

Report of: Head of Locality Partnerships

Report to: Inner South Community Committee:
Beeston & Holbeck, Hunslet & Riverside, Middleton Park

Report author: Robbie Hawley – Localities Officer

Date: 28th February 2024

To Note

Inner South 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

Children and Families - Champion: Cllr G Almass

3. A Children & Families sub-group was held on 10th January 2024.
4. An update was provided to the sub-group on the upcoming Youth Summit.
5. The Inner South Youth Summit was held on 26th March with schools across in the ward in attendance.

Environment and Community Safety Champion: Cllr Iqbal (Environment & Community Safety)

6. An Environment & Community Safety sub-group was held on 15th January 2024.
7. A host of services attended from across the environment and community safety sector to and provided an update to Members.

Health and Wellbeing – Champion: Cllr Burke

8. A verbal update will be provided at the Inner South Community Committee.

Update from Key Services

Police Update

Serious and Acquisitive Crime

Beeston & Holbeck	October	November	December
Burglary Residential	3	9	16
Burglary Commercial	5	9	2
Robbery	4	5	8
Theft of MV	9	9	5
Theft from MV	16	5	8
Hate Crime	6	8	17
Hate incident	3	7	8

Beeston & Holbeck (City)	November	December	January
Burglary Residential	-	4	-
Robbery of personal property	-	2	-
Theft from a motor vehicle	1	5	5
Theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle	-	-	-
ASB – Firework related	4	-	-
ASB – Youth Related	-	-	-
ASB – Nuisance Motorcycle/ Quad	-	-	-
ASB – Adult Non-alcohol	1	-	1

Hunslet & Riverside	October	November	December
Burglary Residential	14	13	10
Burglary Commercial	10	13	9
Robbery	8	8	7
Theft of MV	5	17	5
Theft from MV	22	11	20
Hate Crime	6	3	6
Hate incident	5	1	3

Hunslet & Riverside (City)	October	November	December
Burglary Residential	2	4	1
Robbery of personal property	18	11	5
Theft from a motor vehicle	13	16	6
Theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle	5	3	6
ASB – Youth Related	1	1	1
ASB – Nuisance Motorcycle/ Quad	-	-	-
ASB – Adult Non-alcohol	1	1	4
ASB – Firework related	4	-	1

Middleton & Belle Isle	October	November	December
Burglary Residential	17	10	10
Burglary Commercial	2	2	4
Robbery	2	1	4
Theft from MV	3	7	5
Theft of MV	3	17	6
Hate Crime	1	9	1
Hate incident	1	2	4

Neighbourhood Priorities

Beeston & Holbeck

9. Lead Area Sergeant: A/PS 4752 Devlin
Lead Area Problem Solving Officer: PC 220 Robinson
10. To act on community intelligence to tackle and disrupt the illegal supply of drugs in the Beeston and Holbeck area. We will be increasing high visibility patrols in the area and using a number of different tactics to disrupt the drugs supply including executing warrants where we have intelligence. You can help us by reporting any information or concerns you have directly to us or by using Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or crimestoppers-uk.org
11. To continue to work in partnership to tackle the problems caused by on-street sex working in the Holbeck area of Leeds. Dedicated officers will conduct intelligence led, high visibility patrols in the Holbeck area and will respond to community concerns raised through the dedicated phone number.
12. To continue to work in partnership to tackle anti social behaviour in Cottingley. High visibility patrols in the area to deter anti social behaviour and continue to work with partners to use ASB legislation against offenders.

Ongoing Updates from NPT Priorities above

13. Weekly tasking meetings have been held with partners to create bespoke action plans for individuals involved in sex working. Enforcement action has been taken against individuals committing offences in the area.

Hunslet and Riverside

14. Lead Area Sergeant: PS 5966 Wilson
Lead Area Problem Solving Officer: PC 5638 Jefferies
15. To act on community intelligence to tackle and disrupt the illegal supply of drugs and the linked anti-social behaviour which affects those living in the community. We will conduct high visibility patrols in the area and use a number of different tactics to disrupt the drugs supply, including executing warrants where we have intelligence. You can help us by reporting any information or concerns you have directly to us or by using Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or www.crimestoppers-uk.org
16. To reduce persistent begging in the Dewsbury Road area – through proactive high-visibility patrols and partnership working, we shall work to engage with those involved in persistent begging in the area, encouraging those individuals to access support services and taking action against those who continue to persistently beg.

Updates from previous priorities

17. Drug supply – Officers have utilised a variety of policing tactics, including warrants and stop search to disrupt drug supply in the area. We have also worked with partner agencies resulting in several more closure orders being obtained in relation to problem addresses linked with drugs and drug related anti-social behaviour.
18. As a result of increased patrols, crime prevention advice being given to residents and businesses in the Fox Way Industrial area we have seen a decrease in theft offences in this particular area however we will continue to monitor this and still provide high visibility patrols to deter offenders.

Middleton and Belle Isle

19. Lead Area Sergeant: PS 4265 Ryder
Lead Area Problem Solving Officers: PC 6069 Griffiths
20. To target the Antisocial vehicle use and criminality involving the use of Off Road Bikes and Quad bikes around the Belle Ilse Road, Middleton Park and Middleton Ring Road. We will be continuing to target our patrols in the area to tackle this issue in conjunction with the Off Road bike team. We continue to develop the training of our officers in order to assist in tackling the issue and develop intelligence regarding the storage of the vehicles and offenders involved
21. To Target Drug dealing and antisocial Drug use in the area. We will use intelligence led Policing and High demand reporting areas to identify the areas of drug dealing and ASB use take place and actively target those areas through patrols and disruption. Look to develop intelligence around addresses and offenders linked to the dealing of drugs. 22. To assist us in tackling this issue, if you have any information in relation to these issues please ring 101 or report it through www.westyorkshire.police.uk. The information you provide can be provided ensuring that it can not be linked back to you. Alternatively you can call crime stoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit crimestoppers-uk.org.
22. Our monthly community meetings occur on the first Monday of each month, 1800 hours at the Middleton Elderly Age in conjunction with the Middleton community Group.
23. We also urge you all to follow and share our work in tackling these issues on our social media Facebook Page West Yorkshire Police-South Leeds. On here we will publish our patrols and any successful work in line with these priorities. We also hold PCSO Contact Points for you to provide information directly to us or have any issues you wish to ask. Dates/times and locations will also be published through our Facebook page.

Public Health

Better Together

24. The Better Together partners provide a community development approach to improving health and wellbeing across the Inner South, with particular emphasis on areas of high deprivation.
25. A mixture of groups are currently being delivered which include arts and crafts, exercise, cook and eat, parent and tots groups, peer groups and more. Some groups are ongoing, and others are time limited or one-offs.
26. Chris Witty the Chief Medical Officer for England, requested a visit to Leeds Public Health to discuss the work we do and the challenges that remain. Our lead Better Together provider from Health For All was present and gave an account of the work the Better Together consortium do across the Inner South, which was very well received.

Heating on Prescription

27. The overarching aim of the scheme is to ensure that those most clinically at risk of ill health due to an existing health condition and living in a cold home, are able to stay well and warm at home this winter. The scheme is being delivered by third sector organisation Care & Repair, in partnership with Green Doctors and will be available until March 31st 2024.
28. Heating on Prescription provides eligible patients financial assistance towards paying energy bills and practical solutions to reduce energy costs and tackle the causes of heat loss, damp and mould. Patients are also able to access small interventions to help keep them warm at home, such as radiator panels and draught proofing. Patients will be supported with onward referrals to other organisations for additional support if needed.

Riverside and Hunslet & Beeston and Holbeck

Community Pharmacy

29. Following on from the recent work on raising the community's awareness of what local pharmacies can offer links are being now made with the launch of the Pharmacy First Scheme.
30. Pharmacy First has officially launched across England, allowing patients in England easy and convenient access to treatment for common conditions directly from community pharmacies without the need for a GP appointment. The Public Health Localities and Primary Care Team are linking with LCP colleagues to look at promotion of the scheme across the city.

Middleton Park ward

LEAP

31. Overall, the project is going strong and is accessed city-wide. Although referrals from the inner south are lower than expected.
32. People who wish to move more and participate in activity are encouraged to self-refer through the Active Leeds portal, priority is given to those with a long-term health condition (high blood pressure, back pain, diabetes, carrying excess weight or low mood).
33. Evaluation of the project, provided by Leeds Beckett University is showing LEAP works. The programme helps get people motivated to start an activity they will enjoy; people are still participating in the activity 12 weeks later and reporting a loss of weight and a gain of muscle as well as feeling significantly better in themselves.
34. To support the ethos of providing non-traditional activity options, referrals into the gardening project at BITMO's old Bowling green is established. However, drop-ins are welcome, please refer in and pop by on a Friday to make your acquaintance.

Green Spaces in Belle Isle

35. A task and finish group has convened to action the priorities of the consultations. Costings for the work proposed by the community are being sought with significant contribution from BITMO.

Horizon Scanning

36. Public Health work in forthcoming quarter will be focusing on the refresh of Health Needs Assessments for Beeston and Holbeck and Hunslet and Riverside ward. Public Health and the Local Care Partnership have leveraged in some funding to support an inner south 'food' offer for children, young people and their families.
37. These will vary according to need in our various neighbourhoods but will consist of a mixture of games and food for younger children, (possibly) Kickboxing and tea for teenagers, arts and crafts with children and young people and mindfulness and food for families.
38. Working with partners across the inner south to explore ways to mitigate against an environment geared towards supporting childhood obesity.

Public Health Messages - Winter Messaging

39. Whilst exposure to cold weather can affect anyone, some people are particularly at risk.
40. A reminder of the key messages:
 - Check on family, friends and neighbours who are at higher risk of becoming unwell

- Check the weather forecast and the news
- Make sure you have sufficient food and medicine
- Take simple measures to reduce draughts at home
- Heat the rooms you spend most time in, to 18°C if you can
- Keep bedroom windows closed
- Wear multiple layers of thinner clothing
- If you're eligible, get vaccinated against flu and Covid
- Get help if needed. Call NHS 111 or in an emergency 999

41. A winter comms toolkit is available which includes public and workforce facing copy and assets for social media, bulletins etc. The toolkit is available [here](#).

Cost of living support

42. The Leeds City Council Cost of Living page signposts to support and advice on everything from welcome spaces to seasonal health advice. You can find out more [here](#).

Flu and Covid update

43. Recent data from UKHSA shows that Covid rates have begun to decrease. It is still possible to book flu and Covid vaccinations at local NHS vaccination services, such as pharmacies or walk-in sites.

44. Everyone aged 65 and over, pregnant women, and individuals with certain long-term health conditions are eligible for free flu and Covid vaccines. Vaccine uptake amongst pregnant women is particularly low and they are encouraged to book their vaccines.

45. The Covid vaccination programme closes on 31 January. The flu vaccination programme closes on 31 March. You can find out more [here](#).

Norovirus

46. Rates of norovirus are rising. It is important to remind people that if they have been sick with vomiting and diarrhoea, they should avoid visiting hospitals and care homes, and not return to work or school, until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped. Hand gels do not kill norovirus, so handwashing with soap and warm water is best. You can find out more [here](#).

Health Effects of Climate Change report

47. UKHSA has published the fourth Health Effects of Climate Change in the UK report which provides evidence, analysis and recommendations based on climate change projections. You can read more [here](#).

Home Energy Help

48. A home upgrade grant scheme has been launched. Leeds City Council is giving upgrades to homeowners, renters and landlords that don't have gas central heating. Eligible homeowners will receive upgrades free of charge.

49. Eligible landlords will receive a two-thirds discount on upgrades. A new web page has also launched, giving advice on making your home more energy efficient. Further information is available here or by phoning 0800 1977755.

Asset Based Community Development

50. Since its launch in 2013, a key aim of Leeds City Council's Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) programme has been to shift power back into the hands of local communities and residents and provide them with the support and tools they need to make meaningful change in the areas they live.

51. A special event held last October to mark the programme's 10-year anniversary provided over 150 attendees, including partners and stakeholders, with the opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved through ABCD in Leeds but to also look to the future. To find out more, a short video of the 10-year celebration event is available to view [here](#).

Rising Cases of Measles

52. Cases of measles are rising, particularly amongst teenagers, young people and unvaccinated / under vaccinated communities. Measles is very infectious and can spread rapidly if people have not had at least one dose of the MMR vaccine.

53. The MMR vaccine is available free on the NHS whatever the person's age. You can find out more [here](#).

Training and Development

Want to know more about...Communities of belonging around alcohol, 22 February, 11.00am to 12.30pm

54. This session will focus on recent research into the notion of 'a community of belonging' around alcohol. The research explores how belonging may contribute to more, or less drinking, in these communities, and the possibilities for behaviour change within a community of belonging.

55. This webinar is suitable for anyone who works in alcohol related services and harm reduction or is involved in promoting community wellbeing. You can find out more and book online [here](#).

Want to know more about... Just one more, 14 March, 2.00 to 3.00pm

56. This campaign aims to encourage people to increase their vegetable intake by "just one more" portion per day.

57. The webinar is suitable for anyone who promotes healthier eating as part of their role including early years, schools, healthy holiday providers, youth clubs, workplaces, and community groups working with all ages. You can find out more and book online [here](#).

Employment & Skills

Universal Credit

58. The number of people who are claiming Universal Credit (UC) due to unemployment, as of November 2023, in the Inner South Community Committee area is 8,328. This is an increase of 107% since March 2020, pre-pandemic levels, and an increase of 57 claimants on the previous month.

59. The table below shows the number of people claiming Universal Credit (Not in Employment) in the Inner South Community Committee area and by ward.

	Universal Credit Claimants (Not in Employment) 16-64yrs					
	March 2020		October 2023		November 2023	
	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*
Leeds	23,631	4.5%	48,825	9.4%	49,108	9.4%
Inner South	4,023	7.0%	8,271	14.4%	8,328	14.5%
Beeston & Holbeck	1,295	7.2%	2,651	14.8%	2,646	14.8%
Hunslet & Riverside	1,311	6.1%	2,746	12.8%	2,808	13.1%
Middleton Park	1,417	7.9%	2,874	16.0%	2,874	16.0%

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

Employment and Skills (E&S) Activities and Provision

60. The table below shows the number of people supported by the E&S Service from the Inner South Community Committee area and by ward.

	Accessing Services		Into Work		Improved Skills	
	2023/2024 (Apr – Dec)	2022/2023 (Apr – Dec)	2023/2024 (Apr – Dec)	2022/2023 (Apr – Dec)	2023/2024 (Apr – Dec)	2022/2023 (Apr – Dec)
Inner South	1,914	1,984	488	469	468	423
Beeston & Holbeck	622	628	135	134	173	155
Hunslet & Riverside	937	933	243	232	226	183
Middleton Park	355	423	110	103	69	85

During April – December 2023

61. 9,799 people accessed the Service, 1,914 of whom were residents from the Inner South.
62. Supported 2,457 people into work, 488 of whom were residents from the Inner South. Customers were supported into work across all sectors with the largest numbers in construction, health and care including childcare, manufacturing, ICT, digital and comms.
63. Supported 2,975 people to improve their skills, 468 of whom were from the Inner South.

Leeds Employment Hub

64. A single point of contact for all funded programmes and Jobshops which provides tailored and comprehensive support into employment or education to all Leeds residents.
65. Employment Hub Advisors deliver the programme by providing one to one support, tailored preventative and remedial support to Leeds residents who are disadvantaged in the labour market. The Employment Hub Advisors are co-located within the Jobcentre Plus centres across the city. Further funding has been secured which will see the role of the Advisors continue until at least March 2025.
66. All Jobshops are open, 5 days a week for face-to-face appointments which includes Dewsbury Road, City Centre, Hunslet and St Georges Community Hubs. The Community Hub Mobile schedule stops include:
 - St. Matthew's Community Centre, St Matthew's St, LS11 9NR Tuesday 10:00 – 15:30 and Thursdays 9:30 – 15:30
 - Cottingley Heights, Cottingley Vale, LS11 0JL, Alternate Wednesdays 10:00 – Noon

Community Learning

67. Community Learning provision continues to deliver an effective, broad, and inclusive curriculum to support the continuation of learning in collaboration with subcontracted partners. Courses were delivered through a range of models which includes face to face within a community setting, online and through distance learning, opening new opportunities for adults to learn and develop their confidence.
68. Between April - December 2023, 3,554 people started a Community Learning course. There were 559 courses delivered at 118 venues, in addition, there were 17 courses delivered on-line. In the Inner South area, there were 40 courses delivered at 10 venues, and 487 people started a course.
69. In addition to the above Community Learning courses and in response to requests for ESOL support, two 12 week ESOL courses will be delivered to residents from the

local community at St Lukes Cares and Hamara to offer entry level and progressive support complementing the current ESOL provision in the area.

70. ESOL support will continue to be delivered at City Centre Hub and Greenmount Primary School from September 2023.

71. For further information on courses available both online and face to face at community venues, please visit: <https://leedsadultlearning.co.uk>

72. Employment & Skills had a full Ofsted Inspection from 11th – 14th December 2023. The Community Learning provision was graded Outstanding across all areas, the first Local Authority to achieve the Outstanding judgement since the new Education Inspection Framework (EIF) commenced in September 2019. The inspectors found:

- Adult learners gain valuable skills, which often transform their lives.
- They benefit from a highly ambitious curriculum that meets a diverse range of needs across the city, widens participation in learning, improves life chances and develops stronger communities.
- Subcontractors are carefully selected with expertise in community learning to enable them to meet the needs of specific local communities and groups, and to meet skills priorities.
- Subcontractors deliver highly effective, bespoke programmes to support the most vulnerable learners to access education.

73. The first event Community Learning Celebration Awards took place on the 18th July 2023 at Leeds Civic Hall. This event celebrated the accomplishments of all learners and tutors and embraced their future progression into further/high education, volunteering and/or employment.

Multiply

74. Multiply is the free, government funded, adult maths support programme, part of Levelling Up, Skills for Life. The programme is aimed at helping adults to improve their maths skills and boost their number confidence. E&S are developing and delivering courses and activities through partnerships with community organisations and other partners; to help people use numeracy to manage their money; for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children.

75. In January 2024, an introduction to numeracy skills course “Count Me In” will be delivered from St Luke’s Cares supporting the local community to build confidence in everyday maths including reading timetables, weights, measurement and money literacy.

Delivered Events and Activities

76. **LCC Highways and Transportation** Information and recruitment sessions delivered at Yeadon, Hunslet and Seacroft Community Hubs to help improve recruitment within the locality of their depots. The session provided an overview of vacancies and an

opportunity for attendees to talk to Highways employees. Support provided by Employment Advisors with applications for the roles or seeking alternative employment. Engaged with 22 customers.

77. **AMS-Osram** in Beeston support was given to staff taking voluntary redundancy on 19th December 2023. Invited businesses in similar sector that E&S previously engaged with to present opportunities to staff.
78. **Migrant Access Project** 8 week facilitated training programme for 14 migrants new to Leeds. The event took place at Dewsbury Road Community Hub with guest speakers sharing information about their services which included DWP, West Yorkshire Police (WYP), Prevent and Employment and Skills (E&S).
79. **Morley Town Deal Jobs Fair** took place on 5th October 2023 at Morley Town Hall. The event provided information to the local community in Morley about current and future job vacancies, support with job applications and interview skills. 20 employers attended. The event was well received from the 278 visitors.
 - **School and College Engagement and Delivery** during July – December 2023, delivered 55 activities to a total of 5,660 young people, 596 parents and carers and 129 teachers. This included 48 Apprenticeship Awareness sessions delivered at 27 schools to a total of 3,730 young people, 518 parents and 119 teachers. The sessions were delivered at the following schools in the South of the City: Bruntcliffe Academy, Cockburn Academy, John Charles Academy, Morley Academy, Oulton Academy, Stephen Longfellow Academy, Ruth Gorse Academy, Leeds College of Building, Springwell Academy
80. **Connecting Communities to Health and Care Careers** 19 Information and Assessment Sessions were delivered in priority wards from July to December 2023. 197 people engaged in the sessions of whom 82 were referred to pre-employment courses, 23 referred into We Care Academy and 68 were referred for Numeracy and Literacy support via Community Learning.
81. **Security Recruitment Event** at the City Centre Community Hub held on the 27th July 2023. Advisors engaged with 53 customers and DWP for a Sector-Based Work Academy Programme (SWAP) Fair on 27th September 2023
82. **A tech careers information session** was delivered at Leeds Maximus office on 6th September 2023. This session provided information to 15 employment advisors and team members to let them know about tech career options and entry routes to help support their customer groups into sustainable employment options in the tech sector.
83. **Black Young Professionals** event held at the Infinity Works office in Leeds on 6th September 2023, 25 people attended. The team promoted upcoming events and support for finding employment in Leeds, the aim was to encourage a diverse audience to consider digital and creative careers.
84. **Leeds Tech Careers Launchpad 3.0 - Getting Hired in Tech** took place at BJSS office in Leeds City Centre on 20th September 2023. Guest speakers from BJSS, Glean and NHS LTHT joined the session to provide guests with knowledge and tips on getting hired in tech roles. 40 people attended.

85. **The Leeds Digital Careers Fair (LDCF) 2023** took place on 26th September 2023, at the Leeds First Direct Arena. The event was aimed at those new to a career in tech and digital. 4,000 attendees were given an opportunity to engage with a range of tech training providers and employers to find out about the diverse career opportunities available, plus attend interesting talks and demonstration sessions.
86. **Virtual Careers Expo (LDCF)** as part of Leeds Digital Careers fair, a virtual careers expo was launched on 26th September until 31st December 2023. This was an immersive platform for young people to access careers and skills information and opportunities in Leeds, with a focus on our emerging sectors. A mini roadshow also took place at 3 higher education venues to showcase the virtual careers expo to students and encourage sign ups, allowing more students access to the emerging sector careers information.
87. **Reducing Re-Offending: Jobs Fair** was delivered at HMP Wealstun 28th September 2023. 7 organisations attended with Advisors engaging with 60 prisoners to offer support on their release.
88. **UK University Search Jobs Fair** held at Elland Road on 17th October 2023. 480 young people aged 15-19 attended. Delivered a presentation on benefits of doing an Apprenticeship to approximately 180 of the attendees.
89. **SEND Employment Forum** was launched by E&S on 17th October 2023 at the City Museum, 100 people attended and covered:
- How to help young people with additional support needs take their first step on the career ladder
 - Pathways to employment, including supported internships.
 - How you can help to build an inclusive workforce across the city.
 - How to sign up for a supported internship.
90. **Jobs Fairs Community Hubs** working in partnership with DWP delivered the following:
- Youth Jobs Fair at City Centre Hub 27th October 2023.
 - Jobs Fair at Kirkgate Market 20th October 2023.
 - Over 50's Jobs Fair at City Centre Hub 22nd November 2023
91. **Have a Go Fortnight** as part of the national Lifelong Learning campaign, local partners delivered taster and have a go skills sessions from 6th November 2023 to 17th November 2023. The focus was on digital and other priority sector skills as part of the fortnight of activities, aiming to encourage adults to undertake further learning to help progress their career. 4 skills taster sessions took place with 26 people attending the in-person and on-line sessions.
92. **Refugee Jobs Fair** held at the Civic Hall on 7th November 2023, 71 refugees and migrants attended, with lots of previous experiences and transferable skills.
93. **The BIG Social Care Jobs Fair** was delivered on 15th November 2023 at the Bridge Community Church, Burmantofts. The event was co-ordinated in partnership with We

Care Academy and provided information and opportunities for people interested in accessing roles within the care sector. 304 visitors attended. 27 employers provided opportunities offering interviews, collected CVs and distributed applications form. Employers included Children's Residential, private care homes and Adult Social Care. E&S Advisors also provided support, 10 job offers were made on the day.

94. **Leeds Creative Skills Festival** returned to the Leeds first direct arena on 20th November 2023 with exhibitors showcasing opportunities in the creative and cultural sector. The event offered the 3,081 visitors a chance to speak to 63 exhibitors including training providers, colleges and universities who offer creative courses; talk to employers; attend interesting speaker sessions to learn about creative careers, skills and pathways; and also offered interactive activities. 9 Leeds schools block booked students and were sent the targeted LCSF23 presentation prior to the event.
95. **EME (Elected Home Educated) Community Forum** held on 23rd November 2023 at Civic Hall, attended by parents/carers and young people to gain a better understanding of various opportunities available to them in Leeds. Offered support and guidance for post 16 options through E&S.

Planned Events and Activities

96. **Social Care Recruitment Events**, in partnership with We Care Academy, will take place at Vale Circles on 19th January 2024 and East Recovery Hub on 24th January 2024. The events will support the recruitment to Support Worker and Case Officer roles across the city. Advisors will be attending to support delivery.
97. **Careers in Catering** recruitment information and interview sessions planned for 24th January 2024 at City Centre Community Hub to support promotion of kitchen assistant posts in schools across the city.
98. **Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair** will take place on 5th February 2024. Visitors can find out more about Apprenticeships and meet with providers and employers. Over 100 organisations have booked stands to exhibit at the event and approximately 6,000 visitors are expected on the day.
99. **Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair Community Events** community based information sessions will be delivered early in the new year within the priority wards to support the engagement of residents with the Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair 5th February 2024. The sessions will give those attending the opportunity to speak to E&S staff about Apprenticeships and what to expect from the recruitment fair.
100. **Smart Works Jobs Fair** at Leeds Beckett University Students' Union planned for 8th February 2024. This event will provide information on vacancies, Apprenticeships and supported internships to all attendees.
101. **Leeds Local Offer** event planned for 21st March 2024 at the Pudsey Civic Hall. The event will provide a marketplace where families of children with special educational needs and disabilities in the city can find out about services available to them.
102. **Connecting Communities to Health and Care Careers** fortnightly Information and Assessment Sessions will be delivered at sites across the Priority Wards and City Centre Hub. The sessions will continue to support recruitment to roles within the

Health and Care sector, including Adult Social Care, Children's Residential Practitioner and Administrative roles.

103. **Reducing Re-Offending** a planned pilot to offer support to prisoners due to be released into Leeds from HMP Wealstun will be offered early in the new year. Advisors will establish contact with the identified group prior to release to enable support in accessing employment and training opportunities when resettled.
104. **Digital skills bootcamps with UA92 and Microsoft** on-line and Tech North training centre. Working with UA92 and Microsoft to support 2 digital skills bootcamps to be delivered to Leeds residents, to upskill them in areas of Cloud and Data. On completion of the 10-week bootcamp, graduates will be supported to gain employment in the tech sector.

Employer Engagement

105. Within the last year the Service has supported 385 new businesses including recruiting new staff, providing support for staff facing redundancy, developing initiatives to address staff shortages and filling a high number of vacancies within key sectors.
106. E&S provides a school brokerage service 32 businesses provided activities to approximately 1,680 young people at 6 events. The events included a careers fair, 4 mock interview sessions and an employability session.
107. A Business Sustainability Event was delivered on How to Build a Greener Future, in partnership with Leeds Beckett University and West Yorkshire Combined Authority E&S delivered the first Business Sustainability Breakfast Event in Leeds with over 20 businesses signing up to attend. Guest business speakers included Dawn O'Keefe, Co- founder and Director at Shine and Jannice Dye, HR Manager at C-Capture shared their green journey experiences to date and plans for the future. Businesses attending the event found out about a range of support options available:
 - Measuring their environmental impact, understanding how climate change might affect their operations and taking steps to improve energy efficiency or flood resilience measures.
 - Ensuring they attract, develop and retain a greener, healthier and inclusive workforce.
 - Accessing research and academic expertise to enhance their business.
108. The Employment and Skills Business Newsletter that provides information and resources to support businesses' workforce needs across the city, also including the upcoming sustainability breakfast events, Leeds Inclusive Employers Network and T-Level support. The newsletter will be published every 2 months to approximately 5,000 subscribers. To find out more please visit: www.inclusivegrowthleeds.com.

Further Information

109. The Service has several communication channels and social media accounts that promotes events, jobs fairs, job vacancies, Apprenticeships, and courses. Please link to our accounts:

- Website (E&S Leeds): linktr.ee/eandsleeds
- Facebook: facebook.com/eandsleeds
- X (Twitter): twitter.com/eandsleeds
- Instagram: instagram.com/eandsleeds
- LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/employment-and-skills-leeds-city-council/
- YouTube: youtube.com/@employmentandskills

110. Opportunities in Leeds is a weekly email service and features live jobs, Apprenticeships, and courses. To subscribe please visit: bit.ly/opportunitiesinleeds

111. For further information on Employment and Skills services and the support available please visit: employmentskillsleeds.co.uk

Community Engagement – Hunslet & Riverside

Beeston Hill Community Association Meeting

112. Beeston Hill Community Association met the on Monday 29th January at 6:30pm at Hamara Healthy Living Centre. It was the group's first General Annual Meeting where nominations and appointment of committee members took place.

113. Also on the agenda was an opportunity for residents and local business owners to provide their views on the current concept design plans for the Dewsbury Road and Tempest Road Junction. Feedback from the meeting will be shared with Highways Leeds for consideration and feedback.

Cleaner, Greener, Safer

114. In January 2024, The Big Clean Up and Litter Picking Grants and Better Beeston Campaign were launched. Spearheaded by local ward councillors, Inner South Community Committee has ring fenced £3,000 for the Hunslet & Riverside ward to fund grants up to £300 towards litter picking equipment for schools, faith organisations, community groups, residents associations and for LCC Communities Team to order some equipment so this can be issued to individuals/small groups who are not constituted.

115. This initiative links in well with the Better Beeston campaign which aims to bring residents together to tackle litter and waste in Beeston Hill through community litter picking activities.

Community Engagement – Beeston & Holbeck and Hunslet & Riverside

116. A problem-solving group (PSG) has been established in two of our target wards, Beeston Hill (within the Hunslet and Riverside ward) and Holbeck (within the Beeston and Holbeck ward) to focus on and address longer term challenges around crime and anti-social behaviour. The group is working to try and address the issues currently seen

in these areas that no one team can resolve alone including, street drinking, drug use, drug dealing, begging, on street sex work, fly tipping and litter.

117. The PSG comprises of officers from West Yorkshire Police (WYP), Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT), The Communities Team, Housing Leeds Team, Cleaner Neighbourhood Team, Private Sector Housing Team , Licencing Team and Leeds Federated Housing Association. The PSG meet monthly and have built strong working relationships between teams to ensure challenges that arise are dealt with collaboratively and achieve the best outcome for communities. The PSG are also working together to ensure that vulnerable individuals are able to access and engage with support services based on their needs.
118. Between the 16th to 26th January the group came together to complete two weeks of partnership working to tackle Litter, fly tipping, drug supply, anti-social behaviour and engage with communities to share information on how to contact LCC services and when local drop-in surgeries are available to speak face to face with officers from LASBT and WYP to report anything of concern.
119. In the two weeks of action, warrants were issued, annual Housing Leeds tenant visits were undertaken, properties were investigated to take action on private landlords not complying with selective licencing conditions, waste in garden and fly tipping were investigated with the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team to take enforcement action and useful information was shared to over 1000 properties.
120. Please see the recent a tweet from colleagues involved in the days of action:
https://twitter.com/LASBTSouth/status/1748081823089889304?t=bl7LAq5_0D7IXSlqM_sgMdQ&s=08

Neighbourhood Centres Co-ordinator

121. The Neighbourhood Centres Co-ordinator met with the Capable Guardians team in January. At that point the group was operational but waiting for PPE before starting foot patrols.
122. The Safer Stronger Communities Team secured a grant from the UK Prosperity fund to provide capable guardianship to key areas in the city to reduce crime and ASB through intelligence led high visibility patrols. The project will run until 31st March 2025 and will focus on the priority wards of Gipton & Harehills, Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Beeston & Holbeck, Killingbeck & Seacroft, Armley, Riverside & Hunslet; Aiming to identify and liaise with key networks (both individual and group based) to develop a tactical picture of crime & ASB concerns, leading to the agile deployment of patrols.
123. There is also scoped to work in other areas where there is an increase in crime or ASB. The project will consult with key partners to share intelligence and deliver reduction in crime and ASB, including improvements to the physical environment to tackling place-based issues, fully engaging with Priority Neighbourhood Projects & Boards.

Beeston & Holbeck

124. The Neighbourhood Centres Co-ordinator (NCC) visited new and existing businesses in Beeston to see how trade is doing and obtain contact details for them to receive the weekly Update to businesses.

Hunslet & Riverside

125. The Hunslet Square development to create a public square is also moving forward and work is set to start on the first phase of improvements to the area outside the Hunslet Community Hub and Library. Existing planters will be renovated and restocked to green the area, new concrete seating and lighting will be installed to make the space more welcoming and safer after dark.
126. Following public consultation, a mural will be painted on the long brick wall. The mural is being created by art students from the University Centre at Leeds City College who are liaising with local residents. The mural will soften the appearance of the long brick wall running along one side of the space. Creation of the square follows refurbishment of Hunslet Library in 2019. The square will encourage more positive activities to take place in the space such as markets or other public outdoor events. Funding of £184,300 has been allocated for this work. The bulk of this, £150,000, comes from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and is topped up with £14,378 from the Local Centres Programme and £20,000 from the Community Infrastructure Levy.
127. The planned meeting of Dewsbury Road Town Team on 12th December was cancelled. The date for the next meeting has yet to be announced.

Middleton Park

128. The new shopping centre at Benyon House is progressing well and the opening date has been moved forwards to Autumn 2024. The largest stores on the site are an Aldi supermarket and B&M. Of the remaining 9 units it is understood one will be occupied by Costa and one by Greggs.
129. The shops are scheduled to start trading in advance of Christmas 2024. At Middleton Circus, Parks are now preparing to install two planters funded through the Local Centres Programme funds.

Community Engagement: Social Media

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

Corporate Considerations

Consultation and Engagement

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

Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration

132. 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

133. 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
- Children and Young People's Plan
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
- Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy

Resources and Value for Money

134. 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

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

Risk Management

136. 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

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

Recommendations

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

Background documents¹ 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.