

Leeds Labour successes of 2025!

- ▶ In March 2024 Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin, made a decision to bring the **bus network back under public control**. In October 2025 the contracts for the first services went out to tender to start in 2027, the first step in creation of The Weaver Network — a new, publicly controlled transport system that puts passengers first.
- ▶ Following an OFSTED inspection in 2025, Leeds was once again graded **Outstanding for its Children's Services** — the first core city to ever be graded outstanding 3 times in a row. This is one of our proudest achievements — especially as the city was previously graded Inadequate before Labour took control of the Council in 2010.
- ▶ Leeds has a good track record of **tackling homelessness** in the city, with 80% of residents who come to the Council for help receiving a positive outcome. Plans have now been approved for the Council to lease blocks at the Kirkstall Brewery site to provide additional accommodation for homeless families, providing a much better class of accommodation than other temporary accommodation such as B&Bs.
- ▶ Leeds has a proud record in **reducing poverty**, led by the Labour Group's aim of improving the lives of the poorest the fastest. 2025 data shows that the number of areas in Leeds in the most deprived 1% of the country has more than halved and is now 7, down from 16 in 2015.
- ▶ Thanks to a strong focus on **affordable housing**, Leeds has delivered more affordable houses than any other city outside London over the last 5 years and is now going further, aiming to deliver 800 a year.
- ▶ Fly-tipping blights our neighbourhoods and costs communities time and money. That's why the Council takes a **zero-tolerance approach to waste crime**. Over the past year, the Council's Serious Environmental Crime Team has taken fly-tippers to court — securing criminal convictions, suspended prison sentences, unpaid work orders, and the seizure of vehicles used in illegal dumping. More prosecutions are already in progress. Thanks to this joined-up approach, **fly-tipping in Leeds has fallen by 16% since 2020**.



REPORTING BACK

**Peter
CARLILL**

**Councillor for
Calverley and Farsley Ward**

**Craig
TIMMINS**

**Councillor for
Calverley and Farsley Ward**

**Kathryn
PENNY**

**Local candidate for
Calverley and Farsley Ward**

Written January 2026

Delivered free by local volunteers

Welcome to our latest newsletter.

We stood to be councillors because we love and live in our community and want to make a positive difference to people's lives every day.

To make sure we are representing residents we are always listening to you through our regular surgeries across the ward, our popular street surgeries and doorstep sessions, and responding to issues raised by email and via social media.

In this latest update you'll hear how we've worked on the priorities you said were important such as road safety, crime and antisocial behaviour, improving local services and protecting parks and green spaces.

For more regular updates please check our website and Facebook pages (details overleaf) or contact us for assistance with local issues.



HERE TO HELP

If you would like to speak with us about any local issues or concerns affecting you, please get in touch. Surgeries are also available across the ward for you to pop in with questions or concerns on any council matters, or ideas to make our area even better.

Councillor Peter Carlill

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Email: peter.carlill@leeds.gov.uk

Fb: facebook.com/cllrpetercarlill

Web: calverleyandfarsleylabourparty.co.uk

The Church in Rodley, Wesley Street
2nd Saturday of the month, 10am-10:45am

Farsley Library
2nd Saturday of the month, 11am-12pm

Councillor Craig Timmins

Tel: 07895 728006 (Mobile)

Tel: (0113) 378 8812 (Office)

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Fb: facebook.com/CalFarCraig

Web: calverleyandfarsleylabourparty.co.uk

Calverley Library
4th Saturday of the month, 10am-10:45am

St James Church, Galloway Lane
4th Saturday of the month 11am-12pm

Introducing Kathryn Penny, your local candidate

Hello! I'm Kathryn Penny, and I'm standing to be your councillor for Calverley and Farsley ward in the local elections in May.

Living in our community for more than ten years, my family and I have experienced the amazing community spirit and opportunities here, but also seen first-hand the challenges residents face. I want Calverley and Farsley Ward to be a place where everyone can thrive.

I am passionate about road safety, protecting our green spaces, sustainable development, affordable housing, and developing safe spaces where young people can play, create and spend time together.

I would love to hear what you care about too.

If you can spare a few minutes, I would be grateful if you could complete a very short survey to share what matters most to you. Hearing from residents across the ward will help me represent you with real understanding and care.

To complete the survey, please visit the link below or scan the QR code

www.calverleyandfarsleylabourparty.co.uk/survey

Alternatively you can contact me directly at kathryn@calverleyandfarsleylabourparty.co.uk



Making roads safer

Road safety is the biggest issue raised with us as we talk to residents around the ward.

At time of writing a consultation on a trial closure or one-way stretch to stop issues of **rat running in Calverley** is being sent out to residents. We are determined to look into all options to solve this once and for all.

We have been chasing expected signalling works on **Rodley Roundabout** to better manage traffic flow and reduce congestion through **Rodley**, which are sorely needed.

We have been working closely with highways and the police to enforce speeding in our communities.

At our request speed checks have taken place on **Town Street, New Street** and **Richmond Road** in **Farsley**; **Calverley Lane, Woodhall Road, Carr Hills** and **Upper Carr Lane** in **Calverley**; and **Chatsworth Road, Moorland Road, Cemetery Road, Westdales, Galloway Lane** and **Woodhall Lane** in **Pudsey**.

We continue to recommend sites to be included in this work – 20mph zones will only work if people stick to them. If you are concerned about speeding in your area, please let us know.



Working to reduce burglaries

We are concerned that burglaries in the ward have risen year on year.

We meet regularly with the police to ensure crimes are followed up appropriately – and that action is taken to ensure offenders are caught.

Through our discussions we have been given assurances that any

residents who are victims of a burglary will be visited by the police as soon as possible the same day, and revisited in the following days.

We have also asked for additional patrols in specific areas and at our request the police hosted a crime prevention webinar to provide advice to residents.

Making travel to school safer

Road safety around schools is an issue raised regularly with us, and one we're keen to improve.

Soon out to consultation, a scheme at **Farsley Farfield Primary** aims to make the road safer and stop people from mounting the pavements. We've been pushing for this since meeting the head teacher to discuss concerns about dangerous driving and obstructive parking. We have also funded Parking Buddy signs at both **Farsley Farfield** and **Pudsey Bolton Royd**.

Other schemes in progress include extending the keep clear markings at **Calverley Parkside** as well as double yellow lines to deter dangerous parking around **Calverley CE, Farsley Springbank** and **Farsley Westroyd**.

Following a request we made some time ago, the 40mph stretch on **Carr Road, Calverley** down into Greengates will soon be reduced to 30mph. Many children get the school bus from here and we will now be pushing for a crossing to make this even safer.

Improving parks and green spaces

The campaign to save **Sunnybank Recreation Ground** continues thanks to residents. We happily support their application to designate the site a village green – protecting it for the future. An inquiry will be held in the spring to hear evidence for the case.

Following works at **Chatsworth Rec**, playground improvements were last year also delivered at, **Farsley Recreation Ground, Calverley Park, Rodley Park** and **Brookfield Park**.

We're also looking forward to the two

new playgrounds delivered as part of the developments at the **Woodhall Sports Pavilion** site.

The nearby **Woodhall Lake** is in desperate need of some TLC. Thanks also to this development the lake will get upgraded drainage, improving the water quality. We also want to bring residents together to form a 'Friends of' group for this fantastic local nature spot to access funding, support and to work together to bring even more improvements to the surrounding area.



More opportunities for our young people

It's great to announce another brand **new youth club** has started at **Sunny Bank Mills in Farsley!**

This is the third one delivered in the ward since Cllr Peter Carlill made a pledge to increase youth provision when first elected, and now working alongside Cllr Craig Timmins to provide more.

Regular youth clubs for ages 11+ are now offered at:

- Sunny Bank Mills Thurs 4:30pm
- Pudsey Library Wed 6:30pm
- Calverley Library Thurs 6:30pm
- Farsley Library Friday 4:30pm

Trips and events will also be offered in half term – please see **Leeds Youth Service WNW** on Facebook for more details.

Leeds named 'Green Council of the Year'

The award from the Nature 2030 campaign recognises councils that have '**demonstrated exceptional leadership in protecting and enhancing the local environment**'.

Since declaring a climate emergency in 2019, Leeds Labour Council has worked to:

- reduce emissions from council services, vehicles and buildings
- increase recycling
- make homes more sustainable to heat
- create a renewable heat network, powered by our black bin waste

- invest in sustainable transport
- double the woodland in Leeds
- work with Leeds climate commission to produce a roadmap to net zero

The new Leeds Ambitions launched last year reinforce our aim to become the UK's **first net zero and nature positive city**.

We continue to push for initiatives locally to protect and enhance the environment, as well as pushing to make sure the Council has a strong and ambitious plan – and more importantly sticks to it.

News in brief

Plans are progressing to use the former **Richmond House** site for council housing. Following residents' feedback a new design is being worked on by a brand new architect, and at our request this will go back out for further local consultation before being submitted for planning.

An action plan has been put in place following too many **missed bin collections** in our area. This comes out of our recent meeting with the head of the refuse service. We will be monitoring closely to ensure collections improve.

We recently met with **West Leeds Family Practice**, who run the **GP surgeries** in both Calverley and Farsley, to discuss recent changes to appointment booking. This was spurred by the Government's requirements that all appointments must be triaged – to ensure appointments go to those who need them most. There have been a few teething issues but down to hard work from the practice the system is now working well. We will be holding a public meeting together with the surgery in the next few weeks to allow residents to hear and say more. This will be advertised by the surgery to patients directly.