

**Report of:** Head of Stronger Communities

**Report to:** Inner West Community Committee  
[Armley, Bramley & Stanningley, Kirkstall]

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**Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 To note

## **Inner West 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. 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**

Updates by theme:

#### **Children and Young People: Champion Cllr H Bithell & Cllr C Gruen**

3. The Inner West Children and Families Sub Group took place on 6th November at Milford Sports Centre.
4. A holistic presentation on children's access to independent play was received, which was very informative. This was introduced by the Play Strategy Officer who gave a strategic overview of the Leeds Commitment to Children's Play 2019, with presentations from Leeds Play Streets, Scrap (Scrap Sheds), Chevin Forest School and Public Health (Get Set Leeds)
5. The sub group had the opportunity to ask questions of the organisations and at the next meeting they will consider how some of these initiatives can be developed and

supported in the Inner West to extend opportunities for spontaneous independent play as a necessary and vital daily experience.

6. The next meeting will be on 5<sup>th</sup> February 10.00, venue TBC
7. Members are asked to appoint a Children & Young People Community Committee Champion from the Armley Ward to ensure that all Inner West Wards are represented. A nomination has been made on behalf of Councillor Lou Cunningham.

#### Inner West Youth Summit

8. The Inner West Youth Summit took place on 15<sup>th</sup> October at Leeds Art Gallery, where 57 children and young people from 12 learning providers learnt about democracy, chose what activities they would like to be delivered in their locality and had the chance to enjoy exhibitions in the art gallery and library and borrow a book using their Breeze cards.
9. Please see **appendix 1** for outcomes of the event.

### **Environment: Champions Cllr J Illingworth & Cllr A Smart – Update from Chris Chamberlain**

#### Bramley / Stanningley and Kirkstall – Zone 14. Team Leader Wayne Tonks

10. We have placed four new bins to replace damaged ones in Bramley at the request of Councillor Ritchie.
11. We are still trying to keep up with the amount of cutback/gardening jobs (mainly in Bramley).
12. We have arranged that Community payback assist with work in the Ginnels at Half mile, from Stanningley Road, which has been completed to good standards.
13. The de-leafing season officially started on the 4th November. We are utilizing external resource from Continental to assist our sweepers on the main arterial routes and heavy leaf fall areas. This team will work within Bramley over the next few months too. We think this work will last around four months and will be priority for the sweeping resource. Regular updates will be provided to Elected Members during this time.
14. A couple of Neighbourhoods litter picks conducted by Phil McConnel from the Fairfields group in and around Zones 14 and 13. The Coal Hill primary school, loaned our litter equipment for a schools project with the children last month.

#### Armley – Zone 13. Senior Team Leader Chris Chamberlain

15. The zone continues to benefit from having 2 allocated Environmental Action Officers. There is a proposal to introduce a 3rd Officer to work within the zone along with the proposed area for the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in Headingley / Hyde Park and Little London and Woodhouse. The primary work of this Officer potentially is to deal with the PSPO legislation in the 3 areas and cover for any absences. A further update will be provided when able.
16. The vacancy for the mechanical footpath sweeper has been filled in the Armley team. This now allows us to have the 2 footpath sweepers working across 7 days which were without since July. I am also in the process of recruiting to the vacant Assistant Chargehand position within the zone and interviews for this will take place on Friday 15th November 2019. Once filled, this will bring the zonal cleansing resources back up to being fully staffed on the structure. All staff are now back in work too except 1 who is on maternity leave until approximately May 2020 which we will definitely benefit from due to having a couple of staff on long term sickness and light amended duties.
17. We continue to support Numerous Community litter picks supported through provision of equipment, collection of waste and support on the day. The multi-agency action / engagement day was successful with results hopefully being made available at the Cleaner, Greener, Safer sub group meeting being held on Wednesday 20th November. I am meeting with the New Wortley Community Centre in early December to discuss how the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team can assist and work with their Urban Task Force group which is being set up. The aim is to identify areas within New Wortley that can be improved and more appropriately used. My team will provide relevant equipment and resource to compliment the good work proposed by the centre. We will also remove any waste created as part of this work.
18. All graffiti has been removed from Armley Town Street as part of the Armley Town Team project. This work completed by our graffiti team was paid for by the 3 Elected Ward Members. Further work is being planned to continue this graffiti removal down onto Ledger Way over the next few weeks.
19. The Love Where You Live project has been completed on Back Nuninngton Street with 2 other streets within the area being identified to next work on.
20. Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) work is still ongoing and progress is still good with less need for further enforcement action due to compliance. We recently hosted some representatives from Durham County Council who were interested in how we introduced and enforced the scheme, feedback from them was very positive.
21. The vehicle involved in the multiple fly tipping incidents around West Leeds has now been destroyed. Prosecution against the owner is now with legal. There are other prosecutions pending in connection with this case.

22. There are 3 other pending prosecutions relating to fly tipping that will be sent to legal to have summons raised over the next few weeks. Further details will be provided on conviction.

23. Some examples of recent / ongoing environmental action work:

Properties on Eyres Terrace and Aberdeen Grove we will be undertaking Work in Default completed on a property on Raynville Mount which has made a great improvement. Station Way fly tipping which was reported in the Yorkshire Evening Post with CCTV of an unidentifiable vehicle. After some local publicity we think we now have grounds for interviewing the owner of a similar vehicle to that used. A resident of Westerley Rise who hasn't paid a fine for littering will now be prosecuted.

### **Community Safety: Champion Cllr K Ritchie – update from John McKimmings**

24. There are currently 56 open cases within the Inner West area. This is a decrease of 13 on last report. The ward breakdown is:

Armley – 20 (-5)

Bramley & Stanningley – 19 (-)

Kirkstall – 17 (-7)

25. The main case type in this area remains threats/actual violence which accounts for 15 (-9) of the active cases. Breaking this down further, there are 5 (-3) in Armley Ward, 2 (-2) in Kirkstall ward, and 8 (-4) in Bramley & Stanningley Ward. 2 of the cases in Bramley ward relate to linked juvenile defendants and both are now subject to injunction orders – their behaviour has impacted on both Bramley/Stanningley ward and Kirkstall Ward mainly around retail outlets. The remaining cases relate to adults and are not linked. There are some factors that stand out, but not sufficient to constitute a significant rise in these types of offending, but there are 2 cases in the Armley ward relating to specifically targeted abuse and threats, and are serious in nature – one involves a Polish victim and perpetrator and has resulted in numerous community tensions; and the second has a hate element involving an Asian British victim, and a white British accused who is also known to be involved in far right activity. Obviously, both cases have heavy police involvement.

26. The second main case type is noise nuisance, accounting for 11 cases. These are evenly spread across the wards and unconnected. The types of noise are mainly attributed to loud music/raised voices, but there are a number relating to dog barking also. There is currently a slight increase in noise cases in the Kirkstall ward which is due to the student community who have recently returned for the academic year, and

there are plans in place for peak times in the year where noise nuisance is likely to occur so that issues can be dealt with swiftly.

27. There are 5 (-1) cases relating to drug supply/misuse in the inner west area, all are unconnected. Whereas cannabis was previously the main drug issue, this has been replaced by issues relating to other Class A and B drugs – amphetamine, cocaine, heroin etc. The split by ward is Armley – 2; Kirkstall – 1; and Bramley 2.

## **Employment, Skills & Welfare: Champions Cllr J Heslewood & Cllr J McKenna**

### Employment & Skills Workshop

28. The Employment & Skills Workshop took place at Bramley Community Centre on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019, the following services attended on the day to offer advice and volunteering opportunities to residents who were seeking to find employment.

29. Step in To Care, NHS, McDonalds, Job Shop, Adult Learning, Employment Access & Growth Team, Bramley Elderley Action, The Conservation Volunteers, Forging Futures, Sport Works Yorkshire, Housing Income Team were also in attendance to offer benefit advice.

30. Twenty people attended on the day who spent time with each of the services present, the feedback received was positive, we look forward to planning future events.

## **Community Engagement: Forums**

### Armley Forum

31. The Armley Forum met on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at Armley Community Hub and discussed the following:

32. West Yorkshire Police provided their regular policing update for the area. Compared with 2017/18 there has been an overall crime reduction of 6% in the Armley ward, but an increase in anti-social behaviour of 3.5%.

33. Highways answered questions on measures to reduce speeding (on Stanningley Road in particular) as this is a matter of public concern following recent accidents. Members of the public were told that Highways would request a mobile camera as an interim measure (with a view to getting a fixed camera).

34. The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) attended and gave a service overview, plus an update on the proposed build in the locality. This proposed 22 bed unit will be at St Marys Hospital, with a proposed opening date of December 2021.

35. The next meeting will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at Armley Community Hub.

#### Bramley & Stanningley Forum

36. The Bramley Forum last met on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and discussed the progress on the work to the A647 bus lane, working is due to start February 2020 to complete by March 2021, this is part of a programme of work to ease congestion across Leeds.

37. It was also reported that to improve the look and feel of the environment it is planned to improve crossing facilities, seating and planters at Bramley bus interchange.

38. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> November.

#### Bramley Our Place Partnership – Broadleas and Fairfields – Update from Harpreet Singh

39. The Bramley Our Place Partnership was brought together to develop a local improvement plan for Bramley, focusing on the Broadleas and Fairfields.

The partnership is continually developing a work programme against the 3 identified priorities which will be underpinned by community engagement. These include;

- Children & Young People
- Community Safety & Environment
- Jobs & Skills, educational attainment (increased employment and more of the community in learning)

40. The summer saw a whole host of activities for children & young people in these areas such as, the Healthy holidays programme providing a range of free activities. The activities include sports, music, dance, arts, crafts, cooking, reading and lots more. Each activity also included a healthy meal. After taking review of the partnership in October 2019, a new pathway has been identified to deliver further change. This approach will be delivered by using the existing governance arrangements of Bramley Our Place sub group structures, to take a commissioned approach to delivering projects via funding from (but not exclusively), the community committee and other funding sources. Already a range of project briefs and proposals are being drawn up with partners to bring positive outcomes in these areas.

41. The Communities team have been involved in a number of capacity building initiatives to bring a disused Community Centre back to life. Fairfield Community Centre has had a number of strong days of community engagement with a range of partners targeting problematic streets within the estate especially where community contact has traditionally been poor. Previously managed by Leeds City Council, the centre is currently in the process of an asset transfer to a local charity who are hoping the community will be active in using the centre. Learning is being drawn from experience

of capacity building focused on other previously disused centres such as Swinnow Community Centre which has now received awards for a centre entirely run by local community volunteers. It is hoped that the learning can be replicated at Fairfield Community Centre and a number of further community capacity building events are being arranged.

42. The 3 sub-groups will continue to meet quarterly and work coherently to develop localised projects in line with the priorities of the partnership.

### **Community Engagement: Social Media**

43. **Appendix 2**, provides information on posts and details recent social media activity for the Inner West Community Committee Facebook page.

44. **Appendix 3**, Inner West Newsletter.

### **Priority Neighbourhoods – Update from Rachel Marshall**

45. The New Wortley Core Team continues to meet every 6 weeks to bring together partners, monitor progress against agreed actions and ensure there is a collective, joined up approach to work taking place within the priority neighbourhood. Sub groups are aligned to the core priorities Children & Young People, Employment, Skills & Learning, Community Voice, Health & Wellbeing consider the Neighbourhood Action plan on a particular theme with barriers and larger issues to progress flagged back to the Core Team for a more strategic approach. The Core Team met on 4<sup>th</sup> November to discuss the recent IMD data and plans for the Neighbourhood Improvement Board in January. There was agreement to take a strategic Core Team focus on the children and young people recognising the need to prioritise this theme of work from the analysis of the recent household surveys, the updated IMD data and conversations with colleagues from New Wortley Community Centre.

46. The Safer Cleaner Greener Sub Group meets every 6 -8 weeks and is progressing a localised action plan. The sub group recently coordinated a Multi-Agency Community Engagement Afternoon on the 29<sup>th</sup> October. The event included cleansing / awareness activity from the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team, door knocking, and the delivery of the recently produced information booklets and Fridge Magnets (bearing contact details for key agencies). The door knocking exercise gave opportunity to undertake resident surveys and the provision of general advice. The day was well supported by partners and feedback is currently being collated to be reviewed by the partnership.

47. The Children & Young Peoples Partnership worked with Active Leeds to put on a sports fair at Dixon's Unity Academy in October which provided children and families with an opportunity to see the wide range of sporty activities on offer in their local communities. The event allowed parents to have a look at the school and the children visiting from local primary schools mixed with the older young people to try different activities i.e.

climbing wall, dance class and games. There was excellent feedback from the school and visitors with opportunities for groups to connect with each other. New Wortley Community Centre had a stall which recruited 3 young people including Dixons Head Girl to be on their newly formed Childrens Board. The board will look at issues affecting young people in New Wortley and funding opportunities for projects and activities.

### **Town Centres Update – from Pete Mudge**

48. Town Street Armley continues to work with all partners to strengthen its future: The Town Team is finalising Santa's Cave for Independents Day on Saturday 7th December when there will also be shop window hunts for accompanied youngsters, decorated shop windows and other activities to attract ever more shoppers and visitors to the developing Armley Village Centre. Paint has been bought in readiness for volunteers to tidy up the main centre and the Business Improvement District development group is getting set for its first meeting on 14th November. A further initiative soon to be launched aims to stop drug dealing so the evening as well as daytime appeal can improve.

### **Updates from Key Services**

#### **Housing Leeds – Update from Paul Densley & Maddie Edwards**

49. Housing Update

##### Kirkstall

50. A Closure Order for ASB was obtained for a property in Kirkstall

51. A number of unmaintained communal sites were identified as neglected, the local initiatives money was utilised to tidy the sites up to enable them to be included on the grounds maintenance contract. Community payback referrals completed to remove self seeders/overgrown vegetation on the Gilberts/Sandford & St Matthias areas.

##### Bramley

52. Hoarding customer (house full of pizza boxes, has removed all of them), and engaging with support.

53. Bramley Funday completed with Housing HAP support – several thousand attendees.

54. Hedge on St Catherine's Brought up to maintenance spec by volunteers – and now has been added to contract.

##### Armley

55. Wortley Towers and Heights community fun day organised by Amena.

56. Positive comments re: cleanliness of Clyde blocks from ASB officer.

57. Positive comments about block safety at the Raynviles.

58. Hedges Removed at Houghley Square communal area that were unmaintained and causing a vehicle hazard

59. Inner West HAP

Budget for 2019/20	£54,466.78	
Carry Forward from 2018/19	£10,192.19	
<b>TOTAL 2019/20 BUDGET</b>	<b>£64,658.97</b>	

Approved Budget Spend 2019/20	£23,043.37	
<b>Available Budget</b>	<b>£41,615.60</b>	

HAP themes	Number of projects submitted	Number of projects approved	Other funding confirmed/given in kind	Amount Committed by Panel	% committed
Inner West Total	22	8	£29,430.00	£23,043.37	35.64%

60. Bids Approved since last update

Address/Who	Scheme	Amount Awarded by HAP
Wortley MSFs	Planting of an Orchard in the greenspace around the blocks	£4790.00
BARCA	Funding for Broadlea Tea-time youth club	£3891.00
Moorsides	Funding xmas parties (one for older people and one for youths)	£500.00

61. Community Payback

HAP	Number of referrals	Open	Complete	Total number of team days taken
Inner West	39	25	10	40.5

## Corporate Considerations

## **Consultation and Engagement**

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

## **Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration**

63. 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**

64. 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**

65. 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**

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

## **Risk Management**

67. 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**

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

## **Recommendations**

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

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

70. 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.