

**Report of:** Head of Locality Partnerships

**Report to:** Outer North East Community Committee  
(Alwoodley, Harewood and Wetherby)

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**Date:** 12 December 2022

For decision and consideration

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

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### **Purpose of report**

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

### **Main issues**

### **Updates by theme**

#### **Environment & Community Safety**

##### **Environmental Sub Group Meeting**

3. Members of the group consist of one councillor from each of the three wards and officers from several services across Leeds City Council. In attendance are officers from Parks and Countryside, Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team, Housing Management, and the Refuse Team.

4. Since the last Community Committee meeting on 26 October 2022, the Environmental Sub Group met on 22 November 2022. Also in attendance was an officer from the Forestry Team and from the Serious Environmental Crime Team (SECT).
5. Services around the table discussed how they can work in partnership and what deterrents can be implemented to tackle the largescale fly tipping that has recently taken place in the Whinmoor Country Park. A site visit is to take place to see what can be done to deter this type of behaviour whilst keeping the feel of the Country Park.
6. Services also discussed what can be done to improve the environmental areas on Housing land. A working group has been established to take this forward, with the aim to feed this into a strategic piece of work that is taking place between Housing and Forestry in the new financial year. A site visit to identified areas has been arranged with the relevant officers and with the Chair of the Environmental Sub Group.
7. Each service provided an update of the work currently being undertaken and in the foreseeable future.
8. Parks and Countryside asked members of the sub group to identify any land which can be considered for planting trees. The Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team provided an update on the road sweeping and de-leafing schedule. The Housing Service discussed some of the challenges experienced with established staff leaving the service and new staff being recruited. The Forestry Team discussed about safely removing Ash trees dying due to fungal infection.
9. The next Environmental Sub Group meeting will be taking place on 27 February 2023 and Forestry and the SECT Team have been invited to attend.

#### **Grit Bin Installation and Refills**

11. All three wards have been working with the Communities Team and the Highways Service to ensure that grit bins are refilled and local residents are prepared and kept safe for the coming winter months.

#### **Scholes Lodge Meadow**

12. The Harewood councillors funded Barwick in Elmet and Scholes Parish Council to purchase spring bulbs and wildflower seeds for Scholes Lodge Field. Planting of the bulbs took place on 12 November 2022, so that a visual impact will be created in time for Spring and Summer 2023. The planting will also increase the diversification of habitat for all wildlife and provide pollination by bees and a food source for insects.

#### **Wike Ridge in Bloom**

13. Wike Ridge in Bloom are a voluntary organisation set up on 25 August 2021 by residents of Wike Ridge Estate. The aim of the group is to bring the community together to work collectively by improving the estate communal areas through horticultural projects.

14. Last December the Alwoodley councillors funded the group £2,000 towards a new noticeboard and power tools. The noticeboard was installed in January this year. Since then, the noticeboard has been a valuable asset to Wike Ridge in Bloom. As it enables communication about working mornings, events such as Jubilee celebrations, and a place to publish the minutes of meetings. Without the board the group would have no other means to communicate with everyone on the estate.
15. The hedge trimmer has been used to tidy and trim areas where there have been bulbs and plants planted.
16. The In Bloom group is thriving with a team of ten volunteers and with more planting projects finished. The group have developed a further three flower beds and more projects for the estate are planned.
17. The Alwoodley Councillors also gave £300 in MICE for the water bowser, which has been essential to keep the plants looking good through this exceptionally dry summer.
18. The group were also successful in being granted the Arium In Bloom grant. The group have used different funding streams to get themselves established and are now working to becoming financially self sufficient, and for this a Friends of Wyke Ridge in Bloom has been set up.



## Children and Families

### Youth Activity Funding Consultation

19. The Youth Activity Funding consultation is now open to seek young people's view on how they would like Youth Activity Funding for 2023/24 to be spent in their area. Schools and clusters have been contacted across the three wards to seek their support in having the young people fill out the survey.
20. Leeds City Council's Youth Service in the new year will be working with the young people that they engage with to have the survey completed. Councillors, Town and Parish Councils and organisations are encouraged to share this survey far and wide.
21. The survey can be accessed via a website link or a the QR code. The website link is: <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/YouthActivities2022/>



### The Zone - Zone and Away Project

22. The end of project evaluation for Zone and Away was received by the Communities Team. The Alwoodley Councillors funded The Zone in 2021 from their Youth Activity Funding for a year's provision from August 2021 until July 2022.
23. The aim of the multi-activity project was to build young people's self esteem and confidence, to support them in finding new hobbies, accessing opportunities and to tackle social isolation and loneliness. All the activities were designed to make a positive impact on mental health and wellbeing. The project was a hybrid programme; a combination of on-site, on-line and off-site activities.
24. Activities that were delivered were sports, cookery, multi-media, music, science, the arts and more. During Summer 2021 there will be various taster sessions on offer with a view to expanding the programme with the most popular sessions.
25. From September 2021, activities ran after school between the hours of 3:15pm and 8pm. The programme was divided into age relevant activities for children and youth between 10 and 16 years old.
26. The Zone were successful in fulfilling all project outputs especially during a time of when Covid 19 was still in circulation, lockdown restrictions were in place and then the easing of the restrictions in 2022.

27. The Zone Youth Centre and its Youth Leaders delivered over 200 in person and online sessions to circa 350 young people. The programme grew in strength and numbers throughout the project. The Zone had to increase the hours of the youth team and promote a volunteering programme to safely deliver all sessions.

### **Santa's Visit**

28. At the time of writing this report the Alwoodley councillors in partnership with Moortown West Residents Association are preparing for Santa to visit two locations in the ward. Santa is due to visit on 4 December 2022 to hand out gifts to young people and their families in the ward. This is the third year that this event is taking place and each year it is bigger and better. A verbal update will be provided at the Outer North East Community Committee meeting on 12 December 2022 by the Alwoodley councillors.

## **Ward Business**

### **Town and Parish Council Forum**

29. The Town and Parish Council Forum meeting took place on 27 October 2022 at Wetherby Town Hall and Chaired by one of the Wetherby Ward Councillors. The Chair of the Outer North East Community Committee provided an update, following her meeting with the Chief Officer for Transdev. The bus company has received complaints about the timeliness and reliability of its service in the Wetherby ward. The Chief Officer explained that due to work taking place in the city centre and a lack of drivers, it is making it difficult for service to run smoothly as it should.

30. Transdev are keen to ensure that the service reflects what the customers want. They are asking residents and bus users to spare a moment of their time to help them improve the service by filling out a survey. The link to the survey is [We want to know what you really think - Transdev \(transdevbus.co.uk\)](https://www.transdevbus.co.uk/survey). The online form can be filled [here](#). A paper version of the survey can also be found on the X98 and X99 bus.

31. The forum received information on Warm Spaces, where people can gather for free in a warm, safe, welcoming place and maybe enjoy a hot drink and some company. There is an interactive map of venues in the link [Warm Spaces \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://www.leeds.gov.uk/warm-spaces). Organisations can apply to host a warm space.

32. Together Leeds website is being promoted this winter, as it has other support that is available; financial, heating, warm spaces, water, food, jobs and more. It also has links to the Money Information Centre.

33. The Neighbourhood Policing Team spoke about how the extra Wellbeing funding received from all three wards has helped with keeping burglary and speeding rates down in the area. The police are of the view that without the extra funding from the councillors the crime rates would be much higher in the wards.

34. The next Town and Parish Council Forum meeting will take place on 26 January 2023. It will be held in the Alwoodley ward. The venue and agenda are yet to be confirmed.

### **Ward Member Meetings**

35. Ward member meetings are now taking place on a regular face to face basis, either in the locality or in Civic Hall. Services attending those meetings are; Cleaner Neighbourhood Team, Parks & Countryside, Forestry, Traffic and Highways Maintenance, the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and Youth Service. The councillors find this format of meetings useful as it allows them to be briefed on what is happening in the service areas and also allows them to raise any questions with the service direct. The councillors can then relay information back to their constituents.

### **Lotherton Hall**

36. The opening night of The Lotherton Hall Christmas Experience took place on 25 November 2022. Steeped in traditional Christmas magic, Lotherton Hall is pleased to announce once again the exciting festive woodland walk, Father Christmas in the Elf Village and Mrs Claus in the house. The Christmas Experience takes place from 26 November 2022 until 31 December 2022 and is a great day out for all the family.

### **Bonfire Night in Walton and Thorp Arch**

37. Walton Village Hall Committee held its annual community bonfire event, following the success of the event held last year which was the first for two years. The event involved all the community in Walton and Thorpe Arch with firework displays and food and drink being serviced.

38. The event is a family event, as the younger age group and more elderly come together for a night of fun. Getting the community together is very important for the village and particularly for people who have recently moved to the new housing developments on the outskirts of the village.

### **Christmas Lights**

39. The councillors across all three wards have contributed funding towards Christmas lights and switch on events. One of the events funded by the Wetherby Councillors was the Walton community Christmas lights switch on event which took place at 6pm on Saturday 26 November.

40. This is a joint community event involving the Parish Council, Village Hall, Church, and the village pub. The lights are loaned out by the Village Hall and Parish Council for use by the residents during the December festivities. Volunteers in the village assist the elderly and less able members of the village in setting up the lights outside their homes. The lights bring a much needed lift to the village during these difficult times.

41. Harewood Councillors contributed towards lamp post conversions for illuminated Christmas motifs at four locations in the Barwick in Elmet and Scholes area of Harewood ward which will enhance lighting provision.



### **Memorial Benches**

42. Ward councillors have been notified that the memorial benches for Elizabeth II are to be delivered. The Localities Officer will be working with the parish councils to identify suitable locations for the benches.

## **Updates from Key Services**

### **Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team**

43. This update is in relation to work completed by the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team (CNT) for both Street Cleansing and Environmental Action.

### **General Staffing**

44. Since 31 October 2022 there is now a permanent, full time Team Leader for the Outer North East area. The new road sweeper driver started as planned on the 5 September 2022 and has had a range of training to allow him to be able to operate a variety of different sweepers and he has now started full time in the area.

### **Enforcement**

45. Councillors are requested to continue to send any referrals via the contact centre or to the ENE Action inbox - [eneaction@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:eneaction@leeds.gov.uk)

46. There have been a couple of recent success stories regarding fly tipping and a hoarders house being cleared.

47. The Serious Environmental Crime Team are continuing to focus on the large-scale fly tipping and other environmental issue such as waste carriers.

48. The Environmental Action Officers are continuing to provide updates on specific cases where ward members are involved.

### **Halloween and Bonfire night**

49. The service has been provided extra resources across the city to cover the Halloween and Bonfire periods. All contact numbers have been distributed to the police and other partners as required.

### **De-leafing**

50. The service has started their de-leafing schedule which will run until the end of this year or into early next year, if required. Councillors have been consulted with as to the areas which need additional focus, especially with the amount of rainfall that has taken place already this Autumn.

### **Bulky Collections**

51. Residents can book a free unwanted items collection if their unwanted items are not suitable for donation, and they are unable get to a recycling centre. Those who live within the Leeds council tax area can have up to five items taken away per collections, with a maximum of four collections per year.

52. CNT continues to support the work that is carried out by volunteers and support litter picking groups across the areas.

### **Service Changes**

53. A review into enforcement is continuing and is carried out by one of the Service Managers.

## **Public Health**

### **Winter Vaccinations**

54. This winter it is expected that many respiratory infections, including Covid and flu, may be circulating at high levels, putting increased pressure on hospitals and other health care services.

### **COVID-19 Update**

55. The autumn booster programme is focused on protecting those who continue to be more at risk of severe Covid. Those eligible for a booster will be contacted by the NHS, either by their GP practice or the NHS National Booking Service.

56. For individuals who have not yet had either of their first two doses of the Covid vaccine (or a third dose for those with a weakened immune system) the advice is to have them as soon as possible. Those who are eligible for the autumn booster but think they have missed a previous booster should still go ahead – they will not need another dose.

57. People aged 50 years and over, those in care homes, and those aged five years and over in clinical risk groups are being offered an autumn booster of Covid vaccine. Those at greatest risk are being invited first. Individuals are being asked not to contact their GP practice for an appointment unless they have received an invitation.

58. Key messages are as follows:

- Continue to wash your hands on a regular basis.
- Although it feels like life is returning to normal, Covid is still with us.
- The virus spreads easily when people are together in enclosed spaces such as on public transport or even indoors at home.
- Getting up to date with your vaccinations is the best defence against infection, to keep yourself and your family healthy.
- The medical professionals at the vaccination clinic will be happy to answer any questions you have about the vaccines. You can read more on [the NHS website](#).
- Visit [Walk-in vaccination clinics](#) for a full list of your options across Leeds.

### **Flu vaccinations**

59. The flu vaccine is being offered free through the NHS to help protect groups most at risk of getting seriously ill. Vaccination is important because more people are likely to get flu this winter as fewer people will have built up natural immunity during the Covid



pandemic. People who get flu and Covid at the same time are more likely to be seriously ill.

60. A free flu vaccination is being offered to the following eligible groups:

- all children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2022
- all primary school aged children
- secondary school-aged children (years 7, 8 and 9 with any remaining vaccine being offered to years 10 and 11)
- pregnant women
- those aged 65 years and over
- those aged 50 to 64 years old not in clinical risk groups
- those with clinical risks and in the older age groups
- those in long-stay residential care homes
- close contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- frontline health or social care workers and carers

61. Further information on eligibility can be found [here](#).

62. The vaccine is available at:

- GP surgeries
- some pharmacies – available to those aged 18 or over
- some maternity services if you're pregnant

63. A list of pharmacies offering the flu vaccination is available [here](#).

### **Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team**

64. The current caseload by ward are;

- Alwoodley = 9 active cases
- Wetherby = 7 active cases
- Harewood = 0 active cases

65. The number of cases opened in the last three months by ward and type;

- Alwoodley = 1 of which, 1 x domestic violence
- Wetherby = 2 of which, 2 x noise nuisance
- Harewood = 0

### **Additional Information**

66. The bonfire period passed off relatively peacefully, an officer from LASBT supported West Yorkshire Police from the control room at Elland Road giving advice and assistance on civil powers and information from various systems.

67. One of the LASBT Case Officers working in Outer North East Community Committee area has received a Chief Officer Commendation for her outstanding contribution to partnership working. This is following a referral into the Chief Officer from West

Yorkshire Police who praised her efforts working alongside Neighbourhood Policing Team officers in preventing and reducing anti social behaviour. The NPT asked for her work to receive suitable recognition.

68. Currently there are no other trends or issues emerging. Youth related anti social behaviour has again been challenging over recent weeks as it always is at this time of year but usually settles down once Halloween and Bonfire Night have passed.

## **CCTV Report**

69. The Leedswatch service is currently undergoing a review which is looking at all aspects of the service, including the operation of the control room and the effectiveness of its cameras. The review is also to include a reporting strand which will serve to agree the way forward to provide information regarding CCTV to councillors and partners.

70. This report covers the different types of incidents captured by CCTV operators in real time for the cameras located in the Outer North East Community Committee area from 6 September until 22 November 2022.

### **Cameras Used in the Outer North East Area**

71. Three cameras were used to report the incidents that have been captured in the Outer North East area within this quarter.

### **GDPR – Information Sharing**

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

## Incidents captured by CCTV operators:

Outer North East Cameras incidents					
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Total incidents per category	
Alarm Activation				Alarm Activation	0
Animals				Animals	0
ASB				ASB	0
Cash In Transit				Cash In Transit	0
Drugs				Drugs	0
Enforcement				Enforcement	0
Fire				Fire	0
Health & Safety		1	1	Health & Safety	2
Police Operation				Police Operation	0
Public Order	1			Public Order	1
Road Traffic				Road Traffic	0
Sexual Offences				Sexual Offences	0
Suspicious Events				Suspicious Events	0
Theft				Theft	0
Travellers				Travellers	0
Weather				Weather	0
Metro				Metro	0
<b>Total Per Month</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Total sum of incidents</b>	<b>3</b>

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

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

### Requests For New Cameras

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

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

77. A dedicated CCTV Compliance Team has been established within Leeds City Council.

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

## **Corporate Considerations**

### **Consultation and Engagement**

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

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

80. 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**

81. 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**

82. 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**

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

### **Risk Management**

84. 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**

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

## **Recommendations**

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

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

87. None.

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