



Report of: Head of Locality Partnerships

Report to: Outer East Community Committee

**Cross Gates & Whinmoor, Garforth & Swillington,** 

**Kippax & Methley, Temple Newsam** 

Report author: Senior Localities Officer - Bali Birdi Tel: 07712 214727

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# **Outer East Community Committee - Update Report**

# **Purpose of report**

- 1. To bring to members' attention an update of the work which the Communities Team is engaged in, based on priorities identified by the Community Committee. It also provides opportunities for further questioning, or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.
- 2. This report also provides regular updates on some of the key activities between Community Committee meetings and functions delegated to Community Committees, Community Champions roles, community engagement, partnership and locality working.
- 3. Queens Platinum Jubilee

#### Main issues

#### 4. Queens Platinum Jubilee

In 2022 Her Majesty the Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee after 70 years of service. As such there will be many events and activities celebrating 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. This report pulls together some helpful information about these celebrations, especially the ones that it is hoped will bring communities together, in particular:

- The Big Lunch: <a href="https://www.thebiglunch.com/getyourpack">https://www.thebiglunch.com/getyourpack</a>
- The Queen's Green Canopy: <a href="https://queensgreencanopy.org/">https://queensgreencanopy.org/</a>
- The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons: <u>Services 4 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons 2022 (queensjubileebeacons.com)</u>

Externally, more than £22 million of National Lottery funding is being made available to help communities across the country celebrate the Platinum Jubilee:

- The National Lottery Community Fund's <u>Platinum Jubilee Fund</u> will provide grants of up to £50,000 to 70 impactful community projects across the UK. In addition, grants of up to £10,000 from The National Lottery <u>Awards For All programme</u> will be available for community-led events throughout 2022.
- Arts Council England's <u>Let's Create Jubilee Fund</u> will support voluntary and community organisations in England to develop creative and cultural activities as part of Platinum Jubilee celebrations with grants of up to £10,000.
- The Arts Council has also announced £175,000 to help libraries celebrate. The funding will be distributed by <u>Libraries Connected</u>, and will provide £1,000 for each library service
- Throughout the year community organisations will also be able to apply for grants from the
  Arts Council's <u>National Lottery Project Grants programme</u>, which has been refreshed with new
  guidance to better support a broader range of ambitious cultural projects.
- The National Lottery Heritage Fund will support communities to take action to help natural
  green spaces flourish as a legacy of the Queens Platinum Jubilee. Additional funding will
  create 70 paid placements for young people from under-served and disadvantaged
  backgrounds.
- <u>Sport England's</u> Queen's Platinum Jubilee Activity Fund, which will open at the beginning of 2022, will focus on the role of sport and physical activity in tackling inequalities and building stronger communities.

The Communities Team are working with local ward members in the promotion of these celebrations and the funding opportunities that are available and offering support where Community Committees are seeking to allocate some wellbeing funds. They are also currently reaching out to partners and local voluntary and community groups through their local networks, partnerships and social media pages to promote these opportunities and support organisations in the planning and development of local activities.

We're aware that Community Committees will play a key role in this promotion, as well as supporting local communities where there are plans to be made for the Queens Platinum Jubilee. With this in mind the Communities Team have developed a Social Media Plan, including a Queens Platinum Jubilee poster, attached at appendix 1 to raise awareness of the celebratory weekend in June 2022.

# The Big Jubilee Lunch

The Big Jubilee Lunch has been chosen as the official community celebration for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend. The Big Lunch is a chance to celebrate community connections and get to know one another a little better. The Big Lunch are working on free Big Lunch packs to help everyone celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with your community and neighbouring residents. For more information and your free pack visit <a href="https://doi.org/10.1081/jubilee.com/">The Big Lunch | Eden Project Communities</a> website.



# **Organising your own Street Party**

The government has published guidance including tips, advice and support on organising a street party and you can view the government guidance on organising a street party here. Leeds City Council will be supporting the scheme and will administer the process, which will allow neighbours to formally close their street to through traffic to facilitate a Queens Jubilee Street Party Event. Information from Leeds City Council is available on the following link: Play Streets (leeds.gov.uk)

The government has also launched its new Platinum Jubilee website, including an interactive map which will display all the events and activities that will be taking place right across the UK. The map is open for anyone to add their events and everyone is encouraged to upload any events and activities they may be planning to mark the Jubilee. To upload your event go to: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/jubilee">The Queen's Platinum Jubilee</a> 2022.

We are also very keen to learn about all the various street parties and other celebratory events happening in Leeds to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. If you are planning an event then please let us now by emailing <a href="mailto:TROTEAM@leeds.gov.uk">TROTEAM@leeds.gov.uk</a>.

Before proceeding with any street party it's important that you review the information below that will explain what is permitted for a street party. Street parties are community events held in residential streets and are considered to be open solely to residents and surrounding neighbours.

The list below highlights the activities permitted for a street party.

- For residents and surrounding neighbours.
- Publicity only for residents.
- In a house or garden, local green space, or a quiet residential road.
- Providing your own food.
- No sale of alcohol.
- No live music.
- No entrance fee.
- Selling tickets for a raffle for a charity or good cause on the day and your prizes are less than £500.

#### Do I need a Road Closure Notification?

If you are holding your party on private land or off the road you will not need a Road Closure Notice. If you are holding your party in the street you will need to seek permission to close the road for your event. If your event requires a possible road closure, please ensure you notify Leeds City Council at: <a href="mailto:TROTEAM@leeds.gov.uk">TROTEAM@leeds.gov.uk</a> no later than 15<sup>th</sup> April 2022 for the application to be administered and for Legal Orders to be processed in time.

The most suitable roads are quiet residential streets or cul-de-sacs where an easy alternative route for through traffic can be provided. It must be borne in mind that Leeds City Council reserves the right to decline applications based on highway safety concerns.

Please be aware that parents and adults are responsible for the safety and supervision of children playing out on the street during the street party. It should also be noted that all affected properties within the street party closure will need to support the event.

### Do I need insurance?

Ordinarily simple street parties do not require insurance. However, this does not mean that people organising an event cannot be held legally responsible for property damage or injury at your street party and consequently it is still worth considering cover and liability insurance should be obtained.



The Outer East Community Committee is asked to: Note the contents of report and offer any feedback or questions.



### 5. Children and Families: Champion - Cllr H Hayden

In preparation for the planning for this municipal year's Youth Summits, the Communities Team recently met with the Voice & Influence Team. At this meeting, the Voice and Influence Team offered their support to reflect on previous year's events and learning to inform future ways of working, however they expressed their concerns around staff reductions and service pressures, which would impede their ability to support the Youth Summits going forward.

They also shared concerns around bringing young people together from different schools/groups for a physical event, as there continued to be concerns over COVID-19 infection rates, particularly in schools and the proposal was made to push back the Youth Summits so that they are delivered in the new municipal year. This would allow the Communities Team to hold further discussions with members of the Children & Families Sub Groups and Children's' Champions and explore options to inform future Youth Summit arrangements, alongside the latest guidance regarding the safety measures that schools are putting in place over the following months.

A meeting was arranged with the Voice & Influence Team for the 22nd February 2022, to explore potential options for the Youth Summits moving forward. A sub group meeting will be arranged following this for ward members and officers. The proposed plan however is that the Outer East Youth Summit will take place in the autumn, after schools have returned from their summer break.

The Community Committees are still be able to consult with young people on priorities for the Youth Activity Fund Budget spend, a Youth Activity Fund Consultation Survey has been created. Capturing this feedback will ensure that young people are still able to inform the budget spend for each committee in 2022/23 and in this respect the survey will produce the same outcome as a physical Youth Summit.

Promotion of the online consultation survey is ongoing by the Communities Team, with publicity being posted on the committee Facebook pages, publicity being sent out to all our school & cluster contacts, youth groups and other organisations that are funded, or work with young people in each of the Community Committee areas, as well as being circulated to our mailing lists. Posters have also been sent to our Community Hubs and Libraries, as well as our Housing Leeds contacts.

In addition to this the Communities Team have also created a QR code that links to the YAF Consultation Survey (image attached below). This will be embedded into posters so that it can be scanned with smartphones/QR reader apps which most phones have, taking the user straight to the survey and giving us another valuable avenue for capturing feedback and engaging with young people.



The online consultation will stay open until the 31st March 2022, where all feedback from young people will feed into a Youth Activity Fund Consultation Report for each respective committee area and this will, in principle, inform the Youth Activity Fund Budget spend.

The latest position statement in relation to the survey is that we've had over 1000 responses from young people so far across all the 10 Community Committees.

# 6. Environment & Community Safety: Champion - Cllr P Grahame

#### **Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT)**

All staff are now back to normal working duties and able to perform all aspects of their role. Their time is split between office working (minimum 2 days per week) and home working, in line with corporate guidelines. Currently there are 5 case officers operating across the Outer East area.

# Cases opened in the last 3 months by ward and broad case type

Cross Gates & Whinmoor = 5 of which Noise 0, ASB 5, Hate 0, Domestic Violence 0. Temple Newsam = 5, of which Noise 0, ASB 5, Hate 0, Domestic Violence 0. Garforth & Swillington = 4, of which Noise 0, ASB 4, Hate 0, Domestic Violence 0. Kippax & Methley = 3, of which Noise 0, ASB 3, Hate 0, Domestic Violence 0.

Total = 17 cases opened.

# Current active case load by ward

Cross Gates & Whinmoor = 20 Garforth & Swillington = 3 Kippax & Methley = 6 Temple Newsam = 22

Total active cases for Outer East = 51

The area is now be managed by our LASBT East Team. There are many positive reasons for this:

- The East Team is based at Deacon House, the Ring Road from the ward, meaning less travelling time and costs and a speedier response for customers should urgent visits be required.
- Officers are already dealing with large numbers of young people in Seacroft, Cross Gates, Manston Park, Swarcliffe etc, who move between these localities.
- The Police Link Officers in LASBT East cover the Cross Gates & Whinmoor ward due to
  Police resource deployment this gives continuity with Police partners and an instant link into
  the Outer East Neighbourhood Police Team.
- The East Team are working closely with the Seacroft & Manston Cluster staff this will enable better working with schools locally and the Children's Centre.
- The East Team also works closely with Housing Leeds colleagues in the ward as there is a management responsibility for the Temple Newsam ward for anti-social behaviour purposes.
- The East Team also is working locally with partners from Youth Services, Youth Offending Services, John Smeaton School this will aid continuity of service.

Overall, the service will streamline the work it delivers, and ensure that there is no duplication. The service will be more joined up and effective. This change effective from 1<sup>st</sup> March will allow a handover period of cases and also allow staff to become acquainted. This does not affect resources in any of the other wards in Outer East.

# 7. Leeds Watch Update

The Leeds Watch service is currently undergoing a review which is looking at all aspects of the service, including the operation of the control room, effectiveness of its cameras.

The review is also to include a reporting strand which will serve to agree the way forward to provide information regarding CCTV to Councillors and Partners.

This report covers the different types of incidents captured by CCTV operators in real time for the cameras located in the Outer East area committee area, for quarter 3 2021/2022.

### **GDPR – Information Sharing**

The introduction of the GDPR 2018 regulations reviewed the area of information sharing and therefore restricted the detail of what can be provided. As a result, the content of this report may not have the detail of specific incidents previously reported but provides a summary of the types of incidents within the area.

# **Incidents captured by CCTV operators:**

Qtr. 3 – Outer East Cameras incidents (1st Oct - 31st December 2021)							
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total incidents per category			
Alarm Activation		1	1	Alarm Activation			
Animals				Animals			
ASB	3	6	2	ASB	11		
Cash In Transit			1	Cash In Transit			
Drugs		1		Drugs	1		
Enforcement	2	1	3	Enforcement	6		
Fire	2	1	1	Fire	4		
Health & Safety	2			Health & Safety	2		
Police Operation	2	1	4	Police Operation	7		
Public Order	7	1	1	Public Order			
Road Traffic	2	1	1	Road Traffic			
Sexual Offences	1			Sexual Offences			
Suspicious Events				Suspicious Events			
Theft	1			Theft	1		
Travellers				Travellers			
Weather				Weather			
Metro				Metro			
Total Per Month	22	13	14	Total sum of incidents	49		

CCTV also contributes towards Police enquiries as requests are made for footage which may not have been observed "real time". These incidents are not included in this report but can contribute towards arrests being made in the Outer East Area.

Following the recent announcement of the new Full Fibre Network provider being awarded to BT work will now commence to upgrade all CCTV cameras from analogue to digital. This will significantly improve the image quality and increased effectiveness of cameras in the Ward.

#### **Requests for new Cameras**

The Surveillance Camera Commissioner is appointed by the Home Secretary to ensure that surveillance camera systems in public places keep people safe and protect and support them.

Following changes to Data Protection legislation the council needs to ensure that all its CCTV systems are managed in line with the Commissioner's recommendations to ensure there are no data breaches (this includes CCTV systems in all Leeds City Council assets including libraries, sports centres, council vehicles fitted with CCTV, etc.).

A dedicated CCTV compliance team has been established within Leeds City Council.

The compliance team also work closely with Information Governance to assist in ensuring all system owners are compliant with their codes of practice, policies, and procedures.

### 8. Halton Moor Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership

The Halton Moor Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership (NIP) met on 17<sup>th</sup> February. There was attendance from a wide range of partners including Leeds City Council services, Police, Fire Services, Local Councillors and third sector partners.

There was an update provided on the work that Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe Project for Elders (HOPE) are leading on the area. The focus of the organisation is now expanding to work with all residents in the area, not just the over 60's as they have been doing. They are leading on the Asset Based Community Development work in the area and have recently employed a Community Connector who will be working with local residents to develop activities for the local community.

An update was also provided on the youth provision in the area. Leeds City Council Youth Services are providing a number of sessions for young people in the week. A number of planned activities and trips are taking place over the next few weeks for young people to get involved in. The Youth Association are also providing sessions on a Tuesday and Thursday.

A number of ideas were shared for projects for the area such as Engagement days and a best garden competition. These ideas will be developed over the next few weeks by the partnership team and promotion material will be shared with services and residents on how to get involved.

### 9. Cleaner Neighbourhoods

Keep Britain Tidy purple bags are proving positive and are being utilised by lots of community groups, litter free Leeds. They are a great way to distinguish between Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team (CNT) Street cleaning and Community litter picking.

Throughout this period, there has been great results with regards the de-leafing period, mechanical sweepers have been in each ward on separate days.

This has been well received by residents and elected members and enabled the team to prioritise areas requiring a deep cleanse and ultimately resulted in a quicker clean up time for the leaf fall.

All of the areas have a good uptake of civic collections with a high number residents' booking collections for their bulky items.

The street cleaning zonal days are running smoothly where improvements have been noticed regarding the general cleanliness of the wards This is credit to the street cleaning team who have been working extremely hard. The team are extremely short staffed and are carrying vacancies.

#### 10. Employment, Skills & Welfare: Champion – Cllr J Lennox

#### **Universal Credit**

The number of people who are claiming Universal Credit due to unemployment as of November 2021 in the Outer East Community Committee area is 3,397. This is an increase of 80% since March 2020, which is reflective across all wards due to the impact of Covid-19. There is an small increase of 13 on the previous month.

The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (furlough) ceased at the end of September 2021, and there was an expectation that a number of people would have been made redundant which would have subsequently increased claimants to Universal Credit, which has not come to fruition in the latest release.

The table below shows the number of people claiming Universal Credit in the Outer East Community Committee area:

	Universal Credit Claimants (Not in Employment) 16-64yrs						
	March 2020		Oct 2021		Nov 2021		
	Number*	Rate**	Number*	Rate**	Number*	Rate**	
Leeds	23,631	4.5%	42,226	8.1%	41,609	8.0%	
Outer East	1,882	3.7%	3,384	6.6%	3,397	6.6%	
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	645	4.7%	1,111	8.1%	1,109	8.1%	
Garforth & Swillington	234	2.0%	481	4.1%	532	4.5%	
Kippax & Methley	354	2.7%	689	5.3%	677	5.2%	
Temple Newsam	649	5.0%	1,103	8.6%	1,079	8.4%	

<sup>\*</sup>Number is the number of people claiming Universal Credit that are not in employment

#### **Employment and Skills Services**

The table below shows the number of people being supported from the Outer East Community Committee area.

	Accessing Services		Into Work		Improved Skills	
	2021/22 (Apr – Dec)	2020/21 (Apr – Dec)	2021/22 (Apr – Dec)	2020/21 (Apr – Dec)	2021/22 (Apr – Dec)	2020/21 (Apr – Dec)
Outer East	572	526	191	167	135	282
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	239	202	71	80	52	94
Garforth & Swillington	69	80	34	26	15	53
Kippax & Methley	64	71	29	17	15	37
Temple Newsam	200	173	57	44	53	98

Employment and Skills reinstated face to face support, activities, and delivery from September 2021 with a continuation of a virtual or remote offer along with email and telephone support in line with Covid-19 restrictions.

During April – December 2021 9,387 people accessed the Service, 572 of whom were from the Outer East, an increase of 9% when compared to the same period last year.

The service has supported 2,563 people into work, during April – December 2021, 191 of whom were residents from the Outer East, an increase of 14% when compared to the same period last year. Customers were supported into work across all sectors with the largest numbers in health and care, food retail, logistics, distribution, and transport.

Between April – December 2021 the service has supported 2,397 people to improve their skills. From the Outer East, 135 residents have completed a skills course, a reduction of 52% when compared to the same period last year.

Leeds Employment Hub is a single point of contact for all funded programmes and Jobshops that provides tailored and comprehensive support into employment or education to <u>all</u> Leeds residents. A large team of Employment Hub Advisors deliver the programme by providing one to one support, tailored preventative and remedial support to Leeds residents who are disadvantaged in the labour market.

The Employment Hub Advisors are co-located within 7 Jobcentres across the City. All Jobshops are now fully open, 5 days a week for face to face appointments which include Seacroft and City Centre

<sup>\*\*</sup>Rate shows the number of claimants not in employment as a percentage of the working age population

Community Hubs. The Community Hub Mobile bus is now running Monday-Friday the schedule stop includes:

• Windmill Health Centre, Whinmoor Way, LS14 5BD, Friday 9:30-12:00

Employment and Skills Service has been successful in securing additional funding from DWP to support disadvantaged young people (15-24) in Leeds. The programme will support 1,600 young people up to the end of December 2023, who are NEET or risk of becoming NEET; and from WYCA that focuses on resident that are ineligible for ESIF programmes and will prioritise on supporting underemployed residents in low paid, low skilled jobs as well as those at risk of redundancy. Both programmes are in addition to a number of programmes that have been enhanced and expanded to respond to the challenges of Covid-19 and the changing labour market.

The Adult Learning programme continues to deliver an effective, broad, and inclusive curriculum to support the continuation of learning in response to Covid-19 through an online platform in collaboration with subcontracted partners. Courses were delivered through a range of models to include online face to face and through distance learning, opening new opportunities for adults to learn and develop their confidence. For the 2021/22 Academic Year, 135 courses are also planned for online delivery, city-wide. In the Outer East, 6 courses, including ESOL and English are planned at 3 different venues.

Leeds Adult Learning Summer 2021 saw a range of activity across the city to raise the profile of learning and engage Leeds. Activity included a community engagement / marketing campaign, a summer programme of taster courses and a partnership approach with family learning supporting the delivery of the Council's Healthy Holiday programme.

Following a successful funding bid to the Leeds Community Foundation, a bespoke Developing You programme, Learning Disabilities Pre-Employability Project is being developed. A collaboration between Employment and Skills, Pyramid of Arts, People Matters and United Response will deliver a 12 week pre-employability programme which will include work readiness and health and wellbeing modules. The first cohort is expected to start in April 2022.

Over 202 new businesses were supported to recruit new staff, provide support for staff facing redundancy and developing initiatives to address staff shortages and filling a high number of vacancies within key sectors.

#### **Hospitality Sector**

- A Restaurant Ready programme, a 5-day course, aimed to upskill individuals to successfully
  enter the hospitality sector through providing practical experience within Leeds City College's
  café and restaurant facilities. The programme provides an opportunity for participants to be
  signposted to work trials and interviews with employers.
- A Christmas recruitment fair took place on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 held at the Engine Room at Leeds Bid; 265 people attended.
- The service is continuing to work with HMP Wealstun and the Leeds Hotels and Venues Association around the recruitment of ex-offenders into the hospitality sector.
- Held McDonalds Breakfast Events at the Briggate store to support the recruitment of 30 vacancies, further events are planned in 2022.

# Health & Social Care Sector:

- Working in partnership with the Leeds Health and Care Careers Narrowing Inequalities
  programme which aims to engage with, recruit and develop a diverse workforce from
  disadvantaged or under-represented communities in Leeds. This is to improve access to longterm career opportunities, work experience, volunteering, education, and training.
- Leeds Health and Care Careers is working alongside the <u>Healthier Working Futures</u> project, a
  new partnership of health, care and third sector partners who have received funding from the
  UK Government through the UK Community Renewal Fund. The project aims to engage over

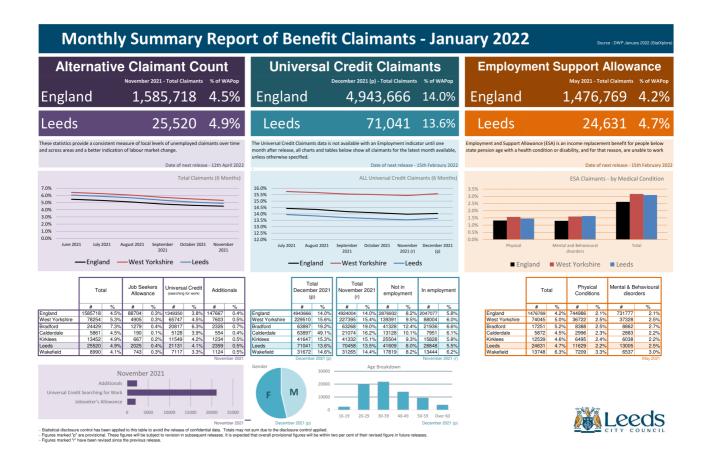
600 unemployed / economically inactive young adults (aged 16-25) supporting them onto a health and care career path via innovative engagement programmes delivered by a team of third sector organisations.

 Jobsfairs were held in October and November 2021 at the Leeds Kirkgate Market with 45 Employers / Training Providers, 790 people attended.

The Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair 2022 (LARF22) kicked off National Apprenticeship Week in Leeds on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February at Leeds First Direct Arena, connecting Leeds young people with real live Apprenticeship vacancies, information and guidance. The event was particularly crucial this year given the uncertainties that the impact of Covid-19 has created for young people. LARF22 was completely sold out with 6,200 tickets booked in advance and around 5,000 people attending on the day. 88 employers and training providers exhibited, representing sectors from Agriculture, Care Services, Creative and Design, Digital, Legal, Finance and Accounting and much more.

The new Apprenticeships in Leeds website was launched for National Apprenticeship Week and can be accessed at <a href="www.apprenticeshipsinleeds.co.uk">www.apprenticeshipsinleeds.co.uk</a>. The site features around 100 organisations offering Apprenticeships in Leeds, split by occupational sector.

Following a number of requests from schools the service is currently working with colleagues in Children and Families Service and with careers practitioners to develop and deliver a career progressions event for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The event which will be the first for the city will be held at Leeds First Direct Arena on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 and will be open to all young people who have additional needs, and teaching staff, parents and carers will be encouraged to attend. There will be information about opportunities post 16 including training, jobs, apprenticeships, traineeships, and volunteering opportunities.



#### 11. Health and Wellbeing & Adult Social Care: Champion – Cllr P Grahame

#### Financial Inclusion

An up to date leaflet has been produced for citywide financial inclusion work entitled 'Worrying about money'. The leaflet outlines support services for the city with names, contact address and contact numbers for services. There is a numbered key to highlight which services are on offer with each service

Leaflets will be available for collection from the Public Health Resource Centre and there is a digital version for sharing with partners.

#### Healthy Lifestyle

The extended adult Tier 2 weight management offer available in the city until June 22 funded via Office for Health Improvement and Disparities is now being promoted via the "Everybody Can" campaign. The offer includes provision for males only, people with learning difficulties and people with mental health issues. All services and support information can be found at: <a href="Love Yourself - Every">Love Yourself - Every</a> Body Can - Leisure Offers from Active Leeds (leedsfitnessoffer.co.uk)

Weight Management providers recently provided a "Want to know more" session on the city offer. This can be viewed at: Leeds Public Health Training - YouTube (number 47/48)

Child Healthy Weight Plan – consultation event planned for 16/03 from 9.30-12.30. The consultation will review the 6 main outcomes being driven in the city and will support the development of a new action plan. For more information please contact <a href="mailto:deborah.lowe@leeds.gov.uk">deborah.lowe@leeds.gov.uk</a> Leeds Domestic Violence Website Please see new website below.

There are sections for if people need help now and how to exit the website quickly or delete their history trail, information for professionals and a variety of resources.

#### Leeds Domestic Violence website

The new Leeds Domestic Violence Service website is now live. The new site can be accessed at ldvs.uk.

The site draws together important information on domestic violence and abuse, and how to get support from LDVS and other services, both local and national. It hosts detailed information for professionals on how to refer into the service, including a new online referral form, as well as the existing downloadable form. It also includes a number of resources for victims-survivors; people supporting loved ones affected by domestic violence and abuse; and professionals working with victims-survivors.

# Pension Credit

Below is an article on pension credit that can be used to share with relevant contacts. The uptake of pension credit is low across the city and work is taking place to try and improve this situation.

### Newsletter article for organisations to share:

# Isn't it time you topped up?

Pension Credits are available to many older people in Leeds. But how do you go about getting hold of that extra money?

#### A pension top-up

It's been estimated that around £32 million in pension credit is going unclaimed in Leeds. Some of that £32m could be yours!

The average value of a household's pension credit claim in Leeds is £59.50 per week. Imagine what a difference that could make to your life - having to worry less about money and being able to afford the things you need. It can make the difference between being able to pay for food, heat a home and use public and private transport.

The first type of pension credit is called Guarantee Credit.

You can get Guarantee Credit if your weekly income is less than £177.10 if you're single, or £270.30 if you're a couple. It kicks in when you reach State Pension age. If your weekly income drops below those figures at any time after this, you can claim. Some carers and disabled people may be entitled to extra amounts.

# But what if I have savings?

You can still claim! There is no capital limit for Pension Credit though savings over £10000 can affect the amount of Pension Credit you are entitled to.

The second type of Pensions Credit is called Savings Credit. Savings Credit is extra money if you've got some savings or your income is higher than the basic State Pension. It's only available to people who reached State Pension age before 6 April 2016. You could get up to:

£13.97 extra per week if you're single

or £15.62 if you're a couple

#### What else can I get?

- Getting pension credit is not just the weekly payment, it can entitle you to all this:
- A free TV License if you're over 75.
- Free NHS dental treatment help towards buying glasses and the cost of travel to hospital.
- A warm home discount (worth £140 a year) and a cold weather payment worth £25 when the temperature is 0°C or below for 7 days in a row.
- Housing benefit or help with mortgage interest, ground rent and service charges.
- Help towards council tax.
- If you're a carer you may get an extra amount.

#### A quick phone call

You can apply online or by phone call to the Pension Credit claim line. A friend or family member can call for you if you cannot use the phone.

Pension Credit claim line: 0800 99 1234

If you haven't got anyone who can help you with the call Welfare Rights at Leeds City Council would be happy to help, please call them on 0113 3760452

You will need:

- your National Insurance number
- information about your income, savings and investments
- your bank account details if you're applying by phone or by post

### 12. Swarcliffe & Osmondthorpe Housing

# **Voids Levels (empty properties)**

The lettings team currently manage the Swarcliffe, Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe lettings. The removal of Garforth and Kippax to Rothwell has reduced the pressure of such a large lettings area. Due to the above the number of ready to lets has reduced. Currently there is 1 property ready to let on Swarcliffe and 3 on Halton Moor/Osmondthorpe.

The back log from covid is still being felt by the voids team and the number of properties being returned ready to let is a couple per week for each area.

Sheltered complexes continue to be difficult to let due to lack of demand. Houses in all areas are in high demand. Properties on Halton Moor can be difficult to let due to anti-social behaviour. The police and LASBT are involved.

Since April 2021 the number of properties let are as follows:

Swarcliffe/Whinmoor – 99 Halton Moor/Osmondthorpe – 54 Total - 153

#### **Income Collection**

Swarcliffe's collection as at wk 44 is 94.34% of all rent, this is a decline of 1.84% from this time last year. The team are working hard to increase our collection, which has been impacted by the pandemic, and are working through an arrear's recovery plan until year end.

Halton Moor's collection as at wk 44 is 93.85 % of all rent, this was a slight reduction of .85% on the previous year which is an achievement given the challenges we have had to face during the pandemic and the team has worked tirelessly to achieve this. They are now pushing hard towards year end in an attempt to increase our collection and hopefully achieve what we did last year.

The team are working closely with tenants to maximise their income and any support they need and have achieved this by referring through to Benefit Advisors, assisting with Discretionary Housing Payments in acute cases and involving third party support agencies.

Referrals are being made to Leeds Credit Union for tenants who benefit from budgeting accounts and have recently been invited Better Leeds to a team meeting to go through the debt advice they offer and how they can support individuals.

The team are putting together new income plans that will focus on the areas with room for improvement and to ensure that the right support is being offered to our tenants.

# **Annual Tenancy Check-in**

The new Annual Tenancy Check In programme was launched on the 7<sup>th</sup> June which differs slightly from the previous annual home visit programme. The team will be checking in with tenants in three different ways – an online check in, a telephone contact or a home visit. The team is also targeting priority contacts which are those that are most vulnerable.

#### **Environmental Actions Swarcliffe Office**

Environmental Walkabouts have been completed for quarter 1, 2 3, with quarter 4 to be completed over the next 2 months. The feedback has mainly been positive, with estates being in good condition. There have been some messy gardens that are being tackled by Housing Officers and some issues with overgrown hedges and ginnels have been picked up. The team have been resolving overgrown vegetation by arranging for a cut back into specification for it to be added to the Grass Maintenance contract.

Issues have also been identified with damaged flagstones on a residential street, the team looking are looking into Housing Advisory Panel (HAP) funding or capital works to resolve this issue and make the area safer.

### **Environmental Actions Halton Moor Office**

The team have completed walkabouts for quarter 1, 2, 3 with quarter 4 to be completed over February and March. The main issues that have been identified in weekly checks have been litter and fly tipping on green areas and void gardens. The team are working closely with Cleaner Neighbourhoods and the voids teams to ensure the hotspot areas are cleared weekly. The team are also continuing to pick up messy gardens and take the necessary action.

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### 13. Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley Housing

#### **Estate Management**

Quarter 4 walkabouts will be carried out between January & March all members tenant representative invites have been sent. If they are unable to attend, then feedback will be provided.

### **Income Collection**

There has been an increase in arrears over the area compared to this point last year. The reasons for this are:

- Suspension of all possession hearings and evictions.
- Universal Credit claimants' payments that came direct to Leeds City Council are now paid on their payment dates rather than the same date each month, which can make week on week comparisons more difficult to measure.
- Furlough and other financial government support are coming to an end.

There are some positives:

- Garforth & Kippax are still collecting more rent than any other office citywide.
- Short term collection trends are positive with every patch in the area increasing collection and reducing arrears over the last 8 weeks.
- The team are providing a supportive approach to rent collection and officers accessing funding to sustain tenancies and clearing arrears.
- Arrears enforcement have now reverted to pre-covid procedures and we are now able to apply
  to court for possession hearings and process warrant applications. Focus on assisting those
  tenants who have court orders in place and in default to support them to remain in their
  tenancies.

### **Lettings / Void Performance**

Six properties are ready to let in the Garforth & Kippax area. Two general lets with offers made and Four in Cross Hills Court / Hollins Grove which are difficult to let.

Due to the difficulty letting properties in Cross Hills Court consultation ongoing with our Strategy and Investment Team about an option appraisal for how to best use the scheme going forward.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Focus on directing customers to Triage Team for Anti-Social Behaviour will risk assess every complaint, set out expectations in terms of reporting and ensure that the cases are passed to the correct team. The Police are also working within the team to share information.

Eight cases across the Garforth & Kippax area which are managed by the Housing Officers and reviewed monthly by the Team Leader.

Six weekly partnership working meetings booking in with the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team to share information and discuss ongoing cases between the teams.

# 14. Housing Advisory Panel (HAP)

The previous meeting was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February. The panel discussed to increase engagement with younger tenants. The suggestion was to use <u>Your Voice Leeds</u> to ask younger tenants:

What they wanted,

How this would enhance their lives.

Could this be something HAP could fund.

If successful, this would increase engagement with a hard-to-reach group and increase applications to the panel. Promotion of the page would be through targeted emails, social media and word of mouth.

It is hoped that Youth Services would help with the promotion. The panel supported this idea.

The next meeting is on the 17th March.

The budget currently available is £24,144.71

#### 15. Youth Services

October Holiday Programme The team delivered a diversionary programme during the October School Holiday Programme, the range of trips and local activities enabled young people to engage in a programme of fun, educational and physically challenging activities. Funding was secured via the Youth Activity Fund and supported by local volunteers. Feedback from parents and young people was positive.

<u>Bonfire Period</u> - The Youth work team worked with Police and partners to prevent an increase in antisocial behaviour on the lead up to and during the Bonfire period, Youth Workers offered additional activities that enabled the young people to focus their energy into a positive. Young people were offered a range of local options from additional detached sessions, meals at local restaurants, sessions at local sports centres and trips to bowling & quasar. Overall, the area was quieter over the bonfire period with the area seeing a reduction in young people related ASB reported.

<u>White Ribbon Campaign</u> – Young people were encouraged to support the White Ribbon campaign during Youth groups, sessions focussed young people around Domestic Violence, who are the victims and who are the perpetrators. Young people were keen to ensure there was a reduction in DV and focussed on pledging they would not be engaged in such behaviour. Some group members were able to recognise DV and took information and techniques to prevent and support victims.

<u>Tasking Meetings</u> – The staff continue to work as part of a multi-agency approach to addressing antisocial behaviour in the wedge, Advanced Youth Work Practitioners attend & support tasking meetings which focus on issues in local areas. The partnership enables young people related ASB to be identified, located, addressed, and resolved.

<u>LGBTQ Groups</u> – Two new youth groups have been created in the area to engage young people identifying as LGBTQ, the sessions enable young people to focus on issues they experience, options for dealing with situations and a safe space to meet similar young people. The sessions provide the young people with support for issues they experience and explore options to enhance their life.

<u>Anti-Bullying Week</u> – In November young people were engaged in the Anti-Bullying campaign, young people were encouraged to participate in a range of discussions, activities and arts & crafts to focus on their feelings, their experiences, techniques for dealing with bullies and artwork to send a message to bullies.

<u>Mobile Unit</u> – Youth Workers have been engaging young people across the area utilising the mobile units in areas that have no buildings, sessions offer young people a safe place to go, someone to talk to and a range of sporting and educational activities. The mobile is in areas where reports of groups of young people are congregating, Youth Workers focus on engaging and preventing any issues from arising whilst offering a range of positive activities.

<u>Alcohol Awareness Work</u> – Young people were engaged in alcohol awareness sessions in November, sessions seen young people tasked with challenges utilising the "beer goggles", young people had to utilise the beer goggles and undertake an everyday task, young people were shocked to see how

difficult some of the daily tasks were whilst using the resources. Group members focussed on different strengths of alcohol and the dangers posed with drinking.

Mental Health Support – Youth Workers have seen an increase in young people experiencing complications around their mental health, after coming out of lockdown, uncertainty regards the pandemic, changes in school and financial challenges in the home. Young people were displaying signs of anxiety, depression and sought an independent person to engage with. Youth Workers provided support, enabled the young people to explore the challenges and focus on potential solutions. Support with a high number of young people continues. Some of the group young people have been signposted to online/virtual support such as the Market Place safe zone, Kooth, Young Minds, Hope, RipRap, Mindmate, Night Owls website and Teen Connect.

# <u>Cross Gates & Whinmoor Ward</u> - Support young people to make good choices and minimise risk-taking behaviours: - Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour

Officers from the \*Big Chat\* engaged with Youth Workers in the area regards visiting the local provisions and getting the views of young people. The officers engaged with Youth Matters and Thursdays Youth Club members and engaged with young people with questions on \*How did you cope during lockdown and \*What makes you feel happy and healthy" The young people were complimented by the officers for their fantastic input and one of the officers returned two weeks later to see the young people and present them with £50.00 worth of vouchers.

Young people from the area engaged in the interview panels for the roles of Pathways Team Leader and Advanced Youth Work Practitioner. Group members also attended the Civic Hall to participate in the "enhanced offer" interviews with Voluntary Community & Faith organisations who had submitted funding bids to carry out additional youth work in a range of areas including Halton Moor.

# Garforth & Swillington Ward - Support young people to make good choices and minimise risk-taking behaviours: - Reduce crime & anti-social behaviour.

During the weekly mobile sessions, Youth Workers discussed the use of illegal drugs, mental health, sexual health, underage drinking, vaping / smoking and schoolwork. Youth Workers discussed the negative impacts that young people's anti-social behaviour was having on health and well-being, the impact their behaviour was having on others and the community around them.

Youth Workers concentrated on "hotspot" areas in the ward of Barley Hill Park, Garforth Main Street, Halliday Court, and Swillington playground. All these areas had been flagged up via ward Councillors or via the Police. Young people were signposted to the weekly mobile sessions as a positive alternative and to the Youth Service October half term holiday programme funded by the Youth Activity Fund.

In the run up to Halloween / Mischievous night / Bonfire night the Youth Workers delivered various group work sessions around staying safe, consequences of ASB, how to treat burns and general fire work safety. A team worked at the Garforth Lions Bonfire at Glebelands. There the team discussed issues with young people, and provided the mobile provision parked at the nearby leisure centre. This gave young people an alternative place to "hang out" and stay safe.

The Youth Workers offered various trips out during the October half term & Christmas school holidays. These were funded by the YAF via ward Councillors from the Outer East Community Committee. Our decision-making group "YpmyG" decided on what trips to offer and all within budget!

The trips chosen were Lazerzone, "Halloween" at York Maze and Blackpool Pleasure Beach & illuminations. All the trips were full, with 50 young people attending the theme park trip alone. The Christmas trip out to Stockeld Park in Wetherby was also delivered with 25 young people in attendance. The group enjoyed ice skating, Nordic skiing, the maze and a lovely cup of hot chocolate.

The Garforth Academy session resumed after being postponed several times due to COVID-19 restrictions within the school. The Youth Workers delivered an anger management / emotional well-being course to pupils in Year 8. This 7-week course covered issues such as mental health, anger coping strategies, bullying and friendships.

The team worked at the Garforth Christmas light switch on. The mobile provision parked on Main Street and offered Christmas themed art & craft to complete and as an alternative for young people to hang out safely on the mobile rather than on Main Street. The local Police also visited the mobile provision and spoke to the groups about safety and Anti-Social Behaviour.

# **Kippax & Methley Ward -** Support young people to make good choices and minimise risk-taking behaviours: - Reduce crime & anti-social behaviour.

Youth Workers have continued to respond to reports of young people related anti-social behaviour using the mobile provision to cover the ward. These weekly sessions have used Police intelligence going to "hotspots" of anti-social behaviour related to young people in the villages.

These have included Kippax Apple Tree estate/co-op area, Allerton Bywater skatepark and Methley Savile Park.

Youth Workers spoke to young people at these locations to discuss illegal drug usage, under-age drinking and anti-social behaviour. Youth Workers discussed that youth ASB was having a negative impact on the area/s they live in and were upsetting residents. Young people were made aware of the consequences of their behaviour and that Police were aware of the locations. Young people were signposted to our building based and mobile sessions and our October half term school holiday trips out as a positive alternative.

In the run up to Halloween / Mischievous night / Bonfire night the Youth Workers delivered various group work sessions around staying safe, consequences of ASB, how to treat burns and general fire work safety.

The Youth Workers offered various trips out during October half term school holidays and the Christmas week. These were funded by the Youth Activity Fund via ward Councillors from the Outer East Community Committee. Our decision-making group "YpmyG" decided on what trips to offer and all within budget!

The trips chosen were Lazerzone, "Halloween" at York Maze and Blackpool Pleasure Beach & illuminations. All the trips were full, with 50 young people attending the theme park trip alone.

The Christmas trip out to Stockeld Park in Wetherby was also delivered with 25 young people in attendance. The group enjoyed ice skating, Nordic skiing, the maze and a lovely cup of hot chocolate. In addition to the Christmas trip, 30 young people across the ward also received Christmas themed activity bags. These were funded by the Ward Councillors MICE funding. They included Christmas themed art & craft, chocolate selection box and a gift voucher for Argos. These were delivered on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec and all the recipients were very grateful for their bags. They also included a leaflet of all support agencies / websites that young people could access for support of the Christmas period. Methley and Micklefield building based youth clubs have continued to see increased attendance. With nearly 40 young people regularly attending at Methley.

Kippax Kicks is back inside the leisure centre, with the group enjoying using the indoor facilities again. They are looking forward to seeing a game at Elland Road in the New Year with free tickets from our partners the Leeds Utd Foundation.

A new group has started to support young people who identify as LGBTQ+, the group is still in its infancy. However, we have received a large response to our promotion on our social media accounts. The session is every 2 weeks at a LS26 based building. Transport is available to enable all young people from the ward have access to the session.

# **Temple Newsam Ward** - Support young people to make good choices and minimise risk-taking behaviours: - Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour

Youth Workers have been developing positive relationships with the older group who attend the KICKS football programme, the session has been targeted by some young people who wish to disrupt the programme. Working with partners the Youth Service has focussed on addressing the issues, reporting breaches and ensuring young people who want to attend the sessions can do so. Youth Workers have supported the group members in accessing the holiday programmes during summer and October.

The KICKS football programme has been paused for the present due to threats against staff, meetings have been held and it is hope that the sessions will return after Christmas. Personal risk assessments have been produced for Youth Workers who work in the Halton Moor Area.

Youth Workers continue to address ASB whilst undertaking detached and participate in Tasking and PACT meetings to ensure partners are aware of the challenges in the area and to identify hotspot areas.

Youth Workers have been monitoring young people who have received injunctions, LASBAT have asked Youth Workers to record and send any breach information to them.

### 16. Community Engagement: Forums

The following upcoming forums below will be taking place face to face in the Community.

Temple Newsam Communities Together – 17<sup>th</sup> March

#### 17. Community Engagement: Social Media

### **Appendix 1 -** The Queens Platinum Jubilee 2022

**Appendix 2 -** Social Media Report provides the Committee with information on posts, and details recent social media activity for the Outer East Community Committee Facebook page, along with the fourward based Coronavirus Facebook help pages for the areas.

The report highlights key themes promoted through social media posts, as well as topics addressed relevant to the period of time.

The report covers from the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 21 - 16<sup>th</sup> February 22.

#### **Corporate Considerations**

#### **Consultation and Engagement**

**18.** The Community Committee has, where applicable, been consulted on information detailed within the report.

### **Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration**

**19.** All work that the Communities Team are involved in is assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration. In addition, the Communities Team ensures that the wellbeing process for funding of projects complies with all relevant policies and legislation.

# **Council Polices and City Priorities**

- **20.** Projects that the Communities Team are involved in 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

# **Resources and Value for Money**

**21.** Aligning the distribution of community wellbeing funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

#### Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

### **Risk Management**

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

#### **Conclusions**

24. The report provides up to date information on key areas of work for the Community Committee.

#### Recommendations

**25.** The Community Committee is asked to note the content of the report and comment as appropriate.

# Background documents<sup>1</sup>

**26.** None.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.