

**Briefing Note for Housing and Neighbourhoods O&S Committee: 13<sup>TH</sup> October 2022 – Update on Localism including progress on the “Working Together in Birmingham’s Neighbourhoods” Policy Statement**

Area of Work	Service Lead	Progress and Further Actions	Additional Comments
Citywide			
<p><b>Localisation Star Chamber</b></p> <p>The Localisation Star Chamber (LSC) was set up on the behest of Cabinet Member in spring/summer 2021 with the aim of proving a process of challenge and monitoring to ensure localisation is coordinated, championed, and embedded across council policies, services, work programmes, and ways of working.</p>	SEP and supported by NDSU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Rounds with each Directorate/ Service area held               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Round 1 – June – Sept 2021- An introductory session to share existing and emerging good practice</li> <li>Round 2 – October 2021- Jan 2022 – A Deep Dive into requested key areas of work</li> <li>Round 3 – April – June 22</li> </ul> </li> <li>Submission of final Directorate Self Assessments against the <b>WTiBN</b> 4 measures of success -               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Services being different, better suited to the area, and more efficient</li> <li>2) Officers working for “one council” putting shared outcomes and local places first rather than their service or directorate</li> <li>3) Local councillors having more influence on services</li> <li>4) Residents feeling, they are more in control of their services and their local area</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p>The self-assessments will also enable directorates to clearly evidence and document how they are driving progress on localisation against the 4 measures, helping to establish a baseline position and support effective monitoring of this agenda for the Council as a whole and also to inform directorate and cross-directorate action planning, helping to guide the delivery of actions and the changes the Council needs to make now and in future years.</p>	All Directorate Self Assessments are available on request

NDSU			
<b>Neighbourhood Action Co-ordinator Programme (NAC)</b>	NDSU	<p>This is currently a 1-year pilot working with 22 wards around street scene, community safety and deprivation/ quality of life – investment of £760k</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointment of CSDO to co-ordinate the programme – March</li> <li>• 1 original pilot followed by the appointment of 10 NACs in 2 tranches – May and Sept. Will cover 2 wards each plus possible commission of local anchor organisation</li> <li>• A budget of £10,000 per NAC ward will be available for local priority interventions</li> <li>• Working with ward councillors within agreed Neighbourhood Action Coordination pilot ward areas, the Neighbourhood Action Coordinators (NACs) which are in place aim to mobilise, organise and empower residents, community groups, stakeholders, and partners to act on local priorities to benefit their ward</li> </ul>	<p>Alum Rock Balsall Heath West Erdington Bromford &amp; Hodge Hill Glebe Farm &amp; Tile Cross Ladywood Billesley Longbridge &amp; West Heath Bartley Green Harborne Sparkbrook &amp; Balsall Heath West Kingstanding Acocks Green Stockland Green Shard End Bordesley &amp; Highgate Soho &amp; Jewellery Quarter Brandwood &amp; Kings Heath Kings Norton South Weoley &amp; Selly Oak Quinton Sparkhill</p>
<b>Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)</b>	NDSU and Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CIL is a funding allocation (15% local element) derived from area developments</li> <li>• 13 wards are currently in receipt of CIL citywide</li> <li>• Be Bold Crowd Funder launched on 29<sup>th</sup> June – Member and prospective projects Information sessions have taken place. Finalised project</li> </ul>	<p>13 wards are – Ladywood, Harborne, Bournville and Cotteridge, Weoley and Selly Oak, Edgbaston, Newtown, Bournbrook and Selly Park, Stinchley.</p>

		<p>campaign to be considered in the Autumn with a Spring round to be launched in Jan 23.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be Bold Small Grants Fund launched on 9<sup>th</sup> September – Member briefing session held plus information sessions for the 13 ward community projects</li> </ul>	N.Edgbaston, Soho and JQ, Kings Norton N; Bordesley and Highgate and Nechells
<b>Neighbourhood Planning</b>	NDSU and Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioned the development of both an Internal Neighbourhood Planning Toolkit for Officers and an External Toolkit for residents and local community groups (Sept 22- March 23) – working with Birmingham Community Matters and Locality. Award from DLUHC</li> <li>• Supporting local areas who are interested in developing a Neighbourhood Plan – early-stage interest in Small Heath, Soho, Stockland Green</li> </ul>	Currently Balsall Heath and Perry Barr have Neighbourhood Plans. JQ currently being assessed.
<b>Neighbourhood Councils</b>	NDSU with support from SEP and Finance and Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful Community Governance Review in Balsall Heath and approved at Cabinet Committee to proceed – July 22</li> <li>• Community Ballot organised for Nov 22 – if successful this would lead to a new Neighbourhood Council for Balsall Heath and the election of neighbourhood councillors and setting a local precept.</li> <li>• Continued support with the 2 existing councils in Birmingham – Sutton Coldfield Town Council and Frankley Parish Council</li> </ul>	
<b>Ward Forum Meetings and Ward Action Plans</b>	NDSU	<p>Continued support for local ward governance – ward forum meetings and the development of new Ward Action Plans (WAPs) in all 69 wards – now formally in the Constitution approved May 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 Information and Support sessions offered for Members in June and July (face to face and virtual options)</li> <li>• Guidance and Information sent out to all Members – July/ Aug</li> <li>• 1 hybrid Information session offered to all designated ward contact officers – Sept. 76 attendees</li> <li>• Information session organised for resident and community groups in conjunction with Birmingham Community Matters – Oct.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ward Forum Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally, all meetings being held face to face although virtual meetings still a viable option in the winter months</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendances have been relatively good since May – as high as 65 in one ward with an average of approx. 20 across all wards although some wards do have a very low attendance. This is an area to work with members on and share good practice between members</li> <li>Currently below target in reaching 276 meetings this year (69 x 4 mtgs as per the constitution)</li> </ul>	
<b>CWG – Celebrating Communities Small Grants Programme</b>	NDSU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>316 Community Projects across all wards of the city were funded – Evaluations are currently being returned</li> <li>local participative decision making and the use of community anchor organisation to support ward facilitation.</li> <li>Alongside the small grants capacity building and support for community groups was incorporated in the programme facilitated Birmingham Community Matters and Locality – <a href="https://www.birminghamcommunitymatters.org.uk/projects/celebrating-communities-start-and-monitor/">https://www.birminghamcommunitymatters.org.uk/projects/celebrating-communities-start-and-monitor/</a></li> <li>Use of Impact App – will be developing a short vimeo to highlight projects</li> <li>NDSU involved in CWG Legacy developing a future small grants scheme for community organisations</li> </ul>	
<b>Community Capacity Building and Infrastructure Support</b>	NDSU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launch of “<b>Birmingham Shift</b>” – July 22. NDSU have commissioned Economy to run a year long learning programme for community members around the understanding of community economics, budgets and how to influence budget setting processes</li> <li>Pioneer Places continue to be supported including a review in Oct. 22</li> <li>Continued working with BCM and Locality on a programme of capacity building and infrastructure support for community groups.</li> <li>Community and Officer Information and Support sessions arranged on Community Asset Transfer (CAT) and Assets of Community Value (ACV) – Sept and Nov 22</li> </ul>	

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