





Resident influence in decision making, through employing residents and enabling self-help

Chris Wood, Community Involvement Manager Anthony Halt, Community Development Officer Lisa Bradley, Community Development Officer Sara Fearns, Peer navigator

Bolton at Home

Bolton at Home Community Investment Team

Chris Wood – Community Investment Manager
Lisa Bradley – Community Development Officer
Anthony Holt – Community Development Officer
Sara Fearns – Former Peer Navigator



Bolton at Home

- Community benefit society
- 18,000 homes across borough of Bolton
- Investing in properties and building new homes
- Our work goes far beyond bricks and mortar.....
- Successful community regeneration needs a commitment to help people become more socially and economically active:
- Opportunities to prosper and transform lives
- Helping customers maximise their income

Community Investment Team

- Front facing service
- Enabling and supporting transformation of lives of tenants and communities
- Long term sustainability of neighbourhoods
- Ability to respond resiliently to change
- Seek out alternative forms of investment
- Broaden experiences
- Improve skills

Our Approach

- 28 members of staff
- Includes some externally funded posts Big Local, Ambition for Ageing, Controlling Migration Fund
- Core staff made up of Community Development Officers & Arts Officers

Community Development

Community
Development
National
Occupational
Standards

Community development enables people to work collectively to bring about positive social change. This long term process starts from people's own experience and enables communities* to work together to:

- · Identify their own needs and actions
- · Take collective action using their strengths and resources
- · Develop their confidence, skills and knowledge
- Challenge unequal power relationships
- · Promote social justice, equality and inclusion

in order to improve the quality of their own lives, the communities in which they live and societies of which they are a part.

^{*} Communities refer to those that can be defined by geography, identity or interest.



Community Development

- Supporting groups to plan and deliver local projects which tackle a range of issues
- Developing spaces for people to come together
- Facilitating community events and celebrations
- Helping to build local and borough wide networks
- Linking local people and groups to services and organisations
- Bringing partners together to shape work around issues or neighbourhoods
- Bringing investment into our neighbourhoods
- Managing externally funded programmes that create change in our neighbourhoods
- Developing volunteers to make a difference in their own lives and communities
- Promoting involvement in relevant local and national campaigns
- Supporting and developing the Peer Navigator model in our neighbourhoods

Housing Percent For Art

- Established in 1997 by Bolton Council Housing Department, to allocate 1% of capital to arts and cultural activity
- Nationally unique service, in a social housing context
- Opportunity to experience a wide range of contemporary art to engage with these customers on a more creative, constructive and democratic level
- Bolton at Home Percent for Art web pages have details of a number of projects from our first 21 years <u>www.boltonathome.org.uk/percent-for-art</u>



What we've achieved

in the last 12 months:

69

groups supported by the Community Investment

Team. 14 of those voluntary groups manage community buildings, delivering activities and services across estates.

305

volunteers supported by the Community Investment Team. Who in turn deliver a variety of activities serving communities across Bolton.

69,921

volunteer hours contributed to the Bolton economy, equivalent to £708,883 financial investment.

£482,743

external funding brought into our communities.

18

groups supported to host **Great Get Together** events across the borough.



The team has led on 26 borough-wide projects including the Manchester Day Parade, Bolton Light Festival and Bolton Wanderers Community Match.

Peer Navigation





Peer Navigation

- Partnership with Bolton CVS
- Employing local residents to work in the communities in which they live
- To forge links between public sector, community sector and individuals
- To promote behaviour change, self care and community cohesion
- To improve access to voluntary and community sector provision
- To support local community action both existing and new
- To be a voice for the local community

What does 'navigation' look like?

- Ringing and messaging each week to remind and encourage to attend a group
- Accompanying to a first appointment with a service
- Picking up or 'knocking on' on the way to a group session
- Signposting and referring but also encouraging and asking how things have gone
- Friendship, confidence building and positive encouragement
- Welcoming people who are new to an area

Peer Navigators – The Pilot

- Johnson Fold approx. 1,000 properties
- Employed 3 local women all Bolton at Home tenants and not in employment
- Well connected in local community
- Themes Environment, Women, Creativity, Food poverty

What did we achieve?

- Navigations to projects and services
- Enhanced voluntary and community provision
- Increased participation
- Local initiatives grassroots
- Personal development ripple effect



Challenges

- Professional Boundaries
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Pastoral Support for Peer Navigators
- Protecting Peer Navigators
- Organisational Issues
- Career Development

What We Learned

- Flexible recruitment procedure
- Training
- Range of experiences
- Preparing for next steps
- Peer support
- Adapting the model

Sara's Story



Willow Hey Community Project Farnworth, Bolton



Background to the Project

 The Willow Hey Community Project is located on a disused allotment site at Doe Hey Grove, Farnworth

Aims and Objectives

- The project was initially set up to tackle food poverty in the local community as lots of families were facing food poverty and using food banks to support their families.
- The project initially supported the local community to grow their own healthy organic food on the site and in their own gardens.
- The project would also reduce social isolation, establish support networks and improve health and well being in the local community.

Current Sessions

- Weekly community food growing and social sessions
- Men in Sheds support sessions
- Social Eating sessions
- Women of Willow Hey group
- Forest Horizons woodland school and wild food forages
- Green Woodworking and Yurt Building workshops
- Seasonal festivals and celebrations

Men in Sheds





- Reducing social isolation
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Having a purpose
- Belonging to a team
- Support networks that go on outside the project
- Laughter and camaraderie



Roundhouse Project





Roundhouse Project





Green Woodworking Sessions



Creative Woodcraft & Woodwork Skills



Willow Hey Community Project,
Doe Hey Grove, Off Lavender Road, Farnworth. Bolton.

Learn green woodcraft skills taught by an expert locally here in Farnworth, including sustainable foraging, using appropriate tools, making a shave horse, understanding the qualities of different woods and natural materials and what woodcrafts you can make from them using ancient traditional woodcraft skills.

A unique local opportunity not to be missed.



Anthony Holt

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07747 764558

Learn a wide range of woodworking skills through a range of projects, taught by time served joiners and carvers. Learn new skills including how to use professional joinery tools and equipment. An opportunity for local residents living near Willow Hey Community Project to come along, meet new people, make new friends and get involved in a local project whilst learning valuable transferrable skills free of charge.

Booking is essential.



This Project is supported by Bolton at Home

Bolton at Home



Women of Willow Hey







Forest Horizons - Woodland School





Eats and Meets – Social Eating Sessions





Community Food Growing







Seasonal Festivals – Summer / Halloween





Culture Champion – Bill Jackson





Anthony Holt - Community Development Apprentice



Malton Avenue Land Development





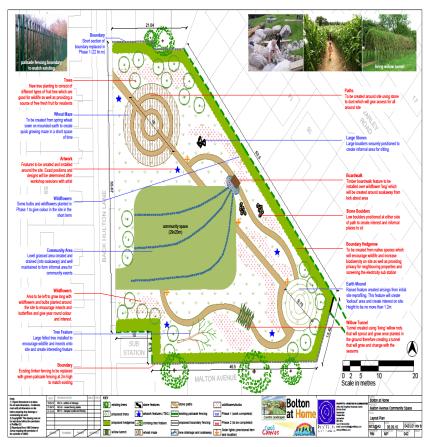
Community Engagement Process

- Consult with surrounding and wider community
- Encourage people to get involved
- Explore how the land could be developed with the community
- Based on consultation, invite tenders from local providers for the development of the land
- Local people voted for their preferred option



Involving the community at all stages





Community Cohesion - bringing people together



- Community fun days and celebrations
- Food growing projects
- Cycle maintenance
- Youth club activities
- Football tournaments
- Litter picking
- Environmental days
- Team Deane community health sessions

Any Questions







Inclusive Housing Advisory Panels in Leeds

Ian Montgomery,
Mick Dodds, resident

Leeds City Council



The 9th National Tenants Panels Conference

Leeds City Council: 'Housing Advisory Panels'





What are HAP's?

2 E

- 11 HAPs in Leeds
- Made up of tenants and local Ward Members
- 'Monitor and review delivery of local housing services'
- Have a total budget £450k for city as a whole (used to fund around 300 projects a year)
- Long established formal ways of working (fundamental review in 2017/18)



Review looked at....

- of many
- How we can broaden the involvement of tenants and residents in decision making
- Being connected to local communities and the wider tenant base.
- Strengthening links with wider council priorities and the 'Priority Neighbourhoods'
- Maximising value for money in everything they do.

Lots of input from Tenants, HAP members, Ward Members, staff and previous applicants.



Review outcomes...

• In total, 30 recommendations implemented...







Themed citywide meetings...







Increased membership...

- Showing the same of the same o
- Less formal approach (no 'interviews')
- Rise in people coming to observe
- Local 'recruitment' plans

Now have **102 HAP** members – most ever had.





More flexible involvement

- Using others skills and experiences better (co-opting)
- Valuing everyone's contribution 'friends' who might not be able to attend meetings
- Sharing proposals with local residents groups or others
- More customer friendly online surveys when consulting residents on projects





Citywide updates



HAP Review - March 2019 Update

As we approach the end of the financial year, now salgood time to share with all HAP members the latest summary of progress around the HAP Review. Helping makes use everyone is aware of what's going on, and that we get to hear feed tack from other HAPs. who are trying different ways of working.

- Acoupt of HAPs have put the HAP friends' concept into practice i.e. having up to five terants per HAP who are happy to share ideas and comments about funding enemble: rear will sale is ppy to state seasand to miners a continuous grant and applications or HAP priorities but who aren't able to attend face to face meetings. In the spirit of broadening membership, removing barriers and giving no retenants the o pportunity to make a contribution.
- The above, along with local recruitment plans, has helped HAP membership grow to 91 terant, kase to bland co-opted members. Whilet this is an a I-time high, we know there are still HAPs with some membershippaps - so the team will be focussing on these.
- We're looking at the test the moment for another citywide HAP get-together around the theme of sharingand celebrating. Sharing how we've been getting on implementing the HAP Review and celebrating the difference HAPs continue to make. Invite coming
- HAPs are busy updating their priorities for the year ahead presented on some new look 'plans on a page'. These new versions make it clearer who these plans are for, how they are used and how HAPs use them to settheir local priorities taking into account wider community issues and other work or activity going on in the area.



They share information and askthe HAPs to put their own local priorities against four broad themes:

- Environment and housing
- Health and well-being
- Communitysafety
- Employment and Skills

It's a common template, but local HAPs can tailor to their local areas. Please do share feedback a bout them, we'll keep adapting them to make themas useful as possible.

HAP Review - July 2018 Update



 The Inner South HAP have bunched their own Facebook page (search Housing includes a sum over name with mass smen own necessors page (severnimosing)
Advisory Abrief Leads (inner South) —as a way to share HAP priorities, give feedback to to savy roven Lewis livier sources a way to state may provide, give rectue residents, get suggestions and hopefully attract new members. We little the teaseems, for suggestance and noperum action crown members. We introduce between July and October, take any feedback on board, and then look to replicate for everyone. Early comments so far have been really positive—with some 904 local



 A new tempt te for recording key actions and HAP decisions (so not such a long written record of meetings) was discussed a more than the Chairs and bit of written record of meetings) was decussed a mongstacine or the onains and old or feed back received. The Inner East HAP have volunteered to tribith is for a couple of rection of the rest in the rest rest may be volumed to the rand roll a coupe of meetings to see if the rest a less resource intensive way of recording HAP activity and

Over the summer we'll focus into reion how we review HAP priorities — taking into account Community Committee and Housing Leeds priorities. Work in this area will be shared in a community communities and noticing the second province. Work in the area will be some that the future update, and so me HAPs will book at doing things differently in the autumn so we can ruture upoate, and some ners will box as no fit times under may in sne auturm so we can develope new model for everyone's benefit and hit the ground running with fresh priorities

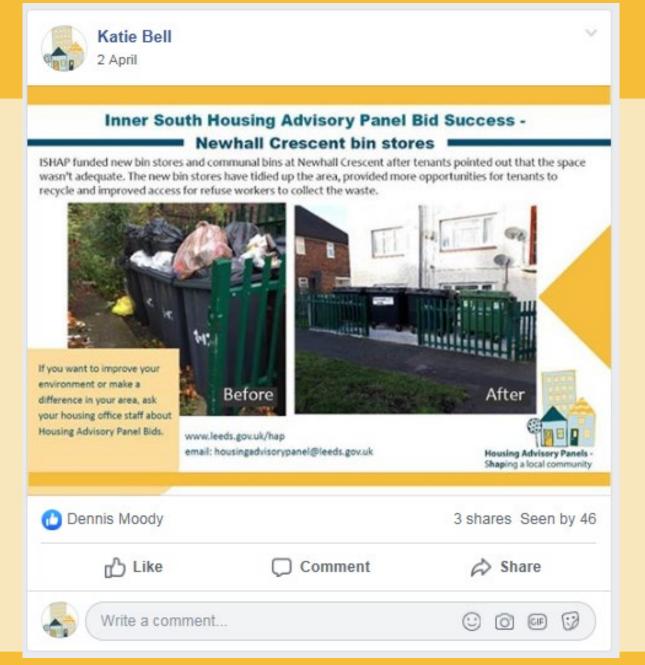
Please share and discuss this update in local HAP meetings and we'll keep sharing ideas and Housing leas

Tenant Engagement Team housingsdvisorypane l@leeds.gov.uk 0113 378 3330



Housing Advisory Panels -Shaping a local community







HAP Facebook activity







Pudsey Ward completed HAP project.







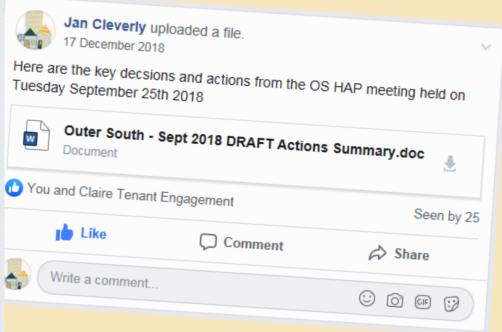
Rukhsana Lcc 12 December 2018

#HousingLeeds Local residents raised concerns about the issue of motorbikes riding down the ginnel at speed onto the main road (Wellstone Road) and have had near misses with cars/vehicles. They were a risk to the public & children playing out and walking across the path and those using the ginnel.

In order to address this issue, the Outer West Housign Panel funded a staggered barrier at the bottom end of the ginnel near the main road to stop/slow down the children on bikes/quads & cars.

This measure has now address the concerns raised and created a much safer environment for the wider public, tenants/residents and children living in the area.











Ian Pickup and Cllr Angela Gabriel Flying the Flag for Leeds City Council Housing Leeds Housing Advisory Panel, Leeds Inner South







Katie Bell is with Vikki Blake and 5 others. 26 November 2018

Cottingley Play Park official opening today. Arranged by James Leedscc with Ian Pickup and Cllr Angela Gabriel representing the Leeds City Council Housing Lee... See more

Paul Wray, Cllr Angela Gabriel and 2 others 1 share Seen by 46 n/5 Like Comment Share



Andrew Tenant Engagement Officer

Too busy or unable to attend meetings – but happy to give us your views? Your local Housing Advisory Panel (or HAP) is looking for up to five HAP 'friends' - members of the community who may be too busy or unable to attend face to face meetings, but who care about their neighbourhood and are happy to share their views about proposed projects.

Your local HAP has a budget to fund community and environmental projects. To help HAPs consider a broad range of tenant and residents views, we'd like to have others who are happy to share their views and ideas into HAP meetings so HAPs can take these into account in their decision making. As a friend of the HAP you would receive a full copy of proposals that we

share with other HAP members six times a year.

Interested? For more info ring 0113 378 3330 (or works mobile if prefer) or email housingadvisorypanel@leeds.gov.uk Seen by 7

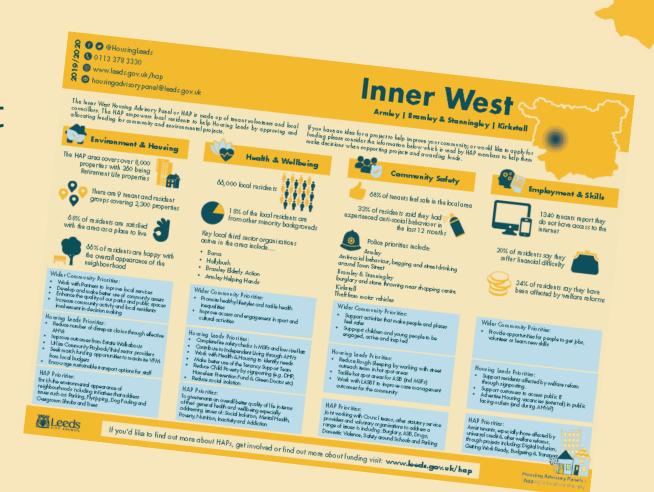
mail housingadvisory		
Katie Bell	Comment	⇔ Share
Like	Comment	(i) (ii) (iii) (iii)
Write a comment		



Fresh 'plans on a page'....

Four themes:

- Environment and Housing
- Health and Wellbeing
- Community
 Safety
- Employment and Skills





Fresh 'performance' reports

 Local and relevant info, sharing key news/updates - easier for HAPs to act on

HAP Performance	and	Information Update
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Digital Inclusion Activity: • Enhanced Income Officer now has an I-pad to assist tenants with their claims





Working smarter...

2 Champy

- Online surveys
- What's App groups
- Action and decision lists (not long minutes)
- Behind scenes change for 'end to end' process
- I-Pads to engage better, show video's of projects - now looking at paperless meetings.



Other changes...

- More inclusive process for HAP bids under £1,000
- New reader friendly 'Terms of Reference'
- Updated Application Form linked to priorities
- Updated Guidance Notes stressing early contact always good.
- New promotional materials
- HAP film not pdf/hard copy annual report





Continuous Improvement...

HAPs experimenting:

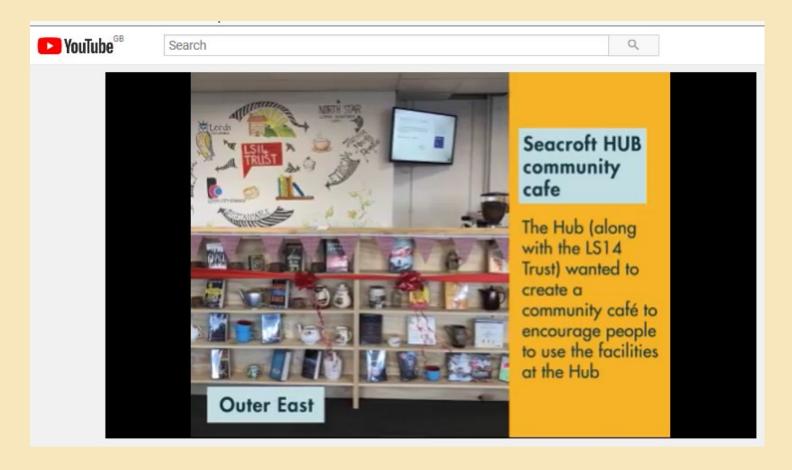
- Links with others e.g. local school council's, students doing walkabout and presenting own applications.
- Paperless meetings
- Learning about strengths based approaches (or Asset Based Community Development)
- Technology e.g. Slido for group feedback
- Attending funding fairs and other events

All the new ways of working helping other forums work and think differently...





The difference HAPs make....



HAP Film





Ian Montgomery Service Manager – Tenant Engagement ian.montgomery@leeds.gov.uk 07891 271 612







Our Youth Community Ambassador Programme and Housing Association Youth Network (HAYN)

Ryan Stephenson - Former National Ambassador Jess Duggal - Neighbourhood Investment Officer

Clarion Futures



National Ambassador and the HA Youth Network

Jess Duggal Neighbourhood Investment Officer & Ryan Stephenson- Former National Ambassador

Housing Association Youth Network

- Set up in 2015 involving a range of HA's with a presence in London
- Dedicated website www.hayn.co.uk
- Meets quarterly- focused on key themes, funding opportunities and sharing good practice

H.A.Y.N

VALUES

We will live out values through:

Sharing best practice to improve the quality of services across our communities **Collaborating** to maximise resources and provide greater opportunities for young people

Influencing and **challenging** decision making internally and externally as advocates of young people

Improve our knowledge by working with specialist services across the youth space

*The foundation for our values is to **include young people** in all that we do*

H-A-Y-N

ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

- HAYN has received over £2million additional funding
- Created a website to share knowledge and resources
- Collective Impact figures
- Developed strategic partnerships across youth space including UK Youth ;Youth Employment UK; Centre for Youth Impact and Vision for Young Londoners amongst others
- Arranged HAYN Conference for over 100 attendees

H.A.Y.N WHAT NEXT?

- Annual Conference and Awards
- Impact analysis
- Future pots of funding
- Sub groups
 - Youth Violence
 - Homelessness
 - Employment
- Northern HAYN set up in September 2019- 12 HA's attending and more would be welcome

INSPIRE

National Ambassadors



Community Ambassador Programme



M

W

National and International Youth Exchanges



Awards and recognition



RAISE



BE THE
CHANGE
Youth Connectors
(long-term volunteer



Youth Events



Promotion and Impact

BE THE VOICE

B U

I L D

TOGETHE

Ryan Stephenson

National Ambassador 2016











WHY DID I BECOME AN NATIONAL AMBASSADOR?

We as Ambassadors want to be role models for the younger generation. We all want to improve our communities and make them safer. Becoming an Ambassador opened doors for us to do this. To have our voices heard by those who make decisions that affect us directly.

National Ambassador Priorities

We agreed on what the priority issues were for us as young people.

In my Cohort we chose to focus on

- Youth voice and youth led offer
- Estate Management
- LGBT and disability awareness and support

Ask yourself?

- How often do you encourage youth to take lead on projects and events?
- Is your work youth lead? Meaning do you listen to young people about how they want the services delivered?
- Are the young people you work with empowered to make decisions rather then told what to do?
- Do you consult and listen to your young people before you make changes to services?

Exercise

<u>Q & A</u>

Pledges:

What will you do in your organisation/community to hear the voice of young people?

