

**Report of:** Head of Stronger Communities

**Report to:** Inner North East Community Committee  
(Chapel Allerton, Moortown and Roundhay)

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**Date:** 2 March 2020

For consideration

## **Inner North East 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 Families: Councillor Mohammed Shahzad**

3. Cllr Shahzad spoke with young people from year 12 and 13 (age range 16 to 18) at Allerton Grange School on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January. The students were part of an enrichment class and the topic for discussion was called 'How to affect change'. Cllr Shahzad spoke about the importance on how young people can affect change and they can do it through getting involved in local politics. He mentioned ways young people could engage - by joining political parties, working with elected members and MP's by meeting them, lobbying them for any changes they would like to see in their area. The session provided the students with an insight on how they want to effect change and as they get older use their vote to be part of the democratic process or

stand for elected positions. There was a question & answer session at the event and it was well received by those who attended.

4. The Inner North East Community Committee Youth Activity Fund round closed on 31 January 2020. 28 applications has been received from various groups and organisations. Sifting of these applications took place in February to decide on which projects to be funded. The Youth Activity funding round follows on from the Youth Summit that was held in November 2019 where children from local primary and secondary schools attended and they were consulted on what youth activities they would like in their neighbourhood. From the consultation exercise at the Youth summit which consisted of group consultation and the individual questionnaires the young people completed - youth club came out at the top, followed by outdoor adventure and cooking.

### **Environment: Councillor Sharon Hamilton – Inner North East Environmental Sub Group**

#### **Cleaner Neighbourhood Team**

5. Cleaner Neighbourhood Teams will be planning to undertake some environmental improvement works on the whole of Scott Hall Road right up to Moortown corner. The work will involve getting the gullies cleaned and cutting back on overgrown vegetation. They will also be cleaning all the crossings and picking litter up from the central reservation area. From April 2020 onwards they will be focusing their attention on all ginnels in the Inner North East area and cutting back on overgrown vegetation.
6. The team have done an audit to find out how many street waste bins they have in the Inner North East area and the frequency rate when the bins are getting emptied. As part of this exercise some bins have been relocated to areas where there is a higher demand and footfall. The open top bins on Chapeltown Road are getting replaced with newer modern bins. The old bins will be used as planters to spruce up the area.
7. A new Environmental Enforcement Officer has started in the Inner North East area, their role will be to investigate environmental crime and where appropriate prepare case files for prosecution.

### **Community Safety: Councillor Mohammed Rafique**

#### **Leeds Anti-Social Behavioural Team (LASBAT)**

8. Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team review – the review is almost fully complete with the development of the new noise service awaiting completion. The Triage team and process are now up and running and all members have been sent a guide for how to send in future enquires regarding ASB. The new ASB MARAC is now in place and will take cases and issues fed in through the tasking process which have not been able to be resolved.

9. Farm Hill's, Meanwood – Premises closure order obtained against a family guilty of prolific anti-social behaviour and harassment in the community.
10. Beckhill's, Meanwood – Three Premises Closure Orders obtained against prolific asb offenders and included a further injunction on one to prevent other individuals coming to the area.
11. Potternewton's, Chapel Allerton – Three Premises Closure orders obtained to protect 3 vulnerable women at various addresses, offenders were linked.
12. An illegal drinking club in Chapeltown, previously the subject of a Premises Closure Order, now trading again, LASBAT are working with Police and the building owner to work towards a permanent solution but further short term enforcement is likely.
13. A property on Spencer Place, Chapeltown was operating as an Air BNB with noise disruptive parties taking place most weekends. Noise Abatement notice has been issued and LASBAT is working with Planning as they have refused planning permission for a change of use, LASBAT may consider a Premises Closure Order in the event of further complaints.

### **Updates from Key Services**

#### **Housing**

#### **Engagement / Involvement**

14. There are few resident groups in the area. One constituted group (Button Hill), one unconstituted group (Team Beckhill), two improvement groups (seven estates project and IMPaCT and two Area Champions covering Leafield and Potternewton Gardens. In addition quarterly meetings are held with residents at Potternewton Court and Potternewton Heights. These put in place as residents wanted a regular contact point with officers but didn't want the formality of a residents group. Looking to try same in other areas in 2020/21.
15. Informal engagement work has taken place at Stainbeck Church Community Café, as a result they have submitted two bids to housing advisory panel for funding. Further engagement work has taken place with Friends of Allerton Grange Fields and Friends of Gledhow Valley Woods.
16. February and March sees the next round of High Rise Drop-in sessions hosted by Housing Managers along with Tenant Engagement Officers.

#### **Housing Advisory Panels**

17. Inner North East Housing Advisory Panel started the year with a budget of £33,552.63.
18. 14 projects supported with funding from the panel, including one completed by Community Payback (see below).
19. Low take up of funding in Roundhay area. Lack of projects coming forward and a lack of support from local residents when consulted with.
20. Vacancies for Housing Leeds residents on Inner North East Housing Advisory Panel
21. 'Plan on a Page' in development with information from partners for 2020/21 to identify HAP funding themes.

## **Community Payback**

22. Since April 2019, 44 referrals for work have been registered in the Inner North East area (353 registered city-wide). Of these 16 have been completed. Return on Investment currently at 193.9% (nominal cash return of £13,259.40)
23. One project in Hamilton Gardens (Chapel Allerton) to clear back two large raised planters, add anti-weed membrane and slate chippings completed by Payback with funding for items being approved by Housing Advisory Panel at approximately 40% of original cost.

## **Working in Partnership**

24. Previous funding of I.T. equipment to Feel Good Factor has enabled on-site training for basic computer skills courses with older residents.
25. Projects in development for younger people. Regular meetings taking place with the Youth Service to progress further.

## **Community Hubs**

### **The Reginald Centre**

26. An outdoor cinema took place on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 with around 50 people attending. The film 'Arthur Christmas was shown'. A local food provider provided hot food for the event. Local councillor attended and was very impressed with the turn out.
27. A meeting took place with Leeds City College University Centre to discuss a 12 month programme to promote their courses in 2020.
28. £150 was donated by local councillors to replace the giant chess pieces which are used by customers outside The Reginald Centre.
29. The Reginald Centre has been awarded £400 from the Community Committee to set up a Toy Library. The scheme is aimed at families who cannot afford to purchase toys and will mean that each week a child will be able to borrow a different toy to play with.
30. More than a coffee morning which takes place at The Polish Centre held a Christmas dinner for 32 people.
31. The chair based exercise class which take place weekly held a coffee morning following one of their classes which included coffee and mince pies for everyone.
32. This month's cinema club showed The Grinch – 57 people attended on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
33. The chest clinic at Leeds General Infirmary have been carrying out lung health check follow-up appointments. This is following a screening programme where all current smokers attending are offered an immediate consultation with a Smoking Cessation Practitioner (SCP), who have Nicotine Replacement Therapy and e-Cigarettes to give them there and then. Everyone who consents then gets a face-to-face follow-up visit at 4 weeks and 3 months. So far this has been really successful with most of the smokers agreeing to the follow up appointment with the SCP.

34. NHS Leeds carried out free NHS health checks for over 40's which aim to reduce the risks of heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, diabetes or dementia.
35. Our Project Development Worker secured £1,892.50 of funding to deliver a project to support local people in Chapeltown to stay healthy this winter. Stage 1 of the project involved a public engagement event at the Reginald Centre. The aim of the event was to bring together a wide range of partners and services to collectively provide a holistic offering to support people to improve their health and resilience over the winter months. The event addressed, basic health checks, mental health, social isolation, diet, exercise, living conditions financial support and education. We worked with Feel Good Factor to deliver cooking demonstrations, Care & Repair who offer advice and support to people who need make improvements to their home, Money Buddies & Credit Union to offer support for people with money worries, NHS giving advice around basic health checks. General feedback from partners was that the day was a success.

### **Moor Allerton**

36. Moor Allerton Community Hub has been awarded £400 from the Community Committee to set up a Toy Library. The scheme is aimed at families who cannot afford to purchase toys and will mean that each week a child will be able to borrow a different toy to play with.
37. Yorkshire Water attended a pop up at Moor Allerton. Their Community Engagement team promoted the different payment plans available to support customers on income based benefits. Customers who attended found it very informative.
38. Secret Cinema showed Christmas themed Duplo event on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019 50 people attended. The Greatest Showman was shown on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December - 20 people attended. The Grinch was shown on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December and 15 people attended.
39. A recruitment fair took place in January with 15 potential employers giving advice about job vacancies. 46 people attended the event. Both customers and employers gave excellent feedback. Because of its success a further recruitment event will be planned for later in the year.
40. A secret cinema club for adults took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> January and showed I, Daniel Blake. 18 people attended the event.

### **Public Health**

#### **Inner North East Community Committee Update report – Health and Wellbeing February 2020**

41. Winter friends support people most at risk from winter-related health conditions in Leeds. By watching this video you can become a Winter Friend and help those most in need to increase their winter resilience.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZaWlinQD8A&feature=youtu.be>

For more information please contact; Rachel Brighton [Rachel.Brighton2@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Rachel.Brighton2@leeds.gov.uk)

### **Winter Health Advice for the over 55's**

42. Straight forward advice from the meteorological office for the over 55's on staying healthy during spells of cold weather. For more information please visit; <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/seasonal-advice/health-wellbeing/winter-health-advice-for-over-55s>
43. The Looking Out for Our Neighbours campaign returns to combat loneliness and social isolation this winter. Small acts of kindness can create a big difference and that's why Public Health are bringing back this campaign. The winter phase, has been launched and builds on the success of the campaign earlier this year when local people carried out over 46,000 acts of kindness in their local Neighbourhoods across Bradford district and Craven; Calderdale, Harrogate, Kirklees, **Leeds** and Wakefield. During winter months, 'Looking out for our neighbours' is particularly important, as those who are older or vulnerable can easily become isolated or lonely as a result of bad weather or the added social pressure that comes with the festive season.
44. According to research from Age UK, over one million older people say they go more than a month without speaking to a friend, neighbour or family member.
45. Make a difference this winter and get involved in the campaign. Free resources are [available to download \(https://ourneighbours.org.uk/\)](https://ourneighbours.org.uk) and you'll find daily inspiration and good news stories across social media using the hashtag #OurNeighbours. For more information please visit. <https://www.wyhpартnership.co.uk/get-involved/looking-out-for-our-neighbours>

#### **Update from Senior Localities Officer**

46. Meanwood Valley Farm Bridge Reinstatement and Bank Erosion Works – in early 2018, Meanwood Valley Urban Farm identified that essential work was required to the link bridge at the farm. The then Chief Executive, Sue Reddington, coordinated a huge capital project to address the issue and from a number of sources managed to secure a funding package in excess of £65,000 to deliver the work. The Inner North East Community Committee agreed to contribute £5,000 from their capital allocation. It followed months of planning process and technical delays but the project did move forward and the works have recently been completed. This essential work will secure the continued operation of this much loved and valued facility in the Inner North East area so that the community can continue to enjoy the farm. Although the bridge is already in use, an official opening has yet to be organised, but members of the committee will be notified and invited to the event.
47. Love Meanwood Project – Meanwood Valley Partnership with support from Lemonbalm, InterACT, Meanwood Valley Urban Farm, Leeds City Council and other local organisations have started a consultation exercise in the Meanwood area with the aim of creating a community led 'vision for Meanwood'. Lottery funding and support from Inner North East Community Committee, Inner North West Community Committee, Inner North East Housing Advisory Panel and Inner North West Housing Advisory Panel, is being used to engage with local people with two events having taken place so far and an online consultation being launched. The first event took

place on 11<sup>th</sup> January in the square opposite Waitrose on Green Road with over 80 surveys completed and free cake/drinks on offer for those taking part. The following Saturday a further event took place in Northside Retail Park with another 90+ surveys being completed. Over 100 online surveys had also been completed at the time of writing and further work is now being done to identify where the gaps are so that some targeted engagement can be done to ensure community representation. The project has three themes:

Enjoying a healthy life

Climate change, our environment and the landscape around us

Equal access for all members of the community to facilities, services and public spaces

48. People are asked whether they live/work in Meanwood, what they love about Meanwood, what they don't like and what they would like to change/see more of/less of. People who complete the survey are entered into a prize draw for the chance to win a £50 shopping voucher. From the initial consultation some key themes will be identified and there will be further consultation to follow with the aim of identifying a number of projects that local people can get involved with to benefit the Meanwood area. All those who have completed the survey have been asked if they would like to be more involved in the project as it moves forward and over 100 people have expressed an interest. Those local people will be invited to a 'Super Keeno' event to help shape outcomes from the consultation. Further updates will be provided to the Committee and the project is linking in with partners through the Meanwood Seven Estates partnership.
49. BAME Health & Wellbeing Hub – Plans are progressing on a large capital project to enhance the BAME Health & Wellbeing Hub (Former Frederick Hurdle Day Centre) in Chapeltown with an extension. The project led by Cllr Dowson, will create an orangery and improve the outside space, creating additional room for activities at the centre and better connecting the external space for users to enjoy. The hub is extremely popular and provides essential day services for older people, particularly BAME, but this success means that space is at a premium and this project will expand capacity. Following considerable discussion with stakeholders and Corporate Property Management, the specification and costs are being finalised and the Chapel Allerton Councillors have identified Ward Based Initiative funding to support. It is expected that works will take approximately 12 weeks from a start date yet to be agreed.

## **Events/Other Business**

### **Community Committee Chairs Forum**

50. Inner North East area hosted the Chairs Forum on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020. It was held at the BAME Centre in Chapeltown. Cllr Mohammed Shahzad (Chair of Community Committee) gave a presentation about the local area, its demographics and its successes. Community Committee Chairs from across the city attended and also listened to presentations from the Leeds City Council Prevent Team about terrorism and different forms of extremism. Safer Leeds did a presentation on

domestic violence and abuse and how their service have carried out a domestic homicide review and would like to share their findings with Community Committees across the City.

51. Cllr Debra Coupar (Executive Member for Communities) thanked all Inner North East Councillors and officers for all their hard work and was pleased with the progress services were making to communities.

### **Community Defibrillator Project**

52. Following the recent Roundhay Ward Members meeting it was agreed to pursue St Edmunds Scout & Guide Hut as the venue for a new defibrillator, as this will provide suitable coverage across the area. This is in addition to other defibrillators that may exist in the Ward.
53. At the recent Moortown Ward Members meeting it was agreed to pursue defibrillators at the following locations - Immaculate Heart of Mary Queen Church Hall, Harrogate Road and Meanwood Mobility (Shop on Stonegate Road). Immaculate Heart have agreed to have the defibrillators installed and talks are in progress with Meanwood Mobility.
54. At the recent Chapel Allerton Ward Members meeting it was agreed to install defibrillators at Mandela Centre and Harehills Baptist Church. Work is in progress to install the equipment at these two venues.

### **Corporate Considerations**

#### **Consultation and Engagement**

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

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

56. 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 Policies and City Priorities**

57. 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:

Vision for Leeds 2011 – 30  
Best City Plan  
Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan

### **Resources and Value for Money**

58. 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**

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

### **Risk Management**

60. 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**

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

### **Recommendations**

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

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

63. 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.