



OUR PLACE PROGRAMME

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 82/14

13 OCTOBER 2014

The purpose of this paper is to report progress with the programme since the last meeting of the Town Council on 8 September 2014.

No. DETAIL

1) CONTEXT

- a) Our draft Operational Plan is due to be submitted by 21 November for the Peer Review Stage.
 - b) The two areas chosen by Locality to review our Operational Plan are Scarborough Borough Council and Test Valley Borough Council. The two areas selected for us to review are Test Valley Borough Council and Communities for Kids CIC in Tameside, Greater Manchester.
 - c) Work on the draft will continue during the Peer Review stage that ends in early January.
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2) SEMINARS

- a) Two more Seminars have been held since the last Town Council meeting in the programme of engagement between Agencies delivering services in the town and the residents' Vision Group members.
 - b) The first was as at St Catherine's Church from 6pm – 8pm on Thursday 18 September for a round table discussion chaired by the Mayor and based on contributions from Steph Boyd, the Island Free School's Headteacher, Angela Hewkin, Headteacher of St Francis Primary School, the Practice Managers of both local GP Surgeries - Catherine Wright of Ventnor Medical Centre and Mike Jukes of Grove Road Surgery - and Children Centre's Kathy Whitewood.
 - c) This was followed a week later in a room provided free to us by the Island Free School to hear presentations from Mark Howell, the Isle of Wight Council's Head of Adult Social Care & Community Wellbeing, Southern Housing Group's Regional Director Paul Cotton and the Isle of Wight Council's Head of Benefits Ian Lloyd.
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3) VISION GROUPS

- a) There have been two rounds of Vision Group meetings since the last Town Council meeting.
 - b) The first had the challenging task of applying the Logic Models developed for each group by our Economic Development Officer Nicky Cox as required by the programme to the specific projects each Group identified for inclusion in the Operational Plan.
 - c) The Groups' Co-ordinators then met with the Town Council's team leading the programme – Jason Mack, Nicky Cox and David Bartlett – to assess and respond to the outcomes from those meetings.
 - d) Their unanimous decision was to initiate a further round of Meetings with Nicky Cox to clarify the projects they were identifying, the Agencies they would need to meet with and the information and resources they would require for the projects to be sufficiently developed for inclusion in the draft Operational Plan.
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4) RESOURCE MAPPING

- a) Two of the five core elements of the Our Place programme are Service Definition and Resource Mapping: it is important that everyone involved, Agencies and residents, have as full a picture as possible of the resources already available within the town.
 - b) Last week 10 of the major Agencies have been asked to provide a list of each of their separate services delivered within Ventnor including where relevant details of the venues, frequencies and times within which they are available in the town.
 - c) Each Agency is also being asked to provide a calculation of the financial and human resources supporting those services.
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- d) Recognising the scale of the task in identifying Ventnor-specific information from among their Island-wide provision and the staff time involved, a financial contribution to those costs was included in the funding application for this stage of the programme: each has been offered a contribution of £750 towards these tasks.
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5) JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- a) In a particularly promising development, the Director of Public Health, Anita Cameron-Smith, responded very positively to our request to consider developing a Ventnor-specific Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).
 - b) It is a statutory requirement for each local authority to produce a JSNA on a partnership basis between Public Health, the NHS Trust and the Isle of Wight Council. It was the publication of the Island on in 2011 that contributed fundamentally to the Town Council's strategic direction since then.
 - c) A Ventnor-specific edition will provide the best possible insight into the issues facing the town in responding to the deprivation within it and because it would be updated annually, it would also provide clear indicators for direction of travel.
 - d) Work on this has begun and again we have been able to offer a financial contribution to the additional staff time that will be necessary to make it possible.
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6) CONSULTANTS

- a) The programme also makes available to the town five days of free consultancy time from Consultants selected by us.
 - b) We have already identified two days of input from that resource: one from a Partner in Anthony Collins Solicitors to provide legal advice on the structure for future joint working between residents and Agencies and the other from a Professor at Sheffield Hallam University who is the leading expert on the challenges faced by Seaside Towns.
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7) BREAKING NEW GROUND

- a) We were informed on 3 October that our proposals for the *Breaking New Ground* element of the Our Place Programme, the supporting £13,000 funded budget for implementing them and our intended use of the available 3½ days free consultancy have all been accepted by *Locality*, the national organisation leading the Our Place programme on behalf of the DCLG.
 - b) The Consultancy time for this stage is identified by us with the actual Consultants then being chosen by Locality.
 - c) The two skill areas we have identified as valuable for the Breaking New Ground proposals are those of a Data Analyst and a Public Sector IT Strategist.
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8) CHAMPIONS NETWORK

Ventnor has also now been accepted into the programme's Champions Network, an arrangement for sharing information and advice between and within the 120 areas involved in the Our Place programme.
