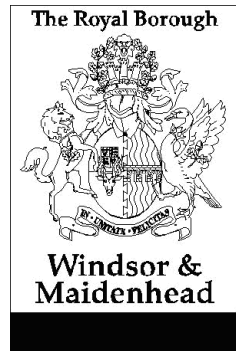


Report for: *INFORMATION*



Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	<i>NO - Part I</i>
Title	Progress on Big Society Projects
Responsible Officer(s)	Russell O'Keefe, Strategic Director Corporate and Community Services
Contact officer, job title and phone number	Kevin Mist, Head of Community Services and Economic Development
Member reporting	Cllr. Christine Bateson, Chair of Big Society Panel
For Consideration By	Big Society Panel
Date to be Considered	24 March 2016
Implementation Date if Not Called In	N/A
Affected Wards	All

REPORT SUMMARY

1. This report provides an overall summary of progress being made on the RBWM Big Society projects.
2. Appendix A is presented in a new format with a column identifying actions since the last meeting and another identifying current actions/ next steps.
3. Key milestones, formerly presented as Appendix B, have been incorporated into Appendix A.
4. The report recommends that the progress on the current Big Society projects should be noted and that a report to the next Panel on the forward plan should address future reporting arrangements.
5. These recommendations are being made to ensure that the Big Society projects are progressed as timetabled.
6. Nine projects are marked as on track. Two projects are marked amber indicating slippage against the original timetable. These are: Pledgebank, and Member Budgets.

If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit?

Benefits to residents and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which residents can expect to notice a difference
RBWM has developed this suite of projects to support the commitment to being a vanguard for the Big Society. The	The projects have different

successful implementation of these projects will help to promote and enable a more active role for local residents within the Borough.

implementation dates – please see Appendix B for details.

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION :

- i) **That Members should note and comment on the progress of projects.**
- ii) **That a report to the next Big Society Panel on the forward plan should address future reporting arrangements.**

2. Reason for Recommendation(s) and Options Considered

- 2.1 The recommendation is intended to ensure that Big Society Projects are on track and being delivered.
- Appendix A provides an update on progress against the Big Society projects since the last Panel meeting on 27 January 2016. Nine are marked as on track. Two projects Member Budgets and Pledgebank have been marked as Amber meaning that there has been slippage against the original timetable.
- 2.2 The format of Appendix A has been changed to meet Members' request for an additional column highlighting actions since the last meeting. A further column has been added indicating current actions and next steps. Key milestones, formerly presented as Appendix B have been incorporated into Appendix A.
- 2.3 The new presentation highlights that several of the 'projects' currently reported to the Big Society Panel on a regular basis have been running since the Big Society Panel was established and are 'business as usual' rather than projects in the accepted since. Action is ongoing and repetitive and does not lend itself to reporting key milestones.
- 2.4 Members have requested that the next meeting of the Big Society Panel should consider a Forward Plan for the Panel. The next meeting of the Panel will need to consider new projects to be brought forward and a more appropriate way of reporting existing work streams.

The options considered are:

Option	Comments
The Panel notes the progress of the Big Society projects. This is the recommended option.	The attached appendices provide details to Members on the Big Society suite of projects.
Officers do not provide updates on Big Society projects. This is not a recommended option.	Members would be unable to assess progress and ensure objectives are being met.

3. Key Implications

Defined Outcomes	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date they should be delivered by
Projects are on track to meet defined objectives.	< 12	12	12 with one or more projects having exceeded targets or delivered ahead of schedule.	12 with two or more projects having exceeded targets or delivered ahead of schedule.	Specific targets and the dates by which they should be achieved are identified in Appendix A.

4. Financial Details

Financial impact on the budget

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5. Legal

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. When the individual projects have required legal advice, this has been provided.

6. Value for Money

The cost of the various projects will differ but, all projects are designed with due regard to value for money considerations.

7. Sustainability Impact Appraisal

A number of the Big Society projects will contribute to the Council's environmental sustainability. Adopt a Street will increase recycling rates and contribute to keeping the environment of the Royal Borough free of litter and detritus. Finally, through Neighbourhood Participatory Budgeting and Greenredeem there is an opportunity for community renewable projects to receive funding.

8. Risk Management

Please see key risks identified in Appendix A – status grid.

9. Links to Strategic Objectives

All of RBWM's strategic objectives link to the Big Society projects:

Residents First

- Support Children and Young People

- Improve the Environment, Economy and Transport
- Work for safer and stronger communities

Value for Money

- Deliver Economic Services
- Improve the use of technology

Delivering Together

- Enhanced Customer Services
- Deliver Effective Services
- Strengthen Partnerships

Equipping Ourselves for the Future

- Equipping Our Workforce
- Changing Our Culture

10. Equalities, Human Rights and Community Cohesion

In line with RBWM’s comprehensive equality policy, any new projects, or changes to policy will require completion of an EQIA. It is the responsibility of each project manager to ensure these have been completed.

11. Staffing/Workforce and Accommodation implications – None

12. Property and Assets – None

13. Any other implications – None

14. Consultation - None

15. Timetable for Implementation

Varies for different projects

16. Appendices

Appendix A – RBWM Big Society Projects Status Grid

17. Background Information - none

18. Consultation (Mandatory)

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent	Date received	See comments in paragraph:
Internal				
Russel O’Keefe	Strategic Director Corporate and Community Services	15/03/16	15/03/16	
Kevin Mist	Head of Communities and Economic			

	Development			
Cllr Bateson	Chair of Big Society Panel	15/03/16	16/03/16	
Cllr Burbage	Leader of the Council	15/03/16		.

Report History

Decision type:		Urgency item?	
For information		No	
Full name of report author	Job title	Full contact no:	
Andrew Green	Community Partnerships Co-Ordinator	01628 682940	

Appendix A: RBWM Big Society Projects - Status Grid for the Big Society Panel on 24 March 2016

Project	Status RAG ¹	Progress Since Last Meeting	Current Actions and Next Steps	Performance against SMART objectives	Key Risks/ Issues/ Barriers
<p>1) Devolution to Parishes</p> <p>Lead: Ben Smith</p>	G		A report on the Delivering Differently programme will be considered by Cabinet on 31 st March.	<p>Completion of the feasibility study by March 2016.</p> <p>2016/17 objectives to be identified in the forward plan.</p>	The project is dependent on the degree of parish interest – this will be mitigated by regular meetings with parishes and continued communication.
<p>2) Adopt a Street/ Adopt A Highway</p> <p>Lead: Kevin Mist/ Harjit Hunjan</p>	G	<p>A further school, St Mary's Roman Catholic School, Maidenhead signed up to the scheme.</p> <p>A group from Cookham Dean WI signed up to the scheme.</p> <p>The 'Clean for the Queen' initiative was promoted to all councillors and community clear ups subsequently took place in Eton Wick, Clewer and Cookham Dean.</p>	<p>Adopt A Street is well established and operates on a 'Business as Usual' basis.</p> <p>Ongoing actions to maintain and support existing volunteers and increase participation by residents, schools, businesses and community groups.</p>	<p>The target for Adopt A Street to recruit 1100 Adopt A Street Volunteers by March 2016.</p> <p>The number of Adopt A Street volunteers has increased from 1067 to 1093 since the last meeting.</p>	<p>A marketing plan is in place aimed at ensuring sustainable interest and support for current and new schemes.</p> <p>The key barriers to the Adopt A Highway element is identifying suitable stretches of highway based on need and securing the commitment of local employers to adopt the stretch of highway.</p>

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Green	All milestones have been achieved and original timetable has been met.
Amber	The project is still progressing; however there has been some slippage in relation to the original timescales set.
Red	Progress has stopped, and there are significant delays in relation to the original timetable.

3) Participatory Budgeting Lead: David Scott/ Andrew Scott	G				
a) Neighbourhood Budgets	G	<p>The fourth round of voting held in Dec - Feb 2016 was completed in February. A total of 1252 votes were cast.</p> <p>Members allocated £6,000, between three projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Friends: providing support for families facing difficulties across the Royal Borough were awarded £2,000 • Refurbishment of Sunninghill Guide Hut were awarded £2,000 • Children’s FunFest for those with disabilities and learning difficulties were awarded £2,000. 	<p>A new round of voting commenced on the 20 February 2016 and will run until 13 April 2016.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Cabinet Participatory Budgeting Sub Committee will take place on 20 April 2016.</p>	<p>At least 90% of Neighbourhood Budget to be distributed to local projects according to public vote by March 2016.</p>	<p>Officers have continued to market and promote the Neighbourhood Budget scheme to maintain the level of voting and encourage more projects to come forward.</p>
b) Greenredeem PB scheme (formerly Recyclebank)	G		<p>The third round of voting began on 1 January 2016 and will end on 31 March 2016. Twenty four groups are taking part in the third round and, so far, 995,859 Greenredeem points have</p>	<p>At least 90% of the budget to be distributed to local causes determined by residents by March 2016.</p>	<p>Officers are working with Greenredeem to ensure that the new scheme works effectively.</p>

			<p>been donated. The top 5 groups are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Berkshire Downs Syndrome Support Group Summer Camp • Refurbishment of Sunninghill Guide Hut • Indoor Hockey Equipment - The Marist Schools • The Dash Charity - Domestic Abuse Assistance • Windsor Horse Rangers equestrian mirrors 		
c) Member Budgets	A	<p>45 Councillors have spent all of their funds. A total of £33,750 has been donated during the 2015/16 financial year. The remaining £9,000 has been carried forward to 2016/17.</p> <p>Some of the 12 Members that have not spent their budget in 2015/16 have provided details of the projects that they will be supporting in 2016/17.</p>		By 31 March 2016 57 Royal Borough Councillors to have accessed member funding or have identified projects to enable funding to be carried over to 2015/16.	

d) Youth Participatory Budgeting	G	None – the programme is delivered in two tranches and both have been completed for the current year,	Dates to be agreed for the 2016/17 programme.		
4) Transparency Lead: David Scott/ Andrew Scott	G	None specific.	The Transparency page is being continually updated and refreshed. Information has been added to this page or current content updated in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's (DCLG) Transparency code. The Officers are working towards meeting all the requirements specified within the code. Work with FOI's is continuing.	The 2015/16 targets was to ensure that hits on the Transparency page average at least 125 per month for 2014/15.	Risk of not knowing what else residents want to see. Ensuring that the Council makes sufficient progress in meeting the requirements on the standards for publishing information.
5) Ways into Volunteering Lead: Kevin Mist/ Harjit Hunjan	G	A meeting of the Officer Volunteer Group took place on 9 March 2016.		The target for volunteers supporting Council services by March 2016 was 4000 volunteers. There are currently 4125 volunteers supporting Council services – so the 2015/16 target has been met and exceeded.	None Identified

		16 new opportunities have been added to the WAM Get Involved Web site since the January meeting. 8 opportunities have been removed in this timeframe.	There are 175 volunteering opportunities from 92 organisations advertised on the WAM Get Involved website. There are 256 voluntary groups listed on the site.		
6) Recruitment to Parishes Lead: Kevin Mist	G	None	The report on the Forward Programme to be prepared for the May 2016 Big Society Panel will review and clarify objectives for this project.	The target for 2015/16 was to secure contested elections for at least 50% of casual vacancies.	Parish Councils are independent, autonomous organisations. The Council can seek to support and influence parish councils but has no direct control over the outcome.
7) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Lead: Kevin Mist/ Harjit Hunjan	G	Ward Councillors have been asked to nominate areas for an extension of the good business neighbour scheme. There have been expressions of interest from Windsor and Ascot.	Continuing to build on existing RBWM relationships and to develop new links with employers in RBWM.	By March 2016, 10 new employer contacts (through correspondence and contacts).	The key risk is failing to secure employer involvement.
8) Bright Idea Challenge Prize Lead: Kevin Mist/ Harjit Hunjan					
Bright Idea Competition a) 2015/16 Competition	G	The final meeting of the judging panel took place 9 February 2016. An Award Event took place at Windsor, Guildhall on 10 March 2016. There is a full report on	Project Plans to be agreed for implementation of each of the 2015/16 Projects. Planning for the 2016/17 competition to begin June 2016 (Launch September 2016).		The key risk is committing to projects that may be difficult to deliver. There have been changes to the 2015/16 competition to engage more fully with contestants at the judging stage and emphasise delivery of projects rather than just coming up with an idea.

		delivery of the 2015/16 Bright Idea Competition elsewhere on the agenda.			
b) 2014/15 Competition	G	<p>Leihomma/ Substitute Grandmother (Winning 2014 Idea) There has been a further intergenerational pilot: 5 parents and children visited a care home and had a session focused on reading and singing.</p> <p>Cycle Project (2014 Junior Winner) Arrangements have been finalised for a cycle event during the May half term holiday.</p> <p>Ball Dispenser : Officers are discussing the concept of a simple vending machine that will dispense balls. With Parkwood Leisure and will report back with full details of the project and ongoing associated costs to a future meeting.</p>	<p>The next step now is to evaluate the model of the sessions and look at introducing sessions in the Maidenhead Hub.</p> <p>A cycle programme for up to 12 young people covering aspects of cycling in the borough, bike marking and maintenance and finish with a ride will take place 1 June. First refusal will go the students of Claires Court who put forward the Bright Idea.</p>		
9) Start Your Own Business Lead: Kevin Mist/ Harjit Hunjan	G	<p>A course supported by Housing Solutions took place in January 2016.</p> <p>A Business Start Up 'taster'</p>	A further course, to be delivered by RBWM.	50 participants to be recruited onto the programme by April 2016.	The future of the programme is dependent on confirmation of future funding.

		day took place at the Town Hall on 15 March.			
10) Pledgebank Lead: David Scott/ Andrew Scott	A	None specific	Unfortunately there are no active pledges. Marketing and advertising is continuing through the use of social media.	The target was for 3 new pledges to be made by April 2016.	The scheme will need to be effectively promoted by all means available to ensure that there is sufficient uptake to justify expenditure.
11) Developing Social Enterprise Lead: Kevin Mist/ Harjit Hunjan	G	Six applications for social enterprise funding have been received since the last Big Society Panel meeting in January 2016. There is a detailed report on the applications currently under consideration elsewhere on the agenda.	Determine the outstanding applications and undertake appropriate financial checks. Agree specifications, outcomes and appropriate monitoring arrangements for each of the successful organisations. Draft agreements and arrange payment as appropriate. Receive and progress further applications. At least one further application is expected April 2017.	The target for 2015/16 was to secure 5 new social enterprise applications by April 2016. This has been met and will be exceeded.	A key risk is failure to attract sufficient applications. Currently working with Communications Team to promote the scheme. There is risk is that the applications that come forward may not be investable or meet the required criteria. Officers will work with and through WAM Get Involved to promote the scheme across the voluntary sector and link to appropriate training and support.
12) Loneliness Project Lead: Kevin Mist/ Harjit Hunjan	G	To be reported at alternate meetings. A report will be delivered to the next Big Society Panel.	A further meeting of the Loneliness Group has been arranged for 27 April and will consider the Community Minded Town' scheme proposed at the last meeting.		

