**Background Information**

Age UK Leeds is a local, independent charity established in 1975, whose aim is to help older people be valued, their voices heard and be able to enjoy positive, independent lives. We work across the city providing a range of services for older people:

* **Independence at Home:** supporting older people living with frailty and experiencing loneliness and social isolation to maintain their independence
* **Hospital to Home:** based at St James University Hospital supporting older people to avoid hospital admissions and enable them to have a safe discharge from hospital after treatment
* **Home Comfort:** working in partnership with Leeds Community Health Trust and as part of the Enhanced Community response service, Home Comfort provides home-based support to older people being treated in the community
* **Social Prescribing:** Linking Leeds is a Consortium of Age UK Leeds, Community Links, Feel Good Factor, Barca and Better Leeds Communities. We have a team of Wellbeing Coordinators who are based in GP surgeries across the City.
* **Ageing Well:** including
  + Volunteer led health and wellbeing groups
  + Digital Inclusion – city centre and community based support promoting increased IT literacy
  + Befriending Service – longer term volunteer support helping to increase independence and maintaining an active life
* **Advocacy:** focused on championing the rights of older people provided in partnership with Advonet
* **Information Services:** enabling access to a range of welfare benefits and other support and advice on a wide range of issues facing older people
* **Help@ Home:** Help at Home is a paid for service offering a range of support to people in their homes and out in the community.
* **State of the Ark:**the “State of the Ark” project provides a range of initiatives designed to create opportunities for older people to engage in activities that will assist them in getting ‘back on track’ after being isolated for a long period of time.

Age UK Leeds has over 60 staff, full and part time and is supported by over 79 volunteers. It is managed by a Board of Trustees.

Age UK is a national network of brand partners whose common aim is “help more people love later life”.

Age UK England, the national organisation, gives advice and support, but every local Age UK is an independent charity run by local people, raising their own funds to provide the services required within their own area. What we raise in Leeds, stays in Leeds.

Age UK Leeds is funded from a variety of sources including the NHS, local authority and other grants. However, like most charities, we also rely on donations and corporate partnerships. For more information about Age UK Leeds, take a look at our website: https://www.ageuk.org.uk/leeds/

**Our Vision**

Older people living in Leeds will be valued, their voices will be heard and they will be able to enjoy positive, independent lives

**Our Mission**

We will influence, shape and deliver responsive services, supporting the independence and wellbeing of older people in Leeds to positively improve their quality of life.

**Our Strategic Aims**

1. **Independence:** *Older people living with frailty or with a range of physical and mental health long term conditions (and disabilities) will be enabled to maintain their independence*
2. **Social Connections:** *Everyone should have someone; older people who experience loneliness and social isolation will be provided with a range of tailored opportunities to link with others in their community*
3. **Health and Wellbeing:***Older people, including those living with frailty and long-term conditions or disabilities, will sustain their optimal physical, mental, emotional health and well-being*
4. **Resilience, choice and control:***The resilience of older people and their carers has been severely tested over recent years, our aim is to help to re-build their capacity to better cope with future challenges make informed decisions, and exercise choice and control in how to live their later life*
5. **Positive contribution:** *Older people will positively contribute through being active, engaged, heard, respected and their opinions being valued*