

Report of: The Area Leader

Report to: Outer East Community Committee (Cross Gates & Whinmoor, Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley, Temple Newsam)

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OUTER EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE – UPDATE REPORT

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To bring to Members' attention an update report on work based on priorities identified by the Community Committee that are not covered elsewhere on this agenda. It also provides opportunities for further questions or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

2 Main issues – update by themes

Update on Children and Families – Cllr Helen Hayden

- 2.1 A sub group meeting took place on the 4 February 2019. Terms of reference were updated, and the Young people also attended to provide information on the activities they enjoyed through the summer and how productive the Youth Activity Funding was for them.
The Youth Activity Funding round 2019/2020 is open for new applications. A further meeting took place on 13 February 2019 to discuss the new Youth Activity applications with Youth Matters, Clusters, Voice and Influence team and Councillors. These will then be sent to the Community Committee for approval.

Update on Employment, Skills and Welfare – Cllr Pauleen Grahame

2.2 The Springs – Thorpe Park

The Springs now has a dedicated vacancy webpage:
thesprings-leeds.co.uk/jobs/

Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair

This was open for young people, parents and carers to attend at Leeds Arena on the 4 March 2019.

Both The Springs and Leeds Apprenticeship Fair were publicised on the Community Committee Facebook page.

Updates on Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care – Cllr Keith Wakefield

2.3 Lunch Clubs

In 2018/19 there were 87 lunch clubs funded across the city with just over 2800 older people receiving a hot, nutritious meal for around 40 weeks of the year.

Leeds Community Foundation, in partnership with Leeds City Council, are pleased to be offering grants to support the vital work of lunch clubs across the city for 2019/20. These grants are specifically for the running costs of lunch clubs and can support new clubs as well as helping existing ones to continue delivering services.

Clubs must run activities in Leeds and be providing regular hot meals to local older people. Funding is awarded as a contribution towards running costs and can help with rent, training, meal costs and volunteer expenses. The scheme cannot cover day trips, home delivery of meals or additional social activities provided by lunch clubs.

The deadline for receipt of applications was 12 noon 14 February 2019. Any queries about the programme can be directed to the Leeds Community Foundation Grants Team on 0113 242 2426 or e-mail grants@leedscf.org.uk

2.4 Healthy Weight Declaration

Last year, Leeds City Council became the first Council in Yorkshire and Humber to adopt the Healthy Weight Declaration and launched it on 1 February. This national charter mark aims to raise the profile of healthy weight across council teams and improve working together to help support more people achieve or maintain a healthy weight. The Healthy Weight Declaration provides a strategic vision and framework to help support the council to exercise its responsibility to promote healthy weight across the city.

The Healthy Weight Declaration consists of 14 commitments and six priorities which were consulted on over several months. These priorities will help spearhead the Declaration and help the council achieve the commitments as well as contribute to Leeds being the best city for health and wellbeing. The priorities are:

- Implementing a Leeds 'Move More' style campaign
- Influencing planning and design for a healthy environment
- Increasing active travel and improving air quality
- Encouraging an active healthy workforce
- Influencing the Councils food offer to promote a healthy weight
- Implementing our local whole school food policy

2.5 Money Buddies

The Money Buddies Service continues to be delivered in locations across the Outer East. Some issues have arisen in terms of the number of people attending sessions in some of the locations and these are currently being reviewed by the Money Buddies Service Manager.

The Money Buddies Service Manager requested a review of the service in Swarcliffe to see how resident awareness of what Money Buddies offer could be raised. A review of Garforth and East Osmondthorpe will also be included within this. Money Buddies are to increase local marketing and promotion of the service linking with local shops, post offices and GPs to increase awareness. Residents in Swarcliffe and East Osmondthorpe are particular target audiences for this promotion as the levels of poverty and deprivation are higher than in some other parts of the ward.

2.6 NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group

NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has developed a proposal for urgent treatment centres for the citizens of Leeds and would like to hear your views.

Over the last few years the NHS have spoken to local people who have advised that it's not always clear who would be best placed to help you, or a loved one, when you're not feeling well or have been injured. This is especially the case where you feel you need to be seen quite quickly but you know it's not an emergency. NHS know that the way services are currently designed to help you in this situation – which are often called urgent care services – are not easy to understand.

Urgent care is care that someone feels is needed on the same day but their illness or injury is not life-threatening. This could include anything from cuts, minor injuries, bites or stings through to mild fevers, vomiting and diarrhoea etc. NHS proposals will help simplify the system for you when you have an urgent care need.

The CCG is encouraging people to feedback their views by completing a survey, available online or in paper format. An event can also be attended. Further details are available on the web page below.

Read the proposals in full and have your say today:
www.leedsccg.nhs.uk/UTCSurvey

The Leeds Big Thank You campaign

This is a new citywide campaign, the 'big thank you / you can be a winter hero'. This is a system-wide campaign that covers the NHS, Leeds City Council, community and voluntary sector organisations, carers and the unsung heroes among our communities. The NHS would hope you will join and support this very compassionate campaign that was recently launched with the Yorkshire Evening Post.

Saying a public thank you to all those in our wards who are helping people stay well this winter.

A message can be written on the website www.bigthankyouleeds.co.uk - you can see the messages we've already received here:

<https://bigthankyouleeds.co.uk/big-thank-you-gallery/>

By sharing posts on social media and at events that you are at, we can all be winter heroes by: looking after our own health, checking in on our elderly or vulnerable neighbours and being prepared for bad weather.

The campaign seeks to encourage people to say a thank you to their winter heroes from all walks of life. This could range from frontline public sector staff, community and voluntary staff as well as people within our communities who look out for others such as unpaid carers or a community connector. At the same time also encouraging people to think about small steps they could take so that they too could be a winter hero. This could include getting a flu jab, looking out for neighbour or planning ahead for any bad weather. This is an opportunity to try an innovative approach to deliver some of the key prevention messages for winter in an effort to reduce wider system pressures.

The support that has been received locally from the NHS in Leeds, Leeds City Council and our community and voluntary sector organisations has been appreciated. Recently West Yorkshire Police, the British Transport Police and the Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust have also joined in.

Many individuals and organisations in your ward and beyond who keep your community and the city going through winter. Now's a great chance to say thanks to them.

A Health Foundation report (December 2018) highlighted how living alone can make older people 50% more likely to find themselves in A&E than those living with family. Pensioners living alone are also 25% more likely to develop a mental health condition. 'Looking out for our Neighbours' aims to change this - by inspiring people to do small things to reach out to the people around them.

The campaign will launch on 15 March across West Yorkshire and Harrogate and has been co-created with over 100 residents in these areas, drawing on their neighbourly experiences. Keep an eye out for more information.

Update on Environment and Community Safety – Cllr Mary Harland

2.7 Environment

The Environmental Sub Group meeting took place on 5 February 2019. The next meetings will take place on 9 April 2019. Krstan Nenadic from Parks will be looking into free tickets for Go Ape for young people which were promised when the development was taking place in Temple Newsam and have not been delivered.

A meeting has been requested with Highways to discuss the process of grit bins to make it more efficient, effective and simple which was scheduled to take place on 25 February 2019.

Grit Bins Update

The service have advised that the grit bins get refilled once a year approximately in September. They have requested that ward members check the grit bins prior to this and feedback which bins need refilling which will be completed in October.

2.8 Cross Gates & Whinmoor and Temple Newsam wards

The Cleaner Neighbourhood Team continue to work strongly as a team ensuring that the streets of Cross Gates & Whinmoor and Temple Newsam wards are kept clear of waste, litter and fly tipping.

Month	FlyTipping Cross Gates	Bulky Service Collections Cross Gates	FlyTipping Halton Moor	Bulky Service Collections Halton Moor
December	41	12	41	9
January	36	27	36	21
February	6	8	18	3
Total	83	47	95	33

The team's priorities this year are working with local schools to educate children about the environment.

They are planning to work with volunteer groups and are waiting to book dates in with Friends of Pendas and Halton in Bloom.

Working with partners, the service has a clean-up day booked in with Housing and are waiting to hear from Parks and Countryside to work together at Temple Newsam.

The directorate is working on a fly-tipping strategy to combat the amounts of fly-tipping left in our neighbourhoods.

Areas have their own dedicated litter-pickers this is proving very popular with staff and residents.

A dedicated Enforcement Officer has been allocated on the wards who is dealing with fly-tipping prosecutions. The main bulk of her work is waste and bonfire issues in private gardens and duty of care visits to local businesses.

The team plan to do some patrols to reduce dog fouling this will be done through education and fixed penalty notices.

2.9 Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley wards

The teams have been working hard in the areas to deal with the issues that are faced. The reduced numbers compared to previous reports suggest the team is more pro-active in the way they work. Over the winter period the team have

been concentrating on reinstating some of the ginnels that have been neglected in the area and have successfully achieved this over the wards.

They have been out litter picking in the area a lot more and are looking to get more involved with the many community groups and what they do across both wards.

A new Chargehand post has been implemented in the ward areas working with the team and is bringing fresh new ideas.

The team have dealt with 42 pro-active jobs in the time frame all fly tipping instances around the ward areas.

Description	Garforth	Kippax
Scheduled Bulky Collection	53	61
Fly Tip	27	36
Dog Fouling	4	9
Footpath Sweeping	1	1
Graffiti	1	1
Housing communal Area Maintenance	1	1
Housing Void Garden	2	3
Litter Bin Empty	0	1
Litter Bin Repair	0	2
Litter Complaint	6	3
Overgrown Vegetation	1	2
Road Sweeping	3	3
Dead Animal Removal	0	1

Housing update

2.10 Voids Levels (empty properties)

Demand in all areas remains high. Applicants on Band A bidding for a 2 bed property can wait in Cross Gates and Whinmoor ward an average of 55 weeks, Garforth and Swillington ward an average of 45 weeks, Kippax and Methley ward an average of 58 weeks, and Temple Newsam ward an average 36 weeks.

Sheltered complexes such as Cross Hills Court in Kippax and Sherburn Court and Naburn Court in Whinmoor have proved difficult to let. Certain property types, in particular complexes and bedsit are hard to let due to lack of demand for this type of accommodation. For Cross Hills Court and Naburn Court this is down mainly to the style of the blocks. In the case of Cross Hills Court it is due to the number of bedsits for which there is little or no demand.

There are a high proportion of adapted and sheltered properties in this area which take time to allocate due to matching needs of customers with properties. In Halton Moor/Osmondthorpe in particular there have been concerns with property condition and disrepair, which affects void levels.

2.11 New builds: Red Kite Row, Whinmoor

This site consists of 22 new build 2 bed houses – all let 2018. The breakdown of the allocations are;

- 12 properties allocated to LCC tenants living in the ward.
- 5 properties allocated to applicants living in the ward (not LCC tenants, overcrowded).
- 5 properties allocated to applicants living outside the ward (not LCC tenants but having a local connection to the area, most of which related to working in the area and another with close family connections).

2.12 New builds: The Nevilles, Temple Newsam ward

Due to start in April 2019. Consultation has taken place with existing applicants and a further public consultation took place at the end of January 2019 in the local area in order to agree the terms of the Local Lettings Policy.

Continued work is being undertaken to reduce void levels by advertising properties on notice, viewing in repair when safe to do so, and maintaining deadlines for customer proofs and contact. Multiple viewings are undertaken on properties which are being refused regularly. Viewings, sign ups and final fixes are a priority.

Since April 2018 the number of properties we have allocated is as follows:

- Swarcliffe/Whinmoor: 110,
 - Halton Moor/Osmondthorpe: 67
 - Kippax/Garforth: 108
- Total: 285

2.13 Income Collection

Rent collection continues to be a high priority and currently Kippax is in 3rd position behind the Wetherby and Pudsey offices and all staff are working hard to become best performers across the city. Cases are being processed to Court if required at the earliest opportunity to try and reduce the impact of high arrears.

Halton Moor / Osmondthorpe collection rate has taken a dip from the same time last year, with a decline of 0.22%. Since October 2018 there has been a large increase in Universal Credit claims and this is having an impact on rent collection. The team are constantly bringing new ideas to improve performance and make this their highest priority on a weekly basis. Swarcliffe's collection rate has made an improvement of 0.10%.

Universal Credit cases are coming through at a steady pace with Kippax having 35, Halton Moor / Osmondthorpe 76 and Swarcliffe 94. All cases are being contacted immediately by the Enhanced Income Team and given guidance and advice on what is expected of the customer and applying for alternative payment arrangements where required.

2.14 Office Collection Rate

Kippax / Garforth	98.15%
Swarcliffe / Whinmoor	96.51%

Halton Moor / Osmondthorpe	96.04%
City average	96.95%

2.15 Annual Home Visits

Significant progress has been made on annual home visits from all three offices and are on target to complete the majority of their visits before year end. Kippax and Swarcliffe remain slightly behind our target figure and in some cases access still remains a problem. We continue to identify some support needs and Housing Officers work very closely with Housing Support and the Enhanced Income Team to provide help and support to those in need. Housing Officers have been asked to concentrate on ensuring that we visit any property where we have been unable to carry out an Annual Home Visit within the last 2 years and one where we have just managed to gain access has resulted in us making a Safeguarding referral due to the conditions within the property and the impact it might have on the young children living there.

Office	Annual home visits completed
Kippax / Garforth	95.15% (1,157)
Swarcliffe / Whinmoor	94.55% (1,717)
Halton Moor / Osmondthorpe	98.00% (1,369)
City total	93.16% (47,120)

2.16 Environmental Actions undertaken by Housing Leeds

Environment Quarter 4 2018/19 (Swarcliffe, Halton Moor and Kippax)

A clean-up day is due to be arranged for the Neville Place/Halton Moor Avenue area in March 2019.

A small group of residents from Lakeland Court have formed a gardening group and so far they have carried out some clearance work in the area. A skip has been requested from the Community Committee.

Grass maintenance issues have hopefully been resolved in the Hebden's area in Whinmoor following a joint meeting with Parks and Countryside. A schedule of winter works was produced last year and Parks and Countryside are continuing work outstanding in order to bring areas of maintained land, which have become overgrown for various reasons over the years, back up to a standard so that they can be brought back onto the grounds maintenance contract.

Staff continue to work closely with the Enforcement Officer from Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team in tackling both private and LCC untidy gardens. The Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team have also completed the training of some of their operatives to address self-seeders on a permanent basis and they are developing a programme of works, in liaison with the Team Leaders.

2.17 Outer East Housing Advisory Panel

Outer South East Tenant Engagement now has its own Facebook page which is Adele Tenant Engagement. Here you will find information on all things tenant engagement in the outer south east area.

The Panel has a budget of £5.5k. The last meeting took place 11 February at Elland Road where they received a presentation and update on Halton Moor Kicks Programme.

Cross Gates & Whinmoor ward

- Work has been completed around the external communal areas of Whitelaithe Court at the residents request
- TV now installed in the communal area at Whitelaithe Court which will mean more activities for resident's film club etc.
- Baildon Close HAP have funded additional communal bins to alleviate issues of side waste

Garforth & Swillington ward

- Currently developing a HAP bid to install an additional lighting column at Westbourne Crescent / Ringway ginnel
- Westbourne Community Centre – Work completed to rear of the centre to alleviate drain issues
- Westbourne Community Group, currently exploring with the group how to access Wi-Fi at the centre/run digital inclusion classes

Kippax & Methley ward

- Work commenced on Embleton play area in February
- Micklefield TARA a number of the group are attending Housing Leeds basic first aid course
- Looking into supporting Micklefield TARA with running a digital inclusion course
- Awaiting back from Micklefield Parish Council to carry out some joint consultation on the proposed outside gym area at Churchville House

Temple Newsam ward

- Green Guardians garden scheme for Halton Moor / Wykebeck's and Neville's on track to commence the scheme in April which will run until September.
- HAP schemes agreed are Lakeland Court white line the car park and also Ingleton Drive to tarmac two small greenspaces as you drive in as these were being driven over and getting churned up.
- Lakeland Court continue to work with a small gardening group of residents who are carrying external communal improvements, have not as yet succeeded in getting them formalised so they can have greater access to funding, but will continue to support
- Neville's new builds consultation on the Local Lettings Policy for these has now closed. Build on site due to start April more consultation will be planned with residents who may be affected by the build

Update from Youth Service

2.18 Cross Gates and Whinmoor ward

October half term – Young people having been consulted took part in trips and visits over the October half term period.

Youth Workers continue to address any issues around anti-social behaviour with young people, recently working with police to disperse a group of young people from local shops some of whom were carrying fireworks, the majority of the young people live in different wards. This now seems to be resolved and they continue to monitor, including touching base with shopkeepers.

Youth Workers are also working with young people around personal safety during the dark evenings and also reminding those to keep their phones charged, letting parents/carers know where they are.

Youth Matters

The Group are based in Swarcliffe Community Centre and engage in various programmes and projects including:

- Mental Health Awareness Week
- Attending Forums
- Make Your Mark
- Boxing & Fitness
- Poster Design for Make it Happen Event
- Youth Activity Consultations

Young people are undertaking a 20 module Senior Member training course to include:

- 'What is the role of a Youth Worker'
- 'Role of a Senior Member'
- 'Child Protection & Safeguarding'
- 'Peer Mentoring'
- 'Budgeting'
- 'Voice & Influence'

2.19 Garforth and Swillington / Kippax and Methley wards

- Youth Activity Funded trips out in October half term to Lightwater Valley for the Halloween scarefest, Xscape bowling and Cineworld were a great success. Each of the trips were full with 54 young people from across the wards attending the theme park trip.
- The decision making group "YPmyG" (young people my group) attended the "Make it Happen" event at Swarcliffe community centre. They also met with Kippax & Methley ward members in a Q&A session.
- The "Kippax Kicks" football session in partnership with the Leeds Utd Foundation commenced at Kippax Leisure Centre. The session was on a three month trial period (Sep-Dec 18).
- Young people from Micklefield have participated in the "take over day" by working in Allerton Bywater youth club. They ran the session doing the tuck shop, signing young people in, challenging behaviour, running activities and clearing up at the end of the session.

2.20 Temple Newsam ward

- Young people consulted took part in Trips and visits during the October Half term
- Youth Workers supporting the KICKS Programme based at Meadowfield Primary School, signposting young people to the programme, addressing any issues around ASB during the session.
- Youth Matters Group

- Make Your Mark
- Youth Activity consultations
- Online safety
- Attending the Make it Happen event

3.0 **Community engagement**

A review of the community forums in the area has been completed which has been successful and the following schedules are now available:

- Manston and Swarcliffe Forum dates:
 - 24 January 2019
 - 4 April 2019
- Whinmoor Forum dates:
 - 17 January 2019
 - 18 April 2019
- Garforth and Swillington Forum
 - 15 April 2019
- Temple Newsam Communities Together:
 - 30 January 2019
 - 19 June 2019

4.0 **Social Media**

Highlights of the Outer East Community Committee Facebook activity from 16 Nov 2018 to 12 Feb 2019 is included in **Appendix 1**. It gives details of the most popular post ('post clicks' to expand the text + 'reactions, comments or shares') during this period.

5.0 **Recommendations**

Members are asked to note the content of the report and make comment as appropriate.

6.0 **Background documents**

There are no background documents associated with this paper.