

Bradford & District Community Economic VCS Forum

Notes of the meeting Monday 8th July 2019

9:30 to 11:30 am at CNet

Present: Tony Dylak (Royds) (Co-chair), Carlton Smith (Bradford Trident), Laura Raynor (Specialist Autism Services); Martin Carter (Manningham Project); Mary Dowson (BCB Radio); Liz Hemsley (Prospects Connexions); Rhys North (WYCAS); Noreen Taylor (Airedale Enterprise Services / CLLD Keighley); Carolyn Barlow (The British Lung Foundation); Mashud Haque (Individual); Jane Sanderson (Outside the Box – Ilkley Community Enterprise); Janet Ford (CNet)

In attendance: Cassandra Walker (Locality); Kevin Brain (CBMDC); Wendy Collins (CNet) (minutes)

Apologies: Nasim Qureshi (INCIC) (Co-chair); David Wilford (A Head of the Curve CIC); Mark Nicholson (Equality Together)

Item	Details	Action by
1.	Welcome, introductions and apologies	Chair (TD)
2.	Minutes of last meeting and matters arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tony reported that Nigel Smith met with the treasury and passed on some of the feedback from the CEF spending review consultations. 	
3.	Economic Strategy Update – Mark Clayton, Policy Officer, CBMDC Mark could not attend – update at next meeting.	
4.	Keep it Local – Cassandra Walker, Locality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funded by Lloyds Bank Foundation. • Tony is on the steering group. • A local event for VCS was held in March; presenters included Jane Wood, Assistant Director for Commissioning and Integration, Bradford Council, and Susan Hinchcliffe, Leader of Bradford Council. There is a commitment from the Council to increase the target for local procurement from 48% to 60%. Bradford compares well nationally in terms of this commitment. • A national event was held in London at which Susan Hinchcliffe spoke about Bradford Council's commitment to local spending. • Moving forward Locality is looking at mentoring, buddying and co-design. They have received a long list of upcoming Council contracts to see which ones would be suitable for VCS. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janet mentioned that the Council’s commitment to increase the local procurement target / social value weighting, together with any other decisions and protocols should be included in the Compact. • Sophie Michelena of Locality and Tony were involved in the interviews for the new Head of Procurement for Bradford Council. Ian Westlake has been appointed; this is good news for the VCS as he sees the importance of social value. Tony is meeting with Ian the week after this meeting and has invited him to talk at the next CEF meeting. • Tony met with Jane Wood and she confirmed that grants from the Council will be reducing in future. • Tony mentioned that the Transformation Fund, available to all VCS organisations, is able to fund legal support and financial advice, as well as other areas. • Cassandra will send details on Keep it Local for circulation. 	<p>Cassandra to send details</p>
5.	<p>Member News and Feedback from Representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carlton reported that the University of Bradford, along with eight partners, have received £300,000 from the Office for Students for work on a Bradford Graduate Workforce Improvement Programme. Carlton will speak to the new project manager about presenting at a future CEF meeting. • Royds is involved in a Creative People and Places bid, led by Sally Barber of Born in Bradford. If successful, the grant would fund art and culture projects in inner city areas and estates. • Bradford is bidding for several million pounds as part of the Local Access programme, to support community enterprise and small business. • Bradford Producing Hub is a £1.5 million programme led by Theatre in the Mill working with local performers from minority ethnic backgrounds. • British Lung Foundation is setting up 11 new “breathe easy hubs” in Bradford, first in City ward, then moving into District. This can be done in a number of ways, including tying into existing services. Carolyn will attend future meetings. 	<p>Carlton to invite graduate project manager to CEF meeting</p>
6.	<p>Impact of Brexit on VCS organisations, businesses and communities in Bradford – Kevin Brain, Policy Officer, CBMDC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin’s presentation will be circulated with the minutes. • The Shared Prosperity Fund will replace all EU funding currently available. Organisations can apply for EU funding up until 2020 and will be paid up until the end of the contract. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Communities in Charge campaign is a lobby calling for the Shared Prosperity Fund to be allocated to community led organisations. More information on this campaign can be found here: https://locality.org.uk/policy-campaigns/communities-in-charge/ • It's likely that the economic impact of Brexit will hit Bradford hard, some industries more than others. • Volunteering may decrease, as people may find they don't have as much time to spare. • Workforce could be affected as some communities may feel unwelcome here. • Data sharing and the way we work together will change. • £210,000 has been given to each local authority to create support hubs for the Settlement Scheme; this has been distributed to VCS organisations. 	
7.	<p>Discussion of Future Topics and Action Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As mentioned in Item 4, Ian Westlake will be invited to the October meeting to talk about Council procurement. • As mentioned in Item 5, Carlton will invite the head of the Bradford Graduate Workforce Improvement Programme to speak at a future meeting. • Jamie Saunders will be invited to the October meeting to discuss sustainability. 	
8.	<p>AOB None.</p>	
9.	<p>Future meeting dates (all held at CNet 9.30 to 11.30 am) Monday 14 October 2019 Monday 20 January 2019</p> <p>Meeting closed at 11.30 am</p>	