

**Report of:** Head of Locality Partnerships

**Report to:** Inner North East Community Committee  
(Chapel Allerton, Moortown and Roundhay)

**Report author:** Localities Officer - Zahir Lunat

**Date:** 25 November 2024

for consideration

## **Inner North East Community Committee – Update Report**

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### **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 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.

### **Main issues**

#### **Updates by theme**

#### **Children & Young People: Councillor Mahalia France-Mir**

3. Leeds City Council Youth Service are continuing their work with young people during club nights, outreach/detached delivery or by offering one to one support to those who are suffering from mental health, family breakdown etc.
4. Currently the provision is taking place in the following areas:

Prince Phillip Centre – Thursday 4pm to 6pm & 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Leeds Islamic Centre - Thursday 7pm to 9pm

Mandela Community Centre – Saturday 12 – 2pm & 2pm – 4pm

Carr Manor High School (football provision) Monday 3pm – 5pm

Moortown Ward (detached Session) – Tuesday 6.30pm – 8.30pm  
Roundhay Ward (detached Session) – Wednesday 6.30pm – 8.30pm  
Roundhay Kick Project – Thursday 6pm – 8pm

5. During the October half term break Cllr France- Mir attended Scott Hall Leisure Centre Playscheme. The activities at the sport centre were themed around Halloween and young people were encouraged to attend in fancy dress. There was also a prize given to the winner of the fancy dress competition.





6. Cllr France-Mir attended Prince Philip Summer Playscheme to find out what activities the young people were getting up to. Below is a photo of Cllr France- Mir observing arts & craft session and young people's handiwork.



### **Health & Well Being: Councillor Eileen Taylor**

#### **Illegal money lending and Loan Shark activity**

7. Stop Loan Sharks (the England Illegal Money Lending Team) is a national organisation that investigates and prosecutes loan sharks and supports borrowers. It works with partner organisations across the country to do this, including local authorities, healthcare providers, charities, debt advisors and many more.
8. The IMLT was set up in 2004. Since then it has supported over 32,000 people, successfully prosecuted 424 loan sharks (leading to total jail terms of over 606 years) and written off at least £91.3 million of illegal debt.

#### Of those supported by the IMLT in the first half of 2024:

- 42% went without food, fuel or missed rent or mortgage payments in order to repay the loan shark
- 26% had used a food bank and 11% had applied for fuel vouchers from their local authority
- 37% borrowed for household bills
- 27% had borrowed specifically for food, fuel, care of young children or clothing for their family – a larger number of clients than in previous years.

9. The IMLT's work in the Leeds area in recent months has seen two suspected loan sharks arrested. The team has also received additional allegations of loan sharks operating across the city.
10. For further information on the team's activity and how they can support in Leeds please contact Trish Cassidy - [Trish.Cassidy@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:Trish.Cassidy@birmingham.gov.uk)

### **Community Mental Health Transformation: Citywide Rollout**

11. Community mental health care in Leeds is changing, with all areas of the city set to benefit from early next year. A new model of care and support has been piloted in three areas of Leeds, and original plans had been to extend this further in two distinct waves. But this has now changed, and from February 2025, parts of the new model will roll out citywide.
12. This means that all areas of Leeds will start to be served by new community teams made up of people from different health, social and voluntary sector organisations. Initial changes will focus on how these teams work together, how patients are triaged, and securing advice and guidance on psychological therapies. Over time, keyworkers will also be introduced so that everyone has a named contact to help them on their journey.

### **Cold weather communications**

13. On 1 November, the Cold-Health Alerting system jointly provided by UKHSA and Met Office will go live. As with previous years, stakeholders are advised to sign up to receive the alerts. During alerts, UKHSA will undertake communications at the regional and/or national level to highlight the forecast and the potential impacts on public health.
14. The Adverse Weather and Health Plan aims to protect individuals and communities from the health effects of adverse weather and to build community resilience.

### **Vaccination programme**

15. The seasonal vaccination programme is underway. UKHSA now publish a weekly update on national flu, covid and other respiratory illnesses.
16. The key message is that it is important that those who are eligible get vaccinated as soon as possible, ahead of any winter outbreaks of covid and flu, so that they are protected against serious illness and hospitalisation.

### **Campaigns**

## **Quit smoking campaign**

17. While smoking rates have declined in recent years, over 5 million people in England still smoke and smoking remains the single biggest preventable cause of preventable ill health and death. Data shows that using willpower alone remains the most common approach to quitting smoking, despite being proven to be the least effective and so this campaign signposts people to the free Leeds Stop Smoking Service. Key messages are:

- With the average smoker spending nearly £3,000 a year on cigarettes, there's never been a better time to quit.
- Cigarettes are the number-one preventable cause of death and disease in the UK. When you stop the many health benefits will happen faster than you think.
- It's never too late to stop smoking, and with the right support you're up to three times more likely to quit for good.

## **Information about the free support in Leeds by phoning 0800 169 4219**

### **Community Safety: Councillor Sharon Hamilton**

18. Current Active Caseload = 14 cases, as follows:

Chapel Allerton ward = 12 cases, of which

Criminality x 1

Threats/Actual Violence x 4

Noise x 1

Domestic Abuse x 1

Hate x 1

Rowdy Behaviour x 1

Verbal Abuse x 1

Moortown ward = 1 case, of which

Noise x 1

Roundhay ward = 1 case, of which Nuisance x 1

19. The local Neighbourhood Policing Team has been working actively with the councils Parking Team to enforce the traffic regulation order and deal with obstructive parking on Mexborough Avenue and adjoining streets. The parking issue was causing a big problem on bin collection days which resulted in missed bin collections. The Parking Team have issued fixed penalty notices in conjunction with the NPT to owners of the vehicle blocking access for the bin wagon.

20. The local neighbourhood team have been carrying out regular speeding operations in all 3 wards and they have taken action against those driving more than the speed limit or in an anti-social manner.

21. Moortown councillors have promoted the White Ribbon Campaign in their ward. Its aim is to prevent violence against women and girls by addressing its root causes.

The campaign involves changing long-established harmful, attitudes, systems and behaviours around rigid gender norms and masculinity that perpetuate inequality and violence.

### **Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team (CNT) – Cllr Jordan Bowden**

22. De leafing work has started and resource for this is different from previous years. INE have been allocated 2 days a week (Tuesday and Thursday) to have all mechanical resource and teams from continental to facilitate the programme.
23. Further ginnels have now been cut back within the wards as CNT were allowed to bring staff extra in just to bring the level of referrals down prior to the de leafing programme commencement.

#### **Enforcement:**

24. CNT has been dealing with the problem garage site at Back Hilton Place and has made good progress.
25. Following concerns raised by ward members waste on Mexborough Avenue is due to be removed soon.
26. CNT are waiting for an outcome of a formal PACE interview with alleged suspect in connection with fly tipping on Ridge Road which was conducted by SECT.

#### **Service Wide**

27. The Restructure has been circulated now to all staff and Trade Union colleagues; this has raised questions which have been answered so now only requires the formalities of being signed off at senior level. Once completed the staff will move into their posts and the structure shared with partners. An on-going service review is still taking place with the aim of streamlining the aims of the service along with the reduced workforce. Again, once this work has been completed it will be shared with partners.

#### **Housing (Tenant Engagement)**

28. Work to bring the Button Hill Tenants Group continues following an impromptu walkabout with the (former) chair of the group. Even if group doesn't come back together an arrangement has been made to hold a drop in at the complex bi monthly.
29. Button Hill - Following concerns from residents a walkabout with residents, Housing Officer and Monitoring Officer from Parks has taken place with the autumn cutback now having taken place. At the meet certain things were identified as not being part of contract. A referral to Community Payback has been created to enhance the work.

30. The Tenant Voice Panel – All residents who have joined the panel have been contacted with a view to getting tenants more involved with consultations etc. Still looking at expanding the number of tenants involved.
31. I continue to look for and advise on funding options following the removal of Housing Advisory Panels.
32. Looking to work with Meanwood Men's Shed on a project building hedge houses.

### **The Reginald Centre Community Hub and Library**

#### **Scheduled Sessions**

Chapelton and Harehills Learning Project – Every Monday 10am – 2pm – pre booked appointments only  
Citizens Advice every Tuesday & Thursday pre booked appointments only  
Police drop in every Wednesday 10am – 12pm  
Story/rhyme time 10.30am to 11.30am every Wednesday.  
Toy Library 11.30am to 11.30am every Wednesday.  
BHI Elders Group – Wednesdays 11am to 2pm.  
Recommencement of Path's ESOL classes each Monday and Friday, 20 attendees per class.  
Voluntary Action Pop up – Tuesdays 10am-12pm every 4 weeks

New Additions since previous report  
DWP Youth Hub – 2 advisors work from the Centre each day, with a caseload of 60 clients each  
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller team pop up – every Monday 9am – 12pm  
Touchstone Mental Drop In – Alternative Mondays 1pm -3pm  
Gestational Diabetes Support Group – Wednesdays 10am – 12pm  
CAF Employability Pop up – Wednesday 1pm-3pm  
Mama's Time to Talk – parenting support group – Every Wednesday 2pm -4pm  
Advonet Pop Up – Alternative Thursdays 1pm – 4pm  
Chapelton and Harehills Learning Project Computer Classes – Every Friday 10am -12pm

#### **Ongoing Project Work**

33. Leeds City Council welcome hub for Ukrainian arrivals to Leeds. Working collaboratively with internal and external key stakeholders to offer a warm welcome to Ukrainian refugee arrivals.

#### **Events On Site Aug – Oct**

##### **Healthy Holidays – 29<sup>th</sup> July – 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

34. 53 children attended the summer healthy holidays programme at the Reginald Centre.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Number of Attendees</u>
07/08/24	Summer Reading Challenge – Tutti Frutti Club	23
12/08/24	Serious Violence Consultation	Not provided by organiser
15/08/24	Summer Reading Challenge – Makey Makey Sound Collage	16
23/08/24	Community/Place Photography Workshop	15
03/09/24	Freedom for Girls- Period Poverty Products Workshop	5
05/10/24	Mahogany Market	100+
26/10/24	BHI Music Festival	15
28/10/24	Tutti Frutti Club	14
29/10/24	Secret Cinema – Black History Month Special	24

### **Chapel Allerton Library – August to October 2024**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Number of Attendees</u>
01/08/2024	Summer Reading Challenge – Marvellous Music Machines	30
05/08/24	Summer Reading Challenge – Creative Workshop	17
31/08/24	Lego Spike @ Chapel Allerton Arts Festival	25
31/08/24	Chapel Allerton Arts Festival – Café Run	
02/09/24	Fostering Pop Up	10
12/09/24	Code Club	8
26/09/24	Code Club	8
15/10/24	Code Club	8
24/10/24	Code Club	8

35. Chapel Allerton Arts Festival: The Library took part in the annual Chapel Allerton Arts Festival Café Run which was well attended and enjoyed by all.

### **Oakwood Library – August to October 2024**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Number of Attendees</u>
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08/08/24	Summer Reading Challenge - Lego Spike Beatbox	9
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## **Moor Allerton Community Hub and Library**

### **Regular sessions**

36. Barclays Bank, pop-up service Mondays and Thursdays.
37. Hearing Aid Clinic 4th Thursday of the month. This service is a drop in and is facilitated by Leeds Hearing and Sight Loss Service. This enables customers to have their hearing aids serviced and repaired free of charge.
38. Story and Rhyme time fun interactive session of sharing stories and rhymes in a friendly and relaxed environment, weekly on Tuesdays. Average attendance is around 40 children and adults.
39. Leeds North East Neighbourhood Policing Team contact point where PCSOs attend to listen to any concerns and give support and advice. Every three weeks on Tuesdays.
40. Pop Up Job Shop an advisor is available on Thursdays and can support service. Users with individual support tailored to their needs. This includes career advice and guidance, tips on CV writing and completing job applications and support with preparing for an interview.
41. Digital Drop in every Monday, term time only, 11-12pm. Customers who attended received support with their tablet, smartphone or using the library desktop computers. Two to three people regularly attending.

### **August to October 2022**

42. Digital Health Drop In took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> October between 2:30-4pm. This was in partnership with Alwoodley Medical Centre. This is one of three sessions that have been planned to follow on from the very successful if overwhelming sessions we did earlier in the summer when over 3 sessions we had approx. 600 people attend. The sessions were arranged to help people to register with PATCHs – the GP online contact system. This time a booking system was set up allowing for a maximum of 20 people to attend at allocated time slots. 12 people attending and there was support from the clinic and one of Barclays staff.
43. New monthly kids club started on 4<sup>th</sup> October between 11-12noon. Each session will have a different activity inspired by books and stories. Activities could include

build, craft, write, draw, or code. The first activity was Lego which was based around book characters. There were four attendees. The next one will be a Lego Spike session.

44. School Class Visits took place in September and October. The librarian provided all children with an introduction to the library and explained how to join and borrow books. The librarian invites all children to talk about the books they like and there is a discussion around the different genres of books they will find around the library. The visit then allows time for children to browse the shelves and ask questions. There
45. Chess Club run in partnership with Chess in Schools and Communities takes place fortnightly. Open to players of all ages and abilities.
46. Hebocon: make the worlds best robot was back by popular demand in the half term holidays. Hebocon is a competition where you create robots by taking apart broken toys and putting them back together again in weird and wonderful ways. The event had over 20 attendees.

### **Business Centre Updates**

47. Crimestoppers is looking to do everything it can to help Leeds' business areas: There is a new initiative inviting individual businesses in any district centre to become Community Ambassadors. The website link below has plenty of easy-to-read information about becoming an ambassador and advises: "Every time crime happens someone knows who is responsible. Perhaps they tell the police or confide in a support worker but all too often they stay silent, afraid to get involved, unwilling to talk to the police, unsure they can make a difference. Everyone should feel confident to speak up."  
  
<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/support-us/volunteering/community-ambassadors>
48. Every year many traders groups around Leeds hope Santa will come to their area but all too often the group decides it's just too hard to make a grotto. But now Rothwell has a perfect readymade Santa's Grotto available to hire to groups around Leeds. The 3 x 3m gazebo is very easy to put up and printed inside and out to look like a log cabin. So if you would like a home for your Santa just contact [diane.chapman@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:diane.chapman@leeds.gov.uk) for more details.
49. The Government has allocated £7.1m to Leeds to help those in need with the costs of food, fuel, and other essentials between October 2024 and 31st March 2025. £3.2m of the funding will be allocated to residents in receipt of Council Tax Support (CTS). All households in receipt of CTS who are working age and pensioner households eligible for a Winter Fuel Payment will receive a direct case award of £40. Pensioner households in receipt of CTS but ineligible for a Winter Fuel Payment will receive a direct cash award of £150. This is in recognition that these

pensioner households remain on a low income as they are eligible for Council Tax Support but are not in receipt of Pension Credit or other qualifying benefit and therefore will not qualify for a Winter Fuel Payment for 2024-25. Letters containing a barcode will be sent directly to households and these can be exchanged for cash at the Post Office upon provision of identification. £1.65m will be made available for Third Sector organisations/charities to support vulnerable households not engaging with the Council. £230,000 will help support the city's Welcome Spaces Network ensuring vulnerable households are able to access a warm space alongside other sources of support. Welcome Spaces provides immediate help for those struggling with utility bills in the colder winter months as well as offering the opportunity for social engagement and signposting. The remaining funding will be split between crisis and emergency support, alleviating homelessness and support for housing Leeds tenants in financial crisis.

### **Yorkshire Air Ambulance Community Remembrance and Reflection Garden**

50. In April 2024, YAA unveiled its Community Remembrance and Reflection Garden at the Harrogate Flower Show, winning 'Best in Show', Premier Gold and a Planting Excellence Award. Following the flower show, YAA are thrilled the garden has been reinstalled alongside Leeds Roundhay Park's existing Specialist Gardens, which are managed by some of the best horticulturalists in the city through Leeds City Council and Friends of Roundhay Park.
51. The garden has transformed a currently unloved, dead space within Roundhay Park which has seen a decline in footfall over the last number of years.
52. The newly installed garden restores this area of the park to a place of natural beauty, bringing with it activity, volunteering opportunities and funding from external sources to build a place of tranquillity where those who have been affected by the work of YAA can remember and reflect on their experiences, or in memory of loved ones.





**Remembrance Sunday**

53. Ward councillors from across the 3 wards attended various events in their wards to honour the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces. Councillors from Moortown & Meanwood ward attended Remembrance Sunday event in their ward – see image below.







### **Consultation and Engagement**

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

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

55. 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**

56. 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:

Vision for Leeds 2011 – 30  
Best City Plan  
Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan  
Children and Young People's Plan  
Safer and Stronger Communities Plan  
Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy

### **Resources and Value for Money**

57. 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**

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

## **Risk Management**

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

## **Conclusions**

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

## **Recommendations**

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

## **Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

62. None.

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<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.