

Report of the Strategic Director of the Department of Place to the meeting of Bradford East Area Committee to be held on 13 July 2023

E

Subject:

Update on Bradford East Locality Plan 2022-25

Summary statement:

The Council, working with partner agencies, is undertaking work to strengthen its approach to Locality Working. A key part of that approach is the development of Locality Plans. This report presents an update on the delivery of the Bradford East Locality Plan 2022-25 including the six Ward Plans.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

The Locality Plan has been developed in consultation with a range of partners, community groups and residents with the aim of ensuring that the voices of all communities in the Area are heard.

David Shepherd, Strategic Director of Place

Report Contact: Louise Williams
Bradford East Area Coordinator
Phone: (01274) 431066
E-mail: louise.williams@bradford.gov.uk

Portfolio:

Safer and Stronger Communities

Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Corporate

1. SUMMARY

The Council, working with partner agencies, is undertaking work to strengthen its approach to Locality Working. A key part of that approach is the development of Locality Plans. This report presents an update on the delivery of the Bradford East Locality Plan 2022-25 including the six Ward Plans.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Further to the presentation of the Bradford East Locality Plan 2022 – 2025 to the Bradford East Area Committee on 28 September 2022, the Area Team has been working with a range of stakeholders to deliver on the priorities in the Plan. The updates are highlighted in Appendices A and B. Strengthening relationships with partners and deepening their understanding of community strengths and needs has been a critical part of the early stages of the development of the Plan. By building mutual trust and respect, staff in the Area Team have been able to support partners to extend their reach to new arrivals and reach deeper into communities of interest and neighbourhoods.
- 2.2 There is increasing recognition of the need to deliver at the lowest level of subsidiarity by supporting organisations to ensure that the right offer is delivered in the right place at the right time. There are numerous examples of where this has worked over the last 9 months. Bringing health checks into community settings, including faith centres, has resulted in significant demand and opportunities for discussion to encourage self-care, and referrals to services at an early stage. Dozens of bespoke courses have been developed and delivered at local centres, faith-based organisations and schools based on consultations with residents, along with volunteer days, job fairs and volunteering opportunities to support people into training and the labour market. Officers, such as job coaches, are working from a range of community settings to develop relationships with voluntary and community sector organisations and to be there first hand to support individuals.
- 2.3 Community-based events, run with the community and other partners, have been key in bringing people together, to celebrate and have fun and to engage with people who do not benefit from other support networks. These have been part of the local offer focussed on a place or a community of interest such as events as part of the recent Refugee Week, women's events at Laisterdyke Hub, Seymour Park Fun Days, 'Spring into Summer' at Peel Park and the Children's Literacy Festival. These are often pathways into other support and a way of introducing people to volunteering.
- 2.4 Engagement with and developing the community capacity of communities of interest underpins many of the priorities in the Plan and has led to the development of groups such as the Gambian Ladies, work with men around health and wellbeing, the 'Girls Can' sports project, EU/Roma library and cinema nights, the Refugee Resettlement Project and Peel Park Youth-led Foodbank.
- 2.5 The benefits of working with individuals and families, using an early help and intervention approach, are evidenced through projects such as 'Think Forward' and 'Neighbourhood Connect'. The former involves working with Hanson Delta Academy and other partners to support families, adopting a team around the family

approach, to encourage children and young people to improve their school attendance. Neighbourhood Connect is a recently introduced model that takes referrals from Adult Services and other organisations to help maintain people's independence by meeting their needs in their local community. Officers from the East Team find out about the person's interests and link them to local organisations, offering practical support where required. This has also resulted in Ward Officers supporting organisations such as St Vincent's Community Centre and Upper Bolton Social Club to extend their reach.

- 2.6 Where gaps in provision are identified, officers in the Area Team work with partners to develop activities or projects. The need for more positive role models for young people was identified as a priority in many wards. Different pilots will be run in wards, including work with the Media Museum, University of Bradford and networks of mentors. Work is also taking place to reduce hostility to blue light services by building understanding and relationships and trying to encourage people from different ethnic and social backgrounds into careers in these services.
- 2.7 In terms of the themes in the Plan, 'sustainability' is embedded into all the work that is undertaken but there is also an emphasis on biodiversity, growing your own and active travel. The Area Team is working with Bradford College to improve the Burnsall Road allotments in BD3, a skills academy is being developed with ROC for people interested in horticulture and volunteers and partners involved in the BD5 in Bloom Project are improving overgrown spaces for community benefit and encouraging residents to beautify their gardens running workshops to share skills. A community repair project is being explored in BD10.
- 2.8 Areas for further development include work with the private sector. Following a successful day as part of the BD5 in Bloom Project with volunteers from British Gas working with the local community to tidy up the area and produce planters, the volunteers referred to the team building benefits and the feel-good factor and expressed their interest in carrying out further similar work. The Area Team also needs to work with partners to ensure that more support for existing community hubs is provided so that workers and volunteers have access to information and support to assist residents.
- 2.9 Co-location is a developing theme with officers from Skills House and Living Well based at Laisterdyke Hub alongside voluntary and community sector organisations and the East Area Team. It is proposed to explore further opportunities to for co-location.
- 2.10 Councillors, in their roles as community leaders and place shapers, have been helping to drive many of the activities and projects and have ensured stakeholder engagement, particularly from local residents and businesses.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

There are no other considerations.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

This work falls within the current budget and resources of the Neighbourhood Service and other Council resources that are available for the Strengthening Locality Working programme.

The Locality and Ward Plans priorities assist the Area Committee in its place-based area management role, and to inform the allocation of Area Committee budgets.

Officer support for co-ordination to take forward the Locality and Ward Plans will be provided by the Bradford East Area Co-ordinator's Office.

The Bradford East Locality and Ward Plans 2022 – 2025 are used to inform the budget-setting processes and service-planning throughout the authority and partners.

The Bradford East Locality and Ward Plans 2022 – 2025 have been developed with and will be shared with key service-providers such as the Police, Health, social housing landlords and community organisations to request that these Plans be used to inform their own priority-setting processes.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

A key purpose of Strengthening Locality Working is to reduce the demand on services.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

There are no known legal implications from this work.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

One of the key themes in the Locality Plan aims to increase sustainability across the Area.

7.2 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

Greenhouse gas emissions will be addressed within the Locality and Ward Plans.

7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Community Safety issues will be addressed within the Locality and Ward Plans.

7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no known human rights issues emerging from this report.

7.5 TRADE UNION

There are no known trade union issues arising from this report.

7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS

The work supports delivery of priorities across all Bradford East wards. There will be positive implications for all Wards in the Bradford East Area if the Strengthening Locality Working programme achieves its objectives.

7.7 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The Locality Plan 2022-25 will replace the existing Area Committee Action Plan.

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CORPORATE PARENTING

There are no known implications.

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

There are no known implications.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

There are no not for publication documents.

9. OPTIONS

- 9.1 That members note the update to the Bradford East Locality Plan 2022-25, as detailed in this report at Appendices A and B.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Bradford East Area Committee notes the update to the Bradford East Locality Plan 2022-25, as detailed in this report at Appendices A and B.
- 10.2 Bradford East Area Committee requests that the Bradford East Area Co-ordinator presents a progress report to the Area Committee in 12 months, setting out the progress and achievements made for each of the priorities detailed in the Bradford East Locality Plan 2022-25, including the six Ward Plans.

11. APPENDICES

Appendix A: Update on the Bradford East Locality Plan 2022-25

Appendix B: Update on the Bradford East Ward Plans 2022-25

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

“Locality working review: Bradford East Approach and creating Localities Plans for the area” (Document G) considered by the Bradford East Area Committee at its meeting held on 8 December 2021.

‘Bradford East Locality Plan’ considered by the Bradford East Area Committee at its meeting held on 28 September 2022.

