

Report of: Head of Locality Partnerships

Report to: Outer North West Community Committee
Adel and Wharfedale, Guiseley and Rawdon, Horsforth and Otley
and Yeadon

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Date: 20th September 2021

For recommendation / to note

Outer North West Community Committee - Update Report

Purpose of report

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

Updates by theme:

Children and Families: Councillor Billy Flynn

3. The children and families sub group met in July to review the YAF applications for summer 2021. The sub group recommended 5 projects for approval that took place in the summer holidays. The sub group are looking at ways to spend the remaining YAF budget this financial year by promoting the available funds with previous application, partner services, online and a possible press release. The sub group agreed a date for the 2021 Youth Summit which will take place on Monday 7th February 2022.

Environment and Community Safety: Councillor: Barry Anderson

- Councillor Anderson to provide a verbal update.

Transport- Cllr Wadsworth

- Councillor Wadsworth to provide a verbal update.

Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care: Councillor Graham Latty

- Councillor Latty to provide a verbal update.

7. Employment and Skills update: Councillor Ryk Downes

Universal Credit

- The table below shows the revised figures for the number of people claiming Universal Credit in the Outer North West Community Committee area that were unemployed in May 2021 is 2,388. This is an increase of 121% since March 2020, a decrease of 69 on the previous month. The increase in claimants is reflective across all wards due to the impact of COVID.

- The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (furlough) will cease at the end of September, and there is an expectation that a number of people will be made redundant which could subsequently increase claimants to Universal Credit.

	Universal Credit Claimants (Not in Employment) 16-64yrs					
	March 2020		April 2021		May 2021	
	Number*	Rate**	Number*	Rate**	Number*	Rate**
Leeds	23,618	4.6%	47,061	9.1%	46,061	8.9%
Outer North West	1,080	2.1%	2,457	4.8%	2,388	4.6%
Adel & Wharfedale	257	2.3%	594	5.4%	590	5.4%
Guiseley & Rawdon	207	1.5%	515	3.7%	501	3.6%
Horsforth	268	2.0%	566	4.2%	550	4.1%
Otley & Yeadon	348	2.7%	782	6.1%	747	5.8%

*Number is the number of people claiming Universal Credit that are not in employment

**Rate shows the number of claimants not in employment as a percentage of the working age population

10. Employment and Skills Services

The table below shows the number of people being supported from the Outer North West Community Committee area.

Accessing Services		Into Work		Improved Skills	
2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20

	(Apr – Mar)					
Outer North West	414	444	98	112	184	241
Adel & Wharfedale	135	168	32	36	72	96
Guiseley & Rawdon	65	71	16	23	18	34
Horsforth	125	122	27	27	58	70
Otley & Yeadon	89	83	23	26	36	41

11. COVID has had considerable impact since March 2020, with closures of face to face services, the employment and skills delivery models were adapted and continued through a virtual or remote offer along with email and telephone support. During April 2020 – March 2021 10,071 people accessed the Service, 414 of whom were from the Outer North West, a reduction of 7% when compared to the same period last year.

12. Across the city the service has supported 3,413 people into work, (April 2020 – March 2021), 98 were residents from the Outer North West, a reduction of 13% when compared to the same period last year. Customers were supported into work across all sectors with the largest numbers in health and care, food retail, logistics, distribution, and transport.

Leeds Employment Hub

13. A single point of contact for ESIF funded programmes and Jobshops that provides tailored and comprehensive support into employment or education to all unemployed Leeds residents. A large team of Employment Advisors deliver the programme by providing one to one support, tailored preventative and remedial support to eligible residents who are disadvantaged in the labour market.

14. The Service continues to be successful in securing ESIF funding that will now be in place until December 2023, supporting around 3,500 people per year in Leeds to improve their skills and significantly increase their prospects of moving into sustained employment. The service and its partners will be spending in the region of £2.7m in this financial year on the delivery of employment support programmes.

15. A further ESIF bid to support 15-24 year old Leeds residents has been submitted and the service expects to hear by the end of August 2021 if successful. This will replace two existing programmes that are due to finish at the end of December 2021.

16. ESIF programmes are predominantly focused on residents who are not employed. The service has therefore sought to gain funding for residents that are ineligible for ESIF programmes, supporting underemployed residents in low paid, low skilled jobs as well as those at risk of redundancy. Residents at risk of being redundant will be offered support beyond the limited statutory minimum offered by DWP and National Careers Service and residents seen as underemployed will be able to access services and

support that to now have not been offered through ESIF and other mainstream support.

17. All Jobshops are now fully open, 5 days a week for face to face appointments including the Hawksworth and City Centre Community Hub.
18. Due to COVID the annual Leeds Next Steps event will not take place face to face this summer. The [event usually held the day after GCSE results day, where young people can](#) talk to local colleges and providers, get information and advice about post- 16 learning opportunities, individual courses, apprenticeships, and traineeships will be available on-line. [Information from a wide range of schools, colleges and other providers will be available via the](#) 'Start in Leeds' website.
19. Between April 2020 – March 2021 3,971 customers accessed Leeds Employment Hub including Jobshops, 2,047 customers were supported into work and 292 were supported into training or further education. From the Outer North West, 204 customers accessed Leeds Employment Hub including Jobshops, 59 customers were supported into work and 12 were supported into training or further education.

Leeds Learning Hub

20. The service delivers and commissions adult learning (post 19) with courses designed to help adults take their first steps or re-engage with learning before progressing to accredited learning within community settings. This provision is targeted to the 20% most deprived SOAs with a focus on Priority Neighbourhoods. Our programme includes Family English, Maths and Language (FEML) provision designed for parents (or other carers of children) with English and Maths needs or is for families where English is not the primary language. Often these courses are linked to schools or Children's Centres.
21. Over the last 12 months, new methods of delivery were developed to ensure learners could continue to access our courses. This included blended learning e.g. digital delivery through mobile phones coupled with home learning options, remote delivery options including outdoor learning, and the return to face to face learning when restrictions permitted with reworked COVID secure delivery spaces. The service also developed home learning resource packs to increase pastoral support, with a particular focus on vulnerable learners and those unable to access online programmes.
22. Between April 2020 – March 2021 the service has supported 4,857 people across the city to improve their skills. From the Outer North West, 184 residents have completed a skills course, a reduction of 24% when compared to the same period last year.

Employer Support

23. Over the last 15 months the Service has engaged with 384 businesses (33 large and 351 SMEs). The highest number of engagements have been within construction, health and social care, IT, and digital and professional services sectors.

Vaccinating Leeds Programme

24. The Service supported, in partnership with the Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust, the recruitment of Admin, Health Care Assistants and Front of House positions for the Vaccinating Leeds programme. 90 Leeds Employment Hub customers successfully passed the recruitment process, including HR checks and an initial training programme, 24 customers commenced work with the NHS in March 2021, the other customers were invited to join the talent pipeline to be put forward for other opportunities.

Kickstart

25. Part of the Government's Plan for Jobs 2020 launched in September. Employment and Skills is continuing to act as a "Kickstart Gateway", to help provide placements for young people who are currently on Universal Credit and at risk of long-term unemployment. The programme provides funding to employers to offer 6 month placements for eligible businesses. Since January 2021, 391 placements have been approved with 140 placements filled.

Retail and Hospitality Sector

26. Developing a programme with employers, Leeds City College and The Engine Room, to provide taster sessions and upskilling support for participants in order to allow them to access opportunities in the sector. The initial programme is set to be delivered in September 2021, with a one week programme covering key skills in hospitality.

Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust (LTHT)

27. Working in partnership with LTHT to support the recruitment of a large number of Apprentice Clinical Support Workers and Apprentice Facilities Technicians roles within LTHT. Virtual information sessions to explain the role and application process are being delivered from September. Support arrangements are in place through the Leeds Employment Hub and targeted local promotion is being arranged.

28. OUTER NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE UPDATE- Health & Wellbeing update

Covid-19 resources available for Children and Young People
Public Health England and the government have produced a selection of resources for local charities, youth groups, school settings and residents with families to assist them during the Coronavirus pandemic. They can be accessed through the link below.

COVID-19 vaccination: resources for children and young people - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Covid-19 response summer months and moving into autumn/winter

29. As you will be aware infection rates have been high during the summer months within many wards across the city and within our INW wards especially those with a younger demographic. Rates have lowered in Outer North West as compared with some of the inner-city wards but are still variable. Even though ward infection rates have started to stabilise Public Health England and the World Health Organisation have cautioned that there is no reason for complacency. The situation has been dynamic and will likely change again as we move towards the winter months. As the Leeds vaccination programme moves a pace and we move down the age groups infections become concentrated in these lower age groups. The response of the NHS, Leeds City Council and Third Sector partners has been rapid and ongoing since the start of the pandemic over the summer two vaccination centres had been offering two different vaccination choices one for forties and above and then at another site for 18 above. Additional mobile testing centres have been set up. On top of this young people in the hospitality industry, night-time economy, food retail, universities, schools, colleges, and further education venues have been targeted via campaigns, student ambassadors, halls of residency representatives and social media to take up the vaccination offer. Leeds City Council and its Public Health teams would strongly advise all young people who are eligible for a vaccination to take up the offer of this immediately. The strong message from the NHS and government is don't wait get vaccinated now.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccines - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

Everyone 16 years of age and older is eligible for a vaccination now. Visiting the website (Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group) below will let local residents where the vaccination centres are.

Walk-in vaccination clinics - NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group (leedsccg.nhs.uk)

Information for Vegan and Vegetarians wanting to receive the Covid-19 vaccination.

30. There have been a number of requests for advice and information from the Vegetarian and Vegan Community. Below are some useful links that will helpfully support our local residents from this community make an informed decision. This is specifically aimed at people who follow a Vegetarian or Vegan lifestyle.

Advice for people who follow a vegetarian or vegan lifestyle - NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group (leedsccg.nhs.uk) (NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group)

Covid-19 Vaccines Info | Vegetarian Society (vegsoc.org) (Vegetarian Society)

Vegan Society response to Covid-19 vaccine | The Vegan Society (Vegan Society)

Covid-19 outreach teams across the wards

In conjunction with the above outreach teams have been proactively moving across the wards and door knocking to.

- Encourage vaccination and testing uptake
- Distribute free lateral flow test packs.

- Ask if local residents require and help with shopping, prescription collection, financial inclusion matters for example. These doorstep wellbeing checks have proved to be an essential lifeline for many residents and have been well received.
- Teams have also been posting information leaflets detailing council, clinical and charitable services available.
- Outreach teams comprise of council workers, LCC commissioned services such as Better Together Outreach volunteers, public health officers, third sector community development teams, clinical colleagues who have volunteers and Forum central's volunteer resource pool.

Leeds City Council Contract Tracing Service

31. The outreach component of this service is delivered through our trusted commissioned third sector partners many who have worked in their communities and geographical areas for over 25 years. This service has over a 47% success record. It helps local residents track contacts they may have had if they test positive and offers isolation advice and help. The service is highly flexible and is proving a strong model for work of this nature.

Key messages: As we enter a new phase of living with the virus, with very few restrictions in place, here are some updated key messages that capture the national messages combined with local messaging from our Director of Public Health.

- Thank you to everyone who has done their bit taking up the extra testing and getting the COVID vaccine here in Leeds.
- Covid-19 continues to be a feature of our lives, so this last step on the roadmap is around learning to live with it and manage the risk to ourselves and others.
- Rates of Covid infection are high and continue to rise therefore we should continue to be cautious, help to reduce the risk of spread and protect people at highest risk of serious illness.
- Now, you will no longer have to wear a mask or social distance by law, but the advice is to continue to wear a mask in enclosed and crowded spaces such as public transport. Some organisations, e.g., health and social care, will ask you to wear a mask.
- You no longer need to work from home if you can, but the recommendation is for a gradual return over the summer.
- To keep yourself and others safe, try and limit the contact you have with people you do not usually live with, including keeping the number of people and the time you spend with them low, and not getting too close to them.
- Where possible, meet outdoors and let fresh air into homes and other enclosed spaces.
- Many people will be excited about the return to the way things were before Covid, whilst others, including those more vulnerable, maybe more cautious. Think of others when making your own decisions about when to wear a mask and social distance.
- Please get both doses of the vaccine when called to make sure you have the highest level of protection.

It is also really important that we all continue to reduce the risk of spread by washing hands, getting tested if you have symptoms, and isolate if advised to do so.

Uptake of Long Covid-Support Services

32. Work is currently underway to encourage local people across all Leeds city wards to understand and identify if present Long Covid-19 symptoms as appropriate and then seek help through their local GP service. Uptake is low within some of our wards which is nothing to be alarmed about as cases are proportionally low across the city. However, we would like any local residents who feel they may have symptoms to access the service. There is a Leeds City Council Public Health information sheet attached with more detail from the Long-Term Conditions Team.

For more information, please contact the following Public Health Officers. Carl.Mackie@leeds.gov.uk or Jonathan.Hindley@leeds.gov.uk

General Information-Vaccinations in Leeds (Continued)

33. When local residents are called for their vaccination it is extremely important, they attend to help reduce infection rates within Leeds so we can return to a normal life as soon as possible.

If you are aged 18 or over, and have not yet had a vaccination, you may get a letter or text from the NHS national booking system inviting you to make an appointment at a community vaccination centre. How will I get my vaccine? - NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group (leedsccg.nhs.uk)

The vaccination current centres are.

The centres in Leeds currently on the national booking system are:

- Elland Road Stadium
- Village Hotel North 186 Otley Road, Headingley, Leeds LS16 5PR
- South Leeds Village Hotel Capitol Boulevard, Tingley, Leeds LS27 0TS
- Superdrug, Merrion Centre Leeds LS2 8NG
- Seacroft Pharmacy, 68 York Road, Leeds, LS14 6DX
- Wellfield Pharmacy, St Mary's Parochial Hall, N Lingwell Rd, Middleton, Leeds LS10 3SP
- The Pharmacy Group – Chapeltown, The Reginald Centre, 263 Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 3EX
- The Pharmacy Group – Little London / Woodhouse, Unit 2 Oatland Retail Park, Oatland Drive, Leeds LS7 1ST

If any local community members have any fears or anxiety about receiving the vaccination they can talk to their local doctor, health professional, LCC Public Health officer or visit these approved information site.

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
- <https://www.leedsccg.nhs.uk/health/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine/>

Community Engagement: Social Media

34. **Appendix 2 Social Media Report** provides the Committee with information on posts, and details recent social media activity for the Outer North West Community Committee Facebook page, along with the three ward based Coronavirus Facebook help pages for the area.
35. The report highlights key themes promoted through social media posts, as well as topics addressed relevant to the period of time.

Corporate Considerations

Consultation and Engagement

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

Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration

37. 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

38. 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

39. 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

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

Risk Management

41. 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

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

Recommendations

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

Background documents¹

44. 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.