

**Report of:** the South East Area Leader

**Report to:** Outer East Community Committee (Cross Gates & Whinmoor, Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley, Temple Newsam)

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**Date:** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015

**For decision**

## **OUTER EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE – SUMMARY OF KEY WORK**

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### **Purpose of report**

- 1** To bring to Members' attention a summary of key work which the Communities Team is engaged in based on priorities identified by the Community Committee that are not covered elsewhere on this agenda. It provides opportunities for further questioning or the opportunity to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

### **Background information**

- 2** The Community Committee has a Community Plan that is updated throughout the year where actions are detailed against the Community Committee priorities. This report provides regular updates on some of the key activities between Community Committee meetings including project work, community engagement, partnership work, functions delegated to Community Committee, Community Champions roles and actions, integrated working and locality working.

## Main issues

### 3 Updates by theme:

3.1 **Community Champions meetings:** The last Community Champions meeting was held on 6<sup>th</sup> October and included discussion on the site visit to Thorpe Park, preparation for the flooding meeting, actions from the Environment Workshop Plan on a Page and Children and Young People. There were also updates on Social Isolation, Leeds Rhino's bid to YAF. The next meeting is on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### 3.2 Community Safety & Environment

3.2.1 **Operation Flame:** Through Tasking budgets the Outer East Community Committee has funded Operation Flame in all Outer East wards in the run up to bonfire night and the weekend after. This is a multi-agency coordinated operation to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) and environmental issues leading up to and including mischief night and the bonfire period. Various partners work together in the lead up to this period including Fire Service, Police, Housing Leeds and the Locality Team. The aim is for partners to report any build-up of material which could be used in unofficial bonfires and these are then removed. PCSOs will direct young people to official displays and the Youth Service, ASB Team and Police also undertake pro-active visits to reduce ASB during this period.

3.2.2 **16 Days of Action:** The Outer East Community Committee has asked Tasking, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators and appropriate partners from the third sector to apply for a small grant as part of the international 16 days of action to raise awareness about domestic violence and abuse. The initiative will run between 25<sup>th</sup> November and 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

3.2.3 **Environment Workshop:** The June OE CC Workshop on partnership working for the Environment identified two lead items: Working with schools to reduce litter and improving paths of communication between the service and users. Locality Working has secured a temporary dedicated officer to assist with environmental action including linking with schools. This will include a developing use of social media.

A new year project is to investigate launching a bylaw to issue on the spot fines to people walking a dog without carrying doggie bags. Before progressing this theme in 2016, Locality Working is currently investigating the ongoing findings of a similar scheme progressing in Daventry.

Progress on the Action Plan is updated at Outer East Environmental Sub-Group meetings and the next will be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. (Appendix 1)

- 3.2.4 **Litter Bins** - At the January 2015 meeting of OE Community Committee £12,000 was approved for ward members to approve 10 additional litter bins per ward. Currently there are 5 bins still available for Temple Newsam, 7 for Cross Gates & Whinmoor, 8 for Kippax & Methley and 8 for Garforth & Swillington. Members are invited to suggest locations for their remaining bins by contacting the Communities team. (Appendix 2)

### 3.3 **Health and Wellbeing & Adult Social Care**

- 3.3.1 **Connect for Health** - Individuals in South and East Leeds are to benefit from a new NHS 'social prescribing' service: Following consultation with the public, third sector and GPs, this service will be called 'Connect for Health' with the strapline 'Staying Well Together'.

Connect for Health will act as a single point of access via a professional or self-referral to a wide range of community groups, activity and support in an easy, accessible way which aims to improve health & wellbeing. This service can be accessed by all ages across the LSE CCG area.

The aim of Connect for Health is to enable patients to improve their overall health & wellbeing, reduce levels of social isolation, allow local people to become proactive in managing their own health & long term conditions and to live full, active and independent lives. It will also identify where there are gaps in existing community services that could be met by working with partners to develop new community services.

For health and social care professionals this service will provide a simple easy route for health and social care staff to connect their clients to community provision, support and activity. Ultimately this service should also contribute to reducing demand on primary, secondary and social care services in the South and East Leeds area.

Commissioned by LSE CCG for 3 years, Connect for Health will be delivered by Leeds MIND, working in partnership with Touchstone, BARCA, Leeds Irish Health and Homes, Hamara and Better Leeds Communities (BLC). A project board has been set up to oversee the implementation and delivery of the service. The South and East Health & Wellbeing Partnership Core Group will receive regular updates about the service,

Connect for Health will enable patients to refer themselves, or to receive a referral through a health professional / other relevant local professional, using one telephone number or a dedicated website for help and support to access a wide range of voluntary sector projects and groups in their area. A minimum of 16 staff members will be delivering the service, including 12 Wellbeing Coordinator posts.

Once referred into the service Connect for Health will provide 3 levels of support dependant on individual need:

- Level 1 – Provide information by phone or e-mail to help an individual understand what support is available in your local community.
- Level 2 – An appointment with a Wellbeing Co-ordinator will be arranged to gain an understanding of an individual's needs. At this session a client will be provided with information and advice in relation to local community activity, provision and support.
- Level 3 – Provide additional support to an individual over a maximum of 6 sessions to help them access appropriate community provision and support.

The Connect for Health Service will go live at the end of November 2015 with a full supporting communications and marketing plan & planned website to ensure both health professionals and members of the public are aware of the service and how it will work. A wider launch event of the service is planned to take place in January 2016.

Professionals can refer and individuals can self-refer into Connect for Health via the following telephone number 0113 3876380.

In addition Leeds South & East CCG is the process of commissioning an academic organisation to carry out an evaluation of Connect for Health. The evaluation will have two components:

- A qualitative component which will be used to obtain a narrative of what the clients are gaining from the service.

and

- A quantitative component which will assess the impact of the social prescribing program on the following health and wellbeing factors, mental health, social Isolation, loneliness, overall wellbeing, physical health , ability to manage long term conditions

**3.3.2 Money Buddies** - In October 2014 Outer East Community Committee approved £1,995 for Money Buddies to help people on low incomes and those facing financial hardship.

The project involved training volunteers in all aspects of the work including debt advice, helping people fill in forms and ensuring they have the best deals and apply for any discounts. Following recruitment and training the scheme went live in October 2015.

Money Buddies now operates from Osmondthorpe One Stop Centre on Friday afternoons from 12.30 - 3.30pm and from Garforth One Stop Centre also on Friday afternoons from 12.30-3.30pm. Money Buddies also operates from an additional 14 centres throughout Leeds.

People requiring help can telephone 0113 235 0276 or visit the website [www.leedsmoneybuddies.weebly.com](http://www.leedsmoneybuddies.weebly.com). The scheme is also on Facebook and Twitter as Leeds Money Buddies or via e-mail at [admin@egac.org](mailto:admin@egac.org)

The scheme provides volunteers with valuable job experience in a demanding public facing role. Over half the volunteers have found full time, higher paid work as a result of being a Money Buddy volunteer this year alone. The skills they built on made their CV's more appealing to employers. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Money Buddies for a talk on 0113 2350.

- 3.3.3 **Older Persons Event Week 2015** – Considered to be the best so far in its 15 year run, the OPEW 2015 was held across the Outer East from 28<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The week was chosen to include the International Day of Older People on 1st October.

Five events were held across the area with the first, held in Great Preston, attracting 79 participants. The following day saw the events roadshow in Swarcliffe attracting 75. Cross Gates had 100 older people attending, Halton saw 99 and the final event of the week covering Garforth & Swillington ward and Kippax & Methley attracted 127 older people and a visit from the Lord Major.

Continuing with the tried and tested format, the events started with the opportunity for residents to visit information / advice stalls covering a range of services including promotion of the Community Committee / Communities Team – South East, Locality Team, LCC Housing, the neighbourhood networks, Care and Repair, the Fire Service and Police, Green Doctor service, the Community Curators (Temple Newsam & Lotherton Hall), The Stroke Association and local pharmacies who carried out blood pressure and other health related health monitoring. There were also other groups which operate in specific wards. The information stalls were followed by a buffet, bingo and raffles. Attending all of the events was entertainer Johnny Evans who sang, told jokes and kept everyone amused. Swarcliffe Primary School choir also attended on the Tuesday and proved extremely popular.

HOPE held a similar event on Weds 23<sup>rd</sup> September in Halton Moor and featured Corpus Christi Catholic College 'Glee Club.'

- 3.3.4 **Foodbanks in Outer East** – Foodbanks are now operating in Garforth and Allerton Bywater and include provisions provided by the LCC backed FareShare food pickup facility. Outer East Community Committee has co-ordinated partnership working to ensure sustainability for these services.

- 3.3.5 **Social Isolation Officer** - Garforth NET has applied to the 'Time to Shine' fund to appoint an officer to undertake outreach work to address social isolation in the area. Although managed by NET the officer will cover the whole Outer East and work with the other 3 Neighbourhood Networks that operate in the area. The project is subject to successful funding applications.

### 3.4 Children & Young People

3.4.1 **Youth Activities Fund** – Following the last OE CC Workshop concerning “How to engage better with young people in Outer East,” two strands have been identified to cover five identified targets. (Appendix 3)

- The first strand is “How do we make best use of our Youth Activity Fund (YAF) allocation and any other funding to support activities for children and young people?” The targets are: Fitness and Exercise based activities, Provide a wide range of activities developing confidence, fun, lifestyle, volunteering and qualifications for work. A balance of projects for boys and girls in the age range 8 to 17.
- The second strand is “What do Leeds City Council and partner agencies need to do to better engage with young people?” The targets are: The Youth Panel needs to be better promoted, to make it easier for participants to meet and ensure their contribution makes a difference. The second target is Young people like to engage with councillors who have the influence to get their voices better heard and their views recognised.

3.4.2 The latest bidding round for the remaining 2015/16 YAF grants is now active and closes on 17 January 2016. It is being promoted to benefit children and young people aged 8-17 who live within the area. The request is for dynamic partners to bid into the fund in order to deliver fun, creative and rewarding activities for boys and girls – particularly activities which help to develop their potential. The activities are to take place between the Easter holidays and the end of the school summer holiday 2016.

3.4.3 **Youth Panel** - The last Outer East Youth Panel meeting was held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November and no young people attended. Communities SE is now building on the consultation following the September OE Community Committee. The Youth Work Practitioner is developing partnership working with the clusters. (Appendix 3)

### 3.5 Employment & Skills

3.5.1 **Thorpe Park** - Site preparation is on-going. An application for the extraction of the surface coal was submitted and approved in September 2015. As the removal of the coal will be carried out by a specialist contractor there are no vacancies for local people. The main contractor is GMI and Employment Leeds now meets with them monthly. They will provide a works timetable as soon as possible.

The majority of construction jobs are likely to be with construction of the Manston Lane Relief Road. Work on the road cannot start until the site preparation is completed which is due in 2017.

Approval for the construction of 300 new homes was approved in January 2015. There is still no announcement of the house builder and it is hoped this will be known by the end of this calendar year. The start on site for construction of the new homes is likely to be early 2017. The houses will be built in 3 phases over a 5 year period with the last houses in 2022.

An announcement was made on 10 August detailing a partnership between Scarborough Group and Legal & General (L&G) Capital. L&G has committed £162m to the on-going development of the site for a 50% stake in the Thorpe Park development.

No announcements have yet been made about the retail anchor tenant. The retail park is scheduled to be open in mid to late 2017.

Scarborough Group International has supported a School Maths project at East Leeds Academy with a further programme of school engagement being developed with Ahead partnership.

- 3.5.2 **Site Visit** - The Thorpe Park development site visit for OE Members has been postponed until a viewing platform is safely in place. Employment & Skills will advise on dates for the site visit once the platform is installed.

## **4 Community**

- 4.1 **Christmas Lights** - The 6th annual lights switch on in Cross Gates took place on Friday 20th November. This was the first time the event had been held on a Friday and it was moved to the weekend so children could stay longer without needing to get up for school the following day. This year, five 5-6 year olds had the honour of pressing the button for the big 'switch on' following a competition run by Cllr Grahame. The local Brownies and Guides along with Manston Primary School Choir were also involved and there will be a Breeze act, fun fair, traditional activities, special guests and a firework finale. The event was arranged in partnership between Cllr Grahame and the Communities Team – South East. Record crowd numbers were in attendance once again.

The Garforth Christmas lights switch on was held on 28<sup>th</sup> November. Breaking from tradition, the switch-on was moved to a Saturday to better suit the majority of businesses and allow a Christmas Market to run alongside. The stage was placed across Main Street enabling more people to view the 1.5 hour spectacular. There was a funfair in the car park behind Barclays Bank and on Main Street, traders provided craft stalls and live music including the recently formed Garforth Community Choir and a local band. Businesses were encouraged to decorate their windows and winners of the annual Fiver Raffle were also announced. The event was chaired by Cllr Andrea McKenna and arranged in partnership between Garforth & District Lions, Garforth traders group, Jaqui Simpson and Ward Members.

Community Committee funding also went towards Christmas light switch-ons in Kippax, Gt Preston, Allerton Bywater and Methley.

Swillington also had a switch-on celebration on 13<sup>th</sup> November.

- 4.2 Outer East Community Committee Newsletter** – The Communities Team now produces a newsletter highlighting key aspects of activities after each Community Committee meeting and workshop. As such, a copy of the most recent Outer East Community Committee Newsletter is attached (Appendix 4) for information. The Communities Team will be circulating the newsletter to their contacts and on social media

## 5 Community Centres

- 5.1 In July 2014, it was agreed Community Committees would consider free lettings based on the priorities for their area. Community groups complete an application which is forwarded to the Communities – SE team. This is then sent to Ward Members so they can advise Communities – SE who then pass the information to the Lettings team for action.

- 5.2 A breakdown of free lets since July 2015 is below:

Ward	Community Centre	Organisation	Dates	Value
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	Field Head Carr	Youth Service	28.10.15	£100
Kippax & Methley	Micklefield Youth & Adult Centre	Scouts (Cubs)	07.04.15 to 28.03.16	£882
Kippax & Methley	Micklefield Youth & Adult Centre	Micklefield Youth Club	03.10.15	£3,276
Kippax & Methley	Micklefield Youth & Adult Centre	Micklefield Tenants & Residents Hallowe'en	31.10.15	£18
Kippax & Methley	Methley Village Hall	Methley Youth Club	02.09.15 to 27.08.16	£2,028
Kippax & Methley	Kippax Youth Centre	Drop in Group	09.09.15 to 27.07.16	£2,040
Kippax & Methley	Kippax Youth Centre	Kippax Kabin Ladies Group		£1,040
Kippax & Methley	Kippax Youth Centre	Kippax Kabin Ladies Craft Group		£1,040
<b>Sub Total (08.09–</b>				<b>£10,424</b>



<b>1.12.15)</b>				
Total (Since 01.04.15)				£58,389.50

## **6 Conclusions**

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

## **7 Recommendations**

- 7.1 The Community Committee is asked to:

- Note the content of the report and make comment as appropriate.
- Consider locations for new litter bins.
- Agree that work on introducing the Youth Activity recommendations will progress through the Children & Young People Community Champion role.

## Background documents

None