

REPORT FROM: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES MANAGER

TO: SPECIAL BUDGET EXECUTIVE

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BRADLEY BIG LOCAL

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update Members on progress with the Bradley Big Local.

RECOMMENDATION

- (1) That the report is noted and work on the Bradley Big Local continues to receive the support of Members.
- (2) That further progress reports be submitted to the Executive and Nelson Area Committee

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To enable the Council to continue to act as the Locally Trusted Organisation for Bradley Big Local

ISSUE

1. In early 2012 Pendle Council, the Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service and Pendle Community Network were successful in securing Big Local Funding for Bradley; £1m over ten years. The funding is from the Big Lottery and is delivered through the Big Local Trust.
2. This is a resident led initiative led by a partnership that is at least 51% residents. The Bradley Big Local Partnership decides how the funding will be used based on an action plan agreed with the Big Local Trust and takes responsibility for delivering the action plan. The funding will be used to implement the action plan rather than being open to bids from other projects. The funding can be used on spend or on investment with income from the latter re-invested in the action plan.
3. Since the last report to the Executive in November 2014 the Partnership had its first action plan approved by the Big Local Trust in early 2015 which focused on five key themes:

- Commissioning Programme Support to help the Partnership develop the action plan into deliverable projects with resident input and attract match funding from other sources
 - Community Wealth to raise aspirations; promote entrepreneurship and bring empty business premises back into use
 - Community Land Trust to provide a vehicle for asset transfer and to promote the creative use of neglected land sites
 - Community Housing to bring empty properties back into use and to promote ethical lettings
 - Community Recreation to improve opportunities for play and healthy lifestyles
4. The first tranche of approximately £50,000 funding was received in spring 2015 and was fully spent by October 2016; primarily on programme support to further develop the skills of the Partnership; engage new interest in the work of Bradley Big Local and develop the action plan into deliverable projects.
 5. During 2016 the Partnership was invited to submit a revised action plan detailing projects to be delivered over a two year period and with more detailed costs. This reflected the Big Local Trust's intention to encourage big locals to move on with spend and delivery and to more closely scrutinise projects during the assessment process.
 6. The projects in development and included in a revised action plan were:
 - Continue programme support, funded in part from the other themes which require it to be able to continue to develop and provided by specialist providers appropriate to the project
 - An after school support project jointly funded with Pendle Vale Community College to improve attainment and raise aspirations
 - Money management project in partnership with Pennine Community Credit Union aimed at supporting families and, in particular, young people to manage their finances
 - Business start-up project to support Bradley's entrepreneurs and to bring business premises in Bradley back into use
 - English as a Second Language provision for both the Asian-heritage and Eastern European communities in Bradley to enable better access to employment opportunities
 - Community Grants to enable groups in the community to kick-start projects based on criteria to be set down by a residents' group based on the vision and priorities of the action plan
 - Having merged the Community Land Trust and Community Housing themes, establishing the Bradley Big Local Community Land Trust and future governance of the Trust as a Community Interest Organisation
 - Supporting projects identified and prioritised by Bradley Big Local Community Land Trust
 - Develop new housing in partnership with Pendle Borough Council; these will be owned by Bradley Big Local Community Land Trust
 - Up-grading and expanding the Hodge House play area; a flagship project to show the value of Bradley Big Local and raise its profile
 - A project developed with funding partners to provide complementary adult equipment near to the Hodge House play area for parents of children using the play area and for older residents in the locality with a view to reducing social isolation and loneliness
 7. Following a robust assessment involving detailed action planning the revised action plan was agreed on 28 October 2016 with approval to spend £544,000 of which £92,000 has been released to the Council as LTO.
 8. The Partnership has agreed a bottom up project management approach with each project being led by a resident agreed by the Partnership and supported by the LTO or another appropriate agency. The project managers will report up to the three themed groups and the themed groups will be accountable to the Partnership which will remain the responsible body

for agreeing projects and spend with the Council as LTO remaining the accountable body for the funding.

9. The Council, through its Community Protection and Localities Team, continues as Locally Trusted Organisation for Bradley Big Local. This was on the basis of the Team's local knowledge and experience of the project to date. As LTO the Council is able to claim an additional 5% to the £1m as the funding is spent which will be set against the cost of the services provided by the CP&L Team.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: The Partnership shares with the Council its priorities for economic growth and housing regeneration

Financial: There will be an income to the Council from its status as Locally Trusted Organisation. As Locally Trusted Organisation the Council will hold the funding received from the Big Local Trust and be responsible for its expenditure in accordance with the agreed action plan. The Hodge House Play Area improvements will need to be added to the Council's capital programme.

Legal: There are legal implications with the setting up of Bradley Big Local Community Land Trust as a Community Interest Organisation and the transfer or leasing of Council owned land.

Risk Management: This will be addressed as part of the project delivery process

Health and Safety: All activities to date have been subject to risk assessment by the CP&L Team or another member of the Partnership

Sustainability: This is an inherent part of the Big Local process and in the action planning to date

Community Safety: This has been identified as a key element through the consultation

Equality and Diversity: This will be addressed through the Partnership