



Kindness and Resilience

• Financial resilience

We recognise the imperative to do all we can to reduce poverty and raise aspiration. An Anti-Poverty Action Plan has been developed through consultation with key stake holders across the Borough. The action plan focusses on three key areas:

- Prevention: Identifying necessary work to be done to support residents and protect them from falling into poverty;
- Intervention: Providing immediate support for those residents who may be in poverty;
- Resilience: Providing support and the means for residents to stay out of poverty.

Particular focus is given to reducing child, fuel and food poverty, which have been identified as key areas of need, to help the Council deliver the Vision for Calderdale in 2024, building on the borough's kindness and resilience. Calderdale Council has shown determination and resilience in seeking to sustain services which many others haven't. This includes our work on early intervention with both children and adults at risk and needing support to reduce demand when in crisis, and includes our efforts, in partnership with housing providers, voluntary and community sector, to sustain crisis support and advice to those receiving benefits and experiencing poverty both in and out of work. It is also signalled by our identification of additional funding despite the pressures, to tackle destitution, building upon our work with those at risk of homelessness.

The action plan is very much a working document, and officers will continue to review the content with partners to ensure that new projects, new challenges and changes in welfare legislation are reflected. It looks to complement the Council's work to build an inclusive economy, where everyone can access jobs, skills and opportunities. It also incorporates elements of the Cohesive Communities Strategy, which looks at how the Council can address inequalities.

Officers have also worked closely with colleagues developing our Inclusive Economy and Cohesion Strategies to ensure the work being carried out across the Council is joined up.

At the heart of our approach and the Inclusive Economy Strategy is our strong belief that business, public sector organisations, the voluntary and community sector and local people must work together if we are to create growth that benefits everyone. The combined efforts of all parts of our local society will be powerful and maximise our chances of success, bringing together everyone's talents for the benefit of all. The Inclusive Economy Strategy focusses on 6 key objectives (Growth and Investment, Social Value and Anchors, Access to Good Work, Young People and Lifelong Learning, People and Places and Targeting our Efforts) which will help us to achieve our vision of being a more inclusive economy from which everyone benefits. The Strategy sets the broad aims from which detailed actions are now being developed.

In November 2018 the Council secured over £1 million from the Leeds City Region Business Rates Pool to contribute towards this work. The work of this project will be a key element of our Inclusive Economy Strategy and will provide us with the opportunity to:

- co-design a place based skills and employment programme in one of our persistently most deprived communities, working with local people and the wider community; and
- develop and embed new policy and practice on social value into commissioning, contracting and recruitment processes across anchor organisations.

The Anti-Poverty Action Plan and the Inclusive Economy Strategy can both be found on the [Calderdale Council website](#). A collection of dashboards and datasets showing selected statistics on poverty in Calderdale has also been developed on [Calderdale DataWorks](#). The Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) has identified a list of 18 Inclusive growth monitor indicators which they feel will provide a good benchmark of how an area is performing. This dataset along with other indicators can be viewed on [Calderdale DataWorks](#).

A graphic illustration of how different Medium Super Output Areas (MSOAs) relate to each other, and to Calderdale can be viewed on the interactive [Income MSA profile](#). This includes data on insolvency rates, deprivation, household income after housing costs, house possessions and the number of people claiming housing benefits.

English Indices of Deprivation 2015

The English indices of deprivation is the Government's official source of evidence of deprivation at neighbourhood level. A range of 2015 factsheets and maps for Calderdale, including summaries for each ward, are available on [Calderdale DataWorks](#).

The indices of deprivation 2019 update is scheduled for publication in Summer 2019 following which factsheets and maps for Calderdale will be updated and published on Data works. The English Indices of Deprivation 2019 will retain and replicate the model used in 2015.

• Health and Wellbeing

We want our citizens to live a long, healthy life and reduce health differences between local areas. Working with other organisations, we aim to create a healthy environment and enable, inspire and motivate citizens to make healthy choices, seek treatment earlier and protect themselves against health threats.

Calderdale Cares

Calderdale Cares is the approach to delivering a place-based integrated health and social care system. This will enable neighbourhoods to develop at their own pace to improve the health and wellbeing of Calderdale residents. Calderdale Cares has been endorsed by many organisations including the Council's Cabinet, Calderdale CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group), Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust and South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. Calderdale Cares is being implemented through five localities, each serving between 30,000 and 50,000 people. The five localities are North, Central, South, Upper Valley and Lower Valley.

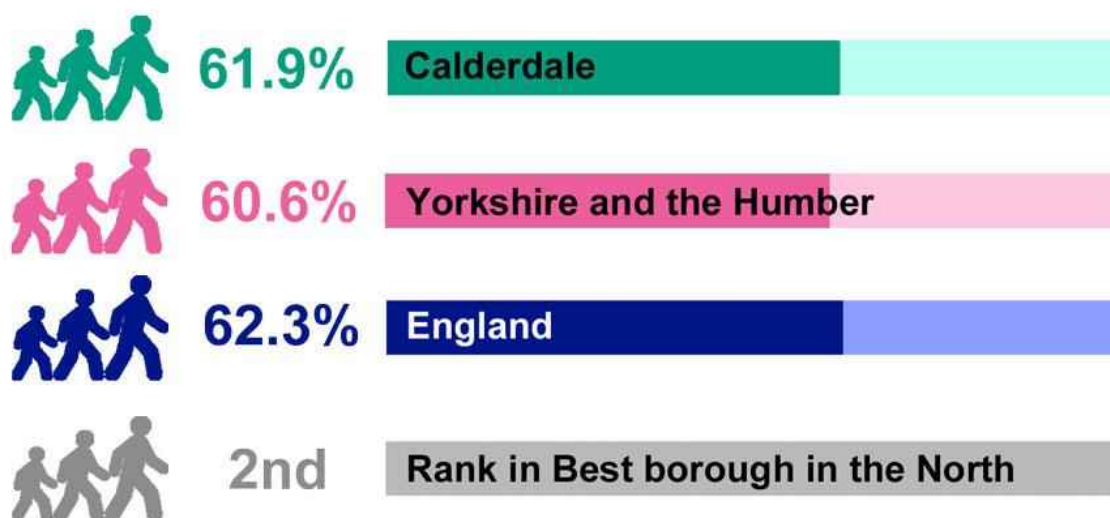
Calderdale Cares takes an evidence based approach, so data about people's health and the determinants of health will increasingly be produced on a locality basis. The data recognises the wider determinants on health such as people having good housing, feeling valued and having a purpose to their day, and lifestyle behaviour such as healthy eating, smoking, sensible drinking and regular exercise.

Over the past year, the GPs in each locality have started working together much more closely. Each locality is in the process of forming a partnership to encompass other key organisations, which, as well as including statutory agencies, will have other key partners such as the third sector and people who can represent the views of people that live in the locality. More information can be found on the [Calderdale Cares Video](#).

Active Calderdale

The outcomes for Physical Activity are easily linked with kindness and resilience. A more active Calderdale will see a more physically and mentally resilient population, with fewer people suffering from depression and dementia, people remaining independent for longer, and less people waiting in GP surgeries and hospitals due to more people being able to manage certain medical conditions.

Percentage of physically active adults for 150 minutes



Physical activity is proven to increase community relations, with increased volunteering and a reduction in social isolation. We have been in contact with community run physical activity programmes which have already had huge impacts on socially isolated individuals in Calderdale.

How do we make sure that we increase physical activity in Calderdale? The current strategy has three main areas of focus:

- Integration with Health and Social Care: We are utilising the reach and influence of the health and social care system on the inactive population in Calderdale;
- Community locality approach: We are working with the community, to make sure that all of the brilliant assets that we have in Calderdale are being utilised to promote physical activity for everyone;
- Physical activity in all policies and connecting the systems: We are changing the culture around physical activity by influencing policy change across the whole system, including education, planning, transport, workplaces, parks and open spaces and more. We want to make sure that changes are being implemented from the top down and the bottom up within systems.

Our plan is to ensure that everyone in Calderdale recognises the part that they have to play in system change, that they value the role of physical activity in achieving their outcomes, and that they adapt their working processes to enable change. A large part of this will be made possible through the kindness of the groups and individuals that we encounter, and the resilience of the people of Calderdale – who will know that the goals are worth pulling together and striving for.

For relevant data, see [Corporate Performance Dashboard](#).

Working with Schools

Calderdale Council is responsible for delivering high quality Public Health outcomes for school age children and young people, as set out in the Healthy Child Programme framework. As part of this responsibility, we provide a comprehensive offer of support through schools including:

- School Nurses;
- delivery of the mandatory National Child Measurement Programme;
- School health days focussing on eating behaviour and physical activity;
- Active travel promotion and road safety education;

- Bikeability programme;
- Sexual health promotion and support to schools around relationships and sex education (RSE);
- Substance misuse health promotion;
- Food for Life “Good nutrition” programme;
- PSHE (Personal social health and economic education) Association membership.

We and our partners aim to promote good health, prevent ill-health, and protect children and young people from harm. The support provided to schools is co-ordinated by our Public Health in Schools co-ordinator, who also supports schools to develop a bespoke Health and Wellbeing Action Plan, informed by the findings of our annual pupil health and wellbeing survey (see [electronic Health Needs Assessment](#)).

Going forward, we have commitment from partners to strengthen the school age public health offer to follow the Calderdale Cares model, bringing organisations together as an alliance with Education to deliver holistic person-centred support and with a shared commitment to work together to improve outcomes for school age children and young people. The overarching aim of this model is to work collectively to enable school age children and young people in Calderdale to be healthy, happy and safe, to be resilient, and to be able to reach their full potential in life. Success will be measured through a range of measures, including self-reported emotional wellbeing, physical activity levels, reduced hospital admissions rates, and academic attainment.

Working with Employers

There is clear evidence that good work improves health and wellbeing across people’s lives, not only from an economic standpoint but also in terms of quality of life. A healthy and happy workforce has synergistic benefits for workplaces, productivity and the economy.

Calderdale Council’s Chief Executive Robin Tuddenham has set up, and is Chair of, an internal Workforce Wellbeing Board to reinforce and promote the importance of Health and Wellbeing as part of everyday work of employees.

The Calderdale Public Health team are supporting external partners and local organisations to improve employee health and wellbeing, through the Workforce Health Network. This aims to develop a joined up approach to workforce health in Calderdale, with a focus on lifestyle risk factors including physical activity, eating well, mental health and emotional wellbeing, alcohol, drugs and smoking.

The current network members are Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust, West Yorkshire Police, Calderdale Clinical Commissioning Group, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Nestle, Lloyds, Smartmove and South West Yorkshire NHS Partnership Trust.

Plans are in place to develop the network and engage more businesses across Calderdale.

Staying Well Programme

Loneliness and social isolation is really damaging to health and affects people of all ages. One of the ways this is being addressed in Calderdale is by introducing people to the hundreds of social and physical activities available in the community through the Staying Well Programme. Getting involved in your community can help to improve many health conditions and people with active social lives tend to be happier and healthier.

The Staying Well team helps people to take that first step out of the door. A quarter of referrals come directly from individuals or their families and many more from social care and health staff, housing providers, charities and support groups. Last year the team worked with 771 people by discussing with them the kinds of activities and groups which might interest them, and helping them to address barriers to getting involved. In many cases someone accompanied them on their first visit to an activity.

Staying well

During 2018, the Staying well team worked with 771 people



“Are you lonely?” is never an easy question to ask, but the Staying Well team is not afraid of difficult questions. It’s down to all of us - friends and family, neighbours, shopkeepers, plumbers, housing officers, librarians and pub landlords - to find ways to broach the subject with the people we come into contact with every day. More information and positive stories can be found on the [Staying Well](#) website and [@stayingwellcal](#) twitter account.

For further Information on loneliness and social isolation see:

- [Campaign to End Loneliness](#)
- [Looking out for our neighbours](#)

Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

The mind and body are interlinked. Both ‘good’ and ‘positive’ mental health - similar to physical health - is affected by personal, social and environmental issues. This is the case for people of all ages and is important when looking to build resilience both in communities and individuals. Resilience is the ability to cope with normal daily stressors and bounce back from problems when they occur.

Across Calderdale we are focusing on enhancing resilience and kindness for Vision 2024 with the aim of more people able to experience good and positive mental health. An approach taken in Calderdale to build resilience is through promoting communities and individuals to incorporate the [Five Ways to Wellbeing](#) (Connect, Be Active, Take Notice, Keep Learning and Give) into their lives.

Although the focus is on good and positive mental health, some people’s quality of life can be significantly affected by mental health issues. The term ‘mental health issues’ is an umbrella term to cover the full range of mental health conditions and disorders. It is estimated that up to 15.0% (12.5% males and 19.7% females) of the population at any one time may be affected.

For further information on mental health for all ages see:

- [Mental Health chapter](#)
- [Open Minds Calderdale](#)
- [Healthy Minds Calderdale Wellbeing](#)
- [Improving Access to Psychological Therapies \(IAPT\) Insight Health Care](#)
- [Improving Access to Psychological Therapies \(IAPT\) South West Yorkshire Foundation Trust](#)
- [Andy’s Man Club](#)
- [Samaritans](#)
- [Time to Change](#)
- [Mind](#)
- [NHS Mood Zone](#)
- [Suicide Prevention Plan](#)

Life Expectancy

Since 1992-94, life expectancy in males in Calderdale has increased by almost 6 years. Males are now expected to live to 78.6 years (2015-2017 data), though this is still a year less than the England average. Life expectancy in females has increased by 4 years since 1992-94. Females are now expected to live to 82.1 years (2015-2017) though this is a year less than the England average.

For both males and females, cancer is the biggest contributor to the life expectancy gap between Calderdale and England - there are 26 excess deaths per year in males and 16 in females. This is followed by respiratory conditions (21 excess deaths in males and 24 in females) and circulatory conditions (23 excess deaths in males and 9 in females).

Healthy life expectancy at birth in males increased between 2010-12 and 2014-16 to be in line with the England average. The most recent year's data has shown a drop of almost two years, though the change is not statistically significant. Healthy life expectancy at birth in females decreased from 2009-11 to 2012-14. However it has increased since 2013-15 and is now 64.4 years, which is slightly higher than the England average at 63.8 years.

There are significant inequalities in life expectancy in Calderdale. Males in the least deprived quintile are expected to live 7 and a half years longer than those in the most deprived quintile. Females in the least deprived quintile are expected to live just over 9 years longer than in the most deprived quintile

Until recently the trend in mortality over the last 100 years in England had been relatively clear. Since World War 1 every decade has seen people living longer than before. But since 2011, improvement in mortality rates and life expectancy in England has slowed down considerably for both men and women. This trend is mirrored in Calderdale for some age groups, and for some parts of England improvement has stopped altogether. Indeed, in Calderdale life expectancy has fallen in some geographical areas.

There has also been an increase in the number of deaths in some recent winters. Excess winter deaths in 2017/18 were the highest in over 40 years. Reductions in mortality from heart disease and stroke, which are leading causes of death, have historically driven improvements in life expectancy. Since 2011, there has been a slowdown in improvement in mortality rates for these causes which has therefore had a large impact on the trend in life expectancy

While flu, heart disease and stroke have partly determined the trend in mortality rates in older adults, other causes of death have influenced the trend in younger people. Mortality rates among younger adults made almost no positive contribution to trends in life expectancy between 2011 and 2016, despite making small positive contributions in earlier years. The cause of death that had the biggest negative impact was accidental poisoning, with 70% of these deaths due to drug misuse and 10% due to alcohol.

The main findings from a national review suggest that the overall slowdown in improvement is due to factors operating across a wide range of age groups, geographies and causes of death. It has also been seen, to some extent, in some other countries. However, it is not possible to attribute the recent slowdown in improvement to any single cause and it is likely that a number of factors, operating at the same time, need to be addressed.

Table 1: Life Expectancy at Birth for Calderdale and England

Area	Male				Female			
	2012-2014	2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017	2012-2014	2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017
Calderdale	78.3	78.6	78.7	78.6	82.1	82.1	82.3	82.1
England	79.4	79.5	79.5	79.6	83.1	83.1	83.1	83.1
Difference	-1.1	-0.9	-0.8	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-0.8	-1.0

Data source: [Public Health England \(PHE\): Public Health Outcomes Framework](#) accessed 20 February 2019.

For further information on life expectancy, see:

- [Calderdale JSNA: Life expectancy](#)
- [Calderdale Public Health Annual Report 2017/18](#)
- [PHE: Mortality Profile](#)
- [Calderdale Data Works: Public Health data by ward](#)

For relevant data, see [Corporate Performance Dashboard](#).

• **Community and Partnerships**

Supporting the Voluntary and Community Sector

Regionally, we know that supporting the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector makes sound economic sense. Findings from the Third Sector Trends Study in Yorkshire and the Humber (Joseph Rowntree, 2017) showed that:

- there were 85,000 full time equivalent employees in the VCSE sector, making up 3-4% of the entire workforce of the region;
- the economic value, by salaries, of these employees is estimated to be £1.8 billion; and
- work of the VCSE sector was supported by a dedicated network of more than 340,000 volunteers who donated time estimated to be worth £200-£300 million.

In 2017, Community Foundation for Calderdale and the Council commissioned research to complete the local picture. Leeds Beckett University are currently working on data to qualify the findings but initial headline data suggest:

- Calderdale has 457 incorporated organisations aiming to serve our community;
- the sector pay cheque may be in the region of £140,000,000 per annum;
- the value of volunteering in Calderdale may be in the region of £960,000; and
- the sector in Calderdale is dominated by small organisations (ie, with less than £100,000 per annum turnover or micro organisations).

The Council has demonstrated its continued commitment to working partnership with the VCSE sector, sustaining funding and support during austerity as it recognises the key role the sector play in building kinder, more resilient communities. In 2015, Calderdale Council became the only Council to approve a Community Anchor Policy which established the idea of parity of esteem for the sector in its relationship with the Council. This fits well with the ideas set out by Julia Unwin in the Civil Society Futures Commission where power, accountability, connections and trust are central to how, together with our partners, Council can solve society's challenges. We are continuing to work with community anchor organisations. These are strong, enterprising local organisations that are well placed to deliver services in their communities, give communities resilience and can act as a catalyst for regeneration and an inclusive economy. A number of community anchors are involved in a range of strategic programmes including Staying Well, Active Calderdale, Children's Centres and emergency flood resilience.

In 2017, the Council and Calderdale Commissioning Group (CCG) co-commissioned the Voluntary Sector Infrastructure (VSI) Alliance to offer tailored support to Calderdale's VCSE sector to help achieve the aim for voluntary sector partners to be an equal partner working to deliver our Vision for Calderdale in 2024. The VSI Alliance is an award winning innovative collaborative partnership where both commissioners and our providers - Voluntary Action Calderdale (VAC), Forum, Locality and West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Services (WYCAS) - are jointly responsible for delivery. This developed from Calderdale Council's participation in the national Keep It Local national pilot led by Locality. This work is now informing our developing approach to Social Value and our Inclusive Economy Strategy, and how we continue to develop a strong relationship with our VCSE sector.

Volunteering

In Calderdale the rugged landscape and extreme weather pulls people together in times of need. We have a great history of people, streets, whole communities coming together to do things differently and make their place better. This active community spirit is reflected in Calderdale Council's appetite to support

[volunteering](#) with ourselves and with the hundreds of community and charity groups in our area. We commission our partners in the [Voluntary Sector Infrastructure \(VSI\) Alliance](#) too so they can empower more people in Calderdale to take social action and become involved in volunteering and support voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations to develop their volunteering opportunities.

Making a difference could be caring for the countryside, mentoring a disadvantaged child or driving a minibus - or it could be popping in on a neighbour who lives alone. Something we can enjoy at any stage of life.

Volunteering isn't all about giving either. As a volunteer you meet new people, share stories and become more connected with the people and places around you. Our [cases studies](#) show just what a difference volunteering makes, for you and those around you.

In the [Vision 2024 perception survey](#), 40% of Calderdale respondents reported that they had taken part in unpaid formal volunteering during the last year. Results from the Community Life Survey (Office for National Statistics (ONS), 2018) state that in Yorkshire and Humber 35% of adults take part in formal volunteering each year. The Vision 2024 survey also found that 67% of Calderdale respondents think that people in their neighbourhood pull together to improve their local area. This again compares well with the national average of 59% from the Community Life Survey.



Flood Resilience

The Council in its statutory role of Lead Local Flood Authority works in partnership with other flood risk authorities - Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water Services, Canal and River Trust - to reduce the risk of flooding. The [Flood Action Plan](#) for Calderdale was updated in September 2018.

Work continues to make Calderdale more resilient to flooding, particularly following the major flood event on Boxing Day 2015. Construction of the Mytholmroyd Flood Alleviation Scheme commenced in 2018 and is due for completion in early 2020. Further major schemes at Hebden Bridge and Brighouse are at design stage. In total £65m has been allocated to support major schemes and a programme of smaller flood risk reduction schemes across Calderdale. This is on top of the funding spent on recovery work following Boxing Day 2015, which included £25m from the Department for Transport to rebuild 41km of carriageway and 15 bridges. The Environment Agency also spent £18.8m from their Asset Recovery Programme on repairs.

The public has a key role to play in flood resilience and many have taken steps to prepare for any future flood events. Residents have incorporated property level protection to their homes with over 1,600 properties and 700 businesses receiving grants to fund installation. The community has also been active in joining flood warden groups in towns throughout the Calder Valley and many have volunteered to install natural flood management features in the Upper Valley.

Five successful flood exercises have been undertaken since the Boxing Day floods, involving Calderdale Council and its flood partner organisations, to ensure the best possible preparation for any future incidents.

In the [Vision 2024 perception survey](#), respondents were asked whether they believed that their community is well prepared to respond to flooding. 49% of respondents agreed with this statement, 17% disagreed, and 34% gave a neutral response. The [Calderdale Flood Programme](#) is dedicated to ensuring that communities are well prepared to respond to flooding and although the results of the survey indicate that many residents feel that their needs are being met in this regard, there is still work to do. With partners continuing to work tirelessly toward this common goal, it is hoped that if residents are asked this question again in 2-5 years' time, their confidence levels should be substantially higher.

The Environment Agency provides a number of resources to help people manage flooding including tools to help them check their flood risk. These include a [free flood warning service](#) and [flood plan templates](#).

For further information relating to flooding see:

- [Eye on Calderdale](#)
- [Calderdale Council Flooding Information](#)
- [Calderdale JSNA - Flooding](#)
- [Calderdale Flood Data](#)
- [Flood Siren Locations](#)
- [Flood Map for Planning](#)

Community Cohesion

Addressing inequality and promoting a cohesive community underpin our vision for Calderdale. Across the borough there are hundreds of individuals, community, voluntary and faith groups, social enterprises, businesses and others creating opportunities, enabling community connections and promoting a kinder place. This year the Council agreed its Cohesive Communities Strategy.

People come together in our towns and villages to celebrate local identity and build a sense of belonging whether these are large events such as the Jo Cox Great Get Together in the Piece Hall; or small neighbourhood activities such as the women of Sowerby Bridge and Park wards who reach out to each other to build friendships and call themselves the Yorkshire Mixtures, people of all backgrounds and faiths coming together in Todmorden to share Iftari (breaking the fast during Ramadan), and a simple act of kindness in Elland to welcome a new family settling in the area from a conflict zone.

Ward based grants have been allocated to over 150 small community groups over the year, the lifeblood of local neighbourhoods – enabling local people to identify their own solutions to local issues.

Working in partnership with [Calderdale Community Foundation](#) and voluntary sector partners we have focused efforts on the integration of, and support to, new arrivals within our communities, in particular Asylum Seekers and Refugees. The projects reflect our commitment to enabling people to build relationships and contribute to their local communities.

Our local communities continue to respond, reshape and show resilience when things get tough – whether that is helping care workers get to their clients in bad weather using their 4 wheel drive vehicles; giving a driver a bed for the night when they get stranded in the snow; reaching out to an Asylum Seeker to play cricket; or the small group of residents from Halifax who travelled to Todmorden to help with a community clean up. All these acts of kindness, and all of the others that we don't know about, the volunteers that don't see themselves as volunteers – simply as good neighbours, build our resilience and our sense of place.

In the [Vision 2024 perception survey](#), 42.6% of respondents reported that they felt that people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area.

For relevant data, see [Corporate Performance Dashboard](#).

Neighbourhoods

Within times of austerity the work amongst community groups and residents through simple acts of kindness has developed in different forms, from working with residents in establishing a Growing Together

Community Group who organise community clean-ups in areas where litter and rubbish is an issue in neighbourhoods to supporting residents (Sisters United Group) in developing a G4S Residents Housing Charter, working with asylum seekers and refugees.

Communities organising The Great Get Together events has led to us supporting events with communities working and visiting events within different wards (such as Illingworth and Park women working together) and establishing friendships. Jo Cox's legacy has been seen across all parts of Calderdale and communities coming together to socialise/learn and interact has developed.

The Park ward Neighbourhood Forum is working on developing their neighbourhood plan, so communities can contribute in how they would like their neighbourhood to look in the next 15 years, developing a vision for their area. The forum has worked on various other projects that have built resilience and shown acts of kindness, by applying for funding and making the Shroggs Valley green space a more accessible place for the residents of Mixenden and Park Ward. The heritage working group has, for the last few years, promoted free heritage walks in Park Ward. Residents from throughout Calderdale have attended the walks and this work has been integral in forming positive relationships within diverse communities.

Our work with communities to build community capacity and promote community action continues. So far this financial year over £57,000 has been awarded through the Ward Forum Grants scheme to community organisations and towards initiatives to support communities to address issues that matter to them. This has included creating a community toolkit in the Lower Valley that is available for groups organising community events, clean ups and other projects.

Working to develop a sense of place and a strong community voice, the Town Development Boards put communities at the heart of decision making. The Boards which are now established in Brighouse, Elland, Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd, Sowerby Bridge and Todmorden are a partnership between Calderdale Council, communities and businesses. The Boards play a key role in identifying local priorities and have driven forward and been a key partner in a significant number of projects and initiatives.

Recognising the difference that volunteers make across Calderdale is vital so that we continue to provide opportunities and support to people who want to make a positive difference in their communities. These include supporting groups who help maintain and improve our green spaces, promote our many heritage assets, or provide so many activities and services which make a significant difference to people's lives. The role we play as council services and our partners with a range of expertise is to work together to support the wealth of enthusiasm, creativity and dedication that exists with our communities.

Community Safety

One of the Council's priorities is to create safer communities and there are a range of services and initiatives helping to achieve this, see [Calderdale: Crime prevention and community safety](#).

A number of different organisations have come together to form the [Calderdale Community Safety Partnership](#) with a shared vision of 'Everyone in Calderdale feeling safe and protected at all times'. In March 2018 the partnership were awarded £30,000 to be used as an operational fund for front-line delivery purposes addressing the needs arising in the community.

As of January 2019, a total of £22,619 has been allocated to projects across the borough, including an initiative to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the main towns in the borough over the festive period; installation of CCTV in Ripponden and West Vale; replacement of fencing in an area which was becoming a hotspot for anti-social behaviour; and provision of road safety materials for working with schools.

Operation Hawmill, funded by the Council, is the Calderdale Partnership road safety campaign tackling anti-social use of vehicles and offences on the road network of Calderdale. Priorities are set through the Road Safety Delivery Group focusing on the 'Fatal 4' offences:

- being over the prescribed limit through drink or drug use;
- speeding;
- using a mobile phone while driving; and
- not wearing a seatbelt.

Since November 2017, figures show:

- 128 vehicles seized;
- 43 offenders using a phone;
- 100 offenders speeding;
- 247 offenders not wearing seatbelts;
- 268 other offences dealt with;
- 29 arrests.

West Yorkshire Police held Calderdale as the flagship for the region and would like to see this approach replicated across the force.

[Community Safety Wardens](#) work across Calderdale to help keep our communities safe. They work in partnership with other agencies, such as the Police and the Fire Service.

Halifax was the first town in West Yorkshire to receive the [purple flag award](#) in 2010 and has retained it every year since. The award recognises towns and cities that offer an entertaining, diverse, safe and enjoyable night out.

Over the past few years, the police have changed how crime is reported; as a result more crime is being reported than ever before. One such crime is the rise in malicious communications, which falls under violent crime. Within Calderdale malicious communications increased from 227 offences in 2017/18 quarter 2 to 391 in 2018/19 quarter 2. As we now have far more intelligence into the types of crimes that are being committed we are able to manage resources and awareness campaigns more effectively.

For information on crime data for Calderdale including an interactive monthly tool from Trafford providing crime data by ward and type, recorded crime and annual extracts from Police data, see [Calderdale Data Works: Crime](#).

More information can be seen here: [#SaferCalderdale](#).

For relevant data, see [Corporate Performance Dashboard](#).

Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is a serious problem. The Home Office definition of domestic abuse is:

"Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over and who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality."

In the year April 2017 to March 2018, there were 4,626 incidents of domestic abuse reported to the Police in Calderdale. This was an increase of 6.1% compared to the previous year, the lowest increase in West Yorkshire, with the West Yorkshire average increase for that period at 11.6%.

The [Calderdale Domestic Abuse Hub](#) includes partners from the Police, Children's Social Care, Health, Staying Safe (Domestic Abuse Support Service) and others. The Hub meet daily with a shared objective to intervene early, engage with the victim soon after the incident, and to prevent escalation or repeats. 1,717 cases were discussed in the year April 2017 to March 2018.

The Hub was recognised, in the recent Ofsted Inspection of Children's Social Care Services, as an example of strong collaborative working to improve children's lives.

"Children exposed to domestic abuse are quickly identified and protected. A multi-agency domestic abuse hub meets daily to consider the impact for children who have been directly harmed or have witnessed incidents of domestic abuse. Comprehensive information from a wide range of partners leads to timely and effective decisions about the level of help and protection that victims and children need. Actions are focused effectively on reducing risks and

preventing further incidents of domestic abuse, including decisions to initiate social work assessment or progressing to child protection enquiries”.

A review of the Domestic Abuse Hub found that the process has improved joint working between agencies and raised the profile of the specialist domestic abuse support service in Calderdale, [Staying Safe](#) .

West Yorkshire Police are promoting [Clare's Law](#) (also known as the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme) in a new ‘Ask Us’ campaign. The campaign encourages the public to use their ‘right to ask’ if they are worried that a partner or ex-partner may have a history of domestic abuse.

Calderdale offers a number of support services for people affected by domestic abuse. For more information see:

- [Calderdale JSNA: Domestic abuse](#)
- [Calderdale: Domestic violence and abuse](#)
- [Women Centre](#)
- [Calderdale Women's Refuge](#)
- [West Yorkshire Police: Domestic abuse](#)

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