

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

**Report to:** The Outer South Community Committee  
(Ardsley & Robin Hood, Morley North, Morley South and Rothwell)

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**Date:** 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017

For decision

## Outer South Community Committee Update Report

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### Purpose of report

1. To bring to members' attention an update of the work which the communities team is engaged in, based on priorities identified by the community committee that are not covered elsewhere on this agenda. It provides opportunities for further questioning or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

### Main issues

Updates by theme:

#### **Children and Families: Councillor Karen Bruce**

2. The **Children & Families Sub Group** met on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Minutes have been circulated by email. The group considered and made recommendations for the Youth Activities Funded projects for 2017/18. Details of the projects approved are included in the Delegated Budgets Report.
3. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at Morley Town Hall.
4. The sub group also discussed proposals for a **Youth Summit** to take place in early 2018. This is planned to be an event where representatives of young people aged 14-18 will meet to discuss the types of activities and events they would like to see in their area. The Community Committee can then use this information to inform its decision making in 2018.

It was agreed this year to focus the summit on the older range of young people as the Community Committee also funds a series of surveys during the summer holidays at all of

the Breeze events in the area. This research asks similar questions but the feedback shows that it is mainly young people under the age of 13 responding. So it was agreed that a summit focussing on the older age group would allow an even spread of responses.

#### **Environment: Councillor Karen Bruce**

5. The **Environment sub group** met on the 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at Blackburn Hall, Rothwell. The minutes have been distributed by email, topics discussed included expansion of the garden waste collection service.
6. **Festive Lights.**  
Each year the Community Committee funds festive lights and Christmas trees throughout the Outer South, to brighten dark nights and support the community in their celebrations. This year the same lights and tree displays as in previous years will be repeated, with the addition of a 15ft tree and lights in Woodkirk.
7. Also additionally this year, will be a planted tree on **Cherry Tree Walk** in Ardsley & Robin Hood ward. This tree was funded by the Community Committee and Housing Area Panel last year, but was never planted. The tree will be planted this year, and then be a permanent tree with no further costs to the Community Committee, apart from decorating with fairy lights each year. As the provision and installation of a tree with lights costs between £600 and £1,200 each year, this will provide a considerable saving if successful.
8. The Community Committee works with its partners at Morley Town Council, Morley Town Centre Management Board and Outer South Housing Area Panel (HAP) to provide the festive displays, with all partners agreeing to contribute financially again this year to the lights.
9. The cost of the motifs and Christmas trees has risen again this year. The Community Committee ring fenced £16,000 at its meeting in March to allow for an expected rise and there is enough funding available. But following discussions with Councillors regarding value for money, the Communities team has been speaking to the agency that provides them and reached an agreement to have the quote reduced by to identify ways in which the quote can be reduced. We are waiting for confirmation of an amended price, but it has been agreed that the original quote will be reduced.

#### **Community Safety: Councillor Lisa Mulherin**

10. Further to the last Community Committee, a domestic violence case conference meeting has now been established in the Outer South. This is only the third of its kind in the city and is an example of nationwide best practice. This is a monthly meeting where professionals discuss together standard and medium risk DV incidents that have taken place in the Outer South that month and agree a joint approach to help the family.
11. The LASBT team and West Yorkshire Police have worked together to identify 4 individuals who took part in last years 'Ride Out' through the city centre and on Kirkstall Road, resulting in many people being frightened and the road having to be closed. They have been served with copies of an injunction which states that if they commit any further

breaches of the peace using a motor cycle or quad they will have their vehicle confiscated and could be imprisoned. Following the court case these injunctions could also now be applied to other motorcycle/ quad users found to be breaching the peace.

12. The joined up work between LASBT, the police and youth services into **anti-social behaviour** issues being committed by a minority of young people in Drighlington has resulted in one youth being charged or reported for ten offences including theft, assault and public order. A Notice of Intent to Seek Prosecution (NISP) was served on his parents and a Criminal Behaviour Order is being pursued for him. Since 4<sup>th</sup> July this individual had not been brought to the attention of the police again. Other youths are in the process of being dealt with for similar offences, in a similar manner.
13. All Police Ward Officers and a significant number of PCSO's were involved in a 2 day operation in the Outer South area dealing with an **Organised Crime Group**. The operation included the District Crime Team and Stolen Vehicle squad as stolen vehicles/parts were found at a specific location along with a substantial amount of goods from theft from motor vehicle and burglary dwelling offences. This enquiry is continuing and a number of offenders have been arrested in connection with the incident.
14. The LASBT team are currently investigating two **race hate incidents**; one in Morley against a Greek national and one elsewhere in the Outer South against a BME woman. As all concerned are Housing Leeds tenants LASBT are working with the Housing Office to determine if it is necessary to take Tenancy action against the perpetrators.
15. Police Ward Officers from Rothwell provided an input to the Army Cadets, Oulton Lane, about the day in the life of a Police Officer. They also advised the cadets on the dangers of drug use.
16. As it has been the summer season, the ward policing team has been out at fairs, galas and carnivals, speaking to the community and providing advice. On 10<sup>th</sup> September Elland Road police station was also host to a community gala, inviting everyone to come to the police station and take part in family activities to raise money for St Gemma's Hospice.

### **Employment, Skills & Welfare: Councillor Neil Dawson**

17. Within the Community Committee area, there are 510 people claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA), which is a **27%** (190 people) **decrease** compared to the same period last year. There are 3,155 people claiming Employment Support Allowance (ESA), as of August 2016, which is a 0.16% (4 people) decrease compared to the same period last year.
18. From April to March 2017, there have been 1,074 residents accessing Jobshops and Employment and Skills programmes, with 354 supported to secure employment and 421 to improve their skills.

19. **The Personal Work Support package (PWSP)**, requiring those unemployed residents in receipt of Council Tax Benefit to attend Jobshops for additional job search support, is working well. Since it commenced in October 2015, a total of 2,184 residents have started on the programme, 26% (565) have secured employment. 115 residents from Outer South have engaged or have completed this programme, 30% (35) of these have secured employment.
20. On the 10 August 2017, the **annual Jobs and Information event** was held at The Point to promote vacancies at the White Rose Shopping Centre and with other businesses such as Springfield Healthcare, who were specifically recruiting in South Leeds. Over 450 people attended the event, 83 (20%) from Outer South. The event delivered an enhanced customer offer covering three different areas: IAG Hub, Business Hub and Delivery Hub. 91 people attended the Hints and Tips Information sessions on the day and 94 customers have registered for the CV Workshops and Interview Skills sessions which are being delivered at the Point over the next three weeks. A further 65 registering for additional support.
21. As part of the recent **Victoria Gate** development in the city centre, the **Casino** and **John Lewis** were created. The Casino recruited 250 people into jobs, 80% (201) were from Leeds and 10 residents from the outer south secured employment. John Lewis recruited 499 people into jobs, 63% (316) were from Leeds and 21 residents from the outer south secured employment.

#### **Health and Wellbeing & Adult Social Care: Councillor Karen Bruce (Health & Wellbeing) & Councillor Karen Renshaw (Adult Social care)**

22. A programme of work has been approved to deliver a range of **mental health courses** to professionals and community members across the area. Over the course of 11 months there will be courses on offer from Touchstone, Community Links, Leeds Mind and Oblong to help raise awareness of mental health issues and empower people to understand, discuss and address the issues where appropriate. Courses will begin in September and run until August 2018.
23. A three year programme aimed at raising awareness of the **signs and symptoms of cancer** is due to commence. The programme will focus on breast, bowel and lung cancer and will look to work with teams of volunteers, to engage audiences in conversations about cancer signs and symptoms.
24. A primary care **suicide prevention** working group will be established to ensure that front-line staff have an increased awareness of those at risk of suicide and how to help them. Updates from this group and the opportunities which may arise will be fed back as appropriate.
25. **Blood Bourne Virus (BBV) Pilot**. Leeds was the only area outside of London to be awarded HIV innovation funding by the Elton John AIDS Foundation. The pilot aimed to normalise and de-stigmatise BBV screening by offering all new patients, aged 16-65, the

opportunity to be screened when registering in one of the identified GP practices in Leeds. 18% (3,748 people) of the eligible new patients opted to be screened. 49 positive cases were diagnosed in the first 12 months. Testing in practices increased by 250% compared to the year prior to the pilot (8 months of the pilot compared to 8 months in the previous year

26. Leeds West CCG has funded a nurse practitioner to support clinical health care in Cottingley Springs and Roadside families. The intention is to improve confidence and relationships between **gypsy & traveller families** and front line health care services.
27. **Leeds Breastfeeding Friendly** campaign is designed to support mums in Leeds to feel confident and comfortable to breastfeed in and around public places. An audit is ongoing to understand which GP practices are signed up to the campaign and support will be offered to make sure they have all of the information they need to promote and carry this out effectively.

### **South East Debt Forum**

28. Debt forum members had identified that they were seeing increasing numbers of clients with mental health issues and sometimes customers that were “in crisis”. They were unsure of the best place to refer them to and some were generally unsure of what help was available and how it all linked in. So, at the June debt forum meeting, a mental health presentation entitled Mental Health: An Overview, was delivered by the Community Mental Health Team.
29. There is a single point of access telephone number for the CMHT team on **0300 300 1485**, which can also be rung *out of hours* to access the Crisis Assessment Service. People can self-refer, or if you call on someone’s behalf you need to have their permission.

### **Older Peoples Working Group (Councillor Renshaw, Chair)**

30. The Outer South Community Committee **Older People’s Working Group** met on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at Rothwell Fire Station, Leeds.
31. The Fire Service provided an update on the various valuable resource & facilities that are available for older people in their communities, whilst Rothwell Live at Home Scheme talked the group through the successful opening of the Rothwell Dementia Friendly Garden, the first public dementia friendly garden in Springhead Park, Rothwell on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May.
32. Morley Eldery Action and Rothwell Live at Home Scheme updated the group on their proposals for the **International Day for Older People** celebrations in October 2017 Both organisations will be arranging a tea dance which will have a specific diversity theme.
33. The action log from the meeting was circulated by email and the next meeting is due to take place in late September 2017.

## Outer South Community Centres Sub Group: Councillor David Nagle

34. The last meeting of the **Community Centres sub-group** was held on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at Tingley Community Centre. The minutes will be circulated by email along with the work plan.
35. Since the last Community Committee the Communities team has been working with Morley Councillors to bring about some improvements to **Morley Town Hall**. An application for the use of Ward Based Initiative funding is being submitted to restore the heritage chairs on the balcony, replace the meeting chairs in the Morleian room and repair and restore the Chandelier.

### Community Centre Pricing Policy- Update

36. Following a consultation exercise carried out in March / April this year, a decision was taken to remove the option of free lettings in community centres to be replaced by a maximum 75% discount available for supported organisations. This was applied to new lettings from 2<sup>nd</sup> May and to existing lettings from 5<sup>th</sup> June. All existing free lettings were automatically offered the discounted rate. Separate arrangements were made to account for costs relating to lettings made by Youth Services and Neighbourhood Networks.
37. The Outer South Community Committee area has 7 community centres that are directly managed by Leeds City Council. The following table (*see top of next page*) shows the number of groups affected by the change in policy at each centre, the number of groups that renewed / cancelled their existing lettings, the amount of additional income achieved in year (June – March) through the discounted letting policy and the overall projected income at each centre, including income from lettings at the full community and commercial rates.

Community Centre	No. of Former Free Lettings	No. of Renewals	No. of Cancelations	Additional Income 2017/18	Overall Projected Income 2017/18
Blackburn Hall *	0	0	0	£0.00	£29,282.76
Drighlington Meeting Hall **	0	0	0	£0.00	£5,189.84
Lewisham Park Centre	3	3	0	£2,680.00	£5,456.00
Morley Town Hall *	0	0	0	£0.00	£27,842.59
St Gabriel's Community Centre	1	1	0	£311.25	£1,285.59
Tingley Youth & Community Centre	3	3	0	£492.50	£7,514.31
Windmill Youth Centre	5	4	1	£1,200.09	£5,627.59
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>£4,683.84</b>	<b>£82,198.68</b>

\* Blackburn Hall and Morley Town Hall are 'venues' and operate under a separate pricing policy

\*\* Drighlington Meeting Hall has remained on the old pricing policy while the transfer to Drighlington rugby Club progresses

38. All discounted lettings are due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 and a process will start in the new year to determine approval of the discounted support for the following financial year.

### **Outer South Housing Advisory Panel (OSHAP)**

39. The Outer South Housing Advisory Panel (HAP) meets to review the delivery of local housing services and monitor local performance. The HAP is represented by four Outer South Ward Members, Councillors Jack Dunn, David Nagle, Shirley Varley and Robert Finnigan. The panel have a budget to be able to consider and support a range of environmental and community related projects that are in line with local priorities. The 2017/18 funding priorities of the panel were reviewed and are outlined in their 'plan on a page'; these are to support projects that help:

- Enhance and improve the environment
- Promote people's health and wellbeing, in particular to tackle isolation
- Benefit younger tenants, in particular those projects delivered by Youth Services in partnership with the Community Committee.
- Promote employment and skills

40. The panel's **budget for 2017/18 is £37,884.30** which is a 50% reduction from last year.

41. Since April 2017 examples of the types of projects the OSHAP has funded include:

- 3 day trips for residents, organised by the Tenants & Residents Associations, to places such as the seaside and Beamish Museum.
- Rothwell Horticultural Show
- A weekly youth club, summer residential camp and a children's holiday club for 10-13 year olds.

42. Community Payback referrals continue to be monitored by the OSHAP. Housing Officers, supported by the Engagement Officer and Housing Managers make referrals to the Community Payback teams to enhance our estates so they are safe, attractive and places where our tenants want to live. So far since July referrals to improve ginnels, sheltered housing complexes, low rise blocks and community centres are amongst the referrals made to the Community Payback team. Since the partnership was funded for 2017/18, OS Leeds communities have benefited from the equivalent of £4,145.40 worth of work. This is a 55.9% return on the investment made in this area.

43. Housing Leeds are carrying out a citywide review of HAPs during 2017 considering four key areas:

- Ensuring HAPs are as connected with and relevant to their local communities as possible
- Ensuring HAPs link closely with, and support, the developing priority neighbourhoods and priority wards which are becoming a key area of work for the Communities team
- Looking at how HAPs can work more closely with Community Committees

- Ensuring that the best value for money is being achieved in both the projects being funded and in securing external match funding for projects.

Officers will attend the next meeting of the Community Committee so that this can be discussed in more detail.

### **Outer South Community Heroes event 2017**

44. The Outer South Community Committee will be again hosting its popular Community Heroes awards ceremony on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October at Morley Town Hall**.

45. There will be some noticeable differences to how the awards are run this year. Already certificates have been sent to all of the groups in the Outer South which have this year received Community Committee funding. To thank them for the difference they make to the lives of people in the community.

46. Residents in the Outer South, have been invited to make nominations for individuals and groups working in the area who they felt should be specifically recognised. The nominations were to the following categories:

- Inspirational Project of the year
- Community Organisation of the year
- Cultural Achievement of the year
- Volunteer of the year
- Special Recognition award.

47. The closing date for nominations was Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August and over **70 nominations** have been received.

48. These nominations will now be put to the public vote to find a winner for each of the categories above, and it is these 5 winners who will be revealed and celebrated at the awards ceremony.

49. Details of all of the nominees are now on the Outer South Community Committee Facebook page and residents can place their vote by emailing [carl.hinchliffe@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:carl.hinchliffe@leeds.gov.uk). Voting opened on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and will close on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017. All residents of the Outer South are eligible to vote and can place up to one vote in each category.

### **Outer South Community Committee Communications**

50. A copy of the most recent **Outer South Community Committee Newsletter** highlighting key aspects of Community Committee activities is attached for information (**Appendix 1**). The Communities Team will be circulating the newsletter to their contacts and on social media. **Appendix 2** details recent social media activity for the Outer South Facebook page.

### **Conclusions**

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

### **Recommendations**

52. The community committee is asked to note the content of the report and make comment as appropriate.

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

53. None.

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.