



**STOCKWOOD, HENGROVE & WHITCHURCH PARK  
NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP  
15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017**

**Title:** Future NP Arrangements (Community Led Action & Decision Making)

**Report author:** Ariaf Hussain – Neighbourhood Partnership Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Partnership notes the content of the report

**Background**

Bristol City Council's Full Council meeting on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February agreed a one year budget that approved a series of financial savings across the City Council. These savings included an element of financial savings relating to the management of Neighbourhood Partnerships and the members of staff supporting the NP structures across the city of Bristol.

The financial savings agreed by Full Council were:

2017/18 - £500,000

2018/19 - No savings

2019/20 - £562,000

As a result of these savings the following measures have been put in place:

- A spending freeze on the **current** Wellbeing Fund
- A spending freeze on the Clean and Green Fund
- A spending freeze on local Highways schemes (not S106/CIL funded schemes)
- Staffing savings across the Neighbourhood Management Service

**Interim and transitory arrangements**

Over the coming months all Neighbourhood Partnerships are discussing and exploring if there is a way of sustaining and may be even building on the experiences, knowledge and community action throughout the life their respective Partnerships.

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017 a city wide event hosted by the organisation

Locality brought together representatives from all fourteen Partnerships along with representatives from the voluntary and community sector. The event highlighted different models for local decision making and greater neighbourhood participation in the design and delivery of local statutory services.

Further work and conversations will explore areas such as:

- a) Using the scheduled NP or forum meetings to explore ideas, make links with groups and activists who may not be involved at present and learn from others about what they do.
- b) Developing a full picture of the assets and resources locally and working out if there's scope to make better use of them.
- c) Agreeing the things that are most important for your area.
- d) Understanding the risks.
- e) Organising networking event/s to exchange ideas & learn from each other.
- f) Advice about organisational governance – do you need a constitution? What sort of organisation would work for you?
- g) Drawing up a plan for what needs to happen to get you to where you want to be.
- h) Identifying what help and support you need to get there (this might be help with room hire costs for a given period, access to fundraising advice or having the right connection with the city council).

### **Devolved budgets**

Work is taking place within the Council to develop a process to help make the best use of the city's existing Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), Section 106 (S106) and a reduced Wellbeing fund.

### **Questions for the Partnership?**

1. Is there a need for residents, groups and statutory/voluntary service providers to work in partnership at a local (or ward level)?
2. Is there a desire for the current Neighbourhood Partnership to continue across all three wards?
3. Can the current Partnership or a new model/s be self-sufficient? For example, cover meeting room costs, manage publicity etc?