



# HAVA

Hawksworth Wood  
Abbeydales  
Vespers  
Area

**Big Local  
Community Profile  
June 2013**

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## Introduction

The National Lottery has awarded £1 million to be spent in the **Hawthorn Wood, Abbeydales and Vespers** area (**HAVA**) over the next ten years in a programme called Big Local. Big Local funding is aimed at helping neighbourhoods to respond to local issues and develop skills and confidence to change things for the better.

This *Community Profile* describes the area, its people, its strengths and some of its problems. We can use it over time to assess progress made through the Big Local programme.

We are also producing a Big Local *Community Plan* for the area that will describe the main priorities for use of the £1 million. The £1 million will not solve everything - we hope, led by residents, we can work jointly with the council, other public services, local businesses and community groups to help make **HAVA** an even better place to live.

## The Big Local area

The Hawthorn Wood, Abbeydales and Vespers area (**HAVA**) is within Kirkstall ward, Leeds West Parliamentary constituency and the postcode LS5 area, and is approximately 5 miles from Leeds City Centre. There are around 6400 people living in the **HAVA** area, around 60% of whom are of working age. Approximately 48% of residents are male and 52% are female.

This Community Profile has been drawn up based on consultation with residents and organisations in the **HAVA** area. The **HAVA** partnership have held various Big Local meetings since the award was announced and the feedback from residents given at those meetings has been used wherever possible in this profile. The **HAVA** partnership has also approached various community groups and public organisations active in the area for information.

This profile also uses some information that comes from what are called Lower Super Output Areas. The **HAVA** Big Local boundary covers four LSOAs. The facts and figures gathered from the relevant LSOAs - and the Medium SOA for the area - were used by the Lottery when choosing the area for the award and are therefore used consistently within this profile.

The map below shows the Big Local area fitting within the LSOA areas.



## History of the HAVA area - Hawksworth Wood, Abbeydales and Vesper Gates



The name Hawksworth Wood, originally Hawkesworth Wood, has been around for a very long time. It was probably in use when, in 1152, a group of monks led by Abbot Alexander arrived and displaced some hermits living there to build Kirkstall Abbey. The name may have come from the village of Hawksworth, or it may have given that village its name. Certainly, it was preserved as a source of shelter, pannage, thatch and other renewables for the abbey. Timber was generally brought from elsewhere.

The Cistercian monks were considerable technologists and became very wealthy through excellent farming practices, good metal working techniques, fine brewing and efficient quarrying, though the quarrying was mostly done in Bramley, not Kirkstall. The extensive quarrying done in Hawksworth Wood followed the Enclosure Act of 1852.

Since those days, much of the woodland has been lost to housing and industry, although the land lost to quarrying is steadily reverting to mature woodland. Good efforts are made by Leeds City council to manage the remaining woods and to make them accessible.

The estate of this name was built from the early 1920s to the early 1930s by Leeds City Council under the Homes fit for Heroes programme. These houses were built to the Parker Morris Standards, which governed the quality of materials used, the size of rooms, design and construction. The houses were built on a hill known to experience high winds as a Sunshine Estate, aimed to improve the lives of people suffering lung conditions caused by their work in heavy industry, in this case largely through working at Kirkstall Forge.

Some remains of Kirkstall Abbey's Vesper Gate are still visible. The old stone pub of that name still stands on Abbey Road. The area has some housing going back to Edwardian days, but most has been built incrementally since then. There are a few local shops on Abbey Road, and the area adjoins the wide open spaces of the rugby pitches and grassed open space of the Abbey grounds, but there is little open space within the housing.

The Abbeydales is a term coined by a developer to describe a coherent estate lying across the bottom of the Hawksworth Wood Estate down to Abbey Road and extending from the hairpin return of Vesper Road to the North and the Vesper Gate area to the South. This estate has no accessible public open space or indeed any other public facilities.



Cragside Place, 1928



Hawksworth Estate, circa 1920s



Hawksworth Estate, 1921, gas lamp in foreground

“Here is a comment from Chris highlighted”

*Chris Underwood, Local Resident*

### **The People who live in the Hawksworth Wood, Abbeydales and Vesper areas**

One of the four Hawksworth Wood LSOAs (number '484') falls within the 5% most deprived nationally. Two ('485' and '487') fall within the 20% most deprived<sup>1</sup> nationally, and one ('486') falls within the 30% most deprived nationally.

Only around 5.4% of the population of the area describe themselves as “non white/Black minority ethnic” - this is half of the Leeds wide percentage (10.4%).

Languages spoken in the area include English, Urdu and Polish. There is a larger than average population of South Eastern / Eastern European people.

There are a number of close families in the **HAVA** area some have three or more generations and many have lived in the area for several years; many of the families on the estate are linked through marriage and a strong community has evolved as a result. Several residents noted the people and friendly neighbours as a reason to live in the area.

Young people in the area are perceived as needing support, when asked what the worst things about the area are, the key themes that emerge are often the lack of respect amongst young people, lack of parental support and older children being disruptive.

A lot of consultation by the Council and other partners has happened in the area over many years and although some positive improvements have happened as a result from there seems to be a general feeling of apathy.

The area has a reputation in the wider community for being undesirable; this reputation is not necessarily backed up by statistical evidence.

## What does Hawksworth Wood Look Like?

Several residents at Big Local meetings have noted how green the area is, with large green spaces on the roundabouts and verges, and trees throughout the area. Some residents note that the verges could be visually improved with flowers beds or vegetable patches, possibly through a project with young people. It was also felt that there could be more scope for further tree planting throughout the area to build on the already green spaces, and to link into the wood. The area outside the Co-op on Broadway has been identified by residents as drab and grey and has been suggested it could do with some modernising.

The Hawksworth woodland area is predominantly trees such as oaks and sycamore. Interesting features of the wood are the heather-clad outcrops above the trees possibly left over from the quarrying days as well as lots of old stone troughs / gutters left over from the stone-working days.

The **HAVA** area sits close to Kirkstall Abbey which provides around 24 hectares of parkland and historic architecture.



Outside the Co-Op looking at Broadway Shops

## Planning and Development

Hawksworth Wood is a predominantly residential area which has limited opportunity for significant new developments. However, the significant future development sites at Kirkstall Forge and Woodside Quarry fall close to the Hawksworth Wood boundary to the south and north respectively. The mixed use developments at both these sites are anticipated to have a noteworthy impact on the character of the wider area and on existing infrastructure.

The Hawksworth Wood area includes part of the Kirkstall Abbey Conservation Area to the south east, one of a number of Conservation Areas in Leeds without an up-to-date Conservation Area Appraisal, and the grade II listed St Mary's Church on Hawksworth Avenue which, constructed in the 1930's, is described as a late but well executed flowering of the Arts and Crafts Movement and was designed by the nationally significant architect W.D. Caroe (1857-1938).

The Hawksworth Wood shopping centre is designated as a Lower Order Local Centre in the Local Development Framework draft Core Strategy (due to be adopted in 2013) and as such is outlined to contribute to weekly and day-to-day shopping requirements, local employment, community facilities and leisure opportunities in the immediate local area.

The Hawksworth area only includes one site allocated for housing in the latest version of Leeds City Council's Strategic Housing Land Assessment, a modestly sized site at the junction of Spen Lane and Vesper Road. The Hawksworth Wood area action plan area is included in the Kirkstall Vision (Spring 2010) document which sets out a number of community aspirations relating to planning and other Council services.

## Local Businesses, Shopping, Banking

The parade of shops on Broadway and Vesper Road offer some local amenities to the residents of the area including a hairdressers. There are two off-licences on the estate on Vesper Road and on Lea Farm Road; there is also a motor repair and tyre sales shop on Vesper Road. There are many food takeaways including a Chinese takeaway and a fast food takeaway. There is also a guest house with six rooms available for bed and breakfast.



The Co-Op Supermarket on Broadway serves the local community and is open daily from 7am – 10pm. Lloyds Pharmacy is on Vesper Road and open weekdays 9am – 6pm. The services offered at the pharmacy include diabetes testing, blood pressure testing, stop smoking service and asthma service.

The shops in the area are well used and the residents note them as convenient, however the range of shops is limited and residents must go further a field to access a broader range of shops. The Kirkstall Road Shops which are outside of the **HAVA** area provide a large Morrison's supermarket, a Boots, Specsavers and Halfords. Further away, but accessible by bus, is Horsforth Town Street with a Morrison's supermarket and some smaller local shops.

There are various self employed and professional tradesmen living in the area.

The Post Office on Broadway was closed in August 2010 and the facility lost; the nearest Post Office was an uphill walk to Butcher Hill and was not easily accessible by residents particularly those residents who were elderly or had disabilities. Residents campaigned against the closure with a petition, public meetings and lots of community support. Although in November 2011 a mobile post office was piloted in the area, in August 2012 the Post Office reopened after two years without provision for the area. The Post Office is the only banking provision in the immediate area.

In The **HAVA** area there is a Pub called the Vesper Gate On Kirkstall Road and a conservative club on Cragside Walk; the last Public house on the Hawksworth wood estate The Broadway burnt down a number of years ago.

Residents have suggested the Big Local money could be used for the possibility of starting a community café which would act as a focal point for the community.

There are issues with debt and loan sharks in the area, and the Big Local funding has been identified as an opportunity to create a Credit Union, advice services and other services to tackle these issues. The Children's Centre have identified a Credit Union as a possible project.

## Facilities



There are limited facilities in the area. The Cragside Recreation Ground was refurbished a few years ago using money from the Children's Big Lottery Fund.

The nearest Leisure Centre is Kirkstall Leisure Centre which is around a mile outside the **HAVA** area. Hawksworth Wood YMCA do provide some sports and games activities for young people such as football, street dance, games, roller disco and trips to ice skating. There are various classes held in the area such as Zumba.

Residents at various Big Local events have identified the Big Local money as an opportunity to improve and build more facilities; ideas have included a skatepark, more park play areas, including the possibility of using some of the green spaces already in the area.

Residents have also requested a community hall; although HOPS (Hawthornth Older People's Support Service) and St Mary's do have a plan to develop the existing Church Hall into a community building.

There is no static library in the area but the community mobile library visits the area on a Friday at 3pm, the older people mobile library visits fortnightly on a Wednesday at 10.15am, and the children's mobile library visits two locations on a Sunday at 12.15pm and 2pm.

## Local Community Groups



There are several active community groups serving different sections of the community including HOPS (Hawthornth Older People's Support Service) which runs various projects benefiting older residents of the area,

Hawthornth Wood Community Association manages a community shop and offices on Broadway.

The YMCA provide youth facilities to the area.

Hawks Eye View is a local newsletter for the area.

## Religion

69.5% of people in the area describe themselves as Christian. This is broadly the same percentage as Leeds as a whole (68.87%). 1.42% of people in the area describe themselves as Muslim, which is lower than the Leeds average of 1.57%.

The **HAVA** area has many churches within including St Mary's which serves the Church of England community and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints which is on Vesper Road. The nearest Catholic church is the Assumption of Our Lady which is part of the parish of Holy Name of Jesus. There are other denominations and religious groups active but they do not have a clear base or building for worship in or close to the area.

## Employment

Employability is a key issue in the area; of the 4458 residents who are of working age in the area, 269 are in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance which at 6.03% is considerably higher than the Leeds percentage of 4.54%.

There are also 820 people who are out of work claimants which is 18.39% and is a full 6.3% more than the Leeds percentage of 12.01%. Around 31% of young people aged between 0 – 15 are living in workless households.

At various Big Local consultation events, issues caused by the lack of work have been identified as a priority; the changes to the Welfare Reform system being brought in by the Government nationally will impact on people in the area but what the impacts may be are not yet fully known.

## Young People, Education and Schools

There is one school within the **HAVA** area - Hawksworth Wood Primary School on Cragside Walk which has 191 pupils on roll. In the latest OFSTED report (April 2011) the school was judged to be good with a significant number of outstanding features. At Key Stage 2, 90% of pupils achieve level 5 or above in English and Mathematics, with 24% gaining Level 5 or above.

The majority of secondary aged children in the area travel to Lawnswood School in West Park; the school is a Mathematics and Computing specialist. There are 1412 pupils on role, of which 213 are in the sixth form provision. The OFSTED report in September 2009 noted that the school was overall inadequate and the school was placed in special measures. At the last OFSTED report in June 2011 the school was taken out of special measures and given a broad rating of satisfactory. 85% of students gain 5 or more A\* to C GCSE grades.

Abbey Grange Church of England Academy is the nearest secondary school to the **HAVA** area, the school is on Butcher Hill; the school is a Humanities specialist. There are 1,223 pupils on role of which 204 are in the sixth form provision. The OFSTED report in February 2012 noted that the school was broadly a good school. 86% of students gain 5 or more A\* - C GCSE grades.

Attainment at GCSE based on students who actually live in the area is low, around 40% of young people in the area achieve 5 or more grades A\* - C at GCSE level (including English and Maths) this is 13% less than the average for Leeds as a whole and around 18% less than the national average. There are issues with young people transitioning between primary and secondary education and not achieving at GCSE what their results at primary suggest they should.

An average of 8.7% of young people in the area are classed as NEET (Not in Education Employment or Training) and this figure is particularly high for LSOA E01011486 which covers the Cragrides and Abbeydales area where the figure reaches an average of 13.1% high.

The average of persistent absenteeism at secondary school, again based on where students live rather than school is at 10.9% and is 4.6% higher than the Leeds average of 6.3%. This peaks at 13.9% in E01011484 which covers the Lea Farm area.

Further afield schools include Kirkstall St Stephen's CE Primary on Morris Lane, the school has 205 students on role and was judged at OFSTED in 2010 as good.

Hawksworth Wood Children's Centre opened in 2005 and is situated on Broadway. The OFSTED rating in 2012 was Good; with several outstanding features. The centre has a combination of full time day care and part time education places for 60 children aged from 3 months to four years. The majority of the children who attend are from the local community. The centre has links to Job Centre Plus and runs counselling services. There are 2 Family Outreach Workers who support local parents in the community. The centre aims to help children and families achieve good outcomes in education and support parents' future prospects into work or training, working in partnership with Hawksworth Wood Primary School, YMCA, HOPS and statutory services.



The YMCA run young person provision in the area including football, crafts, arts and other activities for girls and boys of school age. The INW Hub Cluster Extended Services works with the schools in the area to look at addressing key priorities such as improving attendance, reducing the risk of NEET and keeping young people safe.

Young people are perceived by many as creating problems of anti-social behaviour and addressing this is seen as a key issue in the area by residents to spend some of the Big Local money on either through projects addressing young people provision, anti-social behaviour or through creating a bursary scheme for academically able young people towards their university education.

## Environment

The housing on the estate has many semi-detached properties and the nature of this housing, along with a number of large green spaces, gives the estate an open and suburban feel, and the green feel of the environment is a key asset for the area. However, as many of the homes have large gardens, these can be difficult to maintain, particularly for the elderly and many of the wide grass verges are churned up and used for parking. Residents have identified the lack of maintenance of both gardens and verges as key issues in the area. There are issues with dog fouling, particularly by the shops.



## Community Safety and Crime

At one of the Big Local consultation events, crime was identified as a key issue for the area by the majority of residents attending.

The MSOA data shows that of recorded data for crime the area has a higher than Leeds average rate of crime (103.9% to 93.7%). Rates of domestic burglary is higher in the area by 29% than the Leeds average and 44% higher than the England rates (55% Hawksworth Wood MSOA, 26.3% Leeds and 10.7% England). However rates of vehicle crime are lower (6.9% in the Hawksworth Wood MSOA and 11.1% in Leeds).

The **HAVA** area falls under the Headingley, Weetwood & Kirkstall Neighbourhood Policing Team. The priorities in the area are reducing burglary, reducing nuisance bikes and reducing anti-social behaviour.

Kirkstall	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	# Difference	% Difference
Burglary Dwelling	478	533	354	-179	-33
Criminal Damage	462	403	324	-79	-20
Robbery	44	47	39	-8	-17
Theft from Motor Vehicle	211	240	160	-80	-33
Theft of Motor Vehicle	76	60	44	-16	-27
Violent Crime	351	371	288	-83	-22

Table showing Kirkstall Ward wide crime statistics and differences for the last three years

Kirkstall ward has experienced a decrease across all crime types in 2011/12. This follows an increase during the previous year and the additional work and effort by the Police and partners during the previous 12 months has led to this decrease.

In Hawksworth Wood specifically, work has included holding several action days where several agencies join together to look at tackling the priority crime issues and the introduction of a Local Lettings Policy in March 2012 by West North West Homes has helped tackle Anti Social Behaviour.

## Housing

Around 50% of the houses listed for Council Tax are in Band A and 26.7% are Band B. The average house price in the area is around £141,597.

The Council housing is run by West North West Homes Leeds which is an Arm's Length Management Organisation or ALMO so while the local Council owns the company, it operates independently from it on day-to-day matters. There are approx 47 homes in the area which are Council owned. The majority of the Council owned properties are at the top of the Big Local area split by Vesper Road, the houses below Vesper Road are mainly in private ownership.

The turnover for the Council homes in the area is at 3.98%. The average waiting time at the moment for the wider Kirkstall Ward (statistics per neighbourhood are not easily accessible) is 83 weeks, there are currently four void properties (properties which currently do not have a valid tenant) and two properties on notice within the area.

West North West Homes have received funding to carry out some environmental works to the 3 bedroom flats on Hawksworth Crescent specifically removal of bushes and replacing with wall and fencing.

A Local Lettings Policy was introduced by West North West Homes in March 2012. The policy introduces additional checks for 1 bedroom properties in Hawksworth Wood and those people who apply with recent local criminal convictions and / or action against them for anti social behaviour will not be eligible for housing on the estate. The key priorities for the area are to continue working with the Police to reduce crime and Anti Social Behaviour.

## Health

The **HAVA** area has challenges in terms of looking after older people in the area, tackling lifestyle behaviours and focussing on the wider determinants of health (jobs, income and education). There are some valuable health and wellbeing assets in the area.

There is one GP practice in the area on Vesper Road, Dr Geraghty & partners (Vesper Surgery), the surgery has not yet been inspected by the Care Quality Commission but evidence the surgery provided during registration to the commission was judged as meeting standards. There is a private care home, Kirkstall Court, on Vesper Road run by Dukeries Healthcare. The room has 38 rooms and caters for people who have alcohol related brain injury. They offer short term assessment following hospitalisation, rehabilitation and longer term specialist care. Many of these residents use the local shops and facilities. The Care Quality Commission inspected Kirkstall Court in May 2012 and all standards were met.

The **HAVA** area has a higher number of older people than the average in Leeds. The number of referrals from the area to Adult Social Care are well above average for the city, as are the number of assessments undertaken and services provided - all are near the top in the city. In the **HAVA** area, 21% of people have a limiting long term illness, which is 3% over the Leeds percentage of 18%.

There are high numbers of people with physical disability, particularly in the Lee Farm Road, Spens, Queenswood Drive, Lea Farms and Ghyll Road areas. There are low numbers of people accessing personal budgets (how the NHS locally chooses to spend their care budgets).

Re-ablement (a range of services focused on helping a person maximise their independence by learning or re-learning the skills necessary for daily living) needs are high. The challenge is to keep older people healthy, well and happy in the community for longer.

In terms of health, Coronary Heart Disease is higher than the Leeds average, Diabetes is roughly the same as the Leeds average and COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, a lung disease), is a key cause of premature mortality in Leeds and in the **HAVA** area rates are above the Leeds average.

Over 30% (30.22%) of the community smoke, which is 7.51% higher than the Leeds average of 22.71%. Smoking rates are much higher in some social groups, including those with the lowest incomes. These groups suffer the highest burden of smoking-related illness and death.

Lung cancer is the number one cause of premature death and is closely connected to smoking rates. There are high alcohol rates and associated admissions to hospital. The misuse of alcohol is linked with a wide range of chronic health conditions such as liver disease, hypertension, some cancers, and mental health problems. It has a direct association with accidents, criminal offending, domestic violence and risky sexual behaviour. It also has hidden impacts on educational attainment and workplace productivity.

Many of the causes of health inequalities in the area come from other social factors, which are significant in the **HAVA** area; these include low economic activity, low income and low educational attainment. Focussing on these will lead to improved health and wellbeing in the long term.

## Public Transport

These days, the only public transport serving the whole area is the bus. The former railway halt at Kirkstall Forge is planned to make a come back as a station to serve the new development on that site and the potential plans for a kind of Light Rapid Transport system may well use Abbey Road where the trams once ran, but for the time being there are only buses.

That said, buses serve the area well. The 50 and 50a service is a ten minute frequent bus service that runs right through the middle of Hawksworth Wood Estate from Horsforth through to Seacroft, passing along the main city centre thoroughfare of the Headrow and out past St James's Hospital. At the top of the estate, but just off it on Butcher Hill, the 97 runs from Guiseley via Butcher Hill, Spen Lane, Headingley and on to the Leeds Bus Station. The 56 runs further up Butcher Hill from Moor Grange to Whinmoor; both of these services can link to the 19 and 19a to Garforth.

On Abbey Road, the 33 and 33a service is another frequent bus service running from Otley to the Leeds Bus Station.

The 757 on Abbey Road, also from the Leeds Bus Station, goes to Leeds Bradford Airport. Both of these services link to buses for Armley, Bramley, Bradford and all points West, at Savins Mill Way. The nearest railway station is Horsforth Station (on the Leeds – Harrogate line) around 2 miles away; Leeds Bradford Airport is around 5 miles away and accessible by direct bus.



Number 50 bus on Vesper Road

## Road Safety

Accident Statistics for the area show on average there are between 2 and 5 accidents per year in the estate the majority of which occur between 3 and 5pm. The introduction of a 20mph Zone in March 2011 (noting that statistically significant data is not available until 2015) has seen just 3 accidents occur since. Speed statistics show that in 2007 the average speed on the estate was 30.53mph; in 2011 this was reduced to 23.85.

The road system on the estate includes several mini-roundabouts which have been identified by some residents as one of the worst things about the estate.

## Partnerships

### Leeds City Council

Leeds City Council has identified Hawksworth Wood as a priority neighbourhood; issues identified as priority areas for the Council include tackling worklessness and supporting education, Health and Wellbeing projects. Leeds City Council is committed to supporting the Big Local process.

The Council retains statutory responsibility for street cleansing, education, adult social care and children's Services. The Council runs quarterly Community Forums in the Kirkstall area which are chaired by Elected Members, these give the community an opportunity to speak with the agencies and services who are active in the area. The area falls under the Inner North West Area Committee and the Committee has been supportive of Hawksworth Wood; granting Well-being funding to projects in the area in the past.

### Elected Members

The area is within Kirkstall Ward and the ward currently has three Labour Councillors (Cllr Lucinda Yeadon, Cllr John Illingworth and Cllr Bernard Atha), the local Councillors are involved in various groups and committees affecting the area. The Parliamentary Constituency of Leeds West is currently held by Labour MP Rachel Reeves.



## What are the Key Points for the HAVA area?

The **HAVA** Community Profile research has identified various key points –

- Many of the people in the area are family orientated and this is liked by local residents.
- The community successfully campaigned for the reopening of their post office; this is a source of pride within the area.
- There are many green spaces in the area and many of the houses have large gardens.
- The Hawksworth Woodland area is a key part of the area.
  
- The **HAVA** area has a rich history and St Mary's Church is architecturally significant.
- Provision for primary school aged children in the area is good with a significant number of outstanding features.
- Kirkstall ward has seen crime decrease due to the additional work the Police have undertaken in the area.
  
- The area has good public transport links to much of Leeds through the bus service.
- The introduction of a 20mph Zone in March 2011 seems to be showing improved road safety in the area.

- The **HAVA** area is one of the most deprived areas nationally and falls within the top 30% of areas; the LSOA '484' being within 5% of the most deprived nationally.
- There are issues with debt and loan sharks in the area.
- There is a need to widen economic opportunities in the area.
  
- There are significant numbers of people of working age claiming out of work benefits.
- Areas such as the space around the Co-op on Broadway are seen as drab and grey and could be modernised.
- The shops in the area are well used but the range is limited.
- There is a limited number of facilities in the area and residents would like more focal places for the community.
  
- Key community safety targets are reducing burglaries, reducing nuisance bikes and reducing anti-social behaviour.
- The statistics suggest that a key opportunity would be to improve attainment in education, to support the transition between Primary and Secondary education for young people in the area.
- There are a number of young people who are NEET or are in danger of becoming NEET.
- There are issues with persistent absenteeism amongst young people.
  
- There are key challenges in terms of looking after the high numbers older people in the area.
- The key health issues are the numbers of people living with illnesses and conditions, a high number of people in the area smoke and alcohol rates are high.
- Many of the key health challenges relate to other social factors such as low economic activity, low income and low educational attainment.

## Views from Visioning Activities

The following selection of comments come from meetings for the residents of the **HAVA** area over the last year. These meetings were held to find out what local people valued about the area and what they wanted to change:

What are the three best things about this area for you?

- Community
- Convenience (shops)
- Open spaces
- Village community
- Three outsiders have recently said how green and tidy it is, friendly community
- 1<sup>st</sup> class services for older people
- HWCA
- Vesper surgery
- Lots of opportunities to do things in the area like go to the woods
- Kirkstall Abbey is so near
- The Church
- The Scout Group
- YMCA
- It has a good school
- It is a quiet, friendly area
- There is a great local history
- Community spirit
- Hawksworth being Hawksworth
- It is close to city centre
- Green areas
- Friendly neighbours
- Most people are brilliant and are willing to help where help is needed
- Have lived here 30 years – would not live anywhere else
- When I look outside my window all I see is trees and greenery

What are the three worst things about this area for you?

- Chavs
- Naughty children
- Lack of community for young people
- Speed bumps (mentioned four times)
- Litter not cleared
- Roads and paths swept infrequently
- Crime
- Motorbikes
- Mini roundabouts
- Untidiness
- Glass on playing field
- Football pitch often water logged
- Community centre too small
- Steps from Vesper's to Vesper Rd (Sandy Lane)
- Lack of opportunity
- Lack of respect from some people especially regarding noise
- Lack of colour – dreary – co-op area
- Dog fouling
- Lack of shops and facilities
- Limited facilities for small children
- Limited facilities for young people
- Limited facilities for older people

What gets in the way of a five year old child living here today doing well in later life?

- Older children causing disruption
- bad peers
- lack of parental support/vision
- poverty
- lack of respect, lack of respect for the elderly
- lack of parental responsibility
- no after school clubs
- health requirements not met
- poor parents (both financially and emotionally)
- Lack of good education beyond 11+.

**“I have lived here 30 years – I would not live anywhere else”**

Visions for the future:

How would you make the environment of Hawksworth Wood look better?

- Install benches;
- Clear rubbish more often;
- More bins;
- Waste bins collected from house and not left on pavement;
- Award contracts to local people to look after grassed areas etc;
- Dog fouling bins;
- Flower beds;
- Sweep streets and paths more frequently;
- Maintain open spaces more effectively;
- Continue tree planting scheme;
- Graffiti wall to solve problem on park
- Bins for dog waste, especially near the shops.
- More bins all round but that is council.
- Flower bed areas.
- Stop people parking their cars on the grass.
- Plant more flowers.
- Use hanging baskets.
- Children's project to plant flowers and take some responsibility for looking after them.
- Clean the wood and fine people who use it for a dumping ground.
- Allotments
- Skateboard and bike park.
- Facilities for all ages.
- Cycling – road awareness training.

**“When I look outside my window all I see is trees and greenery”**

**“I want people and families to have pride in themselves and the area”**

**“The £1m should be used to unite all groups to understand and care for each other”**

**“We need to use the money to get more resources for the area - to double it!”**

What is the most important thing to spend some of the million pounds on?

- Post office (mentioned twice);
- Out of school provision and holiday clubs;
- Improve the park;
- Build a community hall/ a community café/ a swap shop
- Childcare provisions;
- Young people;
- Support HOPS;
- Skateboard park;
- Training classes for things like art, languages, flower arranging, computer skills;
- Dance classes for children;
- Develop youth scheme at St Mary's;
- Graffiti wall to solve problem on park;
- Leadership award scheme;
- Invest in YMCA facilities;
- Use of primary school facilities at the weekend.
- Unite all groups to understand and care for each other.
- Additional security cameras on Broadway.
- Grit bins on Vesper Gardens – Vesper Lane junction.
- Financial support for proper education of young people e.g. Leeds Grammar School & universities.

## The future

We hope you have enjoyed reading the Big Local Community Profile.

Our next step is to produce a Big Local Community Plan. The Plan will outline the long term future or shared *vision* of the **HAVA** community, drawing on the information and ideas in this Community Profile as well as further consultation.

It will then outline the *priorities* to meet the vision and what positive changes these priorities will lead to for the community. The Big Local Plan will outline how the community would like to invest the £1 million, and describe the type of *projects* that may be funded.

We want your views! Get in touch to find out how you can have a say about using the Lottery award and if you want, how to get involved.

*The Big Local **HAVA** Partnership*  
June 2013.

## Contact Details

For more information about the **HAVA** Big Local or to join in the process – please contact us!

**Email us**                    [havasaybl@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:havasaybl@yahoo.co.uk)

**On twitter**                @[twitterpage](#) (Look out for #HAVABIGLOCAL)

**On facebook**            [facebook.com/facebookpage](#)

**Give us a call**            0113 2285552

**Write to us**              **HAVA** Big Local, The Annexe, 6 Broadway, Leeds, LS5 3PR

**In person**                Look out for information about future meetings or events where you can join in or find out more

## Thank you

The Big Local **HAVA** partnership would like to thank all contributors to the **HAVA** Community Profile including those who have given time to attend **HAVA** meetings, residents who have offered their views at Big Local meetings, partners/agencies who have offered valuable contributions, everyone who has offered advice and ideas, and everyone who has proof-read the **HAVA** Community Profile.

## References and Appendix

In creating this Profile we have used information from –

- MSOA (Middle Level Super Output Area) E02002364
- LSOAs (Lower Level Super Output Areas) -E01011486, E01011484, E01011487, E01011485
- Ethnicity Data taken from the 2001 Census
- Disability Data taken from the 2001 Census
- Index of Multiple Deprivation (2010)
- Out of Work Claimants data – Jobseekers Allowance data (correct to August 2012), Out of Work Benefit Claimants (correct to February 2012), ESA, IB, SDA data (correct to February 2012), Lone parents in receipt of Income Support (correct to February 2012).
- Council Tax data (correct to May 2012)
- Households in receipt of Council administrated benefits (correct to June 2012)
- Child Benefit data – 2011
- Child Poverty Data – 2009
- Crime Data – 2011/12
- Council Tax Bandings (correct to May 2012)
- 20mph Accident Statistics March 2011 – August 2012 – provided by LCC

Websites / Documents referred to -

- Big Local Website - [www.localtrust.org.uk/big-local/](http://www.localtrust.org.uk/big-local/)
- Leeds Observatory - <http://www.westyorkshireobservatory.org/>
- YMCA Hawksworth Wood - [www.leedsymca.org/Hawksworth+Wood+Branch](http://www.leedsymca.org/Hawksworth+Wood+Branch)
- “A Vision for Kirkstall Ward” – Community Plan for a Sustainable Kirkstall created Spring 2010
- OFSTED Reports for local schools accessible through [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)
- Care Quality Commission Reports for local health facilities accessible through [www.cqc.org.uk](http://www.cqc.org.uk)
- Leeds City Council - [www.leeds.gov.uk](http://www.leeds.gov.uk)
- Kirkstall Abbey - [www.leeds.gov.uk/kirkstallabbey](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/kirkstallabbey)
- Friends of Hawksworth Wood - [hawksworthwood.wordpress.com/the-woods/](http://hawksworthwood.wordpress.com/the-woods/)
- Personal Budgets – NHS Leaflet found at [www.personalhealthbudgets.england.nhs.uk/\\_library/Resources/Personalhealthbudgets/Toolkit/MakingPHBHappen/Gettingmessageacross/Easy\\_Read\\_Personal\\_health\\_budgets\\_2013.pdf](http://www.personalhealthbudgets.england.nhs.uk/_library/Resources/Personalhealthbudgets/Toolkit/MakingPHBHappen/Gettingmessageacross/Easy_Read_Personal_health_budgets_2013.pdf)
- [www.nhs.uk/conditions](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions) - for information about conditions such as Coronary Heart Disease, Diabetes, COPD
- INW Cluster Details - [www.innernwleedsextendedservices.ik.org/p\\_Home.ikml](http://www.innernwleedsextendedservices.ik.org/p_Home.ikml)
- Archive photographs by kind permission of Leeds Library and Information Services, [www.leodis.net](http://www.leodis.net), photos 484/1295/1290

Contributions gratefully received from –

- Chris Underwood – Local Resident, for her wonderful local resident’s history of the area
- Ryan Platten, INW Community Planner (post funded by the INW Area Committee)
- Tim Taylor – Hawksworth Wood Health & Wellbeing information.
- Stuart Byrne – Leeds City Council for the photographs of the area

Residents

- Resident Views compiled from Big Local meetings which took place between February 2012 to April 2013

HAVA Community Profile Task Group

- Martin Newton (Hawksworth Wood Older People’s Service - HOPS)
- Stephen Rennie (Hawksworth Wood Community Association)
- Susan Skinner (Leeds City Council – WNW Area Support Team)