

## Shiptley Localities Plan progress update November 2023

Bradford District Priority Outcomes 2021-25	Shiptley Locality Wide Priorities 2022-25
Better Skills, More Good Jobs and a Growing Economy	1.1 We will work to improve links between formal training providers and the community and business sectors (WF)
	<p><b>Progress:</b></p> <p>The 'Shiptley Area Skills &amp; Employment Partnership' was formed in December last year. Key partners are the Area Office, SkillsHouse, Shiptley College, the Department for Work &amp; Pensions and Incommunities. The wider mailing list includes all Shiptley area upper schools together with organisations involved in social innovation, local enterprise, and the community and voluntary sector. In recent times the partnership has been chaired jointly by the Area Office and SkillsHouse.</p> <p>The culmination of the partnership's work is 'Shiptley Area Futures Unlocked', a pilot careers, skills and training event at Shiptley College on Thursday 9 November. A range of employers will be in attendance, all with current vacancies, including West Yorkshire Police, Incommunities, Bradford Council, Co-op Food Stores, Bradford District Care Trust, Civil Service, Shiptley College, Bradford Care Homes Association and a number of smaller, local employers. There will also be opportunities to improve skills for CVs and interviews, and to sign up for local volunteering work, with input from SkillsHouse, Associated Wellbeing, Realise Training and Octavia Learning. The event will take place from 5pm to 7pm and is open to all.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation will take place after the event to measure its success.</p> <p>Building on the pilot event, the intention is to run a series of smaller, more focused events throughout the Shiptley area, at local community centres or schools. The partnership has also discussed an event to showcase support available for local employers.</p>
	1.2 We will work to improve employability of local people and employment opportunities, including more apprenticeships and business start-ups (PT)
<p><b>Progress:</b></p> <p>Shiptley College Open event on 21<sup>st</sup> June and 7<sup>th</sup> September to promote part time and full-time courses including apprenticeships.</p> <p>Partnership Event 'Shiptley Area Futures Unlocked' at Shiptley College 9 November 2023.</p> <p>Shiptley Library Enterprise Hub launch November 2023.</p>	

### 1.3 We will work to promote the local businesses offer – including town centres (MChu)

#### **Progress:**

##### **Bingley**

Working with partners to identify how to achieve Purple Flag Status in Bingley.

Local Councillors are in full support and a meeting has taken place with partner agencies, some of which already hold Green Flag Status. It is therefore the view that a Purple Flag in Bingley will enhance and increase the local business offer, increase footfall and expenditure and broaden the appeal to wider patronage. This will also made links to the aspirations within the draft development framework for Bingley.

##### **ShIPLEY**

The works on Shipley Library Enterprise Hub are now complete. Official launch 24 November 2023. The new facility will offer resources and advice to local businesses and start-ups, and the space will also be used for meetings and co-working.

#### **Enterprise Hub**

- The Shipley Enterprise Hub will help create new independent businesses which will attract more visitors and spending to the area.
- The hub will increase opportunities for people who are unemployed or looking to make a change and develop their skills.
- In partnership with other local organisations like The Cellar Trust and their Pathway to Employment Program the hub will also be a resource for getting people back to work.

#### **ShIPLEY Towns Fund Business Grants**

Grants designed to help new business start-ups, small, medium and large businesses based in, or looking to locate into Shipley Towns Fund designated area, have been promoted and rolled out by the Invest in Bradford Team.

Grants are available to businesses to undertake investment projects subject to them fulfilling eligible criteria. Projects designed to:

- create new businesses.
- improve productivity.
- expand or diversify existing businesses leading to sustainable growth and job creation.

Businesses can use the grant to invest in business premises, machinery, equipment or property fit out and bringing disused buildings back into use. The following link gives further detailed information on the Towns Fund. <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/regeneration/shipley-towns-fund/projects/>

Decent Homes and the Visible Environment

2.1 We will work to promote rights of tenants (MChu)

**Progress:**

1. Meeting held with Incommunities Housing leads to discuss having a partnership meeting with the Area Office, Police and housing staff to identify key roles and responsibilities to foster a better working relationship.
2. Based on this meeting Incommunities arranged a District Wide 'better together' event attended by senior staff from the three organisations and focussed on the above priorities.
3. Following on from this the Area Office to look to prioritise an event that will identify operational changes to promote and support the rights of tenants as well as to enhance and develop a supportive working relationship.
4. Regular meetings with Ward and Assistant Ward Officers to look at how we can share information to determine best practice for tenants.
5. Looking to attend the Bradford and District Housing Partnership Peoples group.

2.2 We will work to reduce waste and litter around flats and shops (RiC)

**Progress:**

1 Neighbourhood Wardens continue to patrol all areas looking to identify environmental issues. They engage with public and residents to resolve issues including encourage them to be active citizens with the people can campaign. Where there is multiple complaints about litter NHW to explore and plan a day of action for a litter pick in the hotspot areas complained about and encourage/help residents taking part to set up a neighbourhood litter picking group.

2 Litter in and around multi-occupancy flats and gardens are reported to the housing provider and monitored.

Household waste - Neighbourhood Wardens offer advice to tenants/landlords/owners/management letting agents – issue leaflets, standard letters, and referral to waste collection bin policy enforcement for further action.

2.3 We will work to support flood plans across the Locality (RiC)

**Progress:**

Neighbourhood services were on the frontline dealing with issues relating to Storm Babet. Assistant ward officers and wardens providing practical assistance and reassurance and cleansing teams clearing up debris particularly in the Bingley area. Ward officers and Emergency planning to review and update local flood plans to ensure they are fully prepared for future storms.

Good Start, Great Schools

**3.1 We will work to reduce the number of children and young people experiencing poor mental health, including high incidents self-harm (FR)**

**Progress:**

- Healthy Minds is a Bradford District & Craven (BD&C) Health Community Partnership priority
- In addition, BD&C have adopted 'adversity, trauma and resilience in Children & Young People (CYP) as a local priority for reducing healthcare inequalities (in addition to national Core20+5 framework priorities)
- Two year whole school approved for supporting mental and emotional wellbeing in schools in 1<sup>st</sup> IMD (Index of multiple deprivation) areas funded by Core20+5 monies (but will only impact Glenaire PS in Shipley)
- A number of current Community Partnership projects are focussed on CYP emotional and mental health projects:
  - CYP holistic service (clinical and / or non-clinical support as required) delivered by Affinity Care and WISHH Primary Care Networks and their social prescribers provided by HALE
    - Teen boys group run by the Youth Service in Bingley
    - UNIQUE support programme for Year 6 pupils being piloted in the WISHH area (Shipley CofE, Windhill Community Centre started, another venue to be determined)
    - Zen Den at Bolton Woods Community Centre (relaxation and mindfulness activities plus food)
    - Various small grants for CYP related work

**Feeling Safe Project**

- Development of an 18 – 25 group aimed to addresses the increase of young people in the Shipley Constituency presenting with issues relating to self-harm and suicide.
- Holistic project that works directly with young people to address the needs and identity gaps.
- Development of a Youth Voice mechanism to ensure better support within services.
- Partnership in development with Incommunities and Health Minds.

**3.2 We will work to enhance partnership working and communication between all schools and colleges with wider agencies and businesses (FR)**

See 1.1 as closely linked

**Citizen Coin**

Citizen Coin to launch in Shipley College, working as a rewarder (promoting opportunities) and retailer (in-house rewards) to encourage engagement in volunteering and social engagement in the local community.

- Partnership in development with Shipley College Business Department to train up students to develop and lead on Citizen Coin with the Shipley Constituency and build relationships with local businesses.

- The Area Committee has committed £10k to the Stronger Communities Team to deliver on volunteering and promoting the Citizen Coin initiative

### 3.3 We will work to increase opportunities for hearing and acting on the voice of children and young people, particularly in respect of decisions that affect their lives (CB)

#### **Progress:**

Recent 'Listen In Shipley' involvement programme included visits to a number of Shipley groups that support our CYP

Voice and Influence:

- Windhill & Wrose Wetlands Project – young people involved in the consultation
- Young people involved in a district wide consultation about their feelings about their neighbourhoods and safety concerns.

**Case study:** Young people from Windhill and surrounding area were seen by residents as causing antisocial behaviour riding quadbikes. These young people were not engaged and were causing quite a bit of disruption and damage. To reduce this problem funding was obtained to engage with them. This led to developing a theatre project – run by Commonwealth Theatre Company. The following link outlines the story of the young people and the theatre project they participated in:

[https://youtu.be/ZOyek\\_teVq0?si=EzYV\\_G\\_iH4I\\_MnHK](https://youtu.be/ZOyek_teVq0?si=EzYV_G_iH4I_MnHK)

The young people in the show had never engaged with the arts before - and it provided them with confidence, a voice, fun, friendship, skills etc... they're now working towards another show with another youth group for the spring. All the boys were volunteer stewards at lister park's Lantern Parade - it's clear that the opportunity is having a long term impact for them and opening up other opportunities for them. Huge difference!!! See below feedback.

"It made me think about young people and the lack of support they have, the impact of cuts on funding for youth services, but also about how young people create and survive in spite of this"

"Powerful words that help to challenge your perceptions"

"I know the work that has gone into producing something of this calibre - brave insights from all the young performers"

"Thought-provoking, modern and inclusive."

"It made me think about local politics and kids today and the lack of help"

"A powerful performance about a real issue"

“You don’t have to leave Bradford to achieve your dreams”

“Contemporary and reflective. Hearing the aspirations of the young people was the greatest part”

“Excellent. A confident and brave performance”

“It made me feel heard, in an imperfect, comforting way”

“Some of the statistics shocked me... loved the platforming of the young people telling their stories - real, important and owning the stage”

“It made me feel emotional - it dragged up memories from the past for me”

“It made me think about the lives behind the headlines, and what leads to that confrontation between the law and people’s lives”

“It made me see the link between poverty and crime, and how young people’s challenges are, and how they feel”

“Great content and well presented. Life can be hard for people when put under pressure and constantly judged”.

“Felt completely immersed in it from the start – what a performance! Amazing to hear directly from young people in such a creative way”.

“Inspiring, amazing, passionate. The stories were so personal, I felt privileged to witness the young people sharing them”

85% of audiences who gave feedback said that **the subject of the production was directly relevant** to them.

The theatre initiative was part of a wider strategy to reduce the issue of nuisance bikes and quads, with actions delivered by the police, council and other partners. This has led to a reduction of reporting of related anti-social behaviour within Windhill & Wrose from 220 reports in 2021 to 102 reports in 2023.

Better Health, Better Lives	<b>4.1 We will work to increase use of social prescribing and awareness campaigns (SD/MChu)</b>
	<p><b>Progress:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased levels of social prescribing resource in WISHH and Affinity Care Primary Care Networks for 23/24, including CYP social prescribing in WISHH CP for the first time</li> <li>• Shipley Wellbeing Hub continues to grow as part of the BD&amp;C Wellbeing Hub Network</li> <li>• Bingley Mini Wellbeing Hub to open at Canalside Medical Centre from early November</li> </ul> <p>Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local community partnerships now all have social media presence (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) and help to circulate relevant local, system and national health messages, information and events</li> <li>• Shipley Library Health &amp; Wellbeing event in July, including health-checks (further health check events to be undertaken)</li> </ul>
	<b>4.2 We will work to increase the number of people accessing Living Well and wider support within the VCS (SD/FS)</b>
	<p><b>Progress:</b></p> <p>Living Well is one of BD&amp;C HCP's enabling programmes, with its own board, strategy, partnership arrangements and programmes of work – see website for the wide range of great working going on under the Living Well banner <a href="http://mylivingwell.co.uk">Home - Living Well (mylivingwell.co.uk)</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for the VCSE sector via <a href="http://HERE4BDCC">HERE4BDCC</a> <a href="http://Introducing Here 4 BDCC! - Community Action Bradford &amp; District (cabad.org.uk)">Introducing Here 4 BDCC! - Community Action Bradford &amp; District (cabad.org.uk)</a> – networking event held in Shipley in October</li> <li>• WISHH and Affinity Care Community Partnerships are launching 2 year community centre health partnership projects which will support centres in the Shipley area to increase their offers of health and wellbeing related activities and to help develop the longer-term sustainability of the centres themselves.</li> </ul>
	<b>4.3 We will work to ensure that older people and people with disabilities enjoy active, happy and fulfilling lives (SD/PK)</b>
	<p><b>Progress:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Care Home Links project working with care homes to understand and support them with ensuring residents continue to have access to community based activities</li> <li>• Bingley Bubble community partnership has been awarded funding for a community transport project (recruitment and training of volunteer mini-bus drivers, plus transport related small grants)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affinity Care community partnership have funding for a Dementia &amp; Brain Health project with a particular focus on reducing inequalities</li> <li>• Various small grants for work with elders and / or disabled</li> </ul>
<p>Safe, Strong and Active Communities</p>	<p>5.1 We will work to respond appropriately to the voices of Communities of Interest and promote inclusivity and diversity (PK)</p> <p><b>Progress:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stronger Communities Team have recently undertaken consultation on our Bradford For Everyone Strategy 2024-2030 carrying out a number of larger and smaller scale focus groups within the Shipley Locality. On a District wide level we have consulted, in varying depth, 1456 people, included those who responded to our online survey. In Shipley alone we consulted, in person, with a minimum of 112 people (plus those from Shipley who carried out the online survey) by holding a stall in Shipley Market Square on 10/7/23, a public session at Burley In Wharfedale Library on 24/7, and others. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ From this we have collated and safeguarded a large number of place-based responses which can be referred to by others if they are deemed to be useful.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Strategy development is well underway and is due for sign off from the Wellbeing Board on 19/3/2024.</li> <li>• The Strategy and delivery plan will be shared once signed off.</li> <li>• Moving forward, each year, Stronger Communities plan to carry out a small scale ‘pulse check’ in localities and within communities of interest to track the delivery of the strategy against the views of residents – the results of which can be fed back into the Locality Teams</li> <li>• Shipley Library Garden - Working with NEET, Shipley in Bloom and Kirkgate Gardening group to improve the Library garden. Groups have been working on this throughout the summer and this includes people who are neurodivergent, living with dementia, and people with learning disabilities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Case study example of an community of experience</b></p> <p>Bingley Menopause Group</p> <p>There is a growing local, district and national recognition that the menopause has huge</p>

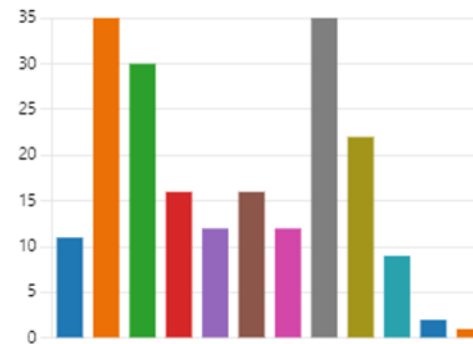


implications, not just for women but family, friends and work.  
 The Bingley Menopause group has an on line presence of 600 + women who regularly post a vast array of symptoms and medical concerns and are crying out for help.  
 The Ward Officer approached the lead contact to find out whether they'd be interested in face to face meetings and following a survey to members (see below) we decided to go ahead.

### 3. Thinking of a menopause group what initially three issues would be key for you at these events

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The group now meet monthly and are working with a range of health professionals to address key concerns and identify best practice in supporting families across the locality.

### **CASE STUDY - Creating a Safe space with young people: Establishing an LGBTQ+ Youth Group in Shipley**

Bradford Youth Service working in collaboration with the Equity Partnership (an LGBTQ+ organisation based in Bradford) aimed to address the needs of LGBTQ+ youth, in the Shipley constituency. The need for an LGBTQ+ youth inclusive space was expressed directly by young people, who currently accessed Bradford Youth Service provision. They wanted a more localised provision for young people in the Shipley area. Although Bradford Youth Service provide youth opportunities that are inclusive to all, many LGBTQ+ youth felt that having a specific space were LGBTQ+ youth can explore and express their

identities, without fear of discrimination, bullying, or prejudice and works to address the unique challenges that LGBTQ+ youth may face.

Frontline youth workers, who work directly with young people in schools and communities, felt that a more localised LGBTQ+ support service would help address barriers to young people accessing support and provide a local alternative. Youth workers were signposting young people to services and Bradford and Keighley and had seen a low intake in young people engaging in the projects mainly due to accessibility. The SOUND LGBTQ+ youth group runs from the centre of Shipley. Since its launch it has worked with over 50 young people. The group is delivered by LGBTQ+ youth work staff who facilitate a peer support aspect to the group. Fostering a peer support environment allows for young people to develop better connections with their peers, share similar experiences and challenges and receive peer support. The peer support aspect is the heart of the group and has helped young people reduce feelings of isolation and fostered a sense of belonging. The space provides young people the opportunity to explore their sexual orientation and gender identity in a supportive and non-judgmental environment.

Youth workers had seen an increase in LGBTQ+ youth seeking specific support relating to gender transitioning – medical and non-medical and expressed the lack of knowledge and support. Bradford Youth Service staff received LGBTQ+ awareness training to help increase knowledge and information in supporting LGBTQ+ youth. The training was delivered through the partnership with the Equity Partnership and aimed to increase staff skills and enhance knowledge in supporting LGBTQ+ youth. The space allowed for honest open conversations and explored the barriers of language, understanding identity, making spaces inclusive and provided practical resources and support to frontline staff.

#### **CASE STUDY – Young people accessing LGBTQ+ provision.**

Some young people attending have had histories of self-harm and even suicide attempts due to the challenges they face in understanding and expressing their gender identity. They sometimes are disengaged from education and face rejection from their family, which contribute to feelings of isolation and despair. They may also get themselves into dangerous situations, making connections online and meeting up with people and experimenting with drugs and alcohol.

Young people usually discover the local LGBTQ+ youth peer support group via local youth workers. Recognising the need for support and understanding their engagement needs, youth workers make contact to discuss how best to support the young person. The staff offer to meet with the young person 30mins before the session as this helps build confidence. This is something that is offered to all new members who attend, they can come alone, with parents or support worker. The young people often do attend with their parent. This allows for parents and young person to talk about hope, fears, concerns and help address further areas of support.

Young people engage in the peer support group, which provides a safe and inclusive environment where young people can openly discuss their struggles, fears, and experiences without fear of judgment. One to one support is accessed through the group to help manage and support engagement, The space is vital in helping them feel accepted and validated but the struggles with their own emotional wellbeing need to be supported to encourage engagement. Through the group, young people find peers who share similar

experiences and offer empathetic understanding. These connections provided a sense of belonging and help reduce their feelings of isolation.

The group facilitate sessions and discussions on gender identity, online safety, mental health, confidence building and identity work, helping young people explore and understand their own identity better. This process of self-discovery is essential for their personal growth and self-acceptance. Recognising the mental health challenges young people face, the peer support group can connect them with mental health resources and signpost to services who specialized in LGBTQ+ youth and mental health. Being involved in regular discussions regarding mental health and emotional well-being help play a significant role in improving their overall mental well-being and resilience.

Over time, with support and guidance, young people find the courage to communicate with their family about their gender identity. While the process is challenging, they receive support from staff and their peers and ultimately achieve some level of understanding and acceptance. Parents often contact staff for support regarding behaviour management and areas of concerns regarding wellbeing. As a result of this parents may access training through a parenting group to help better manage behaviour.

Engaging with the youth group allows young people to access new opportunities such as helping organise LGBTQ+ event such as Pride and trans related events and activities. This helps empower young people to become advocates for other LGBTQ+ youth. Via the group young people actively volunteer and become members of new groups. They also often engage better in their education settings.

This case study demonstrates the profound impact that a supportive and inclusive LGBTQ+ youth peer support group can have on individuals facing complex challenges related to their sexual and gender identities. Areas such as identity, mental health, and break down in family communication are common themes for LGBTQ+ youth. Through empowerment, understanding, community engagement and partnership working, young people can find the resilience and potential for growth that can be fostered in the face of adversity with the support of a caring and inclusive youth worker.

5.2 We will work to reduce domestic abuse, hate crime and sexual violence (AR)

	<p><b>Progress:</b>  We are taking the following actions:  a) Schools adopt Operation Encompass to increase support offer to children and young people victims of domestic abuse  All schools approached in Shipley constituency.  b) Train frontline staff to identify and understand domestic abuse cases and how to report them.  Neighbourhood Warden, Assistant Ward Officers and Ward Officers, Parks staff and Cleansing staff now completed training.  c) Youth Service are providing positive relationships awareness to groups of young people.  d) Report on Hate Crime to Shipley Area Committee (08/11/23)</p> <p>Ongoing offer within the open access and targeting sessions within Council Youth Service and voluntary sector provision</p> <p><b>Case study example:</b>  Ask Angela</p> <p>Bingley has a lively and very popular nighttime economy and following a discussion with the Local NPT Sergeant the Ward Officer agreed work together to establish Bingley as a safe space to visit for both sexes but especially women and girls.  The Ward Officer in partnership with the NPT Sergeant set up a number of training and awareness sessions for pubs and bars in Bingley Town Centre.  We are now working with the central Community Safety Team to identify how we can ensure there is a quality assurance process to ensure that premises on the scheme are kept up to date with their training and awareness.  We are currently seeking to provide premises with an annual accreditation certificate once they comply with a structured checklist and pass a 'mystery shopper' visit.</p>
	<p><b>5.3.1 Promoting existing strengths and good practice between partners across the Shipley Area (MChu)</b></p> <p><b>Progress:</b>  Shipley Big Team Meeting planned for late Jan 2024  Increased local health and wellbeing messaging and information via Community Partnership social media.</p>
	<p><b>5.3.2 Piloting a referral pathway for individuals with low level needs into community led provision locally (MiC)</b></p>

**Progress:**

A new pathway was developed firstly in BD18. This has been called Neighbourhood Connect. Since it has been adopted across Shipley Area and Adult Services are they main agency currently referring in. There have been over 40 referrals from Adult Services in Shipley. Adult Services refer in people who do not meet their threshold for support. A Neighbourhood Warden or other member of staff in Neighbourhoods makes contact with the referee and works with them to connect them into local support. The neighbourhood service also closely links this to 5.3 where we map local need and where there are gaps look to fill them. The concept has proved very popular and since initially starting in Shipley has been taken up by all 5 Neighbourhood Area Teams.

Neighbourhood Connect has enabled us to work hand in hand first and foremost with our communities and, with appropriate voluntary, community, faith and statutory services to provide early help and interventions for individuals to alter and improve their health outcomes and overall well-being.

Cases have varied in complexity, some have had to be passed to specialist services to take over where specific support is required, whilst others have benefitted from signposting or engaging in a strength-based conversation to improve individual well-being, resilience and connectivity.

The Neighbourhood Service team (WO/AWO and Wardens) have taken on the role of community agents, demonstrating knowledge of local people, places and resources and building on existing relationships by engaging with people on issues that matter to them and helping them to deal with their own circumstances in better ways.

Primarily, this starts with a good conversation and discovering the person behind the issues or circumstances they find themselves in and then supporting them to find their own strengths and solutions. Acting as the interface with, for example, housing colleagues or health colleagues, we are joining up the dots between services and providing a more efficient service wherever possible.

So far, most cases, have come from adult services and the age profile has been over 65, however, some younger people are being referred too. We are finding that people are responding better to resources and solutions that are close to their front door from a practical and financial perspective as well as a confidence perspective, but some are willing and able to travel further afield.

Some individuals who were feeling lonely or isolated and finding it difficult to get out and about, have benefited immensely from very minimal interventions via Neighbourhood Connect, whilst others have needed much more support to walk through new doors. Examples of activities have included cook and eat sessions, book groups, church groups as well as linking individuals to the local well-being hub to get assistance from advisors with housing issues, financial issues or whatever circumstances were

overshadowing their ability to get back on their feet or become active in their communities. Feedback from individuals is demonstrating that Neighbourhood Connect is having some positive impacts, especially related to feelings of wellness (see below example cases).

Elderly female from Wrose:

“It’s been lovely to just talk about my hobbies and share memories of all the things I used to be involved in when I was more active and had better health. My brain is still active and I just want to have someone to talk to because loneliness is a killer – I can read books on my own, or do crosswords, but I want conversation – good conversation. I am looking forward to getting a buddy in the next few weeks so I can talk with them and may be even venture out too!”

Male in his late 50s

“Just wanted to say thank you for today. I’ve had a really good morning and many new doors have been opened to give me opportunities to get out and about with new friends. Also my spiritual needs have been met which is a blessing, so thank you very much and I will keep you updated.”

Individuals have become more open to looking after themselves better, engaging with services better, and they are generally feeling more positive. It is hoped that in time, these connections will have a ripple effect and individuals will become the catalysts to help others in their neighbourhoods.

For the Neighbourhood Service, Neighbourhood Connect has resulted in better communication and linking between internal teams to improve efficiency. We are learning more about what each service provides and then we are combining services to save money and time. It is still early days and there is a lot to learn and do differently. There have been some challenges and gaps in services identified, for example, provision for young adults (18-25) and the common theme of financial hardship for many individuals is emerging. Transport has come up time and time again as an issue, however, as a result of our localities approach to Neighbourhood Connect, we are already trying to find solutions by working in collaboration with Community Partnerships and other partners.

**5.3.3 Map local community offer by ward and seek to further develop to meet local needs (All)**

**Progress:**  
All Ward Partnerships have considered their local offer and are active in filling gaps in provision identified.

**Case study:**  
The Bingley and Rural men's shed was officially opened on April 18th 2023 and membership of the shed has increased steadily from its original group of volunteers. The Assistant Ward Officer identified the lack

of provision for men to get together in an informal setting that would help to address symptoms of isolation, loneliness and depression. The Men's shed works on a self-referral basis however following discussions with the Bingley Community Health Partnership they now also accept referrals from social prescribers and health professionals who's customers meet the key priorities of the group.

Due to the growing success and popularity of the Men's shed, the trustees have had to suspend new membership referrals as their current facility can no longer safely accommodate additional numbers. The trustees are currently seeking funding to expand the Men's shed to create a larger space that will hopefully cater to the increase in demand.

We are currently supporting the development of a Men's Shed in Wilsden.

Age UK Bradford Buddies scheme have set up a new 'Friendship group' at Windhill community centre and Bingley Canalside Health centre which gives an opportunity for people who may be isolated and lonely to meet in a safe and secure setting outside of their home.

**5.3.4 Support local community organisations and businesses to diversify the culture and arts offer including for young people (CB)**

**Progress:**  
Establishing links between communities and arts and particularly in relation to Bradford 2025

Yorkshire Academy of Creative Arts and Dance (YACAD) moved into Bingley Youth Café with a view to increasing the opportunities for music and arts in Bingley for young people.

YACAD working in Highcroft Youth Centre as part of youth sessions to engage young people in music workshops.

Bingley Arts and Culture Forum established which has been created to ensure that Bingley can play a key role in Bradford 2025. Diverse representation on the group including Bingley Town Council, Bingley Arts Centre, Chamber of Trade, Friends of Myrtle Park, Bingley Music Town, Bingley Walkers are Welcome and others. Initial meeting took place in August.

Youth Service also involved in a forum of schools for Bradford 25. Currently, this is mainly primary schools and so exploring how secondary schools could be brought on board.

**Case study:**  
Bingley Music Town is a voluntary led community organisation formed in 2023 with the aim of improving music opportunities for the people in Bingley.

	<p>Through a City of Culture meeting organised by one of the elected members they have created a partnership with other organisations i.e. The Arts Centre, Bingley Youth Café to engage in a process that will encourage and support local musicians. The aim of the group is to bring together different genres of music which would encompass all age groups and establish a network of venues for musicians. The group are currently working on creating a music library and have applied for funding to support those not able to afford music lessons but who are either gifted, talented and or just enthusiastic to learn. The group is looking to become a central point for musicians including performers, teachers and producers in Bingley.</p>
	<p><b>5.3.5 Improve information and advice about community offer in each neighbourhood. Support residents through the Cost of Living crisis (All)</b></p>
	<p><b>Progress:</b>  CABAD Development Officers continue to provide bespoke support to the not for profit sector in the Shipley and Bingley areas. The team continues to develop resources to support this work, including 2 new courses on involving volunteers in organisations. The service continues to promote itself through networks, direct contact with organisations and the Area Network events.</p> <p>CABAD exploring feasibility of creating annual calendar of dates and events.</p>
	<p><b>5.3.6 Develop an Area wide Friendly Communities initiative (inclusive to all) (RoC)</b></p>
	<p><b>Progress:</b>  Bradford Council are having a district wide event on 9<sup>th</sup> November to launch a campaign to make Bradford more 'neurodiverse friendly'. We will look to launch a local campaign in Shipley once the district strategy is set and this will involve businesses, arts, leisure and culture, to work to become 'neurodiversity friendly'. Within the Shipley ward partnership work has started and is currently focused on involving local groups to maintain and support the Shipley Library Garden, groups involved are NEET(Northcliffe Environmental Enterprises Team), Shipley in Bloom, Face It Together (Dementia) group and Kirkgate Centre Gardening group. Shipley Library Garden event took place on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June and we engaged with multiple stakeholders including members of the public. There are also initial discussions taking place with charities about hosting a sports day for disabled children and adults. In summary we are waiting the for the Bradford Neurodiversity strategy to be launched and will then look at involving a range of partners to work on local initiatives to make the Shipley constituency and wards within 'neurodiverse friendly'.</p> <p><b>Case study:</b>  Face It Together Group – (Dementia group in Shipley which was at threat of folding due to the new Dementia service not supporting the group anymore).  One person living with dementia travels to the group on his own describes the group giving him the confidence to do things, he commented that he has done things he never would have tried to do if it wasn't</p>



for the FIT Group. His carer described the group as giving her partner a new lease of life when he's been and even when talking to the volunteer for the group on the phone it gives him a different buzz. His partner also described the group just being there gives her the confidence to speak to someone' if she feels she needs anything else whilst also enabling her partner to focus on something different outside of the house and usual day to day living. Through the group continuing it has also promoted his independence and confidence to use the bus service into Shipley as opposed to getting taxis. Shipley medical centre have offered a room to host the FIT Group on a permanent basis allowing the group to have a base and some security and this is important for the people living with dementia in the group to feel secure. The medical centre has also been working to become dementia friendly through the support of a dedicated Dementia Project coordinator employed via Affinity Community partnership and has undertaken 'Dementia Friendly Awareness' sessions.

### 5.3.7 Increase opportunities for neighbourliness including Neighbourhood Watch (All)

#### **Progress:**

Contact has been made with the local Neighbourhood Police Team and West Yorkshire Police Neighbourhood Watch Officer for initial scoping and ideas. However, it is evident that a wide range of neighbourliness (and cost of living) initiatives is already embedded in Neighbourhood Watch. For example, the national newsletter contains dedicated pages on support for personal finance and money saving, isolation and loneliness, and community action. Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators and members are encouraged to spread the word and take action on these.

In the Shipley area there are varying levels of Neighbourhood Watch cover. Baildon has an award-winning scheme, one of the largest regionally, reinforced by fortnightly 'contact point' sessions.

Baildon Liaison Group brings together a range of key community partners to improve provision in the ward. Members include representatives from the Area Office, local churches and community centres, the Neighbourhood Police Team, Town Council, HALE, Bingley Bubble (Health & Wellbeing) Community Partnership and Baildon Neighbourhood Watch, together with the three Ward Councillors.

#### Bingley Rural

**Neighbourhood Drop-in** events have been recently re-introduced in Bingley Rural ward. There will be ten every year – two in each of the five villages. The drop-ins are attended by representatives of the Area Office, Neighbourhood Police Team and Incommunities. They provide the opportunity for face-to-face discussion on issues and concerns raised by local residents. They are also utilised by officers to promote local community initiatives (with a focus on getting people involved) and to signpost to other groups and organisations for further information and support.

The drop-ins are being held in the early evening on weekdays, as this slot has proved the most popular.

	<p>Bringing these partners together on regular basis ensures that community provision can be better coordinated and delivered for local residents. It also means that opportunities for joint work can be identified, and duplication avoided.</p> <p>In addition, the group is well placed to offer provision and / or signposting for Neighbourhood Connect referrals.</p>
<p><b>5.3.8 Highlighting local community centres approaches to early intervention and prevention work (JJ)</b></p>	
	<p><b>Progress:</b> Exploring how centres are using community development approaches to make a difference in their local communities, including health outcomes.</p> <p>WISHH and Affinity Care CPs Community Centre Health Partnership project (2 years) about to launch.</p> <p>The 'Unique' project is a small group self-esteem and confidence course for year 5/6 children. Windhill Community Centre agreed to host the 'Unique' project. This project is usually hosted in a school but it was felt a community cohort should be trialled. This has given opportunities for children from different schools in the same area to come together after school to work together and build relationships. The Community centre coordinator also helped to identify children for the course from different areas who had previously accessed the community centre for other support.</p> <p><b>Case study:</b> Community blood pressure testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot project at Bolton Woods Community Centre, funded by WISHH Community Partnership</li> <li>• Easy to use and accurate blood pressure self-testing machine – full instructions provided, including how to analysis results, kept separate / private room</li> <li>• BWCC staff and some volunteers trained to give broad advice on the results</li> <li>• One case where BWCC is convinced a life was saved – local woman with extremely / life-threateningly high BP identified, GP called immediately for emergency appointment, taken to BRI, kept in hospital for a few days until BP reduced to a safer level</li> </ul> <p>Issue – still working on a way to easily upload test results to GP records</p>
<p><b>5.3.9 Continue to work with Friends of Parks and Open spaces groups to help maximise the use of public spaces (BD)</b></p>	
	<p><b>Progress:</b></p>

	<p>There are currently six active friends of groups (Northcliffe Park, Myrtle Park, Prince of Wales, Roberts Park, St Ives and Royds Park), all six groups volunteer their time in assisting with various works within the park. Northcliffe tend to concentrate on Biodiversity in particular the woodland part of the park, Myrtle Park focuses more on the Horticultural works mainly in the area in front of the Hub, with Prince of Wales Park being a woodland park, this group assists with the infrastructure of the park and a bit on Biodiversity and St Ives help protect, preserve and sensitively improve the estate. Roberts Park group organises Band Stand Events throughout the summer and also assists with the Saltaire Heritage Day and contributes to the park achieving Green Flag status and Royds Park, Wilsden won a Yorkshire in Bloom Silver Gilt award in the Small Town category.</p> <p>All groups organise various events throughout the year and all contribute to the upkeep of the parks.</p>
	<p>5.3.10 Developing a Safe and Warm spaces initiative to increase the numbers and diversity of people accessing community spaces across the Area (PT)</p>
	<p><b>Progress:</b> The Warm Space Initiative was rolled out successfully across the constituency and is greatly appreciated by many residents. The provision has been adapted in different settings to suit the needs of attendees and often provides support, and advice, in addition to the original offer. There are now 30 registered warm spaces across the constituency for winter 2023/4. This provision not only helps with the cost of living crisis but also addresses loneliness and social isolation in our communities.</p> <p><b>Case Study:</b> St Hughs Community Centre in Shipley ward offers a Warm Space on a Wednesday which provides a space for older people but also young families who are attending. In addition to this the centre offers a food bank at the same time as the warm space and provides an opportunity for people who are in need to access food. To access the food bank the centre also offers the person a face to face appointment and signposts them into any further support they may need.</p> <p><b>Funding</b> The Area Committee have approved £40k to 7 community groups for reducing the cost of living initiatives including warm spaces, hot food, initiatives re financial advice, food parcels, slow cookers. A further £41k is now being advertised for further applications to be allocated in December.</p>
<p>A Sustainable District</p>	<p>6.1 We will work to reduce energy use through promoting the move to low and zero carbon transport with an emphasis on public transport, walking and cycling and promote more efficient heating of homes including better insulation (DF)</p>

**Progress:**

1. a) Where possible move to purchase electric vehicles for operations in street cleansing and parks or vehicles with the fewest emissions. b) Promote active travel widely e.g. walking and cycling. c) Enforce the Clean Air Zone
2. Target areas of low recycling rates on kerbside collection rounds.

The Clean Air Zone has been in place for over a year showing significant improvements in air quality in the Shipley area. Shipley's fleet of parks and cleansing vehicle work to the highest environmental efficiency to reduce emissions and now operate 2 electric vacuum litter cleaners (Bingley and Shipley). It is the intention to move to electric vehicles where possible across the fleet in the replacement programme. Clean air revenue will be used to further improve air quality focusing on 3 key strands. 1. Anti Idling Campaign will involve Environmental Wardens raising awareness of regulations and enforcing where necessary. Schools will be offered anti Idling banners and other material to promote the campaign. 2 Clean Air for schools. Expressions of interest have now closed which will include projects such as improved walking / cycling access, better ventilation and air filtration systems, moving play areas from busy streets, barrier bushes/ hedges to absorb carbon etc 3. School Engagement delivering materials, workshops and assemblies (to include public health, the Born in Bradford team and Neighbourhood Wardens.

**6.2 We will work to promote waste reduction, reuse, recycle and composting to reduce waste going to landfill and lessen the drain on natural resources (DF)**

**Progress:**

Neighbourhood wardens continue to check residents have adequate bin storage and/ or contamination and encourage residents to recycle. Persistent, contaminated bins are removed to ensure clean loads are delivered to the Transfer Stations. Most households are now compliant but still issues at some multi occupancy. Wardens or Advisors red tag recycle bins which are contaminated requesting them to remove the contaminants. Waste officers often support the wardens who request help in raising awareness on recycling and reducing waste in their areas. More work to do with waste awareness at these sites in 2024 Recycling rates in the Bradford district increased from 36.08% to 38.91% during the period of 2021-22 to 2022-23.

**6.3 We will work to promote to ensure parks and green spaces leave space for nature and biodiversity and promote 'growing your own' and reducing food waste (DF)**

**Progress:**

a) Allow designated areas of parks and green spaces to naturalise to increase biodiversity and reduce the use of Glyphosate where practicable b) Ensure that everyone uses parks by reaching out to groups less likely to access c) Trial alternative options for reducing glyphosate in 2 areas of Shipley ward with Parish Council.

Increased Biodiversity. The following sites were left uncut as part of the No Mow May and Shipley Locality Priorities:

Natural Wildflower Areas: Northcliffe Meadow, Carr Lane/Gaisby Lane, Glenwood Avenue including bankings, Shipley Central Park, Burley Bypass Highway Grassed Areas: Greenfield Avenue, Festival Avenue, Moorhead Lane.

Some residents were unhappy not happy with grass being left uncut on Greenfield Avenue and Festival Avenue. More engagement needed next year on the benefits and impacts of increased biodiversity with residents and schools. In addition, future plans to leave grassed areas to grow will be in consultation with the 3 ward Cllrs in each ward.

Parks Green Spaces left uncut:

1. Northcliffe Park
2. The main paths (north/south) from lower playground to Cliffe Wood Avenue car park.

Main field going from path up to the cricket field, a 5m strip was left uncut.

3. Grassed area along Old Spring Wood up to Northcliffe Golf Club, to allow more protection for trees.
4. Avondale Road – grassed area left uncut.

A competition to design a maze in the old play field (behind Bradford Rd) was organised by the friends of Northcliffe Park, the chosen design was based on a giant leaf. More work needed with schools next year. Other areas include Central Park, Myrtle Park, Foster Park, Menston Park, Roberts Park, Peace Garden, Baildon Work is due to start in re-establishing the wildflower areas and create new Bulb areas. Carr Lane/Gaisby Lane to re-establish the wildflower areas.

During March/April the service recruited a student from Bradford University who were undertaking a dissertation in Biodiversity in Bradford Parks. They were mentored by one of our Senior gardeners who helped design reduced cutting and mowing frequencies at Northcliffe Park, Central Park and Roberts Park. Both students found their assignment interesting.

The biodiversity project at Northcliffe has been driven by a partnership of Parks staff, residents and friends of Northcliffe. It is the intention to mirror this approach in further parks and green spaces next year.

### **Habitat Banking and Biodiversity Net Gain**

The Countryside/ Biodiversity Team has been working with the Parks teams, area managers and Estates Management to identify suitable council sites for setting up a Habitat Bank on council land. The aim of this Habitat Banks would include the provision of biodiversity units to developers who are required to offset their biodiversity losses. The Biodiversity Team have set aside Natural England funding to pay for a Biodiversity Net Gain baseline assessment and Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of **Northcliffe Park** to identify where opportunities exist on the site for BNG offsetting moneys. A local ecologist has been

contracted to prepare the baseline assessments and write a management plan for the whole park. It is hoped that local development will be facilitated by having a suitable offsetting habitat bank site in Shipley and that the value of the park for biodiversity, flood water management and public wellbeing will be improved through additional funding.

### **Reduced usage of Glyphosate**

Northcliffe and Central Park were the 2 parks initially identified for the trial for reduced spraying. Roberts Park and Crowgill Park were also included. The trial has been very successful receiving no complaints and little disruption to visitors to the Parks. The intention to roll out across all Shipley Parks in the constituency next year and a report is scheduled to go to Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Jan 2024 to review including the National Picture.

### **Climate Action Fund (WYCA) 74k**

Grants have been awarded to 4 Community groups in the Shipley Area to support climate friendly projects. The projects aim to inspire behaviour change and raise awareness of the climate emergency and offer real reductions in the Areas carbon footprint. The total grant fund was £73,800.

Wilsden parish Council have been awarded £7,000 for thinning and canopy reduction of trees in adopted woodland.

The Kirkgate centre awarded £33,839 to provide Solar Panels and extra thermal insulation.

St Peters church were awarded £6,546 for LED lighting.

Northcliffe Environmental Enterprises Team were awarded £26,865 for installation of solar panels.

### **Community Chest**

Shipley Area Committee continues support 'grow your own' initiatives