

Leeds Community Committees Annual Report 2022/23



“Bringing people together to make a difference for local people and their communities”

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Welcome: Councillor Mary Harland

We are immensely proud of the work our ten Community Committees continue to do for the residents of Leeds. The work has continued throughout the past year, ensuring that the committees help; to protect the most vulnerable, keep people safe from harm, assist people with financial hardship and tackle anti-social behaviour and crime.

This is done by engaging with and being responsive to the local needs of its communities and is achieved through committee meetings, forums, workshops, social media and the funding of many local projects from the Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activity Fund.

All ten Community Committees are committed to creating communities that are full of opportunity and we want those communities to be able to celebrate their own uniqueness and individuality. The Summer Fun section on pages 25 and 26 show some of the festivals and events the Community Committees fund across Leeds. We want every single resident to feel proud of the city and recognise the community they live in as their own.

Our Community Committees recognise our communities are more diverse than ever, a strength that we are truly proud of in Leeds. Our commitment to locality-based working has been demonstrated once again over the course of the last 12 months in the broad range of projects that the Community Committees have funded, spending over £2 million in 2022/23, totalling 431 separate grants that were provided to local grass route organisations, voluntary groups and charities, to tackle the immediate and specific needs of our communities.

The Community Committees are also fully committed to promoting young people to have their voices heard, as they play a vital role within our communities. Each committee therefore continues to support our very successful Youth Summits (the first events that have happened since the COVID-19 pandemic). The information collated from these events has allowed the committees to fund activities for children and young people based upon their feedback and further details of this work can be found on page 19.

The Community Committees continue to work with many, many partners from different sectors to meet the needs of our communities and the challenge now as we look ahead to next year is how we continue to do this successfully despite the significant challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic has provided but also other factors such as the cost-of-living crisis.

Our work may need to be delivered differently but the Community Committees will continue to work hard to ensure that every voice is heard and that we are impacting positively on all our local communities.



Councillor Mary Harland

Executive Member for Communities



Introduction

The city of Leeds, situated in the centre of the country is the third largest and one of the fastest growing, diverse cities in England. Leeds City Council itself is the second largest metropolitan district in the country, covering 217 square miles, with over three quarters of a million residents.

During the course of 2022/23 Leeds City Council has continued its vision to make Leeds the best city in the UK, by being compassionate and caring with a strong economy, tackling poverty and reducing inequalities.

This ambition has been tested once again over the last 12 months as a result of the continued and ongoing challenges that COVID-19 has presented the city. Leeds City Council however has remained focused on its vision of creating a distinctive, sustainable, ambitious and of particular relevance again this last year, a safe city, by working tirelessly with our ten Community Committees and our 99 Elected Members.

Each year all ten Community Committees set out their priorities, identifying target areas that need to be addressed over the next 12 months. These targets are identified by using local data that provide valuable information on various issues such as unemployment, health, crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Council, led by Elected Members, continued to deliver an extensive programme of support across all areas of the city; keeping residents safe, protecting the most vulnerable and ensuring that local communities got the support they needed. The work that took place through our Community Committee structures proved invaluable in making sure our approach was tailored to meet the direct needs of our local communities in a responsive and effective way.

This report covers some of the progress of all ten committees and demonstrates how they helped provide local residents with a voice. It also provides examples of ‘real life’ human stories and how some of the projects the committees have funded have benefitted local communities across Leeds in 2022/23, contributing towards the Best City Ambition: [Leeds Best City Ambition.pdf](#) and the council’s overall aim of creating safe, strong communities.



Spending Money Locally

Community Committees play an important role in understanding and addressing issues of concern to local people. One of the many ways they do this is by funding projects that address local priorities.

At the start of each year, every committee is allocated a dedicated sum of money known as the Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activities Fund. This money is provided for local projects and activities and can often be increased through match funding from other sources.

Major benefits have been identified from funding delegated to Community Committees, such as; developing community capacity and pride (generating a sense of belonging, often involving volunteering by local residents to make things happen), sealing the deal (funding projects where work would not otherwise be taken forward), leverage (acting as a catalyst to lever in funding from other sources) and implementing planned local actions (focusing on specific local priorities identified by committees).

The image below shows the monetary value of projects that were funded by the Community Committees in 2022/23, as well as showing the added value that projects provide to local communities, not just in terms of match funding (sourcing other funding streams to make better use of available budgets) but also volunteer hours for projects funded by the committees.



Inner East

Over 60's Club

The Inner East Community Committee approved £4,403.04 for the Cross Gates Over 60's Club to meet once a week and give local people the opportunity to socialise and play bingo, with the hope of stopping its attendees from becoming socially isolated. This linked in with the Leeds City Council Best City Ambition, Health & Wellbeing, where "Leeds will be a healthy and caring city for everyone, where those who are most likely to experience poverty improve their mental and physical health the fastest, people are living healthy lives for longer and are supported to thrive from early years to later life".

The Cross Gates Over 60's Club had up to 20 regular members and operated from Cross Gates Community Centre every Monday, from 12.30pm until 3pm. All regular attendees over the course of the project received a birthday, Easter and Christmas treat, which helped them to celebrate these special occasions.

In addition to the weekly session that was funded by the Inner East Community Committee, the club also organised a number of other trips and meals across the course of the year, including two Winter Warmer Trips across the winter period to North Yorkshire, as well as one trip to Whitby by coach. The sessions were a huge success and this popularity was reflected in the growth of the club's regular numbers, from 20 to around 30 regular attendees.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerEast>



Inner South

Saturday Park Roll

The Inner South Community Committee awarded LS-TEN £1,680 for their Saturday Park Roll Project, which aimed to encourage young people to develop their own skills in terms of coaching and supporting others in their career progression.

Funding was used to offer free skating sessions every Saturday at Cross Flatts Park in Beeston, one of the most diverse areas of Leeds. The free skating sessions which were offered to low income families, also unexpectedly led to participants starting to play roller hockey and learn roller dance, in amongst the other skills they developed on the project. Several of the young people also joined a Young Leaders Scheme and have now started to volunteer, to support new learners. As well as members of the local community setting up a WhatsApp group to arrange skate sessions, skate groups have been formed by attendees of the sessions in different areas, such as Middleton Skaters and West Leeds Rollers.

The skating sessions were attended by children and young people from across the Inner South Community Committee area. Each session had between 30 and 60 attendees, with the majority of participants being a diverse group of young people, from many different backgrounds. Following a feedback request participants stated that their confidence in skating had doubled following the sessions, with other added benefits; self-confidence (up 39.13%), improved fitness (up 4.35%), made new friends (up 4.35%) and increased skating ability (up 52.17%).

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerSouth>



Inner West

Christmas in the Community

The Inner West Community Committee approved £2,000 for the Christmas in the Community Project, managed by New Wortley Community Association. The cost of living crisis affects many of our most vulnerable local residents and families in Leeds, so the Christmas in the Community Project aimed to support 50 families over the festive period, giving them access to food support in the form of a hamper containing ingredients to cook a Christmas lunch for up to five people.

Each hamper contained a large chicken, potatoes, vegetables, pigs in blankets, gravy and a dessert, together with a few treat items like crackers, as well as chocolate and cakes. Families were also given gift cards to purchase toys for their children.

The project exceeded its target of supporting 50 families, as it supported 59 in total. The initial 50 families were provided lunch hampers as planned in the project proposals and the additional nine families were provided festive goodies hampers, or toy vouchers. The total number of individuals supported by the Christmas in the Community Project over the festive period was 226.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerWest>



Inner North East

Community Heroes Thank You Event

The Inner North East Community Committee awarded £1,697 to the Communities Team, to host a thank you event for local 'community heroes'. The event was held at the Egan Suite in Sheepscar on 15th March 2023, to celebrate volunteering efforts throughout the year, thus linking the project in to one of the core Leeds City Council Best City Ambitions, Inclusive Growth.

The event was attended by guest speakers, which included the then Lord Mayor, Cllr Bob Gettings (MBE), Cllr Mary Harland (Executive Member for Communities) and Dr Mohammed Sattar (Primary Care Network). Guests were entertained by performances from Irish Arts Foundation, RJC Dance and Kathak Dance.

Councillors from the Inner North East area were present, commenting that "volunteers dedicate so much of their time to some of the most vulnerable people in our communities and to those in need, that it's therefore a pleasure that the council honours them and expressed its thanks and admiration".

All volunteers had the opportunity to celebrate the importance of the work they do and were awarded certificates for their hard work and dedication in their community roles. About 150 people attended in total, with everyone having the opportunity to meet others to network and share good practice.

What you said: *"very informative and gave us the opportunity to network with other voluntary organisation...good to celebrate and see the diverse range of organisations from the INE area of Leeds"*.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerNE>



Inner North West

Thornville's Graffiti Project

The Inner North West Community Committee awarded £16,528 to the Inner North West Environmental Sub Group, who are delegated responsibility by the committee to tackle environmental issues in the area. The sub group, which is made up of Elected Members, council officers from different departments, representatives from Leeds and Leeds Beckett Universities, Unipol and local resident's groups, is therefore an excellent example of partnership working.

The Inner North West Environmental Sub Group decided to focus its attention on Hyde Park, as this high profile and vibrant area of the city is made up of a mixture of residents; long term residents, as well as short term residents such as student and private rented tenants. As such the area tends to be blighted by wide spread graffiti, especially on the gable ends of terraced housing. The sub group decided to work on a project in the Thornville's area, aiming to transform an area badly affected by graffiti, by inspiring residents.

The project delivered five murals on consecutive gable ends for maximum impact. The project also provided a Top Tips Guide and blueprint for others to follow that wished to tackle graffiti in their own area. The project was a great success and has transformed the appearance of the Thornville's and inspired local residents to take pride in their neighbourhood. It is hoped that residents will expand the mural area in the future using the Top Tips Guide for delivering a graffiti project, thus making this a truly sustainable project.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCInnerNW>



Outer East

Holiday Activities for Young People

The Outer East Community Committee awarded just under £36,731 in 2022/23, to deliver holiday activities for young people, in all its four wards; Cross Gates & Whinmoor, Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley and Temple Newsam, thus linking the project in to the Leeds City Council Best City Ambition, Health & Wellbeing.

One of the many projects delivered by Leeds Youth Services was a comprehensive School Holiday Programme, providing a diverse range of physical and educational activities over the school holiday periods. The programme directed young people into positive activities that contributed to enhanced life and social skills, offering opportunities for young people to experience activities and facilities that they could not usually afford. This included trips to theme parks, aqua parks, York Maze Scare Grounds, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Doncaster Dome, theatre performances, as well as others.

This positive interaction formed strong relationships and developed new life skills for all the young people involved in the project. A total of 227 young people engaged and benefitted from the projects taking place across the 41 sessions delivered in the Outer East wards.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterEast>



Outer South

The Chatter Bus 2022/23

The Chatter Bus 2022/2023 Project run by local charity For Disability Mobility (FDM) based in Rothwell, benefits elderly and disabled people living in all four wards of Outer South Leeds. It provides attendees with the opportunity to combat social isolation and loneliness, by providing trips out that create new memories and friends, as well as helping people to feel more independent. FDM's door to door service means that vulnerable people know that they are safe and can be confident going out.

The activities delivered through the project provided 30 trips to each of their two social clubs, providing a broad choice of destination or activity. This included a pantomime, theatre productions at Leeds Playhouse and tribute evenings with a meal, as well as trips to shops, or alternatively a walk in the fresh air, such as visits to stately gardens. Additional trips were organised that met demand from the groups for popular destinations such as Bridlington, Filey and a Christmas Lunch.

The charity recently replaced its oldest minibus, with a new one that was fully adaptable, so the organisation was keen to maximise its use. FDM purchased additional leaflets for promotional purposes, that were distributed in a number of ways. This really made a difference, as less than 10% of FDM's members have access to the internet, so getting a regular list of trips available each month was important.

During the pandemic the social club lost a lot of its members, however since the start of this project membership has increased by 161%, especially from those who would not be able to get out without specialist transport. FDM report that through their social club people have formed new friendships.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterSouth>



Outer West

October Half Term Taster Sessions

The Outer West Community Committee awarded £2,517.00 from the Youth Activity Fund to support the project 'October Half Term YAF Taster Sessions', which was run by Leeds Youth Services. This funding was used to provide an activity day in all three of the Outer West wards; Calverley & Farsley, Farnley & Wortley and Pudsey. The aim of the project was to enable young people to participate in a variety of activities, learn new interests and hobbies and form new friends, at a venue close to where they live, which was a key piece of feedback from young people in the consultation survey in 2021/22.

Linking in with Leeds City Councils health and wellbeing Best City Ambition, the project worked with over 60 young people who were able to take part in activities such as DJ skills, life skills workshops, cooking classes, crafts/bush craft workshops and survival skills workshops. Leeds Youth Services liaised with Clusters to ensure the harder to reach and vulnerable young people were also able to access the taster days and take part in the fun.

West Yorkshire Police and the Fire Service also attended to speak to about safety, particularly in the run up to Bonfire Night. Many young people stated this was the highlight of the day and thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the interactive section of the workshop. The activity days were so popular that the Outer West Community Committee have funded a similar project in the Easter holidays this year.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterWest>



Outer North East

Activities for Young People

In 2022 the Outer North East Community Committee allocated monies towards providing various holiday activities for young people, linking in to the Leeds City Council Best City Ambition, Health & Wellbeing. The Jubilee Games Project in the Harewood ward, aimed to provide a legacy of Her late Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The inaugural Jubilee Games provided a springboard for collaboration between local schools, to harness that sense of community and cultural capital in the field of sports.

At the end of the games, a scoreboard was published and awards presented to all participants and winners. A memory of the games, alongside information on how to take part in sports disciplines outside of school, was presented to pupils in the form of a memory/goodie bag. 260 pupils competed, from different schools and socio-economic backgrounds. Following the games, a special inaugural games video was shared with schools and on social media, with over 1,700 views in the first few days: www.jubileegames.co.uk

In the Alwoodley & Wetherby wards, the Leeds Rhinos Foundation were funded to deliver summer camps (six camps in Alwoodley & four in Wetherby). The camps focused on physical activity, with an aim of increasing confidence, promoting an active and healthy lifestyle and developing emotional intelligence. In relation to the Wetherby camps, there was a 25% target female participation rate, which was achieved with a 40.2% rate. Across both wards the camps had a total of 818 children attending. A video case study can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29Mpve-c-Tg>



Outer North West

Supporting Physical and Social Activity

The Outer North West Community Committee provided over £36,000 of funding to support physical and social activity for all ages. As a result of the many health and wellbeing challenges that people have faced over the last few years, including the COVID-19 pandemic, various projects funded by the committee focused on being able to provide physical and social support, achieved by providing improved facilities to community spaces/venues.

Arthington Cricket Club, which had seen a rise in the use of its facilities, constructed a new cricket pavilion with larger changing rooms and a hygienic food preparation/serving area that meets the Sport England minimum requirements.

Menston Cricket Club had to put a halt on using the pavilion at the High Royds, as it was deemed unsafe and applied for a grant which helped fund the provision of temporary facilities. This grant enabled them to continue using the pitch during the 2022 cricket season.

Otley Cricket Club used funding to demolish an existing scoreboard and old tackle shed, replacing them with two new permanent netting lanes and a replacement tackle shed.

These projects have also had a positive impact on the environment, as the much needed work has reduced the carbon footprint and environmental impact on the planet, by ensuring venues are more effectively heated, ventilated and have with more energy efficient lighting.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCOuterNW>



Community Voice and Influence

Youth Summits

Youth Summits are an opportunity for young people aged 8-17 years living in Leeds to learn about local democracy and influence decision making by taking part in a consultation exercise that informs the Community Committee's Youth Activity Fund budget spend for the following year.

Building on our commitment to engage and involve children and young people in decision making in their own communities, young people have once again been involved in choosing which activities should be supported by the Community Committees' Youth Activity Fund in 2023/24.

The pandemic provided us with an opportunity to reflect upon the Youth Summit model and consider how we adapt responses and approaches to meet the needs of young people in our respective communities, as well as reviewing the aims and objectives for the Community Committee Youth Summits.

An approach was agreed that set out clear aims and objectives, as well as demonstrating measurable and specific outcomes for the Youth Summits. These were subsequently agreed with our Executive Board Member, Community Committee Champions and Community Committee Chairs and discussed with Children & Families Sub Groups.

A key objective for the Community Committees is that we engaged with a wide variety of young people and that this engagement reflected the true diversity of the city, not just young people who are academically inclined, or naturally engaged with these types of events.

With this in mind the Communities Team attended the SEND Youth Summit, to consult with young people that have special education needs & disabilities. At the SEND Youth Summit which took place in November 2022, the Community Committees engaged with 56 young people that have special educational needs & disabilities. The Communities Team also delivered a Youth Summit to young people from the LGBT+ community and at this event in March 2023 there were 15 young people in attendance.



Community Voice and Influence

Youth Summits

All Youth Summits had a specific link to the Child Friendly Leeds agenda & the Child Friendly Leeds 12 'wishes'. At the Q&A sessions with the Lord Mayor & Elected Members, various themes emerged, which have been shared with the Child Friendly Leeds Team: [Our 12 Wishes for a Child Friendly City – Child Friendly Leeds: Our Blog \(wordpress.com\)](#).

The largest proportion of young people that attended the Community Committee Youth Summits were White British, however the events also engaged with many other young people from different ethnicities, reflecting the diversity of the city. Over 600 young people were involved in the Youth Summits, with over 100 schools/organisations involved in bringing young people along to the events. As time progresses, the Community Committees will be able to assess how many projects have been funded, or proactively commissioned from the Youth Activity Fund, as a result of the Youth Summits/and or Youth Activity Fund consultation.

Inner West Youth Summit



Community Voice and Influence

Youth Summits: Feedback

Primary School Teacher:

“We had a great time and the children really enjoyed participating in the activities. It was great to be able to do the activities in person and back in the Civic Hall.”

Careers and Employability Co-Ordinator :

“My colleague and the students said it was a wonderful event and the students really enjoyed all the activities. It was great that my colleague could tell me how involved our students were in the debates and questions. I know how much work goes in to organising an event like this, so I just wanted to send my thanks and say well done.”

Primary School Children:

“It was brilliant! We got to meet the Lord Mayor of Leeds. It was amazing! We got to ask lots of questions and the Lord Mayor and councillors gave really good replies. I liked hearing about the councillors’ experiences and what they do in their area. I enjoyed it as you got to have a say.”

Primary School Learning Mentor:

”Thank you so much, the pupils had such a fantastic time.”

Leeds Youth Service:

“The young people all had a brilliant time and enjoyed the day. Schools commented on how the students returned feeling very positive and told friends that they got to meet the Lord Mayor.”



Community Voice and Influence

Youth Activity Fund Consultation

Alongside the physical Youth Summit, the Communities Team also created a consultation survey for young people: <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/YouthActivities2022/>

This online survey was circulated far and wide throughout the city and was created using some new and innovative ways of engaging with young people, such as creating a QR code that directed young people straight to the survey, after being scanned with a Smartphone.

The online survey had 2,330 responses, with an additional online survey being created to engage with young people that have special educational needs and disabilities. In relation to this survey, there were 144 responses; in total 2,448 across both surveys. Overall response rate across the city of Leeds, against the population data for 8 - 17 year olds was 2.17%.

The citywide consultation conducted with young people via the Community Committee Youth Summits & Youth Activity Fund consultation, identified the following funding priorities for this year across the city 1) sports, 2) cooking, 3) arts & crafts, 4) outdoor adventures and 5) youth clubs.

The feedback showed that the majority of young people wanted youth activities on offer in local venues such as community centres, youth clubs and sport centres but were happy for activities to be delivered either inside or outside. Young people also wanted the majority of provision taking place regularly after school, in the evenings and on the weekend.



Community Engagement and Cohesion

Many of Leeds' communities are made up of people from different backgrounds, beliefs and cultures. A significant part of the work carried out by Community Committees involves strengthening community cohesion and breaking down barriers. Between formal committee meetings, Elected Members work in a number of different ways to improve local areas and the quality of life for residents. They also work to strengthen links with local communities, through public forums, Parish & Town Councils, as well as volunteer and residents' groups; supporting local people to understand each other better and get on well together.

Bringing Services to Local Communities

The Outer South Community Committee holds various events over the course of the year, which reach thousands of local people, where attendees often find out about local services. The committee also continues to support the annual St George Day Festival in April, with a street stall in Queens Street in Morley, visited by around 1,500 people.

Community Forums

The Outer East Community Committee area covers a wide geography and community forums tend to be the main source of engagement and involvement with local residents. The forums meet quarterly and are used as an opportunity to share information and provide updates on key issues and services.

Making the Most of Local Assets

Community Committees continue to focus their attention on how partners can work together to run sustainable community projects. The Inner North West Community Committee dedicated a substantial amount of resources (time and money) to purchase and convert a shipping container for use as a community food pantry. The Little London Community Food Pantry provides groceries and other essential non-foods household items to residents of the Little London, Woodhouse and neighbourhood communities that are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the cost-of-living crisis.



Community Engagement and Cohesion

Celebrating Community Heroes

The work that our community volunteers do is inspiring and makes a real positive impact on people's lives, from 'In Bloom' groups, to dance groups, choirs and older persons groups. In recognition of the many hours of voluntary work, the Inner North East Community Committee held a 'Community Heroes, Thank You Event', attended by the Lord Mayor. The event was an opportunity for the committee to celebrate the diversity and strength of community leadership in the area, as well as thanking people for the contribution they make on a voluntary basis to their communities.

Parish and Town Councils

Good partnership working between the Community Committees and Parish and Town Councils presents an additional opportunity for the council to achieve its ambition of a lasting shift towards local democracy. By working closely together, the Community Committees and Parish and Town Councils make a vital contribution to the wellbeing of the communities they serve. The Leeds Parish and Town Council Charter: [Parish and Town Council Charter \(leeds.gov.uk\)](http://leeds.gov.uk) sets out how Community Committees and Parish and Town Councils work together for the benefit of local people.

The Outer North East Parish and Town Council Forum provides a mechanism for regular engagement, as well as opportunities for discussion and collaborative working, on issues of common interest. The forum tends to meet on a quarterly basis and enables Parish and Town Councils in the Outer North East area to work closely with the Community Committee and the council, to improve the flexibility and effectiveness of the delivery of services.



Community Engagement and Cohesion

Communications and Social Media

Good communication plays a vital role in supporting the council's ambition to be responsive to the needs of its local communities, improving democratic decision making and involving local people in decisions that affect their neighbourhoods.

Social media continues to be a key method of engagement, as the ten Community Committees each have their own Facebook page. Collectively over the ten pages there are 15,548 likes/followers. The social media activity that takes place through the Community Committee structures, ensures we reach a large number of residents every month through local stories and conversations.

During the pandemic our Community Committees also continued to play an essential role in providing a responsive information service to all our diverse communities in the city, by being a key source of reliable and up to date information. The Coronavirus Help Facebook Groups which have now been deactivated, were set up as a way of promoting services, supporting communities and cascading information in an attempt to tackle the pandemic. The pages were also there to generate discussion and debate but also facilitate conversations around being neighbourly during the national pandemic and assist in some of the volunteering efforts in the city.

Other examples of promotional activity and communications the Community Committees are involved in include; features in local newspapers such as South Leeds Life, the use of community radio stations, personalised emails to mailing lists and Local Engagement Plans, posters and flyers being placed in council buildings such as One Stop Centres, as well as physical engagement events.



Community Engagement and Cohesion

Communications and Social Media: Examples

**Youth Activity Fund Consultation Survey
Inner South Community Committee 2022**

Young people of Inner South Leeds, your
Community Committee needs your help!



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

Do you live in Beeston & Holbeck, Hunslet & Riverside, or Middleton Park?
Are you aged between 8 & 17? Do you want a say on what youth activities
your committee supports this coming year?

If so, click on the link and fill in a really quick survey to let us know your
thoughts! <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/OSCECI/>

Scan me





**Outer South Community
Committee Meeting**

Monday 13th March 2023 at 4pm

Northfield Community Centre, Rothwell, Leeds LS26 0SL

Outer South Community Committee website:
[http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?
ID=1002](http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=1002)

Hosted by the Outer South Community Committee.

Keep up to date with the work of your Community Committee.

Light refreshments will be available...tea/coffee/biscuits

The meeting will include the usual open forum at the start, giving
you the opportunity to ask any questions, followed by the standard
business section.

There will be guests from Housing, LASBT and the Police

If you have any questions or require any further information please
contact: communitycommitteeefunding@leeds.gov.uk



**Outer North East Community
Committee Meeting**

Monday 19 September 2022, 5.30pm

Rooms 6 & 7, Civic Hall, Calverley St, LS1 1UR

Presentation and discussion at 5.30pm on the following reports;

Highways Annual Improvement Consultation

Standard Business Reports

Hosted by the Outer North East Community Committee and
Chaired by Cllr Norma Harrington

Everyone is welcome so please feel free to come along! The meeting will
include the usual open forum at the start, giving you the opportunity to ask
any questions, followed by the standard business section.

Meeting documents can be viewed on the democracy website, a week
prior to the meeting, using the following link:
[Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://councilanddemocracy.leeds.gov.uk)

The meeting will also be streamed online live via Leeds City Council website;
Community Committees - YouTube

For any questions re: the committee, or the meeting itself please contact:
communitycommitteeefunding@leeds.gov.uk



Outer West Community Committee Meeting

Monday 5th September, 1pm.

Pudsey Civic Hall – Woodhall Suite

YOU ARE INVITED!

Contribute your views at the Open Forum section.
Follow the Finance Report and Update Report.
Hear from additional agenda items including:

- Highways - Annual Improvement Consultation
- Adults & Health - Leeds Dementia Strategy

This is a public meeting with no pre-booking required.
Come along and engage with conversation relevant to
Pudsey, Calverley & Farsley, and Farnley & Wortley
For any further information please contact
michael.stevenson@leeds.gov.uk

OUTER WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
INFLUENCE . CREATE . ENGAGE






Community Committee Champions

Community Committee Champions were officially introduced in 2013 and cover the following areas/themes; Health, Wellbeing & Adult Social Care, Children’s Services, Employment, Skills & Welfare and Environment & Community Safety. The Community Committee Champions role aims to provide a local ‘lead’ perspective and further facilitate local democratic accountability, particularly in conjunction with the relevant Executive Member.

In 2019, the Head of Locality Partnerships offered individual meetings with each of the Community Committee Chairs, to gain a better understanding of their committees and the challenges and opportunities of each one. A recurrent theme was the role of the themed Community Committee Champions and it was agreed at a subsequent meeting with Community Committee Chairs that a review of the Champions Role would take place, which would include the development of a role profile for the Champions that better outlined what the role and its responsibilities entailed.

A draft role profile was developed and agreed by a small working group that reflected and acknowledged the role that Champions already undertook within their committee areas but sought to clarify to Champions what their role involves. Furthermore the profile identified specific areas of focus for each of the themed Champions at both city-wide and Community Committee level.

At a Community Committee Chairs Forum meeting in 2022, the Champions Role profile was discussed and ratified by Chairs, in order that the role profile could be rolled out to Elected Members within the next municipal year. Subsequently, the role profile was also discussed and ratified individually by all ten Community Committees in the summer cycle of meetings in 2022.

The Champions Role and its strategic leadership function will be key to the programmes of work that are developed in each committee area in the future, as they will be acting as an interface and playing a substantial role in shaping the committee’s agenda and local services. This connectivity is essential in order to achieve increased service improvement and provide local influence on service delivery.

Further work regarding the Champions Role/s will take place later in the year, as this area has been identified as a priority for the Community Committee Review (pages 34 & 35 for Challenges and Next Steps).



COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS



Summer Fun

Across the city the ten Community Committees help to fund numerous events for everyone in their local communities to enjoy. These events bring together our diverse communities in unique, positive ways and encourage the people of Leeds to actively get involved with their neighbours.

Beeston Festival

Beeston Festival is a one day community festival that has been running for 27 years. The aim of the festival is to provide an exciting, entertaining and informative day, that brings together all the different communities in Beeston. In doing so, the festival promotes racial harmony, local regeneration, community sports & arts and environmental education. The festival has become a major community event for the area, thanks to the hard work of many people and aims to provide something for everyone including; get information from the Council and other organisations, find out about major issues affecting the area, speak to or get involved with community groups, or simply attend to enjoy the food and entertainment. In 2022 the festival had approximately between 7,000 and 8,000 people at the event across the day: [Beeston Festival | Organised by and for local people to celebrate the life and diversity of our community](#)

Rothwell Summer Carnival

Rothwell Carnival is a long standing event held annually on the second Saturday in July and organised by The Rothwell & District Carnival Committee, a small group of local residents that came together several years ago to ensure that the traditional May Day and Summer Carnivals continued to take place. The event includes a market and various community stalls, as well as funfair rides, a petting farm, bungee trampolines, a moon walk inflatable, beach area, face painter, donkey rides, circus skills, archery, axe throwing and a dog show. The event continues to grow in popularity and is looked forward to and attended by many local people.



Summer Fun

Kirkstall Festival

The 42nd Kirkstall Festival took place on 9th July in the grounds of Kirkstall Abbey. The festival was attended by 17,000 people during the course of the day. The theme was 'Kirkstall Festival Coming Home' and it was very much a return to the pre COVID-19 format, with entertainment on three stages, stalls and displays, with various activities, catering and a fairground. Funding was used to contribute to the costs of event safety and security and field costs such as parking and traffic management, marquees, chairs and stages and linked in to the Inner West Community Committee priorities: [Video & photos: Kirkstall Festival returns to huge crowds and glorious sunshine - West Leeds Dispatch](#)

Pudsey Carnival

Funding is used to help with the running costs of what is one of the most important events in the local districts calendar, providing a fun filled day for local people, which is now into its fifth decade of operating. The aim of the carnival is to provide an exciting and fun day out for all the local community, as well as enabling local organisations such as schools, youth groups and local charities to get to know each other. The Carnival in 2022 was extremely well attended after the break because of the COVID-19 pandemic, with a successful parade, with floats based on the theme of 'Jubilee', celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This was followed by activities and shows which were run by local community groups. Fortunately, the weather stayed dry, which helped to provide good audiences for the events, such as the Punch & Judy Show, dog show and circus skills training.

Some others...

Other festivals and events in the city funded by the Community Committees include; Armley Festival, Great Get Together, Holbeck Gala, Hyde Park Unity Day, Igbo Union Family Fun Day, Little London Community Fun Day, Middleton Park Summer Programme, Morley Arts Festival, RadhaRaman Folk Festival and Wetherby Arts Festival but there are also many more! All over the city there are amazing events hosted by groups of dedicated, hard working individuals and organisations who aim to bring joy and happiness to their communities by putting on events that are inclusive and open to all. Community Committees funding mean that these events can be enjoyed by everyone.



Summer Fun



Climate Change

As all decisions taken by committees are made in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework, the principle applies that all funding requests, along with any other committee related matters, are informed by the Best City Ambition [Leeds Best City Ambition.pdf](#) and the key strategic pillar, Zero Carbon; "in 2030 Leeds will have made rapid progress towards carbon neutrality, reducing our impact on the planet and doing so in a fair way which improves standards of living in all the city's communities".

Swings in climate and more extreme weather create inequality, as financial disparity creates pressures between those able to invest in measures to maintain comfort and diet, with activity denied to those least able to afford it. A range of initiatives within the Community Committees have supported the climate change agenda, including, creating pocket parks, producing hanging baskets, planting additional trees, as well as creating areas of greater natural biodiversity that all help to improve air quality, by working with 'In Bloom' and 'Friends of' groups throughout the city.

Community Committees also funded projects that have had a positive impact on biodiversity, as well as the health and wellbeing of their residents, by improving communal areas through horticultural schemes, planting varieties of native and more sensitive climate changing shrubs and annual plants, that attract pollinators and other insects.

Numerous projects funded via the Community Committees focused on the local environment, with groups engaged in making their areas safer, cleaner and greener for the local community. Committees have also funded work to upgrade community facilities that improve energy efficiency in buildings, which have reduced the carbon footprint and environmental impact on the planet, by ensuring venues are more effectively heated, ventilated and have with more energy efficient lighting.

Alongside the measures listed above, committees have also supported the climate change agenda in other ways, such as; almost all Youth Activity Fund consultation in 2022/23 was done through an online survey, paperwork and reports are now only printed off for meetings unless necessary, the Community Committees Annual Report is now only circulated online, a new 'normality' of virtual meetings, alongside face-to-face meetings and some committees and Youth Summits in this last year had a specific conversation with residents, including young people on the climate emergency.



Queens Platinum Jubilee

In 2022 Her late Majesty the Queen became the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee after 70 years of service. As such there were many events and activities that celebrated the jubilee across the United Kingdom, Commonwealth and beyond, in the months leading up to the extended bank holiday weekend from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June 2022.

Communities across Leeds were brought together to celebrate this historic weekend. Externally, more than £22 million of National Lottery funding was made available to help communities across the country celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. The Communities Team worked with local ward members in the promotion of these celebrations and the funding opportunities that were available and offered support where Community Committees were seeking to allocate wellbeing funds. They also reached out to partners and local voluntary and community groups through their local networks, partnerships and social media pages to promote these opportunities and supported organisations in the planning and development of local activities: [Leeds City Council Launches 'The Leeds Platinum Jubilee Memories Project' in Honour of Her Majesty the Queen's 70-year Reign.](#)

The Big Jubilee Lunch

The Big Jubilee Lunch was chosen as the official community celebration for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend. The Big Lunch was a chance to celebrate community connections and get to know one another a little better: <https://www.thebiglunch.com/getyourpack> The Communities Team developed a list of what was happening locally throughout the city, as there was a substantial number of events taking place. Some events were organised by Leeds City Council and some were organised externally via third sector organisations. In terms of funding, some events received monies via the Community Committees, or other Leeds City Council departments, however most received monies via external funding sources that were made available to mark the jubilee celebrations.



Queens Platinum Jubilee

The Big Jubilee Lunch

The government published guidance including tips, advice and support on organising a street party: [government guidance on organising a street party](#). Leeds City Council and Community Committees supported the scheme, which allowed neighbours to formally close their street to through traffic, to facilitate a Queens Jubilee Street Party Event. Information from Leeds City Council was available on the following link: [Play Streets \(leeds.gov.uk\)](#) (link is still applicable for other schemes, as this is a free resident and community led initiative to enable children to play freely and safely in the street, close to their home).

Activities and events were varied and far ranging and included; beacon lighting, firework displays, picnics, garden parties, street parties, afternoon tea's, barbeques, quizzes, dog shows, fancy dress shows, scarecrow festivals, village fetes, talent shows and flower summer bedding display celebration events (one community action group provided each family who attended their event with a memento for the occasion in the form of a 'Smile Bag' and a medal to commemorate the date and a 'bomb' of wildflowers to sow).

Queens Platinum Jubilee Benches

To celebrate this unprecedented anniversary a number of Community Committees worked with Leeds City Council Parks & Countryside to install Queens Platinum Jubilee Benches in parks and open spaces across the city. Over 40 benches were funded specifically in wards across Leeds, that included; Alwoodley, Bramley & Stanningley, Calverley & Farsley, Chapel Allerton, Farnley & Wortley, Garforth & Swillington, Harewood, Kirkstall, Moortown, Pudsey, Roundhay and Wetherby.



Priority Neighbourhoods

Community Safety Planning: Armley

Following on from the successful focus on community safety within the New Wortley Safer Cleaner Greener Sub Group, a workshop was organised and held by the Safer Stronger Communities Team, in partnership with the local Neighbourhood Policing Team. The event took place within the locality, with a wide range of internal services, external delivery partners and third sector organisations attending and showing their commitment.

The workshop focused on three key areas; New Wortley, Town Street and the Wythers, identified as priorities based upon data and community intelligence. Attendees had the opportunity to discuss what was working well, in addition to suggesting ideas for partnership working to improve community safety.

Since the event, work to develop community safety plans for each of the three areas has taken place, in connection with the Neighbourhood Policing Team. The community plans have now been finalised as a result of feedback from stakeholders. The plans are now being discussed in Armley tasking meetings and partners will now work to collectively drive forward actions, with the overall aim of improving community safety, with some partnership work around encouraging reporting of anti-social behaviour and/or crime.



Challenges and Next Steps

Community Committees were set up in June 2014 to improve the way the council works locally. They form part of our commitment to involving our residents more closely with the priorities for their local area and decision-making on funding and services, contributing towards the Best City Ambition: [Leeds Best City Ambition.pdf](#) and the council's overall aim of creating safer and stronger communities.

The city's ten Community Committees provide the infrastructure through which the council executes one of its democratic functions and community engagement ambitions. As formal council meetings held in public, they are one of the few structures through which the council has delegated its decision-making powers to the local level: [Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](#)

Community Committees play a key role in helping to address a range of local issues. This includes work as far reaching as improving the local environment and/or creating new opportunities which local people can benefit from. Together, the committees create an invaluable city-wide network, through which communities are encouraged to engage and influence how the Council and its partners delivers it's business functions.

However, public attendance at committee meetings in some areas is low and there is a danger that opportunities are being missed to fully engage with the public about the issues that matter to them most in the areas they live and work.

In June 2023, the Council's Executive Board supported a recommendation to undertake a full review of Community Committees involving all 99 Councillors, facilitated through the councils scrutiny structures. The review will also support the delivery of actions identified through the recent Local Government Association (LGA) Peer Review and will consider how the committee infrastructure can improve community engagement and better empower local people so that they can become more involved in their local community and influence how services are delivered.

The communities of Leeds have changed rapidly over the past decade, this is much more apparent in the city's most disadvantaged neighbourhoods. A failure to fully engage and be inclusive of all the communities of Leeds may result in increased tensions, leading to a sense of alienation and isolation. The locality working approach through the Community Committees and the review that will take place, will seek to engage with all communities, with a strong focus of the work on strengthening communities and building self-reliance and resilience.



Challenges and Next Steps

By evolving the way that we work through the Community Committees, developed through a refreshed framework that enables greater impact and outcomes, the review will aim to deliver a collective focus on all our communities in Leeds.

Locality Working through the Community Committees will not just be about addressing poverty and inequality but also about more effective use of resources with all our communities, to deliver better outcomes. Aligning the distribution of Community Committee funding to local priorities will help to ensure that maximum benefit can be provided.

With the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) data only published sporadically, we have previously struggled to measure the impact of local intervention in the city but with the publication of the Social Progress Index (SPI) for Leeds, this has changed.

The Social Progress Index (SPI) is a tool that helps measure how well Leeds is doing in terms of Inclusive Growth. It helps us understand what's happening in different areas of the city, on a ward-by-ward basis and by looking at multiple indicators (Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Wellbeing and Opportunity), it offers a clear and unbiased measure of overall wellbeing in the city: [The Leeds Social Progress Index | Inclusive Growth Leeds](#)

The Social Progress Index (SPI), which compliments the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) data, will allow us to compare each ward against its peers, as well as allowing us to track change over time, providing the Community Committees with a much more responsive tool to measure the impact of local intervention in the city.

Alongside this, the Community Committees Annual Report will continue to cover the progress of all ten committees and demonstrate how they helped provide local residents with a voice. It will also provide examples of 'real life' human stories and reference how projects the committees fund, benefit local communities across Leeds, linking in to the Council's three key strategic pillars; Inclusive Growth, Health & Wellbeing and Zero Carbon and contributing towards the Best City Ambition and the council's overall aim of creating safe, strong communities.



Looking Forward

COVID-19 has had a massive impact on the city of Leeds and work has been taking place to understand and get a picture of the disproportionate, or differential impact on inequality that is happening due to the pandemic.

The emerging evidence highlights that the COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated social and economic inequalities and we need to further understand what these impacts are on our communities in Leeds. What it tells us so far mirrors national evidence and the local narrative that COVID-19 does have a disproportionate impact based on; where you live, your gender, your ethnicity and your job.

The community narrative reflects the diversity of the city and key themes are continuing to emerge; financial inclusion, digital inclusion, mental health & wellbeing, social isolation, communication/ language barriers and cultural issues, as well as a cost of living crisis which is being exacerbated by other factors. It is becoming increasingly clear that the impacts of the pandemic are greater for some of our most disadvantaged communities.

Considering how we can address and provide reassurance to the issues that are being uncovered will form a key strand of activity in the city's continued recovery arrangements but are likely to last far beyond any immediate transition to a 'new' normality.

In 2023/24 Community Committees will continue to play a key role in addressing some of these challenges in our local communities in Leeds and the programmes that they develop will form a key part of the recovery work that is being undertaken in each of the thirty three wards throughout the city. This, alongside delegated budget spend for each committee will help to address a further widening of the inequalities gap.

The momentum brought about by the pandemic will continue, ensuring that the local leadership provided through our Elected Members and Community Committees continues to be at the heart of developing local and city wide structures.

Amongst other things, the pandemic has also provided the committees with the opportunity to consider ways of working, as we come to terms with the new 'normality' of virtual meetings, alongside face to face meetings. In addition to this, it has given us the opportunity to reflect and refresh some of the work programmes that take place across the city through the Community Committees, such as priority setting, Youth Summits and the work of the Champions and we're looking forward to developing these programmes over the course of the next year, in tandem with the Community Committee Review.



Leeds City Council's Community Committees

How do Community Committees work?

There are ten Community Committees in Leeds made up of local councillors that are elected to represent an area, from each of the 33 wards in the city. They hold four meetings a year in public and are an important part of the council's decision-making process.

The meetings provide an opportunity for local people to discuss key issues of concern with Elected Members and help influence decisions on matters of local interest, such as environmental improvements, community safety, health and wellbeing, employment and climate change.

How can you get involved?

- Attend a meeting
- Contact your local Councillor
- Ask a question, or take part in a discussion through our social media pages

Meetings are held at different locations across the city and generally start in the early evening and last a couple of hours. All meetings are open to the public and are usually themed around a particular topic.

Meetings are published on our website and can also be found on our social media pages (along with other local information and activities) and all decisions are recorded for public reference on the democracy website: <http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?bcr=1>

Want to know more?

Please contact the Community Committee Support Team for a chat on 0113 3785808, or email us at communitycommitteeefunding@leeds.gov.uk



Leeds City Council's Community Committees

Inner East Community Committee

Wards:

Burmantofts & Richmond Hill
Gipton & Harehills
Killingbeck & Seacroft

Councillor Arif Hussain

arif.hussain@leeds.gov.uk



Inner West Community Committee

Wards:

Armley
Bramley & Stanningley
Kirkstall

Councillor Alice Smart

alice.smart@leeds.gov.uk



Outer South Community Committee

Wards:

Ardley & Robin Hood
Morley North
Morley South
Rothwell

Councillor Oliver Newton

oliver.newton@leeds.gov.uk



Outer North East Community Committee

Wards:

Alwoodley
Harewood
Wetherby

Councillor Norma Harrington

norma.harrington@leeds.gov.uk



Inner South Community Committee

Wards:

Beeston & Holbeck
Hunslet & Riverside
Middleton Park

Councillor Mohammed Iqbal

mohammed.iqbal@leeds.gov.uk



Leeds City Council's Community Committees

Outer East Community Committee

Wards:

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

Councillor Pauleen Grahame

pauleen.grahame@leeds.gov.uk



Inner North West Community Committee

Wards:

Headingley & Hyde Park
Little London & Woodhouse
Weetwood

Councillor Isaac Wilson

Isaac.wilson@leeds.gov.uk



Outer North West Community Committee

Wards:

Adel & Wharfedale
Guiseley & Rawdon
Horsforth
Otley & Yeadon

Councillor Eleanor Thomson

eleanor.thomson@leeds.gov.uk



Outer West Community Committee

Wards:

Calverley & Farsley
Farnley & Wortley
Pudsey

Councillor Amanda Carter

amanda.carter@leeds.gov.uk



Inner North East Community Committee

Wards:

Chapel Allerton
Moortown
Roundhay

Councillor Mohammed Shahzad

mohammed.shahzad@leeds.gov.uk



For further information:

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[www.leeds.gov.uk/
communitycommittee](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/communitycommittee)

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