



Report of: Jane Maxwell, East North East Area Leader

Report to: Inner East Community Committee - Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton &

Harehills. Killingbeck & Seacroft wards

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Community Committee Update Report – November 2017

Purpose of report

This report provides an update on the work programme of the Inner East Community Committee and the Communities Team, including recent successes, current challenges and on-going pieces of work.

Main issues

- 1. Since the last Community Committee, work has progressed in a number of areas, including via ward member meetings and the local Neighbourhood Improvement Partnerships.
- 2. As part of the summer engagement offer the Communities Team planned and delivered Harehills Festival 2017. The Festival took place on 24th September 2017 in Banstead Park. The festival had its most successful year with over 3,000 people throughout the day, enjoying a wide range of activities including climbing wall, inflatables, donkey rides, litter picking races, guess the littering fine, planting your own pot and arts & crafts. Organisations and services distributed information including 'My Harehills' folders containing information relating to services and activities in Harehills. Several food stalls provided cultural food including Asian, Roma and Caribbean. Looking forward, the Communities Team will work with residents and local groups and organisations to create a 'Harehills Festival Planning Group' with the intention of forming a constituted group to take over the planning and running of the festival with support from ENE Communities Team.



- 3. Throughout summer 2017 a team of 10 young people undertook Youth Activity peer inspections across the city over 11 days, visiting activities that were funded through Youth Activity grants. The peer inspectors were age 8-17 years and representative of young people across the city. The inspections included questions about accessibility and inclusion, safety, advertising of events and value. The peer inspectors gained in confidence, knowledge and leadership and many of the inspectors completed their Leeds Youth Award level 1 and 2. The overall feedback from the inspections was that the events and activities were well attended and organised, enjoyed by attendees and would attend in the future. The peer inspectors have created a short film about the summer inspections to support the work they have carried out and to coincide with this report https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qDEX9QICYd
- 4. Housing Leeds have arranged and delivered a several environmental action days in Seacroft during October and November. These took place in the Eastdeans, Hansbys and the two Seacroft Gate blocks. The action day took place on Friday 27th October 2017. Community Payback were involved and undertook general cutting back of shrubs and greenery and cutting back grass encroachments on to pathways. LASBAT, Cleaner Leeds, Environmental Action Housing officers and the Hugo bus attended and assisted in the clean-up. A total of 4 skips were filled with waste and removed. A further multi-agency action day took place on 23rd November, tackling Foundry Mill Street, Foundry Mill Crescent, Foundry Mill Walk and Foundry Mill Terrace.





5. St. Hilda's Church Advice Drop-in in Cross Green will now run until the end of March 2018. The drop-in takes place every second and fourth Monday of the month 1pm-3pm. The drop-in is support by St. Vincent's, Connect for Health, Zest, Cross Green Community Group and Money Buddies. Advisors are available to discuss issues including money and debt, employment and training, local services and housing. Average attendance is 5 people per session and advice has been given on a range of issues including energy comparison, volunteering and employment opportunities, food banks and benefit entitlement, homelessness and domestic abuse. The Communities Team are working towards recruiting volunteers to hold a Community Drop-in to run on every first and third Monday of the month. Possible themes for the drop-in could be local history group, photography, coffee and a chat etc.



- 6. The East Leeds Debt Forum met on 14th November do discuss on-going partnership work around financial inclusion and personal financial management. The meeting of the group is an opportunity for services and organisations who work in this field to share information about on-going work and explore avenues for closer working and signposting. Amongst the issues discussed at the most recent meeting were advances in getting financial awareness issues into local schools. Leeds Credit Union now have links with 31 schools in Leeds, largely through their savings schemes.
- 7. The Joint Inner East and Inner North East Public Health workshop took place on Thursday 5th October 2017. The workshop included attendance from community champions, officers from Public Health and third sector heath partners. The workshop discussed continuing to cover the10% most deprived areas and moving from 4 partnerships to 2 networks that will cover Inner North East and Inner East. The rationale for this change is to develop a more flexible and efficient approach to partnership working, organisations spanning multiple areas, align with community committee areas and to evolve with changes in public health and local communities.

An overview of public health work and initiatives across Inner East is attached to this report as **Appendix 1**.

- 8. Following the confirmation in September that East Leeds had been successful in bringing in £1.5 million from the European Union's Community Led Local Development (CLLD) fund, plans have been progressing to establish the local infrastructure for administering the funding. A CLLD Programme Team has been brought together within the council as the accountable body to oversee the process and the membership of a Local Action Group (LAG) for East Leeds is also nearing completion. The LAG's membership is comprised of representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors and it will act as a decision making body for funding applications that are received for employment and enterprise initiatives in East Leeds.
- 9. Leeds has submitted its first stage bid to become European Capital of Culture 2023. To celebrate, music, food, street entertainment and workshops took place on the 27th October 2018 as Quarry Hill was pedestrianised for the 'Big Send Off'. Live music from groups such as Power of 5, a band of youngsters from South Asian Arts UK performed and added to the great atmosphere as people enjoyed food and refreshments from Leeds Indie Food, North Brew Co. and local restaurants that attended the occasion. The West Yorkshire Playhouse also held activities for children during the event. The decision on the successful bidder is due in the midway through 2018.
- 10. The Inner East Housing Advisory Panel have received 31 funding applications from 1st April 2017 to 3rd November 2017. The Inner East Panel covers the Killingbeck and Seacroft ward. From the 31 applications received to date 4 were deferred, 4 rejected, 4 projects cancelled, 5 at concept stage, 4 in progress and 10 approved. Appendix 2 attached to this report provides an overview of all the IE HAP applications and decisions made to date this financial year. The next Inner East Housing Advisory Panel meeting will be held on 14th December 2017.
- 11. The Outer East Housing Advisory Panel have received 32 funding applications from 1st April 2017 to 3rd November 2017. The Outer East Panel cover Burmantofts & Richmond Hill and Gipton & Harehills. From the 32 applications received 1 was deferred, 5 rejected and 26 approved. Appendix 3 attached to this report provides an overview of all the OE HAP applications and decisions made to date this financial year. The next Outer East Housing Advising Panel meeting will be held on 14th December 2017.

Conclusion

The work of the Communities Team in partnership with council departments, external partners and with elected members is working towards the priorities of the Community Committee and the aspirations of the new neighbourhood improvement approach. This programme of work should be seen as a work in progress which is consolidating the Community Committee's role as a local decision-making body by strengthening the links between the local authority and the communities it serves.

Recommendations

The Committee is requested to:

1. Note the contents of the report and make comment where appropriate.