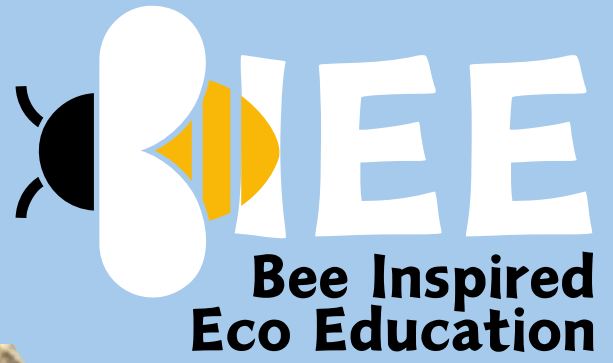


SOCIAL IMPACT REPORT 2025



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Welcome to our first Social Impact Report for Bee Inspired Eco Education Community Interest Company (CIC). This report sets out our activities over the past year and how our actions have made a positive difference to both our local communities & the environment.

THE BIEE STORY SO FAR

Bee Inspired Eco Education CIC (BIEE) was incorporated on 8 August 2024 as a result of a journey that started during the Covid lockdowns. Whilst having to shield at home with a vulnerable family, founder and director Kate Turner took great comfort and respite in the nature flourishing in her back garden.

Kate realised that the wider community were also benefiting greatly from their daily walks and re-connecting with nature. Although a difficult time for many, the sense of community spirit, cherishing green spaces and looking after one another, sparked the inspiration that is now Bee Inspired Eco Education.

INSPIRING A GENERATION OF PLANET PROTECTORS

Our Community Interest Company aims to inspire a love of bees and other precious pollinators in our young people and their families and in turn equipping them with simple actions to improve our environments for all. Often our young people have a fear of insects, particularly bees and wasps and BIEE are on a mission to address this challenge.

We run talks, workshops and events in schools, community groups and shared spaces. Our aim is to instil a sense of awe and wonder in our natural world, with a hope that our future planet protectors will want to do everything in their power to protect and improve the environment and spaces around them.





A REMARKABLE FIRST YEAR

Our first year exceeded expectations, thanks in large part to funding from **Leeds Community Foundation** and **Climate Action Leeds** in October 2024.



Kate Turner successfully gained a place on the **School for Social Entrepreneurs'** Trading for Good Social Enterprise Start-up Programme which commenced in December 2024.

We also received great support from **CATCH Leeds** - allowing us to set up the BIEE Experience Apiary on their site. As well as a **Miller Homes** grant to help with equipment costs.



The Climate Action Leeds grant helped us to plan and facilitate 10 fully funded half day workshops to Leeds schools. Targeting those with high pupil premium in areas of deprivation. These workshops were all very successful and we received amazing feedback.

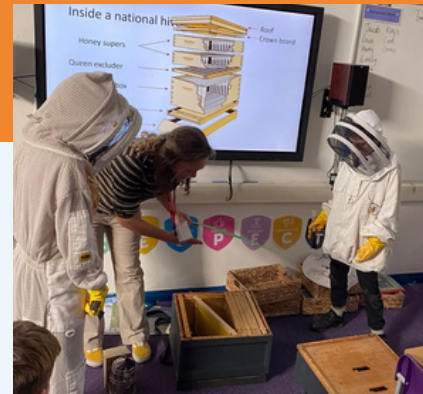
The School for Social Entrepreneur's programme has also not only provided director Kate Turner with invaluable insight and advice into running a CIC but has also provided match-trading grant, boosting our sales. This will be used for exploring new trading initiatives and developing Kate's business skill-set.

We are extremely proud of our achievements this year and are particularly grateful to the incredible assistance from our volunteers, supporters and funders. We are buzzing with excitement to explore even more community engagement opportunities and create increased impact in the year ahead.

Please Bee Inspired to buzz along with us and read on for more details of precisely what we've been up to!

A BLOSSOMING YEAR FOR BIEE

- Website, social media and Policies development
- Directors training (safeguarding/food business/first aid) completed
- Product development and sales to raise awareness and funds for activities – honey, calendars, candles & cards
- £3844 grant from Climate Action Leeds for Summer '25 workshops
- Place on School for Social Entrepreneurs Start up programme
- First school workshops attended



- Miller Homes grant for equipment purchase
- 5 school fair awareness and sales stalls
- Awareness and seed packets dispersed.
- Consultations & school workshop development
- Activities started with Home Education and Cubs/Scouts groups

“This was honestly one of my favourite workshops I have done since becoming a teacher. It was extremely informative and engaging.”

- Agreement and Development of BIEE Experience Apiary at CATCH Leeds
- 1st Buzz Like a Bee After School club starts with 6 attendees (3 subsidised)
- Press Release resulting in BBC News & Look North story, Leeds Radio interview, UCB Radio interview.
- 5 school workshops and 4 community activities

“ Our children were really immersed in the experience, with many of them saying they are no longer afraid of bees”



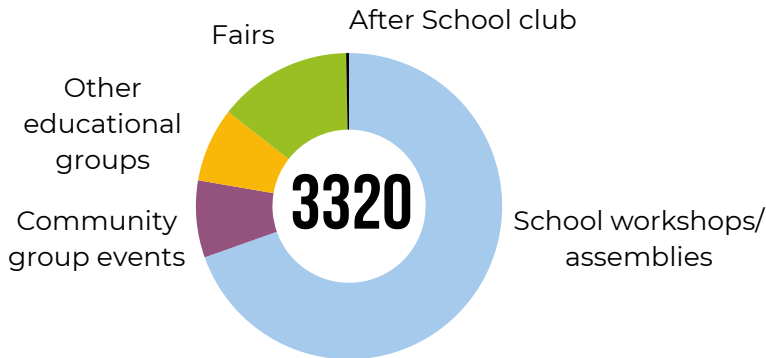
Beekeeper helping kids get a buzz from nature

- 2nd Buzz Like A Bee After School club with 5 attendees
- 1st Family Experience at BIEE Experience Apiary
- 8 school workshops including 2 day programme at Autism specialist school
- YAS Countryside Days (direct contact with 12 schools over 2 days)
- 6 community activities

“The session was really engaging and the hosts were warm, enthusiastic, and passionate about bees! “

LAST YEAR IN NUMBERS

DIRECT CONTACT

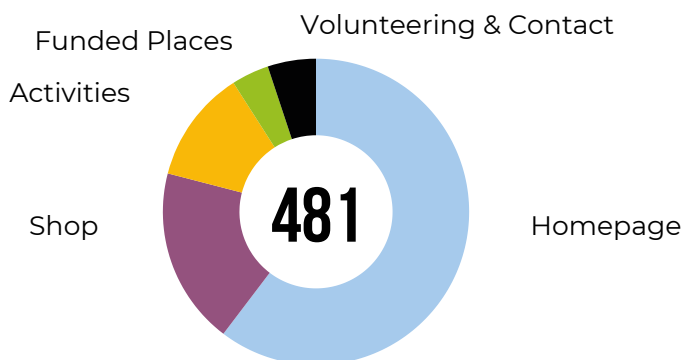


INDIRECT AWARENESS

World Bee Day publicity - local and national press/tv/radio/internet/facebook
BBC News/Look North
Radio Leeds/LBC Radio

Flyers distributed **2332**

WEBSITE USERS



SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook Views (12mths) **29.7K**

Facebook followers **65**

Instagram Views (90 days) **557**

Instagram followers **71**

Total Impressions **23.3K**

High Quality links to BIEE: **14**

(inc BBC, West Yorkshire CANN, Leeds For Learning, Leeds Community Foundation, Sunshine & Smiles)

MAILING LIST

Subscribers **184**

VOLUNTEERS

12

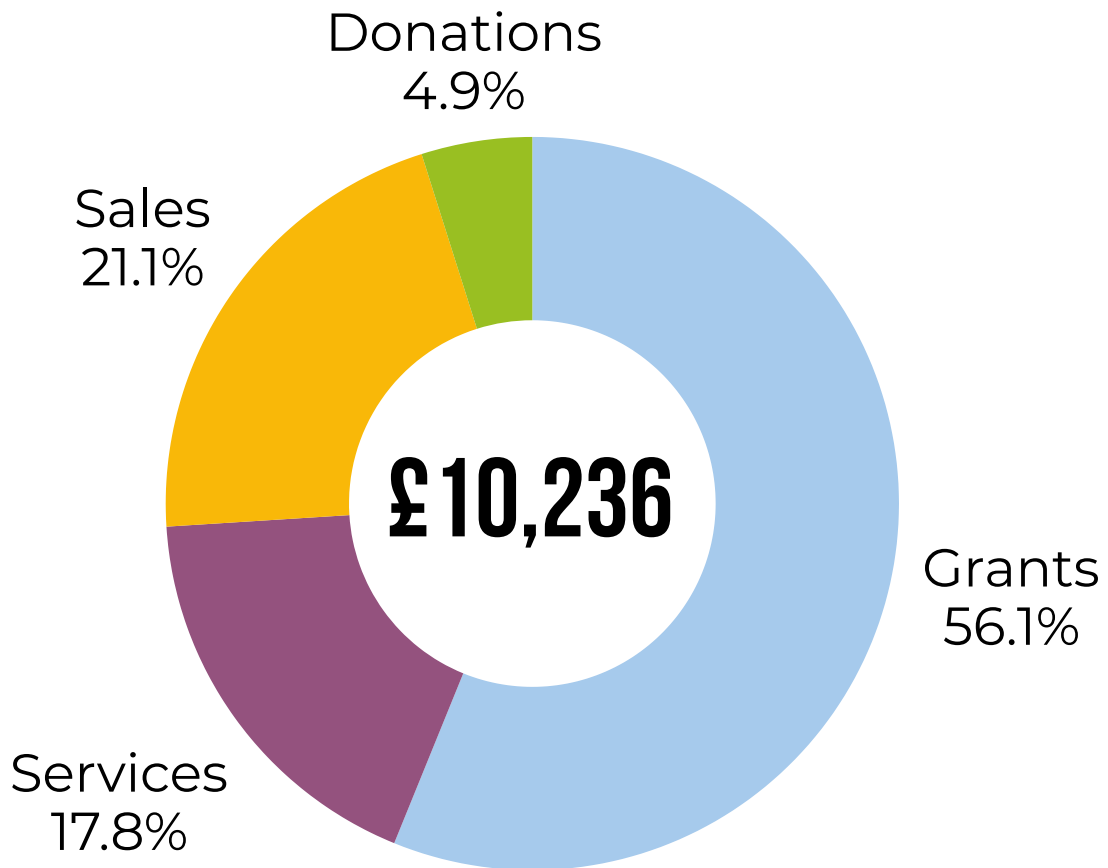
PAID SESSION WORKERS

4

WILDFLOWER DISTRIBUTION

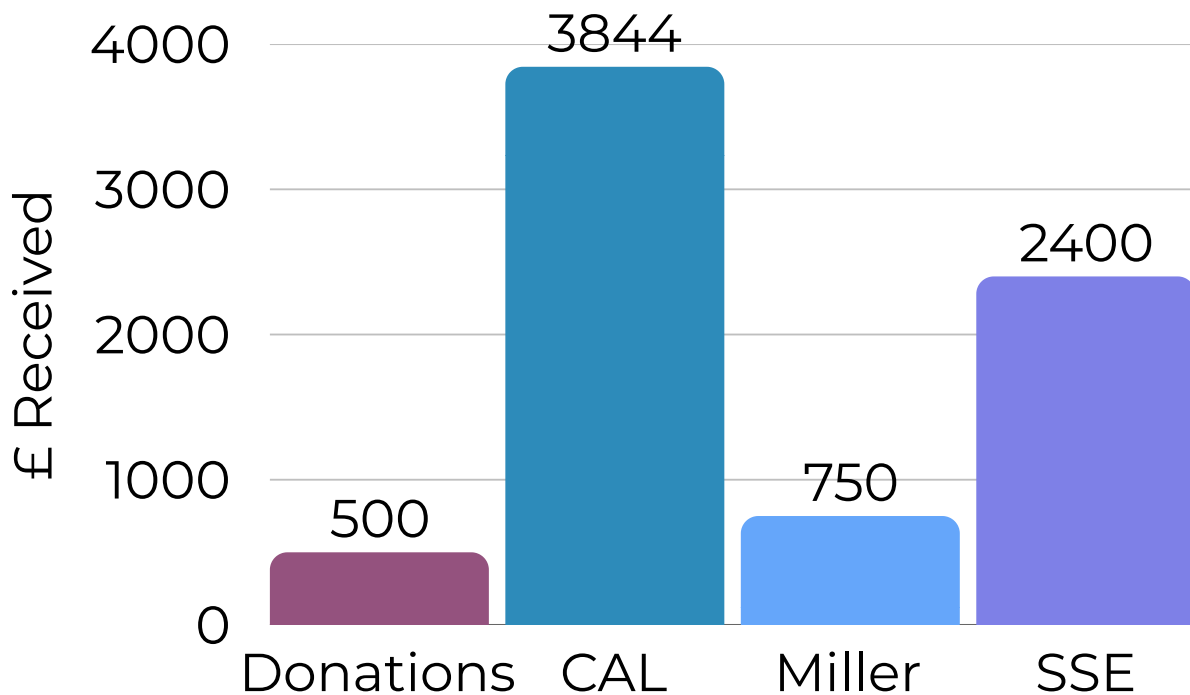
Seedpackets & seedballs **1220**

BIEE TURNOVER



As a CIC our aim is to generate a large proportion of our income from the services we offer and the products we sell. However we are also able to apply for funding and sponsorship which allows us to offer some of our services at a reduced cost or for free to those children or organisations that may not otherwise be able to participate.

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

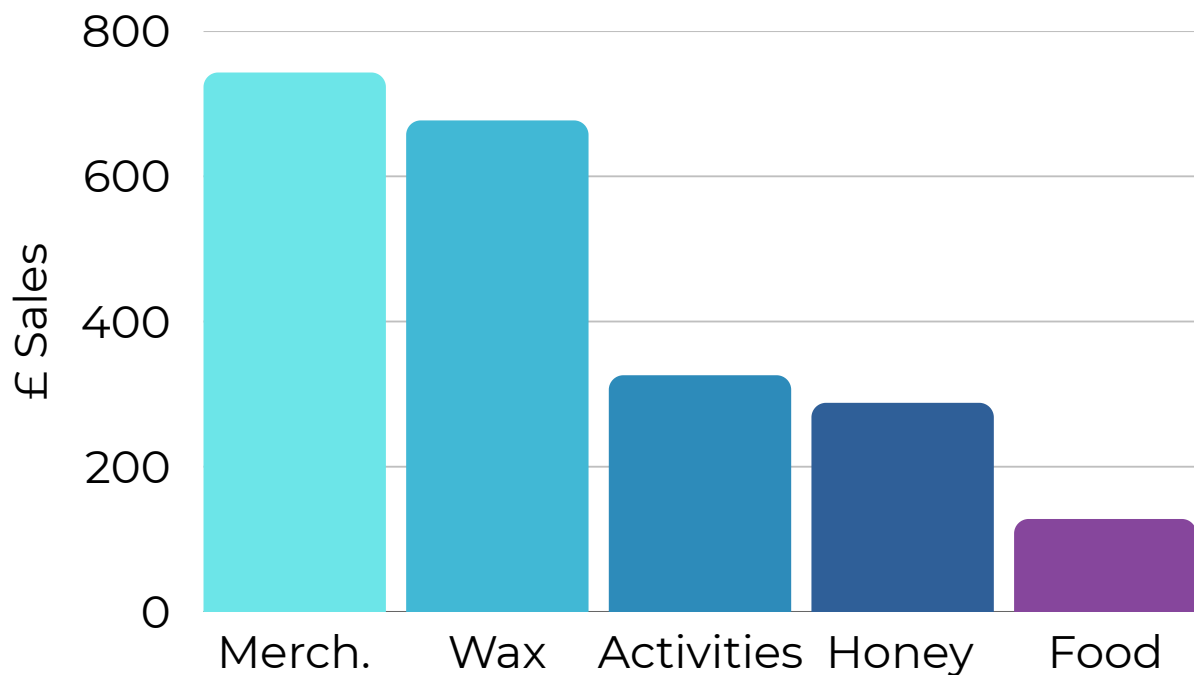


We were most fortunate in this first year of trading to receive a substantial grant from Climate Action Leeds. This allowed us to plan and implement 10 fully funded primary school workshops in deprived areas. This has proved invaluable not only in piloting different formats but also helping with establishing awareness of Bee Inspired Eco Education as a fun, informative and alternative educational workshop provider. This translates into tangible impacts for families and the environment.

On top of this we have also received significant grant payments from Miller Homes to fund purchase of suits and equipment for our BIEE Experience Apiary and set up at CATCH Leeds and from The School for Social Entrepreneurs to aid director Kate Turner's personal business development skills and to use towards experimentation with new trading concepts such as our candle rolling and pollinator pot activities.

We have spent £1246 of the grant funding on equipment like a laptop, hives and beekeeping suits.

PRODUCT SALES



Merchandise: Calendars, Cards, Seedballs & Tote bags

Wax: Candles, Melts, Burners & Candle Holders

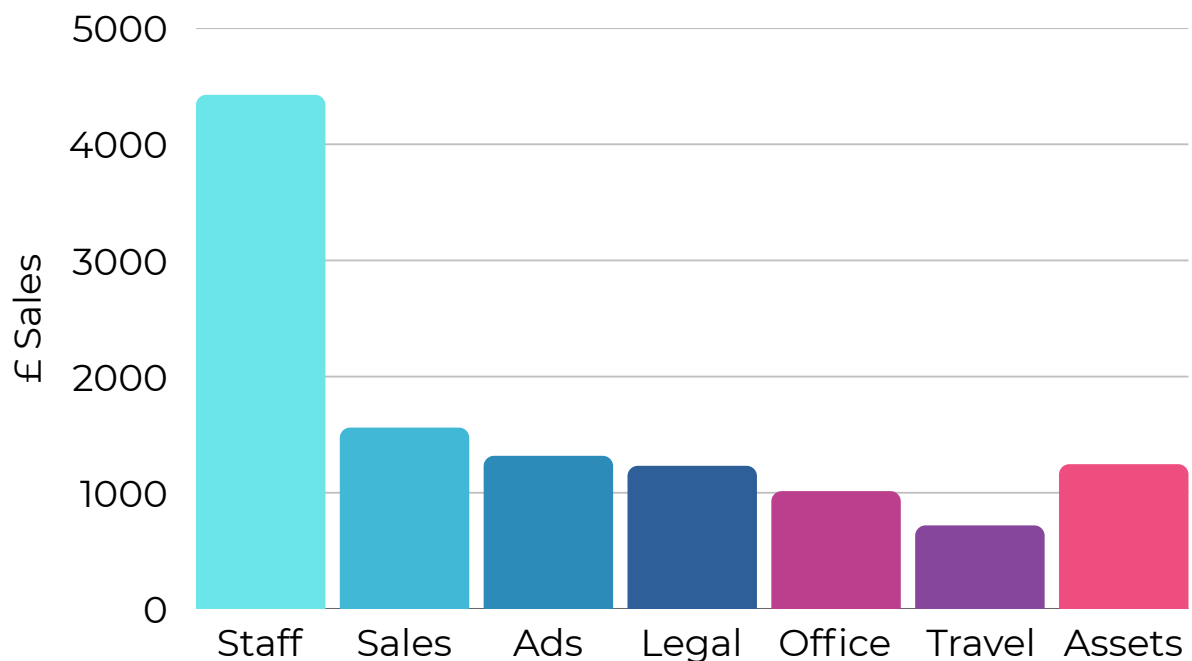
Activities: Roll-Your-Own candle, Paint-Your-Own Plant pot

Food: Honey Shortbread, Cakes, Flapjack, Cake Pops, Eggs

We have not produced a significant amount of honey for sale this year as our honeybee colonies are kept relatively small for use in observation hive. But a donation of honey from our founder when BIEE began has provided some sales, plus product to use for honey tasting events.

In December a lot of our trade income came from sales of our BIEE Calendar – not only was this an income generator but each page highlights bees to spot and actions that can be taken each month to help look after many of our 270 UK bee species so the impact is far-reaching.

COSTS



Staff: Subcontractors & training

Sales: Cost of Sales (materials) plus rent of stalls

Ads: Advertising & Promotion & consultancy

Legal: Legal, Insurance, Banking fees, Subscriptions, Accountancy

Office: Computer costs, stationery, printing, postage, home as office

Travel: Mileage, Travel, Subsistence

Assets: Laptop, Hives, Observation Hives, Bee Suits

FEEDBACK

100% of those who have completed the feedback form would recommend a workshop to others.

Climate Action Leeds funded workshops:

- 9 out of 10 of teachers believe that 75-100% of group appreciate nature and environment more as a result of workshop
- 9 out of 10 of teachers believe that 75-100% of group have an increased awareness of the need for planet conservation as a result of the workshop.

The children were **really excited and engaged** throughout the workshop. The content of the session supported their science curriculum and provided an increased awareness of nature and conservation. The range of hands on activities including observing the live bees, honey tasting and collecting seeds to plant gave the children a **rich and inspiring experience.**

Teacher, Y3

Fantastic workshop with lots of hands on, child friendly activities. **The children LOVED the opportunity to see the bees** and Kate and her team were really knowledgeable and pitched the workshop perfectly to keep everyone engaged

Teacher, Y6

Overall a wonderful experience!! Our children were **really immersed in the experience, with many of them saying they are no longer afraid of bees.** The staff that delivered the workshop were extremely knowledgeable and the children were engaged throughout. It was **one of the best workshops we have had in school this year! Would definitely love to have them back.**

Teacher, Y4

This was honestly one of my favourite workshops I have done since becoming a teacher. It was extremely informative and engaging.

The children had lots of opportunities to learn and try new things. The lovely ladies that lead the workshop were very supportive and helpful in answering all our questions. It was a fun filled morning that the children and I will remember for a long time. I hope more schools get to work with the BIEE.

Teacher, Y6

I was looking forward to this workshop and it definitely didn't let me down. Kate was so knowledgeable and **the presentation was perfectly pitched.** The carousel of activities were **fun, and informative.** We all loved it, and the poems we created after it showed how immersed the children were learning about bees. One of the eco-warriors went on to film a bee at lunch time for our presentation to the school.

Eco Council lead / Y2

We were delighted to welcome Bee Inspired to Hovingham for our workshop. The children and staff had a **fantastic time and came away having learned so much.** The session was really engaging and the hosts were warm, enthusiastic, and passionate about bees! They all took the time to answer every question our children had. Thank you, Bee Inspired, for such a **memorable session** and experience for our children.

Eco Council lead / Y6

FEEDBACK

A huge THANK YOU Kate, to you and your fabulous Bee team. Having you all onsite to help us celebrate our Bee Week was just brilliant and for many was the **highlight of the whole week.**

The assembly was informative and engaging and the workshops that followed offered a good mix of traditional classroom based activities with more fun, experiential learning.

Thank you especially for bringing in the rest stars of the show - the bees. The kids were fascinated by them. And **weren't we lucky to have such a busy Queen bee with us too, she was all the children talked about afterwards.**

Teacher Y3

The workshop was fantastic !

The children were engaged and enjoyed the range of activities . The variety of activities allowed for a range of areas to be covered . The facilitators were all **professional, friendly and willing to answer all questions** , their knowledge was incredible and they enthused a passion for the subject matter. They worked well with the children . The slides used were engaging and looked great , starting with a quiz was a good hook to engage and relax the children .

Overall we would **most definitely recommend this workshop and would love to work further with bee inspired .**

SENCO / Eco Council lead

This was an **excellent** workshop. The facilitators were friendly and knowledgeable and the activities really inspired and engaged the children. I would **highly recommend** this workshop to schools and activity groups such as the Scouts and Brownies.

Teacher Y5

Just wanted to say thank you again for a **fabulous evening** with you and your bees All our young people seemed to really enjoy the visit

Scout leader

Having watched an article on 'Look North, Leeds' regarding the impact of bees in our climate. I decided to make contact to arrange a session for my older grandchildren who have a fear of bees/insects, in the hopes it would give them an insight as to the importance of creatures, bees especially, in this world.

The grandchildren did participate in the session, albeit at a distance, and remained calm, unlike previous experiences, **it was very much a topic of discussion later that day.**

Looking forward, as they get older, this experience will hopefully make them aware of the important role bees play in our everyday life. **Thank you for the memorable day.**

Experience day family

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all the amazing people and organisations that have supported us in the delivery of our services this year. We could not have achieved so much without the support of the community.

With particular thanks to our board of voluntary directors:

Kate Turner
Kate McKinlay
Jo Densley
Ben Skinner

And our regular volunteers:

Lucy Hammond, Charlotte Cooke, Judy Harberd, Adrian Burch, Andy Turner, Jo Weston, Harry Larter, Miki Krawiec, Caroline Turner

And organisations:

CATCH
Meanwood Valley Urban Farm
Leeds Community Foundation
School for Social Entrepreneurs
Miller Homes

