

Report of: Head of Locality Partnerships

Report to: Outer East Community Committee
Crossgates & Whinmoor, Garforth & Swillington, Kippax & Methley,
Temple Newsam

Report author: Oliver Taylor, Localities Officer, 0113 37 89953

Date: 3rd March 2026 **For decision**

Outer East Community Committee – Forward Plan 2025/26

Purpose of report

1. This report introduces the Outer East Community Committee Forward Plan for 2025/26. The plan details the agreed Community Committee meeting dates and sets out Champion themes, as well as providing an update on engagement activity with local communities.
2. The report also highlights the role of the Community Committee Champions and the work of the Community Committee in relation to the Council Constitution and associated delegations which are managed through its delivery group structure.

Main issues

3. Leeds City Council has agreed a constitution which sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent, and accountable to local people.
4. Community Committees are an established structure through which such formal decision making takes place at a local level, involving all of the councillors from the wards within each committee area.
5. A number of functions have been identified that the Community Committees are to hold responsibility for, which include:
 - Wellbeing Fund
 - Youth Activity Fund
 - Capital Budget
 - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Neighbourhood Fund

6. The appointment of Champions to specific themes provides clearer role responsibility to Elected Members and enables more focussed outcomes through relevant work programmes.
7. The Outer East Community Committee is recommended to put in place a structure of Delivery Groups one per theme. This will provide opportunities for support, partnership working, and collaborative outputs throughout the municipal year. The agreed Champion themes are as follows:
 - Children's Services
 - Community Safety
 - Environment
 - Health, Wellbeing & Adult Social Care
8. Champions will drive the work of the Community Committee through these themed Delivery Groups, whilst providing local leadership for each theme.
9. Community Committee Chairs will be kept abreast of work programmes through the four scheduled committee meetings whilst providing ongoing support to the Champions throughout the course of the municipal year.
10. Champions will be a vital link with services, working closely with service leads and the relevant Executive Member to drive local engagement and improvements to deliver positive outcomes for communities.
11. Champions and partners will work to increase engagement with local people, organisations, and community groups, through a work programme to include themed engagement activities each municipal year.
12. Updates on the activity of the themed work programmes will be delivered to the Community Committee by each Champion throughout the municipal year at the scheduled meetings.
13. The Council also supports locality working within six priority wards as an essential component of work within Safer Stronger Communities. These six priority wards are: Armley, Beeston & Holbeck, Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton & Harehills, Hunslet & Riverside, and Killingbeck & Seacroft.
14. Locality working in these areas demonstrates the benefits of working in collaboration with external groups and council partners to collectively develop local plans, projects, and improvements. The Community Committee Forward Plans are encouraged to compliment the strategic work of the priority wards, where relevant to the committee area.
15. The draft Forward Plan is included as **Appendix 1** for Outer East Community Committee. Members are asked to consider the Forward Plan and agree themes and champions for the municipal year 2025/26.

Corporate Considerations Consultation and Engagement

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

Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration

17. All work that the Communities Team are involved in is assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion, and Integration. In addition, the Communities Team ensures that the wellbeing process for funding of projects complies with all relevant policies and legislation.

Council Polices and City Priorities

18. Projects that the Communities Team are involved in are assessed to ensure that they are in line with Council and City priorities as set out in the following documents:

1. Best City Ambition
2. Health and Wellbeing Strategy
3. Children and Young People's Plan
4. Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2024-27
5. Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy

Resources and Value for Money

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

Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

Risk Management

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

Conclusions

22. The report provides information on key areas of work/priorities for the Community Committee.

Recommendations

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

Background documents¹

24. There are no background documents associated with this report.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.