

# Community/Neighbourhood Planning Toolkit

Paul Slatter, Chamberlain Forum

# Localism Act 2011

- Chamberlain Forum and 'Communities Managing Change' 2010-13
- Community Planning research:
  - Moseley Big Plan
  - Kings Heath Local Plan
  - Aston Newtown and Lozells Development Plan
  - Balsall Heath Neighbourhood Plan
- Complexity, Leadership and Consultation

# 2013 Research Findings

- All approaches work – they produce plans
- Local community leadership produced livelier, more distinctive plans
- Local plans enabled **definition of purpose** and rules (places have different purposes...)
- Process enables ‘marketplace for ideas’ – dialogue
- Product v Process tension

# and on Neighbourhood Planning

In 2010-13, we found:

- The process works (boundaries, councillor role etc) in practice
- Works best and easier where there is existing social capital , but could work anywhere
- ‘Incorporation’ is a bigger risk than ‘capture’
- It can take ~~too long~~ a long time
- Could be/should be ‘packaged’ (most people get involved not because of spatial planning)

# Fast Forward to 2016...

- DCLG interested in working out what works in Neighbourhood Planning
- Birmingham third sector/public sector proposal
- Looking at integrating neighbourhood planning and wider community planning
- Toolkit and neighbourhood profiling tool - structures for 'how you can do it' rather than a single defined process

# The Toolkit

- [communityplanning.cooperative.website](http://communityplanning.cooperative.website)
- Flowchart of questions
- information sheets, methods sheets, interviews (using video)
- introduced in six community languages as well as English
- based on 2010-13 research

# Toolkit Flowchart

Can the community do something?

Can business do something?

Can our public servants help us?

Specifically, what about the council?

Could we use the planning system?

Do we need a local plan?

Shall we lead a neighbourhood plan?

# Contact

communityplanning.cooperative.website

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# Final thoughts...

- Toolkit needs users and developers
- Toolkit works - information and links acting as a gateway to Neighbourhood Planning
- Every Place Matters - but not all places are the same; cities are made up of their places
- Perhaps we could do with a shared database of who's aiming to do what, where to make better places to live in Birmingham?