

**Name of meeting:** Cabinet  
**Date:** 18 November 2020  
**Title of report:** Batley Birstall & Birkenshaw Place Partnership - Mental Health Initiatives

**Purpose of report:**

To consider allocating £82,261 funding from the Place Partnership mental health themed budget to deliver mental health initiatives in Batley Birstall & Birkenshaw Place Partnership area.

<b>Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?</b>	No
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u></b>	No
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	Yes
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>	Rachel Spencer-Henshall – 05/11/2020
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?</b>	Eamonn Croston – 04/11/2020
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?</b>	Karl Larrad – 04/11/2020
<b>Cllr Cathy Scott Housing &amp; Democracy</b>	Cllr Cathy Scott – Housing & Democracy

**Electoral wards affected:** Batley East, Batley West, Birstall and Birkenshaw.

**Ward councillors consulted:** Cllrs Habiban Zaman, Mahmood Akhtar, Gwen Lowe, Shabir Pandor, Yusra Hussain, Elizabeth Smaje, Mark Thompson and Charlotte Goodwin.

**Public or private:** Public.

**Has GDPR been considered?** Yes

## **1. Summary**

A budget of £1m in total has been allocated by the Council to the seven Place Partnerships in Kirklees to support local mental health initiatives whilst also supporting and building local voluntary/community capacity.

Councillors in the Batley Birstall and Birkenshaw are intending to work with local providers to deliver a range of Mental Health support programmes, including Carer Support, Access to Employability and work around Community Perceptions and Stigma. These programmes will help to upskill voluntary and community providers and offer specialist support to individuals locally. All the programmes will have an element of linkages to each other, and cross sign posting opportunities.

These projects have been influenced by information collected through local data and intelligence, elected members local knowledge, a range of officers and third sector partners that highlighted key gaps in support locally for people who may be effected by one or more of the identified themes.

In addition, anecdotal information gleaned by ward councillors, services and third sector partners from local communities is that the Covid 19 lockdown has had an impact on stress and anxiety caused by loneliness and depression as a result of isolation/shielding, job insecurity and worrying about the future. Each element of this proposal will provide vital support that will help address some of the challenges facing our communities as a result of the covid pandemic. The activities can be delivered virtually and/or face to face (in line with restrictions in place at time of delivery).

The proposal meets the partnership's agreed outcomes to improve early intervention and prevention support and resources for local people, to link that support with the wider Kirklees offer and to build up knowledge and understanding of the local picture among communities, services and partners. By working with and supporting locally based partner organisations and community/voluntary groups, it also helps to build local community capacity and resilience.

It is important to note that whilst Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw place partnership has identified these as priorities, the detailed approach has been shaped locally by councillors, services and partners working together to ensure delivery will reflect a place-based approach to meet the needs of the area/communities.

## **2. Information required to take a decision**

### Project 1 – Carers Support - £12,376

**Objective:** To develop a place-based offer for local carers, which will help reduced feelings of loneliness and social isolation, help develop new friendships and informal networks of support, enable people to feel more empowered to speak up about the issues they face, increase their knowledge and understanding of the support available to them and gain the skills needed to better manage the issues they face.

**Project Details:** Working with Carers Count, a 12-month pilot of carers support sessions will be delivered across the Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw area. These sessions will use local community venues, on easily accessible transport networks to deliver face to face support (available through rule of 6) to Carers.

## Project 2 - Mental Health Support through Employability - £36,685

Objective: To develop a programme of support for individuals with mental health needs to access and successfully complete employability schemes locally.

Project Details: To pilot a mental health welfare support programme working with Paddock Community Trust, for those engaged on a range of community-based employability provision and experiencing mental health problems. The aim of the pilot is to provide a personalised support service to ensure people with lower level mental health issues are given the help they need to continue engaging in employability and training services.

## Project 3 - Anti-Stigma Project - £33,200

Objective: The Anti-Stigma project (underpinned by the Time to Change campaign) will pilot in Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw and work with local communities to create a meaningful mental health anti-stigma initiative which is sympathetic to cultural and community needs. We would be looking to work with community members to help shape and inform what those needs are and how they differ across Birstall, Batley and Birkenshaw. The underlying principle is to develop a network of mental health community champions that can run their own meaningful activities in communities that aims to break down mental health stigma and encourage people to talk.

Project Detail: This project is co-produced, co-designed and co-delivered alongside the citizens of the Birstall, Batley and Birkenshaw wards and would eventually be 'owned' and delivered by them for them independently but supported by the wider anti-stigma hub in Kirklees – this would allow the project wider remit to replicated across all the wards of Kirklees using a tailored approach for each ward depending on need with Birstall, Batley and Birkenshaw being the first.

These programmes will be based on top of already established offer within Covid restrictions. Limiting the Covid impact overall.

We know from the data that the proportion of adults in Birstall, Batley and Birkenshaw reporting low life satisfaction is higher than Kirklees average, as are the rates of self-harm. There is also a lower proportion of adults using green spaces and achieving recommended physical activity levels. The project will respond to these areas of concern by engaging communities in discussion about their wellbeing as part of the dialogue around stigma and discrimination. Where appropriate people can be signposted or directed to existing services in the communities to help tackle these issues.

### **3. Implications for the Council**

- **Working with People**

Local Providers have contributed to the development of these programme. Their experiences have informed the agreed outcomes and priorities, and the proposals put forward.

- **Working with Partners**

Throughout the development of the programme, elected members have engaged with a range of locally recognised community provider to develop the approaches/proposals.

- **Place Based Working**

Place Partnerships involve several wards working together to address strategic and place issue. Approaches are tailored as to the needs of each ward and the resources available within.

This proposal has been informed by public health intelligence/data, feedback from engagement with communities, services and partners and also elected members in the respective place partnership areas.

- **Climate Change and Air Quality**

No change

- **Improving outcomes for children**

Programmes with this report are designed to support the wider needs of families and extended families. These programmes will help recognise and offer reduction in the effects of lower level mental health, that can affect family and carers resulting in breakdown of relationships.

- **Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**

The legal power for grants is section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 (general Power of Competence). Also, the council must when providing grants comply with Financial Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution and in particular FPR 20.7 to 20.13.

Place partnerships have been allocated a total budget of £1M to improve mental health outcomes and £400K to tackle domestic abuse. This proposal is seeking funding to support this initiative in order to meet identified mental health priorities whilst also supporting and building local voluntary/community capacity at a place-based level.

#### **Do you need an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)?**

Yes, stage 1 will be undertaken and stage 2 if required for equality considerations regarding access to provision.

#### **4. Consultees and their opinions**

Conversations between ward councillors, front line services and voluntary and community organisations have informed the desired outcomes and priorities for improving mental health and well-being in Batley Birstall and Birkenshaw. All ward councillors in the place partnership area have been consulted on the specific proposals in this report and these proposals are welcomed.

The proposals within the BBB place partnerships take a proportionate approach to supporting good mental health in these areas. There are some proposals aimed at the population level and others that have a more specific focus for vulnerable groups. The proposals have considered tackling the root causes of poor mental health, whilst also including proposals that consider positive mental health for all. The early intervention and prevention nature of these proposals is welcomed. – Rebecca Elliott – Public Health Manger

This proposal also supported by Lyndon Peasley – Carers Strategy Manager.

'I've shared this with relevant Colleagues, and we support the proposal as we believe it will add valuable support' – Caroline Henderson – Works Better Programme

#### **5. Next steps and timelines**

Subject to Cabinet decision, the proposed initiatives will be progressed with the relevant organisations. Action plans will be drawn up to ensure key phases of the initiatives, milestones, monitoring and capturing impacts is in place.

Contracts will be drawn up and grants issued for activity to start early in 2021.

#### **6. Officer recommendations and reasons**

The Cabinet is asked to approve funding of £82,261 in total from the Place Partnership to deliver the above programmes.

Reasons for recommendation:

These programmes have been developed through both local members and partners knowledge of their communities, data and insight. The more recent effects of Covid 19 and lockdown has had an adverse impact, right across community mental health. As Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw communities begin to rebuild and move on, people presenting with mental health issues is going to be challenge. Providing them with support, knowledge and specific opportunities, will reduce risk to both the individuals and the groups and provide the most appropriate help at the right time.

#### **7. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations**

The Cabinet Portfolio Holder, Councillor Cathy Scott, supports the recommendations in this report and would ask Cabinet to approve funding of £82,261 from the Place Partnership mental health theme budget as outlined in section 6 of this report.

Reasons for the recommendation – to meet place partnerships agreed outcomes to support local providers to deliver a range of mental health support programmes that will help address mental health issues for the residents of Batley Birstall and Birkenshaw.

#### **8. Contact officer**

Ashley Fothergill, Active Citizens & Places Officer, Email: [Ashley.Fothergill@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:Ashley.Fothergill@kirklees.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01484 221000

#### **9. Background Papers and History of Decisions**

Annual Council 22nd May 2019 – item 7 Ward and Place Partnerships – establishment of place partnerships

#### **10. Service Director responsible**

Rachel Spencer- Henshall, Strategic Director Corporate Strategy, Commissioning & Public Health, email [rachel.spencer-henshall@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.spencer-henshall@kirklees.gov.uk)