

Report of: Head of Stronger Communities

Report to: Outer South Community Committee
Ardley and Robin Hood, Morley North, Morley South and Rothwell

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To note

Outer South Consultative Forum – 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: Councillor Wyn Kidger

3. The next Children and Families Sub Group has been rescheduled for **Tuesday 1st December 2020** at 10:30 on Zoom, where plans for the next Youth summit and the 2021/22 Youth Activity Funding Round will be discussed.

Environment:

4. As there is still a vacancy for the Environmental Champion, the Outer South Community Committee Chair has volunteered to cover the role until a new champion is appointed at the summer meeting in 2021.

Community Safety: Councillor Andrew Hutchison

5. Community Safety Forum

As social gatherings are still advised against the Outer South Community Safety Forum that was scheduled for Tuesday 24th March 2020, at Morley Town Hall in Morley South with a theme of Anti-Social behaviour and questions to the Police will be rescheduled as soon as we can resume public meetings.

Two Morley Community Safety meetings have taken place remotely with the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT). We are aware of a rise in domestic violence and Anti-Social Behaviour cases during lockdown and are working closely with NPT, LASBT and Housing.

It has been reported that some of the increase in domestic violence and ASB can closely related to the growing fatigue people are experiencing with the ongoing government restrictions being imposed on residents.

6. Anti-Social Behaviour Update

LASBT are currently receiving unprecedented levels of demand to the service across the entire City with caseloads high across all 3 area teams.

We at LASBT South currently have 215 active ASB cases, of these 69 are within the Outer South area.

LASBT Staff are still working from home. They are able to carry out visits where absolutely necessary to progress a case but much of our contact is still being conducted over the phone or via email. Where face to face contact is required, the necessary risk assessments have been completed, staff have been supplied with the necessary PPE & must adhere to COVID guidelines.

When staff are out on the estates, they are paying attention for properties which may not be COVID compliant. Any concerns they have whilst on visits are fed into West Yorkshire Police.

Legal work has proved challenging during the lockdown period due to the restrictions placed on the Courts & on possession cases in particular. We currently have a number of legal cases awaiting confirmation of Courts dates for Closure Orders, Injunctions & Possessions.

2020/21 QUARTER 3 (as of Nov 5 th)			
WARD	CASES OPENED	CASES CLOSED	ACTIVE CASES AT MONTH END
Ardsley & Robin Hood	2	5	13
Rothwell	8	2	17
Morley North	6	5	21
Morley South	3	4	18
OUTER SOUTH TOTAL	19	16	69

7. Police Update

Serious acquisitive crime (SAC crime):

The below figures are for the past 2 months (reports from August and September).

As you can see there are very lower reports of crimes in the Ardsley and Robin Hood wards, with a slight increase in theft from motor vehicle offences on Morley North and Morley South wards. A male has been arrested for a number of offences and he was believed to be active in this area. He has been charged with a number of offences and is appearing in court in March 2021. The spike in theft from motor vehicle offences in Rothwell has mainly centred around Oulton Hall and we have been working with the hotel to tackle this.

We have had a good reduction of burglary dwelling offences across most of the ward with very low numbers being reported.

Ardsley and Robin Hood

	Sept crimes	August crimes
Burglary	4- increase of 1	3- decrease of 2
Robbery	0	Decrease of 1
Theft from Motor Vehicle	1	Decrease of 4
Theft of Motor Vehicle	0	2- increase of 2
Hate crime	1	Reduction of 1
Hate incident	0	Reduction of 2

Morley North

	Sept crimes	August crimes
Burglary	5- decrease of 1	6 – decrease of 1
Robbery	Decrease of 1	Increase of 1
Theft from Motor Vehicle	7 – increase of 2	5- decrease of 2
Theft of Motor Vehicle	2	Decrease of 1
Hate crime	2 – increase of 1	1 - same
Hate incident	Increase of 3	0

Morley South

	Sept crimes	August crimes
Burglary	4 – reduction of 2	6- reduction of 8
Robbery	0	0
Theft from Motor Vehicle	3 – increase of 2	Decrease of 2
Theft of Motor Vehicle	1 – decrease of 1	Decrease of 1
Hate crime	2	2- increase of 2
Hate incident	1 – increase of 1	0 – decrease of 4

Rothwell

	Sept crimes	August crimes
Burglary	2 – decrease of 1	3 – decrease of 1
Robbery	1	Same
Theft from Motor Vehicle	6- increase of 3	3 - Increase of 1
Theft of Motor Vehicle	4 – increase of 4	0 – decrease of 1
Hate crime	1 – decrease of 1	2 – decrease of 1
Hate incident	1 – decrease of 1	2 – increase of 2

ASB

Ardley and Robin Hood

September - 41 Total ASB. 5 x Adult Nuisance, 2 x fireworks, 2 neighbour related, 7 x nuisance car, 8 x nuisance bikes and 17 x youth related.

August - 39 total ASB. 2 x Adult ASB, 2 x alcohol related, 5 x neighbour related, 6 x nuisance car, 2 nuisance bikes and 22 youth related ASB

Morley North

September – A total of 41. 6 x Adult nuisance, 2 x alcohol, 1 x fireworks, 6 x neighbour related, 2 nuisance car, 3 x nuisance bikes and 21 x youth related.

August - 51 total ASB. 11 x Adult related, 1 x alcohol, 8 x neighbour related, 3 x nuisance car, 15 x nuisance quads and 13 youth related.

Morley South

September - ****Increase**** - 63 Total ASB. 6 x Adult nuisance, 2 x alcohol, 6 x neighbour related, 5 x nuisance car, 21 x nuisance bikes and 23 x youth related.

August - 46 Total ASB. 6 x Adult related, 2 x alcohol related, 1 x fireworks, 7 x neighbour related, 5 x nuisance car, 9 x nuisance bikes and 16 x youth related ASB.

Rothwell

September - 25 total ASB. 5 x Adult nuisance non-alcohol related, 1 x alcohol related, 6 x neighbour related, 5 x nuisance car related, 3 x nuisance quads and 5 x youth related

August - 45 total ASB. 9 x adult related, 1 x littering, 10 x neighbour related ASB, 1 x nuisance car, 7 x nuisance motorbikes and 17 x youth related ASB

NPT Priorities for each ward

Ardley and Robin Hood

- To disrupt and engage with nuisance youths and Anti-Social Behaviour in and around the Tingley area, with particular attention to the Eastleigh and Fairleigh estate of Tingley. Community intelligence has highlighted hotspots of the playground at the junction of Old Hall Road and Smithy Lane, as well as around Tesco's on Westerton Road. We will deal with this issue by conducting high visibility patrols in the area. We will also use ASB Legislation if required to prevent the youths from returning to the location if warnings are not heeded. There is also potential drug dealing / use taking place as part of youths gathering. We will develop community intelligence to obtain a more comprehensive picture as well as potential for proactive plain clothes patrols to target those involved.

- To target and take appropriate action against anti-social use of vehicles in and around the area paying particular attention to specific roads highlighted by community intelligence. We will conduct regular traffic operations including the use of speed measuring equipment to provide road safety advice and prosecute offenders using Road Traffic legislation and, if appropriate, consider the use of Section 59 Police Reform Act warnings and seizures for the more deliberate and serious offences.

Morley North

- To target Anti-Social Vehicle use, speeding in and around the Drighlington area, with a particular focus on Whitehall Road, Bradford Road near the Golf Course, Moorside Road and Hodgson Lane. We will be increasing patrols in the areas, deploying our pro Laser speed gun and issuing penalty notices or official warnings under s.59 of The Police Reform Act will be given.
- To tackle Anti-social behaviour around the Sports area/Skate Park and the Library at Moorland Road. Also the emerging issues of late evening, Anti-Social behaviour in the King Street area of Drighlington. We will conduct overt patrols and we will engage with groups of youths in the area if they are found on the street where we can. We will deal with any offences positively, however, we may deploy other tactics which we choose to protect so as to help them remain effective. We will act on good quality, timely and reliable information that the community pass to us to the best of our ability and in accordance with Law. We will work with the various agencies within Leeds City Council to tackle these issues, where appropriate. So please do keep us informed by either making direct contact with Morley NPT or if you prefer, anonymously to Crime stoppers on 0800 555 111.
- To tackle anti-social Behaviour in the Asquith Drive area of our Ward. We will achieve this through overt patrols by local NPT officers to gather information and deal with what we find utilising our police powers depending on what we find and the necessity. We are currently working closely in partnership with Housing, Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour teams and other partners to tackle those individuals who seek to cause misery for other local residents. Where there is evidence of criminal offences having been committed, we will take positive action where we lawfully can so.

Morley South

- To disrupt and engage with nuisance youths, particularly targeting those engaged in Anti-Social Behaviour. We will deal with this issue by conducting high visibility patrols. We will use Anti-Social Behaviour Legislation, such as dispersal orders if proportionate and necessary to prevent the youths from returning if warnings are not heeded.
- To act on community intelligence to tackle and disrupt theft from shops and other retail crime in Morley town centre area. We will therefore ensure high visibility patrols are conducted and utilise all different tactics available to disrupt and prosecute those involved in this criminal activity.
We will continue to provide Crime Prevention advice to the community.

Rothwell

- To disrupt and engage with nuisance youths in and around the Orchard Way area of Rothwell and the ginnels off, particularly targeting those engaged with Anti-Social Behaviour and potential drug dealing / use. We will deal with this issue by conducting high visibility patrols in the area. We will use Anti-Social Behaviour Legislation, such as dispersal orders if proportionate and necessary to prevent the youths from returning if warnings are not heeded.
- To monitor additional footfall and vehicle use as schools return following Covid-19. We will assist with local schools to promote road safety both for pedestrians and motorists including appropriate speed and obstruction offences. We will provide advice where appropriate and enforcement where necessary under the Road Traffic Legislation
- To target and take appropriate action against anti-social use of vehicles in and around the area paying particular attention to specific roads highlighted by community intelligence. We will conduct regular traffic operations including the use of speed measuring equipment to provide road safety advice and prosecute offenders using Roads Traffic legislation and, if appropriate, consider the use of Section 59 Police Reform Act warnings and seizures for the more deliberate and serious offences.

Work done by NPT in September:-

- 1) We have continued with the darker nights patrols, as stated above there has been a male who has been active in and around the Morley area. He was arrested by the NPT for a number of theft from motor vehicle offences, for which he has been charged and appears in court. A trial date was set for March 2021.
- 2) We continue with the numerous speeding operations across the Outer South area. A number of NPT officers have attended recent training in relation to the pro-laser device so that we can continue to deploy to areas of concern.
- 3) We are well into the bonfire season and are receiving a number of calls in relation to firework related ASB. We are working in partnership to tackle this and PCSOs are attended at shops and working with partners including trading standards to reduce the risks of these being sold to children / young people.
- 4) Due to the increased Covid restrictions and in particular the Leeds restrictions we are seeing a significantly increase in calls to report Covid breaches that are being managed to NPT. This has had a significant impact on our demand.
- 5) We have received a petition from a resident in relation to speeding in Drighlington. We are working with this resident and doing targeted speed checks with residents to problem solve this.
- 6) Work on going with Churwell Primary School in relation to obstructive parking
- 7) We have done a series of engagement events in the Churwell area using our new engagement vehicle
- 8) Licensing checks are being completed at premises to ensure they are Covid compliant

9) There is a new contact point being done every 3 weeks on a Saturday morning on Queen Street using our new engagement vehicle.

10) Increased patrols in Rothwell town centre in relation to the reopening of shops / bars etc.

Employment, Skills & Welfare: Councillor Neil Dawson

8. The Universal Credit claimant count is updated monthly and is therefore a useful measure for contributing to our understanding of the economic changes and impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on our communities.

The provisional figures for the total number of people claiming Universal Credit in Leeds local authority area is 70,127.

This includes all Universal Credit claimants whether they are in employment or not in employment. This is an increase of 98% since March 2020.

The revised figures for the number of people claiming Universal Credit in Leeds that were unemployed in September 2020 is 42,884.

This is an increase of 82% since March 2020.

The table below shows the number of people from the Outer South Community Committee area who are claiming Universal Credit. This is analysed by ward and shown against Leeds as a whole, Yorkshire and Humberside, and England. The rate of Universal Credit claimant count for all wards in the Outer South Community Committee area is below the average for Leeds and the country as a whole.

People claiming Universal Credit						
	working age population	Mar-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Oct-20 rate%
Ardley & Robin Hood	14,717	646	1400	1439	1461	9.9%
Morley North	13,880	647	1398	1398	1418	10.2%
Morley South	14,448	838	1702	1731	1746	12.1%
Rothwell	12,085	604	1240	1267	1285	10.6%
Outer South	55,130	2,735	5,740	5,835	5,910	10.7%
Leeds	516,054	35,436	67,750	68,892	70,127	13.6%
Yorkshire	3,419,606	277,842	483,764	490,222	498,237	14.6%
England	35,116,566	2,591,314	4,828,692	4,894,233	4,978,508	14.2%
Number is the number of people claiming Universal Credit (both employed and unemployed) The figures are a count of the number of people on Universal Credit on the second Thursday of each month – 8 October in this instance. Rate shows the number of claimants as a percentage of the working age population.						

9. The Employment & Skills Leeds website provides the offer of support available to residents and can be accessed through the following link: <https://employmentskillsleeds.co.uk/> and their social media accounts continues to provide information on job and apprenticeship vacancies, and employment and skills support.

10. Leeds Learning Hub

All courses are advertised on the Leeds Adult Learning Course Finder.



Leeds Adult Learning Course Finder

www.leedsadultlearning.co.uk

Health and Wellbeing & Adult Social Care: Councillor Judith Elliott

11. The Outer South Older Person's Sub Group met on for Monday 2nd November 2020 at 11am on Zoom. The group received updates from partners including the police and retirement life and work started on improving the commissioning processes for the International day of the Older Person offer for 2021.
12. The next Outer South Older Person's Sub Group is scheduled for Monday 7th December 2020 at 11am on Zoom, with a focus on neighbourhood networks, building a relationship with retirement life and developing the International day of the Older Person offer for 2021.

13. Covid-19 Testing

Within Leeds there is a 'go to' page which provides details for all the testing opportunities available across the city. This site is regularly updated with details including the locations and timings of the Mobile Testing Units.

<https://www.leedscg.nhs.uk/health/coronavirus/#where-can-i-go-for-testing>

14. Food Mapping

A food-provision mapping exercise was undertaken during the summer, initiated by the locality specialists when it became apparent that data collected city wide level on food parcel provision was providing incomplete data on food need. This mapping of food provision revealed the tremendous efforts of our voluntary sector partners who were procuring food from across the district and engaging businesses for food donations. This mapping exercise informed the city wide food response and was gratefully received by the teams involved.

15. Physical Activity

Physical Activity Ambition Progress update November 2020

The ambition is for Leeds to be the most active city in England. This is outlined in the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy 'get more people, more physically active, more often' and is a key component of reaching our vision to be a healthy and caring city where people who are the poorest improve their health the fastest.

As part of the development of the new 'Physical Activity Ambition' a city wide conversation 'Get Set Leeds' started in January 2019. 'Get Set Leeds' is the name of the proactive engagement campaign, aimed at encouraging a city-wide conversation about physical activity. It is a chance for people to share ideas on what getting active means to them and what might support them to move more. It follows the conversation started at the Big Leeds Chat and focuses on identifying assets, barriers and co-producing solutions.

Engagement with the people of Leeds and professionals took place between January – December 2019 through a variety of targeted approaches. This is the largest-ever study completed (in Leeds) around the importance of physical activity in the lives of over 4000 residents covering all Leeds postcode areas.

These conversations will shape a shared ambition for Leeds to get more people, moving more, more often, driving a radical cultural shift in the take up of physical activity. This shared ambition and associated work programmes will be co-produced at all levels. It will also require the long term promotion and consistent messaging of physical activity over months, years and decades.

From the analysis of these conversations (led by Leeds Beckett University) five key messages were identified:

- Most people want to be physically active but find it hard to be – motivation isn't enough
- People do not feel their environment makes it easy to be active– this includes having space to move and be active in, feeling safe in the places around us, access to transport and child-care, good air quality and local information
- Inactive people want to be active, but feel they aren't able to be or don't know where to start - People worry about their basic needs before they can think about being active (e.g. access to housing, employment, food, education, technology, and good health)
- The following target groups were identified:
 1. People with disabilities and/or long-term conditions
 2. Women
 3. 14-24 year olds
 4. Asian and 'Other' ethnic minority groups
 5. LGBT groups
- Small changes to how capable people feel can lead to big changes in physical activity levels - For everyone in Leeds to be more active, it is important they feel they can be

The full Get Set Leeds Conversation Report can be sent on request.

The next steps to develop the Physical Activity Ambition is to produce an action plan with people who live and work in Leeds based on four key ideas taken from WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity 2018-2030:

- **ACTIVE SOCIETY** – In Leeds I see people like me being physically active, and people around me make it easier for me to be physically active.
Leeds will create a social norm where it is the easiest choice to be physically active every day.
- **ACTIVE ENVIRONMENT** - In Leeds I am surrounded by things that make it easy and obvious for me to be active.
We will work with people to understand the external drivers affecting their physical activity levels
- **ACTIVE PEOPLE** - In Leeds I feel able to be active every day.

We will work with identified target groups to create small changes to how capable they feel to be physically active every day and test new ways of working.

- **ACTIVE SYSTEMS** - Leeds will work with people and in partnership with others to create a healthier place, a greener city and a stronger local economy; focusing together on “place making”, where all our neighbourhoods have the space and connectivity to enable moving more and can prioritise sustainable mobility.

A summary of the report, key findings and next steps can be found through this animation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyqCyft9YWU&list=PLggQFjpTLqpljQS5E4NGDyJqmHq1-E0nS&index=18>

16. Stay Well This Winter Grants

A grants panel was held on 7th October in relation to this year’s Stay Well This Winter Small Grants. Applicants have now been informed of the outcome of their applications and 19 groups/agencies were successful in gaining funding for additional activities over the winter period. The grants pot was worth £53,000.

Community Centres Sub Group: Councillor Bob Gettings

17. Leeds City Council (LCC) community centres have been closed for public use since 19th March. Activities directly relating to the covid-19 response have however been taking place which include food bank and food parcel preparation at Blackburn Hall and the siting of peripatetic staff from Aspire at Tingley Community Centre. Work has been carried out to risk assess and clear operations by Youth Services to take place on a restricted basis from LCC community centres. The first centres that were cleared for this use were St Gabriel’s Community Centre and Tingley Community Centre, both in the Ardsley and Robin Hood Ward. However since the introduction of the national lockdown on 5th November building based Youth Services activities have again been suspended.

As part of the 2021/22 council budget savings proposals a service review report on community centres has been submitted for the Executive Board meeting to be held on 18th November. This report was published on 10th November. The citywide proposals include reducing facilities management costs, pursuing asset transfer proposals and new lease arrangements and also the proposed closure of three community centres across the city. Two of the buildings recommended for closure are in the Outer South Community Committee area:

Lewisham Park Community Centre – Morley South
Windmill Youth and Community Centre – Rothwell

The report asks Executive Board to consider the proposal to implement the efficiency savings, including the closure of the three buildings, and also to approve the proposal

going out to consultation as part of the council's medium-term financial strategy and preparation for setting the 2021/22 budget.

Should the closures go ahead efforts will be made to relocate the current users of these buildings to other facilities.

The Community Centre Sub Group Meeting will take place before the end of November.

Community Engagement: Social Media and Newsletter

18. **Appendix 1**, provides information on posts and details recent social media activity for the Outer South Community Committee Facebook page.

Updates from Key Services

Community Hubs and Libraries Update

19. Over the past few months since lockdown we began to open up further Community Hubs and Libraries across the City. Across the South of the City all our Community Hubs and Libraries were open with a browsing book model and some had begun to offer an assisted job shop offer in a Covid safe way.

However, due to lockdown the following changes have been made to the way in which we operate across the City.

Thursday 5th November, 2020

None of the hubs will be open, for any services, this includes Morley and Rothwell. The telephony team will be working as normal, ready to take any appointment bookings. Leeds Central Library will also be closed.

Friday 6th November, 2020

The following Hubs will open on Friday and will be open for the duration of the impending lockdown:

- Dewsbury Road Community Hub & Library
- Armley Community Hub & Library
- City Centre Hub
- Headingley Community Hub & Library
- The Compton Centre
- Seacroft Community Hub & Library
- The Reginald Centre

Their opening hours will be 10am-4pm, Monday to Friday and Saturdays 10am-1pm (City Centre Hub open Monday-Friday only).

Leeds Central Library will also open from Friday and will continue to be open Monday – Saturday, 11am – 3pm. They will offer a click and collect book borrowing service,

will have public access PCs available and will also provide a printing service. They will continue to take library enquiries over the phone on 0113 3785005.

Services Available @ Hubs

- Public access PCs for citizens to use by booking only. Customers can call 0113 3785005 to book or can book at the hub. There will be no assistance available for customers using the PCs.
- A public access phone for customers to use to contact LWSS, LHO and other services at the discretion of the hub.
- Click and collect book borrowing service at locations which have libraries.
- Face to face Job shop services will be suspended, although customers can use public access PCs for job related activities. Customers can receive services from the Job shop, over the phone, by emailing their name and phone number to jobshops@leeds.gov.uk.
- Customer services officers will be available for the following enquiries only:
 1. Booking telephone appointments.
 2. Booking PC slots using Netloan for self-service PCs.
 3. Collecting LWSS vouchers.
 4. Requesting Trussell Trust e-vouchers.
 5. Raising emergency repairs for Housing Leeds tenants.
 6. Arranging temporary parking permits.
 7. Receiving drop off documents.

All other enquiries will be dealt via a booked appointment with our telephony team.

- EU settlement appointments will continue at the City Centre Hub.

Housing Leeds

Ardley & Robin Hood and Rothwell Housing Management Area Update

20. Environmental Work

The team are following the government's guidelines regarding social distancing and continue to work from home. Risk assessments for most housing management tasks are now in place, but are still not able to cross the threshold and only have a Risk Assessment in place for entering properties if there is a significant tenant welfare concern. Estate walkabouts are still unaccompanied at this time, and all patches have had a full inspection carried out this quarter.

Several locally funded environmental projects are underway, including the cut back of overgrowth and fly tipping removal at Carlton Lane and a garage site clearance on Bradford Road. Further projects are in the pipeline.

21. Annual Home Visits

Telephone Annual Home visits are now well underway and things are going well in terms of adapting to this new way of working. The team have had a case where the annual home visit contact has uncovered concern for a tenant's welfare as we identified they were struggling to feed the household. This led to us arranging a food parcel delivery for the tenant, as well as further support being offered to maximise

their income. This is a clear indication that these telephone contacts are vital in ensuring we offer targeted support to those tenants in need.

22. Rent Collection

Week 26 income collection performance is 97.11%. This is a significant increase on the previous month's performance which was 96.61% and it moves us up into 6th place in the city. This is an indication of the team's hard work in order to support our tenants whose income has been adversely affected as a result of the pandemic, including job losses, furlough or reduced hours. We are quick to recognise what support we can offer towards a tenant's individual circumstances, and this comes via effective questioning and a high knowledge of changing legislation to benefits and support services. We have 446 Universal Credit claimants in the Rothwell, Ardsley and Robin Hood housing management area and whilst these cases continue to climb, the impact of UC claimants falling into rental debt has actually minimised to a point where our average case debt of claimants is a £1.60 credit as opposed to an increase of debt. This is a fantastic achievement for the team, and we will continue to support our tenants through the further challenges that no doubt lay ahead.

Morley Housing Management Area Update

23. Environmental Work

The team are following the government's guidelines regarding social distancing and continue to work from home. Risk assessments for most housing management tasks are now in place, but are still not able to cross the threshold and only have a Risk Assessment in place for entering properties if there is a significant tenant welfare concern. Estate walkabouts are still unaccompanied at this time, and all patches have had a full inspection carried out this quarter.

The team have continued to utilise my environmental budget for various schemes and have made a number of referrals to the green guardians to have some gardens attended to on behalf of some of our vulnerable customers. It is hoped that we can continue this scheme if funding becomes available. See HAP report.

24. Annual Home Visits

Telephone Annual Home visits are now well underway and things are going well in terms of adapting to this new way of working. The team have had a case where the AHV contact has uncovered concern for a tenant's welfare as we identified they were struggling to feed the household. This led to us arranging a food parcel delivery for the tenant, as well as further support being offered to maximise their income. This is a clear indication that these telephone contacts are vital in ensuring we offer targeted support to those tenants in need. We continue to contact our tenants via the telephone on a regular basis.

25. Rent Collection

Week 31 income collection performance is 96.88% and it places Morley 5th in the city for collection rates. This is an indication of the team's hard work in order to support our tenants whose income has been adversely affected as a result of the pandemic, including job losses, furlough or reduced hours. We are quick to recognise what

support we can offer towards a tenant's individual circumstances, and this comes via effective questioning and a high knowledge of changing legislation to benefits and support services.

Christmas is coming up and we are now starting to plan our Christmas campaign for rent collection.

Outer South Housing Advisory Panel (OSHAP)

October 2020 Tenant Engagement Report for Community Committee

26. TARA activities::

The OS Tenant Engagement Officer (TEO) is in regular contact with TARAs / Community Groups via email and calls. No meetings are held at present due to COVID-19 but groups are offered support in setting up Skype / conference call meetings, help with getting accounts to WYCAS and regular funding updates in addition to support with HAP bid writing should groups have projects to support their communities. Online training opportunities are also shared and recent sessions have covered Safeguarding, Scams and Frauds, Green doctor and ASB.

27. HAP activities: There has been one OS HAP Skype / conference call meetings since July 2020 – on Sept 24th via Skype / conference calls

Housing Leeds Performance reports were provided by Darren Parker - the Rothwell Housing Manager. Up to date information about rent collection, voids, support for tenants, environmental improvements in addition to Lettings updates and the different ways Officers are working in response to the impact of COVID -19 were shared. OS Housing Management and Housing teams fully support all the OS HAP bid processes. The panel were very happy with the performance reports provided.

The TEO is working on 21 bids so far this year. 7 bids have been funded in full so far linked to these funding priorities: Housing & Environment (1), Health & Wellbeing (5) and Community Safety (1). There have been no Employment & Skills bids mostly due to Covid-19.

At the start of the Sept 24th OS HAP meeting there was £29,108.98 in the OS HAP budget and the bids discussed were:

OS_10_2021: Drighlington Dementia Café Tea (covering Morley north and south and some parts of Ardsley and Robin Hood). The bid was awarded the full £500.00 requested (although, as the Chair pointed out under a third who benefited from the project were tenants all the panel recognised the important wellbeing and community support the project provided in difficult times.) There was £75.00 match funding in place from the organisers.

OS_17_2021: OS Green Guardians bid (covering all 4 wards). The panel was happy the project did not encroach on the Morley Elderly Action Garden Maintenance project but complimented it as this project's target group belong to a different tenant demographic. The panel funded the full £4,000.00 requested. Although no match funding was in place Housing Leeds' outer south managers committed to fund the removal of bulky waste items as needed for the duration of the project and these

costs could be considerable. (The Green Guardians now have enough referrals from Officers and have already completed some of them. This shows the level of demand on our estates. Photos will be supplied later to show the good work they do.)

Budget spent so far linked to wards:

Multiple wards: £5,870.00 (3 bids)

All OS wards: £6,220.00 (4 bids)

Total spend to date is £12,090.00

£24,608.98 remains in the OS HAP budget going forward

Collaborative working with the Community Committee continues to be an important objective for the OS HAP. This partnership continues to work well, ensuring tenants and residents benefit whilst making best use of available funds. The OS HAP and Community Committee look for best value for money as using money wisely remains important to benefit all OS communities.

Community Payback cannot undertake any tasks in outer south wards due to Covid-19. Housing Officers continue to make referrals though so work can resume when the situation changes and work can be undertaken safely.

Corporate Considerations

Consultation and Engagement

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

Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration

29. 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

30. 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

31. 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

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

Risk Management

33. 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

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

Recommendations

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

36. That the Outer South Community Committee Chair be appointed as Environmental Champion for the remainder of the municipal year.

Background documents¹

37. 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.