

Report of: Head of Stronger Communities

Report to: Outer East Community Committee

**Cross Gates & Whinmoor, Garforth & Swillington,
Kippax & Methley, Temple Newsam**

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Date: Tuesday 10 March **For Information**

Outer East 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

Updates by theme:

Children and Families: Champion – Cllr H Hayden

3. The Children and Families sub group had a meeting on the 11 February 2020.

The Youth Activity Funding round 2020/2021 was open for new applications. A further meeting took place on 11 February 2020 to discuss the new Youth Activity applications with Youth Matters, Clusters, Voice and Influence team and Councillors. These are to be considered for the Outer East Community Committee for approval.

Environment & Community Safety: Champion Cllr P Grahame

4. A sub group meeting took place on the 11 February 2020.

The grit bin process has now been implemented for Outer East.

Parks and Green Spaces Consultation took place. The Outer East Community Committee will be updated with this information in the June meeting.

Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT)

5. Cross Gates & Whinmoor

Recent meeting held by concerned residents that LASBT attended to discuss these issues and update those present as to what action has already been taken and will continue to be taken against those responsible.

6. Garforth & Swillington

There are ten active case in the area including:

These are related to neighbour disputes and separate instances of neighbours making allegations against each other. Youth related issues are ongoing with the youths from the Garforth & Swillington ward causing Anti-Social behaviour away from the area.

7. Kippax & Methley

There are two active cases in the area. A dog barking case and an injunction case which has been breached and will be taken back to court.

8. Temple Newsam

Interim injunctions have been sought.

Opened/Closed/Active Jan 20	Cases Opened	Cases Closed	Total Case Active
Ward	Cases Opened	Cases Closed	Active Cases at month end
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	15	24	29
Garforth & Swillington	3	5	10
Kippax & Methley	1	2	2
Temple Newsam	10	8	30
Outer East Total	29	39	71

9. CCTV

Statistics have been taken from all the cameras in the Outer East area.

Outer East CCTV Cameras usage in connection incident **Dec 2019 - January 2020**

	December	January	Total incidents per category for 2019	
Alarm Activation	0	0	Alarm Activation	0
ASB	13	41	ASB	54
Cash In Transit	6	2	Cash In Transit	8
Drugs	0	0	Drugs	0
Enforcement	20	9	Enforcement	29
Fire	3	1	Fire	4
Health & Safety	5	3	Health & Safety	8
Police Operation	14	4	Police Operation	18
Public Order	4	2	Public Order	6
Road Traffic	19	19	Road Traffic	38
Sexual Offences	0	0	Sexual Offences	0
Suspicious Events	12	0	Suspicious Events	12
Theft	4	0	Theft	4
Total Per Month	100	81	Total sum of incidents for 2019	181

10. Cleaner Neighbourhoods

Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley Wards

The table below shows the works carried out away from the normal maintenance routes.

Most of the fly tips have been single items such as wood, white goods and discarded items over the Christmas period. The team is liaising with the Housing officers to reduce the amount of items placed out as general waste items in the bin areas and educating residents to use the correct procedure for disposing of their waste.

DESCRIPTION	GARFORTH	KIPPAX
Fly Tip	52	62
Housing Void Garden	2	1
Abandoned Vehicle	1	1
Dog Fouling	1	2
Footpath Sweeping	1	

11. Employment, Skills & Welfare: Cllr J Lennox

The Leeds Skelton Lake Services opening and recruitment drive which was due to take place has been delayed. It is hoped that a new completion date will be confirmed soon and information sessions will follow in line with the revised recruitment timeframe.

The Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair took place on Monday 3 February, different employers, training providers a booked attended. An invitation to the event was mailed out in January to all parents and carers of young people. There was also been an extensive social media campaign across the city.

Two people have obtained construction jobs at the White Rose View student accommodation in Leeds City Centre and a further resident secured a support role with a local care provider.

During January an apprenticeship presentation was provided to students and parents at John Smeaton Academy and at a careers event at Brigshaw high school.

12. Health and Wellbeing & Adult Social Care: Champion Cllr P Gruen

Health and Wellbeing

Get Set Leeds – Making Leeds a More Active City (getsetleeds.co.uk)

As part of the Best Council Plan, Health & Wellbeing Strategy and the Healthy Weight Declaration we are committed to co-producing a physical activity ambition with the city. The development of a new Physical Activity Ambition will set a long term agenda for change. It is founded on the basis that a more physically active city will help to deliver many of the city's outcomes and priorities as well as reflecting both the NHS 10 Year Plan and Prevention Green paper.

In September 2018, the Physical Activity Ambition Project team was established to improve collaboration and connected across the city and begin a more in-depth dialogue with people that live and work in the city around physical activity.

Step one of this process involved getting the conversation about physical activity started which took a two-strand approach:

1. Development of an online microsite with survey for completion.
2. Focus group conversations with people across the city.

City Wide Conversations

A total of 2,437 individuals from Leeds completed the Get Set Leeds microsite personal survey.

A total of 381 individuals responded from a workplace perspective (i.e. as an employee or employer in Leeds)

A total of 1810 individuals participated in the focus groups with 1,701 unique responses. Focus groups were asked to respond to two questions: 1) what gets in the way of being physically active and 2) how to make Leeds more active.

Our next Steps?

Get Set Leeds academic partner Leeds Beckett University are currently analysing the data set. The first draft of the results are expected by the end of February. This initial evaluation will include a breakdown of what people said by postcode area as well as comparing inactive vs. active responses. The full evaluation and report to include more detailed comparisons by demographics such as ethnicity, age, sex as well as the analysis of responses from the workplace survey will follow in the next two months. This will be reported back to all Community committees early in the summer the findings and recommendations from this analysis.

In addition, funding has been successful in securing, from Sport England, £475,000 for **Get Set Leeds – Local**, which will enable us to build on our initial conversations and further engage with community partners and residents from some of most deprived neighbourhoods around embedding physical activity into everyday life.

In the meantime the website address is: getsetleeds.co.uk to find out what is happening or contact one of the team by emailing getset@leeds.gov.uk

13. Winter Wellbeing

Workforce

In supporting the delivery of the public health winter plan and contributing towards reducing the number of excess winter deaths, 'Winter Friends' was developed by Public Health as a branding and a tool to engage the workforce (Leeds City Council (LCC) and broader) in the nine high-impact, evidence based interventions to support the most vulnerable residents during Winter. Winter Friends provides the workforce with key messages around cold weather and links to the variety of services in Leeds able to support those who are most vulnerable due to the drop in temperature. Winter Friends also provides resources and leaflets to support with positive conversations around services and support available. Anyone working with or supporting people in Leeds can become a winter friend by watching the animation and collecting free resources from the Public Health Resource Centre at Technorth. The animation can be circulated and used at team meetings.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZaWlinQD8A>

- **Public Facing Campaign – 2020**

A public facing winter friend's campaign has been launched supporting people who are most at risk of poor health during winter to take positive actions to reduce their risk. This will be achieved by encouraging people to sign up to be a winter friend – they will then be supported to do informal volunteering, share key messages and refer and signpost to relevant services. Anyone can become a winter friend – once signed up, winter friends will receive a pack full of advice and inspiration.

People can find out more and sign up by visiting www.winterfriends.org

Follow @AgeFriendlyLDS for updates

Stay Well this Winter Grants

Public Health have once again worked with Leeds Community Foundation to administer grants to organisations offering additional support to communities over the winter period. There were 25 grants approved and these went to a number of organisations across the city. Visits are to be carried out between February and March to evaluate the projects and feedback will be included in the next report.

Defibrillators

14. Cross Gates & Whinmoor

Cross Gates & Whinmoor ward is set to receive a total of 3 CPAD units through this project. At this current stage there are 3 proposed locations to be confirmed, which are as follows:

1. St Luke's Church Hall (Stanks Lane)
2. The Pendas Arms Pub (Naburn Approach)
3. Converted phone box (Kennerleigh Crescent)

For each of these venues, Cllr Grahame is providing contact details for Guardians. Further Investigation is being made to check if installing within a phone box is a viable option within the scope and timescale of this project. Installation dates will be confirmed by Civic Enterprise once confirmation of relevant building documents/permissions have been received.

15. Temple Newsam

Temple Newsam is set to receive a total of 3 CPAD units. At this current stage there are two confirmed locations, with one location to be identified.

1. Lakeland Court Flats (Cartmell Drive)
2. Corpus Christie Catholics Club (Halton Moor Avenue)

16. Kippax & Methley

Kippax & Methley is set to receive 2 CPAD units. One location has been confirmed:

1. Kippax Leisure Centre – Guardian allocated

Housing

17. Halton Moor and Swarcliffe

Performance

Voids Levels (empty properties)

Demand in all areas remains high especially for houses attracting a high number of bids in the majority of areas.

Customers currently living in the Highways flats continue to be considered and rehoused wherever possible. A high number of properties require an Occupational Therapist assessment to make sure a property is suitable for an applicant and this can cause some slight delays in the allocation process.

There has been a couple of recent hate crime incidents in the Halton Moor area with void properties currently being dealt with.

The first Neville New Build properties have been advertised and shortlisted. The first properties are due to be released in the beginning of March.

Income Collection

Income collection continues to be high on the agenda taking up the majority of Housing Officers, Team Leaders and Managers time to try and improve collection rates. The teams are working hard to try and improve rent collection for year end with staff working on evenings making telephone calls to customers in arrears offering support as required.

The Enhanced Income Officer continues to assist with enhanced Universal Credit cases where a higher level of support and assistance is required applying for APA's (Alternative Payment Arrangements) as required. These payments are received in a four weekly cycle.

Money Buddies continue to offer help and advice for customers with debt issues in both Swarcliffe Office and the Osmondthorpe One Stop.

Office	Collection rate (66a) City Target 97.5%
Swarcliffe / Whinmoor	95.28%
Halton Moor / Osmondthorpe	94.90%

Annual Home Visits

Staff continue to obtain access in the harder to access properties to try and reach 100% access for year end, providing support as required. Issues found on these visits include Hoarding, repairs, untidy gardens, support and rehousing issues.

Office	Annual Home Visits completed
Swarcliffe / Whinmoor	90.02 % (1805)
Halton Moor / Osmondthorpe	85.04% (1367)

Environmental/Anti- Social Behaviour issues Halton Moor and Swarcliffe Offices

Housing Officers continue to carry out the scheduled quarterly walkabouts identifying untidy gardens, pot holes, overgrown trees etc. liaising with partnering agencies to rectify an issues, with referrals being made to the Community Payback Team who can assist with overgrown communal areas, painting railings etc. There have been some successful HAP bids in the areas with staff continually looking for new bids.

A number of unlettable garages in the Naburns area have recently been demolished to allow more residents parking.

A number of all electric properties in the Swarcliffe area will soon be receiving gas central heating this will help reduce fuel poverty in the area.

Staff continue to work closely with the Enforcement Officer from Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team in tackling both private and LCC untidy gardens.

Since the serving of a number of Injunctions on youths in the Halton Moor area, there appears to have been a reduction in general ASB in the area, these injunctions are been closely monitored by West Yorkshire Police and all associated agencies.

18. Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley

Performance

Voids Levels (empty properties)

Demand continues to be incredibly high in the Garforth & Swillington and Kippax & Methley wards with a low turnover of general need properties. The current average wait on Band A for a 2 bedroom house in the Garforth & Swillington ward is 64 weeks, however most recent lettings data would suggest depending on the chosen locality within the ward, this could be as much as 95 weeks. In the Kippax & Methley ward the average wait time on Band A for a 2 bedroom house is 73 weeks, however recent lettings data would suggest depending on the chosen locality within the ward, this could be as much as 107 weeks.

We are experiencing a higher turnover of category 2. Retirement Life properties and approximately 65% of properties re-let in the 2019/20 financial year have been category 2.

We continue to have reduced demand on some of the Retirement Life complexes, particularly when bedsits are being advertised. We have scheduled refurbishment work to Cross Hills Courts to help improve the aesthetic and will look at new ways of creating demand, such as open days, once this has taken place.

Due to a high percentage of adapted and Retirement Life properties, when allocating properties, Occupational Therapists are required to attend viewings to ensure a property is suitable for an applicant's medical needs. This can impact on the speed we are able to view ready to let properties. In attempts to negate this impact, we are viewing properties whilst in repair, when safe to do so.

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

Kippax/Garforth: 113

The percentage of stock currently in void:

Office	% of stock void
Kippax / Garforth	1.25 (25)
City Average	0.93

Turnaround target: 30 days

Office	Average turnaround time
Kippax / Garforth	35.21
City Average	34.21

Income Collection

Kippax and Garforth is currently 1st citywide for the percentage of rent collected as at week 42 by a large margin of 0.52%. In addition to this, the office is only one of two across the city that has improved collection in comparison to the same week of 2018/19, with a local improvement of 0.14%. The total value of arrears at week 42 in comparison to the same week of 2018/19 has reduced by almost £20,000.

To support the increased number of Universal Credit claimants, robust processes are in place to support tenants and protect rental income. In December 2019, we noted that the average arrears per Universal Credit case had reduced by approximately £70.00.

We continue to approach income collection in a three tiered approach within the office, with a set schedule of actions outlining specific tasks for Housing Officers, the Team Leader and the Housing Manager. We have experienced an improvement in arrears management since this was introduced prior to Quarter 2.

We are promoting direct debit and currently have approximately 50% of tenants paying by this method. When we last received the start of the month direct debits at week 40 the collection was:

Office	Collection rate (66a) City Target 97.5%
Kippax / Garforth	98.26%

Annual Home Visits

Housing Officers continue to work hard in reaching the year-end target. Kippax & Garforth is currently within target at this point of the year. We have done additional weekly quality assurance checks throughout Quarter 2 & 3 to ensure that quality visits are taking place for tenants.

Office	Annual Home Visits completed
Kippax / Garforth	89.5% (1067)
City total	89.6 (44,976)

19. Environmental Actions Garforth and Kippax office

Housing Officers continue to carry out the scheduled quarterly walkabouts identifying untidy gardens, pot holes, overgrown trees etc. liaising with partnering agencies to rectify any issues.

We have utilised the Environmental Budget to remove shrubs in the Garden Village area in order to be replaced with amenity grass and maintained on GM contract. We also arranged for overgrown hedges to be cut back and reduce in height to meet the specification to go on GM contract so that these can be maintained moving forward.

Very high conifer hedges at Primrose House in Swillington were cut back and also added to GM contract.

20. Housing Advisory Panel (HAP)

Outer South East spend Housing Advisory Panel funding spend 19/20

Budget by Ward Area	Projects submitted	Projects approved	Other funding	Amount Committed
Garforth & Swillington	4	4	£ 3,875.00	£ 9,266.52
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	3	2	£	£3,892.10
Temple Newsam	8	4	£47,331.00	£20,438.44
Kippax & Methley	1	1	£	£12,647.38
Outer South East Total	16	11	£51,206.00	£46,244.44

Community Payback referrals across all wards as per breakdown below

Ward	Referrals	Open	Complete	Started
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	3	0	3	0
Garforth & Swillington	8	5	3	0
Kippax & Methley	6	3	3	0
Temple Newsam	10	4	3	1

Work in Progress

Increasing tenant Involvement in Halton Moor work/
Working with Micklefield Regeneration Partnership to develop a community Orchard
Swillington Parish Council have requested an area close to allotments cutting back and clearing.

Working with New group called 'We are Halton'.

Valley Ridge – Trying to increase Tenant Involvement.

Youth Matters

21. Cross Gates & Whinmoor

Youth workers have been working in partnership with the police to address issues around Anti-social behaviour. Most recently we have visited the Swarcliffe Children's Centre as they had been experiencing issues. A young person was identified.

Youth Matters have engaged in various workshops over the past few months including Market Place. Young people from the group also attend the local Councillors forums.

Youth Clubs continue to have lots of young people in the youth clubs and new young people come along every week and engage in various activities provided.

Youth Workers are currently planning the February half term programme with trips and visits and these will be done jointly with both wards.

Easter half term plans for young people will be carried out. Consultations will be made on which trips and visits they would like to access.

22. Temple Newsam ward

Extensive issue based work with all groups around bonfire/ firework safety with young people designing posters for the youth club displays warning of the dangers. Also work was carried out with all groups around staying safe during the Christmas period, eg. drug ,alcohol use and sexual health.

Youth Activity Funded trips out for February half term are being promoted

All evening sessions and Youth Activity Funding trips were promoted extensively on the Facebook page.

A Christmas trip to the Panto at the Carriage works in Leeds was a great success.

23. Community Engagement: Forums

The following schedules below for the Community Forums

Manston & Swarcliffe Forum dates:

30 April 20

16 July 20

19 November 20

Whinmoor Forum dates:

27 April 20

23 July 20

26 November 20

Garforth & Swillington dates:

TBC

Temple Newsam

13 February 20

2 July 20

22 October 20

Community Engagement: Social Media

24. Appendix 1, provides information on posts and details recent social media activity for Outer East Community Committee Facebook page.

Corporate Considerations

Consultation and Engagement

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

Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration

26. 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

27. 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

28. 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

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

Risk Management

30. 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

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

Recommendations

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

Background documents¹

33. 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.