

Report of: Head of Stronger Communities

Report to: Outer North West Community Committee

Wards: Adel and Wharfedale, Guiseley and Rawdon, Horsforth and Otley and Yeadon

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to note

Outer North West Community Committee - Update Report

Purpose of report

1. To bring to members' attention an update of the work which the Communities Team is engaged in, based on priorities identified by the Community Committee. It also provides opportunities for further questioning, or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.
2. This report provides regular updates on some of the key activities between Community Committee meetings and functions delegated to Community Committees, Community Champions roles, community engagement, partnership and locality working.

Main issues

3. Community Committee champions are invited to give updates to the Community Committee:

Environment and Community Safety: Councillor Barry Anderson

Employment, Skills & Welfare: Councillor Ryk Downes

Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care: Councillor Graham Latty

Children and Families: Councillor Pat Latty

Health Update - One You Leeds

4. Summer Nutrition campaign 2019. 22nd July – 22nd August

The aim of the summer nutrition campaign is to raise awareness of healthier meal options for adults in Leeds by delivering a local level campaign. There are 500 copies of OYL Recipes Cards as well as outreach activity on offer to support people to engage and consider healthier options.

OYL will be offering free Eat well and Cook well support, guidance on ways to cook more and eat better through outreach activity and opportunities on the One You Leeds website and links to the NHS guidance and apps.

Key Messages: How will YOU eat well this summer? The lengthening days and warmer weather provides a great opportunity to cook and eat well with friends and family. How will you eat well this summer?

Facilitated by Reed Momenta, a range of campaign materials will be available through these key channels:

- Web advertising: Paid and organic content promoting easy ways to cook and eat well and a One You Leeds homepage campaign takeover.
- Marketing Materials: Free recipe cards to support the campaign

Getting Involved

We are really keen to raise awareness of Eat Well this summer with people who might benefit from taking part. Some suggested ways to get involved.

Talk about the campaign

The key is to make the most noise about Eat Well this summer. People can be directed to speak to a Health Coach at One You Leeds to maximise their chances of success. Signpost to oneyouleeds.co.uk for more information.

Promote the campaign through newsletters, websites and communication channels.

Hand out / display copies of the promotional materials

FREE copies of our marketing materials can be requested by emailing christine.lunn@reedmomenta.co.uk

Embed the campaigns messages in any activities, events, courses and workshops that you deliver.

Support the campaign on social media

Follow @ One You Leeds and Like on Facebook to get involved. There is a lot of content that can be shared.

Share with us what you are doing to promote the campaign so you can inspire others
Email christine.lunn@reedmomenta.co.uk with details

Smoke Free Side-lines

Public Health have been working alongside Active Leeds and West Riding FA to introduce a smoke free side-lines initiative across the city. The initiative aims to create better health promoting environments, protect children and young people from tobacco smoke and provide them with a smoke-free environment at sport facilities.

Smoking is a significant cause of preventable deaths in Leeds and contributes to increasing health inequalities. Smoking is understood to often be a childhood addiction with evidence showing most adult smokers start smoking at a young age with 66% of smokers starting before they are 18. Young people are most at risk of becoming smokers themselves if they grow up in communities where smoking is the norm.

Smoke-free Side-lines is aimed at sports clubs and leagues and looks to support adults involved in sport and physical activity to understand their responsibility as positive role models. It is about promoting a sports club as a healthy and inclusive place, where the wellbeing of all, but particularly children and young people, is a priority.

It is planned to launch the Smoke-free side-lines initiative in Leeds (and other West Yorkshire areas) in September 2019, coinciding with the new football season and school year. Bespoke digital infographic posters are currently being developed for each local authority in West Yorkshire to support and promote the initiative.

For more information please contact; Paul.Lambert@leeds.gov.uk

5. Housing Update: Outer North West Area – Horsforth Housing Management Office Area

Performance

Voids Levels (empty properties)

Housing demand within all areas of the Outer Northwest remains high especially for houses, with waiting times for all but all but one bedroom accommodation being significantly above the city-wide average.

Applicants on Band A bidding for a 1 bedroom property can expect waiting times as follows:

- Guiseley & Rawdon an average 54 weeks
- Otley & Yeadon, an average 52 weeks,
- Adel & Wharfedale an average 32 weeks
- Horsforth an average 40 weeks,
- **The Leeds average is 44 weeks.**

Applicants on Band A bidding for a 2 property can wait in

- Guiseley & Rawdon an average 70 weeks
- Otley & Yeadon, an average 61 weeks,
- Adel & Wharfedale an average 59 weeks
- Horsforth an average 51 weeks,
- **The Leeds average is 46 weeks.**

Applicants on Band A bidding for a 3 bedroom property can wait in

- Guiseley & Rawdon an average 86 weeks
- Otley & Yeadon, an average 72 weeks,
- Adel & Wharfedale an average 76 weeks
- Horsforth an average 64 weeks,
- **The Leeds average is 47 weeks.**

Applicants on Band A bidding for a 4 bedroom property can wait in

- Guiseley & Rawdon an average 117 weeks
- Otley & Yeadon, an average 76 weeks,
- Adel & Wharfedale an average 106 weeks
- Horsforth an average 69 weeks,
- **The Leeds average is 56 weeks.**

Supported Housing complexes such as the Broadfield's (Horsforth), Weston Drive (Otley), Wayland Croft (Adel) and Fink Hill (Horsforth) have proved increasingly difficult to let. This being due to specific characteristics of those property types.

Additionally, some of our supported housing complex properties and bedsits have proved difficult to let due to lack of demand for the specific type of accommodation coming vacant. In the main this has been as a result of difficulties with access to these property types for new prospective tenants given their age/mobility, and the absence of lift facilities to first and second floors. This in addition to the small bedroom sizes of properties on Weston Drive, which are now generally deemed less desirable.

There also remains a high proportion of adapted and sheltered properties within the area Outer Northwest area which take additional time to allocate due to matching needs of customers with properties, and the necessity to undertake pre-allocation occupational therapist assessments and accompanied viewings to ensure property suitability.

Work continues to be done to reduce void levels by advertising properties on notice, viewing in repair when health and safety permits, and maintaining deadlines for customer proofs and lettings contact.

Viewings, sign ups and final fixes remains a priority with daily liaison with our contractors and contract management teams to secure timely property repairs and return.

Since April 2019 the number of properties we have allocated is as follows:

Ward Area	Properties Let 2019/20
Guiseley & Rawdon	16
Otley & Yeadon	33
Adel & Wharfedale	14
Horsforth	24
Total	87

The percentage of stock currently in void is as follows;

Ward Area	Total Stock	% of stock void
Guiseley & Rawdon	701	0.57% (No.4)
Otley & Yeadon	1395	0.57% (No.8)
Adel & Wharfedale	641	0.94% (No.6)
Horsforth	887	0.23% (No.2)
City Average	55,067	0.64% (No.355)

Income Collection

The Horsforth Housing Office has responsibility for management of council housing stock within the Guiseley & Rawdon, Otley & Yeadon, Adel & Wharfedale and Horsforth management area. Collection rates have reduced from the same period in 2018/19 with Universal Credit contributing toward this along with significant turnover in staff.

Staff members have renewed their focus on income collection as a result, whilst continuing to have an appreciation of the need to assess individual tenant circumstances surrounding rent debt in a fair and sympathetic manner.

Officers continue to provide appropriate advice and assistance to customers experiencing difficulties in relation to payment of rent, assisting with Universal Credit and other welfare benefits where appropriate to maximize their income and ability to sustain rent payments. Our dedicated Enhanced Income Officers have specific role responsibilities for undertaking more complex support work of this type with customers where needed.

Rent accounts are being audited and monitored on a regular basis to ensure we are providing the help and support required, and that the arrears process is being followed along with tenancy enforcement actions to recover outstanding debt to the council where necessary.

Management Office	Collection Rate (BV66a) Wk18 Payment Week
Horsforth	96.42%

Annual Home Visits (AHVs)

Housing staff continue to work towards reaching the year-end AHV target of 100% of all tenancies visited within the current financial year. The Horsforth office is currently achieving above target at this point in the year. Completion milestone measure at Wk21 (53%).

However, work continues to gain access to those tenancies where access has been not been gained in the previous 12-24 months, with enforcement action undertaken where deemed appropriate to secure successful access.

As a result of the Annual Home Visit process, our officers are regularly identifying tenant support needs which can relate to safeguarding concerns, property repair requirements, unreported anti-social behaviour and tenancy management issues requiring follow up. Additionally opportunity is presented to provide advice to customers and signpost to other council services dependent on tenant needs.

Management Office	Annual Home Visits Completed Wk21
Horsforth	59.42% (517)
City total	55% (26958)

Environmental Actions Estate Walkabouts

Housing officers continue to carry out the scheduled quarterly estate walkabouts identifying repair works, untidy gardens, tenancy breaches and potential environmental improvement works whilst out on site, often being accompanied by customers and ward members.

Where appropriate liaison work takes place with partnering environmental services such as council's Cleaner Neighbourhood's, Grounds Maintenance and Forestry Teams who provide

valuable support. Officers are also encouraged to identify potential environmental schemes wherever possible for future consideration.

100% of all scheduled quarterly estate walkabouts for 2019/20 have been successfully completed by the Horsforth Housing Management Office to date.

Outer Northwest - Housing Advisory Panel Projects 2019/20

Outer Northwest - Housing Advisory Panel Project Considerations 2019/20	
1.	Farrar Lane Garden Consumables, Adel – to supply a storage shed and gardening supplies to Farrar Lane Retirement Living complex – Approved £609.14
2.	Union Court Garden Storage and outside furniture, Otley – Approved £2593.00
3.	Duncan Avenue knee high fencing, Horsforth – to stop parking on grassed area – Funding Declined
4.	Kineholme Drive knee high fencing, Horsforth – as above – Funding Declined
5.	Bennet Court Sewing Club, Otley – to supply equipment for tenants of Bennet Court to run a sewing club Approved £958.71
6.	Fairfax Flats Bin Stores, Otley – to install two sets of bin storage and bins at the flats – Approved £8,945
7.	Adel Crag Community Association banner and shelter – to supply a community group with a banner and event shelter – Approved £302.98
8.	Whiteley Croft garden party and BBQ, Otley – Approved £536.35
9.	Wharfedale View iPads, Yeadon – to supply the retirement life team with iPads to facilitate regular ICT sessions – Approved £1,873.75
Total Spend To Date	
	£15,818.93

Housing Advisory Panel Projects In Development 2019/20	
1.	St James Walk and Drive Landscaping, Horsforth
2.	Holtdale Avenue permeable tarmac area, Adel – to install a permeable surface to an area that has just been mud and concrete – Potential match funding via Community Committee
3.	Holtdale View 'Keep of the grass' parking signs, Adel
4.	Regent Crescent Landscaping, Horsforth – To tidy up the area of Regent Crescent and Close in Horsforth
5.	Holtdale Garth Drying area, Adel – To remove drying area that is being used for fly-tipping
6.	Queensway Bin Stores, Yeadon – To install bin store and appropriate bins at 113 Queensway flats
7.	Shakespeare Garages Fence, Guiseley – To replace a rotting wooden fence around the area of the garages at Shakespeare Road

6. Horsforth Hub:

REGULAR ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

- Story & Rhymetime - weekly
- Crime Readers Group - meets monthly
- Get Online - meets weekly
- Live at Home RG - meets monthly
- 1st August Little Singers with Opera North 10.30-11.15: This is a multisensory music and singing session for under 5s. It's free but places need to be booked for adults AND children via the ticket source website. We had a similar session during the Easter holidays which was really successful.
- 14th August Space Chase: Back in Time to 1969 2-4pm Drop in
- Working with Horsforth Live at Home Scheme to put on an intergenerational reminiscence session. To coincide with the 50th anniversary of the moon landing (and this year's SRC theme) we are asking those who remember 1969 to come into the library to share their memories of life at the time with the younger generation. Although this is inspired by the moon landing the reminiscence session will be more general about life in the 60s. The event is bookable via ticket source, but if this is a barrier for anyone, please email me their name and a contact number and I will book it for them.

7. Holt Park Library:

REGULAR ACTIVITIES ARE

- Code Club - running fortnightly
- Story and Rhyme time - Tues PM / - Wed AM
- Adult Writer Group - meets monthly.
- Young Writers Group - meets monthly
- Games Group - facilitated by Youth Service meets weekly

8. Yeadon

- Yeadon Carnival - Library Team had a stall at the Carnival, focussing on the Summer Reading Challenge. It was a lovely day, very busy with children taking part in making space ships and crafts, also badge making. 48 children signed up for SRC, great success.
- Space Chase: Astro Arcade at Yeadon OSC and Library - this year's summer reading challenge event took place on Friday 26th July from 10.30 to 11.30. Do you love computer games? Join us for an interstellar space themed coding session. Free event, aged 7+, tickets via ticket source. 7 children and 3 adults attended.

9. Otley:

- Mini recruitment event by Caring Partnership was held at Otley Community Hub and library on Wednesday 7th August. They were recruiting for staff within the Health & Social care arena.
- Otley Library took part in the "Otley Story Walk" running from the 16th to the 30th of August. The story walk starts at Otley Court House and follows a map through the town where stories, poems and a quiz written by local writers are hidden around town. The walk takes about an hour and is suitable for adults and children. Prizes can be won, vouchers and book tokens.
- Otley won the best dressed display for Yorkshire Day, which was on Thursday 1st of August.

- Storytime sessions averaging 8/9 children attending with adults. Still popular and getting well attended over the school holidays. Awaiting more floor mats as generally more babies than older children.
- Guiseley Library
- Craft and Chat - regular weekly group with a consistent attendance of 8/9 people.

Community Engagement: Social Media

10. Information on posts and details recent social media activity for the Outer North West Community Committee Facebook page is provided at **Appendix 1**.

Corporate Considerations

Consultation and Engagement

11. The Community Committee has, where applicable, been consulted on information detailed within the report.

Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration

12. All work that the Communities Team are involved in is assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration. In addition, the Communities Team ensures that the wellbeing process for funding of projects complies with all relevant policies and legislation.

Council Polices and City Priorities

13. Projects that the Communities Team are involved in are assessed to ensure that they are in line with Council and City priorities as set out in the following documents:

1. Vision for Leeds 2011 – 30
2. Best City Plan
3. Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan
4. Children and Young People's Plan
5. Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
6. Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy

Resources and Value for Money

14. Aligning the distribution of community wellbeing funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

Risk Management

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

Conclusions

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

Recommendations

18. The Community Committee is asked to note the content of the report and comment as appropriate.

Background documents¹

19. None.

¹ 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.