

Report of: Head of Locality Partnerships

Report to: Outer East Community Committee

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

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Tel: 0113 37 89953

Date: Tuesday 16th July 2024

For Information

Outer East Community Committee - Update Report

Purpose of report

1. To bring to members' attention an update of the work which the Safer Stronger 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

1. Members will have considered Appointments to Outside Bodies and Community Champions elsewhere on the Community Committee agenda. Members are now asked to make nominations to each of the Inner East Community Committee Subgroups for 2024/25.
2. Updates by theme

The 2023/24 representatives are shown below:

Sub Group	Number of places	Current appointees	Community Committee Champion
Children & Families	4	Cllr Michael Millar (K&M) - Chair Cllr Nicole Sharpe (TN) Cllr Sarah Field (G&S) Cllr Pauleen Grahame (C&W)	Cllr M Millar
Community Safety	4	Cllr Mary Harland (K&M) - Chair Cllr Mark Dobson (G&S) Cllr Pauleen Grahame (C&W) Cllr Nicole Sharpe (TN)	Cllr Mary Harland
Environment	4	Cllr Pauleen Grahame (C&W) - Chair Cllr Mary Harland (K&M) Cllr Helen Hayden (TN) Cllr Suzanne McCormack (G&S)	Cllr Pauleen Grahame

Members are invited to nominate representatives for each of the Outer East Community Committee Sub Groups.

3. **Children and Families: Champion Cllr Michael Millar**

Leeds Youth Service

During the January to March 2024 period Leeds Youth Service Core Youth Work Team in the Outer East area delivered a range of good quality sessions for young people aged 11 to 17 years of age, the sessions included a variety of informal learning opportunities that developed life skills through positive interaction. Sessions were delivered in partnership where possible and focussed on issues relevant to young people.

The key elements of the Leeds Youth Work Vision and the Department for Education

Overall, the Youth Service SSE Core Team delivered **168** Youth Work sessions between January to March 2024. Compared to the same quarter in 2023 this was a reduction of **3** Core Youth Work sessions.

Overall engagement levels in the Core Youth Work programmes were **549** known young people and **130** Unknown young people.

The Accumulative attendance in Core Youth Work sessions by young people across the South, Southeast area was **2830**.

Individuals from most deprived LSOA areas - **356**

Individuals from least deprived LSOA areas - **170**

Individuals from unknown LSOA areas - **3**

Priorities during this quarter was to ensure that the programme was inclusive and accessible by all, Youth Workers continued to ensure the correct monitoring aspects aligned to young people being a carer, having a disability or from culturally diverse communities was recorded effectively. The level of culturally diverse young people remained at **64%**, the number of Carers engaging dropped by **-1** young person and the number of young people with a disability increased to **6** engaging in Core Youth Work sessions.

Youth work will be valued and understood –

National Youth Agency Conference - Core Youth Workers engaged in the National Youth Agency Conference in March 2024, the road show focussed on the responsibility and need of Local Authorities to ensure a Youth Work Offer was available to young people, the conference enabled local partners to explore what guidance was available and to ensure good quality Youth Work was being delivered across the Yorkshire & Humber area.

Publicity & social media - Youth Workers have continued to promote the opportunities for young people by publicising on the three social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram & X (Formally Twitter) to ensure young people and parents are aware of the opportunities for young people. A range of leaflets & flyers are also available and are currently being updated following the young people choosing a new logo for Leeds Youth Service.

Participation and Empowerment –

Knife Angel Consultation - Young people from the Youth Service SSE Core Youth Work sessions have been engaging young people in consultation regards the name of the project to be utilised when the knife Angel come to Leeds, young people focussed on the history of the Knife Angel and the aims for Leeds and used their creativity skills to provide suggestions. The overall winner was "Project Shield".



Halton Moor Youth Matters - Young people from the Halton Moor Youth Matters engaged with Councillors during their weekly session and during a community meeting during February & March. The three local councillors engaged in the weekly session and talked with young people about what they feel are the local issues / priorities for the areas. The young people also attended a public meeting with Councillors to ensure the views of young people were included in making decisions in the ward.

IOPC Consultation - Group member from the Independent Office Police Complaints attended several Core Youth Work sessions in January & February, the group explored what young people's knowledge was of their rights during incidents with Police and how they could complain to the IOPC. The sessions were very informative with feedback from young people being extremely positive and that they learnt a lot regards their rights from the sessions.



YS Logo - Young people from across the South, Southeast area engaged in the choosing of the updated Youth Service logo, young people attending sessions were asked to vote on the three options. Overall, Three Hundred & Ninety-Nine young people engaged in the consultation from the SSE area.

Collaboration –

Project Shield - Youth Workers from the SSE Core Youth Work Team partnered with West Yorkshire Police, Youth Offending Service and the Violence Reduction Partnership to engage 500+ young people in 30 Project Shield sessions during the month of February, the SSE sessions explored young people's understanding of the law when carrying a knife, the dangers of carrying a knife and the impact it can have on a life using a knife. Using the Virtual Reality Headsets and a programme of awareness the young people explored the potential dangers / consequences.

Leeds United Foundation - Youth Service SSE Core Team has continued to engage in the partnership with the Leeds United Foundation, this enables several weekly sessions to offer young people the opportunity to develop skills, fitness levels and control their anger. The sessions engage young people aged 11+ with coaches who endeavour to guide young people around safe play, positive communication, and skill development.

Community Safety Tasking Meetings - The Youth Service Core Team continues to engage in the Community Safety meetings within each of the areas to ensure issues identified relating to young people are addressed, working with LASBT, Police & Housing the meeting enables respective agencies to address local issues and identify hot spot areas. Detached Youth Workers focus on the areas / locations where reports are aligned to young people.

Inclusiveness, equality, and diversity -

Volunteers - Youth Service Localities Core offer continues to recruit local volunteers to support with the delivery of Youth Work sessions in the area, some are young people who have experienced Youth Work and what to give something back while other contact the service and express an interest, overall SSE Core Youth Work team has ten active volunteers providing support to Youth Work programmes. The volunteers are inducted, undertake a DBS and offered training relevant to the position.

YAF Consultation - Youth People from across the SSE Core Youth Work provision have been encouraged to have their say on the Youth Activity Fund, young people completed the consultation forms with the aim of influencing how the Youth Activity Fund is spent within each of the respective wedges.

Respect and positivity –

World Religion Day - Young people from Outer East Core youth work sessions were engaged in cultural awareness and celebrations as part of world religion day in January, Youth Workers provided a range of activities for young people to participate in, discussions, recognising cultural festivals, cultural symbols & quizzes, and an understanding around religion and what it means to people. The sessions involved information about the 6 main religions, young people were encouraged to look at similarities in what the groups believe. Lots of young people in the session expressed that they have no religion but have friends that have. Young people shared food to celebrate the day.

Sexual Health Work - Youth Workers from the Core Youth Work Team continue to provide and facilitate the C Card 3 in 1 project across the local provisions where age appropriate. The Youth Work enable young people to ask questions in a safe & confidential space whilst also offering access to relationship information, resources, and testing facilities. The scheme primarily targets the 13+ age group and requires young people to register.

Quality, safety, and well-being –

February School Holiday - Youth Workers from the Core Youth Work Team engaged young people in a diversionary programme during the February School Holiday period, Youth Workers worked with local Youth Matters groups to identify which venues to visit. The week offered a range of local and wider afield venues including Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Go Karting at Tockwith, Wrestling at UK Wrestling Batley, Tree Top Challenge at Go-Ape, Bowling, E Karting & Snow-zone at Castleford Xscape, Ninja Warrior at Leeds, and a range of outdoor team challenges at Carlton Lodge, York. The engagement levels were high and feedback from young people was positive.



Alcohol Awareness Sessions - Young people were able to find out more about dangers & legality of alcohol use, young people explored drinking culture, binge drinking, health issues, social issues and safety through an informative session and were able to invent non-alcoholic drinks and mocktails using a range of fruit juices, low sugar mixers, flavourings and decorations.

4. Community Safety: Champion Cllr Mary Harland

Police Update

Serious and Acquisitive Crime Demand Data:

Crossgates and Whinmoor Crime Category	May - Jun 23	May - Jun 24	Change
Burglary - business and community	4	1	3
Burglary - residential	15	14	1
Robbery	3	6	3
Theft from motor vehicle	4	7	3
Theft from the person	0	0	0
Theft of motor vehicle	3	4	1
Grand Total	29	32	3

Garforth and Swillington Crime Category	May - Jun 23	May - Jun 24	Change
Burglary - business and community	1	1	0
Burglary - residential	1	4	3
Robbery	1	1	0
Theft from motor vehicle	0	1	1
Theft from the person	1	8	7
Theft of motor vehicle	1	6	5
Grand Total	5	21	16

Kippax and Methley Crime Category	May - Jun 23	May - Jun 24	Change
Burglary - business and community	1	1	0
Burglary - residential	13	9	4
Robbery	2	0	2
Theft from motor vehicle	1	2	1
Theft from the person	1	1	0
Theft of motor vehicle	5	6	1
Grand Total	23	19	4

Temple Newsam and Halton Crime Category	May - Jun 23	May - Jun 24	Change
Burglary - business and community	1	1	0
Burglary - residential	6	1	5
Robbery	2	2	0
Theft from motor vehicle	4	4	0
Theft from person	63	18	45
Theft of motor vehicle	5	4	1
Grand Total	81	30	51

Anti-Social Behaviour Incident Demand Data:

Crossgates and Whinmoor ASB Call Category	May - June 23	May - June 24	Change
Adult nuisance - non-alcohol related	2	2	0
Alcohol	3	1	2
Fireworks/snowballing	0	0	0
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	0	2	2
Neighbour related	1	0	1
Nuisance car/van	3	5	2
Nuisance motorcycle/quad bike	14	6	8
Youth related	12	10	2
Grand Total	35	26	9

Garforth and Swillington ASB Call Category	May - June 23	May - June 24	Change
Adult nuisance - non-alcohol related	1	2	1
Alcohol	0	0	0
Fireworks/snowballing	0	0	0
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	0	0	0
Neighbour related	1	1	0
Nuisance car/van	2	2	0
Nuisance motorcycle/quad bike	2	3	1
Youth related	5	0	5
Grand Total	11	8	3

Kippax and Methley ASB Call Category	May - June 23	May - June 24	Change
Adult nuisance - non-alcohol related	5	1	4
Alcohol	0	0	0
Fireworks/snowballing	0	0	0
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	1	0	1
Neighbour related	1	0	1
Nuisance car/van	0	0	0
Nuisance motorcycle/quad bike	20	14	6
Youth related	7	3	4
Grand Total	34	18	16

Temple Newsam and Halton ASB Call Category	May - June 23	May - June 24	Change
Adult nuisance - non-alcohol related	1	2	1
Alcohol	2	1	1
Fireworks/snowballing	0	0	0
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	0	0	0
Neighbour related	2	1	1
Nuisance car/van	7	13	6
Nuisance motorcycle/quad bike	5	16	11
Youth related	11	2	9

Grand Total	28	35	7
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5. Environment: Champion Cllr Pauleen Grahame

CNT Report for Garforth/Swillington and Kippax/Methley

Figures from 1st April to 18th June 2024

	Garforth/Swillington	Kippax/Methley
S_FLYT	1	3
E_FLYT	2	3
S_LITR	0	1
S_ROAD	3	1
H_OVEG	6	3
E_WIG	0	1
S_SCBC	0	0

Description of above codes:

S_FLYT: Fly tipping that has been collected proactively or reported to us which doesn't contain evidence and no further actions can be taken.

E_FLYT: Fly tipping found/reported which contains evidence and some further action is taken by Enforcement.

S_LITR: Reports to service about litter issues

S_ROAD: Reports to service about streets requiring sweeping.

H_OVEG: Reports to service of issues relating to overgrown vegetation affecting the Highway.

E_WIG: Reports to service about Waste in gardens.

S_SCBC: Scheduled Civic/ Bulky Collections (free waste collections from households)

The above figures have been taken over an approximate 2-month period, as you can see there are no major increases across the board.

There is a larger amount of overgrown vegetation jobs reported due to the time of year, but these are still very low considering that the area is quite rural, so this shows that more residents in these areas take a greater responsibility with regards their gardens and premises in comparison to some other wards within the South Localities jurisdiction.

We haven't had many complaints/requests for service from residents throughout the whole area and I personally believe that this is due to the proactive work of our streets teams, as well as the close working relationship our crews and team as a whole have with elected members as issues can be identified dealt with well before any resident has to raise a complaint.

If there are any issues with regards anything in this report or any elected member wishes to ask anything with regards the area and the service, we provide then please feel free to contact me direct.

6. Leedswatch

Introduction

This report covers the different types of incidents captured by CCTV operators in real time for the cameras located in the Outer East area committee, for the six month period, 1st October to 29th March

Cameras in the Outer East area:

The following cameras were used to capture incidents in the Outer East area;

- 34- Garforth and Swillington
- 35- Garforth and Swillington
- 36- Kippax and Methley
- 37- Kippax and Methley
- 237- Naburn Approach, Whinmoor
- 356- Halton Village
- 357- Halton Village
- 363- Crossgates
- 364- Crossgates

GDPR – Information Sharing

The introduction of the GDPR 2018 regulations reviewed the area of information sharing and therefore restricted the detail of what can be provided. As a result, the content of this report may not have the detail of specific incidents previously reported but provides a summary of the types of incidents within the area.

Incidents captured by CCTV operators:

CCTV also contributes towards Police enquiries as requests are made for footage which may not have been observed “real time”. These incidents are not included in this report but can contribute towards arrests being made in the Outer East Area.

Requests for new Cameras

The Surveillance Camera Commissioner is appointed by the Home Secretary to ensure that surveillance camera systems in public places keep people safe and protect and support them.

Following changes to Data Protection legislation the council needs to ensure that all its CCTV systems are managed in line with the Commissioner’s recommendations to ensure there are no data breaches (this includes CCTV systems in all Leeds City Council assets including libraries, sports centres, council vehicles fitted with CCTV, etc.).

A dedicated CCTV compliance team has been established within Leeds City Council.

The compliance team also work closely with Information Governance to assist in ensuring all system owners are compliant with their codes of practice, policies, and procedures.

Recommendations

Contents of report to be noted.

CCTV incidents captured 1st October to 29th March 2024

Camera Number	34	35	36	37	237	356	357	363	364	Total incidents per category
Alarm Activation										0
ASB		1			1				6	8
Cash In Transit										0
Drugs							1			1
Enforcement										0
Fire										0
Health & Safety	1	1						2	1	5
Metro										0
Police Operation	1	1	1	1				1		5
Public Order	4	1	2							7
Road Traffic						1		2	1	4
Sexual Offences										0
Suspicious Events									1	1
Travellers										0
Theft							1			1
Total Per Camera	6	4	3	1	1	1	2	5	9	32

7. **Health and Wellbeing & Adult Social Care: Champion Cllr James Gibson**

Health and Wellbeing update

UK smoking ban

MPs have voted to back the Government's plans to create a smokefree generation. Leeds City Council along with other public health leaders across West Yorkshire, were fully supportive of the plans calling it a "game-changer" in work to reduce smoking rates by prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to anyone born on or after 1 January 2009. It is not about stopping people who currently smoke from buying tobacco and will not impact their rights or entitlements.

The Tobacco and Vapes Bill aims to create the first ever smokefree generation. This will ensure that future generations are protected from the harmful impacts of smoking. And in response to a huge rise in the number of children using vapes, the Bill will also introduce new powers that restrict vape flavours and packaging that is intentionally marketed at children. The powers will also allow government to change how vapes are displayed in shops, moving them out of sight of children and away from products that appeal to them, like sweets.

An interesting fact is that it is estimated that smoking costs Leeds £216.3m in terms of health and social care needs, productivity loss and fires, which is more than double the amount that is brought into Leeds through taxation of tobacco.

It is hoped that creating a smokefree generation will help to level-up the UK because smoking is one of the most significant and preventable drivers of disparities in health outcomes.

Youth vaping campaign

Colleagues from public health and communications have been running a campaign to tackle the rise in youth vaping and sale of illicit vapes. Working with West Yorkshire Trading Standards, the campaign targeted retailers who were selling illicit vapes or selling vapes illegally to under 18s. An operation with West Yorkshire Police resulted in over 16,000 illicit vapes being seized from a number of Leeds retailers. The work was supported by an information and awareness campaign targeting parents, alongside work with schools, which saw high levels of social media engagement and visits to the Talk to Frank website for advice about the risks of underage vaping.

You can report any concerns regarding sales of vapes to Trading Standards via the Citizens Advice phone number (0800 223 1133)

Leeds NHS Health Checks Procurement - new contract awarded

Following a re-procurement process, it has been announced that the Leeds GP Confederation will continue to deliver the NHS Health Check programme to the eligible population of Leeds.

The new contract will maintain the NHS Health Check programme being delivered predominantly within General Practice (GP) alongside some potential testing of community

outreach approaches. The service will also work with the third and voluntary sector to raise the profile of the NHS Health Check and maximise uptake in key communities. The main component of the Leeds NHS Health Check contract is its focus on reducing health inequalities and it will continue to target the groups 'most likely to benefit' from an NHS Health Check whilst maintaining a universal offer to the Leeds eligible population.

The contract took effect from 1 April 2024 and will expire on 31 March 2029.

If you have any questions email carl.mackie@leeds.gov.uk or hanna.kaye@leeds.gov.uk.

Being You Leeds

Launched in 2023, Being You Leeds is an enhanced wellbeing programme, commissioned by public health to work with communities most at risk of poor mental health. It recently won the national FPH Public Mental Health Award in recognition of its innovative approach to keeping people mentally well and addressing mental health inequalities.

Positive wellbeing is promoted in three ways:

- delivering co-produced community-based groups and activities focusing on wellbeing, aiming to build networks, boost mood and improve resilience
- providing training to staff and volunteers in community organisations working in areas of high deprivation
- tackling mental health stigma and discrimination

It is delivered by a partnership of third sector organisations: Touchstone, Barca, Hamara, Health for All, Holbeck Together, LS14 Trust, Women's Health Matters, Community Links and Humans Being.

For information or guidance on referrals contact:
BeingYouLeedsTeam@touchstonesupport.org.uk

Covid: spring vaccine programme

The national booking system for the spring Covid vaccine opened on 15 April with vaccinations due to start on 22 April and run to the end of June. Residents in care homes for older adults and eligible housebound individuals started to receive their vaccinations on 15 April.

Eligible people can book their vaccination online via the national booking system, or via the NHS App.

The vaccine is being offered to those at high risk of serious disease and therefore most likely to benefit. This includes the following groups:

- adults aged 75 years and over
- residents in a care home for older adults
- individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed

Flu immunisation plan 2024/25

No changes have been made to the groups of people eligible for the flu vaccination this year. However, there is a change to the timing. Based on evidence that the vaccine's effectiveness can wane over time the start of the programme for most adults will be the beginning of October and should be completed by the end of November, closer to the time the flu season commonly starts. This should provide optimal protection during the highest risk period.

Avian flu guidance

Although the risk from avian flu remains very low, UKHSA have published new guidance for the public on how to keep themselves safe from catching it from wild birds by minimising contact.

Campaigns

Tick awareness

UKHSA have launched their annual tick awareness campaign which runs throughout the spring and summer months when ticks are most active. Ticks can carry infections, including Lyme disease and tick-borne encephalitis.

Mental health provider forums

Within working age adults commissioning, our mental health sector team works with providers of mental health services in the city with 53 supported living services and 26 residential services. Following feedback from providers we now facilitate mental health provider forums every three months and have covered topics such as anti-social behaviour, community policing, and housing and move-on.

Our team's vision was to bring a transformational approach to the ways we work with our mental health providers by bringing them together and making the most of our partnership working through the forums. There is evidence that people with mental health issues experience considerable discrimination and stigma in society, work, accommodation, and health outcomes. By working proactively with our mental health providers, we can make a real difference to improve outcomes in the community for the most vulnerable people in our city. The forums encourage providers to be aspirational for all their residents and to support them in their recovery by building on their strengths and meeting diverse needs.

World Immunisation Week

This annual week is a global campaign to raise awareness of the importance of vaccinations. Vaccinations across the life course save lives and protect health. Second only to clean water it is the most effective public health intervention to prevent disease.

Through the successful delivery of vaccination programmes some diseases that were common such as smallpox and polio are now very rare, and millions of people worldwide have been protected from severe illness and death.

However, in recent years there has been a decline in the uptake of vaccinations, as population coverage targets for some diseases have not been maintained. In England, measles, which was eliminated in 2016 has re-emerged and cases of whooping cough in young children are currently increasing due to low vaccination coverage.

The NHS vaccination programmes sets out a schedule of when vaccinations should be given to provide the best protection against illness.

Training and Development

Want to know more about...Alcohol and illicit drug use in pregnancy

2 July, 10.00 to 11.00am

Alcohol and/or illicit drug use in pregnancy is an increasing problem and can cause harm to the pregnant person and the unborn baby. Early intervention and treatment are essential to promote a healthy outcome for both.

This webinar is suitable for anyone with a professional interest in these areas and will enhance your knowledge when working with pregnant people and their families.

Want to know more about... Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

10 July, 1pm to 2pm

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) occurs when medicines used to fight infections lose their effectiveness because the organisms they target have evolved or acquired adaptations to survive.

AMR is a growing problem; in 2019, it was directly responsible for about 1.27 million deaths globally and by 2050, the UN estimates that this number could rise to 10 million deaths per annum. Sustained action is required to curb inappropriate use of antibiotics, the main driver of AMR.

This webinar is suitable for anyone who has contact with the general public; whether you work in health and social care, education, early years or someone who works or volunteers in the community.

Want to know more about... Walk it ride it project

17 July, 10am to 11am

The Department for Transport has funded Leeds City Council to deliver an Active Travel Social Prescribing project focusing on the Burmantofts, Harehills and Richmond Hill (BHR) parts of Leeds. The aim is to provide more opportunities for people to access walking, cycling and wheeling provision within BHR.

This session is suitable for healthcare professionals, third sector workers and those involved with wider public health work across the city.

8. Housing

Performance Information: February 2024 **Garforth**

Voids Levels (empty properties)

Demand for properties remains high across my management area, especially for houses. The Lettings Team have worked hard to reduce the number of ready to let properties and currently have just 3 in the area where applicants have been identified.

Income Collection

Our rent collection figures at week 10 are:

Garforth – 97.83%

Comparing figures to the same week last financial year, collection has increased by 2.20% and a reduction in rent arrears of £26,902.66.

We are working closely with our residents to maximise their income, particularly through the cost-of-living crisis, by referring cases through to Benefit Advisors, assisting with Discretionary Housing Payments in acute cases and involving third party support agencies.

We continue to make referrals to Leeds Credit Union for tenants who would benefit from budgeting accounts and who are experiencing the effects of the cost-of-living crisis. Our Housing Officer (Income) is working with our more complex cases, linking in with support agencies, to ensure tenants receive advice on how they can maximise their incomes.

We have also secured government funding via the Housing Support Fund to assist tenants in financial hardship and the Garforth office has been awarded £7,218.89

ASB

Focus on directing customers to Triage Team for ASB who will risk assess every complaint, set out expectations in terms of reporting and ensure that the cases are passed to the correct team (Housing, LASBT or no further action). The team have strong links with local police officers to share information.

There are 3 open ASB cases across Garforth and the surrounding villages which are managed by the Housing Officers and reviewed monthly by the Team Leader. 6 weekly partnership working meetings booking in with the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team to share information and discuss ongoing cases between the teams.

Annual Tenancy Check-in (ATCI)

We are currently in the 3rd year of the ATCI cycle with all remaining tenants not visited in the last 2 years now requiring a visit. The team are focusing on those tenancies that have not had a visit in the last 3 years and are making good progress and have visited 13.70% of our tenants since April.

Environmental Actions Team

Quarter 1 Estate are underway, and teams have access to the Skill Mill scheme, where referrals can be made for ad-hoc estate improvement work. If any tenants or members do want to have a walkabout in their area just contact their Housing Officer who would be happy to arrange.

Performance Information: July 2024

Swarcliffe and Halton Moor Housing Office

Voids Levels (empty properties)

Demand for properties remains high across my management area, especially for houses. The Lettings Team is working hard to ensure properties are allocated in a timely manner.

Referrals continue to be made for issues and waste/fly tipping, which is aimed to remove the items in a timely manner to ensure properties enjoy an appealing kerb-side appeal.

Current number of Ready to Lets are as follows:

Swarcliffe/Whinmoor – 4
Halton Moor/Osmondthorpe – 1
Total - 5

Income Collection

Our rent collection figures at week 11 are:

Swarcliffe -95.04%
Halton Moor -93.25%

Comparing figures to the same week last financial year, Swarcliffe's collection has increased by 2.85% and Halton Moor has increased by 3.95%.

We are working closely with our residents to maximise their income, particularly through the cost-of-living crisis, by referring cases through to Benefit Advisors, assisting with Discretionary Housing Payments in acute cases and involving third party support agencies. We are also supporting our most vulnerable customers by utilising the Housing Support Fund to assist with rent arrears.

We continue to make referrals to Leeds Credit Union for tenants who would benefit from budgeting accounts and who are experiencing the effects of the cost-of-living crisis. Our Housing Officer (Income) is working with our more complex cases, linking in with support agencies, to ensure tenants receive advice on how they can maximise their incomes.

ASB

Focus on directing customers to Triage Team for ASB who will risk assess every complaint, set out expectations in terms of reporting and ensure that the cases are passed to the correct team (Housing, LASBT or no further action). The team have strong links with local police officers to share information.

There are 7 ASB cases across the Swarcliffe and Halton Moor areas which are managed by the Housing Officers and reviewed monthly by the Team Leader.

6 weekly partnership working meetings booking in with the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team to share information and discuss ongoing cases between the teams.

Annual Tenancy Check-in (ATCI)

We are now into the third cycle of the Annual Tenancy Check-in programme. Officers aim to complete 100% of visits by the end of the financial year. For those customers who we are finding difficult to access, officers are to follow the enforcement process to gain access.

Environmental Actions Team

Quarter 1 Estate Walkabouts have been carried out. The main issues identified during the walkabouts is fly tipping. Housing Officers are ensuring they are reporting any fly tipping on the estate whilst carrying out their day-to-day duties. Teams have access to the Skill Mill scheme, where referrals can be made for ad-hoc estate improvement work.

Corporate Considerations

9. Consultation and Engagement

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

10. Equality and Diversity/ Cohesion and Integration

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.

11. Council Polices and City Priorities

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

12. Resources and Value for Money

Aligning the distribution of community wellbeing funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

13. Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

14. Risk Management

Risk implications and mitigation are considered on all projects and wellbeing applications. Projects are assessed to ensure that applicants can deliver the intended benefits.

Conclusions

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

Recommendations

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

Background documents¹

17. 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.