

**Report of:** Head of Locality Partnerships

**Report to:** Inner West Community Committee  
[Armley, Bramley & Stanningley, Kirkstall]

**Report author:** Patrick Mulcahy

**Date:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**To note**

## **Inner West Community Committee Update Report**

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### **Purpose of report**

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

### **Main issues**

#### **Updates by theme**

#### **Children and Young People: Champions Cllr C Gruen (as lead) and Cllr H Bithell**

3. The Children and Young Person Sub-Group met on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and welcomed updates and items from;
  - Children's Services
  - Climate, Energy and Green Spaces
  - Financial Inclusion Team
  - Parks and Countryside
  - Environmental Services
  - Anti-Social Behaviour Team

## Environment: Champion Cllr A Rontree

- The Environment Sub-Group Met on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and welcomed an item from Highways on Gullies.

## Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team Update

4. An update will be provided for the next meeting.

## Parks and Countryside Update

5. Armley Prison have given the service permission to install some play equipment on the site so they can now work with the community to look at putting in funding bids.
6. Cragstone Rec – Parks are pricing up for some improvements including removing the old play area are repairing the path and areas under the fitness equipment.
7. Kirkstall Abbey Fencing – Fencing along Vesper Lane is being considered to try to prevent travellers accessing. An application to Historic England has been made to which the service has received a response to. There is still some discussion to be had before a decision is made.
8. Burley Park – A company has enquired about supporting the Friends of Burley Park on 28th September for an action day in the park. The service is currently exploring whether this is achievable.
9. Burley Park Blossom Project – This is now complete and well used by the community.

## Employment, Skills & Welfare: Champions Cllr J McKenna & Cllr T Hinchliffe

10. The number of people who are claiming Universal Credit (UC) due to unemployment, as of May 2023, in the Inner West Community Committee area is 6,248. This is an increase of 93% since March 2020, and an increase of 23 claimants on the previous month.
11. The table below shows the number of people claiming Universal Credit (Not in Employment) in the Inner West Community Committee area and by ward.

	Universal Credit Claimants (Not in Employment) 16-64yrs					
	March 2020		April 2023		May 2023	
	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*
Leeds	23,631	4.5%	46,811	9.0%	47,079	9.0%
<b>Inner West</b>	<b>3,244</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>6,225</b>	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>6,248</b>	<b>12.9%</b>
Armley	1,547	9.1%	2,972	17.3%	2,992	17.4%
Bramley & Stanningley	952	6.5%	1,777	12.1%	1,776	12.1%
Kirkstall	745	4.6%	1,476	8.9%	1,480	9.0%

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

12. The table below shows the number of people supported by the E&S Service from the Inner West Community Committee area and by ward.

	Accessing Services		Into Work		Improved Skills	
	2021/22 (Apr – Mar)	2022/23 (Apr – Mar)	2021/22 (Apr – Mar)	2022/23 (Apr – Mar)	2021/22 (Apr – Mar)	2022/23 (Apr – Mar)
<b>Inner West</b>	<b>1,313</b>	<b>1,543</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>308</b>
Armley	663	788	190	218	102	133
Bramley & Stanningley	272	308	98	55	53	70
Kirkstall	378	447	117	86	109	105

During April 2022 – March 2023

13. 3,753 people accessed the Service, 1,543 of whom were residents from the Inner West.
14. Supported 2,999 people into work, 359 of whom were residents from the Inner West. Customers were supported into work across all sectors with the largest numbers in, construction, health and care including childcares, manufacturing, ICT, digital and comms.
15. Supported 3,753 people to improve their skills, 308 of whom were from the Inner West.
16. Leeds Employment Hub is a single point of contact for all funded programmes and Jobshops which provides tailored and comprehensive support into employment or education to all Leeds residents. Employment Hub Advisors deliver the programme by providing one to one support, tailored preventative and remedial support to Leeds residents who are disadvantaged in the labour market. The Employment Hub Advisors are co-located within the Jobcentre Plus centres across the city. Further funding has been secured which will see the role of the Advisors continue until at least March 2025.
17. All Jobshops are open, 5 days a week for face-to-face appointments which includes Armley and City Centre Community Hubs. There is a pop up Jobshop Tuesday at Bramley Community Hub, 09:00 – 17:00.
18. Community Learning provision continues to deliver an effective, broad, and inclusive curriculum to support the continuation of learning in collaboration with subcontracted partners. Courses were delivered through a range of models which include face to face, online and through distance learning, opening new opportunities for adults to learn and develop their confidence.
19. Between April 2022 - March 2023, in the Inner West, 48 courses were delivered at 11 venues. 395 residents have accessed a course. In addition, there were 50 courses delivered on-line.
20. In addition to the above Community Learning courses and in response to requests for ESOL support, a 12-week ESOL course continues to be delivered to residents from the local community at Castleton Childrens Centre, New Wortley. The courses have been well attended with 2 courses delivered since February 2023. A new curriculum is in place to support the continued learning from September which is open to new and current learners. A creche has been requested and will be offered alongside the programme in partnership with Castleton Childrens Centre.
21. ESOL support will continue to be delivered at City Centre Hub, Horsforth Childrens Centre and Little London Primary School from September 2023.

22. Basic Introductory Digital taster sessions have been developed and will be delivered from October in local venues, yet to be confirmed. On completion learners will be signposted and supported onto digital courses within the area.
23. Between April 2022 - March 2023, 15 Developing You Health and Wellbeing courses, a pre-employability programme which helps people to become happier, healthier and move closer towards employment were delivered across the city, 123 people completed the course and 24 of whom were supported into work. Developing You courses were developed and delivered to people with Learning Disabilities, 18 people completed the course and are being supported by the Employment Hub to support progression to further learning, employment or volunteering.
24. For further information on courses available both online and face to face at community venues, please visit: <https://leedsadultlearning.co.uk>
25. Delivering in partnership the Connecting Communities to Health and Care Careers work focuses on narrowing inequalities with a one system approach across the sector, adapting recruitment methods and building on the good practice in the system, targeting the Priority Wards. The pathways that are being delivered provide people with a supported programme into Administration and Care roles within the NHS and Adult Social Care. There are functional skills (Maths, English and ESOL) support provided to upskill individuals to the required entry level for their pathway of choice. Since February 2022, 422 people, 51% of whom were from the Priority Wards have attended the information sessions, 167 have achieved a qualification and 174 people have been supported into work. New pathways that have been developed for Children's Residential, Care Practitioner roles and Care Navigators within GP Practices and will be delivered from September 2023. For further information please visit: Health and Care Careers.
26. Within the last year the Service has supported 342 new businesses including recruiting new staff, providing support for staff facing redundancy, developing initiatives to address staff shortages and filling a high number of vacancies within key sectors.

## **Delivered Events and Activities**

27. Informed Choices supported school careers events and parents' evenings and delivered Apprenticeship awareness sessions, engaging with 10,535 young people, 458 parents/carers and 409 teachers.
28. Next Steps support for young people following GCSE or A Level result is hosted on Start in Leeds Next Steps after School or College.
29. Connecting Communities to Health and Care Careers delivered 28 information sessions between January and July 2023 at 7 venues across the city, five of the LCC Community Hubs, Age UK and One Community Centre.
30. Jobs Fairs 19 recruitment events delivered since April 2023 at 10 venues across the city, seven LCC Community Hubs, Wetherby Community Hub, Farnley Community Centre and the White Rose Shopping Centre.

31. Leeds Community Learning and Employer Provider Apprenticeships Celebration Awards 2023 took place on 18th July 2023 at Civic Hall to celebrate the accomplishments of all learners and tutors and embrace their future progression into further/higher education, volunteering and/or employment.
32. SEND Next Choices Event, Getting Ready for Adult Life took place on 29th June 2023 at Leeds First Direct Arena. The event was aimed at supporting young people who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). A total of 67 exhibitors participated, offering jobs, Apprenticeships, volunteering, training opportunities, leisure activities and along with other specific support. 2,200 young people attended with very positive feedback.
33. Financial Wellbeing Events delivered in partnership with Credit Union, Yorkshire Water and Leeds City Council, Housing, Jobshops for residents concerned with the rising cost of living. Support provided included debt advice and employment assistance.
34. Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair (LARF) took place on 6th February 2023 at Leeds First Direct Arena. A total of 106 organisations participated and 8,000 visitors attended.
35. 78% of visitors were either more likely to start an Apprenticeship or more interested in an Apprenticeship since attending the event.
36. 85% of visitors would recommend the event to a friend.
37. Family Learning Festival was delivered on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at the Carriageworks Theatre, approx. 150 people participating along with 25 exhibitors from across the Community Learning sector. Local skills providers, colleges, universities, employment advisors attended to provide advice for anyone looking to develop their skills further or to plan their next steps.
38. Reducing Re-Offending construction recruitment events took place on 24th January 2023 and 19th July 2023 at HMP Leeds, 5 construction companies attended offering employment opportunities. 77 serving prisoners engaged with the advisors who delivered employability support sessions.

### **Planned Events and Activities**

39. Connecting Communities to Health and Care Careers information sessions are planned to be delivered at the following venues:
  - Richmond Hill Community Centre on Thursday 17th August 2023
  - Reginald Centre on Thursday 24th August 2023
  - Dewsbury Road Community Hub on Wednesday 30th August and Friday 6th October 2023
  - Compton Community Hub on Friday 1st September 2023
  - City Centre Community Hub on Thursday 7th September 2023
  - Beeston Community Centre on Monday 11th September 2023
  - Kentmere Community Centre on Tuesday 19th September 2023
  - Armley Community Hub on Friday 20th October 2023
40. Highways Vacancies information sessions planned for August and September 2023 at Armley, Bramley, Yeadon and Dewsbury Road Community Hubs. The session will showcase

various vacancies and provide an insight into working in this area.

41. The Leeds Digital Careers Fair (LDCF) 2023 will take place on 26th September 2023, at Leeds First Direct Arena. The event is aimed at those exploring a career in tech and digital. Attendees will be given an opportunity to engage with a range of tech training providers and employers to find out about the diverse career opportunities available. For further information and to book please visit: Leeds Digital Careers Fair 2023.
42. Reducing Re-Offending a jobs fair to take place at HMP Wealstun on 28th September 2023. The event will offer support to prisoners due for release. A range of employers, from different sectors, are attending alongside Employment and Skills Advisors.
43. The Leeds Creative Skills Festival (LCSF) will take place on 20th November 2023 at Leeds First Direct Arena. The event will showcase the wide range of opportunities within the creative and culture sector. There will be a range of employers and providers as well as interactive activities and information sessions. For further information and to book please visit: Leeds Creative Skills Festival 2023.
44. The Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair will take place at Leeds First Direct Arena on Monday 5th February 2024. Further details will be available in the Autumn.

## **Community Safety: Champion Cllr T Hinchliffe**

### **LeedsWatch**

45. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

#### **Armley**

46. 12 cases
47. One case holds many accused in relation to issues currently at Armley leisure centre involving youth related anti-social behaviour and crime. We are working with partners to address these issues; several young people have already been identified and joint visits have taken place from ourselves and West Yorkshire Police. We will continue to work closely with partners and investigate.

#### **Bramley**

48. There are a higher-than-normal number of cases recently allocated to LASBT for this ward however this is likely due to a backlog clearing within the Triage team. Bramley does have a lot of 'Threats/Actual Violence' cases now with a number of these regarding ongoing youth related cases. There are also several cases within the Bramley case load that are ongoing legal cases, unfortunately these cases can take a long time to conclude particularly with delays in court now.

49. Youth related ASB and crime seems to have improved from a LASBT point of view however we do continue to still have some breaches of injunctions orders which we are progressing.

## **Kirkstall**

50. 10th Aug: Taking part in the Hawksworth Wood Action Day

51. 20th July: Took part in the Lea Farms Action Day

52. 21 Cases

53. 2 cases are in relation to noise complaints.

54. 1 case where a youth has committed a crime within the locality of the family home.

55. 2 cases (all unrelated to one another) we are awaiting the outcome of criminal investigations before we can decide whether we can or cannot act of our own in relation to the allegations we have received. These cases are either drug related, or violence related.

56. 4 cases (all unrelated to one another) where threats or aggressive behaviour has led to complaints being made to us.

57. 2 cases in relation to hate related complaints. 1 of these cases has led to a counter allegation being opened against the original complainant.

58. 4 cases are for a group of youths who are causing a nuisance by throwing &/or kicking things (footballs, stones) at houses & cars. There has been a big improvement in these issues since visits to the youths & their parents were carried out, so these 4 cases are due to close.

59. 5 cases are in relation to cuckooing concerns. We already have a closure order in place for 4 of these addresses. We have a closure application submitted to Court & are awaiting a hearing date, for the 5th case.

## **West Yorkshire Police**

### **Kirkstall**

60. The Police are continuing to work with the Kirkstall ward councillors, members from Leeds City Council Anti-social behaviour team, Housing services and the police will be running some 'days of action' These days will involve partners visiting the local community and discussing any issues or concerns they may have. This is vital work as not everyone is able to come to community meetings. There will also be skips that the local community can use on the day. An individual has been charged and arrested for Arson offences within the ward and since the last update no further offences have occurred.

61. ASB involving off road motorbikes and quad bikes continues to be a concern for residents in the local area, there are several operations planned with the Leeds Off Road motorbike team to target those committing a nuisance and offending on motorbikes.

62. Officers in Kirkstall are working closely with partners such as housing and LASBT to protect those most vulnerable within our community. Several partial closure orders have been obtained to protect vulnerable people and officers continue to check and take positive action against those that are breaching the orders.

### **Bramley and Stanningley**

63. Officers have focused on targeting Anti-Social vehicle use and off-road bike/quad use, speeding and inconsiderate parking in and around identified hot spot areas within the Bramley area. Partner agency work is ongoing with tenancy action being taken on addresses where off-road bikes are being stored. Numerous operations with traffic officers and the Off-Road Bike Team have taken place, with several stolen bikes having been recovered. More such operations are planned.

64. Officers continue to work to disrupt and engage with nuisance youths at the Bramley shopping centre, particularly utilising Misuse of Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour legislation. Several individuals have been issued with Anti-Social Behaviour Injunctions with conditions to not attend the Shopping Centre, plus non-associations attached to the Injunction. Two individuals are now subject to Criminal Behaviour Orders and any breaches are proactively and swiftly pursued.

65. Partner agency work is ongoing to protect vulnerable victims of cuckooing. Several addresses now subject to Partial Closure Orders with compliance checks conducted on a regular basis. Several days of action around tackling ASB in the Bramley area have been organised with partner agencies.

### **Armley**

66. Partnership working in New Wortley due to increases in youth disorder, drug dealing and damage. We continue to work with partner agencies and are formulating an action plan to tackle the issue. The police have carried out several drug warrants over the last few weeks and increased visibility in the area.

67. Ward officers have been focusing on Armley Leisure Centre and immediate vicinity due to an escalation in Youth ASB. We are working with partners such as LASBT looking at injunctions for the most prolific individuals.

68. In conjunction with Leeds City Council and the Canal and River Trust, Ward Officers are looking to tackle ASB along the canal tow path and surrounding area.

### **Health and Wellbeing & Adult Social Care: Champions Cllr K Ritchie and Cllr A Parnham**

#### **Cost of Living Events**

69. In partnership with LCC Housing, Armley Helping Hands, New Wortley Community Centre, Local care Partnerships, BARCA, Green Doctor and many other partners, there have been a continuous series of cost of living events within Inner West so residents can access important advice on benefits, resources and support with the current cost of living crisis. These events have either been out of mobile housing buses near high rise or at static sites such as a school or community centre.



70. For advice and support on financial matters whether you support local people or would like to access a service yourself please see the links below.

- <https://citizensadviceleeds.org.uk/>
- Resources for Professionals:  
[https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1JFvxQk8e3wEz\\_ayzNCKYOITmmQzspVzm](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1JFvxQk8e3wEz_ayzNCKYOITmmQzspVzm)
- Food Banks: <https://leedsfoodaidnetwork.co.uk/food-banks/>
- Fuel & Food Poverty: <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/benefits/help-with-food-and-bills#:~:text=To%20get%20a%20referral%20to,to%20Friday%209am%20to%205pm>
- Gambling Related Harm: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/gambling-addiction/>
- Insulating your Home and advice on Energy Efficiency:  
<https://www.groundwork.org.uk/hubs/north-east-and-yorkshire/home-plus-leeds/>
- Money and Debt Advice: <http://moneybuddies.org.uk/>
- Advice on Money matters: <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/leedsmic/Home>
- Stop a Loan Shark; <https://www.gov.uk/report-loan-shark>
- Help with the Cost of Living: <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/campaign/cost-of-living>
- Financial Exploitation Team: <https://www.wyjs.org.uk/trading-standards/wyfeat/>
- CAREVIEW : All resources listed on one app. Care View Leeds

### **West Wards Weight Management Directory**

71. There is a directory available to all partners and local residents detailing healthy cooking and physical activities for everyone. It can be accessed by signing up to the Local Care Partnership weekly digest. The directory is updated monthly. Contact details are:

- LCPDEVELOPMENT (LEEDS COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST)  
[lcht.lcpdevelopment@nhs.net](mailto:lcht.lcpdevelopment@nhs.net)

### **New Leeds Stop Smoking Service**

72. The new Leeds Stop Smoking Service will be supporting smokers to reduce their nicotine dependency and quit for good. With around 122,000 adult smokers in Leeds, this service aims to help reduce this number.

73. Smokers wishing to access the service will be given a choice of treatment based on need and preference, including nicotine replacement therapy and e-cigarettes. They will work with a trained smoking cessation coach to develop a personalised plan. Support extends to a year after each person's quit date to make sure people are given the best possible chance to stop smoking permanently. The Leeds Stop Smoking Service will be replacing the previous One You Leeds service which ended on 31 March 2023.

74. To register for the service, visit Leeds Stop Smoking Services.

75. The service also has a range of leaflets and posters about smoking and vaping that are available to order and keep for free:

- Vaping and e-cigarettes: the facts (order code P733)
- Vaping and e-cigarettes: the facts for parents and carers (order code L318)
- Quit smoking (order code L305)

- Vaping is at least 95% less harmful than smoking (order code L319)

## **Priority Neighbourhoods**

### **New Wortley Festival**

76. This year's New Wortley Community Festival took place on Jailey Fields (Oak Road Recreation Ground) on the afternoon of Saturday 19th August. There was a welcome break in the wet weather allowing the community to come out and enjoy the festival in the sunshine. With funding support from the Inner West Community Committee and Inner West Housing Advisory Panel, New Wortley Community Association organised the event with an army of fantastic staff and volunteers transforming the local greenspace into a vibrant and enjoyable event for the local community. Attractions included an array of stalls, food & drink, bouncy castle, performances, DJ, cycle course, rugby and much more.
77. Officers from LCC Communities Team and Active Leeds teamed up to undertake some community engagement on a proposal seeking to get play equipment onto Jailey Field. Following calls from the community for more local play provision, a partnership has been formed with the intention of engaging with the community, understanding what people would like to see and developing a funding bid. The festival provided an excellent opportunity to engage with residents and children and the proposal was met with overwhelming support. The team will continue to identify opportunities for further engagement and will continue to work closely with the Armley Ward Councillors and relevant stakeholders to move the project forward.
78. The festival was a hugely enjoyable day with a big turnout from the New Wortley community. Congratulations to the amazing team at New Wortley Community Association and everyone who was involved in making the festival so successful.

### **Armley Festival**

79. The next big event to close the summer period will be the annual Armley Festival being held on Saturday 9th September on Armley Moor. Led by Armley Action Team with funding support from the Inner West Community Committee, the event will be another celebration of community, arts and entertainment for the people of Armley to enjoy. At the time of writing, the event is yet to take place so further feedback will be provided to the Committee in a future report.

### **Bonfire Night**

80. Planning and partnership work has already begun in respect of this year's bonfire night period. Relevant stakeholders are being brought together to discuss plans for engagement, diversionary activities, and prevention. Partnership meetings will be taking place through September and October.

### **Armley Forum**

81. The Armley Forum took place on 19th July 2023. Updates were received from Housing, Regeneration and Leeds Neighbourhood Hosts 2023.
82. Housing Provided updates on Annual Tenancy Contact, Garages, Lettings/Voids, Anti-Social Behaviour, Cost of Living Events, Play Provisions for Children and Clyde Court and Grange and Healthy Holidays/Summer Provision plans on behalf of the Hub.
83. Leeds Neighbourhood 2023 Hosts invited the Forum to their event, Armley Extravaganza. This event took place on 5<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Leeds City Council Youth Service**

84. The WNW team continues to deliver over 50 sessions per week with most aiming to give young people something positive to do as opposed to hanging around the streets. Ongoing challenges around young people's involvement in anti-social behaviour have been jointly managed through our involvement in area tasking and partnership opportunities. The WNW Youth Service Team continues to respond to issues highlighted in PWA Tasking Meetings by delivering mobile sessions in areas with reported youth nuisance. The WNW Team continue to work closely with the neighbourhood policing teams with some very positive intervention and partnership.
85. Having started online during the Covid Pandemic lockdown The Inner West Youth Committee has recently has a refresh and is now a joint initiative delivered in partnership with BARCA Leeds. This quarter the committee enjoyed a team building activity at Clip and Climb and attended a session learning about democracy and their local Councillors. Our Youth Committee Members are the voice of young people from Inner West Leeds and help make decisions and recommendations towards services aimed at them. From community consultations through to social action projects our young leaders are an active group who welcome new members and new ideas.
86. Young people completed a young person friendly version of the 2023 Community Cohesion Survey to enable partners to better understand what more they can do to make Leeds a truly inclusive city where people from all backgrounds feel they belong, are valued, and enjoy similar life opportunities. Youth Workers also supported young people to complete the Women's Say on Leeds City Centre Survey to ensure the voice of the young women and girls we work with was captured.
87. Our work with partners to provide sporting opportunities include the Tuesday Armley Basketball Project with LDMA at Armley Leisure Centre, a new basket project at Leeds West Academy starting in September, and several new boxing and self defence projects. Last quarter we began 3 new programmes working with The Ministry of Boxing in Armley (Tuesdays), Kirkstall Valley Development Trust (Fridays) and Wednesdays Box Cleaver Programme on the Hawksworth Wood Estate.
88. The WNW Team continues to work with local schools delivering a variety of issue-based subjects. The Saturday Motorbike Project continues to work with young people

vulnerable to poor learning and several referred young people from social care and the Youth Justice Service have made some excellent progress this quarter.

89. The WNW Team were pleased to support several Easter communities' events over the holidays whilst also delivering some fun days out. In May youth workers helped young people celebrate the Coronation by putting on a range of fun activities and food. In June the Inner Team supported the Kirkstall Year of Culture Community Day and the team are looking forward to being involved in the events planned over summer.

### **Town Centres Update**

90. Due to the cost-of-living crisis, shop theft remains high and footfall lower than required on Armley Town Street.

91. Initiatives are underway and as food prices stabilise the footfall appears to have stopped declining. To help bring back the shoppers, regular newspaper updates promoting Town Street are undertaken by the Armley Action Team manager.

92. Armley Action Team's Chair and Manager have also met with counterparts from Harehills Action Team to share ideas and initiatives. There was plenty to discuss as Armley Team is more established and has more events and activities underway, but the Harehills team is progressing with a recent street market, chatty cafes and arranging a food trail to benefit local shops.

93. In addition to being organiser for the annual festival on Armley Moor (Saturday 9th September), relaunching wonderful In Bloom displays along Town Street, running the Bundles children's clothing and games store and other projects progressing, Armley Action Team has now launched the Yum initiative: Yum is a Community Pantry & Community Fridge partnership between AAT and Climate Action Armley. The aims of Yum are to: reduce food insecurity; provide access to emergency-free food and affordable food in central Armley for local people; reduce food waste and encourage food-saving habits; increase food dignity and financial resilience and help people to transition from emergency food to independent shopping.

94. Following government funding to change traffic management on Armley Town Street, ideas are being drawn up for further consultation and consideration of all opportunities. Discussions are ongoing regarding redevelopment of the former Armley Clinic site on Theaker Lane to find a viable way forward with mounting mortgage fears putting ever more pressure on house building.

95. In Kirkstall the Local Centres Programme (LCP) scheme to place benches on and near the high street to give people travelling to and from the shops a chance to relax and rest weary arms has now been implemented. The scheme proposed and led by Councillors is proving very popular and well used.

96. Businesses in Bramley, Kirkstall and Armley, along with the other 30 wards around the city, receive the weekly update of news to help local businesses and develop local neighbourhood centres.

## **Updates from Key Services**

### **Community Hubs**

97. The ESIF contract from our Job Shops is coming to an end with no more customers being signed up to that scheme, the job shops will be returning to the same function as they did prior to the contract helping anyone who comes into the centres in finding work. We are already seeing an increased footfall in all our sites, in addition to the Job Shops at Armley and Hawksworth Wood we also do a pop up at Bramley Community Hub. We are hoping to do a series of Jobs Fairs across the sites starting in September more details will follow as these are set up.

98. We have several partners doing surgeries within the hubs including, Money Buddies, NWCC, Barca and many more.

99. The wellbeing hub at Armley is proving to be a success, this is a space that has been designated to work with the NHS to provide some of their services such as Maternity and 0 – 19 Children's Health where there is a need for extra space in the community.

100. We continue with our regular events with each hub hosting weekly story time and digital drop ins where our librarian team are on hand to provide advice and assistance on all things digital. In addition to our social zones where there is a structured activity placed each day with the help of our partners we are also hosting weekly groups for ABCD promotion, Mental health support, ESOL sessions, Sewing, Mens Mental Health Art Group, LGBTQ and What's your Game? Games groups.

## **Housing Leeds**

### **Annual Tenancy Contact Update**

101. The new Annual Tenancy Contact process continues to move apace within Inner West. We are now in year two of our three-year program to visit all residents in their home. We continue to pick up support and safeguarding issues highlighted from these visits and have put some important intervention in place for these residents. We have a two-pronged approach to visits, we will visit 33% of our tenants this year as well as all those believed to require additional support, this roughly equates to a further 11%. By the end of March, we aim to have visited 66% of our tenants in their homes since April 2022. Plans are in place with local housing teams to ensure we meet these targets.

## **Tenancy Support**

102. Our Housing Officer Support team are actively monitoring the cases and are working with partners in assisting residents to live independently and ensuring that they have the adequate support required for them to maintain their tenancy. There is

currently a vacancy being recruited to in the Kirkstall area and currently cases are being shared with the whole team in this area.

## **Walkabouts**

103. Walkabouts booked in up to October across Inner West.

104. Local Team have invited Local Ward members and residents who wish to attend.

105. Common theme highlighted is the delay in grass cutting this season which has been fed back to Parks who administer the grounds maintenance contract. Issues recently with heavy rainfall have left some sites uncut due to banking's and verges being too wet to risk mowing and causing structural damage with wheel rutting.

106. The purpose of an estate walkabout is to ensure Housing Leeds provide an excellent and consistent estate management service to all our tenants and communities. The walkabout provides opportunity for all customers and interested parties to walk around their estate with members of staff from Housing Leeds, and other Leeds City Council departments to monitor our performance and recommend improvements to the environment of our estates.

107. Should you wish to get involved or are interested in becoming a 'block champion' for your High-Rise block/ walkabouts, you can help in coming along and pointing out areas of concern or sharing your ideas on how to improve your estate/Block. If you are interested, please contact Housing Leeds on 0113 378330, or via email on [housinginvolvement@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:housinginvolvement@leeds.gov.uk). Alternatively, you can talk to your local Housing Officer.

## **Block Sweeps/Inspections and Fire Safety**

108. Weekly block sweeps continue to be carried out on all high-rise blocks. These inspections help look for things that will improve the block such as ordering repairs, removing items that have been left in communal areas, or identifying improvements that could be made.

109. Low rise blocks inspections are also being carried out now on a quarterly basis in line with the fire safety checks.

110. We continue to receive daily stage 1 fires safety reports from our cleaning contractors. The recommendations are action and log on our computer system in line with our Fire Safety procedure. Local Teams also carry out regular stage 2 fire safety checks and report all the findings and raise the necessary repairs required.

## **Anti-Social Behaviour**

111. All teams within Inner West continue to work together with LASBT and West Yorkshire Police to help tackle and reduce crime related activity and Anti-social

behaviour within our areas.

112. There are currently no hot spot areas across Inner West.

113. We still encourage all residents to report all Anti-Social Behaviour breaches by calling 0113 222 4402 (Weekdays, 9am to 5pm, except Wednesdays when we're open from 10am), Outside of office hours (6pm – 3:30am and weekends) – call 0113 376 0337 or reporting this online via Report antisocial behaviour or hate crime - leeds.gov.uk If you've been a victim of crime you should report this to the police on 101, or 999 if it's an emergency.

## **Area updates/Good news stories**

### **Armley**

114. As part of the GSHP works at Wortley Towers & Heights, Cenergist are constructing new benches at the front of Wortley Towers and have commenced works to clear the raise plat beds to the rear of Wortley Heights ahead of potential HAP bid to have the area replanted with low maintenance plants to improve the visual impact of the area. Work is also being considered for a child's play area to the rear of Wortley Heights.

115. The Reema engagement sessions have gone well to Raynville Grange and Court. These are properties deemed to need substantial investment and an option appraisal will take place. We have currently engaged with over 80 of the 120 residents.

116. Plans are in place for a series of action days following the summers holiday to help improve the visual aspect of the estates across Armley.

117. Positive piece of work on the garage front for Armley to help generate more income for LCC after letting out a further 6 garages

118. Housing Officer Income working hard to support tenants in financial hardship to maximise their income, tapping into food parcels and fuel vouchers. Food parcels now kept on site locally for delivery to those customers who cannot travel.

### **Bramley**

119. Multi – agency approach and partnership working with, Police, Adult Social Care, LASBT, Housing and Youth services to help maximise resources into reducing ASB on the Snowden's following reports from residents. Action morning carried out on 8th June to help increase calls to service and for all partners to show presence on the estate to help reduce ASB.

120. Planned works roofing scheme continues to various properties across Bramley.

121. Bramley have welcomed a new Housing Officer and Housing Assistant to the team, in addition we have an inhouse promotion with one of our Housing Assistants starting as a Housing Officer on the 31st of July.

122. Partnership working with the police on a new initiative to provide residents with informed information about the use of cannabis.

123. Ongoing training is being provided to new starters including, ASB, Arrears, Environmental to help improve the level of service provided to customers.
124. A cost of living event was held on the 8th of August at Moorside Community Centre, we were able to assist several residents with the cost of living crises. We had several services present such as Yorkshire Water, Credit Union, Bramley Care Bears, Green Doctors, Job Shop and Benefits Advisors who were there to provide advice and assistance on bill paying, income checks and money saving tips. We were able to provide support on provisions available during the summer holidays to ensure that residents were aware of support with food and fuel during this period. In addition, youth services attended and completed arts and crafts with the children in the area, who were able to create T-shirts to take home. Police and LASBT also attended to provide information on the damages of drug use and aid with services available to support. Housing Officer's also completed door to door checks on residents, advising them of the event taking place and providing advice regarding the cost of living and support available.

## **Kirkstall**

125. Works now completed at Queenswood Heights and Court are almost complete – communal electrics have been completely replaced, new energy efficient lighting installed and all pipework boxed in and false ceilings installed.
126. Action day rearranged on St. Matthias in August with Cllrs due to availability of CNT. Action day held in July on Lea Farms and was a tremendous success. Next up is the Hawkwood estate on 10th August.
127. Walkabouts continue in full swing. Overriding issue this year is condition of grass cutting which has been hit badly because of prolonged periods of rain. We are working with our partners Continental to ensure any areas missed because they are too wet are addressed at the earliest opportunity.
128. Kirkstall/Weetwood continues apace on ATCI's, we continue to encounter customers in need of support and we work closely with our tenancy support team to ensure their needs are addressed.
129. New Housing Officer Jack started in June and is already making an impact on his "patch".
130. Housing Officer Income working hard to support tenants in financial hardship to maximise their income, tapping into food parcels and fuel vouchers.
131. New heating installation completed at Grayson Crest high rise, allowing customers to tap into cheaper heating and reducing fuel bills.
132. Work continues at Moor Grange Court high rise where energy efficiency works are well under way. This will improve the thermal comfort of these properties enabling customers to keep their homes warmer in the colder months leading to reduced fuel costs.

## **Inner West Housing Advisory Panel**



Budget for 2023/24	£44,618.34
Carry Forward from 2022/23	£8,333.34
<b>Total 2023/24 Budget</b>	<b>£52,951.96</b>

Approved Budget Spend 23/24	£14,575.32
<b>Available Budget</b>	<b>£38,351.64</b>

HAP	Number of projects submitted	Number of projects approved	Amount committed by Panel	% Committed
Inner West Total	21	11	£14,575.32	27.54%

## Community Engagement: Social Media

133. **Appendix 1** provides information on posts and details recent social media activity for the Inner West Community Committee Facebook Page.

## Corporate Considerations

### Consultation and Engagement

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

### Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration

2. 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

3. 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

4. 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

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

### **Risk Management**

6. 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**

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

### **Recommendations**

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

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

9. 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.