

**Report of:** Head of Locality Partnerships

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

**Report author:** Patrick Mulcahy

**Date:** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

**To note**

## **Inner West 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**

#### **Updates by theme**

##### **Children and Young People: Champions Cllr A Rae (as lead) and Cllr H Bithell**

3. The Children and Young Person Sub-Group have decided that the next topic of interest is Vaping in U18s. A meeting with Public Health colleagues will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024.

##### **Environment: Champion Cllr A Rontree**

4. The Environmental and Community Safety Sub-Group meeting dates that have been finalised are 9th October 29th January and 15th May. Agendas are currently being discussed between Champions.

## **Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team Update**

### **General Staffing**

5. There has been a temporary change in Area Managers at the West CNT, to cover the Service Manager Role at the Household Waste & Recycling Centres & bring sites until 31st March 2024. The Temporary Area Manager currently in place will be changing shortly due moving to another post in a different service.
6. The Team Leader role for the area is still vacant, the Area Manager will be the point of contact for any Partners and Ward Members until the position is occupied. All service requests should be sent to the generic email address as this is always monitored and can be actioned until a new Temporary Area Manager is in place.
7. There are several vacancies in the team that are pending approval from Corporate Vacancy Control Challenge Panel.

### **Street Cleansing and Enforcement**

8. We have had 3 successful prosecutions for waste in gardens with fines and remedial orders put in place. This tells the perpetrator to clear up the garden. If breached it is a contempt of court, rather than an offence under the ASBCP Act 2014. LCC could also do the work in default.
9. The Graffiti Team continue to remove any offensive graffiti tags and in most cases within 48 hours, any requests for service must be sent to [WNWAction@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:WNWAction@leeds.gov.uk). There has been recent significant increase in offensive graffiti in the area and crews have been issued with a graffiti kit so can remove small scale graffiti on select surfaces proactively without having to wait for another team to attend. If the team cannot remove it the specialist team will attend to remove it.
10. We have supported various Action Days throughout the area with the most recent being August 2024. The team have moved appropriately 10 tonnes of waste from the last 3 action days.
11. There is still a large amount of work being completed across the West of Leeds by the various Litter Free Groups and this is really appreciated. We continue to support this work by providing the purple bags which are delivered by CNT staff to the nominated bag holders and collecting the waste when left. We now have smaller purple plastic bags available to use which prove ideal for children, these can be requested with full size bags in the usual way.
12. Despite it being the summer months, some arrangements have started to be made for upcoming events such as Leeds Abbey Dash, Light switch on and the annual De leafing programme.

### **Parks and Countryside Update**

13. Work on the Cragside Rec play area has started.
14. Burley Park Improvements are in progress.
15. Stanningley Park MUGA resurfacing is still awaiting start.
16. Armley bowling green bench has been installed.
17. Jailey Fields – All additional information has been submitted for the funding agreement with Veolia and service is currently trying to get a quicker payment so work can start sooner.
18. £10,251.84 funding has been released from S106 for Rodley Park improvements but still awaiting confirmation from Members about where the other half of the funding is coming from, this is for some new play equipment within the existing park aimed at younger children.

## Employment, Skills & Welfare: Champions Cllr K Ritchie & Cllr T Hinchcliffe

### Total number claiming Universal Credit (UC)

19. The total number of people who are claiming Universal Credit (UC), as of June 2024, in the Inner West Community Committee area is 11,615. This is an increase of 142.9% since March 2020 (pre-pandemic levels), and an increase of 200 claimants on the previous month.
20. The table below shows the total number of people claiming Universal Credit in Leeds, the Inner West Community Committee area and by ward.

	Universal Credit Claimants 16-64yrs					
	March 2020		May 2024		June 2024	
	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*
Leeds	35,450	6.8%	88,802	17.1%	90,295	17.3%
<b>Inner West</b>	<b>4,782</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>11,415</b>	<b>23.6%</b>	<b>11,615</b>	<b>24.0%</b>
Armley	2,203	12.8%	5,206	30.3%	5,299	30.8%
Bramley & Stanningley	1,474	10.1%	3,439	23.5%	3,494	23.8%
Kirkstall	1,105	6.7%	2,770	16.8%	2,822	17.1%

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

### Universal Credit (Not in Employment)

21. The number of people who are claiming Universal Credit (UC) due to unemployment, as of May 2024, in the Inner West Community Committee area is 7,443. This is an increase of 129% since March 2020 (pre-pandemic levels), and an increase of 77 claimants on the previous month.
22. The table below shows the number of people claiming Universal Credit (Not in Employment) in Leeds, the Inner West Community Committee area and by ward.

<b>Universal Credit Claimants (Not in Employment) 16-64yrs</b>
--

	March 2020		April 2024		May 2024	
	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*
Leeds	23,631	4.5%	55,008	10.6%	55,352	10.6%
<b>Inner West</b>	<b>3,244</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>7,366</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	<b>7,443</b>	<b>15.4%</b>
Armley	1,547	9.1%	3,491	20.3%	3,555	20.7%
Bramley & Stanningley	952	6.5%	2,075	14.2%	2,073	14.1%
Kirkstall	745	4.6%	1,800	10.9%	1,815	11.0%

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

## Employment and Skills (E&S) Activities and Provision

23. 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	
	2023/2024 (Apr - Mar)	2022/2023 (Apr - Mar)	2023/2024 (Apr - Mar)	2022/2023 (Apr - Mar)	2023/2024 (Apr - Mar)	2022/2023 (Apr - Mar)
<b>Inner West</b>	1,423	1,543	333	359	416	308
Armley	775	788	176	218	198	133
Bramley & Stanningley	294	308	72	55	92	70
Kirkstall	354	447	85	86	126	105

During April 2023 to March 2024:

- 13,513 people accessed the Service, 1,423 of whom were residents from the Inner West.
- Supported 3,094 people into work, 333 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 childcare, manufacturing, ICT, digital and comms.
- Supported 4,300 people to improve their skills, 416 of whom were residents from the Inner West.

## Leeds Employment Hub

24. 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.

25. All Jobshops are open, 5 days a week for face-to-face appointments which includes Armley, Hawksworth and City Centre Community Hubs. There is a pop up Jobshop at Bramley Community Hub, Thursday 09:00 – 17:00.

## Community Learning

26. 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 includes face to face within a community setting, online and through distance learning, opening new opportunities for adults to learn and develop their confidence.

27. Between April 2023 and March 2024, there have been 730 courses delivered at 74 community venues in Leeds, with 3,596 residents starting a course. In the Inner West Community Committee area, 38 courses were delivered at 9 venues. 366 residents have started a course. In addition, there were 34 courses delivered on-line.

28. For further information on courses available both online and face to face at community venues, please visit: <https://leedsadultlearning.co.uk>

## **Multiply**

29. Multiply is the free, government funded, adult maths support programme, part of Levelling Up, Skills for Life. The programme is aimed at helping adults to improve their maths skills and boost their number confidence. E&S are developing and delivering courses and activities through partnerships with community organisations and other partners; to help people use numeracy to manage their money; for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children.

30. Between April 2023 and March 2024, there have been 77 courses delivered at 48 community venues in Leeds, with 657 residents starting a course. In the Inner West Community Committee area, 6 courses were delivered at 5 venues. 83 residents have started a course. Courses include Count Me In and Household Budgeting for Parents.

## **Community Engagement**

31. Engagement with a number of community organisations within the area during this period to raise awareness and provide information and advice on the employability and skills support available, job opportunities and a point of contact for referrals for one to one support and access to skills delivery. Exploring bespoke skills provision with organisations to meet an identified need. Between April 2023 and March 2024, there have been 109 community engagement activities taken place during this period across the city supporting 3,062 people, of these 41 activities have taken place within the west of the city engaging with 642 people.

## **School and College Engagement**

32. There have been engagement events and activities delivered in schools and college, including Apprenticeships awareness sessions, careers fairs, mock interview sessions, sector specific talks and employer site visits. Between April 2023 and March 2024, there have been 108 School and College activities across the city supporting 7,160 young people, 1,173 parents and carers, and 357 teachers. Of these, 33 events have taken place within the west of the city engaging with 2,688 young people, 410 parents and carers, and 80 teachers.

## **Events delivered between January and July 2024**

- Scape Accommodation Recruitment information sessions were delivered at City Centre Hub in July 2024 to support recruitment into roles for Housekeepers, Night Porters, Maintenance Operatives and Receptionists, 50 people attended. Attendees had the opportunity to engage directly with the recruiter through informal interviews. Those who demonstrated potential were invited to a second interview, moving one step closer to securing a position, all attendees and candidates were signposted for support throughout the process.
- Connecting Schools to Hospitality programme matched six schools with hotels across Leeds, a total of 90 students participated in the programme, offering a flexible schedule of 3-4 visits to either the school or hotel. The activities included masterclasses in mocktail making, cooking classes, bedmaking, and other skills development opportunities. The programme concluded with a Celebration Event on 8th July 2024 at Leeds City College Printworks campus, where students who showed exceptional passion or enthusiasm were recognised with an award.
- SEND Next Choices Event took place on 25th June 2024 at Leeds First Direct Arena. The event was aimed at supporting young people who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). A total of 70 exhibitors participated, offering jobs, Apprenticeships, volunteering, training opportunities, leisure activities along with other specific support. 2,000 young people attended and the feedback was very positive.
- Recruitment to Health and Care Careers 25 Information / Assessment Sessions were delivered in 6 venues across the Priority Wards and the City Centre, 178 people attended. These sessions supported recruitment to roles within Adult Social Care, Children's Residential Practitioner, Administrative, Primary Care Navigator, Pharmacy Apprenticeships and Facilities Technician roles.
- Seasonal Gardeners Recruitment Events were held in May and June 2024 at various community hubs. The sessions aimed to provide support for the recruitment of Seasonal Gardeners, a key initiative for maintaining the city's public spaces, 80 residents attended the sessions.
- Tech Careers Launchpad workshop took place on 26th May 2024 at Accenture, City Centre for "getting noticed in Tech", "personal branding", "confidence building", panel session and networking, 38 people attended.
- Tech Careers Launchpad specific for WILD (Women In Leeds Digital) took place on 16th May 2024 in the City Centre. Part of the series of Tech Launchpad, delivered in partnership with AND Digital and other digital organisations to deliver a workshop for "getting noticed in Tech", "personal branding", "confidence building", panel session and networking, 60 people attended.
- Global Banking School Business, Accounting & Digital Jobs Fair was held on 19th April 2024 at Great George Street. Delivered a presentation about Apprenticeships within this sector and promoted our upcoming events, 45 people attended.
- Leeds Tech Careers Launchpad took place on 13th March 2024, hosted at HAYS Tech Recruitment, delivered in partnership with Northcoders. The event

welcomed guest speakers who discussed some of the 'routes into tech' including Apprenticeships, bootcamps and tech academies to help attendees understand the various options available to them. 40 people attended the event and around 40% of people attending were female, with attendees including students, graduates, career changers, people out of the labour market.

- Hospitality Sector Jobs Fair was held on 23rd February 2024 at Park Place Jobcentre, over 200 people attended. The event was a huge success with many employers commenting on the quality of candidates.
- Leeds Apprenticeships Recruitment Fair took place on 5th February 2024. Visitors could find out more about Apprenticeships and meet with providers and employers across all sectors. 119 exhibitors attended on the day to offer information, advice, guidance, and live vacancies. 11,000 visitors had the opportunity to find out about Apprenticeships, including what they involve and how they work, higher and degree Apprenticeships as well as hear from apprentices about their journeys. There were 17 presentations, attended by approximately 250 people that ran throughout the event providing an insight on various topics including STEM, Green Apprenticeships, the power of work experience, a day in the life of an apprentice and how to submit a successful application form.
- Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair Community Event to raise awareness and signpost to the citywide Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair at Leeds Direct Arena was delivered at Dewsbury Road Hub on the 30th January 2024. The event increased the profile of the Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair within the Priority Wards enabling the opportunity for people to ask questions and find out in more detail about Apprenticeships and the range of sectors who were exhibiting at the Fair.
- Careers in Catering recruitment information and interview sessions took place on 24th January 2024 at City Centre Community Hub to support the promotion of Kitchen Assistant posts in schools across the city.
- Digital Skills bootcamps delivered 22nd January – 29th March 2024 in partnership with Microsoft and UA92. The options included Cloud skills and Data Analysis, with no prior tech skills required, aimed to help boost people's skills and employment prospects.
- Social Care Recruitment Event in partnership with We Care Academy recruitment sessions took place at Vale Circles on the 19th January 2024. Advisors attended the events supporting the recruitment to Support Worker and Case Officer roles across the city.

### **Planned Events and Activities**

- West Leeds Care Recruitment supporting the recruitment to the pilot with Be Caring and Springfield to the new Community Health & Wellbeing Care Workers. Events have been arranged at the following venues throughout August 2024:
  - 5th August 2024 - Armley Community Hub
  - 7th August 2024 – New Wortley Community Centre
  - 8th August 2024 – Armley Community Hub
  - 12th August 2024 - Armley Community Hub

- 14th August 2024 - Bramley Community Centre
- 19th August 2024 – New Wortley Community Centre
- 20th August 2024 - Farnley Community Centre
- 28th August 2024 - Swinnow Community Centre
- Recruitment to Health & Social Care Information and/Assessment Sessions will be delivered at sites across the Priority Wards and City Centre Hub in line with planned pre-employment courses that will start in September 2024. The sessions will continue to support recruitment to roles within the Health and Care sector, including Adult Social Care, Careers in Care within the NHS, Administrative and Primary Care Navigator roles.
- Leeds Digital Careers Fair is scheduled to take place on 24th September 2024, at the Leeds First Direct Arena. The Fair aims to connect visitors with the vast opportunities available within the digital and tech sectors, contributing to the growth of Leeds as a digital hub. Preparations for the Fair are well underway, with a focus on building upon the success of the previous year's event, which had over 4,000 attendees. The Fair serves as a crucial platform for exhibitors to engage with potential talent, showcase their companies, and identify future stars in the digital landscape.
- Reducing Reoffending Offer as part of the early release scheme introduced to alleviate capacity pressures within the prison estate, Employment & Skills will be conducting an information session for individuals due to be released on 10th September 2024. The session will be delivered to the first cohort on 5th September 2024 and is tailored for those residing in the Leeds area, providing them with essential guidance on employment opportunities, skill development, and support services available upon their release. The aim is to facilitate a smoother transition back into the community by equipping participants with the tools they need to secure employment and build a stable future. Further sessions will be delivered up to December 2024.

## **Employer Engagement**

33. Within the last year the Service has supported 385 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.
34. The Employment and Skills Business Newsletter provides information and resources to support businesses' workforce needs across the city, also including the upcoming sustainability breakfast events, Leeds Inclusive Employers Network and T-Level support. The newsletter will be published every 2 months to approximately 5,000 subscribers. To find out more please visit: [www.inclusivegrowthleeds.com](http://www.inclusivegrowthleeds.com)

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

35. The Environmental and Community Safety Sub-Group meeting dates that have been finalised are 9th October 29th January and 15th May. Agendas are currently being discussed between Champions.

## **LeedsWatch**



36. An update will be provided every 6 months as per the agreement with the service.

## Anti-Social Behaviour

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

## West Yorkshire Police

### Armley

Armley Ward (E05011385)	Current 6 Weeks	Previous 6 Weeks	Change	01 Jan 24 – 12 Aug 24	01 Jan 23 – 12 Aug 23	Change	Same 6-week period (2023)
Arson	3	8	5	23	23	---	0
Burglary - business and community	4	5	1	27	43	16	12
Burglary - residential	32	31	1	133	121	12	22
Criminal Damage	56	49	7	267	371	4	61
Robbery	7	4	3	30	47	17	10
Shoplifting	30	32	2	185	302	117	72
Theft from motor vehicle	26	32	6	141	99	42	35
Theft of motor vehicle	11	20	9	80	88	8	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>1094</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>226</b>
<b>ASB</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>64</b>

### Bramley and Stanningley

Bramley Ward (E05011387)	Current 6 Weeks	Previous 6 Weeks	Change	01 Jan 24 – 12 Aug 24	01 Jan 23 – 12 Aug 23	Change	Same 6-week period (2023)
Arson	2	1	1	11	10	1	1
Burglary - business and community	3	5	2	24	16	8	4
Burglary - residential	54	46	8	154	147	7	35
Criminal Damage	25	40	15	167	173	6	31
Robbery	6	4	2	19	18	1	2
Shoplifting	13	35	22	205	208	3	45
Theft from motor vehicle	11	22	11	102	80	22	25
Theft of motor vehicle	9	16	7	45	62	17	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>ASB</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>64</b>

### Kirkstall

Kirkstall Ward (E05011402)	Current 6 Weeks	Previous 6 Weeks	Change	01 Jan 24 – 12 Aug 24	01 Jan 23 – 12 Aug 23	Change	Same 6-week period (2023)
Arson	1	3	2	9	32	23	2
Burglary - business and community	5	4	1	26	36	10	6
Burglary - residential	13	9	4	86	77	9	10
Criminal Damage	28	30	2	150	162	12	26
Robbery	4	5	1	16	12	4	2
Shoplifting	72	75	3	418	264	154	52
Theft from motor vehicle	22	35	13	127	51	76	19
Theft of motor vehicle	15	10	5	61	61	---	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>126</b>
<b>ASB</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>29</b>

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

### Armley Local Care Partnership (LCP)

38. This Multidisciplinary Health and Well Being team is currently working on new priorities for 2024-25. The priority is low level mental and emotional health issues working with partners to identify work streams and take evidence-based action. A starting point for this is the document Armley Rise which is a brief guide for LCC Hub staff to signpost residents experiencing stress to people, places and activities which can help lift their mood and maintain it. There is also one for Bramley and one that covers Kirkstall. For more information on the LCP Mental & Emotional Health Subgroup. For more information please contact: [ruth.salthouse@nhs.net](mailto:ruth.salthouse@nhs.net)

39. The next area of focus is likely to be obesity across the life course.

### West Leeds LCP

40. This local care partnership which covers Bramley is also likely to focus on obesity as it is a city wide. It is also currently refreshing its objectives and will be covering asthma and mental health as areas of targeted activity. For more information or if you would like to get involved, please contact: [rachel.shaw36@nhs.net](mailto:rachel.shaw36@nhs.net)

### Emotional Health Guides for Inner West

41. A series of simple experimental guides have been developed for Inner West to aid LCC Hub Staff in the correct sign posting for residents experiencing emotional health issues. They are Bramley Rise, BLQ Rise (which also covers Kirkstall) and Armley Rise.

### Priority Neighbourhoods

#### Jailey Fields Play Space Update

42. Oak Road Recreation Ground in the New Wortley area of Armley is set to be the focus of an exciting project to create new play facilities for local young people and bring

much needed investment to the area. Leeds City Council has announced a £75,000 scheme to introduce new play equipment, a nature trail and improvements to existing infrastructure, following a successful funding bid to the Veolia Environmental Trust and contributions from Armley Ward Councillors. Known locally as Jailey Fields - due to its proximity to HMP Leeds - Oak Road Recreation Ground is seen by residents as a community asset with open greenspace, a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and path circuit, giving people access to nature and providing opportunities for play and exercise.

43. Passionate locals have been calling for improvements and championing the potential of Jailey Fields for many years with New Wortley Residents Association (NWRA) and New Wortley Community Association (NWCA) acting as advocates for this strong community voice. Young people on the NWCA Youth Board also carried out consultation in 2022 on their ambition to 'Make Jailey Fields a Park'.
44. In the summer of 2023, the Jailey Fields Play Space Project Partnership was formed to undertake community consultation, design a proposal and co-produce a funding bid. The partnership included council officers from Parks, Communities Team and Active Leeds, as well as representatives from New Wortley Residents Association and New Wortley Community Association. Local residents and young people were consulted across a number of months through a range of ways including engagement at New Wortley Festival 2023 and through an online survey, helping to inform the design and gauge support for the project. Consultation sessions were also undertaken with Year 3 students at Castleton Primary School and with NWCA Youth Board, who all contributed to a video for the funding bid showing their support and ideas.
45. The project design proposes a mix of play equipment for a range of ages, including swings, slide, climbing equipment, agility play trail and see-saw. In addition, refurbishment of the existing youth shelter will be carried out and benches installed. Wider use of the greenspace will be promoted through a nature trail element, combining play with learning about the natural environment and wildlife.
46. To avoid disrupting use of the park over the summer school holidays, a start date in September was identified with the work expected to take approximately 2 months. Further community engagement that will inform some of the finer detail of the scheme has continued to take place through the summer, building the excitement and keeping the local community at the heart of the project. Get ready New Wortley, Jailey Fields Play Space is coming soon!

### **West Leeds Amateur Rugby Club**

47. Work is almost complete on an exciting construction project at West Leeds Amateur Rugby Club. When complete, the project will have considerably enhanced the club's facilities as well as creating a much needed community asset. The project has been made possible through the passion of Sam Horner from the club with partnership support from LCC Parks and Communities Team officers, and funding from the Rugby

World Cup Legacy Fund, Biffa Award, and Ward Based Initiative (WBI) funding from Armley Ward Councillors. The development has seen the temporary changing room block encased in a permanent structure which includes additional storage areas, a kitchen area and a large community hall space that will support not only the club's sporting activity but will also be available for community use and private function hire adding another valuable community asset to the Armley Ward. There are still some finishing touches to come and some further stages planned, but the club hope to have the facility in operation by the autumn.

### **Armley Town Street Consultation**

48. In July a public consultation was launched regarding proposals that aim to improve the safety and the design of Armley Town Street, reallocating the space to work better for shoppers, pedestrians and bus users. The proposals follow a successful £2.91m funding bid to Active Travel England and months of engagement with stakeholders to design a scheme that could be put to the public for consultation.

49. As well as the online survey, a drop-in event was held on 8th August at Interplay Theatre in Armley with information and displays showing the proposals and officers present to answer questions. The consultation closed on 22nd August and all the responses and data will now be collated and considered. Further updates will be provided to the Committee at the next meeting.

### **UK Shared Prosperity Fund**

50. The Communities Team has been making use of further funding streams to enable more project to secure amounts of funding to allow projects to continue despite cuts to Wellbeing and YAF, one of these funds is the UKSPF and this fund is aimed at social action projects and has supported Armley Action Team's Armley Festival (£6,998.55), SHEnanigans, SheSafe Project (£6,000.00), Interplay Theatre's Wythers Way project (£10,434.00) and New Wortley Community Association's Empower project (£12,691.98) in Armley ward.

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

51. The WNW team continues to deliver over 45 sessions per week with most aiming to give young people something positive to do as opposed 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.

52. This quarter Leeds West Early Help Intervention team and Leeds Youth Service delivered a further 3 cohorts of the 90 Minute Project. The focus for the 90 Minute project is about tackling increased youth ASB and informing young people on gang culture, drug awareness, peer pressure & grooming, consequences of crime, underage drinking & disrespecting of public spaces.

53. The WNW Youth Service Team were leased to support Leeds Pride with the mobile provision units engaging positively with more than 700 young people and adults during the event.
54. Centre based provision in Armley, Bramley and Kirkstall remain well attended with the addition of exciting new projects such as the year 6 transition programme, Hawksworth Youth Project and Youth Space at Armley Leisure Centre.
55. We continue to work with partners to provide sporting opportunities including the Tuesday Armley Basketball Project with LDMA at Armley Leisure Centre.
56. We continue to work collaboratively with stakeholders to establish new pieces of work that meet the changing demands of young people. This quarter 15 young people signed up to a 10-week Skills Builder Achieve Project as part of the Next Steps NCS Programme. Each week young people took part in an exciting activity aimed at equipping them with the necessary skills to build confidence ready to make the next step into employment or further education. Youth workers worked with young people to devise a diverse and creative programme. Sessions included a visit and lecture at Leeds Beckett University, hospitality workshops delivered by NACRO and Leeds Cookery School, training in the retail sector by St Lukes Charity, Citizen Accredited First Aid Course, a tour of Leeds Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility, a team building day at Carlton Lodge Activity Centre and a skills and employability workshop.
57. Several young people from Inner West Leeds formed part of a group that took part in a drama project run in collaboration with ITV. The aim of the programme was making the film and tv industry more accessible to those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds and to reduce class inequality in the screen industry. During the 4 weeks young people worked with cast members and the casting team and even got the opportunity to record in ITV Studios.

## **Town Centres Update**

58. The Neighbourhood Centres Co-ordinator, (NCC,) met with the Capable Guardians' Crime Reduction Officer and Armley Action Team officer to discuss how visits are undertaken and if more regular visits were possible. This was agreed and it was also agreed to meet with Forward Leeds to develop reporting techniques. At the August Bramley Business Group meeting, NCC advised the Capable Guardian patrols in Bramley Shopping Centre have now ended. Shoplifting remains a big problem to Bramley, businesses across Leeds and the entire UK. It was emphasised businesses should report every single incident as this will raise police records showing the need for extra interventions. The weekly email circular to businesses in Armley, Bramley, Kirkstall and other areas of the city continues and recent examples are attached.

## **Updates from Key Services**

### **Community Hubs**

59. The service continues to go from strength to strength helping the customer across inner west however is not without its challenges.
60. To assist with the financial challenge and following a customer consultation we have recently undergone a review of our opening hours with two sites within the area slightly reducing their hours. Bramley now only opens 10 – 1 on a Saturday and Armley now closes at 5pm rather than 7pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.
61. Despite this we are still able to help several customers. Since January Armley has dealt with 31,620 Customer Service and Library enquiries, Bramley has dealt with 12,324 and Hawksworth 1,192. This is in addition to all the other events and activities that have taken place.
62. We are currently providing the summer programme which in addition to the Healthy Holidays hosted by Armley, has included hosting the Hebocon event at Armley where families were able to take part in a mini robot wars event making their robots from old toys, and a makey makey sound collage at Bramley. Both these events have tied into the summer reading challenge which this year has seen an increase in participations with all sites in the area having an increase in signups compared to 2023
63. The Job shops continue to see an increase in footfall with helping people who comes into the centres in finding work. In addition to the Job Shops at Armley and Hawksworth Wood we also do a pop up at Bramley Community Hub on Thursdays.
64. We continue to work with several partners, some of whom are currently doing surgeries within the hubs including, Money Buddies, NWCC, Barca and many more. In recent months we are pleased to have been able to add Better Leeds Communities to this list at Bramley Community Hub.
65. The wellbeing hub at Armley continues 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. The demand for the space is increasing so we are currently looking at the possibilities of other space being used.
66. 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, Collective Art, Sewing, Men’s Mental Health Art Group, LGBTQ and What’s your Game? Games groups.
67. Work is continuing on the development of a Family Hub at Armley Community Hub and Library, the purpose of family hubs is to bring together multiple organisations to make it easier for families to get the help they need, as the hub is developed we will keep you up to date with any changes that are taking place.

## **Housing Leeds**

### **Annual Tenancy Contact Update**

68. We are now in third and final year of the ATCI/NTCI pilot Programme. Process continues to go well within Inner West. We have in the region of 4K visits to undertake this year and all teams are currently on target or above target at the current stage.
69. As anticipated, it is getting harder to access as the year progresses, but we will look to take enforcement action through legal services to help gain access. It's important we do escalate these cases; these are the properties we haven't been able to access over the three years and in some cases longer.
70. We continue to pick up support and safeguarding issues highlighted from these visits and have put some important intervention in place for these residents.
71. Inner West are in a really good position and local teams have plans in place to achieve the targets set. To date Inner West have completed 1390 successful visits across the three wards since April, an increase of 618 since our last report.

### **Walkabouts**

72. Local Teams should have now sent out invites to all ward Councillors and those residents who want to attend the walkabouts and block sweeps with their respective Housing Officer.
73. If other residents are interested in getting involved, then please contact your local Housing Office and we can pass your details through to the correct Housing Officer.

### **Waste**

74. We continue to see an increase of side waste around our high-rise flats and low-rise flats.
75. A polite reminder that resident should use the chute where possible and use the smaller bags i.e., regular and often.
76. For any larger items please utilise the bulky waste teams to remove these items or visit our Get rid of unwanted items ([leeds.gov.uk](http://leeds.gov.uk)) website. If you don't you are leaving yourselves open for enforcement action.
77. Residents are often leaving waste and its attracting vermin – we are doing our bit, please do yours.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

78. All teams continue to work together with LASBT, West Yorkshire Police and 3rd party organisation to help tackle and reduce crime related activity and Anti-social behaviour within Armley.

79. We still encourage all residents to report all Anti-Social Behaviour breaches by calling the Police and Leeds City Council. Residents can do this by reporting 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](https://www.leeds.gov.uk/report-antisocial-behaviour-or-hate-crime) If you've been a victim of crime you should report this to the police on 101, or 999 if it's an emergency.

### **Armley Update**

80. Armley currently have 18 active cases across the ward which the most common theme being noise nuisance in our high-rise blocks.

81. We have seen a notable reduction in rough sleepers within our high-rise flats just off Town Street. This has been through partnership working with local policing teams and LASBT to identify who these individuals are and taking appropriate action.

### **Bramley Update**

82. Bramley currently have 4 active cases, the main theme being noise nuisance and neighbour disputes. Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT) currently have 27 active cases across the area handling more serious perpetrators of ASB.

### **Kirkstall Update**

83. Kirkstall currently have 10 active cases, the common theme being noise/neighbour dispute. Housing Officers continue to work these cases to a resolution, the best result being that tenants retain their homes. Most cases are dealt with at a local level, unfortunately where situations escalate, LASBT take over the case to carry out enforcement activity.

### **Tenancy Engagement Offer**

84. Following the dismantling of the Housing Advisory panels. The team who used to work in this department have been restructured which has seen our former Tenant Engagement Officers (TEO), Paul Densley, move to the stock condition team. We have now been allocated Rukhsana Mahmood as our new TEO and Rukhsana is keen to meet ward members and resident alike. We are still waiting on what the new role will look like, but Rukhsana will be the person to go to if you or other residents wish to set up any tenants and resident groups or wish to join the Housing Leeds tenant voice panel. The tenant voice panel will allow you to

- Consult with tenants and residents on services, policies and procedures.
- Help hold us to account on our performance.
- Make sure our engagement activity helps improve services.
- Help design services to meet the needs of customers.

### **Tenant Portal/Golden Thread**

85. The tenant portal pilot has gone well, and we are keen to see this progress and get more residents digital! All new residents are given the log in details at sign up and is open to existing residents via an online registration.

When you register to manage your tenancy online you can;

- book a non-emergency repair



- view the details of any repairs you've had done in the last 28 days
- view your up-to-date account
- download a statement
- view information about your tenancy
- request permission for a range of items such as keeping a pet or making alterations to the property

86. Those existing residents who do want to make use of the new tenant portal can do so by contact their local Housing Office who will be able to provide you with the required details and help you through this process or register online: [Manage your tenancy online \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://leeds.gov.uk/tenancy)

87. In addition to the tenant portal, Resident who reside in High Rise building across the Inner West Wards can access the High-Rise Building Safety portal as well.

88. My High-Rise Building Safety is where you can find important safety information about your flat and block. This information is how we keep you, your neighbours, and your block safe. Within the hub you can:

- View building and fire safety information
- Raise building safety concerns.
- Request information and records in other formats
- [My High-Rise Building Safety | Leeds City Council](#)

## Area Updates/Good news Stories

### Armley

89. Work has been completed on a children's play area in between the Clyde blocks, this has incorporated thermoplastic markings for children to play on.

90. The Reema Programme (Raynville's) continues to go well, and residents are engaging in quality conversations in looking at rehousing and how we can help them with this. We are ahead of our target for rehousing these customers.

91. The lift upgrade works at Westerly Croft and Rise remains on course for completion by the targets set. The Right-hand side lifts are now complete. These lifts will service all floors once completed.

92. 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.

93. Planned works have started a new project to change the locks to the communal doors on our A1F flats to help improve access and fire safety.

94. NWCC [New Wortley Community Centre] carried out a kids play day, the HO for the block introduced herself to tenants and engaged with service partners during the day and the other HO's undertook ATCI's in the blocks Clyde Grange and Clyde Court.

### Bramley

95. Bramley Care Bears, People for Places and Housing are linking up in September to complete a garden makeover day. Gardens have been identified for the most vulnerable residents in the area, and volunteers will be attending to assist with grass

cutting, garden hedges and more. We are still in the planning stages of this, and we are excited for the event to take place.

96. Bramley housing team assisted several residents with the cost-of-living crisis via the allocation of the Housing Support Fund (HSF). The Housing Officers worked hard to identify some of the most vulnerable residents that meet the criteria for HSF. Funds were issued to help clear rent arrears and assist families and vulnerable people financially.
97. Housing continue partnership working with the police and LASBT to discuss problematic areas to combat this as a collective and ensure resources are distributed into the area. We have been working with capable guardians for patrols in hot spot areas.
98. Housing have been working closely with two Housing Officer Income officers, making referrals to support tenants with income checks and assisting them to apply for the appropriate benefits. Housing have also been offering several food parcels/vouchers to the community for residents that are struggling financially.

### **Kirkstall**

99. Final snagging works now almost completed to Moor Grange Court high rise block which has included full external insulation programme and works to heating and walkways.
100. Housing Support fund allocated to those most in need across the ward.
101. Recruitment required for one team leader and two FTE and one 21 hours housing officer post.
102. Scheme justification forms continue to be submitted to our capital delivery team to attract investment across the area.
103. On target to achieve appropriate level of successful annual tenancy check ins. Work going on to organise team efforts across the whole area to see as many tenants as possible this year.
104. Local team continue to support the development of tenants participation at Claytons high rise.
105. We continue to let out garages across the area increasing revenue for the Council.
106. The team continue to highlight environmental project work and referring to Community Payback to complete, saving money and ensuring this valuable service is utilised.
107. Work ongoing to ensure waste is effectively removed from high rise blocks across the area.

### **Community Engagement: Social Media**

1. **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.

---

<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.