



OUR PLACE!

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 11/14

10 FEBRUARY 2014

The purpose of this report is to provide the background to the Town Council's engagement with the Our Place! programme and to ask the Town Council to formally support an application to it.

No. DETAIL

1) BACKGROUND

- a) *Our Place!* (the '!' is part of the brand!) is the second stage of a Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) programme originally run as 12 pilots under the heading *Neighbourhood Community Budgets*. Two of the pilots were Town Councils.
- b) Its second stage involves the roll out of the approach deployed by the pilots, enhanced by their experience, through the involvement of a further 160 areas supported by a £4.3M budget providing a combination of funding and consultancy to the selected areas.
- c) These areas will each commit to the production of an Operational Plan by 31 March 2015 to address the challenges of their areas as identified by and with the town's communities.
- d) The Mayor and Town Clerk attended a DCLG seminar on the programme in Birmingham last September and expressed an interest in the town joining the programme.
- e) That interest was progressed in a visit to Ventnor to meet with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and staff team by the programme's DCLG lead officer, Camilla Sheldon and her colleague Jennifer Craft, on 23 January.
- f) A short presentation on the programme was given at the Annual Consultation Event at St Francis Primary School on 27 January, a copy of which is attached to this report.

2) APPLICATION PROCESS

- a) The application process for this stage of the programme is now open and closes when the selectors find 160 suitable applicants.
- b) Successful applicants are then required to submit a Development Plan by 9 May 2014 on the basis of which the 160 will be reduced to 120 for the full process.
- c) The Town Clerk and Economic Development Worker are making good progress with the completion of the on-line application form

3) SUPPORT

- a) A grant of £3,000 and some free consultancy is available to each of the selected 160 for the preparation of their Development Plans.
- b) A further grant of £10,000 and more free consultancy is available to the 120 selected for the next stage with the possibility of more funding: £5000-£7,500 *Going Further Grants* and £20,000 *Breaking New Ground* grants.

4) RECOMMENDATION

The Town Council is recommended to endorse a formal application to the Our Place! programme.

Our Place!





***Our
Place!***



Approach creates...

...more powerful communities...

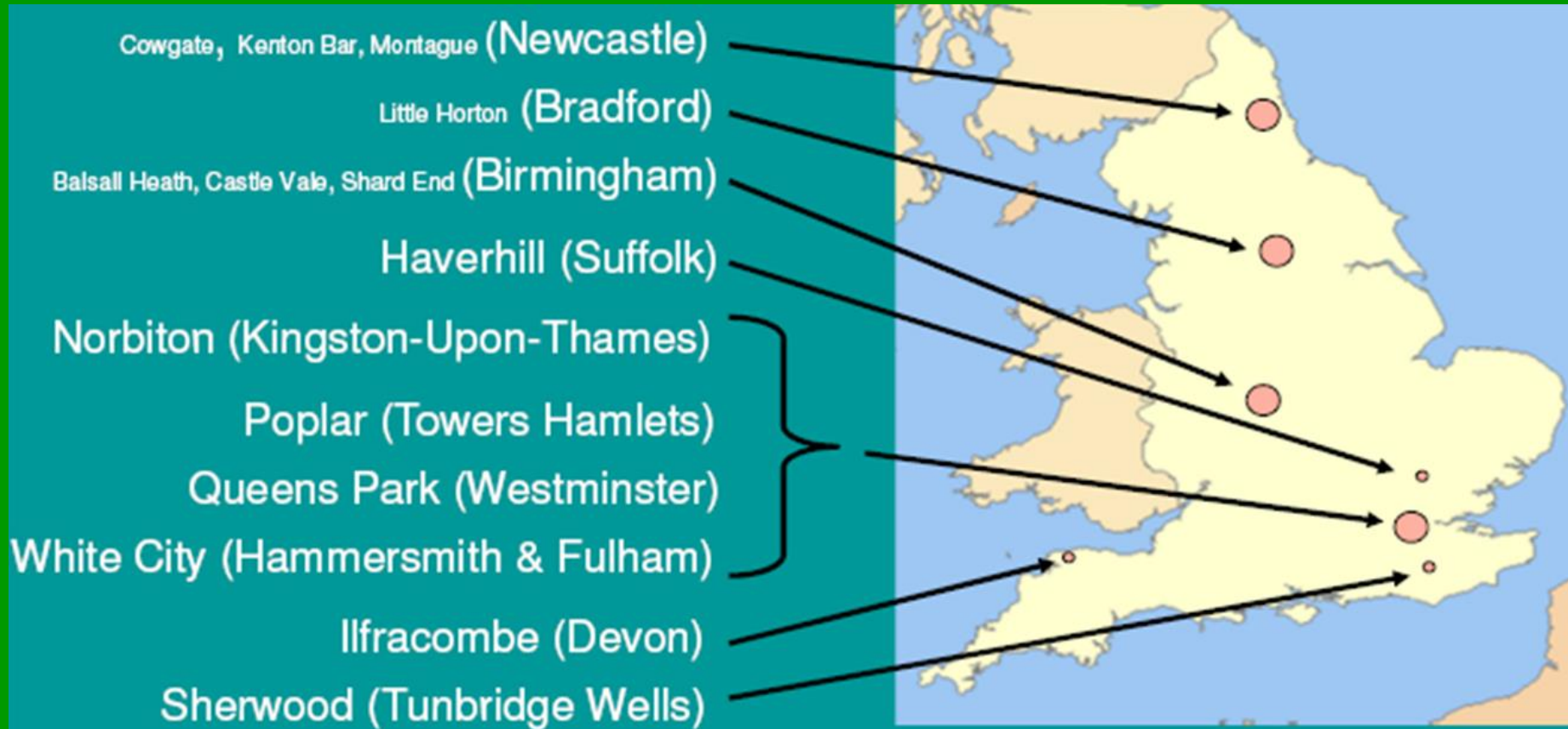
...better, more efficient services

...and stretches neighbourhood spend...



Evidence:

12 Pilots...





**Neighbourhood Community Budget
pilot (Ilfracombe)**
Final Operational Plan



March 2013

Ilfracombe is a small town with a population of approximately 12,500 situated on the North Devon coast. The town is relatively isolated, being 13 miles from the district capital of Barnstaple.

The increased popularity of overseas holidays compounded by the loss of its major rail and sea transport links resulted in general decline as a major tourist resort over the past 50 years.

The decline in tourism and creation of cheap rental accommodation made available from economically obsolete large Victorian properties, has contributed to acute economic problems. The cumulative effect has resulted in pockets of deprivation.

The resultant decline in the fortunes of the town has adversely impacted upon ... health, access to education and employment opportunities. Even the economically active in the community feel a sense of frustration ... There is a regular call for the council to do more and smarten up the town.

In addition, local government and health and emergency services face cuts in funding. Demographic and social changes such as the local ageing population and increasing numbers of people with long-term health conditions means that more people are going to need help and support. New ways of working are needed if inequalities in health and wellbeing are to be addressed





Date	Event	Comment
Feb	Application	First come/first served
Feb	Getting Ready Grants	£3,000 for each of selected c£160 areas
9 May	Submit Development Strategy	160 reduced to 120
June	Getting Going Grants	£10,000 each
Sept	Going Further Grants	£5,000-£7,500 each
Oct	Breaking New Ground Grants	£20,000 for selected
25 Nov	Draft Plan for peer review	
12 Jan	Peer review ends	
20 Feb	Final Operational Plan	Submitted to Locality
10 Mar	Final Operational Plan	Submitted to DCLG
31 Mar	Final Operational Plan	Signed off by DCLG

