

## INNER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 6TH SEPTEMBER, 2021

**PRESENT:** Councillor M Shahzad in the Chair

Councillors J Dowson, S Hamilton,  
Z Hussain, L Martin and M Rafique

### 13 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

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

### 14 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

### 15 Late Items

There were no formal late items.

### 16 Declaration of Interests

There were no interests raised at the meeting.

### 17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors J Goddard and E Taylor.

### 18 Open Forum

No matters were raised on this occasion.

### 19 Minutes of the previous meeting - 19 July 2021

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021, be approved as an accurate record.

### 20 Library Service Update

The report of the Chief Officer Community Hubs, Welfare and Business Support provided the Inner North East Community Committee with an overview of the activity of Leeds Libraries during the past 18 months and outlined key priorities for the service as part of the Service Recovery Strategy.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Andrea Ellison, Chief Librarian
- Mark Kirkby, Senior Librarian

The Chief Librarian informed members that the report provided a city-wide overview on changes to the structure of the service and schemes / projects that have taken place during the pandemic such as digital services, as well as an update on the services key priorities over the coming months. Members were informed that a service update on a more local basis will be provided at the Inner North East Community Committee next year.

In response to Member's questions, the following information was highlighted:

- *Education involvement.* The Library Service are looking at revitalising the offer to schools, and the school programme will take shape over the next term with the main focus being reading.
- *Activities across local hubs and libraries.* Members emphasised the need to encourage the use of libraries, and to receive prior information of activities taking place in the local area. It was requested that an update be brought to the next Community Committee meeting on localised activity. Additionally, it was requested that the Localities Officer circulate information and newsletters provided by the Library Service, to members of the Community Committee.
- *Linking with early years development.* It was confirmed that conversations have taken place with the Council's Children and Families sector on locations for activities to take place, with Children Centres being a main focus.
- *Digital exclusions and the offer for residents.* A telephone service and communications channel were set up during the pandemic, to aid those requiring digital support and the focus moving forward looks at managing mental health, learning how to bank safely and how to keep children safe online. Members were also informed of an iPad lending scheme that will be rolled out centrally to enable the public to use for group learning, educational purposes and reading.
- *The impact on the use of services as a result of the pandemic.* It was reported that use of library services nationally has been low. Members were informed that the service aims to build confidence across communities for people to return, and to re-introduce events over time.

(Councillor M Rafique arrived at 18.25)

The Chair thanked officers for their attendance and requested that an update be provided on the location of the Leeds Story Busses and localised activity at the upcoming Community Committee meeting.

**RESOLVED –**

- a) To note the contents of the report and verbal update, along with members comments.
- b) To note the intention to receive an update on services within the Inner North East Committee area, at the meeting to be held in November 2021.

**21 City Plan Engagement**

The Head of Locality Partnerships submitted a report that introduced a verbal update on the development of a City Plan for Leeds in the Inner North East Community Committee Area and an opportunity for input from elected members and residents to feed into the Plan.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Councillor J Dowson, Deputy Executive Member for the Leader's Portfolio
- Mike Eakins, Intelligence and Policy Manager

Councillor Dowson provided some context behind the development of a new City Plan, replacing the Best Council Plan that was launched ten years ago. It was noted that there have been significant changes since the last Plan locally, nationally, and globally. The next steps of the plan were highlighted, in terms focused work with organisations and the consultation process.

The Intelligence and Policy Manager provided members with a presentation that set out key ambitions and drivers which will help shape the new plan, and then sought feedback from Members on their priorities for Leeds and in particular, the Inner North East Community Committee area for the next ten years.

Members discussed priority themes in terms of the biggest issues for the Inner North East Community Committee area. They were relayed as follows:

- *Educational attainment, skills, and good employment.* Members acknowledged that poverty is a deterrent for young people not being able to achieve their goals. Members discussed disparities across the city, and it was felt there was a role to play with key partners such as the universities and public sector organisations to ensure good quality, high paid jobs. Members recognised that training and educating young people in the most deprived areas of the city, are a key issue for Leeds and it was important to ensure children are attending school and are receiving the relevant support by working with partners on training and career options.
- *Transport options, cost effectiveness and reliability.* Members commented that the plan required measures for people to walk, cycle and use public transport by ensuring fares are cost effective and reliable. Members were of the opinion that Leeds would benefit from a publicly controlled transport system and as a starting point, members emphasised that the focus of the plan in terms of transport should be to address increasing routes to ensure residents can access places of work, education, and health facilities by working on existing infrastructure instead of expanding the system.
- *Addressing health inequalities.* Members relayed concerns in terms of statistics regarding the life expectancy gap across wards and emphasised the need to reduce the gap considerably for deprived areas. Members commented on the importance of ensuring homes in the public and private rented sector are up to standard, in order to mitigate health implications faced by children and adults due to housing disrepair.

The Chair suggested that the Localities Officer schedule a session with members, various organisations, the third sector and the public to discuss the plan in more detail, and to understand the inequalities faced by residents of the Inner North East Community Committee area.

**RESOLVED** – To note the contents of the report, together with members comments.

## 22 Inner North East Community Committee - Finance Report

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships provided 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 (CIL) Budget for 2021/22.

The projects set out in the report were discussed, and agreed as follows:

Project Title	Wards	Amount requested	Decision
The Festival of World Music	Chapel Allerton, Moortown and Roundhay	£2,000 (Wellbeing)	Agreed

Members received the following information:

- An update on the Wellbeing Fund. A full breakdown and projects were provided at Table 1 of the submitted report. The total revenue funding available to the Community Committee for 2021/22 is £165,530.17, with a remaining balance of £45,139.20;
- Delegated decisions since the last Community Committee. These were set out at paragraph 22 of the submitted report;
- Declined projects since the last Community Committee. Money Buddies was declined due to the additional information requested not meeting the requirements;
- An update on the Youth Activities Fund. The remaining balance for 2021/22 is £46,368.01;
- A breakdown of the Ward Pots 2021/22 as outlined in Table 3 of the submitted report;
- The Capital Budget for 2021/22 and an update on the remaining balance being £20,348.00;
- The Community Infrastructure Levy Budget 2021/22 allocation broken down by ward and as summarised in Table 5 of the submitted report. Members were informed an injection figure was expected and will increase the overall figure for this budget.

Members discussed the following matters:

- Clarity on the spending requirements for the Community Infrastructure Levy. It was agreed that the Localities Officer will circulate guidance to members.

- Revised deadlines for Youth Activity Fund applications and the cut off point for receiving applications will now be January / February, with projects starting in April.

**RESOLVED** – To note and approve:

- a) The project as outlined above
- b) Details of the Wellbeing Budget position (Table 1)
- c) Details of projects approved via Delegated Decision
- d) Details of the Youth Activities Fund (Table 2)
- e) Details of Skips & Ward Pots (Table 3)
- f) Details of the Capital Budget (Table 4)
- g) Details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (Table 5)

## **23 Inner North East Community Committee - Update Report**

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships provided the Community Committee with an update of the work which the Communities Team was engaged in, based on priorities identified by the Community Committee. It also provided an opportunity for further questioning, or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

Members highlighted key activities undertaken in terms of their role as Community Committee Champions, for their respective areas as set out in the submitted report.

Members' attention was also drawn to the following points in the submitted report:

- The focus of the Leeds vaccination programme;
- The Mandela Centre remaining a Covid-19 testing site, with an alternative site being considered;
- The INE HAP budget as set out at paragraph 57 of the submitted report;
- The work on the extension at the BAME Health and Wellbeing Hub and the refurbishment of the Hill Top Playground off Beckhill Grove.

Members requested and it was agreed that an update on the following information be provided to members:

- The total number of Universal Credit claimants in employment;
- Whether there are any plans for Leeds Teaching Hospitals to recruit local people in the Inner North East Community Committee area.

**RESOLVED** – To note the contents of the report and to receive the information as outlined above.

## **24 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED** – To note the date and time of the next meeting as Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021, at 6 pm.

(The meeting concluded at 20:15)

