

# Report of the Strategic Director – Environment and Sport to the meeting of Bradford East Area Committee to be held on Thursday 11 February 2016

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## Subject:

Bradford East Area Community Development Commissions 2015-2017 Progress Update

## Summary statement:

This report outlines the work of the Community Development Workers on behalf of the four commissioned organisations during the period April 2015 to January 2016 to support Ward priorities within the Bradford East Area Ward Plans 2015-2016.

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## Portfolio:

**Neighbourhoods and Community Safety**

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## Overview & Scrutiny Area:

**Corporate**



## 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report outlines the work of the Community Development (CD) Workers on behalf of the four commissioned organisations during the period April 2015 to January 2016 to support Ward priorities within the Bradford East Area Ward Plans 2015 - 2016.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A report setting out the basis on which the Executive devolved commissioning of Community Development and Community Centre Core Cost grants to Area Committees to increase local democratic accountability and transparency was presented to Bradford East Area Committee on 17 September 2014.
- 2.2 At its meeting held on 13 November 2014 Bradford East Area Committee resolved that:  
"Bradford East Area Committee approves the recommendations on Community Development grants made by the Grants Advisory Group as detailed in Table 2 of this report."
- 2.3 Table 2 of the report allocated Community Development grants of £25,000 per year for the two years 2015-16 and 2016-17 to the following organisations: Karmand Community Centre, West Bowling Advice and Training Centre, Thorpe Edge Community Project and Ravenscliffe Community Development Project.
- 2.4 The report also outlined the purpose of these grants by describing the community development approach to community support as contributing to building stronger sustainable communities in the following ways:
- Develop active communities.
  - Increase the active participation of residents in their neighbourhoods and communities.
  - Reduce the negative impact of budget reductions within neighbourhoods and with communities of interest and people on low incomes.
  - Challenge disadvantage and inequalities.
  - Stimulate innovative and sustainable local solutions to issues.
  - Build relations within and between communities.
- 2.5 The Bradford East Area Committee further requested that it receives update reports on the progress of work undertaken by the four organisations in receipt of the Community Development grants.
- 2.6 Appendix A-E of this report highlight selected pieces of work which reflect the types of activities and actions that have been undertaken by the community development workers between April 2015 and January 2016 that have contributed to addressing the priorities within the Bradford East Area Ward Plans 2015-2016. They are by no means an exhaustive list of actions but are intended to give a flavour of the nature of activities that have been undertaken.

## 3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS



3.1 There are no other considerations.

#### **4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

4.1 The Community Development grants are contained within the Council's budget as approved by the Council on 26 February 2015.

#### **5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

5.1 There are no significant risks and governance issues arising from the proposed recommendations in this report.

#### **6. LEGAL APPRAISAL**

6.1 This work relates directly to the Local Government Act 2000 and to the Duty of Wellbeing placed upon the Council to promote and improve the well-being of the District.

#### **7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

##### **7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY**

Community development work seeks to promote fairness and inclusion while supporting Bradford East Area Committee's commitment to equal opportunities for all.

##### **7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

Resources available to the Bradford East Area Committee, described in this report, and used to support Bradford East Area Ward Plans 2015 – 2016, will directly support the delivery of the District's Sustainable Community Strategy.

##### **7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS**

Community development work may improve the greenhouse gas impacts of potential projects in local communities.

##### **7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

7.4.1 Community Safety issues are acknowledged as a key contributor to the quality of life in neighbourhoods. A number of priorities supported in the period covered by this report demonstrate a positive impact on community safety issues across Bradford East Area.

7.4.2 A key aspect of this work relates to supporting the Community Safety Plan, the Council's obligations under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Act 1998 and the work of the Community Safety Partnership.

##### **7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**



7.5.1 There are no direct implications arising from the Human Rights Act.

## **7.6 TRADE UNION**

7.6.1 There are no direct Trade Union implications arise from this report.

## **7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS**

7.7.1 The activity outlined in this report addresses priorities in all Wards in the Bradford East Area.

## **8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

8.1 There are no not for publication documents.

## **9. OPTIONS**

9.1 That the Bradford East Area Committee adopts the recommendations outlined in this report.

9.2 That the Bradford East Area Committee adopts the recommendations outlined in this report, with amendments.

9.3 That the Bradford East Area Committee decides not to accept the recommendations outlined in this report.

## **10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1 That the work of the Community Development (CD) Workers on behalf of the four commissioned organisations during the period April 2015 to January 2016 to support Ward priorities within the Bradford East Area Ward Plans 2015 - 2016 be noted.

## **11. APPENDICES**

Appendix A – CD Commission – Thorpe Edge Community Project, Progress update summary between April 2015 and January 2016

Appendix B – CD Commission – Ravenscliffe Community Development Project, Progress update summary between April 2015 and January 2016

Appendix C – CD Commission – Karmand Community Centre, Progress update summary between April 2015 and January 2016

Appendix D – CD Commission – West Bowling Advice and Training Centre, Progress update summary between April 2015 and January 2016



## 12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

“Allocation of Community Centre Core Cost Grants and Community Development Grants for 2015 – 2017” (Document X) report to the Bradford East Area Committee on 13 November 2014.

‘Devolution of commissioning of Community Development and Community Centre Core Cost Grants to Area Committees’ (Document N). Bradford East Area Committee 17 September 2014.

“Devolution of commissioning of Community Development and Community Centre Core Cost Grants to Area Committees” (Document N) report to the Council Executive on 22 July 2014.

“Methodology for Allocation of Devolved Service Resources to the Five Area Committees” (Document CE) report to the Council Executive on 16 April 2013.

“Devolution to Area Committees” (Document AG) Called – in Decision, to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 1 November 2012.

“Devolution to Area Committees” (Document AG) report to the Council Executive on 9 October 2012.



**Thorpe Edge Community Project Progress update summary  
between April 2015 and January 2016**

<b>Wards: Eccleshill / Idle and Thackley / Bolton and Undercliffe</b>
<b>Voluntary organisation: Thorpe Edge Community Project</b>
<b>Name of Community Development Worker: John Sheen</b>

<b>Project name: Save Our Bills- Energy Campaign</b>
<b>Date of project start: September 2015</b>
<b>If completed date of completion:</b>

**1. Summary of project (Maximum 100 words):**

The aim of the Project was to work with local people to highlight the problems that they face in paying for their utility bills and to explore practical ways of helping people to address these. It took the form of an initial meeting at Thorpe Edge Community Forum followed by a community consultation, then an evaluation and action plan. The consultation was conducted door to door across the estate and through the local church, children's centre and schools. The report was presented at the Community Forum and featured the Community Newsletter.

**2. Who was involved in the project (Maximum 100 words?)**

The Project involved the Community Forum, local volunteers who carried out the door to door consultation, local agencies including children's centre, schools and St John's Church. Overall 129 families/individuals were consulted and completed the questionnaire. We also involved Bradford Environmental Action Trust in running an Energy Saving Workshop at the Rockwell Centre as a follow up to the consultation.

**3. How did you ensure a wide range of people had the opportunity to get involved? (Maximum 100 words):**

The sample Survey was conducted door to door targeting different areas across the neighbourhood and at different times of day. It was also conducted on-line using social media. We involved other local agencies and have subsequently produced an Energy Saving Tips flyer in partnership with the Gateway Centre and Children's Society with a view to printing and distributing throughout the BD10 and BD3 areas.



#### **4. How has the project benefited people in the Ward? (Maximum 100 words):**

The Project has:-

- Increased awareness of the difficulties that many people have in paying their energy bills and where they can access support if needed on an ongoing basis.
- Helped local people to save money on energy bills through practical advice and information.
- Helped local people to work together to address an issue that makes a difference in people's lives.
- Increased knowledge and confidence to save energy and switch suppliers where appropriate.

#### **5. What has the project achieved? (Maximum 100 words):**

The project:-

- Engaged and involved over 100 disadvantaged families and individuals
- It highlighted a number of issues including that over 60% of residents use prepayment meters which are on average 20% more expensive but generally helped people to manage their money better. Also that 16% were behind with their energy bills and 14% worry a lot about paying their energy bills.
- It run local accessible workshops to offer practical help
- Produced a useful resource that offered a wide range of energy saving tips and information on where people can get support that can be used in other areas of Bradford.

#### **6. Summary of other work you have undertaken since April 2015 (Maximum 100 words)**

- Provided support for and helped to secure £40k funding for six local community groups
- Provided support for and helped to secure £25k funding for two local social enterprises.
- Produced three editions of community newsletters distributed to every household in the area.
- Developed a new 'Good Neighbours' project that reaches over 50 isolated vulnerable older people each week with a core of six volunteers and a part-time coordinator
- Worked with local people to organise a Community Festival that attracted over 1000 residents
- Supported and developed the Rockwell Centre, BD10 Self-Help Centre, Outreach Advice Service and a wide range of community initiatives.



**Ravenscliffe Community Development Project, Progress update summary  
between April 2015 and January 2016**

<b>Ward: Eccleshill / Idle and Thackley / Bolton and Undercliffe</b>
<b>Voluntary organisation: Ravenscliffe Community Development project</b>
<b>Name of Community Development Worker: Anita Bolland</b>

<b>Project name: Snicket Snippers</b>
<b>Date of project start:1.9.2015</b>
<b>If completed date of completion: On going, dependant on weather</b>

**1. Summary of project (Maximum 100 words):**

Many comments had been passed at coffee morning about the dreadful state of the snickets within the estate. Access was very difficult with overgrowth of brambles, vegetation, litter and general waste and it was difficult for people to walk past and particularly difficult for people trying to push buggies. The Community Development Worker and a volunteer created a map of the area identifying 10 local snickets that could do with a clear up. We identified snickets that were well used by the community as a thoroughfare to shops, schools, doctors and the local hospital.

**3. Who was involved in the project (Maximum 100 words?)**

Community Development Worker, 4 volunteers, Volunteer Coordinator, the local Ward Officer, Neighbourhood Warden, Incommunities and Street Cleansing were all involved in supporting the project. Tree loppers, gardening gloves, rubbish bags and litter pickers were provided and the waste was removed from the site.

**3. How did you ensure a wide range of people had the opportunity to get involved? (Maximum 100 words):**

Volunteers spread the word around the community through word of mouth. Those people attending the Coffee Morning spread the word about what was happening. The Volunteer Coordinator at The Gateway Centre was involved in recruiting volunteers. Mums visiting the nursery had noticed the improvements and were telling other people using the snickets.

**4. How has the project benefited people in the Ward? (Maximum 100 words):**

1 mum has young twins and was finding it impossible to get her twin buggy through the snicket as it had a broken rail. Mum had to take a detour and this made for a much longer journey to get her little boy to a school on time. This was reported and fixed. Access is now much easier. Many members of the community using the snickets passed appreciative





comments now that the snickets were clearer and easier to walk through. Volunteers were gainfully employed in a physical task and burnt a few calories while doing the work. Getting involved in a community task gave them something positive to focus on. This was an opportunity for some to include the activity on their current CV's as they look for work. It got some isolated people out of the house and engaged with others. The physical improvement of the environment has been of great benefit to many. Local businesses were very appreciative of the work that was carried out and even provided refreshments for the volunteers.

**5. What has the project achieved? (Maximum 100 words):**

A cleaner & greener environment with a visual improvement of the snickets and much improved access.  
Waste cleared from areas that the community use frequently and regularly.  
Volunteers engaged in positive activities.

**6. Summary of other work you have undertaken since April 2015 (Maximum 100 words)**

**Let's Sing Community Choir:** Community Development Worker supported the committee with a Lottery application to continue delivering the choir. Successful application.  
**Ecc Flicks:** Community Development Worker supported Eccleshill Community Association with a Lottery funding application to start and run a community cinema. Successful application.  
**Fagley Community Association:** Community Development Worker supporting the committee with governance issues and trying to establish a base and a vision for the future.  
**CV's:** Community Development Worker supporting individuals to complete CV's and upload them to Universal Jobsmatch.  
**Men @ Eccy Meccy:** Community Development Worker providing support and supervision of the development worker.



**Karmand Community Centre, Progress update summary  
between April 2015 and January 2016**

<b>Ward: Bradford Moor / Bowling and Barkerend</b>
<b>Voluntary organisation: Karmand Community Centre</b>
<b>Name of Community Development Worker: Mohammed Shaukat</b>

<b>Project name: Summer Playscheme</b>
<b>Date of project start: August 2015</b>
<b>If completed date of completion:</b>

**1. Summary of project (Maximum 100 words):**

The aim of the project was to organise an Open Access summer playscheme enabling and encouraging young people from different back grounds to participate and interact with each other and also providing opportunities for the families to attend affordable day trips. Furthermore the scheme provided positive activities for young people allowing them to make good use of their leisure time but more importantly learn new skills and to develop as individuals and keep them away from anti-social behaviour.

**4. Who was involved in the project (Maximum 100 words?)**

The project involved local parents, volunteers, information was shared with parents by newsletter and posters through schools and by outreach work. Mosque/ Faith groups were also involved and publicised the project to their membership and highlighted via Friday prayers. Volunteer recruited from 6<sup>th</sup> forms of Carlton Bowling College, Priesthorpe and Laisterdyke School.

**3. How did you ensure a wide range of people had the opportunity to get involved? (Maximum 100 words):**

Volunteers were recruited to help, support and being role models for others to get involved and planed daily activities. Playscheme / Summer activities were advertised by using social media, advertised/reach work done in the local community.

**4. How has the project benefited people in the Ward? (Maximum 100 words):**

The Project has :

- Helped local parents send their children to take part in activities and learn new skills using creative arts and through this young people were able to have fun but learned about contemporary issues effecting youth in modern culture, gender and citizenship.



- Helped young people express their views by using creative skills and developed an better understanding, appreciation and respect of differences in today's society.
- Children were provided safe place/environment and were kept away from hanging round in the local streets.
- Volunteers gained valuable experience in organising activities and working with children of different back ground to support their career prospects.

**5. What has the project achieved? (Maximum 100 words):**

- Families were encouraged and participated in the outings
- Disadvantaged families were provided the opportunities to spend quality time with their children on outings within affordable budget.
- 81 young people registered, Average daily attendance 58
- 304 people attended the outings to Lightwater valley, Bridlington and Blackpool
- 6 volunteers gained valuable experience.

**6. Summary of other work you have undertaken since April 2015 (Maximum 100 words)**

- Provided support to secure £100k for community group from Better Start to improve the entrance, new signage and sand blasting to make more welcoming for the local community.
- Provided support and help to secure £826 funding for the playscheme
- Help arranged community Clean Up of Harewood Street Allotments
- Helped and created awareness for the local community about driving and parking round local schools and faith schools.
- Supported and organised the community Walk.
- Provided support and helped to organise a Health Mela event to encourage people to lead healthier lifestyles.
- Provided support and engaged with local residents regarding Waste cooking oil project
- Working with Asylum Seekers/ new arrivals and created a DROP IN CENTRE to overcome loneliness and to integrate.



**West Bowling Advice and Training Centre, Progress update summary  
between April 2015 and January 2016**

<b>Ward: Bowling and Barkerend</b>
<b>Voluntary organisation: West Bowling Community Advice &amp; Training Centre</b>
<b>Name of Community Development Worker: Firdos Hussain</b>
<b>Project name: Go Walking Project</b>
<b>Date of project start: 2015</b>
<b>If completed date of completion: 2015</b>

**1. Summary of project (Maximum 100 words):**

Go walking partnership between WBC, Thornbury centre and the Peacemakers International. Funding was sought from West Yorkshire combined authority, with £20,000 allocated for promoting activities within this ward to increase activities with the most underactive communities. Targeted groups were South Asian communities, Eastern European communities and the Afro Caribbean communities. Objectives for the project were to get 2,000 outcomes. With comments and feedback from residents we put together action plans to work with agencies, groups and professionals from the area, to build a list of deliverers that would promote and deliver these outcomes. These were through a series of: street audits, community and family walks, walk leaders training, road safety training, pram walks and events to promote healthy living through walking.

**2. Who was involved in the project (Maximum 100 words?)**

Worked with local voluntary and statutory organisations in neighbourhoods, such as schools, children's centres, Better Start, youth groups, mosques, GP surgeries, existing classes in areas to promote this new project, to look at potential ways of engaging and accessing them onto innovative ways of recognising the connection of walking and overall health improvement and impact of benefits. We advertised and promoted the project and worked alongside potential partners to tackle and create participation onto these activities created a list of deliveries and activities to happen in the area. Ranging from all ages, all abilities and levels of involvement some as one offs and some as regular incentives on a weekly basis.

**3. How did you ensure a wide range of people had the opportunity to get involved? (Maximum 100 words):**

Different approaches were looked at to make it attractive for different individuals, so we targeted people who needed to walk to improve their health amongst other things as well people with barriers to walking activities, elderly, people with disabilities, mild to moderate mental health illnesses, asthma and diabetes, to not just become active but also improve their health. Thus we worked with GP surgeries to get referrals and get people to help themselves with socially prescriptive activities. We arranged informal ways of engaging families for summer schemes, walking trips, exercise sessions and luncheon clubs etc. We worked with Better Start to promote it and published it through schools and encourage children to



measure walking from school.

**4. How has the project benefited people in the Ward? (Maximum 100 words):**

Communities feel better as the walks have brought them more closer than before - more integration – promote community cohesion – has brought an improvement in their health – new arrivals benefited by sharing knowledge and skills with others – this also provided opportunity to make them more aware of diets – eating habits – healthy eating habits -

**5. What has the project achieved? (Maximum 100 words):**

The project has been able to target those that are inactive at the moment and aided a provision that suits them, to help them participate in activities that normally they wouldn't be able to due to unacceptable environment for all cultures to attend, with tailor made activities to allow flexibility. During the summer period up to 900 adults and children accessed the summer activities that promoted walking initiatives and introduced the concept of losing weight through walking

These activities have also given people the opportunities to build connections between the health benefits of walking, with two schools creating "walking buses", helping to also reduce traffic congestion around the school area, with up to 50 children per school benefitting.

**6. Summary of other work you have undertaken since April 2015 (Maximum 100 words)**

- I worked with Thornbury centre to promote and encourage access to the LACO outreach project; set up a healthy living program for Eastern European families to access courses. This has also led to seeking funding for ESOL classes and other health related projects.
- We are seeking funds to launch a community safety project on reducing anti-social behaviour and crime, by introducing a security CCTV loan scheme in the ward.
- We worked with five local schools on Beautiful BD5 project. Children gained knowledge regarding environmental issues and how to reduce litter/fly tipping. We ran a poster competition with five schools and up to 100 children participated to promote the good messages through mosques, youth groups and children's centres.



**West Bowling Advice and Training Centre, Progress update summary  
between April 2015 and January 2016**

<b>Ward: Little Horton Ward</b>
<b>Voluntary organisation: West Bowling Community Advice and Training Centre</b>
<b>Name of Community Development Worker: Firdos Hussain</b>

<b>Project name: Supporting to set up a grassroots level voluntary group “Bazmay Khawateen”</b>
<b>Date of project start: 2015</b>
<b>If completed date of completion:</b>

**1. Summary of project (Maximum 100 words):**

In our neighbourhood one of the least empowered and oppressed groups are the women from the BME communities. They suffer from multiple barriers, disadvantages that stop them from engaging with services and resources in comparison, to others. I have assisted them to identify and address some of the issues and create their own solutions that will help them increase participation in local services. Initial steps have been taken for sustainability through the new lottery funding obtained by the group with my help, to contribute to community development approaches and tackle identified problems themselves at grassroots levels.

**2. Who was involved in the project (Maximum 100 words?)**

I used my skills and knowledge of groups' barriers to support them to identify action plans needed to target the aims of the group, and identify funding streams. We developed links with agencies, professionals, community councillors, mosques, and CVS, who helped raise awareness and create evidence for funding. We showcased some of the groups' initiatives and were able to get interest from different agencies to assist them to build skills and confidence to address their weaknesses and provided training to turn them into strengths. We obtained funds for training and self-development that helped to develop policies for good management and create opportunities for volunteers.

**3. How did you ensure a wide range of people had the opportunity to get involved? (Maximum 100 words):**

The group is based at a local community centre. It provides a safe environment to this group to attend. During the time they were formalising their group, they launched various activities and events that allowed opportunity for women from all over to attend informal and social gatherings to help provide them with a flavour of what is on offer. The activities have been very innovative and helped to raise the profile and added benefits of the personal development opportunities the group has on offer. Through various outreach activities and using the centre as a hub, it has helped increased participation at different levels and create a potential business plan for future work.



**4. How has the project benefited people in the Ward? (Maximum 100 words):**

As the group is located locally in the heart of the area, it is easily accessible to residents. There are a high number of BME South Asian women in this area, especially from the "Pathan" communities who do not participate in local resources, due to cultural barriers. However, we've been fortunate to attract these ladies, due to activities being designed around their needs. The group has also engaged with other women's international day events attracting other women from the ward to take benefit and come together and improve communication and create community harmony amongst different women with different cultural backgrounds.

**5. What has the project achieved? (Maximum 100 words):**

The project has attracted many different women with different cultural backgrounds, faiths and age groups, creating an opportunity for inter-generational involvement with benefiting the whole family as the social and community events were themed to attract. Focus has always been to build-up a trustworthy relationship with local workers so to benefit from a "hub of services at the same time". We have tried to have a multidisciplinary team approach so that clients can have multiple holistic benefits met but also have better sign-posting and referring processes to address immediate needs of people and refer to services they can benefit from.

**6. Summary of other work you have undertaken since April 2015 (Maximum 100 words)**

- Creating community cohesion amongst different communities and faiths. Four Community events over the last year, with up to 150 attendees to each event.
- To tackle health inequalities – 3 health workshops in the past 6 months in partnership with NHS aiming to reduce obesity in adults, the early detection of diabetes in the South Asian community and a project with BFD university to do research Vitamin D deficiency levels within at risk communities in the ward.
- To raise employment levels in the ward– work with different institutions in partnership to deliver training packages to raise qualification attainments in the ward.
- To reduce impact on NHS and reduce care needs – well-being programmes for the elderly, working to improve the mental, physical and emotional needs of elderly and their carer's.

