

LEEDS ANCHOR NETWORK & COMMUNITY LISTENING

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Leeds Anchor Network

- Established 2018
- 13 members across local government, education, health, utilities, and culture
- Work together on Employment, Procurement, Climate, Service Delivery, Civic Partnerships.

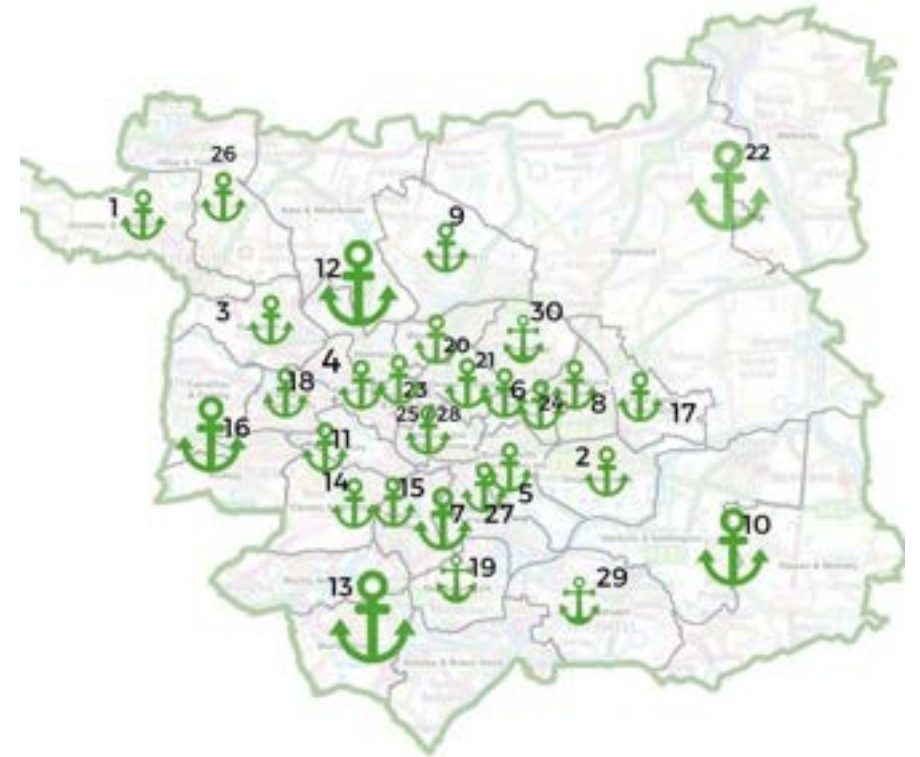


Strengthening Connections to Communities

- Health Foundation's Economies for Healthier Lives programme
- Strengthening the role of Leeds Anchors in addressing health and economic inequalities in the city
- Fostering new relationships with communities, and community organisations

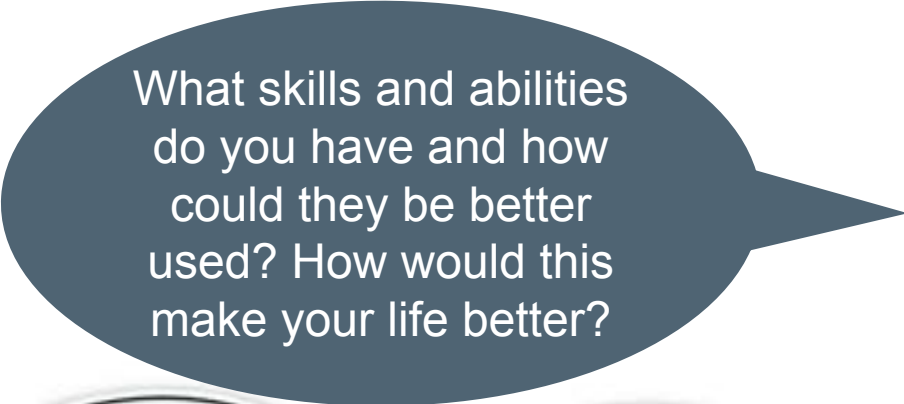
Leeds Community Anchor Network

- A new(ish) city network, established after the Covid pandemic
- 30 members- locally rooted community organisations
- Acting within their own local networks
- Collaboration not competition
- Elevating community voices




Piloting a Community Listening Exercise Model

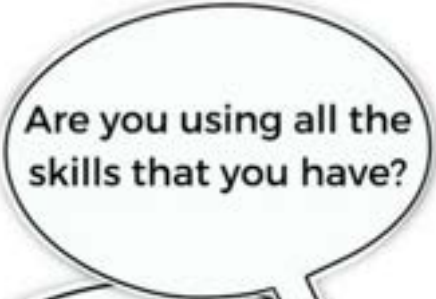
- Collaboration between **Leeds Anchor Network** and **Leeds Community Anchor Network**
- Understanding perspectives on accessing quality **work and skills** opportunities
- Delivered in three areas of the city, by local Community Anchor partners:
 - LS14 Trust (on behalf of We Are Seacroft)
 - New Wortley Community Association (on behalf of Armley CAN)
 - Give A Gift, Harehills



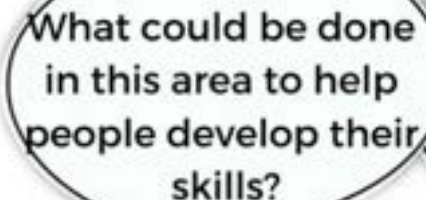
What skills and abilities do you have and how could they be better used? How would this make your life better?




Are you working at the moment?



Are you using all the skills that you have?

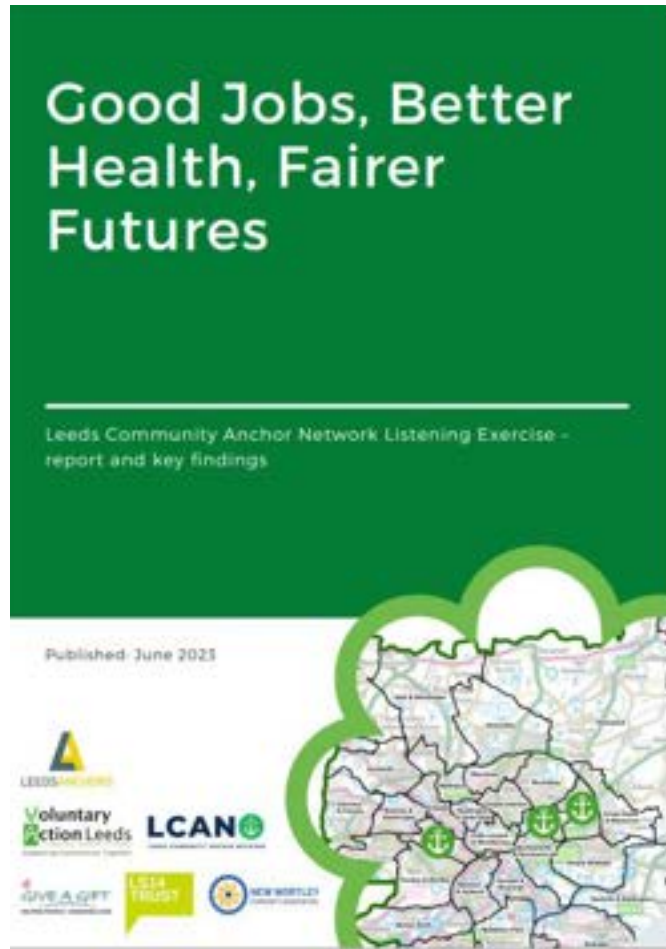


What could be done in this area to help people develop their skills?



What would help you get a job / better job?

Findings



Report available at
www.doinggoodleeds.org.uk

- **Meaningful** work is as important as pay and conditions
- **Digital access:** up to 50% of one focus group didn't have regular access to the internet. Many use phones to apply for jobs.
- **Recruitment processes** feel impersonal and hard to navigate
- Additional challenges for **non-native English speakers**. **Childcare** can be a barrier to working
- Young adults not in work or education can feel like **doors have closed**
- **Relatable role models**
- **Local networks** to find out about opportunities
- **Volunteering** helps build confidence and skills, but pathways to employment not always clear

Recommendations for Anchors

- Varied approaches to recruitment, including offline and all-in-one recruitment methods.
- Deliver recruitment activity and job fairs in local settings and with trusted local organisations
- Review volunteering opportunities and how they are promoted, plus pathways from volunteering to employment
- Seek to recognise experience and qualifications gained in other countries
- 'Second chance'- ensure people with previous convictions are not excluded from roles where this isn't an essential requirement
- Consider how Anchors can provide relatable role models from target communities, to demonstrate their career paths and be advocates for others

Response and co-developing solutions

Findings presented to Leeds Anchors Exec and Employment working group.

Representatives from Leeds Anchor Network engaging with community members to jointly explore solutions:

New Wortley

Workshop with LCC Employment & Skills and 100% Digital Leeds

Give a Gift / Harehills

Workshop with Leeds City College, Health & Care Academy, LCC Employment & Skills, Migration Partnership, 100% Digital Leeds

LS14 Trust / We Are Seacroft

Building connections with Leeds City College to increase engagement with the college's local adult learning offer



New Wortley session, July 2024

New pre-employment offer at New Wortley Community Centre

Project HOPE: Help with Opportunities to Prepare for Employment

1. **ESOL, Maths and Digital training delivered by Leeds City College**
2. **Upgraded IT suite, open for drop-in use**
3. **Weekly 1:1 employment support drop-in**

Join us at New Wortley Community Centre for the

GRAND Opening

of our new IT suite!

FRIDAY 24TH JANUARY 2025 12 - 2 PM

Official opening of the HOPE IT Suite by The Lord Mayor, Cllr, Abigail Marshall Katung
Light refreshments will be served

Working in partnership with 100% Digital and Leeds City Council Employment and Skills we are delighted to invite you to the official launch of the HOPE project - (Help with Opportunities to Prepare for Employment)

The HOPE project aims to remove barriers that local people, particularly those from our diverse communities, face securing meaningful employment. Support is available in the IT Suite at New Wortley Community Centre with developing English, maths and digital skills as well as help with CV writing, job searching, applications and interview techniques!

New Wortley Community Centre
40 Tong Road
LS12 1LZ

Legacy and broadening impact

- Anchor network reviewing practices around inclusive recruitment
- LCAN secured further funding to do community listening exercise on a citywide level

