



**A meeting of the Council will be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds on Tuesday, 14th September, 2021 at 1.00 pm**

**Members of the Council are invited to attend and transact the following business:**

- 1 Minutes of the last Meeting** 5 - 10

To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021.
- 2 Declaration of Interest**

To disclose or draw attention to any interests in accordance with Leeds City Council's 'Councillor Code of Conduct'.
- 3 Communications**

To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor, the Leader, Members of the Executive Board or the Chief Executive consider appropriate.
- 4 Deputations**

To receive deputations in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.
- 5 Report on Appointments** 11 - 14

To consider the report of the City Solicitor on appointments.
- 6 Leeds Award** 15 - 18

To consider the report of the City Solicitor in respect of the Leeds Award.
- 7 Report on Community Committee Annual Report** 19 - 66

To consider the report of the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment presenting to Council the Community Committees' Annual Report which looks at the progress made over the last twelve months. It also outlines the changes which have taken place during 2020 to 2021 and gives examples of some of the work the Community Committees have carried out within their communities to improve the lives of local people of all ages and backgrounds.

The report also looks at Wellbeing and Youth Activities Funding (YAF) and the impact it makes, as well as the role the Community Committees undertake in bringing communities together and outlines the social media activity that takes place through the Community Committee structures, which ensures they reach a large number of residents every month through local stories and conversations.

8 **Executive Questions**

To deal with executive questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.

9 **Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Executive Board** 67 - 80

To receive the minutes in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i).

10 **White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Stephenson) - Ofsted Children's Services** 81 - 82

This Council notes the outcome of Ofsted's focussed visit to Leeds children's services on 20 and 21 July 2021.

Her Majesty's Inspectors found that the front door is well resourced, observing that continued investment in early help services means there are a wide range of effective help services available to children and families.

Regrettably, Ofsted also found that social work practice is not consistently strong; decision making is not always timely where a child protection risk is not clear; the cumulative impact of domestic abuse is not always considered in the assessment of risk and decision-making; and audits do not provide sufficient evidence to drive forward practice.

Council calls on the Executive Member for Adult and Children's Social Care and Health Partnerships to implement an urgent three-point plan to monitor progress of the improvement plan:

1. Call-in best practice advice from local authorities that are making good progress in areas we are not.
2. Ask the Children & Families Scrutiny Board to establish 'monitoring workshops' to track progress on the quality and consistency of assessments, the quality and impact of management oversight and supervision, and the quality and independence of audits.
3. Publish recent informal peer reviews and commit to a further peer review within six months to monitor progress of the improvement plan.

**White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Golton) -  
Sugar Hill Estate**

This Council notes and endorses the following Resolution to Leeds City Council from the Save Our Homes LS26 Campaign representing the community of the Sugar Hill estate in Oulton:

“We the undersigned confirm our support for the SOH LS26 Campaign and recognise that only the City Council can protect this community from the profit-motivated threat of eviction by the current landlord.

We call upon the Labour Group of the Council to support the immediate initiation of negotiations with the owner for the purpose of buying the houses, backed by the willingness to resort, if necessary, to the exercise of the Council’s powers of compulsory purchase.

Whilst recognising the financial and practical challenges implicit in this course of action, we note that it is entirely consistent with the Council’s established policies, which are fundamental to the ‘Best Council’ strategic plan. We also consider that this step is essential to creating conditions conducive to the development of a partnership approach with other providers, such as housing associations, to secure the retention and refurbishment of these homes and the survival of this community.”

Council therefore calls upon the Chief Executive to immediately implement the necessary arrangements for such interventions to take place.

**White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Harland) -  
Universal Credit**

This Council calls on the Government to cancel the £20 cut to Universal Credit that will hit over 70,000 people in Leeds, including many in low-income jobs, at a time when the cost of food in shops and supermarkets has increased by 8% already this year.



Tom Riordan CBE  
Chief Executive

Civic Hall  
Leeds  
LS1 1UR

This meeting will be held at the Civic Hall, Leeds. Due to current restrictions arising from the pandemic, there will be very limited capacity in the public gallery for observers of the meeting.

This meeting will be webcast live via the link below, however if you would like to attend to observe in person, please email (**FacilitiesManagement@leeds.gov.uk**) to request a place, clearly stating the name, date and start time of the committee and include your full name and contact details, no later than 24 hours before the meeting begins. Please note that the pre-booked places will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis and once pre-booked capacity has been reached there will be no further public admittance to the meeting. On receipt of your request, colleagues will provide a response to you.

Please Note: Coronavirus is still circulating in Leeds. Therefore, even if you have had the vaccine, if you have Coronavirus symptoms: a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste, you should NOT attend the meeting and stay at home, and get a PCR test.

For those who are attending the meeting, please bring a face covering, unless you are exempt. Note to observers of the meeting: To remotely observe this meeting, please click on the 'View the Meeting Recording' link which will feature on the meeting's webpage (linked below) ahead of the meeting.

The webcast will become available at the commencement of the meeting.

[Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://www.leeds.gov.uk/council-and-democracy)

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the City Council's website on the internet - at the start of the meeting the Lord Mayor will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed. The images and sound recording may be used for training purposes by the Council. Generally the public gallery is not filmed. However, by entering the Council Chamber and using the public seating area you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the City Solicitor.

### **Third Party Recording**

Recording of this meeting is allowed to enable those not present to see or hear the proceedings either as they take place (or later) and to enable the reporting of those proceedings. A copy of the recording protocol is available from the clerk.

Use of Recordings by Third Parties– code of practice

- a) Any published recording should be accompanied by a statement of when and where the recording was made, the context of the discussion that took place, and a clear identification of the main speakers and their role or title.
- b) Those making recordings must not edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or comments made by attendees. In particular there should be no internal editing of published extracts; recordings may start at any point and end at any point but the material between those points must be complete.

Proceedings of the Meeting of the Leeds City Council held  
Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 14th July, 2021

**PRESENT:** The Lord Mayor Councillor Asghar Khan in the Chair.

**WARD**

**ADEL & WHARFEDALE**

Caroline Anderson  
Billy Flynn  
Barry John Anderson

**ALWOODLEY**

Neil Alan Buckley  
Peter Mervyn Harrand  
Dan Cohen

**ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD**

Mike Foster  
Lisa Mulherin  
Karen Renshaw

**ARMLEY**

James McKenna  
Lou Cunningham  
Alice Smart

**BEESTON & HOLBECK**

Gohar Almas

Angela Gabriel

**BRAMLEY & STANNINGLEY**

Caroline Gruen  
Julie Heselwood  
Kevin Ritchie

**BURMANTOFTS & RICHMOND HILL**

Asghar Khan  
Denise Ragan  
Ron Grahame

**WARD**

**CALVERLEY & FARSLEY**

Amanda Carter  
Peter Carlill  
Andrew Carter

**CHAPEL ALLERTON**

Mohammed Rafique  
Jane Dowson  
Eileen Taylor

**CROSS GATES & WHINMOOR**

James Gibson  
Jessica Lennox  
Pauleen Grahame

**FARNLEY & WORTLEY**

David Blackburn  
Ann Forsaith  
Ann Blackburn

**GARFORTH & SWILLINGTON**

Sarah Field  
Suzanne McCormack  
Mark Dobson

**GIPTON & HAREHILLS**

Arif Hussain  
Kamila Maqsood  
Salma Arif

**GUISELEY & RAWDON**

Paul Alderson  
Paul John Spencer Wadsworth  
Graham Latty

**HAREWOOD**

Sam Firth  
Ryan Stephenson  
Matthew James Robinson  
**HEADINGLEY & HYDE PARK**

Alison Garthwaite  
Neil Walshaw  
Jonathon Pryor

**HORSFORTH**

Jonathon Taylor

Dawn Collins  
**HUNSLET & RIVERSIDE**

Mohammed Iqbal  
Paul Wray  
Elizabeth Nash  
**KILLINGBECK & SEACROFT**

David Jenkins  
Katie Dye

**KIPPAX & METHLEY**

James Lewis  
Mirelle Midgley  
Mary Elizabeth Harland

**KIRKSTALL**

Fiona Elizabeth Venner  
John Anthony Illingworth  
Hannah Bithell  
**LITTLE LONDON & WOODHOUSE**

Javaid Akhtar

Kayleigh Brooks  
**MIDDLETON PARK**  
Sharon Burke  
Paul Anthony Truswell  
Kim Groves  
**MOORTOWN**  
Sharon Hamilton  
Mohammed Shahzad  
Rebecca Charlwood

**MORLEY NORTH**

Andy Hutchison

Robert Gettings MBE JP  
**MORLEY SOUTH**

Jane Senior  
Wyn Kidger

**OTLEY & YEADON**

Sandy Edward Charles Lay  
Ryk Downes  
Colin Campbell  
**PUDSEY**

Dawn Seary  
Trish Smith  
Simon Seary  
**ROTHWELL**

Conrad Hart-Brooke  
Diane Chapman  
Barry Stewart Golton  
**ROUNDHAY**

Lisa Martin  
Jacob Goddard  
Zara Hussain

**TEMPLE NEWSAM**

Nicole Sharp  
Debra Coupar  
**WEETWOOD**

Emma Flint  
Chris Howley  
Jonathan Bentley  
**WETHERBY**  
Alan James Lamb  
Linda Richards  
Norma Harrington

**15 Announcements**

(a) The Lord Mayor welcomed members to this meeting of Full Council and also any members of the public who were joining the meeting.

(b) The Lord Mayor reminded those present that the meeting was to be streamed live and would not last longer than 90 minutes .

(c) The Lord Mayor informed Council of the recent death of Honorary Alderman Rod Wood and Mick Bates the former Leeds United footballer.

Council stood in silent tribute.

(d) The Lord Mayor congratulated all those recipients from Leeds or who work and volunteer in Leeds and who had been recognised in Her Majesty the Queen's 2021 Birthday Honours list. The Lord Mayor offered his congratulations on the receipt of the award.

(e) The Lord Mayor also congratulated the England Football Team for reaching the final of the European Championship Tournament, the team included Calvin Phillips from Leeds and the Lord Mayor informed Council that he had written to the player congratulating him on his success at the tournament.

**16 Minutes of the last Meeting**

It was moved by Councillor Lennox, seconded by Councillor Cohen and

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 be approved.

**17 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interests.

**18 Communications**

There were no communications.

**19 Procedural Motion**

It was moved by Councillor Lennox, seconded by Councillor Cohen and

**RESOLVED** – That Council Procedure Rules 2.2 (g)(devolution report), 3.2 (time allowed for questions), 3.3 (minutes motion end time) and 11.4 (oral answers to questions) be suspended.

**20 Recommendations of the General Purposes Committee - Proposal to Amend the Schedule of Sites Governed by the Council's Byelaws for Pleasure Grounds, Public Walks and Open Spaces**

The report of the City Solicitor putting forward recommendations from the General Purposes Committee that met on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021, in relation to a proposal to Amend the Schedule of Sites Governed by the Council's Byelaws for Pleasure Grounds, Public Walks and Open Spaces was moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Lennox and

**RESOLVED** –

- a) That the statutory assessment following the consultation responses be noted, and
- b) That the amendments of the byelaws as detailed in the report be approved.

**21 Recommendations of the General Purposes Committee - Amendments to Constitution - Officer Delegation Scheme**

The report of the City Solicitor putting forward recommendations from the General Purposes Committee that met on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021, in relation to Amendments to Constitution-Officer Delegation Scheme was moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Lennox and

**RESOLVED** – That the amendment to the following documents (as set out in the report and shown in the appendices attached to the report.

Part 3 Section 2C Officer Delegation Scheme (Council (non-executive) Functions)

- Resources (appendix 1 of the report) Director of
- Communities, Housing & Environment (appendix 2 of the report) Director of

**22 Report on Appointments**

It was moved by Councillor Lennox, seconded by Councillor Coupar and

**RESOLVED** - That the report of the City Solicitor on appointments be approved, namely;

**1** To note the following appointments to various West Yorkshire Combined Authority Committees;

- Cllr Peter Harrand to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee
- Cllr Jane Dowson to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee
- Cllr Jacob Goddard to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee
- Cllr Dawn Collins to the Economy Scrutiny Committee
- Cllr Colin Campbell to the Economy Scrutiny Committee
- Cllr Kayleigh Brooks to the Economy Scrutiny Committee
- Cllr Peter Carlill to the Transport Scrutiny Committee
- Cllr Sharon Hamilton to the Transport Scrutiny Committee,

and to confirm the previous notification of Cllr Robert Finnigan's appointment to the Transport Scrutiny Committee

- Cllr James Lewis to replace Councillor Coupar on the Finance, Resources & Corporate Committee
- Cllr Jonathan Pryor be the Council's nominee to the Culture, Arts & Creative Industries Committee
- Cllr Kayleigh Brooks to be replaced on the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee by Cllr Neil Walshaw
- Cllr Neil Walshaw to be replaced on the Employment and Skills Committee by Cllr Kayleigh Brooks

**1a** To agree the following change in appointment on the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Economy Scrutiny Committee;

- Cllr Jonathan Bentley to replace Cllr Colin Campbell on the Economy Scrutiny Committee

2 To note the following appointment to a Committee, Board or Panel;

- Cllr Jenkins to replace Cllr Heselwood on South and West Plans Panel.

3 To appoint to the West Yorkshire Pension Fund Pension Board.

- Cllr Martin to replace Cllr Jenkins on the West Yorkshire Pension Fund Pension Board.

### 23 Executive Questions

Council suspended Procedure Rules in order that all questions would receive a written answer :-

Q1 Councillor Wadsworth to the Executive Member (Environment and Housing):-

Q2 Councillor Campbell to the Executive Member (Infrastructure & Climate):-

Q3 Councillor Ragan to the Executive Member (Environment and Housing):-

Q4 Withdrawn

Q5 Councillor Heselwood to the Executive Member (Public Health & Active Lifestyles):-

Q6 Councillor J Taylor to the Executive Member (Communities):-

Q7 Councillor Golton to the Executive Member (Public Health & Active Lifestyles):-

Q8 Councillor Jenkins to the Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board:-

Q9 Councillor Gettings to the Executive Member (Environment and Housing):-

Q10 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Infrastructure and Climate):-

Q11 Councillor Howley to the Executive Member (Public Health & Active Lifestyles).

Q12 Councillor D Blackburn to the Executive Member (Environment and Housing).

Q13 Councillor Harrington to the Executive Member (Environment and Housing).

Q14 Councillor Howley to the Executive Member (Public Health & Active Lifestyles).

Q15 Councillor D Blackburn to the Leader of Council.

Q16 Councillor J Taylor to the Executive Member (Infrastructure & Climate).

- Q17 Councillor Howley to the Executive Member (Public Health & Active Lifestyles).
- Q18 Councillor Wadsworth to the Executive Member (Environment and Housing).
- Q19 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Public Health & Active Lifestyles).
- Q20 Councillor J Taylor to the Executive Member (Infrastructure & Climate).
- Q21 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Public Health & Active Lifestyles).
- Q22 Councillor Richards to the Executive Member (Public Health & Active Lifestyles).
- Q23 Councillor J Taylor to the Executive Member (Infrastructure & Climate).
- Q24 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Public Health & Active Lifestyles).
- Q25 Councillor J Taylor to the Executive Member (Infrastructure & Climate).
- Q26 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Environment and Housing).
- Q27 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture & Education).

**24 Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Executive Board**

It was moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Lennox that the minutes be received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i).

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes be received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i).

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Andrew Carter required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on this matter.

Council rose at 2.20 pm

## Appointments

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Report of: City Solicitor

Report to: Council

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

### What is this report about?

#### Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- Appointments to Boards and Panels and to Joint Authorities are reserved to Council.
- The Health & Wellbeing Board are seeking to replace their current Representative of Third Sector which Council appoint as an 'additional appropriate person', the proposal is that Pat McGeever (Health for All) replace the current third sector representative on the Health & Wellbeing Board.
- It is also proposed that Councillor Billy Flynn replace Councillor Matthew Robinson on the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board, and
- Councillor Linda Richards replace Councillor Billy Flynn on the Children and Families Scrutiny Board

### Recommendations

Council is asked to

- a) agree the appointment of Pat McGeever (Health for All) to the Health and Wellbeing Board as the Representative of the Third Sector.
- b) agree that Councillor Billy Flynn replace Councillor Matthew Robinson on the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board.
- c) agree that Councillor Linda Richards replace Councillor Billy Flynn on the Children and Families Scrutiny Board.

### Why is the proposal being put forward?

- a) The proposal is for Council to appoint a Representative of the Third Sector to the Health and Wellbeing Board and to make some changes to Scrutiny Board appointments.

### What impact will this proposal have?

**Wards affected:**

Have ward members been consulted?       Yes       No

- 1 The appointment will ensure Leeds has appropriate representation on it's Committees Boards and Panels.

### What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 2 Consultation and Engagement has taken place with third party organisations when selecting the nominee for the Health & Wellbeing Board and following an active recruitment process including information about the role being shared widely across Forum Central members, discussions between Forum Central, Health Partnerships colleagues and shortlisted candidates a nomination was arrived at.
- 3 The relevant Group Whip was consulted regarding the Scrutiny Board appointments.

### What are the resource implications?

- 4 There are no specific resource implications associated with this report.

### What are the legal implications?

- 5 There are no specific legal implications associated with this report.

### What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 6 The key risk would be incomplete representation on Committees, Boards and Panels. The risk is being managed by the appointment(s) in this report.

### Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth       Health and Wellbeing       Climate Emergency

- 7 Fully operational and quorate Committees, Boards and Panels and representation on external bodies are in line with the Council's Policies and the priorities.

### Options, timescales and measuring success

#### What other options were considered?

- 8 None, it is usual practice to fill vacancies as soon as possible.

#### How will success be measured?

9 Not applicable.

**What is the timetable for implementation?**

10 The implementation of the decision would be immediately after the decision is made.

**Appendices**

11 None

**Background papers**

12 None

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## Leeds Award

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Report of: City Solicitor

Report to: Council

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

### **What is this report about?**

#### **Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions**

This report outlines the proposal of the Leeds Award Panel to recommend the nomination for Val Hewison to receive the Leeds Award.

### **Recommendations**

- a) That Council approve the recommendations of the Leeds Award Panel

### Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 For Council to consider the outcome of the Leeds Award Panel who have unanimously agreed to make the recommendation that Val Hewison receive the Leeds Award in recognition of her dedication in working with and supporting unpaid carers across Leeds, which through her tireless, selfless and compassionate work has taken Carers Leeds to national and international acclaim as a beacon of the best leadership and support to unpaid carers.

### What impact will this proposal have?

**Wards affected:**

Have ward members been consulted?       Yes       No

- 2 The Leeds Award is a prestigious honour that recognises that there are many people, groups, organisations and teams that bring great credit to the City through their exceptional hard work and dedication. It is viewed as a lasting tribute to the contributions to make a real difference to the city.

### What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 3 Representatives from all political groups make the up the membership of the Leeds Award Panel, and act as representatives for the political Group Leaders.

### What are the resource implications?

- 4 All costs would be contained within existing budgets.

### What are the legal implications?

- 5 No implications

### What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 6 There are no risk issues

### Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth       Health and Wellbeing       Climate Emergency

7

### Options, timescales and measuring success

#### What other options were considered?

- 8 Approval by full Council is the only mechanism available for nominations made to the Leeds Award Panel

#### How will success be measured?

- 9 The Leeds Award Panel have determined that Val Hewison is an acceptable and appropriate recipient of the Leeds Award.

**What is the timetable for implementation?**

10 With immediate effect, following approval by full Council.

**Appendices**

11 None

**Background papers**

12 None

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## Community Committees Annual Report 2020/21

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Report of: Director of Communities, Housing and Environment

Report to: Council

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

### What is this report about?

Community Committees were set up in June 2014 to improve the way the council works locally. They form part of our commitment to involving our residents more closely with the priorities for their local area and decision-making on funding and services, contributing towards the Best Council Plan and the council's overall aim of creating safe, strong communities.

Over the last twelve months as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic they have responded proactively to the key themes that have emerged in the city; listening to all our communities and allocating resources and funding where it has been most needed; helping to protect the most vulnerable, helping to keep people safe from harm, assisting people with financial hardship and helping tackle social isolation and inequality.

The Community Committees' Annual Report looks at the progress made over the last twelve months. It outlines the changes which have taken place during 2020 to 2021 and gives examples of some of the work the Community Committees have carried out within their communities to improve the lives of local people of all ages and backgrounds. The report also looks at Wellbeing and Youth Activities Funding (YAF) and the impact it makes, as well as the role the Community Committees undertake in bringing communities together.

In addition to this the report also outlines the social media activity that takes place through the Community Committee structures, which ensures we reach a large number of residents every month through local stories and conversations. During the pandemic our Community Committees have also played an essential role in providing a responsive information service to all our diverse communities in the city, by being a key source of reliable and up to date information. The Coronavirus Help Facebook Groups were set up as a way of promoting services, supporting communities and cascading information in an attempt to tackle the pandemic. The pages were also there to generate discussion and debate but also facilitate conversations around being neighbourly during the national pandemic and assist in some of the volunteering efforts in the city.

As well as looking back over the last 12 months, the report looks forward and mentions the significant challenges but also opportunities that the Coronavirus pandemic has and will present committees with, including:

- The substantial and ongoing financial challenges, as well as the immediate response that the committees provided to local communities by allocating £10,000 per ward to tackle the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic from available wellbeing funds.
- Spend of the Government COVID-19 monies.
- The response from local communities in relation to the pandemic.
- The opportunity to take learning and good practice from the ways in which we have worked differently throughout the pandemic to inform the way we work going forward.
- The momentum brought about by the pandemic to ensure that the local leadership provided through our Elected Members and Community Committees continues to be at the heart of developing local and city-wide structures.

The report says that Community Committees will continue to play a key role in addressing some of these challenges in our local communities in Leeds and the programmes of work that they develop over the next year, will form a key part of the recovery work that is being undertaken in each of the 33 wards throughout the city. This, alongside delegated budget spend for each committee will help to address a further widening of the inequalities gap that has been identified by COVID-19.

### **Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions**

Since the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic, the response from local communities has been unprecedented, with over 5,000 people inducted by VAL to volunteer their time, expertise and experience to support local relief efforts. The sense of pride in being a citizen of Leeds and supporting local people brought about a new sense of civic responsibility and engagement. Key to the mobilisation of our communities has been the civic leadership that's been demonstrated through our elected leaders, who have worked diligently to ensure that local communities have been kept safe and furnished with the things they need, when they need them.

It is also clear that strong, effective partnerships have been developed during the COVID-19 pandemic as a result of this work. These partnerships have flourished and in many cases are continuing to progress, with some now offering wider support to meet local needs, contributing towards the Best Council Plan and the council's overall aim of creating safe, strong communities.

### **Recommendations**

Members of council are asked to:

- a) receive the annual report; and
- b) note the work now being progressed to further improve the effectiveness, community engagement role and improvement work of the Community Committees.

### **Why is the proposal being put forward?**

Members of council are asked to:

- receive the annual report; and
- note the work being undertaken to take the learning and good practice from the ways in which we have worked differently throughout the pandemic to inform the way we work going forward.

## What impact will this proposal have?

### Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted?

Yes

No

Community Committee Chairs have been consulted on their respective Community Committee story contained with the Annual Report.

## What consultation and engagement has taken place?

The Community Committees have previously been consulted on projects and Chairs have been consulted on Community Committee stories contained within the Annual Report.

## What are the resource implications?

Aligning the distribution of Community Committee funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

## What are the legal implications?

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

## What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

Risk implications and mitigation are considered on all funding applications. Projects are assessed to ensure that applicants are able to deliver the intended benefits.

## Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth

Health and Wellbeing

Climate Emergency

Projects submitted to the Community Committee for funding 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
7. Climate Emergency

## Options, timescales and measuring success

### What other options were considered?

In recognition of the need to have an immediate and agile response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Executive Member for Communities and Director of Communities and Environment in March 2020 approved the use of 2020/21 Wellbeing funds (£10,000 per ward) to support COVID-19 related activities. This was underpinned by a fit-for-purpose decision making process, with committee members deciding on spend for each ward.

Following Leeds being moved in to Tier 3 in November 2020, all 33 wards in the city were allocated an extra £10,000 from central Government to tackle the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic in their communities (this was additional money to the Community Committees Wellbeing ring-fenced COVID-19 monies). In an attempt to ensure that the money was spent before the end of the 2020/21 financial year, given the short timescales that applied to this funding, this was once again

underpinned by a fit-for-purpose decision making process, with committee members deciding on spend for each ward.

All projects that are funded by the Community Committees are measured for outcomes, in accordance with localised priorities that have been agreed with each individual committee. Aligning the distribution of Community Committee funding to address local priorities helps to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

Feedback and monitoring information is gathered upon completion of each project that is funded by the committees and this is provided as updates to Elected Members in their respective Community Committee meetings. Case studies are also regularly obtained from partners in various service meetings.

This report is meant as an update in relation to the work of the Community Committees over the last 12 months.

### **How will success be measured?**

In 2021/22 Community Committees will continue to play a key role in addressing some of the key challenges in our local communities in Leeds and the programmes that they develop will form a key part of the COVID-19 recovery work that is being undertaken in each of the 33 wards throughout the city. This, alongside delegated budget spend for each committee will help to address a further widening of the inequalities gap that has been identified by COVID-19. Each year an Annual Report is produced that outlines the work and progress of the Community Committees.

### **What is the timetable for implementation?**

Each year an Annual Report is produced that outlines the work and progress of the Community Committees.

### **Appendices**

Attached at appendix 1 is a copy of the Community Committees Annual Report 2020/21, associated with this paper.

### **Background papers**

There are no background documents associated with this paper.

# Leeds Community Committees Annual Report 2020/21



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## Welcome: Councillor Mary Harland

We are immensely proud of the work our 10 Community Committees continue to do for the residents of Leeds. This work has continued throughout the past year, despite the continued challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key themes have continued to emerge over the last 12 months as a result of Coronavirus. The Community Committees have responded proactively to these key themes; listening to all our communities throughout the city and allocating resources and funding where it has been most needed during the pandemic; helping to protect the most vulnerable, helping to keep people safe from harm, assisting people with financial hardship and helping tackle social isolation and inequality.

The commitment to locality based working has been demonstrated once again over the course of the last 12 months in the broad range of projects that the Community Committees have funded, spending nearly £2 million in 2020/21, totalling over 400 separate grants that were provided to local grass route organisations, voluntary groups and charities, to tackle the immediate and specific needs of our communities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our Community Committees have also played an essential role in providing a responsive information service to all our diverse communities in the city, by being a key source of reliable and up to date information throughout the pandemic. The Coronavirus Help Facebook Groups were set up as a way of promoting services, supporting communities and cascading information in an attempt to tackle the pandemic. The pages were also there to generate discussion and debate but also facilitate conversations around being neighbourly during the national pandemic and assist in some of the volunteering efforts in the city.

The Community Committees continue to work with many partners from different sectors to meet the needs of our communities and the challenge now as we look ahead to next year and the recovery phase of COVID-19, is how we continue to do this successfully despite the significant challenges that the pandemic has provided. Our work may need to be delivered differently but the Community Committees will continue to work hard to ensure that every voice is heard and that we are impacting positively on all our local communities in Leeds.



*Councillor Mary Harland*

*Executive Member for Communities*



## Introduction

The city of Leeds, situated in the centre of the country is the third largest and one of the fastest growing, diverse cities in England. Leeds City Council itself is the second largest metropolitan district in the country, covering 217 square miles with over three quarters of a million residents.

During the course of 2020/21 Leeds City Council has continued its vision to make Leeds the best city in the UK, by being compassionate and caring with a strong economy, tackling poverty and reducing inequalities.

This ambition has been tested over the last 12 months as a result of the continued and ongoing challenges that COVID-19 has presented the city. Leeds City Council however has remained focused on its vision of creating a distinctive, sustainable, ambitious and of particular relevance this last year, a safe city, by working tirelessly with our 10 Community Committees and our 99 elected members.

Normally each year all 10 Community Committees set out their priorities, identifying target areas that need to be addressed over the next 12 months. These targets are identified by using local data that provide valuable information on various issues such as unemployment, health, crime and anti-social behaviour. COVID-19 however meant that there was an urgent need to tackle the immediate and specific effects of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Council, led by elected members, delivered an extensive programme of support across all areas of the city; keeping residents safe, protecting the most vulnerable and ensuring that local communities got the support they needed. The work that took place through our Community Committee structures proved invaluable in making sure our approach was tailored to meet the direct needs of our local communities in a responsive and effective way.

This report covers some of the progress of all 10 committees and demonstrates how they helped provide local residents with a voice. It also provides examples of real life human stories from the pandemic and how some of the projects the committees have funded have benefitted local communities across Leeds in 2020/21, contributing towards the Best Council Plan ([here](#) for the latest version) and the council's overall aim of creating safe, strong communities.



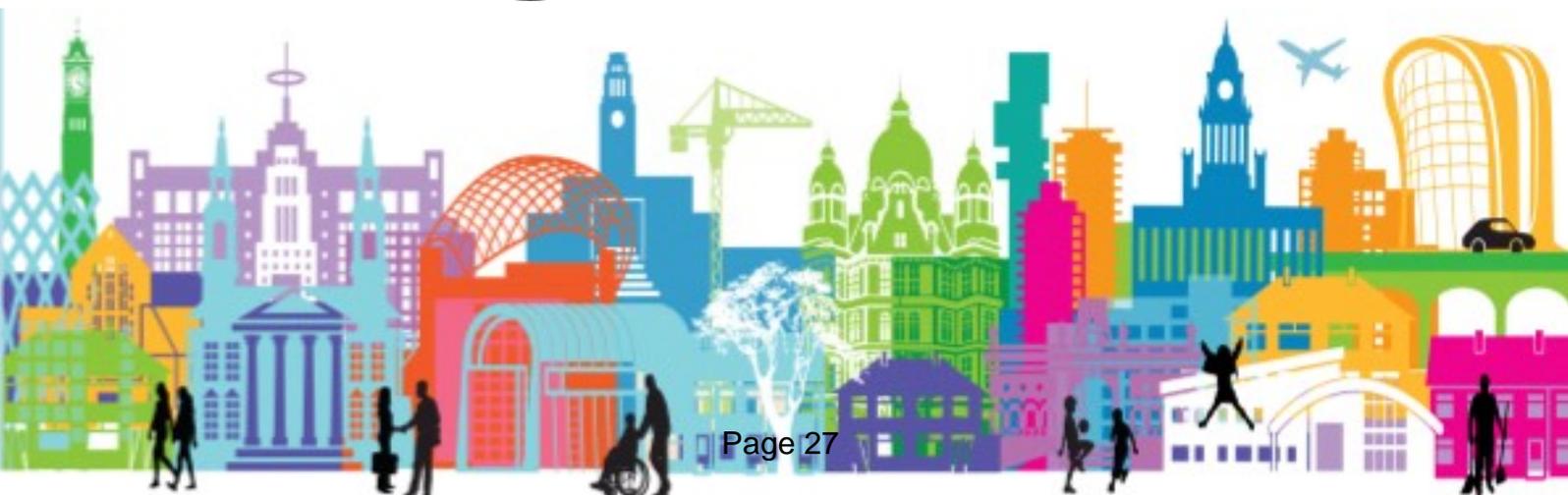
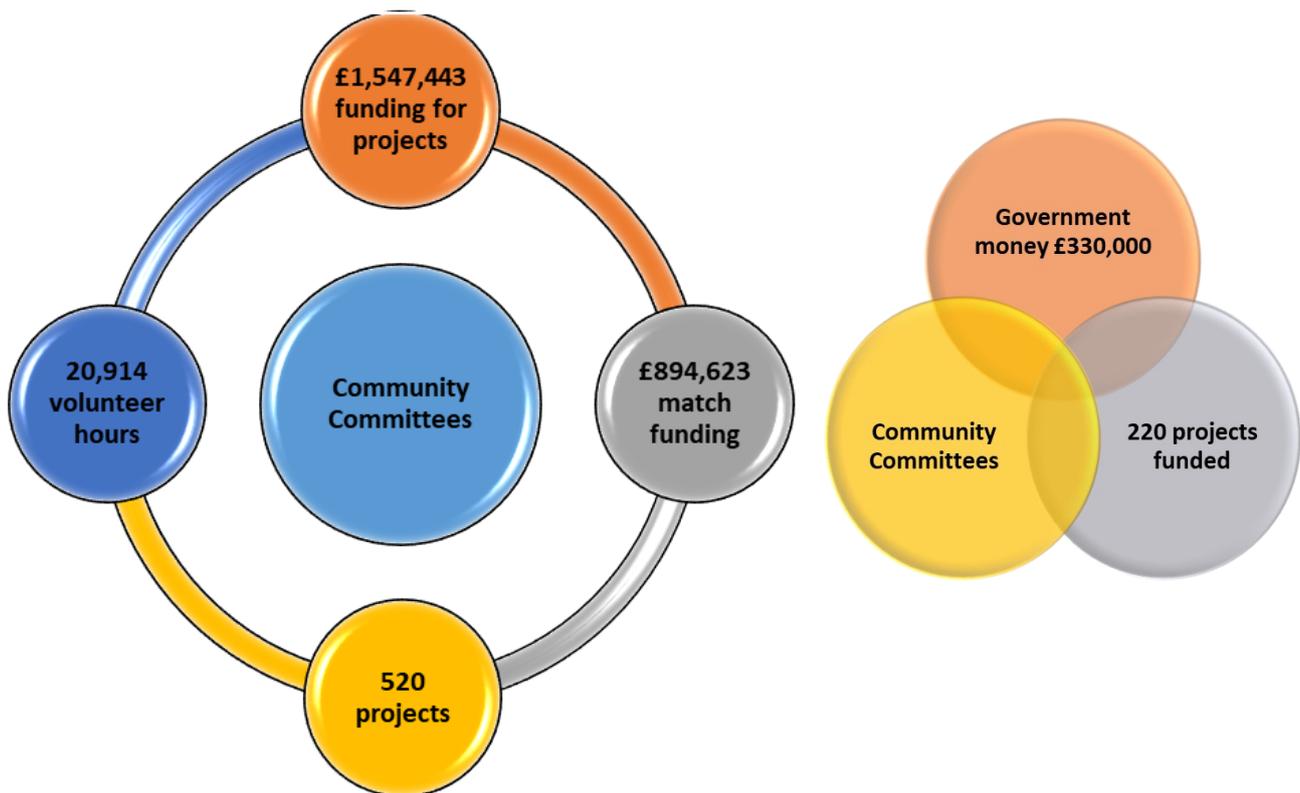
## Spending Money Locally

Community Committees play an important role in understanding and addressing issues of concern to local people. One of the many ways they do this is by funding projects that address local priorities.

In 2020/21 this was even more apparent as the COVID-19 pandemic affected Leeds. With it came some very specific and immediate needs for our communities; challenges that the Community Committees aimed to address by funding much needed projects that tackled the immediate effects of the pandemic in each of the 33 wards in the city.

At the start of each year, every committee is allocated a dedicated sum of money known as the Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activities Fund. This money is provided for local projects and activities and can often be increased through match funding from other sources, although last year the situation was understandably different.

The seriousness of the situation in Leeds as a result of COVID-19 and some of those specific challenges was once gain highlighted in December 2020, when the Community Committees were provided with another £10,000 per ward, £330,000 in total from central Government, to tackle the ongoing effects of COVID-19 in the city.



# Inner East

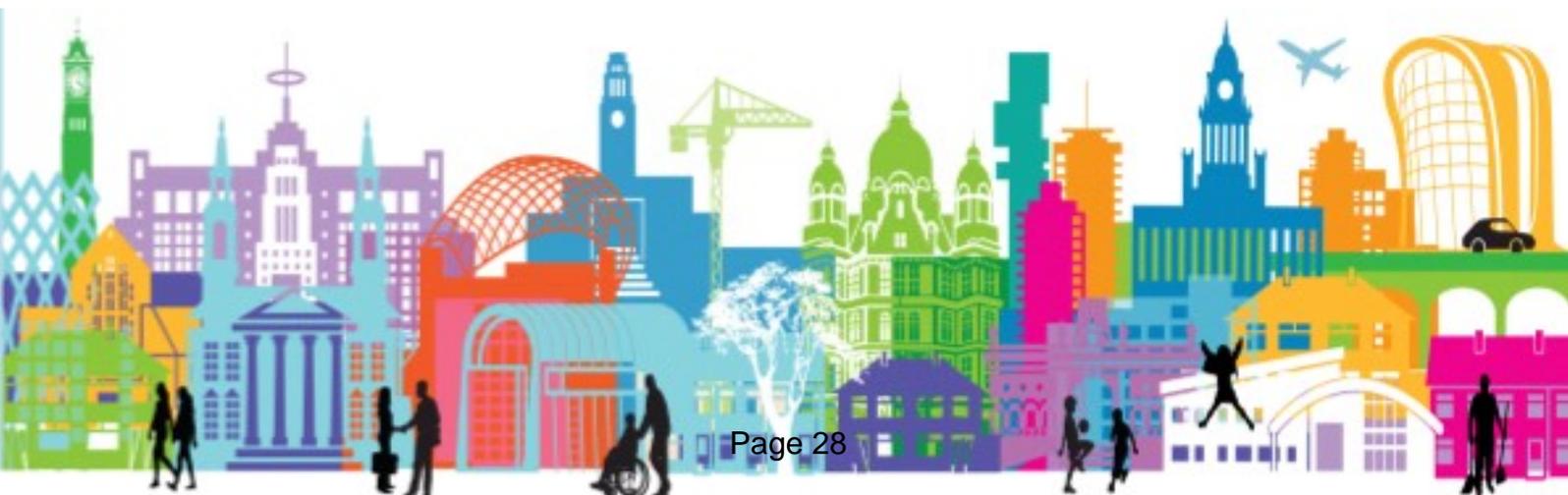
## Kidz Klub Home Visiting Project

The Inner East Community Committee awarded £4,664.72 to Kids Klub to deliver their Home Visiting Project. Kids Klub usually runs a youth bus that picks young people up across the 3 Inner East wards and takes them to the Kidz Klub youth activity sessions at Bridge Street Church in Burmantofts, however due to the COVID-19 pandemic these sessions were unable to take place.

The team at Kids Klub were keen to still provide support to young people and their families and therefore delivered the Home Visiting Project where Kidz Klub staff and volunteers made regular socially distanced visits to young people on their doorstep and delivered them a weekly activity pack. The packs provided activity and engagement with positive messages and were a way to get out useful information that parents and carers might need, as well as providing an opportunity to signpost to other organisations offering support in response to the pandemic.

The visits and activities have been a lifeline of connection through the pandemic and the children have really looked forward to receiving them every week. The packs provided a talking point for follow up visits or calls and were key to Kidz Klub maintaining and building relationships with young people across Inner East. One little boy saved up all 6 months' worth of his beautifully completed colouring sheets to show the team on their next visit, who were all really touched by this.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerEast>



# Inner South

## Ciaran Bingham Foundation Trust

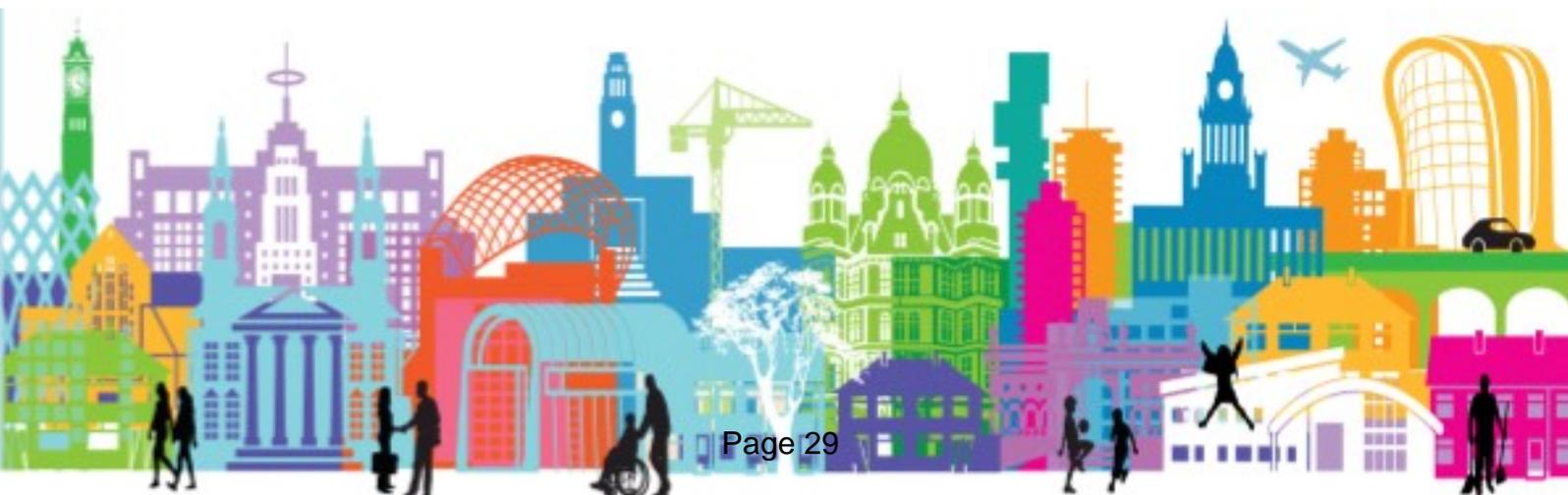
Ciaran Bingham Foundation Trust seeks to reduce the social isolation of older people living in South Leeds by filling the gap in support which results in older people being left alone at weekends, evenings, Christmas and other public holidays. They run 4 weekend luncheon clubs at the Vale Circles, Beeston and also provide social activities, trips, craft activities and a listening ear.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 lockdown at the end of March 2020, the charity had been seriously restricted in the way that it could offer events for their service users. The hub that they normally used at the weekend had closed, with the result that they couldn't cook and serve Sunday lunch for the many people that relied upon its services. In addition, many of their service users were also self-isolating and couldn't leave their homes, being clinically extremely vulnerable.

With the help of the COVID-19 Wellbeing Fund grant of over £1,200 from the Inner South Community Committee, the organisation was able to start supplying a cooked, 2 course meal to their service users across all 3 wards, delivering up to 40 hot meals each Sunday. Between September 2020 and the end of December 2020, the organisation delivered a total of 706 meals in the Inner South area, with the help of their volunteers.

A satisfied service user commented; "I love the food, we get a good hearty meal which some people, like myself, wouldn't go through the trouble of making and it is something to look forward to. This charity means everything to me! You look after me and I really enjoy your functions and being involved and I am really grateful for what you do."

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerSouth>



# Inner West

## Hollybush Wellbeing in Wellies

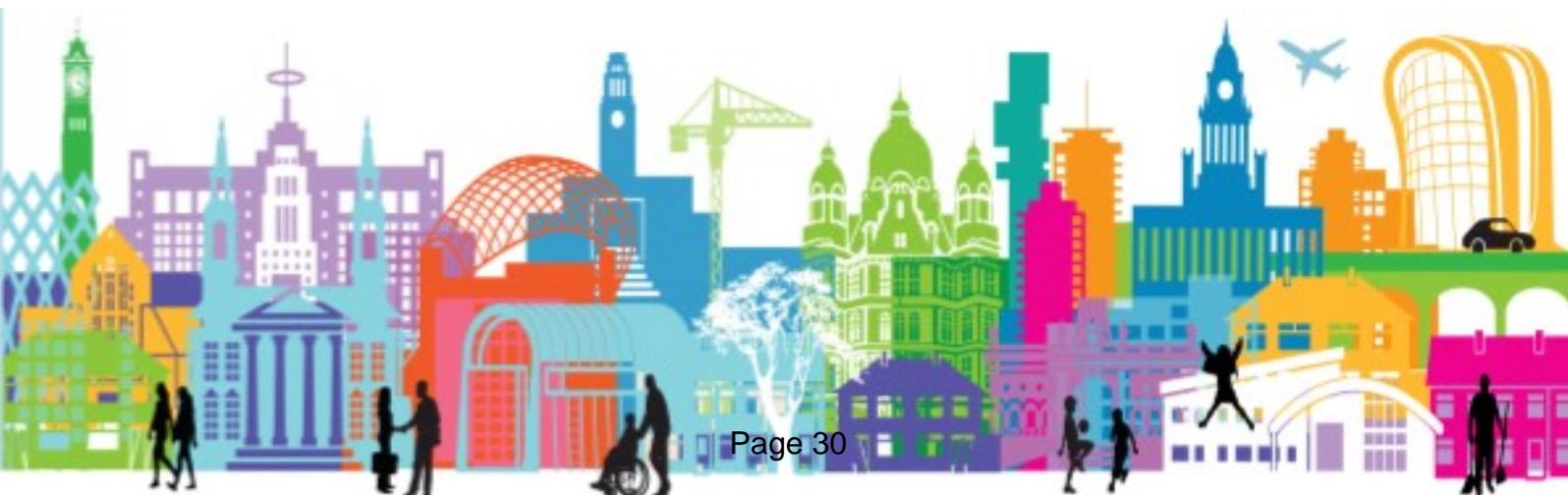
Funding of £8,000 was approved by the Inner West Community Committee for The Conservation Volunteers to deliver a programme of work to make the Inner West Hollybush Site COVID-19 safe, along with 90 Environmental Action Days to engage Inner West Leeds residents.

The programme of work consisted of residents engaging in 500 workdays; running 1 'virtual' open day, looking after green spaces, as well as improving community activity and health in the Inner West area, which supports Leeds City Council's Climate Emergency and Get Set Leeds agendas.

Despite the challenges presented by the Coronavirus pandemic and the ever changing restrictions, The Conservation Trust staff and volunteer team at Hollybush responded with real creativity and commitment, with a definite desire to support the local community.

As COVID-19 restrictions eased and they were allowed to commence some of their activities, the organisation worked hard to make Hollybush compliant as a Covid-19 secure workplace. They also exceeded their target of local Environmental Action Days with volunteers, as demand to volunteer outdoors remained popular, despite the pandemic, with activities including greenspace management, health and well-being walks and litter picks, all with safe social distancing restrictions in place.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerWest>



# Inner North East

## Dance Active Communities Project

The Inner North East Community Committee awarded nearly £2,000 to fund online active communities' fitness/dance classes. The primary aim was to get adults and elderly people from the BAME community active during the pandemic, by offering them online fitness classes via Facebook Live.

RJC Dance based in Chapeltown offered the classes to people living in the committee area. The RJC Dance Active Communities Project provided 7 weekly 1 hour online sessions for adults & elders, using the art form of dance as a vehicle to encourage and motivate, with movement and exercise enhanced by music. The project reactivated bodies and minds that had become inactive during the pandemic and the lockdown period. It also combatted social isolation that many people have experienced.

The sessions were a great success, targeting people who have health and mobility issues in particular, preventing mental health from deteriorating as it provided them something to be involved with on a weekly basis. The sessions supported creative expression, physical fitness and enabled positivity.

A satisfied service user commented; "It's a real tonic "; "Tricia is a lovely teacher and uses the music so cleverly, it inspires us to move in ways we wouldn't otherwise think of"; "Cheering "; " Inspiring " and " Invigorating " .

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerNE>



# Inner North West

## Rainbow Junktion Project

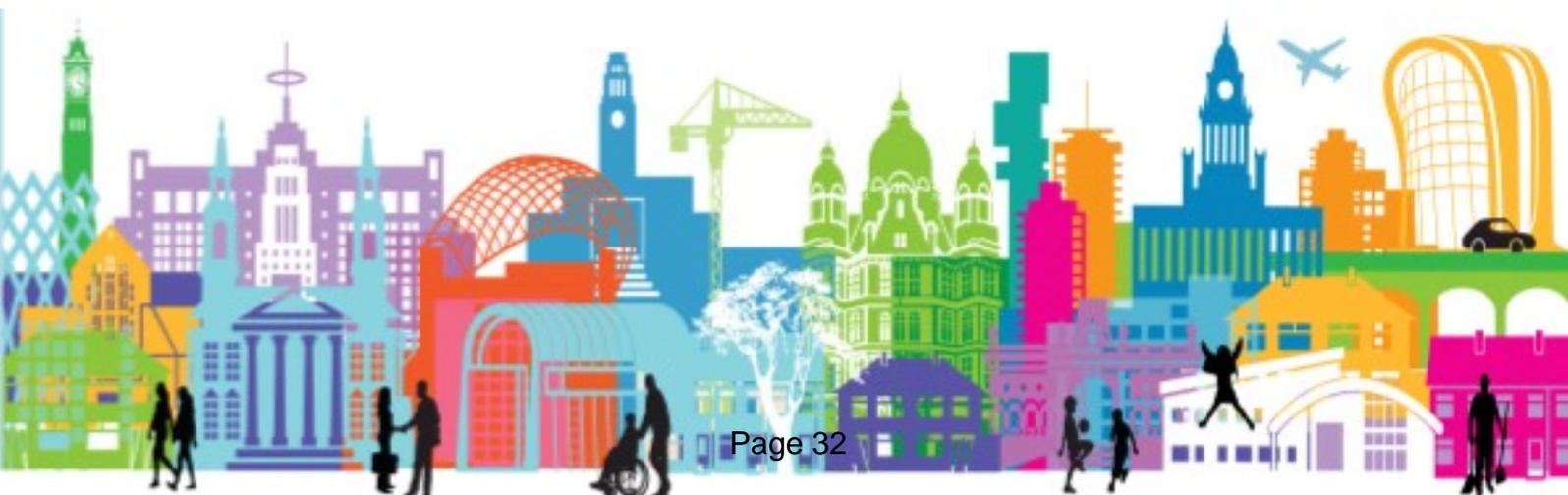
The Inner North West Community Committee awarded £4,000 to fund Rainbow Junktion Café at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. They switched their service to takeaway only and started a free shop and delivery service for those self isolating as a result of COVID-19.

The shop expanded to include fresh food, tinned/dry goods, baby products, cleaning products, toiletries, pet food, clothes and sanitary products. They also added a signposting service which, like everything else at Rainbow Junktion was run by volunteers but also, in addition to this, helped with a wide range of issues from emergency housing, substance abuse, mental health crisis, fuel bills, organising appointments and debt.

Some people that came to Rainbow Junktion said they hadn't been able to feed their family for several days as a result of the financial challenges that the pandemic created and were obviously under incredible stress. They also often mentioned how important it had been that Rainbow Junktion volunteers had been a 'friendly face', remembering their names and asking them how they were doing, as they provided an informal check in service, which, during times of crisis and social isolation, benefitted the communities that were in need of their services.

Volunteers also expressed how important the project had been for their own sense of purpose, greatly benefitting their own mental health and well-being during COVID-19.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerNW>



# Outer East

## Youth Services

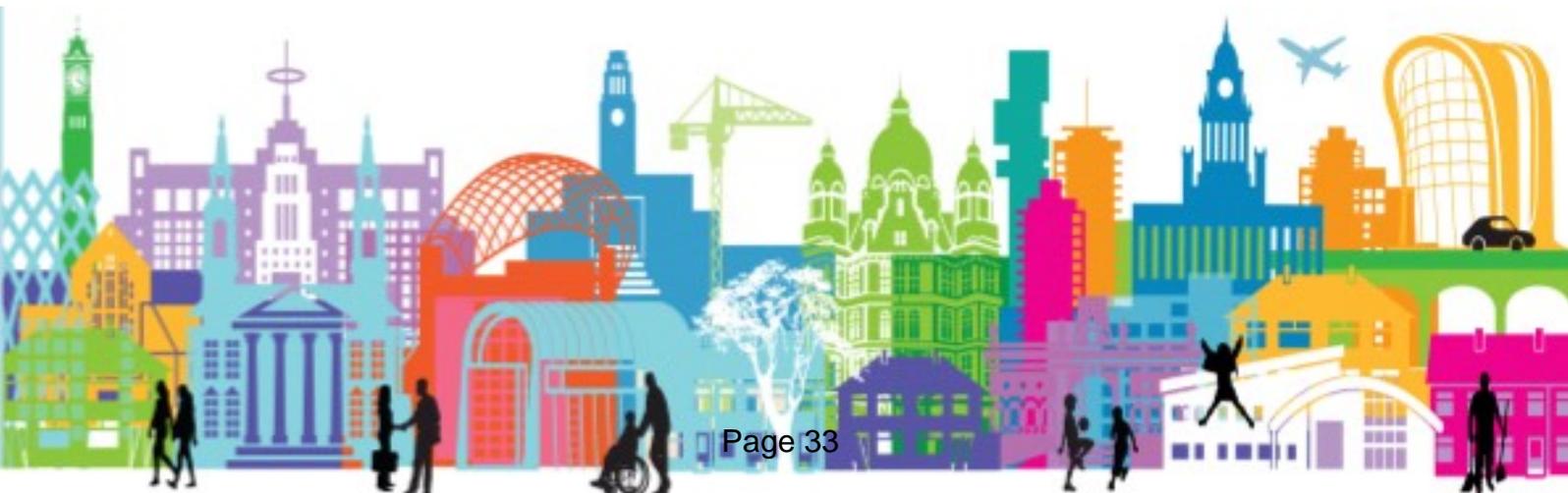
The Outer East Community Committee awarded over £24,000 to Leeds City Council Youth Services to deliver a range of activities and services to young people, across all 4 wards in the Outer East area. Due to COVID-19 the majority of planned trips and activity days were postponed and/or cancelled. The Youth Service had to come up with new ways of engaging young people therefore, all while adhering to Government guidelines and restrictions regarding COVID-19.

In the Crossgates & Whinmoor and Temple Newsam wards, Youth Workers delivered activity packs throughout the Government lockdowns. These packs included information on mental health and included a number of wellbeing tips, quizzes and links to helplines and one to one Zoom support sessions with The Market Place, Teen Connect, ChildLine, Kooth, Mind Mate and Young Minds. In addition to this they provided arts and crafts sessions when planned trips could not go ahead.

In the Garforth & Swillington and Kippax & Methley wards activity bags were created for the purpose of giving the young people something to do in school holidays. In summer 2020 the Youth Service funded a "Guide to Lockdown Life" which included a booklet of activities, stress ball making kit, cress head making kit, various arts & crafts and some sweet treats. These were made up into a "goodie" bag and delivered to young people who requested one through the Youth Service social media accounts.

Youth Workers in all areas also undertook welfare checks on young people who were shielding due to additional health conditions, providing them with a safe space to discuss any issues affecting them. Over the last year Youth Workers have conducted around 300 welfare calls to young people, offering positive support in particular during school closures.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterEast>



# Outer South

## Outer South Garden Maintenance Service

Morley Elderly Action in 2020/21 was commissioned by the Outer South Community Committee to deliver a 1 year gardening scheme to cover the 4 wards of Outer South; Ardsley & Robin Hood, Morley North, Morley South and Rothwell, to anyone over the age of 67, especially those with a disability or anyone unable to cope with gardening due to old age. The main objective of the scheme was maintenance gardening; grass cutting, 'strimming', hedge cutting, cutting back bushes and small trees and weeding.

Funding of £30,000 was given by the committee to provide 4,120 hours of gardening at a subsidised rate to elderly customers, with the remaining funding towards the cost of the project being provided by the Outer South Housing Advisory Panel. This was an additional amount of funding to previous years, meaning that the gardeners were also able to providing regular updates to customers regarding the ever changing COVID-19 guidance and regulations.

During the pandemic careful management and budgeting allowed the service to operate throughout the year; one of the few scheme that was able to run. This was a real lifeline to clients, as gardeners for some of the scheme's elderly residents would be their only connection to the outside world. This helped to safeguard some of its most vulnerable and socially isolated community members, often done via a simple 'check' in, in amongst the gardening service, or through phone calls from the project coordinator. Gardeners were sympathetic with clients who suffered from memory problems including Dementia, as they had received Dementia Awareness Training and were 'Dementia Friends', often 'going that extra mile' for their clients; this could be from changing a light bulb to putting out bird food.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterSouth>



# Outer West

## Support for the Elderly Community

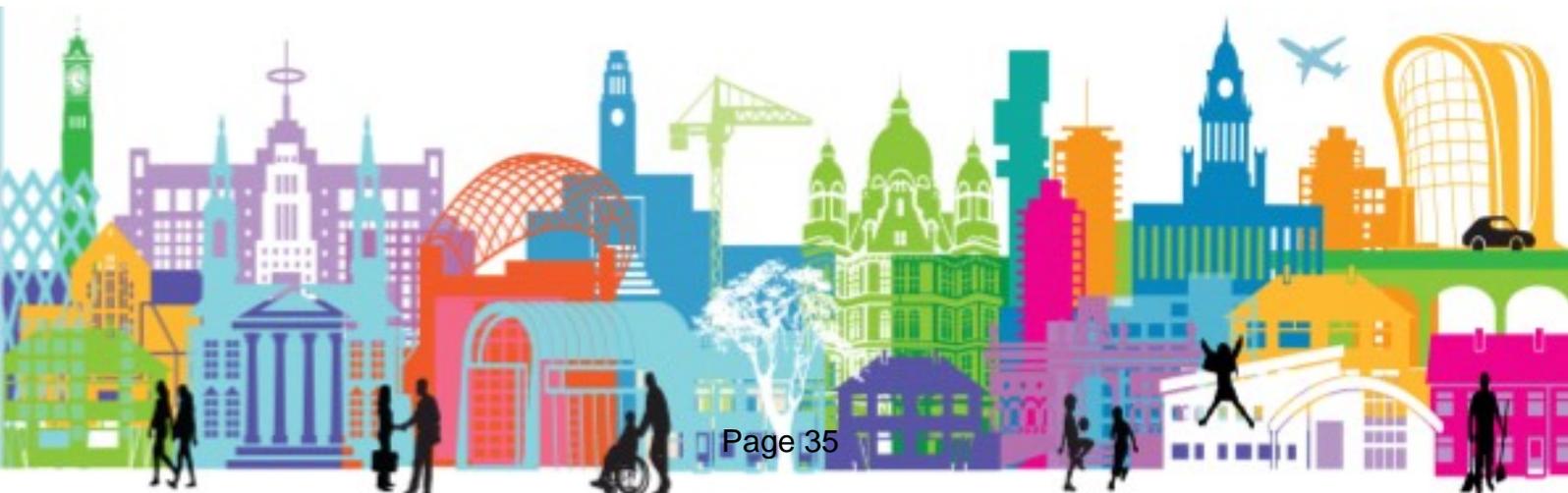
Throughout a challenging year in 2020/21, the Outer West Community Committee ensured that support for elderly residents was a key priority, funding £3,500; £1,600 towards bowling clubs and £1,900 to Neighbourhood Action. Due to the lockdown and ongoing social restrictions, the bowling greens in the area were not able to open and as a result were left in difficult financial circumstances. The Outer West Community Committee provided key funding to a number of greens in the Outer West area, recognising the extensive support the clubs provide to elderly people and the wider community, both in keeping active and reducing social isolation.

In the Calverley & Farsley ward, both Westroyd Park Bowling Club and Victoria Park Bowling Club made use of the funds to invest in essential membership drives for the upcoming summer season, enabling them to achieve better self-sufficiency going forward.

In the Pudsey ward, Pudsey Park Bowling Club and Tyersal Park Bowling Club were able to introduce much needed updates to the venues to make them COVID-19 safe for members and visitors, with anti-bacterial stations, outdoor seating and other sanitising equipment. A spokesperson at Tyersal Park Bowling Club commented that “this money has helped to improve our club greatly, has created a lot of interest in new members for next year and now the future for the club looks a lot rosier”.

In the Farnley & Wortley ward, essential funding was provided to Neighbourhood Action Farnley, New Farnley and Moor Top, to ensure key support services to the elderly community could continue. This came in the form of food deliveries, check-in calls and the provision of digital laptops to help keep elderly people connected. Online events such as Zoom quizzes and Zoom bingo sessions were extremely well received by participants, bringing people together and contributing to a feeling of strong community in the area.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterWest>



# Outer North East

## Police Resources (Electric Pedal Cycles)

The Outer North East Community Committee funded the Outer North East Neighbourhood Policing Team nearly £5,000 to purchase two electric pedal cycles, to be used in the Harewood and Wetherby wards.

Both wards have a large rural population; residential as well as business, which understandably takes a great deal of time and effort to cover. Because of these challenges, on some occasions police cars are used to transport officers to the outer areas of Leeds, as the Police Community Support Officers have a very limited number of bicycles to use.

The funding from the Outer North East Community Committee meant that by purchasing electric pedal cycles, officers were able to cover a larger geographical area during each working shift. This also freed up police vehicles to attend to other operational matters in the Outer North East Neighbourhood Policing Team area.

The deployment of the electric pedal cycles has meant there has been an increase in use of the cycle paths in the ward, which has also increased community engagement generally, largely with other cyclists but also other members of the local community. The electric pedal cycles have become a talking point, with members of the public stopping to chat with the Police Community Support Officers and this has enabled them to deal with more issues in these local neighbourhoods.

The pedal cycles had police livery applied to provide enhanced visibility in the community and the model used by the Outer North East Neighbourhood Policing Team also has an extended life battery, with a high level of safety features, meaning that money has been spent wisely. Funding for this particular project fits in with the safer and stronger communities agenda.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterNE>



# Outer North West

## Affordable After School Activities and Holiday Clubs

The Outer North West Community Committee provided over £5,000 of funding for affordable after school activities for young people in the Outer North West area. In particular it focused on providing artistic and creative activities to be completed during home learning, particularly relevant in 2020 due to the closure of schools and after school clubs because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

As a result of the many health and wellbeing challenges that young people faced during the pandemic, the project focused on 'providing the fun and opportunities to express creatively'. Oddballs Theatre & Hullabaloo Children's Orchestra partnered with Guiseley Theatre to develop a home learning website looking at life and roles within the theatre. With each role they developed a video and worksheets for young people to complete at home. This was promoted and used in schools and home learning during the national lockdowns.

The project group also created 3 children's literature packs; a child would receive a book and a box containing worksheets, crafts activities and links to web pages, with additional learning and performance activities. These packs contained an average of 10 hours' worth of activities for young people and were designed to encourage reading, promote creativity and imaginative thinking. 200 young people in the Outer North West Committee area benefited from these packs.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterNW>



# Community Voice and Influence

## Youth Summits

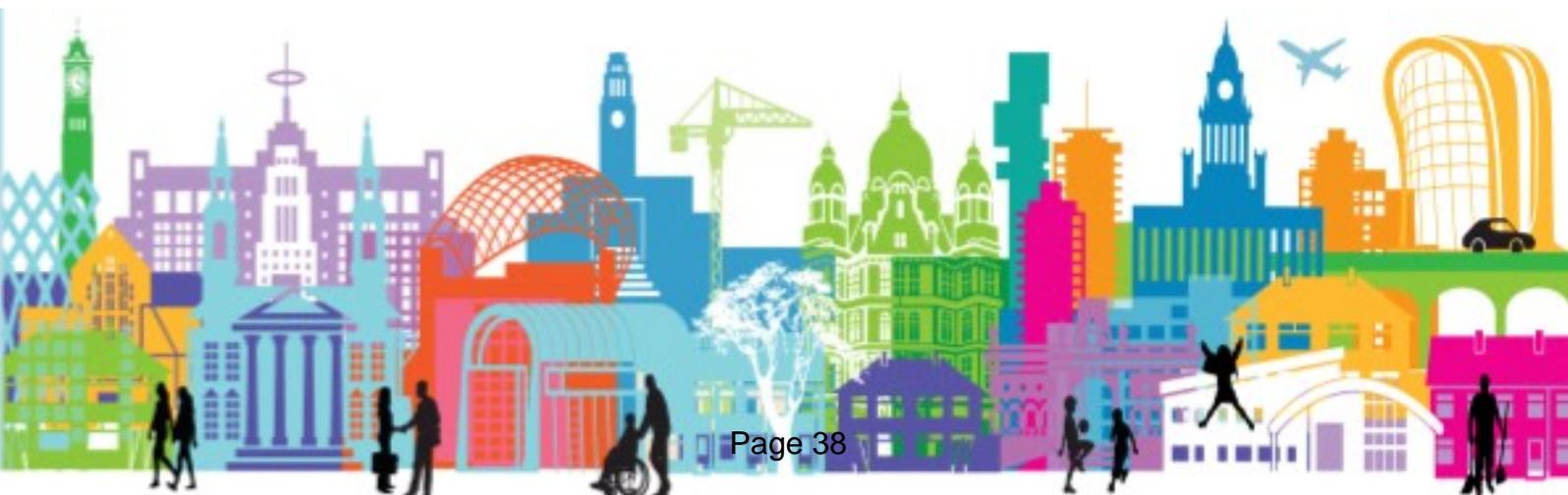
Youth Summits are an opportunity for young people aged 8-17 years living in Leeds to learn about local democracy and influence decision making by taking part in a consultation exercise that informs the Community Committee's Youth Activity Fund budget spend for the following year.

Building on our commitment to engage and involve children and young people in decision making in their own communities, young people have once again been involved in choosing which activities should be supported by the Community Committees' Youth Activity Fund in 2020/21, albeit in a slightly different way as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Youth Summits could not be delivered in their normal manner, Community Committees agreed that because of COVID-19, an online consultation survey on budget spend priorities would be coordinated across the city. Capturing this feedback would ensure that young people were still able to inform the Youth Activity Fund spend for each committee in 2021/22 and in this respect the survey would produce the same outcome as a physical Youth Summit.

Promotion of the survey was publicised far and wide across the Community Committee areas, with information being posted on the Community Committees Facebook pages, publicity being sent out to all school & cluster contacts, youth groups and any other organisations that are funded, or work with young people in the Community Committee areas, as well as being circulated to local Councillors and the committees mailing lists. As schools started to reopen from the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021, schools were also made aware of the survey and its importance.

Although things were done differently, the online consultation survey has been a big success, with around 1,300 responses from children and young people across the city. These responses will all feed in to each individual committee area for Elected Members to consider when making decisions on the Youth Activity Fund budget spend in 2021/22.



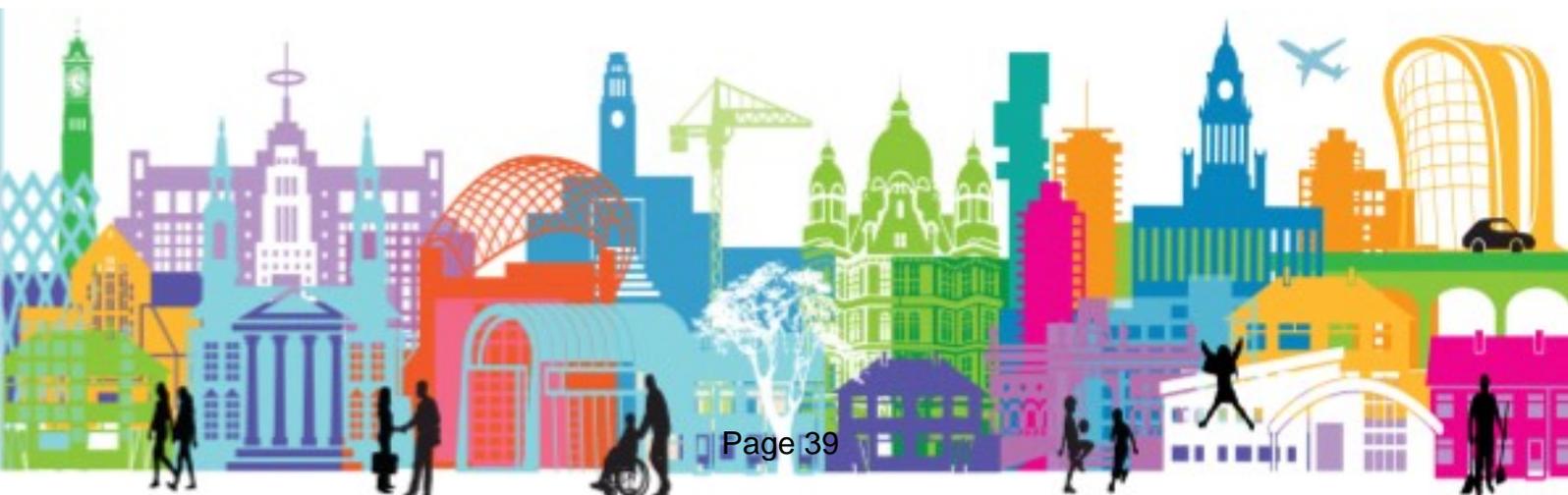
# Community Voice and Influence

## Youth Activity Consultation Survey

All the consultation that took place fed into an online survey, with responses providing a citywide picture for activities across Leeds. Children and young people told us that their top 5 funded activities in 2021/22 should be: 1) sports clubs (such as rugby and football); 2) cooking; 3) dance; 4) youth clubs; 5) outdoor activities.

The feedback showed that the majority of young people wanted youth activities on offer in venues such as community centres, youth clubs and sport centres, as well as activities delivered outdoors. Young people also wanted the majority of provision taking place regularly after school, in the evenings and on the weekend, as well as ensuring that all activities are inclusive of friendship groups, have refreshments available and have good quality staff.

Feedback from children and young people involved in Youth Summits has always been very positive, so a priority this year for the Community Committees will be for them to deliver physical events for children and young people, as long as it is safe for us to do so.



# Responding to the Pandemic

## Community Committee Meetings

As a result of the Coronavirus pandemic Community Committees were not able to meet and a number of meetings at the end of March 2020 were cancelled as a result of 'lockdown'. Constitutionally, Community Committees are council meetings held in public, however the practicalities of holding public meetings as a result of the pandemic were not realistic, so committees decided to meet virtually in order to be able to respond proactively to the immediate challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

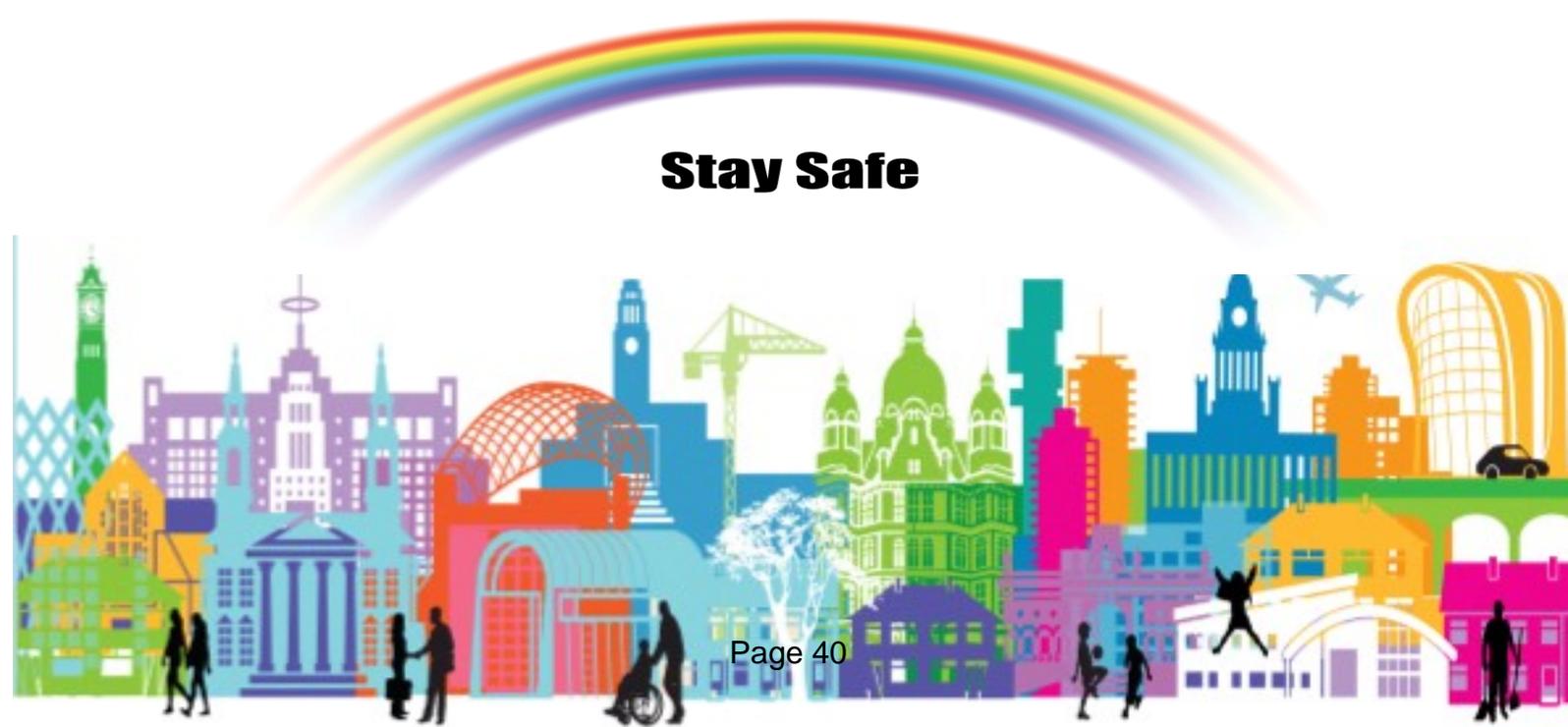
Since the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic, Community Committees have played a pivotal role in providing leadership in the co-ordination and delivery of local relief efforts and it was agreed in April 2020 that whilst moving to virtual consultative forums, the focus of committee meetings would be on addressing local challenges related to the pandemic, which included the spend of delegated budgets.

Whilst the committees continued to meet virtually using the Zoom Pro platform, formal committee meetings resumed from the winter cycle of meetings, in-line with other Council committees, boards and panels. Committee meetings were then scheduled in to the Council Calendar with a link attached, to allow members of the public to observe the meeting on the Council's You Tube channel.

As committees were keen to engage with communities, as part of the standard 'open forum' agenda item, members of the public were invited to put forward a written submission. These covered a number of issues including council budget saving proposals and issues relating to anti-social behaviour. Some of the written submissions related to city wide issues and where this was the case, these were passed on to the appropriate service and also fed in to any consultation that was taking place in relation to the issue being raised.

All Community Committees had varying amounts of engagement in relation to this new way of working during the pandemic, however COVID-19 has provided a real opportunity for the committees to look at how they actively engage in the future with a much wider audience and discussions are ongoing around future meetings, looking at alternative ways of engaging with the public.

**YouTube:** [Leeds City Council - Committees, Boards and Panels - YouTube](#)



**Stay Safe**

## Responding to the Pandemic

### £10,000 Wellbeing Budget Coronavirus Grants Pots

In recognition of the need to have an immediate and agile response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Executive Member for Communities and Director of Communities and Environment in March 2020 approved the use of 2020/21 Wellbeing funds (£10,000 per ward) to support COVID-19 related activities. This was underpinned by a fit-for-purpose decision making process, with committee members deciding on spend for each ward. At the end of March 2021, almost 200 separate grants had been awarded by Community Committees, totalling just over £260,000. Grants awarded covered a wide range of local support needs and activities.

### £10,000 Government Coronavirus Grants Pots

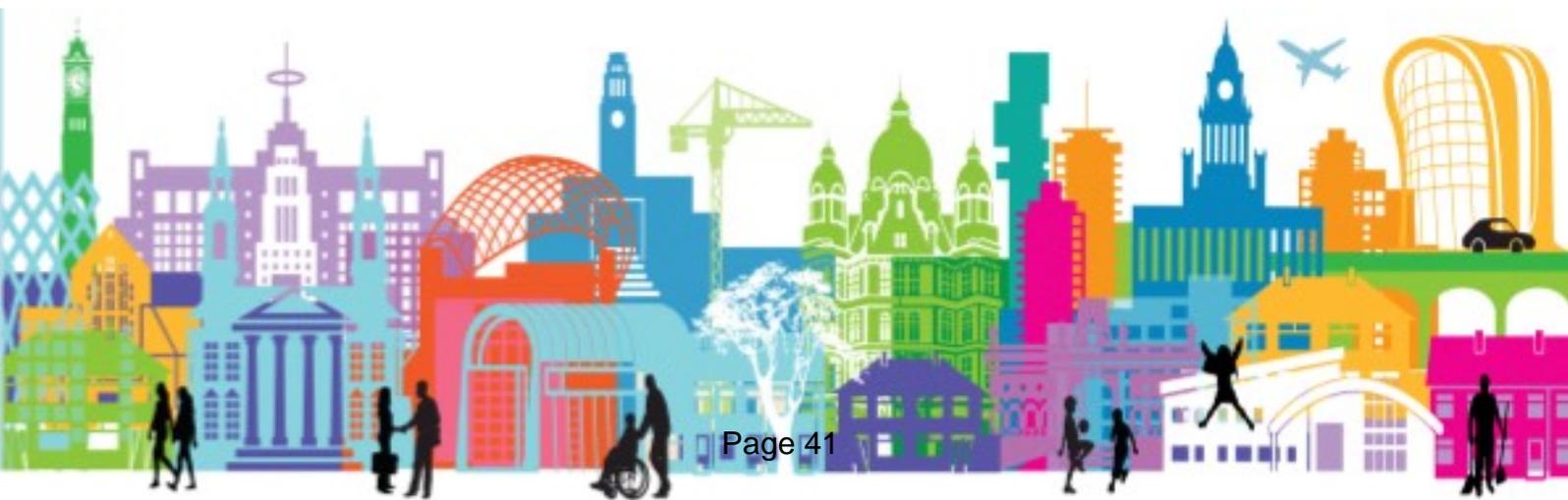
Following Leeds being moved in to Tier 3 in November 2020, all 33 wards in the city were allocated an extra £10,000 from central Government to tackle the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic in their communities (this was additional money to the Community Committees Wellbeing ring-fenced COVID-19 monies). In an attempt to ensure that the money was spent before the end of the 2020/21 financial year, given the short timescales that applied to this funding, the criteria used for the COVID-19 Wellbeing ring-fenced monies was applied. At the end of March 2021, over 220 separate grants had been awarded by Community Committees, totalling £330,000. Grants awarded cover a wide range of local support needs and activities.

### Temporary Youth Activity Fund Revised Criteria

As a direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic, in November 2020, the Executive Member for Communities agreed to apply some temporary flexibility until the end of the financial year to the current Youth Activity Fund criteria. This was done in order to enable Community Committees to provide additional support to children and young people who were experiencing greater disadvantages as a result of the pandemic and associated government restrictions/guidance.



**Stay Safe**



# Responding to the Pandemic

## Digital Inclusion

Over the last year the Community Committees received many requests to fund digital equipment for children and young people from the COVID-19 monies. Clearly there was a need for digital devices and data was a significant barrier during the COVID-19 pandemic, with less prevalence of data support available.

As Community Committees were interested in spending monies on this really important issue, which had clearly been exaggerated by the pandemic, Elected Members utilised a checklist to make an informed decision on whether to support a funding request for digital equipment and data.

Community Committees looked at a number of options when considering funding projects that addressed digital exclusion in our local communities, including; MiFi (a MiFi device can be connected to a [cellular network](#) and provide Internet access for up to 10 devices), dongles to supplement device distribution, or support to families with devices who were unable to afford data.

This coordinated approach across the Community Committees ensured that digital equipment and data was going where it was most needed in our local communities; working with schools and clusters who were best placed to assist in the distribution of devices and data order, by identifying families who were not logging on to remote learning, or those who had expressed difficulties due to having large families; <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/get-laptops-and-tablets-for-children-who-cannot-attend-school-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19>; <https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/devices/how-to-order>

As digital inclusion was not an exclusive issue for children & young people, the committees also used a similar checklist when other requests for funding were received, as there were various equipment gifting schemes and other types of grant schemes that had been made available during the pandemic; <https://leedsdigitalinclusion.wordpress.com/support-for-organisations/toolkits/>; <https://leedsdigitalinclusion.wordpress.com/support-for-individuals/equipment-and-connectivity/>.

Over the course of 2020/21, the Community Committees spent in excess of £100,000 on digital equipment in our local communities. This included Chromebooks, laptops, tablets and internet access and helped to address some of the digital inequalities experienced in Leeds as a result of COVID-19.



**Stay Safe**

# Responding to the Pandemic

## Community Care Volunteers/Volunteer Hubs

The COVID-19 pandemic quickly brought to the fore a large number of specific and immediate needs across all our communities in Leeds. To address some of these needs Voluntary Action Leeds in partnership with Leeds City Council launched a new volunteering programme, Community Care Volunteers.

The response was excellent and at its peak, the programme attracted sign ups from nearly 8,000 people across the city. Of these 8,000 people, 5,400 went on to fully complete all parts of their induction, meaning they were ready to be deployed.

In order to ensure that volunteers could be deployed to support people locally, Voluntary Action Leeds worked in partnership with Leeds City Council Communities Team to set up a new network of volunteer 'hubs' across the city. Discussions were facilitated with a range of third sector organisations who were interested in being a ward level hub and leading the response to meeting needs at a local level. 27 third sector organisations confirmed their intent to participate in the programmes and the volunteer response commenced.

Whilst the Leeds City Council Community Hubs closed following the onset of the pandemic, Customer Access and Welfare worked hard to maintain their support to local communities, through their key role in this programme of work. The COVID-19 Helpline was established alongside the existing Local Welfare Support Service. Both helplines recorded food referrals and systems were put in place to ensure food and support was provided and accessible to those most in need and impacted by COVID-19. In addition to food parcels, the service offered other support with shopping, prescriptions, fuel, hygiene products, baby products, dog walking and welfare/befriending telephone calls.

Following the launch of a central Leeds City Council COVID--19 Telephone Helpline in late March, accompanied by a citywide distribution of leaflets to 330,000 households to promote it, the Volunteer Hubs took on the responsibility of responding to referrals for support from people living locally to them.

The following stories provide some examples of how locality working partners have responded during the COVID-19 crisis, which Elected Members and Community Committees have played an essential role in.

# THANK YOU!

**Stay Safe**



# Responding to the Pandemic

## Volunteer Hubs

The 'lockdown' in Leeds and the rest of the country happened at the end of March 2020 and this presented the Community Committees, as well as the whole city with some significant challenges. The pandemic had a massive impact on many sectors and organisations globally and unfortunately the council and the Community Committees were no different.

Since the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic, the response from local communities has been unprecedented, with around 2,000 people volunteering their time, expertise and experience to support local relief efforts. The sense of pride in being a citizen of Leeds and supporting local people brought about a new sense of civic responsibility and engagement. Key to the mobilisation of our communities has been the civic leadership that's been demonstrated through our elected leaders, who have worked diligently to ensure that local communities have been kept safe and furnished with the things they need, when they need them.

It is also clear that strong, effective partnerships have been developed through the work of the Community Care Hubs. These partnerships have flourished and in many cases are continuing to progress, with some now offering wider support to meet local needs: [Microsoft Word - Scrutiny Report Volunteering SM FINAL.doc \(leeds.gov.uk\)](#)

**YouTube:** <https://youtu.be/OAEubQ9xUNc>



**Stay Safe**



# Responding to the Pandemic

## Inner East: Burmantofts & Richmond Hill (Mencap)

Ten local organisations came together under the leadership of Leeds Mencap, to coordinate the local volunteer and welfare response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This partnership have worked together very effectively over the past year, providing essential support to people in the ward that have been adversely affected by the pandemic. The work of the partnership is evolving as the impacts of COVID-19 change; the number of referrals being taken by the council helpline is steadily decreasing but the economic and psychological impacts remain a significant challenge. Leeds Mencap have been successful in securing Lottery Funding, which they will use over the coming months, enabling them to continue their leadership and coordination role for the partnership. The main focus of this project will be moving people away from emergency support and connecting people with the relevant support they need as they recover from the lockdown phase of the pandemic.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LeedsMencap/posts/2752902041499675>



**Stay Safe**



# Responding to the Pandemic

## Inner South: Beeston & Holbeck (Slung Low)

A theatre company, Slung Low, with the help of volunteers, became very busy picking up shopping and prescriptions, delivering food parcels and hot meals, dog walking and carrying out welfare calls during the COVID-19 pandemic. They also put together the beautiful LS11 Art Gallery where local people submitted artwork, which Slung Low used to line the streets. This was a far cry from their usual role producing large community theatre performances, showcasing the work of artists in Holbeck and running their Cultural Community College. The Slung Low Team have discovered new areas of the local community which they previously had little contact with, new partnerships have formed with organisations they'd never been in touch with and amazing individuals have stepped up. Slung Low have now returned to doing some of their day-to-day work, albeit in a COVID-19 secure environment, such as outdoor performances to families and even a drive thru show, which are all making a massive impact in the local community.

Website: <https://www.slunglow.org/>



**Stay Safe**



# Responding to the Pandemic

## Inner West: Armley (New Wortley Community Centre)

New Wortley Community Centre worked through 'lockdown' delivering essential services to the community as the local hub for Armley. Through this work, they reached a wider audience and engaged with new people, which emphasised an ambition to have a greater reach into the local community and highlighted a previous low level of engagement with the BAME community. The centre was awarded £63,000 from the National Lottery to deliver a 6 month COVID-19 Response Project to meet the changing needs of local people during the pandemic. The project continues the existing Building Blocks provision but also funds a Mental Health Support Worker and a dedicated Development Worker targeting the BAME community, who will develop a range of support and learning opportunities appropriate and relevant to need.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TeamNewWortley/>



**Stay Safe**



# Responding to the Pandemic

## Inner North East: Moortown (InterACT)

Community Care Volunteering in the Moortown Ward was coordinated by InterACT Church and Community Partnership. InterACT is a Charitable Incorporate Organisation formally made up of 5 partner churches and are a well-established third sector organisation that have worked closely with Leeds City Council and communities over many years. Along with other Volunteer Hubs InterACT were kept busy during the pandemic, offering a 7 day service to community members that needed support and assistance with various tasks, including shopping for those who were self isolating, delivering hot meals, becoming a 'phone buddy' service for the socially isolated, as well as giving out shopping vouchers and food parcels. InterACT's experience and pragmatic approach enabled them to navigate a challenging initial period and maintain an excellent level of support for the community. Whilst there was a reduction in the number of referrals coming through the Leeds City Council Helpline as time progressed during the pandemic, this did not reflect the list of repeat support clients that the organisation assisted on a weekly basis.

**Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/pg/InteractCCP/photos/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/InteractCCP/photos/?ref=page_internal)



**Stay Safe**



## Responding to the Pandemic

### Inner North West: Weetwood (Older People's Action in the Locality)

Older People's Action in the Locality is a registered charity and was established in January 2002 as part of the Leeds Neighbourhood NetworkS. They support older people in a number of areas to live safe, healthy, independent lives without isolation but in March 2020 were the designated COVID-19 Volunteer Hub for Weetwood, working with 2 other organisations who provided support; Interact and Step. Older People's Action in the Locality assisted its most disadvantaged community members with a wide range of tasks, including shopping for those who were self isolating, delivering hot meals, becoming a 'phone buddy' service for the socially isolated, as well as giving out shopping vouchers and food parcels. Communication between organisations working in the ward increased during the pandemic and Step are now hopeful that a good percentage of their referrals for the over 60's will join them in their regular activities once all COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Other partnerships have developed through the use of digital technology over the last year, such as Zoom, with various meetings arranged with St Paul's Church Ireland Wood who were awarded funding from the Healthy Holidays Fund. Effective partnership working has been established, ensuring effective support to all sections of the community.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/OPALLeeds16/>



**OPAL**  
 OLDER PEOPLE'S  
 ACTION IN THE LOCALITY

**Stay Safe**



## Responding to the Pandemic

### Outer East: Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley (Garforth Neighbourhood Elders)

Garforth Neighbourhood Elders operated as the lead Volunteer Hub organisation across 2 wards; Garforth & Swillington and Kippax & Methley. During the pandemic they were operating 5 days a week, with 359 volunteers and 10 staff doing a range of activities in their local communities. Volunteer Telephone Befrienders made outgoing calls to clients and emergency food packs were delivered, which Councillors were extremely helpful with, identifying a suitable venue for distribution purposes via a lockup premise which was secured in Allerton Bywater. Other services included Bespoke Volunteer Shoppers, a service provided to those that were receiving 'end of life care'; Emergency Shoppers for client's with extreme dietary needs; daily pick up of prescriptions and driving the elderly to hospital appointments.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/garforthnet/>



**Stay Safe**



## Responding to the Pandemic

### Outer South: Ardsley & Robin Hood, Morley North, Morley South (Groundwork)

Groundwork was appointed as the Volunteer Hub for Ardsley & Robin Hood, Morley North and Morley South. Monday to Friday they had 2 dedicated staff members leading service delivery. One of these led on volunteer engagement whilst the other led on client tasks. Tasks were predominantly shopping and prescription pick-ups but they did start to see a growth in other tasks such as dog walking. They also provided daily check-ins and telephone support for a growing number of clients, as they started the process during lockdown of widening the volunteer base with more volunteers allocated for telephone support. They also provided energy advice to clients through their Green Doctor Service and plan to further expand this into a more pro-active service as it provides another form of social interaction for clients who would benefit from this. They are continuing to look into developing a number of other social interaction initiatives, with an aim of developing a programme of support activities that volunteers and staff can support clients with.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/GroundworkYorkshire/>



**Stay Safe**



## Responding to the Pandemic

### Outer West: Calverley & Farsley, Pudsey (Pudsey Community Project)

Pudsey Community Project were the Volunteer Hub for the Calverley & Farsley and Pudsey wards, responding to an average of 100 referrals a week. A total of 150 volunteers were assigned to Pudsey Community Project via the Voluntary Action Leeds Community Care Volunteering Programme. Due to the level of local referrals they were initially using up to 35 volunteers at the start of the pandemic, however the volunteer numbers steadily increased as the weeks progressed. The remaining volunteers who had not been deployed provided neighbourhood packs, which included tips on how they could offer support and help to their neighbours and community in a safe manner. Pudsey Community Project were influential in establishing and delivering essential services within the local community, including; collection points which were established at St. Wilfred's, St. Johns and St. James Churches, for goods such as food, drink, toiletries, pet food and basic medicines; transportation of the above collections to the main hub at Pudsey Parish Church, as well as responding and adapting to emerging needs to provide a wider range of services, including welfare calls to isolated individuals and dog walking.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pudseycommunityproject/>



**Stay Safe**



## Responding to the Pandemic

### Outer North East: Harewood, Wetherby (Wetherby in Support of the Elderly)

Wetherby in Support of the Elderly (WiSE) is a registered charity organisation whose aim is to improve quality of life for the over 60's by providing community-based activities, information, help and support. It is one of the 37 Neighbourhood Networks across the city. WiSE realised that their normal way of setting up a project during the COVID-19 pandemic was not possible and like other organisations, had to improvise; "the challenge was that normally when a project starts there's time to plan, trial and then run it". The organisation during the pandemic assisted with food supplies, vouchers and prescriptions. The Leeds City Council telephone referral system slowly followed with the e-voucher shopping system and later the e-portal. For food supplies WiSE worked with Fareshare and topped up supplies by using the grant money from Leeds City Council to buy food. Referrals started to come in at the same time as volunteers through the Community Cares Volunteers and along with WiSE's existing volunteers, tasks were allocated to those best suited for the job required. WiSE worked alongside other groups who were operating in the wards.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wetherbywise/>



**Stay Safe**



## Responding to the Pandemic

### Outer North West: Otley, Yeadon (Otley Action for Older People)

Otley Action for Older People is a long-established community-based organisation working on behalf of the older population of Otley, Pool and Arthington and is part of the Leeds Neighbourhood Networks. When Otley Action for Older People became a Volunteer Hub it meant several challenges; they needed to expand and represent all age ranges, as well as the area that they covered needed to widen. The change meant that they were working 50 hour weeks at the beginning of the pandemic. The method of referrals reflects their speedy COVID-19 response; because of the leaflet drop Otley Action for Older People and other local organisations were rung directly rather than going through the Leeds City Council Helpline and although referrals from Leeds City Council were 7 a day at their peak and a total of 175 as of 12th June 2020, the direct referrals totalled 100 a week with 50 regular requirements a week as well as an additional 51 weekly extra requests. As well as coordinating the volunteers, locals were entertained with quizzes, virtual art exhibitions, recitals and comedy events.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/OtleyActionForOlderPeople/>



**Stay Safe**



# Responding to the Pandemic

## Cultural Food Hubs

In responding to the COVID-19 crisis, the council identified that there were residents in Leeds who needed help and support with emergency food, which better met their cultural needs. Hamara were initially identified in May 2020 to act as the Cultural Food Hub, in addition to being a Community Care Hub, providing culturally appropriate emergency food parcels for the city. In July 2020, Infinity/Give a Gift became the Cultural Food Hub for the East of the city, in recognition of the growing delivery footprint and the high density of the population in that area. The Cultural Food Hubs have aided residents who are less willing to contact the council helpline to access food, through direct referral to the Cultural Food Hubs, or through frontline services supporting communities with emergency food provision. The Cultural Food Hubs have acted as catalysts in forging strengthened relationships with other third sector organisations and enabled greater community connections with residents from diverse communities and ethnicities.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HamaraCentreLeeds>



**Hamara**  
Bringing Communities Together

**Infinity**

**Stay Safe**



# Responding to the Pandemic

## Reflections from 2020/21

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a number of complications for activity providers that work with our local communities in Leeds. It has been a particular challenge for organisations to keep up to date with the changing Government advice and guidance regarding COVID-19.

Community Committees have been mindful of the seriousness and fluidity of the situation in Leeds and understand that they played an essential role in the response and recovery to the pandemic in the city.

The Community Committee Team, on behalf of the committees, spent a large proportion of their time liaising with organisations that despite all these challenges, still wanted to work with people; making sure that projects were able to demonstrate that they were ready to deliver their activities in accordance with Government guidance and legislation regarding COVID-19; making sure that organisations had the correct policies, procedures and risk assessments in place.

Leeds being moved in to Tier 3 in November 2020 and then again, another full national lockdown commencing in December 2020, once again signalled the seriousness of the situation in the city and the rest of the country. In light of the news from central Government on the new national lockdown, the Community Committee Team consulted with colleagues in Public Health on this matter on this occasion and separately, a number of other occasions over the year, to ensure that the committees were being provided with consistent advice in relation to projects taking place.

Community Committees, in partnership with organisations have continued to adapt to the challenges that the pandemic has presented them and the people they work with, often working very differently, for example by moving their activity provision to an online virtual platform.

In some areas, activity packs have also been provided via the Youth Activity Fund. The packs were provided to young people and included a 'Youth Service Guide to Lockdown Life' (as well as a range of contacts and websites that young people may need), mindfulness activities, exercise advice, a time capsule to remember 'This Time in The Future', crosswords, puzzles and diary pages.

Adapting responses and approaches for projects to meet the needs of individual communities demonstrated the committee's and the organisations flexibility and willingness to be agile in an ever changing environment, as well as the desire to reach out and connect with all our communities in Leeds during the COVID-19 pandemic.



# Responding to the Pandemic

#Team Leeds

Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, the city of Leeds has been working together to support local people. Over the last year the NHS, Leeds City Council and voluntary sector have worked with local people to address the challenges of Covid-19, we call this approach #TeamLeeds.

## Introduction to Covid-19

In December 2019 a new disease was identified in Wuhan, China. Within three months the disease had spread across the world and impacted on the lives of every person on the planet.

Here in Leeds, public and voluntary health and social care services have been working together to understand how the pandemic is affecting our residents. We have been listening to people's feedback and working as one health and care system to help and support local people.

This document outlines some of the things people in Leeds have told us since the start of the pandemic and how we have responded.

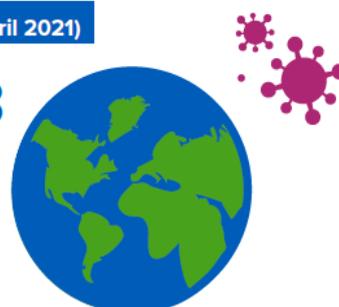
## Covid-19 stats (21 April 2021)

**143,887,883**

global cases to date

**3,062,658**

global deaths to date



## In Leeds

**62,387**

cases

**Over 5,000**

people with Covid-19 admitted to Leeds hospitals since the beginning of the pandemic

**1,692**

deaths

On 22 April 2021, there were 27 Covid-19 patients in Leeds hospitals, with 3 in critical care - the lowest number for six months.

## Leeds population stats

Cancer deaths account for 30% of the life expectancy gap between Leeds and the rest of the country

**104**

different languages spoken

**169**

nationalities living in Leeds

**18%**

of the population are from an ethnic minority background

Total estimated population  
**866,000**

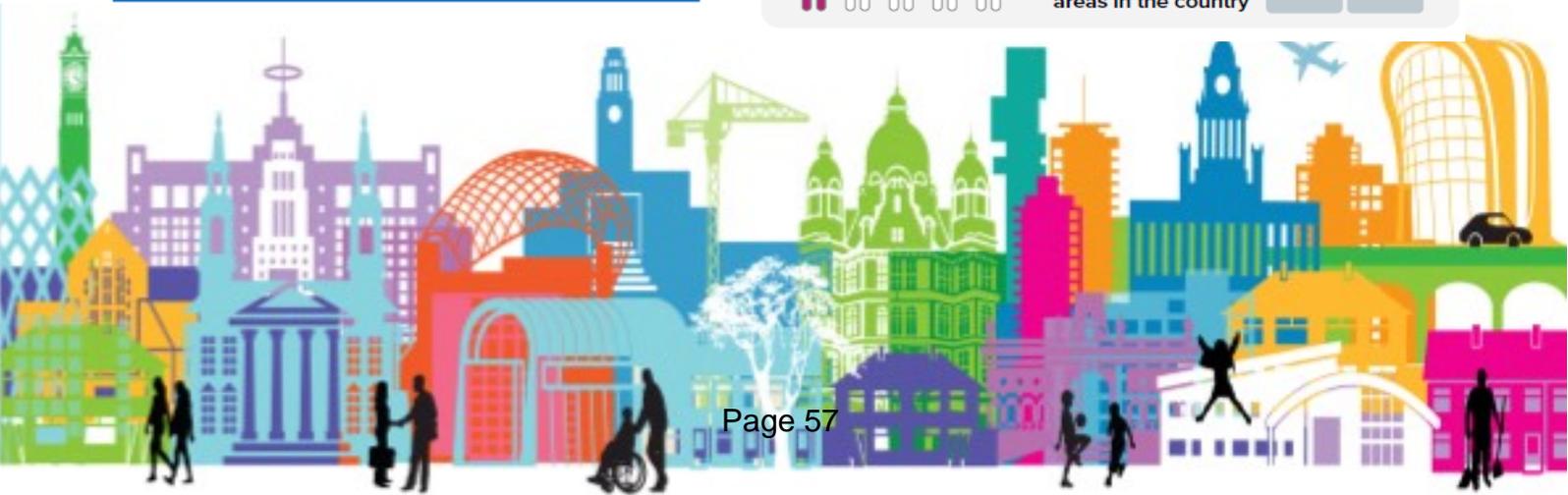
**106,000**

people experience anxiety and depression

1 in 5 children live in poverty

**26%**

of people living in Leeds live in the 10% most deprived areas in the country



# Responding to the Pandemic

## In Pictures



# THANK YOU!

## SUMMER SPORTS SESSIONS

AGES 11-17

**PARENTAL CONSENT REQUIRED**  
(12 young people per session).  
Consent forms available on the day. All provision will be in accordance with current regulations around social distancing.



### PARTNERS



### FUNDED BY



### WHEN AND WHERE

WEDNESDAY Victoria Park - Calverley 2:30 - 4:00 (Aug 5/12/19/26 Sep2)  
WEDNESDAY Sainsbury Moor - Pudsey 11:00 - 12:30 (Aug 5/12/19/26 Sep2)  
FRIDAY Halesworth Park - Farsley 13:30 - 15:00 (Aug 7/14/21/28/Sep4)  
FRIDAY Queens Park - Pudsey 11:00 - 12:30 (Aug 7/14/21/28/Sep4)

**DELIVERED BY LEEDS YOUTH SERVICE AND PE PARTNERS**



**FEATURING - FOOTBALL - ROUNDERS - FRISBEE CHALLENGE JAVALINE - DODGE BALL - BADMINTON -**  
For more information please ring: 07891276104 or 0113 3785073

**WWW.WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ \*FEDSYOUTHSERVICEWNN**



# Responding to the Pandemic

## In Pictures



**Stay Safe**





## Looking Forward

COVID-19 has had a massive impact on the city of Leeds and work has been taking place to understand and get a picture of the disproportionate, or differential impact on inequality that is happening due to the pandemic.

The emerging evidence highlights that the COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated social and economic inequalities and we need to further understand what these impacts are on our communities in Leeds. What it tells us so far mirrors national evidence and the local narrative that COVID-19 does have a disproportionate impact based on; where you live, your gender, your ethnicity and your job.

The community narrative reflects the diversity of the city and key themes are continuing to emerge; financial inclusion, digital inclusion, mental health & wellbeing, social isolation, communication/ language barriers and cultural issues. It is becoming increasingly clear that the impacts of the pandemic are greater for some of our most disadvantaged communities.

Considering how we can address and provide reassurance to the issues that are being uncovered will form a key strand of activity in the city's recovery arrangements but are likely to last far beyond any immediate transition to a 'new' normality.

In 2021/22 Community Committees will continue to play a key role in addressing some of these challenges in our local communities in Leeds and the programmes that they develop will form a key part of the recovery work that is being undertaken in each of the 33 wards throughout the city. This, alongside delegated budget spend for each committee will help to address a further widening of the inequalities gap that has been identified by COVID-19.

The momentum brought about by the pandemic will continue, ensuring that the local leadership provided through our elected members and Community Committees continues to be at the heart of developing local and city wide structures.



**Stay Safe**



# Leeds City Council's Community Committees

## How do Community Committees work?

There are 10 Community Committees in Leeds made up of local councillors that are elected to represent an area, from each of the 33 wards in the city. They hold 4 meetings a year in public and are an important part of the council's decision-making process.

The meetings provide an opportunity for local people to discuss key issues of concern with elected members and help influence decisions on matters of local interest, such as environmental improvements, community safety, health and wellbeing and employment.

## How can you get involved?

1. Attend a meeting
2. Contact your local Councillor
3. Ask a question or take part in a discussion through our social media pages

Meetings are held at different locations across the city and generally start in the early evening and last a couple of hours. All meetings are open to the public and are usually themed around a particular topic.

Meetings are published on our website and can also be found on our social media pages (along with other local information and activities) and all decisions are recorded for public reference on the democracy website: <http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?bcr=1>

## Want to know more?

Please contact the Community Committee Support Team for a chat on 0113 3785808 or email us at [communitycommitteefunding@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:communitycommitteefunding@leeds.gov.uk)



# Leeds City Council's Community Committees

## Inner East Community Committee

### Wards:

Burmantofts & Richmond Hill  
Gipton & Harehills  
Killingbeck & Seacroft

### Councillor Denise Ragan

[denise.ragan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:denise.ragan@leeds.gov.uk)



## Inner West Community Committee

### Wards:

Armley  
Bramley & Stanningley  
Kirkstall

### Councillor Hannah Bithell

[hannah.bithell@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:hannah.bithell@leeds.gov.uk)



## Outer South Community Committee

### Wards:

Ardsley & Robin Hood  
Morley North  
Morley South  
Rothwell

### Councillor Robert Finnigan

[robert.finnigan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:robert.finnigan@leeds.gov.uk)



## Outer North East Community Committee

### Wards:

Alwoodley  
Harewood  
Wetherby

### Councillor Norma Harrington

[norma.harrington@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:norma.harrington@leeds.gov.uk)



## Inner South Community Committee

### Wards:

Beeston & Holbeck  
Hunslet & Riverside  
Middleton Park

### Councillor Angela Gabriel

[angela.gabriel@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:angela.gabriel@leeds.gov.uk)



# Leeds City Council's Community Committees

## Outer East Community Committee

### Wards:

Cross Gates & Whinmoor  
Garforth & Swillington  
Kippax & Methley  
Temple Newsam

### Councillor Pauline Grahame

[pauline.grahame@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:pauline.grahame@leeds.gov.uk)



## Inner North West Community Committee

### Wards:

Headingley & Hyde Park  
Little London & Woodhouse  
Weetwood

### Councillor Javaid Akhtar

[javid.akhtar@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:javid.akhtar@leeds.gov.uk)



## Outer North West Community Committee

### Wards:

Adel & Wharfedale  
Guiseley & Rawdon  
Horsforth  
Otley & Yeadon

### Councillor Paul Wadsworth

[paul.wadsworth@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:paul.wadsworth@leeds.gov.uk)



## Outer West Community Committee

### Wards:

Calverley & Farsley  
Farnley & Wortley  
Pudsey

### Councillor Amanda Carter

[amanda.carter@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:amanda.carter@leeds.gov.uk)



## Inner North East Community Committee

### Wards:

Chapel Allerton  
Moortown  
Roundhay

### Councillor Mohammed Shahzad

[mohammed.shahzad@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:mohammed.shahzad@leeds.gov.uk)



## For further information:

**Liz Jarmin**, Head of Locality Partnerships

[liz.jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:liz.jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)

07891 278078

**Carl Hinchliffe**, Community Committee Team Manager

[carl.hinchliffe@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:carl.hinchliffe@leeds.gov.uk)

07712 216480



Twitter @\_YourCommunity

[www.leeds.gov.uk/  
communitycommittee](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/communitycommittee)

Inner East  
Outer East  
Inner North East

Inner West  
Outer West  
Inner North West  
Outer North West

Inner South  
Outer South  
Outer North East



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## EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 21ST JULY, 2021

**PRESENT:** Councillor J Lewis in the Chair

Councillors S Arif, D Coupar, M Harland,  
H Hayden, J Pryor, M Rafique and  
F Venner

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors A Carter and S Golton

**SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS:** Councillors B Anderson and J Bentley

**27 Substitute Member**

Under the provisions of Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 3.2.6, Councillors B Anderson and J Bentley were invited to attend the meeting on behalf of Councillors A Carter and S Golton respectively, who had both submitted their apologies for absence from the meeting.

**28 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**RESOLVED** – That, in accordance with Regulation 4 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as exempt from publication on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information so designated as follows:-

(A) That appendix 3 to the report entitled, ‘British Library at Temple Works’, referred to in Minute No. 33 be designated as being exempt from publication in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) of Schedule 12A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 and considered in private on the grounds that the appendix contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). As such, it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the content of the appendix as exempt from publication outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information;

(B) That appendix 1 to the report entitled, ‘Leeds Pipes District Heating Network: Status Update and Securing Future Growth’, referred to in Minute No. 34 be designated as being exempt from publication in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) of Schedule 12A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 and considered in private on the grounds that the appendix contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). Specifically, the appendix contains detailed pricing information underpinning the Council’s heat sales which, if disclosed

could damage its commercial interests. Disclosure of this information would seriously harm the Council's negotiating position when discussing heat sales with potential customers. Therefore, it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the content of Appendix 1 as being exempt from publication outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**29 Late Items**

**Agenda Item 10 - Update on Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic – Response and Recovery Plan**

With the agreement of the Chair, a late item of business was admitted to the agenda entitled, 'Update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic – Response and Recovery Plan'.

Given the scale and significance of this issue, it was deemed appropriate that a further update report be submitted to this remote meeting of the Board. However, due to the fast paced nature of developments on this issue, and in order to ensure that Board Members received the most up to date information as possible, the report was not included within the agenda as originally published on the 13th July 2021. (Minute No. 36 refers).

**30 Declaration of Interests**

In relation to Agenda Item 9, 'Leeds Air Quality Strategy 2021 - 2030', Councillor Arif declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in this item, due to the fact that she was a Director of EV Master, a company involved in electric vehicle charging points. As such, Councillor Arif left the meeting room for the duration of that item, and hence did not participate or vote upon it. (Minute No. 35 refers).

Also in relation to Agenda Item 9, 'Leeds Air Quality Strategy 2021 - 2030', Councillor Hayden declared an 'other' interest in that item due to the fact she was a Council appointed representative on the Outside Body 'Environmental Protection UK'. Councillor Hayden remained in the room for the consideration of this item, participated and voted upon it. (Minute No. 35 refers).

**31 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 be approved as a correct record.

**ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING**

**32 To consider the future of the maisonette block on the Highways housing site in the Killingbeck area of East Leeds and receive an update on progress with the redevelopment proposals for the site**

Further to Minute No. 41, 24 July 2019, the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report detailing proposals to include the maisonette block of 12 homes at 122-133 Highways, York Road, Leeds LS14 in a wider redevelopment of the Highways tower block site, which had been previously agreed by Executive Board. The report also sought approval to

suspend new lettings to the maisonettes and start re-housing existing residents with a view to achieving vacant possession as soon as possible. Additionally, the report provided a further update on the overall progress made in respect of the Highways site.

In considering the matter, Members welcomed the scheme. Responding to a specific enquiry, it was noted that currently there were 132 homes on the site and that the scheme would see this replaced with an estimated 230 – 250 new build units. Regarding a question about whether there were any known abnormalities or risks associated with the site, it was noted that although there was no current indication of such issues, appropriate onsite surveys and assessment would be undertaken as part of the due process. Also, responding to an enquiry the Board noted that it was anticipated that rent levels for the properties would be consistent with social rent levels for new build Council homes.

In considering the current timeframes for the scheme, the Board received further details on the progress being made to re-house existing tenants as efficiently as possible.

Also, it was noted that the commitment made for tenants of the Highways tower blocks and maisonettes who wished to return to the new build programme when completed, would be honoured, subject to the size of the new properties being able to appropriately accommodate each family's needs.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That the properties of 122-133 Highways, York Road, LS14 6AR be declared as surplus to requirements;
- (c) That agreement be given to take out of charge the properties of 122-133 Highways, York Road, LS14 6AR;
- (d) That agreement be given for the buildings on the site of 122-133 Highways, York Road, LS14 6AR to be safely demolished, creating a clear site for future use;
- (e) That the serving of an initial demolition notice, in line with Housing Act processes, in respect of tenants wishing to exercise their Right to Buy, be approved;
- (f) That agreement be given for the site to be developed as part of the Housing Growth programme, enabling new Council housing to be built on that site in the future;
- (g) That it be noted that separate reports will follow which will deal with the demolition proposals for existing homes and for any proposals for replacement housing under the Council Housing growth programme;

- (h) That it be noted that the officers responsible for the submitted report and the implementation of such matters are the Head of Housing Management (Communities Housing & Environment) and the Head of Council Housing Growth (City Development).

## **INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLIMATE**

### **33 British Library at Temple Works**

The Director of City Development submitted a report setting out proposals for how the Council could help to facilitate a British Library location to be brought forward at the Grade I listed, and at risk, Temple Works.

Following consideration of Appendix 3 to the submitted report designated as being exempt from publication under the provisions of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the public part of the meeting, it was

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the status of proposals for a British Library at Temple Works and the funding strategy, as set out in exempt appendix 3 to the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That approval be given to inject £5.0m into Capital Scheme Number 33490/000/000, funded from the £5m of devolution deal monies, in order to fund a grant for temporary stabilisation and more detailed design and surveys; and that the necessary authority be delegated to the Director of City Development and the Chief Officer, Financial Services in order to enable the Director and Chief Officer to provide ‘authority to spend’, subject to subsidy control compliance and entering into the legal agreements, as set out in exempt appendix 3 to the submitted report;
- (c) That the principles of the longer term tripartite legal agreement with the British Library and CEG, be endorsed, should British Library’s commitment to Temple Works become unconditional, as set out in exempt appendix 3 to the submitted report;
- (d) That the principles of the Council entering into legal agreements with CEG for: a) the disposal of LCC land surrounding Temple Works; b) grant agreement(s); and c) CPO Indemnity Agreement, as set out in exempt appendix 3 to the submitted report, be endorsed;
- (e) That a further report on Temple Works and the British Library with recommendations on the final detailed heads of terms for the legal agreements, as set out in exempt appendix 3 to the submitted report, be presented to the Board following further financial and legal due diligence.

### 34 **Leeds PIPES District Heating Network: Status Update and Securing Future Growth**

Further to Minute No. 24, 20 July 2020, the Director of Resources submitted a report providing an update on the progress that has been made on the development of the Leeds Pipes District Heating Network, and which sought the Board's consideration of the recommendations in the report regarding the next steps to be taken in relation to the Phase 3E extension of the network to the Southbank area of the city.

Responding to a Member's enquiry on the options available regarding the use of the profit beginning to be generated by the scheme, it was noted that such circumstances would enable the faster repayment of capital, however, other options would be considered, as appropriate, having first met any related obligations.

Also, with regard to the management of any risks associated with the scheme, it was noted that a risk register had been established specifically for this project, with it being noted that a measured approach was being taken towards the scheme as a whole, in order to mitigate risk.

Members also discussed the positive role being played by the Council through this scheme in terms of its contribution towards addressing the Climate Emergency, the development of associated infrastructure and the financial benefits in terms of providing lower cost heating and reducing fuel poverty.

Responding to a specific enquiry regarding the regulatory and competition aspects of the scheme, it was noted that guidance on such matters had been sought at the outset of the project, however, it was undertaken that further detail on this would be provided to the Member in question.

Following consideration of Appendix 1 to the submitted report designated as being exempt from publication under the provisions of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the public part of the meeting, it was

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report, including the detail set out within exempt Appendix 1, be noted;
- (b) That the recommendation within the submitted report to no longer proceed with the extension to the Tetley Brewery site and to hand back £2.438m grant to Heat Networks Investment Project (HNIP), be approved;
- (c) That the 'authority to spend' for the construction of works on the Citu site at Low Fold to a value of £450k, which will ensure the opportunity to supply heat into the South Bank in future remains possible, be approved;

- (d) That the authority to submit a funding application to the Heat Networks Investment Project (HNIP) for a potential phase 3W extension to the Wellington Street area of the city, be approved, with further details being brought to a future Executive Board meeting to seek authority to sign a grant agreement and to provide the funding required from the Council to the District Heating PipeCo. in the form of a loan in order to satisfy funders' requirements;
- (e) That in line with existing delegations, it be noted that any strategic investment opportunities up to an individual scheme value of £500k will be authorised by the Director of Resources, where a viable business case exists;
- (f) That approval be given to the principle of providing capital free connection agreements to customers if there is a viable business case.

### **35 Leeds Air Quality Strategy 2021 - 2030**

Further to Minute No. 66, 21 October 2020, the Director of Resources submitted a report presenting for the Board's consideration the Leeds Air Quality Strategy Action Plan 2021 – 2030, which provided a framework for the continued compliance and improvement of the city's air quality.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, the Board received an update on the current position and the actions being taken to improve air quality levels in the area of Main Street, Pool in Wharfedale. It was undertaken that the Member in question would be provided with further information on this matter, including the latest data on air quality.

Members discussed the specific impact of domestic wood burners on air quality and with regard to the effect upon people's health, highlighting that increased awareness of such matters was needed. In response, regarding the circulation of further communications and information on how air quality in Leeds could be further improved, and also on mitigating the impact of specific issues, such as domestic wood burners, it was noted that the aim was to compile such information over the course of the next 3-4 months. It was also undertaken that any developments on the specific issue of wood burners at a national level would be provided to those Members in question, as appropriate.

The Board also received further information on the actions being taken to improve the infrastructure across Leeds for electric vehicle charging.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the 2021-2030 Air Quality Strategy Action Plan, as detailed at Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be approved;
- (b) That agreement be given to the submission of an annual progress report which confirms projects delivered and refreshes the air quality targets accordingly;

- (c) That the extension of the Electric Vehicle trials service from October 2021 to March 2022, be approved;
- (d) That the development of a business case to bring electric vehicles on to the refuse fleet as part of the standard fleet replacement programme with the aim of bringing the first electric Refuse Collection Vehicle (RCV) onto fleet in 2022, be supported;
- (e) That a collaborative approach for action to address the direct impact of air pollution on health, be supported;
- (f) That it be noted that the Chief Officer, Sustainable Energy & Air Quality will be responsible for any actions arising and the subsequent implementation of such actions.

(Further to the declaration of interest as detailed at Minute No. 30, Councillor Arif took no part in the consideration of this matter and left the meeting room for the duration of this item)

### **LEADER'S PORTFOLIO**

#### **36 Update on Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic - Response & Recovery Plan**

The Chief Executive submitted a report presenting details of the actions being taken as part of the multi-agency partnership approach since the last Executive Board meeting on 23rd June 2021. The report included the findings of a review of the city's multi-agency response to the pandemic, involving stakeholders from across the partnership. The report also provided the latest Response and Recovery Plan, which continued to be the main reporting tool for ongoing work across the seven themes, setting out the broad range of activities including: a summary plan for the rest of 2021, details of the vital partnership arrangements, and information on the continued proactive work to try and control the number of cases across the city and increase testing, tracing, isolating and crucially vaccination uptake.

In presenting the report, the Leader provided an update on how the Council was adapting services following progression to Step 4 of the Government's roadmap on 19<sup>th</sup> July, with the importance of a continued cautious approach being highlighted. In addition, the Executive Member for Public Health and Active Lifestyles provided an update on the progress being made in relation to vaccination rates across the city. A summary of the 'lessons learned' review which had been undertaken regarding the multi-agency approach towards responding to and recovering from the pandemic was also provided.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, the Board received an update regarding the actions being taken and the processes which continued to be worked through as a result of progression to Step 4 of the Government's roadmap in areas such as the delivery of Council services, the public use of Council buildings and the operation and accessibility of Council committee meetings.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the findings and recommendations in the Learning Lessons Review, as set out in Annex A to the submitted report, be noted and agreed;
- (b) That the latest version of the Response and Recovery Plan as at Annex B, including the plan for the remainder of the year, and the updated Local Outbreak Management Plan at Annex C, be noted;
- (c) That the information within Annex D, the latest Covid-19 Dashboard, and Annex E, a summary of national developments since the last meeting of Executive Board, be noted.

**37 Annual Corporate Performance Report 2020/21**

The Director of Resources submitted a report which reviewed the Council's performance during 2020/21 in delivering against the ambitions, outcomes and priorities, as set out within the Best Council Plan, including details of progress against Key Performance Indicators.

**RESOLVED –** That the Annual Performance Report for 2020/21, as appended to the submitted report, be received; and that the progress which has been made during 2020/21 in delivering the ambitions and priorities set out within the Best Council Plan, be noted.

**38 Annual Corporate Risk Management Report**

The Director of Resources submitted a report providing an update on the most significant risks currently on the Council's corporate risk register and which presented a summary of assurances describing the key controls in place to manage those risks and any further actions planned.

Responding to a specific enquiry, the Board received further detail regarding the prevalence of cyber-attacks upon the Council and the actions which continued to be taken to mitigate the risks that such attacks posed.

Again, responding to a specific request, officers undertook to contact Councillor A Carter in order to schedule briefings with him on the Council's risk management processes.

**RESOLVED –** That the Annual Corporate Risk Management report, as appended to the submitted report, be noted, together with the assurances provided on the most significant corporate risks, in line with the Council's Risk Management Policy and Strategy and the Board's overarching responsibility for their management.

**39 Risk Management Policy and Strategy Update**

The Director of Resources submitted a report that presented the Council's Risk Management Policy and Strategy, which had been reviewed and updated in order to reflect relevant changes in the sector together with the latest best practice and guidance.

In presenting the report, the Leader emphasised the importance of maximising Elected Member involvement and awareness in the Council's risk management policy and processes.

**RESOLVED –**

- a) That the updated Risk Management Policy and Strategy, as appended to the submitted report, be endorsed;
- b) That the offer of risk management training be noted, with it being acknowledged that the report author should be contacted if any such training was required.

**RESOURCES**

**40 Financial Health Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 2**

The Chief Officer (Financial Services) submitted a report which presented an update on the financial health of the Authority in respect of both the General Fund revenue budget and also the Housing Revenue Account, as at month 2 of the current financial year. In addition, the report made a specific recommendation regarding the delivery of free school meals during the 2021 school summer holidays.

In presenting the report, the Executive Member for Resources specifically highlighted the in-year collection rates for Council Tax and Business Rates which were lower than pre-pandemic levels.

Members considered the proposal within the report regarding a release from the COVID Reserve in order to support the delivery of free school meals during the 2021 school summer holidays, with specific discussion around the timing of the proposal and the Government's role in such matters. Responding to a Member's specific enquiry, officers undertook to provide the Member in question with further details on what the balance of the Covid Reserve would be following that release.

The Board discussed the potential release of funding from the Covid Reserve to help address one-off backlogs in some Council services which had built up as a result of the pandemic. In response to a Member's enquiry about Elected Member consultation on such matters, it was noted that the intention was for the Board to receive further reports regarding the utilisation of this fund.

Finally, a Member commented upon the current format of the financial dashboards, as appended to the submitted report, highlighting that they would welcome the inclusion of further detail as part of future editions.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the projected financial position of the Authority, as at Month 2 of the financial year, as detailed within the submitted report, be noted, together with the projected impact of COVID-19 on that position;

- (b) That it be noted, that for 2021/22 the Authority is forecasting an overspend of £0.2m;
- (c) That it be noted that the position detailed within the submitted report does not reflect the potential effects of any further local or national lockdown arrangements on these financial projections, or any potential additional costs arising from the current 2021/22 pay negotiations;
- (d) That the release of £0.52m from the COVID Reserve in order to support the delivery of free school meals during the 2021 school summer holidays, be agreed, and that it be noted that the officer responsible for the implementation of this resolution is the Chief Officer, Financial Services.

#### **41 Capital Programme 2021/22 - 2025/26: Quarter 1 Update**

The Chief Officer, Financial Services, submitted a report setting out the Council's updated Capital Programme for 2021-2026, split between the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account, with a forecast of resources available over that period. The report also provided a specific update of the 2021/22 programme and which sought necessary approvals around proposed injections into the programme.

Responding to a Member's enquiry regarding the level of Government grant funding received in response to the pandemic, it was noted that the city region as a whole had received approximately £618m. However it was emphasised that whilst some of that money was to support Council services which had been adversely affected by the pandemic, with regard to much of the funding, the Council had solely played an intermediary role by passporting funding to help support individuals and businesses, as appropriate. In order to provide further clarity on the range of grant funding which made up that sum, it was undertaken that officers would provide Board Members with a break down following the meeting.

In conclusion, the Executive Member for Resources highlighted that whilst the grant funding from the Government was welcomed, she emphasised the importance for the Council to receive longer term funding provision, in order to provide the Authority with greater financial certainty.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the following injections into the Capital Programme, as detailed at Appendix A (iii) to the submitted report, be approved:
  - (i) £15,654.0k of Department for Transport Grant for Additional Delivery within the Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme (LPTIP) / Connecting Leeds Programme;
  - (ii) £12,000.0k of WY+TF (West Yorkshire Plus Transport Fund) Grant for the Regent Street Flyover scheme;
  - (iii) £20,635.8k of other announced grant allocations including realignment of future year's estimates. These include Pot Hole and Local Transport Plan Grants for Highways & Transportation; Basic Need, School Condition Allocation (SCA), Devolved Formula Capital

- (DFC) and High Needs Provision Capital Allocation (HNPCA) Grants for Schools; and Disabled Facilities Grant for Adaptations; and
- (iv) £2,861.0k of various external grants and a prudential borrowing injection.
- (b) That it be noted that the above resolutions to inject funding of £51,150.8k will be implemented by the Chief Officer Financial Services;
- (c) That the latest position on the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme as at quarter 1 2021/22, as detailed within the submitted report, be noted;
- (d) That the additional Capital Receipts Incentive Scheme (CRIS) allocations to Wards and Community Committees for the period October 2020 to March 2021 of £513.9k, be noted.

## **ADULTS AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS**

### **42 Annual Fostering Report**

The Director of Children and Families submitted a report which presented an overview of the work undertaken by the Fostering Service during the period April 2020 to March 2021, as presented within the appended Annual Fostering Report. In addition, the report noted that the submission of an Annual Report was a requirement of the National Minimum Standards for Fostering.

In introducing the report, the Executive Member for Adults and Children's Social Care and Health Partnerships highlighted several key points which included an update on the number of children currently in foster care, the range of positive publicity that Leeds had received in relation to its foster care provision, the offer provided in Leeds for Special Guardianship Order (SGO) carer roles, the actions being taken to increase foster carers from the BAME community and the role of Elected Members in the promotion of foster caring in their Wards.

Also, Members received an update regarding the number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children which Leeds had taken into care over the relevant period.

### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the 2020 – 2021 Annual Fostering Report, as appended to the submitted report, be adopted, together with the service priorities for the forthcoming year; with it being noted that the actions arising from this resolution will be implemented during 2021-22;
- (b) That the plan of the Fostering Service to continue to increase the range of carers and placements available, be noted and supported; with it also being noted that the actions arising from this resolution will be implemented during 2021-22;

- (c) That it be noted that the responsible officer for such matters is the Deputy Head of Service, Corporate Parenting.

## **COMMUNITIES**

### **43 Equality Improvement Priorities Progress Report 2020 – 2021 and Equality Improvement Priorities 2021 - 2025**

The Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report which presented for the purposes of approval the Equality Improvement Priorities Annual Report for 2020– 2021; the Strategic Equality Improvement Priorities for 2021 – 2025 and the refreshed Equality and Diversity Policy 2021.

In considering the submitted report, the work of the Members' Equality Group was highlighted and thanks was extended to those officers who had been involved in supporting that group. In addition, the Board highlighted how the collaborative approach which had been taken in relation to equality improvement had enabled this agenda to be progressed significantly across the Council.

Also, responding to a specific enquiry, the Board received details on the city wide, people based approach being taken to support those experiencing poverty and deprivation who were located within more affluent Wards.

### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the Equality Improvement Priorities Annual Report 2020– 2021, as appended to the submitted report, be approved;
- (b) That the new Strategic Equality Improvement Priorities for 2021 – 2025, as appended to the submitted report, be approved;
- (c) That the refreshed Equality and Diversity Policy 2021, as appended to the submitted report, be approved;
- (d) That it be noted that the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment is responsible for the implementation of the resolutions made by Executive Board in respect of this report.

**DATE OF PUBLICATION:** FRIDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2021

**LAST DATE FOR CALL IN OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS:** 5.00 P.M., FRIDAY, 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021

**THERE ARE NO MINUTES FOR THE  
HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD  
FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE  
SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING.**

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## COUNCIL MEETING – 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP1	03/09/2021	06/09/2021

Submitted by: Councillor Ryan Stephenson  
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board  
 Executive Member/Chair: Executive Member for Adult and Children’s Social Care and Health Partnerships  
 Relevant Director: Director of Children and Families

This Council notes the outcome of Ofsted’s focussed visit to Leeds children’s services on 20 and 21 July 2021.

Her Majesty’s Inspectors found that the front door is well resourced, observing that continued investment in early help services means there are a wide range of effective help services available to children and families.

Regrettably, Ofsted also found that social work practice is not consistently strong; decision making is not always timely where a child protection risk is not clear; the cumulative impact of domestic abuse is not always considered in the assessment of risk and decision-making; and audits do not provide sufficient evidence to drive forward practice.

Council calls on the Executive Member for Adult and Children’s Social Care and Health Partnerships to implement an urgent three-point plan to monitor progress of the improvement plan:

1. Call-in best practice advice from local authorities that are making good progress in areas we are not.
2. Ask the Children & Families Scrutiny Board to establish ‘monitoring workshops’ to track progress on the quality and consistency of assessments, the quality and impact of management oversight and supervision, and the quality and independence of audits.
3. Publish recent informal peer reviews and commit to a further peer review within six months to monitor progress of the improvement plan.

Councillor Ryan Stephenson

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### Deadlines for submission

White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons  
 Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting  
 Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting  
 (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)





## COUNCIL MEETING – 14th SEPTEMBER 2021

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP 2	3/9/21	6/9/21

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Submitted by:	Councillor Stewart Golton
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Infrastructure & Climate)
Relevant Director	Director of City Development

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This Council notes and endorses the following Resolution to Leeds City Council from the Save Our Homes LS26 Campaign representing the community of the Sugar Hill estate in Oulton:

“We the undersigned confirm our support for the SOH LS26 Campaign and recognise that only the City Council can protect this community from the profit-motivated threat of eviction by the current landlord.

We call upon the Labour Group of the Council to support the immediate initiation of negotiations with the owner for the purpose of buying the houses, backed by the willingness to resort, if necessary, to the exercise of the Council’s powers of compulsory purchase.

Whilst recognising the financial and practical challenges implicit in this course of action, we note that it is entirely consistent with the Council’s established policies, which are fundamental to the ‘Best Council’ strategic plan. We also consider that this step is essential to creating conditions conducive to the development of a partnership approach with other providers, such as housing associations, to secure the retention and refurbishment of these homes and the survival of this community.”

Council therefore calls upon the Chief Executive to immediately implement the necessary arrangements for such interventions to take place.

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### Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
  - Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
  - Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
- (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

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## COUNCIL MEETING – 14th SEPTEMBER 2021

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP3	3/9/21	6/9/21

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Submitted by:	Councillor Mary Harland
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Communities)
Relevant Director	Director of Communities, Housing and Environment

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This Council calls on the Government to cancel the £20 cut to Universal Credit that will hit over 70,000 people in Leeds, including many in low-income jobs, at a time when the cost of food in shops and supermarkets has increased by 8% already this year.

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### Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
  - Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
  - Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
- (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

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