

Report of the Director of Place to the meeting of Bradford South Area Committee to be held on 26 September 2019

Subject:

STRONGER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY AND DELIVERY PLAN

Summary statement:

Bradford South Area Committee is asked to note the progress made on the Stronger Communities Delivery Plan, produced by the Bradford Stronger Communities Partnership.

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Portfolio:

Neighbourhoods & Community Safety

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
Corporate**

1. SUMMARY

Bradford South Area Committee is note the progress on the 'Stronger Communities Together Delivery Plan'.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 At the Bradford South Area Committee meeting on 28 February 2019 it was resolved that;

- a) *That further consultation be undertaken with Ward Councillors on how the Stronger Communities Strategy and Delivery Plan can be delivered successfully in the Bradford South area.*

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 The Stronger Communities Team met with as many Bradford South Councillors as possible in wards to talk through the Strategy and Delivery Plan over the period of March to August 2019. Comments and issues raised by the Committee were noted and discussed;

- a) *The Committee were concerned that the Linking Network would not be proactive enough in engaging in school recruitment. The Linking Network is run by a well established Charity and spear-headed by ex-teachers and Co-Directors Linda Cowie and Meg Henry. Currently Linking Network runs across 24 Local authorities across the country. Both have extensive knowledge of working with schools and have well established relationships with Heads and Chief Executives' especially in Bradford. As part of our funding the schools are offered £500 to participate in the programme. The model delivers a train the trainer model and links two schools, usually one classroom in each school over a period of an academic year. The schools at a minimum meet four times. The Linking Network offer teacher support during the programme and a regular quarterly meeting for teachers to meet to share good practice. The Primary School is an established model. The Linking Network is trailing a secondary school model which does not run in the same way as the Primary School offer. This model is currently being adapted and tested. Appleton Academy, Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College, Grange Technology College and Queensbury School are involved in the programme. 28 primary schools are engaged in Bradford South. A list is available on request.*
- b) *The Committee raised a lack of acknowledgement of the Roma community in the Strategy. The meetings allowed discussion of the Roma Strategy which will be developed with five public sector organisations; Health, Bradford Council, Police, Fire Service and Police and is highlighted in the Strategy. It will also engage in consultation with the Roma community in Bradford South and will be delivered by support from the VCS. The project is currently advertised on YorTender.*
- c) *The Committee raised a number of issues within Bradford South particularly in Great Horton. The meetings allowed discussion about the Community Conversations project, which will look to host a series of conversations to mediate tensions in specific wards. The project will carry out a Community Readiness approach to identify further engagement work which may need to be*

undertaken with the identified groups before interventions can be delivered. We will be asking the Area Coordinators Office to identify two wards once the provider has been appointed. From conversations, we believe that Great Horton should be one of the wards this project is delivered in.

d) The Committee raised gaps in Sports. The meetings allowed discussion about the £8m Local Delivery Pilot programme funded through Sports England and the Innovation Fund.

- 3.2 Progress against our delivery plan has been included as **Appendix A**. The Committee is to note that activities in the Delivery Plan have been developed not to duplicate other programme priorities such as the Local Delivery Pilot and Creative People and Places. The Stronger Communities Together strategy intends to work alongside these. Where there are gaps in the delivery plan the Innovation Fund can be used to address these.
- 3.3 We launched the first round of the Innovation Fund on the 28 May. We offered individual awards up to £5,000 through the Participatory Budgeting which took place on the 17 July. This is where community members had a say on where to spend the budget. The total amount available for the first round was £50,000.
- 3.4 The majority of those who attended felt that the process was '*democratic and transparent*'. 13 projects were funded using this process. Please see **Appendix B** for a list of the projects or visit <https://bdp.bradford.gov.uk/about-us/stronger-communities-partnership/>.
- 3.5 The second round of the Fund will open at the end of September. The maximum grant value is £15,000. The total budget for this round is £75,000. Participatory budgeting is not being used due to the small number of organisations that can be funded in this round. The last round will open in January 2020 which will be grants up to £5,000.
- 3.6 The Innovation Fund aims to fund activities across all areas of Bradford District to facilitate our programme outcomes. The Fund offers opportunity to respond to emerging needs and tensions, scale up smaller projects and test new ideas. All project activities are intended to engage all communities with primarily focus on those in poorer deprived communities including White British, women, young people or new communities.
- 3.7 We are also working with residents to develop a list of Values for the District. The draft documentation has been circulated to Councillors for support and comment. These values will underpin our vision and sit behind our new name; **Bradford For Everyone, Appendix C**. We will launch the campaign once these have been finalised, where everyone can sign up to them. The Values will be incorporated into our 2040 Bradford District Plan and support the bid for City of Culture. The District Values will open for public consultation from September.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 Year 1 funding was announced October 2018 of £1.1m. Year 2 funding was announced at the end of March 2019. We received £1.6m, £250k has been ring

fenced by MHCLG to be paid directly to Department, work and Pensions (DWP). The total funding for this programme is £2.7m. £2.1m has been allocated for the delivery of projects. The Programme started officially from 1 April 2019 and will end in 31 March 2021.

4.2 In addition to funding from MHCLG we have provided match funding to a number of other programmes to support delivery of our strategy and delivery plan. Successful bids have been made to;

- Creative People and Places (CPP), which is a £3.65m programme for Bradford District funded from the Arts Council for the 4 years of the 10 year programme. The programme aims to deliver a step change in cultural engagement and participation and for Bradford's art, arts organisations and audiences to be representative of its rich diversity. We have established a strategic partnership to maximise our delivery through match funding of £118,167. This means we will be able to increase the number of people we work with by working alongside the CPP programme to co-deliver our People Library and configuring local events and festivals so they are more reflective of the diversity in our District. We will begin to put some early foundations for delivery over October- December 2019 with anticipation that the programme will begin early next year. The project will deliver in the wards of Tong along with Manningham, Bradford Moor, City, Keighley West and Keighley Central, aiming to generate up to 100,000 new attendances at new arts and cultural events.
- In August 2019 Bradford Council was successful in receiving match funding from the European Social Investment Fund (ESIF). This allows us to extend the posts under our ESOL Coordination Hub from 18 months to 3 years. The Hub will concentrate on collecting data of the 24,000 potential learners who cannot speak English or speak English well. Particularly for Great Horton this equates to 1361 according to the Census 2011. The Hub will map current ESOL provision in order to match need against service delivery. This information will also be used to help create a case for further funding for ESOL provision. The Hub will look to assess those living within our District to understand what the current barriers are to learning and progressing in ESOL. The additional year allows us to start driving appropriate provision and funding into the District.

4.3 A portion of this funding has been allocated against project support and evaluation. An internal Council team, supported by specialist support, commissioned by MHCLG will help ensure that local interventions are delivered and monitored so that lessons can be learnt from the work that has taken place.

4.4 We have recruited to all five posts within the Programme Team. Our three Project Support Officers work thematically and support People Together members, which are a resident sub-group to our Stronger Communities Partnership Board. Our Evaluation and Project Improvement Officer is responsible for local evaluation and our Programme Administrator is responsible for finance, data and governance.

4.5 As part of the programme the University of Bradford will recruit a Social Integration

Research Fellow. The post will sit under the Head of Research and will be supported by the Professor of Diversity. We envisage this post to be recruited by November 2019. They will lead on research identified within the strategy.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

5.1 A formal governance structure has been established. The Stronger Communities Partnership will support and oversee the delivery of the strategy. MHCLG has stated an expectation that the local partnership will have an independent Chair. Bishop Toby Haworth has been appointed as Chair through a fair recruitment and selection process.

5.2 People Together is a local resident sub-committee to the Board. Recruitment for People Together has closed. However we will be looking to recruit more members from Bradford South as a couple of members have had to stand down to illness and other commitments. Our wider People Together Network recruitment will start from October 2019. Any new members can sign up here;
<https://bdp.bradford.gov.uk/registration-of-interest/>

5.3 The Partner Forum was launched on the 20 March. This runs quarterly. Our next one will be held on the 15 October. The Partner Forum is the vehicle we use to share our learning, build partnership working and support organisations with applications to our Innovation Fund. There is also a Delivery Sub-Group which is made up of our delivery partners which will run from October.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

6.1 There are no legal issues arising from the contents of this report.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

7.1.1 There are no additional equality and diversity issues arising.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The evaluation from our delivery plan and our research will inform future investment and service delivery.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

There are no greenhouse gas emission impacts apparent.

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

7.4.1 There are no additional community safety issues arising from the contents of this report.

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

7.5.1 There are no additional human rights issues arising from the contents of this report.

7.6 TRADE UNION

Aspects of the strategy will focus on change in policy and approach, for example in relation to selection and recruitment practice. There are two projects where this applies;

- Inclusive Employers
- Workforce training both of which can be seen in **Appendix A**.

Consultation will take place with trade unions as appropriate.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

To be successful, work to build stronger and more integrated communities will need to take place in all wards and communities across the district. Whilst the delivery plan will focus on particular areas within the district, the work funded by MHCLG is about learning what works and what does not work and what is 'scalable'. The 'Stronger Communities strategy' identifies work that is planned over the next five years, but needs to be seen within the context of a wider and more long term strategy.

7.8 The activities outlined in this report contribute to priorities within the Bradford South Area Ward Plans.

7.9 IMPLICATIONS FOR CORPORATE PARENTING

There are no corporate parenting implications apparent.

7.10 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

There are no issues arising from the privacy impact assessments.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

There are no 'Not for Publication Documents'

9. OPTIONS

9.1 Bradford South Area Committee may determine to seek regular updates on the delivery plan and impact measures applied to certain interventions that are proposed.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

Bradford South Area Committee is asked to note the progress of the Bradford Stronger Communities Delivery Plan.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix A

Bradford Stronger Communities Progress Delivery Plan.

Copy of the Delivery Plan and progress made against each project relevant to Bradford South. This includes any District wide initiatives.

Appendix B

Innovation Fund – Round One

A list of projects funded in the first round of the Innovation Fund.

Appendix C

Bradford for Everyone slide pack

Copy of logo and potential campaign.

12. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 12.1 Stronger Communities Together Strategy published in March 2019.
- 12.2 “It’s Your Place – Tell Us What You Think” Report of the Social Kinetic, produced 14th August 2018.
- 12.3 Report and minutes of Bradford South Area Committee, 28 February 2019.