MORLEY Town Deal

News Update

Summer 2023 Newsletter

Leeds City Council | HM Government

Have your say... with the Morley satisfaction survey



An annual satisfaction survey has been launched which aims to capture feedback on life in Morley, and your thoughts on potential Morley Town Deal projects.

Complete the survey online between 15 July and the 1 September and you will be entered into a free draw to win £100 in White Rose Centre shopping vouchers.

The information collected will be used to understand the needs and views of residents. The survey will also be used as a measure of success and form part of the Towns Fund monitoring and evaluation requirements that need to be completed each year.

To safeguard your privacy, no personal information will be made public. The survey is available online until the 1 September and can be accessed at: **bit.ly/morleysatisfactionsurvey**.

Art celebration for first project completion

Budding Picassos from across Morley came together in Hembrigg Park on Thursday, 1 June, to help renowned Leeds artist, The Cortisol Kid, create a new wall mural.

Hailed a complete success by organisers, over fifty young people and families worked with the Cortisol Kid, United Art Project, Ahead Partnership, and Groundwork Yorkshire, to build a bank of ideas for the creation of a new ecology and biodiversity themed wall mural to be painted on the park's changing rooms.

Artists young and old drew and painted their ideas with the help of the Cortisol Kid, before being offered the opportunity to share their thoughts on using public art and street art to celebrate Morley. The free, half-term week event was held to mark the completion of the first Morley Town Deal funded project, with work starting in Hembrigg Park last November.

The improvements include the installation of a new children's play area, an outdoor adult gym, new seating including picnic benches and litter bins, new fencing, a new informal woodland path with play items/sculptures and the planting of trees and flowers. The project is the first of many to be delivered by the Morley Town Deal and Leeds City Council over the next three years, utilising a £24.3m government Towns Fund grant.



Above: A young artist checks her work on the day.





Above left: Hembrigg Park. Above right: Cortisol Kid working with a visitor.

Growing Talent Morley student challenge showcased at major conference

A group of Year 10 and 12 students from Woodkirk Academy got to showcase their planning and infrastructure skills in May, at the UK Real Estate Investment and Infrastructure Forum (UKREiiF) conference held at Leeds Dock.



Above: West Yorkshire Mayor Tracy Brabin with students



Above: A student explains her work to West Yorkshire Mayor, Tracy Brabin.

UKREiiF is an annual year long movement, culminating in a three-day event and is supported by some of the biggest property and infrastructure companies in the UK. The event aims to attract inward investment, generate economic growth and drive a more sustainable and inclusive culture within the property and construction industries.

The Woodkirk Academy students, who are a part of Ahead Partnership's Growing Talent Morley programme, funded by the Morley Town Deal, were brought together with volunteers from civil engineering firm, Mott MacDonald. They were challenged with redesigning an underutilised public space in Morley that could become a pocket park. In teams, students surveyed the proposed site, interviewed residents and users about their priorities, and considered the environmental, social, and economic impact of the redevelopment. The findings of each team, together with their park design, were then presented to a panel of industry professionals and showcased at the UKREiiF event.

A Year 12 student who took part in the project said: "This has been really reassuring for me because I'm passionate about sustainability and now I know where geography can take me. I know this is the industry I want to be in. I live in Morley, so to have the opportunity to say what I think our town should look and be like makes me feel really proud."

This is one of a series of projects young people will take part in through Growing Talent Morley. The Growing Talent Morley Programme supports the Morley Town Deal to address skills gaps in the town through collaborative and innovative work between education and training providers and local employers.



Image: Dartmouth Park

Phase one work to start in Dartmouth Park

The first phase of works to Morley's historic Dartmouth Park will begin in July.

The initial work will include the installation of tri-benches near to the multi-use games area, improvements to some of the footpaths and the installation of new picnic benches. Public consultation on phase 2 of work which will include improving the Botanical Gardens will start in Summer 2023.

You can keep up to date and participate in all Morley Town Deal consultations by visiting: https://bit.ly/morley-consultations

Meet our new regeneration officer

A major part of the Morley Town Deal programme is the soon-to-be-launched Heritage Investment Fund, which seeks to conserve and enhance the town's fabulous heritage for many generations to come.



Above: Liam Riley - Leeds City Council regeneration officer

Heading up the Heritage Investment Fund programme is Liam Riley, a recently appointed Leeds City Council heritage officer. We met with Liam to get to know him a little better.

Tell us a little about yourself.
"I joined Leeds City Council in 2019, having previously worked in broadcast journalism. During my time at the council, I have worked in the economic development team and the council housing growth team, before becoming a regeneration officer in spring 2023. In my spare time, I'm usually either running or cycling, though not quite to the same extent as Beryl Burton!"

What inspired you to become a regeneration officer?
"Working in Heritage is something of a dream job for me. I've had an interest in history and heritage for a long time, whether that be through books or through the buildings that surround us and what they can tell us about past places and people. There is the opportunity for so much positive change as part of the Morley Town Deal and I'm excited to be a part of it. I enjoy working with communities to realise place-based improvements and the Heritage Investment Fund grant scheme provides an excellent chance to do exactly that - by working with local partners and businesses in Morley to improve heritage buildings."

Why is heritage so important in Morley?
"Morley's townscape is defined by its historical development from an agricultural settlement to a vibrant and successful industrial town, and by the steady rhythm of economic changes which followed. Morley's high street is characterised by its Victorian heritage, with many buildings of significant heritage value within the conservation area. As these heritage assets are so central to the identity of Morley it is vital that they are maintained and protected, not only to improve the town's offer but so that future generations can benefit too.

What are you working on now and what exciting things have you got coming up?
I'm speaking with Morley business owners whose properties may be eligible for the grant scheme, before officially launching it this summer.

Why should the people of Morley get behind regeneration and heritage in Morley?
We can unlock positive outcomes for the future of Morley by harnessing its significant past and enhancing and celebrating the unique character of the town through its many heritage assets. Heritage-led regeneration can provide a boost to the town centre and revitalise the high street by transforming and restoring disused and dilapidated properties, reinforcing a future role for the town centre as a vibrant area.

What are your key objectives in your new role?
My key objectives in this role are to promote the conservation area and to work with local businesses to determine their eligibility for grants. I'm also focused on assisting grant applicants to create high-quality shopfront improvements.

What would you like the legacy to be of your work in Morley?
I would like to help local businesses to create great-quality, long-lasting shop fronts that highlight Morley's unique heritage and add to the town's vibrant and independent spirit.

The Heritage Investment Fund will launch for applications in Summer 2023. If you would like to find out more information, please visit: **https://bit.ly/morleyinfo**.

Leadership & management course for women in Morley with #WECAN

The Leeds Beckett University led #WECAN programme is offering a fully funded ILM Level 3 Leadership & Management course with an exclusive cohort for women working and/or living in Morley.

The accredited qualification programme is ideal for those who have leadership and management responsibilities but no formal training. The programme will help build skills and knowledge to lead, organise and motivate teams and manage relationships. For more information and to book your place, email the #WECAN team at wecan@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Morley Town Deal highlighted at major DLUHC conference



On Tuesday 20th June in Manchester, up to 101 Town Deals, including Morley Town Deal were in attendance at the Towns Fund conference.

The conference brought towns and key stakeholders together to share insights, celebrate successes, and tackle important issues for Towns Fund and Future High Streets Fund programmes. The audience included civil servants from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), local government officers, private sector partners and Town Deal board members. Four local government officers from Leeds attended as well as the Chair of the Town Deal Board, Gerald Jennings (seen left), who presented on local leadership and lessons from the Morley Town Deal Board to share perspectives and bring together lessons.

Morley Town Deal launch consultations on greener & connected, and station gateway, public realm and highway schemes

Have your say on the future of Morley by participating in Morley Town Deal consultations.

The consultations are asking for views on a range of schemes including Queen Street (pedestrianised area) public realm scheme, Beryl Burton pocket park, New Pavilion junction public realm scheme, improvements to Station Road and highway changes to Albion Street and Commercial Street. Consultation teams will be out on Queen Street and Station Road on **Saturday 15 July** and **Tuesday 25 July** between 9am - 4pm. If you prefer to give your opinions online, the consultations can be accessed at: bit.ly/morley-consultations. The online consultations open from the 10 July until 6 August 2023.



Dates for your diary

Morley Town Deal Board Meetings

Board meetings are open to the public and are usually held at Morley Town Hall, Large Banqueting Suite, Queen Street, Morley, LS27 9DY

Please check **bit.ly/morleynews** for the dates and times.

Open Consultations
(between 10 July until 6 Aug)

- Queen Street (pedestrianised area) public realm scheme
- Beryl Burton pocket park
- New Pavilion junction public realm scheme
- Improvements to Station Road
- Highway changes to Albion Street and Commercial Street.

Have your say by visiting:
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Get all the lastest news and events
morleytowndeal.commonplace.is

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