



Report of: Head of Locality Partnerships

Report to: Outer East Community Committee

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

**Kippax & Methley, Temple Newsam** 

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

## **Purpose of report**

- 1. To bring to members' attention an update of the work which the Communities Team is engaged in, based on priorities identified by the Community Committee. It also provides opportunities for further questioning, or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.
- 2. This report 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

## 3. Children and Families: Champion – Cllr H Hayden

A Children's and Families meeting has been arranged to discuss the Youth Summit for 21/22 to set a theme, date, and ward this will be delivered in for young people. The physical expectations of this event were taken to the Community Committee Chairs Forum on the 7<sup>th</sup> September to discuss with the Chairs.

The Intelligence and Policy team working on the City Plan also will also be involved .The summits are an opportunity for young people to engage with each committee on their priorities for budget spend in relation to the Youth Activity Fund (a delegated budget that is given to each committee).

Youth Summits provide an excellent platform to consult with many young people in each respective committee event/area.

## **Environment & Community Safety: Champion - CIIr P Grahame**

## 4. Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT)

### **Cross Gates & Whinmoor**

The hot spot area for Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour (LASBT) within the Outer East is the Swarcliffe area. The team are working with partners to continue tackling Youth Anti- Social Behaviour. LASBT Case Officers are working with Local Councillors, Housing, local residents, West Yorkshire Police & Youth Services staff to identify those involved in the issues so the necessary action can be taken whilst also looking at what diversionary activities may be available to reduce further issues.

#### **Garforth & Swillington**

There are no specific trends with the cases that are active, no youth nuisance is reported to LASBT in this area.

#### **Kippax & Methley**

There are currently 10 cases within the Kippax & Methley ward area. The cases relate mainly to noise from private property.

## **Temple Newsam**

In the Temple Newsam ward the team have been working with West Yorkshire Police, Housing and Partners to target known individuals who were causing anti-social behaviour in the local area. Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT) also obtained a part-closure on a property which was attracting youths and was a focal point for a violent incident. The team has applied for an Injunction against a tenant for a large quantity of drugs found. There are on-going tenancy action issues against individuals in the area for serious crime/drug offences.

## **Halton Moor**

## 5. Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership

The first meeting of the Halton Moor Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership (NIP) took place on 19th May 2021. The NIP brings together key partners (statutory, voluntary and private) to develop local initiatives and projects for the area.

The key aims and objectives are:

To improve the lives of people living in the Halton Moor area.

To raise the profile of the issues affecting communities in Halton Moor.

To oversee the neighbourhood improvement work programme for Halton Moor that is responsive to the needs and aspirations of local communities.

To provide strategic leadership for a broad range of locality partners in relation to addressing the key challenges facing communities in Halton Moor.

Partners provided updates on their current role within the area. There were discussions regarding how partners could support planned works in the area such as the development of the local greenspaces. It was also agreed to look at how more links could be made to the Local Care Partnership for the area.

The local businesses at Logic Park are also keen to support projects within Halton Moor. Although separate meetings have taken place with the businesses, it was agreed that it would be useful for them to be part of the NIP meetings

An action plan will be formed to capture the work and progress in the area.

The NIP will meet quarterly, and regular updates will be provided to the Outer East Community Committee

## **Cleaner Neighbourhoods**

## 6. Cross Gates & Whinmoor,

Since the last meeting in February, the staff have returned to full time hours. The team will focus on day to day street cleansing issues eg, emptying litter bins, litter picking, clearing fly tips, civic bulk collection and enforcement.

A road sweeper has been working within the wards, this will be a permanent schedule moving forward.

Due to the lockdown and furlough scheme residents have carried out renovation work which has increased fly tipping. To address this issue, the service will be putting together a Serious Environmental Crime Team and also Enforcement officers dedicated to dealing with these issues.

## 7. Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley

The effect of Covid 19 continues to have, a huge impact on how the service operates. The team are also carrying several vacancies these should be filled within the near future. With all this, a lot of changes have been made that impact on the efficiency and service delivery.

The enforcement team are dealing with waste in gardens, fly tipping, overgrown vegetation and noxious waste in gardens as well as nuisance and vermin complaints.

Bulky refuse collections are still available, at a new cost of £30 per collection of 5 items. To access this service please do so by visiting- <a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/bins-and-recycling/get-rid-of-unwanted-items">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/bins-and-recycling/get-rid-of-unwanted-items</a> or by telephoning the contact centre on 0113 2224406.

In the coming months, the team are welcoming 'Recycle On The Go' bins to Garforth Main Street. There will be 5 yellow bins located at various points on Main Street these are for cans and plastic bottles. There will also be an additional orange bin for coffee cups. The aim is to improve recycling in these areas and help the environment.

Staggered shift start times are no longer being practiced. The street crews who work on a shift pattern are now back working 06.00-16.30 hours.

The team continue to work exceptionally hard in difficult circumstances to deliver essential street cleansing services in the area.

## 8. Temple Newsam

There are currently staff shortages in the team. Work is being prioritised to basic street cleansing. Requests for extra work such as ginnel cutbacks are taking much longer to complete than usual.

The teams are now smaller to cover a specific part of the ward. The service has a designated path-sweeper Monday - Friday to cover Temple Newsam, Seacroft and Gipton. There is also a road sweeper covering Temple Newsam, Seacroft and Gipton 35 hours per week. Refuse is struggling with staffing levels which is having an impact on the Cleaner Neighbourhoods team currently.

The team are dealing with an ongoing issue with garden clearance at some cottages in Colton. Residents are complying and making progress.

Overgrown vegetation next Temple Moor School is currently being looked into.

The team has liaised with street wardens and are planning on utilising their services to link in with enforcement.

Meetings are planned with the team, to tackle and approach environmental crime. This cohesive approach will have a positive impact on the area. The team will also be reintroducing fly tipping with hazardous waste tape and stickers which will highlight that the items are under investigation.

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

### 9. Universal Credit

The table below shows the revised figures for the number of people claiming Universal Credit in the Outer East Community Committee area that were unemployed in May 2021 is 3,663. This is an increase of 95% since March 2020, a decrease of 106 on the previous month. The increase in claimants is reflective across all wards due to the impact of COVID.

The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (furlough) will cease at the end of September, and there is an expectation that a number of people will be made redundant which could subsequently increase claimants to Universal Credit.

	Universal Credit Claimants (Not in Employment) 16-64yrs							
	March 2020		April 2021		May 2021			
	Number*	Rate**	Number*	Rate**	Number*	Rate**		
Leeds	23,618	4.6%	47,061	9.1%	46,061	8.9%		
Outer East	1,882	3.7%	3,769	7.4%	3,663	7.2%		
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	645	4.7%	1,225	9.0%	1,189	8.7%		
Garforth & Swillington	234	2.0%	534	4.6%	517	4.5%		
Kippax & Methley	354	2.8%	766	6.0%	755	5.9%		
Temple Newsam	649	5.1%	1,244	9.7%	1,202	9.4%		

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

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

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

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

	Accessing Services		Into Work		Improved Skills	
	2020/21 (Apr – Mar)	2019/20 (Apr – Mar)	2020/21 (Apr – Mar)	2019/20 (Apr – Mar)	2020/21 (Apr – Mar)	2019/20 (Apr – Mar)
Outer East	636	1,071	219	429	300	463
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	242	410	100	155	98	162
Garforth & Swillington	100	143	34	76	57	62
Kippax & Methley	90	91	24	34	41	35
Temple Newsam	204	427	61	164	104	204

COVID has had considerable impact since March 2020, with closures of face to face services, the employment and skills delivery models were adapted and continued through a virtual or remote offer along with email and telephone support. During April 2020 – March 2021 1,071 people accessed the Service, 636 of whom were from the Outer East, a reduction of 41% when compared to the same period last year.

Across the city the service has supported 3,413 people into work, (April 2020 – March 2021), 219 were residents from the Outer East, a reduction of 49% when compared to the same period last year. Customers were supported into work across all sectors with the largest numbers in health and care, food retail, logistics, distribution, and transport.

#### **Leeds Employment Hub**

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

The Service continues to be successful in securing ESIF funding that will now be in place until December 2023, supporting around 3,500 people per year in Leeds to improve their skills and significantly increase their prospects of moving into sustained employment. The service and its partners will be spending in the region of £2.7m in this financial year on the delivery of employment support programmes.

A further ESIF bid to support 15-24 year old Leeds residents has been submitted and the service expects to hear by the end of August 2021 if successful. This will replace two existing programmes that are due to finish at the end of December 2021.

ESIF programmes are predominantly focused on residents who are not employed. The service has therefore sought to gain funding for residents that are ineligible for ESIF programmes, supporting underemployed residents in low paid, low skilled jobs as well as those at risk of redundancy. Residents at risk of being redundant will be offered support beyond the limited statutory minimum offered by DWP and National Careers Service and residents seen as underemployed will be able to access services and support that to now have not been offered through ESIF and other mainstream support.

All Jobshops are now fully open, 5 days a week for face to face appointments which includes Seacroft and City Centre Community Hubs. The Garforth and Kippax Community Hubs have opened one day per week on Thursdays as a trial for 6 weeks starting on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021.

Due to COVID the annual Leeds Next Steps event will not take place face to face this summer. The <u>event usually</u> held the day <u>after GCSE results day, where young people can</u> talk to local colleges and

providers, get information and advice about post- 16 learning opportunities, individual courses, apprenticeships, and traineeships will be available on-line. Information from a wide range of schools, colleges and other providers will be available via the 'Start in Leeds' website.

Between April 2020 – March 2021 3,971 customers accessed Leeds Employment Hub including Jobshops, 2,047 customers were supported into work and 292 were supported into training or further education. From the Outer East, 249 customers accessed Leeds Employment Hub including Jobshops, 112 customers were supported into work and 22 were supported into training or further education.

## **Leeds Learning Hub**

The service delivers and commissions adult learning (post 19) with courses designed to help adults take their first steps or re-engage with learning before progressing to accredited learning within community settings. This provision is targeted to the 20% most deprived SOAs with a focus on Priority Neighbourhoods. Our programme includes Family English, Maths and Language (FEML) provision designed for parents (or other carers of children) with English and Maths needs or is for families where English is not the primary language. Often these courses are linked to schools or Children's Centres.

Over the last 12 months, new methods of delivery were developed to ensure learners could continue to access our courses. This included blended learning e.g. digital delivery through mobile phones coupled with home learning options, remote delivery options including outdoor learning, and the return to face to face learning when restrictions permitted with reworked COVID secure delivery spaces. The service also developed home learning resource packs to increase pastoral support, with a particular focus on vulnerable learners and those unable to access online programmes.

Between April 2020 – March 2021 the service has supported 4,857 people across the city to improve their skills. From the Outer East, 300 residents have completed a skills course, a reduction of 53% when compared to the same period last year.

#### **Employer Support**

Over the last 15 months the Service has engaged with 384 businesses (33 large and 351 SMEs). The highest number of engagements have been within construction, health and social care, IT, and digital and professional services sectors.

## **Vaccinating Leeds Programme**

The Service supported, in partnership with the Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust, the recruitment of Admin, Heath Care Assistants and Front of House positions for the Vaccinating Leeds programme. 90 Leeds Employment Hub customers successfully passed the recruitment process, including HR checks and an initial training programme, 24 customers commenced work with the NHS in March 2021, the other customers were invited to join the talent pipeline to be put forward for other opportunities.

#### **Kickstart**

Part of the Government's Plan for Jobs 2020 launched in September. Employment and Skills is continuing to act as a "Kickstart Gateway", to help provide placements for young people who are currently on Universal Credit and at risk of long-term unemployment. The programme provides funding to employers to offer 6 month placements for eligible businesses. Since January 2021, 391 placements have been approved with 140 placements filled.

#### **Retail and Hospitality Sector**

Developing a programme with employers, Leeds City College and The Engine Room, to provide taster sessions and upskilling support for participants in order to allow them to access opportunities in the sector. The initial programme is set to be delivered in September 2021, with a one week programme covering key skills in hospitality.

#### **Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust (LTHT)**

Working in partnership with LTHT to support the recruitment of a large number of Apprentice Clinical Support Workers and Apprentice Facilities Technicians roles within LTHT. Virtual information sessions to explain the role and application process are being delivered from September. Support arrangements are in place through the Leeds Employment Hub and targeted local promotion is being arranged.

#### **Future Talent Leeds**

The Future Talent Leeds conversation was launched on the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021, aimed to hear the thoughts of as many people as possible to help shape the Future Talent Plan for Leeds. Recognising the jobs, skills and business landscape in the city has altered dramatically in recent years with changes to national government policy, the extra powers we have achieved through devolution, Brexit and Covid-19, we now need a skills and talent plan that is agile and works to support people and businesses across Leeds to thrive in the face of change.

The conversation will take place in two phases, with the first now live online at <u>Future Talent Leeds</u> running until Tuesday 28 September. The responses will then be analysed to shape a second phase of dialogue starting in November, with the final findings and recommendations to be fed into the Future Talent Plan.

### 10. Health and Wellbeing & Adult Social Care: Champion - Cllr P Grahame

#### Covid-19

As you will be aware infection rates have been high during the summer months within many wards across the city, especially those with a younger demographic within their ward. The situation is dynamic and will likely change again as we move towards the winter months. As the Leeds vaccination programme moves at pace and we move down the age groups infections have become concentrated in the 18-24-year olds and below. The response of the NHS, Leeds City Council and Third Sector partners has been rapid and ongoing since the start of the pandemic with some vaccination centres offering different sites for different age groups, for example one for 40 and above and then another site for 18 and above. Additional mobile testing centres have also been set up with women's only vaccination clinics being made available in some areas of the city to encourage uptake. In addition to this, young people in the hospitality industry, night-time economy, family owned and run food businesses, general food retail, universities, schools, colleges, and further education venues have been targeted via campaigns and social media to take up the vaccination offer. This work continues by the NHS, CCG, LCC Public Health, volunteers and third sector partners.

#### **Leeds City Council Contract Tracing Service**

The outreach component of this service is delivered through our trusted commissioned third sector partners many of who have worked in their communities and geographical areas for over 25 years. This service has over a 46% success record. It helps local residents track contacts they may have had if they test positive and offers isolation advice and help. The service is highly flexible and is proving a strong model for work of this nature.

<u>Key messages</u>: As we enter a new phase of living with the virus, with very few restrictions in place, here are some updated key messages that capture the national messages combined with local messaging from our Director of Public Health.

- Thank you to everyone who has done their bit taking up the extra testing and getting the COVID vaccine here in Leeds.
- Covid-19 continues to be a feature of our lives, so this last step on the roadmap is around learning to live with it and manage the risk to ourselves and others.
- Rates of Covid infection are high and continue to rise therefore we should continue to be cautious, help to reduce the risk of spread and protect people at highest risk of serious illness.

- You no longer have to wear a mask or social distance by law <u>but the advice is to continue to wear</u>
  a mask in enclosed and crowded spaces such as <u>public transport</u>. Some organisations, e.g.
  health and social care, will ask you to wear a mask.
- You no longer need to work from home but the recommendation is for a gradual return over the summer
- To keep yourself and others safe, try and limit the contact you have with people you do not usually live with, including keeping the number of people and the time you spend with them low, and not getting too close to them.
- Where possible, meet outdoors and let fresh air into homes and other enclosed spaces.
- Many people will be excited about the return to the way things were before Covid, whilst others, including those more vulnerable, maybe more cautious. Think of others when making your own decisions about when to wear a mask and social distance.
- Please get both doses of the vaccine when called to make sure you have the highest level of protection.

It is also really important that we all continue to reduce the risk of spread by washing hands, getting tested if you have symptoms, and isolate if advised to do so.

## **#TogetherLeeds #LivingwithCovid**

Please note rules on self-isolating and those citizens who have been double vaccinated have been changed by the government.

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/self-isolation-to-be-eased-for-fully-vaccinated-adults-in-step-4

#### **Winter Grants**

The 2021 round of Winter Grants were launched with Leeds Community Foundation during August. This programme aims to fund projects supporting vulnerable people who are most at risk of becoming unwell over winter due to cold and severe weather.

Grants are available from £500 to £5000 and the deadline for applications was 12 noon on 3rd September 2021. A further update will be given once the grants have been awarded.

Please see the link below for more details:

Open Grants | Leeds Community Foundation (leedscf.org.uk)

#### **Big Leeds Chat**

The Big Leeds Chat is back. The 'one health and care system' listening event is an opportunity to hear first-hand what matters to local people and what they need to live a healthier life.

This year, instead of hosting one big BLC event in Leeds City Centre, there will be a focus on hosting smaller events in different communities across the city and with priority populations. Events will take place over September and October – the first event is taking place on 4<sup>th</sup> September.

If you would like to take part in one of these events this year, please email <u>blcontour2021@gmail.com</u> and a member of the Big Leeds Chat Team will keep you updated with the dates and venues of chats so that you can choose the one that is best for you.

#### Housing

#### 11. Halton Moor and Swarcliffe

#### **Voids Levels (empty properties)**

The change in management areas of the Lettings Team (Swarcliffe, Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe will be managed by one Lettings Team Leader and Housing Assistants. Garforth and Kippax, with the addition of Rothwell will be managed by another Lettings Team Leader and Housing Assistants) is now embedded. This is permitting the Lettings team to make headway into reducing the number of outstanding Ready to Lets in Swarcliffe and Halton Moor via increased proactive working, such as pre-allocation of properties at notice stage.

Demand for properties remains high, especially for houses. The service is still experiencing some local challenges in Halton Moor as prospective applicants are put off by the negative media profile of Halton Moor. However, changes have been put in place and discussions with applicants to reflect the improved situation in Halton Moor and thus the reduced risk of

Anti-Social Behaviour and crime. Referrals continue to be made to the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and Police colleagues for any issues and fly-tipping is now being reported consistently to Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team for investigation and action.

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

Swarcliffe/Whinmoor – 28 Halton Moor/Osmondthorpe – 58 Total - 86

## **Income Collection**

Swarcliffe achieved 96.24%, in rent collection. This was in comparison to 94.88% at the time last year, an improvement of 1.36%. These performance improvements are in the context of staff vacancies, which are now being recruited to.

Halton Moor achieved 95.27% which is an improvement of 2.59% from the previous year. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to the hard work of the team.

Both teams have achieved significant rent collection improvements, maximising the income that Housing Leeds has and thus ensures the service is sustainable and well-funded going forward. These improvements are despite the impacts of Covid-19 and the reduction to tenants' incomes.

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

Referrals to Leeds Credit Union continue to be made for tenants who would benefit from budgeting accounts, with the Housing Officer working with support agencies to ensure tenants receive advice on how they can maximise their incomes. Challenges going forward are the ending of furlough and the impact of the Universal Credit reduction.

### **Annual Tenancy Check-in**

The new Annual Tenancy Check In programme was launched on the 7<sup>th</sup> June which differs significantly from the previous annual home visit programme. Contact with tenants is being undertaken in line with four separate priorities, which were determined by support needs or similar factors of the tenants. Priority visits have begun, which are for the tenants with the highest need. Visits are scheduled for tenants with less support. Telephone contacts are also underway, and a pilot has been undertaken for on-line self-check ins: the results of these are being evaluated centrally.

Performance updates are detailed from last month below:

Swarcliffe / Whinmoor

Priority Visits = 11% completed Telephone Contacts = 2.99% completed

Halton Moor / Osmandthorpe

## **Environmental Actions Swarcliffe Team**

The team have completed Environmental Walkabouts for second quarter and the feedback has been positive, with estates being in good condition. There have been some messy gardens that are being tackled by Housing Officers and some issues with overgrown hedges have been picked up. The service has been resolving overgrown vegetation by arranging for a cut back into specification for it to be added to our Grass Maintenance contract. Once back on contract it will be maintained and won't require future one-off cutbacks, creating a value for money and most efficient resolution. As the grass cutting season approaches, Housing Officers will continue to pick up on estate and environmental issues as part of their day to day activities.

Housing Officers are fully remobilised and regularly out on the estates. Accordingly, there is increased scope for proactive and reactive inspections on gardens and the estates.

An outcome that was picked up from the Bonfire Strategy Meeting, Housing Officers would carry out a weekly drive around their estates to pick up on any fly tips or areas of concern sooner and feed this information to Cleaner Neighbourhood Teams for a rapid response.

## **Environmental Actions Halton Moor Team**

Environmental Estate walkabouts have been undertaken for the second quarter with some issues noted especially in the Halton Moor area. Housing Officers are proactively patrolling the estates to locate and take action on messy gardens. Officers are referring fly tipping in voids for rapid clearance to prevent large amounts being fly tipping which are detrimental to the area and present a fire risk to the properties. Fly-tipping is being referred to Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team to identify the perpetrators and take action against this criminal behaviour.

The team have also been inspecting the new builds in the Neville's. Whilst the messy garden policies are the same as older properties, the expectation that new builds are maintained by the tenants to a high standard has been discussed with the officers.

The Green Guardians project continues in this area, work is being undertaken every Friday in the area to complete all gardens. The scheme is funded until the end of September, with some scope to mop up in early October.

Again the outcome that was picked up from the Bonfire Strategy Meeting, Housing Officers would carry out a weekly drive around their estates to pick up on any fly tips or areas of concern sooner and feed this information to Cleaner Neighbourhood Teams for a rapid response.

## 12. Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley

## **Voids Levels (empty properties)**

The change in personnel and team has been successful to the team and is continuing to improve, reducing the number of ready to let properties lover the last few months.

The team are still experiencing higher numbers of ready to let than we usually operate to and these have been predominantly within our Retirement Life schemes, with all current ready to lets being Retirement Life properties. Family type housing remains high in demand, attracting large shortlists and we've not experienced any issues with letting these.

New initiatives are being worked on to help create interest for Retirement Life schemes and promotion of available properties. The service has created fast track adverts and promoted these to Leeds Housing Options and Customer Service teams to refer in suitable customers that would benefit from the accommodation. There has been a positive initial response. Social media will be utilised to create awareness of the schemes and will work with existing tenant's under occupying family properties in the local area to support downsizing.

The emergency lettings panel continues to operate on a citywide basis creating some positive move on options into Housing Leeds accommodation to free up temporary and supported accommodation to those in need.

### **Income Collection**

There are no figures for performance at the moment due to a recent change in software and a new computer operating system.

The team has experienced a small increase in arrears the cause for this has been tenants impacted by furlough, redundancy, Covid related sickness and those that are self-employed not achieving the same the level of income. The team are working with our tenants to maximise their income and any support they need and have achieved this by referring through to Benefit Advisors, assisting with Discretionary Housing Payments in acute cases and involving third party support agencies.

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

## **Annual Tenancy Check-in**

The new Annual Tenancy Check In programme was launched on the 7<sup>th</sup> June and is being monitored in the team.

## **Environmental Actions Garforth and Kippax office**

The team has completed the Environmental Walkabouts for the first quarter. The feedback has mainly been positive, with estates being in good condition. There have been some messy gardens that are being tackled by Housing Officers and some issues with overgrown hedges have been picked up. Housing Officers have also been resolving overgrown vegetation by arranging for a cut back into specification and to be added to the Grass Maintenance contract. On contract it will be maintained and will not require future one off cutbacks, creating a value for money and most efficient resolution.

## 13. Housing Advisory Panel (HAP)

The current budget Available is £38.049.74 Next Meeting due to take place 9<sup>th</sup> September

## **Tenant Engagement Overview**

**Your Voice Leeds** - Tenant Engagement Team are currently using a new online engagement tool see link here <u>Your Voice Leeds</u> Its currently piloting a number of schemes to engage with customers and obtain their views but is anticipated it will develop and grow and we can showcase further areas of work. Please do feel free to look at the site and register.

## **Cross Gates & Whinmoor Ward**

Swarcliffe Wombles – Received £500 HAP grant to purchase equipment for litter picking Sherburn Court – HAP agreed to fund outdoor furniture and raised planters to communal area White Laithe Garth – Currently a HAP scheme under consultation to install gates in and around this complex

Whinmoor Tenants and Residents Association – New group just finalising their constitution to become an official TARA was previously known as Whinmoor past and present.

## **Garforth & Swillington Ward**

**Halliday Court** – Ward Members have funded the cost of fencing and replacing benches at the front of the centre- work underway.

**Oak Grove** – Agreement received from Housing Leeds for incredible Edible to house a storage container on site to increase use of the wildlife area.

#### **Kippax & Methley Ward**

**Kippax Dementia Garden** – Funding in place and work due to commence on land close to Mount Pleasant

**Allerton Bywater** – Met with Parish Council to explore creating a community allotment rear of Housing Leeds bungalows on Leeds Road.

**Micklefield Green Group** – Looking to carry out consultation with residents on piece of land close to railway station maybe have planters/benches/veg patches etc. Still awaiting any formal information on this from the group

## **Temple Newsam Ward**

**Green Guardian Scheme –** 31 Gardens referred so far 16 completed. Team currently work in Halton Moor/Nevilles & Wykebecks on a Friday completing referrals. Scheme funded until end September **Lakeland Court** – HAP bid has come in to carry out some environmental improvements around the block

**Lakeland Court** – Interested in resuming the weekly coffee afternoon/bingo sessions with residents **Ullswater Crescent/Firbank Grove** – Installation of knee rail fencing at ASB hotspot to prevent car repairs highlighted in tasking awaiting start date

Field End – Work completed to improve communal seating area funded by HAP.

#### **Youth Services**

### 14. Cross Gates & Whinmoor & Temple Newsam

## **Cross Gates & Whinmoor Ward**

Youth Workers have recently worked with Yorkshire Housing to complete the Allotment Area at Swarcliffe Community Centre and young people have now engaged in planting vegetables and herbs, taking ownership and responsibility of the raised beds, tending to them each week during the Youth Matters sessions.

Yorkshire Housing will also be delivering fruit trees for planting in the area.

Swarcliffe Community Centre has now re opened and youth workers are able to run sessions again, the numbers are still limited to 30 young people per session and youth workers try to ensure that

young people attending each session are different therefore allowing more young people to benefit from the youth club sessions. The young people and parents/carers are delighted that there are positive activities to engage in once again.

Young people have been involved in various activities during sessions including:

Designing posters highlighting awareness knife crime.

Planting seeds and fruit trees and maintaining the allotment

Promoting water safety

Involved in Candidate Interview panels

August 9<sup>th</sup> was Swarcliffe Activity Day which was attended by approximately 500 local residents and young people. Residents also had stalls selling cakes and plants. Councillor Grahame and Councillor Lennox were in attendance and had the opportunity to meet the wider team who had been drafted in to support the day.

#### Summer Programme

Young people were consulted on what trips and activities they would like to take part and the consultations were carried out by the Youth Matters Group.

Trips included:

Flamingo Land

Blackpool Pleasure Beach

Go Karting

**Quad Biking** 

Clip n Climb

Youth Workers and

Councillor Grahame provided MICE money to fund Leeds Utd KICKS Foundation to provide ten football sessions for young people in the ward which run on a Tuesday evening.

Youth Workers have been working with young people to address issues around Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team and have shared any relevant information with our partner agencies.

## **Temple Newsam Ward**

Youth Service have recruited a new group of young people to attend the Violence Reduction Programme (VRP). The group consists of five young people both male and female, two of whom have been recruited from the KICKS Programme.

The core sessions focus on issue-based programmes aligned to behaviour, responsibilities, and consequences of their actions. Youth Work staff deliver programmes that challenge actions / attitudes and address unacceptable behaviour in the area. Weekly sessions will address issues associated with crime including Anti-Social Behaviour, Weapons/Knife Crime, substance use & misuse, good citizenship.

Youth Workers have been engaging young people in and around the Temple Newsam Ward whilst also promoting the summer programme. Discussions with young people have focused around Anti-Social Behaviour, Not in education, employment and training (NEET) Mental health and wellbeing.

Youth Workers have also throughout the summer months promoted water safety.

Youth Workers during the June/July period spent time consulting with young people on what trips and activities they would like for the summer programme with funding received from Councillors and Community Committee. In the ward there was a fantastic uptake for the trips and activities with parents also contacting youth workers to book their young people onto as well as the regular young people we work with.

All the trips during the month of August were enjoyed by the young people and the feedback from young people and parents/carers was very positive. Particularly poignant given that last years

programmes had to be cancelled due to COVID – it was a pleasure to be able to take young people on the trips and witness them enjoying their leisure time and engagement on the various activities. Some of the trips included:

Blackpool Pleasure Beach Flamingo land Go Karting Quad Biking Clip n Climb

Paintballing

On August the 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Service held an activity day on Corpus Field in Halton Moor. Partner agencies included: Police/Army/RAF and local residents held stalls, and this was very popular amongst approximately 500 local residents attending. Councillor Coupar, Councillor Sharpe and Councillor Hayden attended, and it was a positive opportunity for the extended team who had been brought in from other areas to support the day to have the opportunity to meet the Councillors.

#### **KICKS**

The KICKS programme is still attended by Youth Workers who manage any behavioural issues and encouraging young people to engage positively in the programme. The number of young people engaging in the sports programme is positive particularly the younger sessions where numbers are rising. Youth Workers during detached sessions promote the KICKS Programme in and around the ward.

Youth Workers with again be consulting young people re the October half term trips and activities.

## 15. Garforth & Swillington / Kippax & Methley

The decision-making group Young People My Group ("YPmyG") were consulted on the summer school holiday activities/trips for the wards. They decided on the final programme with theme park trips being the most wanted trip out.

The summer school holiday programme was offered to all young people in the wards. The trips included visits to Alton Towers, Flamingo Land, York Maze, Go Ape, Laser zone and Carlton Lodge Activity Centre in Thirsk. The trips were a great success with waiting lists for all trips as the places were filled very quickly. A large number of young people not known to the Youth Service accessed the trips. These young people are now aware of what the Youth Service offers at our evening provisions. We are hoping to see new attendees from September.

The team have worked in partnership with Royal Society for Protection of Birds at St Aidan's to offer small groups of young people the opportunity of evening "bat spotting walks" at the site. This is an ongoing partnership with the Community Engagement Officer. More sessions are planned to enable young people to use the site in a safe manner, while learning about the environment and the wildlife that live there. The outcome is the young people respect the site in the future and Anti-Social Behaviour reduces.

All building-based provision reopened along with mobile provisions. All existing weekly sessions resumed with young people keen to get back to "normal" sessions again.

Youth Workers continued to deliver weekly detached work throughout the summer in both wards. The teams worked weekly in "hot spots" around the wards.

These hot spots were identified via complaints from residents and intelligence from the Police and Ward Councillors. We spoke to young people about their actions and the consequences for them and the surrounding community. We offered them positive alternatives such as our mobile provision sessions and our trips out.

The main areas targeted were St Aidan's nature park, Garforth Glebelands & Barley hill Park, Swillington playground, Swillington organic farm, Micklefield Recreation grounds, Allerton Bywater skatepark and The Lines in Allerton Bywater & Kippax.

The c-card pick up service for young people is still available who were already registered to collect free condoms.

Young people are encouraged to like and follow the Youth Service Facebook/Instagram/Twitter pages so they can access all the information regarding the summer programme of trips and activity days.

### 16. Temple Newsam Community Partnership

Temple Newsam Community Partnership delivered 100 Wellbeing activity packs to the young people during the Summer.

## **Community Engagement: Social Media**

- 17. Appendix 1 Social Media Report provides the Committee with information on posts, and details recent social media activity for the Outer East Community Committee Facebook page, along with the four-ward based Coronavirus Facebook help pages for the areas.
- **18.** The report highlights key themes promoted through social media posts, as well as topics addressed relevant to the period of time.
- 19. The report covers from the 1 July 21 2 September 21.

#### **Corporate Considerations**

#### **Consultation and Engagement**

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

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

**21.** 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**

- **22.** 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**

**23.** 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

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

## **Risk Management**

**25.** 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**

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

### Recommendations

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

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

**28.** 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.