

**UNANSWERED QUESTIONS LETTER
COUNCIL – 11 JANUARY 2017**

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Democratic & Central Services

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Date: 8 February 2017

To: All Members of Council

Dear Councillor

COUNCIL MEETING – 11TH JANUARY 2017

At the above meeting, the thirty minutes of Question Time expired with questions 11 to 33 unanswered. Council Procedure Rule 11.6 requires that each Member of Council is sent responses to such questions.

Q11 Councillor S Golton - How will the executive member ensure that every person in the city has access to good quality care?

A At the heart of this is a strong focus on Performance Monitoring across all of the contract management functions (see diagram below) as is appropriate for the nature of the contract. Contract Management, Relationship Management, Escalation/Re-active Management, Portfolio/sector Management

ASC has developed several quality assurance and performance monitoring tools and frameworks for different sectors, for example, home care, residential and nursing care and working age adults' accommodation based services. These tools are utilised by contract officers to carry out an assessment of the quality of the service against an agreed standard. Regular contract management meetings with providers take place to review performance, which pick up on any new or ongoing issues. The Quality Framework is part of the service specification and is a detailed overview of what we expect of a service. In the care home sector, there is an enhanced rate also attached to achieving the highest rate of quality on the Framework and care homes are monitored against this standard before an agreement on the rate paid, ASC can also withdraw enhanced funding if monitoring identifies a fall in standards of service delivery.

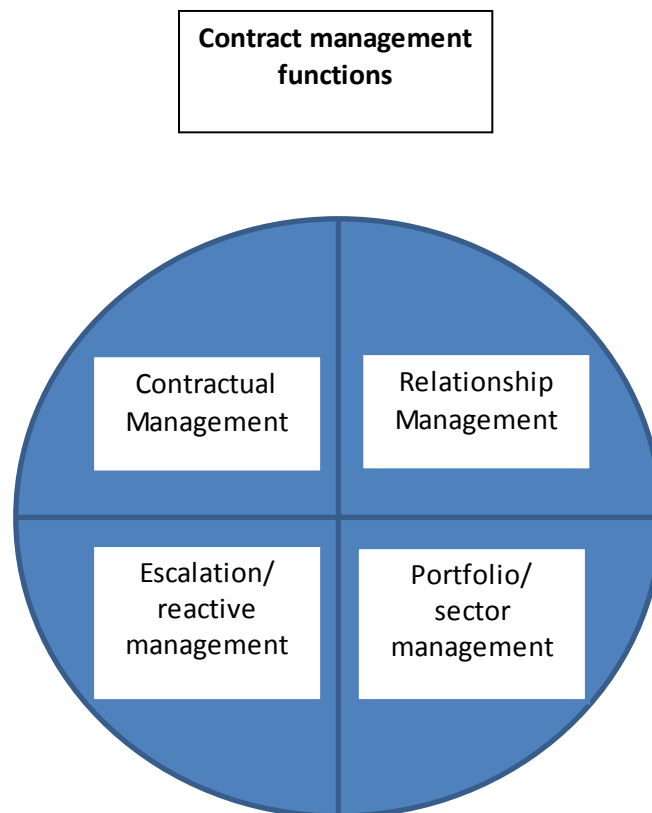


Relationship management is a key contract management tool and enables ASC to gather more informal information about the market and potentially give us early warning of issues, which will be critical in helping to monitor not just the quality of a service, but also the sustainability of the market. In addition, contract managers also undertake reactive monitoring where unexpected events/issues occur and escalate issues where appropriate.

Crucially, both planned visits and unannounced visits are made to providers of statutory regulated services to assure quality of service. These visits, such as to a care home, will last a few days and will include speaking to residents, a wide range of staff, visitors, examining paper work such as medication records, rotas and staff training, and critically, observing practice.

This work is supported by groups of independent citizens, including older people, people with a Learning Disability and carers, who also go into services, with a particular focus on speaking to service users/residents around their experiences and feeding this directly into service reviews.

These monitoring visits will then be used as a basis for developing improvement plans with the service, but are also used to make decisions such as suspending new admissions to a service until the service improves, or, in the case of where a care home receives an enhanced payment for quality under the ASC Quality Framework, have that enhancement stopped until improvements are evidenced.



Monitoring is further enhanced by service reviews. These are deep dives of a service, carried out regularly as part of the contract, and are used to develop service improvement plans with a service but specifically also used as a contract nears its end so as to inform any proposals on the extensions of contracts and the future re-commissioning of that service.



ASC also has regular meeting with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to share information on providers. Similar discussions also take place with commissioners from the Clinical Commissioning Groups, both where we jointly commission a specific service, e.g. some third sector services, or statutory provision such as Leeds Community Equipment Service, but also where we are both commissioning across a sector, such as Care Homes with nursing or Mental Health services.

In addition to monitoring the services ASC commission, the new Care Act (2014) introduced a number of new duties for local authorities in regard to market shaping and commissioning of adult care and support services. Local authorities are responsible for facilitating and shaping their market for care and support as a whole, so that it meets the needs of all citizens who need care and support, whether arranged or funded by the state, the individual themselves, or in other ways. The aim is to have a local market which offers a diverse range of care and support providers that deliver good quality, cost effective and innovative services.

An important aspect of market shaping is the sustainability of care and support providers in the market. This includes ensuring that there is a variety supply of good quality services to meet the care and support needs of the city and steering that supply where it is predicted that there may be under or over capacity so that providers have the opportunity to develop their plans accordingly. Under the Care Act local authorities have specific duties to manage the failure, or other service interruptions, of providers regulated by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). As a result of this requirement, ASC have now also developed a Leeds Adult Social Care Market Oversight and Sustainability Strategy. The purpose of this strategy is to firstly understand the sustainability of the market in Leeds, put in place plans to manage the risks identified, and to outline how provider failure will be managed if it cannot be prevented. As part of the process of developing this strategy ASC looked at the monitoring arrangements that we currently have in place and where we might need to strengthen them to ensure that we closely monitor those providers identified as hard to replace or who are identified as a higher risk due to current quality, financial or other concerns about the provider. From this ASC have developed monitoring indicators which would suggest that a provider was potentially facing sustainability issues and highlighted potential mitigating actions.

ASC also meets regularly with representatives from the banking industry to look at an overview of the financial position of the regulated market to help give early warning of potential problems, but also to look at opportunities for future investment in new or developing modes of care.

ASC is currently looking to further invest in its monitoring team to strengthen our ability to work with providers to improve quality
We are also working with NHS partners to develop a 'One City Approach to Improving Care Home Quality and Sustainability'

Further information on the ICE paper is available from Mick Ward.

Q12 Councillor J Pryor - What additional measures are being taken to support Leeds residents who are most at risk from hate crime?



A Leeds Anti-social Behaviour Team (LASBT) has been working closely with West Yorkshire Police to review and refresh its responses to reported hate incidents and crimes, such that many of the actions already reflected the **five new priorities** (highlighted below) within the Governments revised action plan on Hate crime launched in July 2016.

(1) Preventing Hate Crime

LASBT and WY Police are working closely with schools to encourage reporting of incidents within schools.

(2) Responding to hate crime in our communities

We are working with local communities to raise awareness of 'Hate' so they can recognise, challenge safely and report. A Hate Crime Strategic Board is being established with representation from community-based organisations to ensure partners respond effectively to those who experience hate crimes.

(3) Increasing reporting of hate crime

Refresher training has been provided to managers and frontline staff at HIRC's across Leeds and new signposting centres within community and faith based organisations are being explored.

Safer Leeds continues to support Stop Hate UK and is promoting use of its new Hate Reporting App that can be used by victims and bystanders to report incidents as they happen.

(4) Improve support for the victims of crime

Agencies attending MARAC meetings provide tailored advice, support and practical assistance to ensure victims are protected.

(5) Building our understanding of hate crime

Partners are collating and analysing data from across the city to better understand the causes and impact of hate and identify prevailing trends

Q13 Councillor S Hamilton - Can the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adults provide an update on some of the work currently taking place in Leeds to improve the mental health and wellbeing of people in the city?

A As a council we take a broad and proactive approach to promoting and maintaining good mental health across the whole course of people's lives. Promoting Leeds as a mentally healthy city is something the council is proactively leading on across directorates and contributes with wider work in the city with our key partners.



We are a Mindful Employer, which is at the heart of our core values and set an example to other employers in the city. We are also signed up to the Local Authority Mental Health Challenge with both myself and Tom Riordan as designated champions for Leeds. Something for which we are both passionate and active advocates.

Children and Young People

Public Health is a key partner in the delivery of 'Future in Mind: Leeds' and lead on the first 2 priorities:

1. Develop a strong programme of prevention that recognises how the first 1001 days impacts on mental health and wellbeing from infancy to adulthood. We are delivering this through our Best Start Plan.
2. Work with young people, families and schools to build knowledge and skills in emotional resilience and to support self-help. This includes a programme work with schools including MindMate Champions, a new curriculum and anti-stigma work.

Adults

The public mental health team demonstrate leadership on the following priorities for the city of Leeds with a life course approach;

1. Reducing suicide and self-harm
2. Population mental health promotion and wellbeing
3. Reducing stigma and discrimination
4. Effective and equitable mental healthcare services
5. Improving the physical health of people with poor mental health

We have national recognition for some of this work including The Leeds Suicide Prevention Plan and our interventions to reduce stigma and discrimination. We produce Mental Health Needs Assessments to inform commissioning and service needs on behalf of the city.

As a city, Leeds has submitted a bid for a Time to Change hub grant looking to challenge stigma and discrimination with third sector partners. We have just learnt that we are one of two regional finalists to go forward for the final round.

Leeds City Council public mental health team commission the following services to address the above:

- Community development workers projects (Touchstone)
- CAB (mental health outreach)



- Leeds Suicide Bereavement Service (Leeds Mind / LSLCS)
- Mindful Employer (Leeds Mind) - LCC will commission a bespoke service “Mindful Employer” from April 2017 which will work with employers in Leeds The Mindful Employer initiative is an overarching approach to supporting both employers and employees to understand poor mental health and support those at work to stay in work and flourish
- Joint post within LYPFT for a health improvement specialist focusing on healthy living initiatives and promoting physical health.

Leeds City Council Adult Social Care (ASC) has a variety of contracts with voluntary sector organisations providing mental health services across the city. Leeds City Council is committed to continue the commissioning of all mental health and wellbeing services in collaboration with the Leeds CCG’s.

Mental Health and Housing

Leeds City Council fund several services that provide support to people with mental health support needs to enable them to develop independent living skills and sustain their accommodation in the community.

The Positive Pathways service offers visiting support for up to 500 people across the city to help them manage their accommodation, move to more suitable accommodation and assist with wider support needs such as debt, physical health and access to employment and training.

Other accommodation based services in the city provide supported accommodation for up to 2 years where people can stay who need more intensive support before moving on to more independent living in the community.

Leeds City Council are also in the process of re-procuring an expanded single visiting housing related support service, which will be operational from April 2017 and will replace a number of current separate services. This holistic, person-centred service will offer streamlined support to a range of vulnerable people including those with mental health support needs. The service will offer support to 1500 people at any one time, assisting them to manage their accommodation, move to more suitable accommodation, and assist with wider needs such as debt, physical health and access to employment and training.

The initial focus upon establishing housing pathways between Adult Social Care, Housing in the broad sense and the Housing Support Team was in relation to adults with “mental health issues”, these people will predominantly not have a formal diagnosis of a mental disorder however their low level mental state functioning makes tenancy sustainment problematic. There has been intensive work between ASC Mental Health Services and Housing and it was decided that due to the breadth of needs of this particular citizen group that this should be joined across with colleagues from the generic social work service. This ensures that the pathway is not solely focused upon people who may be perceived as having mental health issues thus ensuring a greater offer to the citizens of Leeds and also enhanced support and training to Housing colleagues.



This work is underpinned by the Ordinary Lives Programme which consolidates relationships and integrated approaches with corporate housing colleagues, engineers, architects and builders. This initiative in its broader sense will implement decisions in relation to Council land clearances, building programmes and closer work with the Housing Growth Team. This piece of the work focuses upon the sustainment of standard tenancies with some additional support to promote independence and deter from a reliance upon statutory services from Adult Social Care.

A number of meetings have taken place and a Plan on a Page has been developed (attached). The principles of the work are in relation to what, how and how we will know if we are actually making a difference.

The “what” constitutes the following:

- Enhanced awareness of all available tenancy sustainment routes.
- Early intervention between ASC and the Housing Support Team.
- Raised awareness of access routes to Registered Social Landlords and private sector tenancies.
- Enhanced opportunities for joint working.
- Greater access to suitable accommodation.

The “how” is focused on 7 areas:

- Prevention, with a focus on early and creative solutions.
- Assessment, this takes the guise of a case conference culture.
- Developed assessment format, this approach utilises outreach, home visits, hospital visits and surgeries at one stop shops and appointments at Leeds Housing options.
- Accommodation, this is about the newly established pathway to support vulnerable people into appropriate housing to support people to pursue their chosen lifestyles whilst in receipt of stable accommodation.
- Tenancy sustainment fund, the provision of a joint point of contact to access funds which only Housing colleagues can access thus reducing some of the burden on the ASC budget.
- Sustainment, this relates to intensive tenancy support and early interventions. A monthly meeting is now in situ looking at plans for sustainment, referrals and also the implementation of pre-tenancy support.
- Re-housing, this is with regards to optimising re-housing options and ensuring that the appropriate support is in place for success.



In terms of the benefits some of these are quantifiable and others more qualitative. We will review the pathway in 6 months and we will focus upon the following in terms of “making a difference”:

- Reduction in the number of evictions of vulnerable tenants across different tenure.
- Increase in referrals to the Tenancy Sustainment Fund.
- Increase in joint working in terms of individuals with multiple housing needs.
- Awareness raised of access to specific teams in ASC for Housing colleagues and the development of locality based relationships.
- Enhanced joint working, regular conversations on how we can support each Directorate’s priorities.
- Reduction in the number of residential placements for vulnerable adults and increased move on from short term accommodation.
- Reduction in the number of people occupying hospital in-patient beds (acute, general and psychiatric) awaiting suitable accommodation.

Wider work with Health Partners

We link closely with health partners, around the children’s mental health agenda, particularly LSE CCG which includes a focus on early help services, a clear Leeds offer, and a single point of access for referrals, a focus on vulnerable children, crisis and transition to adult services.

LCC co-chairs the Mental Health Partnership Board with health colleagues. Partners across the city, including commissioners, providers, the 3rd sector and patient representatives, have recently come together to develop a ‘Mental Health Framework’. This was endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board in February 2015, who highlighted the amount of change and development within mental health services and an increasing need to recognise and tackle wider determinants which underlie poor population mental health. The vision of the Mental Health framework is:

‘Leeds is a city that values people’s mental wellbeing equally with their physical health. Our Ambition is for people to be confident that others will respond to our mental health needs without prejudice or discrimination and with a positive and hopeful approach to our future recovery, wellbeing and ability’

This work is focused more on quality commissioning of good mental health services that meet the needs of our population. The board is made up of all sectors and most importantly those with lived experience who actively contribute.



Information and Signposting Services

Leeds City Council has supported the different social prescribing models commissioned in the city which address the wider determinants of poor health including mental health. Public Health colleagues interface with CCG commissioners as part of our Memorandum of Understanding role (MOU) to shape the public health agenda. As such, Leeds City Council have been involved in the development of the three Social Prescribing models in the city, which are led by our CCG partners and delivered by local voluntary sector organisations.

These are: Connect for Health in South and East Leeds and the Patient Empowerment Project (PEP) in West Leeds. Leeds North CCG is in the process of launching their new Social Prescribing service.

Both Public Health and adult social care colleagues have influenced the production and launch of the new MindWell online resource - MindWell is the single 'go to' place for information about mental health in Leeds.

The council have also produced local leaflets ('How are You Feeling?' and Crisis Cards), which signpost people to local support services. As well as mental health services, these resources provide information on wider issues that impact on people's resilience, such as where to access support for financial problems, housing, food banks and relationship problems.

We have so much more work to do and we are not complacent. The public mental health agenda is strongly embedded in the council's core business and values. We are aware however we must always be an advocate for good mental health and work side by side with everyone in the city who can support our population to flourish and feel supported with the right care at the right time when we need it.

(Please see the 'How we'll do it plan' attached separately to the email)

Q14 Councillor B Anderson - When will the Council be consulting with Ward members to develop operational plans/strategies for the necessary infrastructure needs of our communities in light of planning appeals lost recently causing sites to come forward that even Council officers were not anticipating?

A Sites coming forward as a consequence of the appeal decisions will be factored into the housing requirement for individual areas. This requirement has been and is being modelled for highways, education and other requirements and impacts. Work by relevant service directors is acting upon and monitoring this work. The proactive work undertaken as part of the extensive "Transport Conversation" and the Site Allocation Plan Transport Background paper (an Update was considered by the Development Plan Panel on 11th January) are an examples of this and engagement with ward members.

Should ward members have any specific issues that need to be considered, please advise me and I will ask the relevant officers to look into these and liaise directly with the ward members concerned.



Q15 Councillor J Bentley - Will the executive member commit to ensuring the budget for Leeds community equipment service remains sufficient to meet the needs of service users and that she will ensure that vulnerable people receive the equipment on which they depend once leaving hospital?

A The Leeds Community Equipment and Telecare Service (LCETS) is jointly funded by Leeds City Council (Adults and Children's Social Care) and the NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Groups. LCC has maintained the level of funding through this year and intends to do so for 17/18. However, this year there has not been access to the level of NHS non-recurrent funding that had been available in previous years due to a reduction in short term annual funding available to the CCG's and this has placed pressure on the service and has necessitated greater clinical prioritisation of equipment.

Adult Social Care has been working with NHS commissioning colleagues to ensure that the service meets the needs of all customers, both at home and at the point of discharge from hospital, (which is a priority area) within the resources available. The CCGs are currently working through the NHS planning process for 2017/18 and 2018/19, which is considering the business cases for a number of competing commissioning priorities, including additional funding for LCETS (£528K) to bring it back to previous funding levels. We expect to learn the outcome of this process in January.

Q16 Councillor J Dunn - Will the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability join me in thanking the Refuse Team and staff at our Household Waste Recycling Sites for all their work over the Christmas period to collect our bins and make the process as smooth as possible?

A We will be delighted to pass on your thanks to the staff within the Refuse and Household Waste Site Teams. Staff in these services worked throughout Christmas (only stopping on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day) to make sure Leeds' residents' extra waste and recycling could be dealt with quickly and efficiently.

This year has been a huge success. Residents presented 20% more waste and recycling than usual over the Christmas period, which was all cleared on time, and complaints are at an all-time low.

Q17 Councillor M Robinson - Can the Executive Board member confirm the administration's support for trialling in targeted areas photocatalytic technology as part of a focused effort to reduce NO2 and NOx emissions and improve air quality in Leeds?

A As part of the work currently being undertaken to determine how the city will achieve air quality emissions compliance by 2020, all opportunities will be explored with the primary focus being the reduction of emissions at source by cleaning up the vehicles working in the city.



One proposed suggestion for reducing emissions in the atmosphere is through photocatalytic technology. In this case, it would involve using light absorbent “paint”, which in theory would react with emissions and reduce the amount of NO2 in the atmosphere. Trials of this theory are required and the Council is currently investigating an opportunity to trial a photocatalytic product at York Road and is undertaking the final checks on the impact of the product on the structures that it will be applied to before giving authorisation to proceed.

Q18 Councillor J Bentley - Now that Yorkshire County Cricket Club and Leeds Rhinos have withdrawn their planning applications for Tetley Field and Thorpe Lane, can the executive member confirm whether the £4 million he previously agreed to gift to the clubs is still available to them?

A The Council is very aware of the risk to the future of international cricket being played at Headingley and continues to be in discussion with both clubs as to how the development can be progressed. The withdrawal of these planning applications has meant that the clubs will need to look at alternative funding mechanisms to replace the monies they anticipated from the development of these sites. With an a significant element of the expected funding unavailable the redevelopment will not progress as set out in the Executive Board in July 2016 and the proposed Capital Programme will be adjusted accordingly. The Council will continue discussions with the clubs to help bring the economic and cultural benefits that a redeveloped North-South Stand would help bring to the city.

Q19 Councillor G Wilkinson - Will the Executive Board Member responsible please advise how many households in Leeds have been allocated more than one brown bin?

A Unfortunately we do not have a figure for how many households have more than one brown bin. At the point when the service was introduced, the service did not have adequate measures in place to monitor the number of bins that were allocated to households. This has resulted in some households being allocated more than one brown garden waste bin.

The garden waste collection service was always intended to divert garden waste away from the residual waste (black) bin, and not to displace existing, alternative disposal arrangements, such as Household Waste Recycling Sites. The council has more Household Waste Recycling Sites than any other large Local Authority, so there is provision for any additional garden waste to be taken to one of those sites. Home compost bins are also available to Leeds residents at a competitive rate via the Council's preferred supplier and details can be found on the Council's website.

In January 2014, when fortnightly collections of the black and green bins were introduced, Executive Board clarified the policies in relation to the number of bins that residents are entitled to. The agreed policy sets out that only one garden waste bin is provided per household.



In line with this, the service has now introduced a more robust ICT system to record the allocation of bins and will be able to monitor numbers going forwards. Requests for replacement brown bins have limited residents to only one brown bin per property, i.e. any requests to replace bins over and above the one brown bin that residents are entitled to have been refused. To date however, the Council has not taken steps to remove additional bins that residents already have. Executive Board agreed to the removal of these excess bins in November 2015 and we are currently consulting with Members about the process to implement this policy.

Q20 Councillor S Lay - Could the executive member please commit to ensuring that both Otley Town Council and the residents of Otley are consulted before any decision is made by the executive board regarding the future use of Otley Civic Centre?

A Councillor Lay you will recall the meeting that I had with you and your colleague Ward Members and Ray Georgeson of Otley Town Council on 29 November when we discussed the various proposals for the Otley Civic Centre that had been submitted following an open invitation for expressions of interest in the property.

At the meeting we agreed that the Council would undertake further detailed due diligence with the short listed parties and then once this due diligence was completed arrange for these parties to meet with the Ward Members and Ray Georgeson before a public consultation was undertaken on the submissions.

The due diligence is still underway and we need to agree whether it is the Council, Ward Members or Otley Town Council who undertake the consultation and what format that would take.

I can assure you that some form of public consultation will be undertaken before a report is taken to the Executive Board to select the preferred proposal.

Q21 Councillor Amanda Carter - Will the Executive Board Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adults inform me of the Council's liability in cases where elderly people suffering with Alzheimer's or dementia are detained under the Mental Health Act or put under the protection of the Court?

A The DASS has specific responsibilities in terms of the expediting in terms of her responsibilities in terms of the Mental Health Act 1983 (2007). This responsibility centers around the provision of AMHP's (Approved Mental Health Professionals) who are qualified to undertake assessments under the Mental Health Act. It is the AMHP's responsibility to receive medical recommendations from Section 12 doctors (suitably qualified in relation to the diagnosis of mental disorders) and to consider whether the provisions of the Mental Health Act apply. Within this process the AMHP has the responsibility to consider the least restrictive alternatives to compulsory detention, detention is the last resort in all matters. The DASS ensures that the AMHP's are trained to a high standard and that they are fully competent to exercise all powers under the act including Sections 2, 3, 37, 37/41 and Sections 136 and 135. The DASS also ensures that the Local Authorities responsibilities in relation to Section 117 are adhered to. This is the legal responsibility to provide aftercare to patients discharge from certain sections of the Mental Health Act.



In terms of individuals who lack capacity the central piece of legislation is the Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). This complex legislation carries significant liabilities for the Council which are discharged via the Council's Supervisory Body. The Supervisory Body has the responsibility to receive applications for deprivations from Managing Authorities (both hospitals and care homes) and to consider whether to authorize a DoLS. The Supervisory Body is a fully functioning mechanism which discharges the Local Authorities statutory functions and monitors Mental Capacity Act activity via the MCA Local Implementation Network. The Supervisory Body receives approximately 400 DoLS applications per month, making it one of the busiest Supervisory Bodies in the region. Where there is a legal challenge in respect of a DoLS application the Local Authority would file in the Court of Protection.

In terms of DoLS these apply to individuals who are 18 or over, suffering from a mental disorder, the person must lack capacity to decide for themselves the restrictions which are being proposed in order that they can receive necessary care and treatment.

Q22 Councillor S Lay - Would the executive member update council on what has happened to the November 2014 review into the city's intermediate care service and what has caused its mothballing?

A A strategy was finalised in 2014 for the commissioning of Community Intermediate Care (CIC) beds for the city. The strategy has not been mothballed but was reviewed in consultation with partners and is now being implemented by the lead commissioner, Leeds South & East Clinical Commissioning Group (LSECCG). LSECCG has published its intention to potentially go out to tender to procure the new service and has asked current and potential providers to comment on the proposals and the new service specification. This will be implemented later this year. Further information is available on the procurement portal:-
<https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/0d2eca9c-69a6-4414-8bcd-e75b7a688b55>

Q23 Councillor C Anderson - Despite the work done by the administration in the city centre there is a worrying amount of begging taking place in high profile city centre locations. What new strategies and initiatives is the Council using to deter this practice and ensure the city remains welcoming and unthreatening for visitors and residents alike?

A We are very aware of the impact that street begging can have on those living, working and visiting Leeds City Centre and we take this issue very seriously.

The reasons why people beg are complex and are often compounded by mental and physical ill health issues. Evidence shows us that the majority of people begging in Leeds are doing so because of drug or alcohol addiction. Only a minority of people begging are sleeping rough but in such cases they are offered accommodation. No one need sleep rough.

Leeds City Council is working closely with our partners to find solutions to tackle this problem. Our Plan was refreshed in September 2016 and includes a range of activity from raising awareness with members of the public; outreach & support work with those who beg; and direct enforcement action.



Begging and rough sleeping are generally distinct issues; nevertheless, it's useful to set out what the Council is doing so that no person needs to sleep rough in the city. We commission a street outreach service to find rough sleepers and help them get off the streets. St George's Crypt, amongst others, provides an immediate housing option for rough sleepers until we can find longer term solutions. There is a strong demand for more self-contained supported housing and we are looking at how we can progress this. The number of rough sleepers in the city changes on a nightly basis but we estimate there are between 10-20 people sleeping rough per night. Whilst this is a concern the number is still low in comparison to other major cities.

New enforcement action includes:

- seeking **Criminal Behaviour Orders** (CBO's) when people repeatedly ignore the offers of support that are available from a number of partner agencies;
- working with the **Police and Border Agency Officers**, on days of action, interviewing those who beg and identifying their present circumstances including their immigration status and responding as appropriate to their situations.

In November 2016, a man described by as "the most prolific beggar in Leeds" was given an order banning him from begging in the city centre. He was made the subject of a CBO at Leeds Magistrates Court when he appeared charged with failing to comply with a police dispersal order in relation to begging. This individual is not homeless and receives housing benefit and has been begging in the city centre for some considerable time, often taking a taxi home at the end of the day. Any breach of the order (which is in place for 3 years) is a criminal offence for which he can be arrested and face prosecution.

This case, which has been the subject of a multi-agency conference, is an example of how we will make full use of the available legislation to address the unacceptable behaviour of others. It is also hoped that CBOs for those who do not engage will be a robust tool requiring those with addiction issues to get help and support.

A further 3 applications for CBO's are being pursued in early 2017.

Q24 Councillor S Lay - Could the executive member provide indicative dates for when Otley's Westgate and Ashfield Primary Schools, the last remaining primary schools in my ward without 20mph zones, are likely to see a 20mph zone outside their schools?

A With funding from Ward Members and the Local Transport Plan extensive 20 mph speed limits have been provided in Otley, this has included the Westgate Primary School. A scheme for a 20mph speed limit around Ashfield Primary School is to be funded and delivered during 2017/18, noting that further measures have been identified in relation to a planning application for housing nearby. When delivered this scheme will complete the provision of 20mph speed limits around primary schools in Otley and Yeadon Ward in line with the goal of providing such limits around all primary schools in Leeds by 2020.



Q25 Councillor M Robinson - Can the Executive Board member say what steps have been taken to advertise the consultation on introducing "Go Ape" to Roundhay Park and what feedback those commenting will receive?

A The consultation has been publicised in a number of ways

- The council website had prominent coverage on the home page for a week when the consultation period opened and the document was available until Tuesday 17th January following extension of the consultation period.
- A press release was sent out at the beginning of the consultation and again when the consultation was extended.
- Twitter and Facebook has been used a number of times both at the start and throughout the consultation to inform members of the public about how they can get involved.
- Letters were sent by Go Ape to residents in the immediate vicinity of the proposed course with the consultation document and how to respond.
- Various media channels promoted the consultation including BBC Look North, Calendar, BBC Radio Leeds, Yorkshire Evening Post, and The Guardian. As the Executive Member I also did several interviews on the topic.
- Go Ape held four sessions where they made themselves available to the public to discuss the proposal, three of which were at Roundhay Park and one in Leeds city centre.

A report will be published in due course that summarises consultation findings and made available online for public access.

Q26 Councillor S Lay - Following Swansea City Council's decision to scrap burial fees for children can the executive member indicate whether Leeds has any plans to follow suit?

A Thank you for bringing this issue to our attention; it is not something that has been considered at Leeds City Council before.

Obviously, burial fees for children is an extremely sensitive subject. The Council does provide reduced fees for child burials up to the age of 7 years. Support is also offered should the family struggle to cover the cost of funeral expenses.

We are aware that Newcastle Council do not charge but all other cities do. Despite our financial constraints, we will review burial fees for children and look at whether there is more that Leeds can do to assist.

Q27 Councillor D Cohen - What does the Executive Board member for Children's Services plan to do to improve the performance of poor performing primary schools in Leeds?

A 95.3% of Leeds' Primary Schools are judged to be 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. Of the 214 Primary Schools across the city, that leaves just 10 that are working on specific Action Plans, supported by the LA, to improve provision for children.



In terms of floor standards (i.e. the levels of attainment defined by the government that would indicate low results) only 5 Leeds Primaries dipped below the standards set last year.

The DfE are also keen to avoid 'Good' schools from 'coasting' (a term specifically defined by the government) by being below expected levels for three consecutive years. In Leeds there are only 8 schools that are in this category. We also look to prevent further schools from dropping into this category, as we have a further 13 schools that have two years of underperformance. This is a small percentage of Leeds Primary Schools.

We have had very robust and positive responses to those schools that we have identified as needing additional support. They have all been written to and asked for a clear Action Plan for improvement (governors are included in this correspondence); this plan is assessed by the team. They get targeted additional time which will include a shared review, involving a School Improvement Adviser and a consultant who is chosen depending on which subject is of most concern within the outcomes. This is followed up with the schools being offered relevant and pertinent training courses or projects, and linking specific support as needed. All the schools identified are already booked for reviews or have been recently inspected.

For those very few schools where the Head of Learning Improvement feels that more needs to be done, a 'call in' meeting is arranged to directly hold the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors to account for the standards that the school is achieving, these are held half termly until data shows a marked improvement.

Whilst the problems faced by our Primary Schools are relatively small, we have invested in the retention of a strong Learning Improvement Team that continues to work alongside schools to 'Support and Challenge' to facilitate improvement. We also have a traded service able to provide specific courses of development. The city also has a high number of outstanding practitioners as well as teaching schools that can be used to elicit a rapid improvement in standards.

Q28 Councillor S Lay - Could the executive member inform members how many apprenticeships were created in Otley and in Yeadon in the last calendar year?

A From July 2016 the Department for Education became responsible for apprenticeships and skills, along with higher and further education policy. It is responsible for managing the funding provided to colleges, private training organisations, and employers to support the training of apprentices. Statistical information is collated from individual learner records submitted by training providers to the Department. This provides information on the number, age and level of apprenticeships started and achieved.

The lowest level of published data available for apprenticeship starts is the parliamentary constituency of Leeds North West. In Leeds North West constituency there were a total of 450 apprenticeship starts in the 2015/16 academic year. This is a fall of 11% on the total number of starts in the previous year.

There were a total of 7,090 apprenticeship starts across the city in 2015/16 academic year, an increase of 3.5 % on the previous year. Over the same period there were a total of 509,400 apprenticeship starts in England, 9,500 more than the previous year – an increase of 1.9%.



The published data also includes the number of work places employing apprentices. This data is provided at a regional level. A total of 30,650 employed apprentices in 2015/16 across the Yorkshire and Humber region.

Statistical data on apprenticeships is available from the FE Data Library at the Gov.uk website :-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fe-data-library-apprenticeships>

Q29 Councillor M Robinson - Can the Executive Board member please update Council on the current position with regard to the development of a hotel on Cookridge Street, the progress to date and the timescales involved for completion?

A The Leeds Arena Hotel Site is owned by Oxford GB Two Ltd (OGB2).

OGB2 subsequently appointed its sister company GB Building Solutions Ltd (GBBS) to build a 206 bedroom hotel on the site.

Both OGB2 and GBBS are owned by GB Group Holdings Ltd (GBGH).

Work on the development stopped in March 2015, when both GBGH and GBBS went into administration. Since then the project has been effectively been controlled by the Co-operative Bank which has a first charge on the site. OGB2 went into administration in March 2016.

The Co-operative Bank have progressed a number of proposals to bring the site forward for completion since March 2015, although none have led to construction work recommencing. At the end of 2016, the bank invited bids for the completion of the project as a further attempt to complete the development. This latest process has resulted in a number of offers being made to the bank with the result that a preferred purchaser of the debt was identified in December 2016. Due diligence is currently being undertaken.

Officers of the Council have recently met the Bank and the Administrator. Should this latest sale process not complete then the Council will consider implementing potential actions it can take to enable the site to come forward for a sustainable development and use.

Q30 Councillor S Lay - Yeadon Town Hall is crucial to the cohesion and vibrancy of the community. Can the executive member give assurances that there are no plans to force the day to day running of the building into the hands of any other provider without the consent of Yeadon Town Hall Users Group?

A Council officers are in the early stage of discussions about potential Community Asset transfer options for Community centres, with the objective of securing those buildings for the long term benefit of the community. An initial business plan has been received from the Locality consortium of 3rd sector organisation's.

Officers are testing that business plan to determine if this is in the interests of the community. No recommendation has been made.



Yeadon Town hall is a building which is being examined, and ward members have been asked for their views.

We believe it is helpful to consider all options for our buildings, particularly as third sector has access to capital grants which Councils are not able to access.

If the business plan assessment leads to a proposal which the administration can support, there will be full consultation in the usual way.

Q31 Councillor R Stephenson - The significant economic contribution of the Indian Diaspora in the UK was highlighted on a visit by Prime Minister Modi in 2015. With over 16,000 people of Indian origin living in Leeds, does the Leader of Council agree that twinning with one of India's growth cities would further promote international trade and relations between our two cities?

A The Council is no longer looking to sign new twinning agreements with cities around the world, as such agreements involve obligations around hosting or sending delegations, which could be costly to the council. Instead, the council prefers to work on a project basis with different cities in different countries, and this approach avoids us limiting our cooperation to just one city in each country. Two examples of current cooperation with India are given below:

In 2016 LCC participated in a UKTI GREAT funded trade and inward investment mission, organised by LCR LEP, to Bangalore which is the heart of India's digital / tech industry. Following on from this visit, DIT is bringing 12 award winning tech companies from India to Leeds at the end of January 2017, with a view to promoting new trade and investment opportunities.

2017 is the British Council's Year of India, celebrating a major bilateral year of cultural exchange. The British Council's "Working Internationally" Programme is funding a research trip by an officer from Leeds Museums and Galleries to Kolkata and New Delhi centred around the life of an Indian born soldier who emigrated to Leeds and joined the Leeds Pals, trained with them and was killed in France in World War 1. The visit will strengthen cultural relations between Leeds and India and the research will lead to a virtual reality/animation of the soldier's life, funded through the Arts Council England.

Q32 Councillor M Robinson - Could the Executive Board member please inform Council of the plans in Leeds to celebrate Chinese New Year on 28th January and how this is being advertised to the public?

A The Leeds Chinese Community Association is the recipient of a grant from the arts@leeds grants scheme administered by the Arts, Events and Venues Service within City Development. The Association uses this grant to support its celebrations each year. This year's event, the year of the Rooster, takes place on Sunday 29th January 2017 at Leeds Town Hall. The occasion delivers an extremely wide Chinese experience including theatre performances of Dancing, Music, Chinese Lion Dance, Chinese Calligraphy, Kung Fu and Tai Chi. There are also trade stands offering a variety of Chinese Food, Crafts, Beauty and Face Painting. The event is promoted on the Leeds Town Hall website, marketing support is offered to the organisation.



Q33 Councillor M Robinson - Can the Executive Member for Resources and Strategy confirm if Leeds City Council has any financial interests in, or agreements with, Leeds United FC?

A The Council has the following agreements with Leeds United FC:

- Leeds City Council leases 2 areas of land to Leeds United FC. The first is for the carpark on Lowfield Road and runs until the 31st Jan 2019. The second is for the land on which the pavilion is sited and runs until 2048.
- Through the sale of the ground in 1998 the Council has the right to 500 tickets for each home match which are distributed through children's services.
- Again, through the 1998 sale, the Council has held the usage right to an executive box but has not used it for some 15 years.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Tomkinson
Principal Governance Officer



What we will do

- Raise awareness of all tenancy sustainment routes
- Ensure opportunities for early intervention are picked up within LCC tenancies.
- Raise awareness of access routes to Registered Social Landlords and private sector tenants
- Create opportunities for joint working
- Provide access to suitable accommodation
- Work in effective partnership

PRIORITIES

The Housing Support Team (comprising 19 members of staff) will be able to visit LCC tenants picking up where tenancies are failing. Referrals in to the team to be made by local housing offices, floating support providers and social work teams. Where there is a combination of factors the support teams will be able to access various teams within housing support to assist. Health and housing, Mortgage and tenancy advice (for arrears cases) as well as access to the tenancy sustainment fund for deep clean/removals. Links continue to be built with Registered Social Landlords on the eviction of vulnerable tenants and where hoarding issues are flagged outreach workers will be on hand to visit tenants. Awareness to be raised with key services on what support available to keep tenancy on track. Links with paralegal team to ensure notification of failing tenancies are made at a point where support can be implemented. Joint work with Adult Social Care to ensure that individuals receiving holistic approach to their accommodation, care and support needs.

How we'll do it



Joint working – This will be a key factor in “how we’ll do it”

Regular meeting with key partners to work on housing routes for the most vulnerable adults.
Establishment of a monthly operational meeting where the most vulnerable individuals in housing need are discussed with key partners such as Leeds Housing Options, ASC, housing management and providers. The panel will be used to explore the best options for failing tenancies as well as ensuring support is in place pre-tenancy to increase the chances of tenancy sustainment. The meeting will build relationships between the key services so outside of the panel arrangement people know who to speak to about specific individuals.

How we'll know if we've made a difference

- Reduction in the number of evictions of vulnerable tenants across different tenure.
- Increase in referrals to the Tenancy Sustainment Fund.
- Increase in joint working in terms of individuals with multiple housing needs. A case conference approach will be implemented.
- Awareness raised on access to specific teams in ASC for housing colleagues.
- Better joint working – regular conversations on how we can support each other's wider priorities.
- Reduction in residential placements for vulnerable adults and increased move on from short term accommodation.
- Reduction in the numbers of people occupying hospital in-patient beds awaiting suitable accommodation.