

Agenda for a meeting of the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on Tuesday, 22 March 2022 at 5.30 pm in Council Chamber - City Hall, Bradford

Members of the Committee – Councillors

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
Mohammed Kamran Hussain Cunningham Dearden Hussain	Heseltine Herd Felstead	R Ahmed

Alternates:

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
Berry Choudhry Mukhtar A Ahmed Shafiq	Barker Clarke Davies	R Sunderland

NON VOTING MEMBER

Julia Pearson – Bradford Environmental Forum

Notes:

- This agenda can be made available in Braille, large print or tape format on request by contacting the Agenda contact shown below.
- The taking of photographs, filming and sound recording of the meeting is allowed except if Councillors vote to exclude the public to discuss confidential matters covered by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Recording activity should be respectful to the conduct of the meeting and behaviour that disrupts the meeting (such as oral commentary) will not be permitted. Anyone attending the meeting who wishes to record or film the meeting's proceedings is advised to liaise with the Agenda Contact who will provide guidance and ensure that any necessary arrangements are in place. Those present who are invited to make spoken contributions to the meeting should be aware that they may be filmed or sound recorded.
- If any further information is required about any item on this agenda, please contact the officer named at the foot of that agenda item.
- On the day of the meeting you are encouraged to wear a suitable face covering (unless you are medically exempt) and adhere to social distancing. Staff will be at hand to advise accordingly.

From:

Parveen Akhtar

City Solicitor

Agenda Contact: Su Booth

Phone: 07814 073884

E-Mail: susan.booth2@bradford.gov.uk

To:

A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. ALTERNATE MEMBERS (Standing Order 34)

The City Solicitor will report the names of alternate Members who are attending the meeting in place of appointed Members.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

(Members Code of Conduct - Part 4A of the Constitution)

To receive disclosures of interests from members and co-opted members on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

Notes:

- (1) Members may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest or an interest which the Member feels would call into question their compliance with the wider principles set out in the Code of Conduct. Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to the Member concerned or their spouse/partner.*
- (2) Members in arrears of Council Tax by more than two months must not vote in decisions on, or which might affect, budget calculations, and must disclose at the meeting that this restriction applies to them. A failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence under section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.*
- (3) Members are also welcome to disclose interests which are not disclosable pecuniary interests but which they consider should be made in the interest of clarity.*
- (4) Officers must disclose interests in accordance with Council Standing Order 44.*

3. MINUTES

Recommended –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2022 be signed as a correct record (previously circulated).

(Su Booth – 07814 073884)

4. REFERRALS TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Any referrals that have been made to this Committee up to and including the date of publication of this agenda will be reported at the meeting.

5. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

(Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 3B of the Constitution)

Reports and background papers for agenda items may be inspected by contacting the person shown after each agenda item. Certain reports and background papers may be restricted.

Any request to remove the restriction on a report or background paper should be made to the relevant Strategic Director or Assistant Director whose name is shown on the front page of the report.

If that request is refused, there is a right of appeal to this meeting.

Please contact the officer shown below in advance of the meeting if you wish to appeal.

(Su Booth – 07814 073884)

B. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ACTIVITIES

6. CULTURE IS OUR PLAN

1 - 18

The report of the Strategic Director, Place **Document “V”**) will be submitted to the Committee and provides a progress-so-far update on the first eight months of activity in regard to the new 10-year cultural strategy for the district.

Recommended –

That Members comment on any aspect of the report.

(Nicola Greenan – 07866 005482)

7. ACTIVE TRAVEL - SCHOOL STREETS AND PLAY STREETS

19 - 36

Report of the Strategic Directors of Health and Wellbeing, Place and Acting Strategic Director of Children’s Services (**Document “W”**) will be submitted to the Committee to provide an update on School Streets projects and the development of a Play Streets approach within the Bradford district.

Recommended –

That the report be noted.

(Sarah Exall, Andrew Smith, Michael Bunting)
(07582 102287/07970 828849)

8. CITY CENTRE REGENERATION

37 - 52

The report of the Strategic Director, Place (**Document “X”**) will be submitted to the Committee to provide an update on progress with city centre regeneration since the previous report of 12 February 2020.

Recommended –

That Members are asked to consider the contents of the report.

(Angela Blake – 01274 434093)

THIS AGENDA AND ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER

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Report of the Strategic Director, Place to the meeting of the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 22 March 2022

V

Subject:

Culture is Our Plan

Summary statement:

This report provides a progress-so-far update on the first eight months of activity in regard to the new 10-year cultural strategy for the district.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

Culture is our Plan directly supports all four Council equality objectives. It sets demanding targets to improve diversity and representation across the district's cultural sector and in the Council's own cultural service provision. By 2031, 50% of Bradford District creative workforce, audiences and cultural leadership will be drawn from people currently underrepresented in Culture and Creative Industries sector. Support for these equality and diversity ambitions will be a condition of future BMDC funding for arts, cultural and heritage projects

Jason Longhurst
Director of Place

Report Contact: Nicola Greenan
Principal Officer for Cultural Partnerships
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Portfolio:

Healthy People and Places

Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Regeneration and Environment

1. SUMMARY

A new cultural strategy for the district was highlighted to REOS in January 2021 and was launched in March 21.

A year on from sharing the draft this is an opportunity to share an interim update on progress against each of the 10 ambitions and actions that form the strategy in the eight months since the plan was adopted by the council executive and launched.

2. BACKGROUND

The Bradford Cultural Place Partnership commissioned the plan with support of BMDC and Arts Council England (ACE). BMDC head of cultural partnerships is now part way through a 2-year iterative process of delivering and measuring the impact of Culture is our Plan (CIOP). CIOP will have biannual year check-in point with the sector and public to be able to ensure that the plan is on track to deliver on its ambitions and targets.

3. PROGRESS REPORT

3.1 Ambition: Creativity thrives in every corner of the district

From Shipley to Little Germany, Manningham to Keighley, and Buttershaw to Ilkley, we will celebrate the creative people in every street. Our culture will happen in our homes, our mills, hills, streets, markets, moors, community centres, libraries and parks as well as in our cultural venues.

What we'll do

The Leap is our new Creative People and Places programme funded by Arts Council England and will run for ten years from 2020. It will champion cultural activity in the most underserved communities in the District such as Bradford Moor, Bowling and Barkerend, City, Eccleshill, Great Horton, Keighley Central, Keighley West, Little Horton, Manningham, Royds, Toller and Tong. The Leap isn't just about providing more cultural activity in these places; it aims to give ownership of arts and culture to the people living there, so they set the agenda and make the choices about what they want to see, make and enjoy. theleapbradford.co.uk

Progress to date

The Leap programme began operations in March 2020. Despite the limitations of COVID-19, the programme has made significant progress and is delivering on the ambitions of Culture is Our Plan, in particular amongst the District's most underserved communities. The Leap work and approach is being recognised nationally as having created innovative ways of empowering communities to lead and participate in arts and culture.

Key impacts to date include:

- Provided **£407,737 funding** - £321,671 to community-led arts projects and £86,066 to artist-led projects.
- Recruited and supporting **7 community-based partnerships**, delegating £175,000 in funds to enable communities to establish locally led arts and culture provision.

- Given work to **94 artists & creative professionals**
- Supported **106 people in our communities to lead** on cultural projects.
- Actively involved **14,210 participants** across Bradford & Keighley.
- **Reached 50,501** people as viewing audiences.
- Delivered **24 training sessions** to support people and their creative projects
- Provided **132** 1:1 support sessions to help projects start up and grow
- Supported **6 Community-Led Festivals**
- Facilitated **20 networking meetings**.

Delegating power

Community ownership of decision-making is at the heart of The Leap approach:

- There are **21** Members on its Creative Board providing strategic and policy advice.
- There are **46** Community Assessors who have been involved in deciding on grant allocations through **14 assessment panels**
- An Evaluation Steering Group helps steer programme evaluation

Resources

Levered match funding from ACE on Council investment, generating a total £1.4 million investment for community-led arts & culture, with additional funding secured of £1.3 million, extending guaranteed programme delivery by 1.5 years to March 2025.

Partnerships

52 partners spanning the public, private and VCS sectors are supporting The Leap delivery programme; creating a unique network of support for community led culture across Bradford District.

Diversity

- 17% of people supported and engaged are under 24
- 25% are aged 25-34
- 48% have White heritage
- 37% have Asian heritage
- 5% have Black heritage
- 5% have dual heritage
- 4% have a disability

3.2 Ambition: Making the most of what we have

We will build on our existing assets, revitalising historic buildings, re-energising our high streets, reimagining temporary spaces, our landscapes and cityscapes. Sustainability will be our goal, making reuse, upcycling and repurposing the cornerstones of our creativity and ensuring new cultural assets make a positive impact on sustainable development too.

What we'll do

The Cultural Place Partnership will coordinate a cultural capital plan for the District.

Meanwhile, 'Springback' is an initiative by City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council supported by West Yorkshire Combined Authority, bringing together culture and economic development to support our high street recovery as we emerge from COVID-19 restrictions and work towards bidding for City of Culture 2025. 'Spring Back' will work with local businesses and our three Business Improvement Districts to put culture at the heart of recovery. The aim is to bring our streets, towns and neighbourhoods alive with everything from street art and festivals to window installations and pop-up markets.

Progress to date

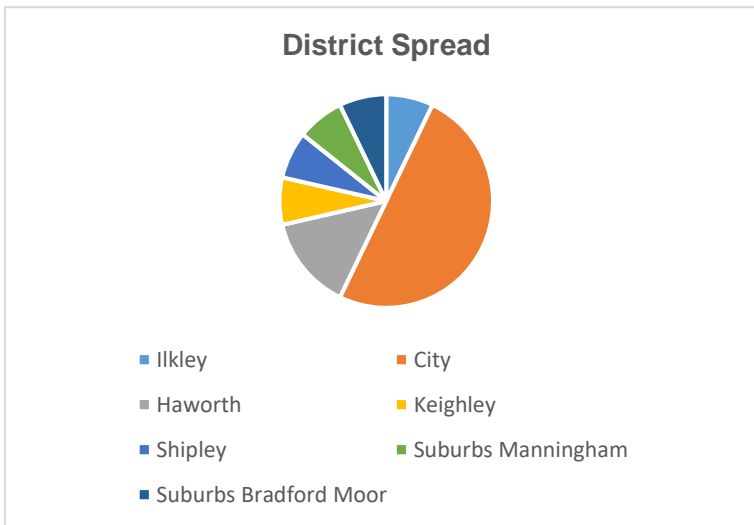
Cultural Place Partnerships has completed a first survey of district cultural capital projects. This shows:

- The district has a strong pipeline of relevant cultural capital projects.
- 14 projects are in feasibility currently with a total value of c£28m
- The projects cover a wide spectrum of cultural activity and representation

Activity	
Museum	4
Cross art form	3
Visual arts	2
Design	2
STEAM science , technology, engineering, arts & maths	1
Community	1
Dance	1

- Bradford Council is supporting 7 cultural feasibility studies to grow a pipeline of cultural assets across the District. One example is a maker's space in the basement of a mosque to develop the skills and confidence of young Asian men, using crafts and digital making as a tool for engagement. The availability of cultural capital to match local resources will help deliver these projects that include:
 - A new Art Hotel at the historic Wool Exchange building, securing the long term future of a heritage asset
 - A major redevelopment of Kala Sangam - the centre for interdisciplinary arts
 - 2 new performance spaces located in some of our most deprived communities from Thornbury to Idle

While there is a predominance of projects in Bradford city centre, there are credible



proposals for many other parts of the district

The potential projects offer a valuable range and scale of benefits

Outputs				
Jobs created	Artist days per annum	Performance days per annum	Exhibition days per annum	Education sessions
125	552	596	1985	3076

- Key capital developments that will address gaps and capacity in the district are already well advanced and timed to arrive prior to 2025. These include Bradford Live a new 4,000 seat music venue already on site and due to complete 2022, redevelopment of Kala Sangam arts centre at tender stage and due to complete 2023, creation of Keighley Creative arts hub has been awarded Towns Fund support and will complete in 2024 and National Science and Media Museum’s new galleries have confirmed National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) funds and will complete in 2023. Both will address the district’s lack of contemporary visuals arts spaces in time for the year
- New partnerships with Channel 4 may well gather pace and deliver in time for 2025
- There are significant projects on the horizon which can form powerful capital legacy for 2025 too, such as Vintry House & City Hall.

The Place Partnership will provide oversight and coordination for cultural capital

projects development in the district. This survey will be updated regularly and reported back to Place Partnership every six months.

Ongoing responsibility for this work will be taken on by the culture team at CBMDC.

Place based investment and economic recovery

The Council awarded a £100k contact to a Bradford based collective to deliver a targeted, creative high street intervention on Oak Lane. Due to be completed in May/June 2022. People Make Place is a collective made up of Artists, designers and facilitators who have just entered the delivery phase of the Creative High Streets project on Oak Lane after a period of R+D and Consultation. The delivery is made up of a variety of interventions for Oak Lane High Street including murals, banners, site specific sculptures, and bringing Oak Lane in Bloom. All the activities and interventions have been designed after a period of engagement with local groups, residents and business owners to ensure the work is embedded.

Groups they are working with:

Milan Centre, Meridian Centre, Westbourne Primary, Cartwright Hall, Brick Box collective, Friends of Lister park, JUMP, Mi Chaii, Westbourne Community Hospital. Councillors they are working with Cllr Alex Ross-Shaw, Cllr Sarfraz Nazir, Cllr Sameena Akhta

Our nighttime economy needed investment even before the pandemic. It now needs even more innovative measures to stimulate cultural activity on our high streets. We have launched Nighttime Reps, a programme to recruit 5 x 18-30 - year-olds to work across the District to develop a nighttime economy manifesto for young people. This will be at the heart of a culture led nighttime economy working with the Business Improvement Districts and the town councils and support our ambition to be A UNICEF Child Friendly District putting young people at the heart of our decision making

3.3 Ambition: Making the most of who we are

The people of Bradford are our greatest creative asset. We are a cosmopolitan district, and it is in our differences that we find our richest culture. Our culture will represent our rich diversity and offer something for everyone but not the same for everyone – it won't be one size fits all.

What we'll do

In direct support of Culture Is Our Plan, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council has increased its investment in arts, culture and heritage and designed three new grant programmes from May 2021.

The aim is for these new grants to be more accessible, especially to grassroots organisers. They are designed to reach all parts of the District, to champion individual artists as well as organisations and to challenge organisations to improve inclusion, reach and environmental sustainability. Award decisions will be balanced to spread opportunity across communities and the District. The increased investment by Bradford Council is also there to encourage entrepreneurialism and bold ideas, to support the growth of the sector and to assist organisations who are ready to grow, to scale up their activities and the jobs and opportunities that they

might generate. This funding will also help the sector to leverage increased levels of national support into the District.

Progress to date

Small and Large Grants

Grant programmes were redesigned and relaunched are planned. 17 small grants and 17 large grants have been awarded since the launch in May 2021.

The projects we support now cover a wide range of cultural activity from festivals to photography exhibitions, film, theatre, music and heritage projects.

The programme also encourages individual artists to apply for funding and over the last 8 months we have supported 10 individual artists through our small grants programme. As part of both funding programme, we work to support diverse communities and are pleased to report that grant beneficiaries include South Asian Heritage Month, Black History Month, Windrush exhibition at Cartwright Hall, Intercultured Festival and Disability Month. In total 40% of awards have been made to diverse-led projects.

Regular Funded Grants

In August we launched our new Regular Funded Grants Programme 2022 – 2025. This provides revenue funding for three years to support ongoing delivery by key cultural partners. We were able to open this programme up to new applicants as well as established companies. Our new portfolio consists of 24 culture partners who will receive between £5,000 and £30,000 per year from a total fund of £335,000 per year. This investment is often used to match fund applications to Arts Council England and others and levers a significant return on investment into the district (previously £5 of ACE funds for every £1 of BMDC investment).

There are 10 organisations that are new to the portfolio. These include established key cultural assets like The Bronte Society and National Science and Media Museum (NS&MM) that the council now supports directly and a range of emerging and diverse cultural organisations that we are investing in to encourage activity across the district and their future growth and scaling up. This includes Keighley Creative, Bloomin Buds, People Powered Press and Tech Styles International. The geographical distribution of these new organisations is district wide:

Ward	Organisation
City	National Science and Media Museum
Heaton	Cecil Green Arts
Keighley central	Keighley Creative
City	Spin Arts
City / Saltaire	The Peace Museum
ShIPLEY	The People Powered Press CIC
ShIPLEY	509 Arts Ltd
Bowling and Barkerend	Tech Styles international
Worth Valley	The Bronte Society
Eccleshill	Bloomin Buds

Equitable leadership

BMDC has established an Equitable Leadership programme will provide financial investment and training to a number of key cultural organisations, festivals, events or networks in the district to support the development and diversity of leadership in our sector, providing opportunity and space for people who are currently underrepresented in the culture and creative industries. This investment will be the catalyst for change in the culture sector, with the ambition to raise investment into our diverse organisations from internal and external resources.

3.4 Ambition: Network capacity

We are at our most powerful, effective and sustainable when we work collaboratively. By sharing resources, we will build and diversify our sector networks. As a creative community, we will share equipment, knowledge and skills, supporting, championing and mentoring each other. We will work collectively to develop inclusion, talent, participation and audiences. We will ensure every District agenda, from health to planning, education to transport, keeps culture in mind.

What we'll do

Following its brilliant start in 2019, The Cultural Voice Forum will increase its membership and resources to enable it to play an enhanced role in communication and coordination for arts, culture and heritage. It will provide support services, data and information to the sector and will work closely with partners like the Bradford Producing Hub to maximise training and skills development opportunities. It will also help represent the District's voice in regional and national forums.

Progress to date

Bradford's Cultural Voice Forum (CVF) is now a vibrant network of over 400 people who work in the Bradford District's cultural sector. The Forum is member led and exists to share knowledge, resources, and opportunities. It brings together independent professionals, organisations, and volunteers from across Bradford district at bi-monthly meetings to discuss key topics for arts and heritage.

CBMDC investment has supported a secretariat function to coordinate CVF and to deliver the ambition of the strategy will use the final year of current funding to secure the long term future of this critical network. This will be done through recruitment of a dedicated Co-ordinator who will:

- Sustain the delivery of regular CVF activity, organising and delivering a minimum of six full Forum meetings with the CVF Co-Chairs. These meetings should be a mix of in person and online events.
- Sustain regular communications with the forum membership and manage the forum website with support from Kala Sangam marketing staff.
- Consult with membership and stakeholders on future growth, role and remit of the forum.
- Develop and achieve agreement on a sustainable plan for the future to include:
 - Legal status
 - Governance arrangements and elections as required
 - Purpose, Mission and vision
 - Resource analysis

- Three-year activity plan and budget
- Devise a fundraising plan to ensure the sustainability of the Forum and secure funds for 2023/24 (at least). This may include establishing a membership model.
- Support recruitment of future staff or procurements of contractors as necessary.
- Oversee the election and induction of new co-chairs (and other governance structure as necessary).
- Represent and advocate on behalf of the CVF in the district, regionally and nationally and proactively seek out opportunity, regionally and nationally, to promote Bradford's cultural sector.

3.5 Ambition: Thinking big

We will be bold and entrepreneurial, encouraging our creative partners to make ambitious work across the District. We will create the right environment for culture to flourish, bringing with it more work and jobs. Bradford will be a fertile ground for visionary projects, partnerships and national and international collaborations.

What we'll do

Launch the new screen strategy for the District in 2021. As Seen on Screen offers the District a bold and ambitious vision for the future. Screen business is booming across the UK, but our screen sector is currently small and lagging behind the rest of our region, so there is real scope for Bradford to play a bigger part in this success story, becoming far more than a great film set. As Seen on Screen aims to stimulate local screen production with particular emphasis on short-form, TV, mobile, digital and games – and on the diverse young people and stories that make Bradford so attractive to broadcasters and media businesses such as Channel 4.

The strategy aims to level the playing field and establish a maturing, joined-up screen sector by 2025. It will be well connected to the wider screen sector but have its own distinctive style, giving a stronger voice to Bradford's people both on and off screen. It will:

- *Reimagine our UNESCO City of Film as a dynamic, creative screen hub and production centre*
- *Provide a joined-up, lifelong screen education and skills pathway*
- *Build partnerships with broadcasters and content creators regionally and nationally*
- *Strengthen our relationships with national funders and supporters*
- *Connect local content creators to one another*
- *Show great content on screens across the District*
- *Create clean-growth screen-sector jobs*
- *Showcase the real Bradford to the world*
- *Give our people a stronger voice*

Progress to date

Bradford's As Seen On Screen Strategy was released in 2021 with a view to helping the district claim a bigger proportion of the region's currently thriving screen sector, which is nationally now worth £6bn a year. Channel 4's decision to locate its national HQ in Leeds was due in part to the access Bradford's proximity afforded the channel in terms of young and diverse new audiences as well as undeveloped creative talent and locations. The screen strategy is designed to build on Bradford's UNESCO City of Film status but also to address the lack of investment in talent,

content and production from within Bradford. Bradford is more than a film set – and it has a diverse pool of young but raw talent.

Bradford is now working in partnership with Channel 4 to establish the first home for digital content makers: 'The Unit'. This will launch in March 2022 in collaboration with The Impact Hub and Keighley Creative, delivering a 12-month programme of support to create the next generation of content makers.

The Channel 4 partnership with Bradford will also provide a short form digital content fund to identify and support screen talent in the district, with creative input from the channel's commissioning team to help raise awareness of commercial and editorial practices. With an administrator and a programmer now in place, The Unit aims to connect people to the wider industry, nurture collaborative working practices and encourage screen content makers to share skills and co-develop their ideas.

Elsewhere the screen strategy is now being built upon at the National Science and Media Museum and the City of Film is also being reimagined. The associated FilmMakers25 mentoring programme (co-funded by ScreenSkills using BFI/Lottery Funds) now has 50 mentees, all matched with industry experts, and work is progressing to attract funds and incoming production companies to the district.

3.6 Ambition: Live life better

Our arts, culture and heritage will become part of the District's City of Research. We will use the unique data from Born in Bradford and our partnership with Bradford Institute for Health Research to prove the positive benefit of art, culture and heritage on everyone's lives.

What we'll do

The Bradford Cultural Place Partnership will co-commission a UK-first, ten-year study using the unique Born in Bradford data. Working with the team at Bradford Institute for Health Research, we will get a better understanding of people's engagement with culture. The study will give us evidence of the benefits of arts, culture and heritage to everyone's lives.

Progress to date

Funding from BMDC has levered in funds from Bradford Institute for Health Research and ACE to support a feasibility study into this unique project which has the working title of Digital Creatives. This project has been coordinated by Kathryn Penny from the NS&MM on secondment and has brought together national and district artists and researchers to work with teachers and young people to devise a proposal which can now be taken to ACE and other potential funders in 2022.

Rooted in the world-leading Born in Bradford longitudinal wellbeing study, Digital Creatives is a digital storytelling intervention for adolescent children (years 8, 9 and 10) in every secondary school in Bradford. Embedded in the curriculum, it will evidence the impact of engagement with arts and culture on improved health, wellbeing and life outcomes. Creative digital storytelling will enable young people to express all aspects of who they are, from their inner personal and home lives to

their wider cultural and ancestral lives, and allows them to understand, imagine and shape their futures as members of the local and global community.

At the heart of the project is an interdisciplinary 'Digital Creativity Studio' - a cohort of some of the UK's most exciting visual artists, creative technologists, theatre makers, poets, photographers, musicians, philosophers, coders, graphic designers, film makers, games designers, digital artists and writers. The Studio will work with Bradford Secondary schools and educators across the 7 year period to design and integrate a creative digital curriculum.

The myriad creative outcomes of this work will be brought together as Generate: A Festival of Digital Creativity in 2025, which will also include brand new commissions led by international artists, competitions, public art interventions and a programme of inspirational encounters with leading figures from the worlds of art and tech.

A team of researchers working across clinical medicine, social sciences and arts-evaluation will gather evidence for the impact of participation in the Digital Creatives project on adolescent mental health and wellbeing.

The project will be taken forward by Born in Bradford as part of their Age of Wonder work and applications for funding submitted to ACE and others with an anticipated start of work in district schools in January 2023, building up to a peak of activity in 2025.

3.7 Ambition: Creating an explosion of opportunity

Working with families, schools, careers service, universities and college partners we will create a critical mass of coordinated training and employment pathways for young people. We will champion and evidence the viability of creative careers to mobilise a whole generation of young, talented, digitally native people and ensure they take the lead in shaping the future success of the District.

What we'll do

Bradford Cultural Education Partnership will bring the District's independent cultural sector together with schools, with further and higher education and with the Careers and Technical Education Partnership. Working together, they will advocate for cultural and creative careers and maximise opportunities for young people across Bradford.

Progress to date

Bradford Cultural Education Partnership (BCEP) has secured a new chair - Nathan Kelly, Dean of School of Art at Bradford College and revised its governance to reflect strands of activity in support of the strategy, securing new and expert chairs of working groups for each strand to form a leadership group alongside the chair.

BCEP is implementing plans to diversify and strengthen BCEP membership going forward including new partnerships with other district strategies including the CTE (Careers and Technical Education Partnership (CTE): Creative, Digital and Arts)

BCEP is now fundraising to create a new dedicated role of Partnership Coordinator to diversify our membership, secure new partnerships and delivery future funding to support each strand of our activity and to ensure the sustainability of the BCEP.

Support from BMDC of £15,000 aims to lever ACE funds of £40,000 and a contribution of £5000 from Bradford School of Art.

BCEP aims to:

- Work with city and regional partnerships to support independent strategic projects and to deliver three strands of activity (Cultural and CCI (?) advocacy, Digital Creatives, Digital Storytellers)
- Ensure that every child and young person in Bradford has the chance to create, compose, perform, visit, experience and participate in arts creative, cultural and digital work and to build future skills, understand and review the experiences they have had.
- Bring the arts, culture, heritage, creative industries, employers and education sectors together to offer a consistent and high-quality arts, creative and cultural education for all children and young people.

The Partnership will:

- Drive the creation of a joined-up local arts, creative, digital and cultural offer
- Promote the value of arts, creativity and culture particularly in and out of schools, with colleges, heritage venues, museums, employers and stakeholders
- Share resources where possible and use creative and digital arts to bring people, employers and communities together

Through the coordination of the core strands of activity BCEP will bring about a more coherent and visible delivery of creative, digital and cultural education across the district and through the partnership.

The core strands of activity have been shaped through the district-wide consultation and research. Informed by the development of Culture is our Plan, The Bradford Producing Hub, the Bradford Creative People and Places programme and the bid for UK City of Culture 2025, BCEP will work proactively to provide support and guidance to enable the development and delivery of:

1. Digital Creatives

A seven-year, creative skills intervention in secondary schools across the whole district as part of the district-wide, Wellcome-funded 'Age of Wonder' initiative at Bradford Institute of Health research and in partnership with City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, Bradford Culture Company who are leading the bid for UK City of Culture 2025, Arts Council England and in support of the district's new screen strategy.

2. Digital Storytellers

Will be a creative skills intervention into primary schools and with families across the district developed in partnership with Historic England and others to enable children to learn about the place in which they live and to capture and share

their own stories of their Bradford as part of developing a new 'Bradford Creative Curriculum'

3. Advocacy and visibility

Proactive leadership with partners in primary, secondary, further and higher education and in the cultural and creative industries sector in the district to ensure that cultural and creative opportunities for young people are joined-up, pathways clearly signposted and role-models are highlighted to ensure children, young people and families know about the wealth of creative educational opportunity across the district and how to access them.

3.8 Ambition: Having fun

We will build a calendar of exceptional festivals and events, celebrations and one-off moments across the District – from the hyperlocal to the global. We will show that Bradford is open for business, building capacity, giving permissions, unlocking spaces and encouraging innovators. We will make the District a great place to live and a host of choice for national and international cultural events and partnerships.

What we'll do

The City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council will move from directly delivering events and festivals to collaborating with partners. Working with Bradford 2025 City of Culture Bid, The Leap, Bradford Producing Hub and independent organisers and promoters, it will develop a new calendar of festivals and events that will:

- *Make the most of existing grassroots activity, promote projects with the potential to grow and attract partnerships and media attention*
- *Be rooted in and relevant to the communities of the District*
- *Be of the highest artistic quality, prioritising original, distinctive work made here*
- *Build capacity in the District to mount future festivals and events*

The Council will redeploy its festival funds as leverage to increase national investment, while streamlining the licensing process to make creating festivals and events easier for everyone.

Progress to date

Summer and Winter Unlocked was a programme developed to support the freelance cultural sector, providing engaging activity at a hyper-local level in our neighbourhoods and encouraging footfall back into our city centre and towns. The programmes supported 55 new commissions, 100 days of delivery, reached 25 wards and engaged more than 50,000 people across the district.

Examples of this excellent work are Front Room Poetry in ASDA Car, Kapaw's 'Mayflower' a water ballet in Kala Sangam car park, Jane Hair the Brontës re-imagined in a Bradford Hair Salon, Persian Paddle Boarding, Peaceartists street band on a narrow boat on Leeds & Liverpool Canal, Horse & Cart dance performance in Lister Park and Bowling Park, Bull and the Moon flamenco dance show for children in Lister Park and Bowling Park, a mosque transforming the garden into a community art gallery with art produced by local residents.

Bradford is LiT festival placed beautiful light installations across the whole district,

intriguing the public and gaining significant positive media attention for the district.

Highlights included:

- Presenting Dan Archers *Borealis* in City Park. The only chance to see this amazing northern lights-inspired installation in the UK were in Bradford and then in London. It attracted significant increased footfall to the city centre with 20,000 audience members visiting Bradford City over on Friday 5th & 6th November.
- Music and calligraphy and break dancing revitalised parks across the district.
- Holmewood & Manningham celebrated the wonderful local community with a range of art workshops and exhibitions in community spaces.
- Music took over a range of performance locations including bandstands, streets and pubs with our Buskival festival

3.9 Ambition: Bradford will know itself better

We will share the District's history and the diversity of our cultural heritage with pride. Our culture will speak honestly and openly, won't tolerate racism or discrimination and will have difficult conversations when needed – giving confidence to our communities, celebrating difference, bringing people together, boosting pride and promoting mental and physical wellbeing.

What we'll do

The City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council and The Leap will launch a new partnership with National Lottery Heritage Fund in 2021. This will develop a heritage action plan for the District and pilot new ways of distributing heritage funding direct to grassroots and hyperlocal projects and organisations. The Heritage Action Plan will build on the importance and potential of all types of heritage whether tangible – things like buildings, objects, landscapes – or intangible – our stories, sense of community and the contemporary heritage work that is shedding a light on important aspects of our modern lives.

In particular we aim to look at the role of heritage and sense of place in mental wellbeing and recovery. It will connect work already under way such as the Review of Statues and Monuments, the new vision for the District's Libraries review, the emerging plans for Bradford's Museums and Galleries. It will also connect to independent projects from the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway and Saltaire Collection to Windrush Generations and South Asian Heritage Month. It will embrace partners including the Canal & River Trust and both of the District's UNESCO designations.

Progress to date

Bradford Council in partnership with The Leap has succeeded in gaining a strategic investment of £207,400 from National Lottery Heritage Fund to deliver a number of related project strands designed to explore new approaches to developing and funding community Heritage projects, stimulate conversations around heritage, and create a coherent action plan for supporting and developing the heritage sector and heritage activity across the District.

The funding was sought because the process of co-creating Bradford's 10-year

cultural strategy, Culture is our Plan, revealed that Bradford residents felt that heritage was very important to them, was a key element of what made Bradford special, and they wanted it valued and celebrated.

Devolved funding from NLHF to CBMDC's cultural grants programme and the Leap will help us reach into grass-roots communities to demystify heritage and surface the heritage that lives and thrives in those communities but is largely unrecognised as "heritage" within them and invisible outside them.

CBMDC have begun to assess projects under their ring-fenced small grants for Heritage pot (£50,000). Small grants range from £250 to £1,500. We have invested in community organisations Bradford Moor PASS and Windrush Generations to surface and develop new projects so that individuals and groups can make applications to Bradford Council's small grants programme. One aim of this work, apart from encouraging and celebrating the intrinsic value of this rich heritage, is to grow project development capacity at grassroots level and ultimately lead to more activity and more projects being developed to a level at which they can attract larger funding from a range of funders.

Socially engaged Artists-in-Residents, will animate conversations around the future of City Hall - what does it mean to Bradford's residents and what do they want from that major civic building? - have been contracted and start their project mid-March. They are Rosie Freeman and Harry Jelly, from Brick Box albeit acting as independent artists, and Shiraz Ali, designer and architect from Shiraz Ali Design, working together to bring their respective expertise to bear. They will be in residence in City Hall until Mid-July.

The Leap has launched their devolved grants programme (£60,000) and their community development workers have begun working to surface Heritage projects in their communities and helping groups send individuals to develop the projects ready for application to The Leap's assessment round in the Summer - projects to be delivered by December 31. They are working under the guidance of newly-appointed Heritage Development manager Aisha Khan.

Heritage Action Plan consultants from Heritage Lincolnshire are currently doing consultations and workshops with the heritage and related (e.g., library) sectors to develop a plan for bringing coherence to the wide range of heritage initiatives that exist in Bradford, identify synergies, and gaps, and make recommendations for appropriate structures, tools and resources to grow heritage activity in the District.

The consultants are currently completing a first draft which will go out for review by mid-Feb - aiming for a final draft by end April (to allow time to include emerging info from Artists-in- Residents in City Hall).

A key objective of the overall programme is to capture the learning that arises from these new ways of funding Heritage - and other key learning about the state of the heritage sector in Bradford, participation (and barriers to participation) in heritage activity across the District) and the extent to which we succeed - or are likely to succeed - in stimulating heritage activity and building resilience and new energy in the sector. Freelance evaluators Ruth Melville Research have begun work on building evaluation into the design and early implementation of all strands of the

project to ensure the ultimate summative evaluation gives us the learning we need.

3.10 Ambition: We will tell our own story

We will tell the world new stories about the District's incredible people and distinctive places. Culture will take a lead in our District's sustainable regeneration and will redefine us in the eyes of regional and national neighbours. We will bid to be UK City of Culture 2025 and leverage our global networks to become a regional, national and international cultural destination.

What we'll do

Bradford 2025 UK City of Culture Bid, chaired by artist and broadcaster Shanaz Gulzar and led by Richard Shaw, will lead the District's bid to be UK City of Culture 2025. The UK City of Culture competition happens every four years and is designed to encourage the use of culture and creativity as a catalyst for change, promote the development of new partnerships, encourage ambition, innovation and inspiration in cultural and creative activity and create a lasting legacy for the winning city. The initiative is administered by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and was created originally to 'build on the success of Liverpool's year as European Capital of Culture 2008, which had significant social and economic benefits for the area'.

Progress to date

In October 2021 Bradford became one of eight cities to be longlisted for the UK City of Culture 2025. The other places longlisted are Armagh, Cornwall, Derby, Durham, Southampton, Stirling and Wrexham.

Bradford's full bid for UK City of Culture led by Richard Shaw at Bradford Culture Company was subsequently submitted to the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) on Wednesday 2nd February.

Regardless of the result the process of bidding for UK City of Culture has been a positive experience for Bradford, bringing the City together like never before. We have the need, commitment and capacity to deliver a successful UK City of Culture year in 2025 and believe that we would be the most impactful choice to address levelling up. There will be calls for it to go to Scotland, Wales or the South but we believe that the time is right for Bradford.

The City of Culture expert advisory panel and the DCMS will now be assessing the bids and the key dates going forward are:

- W/b 21st March 2022: Announcement of shortlist of up to 4 places
- W/b 2nd and 9th May 2022: Expert advisory panel city visits to shortlisted places
- Mid May 2022: Face-to-face presentation to the expert advisory panel in Coventry
- End of May 2022: Announcement of the next UK City of Culture for 2025

Over the coming weeks, there will be several high profile events taking place across the district:

- Meal One. A new family show from 509 Arts based on the children's book by Ivor Cutler and Helen Oxenbury. Touring the UK including 3 performances at the Alhambra Studio on
- Saturday 26th February.

- Following Threads. A new exhibition opens on 26th February at Bradford Industrial Museum
- showcasing the inspirational work of thirteen of Keighley Creative's resident artists on the theme of industrialisation and the environment, inspired by the museum collections and the environment of the district.
- The Mills Are Alive. An epic projection show by the Brick Box will illuminate Lister Mills' chimney on the evenings of 3rd, 4th and 5th March 2022.
- Bradford meets Coventry. On 5th - 6th March 100 young people from across the district will be travelling to Coventry to visit the current UK City of Culture, organised in partnership with Bradford Council Youth Service.

How can you help

Your support and advocacy for the bid is hugely important. We ask you to share your enthusiasm for the bid on your digital platforms and across your professional networks in the coming weeks. All eyes will be on the Bradford bid in the weeks and months ahead and, if you can, we ask you to please do tag in @bradford2025 and use the hashtags #Bradford2025 and #CityOfCulture2025 if you can.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like any further information from the Bradford 2025 team.

You can reach us on info@bradford2025.co.uk or 01274 800551.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

There are no financial issues arising.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

There are no significant risks arising

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

There no legal issues arising.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

All projects will adopt the UN SDGs and work to further the council sustainability goals, training etc and work with Jamie S

7.2 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

- Assessment of the impact of all recommendations on the Council's own and the wider District's carbon footprint and emissions from other greenhouse gasses. Contact the Environment & Climate Change Manager on 07582 109030 for further guidance.

7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

There are no community safety issues arising

7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no human rights act issues arising

7.5 TRADE UNION

There are no trade union issues arising

7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS

The plan aspires to improve the distribution of cultural opportunity and investment across the whole district and into every ward

7.7 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS (for reports to Area Committees only)

N/A

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Providing opportunity for children and young people is at the heart of the plan

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

There are no data protection issues arising

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

N/A

9. OPTIONS

Members may wish to comment on any aspect of the report

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members comment on any aspect of the report

11. APPENDICES

N/A

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

[Culture is Our Plan](#)



Report of the Strategic Directors of Health and Wellbeing, Place and Acting Strategic Director of Children's Services to the meeting of the Regeneration and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee to be held on 22nd March 2022

W

Subject:

Active Travel - School Streets and Play Streets

Summary statement:

This report provides an update on School Streets projects and the development of a Play Streets approach within the Bradford district.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

The School Streets scheme is intended to improve the safety and quality of the streets around pilot schools in several areas of Bradford district and is intended to have a positive impact on local residents, parents and school pupils from several protected characteristics groups, dependent on the make-up of the local population.

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Regeneration and Planning and Sport
Cllr Alex Ross-Shaw
Children and Families
Cllr Sue Duffy

Overview & Scrutiny Area:
Health and Social Care
Regeneration and Environment
Children's Services

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides an update on School Streets and Play Streets projects within the Bradford district following a paper received at Committee on 1st December 2020.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the meeting of Council on 16 July 2019 a motion in respect of school parking issues was tabled requesting that work streams relating to School Streets and Play Streets be explored by Bradford Council across three key services: Health and Wellbeing, Place and Children's Services.

- 2.2 It was resolved at the meeting that:

- i) The Active Places group progress work to support the delivery of Play Streets, School Streets and active travel wherever possible.
- ii) The Active Places group work with partners, such as Better Start Bradford and the Sport England local delivery pilot, to ensure a joined-up approach which has local communities at its heart and to ensure the most efficient use of resources.
- iii) Officers develop an action plan under the authority of the portfolio holder and submit the action plan to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny committees (Health and Social Care, and Regeneration and Environment)

- 2.3 A subsequent report was brought to the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee in December 2020, detailing proposals for the scheme. At the meeting it was resolved:

That a further report to be presented to the Committee on completion of the pilot schemes to give details of the delivery, experiences of the schools and community and realisation of the outcomes and provide details of a Play Streets Policy.

- 2.4 Physical activity not only improves physical and mental health, but it also leads to social, economic and environmental benefits. Born in Bradford (BiB) data has shown that 77% of 5-11 year-olds in the cohort study don't do the recommended 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous activity each day, while the local Public Health England National Child Measurement Programme shows 40.8% of children in the District in 2019/20 left primary school overweight or obese. Overweight and obesity among children has risen sharply across the country in the past year. Although no local data can be published for 2020/21 as the national measurement programme was only conducted via a small sample of children due to covid-19, it is likely that Bradford is no exception.

- 2.5 The local whole systems approach to reducing obesity (including physical inactivity as a core element) began in late 2017 as part of the delivery of the Healthy Bradford Plan (now Living Well). Initiating the whole systems process included bringing together partners from across the system to map the root causes of inactivity and unbalanced diets, and establishing an action plan to tackle these.
- 2.6 The places where we live, learn, work and socialise have an integral role to play in promoting physical activity. This includes creating highly connected communities so that active travel is the easy option, as well as creating places where people want to go to engage in play and other activities for leisure.
- 2.7 The Place and Health and Wellbeing Directorates are working in close partnership to create and deliver a programme of work to help create a District which supports people of all ages to move more, regardless of ability or where they live in the District. This includes measures and schemes to ensure that children and families are encouraged and enabled to build movement into their regular routine.

School Streets

- 2.8 The streets around schools, and especially primary schools, are often congested at the beginning and the end of the school day, with parents and carers dropping off and collecting children. Not only does this prevent those children being driven from walking or using more active modes of travel, it increases pollution on those streets, and creates a more dangerous environment with respect to road safety. School Streets are an attempt to change behaviour by making people think about how they travel to and from school, choose an alternative mode of travel for at least part of the journey, and to dissipate the congestion directly outside a school.
- 2.9 A School Street is a street around a school that is closed temporarily to vehicles at drop-off and pick-up time, with only pedestrians, cyclists and those vehicles with exemptions (e.g. local residents/businesses) being able to use the roads at these times. Exemptions will also be in place for any of the approximately 1,500 children across the District who use the school transport service to support their journey to and from school due to a complex health issue and/ or disability.
A number of factors were used to prioritise the pilot sites:
 - i. Air Quality - using Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) levels based on government background modelling.
 - ii. Local constraints such as the status of the adjoining highway network (i.e. strategic and/bus routes have been avoided to minimise disruption on the wider network)
 - iii. Existing schools engagement with the Council Active Travel partners and 'matched funding' support.
- 2.10 Based on these criteria, 11 schools were initially chosen for the School Streets programme. Unfortunately, two schools withdrew from the pilot as a result of concern around operational issues at their sites. Following consultation with

schools, residents, and other stakeholders, a final total of 9 schools therefore began the pilot in June 2021.

2.11 The schools that make up the pilot scheme are:

SCHOOL	WARD	CONSTITUENCY
Girlington Primary	Toller	Bradford West
Grove House Primary	Bolton & Undercliffe	Bradford East
High Craggs Primary	Windhill & Wrose	Shipley
Ley Top Primary	Thornton & Allerton	Bradford West
Newhall Park Primary	Tong	Bradford South
Shipley CE Primary	Shipley	Shipley
St Matthews CE Primary	Wibsey	Bradford South
St Stephens CE Primary	Little Horton	Bradford East
Westminster CE Primary	Bolton & Undercliffe (School) Bowling & Barkerend (Streets)	Bradford East

2.12 Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders for the Schools Streets were promoted and the closures came into force on 28 June 2021 at the 9 pilot sites. Operational times vary to coincide with the individual school's start and finish time. Residents within the extents of the School Street areas are provided permits to allow exit and access during these times; there are also other exemptions including for deliveries and pupils with mobility issues for example. The area covered by each scheme is indicated by temporary signs at the entry points; wherever possible these are backed by provision of traffic cones and temporary 'road closed' signs to put across the road.

2.13 The previous report provided an evidence review on the potential impact of School Streets, as seen in other parts of the country. This report will not repeat that detail.

2.14 In general, feedback from parents and schools about the start of the schemes in summer 2020, and observation of the restart of the schemes at the start of the September 2020 term was initially positive. The majority of parents did appear to be complying with the scheme, either by walking to school or parking outside the zone and walking the last bit of the journey. However at some schools the road layout has meant that even a small number of non-compliant cars can create real problems. Over the course of the past 6 months, feedback from school staff collated during site visits has been mixed.

2.15 As the pilot has gone on, some schools have reported issues which mean that they

no longer feel able to actively supervise the School Street intervention, although the signs informing drivers of the scheme remain in place. The issues being reported include limited staff capacity, safety concerns from drivers not observing the restrictions, and even some verbal abuse from a minority of parents/other drivers towards school staff. There is also some evidence of migration of parking issues to areas just outside the boundary of the School Streets areas. It is vitally important that we work with the schools to understand and address these issues, both to increase the chances of success of the scheme for the 9 current schools, and to enable any new schools involved in any further roll out of the scheme to anticipate and address potential issues in advance.

- 2.16 Evaluation of the scheme is ongoing. In February 2022, the Public Health team and the Place Directorate jointly wrote again to pilot schools to offer a new round of visits. The aim was to view the School Street in action where possible, to discuss how the pilot is going, identify any barriers to the success of the scheme, and to generate and share learning about how to improve on the schemes. Feedback from schemes in other local authorities has shown: a reduction in car use and a shift to non-polluting forms of transport; improved air quality in the vicinity of schools and to have cut traffic outside schools. For instance, in the London Borough of Hackney, one scheme resulted in “the number of students travelling by car decreasing by 45%”, whilst “cycling to school increased by 60%”.¹
- 2.17 This shows that even schemes that are working well are unlikely to achieve close to 100% compliance – many people have legitimate reasons for needing to drive at least part of the school journey. This is hard for schools to manage as the Council does not have capacity for permanent monitoring and enforcement. However, instances of non-compliance make it difficult for staff to manage and can feel unjust to parents who are complying, making it hard for them to remain motivated, and risk undermining the scheme. This is being explored in detail in the current round of engagement with schools, and through research with parents and carers (see 2.18 – 2.22 below for details). A summary of the barriers and facilitators to maintaining School Streets is provided in the diagram below:

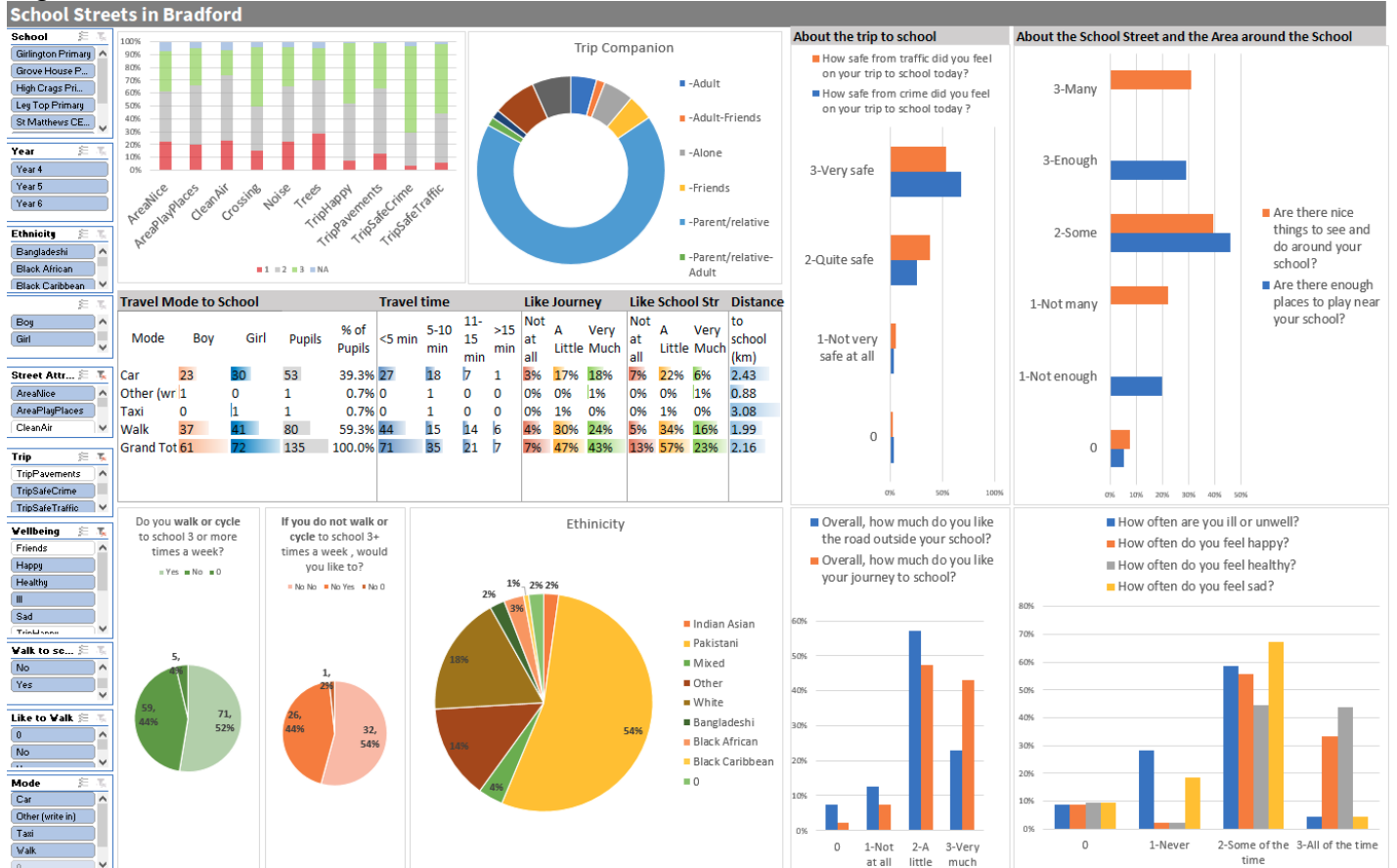
Facilitating factors	Barriers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The presence of Neighbourhood Wardens and/or School Caretakers to facilitate the placement of ‘Road Closed’ signs and redirect traffic when needed</i> <i>Collaboration between residents and school staff e.g. one resident has offered to store the cones in their garden and these are put out by the crossing patrol officer</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length of time of street closure considered too long for some schools Limited staff capacity to lay out road signs on a daily basis Temporary plastic signs can be flimsy and don’t remain secure in strong winds Lack of awareness of the scheme

¹ Hackney Council: <https://hackney.gov.uk/school-streets>

- | | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Verbal abuse towards school staff/those operating the scheme |
|--|--|

- 2.18 In addition to gathering feedback from the schools involved in the pilot Bradford Council has also been working with academic partners from the Act Early research collaborative. This research group, based across both Bradford and University College London, are evaluating the impact and reception of School Streets.
- 2.19 Prior to the implementation of the School Streets pilot the Highways team undertook traffic counts close to the schools and Act Early, via Bradford Council, sent out two bespoke surveys aimed at parents and children. The purpose of the surveys was to gather baseline, pre-intervention data on the school journey, as well as the environment in which children live, play, travel to school and socialise. Longer term outcomes to be measured were also included. For example, questions were asked about how the child feels about their local area: their safety, enjoyment, and happiness.
- 2.20 Unfortunately, due to delays in the academic ethical approval process, and the need to launch school streets as early as possible before the Summer holidays, there wasn't as much time as would have been ideal to circulate the surveys. However, despite this the baseline survey received 135 child responses and almost 70 parent responses. This will be repeated for any new school launching School Streets, and will also be repeated for all schools in any new rounds of implementation, allowing comparison of how people travel to school and outcomes before and after the implementation of the scheme.
- 2.21 This data is being put into an interactive dashboard which will be shared with schools, parents and children. An anonymised example of the dashboard is shown below in Figure 1, this is interactive and each element of the dashboard can be explored further by the schools.

Figure 1



- 2.22 In addition to this, Act Early will be contacting each school to gather further feedback from staff and parents, to generate qualitative insight into barriers and possible facilitators to the success of the scheme.
- 2.23 The ongoing programme of visits by council officers from Highways, Public Health and Road safety will inform and help to co-produce a School Streets resource pack that will include FAQs and case studies to help support the implementation and maintenance of School Streets in future schools.
- 2.24 Simultaneously, we are working on the next phase of the project. The Highways team have used the original criteria to shortlist schools where a school street may be possible and could show an impact on the intended outcomes. We are currently awaiting a decision on whether the Council will be awarded funding from the next tranche of the government’s Active Travel Fund (see section 4.1). If funding is awarded, we will approach the shortlisted schools and begin the process of recruiting for phase 2 of the project.
- 2.25 Public Health and Place are also working with the University of Bradford to explore ways of measuring any impact the scheme has on air quality at the start and end of the school day.

Play Streets

- 2.26 Play Streets are the closure of roads to allow communities to use the space for children and young people's play. They were part of the original resolution passed by full Council in 2019. Initial suggestions explored with partners such as Better Start Bradford (BSB) and the District's Sport England pilot – Join Us:Move Play (JU:MP) were focussed on developing a district wide programme. Accordingly a draft policy was prepared to guide communities on how to run a play street and what was necessary to make this happen safely. This is now under review to ensure that it is up to date and reflects the current situation.
- 2.27 Play Streets are classed as an event on the highway that requires a mandatory legal road closure order under S.16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Road closures need to be coordinated with other events on the highway network and as such require an advance notification period.
- 2.28 The Highway Network is split into the following categories;
- 'A' Roads – Primary Routes and Trunk Roads that carry a large amount of traffic.
 - 'B' Roads – Distributor roads that have lower traffic densities than 'A' Roads, but still carry a high proportion of traffic.
 - 'C' Roads – Busier local routes that connect 'A' and 'B' Roads.
 - 'U' Roads – Unclassified local roads used by residents to access/egress properties – (these form the majority - 60% approximately - of the districts road network)

For the purposes of Play Streets, only 'U' Roads (unclassified roads) will be considered, as these carry the least amount of traffic and are likely to cause less disruption to traffic movements.

- 2.29 Since the original guidance and policy were drafted, covid-19 has changed the situation. Some Local Authorities have viewed Play Streets as a way to create more space for social distancing and have continued to move forward with small scale Play Streets projects. However, Bradford Districts' landscape needs to be considered when developing Play Streets. The original proposals for the Play Streets initiative had a focus in areas where access to appropriate space for play was limited and/or harder to reach. These are predominately densely populated areas of the district, inner city and towns, often with tightly packed housing conditions, lots of parked cars and limited access to green space. Changing levels of restrictions and uncertainty about new waves of infection has meant that the Council has not been able to pursue the Play Streets scheme up to this point.
- 2.30 With covid-19 restrictions planned to be withdrawn nationally in late March we are thinking again about how to develop a Play Streets approach in residential areas of Bradford District. In addition, we will also need to clarify matters around members of the public taking responsibility for safety on public roads and determine whether or not there is a need for formal training.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The previous paper outlined details of a co-designed behaviour change campaign to explain to people waiting in cars outside schools the importance for children's health of switching off their engines. The campaign message, developed with children and schools was: "We Care About Clean Air". This campaign was launched in February 2020 with campaign materials including letters, railing banners, posters and stickers sent to the 50 primary schools that signed up to the scheme. Unfortunately, closure of schools in March 2020 due to lockdown meant that this campaign didn't have the impact we had intended, and that the planned evaluation of the scheme could not take place.
- 3.2 The project team is working with the Road Safety team to integrate the no-idling campaign messages with other road safety messages delivered to primary schools, parents, carers and children by the Road Safety team. This should reinvigorate the issue, and help to ensure consistency of messaging. Once this has been reviewed we will aim to re-launch the campaign with schools.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 The government has provided allocations to local transport authorities from an Emergency Active Travel Fund (EATF) .This is emergency grant funding which supports local transport authorities with producing cycling and walking facilities, the funding is in separate tranches.
- Tranche1 supported the installation of temporary projects for the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Tranche 2 (and subsequent Tranches) will allow the creation of longer term projects

As part of Bradford's EATF Tranche 2 funding award, a budget of £66,000 has been allocated for School Streets. This allocation was approved by the Strategic Director – Place and Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning & Transport.

- 4.2 The initial pilot scheme has been promoted and delivered within the Active Travel budget. Expenditure to date is £52,000, with residual monies being required to support staff resources to develop a successful operational model.
- 4.3 Any extension to the current cohort of School Streets will be subject to funding being allocated to the Council from the Department of Transport's next Active Travel Fund.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- 5.1 As noted above there is a multi-agency active travel group which prior to COVID-19 met regularly and School/Play Streets was a key part of the agenda. The progress

made since March's lockdown is a testament to the commitment of the members of the smaller working group that has spearheaded the pilot.

- 5.2 As with any action undertaken on the highway, there are risks involved, both to road users (be they pedestrians, cyclists or vehicle owners) and to the organisers of the closure. Whilst the Council can advise on the best method to employ to close a particular street, and issue the relevant legal Order to facilitate such a closure for play purposes, the overall responsibility for the safety of all parties involved would be the responsibility of the organiser.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

Public Health

- 6.1 Public Health has a responsibility to support and enhance the population's health and wellbeing. Schools street schemes are intended to enhance wellbeing for children and families and contribute to the four domains of Public Health: Wider Determinants; Health Improvement; Health Protection and Healthcare and Premature Mortality.

The schemes should impact and/or be able to contribute to the following indicators:

- School readiness
- Child excess weight in 4-5 and 10-11 year olds
- Children aged 5-16 sufficiently physically active for good health
- Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries for children and young people under 25
- Excess weight in adults
- Physically active and inactive adults
- Self reported well being
- Fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution
- Mortality rate from causes considered preventable

Education Law

- 6.2 Section 508A of the Education Act 1996 places a general duty on local authorities to promote the use of sustainable travel and transport. The duty applies to children and young people of compulsory school age who travel to receive education or training in a local authority's area. The duty relates to journeys to and from institutions where education or training is delivered.

- 6.3 There are five main elements to the duty which local authorities must undertake:

- an assessment of the travel and transport needs of children, and young people within the authority's area;
- an audit of the sustainable travel and transport infrastructure within the authority's area that may be used when travelling to and from, or between schools/institutions;
- a strategy to develop the sustainable travel and transport infrastructure within the authority so that the travel and transport needs of children and young people are best catered for;

- the promotion of sustainable travel and transport modes on the journey to, from, and between schools and other institutions; and
 - the publication of Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy.
- 6.4 The Act defines sustainable modes of travel as those that the local authority considers may improve the physical well-being of those who use them, the environmental well-being of all or part of the local authority's area, or a combination of the two.
- 6.5 Department for Education Guidance provides that Local authorities should, in large part, base their assessment of children and young people's travel and transport needs on the data provided by schools or colleges, often contained within school travel plans. Effective school travel plans, updated as necessary, put forward a package of measures to improve safety and reduce car use, backed by a partnership involving the school, education, health and transport officers from the local authority, and the police. These seek to secure benefits for both the school and the children by improving their health through active travel and reducing congestion caused by school runs, which in turn helps improve local air quality. Many travel plans are produced as a result of planning conditions placed on new developments by local authority planning departments. This highlights the need for all relevant departments (e.g. highways departments, planning departments, transport departments, children's services, environment departments, and public health) to be fully engaged when addressing this duty.
- 6.6 Local authorities are required to publish their Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy on their website by 31 August each year.
- 6.7 Sections 508B and 508C of the Act make provision for local authorities to ensure that suitable travel arrangements are made, where necessary, to facilitate a child's attendance at school. These provisions apply to home to school travel arrangements, and vice versa. They do not relate to travel between educational institutions during the school day.
- 6.8 Parents are responsible for ensuring that their children attend school regularly. However, section 444(3B) of the Act provides that a parent will have a defence in law against a prosecution by a local authority for their child's non-attendance at school where the local authority has a duty to make travel arrangements in relation to the child under section 508B and has failed to discharge that duty.
- 6.9 Section 508B of the Act deals with the duty on local authorities to make such travel arrangements as they consider necessary to facilitate attendance at school for eligible children. Schedule 35B of the Act defines eligible children – those categories of children of compulsory school age (5-16) in an authority's area for whom free travel arrangements will be required.
- 6.10 The Guidance provides that creating safe walking, cycling and travel routes and encouraging more pupils to walk and cycle to school is one of the best ways to reduce the need for transport and associated costs. But an authority should also consider whether it is reasonable to expect the child's parent to accompany the child along a route which would

otherwise be classified as being unsafe.

Highways

6.11 The Highways Scheme of Delegation document provides Highways Officers at an appropriate level to initiate Experimental TROs and S16A event orders subject to mandatory consultation with the Chair of an Area Committee and notification of Ward Members. In the case of any objections being received the matter must be reported back to Area Committee.. In the case of decisions to make these orders, or convert an Experimental Order a permanent TRO an Executive Decision Sheet should be approved. An experimental Order lasts for 18 months and is subject to objections for an initial 6 month period or for a 6 month period following any amendment.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

7.1.1 Bradford has a range of difficult and persistent Health Inequalities; these are complex and have been highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic. School Streets will support more regular walking, cycling and physical activity generally which is known to have a positive impact in reducing obesity levels, for both adults and children. Additionally it is hoped that reducing school time traffic will contribute to improving some of the district's poor air quality and improving the environment outside the schools at the start and end of the school day.

7.1.2 Some of the pilot schools chosen are in areas of high deprivation and the scheme will help to support the local school community to be more active on the journey to school and reduce traffic at the start and end of the school day.

7.1.3 The pilot schools have been chosen using the processes described in the previous paper which took account air quality ratings, but also had to consider whether or not the road could be closed. This has identified that care must be taken when expanding the programme not to inadvertently increase inequalities, as schools located on the busiest roads, potentially having worse air quality and poorest road safety may not be eligible for road closure.

7.1.4 The Equality Act 2010 requires the Local Authority to consider how its decisions and policies affect people with different protected characteristics.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

7.2.1 Walking to school and other alternative methods for school journey are inherently more sustainable than cars. Not only does walking improve the immediate effects by limiting pollution from car emissions, it can also contribute to the reduction of future expenditure. Pollution causes damage to its surroundings, including both buildings and nature. By reducing the amount of carbon dioxide produced, fewer resources will be needed to address the impairments to the surrounding

environment caused by pollution.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

- 7.3. The transport sector is responsible for 27% of greenhouse gases emissions, the most of any sector. The first few minutes when starting up and driving cars produces the highest emissions because the emissions control equipment has not yet reached its optimal operating temperature. Less pollution will also lead to lower rates of asthma and wheezing.

The Department for Transport says that it's possible to achieve a 60% carbon dioxide reduction in the UK's domestic transport sector by 2030, but only with real and early change in travel behaviour. Research suggests choosing to walk a short journey instead of travelling in a car can have significant advantages for the environment over a year. One of the best ways individuals can reduce their carbon footprint and contribute to reducing air pollution is to leave the car at home for short trips and walk instead.

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.4.1 The current situation means that there is often poor driving and parking practice outside schools when children are being dropped off and picked up. This increases the potential for conflict between pedestrians (in particular, children) and vehicles and causes concerns for the immediate community in terms of accessing their homes and environment. Reducing and/or stopping traffic will significantly reduce the potential for conflict and also increase local residents' perceptions of safety and may support better more constructive relationships with schools too.
- 7.4.2 Reducing the number of cars on the road and parked in our streets means quieter, safer and more appealing roads, encouraging more people to walk and cycle.

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

- 7.5.1 The Human Rights Act 1998 sets out the following rights;
- Right to life and prohibition from the deprivation of life
 - The right to respect for privacy and a family life
 - The right to personal liberty
 - Freedom from torture and degrading treatment/punishment
 - Freedom from slavery and forced labour is prohibited
 - Right to a fair trial

The implementation of the School Streets pilot will indirectly support the right to respect for privacy and a family life which can be made difficult due to the volume and impact of school-related traffic at the start and end of the school day.

7.6 TRADE UNION

- 7.6.1 The aim of the scheme is to improve road safety, air quality and wellbeing and to reduce disputes over parking and safety issues during the start and end of the school day. It is hoped that the schemes also improve working conditions for school

staff and local residents at these times.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

7.7.1 The current position whereby schools and neighbourhoods are often inundated with traffic during schools pick up and drop off times has been a continuing difficulty for the 5 area offices. Staff such as the Ward Officers and Council Wardens have been abused and/or berated for trying to support schools to manage problematic behaviour from parents and guardians. Additionally the schools themselves have attempted to manage traffic and experienced similar behaviour and abuse. The pilot is designed to look at this and it is expected that lessons will be forthcoming from it in order to support potential continued roll out

7.7.2 Ward Councillors were formally consulted during the scheme promotion process

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CORPORATE PARENTING

7.8.1 The role of local authorities and the application of corporate parenting principles are set out in section 1 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017. In order to thrive, children and young people have certain key needs that good parents generally meet. Local authorities **must** have regard to these seven needs identified in the Children and Social Work Act, when exercising their functions in relation to looked-after children and care leavers (relevant children and former relevant children) as follows:

- to act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and wellbeing, of those children and young people
- to encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings
- to take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people
- to help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners
- to promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people
- for those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work; and
- to prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

This responsibility will remain despite the proposed arrangements for a Children's Company. Ensuring the safety and well-being of children is a requirement of all Council officers not only those whose specific job is to work with looked after children. As such, arrangements for the delivery of services should include specific terms to ensure that this important statutory role is maintained and supported.

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.9.1 There is no immediate impact from a Privacy Impact Assessment as the pilots and any evaluations have not involved the use of identifiable personal data

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None

9. OPTIONS

9.1 That the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the report.

9.2 That the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny members may wish to discuss the issues outline in the report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 The Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the report

10.2 That the Committee agrees that a Play Streets policy will be approved at SD/Portfolio level via a decision sheet.

11. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Information on rates of child obesity.

12 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Active Travel Full Evidence Review

Report to the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1

December 2020 - Active Travel-School Streets and Play Streets

Appendix 1

Figure 2: Proportion of reception and year 6 children in England classified as overweight, 2006 – 2021

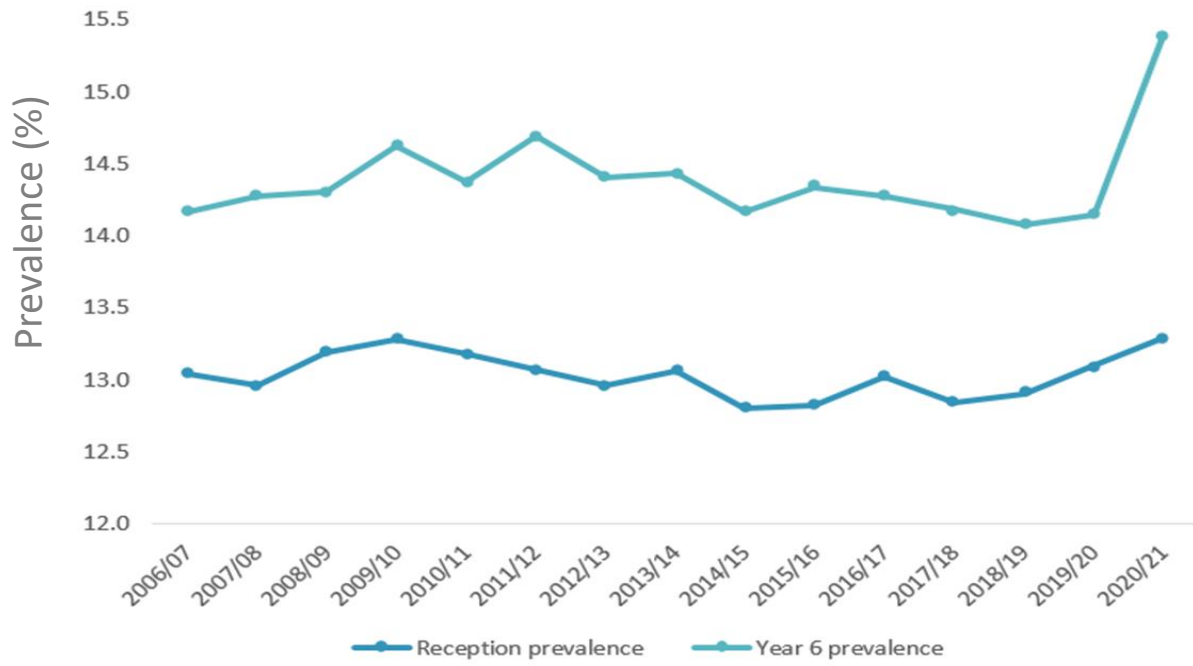
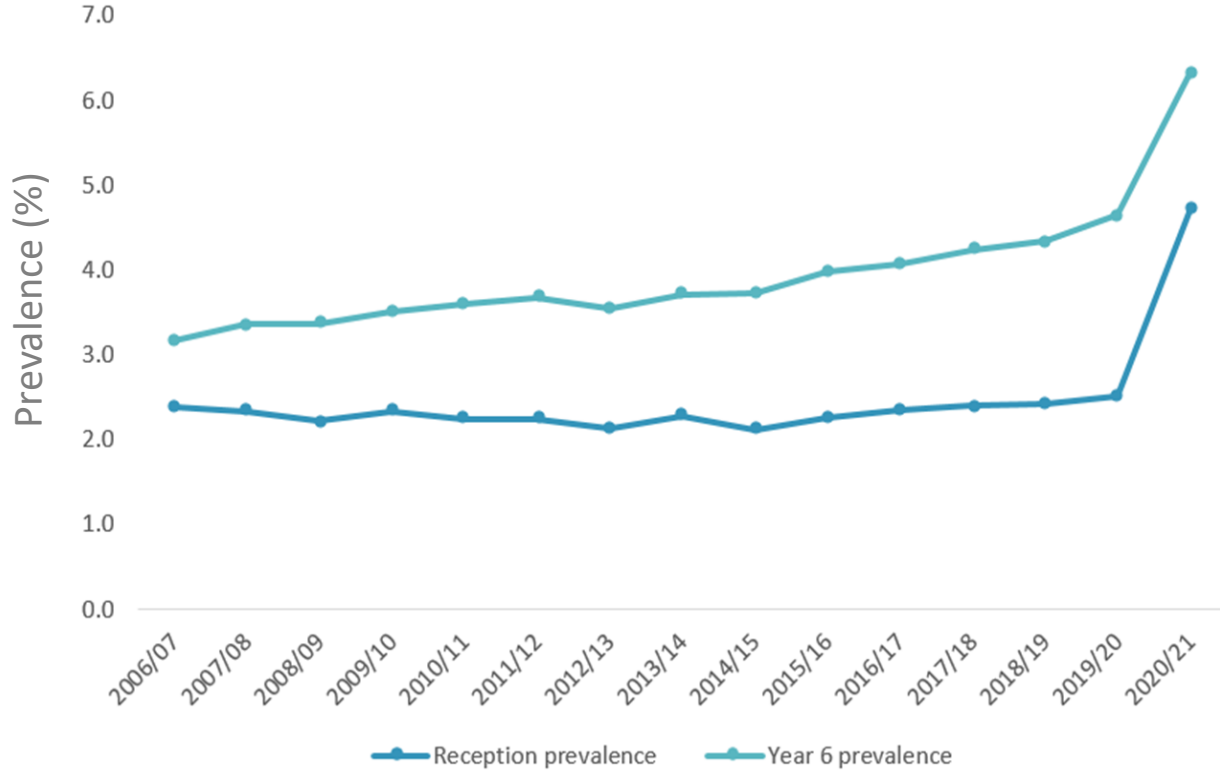


Figure 3: Proportion of reception and year 6 children in England classified as obese or severely obese, 2006 - 2021



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Report of the Strategic Director, Place, to the meeting of Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 22 March 2022

X

Subject:

City Centre Regeneration

Summary statement:

This report updates the Scrutiny Committee on progress with city centre regeneration since the previous report of 12 February 2020

Jason Longhurst
Strategic Director, Place

Portfolio:

Regeneration, Planning and Transport

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Regeneration and Environment

1. SUMMARY

This report updates the Scrutiny Committee on progress with city centre regeneration since the previous report of 12 February 2020

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Bradford is one of the biggest and fastest growing districts in the UK in addition to be being one of the youngest. Business success, jobs growth, skills and improved transport connectivity are essential to our ambition to be the UK's fastest growing economy over the coming decade.
- 2.2 Covid-19 has had a profound, adverse impact on the City Centre. We have seen a decline in city centre footfall, in line with national and regional trends. At the height of the lockdown footfall in Bradford City dropped to 20% of normal levels with a similar picture in our town centres. The most recent data shows footfall at around 80% of pre-Covid levels. Getting office workers back into our city and centres is the key remaining element to recovering to pre-pandemic footfall levels.
- 2.3 The City Centre remains a focus for the Council as part of our wider approach to economic growth across the district. Due to its size and scale it is also recognised as a Strategic Priority Area in the city region's Strategic Economic Plan.
- 2.4 Bradford City Centre is home to 2230 businesses that employ 29,000 people which is one in seven of all jobs in the district. The City centre is a key location for sectors with future growth potential such as financial and business services, digital and creative industries. It also hosts a number of important economic and cultural assets, including the University of Bradford, Bradford College, the Alhambra and the National Science and Media Museum.
- The city centre remains the key location for employment in the district with 29,000 employee jobs. Office based jobs dominate with 9,100 jobs in financial and business services and 10,500 in the public sector. There are 3,500 retail jobs and 2,750 hospitality, leisure and culture jobs based in the city centre.
 - Employment in the city centre increased by 2% over the year 2020 compared to national fall of 2%.
 - Bradford's city centre is a top UK retail centre generating over £345 million of comparison retail expenditure in 2019. The development of The Broadway shopping centre has brought a whole new dimension to the city, accelerating the city's retail ranking by 42 places and drawing in millions more shoppers to the city centre.
 - There is a strong and vibrant presence of cultural and visitor attractions in the city centre. Prior to the pandemic around four million people visited City Park each year, with the National Science and Media Museum attracting over 500,000 visitors and the Alhambra Theatre hosting over 250,000 theatregoers each year.

- Over 12,000 people live in the City Centre which includes many students studying at the University of Bradford. The city centre population has grown by 20% since 2011 compared to a UK population growth of 6%.
 - The University of Bradford had a Student population of 9,960 in the 2020/21 academic year and 1,452 staff.
 - The city has seen over £1 billion of investment in the city over the last seven years including the Broadway shopping centre, the Southgate office development and three new hotels.
- 2.5 To compete economically we have to ensure the city centre is a liveable and vibrant place to attract and retain businesses and talent. The Council has been proactive in leading and facilitating a range of interventions to assist the city centre in its transformation including the reshaping of the retail offer around the Broadway Centre, the creation of a new market on Darley Street, the remodelling of the city centre railway stations redevelopment of the former Odeon into the Bradford Live venue and the establishment of a new residential neighbourhood 'City Village'.
- 2.6 The revitalisation and growth of the city centre business sector and the subsequent generation of new high quality jobs and skills training opportunities is essential to the sustainability of these initiatives. New offices accommodating modern businesses, creating high quality jobs will mean millions of pounds being spent on places to live, shopping, personal services, theatre and music venue tickets, fresh food, dining and drinking in cafes, bars and restaurants.

3. CITY CENTRE GROWTH SCHEME

- 3.1 The City Centre Growth scheme closed to new applications 31 March 2021.
- 3.2 The scheme was created in 2012 in response to the scale of the challenges facing the city centre. The impact of the economic downturn, and the reality of a slow recovery, suggested a renewed approach to stimulating regeneration in the city centre was required.
- 3.3 As a direct result of the recession, the Westfield Broadway shopping development in the city centre had stalled in 2008. The Association of Town Centre Managers' benchmarking research highlighted Bradford performed well below average for a city of its size – particularly on shopper population and comparison retail, compounded by low footfall, short dwell time, high numbers of vacant units and stiff competition from a growing offer in Leeds city centre.
- 3.4 These factors added to existing low confidence levels and a subsequent lack of private sector investment and meant it was unlikely that market forces alone would be sufficient to re-balance Bradford's economy or address the abnormal costs, risks and historic lack of occupier interest.

- 3.5 The council executive took the decision to develop an ambitious plan for Bradford city centre. The resulting city plan set out the strategic approach to achieving economic growth and physical development of the city centre for the next ten years. It provided a framework to create the conditions for business – to make the city centre a great place to set up, grow and run a business.
- 3.6 Delivery of the City Centre Growth Scheme followed a successful bid for Regional Growth Fund investment, matched by the council’s own funding. The scheme included improvements to the public realm within the city centre and a programme of Heritage Street enhancements, transforming much of the city centre built environment and matching the quality design of the award winning City Park.
- 3.7 A grant scheme was launched late 2012 offering business rate rebates to businesses creating new and additional jobs in the City Centre, either by expanding their existing businesses or by opening new operations. These rebates were offered for up to three years and based on a “refund” of £16k rates for every new job created, with the ceiling being the business’s annual rates bill.

Business Rates Rebate Scheme	
Businesses assisted to grow	167
New start-up businesses assisted	33
New jobs created	567
Inward investments	32

- 3.8 A capital grant was introduced a year later, enabling eligible businesses to access up to a 50 per cent contribution towards property refurbishment costs and machinery and equipment required for growth.

Capital Grant Scheme	
Businesses assisted to grow	113
New jobs created	236

- 3.9 The City Centre Growth Scheme delivered a steady reduction in the number of vacant units and its impact helped to mitigate the impact through a difficult period for the traditional high street.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Vacancy rate	21.17%	20.03%	20.33%	19.74%	20.41%	21.03%	22.50%

By being flexible and adaptive to the needs of local businesses the scheme encouraged investment at a time when the high street faced great challenges.

The scheme offered grants which helped to de risk investment and encourage growth and expansion. This was coupled with a comprehensive wrap around

support including business development support, assistance with recruitment and staff training, simplified planning processes, and assistance with accessing regional, national and European funding and support.

Delivery of this targeted support has helped develop a better understanding of the challenges facing retail sector and the high street. This knowledge is helping to inform and shape thinking around the future of the city centre and how to support a diverse city centre encompassing residential, leisure, independent retail as well as the traditional high street offer.

4. CITY CENTRE FOOTFALL

4.1 Footfall

4.1.2 The latest data for footfall in the Bradford BID demise was recorded by the six City Centre cameras in week commencing 14 February 2022.

Weekly Footfall 14 Feb 2022 - 20 Feb 2022

	Year to date %		Year on year %		Week on week %	
	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021
Bradford BID Area	144.9%	-65.2%	104.4%	-58.5%	-16.9%	7.4%
North & Yorkshire	142.2%	-67.7%	104.0%	-64.3%	-10.4%	11.7%
UK	166.0%	-71.5%	131.5%	-69.0%	-7.3%	12.7%

4.1.2 The total number of visitors to Bradford BID for the last 52 weeks is 18,969,256 which is 63.8% up on the previous year. The total number of visitors for the year to date is 2,647,944 which is 144.9% up on the previous year. As the cameras were installed in late 2019 we do not have full year on data for comparison with pre Covid position. The one camera that was in situ in this week (on Broadway) in 2019, is showing a 21.8% reduction in footfall in 2022 versus the same week in 2019.

4.2 Vacancy Rates

4.2.1 Data collated by Bradford Business Improvement District for the City Centre area provides an insight into the levels of openings and closures. This information demonstrates the impact on the high street and particularly on the hospitality and leisure sectors.

- 4.2.2 The percentage of vacant units in the City Centre in December 2019 was 20.86%. This compares with 22.18% recorded in the most recent count in December 2021. This 1.32 % increase equates to a net six additional vacant units. Bradford, like most towns and cities has been impacted by the loss of high street names, with the pandemic accelerating the changing face and role of the high street.

5. RETAIL AND LEISURE

5.1 Broadway Shopping Centre

The shopping centre has reported strong footfall throughout December and the centre was consistently busy through following the start of post Christmas sales”.

- 5.2 Quote from the Centre Manager “The Broadway team has worked hard alongside our retailers to create a welcoming environment that is safe for customers. We’ve been really pleased and grateful that the vast majority of customers who visit the centre respect the protocols in place for their own, and other people’s safety.

“The retail industry has faced challenges in the past few years like never before and whilst there have been casualties, the vast majority of brands have adapted and continued to trade.

“The Broadway has bucked trends this year with seven new retailers joining the Centre in 2021; we’re committed to providing visitors to the centre with even more choice and expanding the breadth of products and services that can be purchased at The Broadway.

“We’re holding conversations with a number of exciting new retailers preparing to sign leases in 2022 and will announce these in due course”.

- 5.3 Despite the impacts of Covid the Broadway shopping centre continues to report increasing visitor numbers. At the end of 2019 the footfall figures for the centre showed an increase of 11.1% on the previous year.

5.4 SPARKLING BRADFORD

- 5.4.1 The **Sparkling Bradford Winter** campaign has been shortlisted in the UK Content Award for the Travel/Leisure Content Campaign of the Year.

- 5.4.2 Due to changing circumstances around the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns and restrictions, the campaign demonstrated agility and creativity by moving entirely online. The campaign made full use of social media, video, website and media engagement to create a dynamic and effective content marketing campaign, with a focus on encouraging future visits, engaging local communities and businesses to create a positive image of the district.

- 5.4.3 The campaign also encouraged people from across the district to share images of their local lockdown discoveries and celebrated the 'People who make Bradford Sparkle'.

5.4.5 Businesses in the Bradford district have reported an increase in footfall and customer enquiries, following the Sparkling Bradford winter campaign which has seen a 70 per cent uplift in engagement this year.

5.4.6 The bi-annual initiative, which launched in 2018, has received 30 new business sign-ups and reached more than two million people online during the 2021-2022 winter campaign. Visits to the website also increased by almost double in comparison to the summer campaign.

5.4.7 Delivered by partners; VisitBradford, The Broadway Bradford, Bradford Business Improvement District (BID), Ilkley BID and Bradford Council, Sparkling Bradford aims to boost the region's economy, as well as showcase visitor experiences across the district.

6. The Cultural Offer

6.1 St George's Hall

6.1.1 The 18-month programme of works on the Grade II listed building began on site in July 2017. This major refurbishment – the first in over 30 years – included improvements to the external envelope (full restoration of the stone masonry and full re-roofing), refurbishment of all internal spaces (public areas, kitchen, auditorium and back stage areas) as well as other maintenance works (such as rewiring and improvement to both ventilation and fire protection provisions).

6.1.2 Major works were also carried out to improve customer experience. The gradient of the tiers was amended to improve sight lines and seats either re-padded or fully replaced to ensure optimum comfort whilst retaining the acoustic quality of the Hall. The 165-year-old venue re-opened to the public on 15th February 2019 and, in March 2019, Bradford Civic Society unveiled a new blue plaque on the historic building.

6.2 Evening and Night-time Economy

6.2.1 The Council is supporting the City's developing night-time and evening economy, helping to create a safe, vibrant and well balanced offer. Work is continuing to encourage a diverse range of venues and activities to attract increasing visitor numbers into the city centre.

6.2.2 Additionally, the Council's Culture and Economic Development teams are working closely in a cultural led recovery, merging arts and culture with business to create strong and vibrant high streets with Gainshare funding secured from WYCA. This also involves joint work with Highways and Landscape Design. As part of this funding we have delivered a series of interventions

6.2.3 We are launching Night-time Reps, a programme to recruit 5 x 18-30 year-olds to work across the District to develop a night-time economy manifesto for young people. One of these young people will be dedicated to the City Centre and will be working closely with the BID team. This will be at the heart of a culture led night-

- time economy working with the BID team to support our ambition to be A UNICEF Child Friendly District putting young people at the heart of our decision making
- 6.2.4 Bradford is LiT festival placed beautiful light installations intriguing the public and gaining significant positive media attention for the district.
- 6.3.5 Major highlight was the presentation Dan Archers *Borealis* in City Park. The only chance to see this amazing northern lights-inspired installation in the UK were in Bradford and then in London. It attracted significant increased footfall to the city centre with 20,000 audience members visiting Bradford City over on Friday 5th & 6th November.
- 6.2.6 In January we launched a NTE grant programme to stimulate cultural events during the winter months to encourage footfall in the evening 8 of the events will be delivered in the City Centre by the end of March.
- 6.2.7 We have three live feasibility studies on cultural venues and one project in delivery in the City Centre which are in line in line with our bid for city of Culture in 2025
- (i) Kala Sangam £4.5 million redevelopment of its Grade II listed building to remove existing physical barriers, opening access throughout this heritage space to all. Works include installation of a new accessible lift; Changing Places facilities; a remodelled, accessible entrance and foyer; a new 200 seat, ground floor theatre; signage; premises for BCB Radio; and 3 new dedicated studio spaces for artistic use and community/CYP engagement.
- (ii) Vintry House A £1.5million repurposing of Vintry House a sustainable and accessible multi use major event and digital creative space with room for galleries and workspace.
- (iii) Art Hotel – A redevelopment of the Wool Exchange into a Boutique Hotel as part of an identified need offer quality, unique accommodation offers in city centre
- (iv) NSMM £6.1 million Sound and Vision represents one of the biggest coherent programmes of investment, improvement and change to the site since it opened in 1983. The project aims to contribute to the re-energisation of Bradford’s cultural heart through three distinct focus areas— the Science Museum Group’s collections; STEM; and community participation. The development of two new galleries will uncover key collections stories which are relevant to all our lives. The project will also deliver practical improvements through the introduction of a new lift to improve circulation around the museum.
- 6.2.8 Through its business grant incentives the Council continues to encourage businesses that add to the distinctiveness and diversity of offer within the city centre. The impact of these schemes can already be seen in areas such as North Parade and Ivegate where the support offered has encouraged investment from a number of quality independent operators, helping to promote the city centre as an evening destination.
- 6.2.9 During the last twelve months a number of new bars and other leisure venues have opened in the city centre, including the Old Crown, Drum Winder, Wine Lodge, Nightrain and Rabbit Hole, Remy International Wine Bar on Broadway as well as 30 North on North Parade and the Silver Fox on Rawson Square.
- 6.2.10 Two new bars and two eateries have recently opened in the Sunbridge Wells complex, all adding to the increasing vibrancy of the evening economy.

6.2.11 Work is still required to ensure that the right food and beverage and leisure offer is available to attract a wider range of people into the city centre, with a diverse range of venues and activities.

6.3 **Bradford UNESCO City of Film**

6.3.1 Bradford City of Film, now in its 11th year of operation, continues to go from strength to strength, not only in terms of activities within the District, such as community events, screenings, talks, learning opportunities, and tours, but also international collaboration and promotion. In 2019, during the 10th Anniversary year, 30 events were hosted and further community events supported.

6.3.2 Recently City Hall has hosted the well-publicised filming of Helen Mirren and Jim Broadbent for scenes from the new film, The Duke. Less high profile, but importantly City of Film was closely involved in production of the film Ali and Ava starring Adeel Akhtar and Claire Rushbrook. City of Film worked with Incommunities and residents of Holme Wood, some of whom appear as extras.

6.3.3 As University of Bradford graduates were among the film crew, local people have been involved both in making the film and starring in it. Filming took place in the grounds of the Cathedral, as well as Holme Wood, Undercliffe Cemetery, Laisterdyke and Tong.

7. **City Centre Developments**

The next three years will see a major transformation of the centre as key developments progress and complete.

7.1 **One City Park**

7.1.1 To help address the shortage of high quality Grade A office accommodation in the city centre, the Council acquired the former Police HQ building site to provide a platform for a new city centre office development.

7.1.2 The City needs a regenerated office market to boost business growth, create jobs, support the retail sector and stimulate the provision of new housing. The development at One City Park (OCP), will deliver Grade A accommodation in a unique, attractive and price competitive location.

7.1.3 The Council completed a robust, comprehensive procurement process resulting in Muse being identified as the preferred developer and at its meeting on the 2nd January the Council's Executive Committee resolved to confirm this appointment and to enter into a formal Development Agreement with Muse to deliver the OCP scheme. At the same meeting the Executive also resolved to allocate financial commitment up to a maximum funding commitment into the Council's budget programme to cover the cost of delivering the OCP scheme This provision was included in the Capital Investment Plan for 2020 -24 and was confirmed at the Budget Meeting of the Council on the 20th February 2020.8.1.4 The scheme will deliver a state of the art building providing 5,240sq m of Grade A office space. The accommodation will achieve a BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) 'Excellent' rating and an Energy Efficiency rating of 'A'.

- 7.1.5 In June 2020, MHCLG announced a call for Local Authorities to make submissions for grant funding from the newly announced 'Getting Building Fund' which was a Government response to the negative impacts of the Covid 19 early lock-down event intended to accelerate the delivery of regeneration projects that would boost economic growth. The Council submitted the OCP scheme as a potential project which was initially approved to go forward to the full appraisal process to be carried out by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA).
- 7.1.6 The Council submitted a Full Business Case for £7.5m of GBF grant funding to assist the delivery of the OCP scheme and this has progressed through the Combined Authority's rigorous assurance process and received final approval for the grant funding in February this year.
- 7.1.7 Although the Covid 19 crisis has inevitably caused severe disruption to the scheme since the appointment of Muse the company and the Council have nevertheless made significant progress as illustrated in the key milestones table below:

1.	Development Agreement between Muse and the Council completed	16 th March 2021
2.	RIBA Stage 3 Design completed	16 th July 2021
3	Detailed Planning Permissions Secured	8 th November 2021
4	RIBA Stage 4 Designs completed	22 nd October 2021
5.	Procurement process to appoint a Main Building Contractor commenced	11 th Oct 2022
6.	Appointment of Main Building Contractor programmed to complete	31 st Mar 2022
7.	Main Building contract programmed to Start on Site	16 th May 2022

- 7.1.8 Assuming that the Council is able to successfully appoint a Main Contractor by the end of March the OCP scheme is programmed to reach Practical Completion Stage in July 2023.

8.2 City Centre Markets

- 8.2.1 The demolition of several buildings on Darley Street undertaken by the Council's appointed contractor, Kier Construction, is nearly complete following a demolition process which started in March 2021. This has been a complex operation in a very confined site with specialist structural support needing to be inserted to maintain the structural integrity of the surrounding buildings. The project should move from the demolition phase into the construction phase during March with the new market building and adjacent market square opening during Autumn 2023.
- 8.2.2 The new state of the art building will deliver a modern multi-level market offering, together with a brand new market square capable of hosting open air events and outdoor trading. One floor of the market will sell non-food and specialist goods, one floor will sell fresh foods and one floor will be dedicated to food and beverage with communal seating.

8.2.3 Following the opening of the new market, the Oastler Centre and Kirkgate Centre market will close.

8.3 **Bradford Live**

8.3.1 The redevelopment and conversion of the former Odeon Cinema is now in its construction phase with the appointment in April 2021 of RN Wooler, a Keighley-based construction company.

8.3.2 Progress on site has been positive with many elements of the old building being stripped back to enable the full transformation of the entire facility.

8.3.3 Like many projects, progress on site has been affected by the combined impact of both Covid-19 and Brexit. Once opened, the redeveloped former Odeon cinema will strengthen the range of live cultural and conference events in the city centre with predicted annual visits of circa 300,000. This will provide a substantial boost to the existing retail/leisure city centre businesses and will further strengthen Bradford's 2025 City of Culture bid.

9. **Station Gateways**

9.1 Both Bradford city centre stations are being redeveloped into high quality gateways to the City with funding from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority under both the West Yorkshire+ Transport Fund (WY+TF) and Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) programmes.

9.2 Improvements to Forster Square station will include a range of interventions including new lifts from Cheapside / Manor Row together with improved station facilities, considering the needs of all users, enhancing safety and security throughout. Morgan Sindall have been appointed as the Council's delivery partner to undertake the further development of design throughout 2022 with works being on site from 2023 to 2024.

9.3 The Interchange is a combined bus and rail station that will see significant redevelopment over the next couple of years in addition to much needed maintenance works planned by the Combined Authority. Due to the level of activity at the Interchange Balfour Beatty have been appointed separately by the Council and WYCA to deliver both the maintenance and improvement works. The WY+TF and TCF works include major changes to the current entrance off Bridge Street relocating the existing taxi rank/drop off point as well as incorporating a new access off Hall Ings, upgrade of the Interchange's retail offer as well as improving the passenger experience of transferring between bus and rail journeys. Works will be carried out in two phases with the first phase concentrating on the maintenance investment in the station building fabric before the wider improvements commence. It is currently anticipated that works will commence late 2022/23 and take approximately 24 months to complete.

10. **Relocation of Coroners Court**

10.1 The new Coroner's Court in Bradford opened in February 2022, providing a vital provision for families and communities of Bradford, Kirklees and Calderdale.

- 10.2 The West Yorkshire West Coroner's Court has moved from inside Bradford Magistrates Court to an independent and newly refurbished building in Cater Street, Little Germany.
- 10.3 The new Coroner's Court has many improvements over the previous one, consisting of three courtrooms, of which two can hold jury inquests, flexible office accommodation to promote co-working with partnering agencies and state of the art digital audio recording and secure video conferencing technology, enabling virtual hearings when necessary.

11. **City Centre Residential Developments**

- 11.1 Bradford's City Plan sets out a vision for Bradford city centre providing an excellent place to call home, allowing people from many different households the opportunity to benefit from the advantages of city centre living. Work is on-going to support retail, leisure and evening economy to encourage city centre living.

11.2 **City Village Master Delivery Plan**

- 11.2.1 Following a shift in retail trends and the cementing of the city centre's retail core in and around the Broadway shopping centre, the 'top of town' area needs a new identity and direction.
- 11.2.2 A Master Delivery Plan was commissioned by the Council in 2019 in order to produce a delivery plan to regenerate the area and improve its connectivity to the rest of the city centre.
- 11.2.3 The Council is proposing to revitalise and re-purpose this area to create a 'village' neighbourhood that will be a vibrant, healthy and attractive area with 1,000 new homes, a revitalised independent shopping offer, topped by the new food led Darley Street Market, and flexible business spaces.
- 11.2.4 A new residential led mixed use development is an exciting opportunity for the Council to work collaboratively with public and private sector partners to deliver a place where people will choose to live work and play.
- 11.2.5 As with similar major regeneration plans progress on the City Village scheme is hampered by the effects of the Covid 19 crisis, but work has been revitalised in recent months to bring this key city centre project forward to fruition.
- 11.2.6 The Council has recently secured the engagement of the Combined Authority together with revenue resources to accelerate the final feasibility elements of the project that are intended to culminate in the preparation of an agreed delivery and funding mechanism that can be used to engage with Private Investment/Development and Public Sector funding partners on a meaningful basis by the end of this year.

11.3 **Current Developments**

We are starting to see a shift in terms of quality, with some top spec conversions commanding rental figures of up to £950 per month. Residential developments currently on site in the city centre include –

11.3.1 Conditioning House

11.3.2 The refurbishment of Conditioning House, a Grade II Listed Victorian warehouse building, will deliver 150 new homes (82 one-bed, 67 two-bed and 1 three/four-bed) with office suites, a gym and cafe at the lower ground and ground floor.

11.3.3 The Council's Economy & Development Service secured funding of £1.5m from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Local Growth Fund to contribute to the cost of delivering this prominent regeneration project and the owner/developer of Conditioning House, Priestley Homes, successfully delivered the 150 high quality apartments in during 2021.

11.3.4 Following practical completion of the redevelopment project the new scheme was launched on to the city centre residential property market and to date over 90% of the apartments have been sold or let.

11.4 High Point Building

11.4.1 Similar to Conditioning House, the Economy & Development Service have been successful in securing £2.9m of grant funding from the WYCA Local Growth fund to assist the delivery of this iconic 13 storey city centre commercial property that been vacant and derelict for over twenty-three years. The Owner/Developers, Circus Developments (Bradford) Ltd., intend to carry out rehabilitation and redevelopment work to bring this iconic heritage building back into productive use providing 87 new apartment homes with complementary ground Floor new commercial/business space.

11.4.2 High Point building, designed by local architects John Brunton & Partners for the Bradford Permanent Building Society opened in 1973, and after a merger with the Huddersfield Building Society in 1975 the building became the new HQ for the 'Bradford and Huddersfield Building Society', which later became the Yorkshire Building Society (YBS) in 1982.

11.4.3 After further continued growth YBS left High Point Tower in about 1997 for a purpose built, modern head office building on the outskirts of the city close to the M606. The building was allowed to deteriorate into a very poor internal condition, with signs of wear to the exterior concrete panels. This opportunity to regenerate the building offers a rare option to secure the long term future of this iconic building, that continues to occupy a high profile location at the top of town and within the Council's emerging 'City Village' priority regeneration area.

Circus Developments are currently on site carrying out the refurbishment works and practical completion of the scheme is programmed to be achieved by the end of October 2022.

12. Townscape Heritage Scheme

12.1 Centred in the "Top of Town" area of the Bradford City Centre Conservation Area, this £2 million scheme supports property owners to improve heritage buildings by providing grant contributions of up to 60% to repair and reinstate traditional features such as shop fronts, and bring vacant floor space back into use.

12.2 Supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund over four years, the scheme aims to; improve historic buildings, the quality of townscape, increase property values and encourage business investment in the area. 29 applications for funding have been received, and the 2 grant awards have been made. Projects range from reinstating period sash windows through to residential conversions of empty space

are being developed, and the scheme has generated interest from investors around the country. The societal/economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic have slowed progress, but a two-year extension to the scheme has been requested from the Heritage Fund.

- 12.3 Townscape heritage will deliver public realm improvements to the open space around the statue of Richard Oastler on Northgate. The scheme is also working with educational and interested groups to promote the history and heritage of the area, and careers working in the built environment and conservation. An exhibition of student work has been on show at Cartwright Hall.

13. **Top of Town Public Realm Improvements**

- 13.1 Building on the public realm improvements being delivered as part of the Townscape Heritage scheme, the Landscape Design & Conservation Team has made a success bid to the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme, supporting Integrated Actions for Sustainable Urban Development.
- 13.2 The proposals will enhance the streetscape at North Parade, Rawson Square and Northgate, with objectives to Promoting Climate Change Adaptation, Risk Prevention and Management (surface water flooding mitigation) and Preserving and Protecting the Environment and Promoting Resource Efficiency (rehabilitating land and creating biodiverse habitats).
- 13.3 The proposals have gone through two rounds of community engagement, and are going out to tender. Start on site is planned for June (after the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations event on North Parade) and completion by December 2022.

14. **Transforming Cities Fund**

- 14.1 Transport funding has been made available by the Department for Transport to enable core cities and regions to undertake a transformational agenda and bid for projects that improve productivity by investing in public and sustainable transport infrastructure across the City.
- 14.2 In 2020 Bradford submitted a series of Strategic Outline Business Cases seeking funding for four inter-connected TCF projects including:
- **Bradford Centre Cycling & Walking Improvements** – which comprises major interventions to improve pedestrian and cycling facilities within the city core whilst improving sustainable connectivity between Bradford Interchange and Forster Square stations. The project also improves links between City Park and Bradford Live as well as connectivity to the National Media museum.
 - **Bradford Interchange** – as described previously the TCF element of the Bradford Interchange transformation creates enhanced connectivity of the Interchange to the city centre by creating a new pedestrian access opposite City Hall whilst also improving the forecourt environment at the Bridge Street entrance to create a more pedestrian friendly facility.
 - **West Bradford Cycle Superhighway** – This project continues the programme of development of fully segregated cycling links complimenting both the Leeds / Bradford and Canal Road projects. The route extends from the city centre core out to Thornton village.

- **South Bradford Park & Ride and Expressway** – this project will deliver a park and ride facility in south Bradford adjacent to the M606 of a minimum 500 spaces. This facility will provide public transport connectivity between the outer ring road and the city core via dedicated bus services running on an improved bus expressway along Manchester Road.

15. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

15.1 FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

There are no financial issues arising from this update report

15.2 RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

There are no risks arising from this update report

15.3 LEGAL APPRAISAL

There are no legal issues specifically arising from this report.

16. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

16.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific sustainability implications arising from this report

16.2 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

There are no specific impacts.

16.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific community safety implications

16.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no Human Rights implications

16.5 TRADE UNION

There are no Trade Union implications

16.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS

All activity detailed in this report is focussed within the City Ward

16.7 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

There are no data protection or security matters arising.

17. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None

18. RECOMMENDATIONS

18.1 The Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the contents of this report.

19. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

19.1 Regeneration and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee reports - 23rd October 2018 and 12th February 2020.

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