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# **Outer North East Community Committee**

Alwoodley, Harewood, Wetherby

Meeting to be held remotely on Monday, 22nd March, 2021 at 5.30pm

#### **Councillors:**

N Buckley - Alwoodley; D Cohen - Alwoodley; P Harrand - Alwoodley;

S Firth - Harewood; M Robinson - Harewood; R. Stephenson - Harewood;

N Harrington - Wetherby; A Lamb - Wetherby; L Richards - Wetherby;

Note to observers of the meeting: To remotely observe this meeting, please click on the 'View the Meeting Recording' link which will feature on the meeting's webpage (linked below) ahead of the meeting. The webcast will become available at the commencement of the meeting.

https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=1005&Mld=10188&Ver=4



## **Co-optees**

**Agenda compiled by:** John Grieve, Governance Services, Tel 0113 3788662

Governance Services Unit, Civic Hall, LEEDS LS1 1UR **East North East Area Leader:** Liz Jarmin Tel: 336 7627

Images on cover from left to right:

Alwoodley - MAECare (Moor Allerton Elderly Care); Moor Allerton shopping centre

Harewood - rural landscapes; Harewood Arms

Wetherby - bridge over the River Wharfe; racehorse sculpture

# AGENDA

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS	
			To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded).	
			(*In accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2, written notice of an appeal must be received by the Head of Governance Services at least 24 hours before the meeting.)	
2			EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC	
			To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report.	
			2 To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information.	
			3 If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-	
			RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:	
			No exempt items or information have been identified on the agenda	

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
3			LATE ITEMS	
			To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.	
			(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes.)	
4			APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
			To receive any apologies for absence.	
5			DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS	
			To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2000 and paragraphs 13-18 of the Members' Code of Conduct. Also to declare any other significant interests which the Member wishes to declare in the public interest, in accordance with paragraphs 19-20 of the Members' Code of Conduct	
6			OPEN FORUM	
			In order to facilitate the Open Forum item whilst Community Committee meetings are being held remotely, the process has been adapted slightly, so that members of the public are invited to make written submissions in advance of the meeting on any matter which falls within the Committee's terms of reference. These will be read out under this agenda item and considered by the Community Committee.	
7			MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	9 - 16
			To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2021.	
			(Copy attached)	

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
8			MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	
			To consider any matters arising from the minutes (If any)	
9	Alwoodley; Harewood; Wetherby		FUNDING FOR POND CREATION & RESTORATION FOR GREAT CRESTED NEWT CONSERVATION	17 - 28
			To consider a report by the Conservation Officer, Communities & Environment which seeks to provide an update on new funding available for pond creation and restoration, for the purpose of the conservation of great crested newts through Natural England District Level Licensing (DLL) scheme.	
			(Report attached)	
10	Alwoodley; Harewood; Wetherby		OUTER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - DRAFT CONNECTING LEEDS TRANSPORT STRATEGY - CONSULTATION  To consider a report by the Director of City Development which draws to Members' attention	29 - 40
			Development which draws to Members' attention the details of the consultation on the draft Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy.	
			(Report attached)	

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
11	Alwoodley; Harewood; Wetherby		DATES, TIMES AND VENUES OF COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2021/2022	41 - 44
			To consider a report by the City Solicitor which seeks Members agreement to this Community Committee's proposed meeting schedule for the 2021/2022 Municipal year.	
			(Report attached)	
12	Alwoodley; Harewood; Wetherby		OUTER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - FINANCE REPORT  To consider a report by the Head of Stronger Communities which provides an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund, Capital Budget, as well as the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget for 2020/21. The report also sets out details of organisations funded by the Community Committee and how their project delivery will be affected by the Coronavirus pandemic.  The report also provides an update on projects that	45 - 54
			have been funded through the £10,000 set aside by the committee from their available Wellbeing Budget 2020/21 (across all wards) to tackle the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic.	
			(Report attached)	

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
13	Alwoodley; Harewood; Wetherby		OUTER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - UPDATE REPORT  To consider a report by the Head of Stronger Communities which provides and update on the work of the Communities Team and the work it 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.  (Report attached)	55 - 74
14	Alwoodley; Harewood; Wetherby		DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING  To note that the next meeting will take place on Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 5.30pm (Remote Meeting – Zoom)	



### **OUTER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

#### **MONDAY, 7TH DECEMBER, 2020**

**PRESENT:** Councillor N Harrington in the Chair

Councillors N Buckley, D Cohen, S Firth,

P Harrand, A Lamb, L Richards, M Robinson and R. Stephenson

#### 1 APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS

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

# 2 EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items identified where it was considered necessary to exclude the press or public from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be considered.

#### 3 LATE ITEMS

There were no late items of business identified.

#### 4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

# 5 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

There were no declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests.

#### 6 OPEN FORUM

The Governance Services Officer reported the receipt of one submission which was to be considered as part of the "Open Forum"

Members were informed the submission was from Thorner Parish Council, the title of the submission was "Police Reports"

The submission read as follows:

The Police have changed the way they report crime figures.

Instead of receiving a monthly report, of crimes in the immediately preceding month, we are now referred to the crime mapping function of the Police UK web site.

Statistics do not show the detail that is helpful when assessing the extent of local crime. For example a search of the Crime Database for Thorner, on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020, shows 3 crimes reported in September 2020.

Two were "Violence and sexual offences" and the third was "other theft". These are quite meaningless statistics.

More significantly the Minutes of the PC meeting, on 6th October, confirm there were no crimes reported for September 2020.

There was no more recent data on the Database.

If a crime report is to have any relevance it needs to be up to date, and we need details of the offences. If there was a serial rapist on the loose in September we really need to know whether these offences are continuing, and whether anyone has been caught.

I am also aware that residents reported several incidents of anti-social behaviour in the relevant period - yet these do not appear.

We would also like to be provided with details of road traffic accidents within the Parish, so that the cause can be considered, and any road maintenance or improvement issues identified.

#### End of submission

In offering comment the Chair suggested the requested information was available to the public, the issue was how the information could be accessed.

It was agreed the Chair would circulate the necessary (PACTs) web links to Committee Members, who would then circulate to the appropriate Parish/Town Councils.

The Chair also reported the receipt of a second submission from Harehills Park Bowling Club, entitled: "Consultation to close 50% of bowling greens in Leeds". It was understood the submission was been circulated city wide to all Community Committees.

In acknowledging receipt of the submission, the Chair said there were no City Council controlled bowling greens within the Outer North East area, it was therefore inappropriate for the Committee to consider this issue.

The Chair requested that these comments be included in the city wide consultation.

#### 7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting to be held on Monday, 22nd March, 2021

#### **RESOLVED -**

- (i) That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 were confirmed as a true and correct record.
- (ii) To note the minutes of the Outer North East Consultative Forum held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

#### 8 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no issues raised under matters arising.

### 9 Local Care Partnership - Update

The Chair spoke about the Local Care Partnership and its aim to provide joined-up working to deliver local care for local people; working in and with local communities.

The Chair explained that currently the wards of Wetherby and Harewood were represented at the Partnership, a volunteer was now being sought to represent the Alwoodley ward.

Councillor N Buckley said he had served on the Partnership in the past and would be willing to serve on the group once again.

The Chair thanked Councillor Buckley for his offer and said the necessary details would be forwarded onto him.

### 10 Parks and Countryside Service - Update

The Commercial Manager, Communities & Environment submitted a report which provided an update on the Parks and Countryside Service.

The report provided a brief commentary on the following issues:

- The Service lost up to 35% of staff (due to Covid) limiting operations to essential maintenance and reactive work.
- The LCC Arium was one of the first facilities to re-open and received hugely positive feedback from members of the public for its approach to social distancing.
- There was a significant increase in Allotment usage during the lockdown period and work was ongoing to potentially increase allotment numbers throughout the Outer North East area
- Bookings were now being taken for events in 2021

- Work was ongoing to deliver a play area in Shadwell, off Holy Well Lane. The existing playground there is around 30 years old.
- Work would begin in December to improve King Lane Recreation Ground (informal play area).
- Current staffing position update.
- Future budget actions around operations are proposed which may affect service delivery.
- The renaming of Deepdale Park

Referring to the loss of staff, 35% due to Covid-19, Members suggested this figure appeared to be very high given the outdoor nature of the work.

Members were informed that the Parks and Countryside Service had an aging workforce, many of whom were in the vulnerable category and required to shield.

Members queried if there had been a significant loss of income in respect of the Arium.

It was reported that income was down, plant and bulb sales had gone well but the closure of the café had resulted in a loss of around £300k.

The Chair sought Members support in renaming Deepdale Park to the Gerald Wilkinson Park

Speaking in support, Councillor A Lamb said this was a fitting tribute to Gerald and would leave a lasting legacy. Family and colleagues were also supportive of the proposal.

#### **RESOLVED -**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted
- (ii) That Deepdale Park be renamed the Gerald Wilkinson Park

### 11 Outer North East Community Committee - Finance Report

The Head of Stronger Communities submitted a report which provided an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund, Capital Budget, as well as the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget for 2020/21. The report also included an update on organisations funded by the Community Committee and how their project delivery would be affected by the Coronavirus pandemic.

Members were provided with an update on projects that had been funded through the £10,000 set aside by this Committee from their available Wellbeing Budget 2020/21 (across all wards) to tackle the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Members were also informed of the work that had been taking place through their local Volunteer Hubs, together with an update on the work of the wider Communities Team and what they had been doing to support some of the newer communities and communities of interest in the area.

The Localities Officer, presented the report and responded to Members comments and queries.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report together with the appendices which included:

- Available funding for the current financial year.
- Clarification around some of the projects seeking financial assistance.

#### **RESOLVED -**

- (i) To note the details Wellbeing Budget Position (Table No.1 referred)
- (ii) That the following Wellbeing Projects be determined as follows:

(Prior to consideration of the following projects Councillor D Cohen declared a personal interest in respect of the Santa's visit application, as an organiser of the project, he did not take part in the discussion or voting thereon)

Project	Organisation	Amount Granted (£)
Wetherby Christmas Lights	LCC Communities Team	£5,000
Santa's Visit	Moortown West Residents Association	£1,000
Alwoodley SIDS – Relocation	LCC Communities Team	£940

- (iii) To note that since the last Consultative Forum on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020, the following project had been considered and approved by DDN:
  - a) Boston Spa Christmas Lights
  - b) Bramham Christmas Lights
  - c) Clifford Interpretation Board
  - d) The Tride Youth Group
  - e) Walton Christmas Lights
  - f) Wetherby Bridge Lights
  - g) Stone Court CCTV

It was reported that the following projects had been declined: Christmas Activity Boxes

- (iv) To note details of COVID 19 position (Table 2)
- (v) To note the details of the Youth Activities Fund (YAF) position (Table 3)
- (vi) To note there were no Youth Activity Projects requiring determination

- (vii) To note the activity within the Community Skips Budget (Table No.4 referred)
- (viii) To note the details of the Capital Budget (Table No.5 referred)
- (ix) To note the details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (Paragraph 32 referred)

#### **Receipt of Additional Funding**

Members were informed of the receipt of an email from Councillor Debra Coupar, Deputy Leader and Executive Board Member for Communities. The communication explained that an additional £330k of funding from the COVID-19 Tier 3 fund had been secured for wellbeing purposes.

It was reported that the funding would be allocated at £10k per ward and could be used by committees in a flexible way at their discretion to best address local needs and vulnerabilities related to the virus in their wards. This additional £10k was new money and should be spent before the end of the financial year.

In the discussion that followed Members welcomed the receipt of this additional funding, but sought clarification on the following:

- If the monies were not spent within the required timescales could it be clawed back
- If it was to be clawed back, would it be returned to an LCC central pot or would it be returned to the government
- If the Leeds area was to move from Tier 3 to Tier 2 would the monies be returned
- Could the monies be used in supporting local businesses
- How would the availability of this additional funding be advertised

The Head of Stronger Communities said further clarification would be sought on the issue of clawback and possible return of monies if outside tier 3, Member would be notified separately.

In terms of what purposes could the monies be used for, it was explained that this was at the discretion of Members, however, Members must ensure there was an audit trail outlining how the funding request was seeking to address a locally identifiable need linked to the pandemic. The funding should not be used to fund activity which ordinarily would come out of the Well Being or YAF budgets.

On the issue of advertising it was explained there was no central marketing or press releases planned and it was for each Community Committee to determine how the funding should be advertised.

The Chair said this was a significant chunk of money and required spending, possibly assisting local groups who had incurred additional costs due to covid 19 restrictions.

### 12 Outer North East Community Committee - Update Report

The Head of Stronger Communities submitted a report which provided an update of the work the Communities Team were engaged in, based on priorities identified by the Community Committee.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting to be held on Monday, 22nd March, 2021

The report invited Members to seek clarification on a variety of issues, or to request a more detailed report on other particular matters.

The report provided 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.

Reference was made to Youth Summits, Members were informed that following discussions with Community Committee Chairs it had been agreed that summits would move to a remote format for the remainder of 2020/21.

In offering comment one Member suggested that Youth Summits in the past had been a significant cost to the Youth Activity Fund, presumably moving to an online format would reduce the costs to the fund.

The Localities Officer confirmed that the costs for virtual Youth Summits would be considerably be lower, there were no costs associated with staging the event, but the provision of school vouchers would continue.

Members made reference to the Community Committee's presence on social media (Facebook page) noting that out of the 10 Community Committees, this committee was the tenth most popular with 429 followers.

The Head of Stronger Communities said any suggestions from Members to increase this Committee's social media presence would be welcomed, sharing links to local groups and clubs would extend the reach of the Committee.

A general observation was made about viewing Leeds City Council meetings on the City Council's YouTube Channel, suggesting that navigating the playlist was not always straight forward.

Members were informed that in the past few weeks a second LCC YouTube Channel had been established and that any initial problems would be rectified as officers became more familiar with the system.

**RESOLVED** – That the contents of the report be noted

### 13 Date and Time of Next Meeting

**RESOLVED** – To note that the next meeting will take place on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021.



# Agenda Item 9





Report of: Conservation Officer, Communities & Environment

**Report to: Outer North East Community Committee** 

Report author: Jodie Robertson, Conservation Officer, 0113 3782889

Date: 19/02/2021 To note

# Funding for pond creation & restoration for great crested newt conservation

# Purpose of report

1. To provide the Outer North East Community Committee with an update on new funding available for pond creation and restoration, for the purpose of the conservation of great crested newts through Natural England District Level Licensing (DLL) scheme.

#### Overview

- 2. Great crested newts (GCN) have seen dramatic declines in their populations over the last 60 years despite being legally protected. The new 'District Level Licensing' scheme (DLL) better protects this species by using conservation payments from developers to create new ponds in locations that will benefit the species.
- 3. The DLL scheme is not 'live' yet in West Yorkshire but the aim is to kick-start pond creation so developers can see where their payments are going.
- 4. The scheme will create a network of ponds providing vital habitat for GCN, helping to join up sometimes isolated populations and helping them to thrive.
- 5. Natural England, in partnership with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, will invest developer payments not only into creating or restoring new ponds but also maintaining and monitoring the ponds too, for the long term (25 years).

- 6. Natural England randomly sampled ponds throughout the Leeds district in 2018, using a technique called eDNA analysis which can detect the presence of GCN through water samples. This data, combined with existing biological records has enabled them to map Strategic Opportunity Areas for GCN conservation. These are the areas targeted for this funding.
- 7. Land within the Strategic Opportunity Areas must also meet other criteria to be eligible.
- 8. Enquiries for this funding should be made to <a href="mailto:info@ywt.org.uk">info@ywt.org.uk</a>

### Recommendations

9. To note the contents of the update.



1 St. George's Place, York, YO24 1GN T 01904 659570

E info@ywt.org.uk ⋙ @YorksWildlife

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No. 409650 and is a registered charity No. 210807.

### Great crested newt pond creation / restoration - initial eligibility checklist

Thank you for your interest in looking to either restore or create a pond on your land for great crested newts (GCN). To help assess initial eligibility, please complete this form in full, attach and return to <a href="mailto:info@ywt.org.uk">info@ywt.org.uk</a> at your earliest convenience and one of the team will be in touch with details of next steps.

Please note the subject of your email should read "GCN pond creation / restoration opportunities – [INSERT THE NAME OF YOUR SITE HERE]" to allow us to separate out individual enquiries.

Additionally, please where possible also include a map of your landholdings with all potential ponds clearly marked.

### **Considerations before applying**

When we assess suitability, we look at a number of criteria some of which are listed below. You may find it helpful to consider some of these before submitting your proposal.

- The minimum and optimum size of each pond is 100m<sup>2</sup>.
- It must be within 500m of another existing pond.
- Ground conditions need to be such that the pond will hold water a minimum of one summer in every three (please note that ponds requiring liners are <u>not</u> normally funded).
- The location should be within 50m of suitable terrestrial habitat (taller grasses, scrub, woodland or hedgerows).
- If in a grazed landscape or where disturbance could occur any ponds would need to be fenced (this can be included in the funding) by a minimum 3m buffer zone.
- The pond must be in an area not likely to be polluted by runoff.
- Chosen locality should not be liable to flood or be at risk of suffering ingress by fish or excessive use by wildfowl.
- Any area chosen must not be contaminated by invasive non-native species (e.g. Himalayan Balsam or *Crassula helmsii*).
- Any site must sit within one of our Strategic Opportunity Areas (SOAs) NOTE that YWT will check this on your behalf on receipt of this returned form.
- Restorations ONLY all ponds put forward must be in late successional stages (choked with vegetation), devoid of water or covered in a thick layer of anaerobic sediment.

# Landowner details (please complete)

Correspondence address	
(must include postcode):	
Telephone:	
Email:	
I confirm that as the landowner or	Yes / No (please delete)
their representative I have authority to	
authorise on site works agreed in the future	
luture	
Site details (please complete)	
Site details (piease complete)	
Site name:	
Site name:	
Site name: Full address of site (if same as	
Site name:	
Site name:  Full address of site (if same as correspondence address leave blank)	
Site name: Full address of site (if same as	
Site name:  Full address of site (if same as correspondence address leave blank)	Ryedale, Scarborough, Hambleton, York, Selby,
Site name:  Full address of site (if same as correspondence address leave blank)  Postcode of site:	Ryedale, Scarborough, Hambleton, York, Selby, Harrogate, Wakefield, Leeds, Craven, Richmondshire (please delete)

# Pond details (please complete for each pond)

Please provide the following details for all ponds to wish to be considered for (creation and restoration). This can be an estimate. Preference will be given to sites where it is possible to create or restore between two and six ponds in the local area.

Pond one	
Is this a creation or restoration?	
If a <u>restoration</u> what are the current approximate dimensions of the pond?	
If a <u>creation</u> , is there space for the pond to be a minimum 100m <sup>2</sup> ?	
Please provide a 10-figure grid reference for the pond	
Please insert below two photographs of the pond (or proposed locatio close up of the area and the second showing the location within the w	
Photograph 1	
Photograph 2	

Pond two	
Is this a creation or restoration?	
If a <u>restoration</u> what are the current approximate dimensions of the pond?	
If a <u>creation</u> , is there space for the pond to be a minimum 100m <sup>2</sup> ?	
Please provide a 10-figure grid reference for the pond	
Please insert below two photographs of the pond (or proposed location close up of the area and the second showing the location within the wid	
Photograph 2  Photograph 2	

Pond three
Is this a creation or restoration?
If a <u>restoration</u> what are the current approximate dimensions of the pond?
If a <u>creation</u> , is there space for the pond to be a minimum 100m <sup>2</sup> ?
Please provide a 10-figure grid reference for the pond
Please insert below two photographs of the pond (or proposed location). One photo should be a close up of the area and the second showing the location within the wider landscape.
Photograph 1
Photograph 2

Pond four
Is this a creation or restoration?
If a <u>restoration</u> what are the current approximate dimensions of the pond?
If a <u>creation</u> , is there space for the pond to be a minimum 100m <sup>2</sup> ?
Please provide a 10-figure grid reference for the pond
Please insert below two photographs of the pond (or proposed location). One photo should be a close up of the area and the second showing the location within the wider landscape.
Photograph 2  Photograph 2

Pond five
Is this a creation or restoration?
If a <u>restoration</u> what are the current approximate dimensions of the pond?
If a <u>creation</u> , is there space for the pond to be a minimum 100m <sup>2</sup> ?
Please provide a 10-figure grid reference for the pond
Please insert below two photographs of the pond (or proposed location). One photo should be a close up of the area and the second showing the location within the wider landscape.
Photograph 1
Photograph 2

Pond six
Is this a creation or restoration?
If a <u>restoration</u> what are the current approximate dimensions of the pond?
If a <u>creation</u> , is there space for the pond to be a minimum 100m <sup>2</sup> ?
Please provide a 10-figure grid reference for the pond
Please insert below two photographs of the pond (or proposed location). One photo should be a close up of the area and the second showing the location within the wider landscape.
Photograph 1
Photograph 2

### Next steps

After initial assessment someone will be in touch to let you know the outcome and if your site appears suitable. If it is, this would then be followed up with a site visit to ground truth the area.

Please note that due to staff capacity and volume of enquiries we are unable to undertake site visits to assess suitability before the information in this form is returned or if your site turns out to be unsuitable based on this initial check.

Once your information has been returned, we aim to reply within 20 working days. Currently, we are assessing sites for work in autumn 2021 onwards however, if we are able to progress projects sooner, we will be in touch to discuss on a case by case basis.

Thank you for your time.



# Agenda Item 10





Report of: Director of City Development, Martin Farrington

Report to: Outer North East Community Committee

Alwoodley, Harewood, Wetherby

Report author: Finn Campbell

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 To note

# Outer West Community Committee – Draft Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy – Consultation

### **Purpose of report**

1. To bring to members' attention details of the consultation on the draft Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy.

#### Overview

- 2. The draft Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy details how we are going to achieve our vision for Leeds, "to be a city where you don't need a car". The strategy outlines the key challenges and opportunities facing the city, our "big moves" and targets for 2030 in order to achieve the city wide vision, support the three overarching objectives to tackle Climate Change, deliver Inclusive Growth and improve Health and Wellbeing.
- In order to realise our vision, meet our objectives and continue to deliver transformational change we
  need to work with individuals and businesses, regional bodies including the West Yorkshire
  Combined Authority and Transport for the North as well as Central Government.
- 4. It is clear however that these actions alone will not be enough to meet the scale of the climate emergency challenge facing us all and that further measures need to be considered as part of the Transport Strategy's development. The draft strategy therefore presents options to allow the continuation of our transport conversation with everyone in the city to agree the Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy.

#### About the consultation

- 5. This consultation is an opportunity for everyone inform the final strategy and join the conversation to shape transport policy.
- 6. A copy of the executive summary for the strategy is attached to this report. Full copies of the report and online questionnaire are available here: <a href="www.leeds.gov.uk/transportconversation">www.leeds.gov.uk/transportconversation</a>. As part of the consultation process a webinar series has been launched to discuss topics of the strategy in more detail. All sessions are free and can be joined via a computer, smartphone or landline number. Further details can be found on the above address.
- 7. In addition to the webinars, we will be attending all community committees over the next couple of months as well dedicated sessions with seldom heard and equality groups. Printed copies of the strategy and questionnaire are available on requests and are supplied with a freepost return envelope. These can be requested via email at transport.strategy@leeds.gov.uk.
- 8. The consultation is live until Sunday 11th April 2021.

#### **Outer North East Area**

- 9. The draft strategy sets out our proposed approach to transport policy for the whole city. Whilst the strategy is not spatially defined, policies and measures detailed in the document and subsequent action plans will cover the Outer North East Area.
- 10. The consultation on the draft strategy is opportunity to highlight issues effecting the local area.







# **Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy**

**Executive Summary** 

# **Foreword**

Our ambition for Leeds is to have a strong economy within a compassionate city.

To achieve this goal we are committed to delivering the priorities set out in our Inclusive Growth and Health and Well-Being Strategies, and doing all that we can to tackle climate change. The extent to which we are able to deliver success in these areas will be influenced by the action we take to transform mobility and connectivity in the city, the region and wider north.

We are a city ready to move forward together - sitting proudly at the heart of the Northern Powerhouse. With the arrival of High Speed 2 and Northern Powerhouse Rail transforming our intercity connections we need to



ensure that mobility in Leeds in the next decade supports sustainable economic development for everyone. Delivering transformational economic growth not only in Leeds but across the city region and the north; creating a strong labour market with increased access to jobs and talent and opportunities for everyone is at the heart of our strategy.

Over the last few years we have seen significant transport investment which has made our city easier to walk, cycle and travel by public transport in. At the same time, the effect of overdependence on private cars on us, our families

and communities has become ever clearer. It has contributed to an increase in poor public health across our city, with streets that can often be polluted and unwelcoming places to live, walk or cycle. It is also bad for business with millions of pounds of lost productivity caused by congestion.

The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the way we live our lives, from how and where we work to how we spend our leisure time. Whilst we do not know the long term effects that this will have on our lives we do know that people want to walk and cycle more.

Our vision for Leeds is for a city where walking, cycling and green public transport become the most appealing, practical and best value choices for many more journeys. Where streets are attractive spaces for everyone to enjoy.

This strategy outlines how we aim to put walking, cycling and green public transport infrastructure first, the challenges we face as a city but also the opportunities there are to continue to transform travel in Leeds. The strategy will also set out big moves and how we are going to deliver the change required.

With the Climate Emergency declaration, how we manage and plan transport has important implications for our streets, public places, and future growth as a city but most importantly for everyone, who lives, works or travels in Leeds. We have started to take action to address the levels of congestion, crowding and unreliability on our transport network. However, there is more that can be done to improve everyone's experience of travel in our city.

There is no single solution. We need to continue to get people to move away from their cars to deliver an affordable, reliable, safe and zero carbon public transport network for the city which supports streets for people and unlocks the power of transport for a fairer, greener and more prosperous Leeds.

Councillor Judith Blake. Leader Leeds City Council





# **Executive Summary**

This executive summary provides an overview of the draft Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy.
It outlines our vision, objectives and big moves which combined will support the inclusive growth strategy, climate emergency ambition and health and wellbeing strategies.



Our vision for Leeds is to be a city where you don't need a car.

Where everyone has an affordable zero carbon choice in how they travel.

We want to Connect Leeds, Connect Communities, and Connect Businesses together in the most sustainable ways.

#### Where walking and cycling are the first choice for short journeys, creating safe and healthy environments where active travel is prioritise and

road danger is eliminated;

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With a fully integrated low carbon transport network with a network of modes – each of them accessible, viable and sustainable, which together will connect everybody with everything. By reducing transport's damaging impact on the environment, we will support Leeds commitment to becoming a carbon neutral city by 2030.

### This means a city:

With decreased car dependence, with a shared go anywhere active and public transport network. That enables people to make choices that are right for them by providing smart, reliable, real time, multi-modal travel information, or making use of technology to decide not to travel at all.

With efficient land use for a well-connected productive city centre, moving more people not vehicles – prioritising mass transit, buses and active modes of travel.

That enables everyone to have equal access to the same opportunities. Where the cost of travel is reduced and people need to travel less.

# Page 3

# The Objectives

We want to ensure economic opportunities are available to everyone, create a healthy and caring city for all and through a range of travel choices address the climate emergency, by moving away from personal car ownership, towards a shared, go anywhere low carbon transport network. To support our vision for Leeds we have three over-arching objectives in the transport strategy.



#### **TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE**

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges we face globally and as a major city we have a key role to play. We declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 and pledged to make Leeds carbon neutral by 2030. In order to meet our 2030 target we must persuade people to adopt more sustainable travel choices by:

- Reducing the need for travel and the number of car journeys, especially at peak times
- Encouraging people to choose active travel and public transport
- ☐ Improving the efficiency of the transport network and make better use of our road space
- Encouraging the uptake of zero emission vehicles in freight, public and private transport



#### **DELIVERING INCLUSIVE GROWTH**

Ensuring that as Leeds continues to grow, that this is inclusive and benefits all our citizens and communities. The Leeds Inclusive Growth strategy sets outs 12 big ideas to encourage inclusive growth. In order to support the delivery of inclusive growth and make Leeds an attractive city for business to grow and invest in, we are going to:

- Support individuals access more employment opportunities through a comprehensive transport network
- Develop and regenerate places through continued investment in transport infrastructure
- ☐ Improve productivity by investing in a more time and cost efficient transport system
- □ Lower the cost of mobility, ensuring transport is affordable for everyone



#### IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The Health and Wellbeing strategy sets out 12 priority areas to help Leeds become the best city for health and wellbeing. "We want Leeds to be the most active city in England" and our priority is to get more people active more often. To improve health and wellbeing we are going to:

- ☐ Ensure walking and cycling are the first choice for the shortest journeys improving physical health
- Reduce the negative effects of transport on our local communities, improving air quality and reducing CO2 Emissions
- □ Help make Leeds the best city to grow old in and a child friendly city through making streets accessible to all
- ☐ Eliminate road danger by adopting a Vision Zero approach to road accidents









# Big Moves

We have identified six big moves that will be the focus of the Transport Strategy. We believe these six big moves will move us towards achievement of our vision, objectives and targets.

Our Big Moves are supported by 12 policy areas, it is a combination of these policy areas that will deliver and ultimately enable our big moves to become successful.



## **De-carbonising Transport**

Reducing the need to travel, re-mode how we travel away from private car use and encouraging further uptake of alternative fuelled vehicles and the infrastructure they need.

#### WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO:

- Re-mode how we travel making it easier to walk, cycle and use public transport.
- Reducing the need to travel making it easier to access the same opportunities and amenities without having to travel as far.
- Support the uptake of alternative fuelled vehicles and associated infrastructure through publication of our Alternative Fuelled Vehicle Strategy
- Commit to all new infrastructure being carbon neutral and carbon negative where possible
- Continue to improve local environments through the planting of street trees, contributing to our wider ambition to create new woodlands through the planting of over 5.8 million trees

#### WE ARE GOING TO:

- Trial new technologies to make it easier to adopt low carbon choices such as on-street electrical vehicle charging points
- Work with partners to make it easier for everyone to access services closer to home.
- Ensure low carbon mobility choices are available throughout Leeds, serving the routes and locations people need.

#### WE MAY NEED TO CONSIDER:

- ☐ How we can further incentivise people to use the low carbon public transport network in partnership with the Combined Authority and bus operators.
- A low carbon zone, this could be similar to the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in London, where the most polluting vehicles are subject to greatest charges based on CO2 emissions.



# Creating healthier streets, spaces and communities

Ensuring walking and cycling are the first choice for the shortest trips, creating places and spaces where people want to spend time which are inclusive and accessible to all.

#### WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO:

- Provide accessible, well designed space for walking and cycling, including developing local cycling and walking infrastructure plans for all Leeds Communities.
- Use street space more efficiently by tackling congestion and reducing traffic.
- Ensure our streets are safer for everyone by working with partners to reduce crime and anti social-behaviour
- Work with accessibility and inclusivity groups on the development of a street charter to reduce barriers to travel
- Maintain the Outer Ring Road as the primary route for vehicle trips around the city in order to support the transformation of our local streets.

#### WE ARE GOING TO

- Adopt Vision Zero approach to road safety, where all accidents are preventable and liability is shared between, road users, engineers and road operators
- Create and support an integrated, connected network for all modes, enabling longer trips to be undertaken sustainably building on the 20 minute neighbourhood concept
- Lobby for greater allocation of funding for these types of measures, which are currently more challenging to fund
- Monitor our Active Travel Neighbourhood trials to see if they encourage people to walk and cycle more but also reduce rat-running
- Review parking management measures across the Leeds district to include more spaces for cycles, car clubs and Electric Vehicle charging
- Tackle barriers to active travel including bike storage at home and access to training
- Develop a local shared ownership model for transport within communities through the provision of car clubs and bike sharing.

#### WE MAY NEED TO CONSIDER:

 Different parking management measures to reduce vehicle dominated environments and incentives the uptake of alternatively fuelled vehicles.

# **Big Moves**



## Transform the city centre

Continue to deliver and develop transformational change in the city centre as a place for people and seamlessly integrating all modes, supporting role of Leeds as a local, regional and national economic hub.

#### WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO:

- Deliver transformational change through the delivery of our new gateway locations on the Headrow, Park Row and the Corn Exchange making it easier to travel for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users
- Invest in the city centre as a national, regional and local transport hub

#### WE ARE GOING TO:

- Encourage and facilitate traffic to move around the city centre rather than through it with the closure of City Square.
- Create a network of open and green spaces within our streets that make the city centre more attractive supporting the Our Spaces Strategy
- Support the role of Leeds City Station, enhancing its role as a regional transport hub and enabling for the integration of high speed rail
- Maintaining the Inner Ring Road to help facilitate the transformation of the city centre whilst also ensuring we reduce the physical barrier it places between communities, making it easier for people to access the city centre.
- Review our parking strategy including park and ride facilities.
- Re-assess how we use our existing water and rail network to best service the city especially in relation to freight.

#### WE MAY NEED TO CONSIDER:

 A workplace parking levy, this could charge employers who provide workplace parking, with monies raised being ring-fenced to invest back into transport.



## **Enhance Public Transport**

Building on the successes we have had in recent years in improving bus and rail services and working with partners to ensure the meet the current and future needs of users.

#### WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO:

- Work with partners to secure the investment needed to deliver transformational improvements to the rail network
- Work in partnership with the Combined Authority and the operators to create the best bus system which is an attractive and natural choice for everyone.
- Upgrade key bus corridors (including provision of additional bus priority measures) to provide fast & reliable high frequency bus services.
- Deliver City Centre Gateways to transform the public transport experience across the city.

#### WE ARE GOING TO

- Develop our park and ride offer on key radial routes across the city.
- Upgrade all key bus corridors across the city to provide a core network of high frequency bus services.
- Promote demand responsive transport services to offer flexibility and connectivity across the city in areas not well served by traditional bus services.
- Work with the Combined Authority, bus operators and technology firms to encourage service and product innovations.
- Create a well connected and seamless network of active travel and public transport infrastructure and services with integrated ticketing and payment options.

#### WE MAY NEED TO CONSIDER:

- How different transport operating models could improve the public transport provision in the city
- How we can provide reasonably priced fares that further incentivise people to use the public transport network in partnership with the Combined Authority.





# **Big Moves**



# **New Mobility Solutions**

Thinking about transport differently, focusing on shared mobility and how we pay for transport, encouraging flexible transport choices and using technologies to improve mobility in the city.

#### WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO:

- Consider new technologies and innovative approaches to delivery that can open new opportunities for travel including shared mobility and micro mobility modes.
- Continue our work with taxi and private hire vehicles to provide the best service for Leeds
- Continue to support the West Yorkshire Combined Authority in the development of the Demand Responsive Transport trial.

#### WE ARE GOING TO:

- Deliver mobility hubs across the city where several modes can be accessed in one location integrating transport
- Ensure accessibility considered as a whole system across the council, with transport acknowledged as just a single element alongside spatial planning and technology
- Define our Shared Transport Vision to include car clubs, bikes and scooters

#### WE MAY NEED TO CONSIDER:

- ☐ How autonomous vehicles can play a future role in mobility within the city.
- ☐ How we can support the better integration of freight services and local deliveries to reduce van mileage in the city
- ☐ Enhanced shared ownership models and how we can integrate shared transport modes into our existing mobility services, ensuring they are affordable and offer value for money



# Deliver a Mass Transit Network

Delivering a low carbon mass transit in Leeds, enhancing the transformational work already going on throughout the city through partnership with the Combined Authority.

#### WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO:

- Through the Bus Alliance, continue to deliver the Connecting Leeds and West Yorkshire-Plus Transport Fund investment programmes, to help transform our bus offer in the short term.
- Work in partnership with the Combined Authority to develop and deliver an advanced Mass Transit system as quickly as possible.

#### WE ARE GOING TO:

- Ensure that the right mass transit solution is delivered that integrates instinctively with the city and unlocks the benefits for the people of Leeds at the earliest opportunity.
- Ensure that it integrates with our existing transport network, creating an affordable, zero carbon network
- Work with partners to secure the investment needed to deliver transformational improvements to the rail network to support the Mass Transit network

#### WE MAY NEED TO CONSIDER:

☐ The further opportunities mass transit can offer for the city including the opportunities for transit oriented development









# **Targets**

In order to achieve our strategic vision for Leeds to be a city where you don't need a car. Our overall target comprises of four components:

# **Climate Emergency**

The Council is committed to making Leeds carbon neutral by 2030.

# **Mode Split**

Page ω Increase 33%

Increase 100%







# **Distance Travelled**

To support our mode split targets, we need to reduce the length of car trips made in the city by 30%.

That is on average 900 car miles per year.

# **Vision Zero**

Zero people killed or serious injured on Leeds roads by 2040.

#### Our Big Leeds Climate Conversation, you told us that:



94.8% believe that the climate is changing



**93.4**% believe that climate change is due to human activity



**More than two-thirds** of respondents **(67.1%)** say that they already walk or cycle journeys less than a mile.



13.2% would take the bus or train more often



**33.2%** would pick up deliveries from a central location



The exception to this is that **more than a quarter** (26.5%) of respondents say that they would consider switching to an electric or hybrid car

#### Our 2030 average trips components



31% walking



41% private car



2% other



4% cycling



22% public transport

# What you can do to help?



Leave the car at home one day a week



Visit places by public transport



Have a web meeting instead of travelling to the meeting



Walk the children to school



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# Meeting the Climate Emergency target

Meeting our pledge for Leeds to become carbon neutral by 2030 will be challenging. Transport accounts for 36% of all Carbon Emissions within Leeds. Our current policy projection will contribute to a reduction in CO2 emissions, however we need to do more to further reduce emissions. Our policies including our Bold and Big Moves detailed in this strategy will contribute up to a 43% reduction in CO2 emissions from transport by 2030.

The challenge in achieving net-zero carbon emissions is not one just facing Leeds, it is also facing regional and national government. The Department for Transport are currently working to a 2050 ambition for carbon neutrality and their policy projections are set out in Decarbonising Transport: Setting the challenge report. Recent announcements, bringing forward the ban on the sale of fossil fuelled vehicles to 2030 will help reduce carbon emissions however further policy actions are required.

Our Big Moves set out our focus areas for the transport strategy. To outline our proposals for each of the Big Moves, we have broken down each move into the following components:

#### WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO:

This is where we outline what measures we are going to continue to do

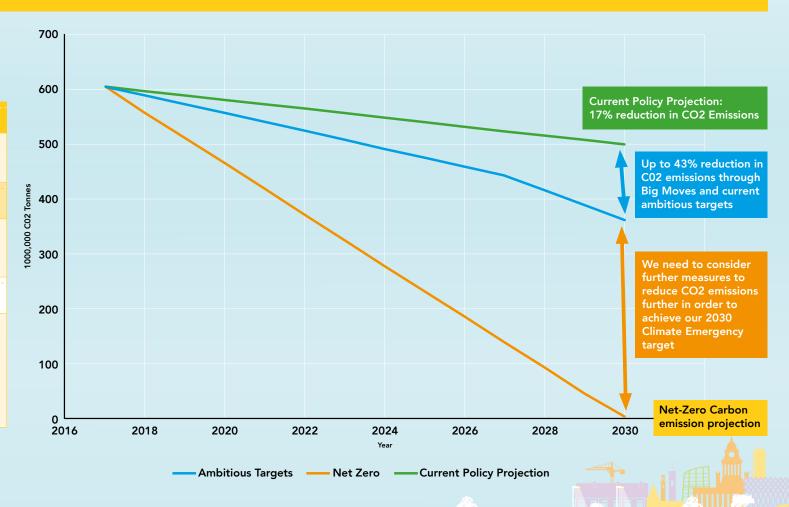
#### WE ARE GOING TO:

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 Measures we are going to introduce as part of this strategy to work towards our targets

#### WE MAY NEED TO CONSIDER:

- Measures we need to consider going forward in order to achieve our targets
- We will require support from Central Government to enable us to make these steps and changes to national policy to enable this to be achieved





# Achieving and Delivering the vision

Achieving the vision and meeting our targets will be challenging, we need others to help. In order to deliver our strategy we will develop a series of action plans, which will detail short, medium and long term measures, transforming mobility in Leeds and supporting our objectives to be the best city in the UK. It will only be by working together that we can achieve our vision.

#### TO DELIVER THE VISION WE HAVE MADE A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT COMMITMENTS:

- We will guide the delivery of the transport strategy aligning it to support wider policies around creating an inclusive economy, health and wellbeing, well designed spaces and decarbonisation. We will lead by example. #LeedsbyExample
- As we deliver our Strategy we will continue to review the outcomes and where necessary make adjustments to ensure they remain relevant to achieving our goals.
- We will work collaboratively and adopt an open and committed approach to working with our partners.
- We will continue to explore a range of funding opportunities as they arise.
- We will engage with the citizens and businesses of Leeds to ensure the transport strategy meets their needs.
  - TO DELIVER OUR AMBITIOUS STRATEGY, ACHIEVE OUR VISION AND MEET OUR OBJECTIVES, IT WILL TAKE A WHOLE CITY APPROACH WITH GENUINE ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT FROM CITIZENS, BUSINESSES AND PARTNERS.
  - ☐ We ask the **citizens**, **visitors** and **businesses** to continue to engage with LCC to help inform the strategy, deliver our vision and work together to achieve these targets.
  - ☐ We ask that the **Transport Expert Panel** we have established continue to support the development and delivery of mobility solutions in Leeds.
  - ☐ We work in partnership with the **West Yorkshire Combined Authority** on a daily basis and will continue to do in the development and delivery of policies and priorities.

We believe that through this continued partnership approach better integration and outcomes can be delivered.

- ☐ We ask **The Government** to commit to a comprehensive long term funding package to give us certainty on our future transport investments and for co-ordination of different governmental policies.
- We ask that the government commits to the delivery of the eastern leg of High Speed 2 to Leeds and that Transport for the North continues to work with us to enable the delivery of Northern Powerhouse Rail and other policies such as integrated ticketing.
- ☐ We ask **Network Rail** to work with us and the **Combined Authority** to bring forward the delivery of three new stations in Leeds as well as further improvements.
- We ask that Highways England works with us to reduce negative impacts of the Strategic Road Network on our the severance of our communities air quality or carbon emissions.
- ☐ We ask all **train operating companies and the DfT** to continue to invest in new greener rolling stock to increase capacity into Leeds Station and reduce overcrowding.
- □ We ask the **bus operators** to continue to work with us enhance bus services and vehicles across the city.
- □ We ask all developers support our vision for Leeds and help contribute to it and to continue to engage with us to support well connected development.

As part of our engagement strategy we are now seeking feedback on this draft strategy. Your feedback will be carefully analysed and will inform the final strategy for Leeds.

# **Next Steps**

**Public Consultation** 

December - February

Review of all consultation responses

February - April

**Publication of new Transport Strategy** 

Early Summer 2021

# Agenda Item 11





**Report of the City Solicitor** 

**Report to: Outer North East Community Committee** 

(Alwoodley, Harewood and Wetherby Wards)

Report author: Gerard Watson, Principal Governance Officer, 0113 37 88664

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 <u>For decision</u>

# Dates, Times and Venues of Community Committee Meetings 2021/2022

# **Purpose of report**

1. The purpose of this report is to request Members to give consideration to agreeing the proposed Community Committee meeting schedule for the 2021/2022 municipal year.

#### Main issues

# **Meeting Schedule**

- 2. The Procedure Rules state that there shall be at least four ordinary or 'business' meetings of each Community Committee in each municipal year and that a schedule of meetings will be approved by each Community Committee.
- 3. This report seeks to schedule 4 Community Committee business meetings for 2021/22, in line with previous practice. The proposed schedule has been compiled with a view to ensuring an even spread of Committee meetings throughout the forthcoming municipal year.

- 4. Members are also asked to note that the schedule does not set out any Community Committee themed workshops, as these can be determined by the Committee throughout the municipal year, should Members feel appropriate.
- 5. The following provisional dates have been agreed in consultation with the Localities team. As referenced earlier, this report seeks to schedule 4 Community Committee business meetings for 2021/22, in line with previous practice.
- 6. For this municipal year, efforts have been made to try and avoid scheduling multiple Community Committee meetings on the same day, in order to allow for attending officers to be present at as many Committees as possible when taking reports to all 10 Committees during a cycle. Also taken into consideration this year are the practicalities around the webcasting of meetings, and the fact that we can only webcast a maximum of 2 meetings simultaneously.
- 7. In terms of the format of the Community Committee meetings, as Members will be aware, over the course of 2020/21 in response to the pandemic and the restrictions in place, Community Committees initially met remotely on a consultative basis, and then remotely on a formal, decision making basis. Regarding how formal Community Committees, and other committees will meet moving forward, this is a matter which will continue to be monitored in light of how the pandemic develops and the local and national restrictions / legislation in place at the time. This will also include consideration being given to any changes made by Government to the current regulations which enable formal, decision making meetings of the Local Authority to take place remotely.
- 8. The proposed meeting schedule for 2021/22 is as follows:
  - 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021
  - 13th September 2021
  - 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021
  - 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022

# Meeting Days, Times and Venues

- 9. Currently, the Committee meets on a Monday at 5.30pm and the proposed dates (above) reflect this pattern.
- 10. Meeting on set days and times has the advantage of certainty and regularity, which assists people to plan their schedules. The downside might be that it could serve to exclude certain people i.e. members of the public, for instance, who have other regular commitments on that particular day or who might prefer either a morning or afternoon meeting or a meeting immediately after normal working hours. Therefore, the Committee may wish to give consideration to meeting start times which would maximise the accessibility of the meetings for the community.

# **Options**

11. Members are asked to consider whether they are agreeable with the proposed meeting schedule (above).

# **Corporate considerations**

# 10a. Consultation and engagement

The submission of this report to the Community Committee forms part of the consultation process as it seeks the views of Elected Members with respect to the Community Committee meeting schedule.

In compiling the proposed schedule of meeting dates and times, the current Community Committee Chair and colleagues within the Localities team have been consulted.

# 10b. Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

In considering the matters detailed, Members may wish to give consideration to ensuring that the Community Committee meeting arrangements are accessible to all groups within the community.

# 10c. Legal implications, access to information and call in

In line with Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules, the power to Call In decisions does not extend to decisions taken by Community Committees.

# Conclusion

11. The Procedure Rules require that each Community Committee will agree its schedule of meetings and that there shall be at least 4 business meetings per municipal year. With this, Members are asked to agree the arrangements for 2021/22.

# Recommendations

12. Members are requested to consider the options detailed within the report and to consider and agree the Committee's meeting schedule for the 2021/22 municipal year (as detailed at paragraph 8).

# **Background information**

Not applicable



# Agenda Item 12





Report of: Head of Stronger Communities

Report to: Outer North East Community Committee

Alwoodley, Harewood & Wetherby

Report author: Preet Kundhi, Tel No; 0113 535 1239

Date: 22 March 2021 For decision and to note

# **Outer North East Community Committee – Finance Report**

# **Purpose of report**

- The report provides the Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund, Capital Budget, as well as the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget for 2020/21 It also provides the committee with an update on organisations funded by the Community Committee and how their project delivery will be affected by the Coronavirus pandemic.
- 2. The report also provides the Community Committee with an update on projects that have been funded through the £10,000 set aside by the committee from their available Wellbeing Budget 2020/21 (across all wards) to tackle the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic.
- 3. In addition to this it provides the committee with an update on the work that's been taking place through their local Volunteer Hubs, as well as giving an update on the work of the wider Communities Team and what they have been doing to support support some of our newer communities and communities of interest.

# **Finance Section**

#### Main issues

4. Each Community Committee has been allocated a wellbeing budget (revenue and capital) and Youth Activities Fund which it is responsible for administering. The aim of these budgets is to support the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the area and provide a range of activities for children and young people, by using the funding to support projects that contribute towards the delivery of local priorities.

- 5. A group applying to the Wellbeing Fund must fulfil various eligibility criteria, including evidencing appropriate management arrangements and financial controls are in place; have relevant policies to comply with legislation and best practice e.g. safeguarding and equal opportunities and be unable to cover the costs of the project from other funds.
- 6. Wellbeing funding cannot be paid retrospectively. An application form must be submitted and approved by the Community Committee before activities or items being purchased through wellbeing funding are completed or purchased.
- 7. The amount of wellbeing funding provided to each committee is calculated using a formula agreed by Council, taking into consideration both population and deprivation of an area.
- 8. Capital (CRIS) injections are provided as a result of council assets being sold. 5% of the sale price (up to a maximum of £100k) of a council asset is pooled city-wide and redistributed to the Community Committee areas on the basis of deprivation. The Community Committee will receive a new capital injection every 6 months.
- 9. Each Community Committee has also been allocated a Community Infrastructure Levy budget. For each CIL contribution, Leeds City Council retains up to 70-80% centrally, 5% is needed for administration and 15-25% goes to be spent locally. The money will be vested with the local Town or Parish Council if applicable, or with the local Community Committee and spend decided upon by that body. This local money is known as the 'Neighbourhood Fund' and should be spent on similar projects to the Wellbeing Fund (capital).
- 10. In the Outer North East Community Committee this means that the money for the Alwoodley, Harewood and Wetherby ward will be administered by the following parish councils; Aberford & District, Alwoodley, Bardsey Cum Rigton, Barwick in Elmet & Scholes, Boston Spa, Bramham cum Oglethorpe, Bramhope and Carlton, Clifford, Collingham with Linton, East Keswick, Harewood, Scarcroft, Shadwell, Thorner, Thorp Arch, Walton, Wetherby.
- 11. It was agreed that CIL monies for Alwoodley, Harewood and Wetherby wards would be spent in the ward it was generated in.
- 12. Projects eligible for funding by the Community Committee could be community events; environmental improvements; crime prevention initiatives, or opportunities for sport and healthy activities for all ages. In line with the Equality Act 2010, projects funded at public expense should provide services to citizens irrespective of their religion, gender, marital status, race, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation or disability; the fund cannot be used to support an organisation's regular business running costs; it cannot fund projects promoting political or religious viewpoints to the exclusion of others; projects must represent good value for money and follow Leeds City Council Financial Regulations and the Council's Spending Money Wisely policy; applications should provide, where possible, three quotes for any works planned and demonstrate how the cost of the project is relative to the scale of beneficiaries; the fund cannot support projects which directly result in the business interests of any members of the organisation making a profit.

- 13. Any request for funding would involve discussions with appropriate ward members. Where projects do not have support from the Community Committee and are not approved, applicants are offered further discussions and feedback if this is requested.
- 14. In order to provide further assurance and transparency of all decisions made by the Community Committee, any projects that are not approved will be reported to a subsequent Community Committee meeting.
- 15. Sometimes urgent decisions may need to be made in between formal Community Committee meetings regarding the administration of wellbeing and youth activity budgets and also regarding the use of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Neighbourhood Fund which has been allocated to the Community Committee. Alongside the Committee, designated officers have delegated authority from the Director of Communities and Environment to take such decisions.
- 16. The Community Committee has previously approved the following 'minimum conditions' in order to reassure Members that all delegated decisions would be taken within an appropriate governance framework, with appropriate Member consultation and only when the following 'minimum conditions' have been satisfied 'That all 3 Ward Members must be in agreement (unanimous) for a delegated decision to be approved'. (Minute No. 17(v), 13 June 2016). This was re-confirmed at the first meeting of 2019/20, that: 'all 3 Ward Members must give their unanimous approval for a delegated decision to be approved (via a Ward Member meeting or email)'. (Minute No. 18(vi), 17 June 2019). However, the below are the conditions that the majority of committee's have approved):
  - a. consultation must be undertaken with all committee/relevant ward members prior to a delegated decision being taken;
  - b. a delegated decision must have support from a majority of the Community Committee elected members represented on the committee (or in the case of funds delegated by a Community Committee to individual wards, a majority of the ward councillors), and;
  - c. details of any decisions taken under such delegated authority will be reported to the next available Community Committee meeting for members' information.
- 17. Members are reminded that the necessary scrutiny of applications to satisfy our own processes, financial regulations and audit requires the deadline for receipt of completed applications to be at least five weeks prior to any Community Committee. Some applications will be approved via Delegated Decision Notice (DDN) following consultation with Members outside of the Community Committee meeting cycle.

# Wellbeing Budget Position 2020/21

18. The total revenue budget approved by Executive Board for 2020/21 was £66,650. Table 1 shows a carry forward figure of £99,901 which includes underspends from projects completed in 2019/20. £70,061 represents wellbeing allocated to projects in 2019/20 and not yet completed. The total revenue funding available to the Community Committee for 2020/21 is therefore £146,370. A full breakdown of the projects approved or ring-fenced is available on request.

- 19. It is possible that some of the projects may not use their allocated spend. This could be for several reasons, including the project no longer going ahead, the project not taking place within the dates specified in the funding agreement, or failure to submit monitoring reports. Due to this the final revenue balance may be greater than the amount specified in Table 1.
- 20. The Community Committee is asked to note that there is currently a remaining balance of £9,224. A full breakdown of the projects is listed in Table 1 and is available on request.

TABLE 1: Wellbeing revenue 2020/21

	£
INCOME: 2020/21	£66,650
Balance brought forward from previous year	£99,901
Less projects brought forward from previous year	£70,061
TOTAL AVAILABLE: 2020/21	£146,370

		Ward Split			
Ward Projects	£	Alwoodely	Harewood	Wetherby	
Small Grants	£3,000	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	
Community engagement	£1,500	£500	£500	£500	
Skips	£1,800	£600	£600	£600	
Grit bins	£5,000	£5,000	£0	£0	
COVID 19	£30,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	
Wetherby District & Development Fund	49,880	£0	£0	£49,880	
Harewood Ward Environmental Fund	£10,000	£0	£10,000	£0	
Blackmoor Lane Bin	£300	£0	£300	£0	
Wetherby Bonfire Event	£5,000	£0	£0	£5,000	
St James Primary School Fun Club 2019/20	£8,992	£0	£0	£8,992	
St James Primary School Fun Club 2020/21	£8,992	£0	£0	£8,992	
Dog Fouling Dispensers	£800	£0	£800	£0	
Bardsey Bowling Club Shelter Refurbishment	£400	£0	£400	£0	
Harewood Bins for Collingham Parish Council	£420	£0	£420	£0	
MaeCare Cares	£10,000	10,000	£0	£0	
Bardsey Village Hall Roof Repairs	£3,950	£0	£3,950	£0	
Police resources (pedal bike) H&W	£4,672	£0	£2,336	£2,336	
Burglary and speeding H&W	£10,000	£0	£5,000	£5,000	
Speeding Alwoodley	£2,500	£2,500	£0	£0	
Litter Bins in Wetherby Ward	£420	£0	£0	£420	
Boston Spa Christmas Lights	£2,030	£0	£0	£2,030	
Bramham Community Christmas Lights	£2,000	£0	£0	£2,000	
Clifford Village Interpretation Board	£500	£0	£0	£500	
Walton Christmas Lights	£1,500	£0	£0	£1,500	
Wetherby Bridge Lights	£660	£0	£0	£660	
Stone Court CCTV	£2,039	£2,039	£0	£0	
Wetherby Christmas Lights	£5,000	£0	£0	£5,000	
Santa's Trip	£1,000	£1,000	£0	£0	
Alwoodley SIDs - Relocation	£940	£940	£0	£0	
Total Amount Approved	£176,602	£33,579	£34,406	£108,617	
Actual Remaining Balance (Total/Per ward)	£9,224	£7,486	£37	£1,701	

# Wellbeing and Capital Projects for Consideration and Approval

21. The following projects are presented for Members' consideration:

22. Project Title: Purchase and installation of a communal shed

Name of Group or Organisation: Clifford Allotment Holders Association

Total Project Cost: £2,000 Amount proposed: £500 Wards covered: Wetherby

**Project Description**: funding will be used to purchase and install a communal shed. This will create safe storage facilities for the communal machinery and tools and provide extra water collection for tenants in times of drought. To provide a dry meeting place for the committee and for tenants

**Community Committee Priorities:** Health and Well Being and Better Lives. Resilient Communities

23. Project Title: Allerton Primary CofE School Expansion Works

Name of Group or Organisation: Leeds City Council

Total Project Cost: £90,000

Amount proposed: £10,000 (Capital - £6,600 & Wellbeing - £3,400)

Wards covered: Alwoodley

**Project Description**: The funding will be used to make alterations to the park and ride site, located on King Lane between Allerton C of E Primary School and Allerton High School, creating a new pick up/drop off point for parents to make use of.

**Community Committee Priorities:** Good Growth & Transport & Infrastructure. Child-Friendly City

24. Project Title: Nature Reserves Footpath Repairs For Improved Public Access

Name of Group or Organisation: The East Keswick Wildlife Trust

Total Project Cost: £4,000

Amount proposed: £2,250 (taken from the environmental pot)

Wards covered: Harewood

**Project Description**: The funding will be used to increase footpaths and to assist with immediate repairs, across the nature reserves. This will assist public access, enjoyment of the local nature reserves and improve access for those with limited mobility.

**Community Committee Priorities:** Good Growth & Transport & Infrastructure. Health & Wellbeing & Better Lives.

25. Project Title: Bins for Slaid Hill

Name of Group or Organisation: Communities Team, Leeds City Council

Total Project Cost: £460 Amount proposed: £460 Wards covered: Alwoodley

Project Description: The funding will be used to replace two old litter bins at Slaid Hill with

two new ones.

**Community Committee Priorities:** Resilient Communities

26. Project Title: Installation of Greenhouse (Additional Funding)

Name of Group or Organisation: Aberford C of E Primary School

Total Project Cost: £266

Amount proposed: £266 (taken from the environmental pot)

Wards covered: Harewood

Project Description: The funding will be used to employ an external company to erect the

greenhouse.

Community Committee Priorities: Resilient Communities. Child-Friendly City. Health &

Wellbeing & Better Lives

# **Delegated Decisions (DDN)**

27. Since the last Community Committee meeting on 7 December 2020, all the projects mentioned in table 1 and listed below have been considered and approved by DDN:

a) Arts Camp February Holiday Scheme

# **Declined Projects**

28. Since the last Community Committee meeting on 7 December 2020, there are no projects which has been declined.

#### **COVID 19 Position**

29. At the start of the 2020/21 financial year, each ward set aside £10,000 towards tackling the effects of the pandemic in the area. The Community Committee is asked to note the amount available in the COVID 19 funding pot. The Community Committee is reminded that they are able to replenish the COVID 19 pot, from their ward pot funding at any point they choose.

**TABLE 2: COVID 19 Ward Spend** 

	£	Alwoodley	Harewood	Wetherby
Amount Spent	£25,180	£9,942	£6,032	£9,206
Balance remaining (per ward)	£9,024	£57	£3,967	£5,000

# **New Central Government Ward Based Covid Fund**

30. **Table 3** below provides the Community Committee with an up-to-date balance statement on the New Central Government Ward Based Covid Funds. The Committee is asked to note that this funding should be allocated before the end of the financial year. The committee is asked to note the contents of the table and make recommendations.

**TABLE 3: New Central Government Ward Based Covid Fund** 

	£	Alwoodley	Harewood	Wetherby
Amount Spent	£22,500	£10,000	£4,000	£8,500
Balance remaining (per ward)	£7,500	£0	£6,000	£1,500

# **Youth Activities Fund Position 2020/21**

- 31. The total available for spend in Outer North East Community Committee in 2020/21, including carry forward from previous year, was £97,852.
- 32. The Community Committee is asked to note that so far, a total of £29,056 has been allocated to projects, as listed in **Table 4**.
- 33. The Community Committee is also asked to note that there is a remaining balance of £55,960 in the Youth Activity Fund. A full breakdown of the projects is available on request.

**TABLE 4: Youth Activities Fund 2020/21** 

		Ward Split 8-17 Population			
	Total allocation	Alwoodley	Harewood	Wetherby	
Income 2020/21	£36,220	£13,039	£12,314	£10,867	
Carried forward from previous year	£61,632	£17,155	£22,794	£21,681	
Total available (including brought forward balance) for schemes in 2020/21	£97,852	£30,194	£35,108	£32,548	
Schemes approved in previous year to be delivered this year 2020/21	£21,877	£500	£8,688	£12,688	
Total available budget for this year 2020/21	£75,974	£29,694	£26,419	£19,859	
Projects 2020/21	Amount requested from YAF	Alwoodley	Harewood	Wetherby	
Junior Cricket Coaching	£2,875	£0	£2,875	£0	
Tee Time Tennis 2020	£4,925	£0	£4,925	£0	
Alwoodley Juniors FC	£1,000	£1,000	£0	£0	
Breeze Summer Holiday Camp	£2,115	£2,115	£0	£0	
Leeds Rhinos Summer Camps	£5,000	£5,000	£0	£0	
Time Out Summer Scheme	£2,911	£1,941	£0	£0	
Tempo FM	£3,500	£0	£0	£3,500	
Moortown Monday Night Youth Project	£6,040	£6,040	£0	£0	
The Tribe Youth Group - SCHOLES	£1,500	£0	£1,500	£0	
Art Camps	£160	£160	£0	£0	
Total spend against projects	£29,760	£16,276	£9,300	£3,500	
Remaining balance per ward	£46,212	£13,418	£17,119	£16,359	

# **Youth Activity Funding for Consideration and Approval**

34. Project Title: Scarcroft Cricket Club Junior Coaching Programme

Name of Group or Organisation: Scarcroft Cricket Club

Total Project Cost: £8,736 Amount proposed: £7,536 Wards covered: Harewood

Project Description: The funding will be used to help children aged 7-11 to further develop

their interest in cricket and enhance their skills.

Community Committee Priorities: Child-Friendly City. Health & Wellbeing & Better Lives

# **Skips**

35. **Table 5** outlines the skips the ward members have approved. The total cost is highlighted below.

**TABLE 5: Community Skips 2019/20** 

Location of skip	Date requested	Total amount	Alwoodley	Harewood	Wetherby
Bardsey Village Hall Car Park	22/07/2020	£345.58	-	£345.58	-
School Lane	07/08/2020	£151.84	-	£151.84	-
Total:		£	-	£497.42	-

# Capital Budget 2020/21

36. The Outer North East Community Committee has a capital budget of £22,695 available to spend, as a result of new capital injections. Members are asked to note the capital allocation broken down by ward and summarised in **Table 6**.

**TABLE 6: Capital 2020/21** 

	£	Alwoodley	Harewood	Wetherby
Capital Injection April 2020	£5,600	£1,866	£1,866	£1,866
Capital Injection September 2020	£700	£233	£233	£233
Balance remaining (per ward)	£22.695	£6,886	£5,421	£10,387

# Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Budget 2020/21

37. The Community Committee is asked to note that there is £0 total payable to the Outer North East Community Committee).

# **Monitoring Information**

- 38. As part of their funding agreements, all projects which have had funding approved by the Community Committee are required to provide update reports on the progress of their project. These reports are so that the Community Committee can measure the impact the project has had on the community and the value for money achieved.
- 39. Since the last Community Committee meeting, monitoring has been received from Leeds Jewish Housing Association in regards to the CCTV funded by the Awoodley Councillors. The project has been a huge success.
- 40. Monitoring has also been received from all the projets that received funding for Christmas lights. Organisations stated that the festive lights bought much cheer to the community, especially at a difficult time due to COVID 19 and the shoter and colder winter days.

# **Corporate Considerations**

# **Consultation and Engagement**

41. The Community Committee has previously been consulted on the projects detailed within the report.

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

42. All wellbeing funded projects are assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration. In addition, the Communities Team ensures that the wellbeing process complies with all relevant policies and legislation.

# **Council Polices and City Priorities**

- 43. Projects submitted to the Community Committee for wellbeing 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

# **Resources and Value for Money**

44. 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

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

# **Risk Management**

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

#### Recommendations

- 47. Members are asked to note:
  - a. Details of the Wellbeing Budget position (Table 1)
  - b. Wellbeing proposals for consideration and approval (paragraphs 22 26)
  - c. Details of the projects approved via Delegated Decision (paragraph 27)
  - d. Details of COVID 19 position (Table 2)
  - e. Details of the New Central Government Ward Based Covid Fund (Table 3)
  - f. Details of the Youth Activities Fund (YAF) position (Table 4)
  - g. Youth Activity Funding proposals for consideration and approval (paragraphs 34)
  - h. Details of the skips approved (Table 5)
  - i. Details of the Capital Budget (Table 6)
  - j. Details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (paragraph 37)

# Agenda Item 13





Report of: Head of Stronger Communities

Report to: Outer North East Community Committee

(Alwoodley, Harewood and Wetherby)

Report author: Preet Kundhi – 0113 535 1239

Date: 22 March 2021 For consideration

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

# **Purpose of report**

- 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.
- 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

# **Environment & Community Safety: Councillor Matthew Robinson**

3. The Environmental Sub Group met 11 March 2021. Representatives from Parks & Countryside and Housing Leeds attended to provide an update on their services. The main headlines that were discussed in the meeting were; flower beds and wild flower planting, Arium grants and litter picking. Housing Leeds gave an update as to the funding bids to be discussed at the next Housing Advisory Panel.

## Children and Families: Councillor Dan Cohen

#### **Youth Summits**

- 4. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, officers in the Communities Team have not been able to make plans and preparations for the Youth Summits in the usual fashion this year. A discussion has taken place with Chairs at their September meeting where they were invited to discuss options for the Youth Summits for 2020/21. Chairs agreed that due to the ongoing restrictions, their preferred option was to move the summits to a remote format for the remainder of 2020/21, and that these should be scheduled to take place in the New Year (2021).
- 5. However, due to the current lockdown which came into force at the start of 2021 and with children and young people now home schooling, it was agreed to it has been proposed to postpone the virtual youth summits until the situation improves. In the meantime, we are consulting with young people through Facebook and by sending out the consultation to young people via schools and partners.

# Health, Wellbeing & Adult Social Care: Councillor Norma Harrington

# **Community Volunteer Hubs**

6. Both Moor Allerton Elderly Care (MAECare) and Wetherby In Support of the Elderly (WiSE) continue to offer support to those vulnerable residents in Outer North East Leeds as part of the city's ongoing response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

# **Moor Allerton Elderly Care**

- 7. For MaeCare the numbers of requests for help remain low compared to other hubs and to the first six months of the financial year. Although they have seen an increase in requests for help, in particular food parcels, in the last month and mainly from people classed as CEV but also experiencing some degree of financial hardship.
- 8. Requests for help with food/shopping and prescriptions are undertaken using a similar approach to the one taken with any service user: dealing with the short term 'crisis' whilst establishing what the barrier to access is and helping to find a solution that is sustainable in the longer term. This might be arranging for the pharmacy to deliver prescriptions or supporting someone to register as CEV so that they can then get priority access to on line shopping of telephone shopping where they can afford to, or making an onward referral to Leeds North and West Foodbank. This approach is driven in part because MaeCare do not have the volunteers to support ongoing deliveries and in part because of outcomes related to the core grant of 'choice and control' and supporting independence.
- 9. By far the main area of support remains telephone befriending which averages 21-26 people being supported each week.
- 10. MaeCare have one regular Hub volunteer who does most of the deliveries, one occasional MAECare volunteer who can support this, and 17 volunteers providing telephone support to 49 people. This is in addition to and supplements the ongoing

telephone support provided by Project Workers to their service users with more complex issues. The hub is also processing an application for a new hub volunteer who would make a welcome addition if the increase in requests for food/shopping continues.

# Wetherby In Support of the Elderly

- 11. The hub has continued to cover the Leeds City Council portal to ensure that any referrals from the Council have been dealt with on a speedy turnaround. The work has broadly consisted of supplying food parcels, volunteers for shopping and prescriptions but, also, we have had a number of requests for well-being calls and information/signposting/advice.
- 12. Despite the third lockdown WiSE have not noticed a significant spike in activity which appears to have been fairly consistent since the autumn.
- 13. In addition, the hub has been actively engaged with their partners in the NHS to offer support to the vaccination program, predominantly from Wetherby health centre, and they have also supplied funds for provisions for volunteers taking part in Covid marshalling.
- 14. WiSE has continued to engage with their core demographic in terms of both online support and through activity and gift packs, that they have distributed through volunteers of five of the post.
- 15. WiSE have utilised their social media platforms to ensure that our regular clients, and the broader community, have access to online activities such as line dancing and vocalists who, in normal times, would form part of our activity program.
- 16. In the winter months WiSE ensured that isolated and vulnerable people had access to a warm meal working in conjunction with a little private business person who offered them this facility free of charge.
- 17. To conclude, from the hub's perspective, the work continues to be manageable and they are still in a position to carry forward any activity as deemed necessary during the pandemic to ensure people have access to services, food, prescriptions and to assist with the general health and mental well-being of the people we support.

# **Ward Business**

- 18. Since the last Community Committee on 7 December 2020, ward member meetings are now taking place on a regular basis. Services attending those meetings are; Cleaner Neighbourhood Team, Parks & Countryside; Traffic and Highways Maintenance and the Anti-Social Behaviour Team.
- 19. On 25 February 2021, the first Town and Parish Council Forum of the year took place. The Prevent Community Engagement Officer from the Prevent Team attended to provide Far Right training. Updates were also provided by the Neighbourhood

Policing Team. The next forum meeting is being arranged to take place in the new municipal year.

# **Community Engagement: Social Media**

20. *Appendix 1*, provides information on posts and details recent social media activity for the Outer North East Community Committee Facebook page.

# **Updates from Key Services**

# **Employment and Skills**

# **Universal Credit**

21. The table below shows the revised figures for the number of people claiming Universal Credit in the Outer North East Community Committee area that were unemployed in November 2020 is 1,504. This is an increase of 130% since March 2020 and an increase of 30 on the previous month.

	Universal Credit Claimants (Not in Employment) 16-64yrs						
	March 2020 October 2020 November 2020					per 2020	
	Number*	Rate**	Rate** Number* Rate**			Rate**	
Outer North East	653	1.9%	1,474	4.2%	1,504	4.3%	
Alwoodley	387	2.9%	809	6.1%	823	6.2%	
Harewood	95	0.9%	286	2.8%	294	2.9%	
Wetherby	171	1.5%	379	3.4%	387	3.4%	

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

# **Employment and Skills Services**

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

	Accessing	g Services	Into Work		Improved Skills	
	2020	2019	2020 2019		2020	2019
	(Apr – Dec)	(Apr – Dec)				
Outer North East	267	372	70	113	148	213
Alwoodley	172	246	47	65	102	138
Harewood	58	75	18	36	27	39
Wetherby	37	51	5	12	19	36

23. Due to the ongoing impact of COVID and the temporary closure of face to face services since March 2020, the employment and skills delivery models have been adapted and are continuing through a virtual or remote offer along with email and telephone support. During April to December 2020 8,755 people have accessed the Service, 267 of whom were from Outer North East, a reduction of 28% when compared to the same period last year.

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

24. Across the city the service has supported 2,701 people into work, this reporting year (April – December 2020). 70 residents from the Outer North East have been supported into work, a reduction of 38% when compared to the same period last year. They were supported into work across all sectors with the largest numbers in health and care, food retail, logistics, distribution and transport. Over 258 new businesses were supported to recruit new staff and to provide support for staff facing redundancy. Recruitment continues in the health and care sector as it deals with winter pressures, and in digital roles across all sectors.

# **Leeds Employment Hub**

25. This is a single point of contact for ESIF funded programmes and Jobshops that provides tailored and comprehensive support into employment or education to all unemployed Leeds residents. A team of Employment Advisors deliver the programme by providing one to one support for eligible residents. The Service has been successful in securing an additional £4m ESIF funding to support around 4,000 people in Leeds to improve their skills and significantly increase their prospects of moving into sustained employment. The funding is agreed from January 2021 to December 2023. This project will offer tailored preventative and remedial support to residents who are disadvantaged in the labour market. Delivery will be through the Community Hubs with Employment and Skills managing the contract with DWP

#### **Vaccine Programme**

- 26. The Service has been facilitating the recruitment of the Vaccinating Leeds programme on behalf of Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust, including the recruitment of Admin, Heath Care Assistants and Front of House positions. The first in-take of interviews have been scheduled with roles currently ring-fenced for candidates from the Employment Hub. Interviews have been arranged for over 100 applicants, 72 of whom have passed the interview stage and are awaiting either references and or DBS/right to work checks before undergoing training with NHS.
- 27. Between April December 2020 the service has supported 4,703 people across the city to improve their skills. From the Outer North East, 148 residents have completed a skills, a reduction of 30% when compared to the same period last year. Delivery of the 2020/21 programme commenced in September 2020 with 16 commissioned providers delivering online courses with an increased focused on digital skills and work focused courses. Since the start of the new academic year, September 2020, 490 courses have been advertised on the Leeds Adult Learning website.
- 28. New methods of Adult Learning delivery were supported to include blended learning. This has involved digital delivery through mobile phones, coupled with home learning options, remote delivery, including outdoor learning and the return to face to face learning when restrictions were lifted and delivery spaces will be reworked to ensure they are COVID secure. In addition home learning resource packs have been developed to enable a flexible approach, increasing pastoral support with a particular focus on vulnerable learners and learners who are unable to access online learning.

# **Leeds Apprenticeship Festival**

29. Leeds Apprenticeship Festival (LAF) will take place during National Apprenticeship Week, 8 - 12 February 2021 and will be held virtually for the first time. A dedicated webpage, created by an external organisation ODI, will host the festival. Visitors will be able to watch exhibitor Apprenticeship presentations and videos, contact employers directly, book meet and greet Q&A sessions with exhibitors and receive IAG support. 77 exhibitors have confirmed their attendance. A promotional campaign to advertise and raise awareness of the event commenced 4 January 2021.

# **Levy Match**

30. The Levy Match Leeds was launched on 5 October 2020 to boost Apprenticeship numbers. Supported by a web based platform, the service enables large levy payers to transfer up to 25% of uncommitted funds to small and medium enterprises wishing to support an Apprenticeship. The online brokerage service aims to make this as simple as possible to ensure maximum levy investment is retained and invested locally to create more Apprenticeship opportunities. To date 19 SMEs and 5 Levy Payers have accessed the website and over £100,000 has been committed so far to support Apprenticeships.

#### **Kickstart Scheme**

31. The Kickstart Scheme, part of the Government's Plan for Jobs 2020, launched in September. The Employment and Skills service is now a registered Kickstart Gateway supporting businesses to offer 6 month paid placements for young people aged 16-24 currently on UC and at risk of long-term unemployment. Since the Kickstart Gateway started at the beginning of October 2020, 247 placement opportunities have been submitted to DWP, offered by 62 employers.

# **Subscription Service**

- 32. A new subscription service, "The List", was launched in November 2020 through the Leeds City Council Website. Subscribers to The List receive the service's weekly job vacancies, Apprenticeships and course information. Since December 2020 those registered to receive our emails have increased by 114% to 4,685 and 17,000 emails were delivered.
- 33. For further information please visit: <a href="https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKLEEDS/subscriber/">https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKLEEDS/subscriber/</a>

## **Recruitment Activities**

- 34. The Range, opened a new store at The Springs on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020. Social media promotion took place on the Employment and Skills Facebook page along with matching the vacancies to Employment Hub customers and employees from Leeds Bradford airport who are at risk of redundancy. 96 face to face interviews were held and all 30 vacant positions were successfully recruited to.
- 35. For further information on Employment and Skills services and the support available please visit: <a href="https://employmentskillsleeds.co.uk/">https://employmentskillsleeds.co.uk/</a>

36. For help or advice to find a job, an Apprenticeship, a course or training, please contact: <a href="mailto:esleeds@leeds.gov.uk">esleeds@leeds.gov.uk</a> Telephone: 0113 378 4576

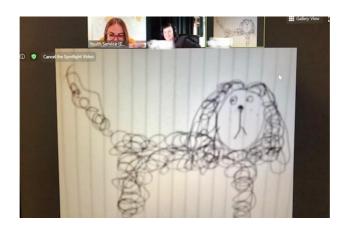
# **Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team**

- 37. The last 12 months have proved difficult for everyone and have affected the service as it has affected others. In this time, the service have had a restructure of staff and they have had to adhere to strict Covid19 rules and regulations. Staff have been off work due to the need to shield and as a result the team have seen an impact in and around, not only in the Parish's within the wards making up the ONE, but across the city. The Senior Team Leader has confirmed that the service are now seeing better days with a full complement of staff working across the ONE wards.
- 38. There have seen issues with bins overflowing in the last 12 months. This is due to increased outdoor activity taking place. The team have noted more people walking in and around the area. With more people comes more waste. To ensure the bins are collected regularly, the Senior Team Leader has worked with the team to create a new bin collection route to ensure that bins across all wards are collected twice a week at a minimum. Some bins need more attention and the team are looking at how they can work this into the routes. Whilst some bins are missed at times due to unforeseen circumstances, the service will ensure to get another collection in place as soon as possible to do so.
- 39. The service have had some successful enforcement activity in recent weeks with multiple fines issued for reported fly tips and other environmental issues. The Enforcement Officer for the area has been hard at work liaising with members of the public and business in the local area to ensure environmental crime in not committed. When a fly tip is reported the officer visits and investigates every job.
- 40. Staffing levels now allow litter picking routes to be undertaken and this should now be happening in the coming weeks. The service are currently looking at how they can safely litter pick high speed roads. The service have noted an increase in reported litter at these locations and will look to get these litter picked in the coming weeks.
- 41. The Senior Team Leader has a list of bin locations that is currently being updated. The team are currently carrying out this audit.
- 42. There is a new Team Leader looking after the wards that make up the Outer North East area. He will be managing the team moving forward. The new Team Leader has a wealth of experience and will bring some great knowledge to the area.
- 43. One of the priorities for the new Team Leader is creating a strong working bond with the new staff. The Team Leader is working with them to build their confidence, in a time when there is a lot of information that they have to retain from day to day.

#### **Youth Service**

# **Ensure the Most Vulnerable Are Protected**

- 44. Over recent months the service's key aim was to ensure Young People felt supported throughout the various ongoing challenges present by lockdowns and subsequent restriction, all provisions were updated to ensure Young People across the wards felt supported and informed with respect to the latest information and guidance. The service continued to see several Young People during this time and through taking the approach of empowerment and education they were able to encourage Young People to return home and stay safe.
- 45. The Youth Work team recognised an increased demand for support and guidance with respect to further education. The team linked in with local partners to identity resources available and agencies who could support with the offer of future learning.

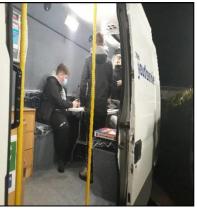


- 46. Planning and consultation with respect to a virtual offer commenced and the team began to deliver Youth Work provision via Zoom. This offered Young People a further opportunity to engage with members of the Youth Team regarding a range of topics and challenges. In addition to this virtual offer, the team continued to offer phone calls and welfare checks to those Young People who were either unable to engage with this provision or were identified as needing additional support.
- 47. The team have also put in place a weekly drop in session (via Zoom) which Young People are able to book on a weekly basis.
- 48. A significant amount of the detached provision delivered over the past quarter has been focused upon engaging Young People with respect to the previous, current, and ongoing impact of the pandemic. To ensure that the team adhered to all aspect of government guidance, they have continually come up with new ways of ensuring Young People are able to engage and receive support, a recent example of this would be having one Young Person (per session), have the option of joining our Youth Work team whilst on Detached.

# Improving social, emotional and mental health wellbeing.

49. During recent months the team were able again to take their mobile Youth Service vans back out and open the doors to Young People in the community. Ensuring the vans were made Covid secure allowed the team to once again engage with Young People in space in which they had previously identified as safe and someone where they would speak with Youth Workers. The team covered various topics including education, wellbeing, substance misuse and sexual health. The return of the mobile vans proved a huge success across all wards.







50. Knowing the festive period was going to be a challenge for many Young People, the team developed the idea of delivery a festive support pack to many of the Young People that they worked with. The below pictures are a snapshot of the creation and delivery of over 100 festive wellbeing packs delivered across the Outer North East. Packs contained a range of supportive information and fun activities for Young People to complete over the festive period. We accepted a number of referrals from local partners to ensure packs were delivered to Young People who needed them the most. The team also placed three 'Golden Tickets' within the bags which meant three Young People received an additional festive gift.



- 51. When engaging with Young People in recent months there was a number of common themes with respect to what Young People missed the most during the periods of lockdown. One of these themes was the desire to return to some form of organised sporting activity. We have therefore prioritised areas in both the Inner and Outer North East to ensure this was delivered as soon as we are able to.
- 52. We have also created a range of outdoor activities ready to roll out once restrictions ease.



# Support young people to make good choices and minimise risk-taking behaviours

53. A priority for the Youth Work Programme in recent months was to ensure Young People were educated and informed with respect to the impact of anti-social behaviour during Halloween, Mischief Night, and Bonfire Night. Whilst this was amended on Bonfire Night (Due to entering the second period of lockdown on 5 November 2000), the team consulted with Young People with respect to diversionary activities they would be keen to engage with.



54. Overwhelming a common answer was the cooking skills and world food sessions that were previously delivered during our centre based provisions. As a result the team responded by delivering a number of outdoor cooking and BBQ sessions, this provided not only a great opportunity to divert Young People from engaging in anti-

- social behaviour but provided the chance to deliver a range of issue based work to encourage and empower Young People to make positive choices and stay safe.
- 55. Following the success of these sessions we have recently applied for further funding from the Housing Advisory Panel to enable to team to roll out these sessions on a sustained weekly basis over the coming months.
- 56. Further to the above the team continued to be represented at regular tasking meetings to ensure the teams are deployed in the areas most in need of support and intervention.

#### **Public Health**

# **Public Health Covid-19 Preventative Work Across the City**

- 57. Leeds City Council Public Health officers, partners, volunteers, the third sector and community's team members continue to door knock and promote key messages in our poorest neighbourhoods and to our most vulnerable citizens across the city.
- 58. The Covid-19 Mobile Testing Unit is a free, walk in and no booking required service. These units come with third sector and volunteer door knocking and leafleting teams to advertise the MTU and how to stay safe during a pandemic.
- 59. Public Health would actively encourage all citizens who display symptoms to go for testing. Where to go for testing: <a href="https://www.leedsccg.nhs.uk/health/coronavirus/coronavirus-where-to-go-for-testing/">https://www.leedsccg.nhs.uk/health/coronavirus/coronavirus-where-to-go-for-testing/</a>

## HANDS FACE SPACE

- 60. New government campaign to prevent the spread of coronavirus indoors this winter; <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-campaign-to-prevent-spread-of-coronavirus-indoors-this-winter">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-campaign-to-prevent-spread-of-coronavirus-indoors-this-winter</a>
- 61. Due to the national lockdown, it is essential citizens are helped to do the right thing and wash their hands regularly, wear an effective face covering and socially distance to help beat the coronavirus epidemic by bringing infections rates down.

# Flu Vaccinations for the Coming Winter

- 62. Flu vaccination is important because:
  - o if you are at a higher risk from coronavirus, you are also more at risk of problems from flu
  - if you get flu and coronavirus at the same time, research shows you are more likely to be seriously ill
  - it will help to reduce pressure on the NHS and social care staff who may be dealing with coronavirus
- 63. If you have had COVID-19, it's safe to have the flu vaccine. It will be effective at helping to prevent flu. More information can be found within the link below; <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine/">https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine/</a>

64. Advice on who should have the flu vaccine can be found on; <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/who-should-have-flu-vaccine/">www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/who-should-have-flu-vaccine/</a>

#### Leeds Anti-Social Behavioural Team

- 65. LASBT continues to work tirelessly to tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour across the committee area. The case officers whose patches include this committee area currently have 12 active cases across the area, however traditionally this is their quietest time of the year.
- 66. Cases are generally issues between residents, though this does include one cannabis farm case which led to a fire in the flat. The service have no hate crime cases and currently no emerging trends. Issues of youth nuisance have reduced in all key locations, save for one key case in Boston Spa which continues to be challenging for all concerned. Some sporadic issues in King Lane Park n Ride persist and where these do occur these are followed up by LASBT and the Police with appropriate warnings using various legislation. The most used being Section 59 Road Traffic Act which enable to vehicle to be seized if the warning is breached.
- 67. As the service move towards spring, the service will be hoping to be more visible in communities and prepare for the natural increase in reporting that comes with better with, more daylight hours etc.

#### Housing

- 68. Approval was given to three projects in December's panel meeting, these were;
  - Village noticeboards at Boston Spa, Bardsey, Aberford, Scholes, Harewood and Thorner. The Tenant Engagement Officer is working with local Parish's to determine best locations.
  - Moortown Brownies Winter/Spring programme
  - Aberford litter pickers equipment
- 69. The current remaining budget is £20,746.45
- 70. Bids in the pipeline that the Tenant Engagement Officer is wanting to table before the end of March;
  - Moss Syke planters for small fruit trees
  - Parking issues in Harewood
  - A community orchard in Moortown West
  - Durrant Close, Wetherby, parking signage (ready to table)
  - Mason House, Wetherby, security lighting and possible new door/gate
  - Hard standing for recycle bins in Lingfield, Alwoodley
  - A tablet lending scheme for ONE for resident, tenant groups and HAP panel members to make use of in virtual meetings and tackling isolation
  - Fir Tree Green, Alwoodley, traffic flow issues. Alwoodley councillors and residents requested something be done at this site in regards to difficult traffic flow, parking

- on and damaging grass verges and using the green as a shortcut. Highways have visited with the Tenant Engagement Officer and have agreed to undertake some of the work out of their budget in the next financial year. This includes road widening and higher curbing. The Tenant Engagement Officer, will write a bid for planters and bollards.
- Circles of Life Women Together have bought three proposals to the ONE HAP panel around Health & Wellbeing. The first proposal is a coffee morning with subjects based around mental health and self-care, cooking, sewing and gardening. The second proposal is to provide households in need to with a two month hygiene pack. This will support families during the pandemic, a time when they are financially insecure. The final proposal is to help community members to overcome isolation via an online and face to face (dependent on current situation), cooking club. Whilst sharing recipes across cultures whilst sharing common concerns (family, education, welfare) as they navigate their way through uncertainty and crisis.
- 71. Any underspend has been approved to carry over into next financial year
- 72. The Tenant Engagement Officer is currently assisting Community Matters Yorkshire in setting up a Wellbeing Champions project in Wetherby.
- 73. The Tenant Engagement Officer is working with Wetherby Councillors in assisting Boston Spa & Wetherby Villages Green Group with their plans to plant an avenue of trees at West End, a couple of community orchards at West End and Deepdale and further planting of native trees in the area.

# **Parks and Countryside**

#### Wetherby

- 74. Deepdale trees planting orchard being progressed with the Parish Council. The playground is now complete. A new arch is due to be installed before Easter with the renaming of the site. Along with interpretation sign for the park.
- 75. Funding secured for the THW improvements work agreed and it is hoped will commence after Easter 2021.

#### Harewood

- 76. Tree planting due to take place at Lower Langwith.
- 77. Ongoing discussions are now in progress regarding the partnership with Keswick Wildlife Trust. This is in regards to the up keep of the area.
- 78. Work is progressing regarding Shadwell play area improvements. Funding from Emmerdale has been secured. Veolia funding is pending final designs.
- 79. It is hoped that British cycling will be able to take this Easter. Discussions are taking place to host an event in Aberford with the Parish Council regarding a pump track or cycle track for Jubilee fields

# **Alwoodley**

- 80. Work to improving King Lane Recreation area to make the site more child friendly/safe. This is due to be completed by the end of March this year.
- 81. A meeting is scheduled to look at Middlethorne POS to improve the site for park users.
- 82. The playground at Wigton Moor High Ash is now complete.

# **Corporate Considerations**

# **Consultation and Engagement**

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

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

84. 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**

- 85. 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**

86. 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

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

# **Risk Management**

88. 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**

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

#### Recommendations

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

# Background documents<sup>1</sup>

91. None.

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<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.







# Outer North East Community Committee & COVID-19 Groups

**FACEBOOK** highlights

8th December 2020 - 1st March 2021

# **Outer North East Community Committee**

Since 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 the Outer North East Community Committee Facebook page has gained: **35 new page 'likes'** (and currently has) **503 followers.** 

This means that this is the *tenth* most popular Community Committee page.

There are two things to note in general:

- 'reach' is the number of people the post was delivered to
- 'engagement' is the number of reactions, comments or shares

Engagement tends to be a better way of gauging if people are interested and have read the posts because they wouldn't have interacted with it otherwise. For example, a post might reach 1,000 people but if they all scroll past and don't read it, the engagement is 0 and it hasn't been an effective way for the Community Committee to communicate.

Having said that, all posts can be read without any further interaction!!

The most popular post since the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 the posting regarding Over-60s stay safe, active and connected:

- has been shared, commented on or liked 3 times
- has reached a total of 346 people

The following below are screenshots of the most popular three posts since the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Alongside it are the figures for how many people were 'reached' and how many people 'engaged' with the post.

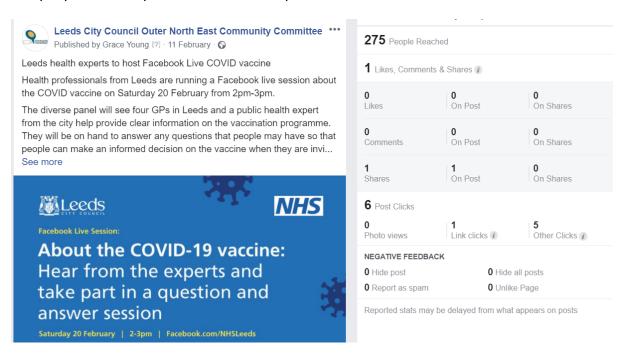
# 1st Place - Over-60s stay safe, active and connected

**346** people had this post delivered to them and it had **3** post clicks, with **3** likes, comments and shares.



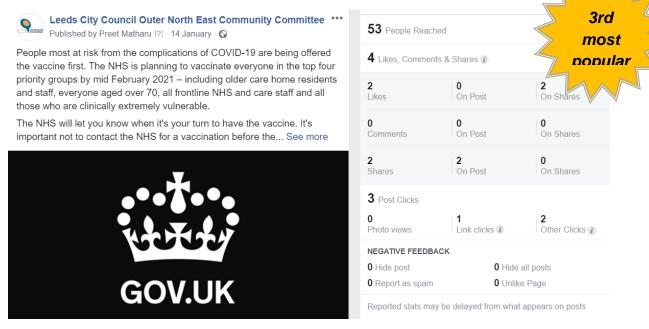
### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – COVID-19 Vaccine Question time

275 people had this post delivered, with 6 post clicks with 1 reactions, comments & shares.



## 3rd Place - Coronavirus Vaccines

**53** people had this post delivered to them. There were **3** post clicks and **4** reactions, comments and shares



# **COVID-19 Facebook Groups**

The Communities Team have set up **33** ward based **Coronavirus Help Facebook Groups** as a way of promoting services, supporting communities and cascading information in an attempt to tackle the Coronavirus pandemic. Key charities, voluntary groups, community groups, Councillors, as well as the wider population in the local community are all invited to join the pages.

As well as key messages from the main Leeds City Council Facebook Page being used to deliver information to each ward, the pages are also there to generate discussion and debate but also hopefully facilitate conversations around being neighbourly during the national pandemic and assist if possible in some of the volunteering efforts.

To date, **Alwoodley** has **43** members, **Harewood** has **87** members and **Wetherby** has **62** members.

The committee is asked to note the specific **Coronavirus Facebook Ward Pages** and are invited to join the pages in an attempt to increase traffic.

- Alwoodley: https://www.facebook.com/groups/681365375954435
- Harewood: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/216974936085436">https://www.facebook.com/groups/216974936085436</a>
- Wetherby: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/234075651062598">https://www.facebook.com/groups/234075651062598</a>

