Yorkshire (to include an introduction from the Mayor followed by 1 hour for Members questions) and to allow responses to questions to be in writing after the meeting in accordance with CPR 11.6.

## 22 Questions to the Mayor of West Yorkshire

Q1 Councillor Foster to the Mayor:-

Does the Mayor think passenger satisfaction with bus services in my ward of Ardsley & Robin Hood has increased or decreased in the time she's been responsible for public transport in Leeds?

Q2 Councillor Hart-Brooke to the Mayor

Can the Mayor please clarify which areas of West Yorkshire greenbelt land she and her Labour Council Leader colleagues on the West Yorkshire Combined Authority would be happy to release to fulfil the Shadow Chancellor's desire to drive growth in the economy through enabling property developers to access previously protected sites, relaxing planning regulations, and imposing mandatory house building targets from Whitehall? The Executive Member (Infrastructure and Climate) replied.

Q3 Councillor Burke to the Mayor

Please can the Mayor outline the steps she is taking to undo the damage of Conservative Government cuts to Policing in order to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour, something that residents in my ward of Middleton Park are concerned about?

Q4 Councillor Newton to the Mayor

Councils in West Yorkshire will only accept waste from their own tax payers, meaning some have to travel many miles to recycle and the strain of that causes some to fly tip. However, Leeds City Council already has an arrangement with Bradford Council to allow its residents to access the household waste site at Otley. As Mayor, will you intervene to look to strengthen your environmental ambitions by getting other councils to allow similar arrangements. For example, so that Morley residents can access the Nab Lane Site at Birstall in Kirklees, rather than having to drive all the way to Pudsey.

Q5 Councillor Stables to the Mayor

Mayor Brabin, as you may know Wetherby Ward is indicated to be getting improved bus services on the current WYCA Transport Strategy. I would like to know when we will be getting these much needed improvements to the bus service?

Q6 Councillor Dixon to the Mayor

How will the West Yorkshire Mayor regain public trust in the Police so as to ensure people's confidence when reporting incidents in the future?

Q7 Councillor Thomson to the Mayor-

Can the Mayor please provide an update on the state of buses in Leeds and what she is doing to help passengers traveling on them, including passengers from my own ward of Guiseley and Rawdon?

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Q8 Councillor N Buckley to the Mayor

Would the Mayor please update Council on tree planting initiatives as part of her pledge to “Tackle the climate emergency and protect our environment”?

Q9 Councillor Golton to the Mayor

Can the Mayor tell us how, instead of improving bus services, her West Yorkshire Enhanced Bus Partnership managed to deliver the longest continuous period of industrial dispute in the bus industry in recent times, and a bus service network that is smaller, with poorer frequency and reliability than when it was set up?

Q10 Councillor Rafique to the Mayor

Please can the Mayor provide an update on the progress of Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure in Leeds.

Q11 Councillor Dixon to the Mayor

What is the West Yorkshire Mayor doing to stop illegal bikes / quads roaming our streets?

Q12 Councillor Scopes to the Mayor

Please can the Mayor update on work with BookTrust to support children’s literacy?

Q13 Councillor Lamb to the Mayor

Would the Mayor please confirm to Council that she knows where Wetherby is in West Yorkshire?

Q14 Councillor Golton to the Mayor

Does the Mayor think a Park and Ride facility should prioritise weekend bus services over car boot sales?

Q15 Councillor Martin to the Mayor

Please can the Mayor provide an update on successes in attracting businesses to Leeds as well as supporting existing local businesses?

Q16 Councillor Blackburn to the Mayor

Bearing in mind the amount of road traffic between North Yorkshire and Leeds, could the Mayor of West Yorkshire explain what she is doing along with North Yorkshire County Council and the public transport operators to enhance services across the border and to reduce the overall level of road traffic?

The Mayor replied and at the conclusion of the time available for questions to the Mayor the following questions remained unanswered and it was noted that, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 11.6, written answers would be sent to each Member of Council:-

- Q17 Councillor Robinson to the Mayor
- Q18 Councillor Golton to the Mayor
- Q19 Councillor Dixon to the Mayor
- Q20 Councillor Alderson to the Mayor
- Q21 Councillor Dixon to the Mayor
- Q22 Councillor Robinson to the Mayor
- Q23 Councillor Dixon to the Mayor
- Q24 Councillor Firth to the Mayor
- Q25 Councillor Dixon to the Mayor
- Q26 Councillor N Buckley to the Mayor
- Q27 Councillor Dixon to the Mayor
- Q28 Councillor Lamb to the Mayor
- Q29 Councillor Robinson to the Mayor
- Q30 Councillor Firth to the Mayor

**23 Recommendations of Executive Board - Children and Young People's Plan**

The report of the Director of Children and Families recommending adoption of the Children and Young People's Plan was moved by Councillor Venner, seconded by Councillor Pryor and

**RESOLVED** - That the refreshed Children and Young People's Pan 2023 to 2028 be adopted.

At the conclusion of this item Council had a brief adjournment 15:16 to 15:26.

**24 Report on Appointments**

It was moved by Councillor Flint, seconded by Councillor Farley and

**RESOLVED** – That the report of the City Solicitor on appointments be approved, namely;

- 1 To note the following appointments to the various West Yorkshire Combined Authority Committees and change of appointment to the West Yorkshire Pension Fund Joint Advisory Group
  - Cllr Brookes and Cllr Wilson to the WYCA Transport Scrutiny Committee
  - Cllr Dowson and Cllr Wray to the WYCA Corporate Scrutiny Committee
  - Cllr Almass to the WYCA Economy Scrutiny Committee
  - Cllr Bromley to replace Cllr Martin on the West Yorkshire Pension Fund Joint Advisory.

To note the following appointments to Committees, Boards or Panels

- Councillor Khan to replace Cllr McKenna on Scrutiny Board Environment, Housing and Communities.
- Councillor S Lay to be appointed to fill a vacancy as a Liberal Democrat Group substitute on the Health & Wellbeing Board.

To approve the following appointments to Committees, Boards or Panels

- Councillor Flynn to no longer be appointed to the Licensing Committee and this be a Conservative Group vacancy.

## 25 Report on Scrutiny Annual Report

It was moved by Councillor Coupar, seconded by Councillor Venner and

**RESOLVED** – That the report of the Head of Democratic Services presenting the Scrutiny Boards Annual Report for 2022/23 be noted.

## 26 Executive Questions

Council suspended Council Procedure Rules in order that all questions would receive a written answer: -

- Q1 Councillor Lamb to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure):-
- Q2 Councillor Hart-Brooke to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure):-
- Q3 Councillor Flint to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education):-
- Q4 Councillor Newton to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-
- Q5 Councillor Scopes to the Executive Member (Children's Social Care and Health Partnership):-
- Q6 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure):-
- Q7 Councillor Golton to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education):-
- Q8 Councillor Jenkins to the Executive Member (Adult Social Care, Public Health and Active Lifestyles):-
- Q9 Councillor Carlisle to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education):-
- Q10 Councillor Heselwood to the Executive Member (Housing).
- Q11 Councillor C Anderson to the Executive Member (Adult Social Care, Public Health and Active Lifestyles):-
- Q12 Councillor Hamilton to the Executive Member (Resources).
- Q13 Councillor Stables to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-

- Q14 Councillor Burke to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education):-
- Q15 Councillor B Anderson to the Leader of Council.
- Q16 Councillor Dowson to the Executive Member (Communities).
- Q17 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-
- Q18 Councillor Dye to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-
- Q19 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Communities).
- Q20 Councillor Maloney to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q21 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-
- Q22 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q23 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Housing).
- Q24 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-
- Q25 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q26 Councillor C Anderson to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q27 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Communities).
- Q28 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-
- Q29 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q30 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-
- Q31 Councillor C Anderson to the Executive Member (Adult Social Care, Public Health and Active Lifestyles):-
- Q32 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).

**27 Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Executive Board**

It was moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Flint that the minutes be received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i).

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes be received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i).

Council Procedure Rule 4, providing for the winding up of business, was applied prior to all notified comments on the minutes having been debated.

At the conclusion of this item Council adjourned from 16.53 to 17.18.

**28 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Lamb) - Planning Portal**

It was moved by Councillor Lamb, seconded by Councillor Amanda Carter that this Council regrets the administration's decision to stop publishing public comments on planning applications on the Council's website. Council believes this will reduce openness and transparency in the planning process, making it less visible and accessible to the people of Leeds.

Council views this trial, introduced at short notice and without full consultation, as typical of an administration that too often acts without proper regard for the people of Leeds, and which seems to view consultation as a box-ticking exercise rather than a genuine opportunity to listen and engage.

This Council calls for an immediate end to the trial and for comments to appear on the planning portal once again. Council further calls for a report to be brought to Executive Board setting out a renewed approach to all council consultations, one that genuinely listens and responds to the views of Leeds residents, and places openness and transparency at the heart of the process.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Carlisle, seconded by Councillor Stables

After "Council" in the first sentence insert the following:

"recognises the double impact of ongoing cuts from central government, and also loss of revenue due to the economic downturn, upon its financial stability and operational capacity. However, Council"

Delete all after "without full consultation," in the second paragraph and replace with:

"as typifying a steady social and political drift – not particular to Leeds – which treats consultation as a box-ticking exercise, rather than a genuine opportunity to listen and engage; Council believes that Leeds can and should do better, and buck that trend."

The amended White Paper would thus read:

"This Council recognises the double impact of ongoing cuts from central government, and also loss of revenue due to the economic downturn, upon its financial stability and operational capacity. However, Council regrets the administration's decision to stop publishing public comments on planning applications on the Council's website. Council believes this will reduce openness and transparency in the planning process, making it less visible and accessible to the people of Leeds.

Council views this trial, introduced at short notice and without full consultation, as typifying a steady social and political drift – not particular to Leeds – which treats consultation as a box-ticking exercise, rather than a genuine opportunity to listen and engage; Council believes that Leeds can and should do better, and buck that trend.

This Council calls for an immediate end to the trial and for comments to appear on the planning portal once again. Council further calls for a report to be brought to Executive Board setting out a renewed approach to all council consultations, one that genuinely listens and responds to the views of Leeds residents, and places openness and transparency at the heart of the process.”

A second amendment was moved by Councillor Hayden, seconded by Councillor Brooks

Delete all and replace with:

“This Council notes the decision to stop publishing 3<sup>rd</sup> party public representations on Public Access from 6 June is for an initial six-month trial period, while still enabling members of the public to comment on planning applications.

Council notes the trial is due to an increase in vociferous public comments on the platform discouraging some residents from commenting on planning applications due to fear of repercussions. Council is concerned by reports the platform has received antagonistic correspondence between applicants and objectors, meaning planning officers had to spend time redacting, publishing and responding to complaints on Public Access rather than assessing planning applications.

Council believes its record over many years shows it values high quality, transparent consultation as a method to engage with the people of Leeds. Recent examples of consultation exercises contributing significantly to key policy development include but are not limited to:

- The Children and Young People’s Plan Refresh which captured the voices of 80,000 children and young people,
- The Health and Wellbeing Strategy Refresh which took into account the Big Leeds Chat , an innovative approach to consultation which involved 43 in-person discussion forums open to all people take place with both geographical communities, communities of interest and young people organisations.
- The Council’s climate change plans, developed through the Big Leeds Climate Conversation with input from close to 8000 Leeds residents.
- The Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy which was developed with input from over 4,500 contributions.
- The Leeds Local Plan 2040 which is being developed with input from over 1000 contributions

Council notes planning services at councils across the country have been negatively impacted by 13 years of failed Conservative Government austerity, meaning an increasing number of councils have been forced to cut back on non-statutory responsibilities, such as the publication of 3<sup>rd</sup> party public representations on planning applications.

Council further notes the results of the trial will be examined by the relevant Scrutiny Board to see what impact the change has had on public engagement in the planning process and Council confirms its commitment to implementing the outcome of the trial process.”

The amendment in the name of Councillor Carlisle was declared lost the amendment in the name of Councillor Hayden was carried and upon being put to the vote it was

**RESOLVED** - That this Council notes the decision to stop publishing 3<sup>rd</sup> party public representations on Public Access from 6 June is for an initial six-month trial period, while still enabling members of the public to comment on planning applications.

Council notes the trial is due to an increase in vociferous public comments on the platform discouraging some residents from commenting on planning applications due to fear of repercussions. Council is concerned by reports the platform has received antagonistic correspondence between applicants and objectors, meaning planning officers had to spend time redacting, publishing and responding to complaints on Public Access rather than assessing planning applications.

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- The Council's climate change plans, developed through the Big Leeds Climate Conversation with input from close to 8000 Leeds residents.
- The Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy which was developed with input from over 4,500 contributions.
- The Leeds Local Plan 2040 which is being developed with input from over 1000 contributions

Council notes planning services at councils across the country have been negatively impacted by 13 years of failed Conservative Government austerity, meaning an increasing number of councils have been forced to cut back on non-statutory responsibilities, such as the publication of 3<sup>rd</sup> party public representations on planning applications.

Council further notes the results of the trial will be examined by the relevant Scrutiny Board to see what impact the change has had on public engagement in the planning process and Council confirms its commitment to implementing the outcome of the trial process."

## **29 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Golton) - Parks**

It was moved by Councillor Golton, seconded by Councillor Chapman that this Council recognises the significant role that community parks play in the health & wellbeing and cultural life of communities across Leeds. It welcomes the commitment in the Leeds Parks and Greenspaces Strategy 2022-32 to invest in active travel and 'access for all' both within and without local greenspaces to maximise usage.

The Council further welcomes the contribution made by the Mayor of West Yorkshire in commissioning a report on the safety of women and girls in parks which was published this year.

However, this Council is concerned that current capacity and resource levels within the Parks Service are at risk of seriously impeding progress on achieving the priorities spelled out in the reports mentioned.

Furthermore, the current cumulative neglect of green spaces in Leeds is actually worsening the safety and accessibility of park users and deterring many residents from using public open spaces.

Council therefore calls for:

- The promised greenspace accessibility audit process to be published this year
- A women and girls safety audit for Leeds parks to be published in parallel to the above
- A commitment to completing the 65 community park ‘plans on a page’ within 2 years
- A commitment that public consultation on such plans will not be limited to the online Commonplace platform
- Local parks and greenspace access and safety partnerships to be developed through Community Committees, in partnership with the Police and NHS
- A commitment to investigate the devolution of parks and grounds maintenance budgets to Community Committee level.”

An amendment was moved by Councillor Harrington, seconded by Councillor Amanda Carter

In the second paragraph delete all after “This Council further welcomes” and replace with:

“national and local efforts to tackle violence against women and girls, including the government’s commitment to a range of actions to protect women and girls against harm, and setting clear expectations about how the threat should be tackled by police forces.”

Insert new paragraph after “...detering many residents from using public open spaces”:

“Council is also concerned at the increase in anti-social behaviour in parks across the city, causing costly damage and preventing the public from enjoying our green spaces. Council is further concerned at the number of unauthorised Traveller encampments in parks and green spaces which have caused damage and disruption to local communities.”

Add the following at the end of the fifth bullet point:

“, with a focus on combatting anti-social behaviour”

Add a seventh bullet point:

“A commitment to do more to protect and secure our parks and green spaces and prevent unauthorised encampments.”



Motion would read as follows:

“This Council recognises the significant role that community parks play in the health & wellbeing and cultural life of communities across Leeds. It welcomes the commitment in the Leeds Parks and Greenspaces Strategy 2022-32 to invest in active travel and ‘access for all’ both within and without local greenspaces to maximise usage.

“The Council further welcomes national and local efforts to tackle violence against women and girls, including the government’s commitment to a range of actions to protect women and girls against harm, and setting clear expectations about how the threat should be tackled by police forces.

“However, this Council is concerned that current capacity and resource levels within the Parks Service are at risk of seriously impeding progress on achieving the priorities spelled out in the reports mentioned.

“Furthermore, the current cumulative neglect of green spaces in Leeds is actually worsening the safety and accessibility of park users and deterring many residents from using public open spaces.

“Council is also concerned at the increase in anti-social behaviour in parks across the city, causing costly damage and preventing the public from enjoying our green spaces. Council is further concerned at the number of unauthorised Traveller encampments in parks and green spaces which have caused damage and disruption to local communities.

“Council therefore calls for:

- The promised greenspace accessibility audit process to be published this year
- A women and girls safety audit for Leeds parks to be published in parallel to the above
- A commitment to completing the 65 community park ‘plans on a page’ within 2 years
- A commitment that public consultation on such plans will not be limited to the online Commonplace platform
- Local parks and greenspace access and safety partnerships to be developed through Community Committees, in partnership with the Police and NHS, with a focus on combatting anti-social behaviour
- A commitment to investigate the devolution of parks and grounds maintenance budgets to Community Committee level.
- A commitment to do more to protect and secure our parks and green spaces and prevent unauthorised encampments.”

A second amendment was moved by Councillor Rafique, seconded by Councillor Coupar

Delete All After:

“This Council recognises the significant role that community parks play in the health & wellbeing and cultural life of communities across Leeds. It welcomes the commitment in the Leeds Parks and Greenspaces Strategy 2022-32 to

invest in active travel and ‘access for all’ both within and without local greenspaces to maximise usage.”

And replace with:

“Council is proud of its record improving parks and green spaces in Leeds, with 72% of Leeds community parks now achieving the Leeds Quality Parks standard, compared to just 22% in 2010 under the Conservative/Liberal Democrats Administration at that time. Council notes this improvement is despite 13 year of damaging government imposed austerity, including £181.9m cut from council services every year since 2010 in Leeds by the Liberal Democrats as part of the Coalition Government.

Despite this, Council welcomes improvements delivered by this Council with partners to parks and green spaces in Leeds including:

- Receiving the prestigious Green Flag award at seven sites, including Golden Acre Park, Kirkstall Abbey, Middleton Park, Otley Chevin Forest Park, Pudsey Park, Roundhay Park and Temple Newsam
- Over £3m invested in the development of new visitor facilities at Temple Newsam
- The development of a new 2 hectare city centre park, Aire Park
- Breeze in Parks events providing access to parks for young people across the city.
- Children’s Day Reimagines which will see 1000 children from across the city come together at Roundhay Park on 14<sup>th</sup> July
- Recent improvements to local parks funded by Labour Ward Members, including a new play area at Ashton Park in Harehills and improved play equipment in Bramley Park;
- Securing £20m investment in the East Leeds and North West Leeds Parklife Schemes which will provide additional sporting and active lifestyle facilities such as outdoor park activity stations, to enable people to do fitness training whilst running around the park, young person’s play areas and significant wildlife habitat improvements
- Our woodland creation programme which will see a further 50 hectares planted each year over the next 4 years.

Council further welcomes work by this council with partners to make Leeds a safer place for women and girls, including the Ask for Angela Campaign which now has over 600 bars and restaurants in Leeds already signed up; the successful women’s night safe bus; and the survey of women who live, work and visit Leeds city centre to share their experiences to help the council and partners make Leeds a safer place for women and girls.

Council is disappointed that Government Ministers earlier this year refused to approve levelling up fund bids to further improve parks in Leeds and Council believes this is yet another example of a failing Conservative Government that continues to let the people of Leeds down.”

The amendment in the name of Councillor Harrington was declared lost the amendment in the name of Councillor Rafique was carried and upon being put to the vote it was

**RESOLVED** – That this Council recognises the significant role that community parks play in the health & wellbeing and cultural life of communities across Leeds. It welcomes the commitment in the Leeds Parks and Greenspaces Strategy 2022-32 to

invest in active travel and ‘access for all’ both within and without local greenspaces to maximise usage.”

Council is proud of its record improving parks and green spaces in Leeds, with 72% of Leeds community parks now achieving the Leeds Quality Parks standard, compared to just 22% in 2010 under the Conservative/Liberal Democrats Administration at that time. Council notes this improvement is despite 13 year of damaging government imposed austerity, including £181.9m cut from council services every year since 2010 in Leeds by the Liberal Democrats as part of the Coalition Government.

Despite this, Council welcomes improvements delivered by this Council with partners to parks and green spaces in Leeds including:

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Council is disappointed that Government Ministers earlier this year refused to approve levelling up fund bids to further improve parks in Leeds and Council believes this is yet another example of a failing Conservative Government that continues to let the people of Leeds down.”

### **30 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Arif) - NHS**

Prior to discussion on the Motion Councillor Lay, seconded by Councillor Hart Brooke sought leave of Council under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 13.2(d) and 14.10 to withdraw the amendment in his name.

Leave of Council was granted.

Councillor Arif also sought leave of Council under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 14.9(a) to alter the wording of the motion in her name by inserting

the words “and dental” after “mental health” but before “crisis” in the second paragraph (shown in bold in the motion).

Leave of Council was granted.

It was moved by Councillor Arif, seconded by Councillor Lay that this Council wishes the NHS a happy 75th birthday and thanks the city’s NHS workers for their dedicated service to the people of Leeds.

However, Council is gravely concerned by the damage inflicted on the NHS by the Conservative Government, including longer waiting times in A&E, for GP appointments, for Specialist Clinical Care or Surgery appointments, for Ambulances response times; and the failure to address the growing Mental Health **and dental** crisis.

Council is resolute in its support for NHS workers in Leeds and recognises the additional pressures and strains placed on them by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Cost-of-Living Crisis, and the Conservative Government’s complete failure to resolve ongoing industrial action.

Council is equally concerned by the wider damage 13 years of Conservative Government has caused to health inequalities. Council therefore welcomes Leeds City Council’s work locally alongside Professor Sir Michael Marmot and his team at the Institute of Health Equity, on a Marmot City approach to improving the health of the poorest in Leeds the fastest.

Council believes urgent Government action is needed to ensure Leeds residents receive the first class, timely NHS care they need and deserve. Council therefore calls for the Government to take immediate steps to constructively engage with representatives of the NHS workforce to mend the Government’s relationship with NHS workers and end the industrial action. Council notes the Government’s current plan does nothing to help people currently waiting for treatment, so Council further calls on the Government to immediately increase investment in NHS staff and services to get waiting times down for people who need treatment and care now.”

An amendment was moved by Councillor Caroline Anderson, seconded by Councillor N Buckley

Delete all after "This Council" and replace with:

“welcomes the 75th anniversary of the formation of the NHS and thanks NHS Leeds staff and partners for their service to the people of Leeds.

“Council notes that the NHS is in receipt of more money than ever before in its history with a budget of £152.6 billion in 2022/23.

“Council remains concerned that despite this record investment into the NHS, including more NHS staff than ever before, outcomes for patients are falling. Council acknowledges the impact the global pandemic has had on international healthcare systems, causing a backlog of appointments and operations including 14% fewer emergency admissions, 14% fewer outpatient appointments and 11% fewer elective and maternity admissions in 2022 than in the same month in 2019. Council therefore welcomes the first comprehensive workforce plan, created by the NHS, for the NHS,

and delivered in full by government, putting staffing on a sustainable footing and improving patient care. This is backed with over £2.4 billion to fund additional education and training places over five years on top of existing funding commitments.

"Council wants to see more done locally in areas of public health that this Council is itself responsible for. Council calls on the administration in Leeds to set out what it can do to expand preventative measures, boost active lifestyles, tackle social isolation, and improve the environment in order to achieve better public health outcomes for the people of Leeds and reduce pressure on the NHS, so it can better prioritise its record funding."

A second amendment was moved by Councillor Finnigan, seconded by Councillor Newton

Delete all after the first paragraph

And add a new second paragraph

This Council supports the call for a Royal Commission to advise on reform of the NHS.

The amended White Paper will then read:

This Council wishes the NHS a happy 75th birthday and thanks the city's NHS workers for their dedicated service to the people of Leeds.

This Council supports the call for a Royal Commission to advise on reform of the NHS.

The amendments in the name of Councillor C Anderson and Councillor Finnigan were declared lost and upon being put to the vote it was

**RESOLVED** –That this Council wishes the NHS a happy 75th birthday and thanks the city's NHS workers for their dedicated service to the people of Leeds.

However, Council is gravely concerned by the damage inflicted on the NHS by the Conservative Government, including longer waiting times in A&E, for GP appointments, for Specialist Clinical Care or Surgery appointments, for Ambulances response times; and the failure to address the growing Mental Health and dental crisis.

Council is resolute in its support for NHS workers in Leeds and recognises the additional pressures and strains placed on them by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Cost-of-Living Crisis, and the Conservative Government's complete failure to resolve ongoing industrial action.

Council is equally concerned by the wider damage 13 years of Conservative Government has caused to health inequalities. Council therefore welcomes Leeds City Council's work locally alongside Professor Sir Michael Marmot and his team at the Institute of Health Equity, on a Marmot City approach to improving the health of the poorest in Leeds the fastest.

Council believes urgent Government action is needed to ensure Leeds residents receive the first class, timely NHS care they need and deserve. Council therefore calls for the Government to take immediate steps to constructively engage with representatives of the NHS workforce to mend the Government's relationship with NHS workers and end the industrial action. Council notes the Government's current plan does nothing to help people currently waiting for treatment, so Council further calls on the Government to immediately increase investment in NHS staff and services to get waiting times down for people who need treatment and care now."

On the requisition of Councillor Stephenson and Robinson the voting on the amendment in the name of Councillor Finnigan was recorded as follows;

YES – 22

Alderson, B Anderson, C Anderson, L Buckley, N Buckley, Amanda Carter, Cohen, Firth, Foster, Harrington, Lamb, Robinson, D Seary, S Seary, Stephenson, Dixon, Pogson-Golden, Finnigan, Gettings, Kidger, Newton and Campbell.

NO - 58

Akhtar, Ali, Almass, Arif, Bithell, Bowden, Bromley, Brooks, Burke, Carlill, Coupar, Dowson, Dye, Edwards, Farley, Flint, France-Mir, Garvani, Gibson, Grahame, Gruen, Hamilton, Hannan, Harland, Hayden, Heselwood, Hinchcliffe, Holroyd-Case, A Hussain, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Khan, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Marshall-Katung, Martin, McCluskey, McKenna, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Sowards, Shahzad, Sharpe, Taylor, Thomson, Venner, Wilson and Wray.

ABSTAIN – 7

Blackburn, Stables, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke and Lay

On the requisition of Councillor Flint and Farley the voting on the motion in the name of Councillor Arif was recorded as follows;

YES – 69

Akhtar, Ali, Almass, Arif, Bithell, Bowden, Bromley, Brooks, Burke, Carlill, Coupar, Dowson, Dye, Edwards, Farley, Flint, France-Mir, Garvani, Gibson, Grahame, Gruen, Hamilton, Hannan, Harland, Hayden, Heselwood, Hinchcliffe, Holroyd-Case, A Hussain, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Khan, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Marshall-Katung, Martin, McCluskey, McKenna, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Sowards, Shahzad, Sharpe, Taylor, Thomson, Venner, Wilson, Wray, Dixon, Pogson-Golden, Gettings, Campbell. Blackburn, Stables, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke and Lay

NO - 16

Alderson, B Anderson, C Anderson, L Buckley, N Buckley, Amanda Carter, Cohen, Firth, Foster, Harrington, Lamb, Robinson, D Seary, S Seary, Stephenson and Kidger.

ABSTAIN – 2

Finnigan and Newton.

Council rose at 7.38 pm

## Appointments

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Report of: City Solicitor

Report to: Council

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

## Brief summary

This report seeks approval to a number of appointments on various Committees, Boards and Panels.

## Recommendations

- a) To approve the change of appointment on the Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment & Inclusive Growth), Councillor B Flynn to replace Councillor Alderson.
- b) To approve the change of appointment on the Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health & Active Lifestyles), Councillor Alderson to replace Councillor Firth.
- c) To approve the change of appointment on the Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources), Councillor Firth to replace Councillor Flynn.
- d) To approve the change of appointment on the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, Councillor Firth to replace Councillor Flynn.
- e) To approve the change of appointment on the Licensing Committee, Councillor Firth to fill the Conservative Group vacancy.

### **What is this report about?**

- 1 The proposal is for Council to approve the following appointments
  - Cllr Flynn to replace Cllr Alderson on Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment & Inclusive Growth)
  - Cllr Alderson to replace Cllr Firth on Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health & Active Lifestyles)
  - Cllr Firth to replace Cllr Flynn on Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources).
  - Cllr Firth to replace Cllr Flynn on the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee.
  - Cllr Firth to fill the Conservative Group vacancy on the Licensing Committee.

### **What impact will this proposal have?**

- 2 It will ensure that meetings held will have adequate and appropriate membership levels.

### **How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?**

Health and Wellbeing       Inclusive Growth       Zero Carbon

- 3 Fully operational and quorate Committees, Boards and Panels and representation on external bodies are in line with the Council's Policies and the priorities.

### **What consultation and engagement has taken place?**

Wards affected:
Have ward members been consulted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

- 4 Consultation has taken place with the relevant group(s) on the Council.

### **What are the resource implications?**

- 5 There are no specific resource implications associated with this report.

### **What are the key risks and how are they being managed?**

- 6 The key risks would have been lack of representation on local Committees, Boards and Panels. The risk is being managed by the appointment(s) in this report.

### **What are the legal implications?**

- 7 There are no specific legal implications associated with this report.

### **Options, timescales and measuring success**

#### **What other options were considered?**

- 8 No other options were considered.

#### **How will success be measured?**

- 9 Not applicable.

### **What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?**



10 The implementation of the decision would be immediately after the decision is made.

**Appendices**

- None

**Background papers**

- None

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## Community Committees Annual Report 2022/23

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Report of: Director of Communities, Housing and Environment

Report to: Council

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

### What is this report about?

The city's ten Community Committees provide the infrastructure through which the council executes one of its democratic functions and community engagement ambitions. Together, the committees create an invaluable city-wide network, through which communities are encouraged to engage and influence how the Council and its partners delivers its business functions.

Community Committees were set up in June 2014 to improve the way the council works locally. They 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, contributing towards the Best City Ambition and the council's overall aim of creating safer and stronger communities: [Leeds Best City Ambition.pdf](#)

The Annual Report looks at the progress made over the last 12 months. It outlines the changes which have taken place during 2022 to 2023 and gives examples of some of the work the Community Committees have carried out within their communities to improve the lives of local people of all ages and backgrounds. The report also looks at Wellbeing and Youth Activities Funding (YAF) and the impact it makes, as well as the role the Community Committees undertake in bringing communities together.

As well as looking back over the last twelve months, the report looks forward and mentions the challenges & next steps for the committees. In particular it sets the scene for the Community Committee Review that will take place over the coming months. The review will also support the actions identified through the LGA Peer Review and will consider how the committee infrastructure can improve community engagement and empower people so that they can become more involved in their local community and influence how services are delivered.

### Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

The report continues to cover the commitment to locality-based working, demonstrated over the last 12 months in the range of projects the committees have funded, spending over £2 million in 2022/23, totalling 431 separate grants that were provided to local grass root organisations, voluntary groups and charities. The Spending Money Locally section also shows the added value that projects provide to local communities in Leeds, not just in terms of financial match funding but also volunteer hours for projects funded by the committees.

It also references wherever possible, Leeds City Council's Best City Ambition and the three key strategic pillars; Inclusive Growth, Health & Wellbeing and Zero Carbon, by linking projects funded through the committees to the strategies: [Leeds Best City Ambition.pdf](#)

It is clear that strong, effective partnerships have continued to develop through the work of the committees and this is referenced throughout the report. These partnerships have flourished in our diverse communities and in many cases are continuing to progress, with some now offering wider support to meet local needs, contributing towards the Best Council Plan and the council's overall aim of creating safe, strong communities.

## Recommendations

Members of council are asked to:

- a) receive the annual report; and
- b) note the work now being progressed to further improve the effectiveness, community engagement role and improvement work of the Community Committees, via the Community Committee Review.

## Why is the proposal being put forward?

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, via the Community Committee Review.

## What impact will this proposal have?

### Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted?       Yes       No

## What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Community Committee Chairs have been consulted on their respective Community Committee story contained with the Annual Report. The full report was also circulated to Community Committee Chairs for any feedback/comments on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023.

## What are the resource implications?

Aligning the distribution of Community Committee funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

## What are the legal implications?

There are no legal implications or access to information issues. This report is not subject to call in.

## What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

Risk implications and mitigation are considered on all funding applications. Projects are assessed to ensure that applicants are able to deliver the intended benefits.

## Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth       Health and Wellbeing       Zero Carbon

Projects submitted to the Community Committee for funding are assessed to ensure that they are in line with Council and City priorities as set out in the following documents:

1. Vision for Leeds 2011 – 30
2. Best City Plan
3. Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan
4. Children and Young People's Plan
5. Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
6. Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy
7. Climate Emergency

## **Options, timescales and measuring success**

### **What other options were considered?**

All projects that are funded by the Community Committees are measured for outcomes, in accordance with localised priorities that have been agreed with each individual committee. Aligning the distribution of Community Committee funding to address local priorities helps to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

Feedback and monitoring information is gathered upon completion of each project that is funded by the committees and this is provided as updates to Elected Members in their respective Community Committee meetings. Case studies are also regularly obtained from partners in various service meetings.

This report is meant as an update in relation to the work of the Community Committees over the last 12 months.

### **How will success be measured?**

With IMD data only published sporadically, we have previously struggled to measure the impact of local intervention. However, with the publication of the Social Progress Index (SPI) for Leeds, this has changed. The Social Progress Index (SPI) is a tool that helps measure how well Leeds is doing in terms of Inclusive Growth. It helps us understand what's happening in different areas of the city, on a ward-by-ward basis and by looking at multiple indicators and offering us a clear and unbiased measure of overall wellbeing in the city: [The Leeds Social Progress Index | Inclusive Growth Leeds](#)

The SPI compliments the IMD data, allowing us to compare each ward against its peers, as well as allowing us to track change over time. The SPI is made of three main parts: Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Wellbeing and Opportunity. The various indicators measure specific outcomes, with the scores of each area showing on a scale from 0-100. This makes it easier to understand how well the city is doing and where our strengths and weaknesses lie.

In addition to this, each year the Community Committees produce an Annual Report. By listening to their local communities, the report has in the past, stated that the committees were able to allocate resources and funding where it was most needed; helping to protect the most vulnerable, helping to keep people safe from harm, assisting people with financial hardship and helping tackle social isolation and inequality. It also references wherever possible, Leeds City Council's Best City Ambition and the three key strategic pillars; Inclusive Growth, Health & Wellbeing and Zero Carbon, by linking projects funded through the committees to the strategies: [Leeds Best City Ambition.pdf](#)

### **What is the timetable for implementation?**

Each year an Annual Report is produced that outlines the work and progress of the Community Committees.

The Community Committee Review will take place over the coming months, with approved recommendations from the review, being implemented in June 2024, in readiness for the summer cycle of committees.

## **Appendices**

Attached at appendix 1 is a copy of the Community Committees Annual Report 2022/23, associated with this paper.

## **Background papers**

There are no background documents associated with this paper.

# Leeds Community Committees Annual Report 2022/23



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## Welcome: Councillor Mary Harland

We are immensely proud of the work our ten Community Committees continue to do for the residents of Leeds. The work has continued throughout the past year, ensuring that the committees help; to protect the most vulnerable, keep people safe from harm, assist people with financial hardship and tackle anti-social behaviour and crime.

This is done by engaging with and being responsive to the local needs of its communities and is achieved through committee meetings, forums, workshops, social media and the funding of many local projects from the Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activity Fund.

All ten Community Committees are committed to creating communities that are full of opportunity and we want those communities to be able to celebrate their own uniqueness and individuality. The Summer Fun section on pages 25 and 26 show some of the festivals and events the Community Committees fund across Leeds. We want every single resident to feel proud of the city and recognise the community they live in as their own.

Our Community Committees recognise our communities are more diverse than ever, a strength that we are truly proud of in Leeds. Our commitment to locality-based working has been demonstrated once again over the course of the last 12 months in the broad range of projects that the Community Committees have funded, spending over £2 million in 2022/23, totalling 431 separate grants that were provided to local grass route organisations, voluntary groups and charities, to tackle the immediate and specific needs of our communities.

The Community Committees are also fully committed to promoting young people to have their voices heard, as they play a vital role within our communities. Each committee therefore continues to support our very successful Youth Summits (the first events that have happened since the COVID-19 pandemic). The information collated from these events has allowed the committees to fund activities for children and young people based upon their feedback and further details of this work can be found on page 19.

The Community Committees continue to work with many, many partners from different sectors to meet the needs of our communities and the challenge now as we look ahead to next year is how we continue to do this successfully despite the significant challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic has provided but also other factors such as the cost-of-living crisis.

Our work may need to be delivered differently but the Community Committees will continue to work hard to ensure that every voice is heard and that we are impacting positively on all our local communities.



*Councillor Mary Harland*

*Executive Member for Communities*



## Introduction

The city of Leeds, situated in the centre of the country is the third largest and one of the fastest growing, diverse cities in England. Leeds City Council itself is the second largest metropolitan district in the country, covering 217 square miles, with over three quarters of a million residents.

During the course of 2022/23 Leeds City Council has continued its vision to make Leeds the best city in the UK, by being compassionate and caring with a strong economy, tackling poverty and reducing inequalities.

This ambition has been tested once again over the last 12 months as a result of the continued and ongoing challenges that COVID-19 has presented the city. Leeds City Council however has remained focused on its vision of creating a distinctive, sustainable, ambitious and of particular relevance again this last year, a safe city, by working tirelessly with our ten Community Committees and our 99 Elected Members.

Each year all ten Community Committees set out their priorities, identifying target areas that need to be addressed over the next 12 months. These targets are identified by using local data that provide valuable information on various issues such as unemployment, health, crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Council, led by Elected Members, continued to deliver an extensive programme of support across all areas of the city; keeping residents safe, protecting the most vulnerable and ensuring that local communities got the support they needed. The work that took place through our Community Committee structures proved invaluable in making sure our approach was tailored to meet the direct needs of our local communities in a responsive and effective way.

This report covers some of the progress of all ten committees and demonstrates how they helped provide local residents with a voice. It also provides examples of ‘real life’ human stories and how some of the projects the committees have funded have benefitted local communities across Leeds in 2022/23, contributing towards the Best City Ambition: [Leeds Best City Ambition.pdf](#) and the council’s overall aim of creating safe, strong communities.



## Spending Money Locally

Community Committees play an important role in understanding and addressing issues of concern to local people. One of the many ways they do this is by funding projects that address local priorities.

At the start of each year, every committee is allocated a dedicated sum of money known as the Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activities Fund. This money is provided for local projects and activities and can often be increased through match funding from other sources.

Major benefits have been identified from funding delegated to Community Committees, such as; developing community capacity and pride (generating a sense of belonging, often involving volunteering by local residents to make things happen), sealing the deal (funding projects where work would not otherwise be taken forward), leverage (acting as a catalyst to lever in funding from other sources) and implementing planned local actions (focusing on specific local priorities identified by committees).

The image below shows the monetary value of projects that were funded by the Community Committees in 2022/23, as well as showing the added value that projects provide to local communities, not just in terms of match funding (sourcing other funding streams to make better use of available budgets) but also volunteer hours for projects funded by the committees.



# Inner East

## Over 60's Club

The Inner East Community Committee approved £4,403.04 for the Cross Gates Over 60's Club to meet once a week and give local people the opportunity to socialise and play bingo, with the hope of stopping its attendees from becoming socially isolated. This linked in with the Leeds City Council Best City Ambition, Health & Wellbeing, where "Leeds will be a healthy and caring city for everyone, where those who are most likely to experience poverty improve their mental and physical health the fastest, people are living healthy lives for longer and are supported to thrive from early years to later life".

The Cross Gates Over 60's Club had up to 20 regular members and operated from Cross Gates Community Centre every Monday, from 12.30pm until 3pm. All regular attendees over the course of the project received a birthday, Easter and Christmas treat, which helped them to celebrate these special occasions.

In addition to the weekly session that was funded by the Inner East Community Committee, the club also organised a number of other trips and meals across the course of the year, including two Winter Warmer Trips across the winter period to North Yorkshire, as well as one trip to Whitby by coach. The sessions were a huge success and this popularity was reflected in the growth of the club's regular numbers, from 20 to around 30 regular attendees.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerEast>



# Inner South

## Saturday Park Roll

The Inner South Community Committee awarded LS-TEN £1,680 for their Saturday Park Roll Project, which aimed to encourage young people to develop their own skills in terms of coaching and supporting others in their career progression.

Funding was used to offer free skating sessions every Saturday at Cross Flatts Park in Beeston, one of the most diverse areas of Leeds. The free skating sessions which were offered to low income families, also unexpectedly led to participants starting to play roller hockey and learn roller dance, in amongst the other skills they developed on the project. Several of the young people also joined a Young Leaders Scheme and have now started to volunteer, to support new learners. As well as members of the local community setting up a WhatsApp group to arrange skate sessions, skate groups have been formed by attendees of the sessions in different areas, such as Middleton Skaters and West Leeds Rollers.

The skating sessions were attended by children and young people from across the Inner South Community Committee area. Each session had between 30 and 60 attendees, with the majority of participants being a diverse group of young people, from many different backgrounds. Following a feedback request participants stated that their confidence in skating had doubled following the sessions, with other added benefits; self-confidence (up 39.13%), improved fitness (up 4.35%), made new friends (up 4.35%) and increased skating ability (up 52.17%).

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerSouth>



# Inner West

## Christmas in the Community

The Inner West Community Committee approved £2,000 for the Christmas in the Community Project, managed by New Wortley Community Association. The cost of living crisis affects many of our most vulnerable local residents and families in Leeds, so the Christmas in the Community Project aimed to support 50 families over the festive period, giving them access to food support in the form of a hamper containing ingredients to cook a Christmas lunch for up to five people.

Each hamper contained a large chicken, potatoes, vegetables, pigs in blankets, gravy and a dessert, together with a few treat items like crackers, as well as chocolate and cakes. Families were also given gift cards to purchase toys for their children.

The project exceeded its target of supporting 50 families, as it supported 59 in total. The initial 50 families were provided lunch hampers as planned in the project proposals and the additional nine families were provided festive goodies hampers, or toy vouchers. The total number of individuals supported by the Christmas in the Community Project over the festive period was 226.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerWest>



# Inner North East

## Community Heroes Thank You Event

The Inner North East Community Committee awarded £1,697 to the Communities Team, to host a thank you event for local 'community heroes'. The event was held at the Egan Suite in Sheepscar on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023, to celebrate volunteering efforts throughout the year, thus linking the project in to one of the core Leeds City Council Best City Ambitions, Inclusive Growth.

The event was attended by guest speakers, which included the then Lord Mayor, Cllr Bob Gettings (MBE), Cllr Mary Harland (Executive Member for Communities) and Dr Mohammed Sattar (Primary Care Network). Guests were entertained by performances from Irish Arts Foundation, RJC Dance and Kathak Dance.

Councillors from the Inner North East area were present, commenting that "volunteers dedicate so much of their time to some of the most vulnerable people in our communities and to those in need, that it's therefore a pleasure that the council honours them and expressed its thanks and admiration".

All volunteers had the opportunity to celebrate the importance of the work they do and were awarded certificates for their hard work and dedication in their community roles. About 150 people attended in total, with everyone having the opportunity to meet others to network and share good practice.

**What you said:** *"very informative and gave us the opportunity to network with other voluntary organisation...good to celebrate and see the diverse range of organisations from the INE area of Leeds".*

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerNE>



# Inner North West

## Thornville's Graffiti Project

The Inner North West Community Committee awarded £16,528 to the Inner North West Environmental Sub Group, who are delegated responsibility by the committee to tackle environmental issues in the area. The sub group, which is made up of Elected Members, council officers from different departments, representatives from Leeds and Leeds Beckett Universities, Unipol and local resident's groups, is therefore an excellent example of partnership working.

The Inner North West Environmental Sub Group decided to focus its attention on Hyde Park, as this high profile and vibrant area of the city is made up of a mixture of residents; long term residents, as well as short term residents such as student and private rented tenants. As such the area tends to be blighted by wide spread graffiti, especially on the gable ends of terraced housing. The sub group decided to work on a project in the Thornville's area, aiming to transform an area badly affected by graffiti, by inspiring residents.

The project delivered five murals on consecutive gable ends for maximum impact. The project also provided a Top Tips Guide and blueprint for others to follow that wished to tackle graffiti in their own area. The project was a great success and has transformed the appearance of the Thornville's and inspired local residents to take pride in their neighbourhood. It is hoped that residents will expand the mural area in the future using the Top Tips Guide for delivering a graffiti project, thus making this a truly sustainable project.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerNW>





# Outer East

## Holiday Activities for Young People

The Outer East Community Committee awarded just under £36,731 in 2022/23, to deliver holiday activities for young people, in all its four wards; Cross Gates & Whinmoor, Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley and Temple Newsam, thus linking the project in to the Leeds City Council Best City Ambition, Health & Wellbeing.

One of the many projects delivered by Leeds Youth Services was a comprehensive School Holiday Programme, providing a diverse range of physical and educational activities over the school holiday periods. The programme directed young people into positive activities that contributed to enhanced life and social skills, offering opportunities for young people to experience activities and facilities that they could not usually afford. This included trips to theme parks, aqua parks, York Maze Scare Grounds, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Doncaster Dome, theatre performances, as well as others.

This positive interaction formed strong relationships and developed new life skills for all the young people involved in the project. A total of 227 young people engaged and benefitted from the projects taking place across the 41 sessions delivered in the Outer East wards.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterEast>



# Outer South

## The Chatter Bus 2022/23

The Chatter Bus 2022/2023 Project run by local charity For Disability Mobility (FDM) based in Rothwell, benefits elderly and disabled people living in all four wards of Outer South Leeds. It provides attendees with the opportunity to combat social isolation and loneliness, by providing trips out that create new memories and friends, as well as helping people to feel more independent. FDM's door to door service means that vulnerable people know that they are safe and can be confident going out.

The activities delivered through the project provided 30 trips to each of their two social clubs, providing a broad choice of destination or activity. This included a pantomime, theatre productions at Leeds Playhouse and tribute evenings with a meal, as well as trips to shops, or alternatively a walk in the fresh air, such as visits to stately gardens. Additional trips were organised that met demand from the groups for popular destinations such as Bridlington, Filey and a Christmas Lunch.

The charity recently replaced its oldest minibus, with a new one that was fully adaptable, so the organisation was keen to maximise its use. FDM purchased additional leaflets for promotional purposes, that were distributed in a number of ways. This really made a difference, as less than 10% of FDM's members have access to the internet, so getting a regular list of trips available each month was important.

During the pandemic the social club lost a lot of its members, however since the start of this project membership has increased by 161%, especially from those who would not be able to get out without specialist transport. FDM report that through their social club people have formed new friendships.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterSouth>



# Outer West

## October Half Term Taster Sessions

The Outer West Community Committee awarded £2,517.00 from the Youth Activity Fund to support the project 'October Half Term YAF Taster Sessions', which was run by Leeds Youth Services. This funding was used to provide an activity day in all three of the Outer West wards; Calverley & Farsley, Farnley & Wortley and Pudsey. The aim of the project was to enable young people to participate in a variety of activities, learn new interests and hobbies and form new friends, at a venue close to where they live, which was a key piece of feedback from young people in the consultation survey in 2021/22.

Linking in with Leeds City Councils health and wellbeing Best City Ambition, the project worked with over 60 young people who were able to take part in activities such as DJ skills, life skills workshops, cooking classes, crafts/bush craft workshops and survival skills workshops. Leeds Youth Services liaised with Clusters to ensure the harder to reach and vulnerable young people were also able to access the taster days and take part in the fun.

West Yorkshire Police and the Fire Service also attended to speak to about safety, particularly in the run up to Bonfire Night. Many young people stated this was the highlight of the day and thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the interactive section of the workshop. The activity days were so popular that the Outer West Community Committee have funded a similar project in the Easter holidays this year.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterWest>



# Outer North East

## Activities for Young People

In 2022 the Outer North East Community Committee allocated monies towards providing various holiday activities for young people, linking in to the Leeds City Council Best City Ambition, Health & Wellbeing. The Jubilee Games Project in the Harewood ward, aimed to provide a legacy of Her late Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The inaugural Jubilee Games provided a springboard for collaboration between local schools, to harness that sense of community and cultural capital in the field of sports.

At the end of the games, a scoreboard was published and awards presented to all participants and winners. A memory of the games, alongside information on how to take part in sports disciplines outside of school, was presented to pupils in the form of a memory/goodie bag. 260 pupils competed, from different schools and socio-economic backgrounds. Following the games, a special inaugural games video was shared with schools and on social media, with over 1,700 views in the first few days: [www.jubileegames.co.uk](http://www.jubileegames.co.uk)

In the Alwoodley & Wetherby wards, the Leeds Rhinos Foundation were funded to deliver summer camps (six camps in Alwoodley & four in Wetherby). The camps focused on physical activity, with an aim of increasing confidence, promoting an active and healthy lifestyle and developing emotional intelligence. In relation to the Wetherby camps, there was a 25% target female participation rate, which was achieved with a 40.2% rate. Across both wards the camps had a total of 818 children attending. A video case study can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29Mpve-c-Tg>



# Outer North West

## Supporting Physical and Social Activity

The Outer North West Community Committee provided over £36,000 of funding to support physical and social activity for all ages. As a result of the many health and wellbeing challenges that people have faced over the last few years, including the COVID-19 pandemic, various projects funded by the committee focused on being able to provide physical and social support, achieved by providing improved facilities to community spaces/venues.

Arthington Cricket Club, which had seen a rise in the use of its facilities, constructed a new cricket pavilion with larger changing rooms and a hygienic food preparation/serving area that meets the Sport England minimum requirements.

Menston Cricket Club had to put a halt on using the pavilion at the High Royds, as it was deemed unsafe and applied for a grant which helped fund the provision of temporary facilities. This grant enabled them to continue using the pitch during the 2022 cricket season.

Otley Cricket Club used funding to demolish an existing scoreboard and old tackle shed, replacing them with two new permanent netting lanes and a replacement tackle shed.

These projects have also had a positive impact on the environment, as the much needed work has reduced the carbon footprint and environmental impact on the planet, by ensuring venues are more effectively heated, ventilated and have with more energy efficient lighting.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterNW>



# Community Voice and Influence

## Youth Summits

Youth Summits are an opportunity for young people aged 8-17 years living in Leeds to learn about local democracy and influence decision making by taking part in a consultation exercise that informs the Community Committee's Youth Activity Fund budget spend for the following year.

Building on our commitment to engage and involve children and young people in decision making in their own communities, young people have once again been involved in choosing which activities should be supported by the Community Committees' Youth Activity Fund in 2023/24.

The pandemic provided us with an opportunity to reflect upon the Youth Summit model and consider how we adapt responses and approaches to meet the needs of young people in our respective communities, as well as reviewing the aims and objectives for the Community Committee Youth Summits.

An approach was agreed that set out clear aims and objectives, as well as demonstrating measurable and specific outcomes for the Youth Summits. These were subsequently agreed with our Executive Board Member, Community Committee Champions and Community Committee Chairs and discussed with Children & Families Sub Groups.

A key objective for the Community Committees is that we engaged with a wide variety of young people and that this engagement reflected the true diversity of the city, not just young people who are academically inclined, or naturally engaged with these types of events.

With this in mind the Communities Team attended the SEND Youth Summit, to consult with young people that have special education needs & disabilities. At the SEND Youth Summit which took place in November 2022, the Community Committees engaged with 56 young people that have special educational needs & disabilities. The Communities Team also delivered a Youth Summit to young people from the LGBT+ community and at this event in March 2023 there were 15 young people in attendance.



# Community Voice and Influence

## Youth Summits

All Youth Summits had a specific link to the Child Friendly Leeds agenda & the Child Friendly Leeds 12 'wishes'. At the Q&A sessions with the Lord Mayor & Elected Members, various themes emerged, which have been shared with the Child Friendly Leeds Team: [Our 12 Wishes for a Child Friendly City – Child Friendly Leeds: Our Blog \(wordpress.com\)](#).

The largest proportion of young people that attended the Community Committee Youth Summits were White British, however the events also engaged with many other young people from different ethnicities, reflecting the diversity of the city. Over 600 young people were involved in the Youth Summits, with over 100 schools/organisations involved in bringing young people along to the events. As time progresses, the Community Committees will be able to assess how many projects have been funded, or proactively commissioned from the Youth Activity Fund, as a result of the Youth Summits/and or Youth Activity Fund consultation.

## Inner West Youth Summit



# Community Voice and Influence

## Youth Summits: Feedback

### **Primary School Teacher:**

“We had a great time and the children really enjoyed participating in the activities. It was great to be able to do the activities in person and back in the Civic Hall.”

### **Careers and Employability Co-Ordinator :**

“My colleague and the students said it was a wonderful event and the students really enjoyed all the activities. It was great that my colleague could tell me how involved our students were in the debates and questions. I know how much work goes in to organising an event like this, so I just wanted to send my thanks and say well done.”

### **Primary School Children:**

“It was brilliant! We got to meet the Lord Mayor of Leeds. It was amazing! We got to ask lots of questions and the Lord Mayor and councillors gave really good replies. I liked hearing about the councillors’ experiences and what they do in their area. I enjoyed it as you got to have a say.”

### **Primary School Learning Mentor:**

”Thank you so much, the pupils had such a fantastic time.”

### **Leeds Youth Service:**

“The young people all had a brilliant time and enjoyed the day. Schools commented on how the students returned feeling very positive and told friends that they got to meet the Lord Mayor.”





# Community Voice and Influence

## Youth Activity Fund Consultation

Alongside the physical Youth Summit, the Communities Team also created a consultation survey for young people: <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/YouthActivities2022/>

This online survey was circulated far and wide throughout the city and was created using some new and innovative ways of engaging with young people, such as creating a QR code that directed young people straight to the survey, after being scanned with a Smartphone.

The online survey had 2,330 responses, with an additional online survey being created to engage with young people that have special educational needs and disabilities. In relation to this survey, there were 144 responses; in total 2,448 across both surveys. Overall response rate across the city of Leeds, against the population data for 8 - 17 year olds was 2.17%.

The citywide consultation conducted with young people via the Community Committee Youth Summits & Youth Activity Fund consultation, identified the following funding priorities for this year across the city 1) sports, 2) cooking, 3) arts & crafts, 4) outdoor adventures and 5) youth clubs.

The feedback showed that the majority of young people wanted youth activities on offer in local venues such as community centres, youth clubs and sport centres but were happy for activities to be delivered either inside or outside. Young people also wanted the majority of provision taking place regularly after school, in the evenings and on the weekend.



# Community Engagement and Cohesion

Many of Leeds' communities are made up of people from different backgrounds, beliefs and cultures. A significant part of the work carried out by Community Committees involves strengthening community cohesion and breaking down barriers. Between formal committee meetings, Elected Members work in a number of different ways to improve local areas and the quality of life for residents. They also work to strengthen links with local communities, through public forums, Parish & Town Councils, as well as volunteer and residents' groups; supporting local people to understand each other better and get on well together.

## Bringing Services to Local Communities

The Outer South Community Committee holds various events over the course of the year, which reach thousands of local people, where attendees often find out about local services. The committee also continues to support the annual St George Day Festival in April, with a street stall in Queens Street in Morley, visited by around 1,500 people.

## Community Forums

The Outer East Community Committee area covers a wide geography and community forums tend to be the main source of engagement and involvement with local residents. The forums meet quarterly and are used as an opportunity to share information and provide updates on key issues and services.

## Making the Most of Local Assets

Community Committees continue to focus their attention on how partners can work together to run sustainable community projects. The Inner North West Community Committee dedicated a substantial amount of resources (time and money) to purchase and convert a shipping container for use as a community food pantry. The Little London Community Food Pantry provides groceries and other essential non-foods household items to residents of the Little London, Woodhouse and neighbourhood communities that are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the cost-of-living crisis.



# Community Engagement and Cohesion

## Celebrating Community Heroes

The work that our community volunteers do is inspiring and makes a real positive impact on people's lives, from 'In Bloom' groups, to dance groups, choirs and older persons groups. In recognition of the many hours of voluntary work, the Inner North East Community Committee held a 'Community Heroes, Thank You Event', attended by the Lord Mayor. The event was an opportunity for the committee to celebrate the diversity and strength of community leadership in the area, as well as thanking people for the contribution they make on a voluntary basis to their communities.

## Parish and Town Councils

Good partnership working between the Community Committees and Parish and Town Councils presents an additional opportunity for the council to achieve its ambition of a lasting shift towards local democracy. By working closely together, the Community Committees and Parish and Town Councils make a vital contribution to the wellbeing of the communities they serve. The Leeds Parish and Town Council Charter: [Parish and Town Council Charter \(leeds.gov.uk\)](http://leeds.gov.uk) sets out how Community Committees and Parish and Town Councils work together for the benefit of local people.

The Outer North East Parish and Town Council Forum provides a mechanism for regular engagement, as well as opportunities for discussion and collaborative working, on issues of common interest. The forum tends to meet on a quarterly basis and enables Parish and Town Councils in the Outer North East area to work closely with the Community Committee and the council, to improve the flexibility and effectiveness of the delivery of services.



# Community Engagement and Cohesion

## Communications and Social Media

Good communication plays a vital role in supporting the council's ambition to be responsive to the needs of its local communities, improving democratic decision making and involving local people in decisions that affect their neighbourhoods.

Social media continues to be a key method of engagement, as the ten Community Committees each have their own Facebook page. Collectively over the ten pages there are 15,548 likes/followers. The social media activity that takes place through the Community Committee structures, ensures we reach a large number of residents every month through local stories and conversations.

During the pandemic our Community Committees also continued to play an essential role in providing a responsive information service to all our diverse communities in the city, by being a key source of reliable and up to date information. The Coronavirus Help Facebook Groups which have now been deactivated, were set up as a way of promoting services, supporting communities and cascading information in an attempt to tackle the pandemic. The pages were also there to generate discussion and debate but also facilitate conversations around being neighbourly during the national pandemic and assist in some of the volunteering efforts in the city.

Other examples of promotional activity and communications the Community Committees are involved in include; features in local newspapers such as South Leeds Life, the use of community radio stations, personalised emails to mailing lists and Local Engagement Plans, posters and flyers being placed in council buildings such as One Stop Centres, as well as physical engagement events.



# Community Engagement and Cohesion

## Communications and Social Media: Examples

**Youth Activity Fund Consultation Survey**  
**Inner South Community Committee 2022**

Young people of Inner South Leeds, your Community Committee needs your help!

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!**

Do you live in Beeston & Holbeck, Hunslet & Riverside, or Middleton Park? Are you aged between 8 & 17? Do you want a say on what youth activities your committee supports this coming year?

If so, click on the link and fill in a really quick survey to let us know your thoughts! <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/OSCECI/>

Scan me

**Outer North East Community Committee Meeting**

Monday 19 September 2022, 5.30pm  
**Rooms 6 & 7, Civic Hall, Calverley St, LS1 1UR**

Presentation and discussion at 5.30pm on the following reports;  
**Highways Annual Improvement Consultation**  
**Standard Business Reports**

Hosted by the Outer North East Community Committee and Chaired by Cllr Norma Harrington

Everyone is welcome so please feel free to come along! The meeting will include the usual open forum at the start, giving you the opportunity to ask any questions, followed by the standard business section.

Meeting documents can be viewed on the democracy website, a week prior to the meeting, using the following link:  
[Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://councilanddemocracy.leeds.gov.uk)

The meeting will also be streamed online live via Leeds City Council website; Community Committees - YouTube

For any questions re: the committee, or the meeting itself please contact:  
[communitycommitteeefunding@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:communitycommitteeefunding@leeds.gov.uk)

**Outer South Community Committee Meeting**

**Monday 13th March 2023 at 4pm**

Northfield Community Centre, Rothwell, Leeds LS26 0SL

Outer South Community Committee website:  
<http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=1002>

Hosted by the Outer South Community Committee.

Keep up to date with the work of your Community Committee.

Light refreshments will be available...tea/coffee/biscuits

The meeting will include the usual open forum at the start, giving you the opportunity to ask any questions, followed by the standard business section.

There will be guests from Housing, LASBT and the Police

If you have any questions or require any further information please contact: [communitycommitteeefunding@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:communitycommitteeefunding@leeds.gov.uk)

**Outer West Community Committee Meeting**

Monday 5th September, 1pm.  
 Pudsey Civic Hall – Woodhall Suite

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

Contribute your views at the Open Forum section. Follow the Finance Report and Update Report. Hear from additional agenda items including:

- Highways - Annual Improvement Consultation
- Adults & Health - Leeds Dementia Strategy

This is a public meeting with no pre-booking required. Come along and engage with conversation relevant to **Pudsey, Calverley & Farsley, and Farnley & Wortley**

For any further information please contact [michael.stevenson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:michael.stevenson@leeds.gov.uk)

**OUTER WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**  
 INFLUENCE . CREATE . ENGAGE



## Community Committee Champions

Community Committee Champions were officially introduced in 2013 and cover the following areas/themes; Health, Wellbeing & Adult Social Care, Children’s Services, Employment, Skills & Welfare and Environment & Community Safety. The Community Committee Champions role aims to provide a local ‘lead’ perspective and further facilitate local democratic accountability, particularly in conjunction with the relevant Executive Member.

In 2019, the Head of Locality Partnerships offered individual meetings with each of the Community Committee Chairs, to gain a better understanding of their committees and the challenges and opportunities of each one. A recurrent theme was the role of the themed Community Committee Champions and it was agreed at a subsequent meeting with Community Committee Chairs that a review of the Champions Role would take place, which would include the development of a role profile for the Champions that better outlined what the role and its responsibilities entailed.

A draft role profile was developed and agreed by a small working group that reflected and acknowledged the role that Champions already undertook within their committee areas but sought to clarify to Champions what their role involves. Furthermore the profile identified specific areas of focus for each of the themed Champions at both city-wide and Community Committee level.

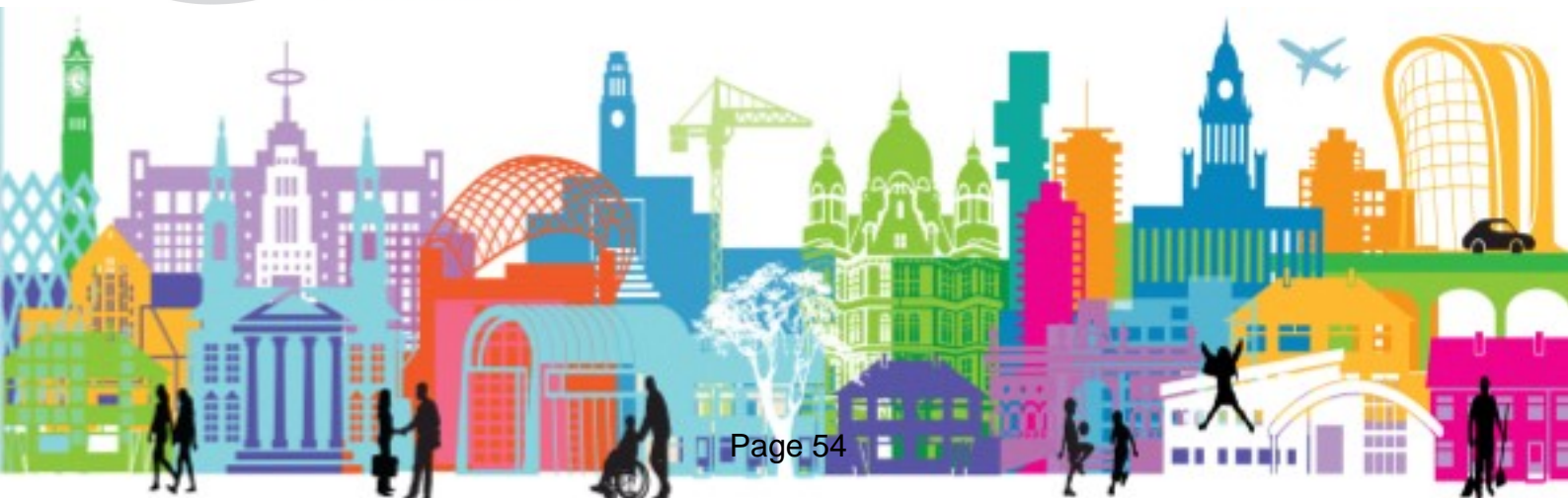
At a Community Committee Chairs Forum meeting in 2022, the Champions Role profile was discussed and ratified by Chairs, in order that the role profile could be rolled out to Elected Members within the next municipal year. Subsequently, the role profile was also discussed and ratified individually by all ten Community Committees in the summer cycle of meetings in 2022.

The Champions Role and its strategic leadership function will be key to the programmes of work that are developed in each committee area in the future, as they will be acting as an interface and playing a substantial role in shaping the committee’s agenda and local services. This connectivity is essential in order to achieve increased service improvement and provide local influence on service delivery.

Further work regarding the Champions Role/s will take place later in the year, as this area has been identified as a priority for the Community Committee Review (pages 34 & 35 for Challenges and Next Steps).



# COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS



## Summer Fun

Across the city the ten Community Committees help to fund numerous events for everyone in their local communities to enjoy. These events bring together our diverse communities in unique, positive ways and encourage the people of Leeds to actively get involved with their neighbours.

### Beeston Festival

Beeston Festival is a one day community festival that has been running for 27 years. The aim of the festival is to provide an exciting, entertaining and informative day, that brings together all the different communities in Beeston. In doing so, the festival promotes racial harmony, local regeneration, community sports & arts and environmental education. The festival has become a major community event for the area, thanks to the hard work of many people and aims to provide something for everyone including; get information from the Council and other organisations, find out about major issues affecting the area, speak to or get involved with community groups, or simply attend to enjoy the food and entertainment. In 2022 the festival had approximately between 7,000 and 8,000 people at the event across the day: [Beeston Festival | Organised by and for local people to celebrate the life and diversity of our community](#)

### Rothwell Summer Carnival

Rothwell Carnival is a long standing event held annually on the second Saturday in July and organised by The Rothwell & District Carnival Committee, a small group of local residents that came together several years ago to ensure that the traditional May Day and Summer Carnivals continued to take place. The event includes a market and various community stalls, as well as funfair rides, a petting farm, bungee trampolines, a moon walk inflatable, beach area, face painter, donkey rides, circus skills, archery, axe throwing and a dog show. The event continues to grow in popularity and is looked forward to and attended by many local people.



# Summer Fun

## Kirkstall Festival

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Kirkstall Festival took place on 9<sup>th</sup> July in the grounds of Kirkstall Abbey. The festival was attended by 17,000 people during the course of the day. The theme was 'Kirkstall Festival Coming Home' and it was very much a return to the pre COVID-19 format, with entertainment on three stages, stalls and displays, with various activities, catering and a fairground. Funding was used to contribute to the costs of event safety and security and field costs such as parking and traffic management, marquees, chairs and stages and linked in to the Inner West Community Committee priorities: [Video & photos: Kirkstall Festival returns to huge crowds and glorious sunshine - West Leeds Dispatch](#)

## Pudsey Carnival

Funding is used to help with the running costs of what is one of the most important events in the local districts calendar, providing a fun filled day for local people, which is now into its fifth decade of operating. The aim of the carnival is to provide an exciting and fun day out for all the local community, as well as enabling local organisations such as schools, youth groups and local charities to get to know each other. The Carnival in 2022 was extremely well attended after the break because of the COVID-19 pandemic, with a successful parade, with floats based on the theme of 'Jubilee', celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This was followed by activities and shows which were run by local community groups. Fortunately, the weather stayed dry, which helped to provide good audiences for the events, such as the Punch & Judy Show, dog show and circus skills training.

## Some others...

Other festivals and events in the city funded by the Community Committees include; Armley Festival, Great Get Together, Holbeck Gala, Hyde Park Unity Day, Igbo Union Family Fun Day, Little London Community Fun Day, Middleton Park Summer Programme, Morley Arts Festival, RadhaRaman Folk Festival and Wetherby Arts Festival but there are also many more! All over the city there are amazing events hosted by groups of dedicated, hard working individuals and organisations who aim to bring joy and happiness to their communities by putting on events that are inclusive and open to all. Community Committees funding mean that these events can be enjoyed by everyone.





# Summer Fun



## Climate Change

As all decisions taken by committees are made in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework, the principle applies that all funding requests, along with any other committee related matters, are informed by the Best City Ambition [Leeds Best City Ambition.pdf](#) and the key strategic pillar, Zero Carbon; "in 2030 Leeds will have made rapid progress towards carbon neutrality, reducing our impact on the planet and doing so in a fair way which improves standards of living in all the city's communities".

Swings in climate and more extreme weather create inequality, as financial disparity creates pressures between those able to invest in measures to maintain comfort and diet, with activity denied to those least able to afford it. A range of initiatives within the Community Committees have supported the climate change agenda, including, creating pocket parks, producing hanging baskets, planting additional trees, as well as creating areas of greater natural biodiversity that all help to improve air quality, by working with 'In Bloom' and 'Friends of' groups throughout the city.

Community Committees also funded projects that have had a positive impact on biodiversity, as well as the health and wellbeing of their residents, by improving communal areas through horticultural schemes, planting varieties of native and more sensitive climate changing shrubs and annual plants, that attract pollinators and other insects.

Numerous projects funded via the Community Committees focused on the local environment, with groups engaged in making their areas safer, cleaner and greener for the local community. Committees have also funded work to upgrade community facilities that improve energy efficiency in buildings, which have reduced the carbon footprint and environmental impact on the planet, by ensuring venues are more effectively heated, ventilated and have with more energy efficient lighting.

Alongside the measures listed above, committees have also supported the climate change agenda in other ways, such as; almost all Youth Activity Fund consultation in 2022/23 was done through an online survey, paperwork and reports are now only printed off for meetings unless necessary, the Community Committees Annual Report is now only circulated online, a new 'normality' of virtual meetings, alongside face-to-face meetings and some committees and Youth Summits in this last year had a specific conversation with residents, including young people on the climate emergency.



## Queens Platinum Jubilee

In 2022 Her late Majesty the Queen became the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee after 70 years of service. As such there were many events and activities that celebrated the jubilee across the United Kingdom, Commonwealth and beyond, in the months leading up to the extended bank holiday weekend from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June 2022.

Communities across Leeds were brought together to celebrate this historic weekend. Externally, more than £22 million of National Lottery funding was made available to help communities across the country celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. The Communities Team worked with local ward members in the promotion of these celebrations and the funding opportunities that were available and offered support where Community Committees were seeking to allocate wellbeing funds. They also reached out to partners and local voluntary and community groups through their local networks, partnerships and social media pages to promote these opportunities and supported organisations in the planning and development of local activities: [Leeds City Council Launches 'The Leeds Platinum Jubilee Memories Project' in Honour of Her Majesty the Queen's 70-year Reign.](#)

### The Big Jubilee Lunch

The Big Jubilee Lunch was chosen as the official community celebration for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend. The Big Lunch was a chance to celebrate community connections and get to know one another a little better: <https://www.thebiglunch.com/getyourpack> The Communities Team developed a list of what was happening locally throughout the city, as there was a substantial number of events taking place. Some events were organised by Leeds City Council and some were organised externally via third sector organisations. In terms of funding, some events received monies via the Community Committees, or other Leeds City Council departments, however most received monies via external funding sources that were made available to mark the jubilee celebrations.



# Queens Platinum Jubilee

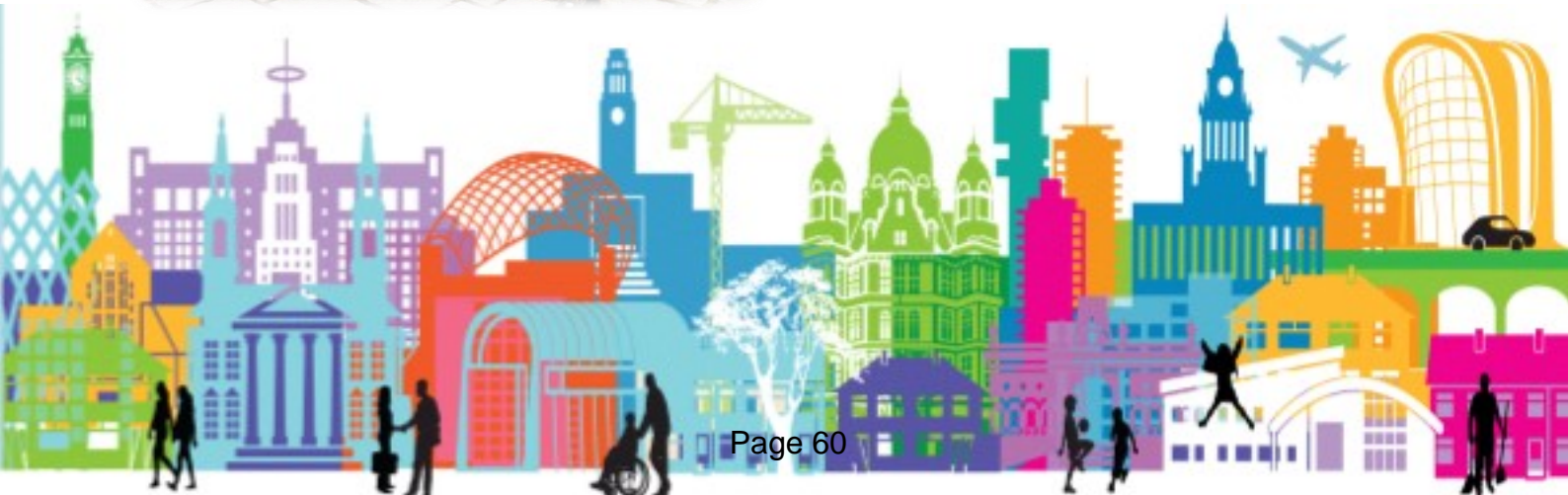
## The Big Jubilee Lunch

The government published guidance including tips, advice and support on organising a street party: [government guidance on organising a street party](#). Leeds City Council and Community Committees supported the scheme, which allowed neighbours to formally close their street to through traffic, to facilitate a Queens Jubilee Street Party Event. Information from Leeds City Council was available on the following link: [Play Streets \(leeds.gov.uk\)](#) (link is still applicable for other schemes, as this is a free resident and community led initiative to enable children to play freely and safely in the street, close to their home).

Activities and events were varied and far ranging and included; beacon lighting, firework displays, picnics, garden parties, street parties, afternoon tea's, barbeques, quizzes, dog shows, fancy dress shows, scarecrow festivals, village fetes, talent shows and flower summer bedding display celebration events (one community action group provided each family who attended their event with a memento for the occasion in the form of a 'Smile Bag' and a medal to commemorate the date and a 'bomb' of wildflowers to sow).

## Queens Platinum Jubilee Benches

To celebrate this unprecedented anniversary a number of Community Committees worked with Leeds City Council Parks & Countryside to install Queens Platinum Jubilee Benches in parks and open spaces across the city. Over 40 benches were funded specifically in wards across Leeds, that included; Alwoodley, Bramley & Stanningley, Calverley & Farsley, Chapel Allerton, Farnley & Wortley, Garforth & Swillington, Harewood, Kirkstall, Moortown, Pudsey, Roundhay and Wetherby.







# Priority Neighbourhoods

## Community Safety Planning: Armley

Following on from the successful focus on community safety within the New Wortley Safer Cleaner Greener Sub Group, a workshop was organised and held by the Safer Stronger Communities Team, in partnership with the local Neighbourhood Policing Team. The event took place within the locality, with a wide range of internal services, external delivery partners and third sector organisations attending and showing their commitment.

The workshop focused on three key areas; New Wortley, Town Street and the Wythers, identified as priorities based upon data and community intelligence. Attendees had the opportunity to discuss what was working well, in addition to suggesting ideas for partnership working to improve community safety.

Since the event, work to develop community safety plans for each of the three areas has taken place, in connection with the Neighbourhood Policing Team. The community plans have now been finalised as a result of feedback from stakeholders. The plans are now being discussed in Armley tasking meetings and partners will now work to collectively drive forward actions, with the overall aim of improving community safety, with some partnership work around encouraging reporting of anti-social behaviour and/or crime.







## Challenges and Next Steps

By evolving the way that we work through the Community Committees, developed through a refreshed framework that enables greater impact and outcomes, the review will aim to deliver a collective focus on all our communities in Leeds.

Locality Working through the Community Committees will not just be about addressing poverty and inequality but also about more effective use of resources with all our communities, to deliver better outcomes. Aligning the distribution of Community Committee funding to local priorities will help to ensure that maximum benefit can be provided.

With the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) data only published sporadically, we have previously struggled to measure the impact of local intervention in the city but with the publication of the Social Progress Index (SPI) for Leeds, this has changed.

The Social Progress Index (SPI) is a tool that helps measure how well Leeds is doing in terms of Inclusive Growth. It helps us understand what's happening in different areas of the city, on a ward-by-ward basis and by looking at multiple indicators (Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Wellbeing and Opportunity), it offers a clear and unbiased measure of overall wellbeing in the city: [The Leeds Social Progress Index | Inclusive Growth Leeds](#)

The Social Progress Index (SPI), which compliments the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) data, will allow us to compare each ward against its peers, as well as allowing us to track change over time, providing the Community Committees with a much more responsive tool to measure the impact of local intervention in the city.

Alongside this, the Community Committees Annual Report will continue to cover the progress of all ten committees and demonstrate how they helped provide local residents with a voice. It will also provide examples of 'real life' human stories and reference how projects the committees fund, benefit local communities across Leeds, linking in to the Council's three key strategic pillars; Inclusive Growth, Health & Wellbeing and Zero Carbon and contributing towards the Best City Ambition and the council's overall aim of creating safe, strong communities.



## Looking Forward

COVID-19 has had a massive impact on the city of Leeds and work has been taking place to understand and get a picture of the disproportionate, or differential impact on inequality that is happening due to the pandemic.

The emerging evidence highlights that the COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated social and economic inequalities and we need to further understand what these impacts are on our communities in Leeds. What it tells us so far mirrors national evidence and the local narrative that COVID-19 does have a disproportionate impact based on; where you live, your gender, your ethnicity and your job.

The community narrative reflects the diversity of the city and key themes are continuing to emerge; financial inclusion, digital inclusion, mental health & wellbeing, social isolation, communication/ language barriers and cultural issues, as well as a cost of living crisis which is being exacerbated by other factors. It is becoming increasingly clear that the impacts of the pandemic are greater for some of our most disadvantaged communities.

Considering how we can address and provide reassurance to the issues that are being uncovered will form a key strand of activity in the city's continued recovery arrangements but are likely to last far beyond any immediate transition to a 'new' normality.

In 2023/24 Community Committees will continue to play a key role in addressing some of these challenges in our local communities in Leeds and the programmes that they develop will form a key part of the recovery work that is being undertaken in each of the thirty three wards throughout the city. This, alongside delegated budget spend for each committee will help to address a further widening of the inequalities gap.

The momentum brought about by the pandemic will continue, ensuring that the local leadership provided through our Elected Members and Community Committees continues to be at the heart of developing local and city wide structures.

Amongst other things, the pandemic has also provided the committees with the opportunity to consider ways of working, as we come to terms with the new 'normality' of virtual meetings, alongside face to face meetings. In addition to this, it has given us the opportunity to reflect and refresh some of the work programmes that take place across the city through the Community Committees, such as priority setting, Youth Summits and the work of the Champions and we're looking forward to developing these programmes over the course of the next year, in tandem with the Community Committee Review.



# Leeds City Council's Community Committees

## How do Community Committees work?

There are ten Community Committees in Leeds made up of local councillors that are elected to represent an area, from each of the 33 wards in the city. They hold four meetings a year in public and are an important part of the council's decision-making process.

The meetings provide an opportunity for local people to discuss key issues of concern with Elected Members and help influence decisions on matters of local interest, such as environmental improvements, community safety, health and wellbeing, employment and climate change.

## How can you get involved?

- Attend a meeting
- Contact your local Councillor
- Ask a question, or take part in a discussion through our social media pages

Meetings are held at different locations across the city and generally start in the early evening and last a couple of hours. All meetings are open to the public and are usually themed around a particular topic.

Meetings are published on our website and can also be found on our social media pages (along with other local information and activities) and all decisions are recorded for public reference on the democracy website: <http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?bcr=1>

## Want to know more?

Please contact the Community Committee Support Team for a chat on 0113 3785808, or email us at [communitycommitteeefunding@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:communitycommitteeefunding@leeds.gov.uk)



# Leeds City Council's Community Committees

## Inner East Community Committee

### Wards:

Burmantofts & Richmond Hill  
Gipton & Harehills  
Killingbeck & Seacroft

### Councillor Arif Hussain

[arif.hussain@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:arif.hussain@leeds.gov.uk)



## Inner West Community Committee

### Wards:

Armley  
Bramley & Stanningley  
Kirkstall

### Councillor Alice Smart

[alice.smart@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:alice.smart@leeds.gov.uk)



## Outer South Community Committee

### Wards:

Ardsley & Robin Hood  
Morley North  
Morley South  
Rothwell

### Councillor Oliver Newton

[oliver.newton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:oliver.newton@leeds.gov.uk)



## Outer North East Community Committee

### Wards:

Alwoodley  
Harewood  
Wetherby

### Councillor Norma Harrington

[norma.harrington@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:norma.harrington@leeds.gov.uk)



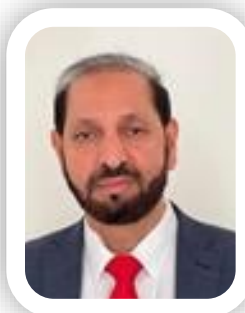
## Inner South Community Committee

### Wards:

Beeston & Holbeck  
Hunslet & Riverside  
Middleton Park

### Councillor Mohammed Iqbal

[mohammed.iqbal@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:mohammed.iqbal@leeds.gov.uk)



# Leeds City Council's Community Committees

## Outer East Community Committee

### Wards:

Cross Gates & Whinmoor  
Garforth & Swillington  
Kippax & Methley  
Temple Newsam

### Councillor Pauleen Grahame

[pauleen.grahame@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:pauleen.grahame@leeds.gov.uk)



## Inner North West Community Committee

### Wards:

Headingley & Hyde Park  
Little London & Woodhouse  
Weetwood

### Councillor Isaac Wilson

[Isaac.wilson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Isaac.wilson@leeds.gov.uk)



## Outer North West Community Committee

### Wards:

Adel & Wharfedale  
Guiseley & Rawdon  
Horsforth  
Otley & Yeadon

### Councillor Eleanor Thomson

[eleanor.thomson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:eleanor.thomson@leeds.gov.uk)



## Outer West Community Committee

### Wards:

Calverley & Farsley  
Farnley & Wortley  
Pudsey

### Councillor Amanda Carter

[amanda.carter@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:amanda.carter@leeds.gov.uk)



## Inner North East Community Committee

### Wards:

Chapel Allerton  
Moortown  
Roundhay

### Councillor Mohammed Shahzad

[mohammed.shahzad@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:mohammed.shahzad@leeds.gov.uk)



## For further information:

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**Carl Hinchliffe**, Community Committee Team Manager

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07712 216480



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communitycommittee](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/communitycommittee)

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## Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Report of: Chief Officer – Financial Services

Report to: Full Council

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

### Brief summary

Full Council is charged with governance of the local authority and has appointed Corporate Governance and Audit Committee to carry out functions in this regard.

The attached Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee demonstrates how the Committee has discharged its responsibilities in accordance with best practice.

### Recommendations

- a) Member are requested to receive and consider the annual report reflecting the work of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee in the 2022-23 municipal year.

#### What is this report about?

- 1 The Annual Report of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, attached to this report, reflects the work undertaken by the Committee in the 2022-23 municipal year.

#### What impact will this proposal have?

- 2 The work undertaken by Corporate Governance and Audit Committee throughout the municipal year supports its assessment of the internal control and risk environment. This in turn will inform the Committee's consideration and approval of the statutory Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for 2022-23.

#### How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing       Inclusive Growth       Zero Carbon

- 3 The work undertaken by the committee provides assurance that arrangements for internal control support the delivery of the council's strategic objectives.

## What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted?  Yes  No

- 4 The Annual Report was compiled in consultation with active Members of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee in the 2022-23 municipal year.
- 5 The report was approved by Corporate Governance and Audit Committee at its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

## What are the resource implications?

- 6 The work undertaken by Committee provides assurance that the Council's resources are used efficiently to deliver the Council's strategic objectives.

## What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 7 The work undertaken by the committee provides assurance that there are arrangements in place for the management of risks which are appropriate, proportionate, monitored, and effective.

## What are the legal implications?

- 8 S151 Local Government Act 1972 requires local authorities to "make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs". The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 provide that the local authority is responsible for ensuring "a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of its functions and the achievement of its aims and objectives; ensures that the financial and operations management of the authority is effective and includes effective arrangements for the management of risk".
- 9 The work undertaken by the Committee provides confirmation for Full Council, as the body charged with governance, that arrangements in place are up to date, fit for purpose, communicated and embedded, monitored and routinely complied with.

## Options, timescales and measuring success

### What other options were considered?

10 None

### How will success be measured?

- 11 The work undertaken by the Committee will assist their consideration and approval of the Annual Governance Statement and the Council's accounts.

### What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

- 12 The Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee reflects work undertaken in the 2022-23 municipal year.



**Appendices**

- Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee 2022-23

**Background papers**

- None

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# **Annual Report to Full Council**

## **Corporate Governance and Audit Committee**

**2022/23**

# Annual Report of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee 2022/23

## Foreword by Councillor Mahalia France-Mir - Chair

I am delighted to introduce the annual report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, summarising the contribution the committee made during the 2022/23 Municipal Year to the achievement of good governance, effective internal control, and strong public financial management within the Council.

All Members of the committee bring a balanced, independent, and objective approach to business of the committee and I thank them for the contributions they have made. The committee has provided robust challenge and meaningful review of the Council's arrangements for risk, governance, and audit, and has:

- Overseen the production of the Annual Governance Statement.
- Reviewed and approved the Council's statutory accounts subject to completion of the external audit.
- Received regular updates and formal reports from the Council's External Auditor.
- Received and reviewed regular Counter Fraud Update Reports.
- Received and reviewed in detail assurance reports on the key aspects of the Council's internal control arrangements, including risk management, information governance and performance management, providing robust challenge to our arrangements and monitoring for areas in need of improvement; and
- Provided oversight to the Council's internal audit function, receiving the annual report and opinion alongside regular updates on progress against the internal audit plan, including follow up in relation to limited assurance reviews.

The committee continues to work hard with officers to understand and strengthen governance arrangements across the Council, and to ensure that risks are escalated appropriately.

During the year, the committee has built upon the cycle of internal control approach to officer reporting introduced in the 20/21 municipal year, with a continued focus on ensuring that governance arrangements are robust and that there is appropriate democratic oversight.

The committee continues to adopt a varied work programme, continuing to receive annual assurance reports to provide routine oversight of arrangements, but taking a flexible and agile approach, adapting to emerging issues and concerns.

*M. France-Mir*

Chair Corporate Governance and Audit Committee 2022-23

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This annual report to full council demonstrates the importance the Council places on the authority's governance arrangements.

The Chartered Institute for Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) describes the overall aim of good governance as:

'To ensure that resources are directed in accordance with agreed policy and according to priorities, that there is sound and inclusive decision making and that there is clear accountability for the use of those resources in order to achieve desired outcomes for service users and communities'

*CIPFA Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework 2016 Edition (the Good Governance Framework)*

Good governance is ultimately the responsibility of Full Council as the governing body of Leeds City Council. This report provides assurance as to the way in which Corporate Governance and Audit Committee has discharged its role to support Full Council in this responsibility. In addition, the report underpins the Annual Governance Statement, which is approved by the committee, and is provided to all Members.

In particular, the report on the work of the Council's Corporate Governance and Audit Committee demonstrates how the committee has:

- Fulfilled its terms of reference.
- Complied with national guidance relating to audit committees.
- Contributed to strengthening risk management, internal control, and governance arrangements.

## 2. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

### Role of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

The audit committee is appointed by Council to support the discharge of its functions in relation to good governance by providing a high-level focus on audit, assurance, and reporting.

CIPFA defines the purpose of an audit committee as follows:

1. Audit committees are a key component of an authority's governance framework. Their function is to provide an independent and high-level resource to support good governance and strong public financial management.
2. The purpose of an audit committee is to provide to those charged with governance independent assurance on the adequacy of the risk management framework, the internal control environment and the integrity of the financial reporting and annual governance processes.

*Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police (2018)*

The Terms of Reference for the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee are reviewed regularly against current regulations, CIPFA position statement and guidance for audit committees and best practice in comparable authorities.

The core functions of the committee, reflected in its Terms of Reference, are to:

- Consider the Council's arrangements relating to the Accounts.
- Consider the Council's arrangements relating to external audit requirements.
- Review the adequacy of policies and practices to ensure compliance with statutory and other guidance.
- Review the adequacy of the Council's Corporate Governance arrangements (including matters such as internal control and risk management).
- Consider the Council's arrangements relating to internal audit requirements.

## **Membership**

The committee has seen a significant change in membership for the 2022/23 municipal year, with 4 elected members new to the committee along with the independent member appointed for the final meeting of the previous year.

For the 2022/23 municipal year there were nine elected members and one non-voting independent member appointed to the committee:

- Councillor Paul Wray (Labour) (Chair)
- Councillor Paul Truswell (Labour)
- Councillor Gohar Almas (Labour)
- Councillor Mirelle Midgley (Labour)
- Councillor Jane Dowson (Labour)
- Councillor John Illingworth (Labour)
- Councillor Ryk Downes (Liberal Democrats)
- Councillor Peter Harrand (Conservative)
- Councillor J Shemilt (Conservative)
- Councillor Billy Flynn (Conservative)
- Linda Wild (Independent Member)

## **Independence of the committee.**

As a Council appointed committee, Corporate Governance and Audit Committee is appointed in accordance with the requirements for proportionality but, in line with CIPFA guidance and best practice, strives for political neutrality.

Linda Wild was appointed by Council in February 2021 as a non-voting Independent Member to the committee. The introduction of an independent member to the committee has enhanced the independence of the committee as it discharges its functions. In addition, the professional audit experience and knowledge of its independent member, give depth and insight to the robust challenge the committee provides in considering the assurances received.

## **Knowledge and Skills Framework**

Members bring with them a range of knowledge and skills from their working life and elected representative roles to the work of the committee. The skills and knowledge of the committee are further complemented by those of the Independent Member, who has brought with her a wealth of knowledge and experience in an audit setting and applies this knowledge, skill, and experience to Leeds City Council.

A programme of development has been undertaken during the year to ensure that new members of the committee have the necessary knowledge and skills to discharge the functions of the committee. In view of the significant change in membership an introductory session was provided on the role and functions of the audit committee prior to the first meeting of the Municipal Year.

Further briefings have been provided to the committee to ensure that all Members remain up to date and informed to enable fulfilment of the committee's role.

As in previous years, the Deputy Chief Finance Officer provided training to the committee in preparation for their examination of the Accounts.

The External Auditor routinely provides briefing notes providing sector updates and presented an in depth briefing in relation to the role of external audit in Local Government, the Redmond Review of local authority financial reporting and external audit, and the external audit requirements arising from the new Value for Money arrangements.

The committee looks forward to participating in further development opportunities over the 2023/24 municipal year.

## **Operation of the committee**

The committee has met on six occasions during the year with meeting dates structured around the receipt of annual assurance reports, external and internal audit reporting cycles, and the statutory requirements for production of the Accounts and Annual Governance Statement.

This frequency of meetings ensures the committee can fulfil its responsibilities in an efficient and effective way and has been benchmarked<sup>1</sup> against the CIPFA recommended practice and arrangements in other local authorities.

In the municipal year 2022/23, all Committee meetings were held in person and live streamed webcasts made available for members of the public and press to provide access to these meetings for those who are unable to attend in person.

The committee is supported by several officers who attend regularly and bring expertise in relation to corporate governance, internal audit, finance, legal compliance, risk and resilience and information governance.

## **3. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

The work undertaken by the committee to support their approval of the Annual Governance Statement and Accounts, and in furtherance of the core functions of audit committees identified by CIPFA, is summarised in this section. (A complete list of the reports considered by the committee can be found at the end of this report.)

## **The Accounts and Annual Governance Statement**

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<sup>1</sup> Benchmarking took place during the 2018/19 municipal year.

Council has delegated to the committee the authority to approve the Council's Annual Governance Statement and the audited Statement of Accounts on behalf of the Council.

The committee considered the interim Annual Governance Statement in July 2022 prior to its publication for the formal period of public consultation and went on to approve the Council's Annual Governance Statement for 2021/22 in October 2022 following receipt of the Head of Audit's Opinion.

As a result of consideration of the Annual Governance Statement the Committee requested an item related to the Freedom to Speak up Guardian. The Committee was advised that this was in the remit of Human Resources and this request will be incorporated in the 2023/24 Work Programme of the Committee as part of the Human Resources update.

Members also received an overview and detailed explanation of the Council's Accounts prior to the item being brought to Committee to ensure that Members were satisfied with the methodology used and had all relevant information available to ensure the Members to be satisfied with the account when the item was raised at the Committee.

### **External Audit**

The committee plays a significant role in overseeing the Council's relationship with its external auditors and takes an active role in reviewing the external audit plan, progress reports and annual report setting out the findings of the Value for Money Review. Grant Thornton UK LLP is the Council's current appointed auditor.

In July 2022, the Committee received the draft unaudited Statement of Accounts for 2021/22. The draft accounts were approved by the Chief Officer – Financial Services within the statutory deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> July and were made available on the Council's website for public inspection from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022 for 30 days. The Committee were informed of a national issue regarding the valuation of infrastructure assets which would prevent any further local authority audits from being completed until it was resolved. This therefore delayed Grant Thornton UK LLP in completing the audit of the 2020/21 final accounts. Following a statutory override, the Committee received the final audited accounts for 2020/21, and Grant Thornton's audit report on them, at the February 2023 Committee. The Committee approved the account on behalf of the Council.

In October 2022 and March 2023 Committee received Grant Thornton's reports on the VFM arrangements in the Council for 2020/21 and 2021/22 respectively. Both reports did not identify any statutory or key recommendations but do instead make a number of lower priority recommendations for improvement.

The Committee were also informed that the collection of Business Rates was recovering following the Covid-19 pandemic yet was still to achieve pre-Covid-19 collection rates. It was observed in the Auditor's annual report on Leeds City Council, received at Committee, March 2023, that the Council should continue to consider the adequacy of its General Fund Reserves.

Officers' proposed responses to Grant Thornton's 2021/22 Audit Risk Assessment Enquiries were presented for consideration and agreed by the Committee at the October 2022 meeting. This process contributed to an effective two-way communication between the Committee and the External Auditors.

During the year, the Committee has received regular reports and verbal updates from the external auditor setting out progress against the external audit plan for the 2021/22 accounts. Grant Thornton's audit report on the Council's IT Controls for 2021/22 was presented at the March 2023 meeting of the Committee. It is anticipated that the final audit report for the 2021/22 accounts will be received during 2023.

It was acknowledged that there was a need for Grant Thornton to progress towards reinstating a more standard reporting cycle for the Council's accounts. It is anticipated



that the Committee will formally receive the external report setting out findings of 2022/23 Value for Money review in November 2023, and Audit Report for 2022/23 Accounts in February 2024. The committee looks forward to continuing to work with the external auditors; considering the responses of management to audit recommendations and ensuring that appropriate actions are agreed and implemented.

## **Internal Control**

The committee has responsibility for monitoring the effectiveness of the Council's system of internal control and management of corporate risks.

Through robust consideration of annual assurance reports<sup>2</sup> in relation to a wide range of internal controls the committee has obtained assurance that relevant systems and processes are documented and defined; clearly communicated; effectively embedded; meaningfully monitored; and reviewed and refined. For example, the committee received assurances in relations to:

- Governance arrangements of the Leeds Best City Ambition and review of strategic framework.
- Estate Management Arrangements.

In addition to the receipt of regular update, and routine assurance reports, the committee seeks assurance in relation to significant matters relating to governance, audit, and risk. Reports have been received providing assurance in relation to:

- Governance arrangements within Information and Digital Services, providing assurances that these arrangements were up to date, fit for purpose, effectively communicated, and routinely complied with. The arrangements set out provided a framework for transparent and accountable decision making within IDS in accordance with the Council's Corporate Governance Code and Framework.

Procurement update of the Procure to Pay (P2P) Review providing members with assurance that there is continued focus on improving contract management and developing best contract management practice across the Council. Members noted that the main aim was to secure a system which integrated with other Council systems, this would make the P2P process more effective, efficient and save on resources.

## **Internal Audit**

The Committee works closely with the internal audit function, both overseeing the independence and effectiveness of the service, and receiving assurance from the service as to the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's internal control environment.

The Committee has received and considered regular reports from the Head of Audit throughout the year providing updates on progress against the 2022/23 Internal Audit Plan, together with information relating to the wider work of the Internal Audit section.

The Committee are advised of the outcomes of every internal audit review, with greater depth, and follow up reviews, provided in relation to reviews resulting in limited assurance.

During the 2022/23 municipal year the Committee has considered three reviews identifying limited assurance. These reviews were completed in primary schools and identified weaknesses in effective challenge over budget setting and monitoring, compliance with procedures for creditor payments and the management of the School

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<sup>2</sup> Detailed in Appendix A

Voluntary Fund. In all instances, the recommendations made were accepted and follow-up audits are scheduled for the 2023/24 audit year to determine the implementation of the recommendations raised.

Follow-up work was also completed against limited assurance reviews from the 2021/22 annual audit plan in the following areas to determine whether there had been effective implementation of recommendations:

- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). This follow-up review received a Substantial Assurance Opinion for the Control Environment. We were able to determine that improvements had been made to the DoLS process and necessary administrative stages.
- Payments to Providers of Home Care. An Acceptable Assurance Opinion was provided for the Control Environment in relation to payments made for services provided to mental health service users. A framework contract had been procured for all providers of services to working age adults which at the time of the review was yet to be introduced. During the review period, control weaknesses remained in the availability of documentation to support the decision process to broker care packages.

In addition to regular audit updates, the committee now receives focussed bi-annual update reports in relation to anti-fraud and corruption controls. During the year, these reports have presented details on both proactive and reactive work undertaken by the service.

Following receipt and consideration of the June and November update reports the Committee:

- Acknowledged that a Counter Fraud training package had been uploaded to the Council's training platform (PALs). At time of the report 240 people had completed this training.
- Acknowledged that proactive work with the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) exercise had resulted in the identification of 19 errors resulting in the recovery of £35k.
- Endorsed the Anti Money Laundering Policy.
- Endorsed the Anti Money Laundering Policy on a Page document.

The committee also receives a wide range of assurance in relation to the soundness of the council's arrangements through the reporting of Internal Audit work in addition to the formal reviews undertaken, for example

- Attendance at Core Business Transformation project board, development of financial dashboards, providing assurance in respect of procurement and risk management processes.
- Attendance at Adults and Health Income Recovery Board. Monitoring progress in the achievement of Budget Action Plans.
- Homes for Ukraine. Attendance across various groups to oversee the administration of payment to both sponsors and families under the Homes for Ukraine scheme.
- Consulting on the review of the Council's Contracts Procedure Rules and Financial Regulations.
- Attendance at groups within Adults and Health that have been set up to deliver a key area of transformation for the service.
- Ongoing work to provide support and challenge to the Information and Digital Service in the development of new arrangements for the management of ICT projects.

- The implementation and monitoring of a Recommendation Tracker for the high and medium level recommendations raised through the audit review process.

Internal Audit attendance at the various groups and boards throughout the 22-23 year has provided our directorate colleagues with valued independent insight and assurance on the work that is being considered and undertaken. From the independent nature of the Internal Audit role, officers are also able to undertake the role of a “critical friend” and ask questions of a group or project to ensure that consideration has been given to risk and control. The use of the Recommendation Tracker is being adopted by Directorates and will provide assurance on the continual improvement of the control environment, ensuring that recommendations made through the Internal Audit process are being considered and implemented where applicable.

In October 2022, the Committee received and considered the Internal Audit Annual Report and noted a satisfactory overall opinion for 2021/22. The Committee was satisfied that the work undertaken to support the opinion has been conducted in accordance with an established methodology that promotes quality and conformance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing.

The committee reviewed and agreed the annual risk-based audit plan for the 2023/24 year in March 2023.

#### **4. LOOKING FORWARD**

The Committee has approved the work programme for the 2023/24 municipal year setting out the receipt of regular update reports and annual assurance reports.

Through the continuing receipt of regular reports Corporate Governance and Audit Committee will provide the usual level of robust challenge to corporate governance and audit practice and procedure across the authority to ensure that our arrangements are up to date and fit for purpose, communicated, embedded, and routinely complied with.

In addition to the routine business the committee have requested specialised assurance reports in relation to:

- The governance arrangements in place for the implementation of new systems and their interface with existing Council systems.

The work programme will be the subject of regular review, and the committee will remain flexible in its approach, to accommodate additional items within its remit as they emerge. As in the last municipal year, the committee will request and consider reports in relation to relevant matters which come to our attention during the year.

During the 2023/24 municipal year, the Committee is looking forward to furthering opportunities for joint working between the Committee and the Scrutiny Board for Strategy and Resources.

## Appendix A - Corporate Governance and Audit Committee Activity 2022/23

<b>Statutory Business</b>	<b>June 2022</b>	<b>July 2022</b>	<b>Oct 2022</b>	<b>Nov 2022</b>	<b>Feb 2023</b>	<b>Mar 2023</b>
Statement of Accounts 2020/21		Draft			Approved	
Annual Governance Statement		Interim	Approved			
Internal Audit Annual Report and Opinion			X			
External Auditors Annual Report and Value for Money Findings 2020/21.			X			
External Auditor Audit Plan 2021/22			X			
<b>Annual operational and specialist assurance reports</b>	<b>June 2022</b>	<b>July 2022</b>	<b>Oct 2022</b>	<b>Nov 2022</b>	<b>Feb 2023</b>	<b>Mar 2023</b>
Annual Decision-Making Statement of Internal Control	X					
Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee	Draft					
Annual Procurement Assurance Report 2021/22		X				X
Annual Assurance – Planning Regulation and Enforcement Arrangements			X			
Annual Report – Financial Planning and Management Arrangements				X		
Annual Report on Corporate Performance Management Arrangements				X		
Annual Assurance on Corporate Risk and Resilience Arrangements				X		
Annual Information Governance Report, including the annual report of the Caldicott Guardian					X	
Decision-making Statement of Internal Control (Integrated Digital Services)					X	
Annual Assurance Report in Relation to Employment Policies and Employee Conduct					X	
<b>Independent Assurance – Statutory Business</b>						
Internal Audit Update Report	X		X		X	
Internal Audit Plan 2023/24						X
External Auditors Audit Risk Assessment Enquiries 2021/22			X			

<b>Statutory Business</b>	<b>June 2022</b>	<b>July 2022</b>	<b>Oct 2022</b>	<b>Nov 2022</b>	<b>Feb 2023</b>	<b>Mar 2023</b>
External Auditors Annual Report and IT Audit Report 2021/22						X
Counter Fraud Update Report	X			X		
<b>Additional reports received in accordance with terms of reference</b>	<b>June 2022</b>	<b>July 2022</b>	<b>Oct 2022</b>	<b>Nov 2022</b>	<b>Feb 2023</b>	<b>Mar 2023</b>
Governance arrangements for implementation of the Leeds Best City Ambition	X					
Statement of Internal Control in Relation to Estate Management						X
Work Programme	X	X	X	X	X	X

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## HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

THURSDAY, 20TH JULY, 2023

**PRESENT:** Councillor F Venner in the Chair

Councillors C Anderson, S Arif and  
J Dowson.

### **Leeds Committee of the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board**

Helen Lewis - Director of Pathway Integration

### **Directors of Leeds City Council**

Victoria Eaton – Director of Public Health

Caroline Baria – Director of Adults and Health

Farrah Khan – Chief Officer Family Help, Children and Families

### **Representative of NHS (England)**

Anthony Kealy – Locality Director, NHS England North (Yorkshire & Humber)

### **Representative of Local Health Watch Organisation**

Dr John Beal – Chair, Healthwatch Leeds

Hannah Davies – Chief Executive, Healthwatch Leeds

### **Representatives of NHS providers**

Sara Munro - Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Sam Prince - Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust

### **Representative of Leeds GP Confederation**

Jim Barwick – Chief Executive of Leeds GP Confederation

### **Wider Determinants of Health – Partnership Working Representative**

James Rogers - Director of Communities, Housing and Environment

### **Leeds Committee of the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board**

Rebecca Charlwood - Independent Chair

### **Clinicians Joint Representative**

Jason Broch, Chief Clinical Information Officer

### **Representative of Communities of Interest**

Pip Goff - Director, Volition

## **1 Welcome and introductions**

The Chair welcomed Councillor C Anderson who had been appointed to the Board by Annual Council in May 2023 and expressed thanks to Councillor N Harrington for her contribution to the Board. Councillor Venner also reported that Thea Stein would be leaving the Board in September 2023 to take up a new role and thanked her for her work with the Board and partners.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on Thursday, 9th November, 2023

The Board paid their respects to the sad news of the passing of Heather Nelson, the Chief Executive of the Black Health Initiative in Leeds and was also a recent Member of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Chair expressed condolences to her family and community and noted that Heather was a wonderful person who worked tirelessly to make a positive difference to peoples lives.

**2 Appeals against refusal of inspection of documents**

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

**3 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

There was no exempt information.

**4 Late Items**

There were no formal late items noted, but supplementary information had been circulated to Board Members prior to the meeting, in relation to item 11b – Healthy Leeds Plan Refresh & Item 12 – In Our Shoes Director of Public Health Annual Report.

**5 Declaration of Interests**

No declarations of interest were made.

**6 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor S Golton, Tim Ryley, Jenny Cooke, Dr Phil Wood, Corrina Lawrence, Helen Hart, Thea Stein, Julie Longworth, Paul Money and Superintendent Dan Wood.

Substitutes were in attendance - Sam Prince on behalf of Thea Stein, Farrah Khan on behalf of Julie Longworth and Helen Lewis (Director of Pathway Integration) on behalf of Tim Ryley and Jenny Cooke and representing the ICB.

**7 Open Forum**

No matters were raised under the Open Forum.

**8 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> February be agreed as a correct record.

**9 Update on Transforming Community Mental Health in Leeds**

The Board considered a report which provided an update on the work to transform Community Mental Health in Leeds. The report outlined the collaborative approach to the work undertaken by NHS organisations, Leeds City Council, the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector, and service users/people with lived experience. Partners had come together to consider the transformation of how primary and community mental health services were currently organised and delivered for adults and older people



with ongoing and complex mental health needs (commonly referred to as severe mental illness/SMI).

In attendance for this item were;

- Liz Hindmarsh – Programme Manager, Leeds Community Mental Health
- Annette Morris – Involvement Lead
- Debbie Thrush – Clinical Lead for Working Age Adult Community Mental Health Teams

In introducing the report, the Programme Manager, Leeds Community Mental Health highlighted that approximately 8000 adults in Leeds were recorded on the SMI register, but it was thought that SMI was under-reported. Additionally, people with complex mental health/SMI experienced very different physical health outcomes and their life expectancy could be 15-20 years shorter than other people. Initial consultation on transforming services was undertaken with the Early Intervention Partnership which identified the Partnership would value focus on access to care and compassionate care.

The vision was to:

- Create a joined-up service from the primary and community mental care providers.
- To remove any barriers to access to services.
- The ability for people to access services as early as possible.
- For people to remain in their community.

The Board received a video presentation which included the ambition to create Integrated Community Mental Health Hubs, to be placed within Local Care Partnerships (LCP's). Service referrals will be made to the Hubs where personalised treatment will be delivered by Third Sector partners. A pilot of the Hubs will be trialled in three Leeds LCP's with the intention to roll out the Hubs city-wide during 2024-25.

The delivery model had been informed through extensive consultation and workshops and would entail a culture change in service delivery, with time for reflection to ensure the roles and relationships were right. The new roles will include:

- 8 Community Wellbeing connector roles - to connect individuals to the right support in their community. The Connectors would be part of the Hub Multidisciplinary Team/VCSE partnership of providers.
- Peer Support Worker roles – to focus on the emotional/relational element of support for an individual at their time of need. They would also focus on working towards cultural change in services and be part of the Hub Multidisciplinary Team/VCSE partnership of providers.

The Board also received details on the work undertaken and planned which included following:

- Work was moving from the consultation/engagement phase to involvement and co-production of the service with Healthwatch, to put in place the systems needed to achieve the transformation.

- Work was ongoing with diverse communities to eradicate the imbalances in the systems and to reduce health inequalities.
- Work built on the representations made by people with lived experience.
- Work was being done to support people with mental health issues and service users to communicate the transformation process and new Hub model.

The challenges ahead included:

- Workforce pressures and the limited supply of roles in the service and current vacancies.
- The resources required for a project of this size and complexity.
- Maintaining the energy and pace needed for the transformation and the context of the pressures.
- ICT systems and inter-operability which can present limits to agility and integration.

Before moving to discussions, Sara Munro highlighted that the transformation process would have an impact over a period of 18 months but was necessary to achieve the change for service users.

The Board discussed the following matters:

- Evaluation of the pilot Hub model – the pilot Hubs would be rolled out in different areas of Leeds so learning will be taken from each community. Evaluation will be for the whole of West Yorkshire and will include consideration of service users and support for practitioners for them to make their own decisions. Recognising the level of need for services, the Board noted a request for a report back in 12 months.
- Resources – existing and new staff will deliver the new service model.
- Priority issue – before Covid-19, mental health was the issue most people raised with Healthwatch. The service transformation required the same priority amongst partners as Covid, especially due to the anticipated service disruption whilst transformation occurs.
- Inter-operability – focus needed across all providers to ensure the new system works.
- Estate – a mapping exercise had been undertaken to identify sites, but the issue of mental health services provision in GP practices was being discussed with practices and LCPs.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- a) To note the scope, ambitions, approach and progress of the work to date.
- b) To support and endorse the work in Board members' respective roles, communities and organisations, be noted.
- c) To support with unblocking of barriers around IT and systems integrations and estate by supporting with work on partnership agreements.

- d) To support an appropriate alignment of resource to support effective delivery of this programme and the long-term embedding of culture change that will be required over many years.
- e) That Members comments and recommendations, including the request for a report in 12 months on the transformation, be noted.

## 10 **Big Leeds Chat: One Year On, Progress and Next Steps**

The report of the Big Leeds Chat Working Group outlined an assessment of the progress of the 10 Big Asks identified by the public through the Big Leeds Chat (BLC) 2021. It showed that both plans and actions were in place for the majority of the Asks.

In attendance were;

- Hannah Davies, Chief Executive of Healthwatch Leeds
- Paul Bollom, Head of Health and Care Development

The Chief Executive of Healthwatch Leeds, introduced the item and outlined the ambition to have the voice of the people at the heart of all levels of health and care planning. The Board was also reminded of the work undertaken across the city as part of the Big Leeds Chat 2021 where 40 events were held city wide. The 10 'Asks' reflected the recurring themes of the events and previously the Board had felt it important to identify a lead for each 'Ask'. Events had been held in an open conversation format, distanced from formal survey models. Notable events that took place prior to the Covid-19 pandemic were a joint event at the Civic Hall and two public conversation events run by Healthwatch at Kirkgate Market.

The Head of Health and Care Development outlined each of the ten 'Asks', noting that some reflected the impact of the pandemic and more recently the cost of living crisis. He added that, in summary, when you asked people about their health, invariably they bring up the wider determinants of health, such as access to transport and greenspace, as much as they focus on the delivery and access to health and care services. The 10 'Asks' were:

1. Make Leeds a city where children and young people's lives are filled with positive things to do.
2. Make Leeds a city where there are plentiful activities in every local area to support everyone's wellbeing.
3. Make Leeds a city where people can connect with services face-to-face when they need to.
4. Make Leeds a city where people feel confident they will get help from their GP without barriers getting in the way.
5. Make Leeds a city where each individual community has the local facilities, services and amenities they need.
6. Make Leeds a city where fears about crime and antisocial behaviour are no barrier to enjoying everything the community has to offer.
7. Make Leeds a city where services acknowledge the impact of the pandemic on people's mental health and where a varied range of service- and community-based mental health support is available.

8. Make Leeds a city where there are affordable activities that enable everyone to stay healthy.
9. Make Leeds a city where green spaces are kept tidy and welcoming, because services understand the vital role, they play in keeping people well.
10. Make Leeds a city where everyone can get around easily on public transport, no matter their location or mobility needs.

The Board had challenged each Ask area to consider 4 questions, detailed at page 54 of the report and a video was played for Members which provided feedback to the Board on these topics and cross-cut a number of the Asks. The video focused on SCOT FC, a local grass roots football team and demonstrated benefits for feeling part of a community, positive impact for children, community mental health and cost effectiveness. The programme had also involved Get Set Leeds and Active Leeds.

For some areas there was very clear plan and action plan to implement, but there were some 'Asks' where challenges remained:

- For Ask 2 - 'A city where there are plentiful activities' –There was no single plan or oversight, making evidence for what had been done to address the challenge difficult to gauge.
- For Ask 5 – 'Each individual community has local facilities' – Visibility of communication and feedback to the public regarding progress and plans for action was less clear, and although there were activities happening, such as, community anchors and priority wards, further community engagement pathways were to be developed.
- For Ask 10 – 'Transport' – A deep dive assessment of transport strategy had been conducted to address accessibility to move around the city which noted some positives; work was ongoing to improve the quality and enhance the overall travel experience and reduce car usage.

The next steps were outlined as, finalising the public facing programme reports, feedback to communities over Autumn 2023 and to link the 'Asks' to the development and launch of the refreshed Health and Wellbeing strategy.

The Board discussed the following matters:

- The Health Partnerships Communications Team was converting the conversations into summaries to release and share back with the 43 Big Leeds Chat communities. It was noted the LCP geographical areas will be useful routes to provide feedback for the public.
- The importance to repeat the Chats in 2023 was noted, which could use the outreach to communities model, as had been done for the Big Leeds Chat 2021. Feedback can be gathered by asking opinions on how people feel about the 10 headline topics when compared to previous submissions and how they think future consultation should be implemented.
- The Board noted the challenge to improving public transport and the need for transparency of the conversations providers were having with

communities on removing barriers to access and addressing gaps or variation to provision. Work was ongoing regarding pre-9.30am access to public transport for older people with a letter sent to the WYCA Mayor urging removal of this restriction. Getting around the city suburb to suburb was identified as a key issue for outer areas.

- Some of the 'Asks' were very clear, but caution as to how terminology was used was highlighted. The Ask about "individual community" was very broad, so expectations may need to be managed. It was noted that some of the 'Asks' remained vague until the mechanisms for progress for an area had been developed.
- As an increased number of GPs were working part time, the figures for whole time equivalents were requested with the desire that allocation should be proportionate to population within LCP areas. It was outlined that provision was determined by the Primary Care Network and there were other survey results which were equally important, such as, how a practice operated in its community. Although there were service challenges, 70% of appointments were face to face, 50% of appointments were same day appointments and 20,000 Leeds residents were seen by a GP daily.
- It was noted that although a lot of the aspects of the 'Asks' were out of the Board's remit and control, the Board and partners did have influence. The 10 Community Committees could be utilised to provide both feedback information on progress with Asks and consult further with communities to develop best practise.
- Small projects were also noted to potentially have a wide scope of positive impact for communities with an example given as the installation of trees along Harehills Road and the difference that had made for people's wellbeing.
- The red, amber and green rating system used to track the progress of each 'Ask' was agreed to be reviewed to further monitor progress indicators.
- Although access to NHS dentistry and GP services had not been raised as one of the 'Asks' it was expected to be a key priority for people for the next cycle of the Big Leeds Chat.  
A notable project to progress 'Ask' 1 was the Leeds Bear Hunt which had been sponsored by local organisations and was a low-cost family day out. There was a "best dressed bear" competition scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 2023 in Merrion Gardens.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- a) That the progress made in meeting the 10 Big Asks identified through the Big Leeds Chat and address gaps in action or reporting, be noted.
- b) That the feedback approach to communities outlined in the paper including linking feedback to the refresh of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, be agreed.
- c) That the wider use of the Big Leeds Chat approach as an ongoing dialogue for engagement between decision makers and the public, be supported.

- d) That the work to establish greater ongoing dialogue and feedback with the public on the Big Leeds Chat 10 Ask areas developing a relational, conversational and co-production approach, be supported.
- e) That the bringing forward of a further iteration of an engagement approach building on the achievements of the Big Leeds Chat, be supported.

(Councillor J Dowson joined the meeting during consideration of this item)

## **11 The Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy Refresh - a strategy to 2030**

The report of the Chief Officer, Health Partnerships outlined the Health and Wellbeing Strategy refresh as an opportunity to further embed and build on the strong existing health and care and wider partnerships in the city which had effectively navigated the city through an unprecedented period, and as the system continued to develop in a new phase of health and care integration. The Strategy was aligned closely to key strategic ambitions and plans including the Best City Ambition and the two other key city pillars of Inclusive Growth and Zero Carbon, as well as the refreshed West Yorkshire Partnership Strategy and Healthy Leeds Plan.

After thorough consultation with a range of city partners the strategy was at a final draft endorsement phase. The Strategy maintained the ambition for Leeds whilst recognising the lived experiences of people, many of whom had experienced challenges before, during and after the pandemic specifically related to the cost of living and impact of poverty. It was noted that the Strategy lay with the remit of the Board to approve but it would also be presented to the Executive Board on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July 2023 for endorsement.

In attendance for this item were:

- Tony Cooke, Chief Officer Health Partnerships
- Wasim Feroze, Strategy Partnership Development Manager

Introducing the report, the Chief Officer Health Partnerships and Strategy Partner Development Manager outlined the following information:

- A message of thanks was extended to many Council Departments, NHS and Third Sector partners for engagement and influence with the strategy.
- The contents of the strategy reflected the financial challenge being experienced by the city and its residents.
- Recent amendments had been implemented reflecting recent data and indicators, working closely with Marmot City and Inclusive Growth.
- Next steps included the development of action plans to underpin each of the 12 refreshed priorities. These will be developed with partners where relevant.
- Work will also be progressed to agree indicators to support the refreshed strategy with an aspiration to develop a single source of information e.g. data dashboard to track progress over time.
- An accessible, condensed version of the strategy was in development which was to be launched alongside the full version in October 2023.

- A public launch event was also planned for October 2023.

The Board discussed the following matters:

- Big Leeds Chat colleagues proposed to utilise the opportunity of the public launch to enhance public engagement and discussion of Big Leeds Chat principles.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- a) That the engagement and work that has been undertaken with partners as part of the development of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy refresh, be noted.
- b) That the final draft of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy refresh attached at Appendix 1 of this report, be approved.
- c) That the proposed next steps in the development and delivery of the Health and Wellbeing refresh as outlined in this paper, including establishing a set of clear indicators of the Strategy, be approved.
- d) That the further development and graphic design work will be carried out with an accessible document created prior to the publication and promotion of the agreed Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy refresh, be noted.

## **12 Healthy Leeds Plan Refresh: Update**

The report of The Healthy Leeds Plan outlined the health and care contribution towards delivering the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy ambition that *Leeds will be a caring city for people of all ages, where people who are the poorest improve their health the fastest.*

The following were in attendance:

- Catherine Sunter, Head of Population Health Planning, Leeds ICB

The Head of Population Health Planning ICB, presented the report and outlined the following information:

- The plan was ambitious to improve health goals in line with the system commitments to population needs, which was a different approach from traditional plans which had focused on primary care and point of access.
- It was noted that 26% of the Leeds population live in the 10% most deprived areas nationally. The plan will aim to achieve improved health outcomes for all.
- The link between the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Healthy Leeds Plan with their collective commitments and shared goals will be demonstrated at the launch event in October 2023.
- The 9 exclusive segments of population and life stages that will be targeted by the plan were outlined as: children and young people, healthy adults, maternity, long term conditions, cancer, severe mental illness, learning disabilities and neurodiversity, frailty and end of life.
- Comments arising from consultation undertaken with the Adults Health and Active Lifestyles Scrutiny Board, ICBs and Health and Wellbeing Board were to be incorporated into the plan.

- Care Delivery Boards work alongside the plan with measures incorporated into the population outcome framework. Data led priorities had been established in consultation with Population and Care Delivery Boards and LCPs.
- It was noted that the 2023 plan will be comprised of 2 clear system goals - 'reduce preventable, unplanned care utilisation across health settings' and 'increase early identification and intervention' and owned by Leeds.
- The broader purpose and next steps of the plan were to contribute to the West Yorkshire Joint Forward Plan and influence local plans to meet regional and national goals. The plan will be unique for West Yorkshire and focus on its population demographics. The Joint Forward Plan will be subject to an annual review.
- The small scope of goals gave greater ability for tracking and agreeability and will be refreshed on an annual basis.
- The progress for goal 1 'reduce preventable, unplanned care utilisation across health settings' will be robustly monitored with target reductions and compared with other systems and work, including the community mental health transformation programme.
- Goal 2 'increase early identification and intervention' will be informed via goal 1 data.
- The communications plan proposed to create a clear easy read version for staff and the public once the plan had been agreed.
- Appropriate changes to the plan will be incorporated by the end of August 2023.

The Chair, on behalf of the Board, extended a message of thanks for the positive, collaborative partnership work, noting that as topics covered were often challenging, the focus on preventative measures was honest and reflective of financial challenges and the document.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- a) That the revised and reduced number of system goals which were described in the refreshed Healthy Leeds Plan and will replace the Strategic Indicators as set out in the original Healthy Leeds Plan document, be noted.
- b) That the approach taken to refreshing the Healthy Leeds Plan document, be noted.
- c) That the Healthy Leeds Plan for submission as Leeds' element of the WY Joint Forward Plan, be approved.

### **13 In Our Shoes: The Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022**

The Board considered the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health entitled "In Our Shoes" which, described the health of the population and made recommendations to improve health. The report focused on the current state of children and young people's health in Leeds, this included exploring the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their lives.

In attendance were:

- Victoria Eaton, the Director of Public Health

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on Thursday, 9th November, 2023



- Kathryn Ingold, the Chief Officer - Consultant/Public Health

The Director of Public Health and Chief Officer - Consultant/Public Health presented the report and outlined the following information:

- The report was nationally recognised for its high standard and child focused approach, providing an understanding of how much children and young people had missed out on during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The report had involved input from a wide scope of Council departments.
- Headline findings and 10 recommendations had been developed as part of the study; these were detailed at page 194 of the report pack.
- It was the first annual report of the Director of Public Health since the Covid-19 pandemic, with the report's theme relevant since the city emerged from the pandemic.
- An infographic document and child friendly summary version had also been developed.
- The broad scope of consultation and emotive conversations had produced a high-level narrative, using a combined approach with public evidence, real scrutiny of local data and huge engagement with over 260 health professionals to reflect the voices of children and young people.
- The Leeds report had been recognised nationally for best practice as 1 of 4 of the Annual Director of Public Health reports for its robust review of data and the only one to have put the voice of young people first.
- 11 key themes had been developed as; children's mental health, parental mental health, children's physical health, poverty, housing and where we live, children's safety, play and screen use, child development, educational attainment, accessing services, childhood infections and positive impacts.
- The focus on inequality showed the difference between the Leeds average and the children living in areas which fall into the most deprived 10% nationally, constructing an awareness of these unequal outcomes.
- Indicators for self-reported mental health issues were worse when compared to previous data and demand for services had increased.
- Physical health indicators noted an increase in childhood obesity, an initial spike with emerging data after the pandemic having levelled off for reception age children but was still increasing for children in year 6.
- The negative effects of the pandemic had impacted less affluent children more which highlighted inequality, such as access to green space.
- Child vaccination rates had fallen over the pandemic which may put younger people at a greater risk of contracting measles or mumps.
- The next steps were covered by the 10 recommendations with 8 focused on conditions and prevention and 2 on health and care service improvements.

A video was played for Board Members displaying examples of anecdotal evidence and engagement with families and young people.

The Board discussed the following matters:

- The report was useful to inform priorities as part of Leeds' Marmot City work.
- The reference made to health visitors checks in the video was queried. It was noted that most provision during the pandemic had been online and this had been identified through conversations with families who appeared to have fallen through gaps in services. It was acknowledged that this may not have applied widely across the city, however the specific issue raised had been followed up with lead services.
- The increased obesity levels were concerning as this could lead to obesity in adulthood which indicated a lower life expectancy and health outcomes. Engagement with politicians at a national level was proposed to address the issue through initiatives such as taxation policy.
- The Healthy Leeds Plan will be an appropriate pathway to translate into funding and action on some of the issues noted in the report and for priorities to be progressed.

(Rebecca Charlwood, the Independent Chair for the Leeds Committee of the WY ICB, left the meeting during consideration of this item)

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (1) To note the content of the Director of Public Health annual report and accompanying film.
- (2) The Board supported and committed to deliver the recommendations of the report, including:
  - a) All partners in Leeds to ensure the voices of children and young people are central to all work planned, taking into account the Child Friendly Leeds twelve wishes.
  - b) Leeds City Council and partners to work to ensure children are kept safe with a focus on: Prevention of harm and Parenting support; Early help; Reducing domestic violence. Leeds City Council, the Leeds Office of the West Yorkshire NHS Integrated Care Board, and partners to continue to prioritise work to improve and protect children's mental health. This will be delivered through the: Leeds Children and Young People's Plan; Prevention workstream of the Future in Mind strategy.
  - c) Leeds City Council to build on the success of existing support to parental mental health and wellbeing, with a focus on the development of family hubs.
  - d) Leeds City Council to work with partners to continue to deliver a programme of work to protect and improve children's physical health. This will focus on: Implementing the recommendations from the play sufficiency research; Increasing physical activity opportunities; Increasing access to healthy food; Implementing the child healthy weight plan.
  - e) Leeds City Council to ensure that children are central to the delivery of work to become a Marmot city, with a focus on: Improving housing; Planning; Mitigating the impacts of poverty; Children getting a fair start in life; Ensuring the Thriving Strategy is implemented.

- f) The Best Start partnership to aim for all children in Leeds to receive the best start in life, with a focus on children from more deprived backgrounds. This includes redressing the gap in speech language and communication development.
- g) Leeds City Council to maintain work underway to ensure equitable catch up in terms of educational attainment. This will be achieved through delivering the five main priorities of the 3As Plan: Reading; Attendance; Special Educational Needs; Wellbeing; Transition.
- h) The Leeds Office of the West Yorkshire NHS Integrated Care Board to ensure health care services are accessible to all children and young people. This will focus on: Dental services; Mental health services; Speech, language and communication.
- i) NHS England and The Leeds Health Protection Board to increase coverage rates of childhood immunisations.

#### **14 Leeds Health & Care System Better Care Fund Submission 2023-25**

The Board received the report of the Leeds Health and Care System which provided an overview of the Leeds Better Care Fund Submission for 2023 -23. The submission had been collaboratively produced by the ICB in Leeds and the LCC's Adults & Health Directorate's and met the requirement to complete and submit the Better Care Fund Plan for 2023-25 to NHS England by 28th June 2023.

The submission was an annual requirement and had been discussed in length at a recent Health and Wellbeing Workshop and had been brought to the Board meeting to be formally agreed.

Caroline Baria, the Interim Director of Adults and Health noted that the plan had been scrutinised, feedback had been incorporated into the final version and the formatting had been revised. The plan was compliant with the four national conditioned objectives.

The Board discussed the following:

- The collective review process alongside an independent sector review was queried. Reassurance was given that the partners from all sectors had ownership of the plan and delivery was integrated.
- The review had matured and been honest as to how money is best utilised, the document was transparent and coherently informed using relevant evidence.

**RESOLVED** – That the attached collaboratively authored and regionally reviewed Better Care Fund Submission 2023-25 plan for the Leeds City be noted.

#### **15 Revised Governance Arrangements for Local Strategic Plans to Improve Outcomes for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), ensuring alignment with a changing national agenda.**

The Board received the report of the Chief Officer for Learning Inclusion, Children and Families Directorate and the Associate Director of Pathway

Integration, West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (Leeds Place) on the national SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan published in 2023 which set out national plans for the improvement in response to the 2022 green paper – “Right support, right place, right time”.

The Board noted that the changing needs of children and young people and the national changes had prompted a review of the governance arrangements and reporting mechanisms. OFSTED were scheduled to review SEND services focused on education and social care. Discussions at the SEND Board will provide feedback to the Health and Wellbeing Board to review issues.

Farrah Khan, the Chief Officer for Family Help, outlined the partnership arrangements for Leeds against national legislation and the changed terms of reference; the Health and Wellbeing Board will be updated on ongoing work from the Children’s and Young People’s Population Board.

**RESOLVED –**

- a) That the draft new Terms of Reference for the Leeds area SEND Partnership Board and proposed new reporting arrangements be noted.
- b) To note the proposal for the SEND Partnership Board to report regularly to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

**16 Any Other Business**

Pip Goff, the Representative for Communities of Interest highlighted the difficult financial position of the Third Sector, noting the sector had absorbed cuts to Council and NHS organisations. It was outlined that over the period from 2020 to 2022 the Third Sector has lost 34% of its paid workforce and 27% of volunteers. The bi-monthly cost survey had noted approximately half of Third Sector organisations had been operating at a reduced service capacity level and the shortfall needed to be addressed.

Board Members acknowledged the pressures the sector was experiencing, and executive partnership work was ongoing. The Third Sector was noted to be comprised of a huge number of organisations and investigation will be needed to identify the populations and organisations experiencing the greatest challenge. A specific list of shared scheme proposals will need to be developed to provide an overview of the situation and support development of a management plan to alleviate impact.

The Chair agreed to write a letter to partners and recommend that the Board consider a formal item regarding sustainability plans for the Third Sector.

**17 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED –** To note the date and time of the next Health and Wellbeing Board meeting Thursday, 9th of November 2023 at 1:00 pm.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 26TH JULY, 2023

**PRESENT:** Councillor J Lewis in the Chair

Councillors S Arif, D Coupar, M Harland,  
H Hayden, A Lamb, J Lennox, J Pryor,  
M Rafique and F Venner

- 17 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**  
There was no information contained within the agenda which was designated as being exempt from publication.
- 18 Late Items**  
There were no late items of business submitted to the Board for consideration.
- 19 Declaration of Interests**  
There were no interests declared at the meeting.
- 20 Minutes**  
**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023 be approved as a correct record, subject to a matter of accuracy raised by Cllr Lamb, which was noted and with an undertaking being provided that this would be followed up. Specifically, the matter of accuracy related to a bullet point within Minute No. 6 (Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2021/23) regarding the role of the Independent Scrutineer: *'clarification was provided that the intention was for the partnership to continue to have an 'independent scrutineer' in place which would follow on from the role of the Independent Chair of the LSCP, with it being noted that the recruitment process for the new 'scrutineer' was underway'*.

Referencing resolution (c) of Minute No. 8, 21 June 2023 (Report to Consider a Council Resolution agreed at a Meeting of Full Council on 22 March 2023) which states *'That it be noted and endorsed that the Council is committed to continuing the current model of independent oversight, by having a role of Independent Scrutineer'*, Cllr Lamb highlighted that the decision of the Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) Executive had been brought to his attention that moving forward the Independent Scrutineer would no longer chair the LSCP and the Review Advisory Group. Cllr Lamb raised a number of concerns. In doing so he highlighted that he deemed this to be a significant change to the model, a downgrading of that role, with a number of implications arising. He also noted that he had not been kept informed. Further to this, Cllr Lamb sought and received legal advice in relation to the matters discussed.

In response to the points raised, the Board discussed whether or not this signified a change to the current model of independent oversight when considering the role of the Independent Scrutineer, whether or not it could be argued that it marked a downgrading of that role and received further information regarding the process by which the current position had been reached. As part of that discussion, assurances were provided to the concerns raised, with the Director of Children and Families emphasising that this did not signify a change to the model. The Executive Member for Children Social Care and Health Partnerships provided assurance to the Board that this did not signify a downgrading of the role.

Separately, responding to an enquiry regarding Elected Member representation on related Outside Bodies, the Board received an update on such matters, with it being noted that the Executive Member (Children Social Care and Health Partnerships) continued to sit upon the Leeds Children and Young People's Partnership.

Also in response to an enquiry, clarification was provided regarding the involvement of the Executive Member (Children Social Care and Health Partnerships) on the recruitment panel for the Independent Scrutineer, with it being noted that the Executive Member had been invited to be involved in that process by the Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive, in her capacity as the Council's relevant Executive Member.

Following the consideration of the issues raised, it was undertaken that the matter would be discussed further outside of the Board.

## **ADULT SOCIAL CARE, PUBLIC HEALTH AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLES**

### **21 In Our Shoes: Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022**

The Director of Public Health submitted her Annual Report for 2022 entitled, "*In Our Shoes*", which fulfilled the requirement of the Director to publish a report annually describing the health of the population in Leeds and which makes recommendations regarding the improvement of health in the city. It was noted that this report focussed upon the current state of children and young people's health in Leeds, exploring the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their lives, and which spanned the period from when the first COVID-19 cases were identified to the ongoing impact upon children's health that continues to be experienced and responded to.

In presenting the report, the Executive Member highlighted that this was the Director's first publication of an annual report following the pandemic, and that the report had been recognised nationally as an example of best practice by the Association of Directors of Public Health.

Members welcomed the report and particularly highlighted the focus to directly involve children, young people and their families, with a suggestion that the approach to involve young people in similar publications continued moving forward.

In considering the report, the Board received further detail on the general trends regarding the health of young people across Leeds, with the crucial work which continued in this area by the Council and its partners being highlighted.

In conclusion, the Director was thanked for the submission of the report, with thanks also being extended to the Council and its range of partners for the services that continued to be provided in this area throughout the pandemic to the present day.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the contents of the Director of Public Health's Annual Report for 2022, entitled, '*In Our Shoes*', as appended to the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That the recommendations of the Director's Annual Report, as set out below, be supported:-
  - (1) All partners in Leeds to ensure the voices of children and young people are central to all work planned, taking into account the Child Friendly Leeds twelve wishes.
  - (2) Leeds City Council and partners to work to ensure children are kept safe with a focus on:
    - Prevention of harm;
    - Parenting support;
    - Early help;
    - Reducing domestic violence.
  - (3) Leeds City Council, the Leeds Office of the West Yorkshire NHS Integrated Care Board, and partners to continue to prioritise work to improve and protect children's mental health. This will be delivered through the:
    - Leeds Children and Young People's Plan;
    - Prevention workstream of the Future in Mind strategy.
  - (4) Leeds City Council to build on the success of existing support to parental mental health and wellbeing, with a focus on the development of family hubs.
  - (5) Leeds City Council to work with partners to continue to deliver a programme of work to protect and improve children's physical health. This will focus on:
    - Implementing the recommendations from the play sufficiency research;
    - Increasing physical activity opportunities;
    - Increasing access to healthy food;
    - Implementing the child healthy weight plan.

- (6) Leeds City Council to ensure that children are central to the delivery of work to become a Marmot city, with a focus on:
  - Improving housing;
  - Planning;
  - Mitigating the impacts of poverty;
  - Children getting a fair start in life;
  - Ensuring the Thriving Strategy is implemented.
  
- (7) The Best Start partnership to aim for all children in Leeds to receive the best start in life, with a focus on children from more deprived backgrounds. This includes redressing the gap in speech language and communication development.
  
- (8) Leeds City Council to maintain work underway to ensure equitable catch up in terms of educational attainment. This will be achieved through delivering the five main priorities of the 3As Plan:
  - Reading;
  - Attendance;
  - Special Educational Needs;
  - Wellbeing;
  - Transition.
  
- (9) The Leeds Office of the West Yorkshire NHS Integrated Care Board to ensure health care services are accessible to all children and young people. This will focus on:
  - Dental services;
  - Mental health services;
  - Speech, language and communication.
  
- (10) NHS England and The Leeds Health Protection Board to increase coverage rates of childhood immunisations.

## **22 Report on the Implementation of Changes to the Adult Social Care Charging Policy 2022-23**

Further to Minute No. 67, 19 October 2022, the Director of Adults and Health submitted a report which provided a further update on the implementation of the changes to the Leeds City Council Charging Policy for non-residential Adult Social Care, as agreed by Executive Board on 15th December 2021 and which came into effect in April 2022.

In considering the report the Board received an overview of the key points arising from the changes to the charging policy.

Responding to an enquiry, the Board received further detail on the processes in place to monitor the impact of the changes made upon service users, with it being highlighted that there was no evidence to suggest that services were not being taken up as a result of this change, as both demand and take up continued to increase. It was also noted that there was an element of



discretion to the policy and that individual needs and financial circumstances would be taken into consideration, as appropriate.

Responding to a request, it was undertaken that a further update on whether there had been any impact on demand for services due to the changes in the policy would be submitted in 12 months' time for Board Members' consideration.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the successful implementation of the changes to the Charging Policy, as approved by Executive Board on December 15th, 2021 and as outlined within the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That the impacts upon affected service users, as detailed within the submitted report, be noted;
- (c) That it be noted that the revised expectation for potential income / savings achieved by both changes within a full year is £3,221,848;
- (d) That a further update on whether there has been any impact on demand for services due to the changes in the policy be submitted in 12 months' time for Board Members' consideration.

**23 Fast Track Cities: A commitment to end all new cases of HIV by 2030**

The Director of Public Health submitted a report outlining the progress being made in Leeds to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic, with the report specifically highlighting that Leeds has become a 'Fast-Track City' and as such has declared its commitment to ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic by 2030. The report set out the range of work being undertaken as part of the Fast-Track City initiative and related to this the Board's support was sought for a number of related actions to help progress this agenda.

In introducing the report, the Executive Member highlighted the key ambitions and priorities of the Fast-Track City initiative.

The Board welcomed the submitted report and recommendations within it.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That it be acknowledged that Leeds has become a 'Fast Track City' for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Tuberculosis (TB);
- (b) That the development of the 'Leeds: Getting to Zero' Action Plan, be supported;
- (c) That a reduction in stigma and misinformation by the promotion of information, education, and opportunities for HIV, Hepatitis and TB testing within communities, be actively supported.

## **CHILDREN SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS**

### **24 The Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy Refresh - A Strategy to 2030**

The Director of Adults and Health submitted a report presenting an overview of the work undertaken to develop a refreshed Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy – a strategy which looked to provide the framework for making Leeds the best city for health and wellbeing, and which would run up to 2030. Specifically, the report sought the Board’s endorsement of the refreshed Strategy, as detailed at Appendix 1.

By way of introduction to the report, the Executive Member highlighted how the report attempted to strike the correct balance between being aspirational whilst also reflecting the day-to-day reality which people faced. The significant consultation undertaken as part of the development of the refreshed strategy was highlighted. The Executive Member advised the Board that the refreshed strategy had been approved by the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Board on 20th July 2023 and was being submitted to Executive Board for subsequent endorsement.

Responding to enquiries, the Board received further information on the key outcomes from the previous Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and whilst a number of outcomes were referenced, the creation of the ‘Team Leeds’ approach was specifically identified.

Also, responding to a concern raised about the Board being asked to endorse the refreshed strategy without the associated performance metrics, Members received an update on the work which continued in this area and the approach being taken, with it being noted that the intention was to submit further information to the Board on this in October.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the engagement and work which has been undertaken with partners as part of the development of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy refresh, as detailed within the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That the Health and Wellbeing Strategy refresh, as attached at Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be endorsed;
- (c) That the next steps, as outlined within the submitted report regarding the finalisation and delivery of the Strategy, including developing a graphically designed version alongside an accessible version, be noted.

#### **RESOURCES**

### **25 Financial Reporting 2023/24 - Quarter 1**

The Chief Officer Financial Services submitted a report presenting the Council’s projected 2023/24 financial position in respect of both the General Fund revenue budget and the Housing Revenue Account following the first quarter of the financial year. Also, the report set out the updated Capital

Programme for 2023-2028, as at Quarter 1 and which sought related approvals regarding injections into the Capital Programme.

The Executive Member highlighted the extremely challenging circumstances that continued to be faced and drew the Board's attention to the forecasted overspend of £28.5m on the Authority's General Fund as at Quarter 1 of the financial year. It was noted that whilst the Council would continue to take actions with the aim of achieving a balanced position by the end of the year, if this wasn't achieved then the use of the Council's reserves would be considered. The Executive Member also highlighted the currently projected position regarding the Capital Programme.

Members discussed the challenges that continued to be faced within the Children and Families directorate. Responding to a Member's comments, the Board received an update on the actions being taken to mitigate the pressures that continued to be felt in Children and Families. It was acknowledged that such pressures were being experienced across the sector, with increasing demand for services continuing to be a major contributor. Whilst action would continue to mitigate the pressures in Leeds, it was highlighted that continued representations to Government were needed.

Further to the actions being taken in Children and Families, it was acknowledged that a cross-directorate approach needed to continue, with it being noted that the intention was to submit further details on such matters to the Board in September and October.

Responding to an enquiry regarding the non-demand led costs in Children and Families, the Board received an update on the actions being taken to mitigate pressures in this area also.

In conclusion, the arrangements in place for the Board to regularly monitor the Council's financial position was highlighted alongside the established Scrutiny arrangements, with an offer to Cllr Lamb that further briefings can be provided to him outside of Board meetings, should this be required.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That with regard to Financial Health Monitoring 2023/24 – Quarter 1, as detailed at Appendix A to the submitted report:-
  - (i) That it be noted that at Quarter 1 the Authority's General Fund revenue budget is forecasting an overspend of £28.5m for 2023/24, which is comprised of directorate overspends of £27.4m and an overspend in Strategic of £1.1m;
  - (ii) That it be noted that where an overspend is projected, directorates, including the Housing Revenue Account, are required to present action plans to mitigate their reported pressures in line with the Revenue Principles, as agreed by Executive Board in 2019;

- (iii) That the Council's intention to continue the freeze on recruitment, agency and overtime spend and the freeze on non-essential spend, which were introduced in 2022/23, be noted;
  - (iv) That it be noted that known inflationary increases and known impacts of the rising cost of living, including the employer's 2023/24 NJC pay offer of £1,925 and the JNC pay offer of 3.5%, have been incorporated into the financial position, as detailed within the submitted report; with it being noted that these pressures will continue to be reviewed during the year and reported to future Executive Board meetings as more information becomes available. That it also be noted that proposals would need to be identified in order to absorb any additional pressures;
  - (v) That due to reducing energy prices it be noted that there may be a saving on energy budgets; and should this be the case, the Board's in principle approval be given to any underspend on energy being transferred to the Strategic Contingency Reserve.
- (b) That with regard to the Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28 – Quarter 1, as detailed at Appendix B to the submitted report:-
- (i) That the following injections into the Capital Programme be approved, as detailed at Appendix B1(iii) to the submitted report:
    - £82,105.0k of HRA resources for the roll forward of the Housing Leeds Refurbishment Programme into 2027/28; and
    - £1,185.3k of HRA Resources for the Council House Growth Programme to replace funding utilised during 22/23 closure of accounts.
  - (ii) That the resolution as set out in (b)(i) above to inject funding of £83,290.3k will be implemented by the Chief Officer (Financial Services);
  - (iii) That the latest position on the General Fund and HRA Capital Programme as at Quarter 1 2023/24, as detailed within the submitted report, be noted.

## **COMMUNITIES**

### **26 Cost of Living - Update Report**

Further to Minute No. 130, 15 March 2023, the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report which provided an updated position on the cost-of-living situation in Leeds, and which reflected upon national policy interventions and the actions being taken by the Council and partners in response to such matters.

The Executive Member introduced the report highlighting the key aspects within it, which included an update on increased demand being faced across relevant services. Thanks was extended to those officers and partner organisations involved in the provision of services in this area, with the

Executive Member undertaking to provide further updates to the Board as appropriate.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report, be noted; and that the approach being adopted, as detailed within the submitted report, be endorsed;
- (b) That it be noted that the Director, Communities, Housing and Environment is responsible for overseeing and implementing any actions arising from the submitted report.

**27 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Annual Report 2022 - 2023**

Further to Minute No. 115, 8 February 2023, the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment together with the Director of Strategy and Resources submitted a joint report introducing the Council's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Annual Report for 2022 – 2023. The report presented an update on the actions being taken and the progress being made in line with the Council's Equality Improvement Priorities (2021-2025), together with the progress being made in relation to the priorities within the Vision and Action Plan for EDI, as approved by Executive Board earlier in the year.

The Executive Member highlighted the key points arising from the annual report and noted a number of findings for Leeds from the EDI overview of the 2021 census. In conclusion, the Executive Member thanked the Equalities team, Equalities Hubs, Staff Networks and the Elected Member Equalities Champions for the work that they continued to undertake in this area.

Responding to an enquiry, the Board received further information and context on the establishment of the 'Freedom to Speak Up Guardian' role, which it was noted was an initiative that had been previously implemented in the NHS. Alongside this, greater detail was also provided on the range of initiatives in place that were being undertaken across the Council, such as the 'Be Your Best' initiative, with it being noted that a report on such matters was intended to be submitted to a future Executive Board meeting.

Members also received an update on the recent Council staff survey, with it being noted that the intention was for the outcomes to be submitted to Scrutiny in September and subsequently to Executive Board.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Annual Report 2022 – 2023, as presented at Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be approved;
- (b) That it be noted that the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment is responsible for the implementation of decisions made by Executive Board in respect of this report.

## **CLIMATE, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND GREEN SPACE**

### **28 District Heating Annual Report 2023**

Further to Minute No. 85, 23 November 2022, the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report presenting the Leeds PIPES District Heating annual report which provided a review of the network's performance over the past year and forecasted the anticipated performance in 2023/24. The report also recommended some related approvals from the Board which looked to support the continued expansion of the network and regarding the application process for accreditation from the Heat Trust with regard to the Trust's customer standard scheme.

In considering the report and responding to enquiries, the Board received further information on the current position regarding the capacity of the network and work being undertaken which looked to increase capacity. The Board also received assurance around the actions being taken to mitigate any potential risks associated with the expansion of the network. Finally, it was noted that the network was on track to come into surplus.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the application to the Green Heat Network Fund for the next phase of extension for Leeds PIPES District Heating Network, be approved, with the balance to be met by borrowing; and with it being noted that a further report will be brought to Executive Board in 2024 seeking further approvals prior to the commencement of the works;
- (b) That the necessary authority be delegated to the Chief Officer Financial Services, to enable the Chief Officer Financial Services to approve the funding of works to extend the network from Little Queen Street to Castle Street, with it being noted that a further report will be submitted to the Chief Officer Financial Services in relation to this decision;
- (c) That the financial performance of the network, as outlined within the submitted report, be noted;
- (d) That approval be given for the submission of an application to the Heat Trust for accreditation from its customer standard scheme by the end of summer 2023;
- (e) That the progress made to date by the Council and Central Government on Heat Network Zoning and Regulation legislation, be noted, with it also being noted that a further report will be submitted to Executive Board in 2024 outlining the strategic approach together with the decisions required to implement this locally;
- (f) That the underwriting of cash flow losses in Phase 3, up to a maximum value of £2m, in line with the approach taken for Phase 2, be approved.

## 29 **Green Finance Options**

The Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report following a White Paper Motion resolution of Full Council at its meeting on 18th January 2023 regarding Green Municipal Bonds / Community Mutual Investments. (Minute No. 76, meeting of Full Council, 18 January 2023 refers).

In presenting the report, the Executive Member acknowledged that although Municipal Bonds may have a role to play in engagement and raising awareness, the financial benefit from such an initiative would be limited when compared to the significant level of investment achieved by the Council to date in this area, with it being noted that the Council's focus was on key areas which would look to accelerate the path to net zero.

Responding to an enquiry, the Executive Member confirmed that Municipal Bonds was not an approach that the Council wished to take forward at present.

### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the Council's current plan to use a range of funding routes to fund a package of approved programmes that contribute to net zero (the reduction in carbon emissions and associated improvements in sustainability) in the city, be noted;
- (b) That the range of challenges to achieving net zero, which include financing, but also include a series of larger and more profound challenges and barriers, be noted;
- (c) That the review of green finance options for the Council, which include bonds or Community Mutual Investments (CMIs), as referenced in the White Paper Motion, be noted. That the aim of seeking stronger local and regional green financing from institutions and businesses, as well as individuals, and for the city as well as the Council, also be noted;
- (d) That the features of CMIs supporting net zero projects in other UK Authorities be noted, with it also being noted that a CMI approach may be something that the Council can take forward but that this will be based upon an alignment of financial borrowing and project type, which does not appear to be the position at present.

## **HOUSING**

### 30 **Approval of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023 - 2028**

The Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report presenting a new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy covering the period 2023 – 2028, which was designed to provide the Council and partner organisations with an updated strategic direction and framework to achieving the city priority of reducing homelessness and rough sleeping. The report

noted that the strategy had been informed by the extensive consultation which had been undertaken.

In presenting the report the Executive Member highlighted the strategy's 4 overarching ambitions and provided an overview of the actions which lay beneath those ambitions. The consultation undertaken in the development of the strategy was emphasised, with it being highlighted that the approach being taken was to ensure that the aims of the strategy were underpinned by positive engagement. Finally, the Board was invited to approve the strategy as presented, and the aims and priorities within it.

Responding to an enquiry the Board received further information regarding the measuring of the strategy's outcomes and the data that would be used to target services as appropriate, with it being noted that the intention was to review outcomes after 6 months to evaluate the impact being made.

**RESOLVED** – That the new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023 – 2028, as presented at Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be approved.

**DATE OF PUBLICATION:** FRIDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023

**LAST DATE FOR CALL IN  
OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS:** 5.00 P.M., FRIDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2023





## COUNCIL MEETING – 13th SEPTEMBER 2023

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP1	4/9/23	5/9/23

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Submitted by:	Councillor Alan Lamb
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure)
Relevant Director	Director of City Development

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This Council in principle rules out the introduction of an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in Leeds.

Councillor Alan Lamb

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### Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
  - Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
  - Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
- (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)





## COUNCIL MEETING – 13th SEPTEMBER 2023

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP2	4/9/23	5/9/23

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Submitted by:	Councillor Ed Carlisle
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education )
Relevant Director	Director of City Development

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This Council recognises the immense importance of building a strong local economy. We celebrate work including the Inclusive Growth strategy, but note that established economic systems are failing to enact broad social, economic, and environmental benefits – locally, and across the world.

We are committed to deepening our relationship with and commitment to the work of bodies including the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) and the New Economics Foundation, especially around the unique importance of ‘community wealth building’. Local authorities have a key part to play in recalibrating local economies, to ensure maximum wealth, opportunities, and wellbeing for local communities.

Council will therefore create a 10 year strategy – with clear and measurable outcomes – based upon the so-called Preston Model, to become the UK core city with the most locally-focused economy, rooted in systemic commitments to redirect investment into the local economy, and thereby help build a fairer and more resilient city and region.

Cllr Ed Carlisle

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### Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
  - Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
  - Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
- (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

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## COUNCIL MEETING – 13th SEPTEMBER 2023

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP3	4/9/23	5/9/23

Submitted by:	Councillor Jonathan Pryor
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education)
Relevant Director	Director of Children and Families

It has been reported that when he was Chancellor, Rishi Sunak refused to properly fund a school rebuilding programme.

Council utterly condemns this and calls on the Government to urgently fund vital school repair projects in Leeds.

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### Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
- Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting  
(including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

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