

## Community Initiatives FPG Meeting Minutes

**Time and Place:** 14:30-16:00, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019, Lord Mayors Reception Room, City Hall

**Present:** Fiona Gilmour, Ryan Munn, Diane Bunyan, Joanna Holmes, Sado Jirde, Toby Howkins, Steve Sayers, Sandra Meadows, Tom Renhard, Sue Turner

**Attendees:** Taylor Meagher, Di Robinson, Ed Rowberry, Finlay Boyter

**Apologies:** Ronnie Brown, Tim Temple

1. **Welcome & apologies**
2. **Agreeing Terms of Reference**

Di talked through the proposed outcomes she has drafted and opened it for group discussion.

Agreed to change “communities of interest” to “least advantaged” or similar wording.

- With local knowledge we will know the interest at the time so we won't have to constantly update the ToR.
- Racially, there is significant disparity, but we aren't clear in language.
- Equalities are a complex issue, national evidence shows disabled people being in a very poor position.
- We need to be explicit, the outcomes fit well with the One City Plan.
- A healthy community needs; good jobs, a social fabric that supports them, and good homes. The outcomes cover this well.
- We are connected with the Mayor's Asset Group, the outcomes need to cover assets for other initiatives i.e. not just community led housing/homes. We can't help everyone, but need to have plans in place for those who fall outside of the priority group(s). We need to understand where the need is at a local level, there are clear research pieces on disadvantage but what criteria are we going to use to assess disadvantage and agree priorities?
- We need to be explicit and focus on helping certain people. City Funds is a big piece of work, but the FPGs need a focus.
- If there is a focus on particular areas of interest we need to justify it and applicants will need to justify themselves why they should receive funding/support.
- We need to connect well with all marginalised groups.

**Action: Di R to reshape outcome 2 to be explicit but not exclusionary, and no. 3 into community asset ownership including examples. Taylor to share with the group.**

In the Investment Policy they are discussing profit for purpose, we don't want to fund things that profit from society. Sue- the specific criteria will sit under the ToR and will have grant/investment guidelines.

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed after 1 year.

### **3. Proposed Theory of Change**

We are trying to get a common format for the FPG ToC's. We want an agreed set of wording and focus.

- We need to discuss issues from the OCP (One City Plan) such as strengthening communities. We want to encourage a new business model, not be grant dependent.
- We want to build resilient communities, regardless of the status of central government.
- City Funds isn't fixing austerity; it's supporting the resilience of communities.
- We have to be careful around grant dependent narrative, there are things you can't fix with social investment.
- Does fragmented and disempowered describe it on the ground? Communities aren't at the centre of networks, is that part of the challenge?
- How do we have a new relationship with communities outside of the centre?
- Mentioned a "Community Paradigm" paper. We need to manage the relationship, which the council's corporate strategy outlines.
- The city is growing and getting richer, but from the disparity in equality.
- People are more isolated than in the past.

### **4. Feedback on discussion re BCC Impact Fund/City Funds**

Penny and Ed discussed the relationship between Impact Fund and City Funds. The Impact Fund will end in 2021; BCC's intention is for it to go to Cabinet in June 2020. They are starting the conversation internally and exploring options. Discussion on alignment between the small grants (up to 10K) they have received that are ready to use in October. Sharing the stories of the grants and how they can link under the One City Approach.

### **5. Update on research brief – postponed**

### **6. Declarations of interest**

### **7. Minutes and actions from last meeting**

Agreement from group as minutes being accurate. Actions carried forward:

- Action: Di to create a diagram of the structure of the One City Approach/City Funds and how it all fits together. Including place based/ communities of interest. **Carried forward.**
- Action: Ed to speak to Sandra about Voscur's input for networking and community consultation. **Carried forward.**
- Action: Ryan to bring back the final metrics list to the next meeting. **Carried forward.**

- Action: Taylor to circulate the thinking on transformational change for people to provide comments on. **Fit into the ToC but carried forward.**
- Action: Ryan to draft a brief with Sado, Di, and Diane and bring back to the next FPG. **Carried forward.**
- Action: Di to frame the AOB section into a work plan/ risk assessment. **Carried forward.**

## **8. AOB**

**Action: Taylor to share the framework Ryan showed the group.**

Marius Jennings is working on metrics so we should feed into this and work with him.

Investment Decision Making:

No formal connection whatsoever between the Funding Priority Groups for City Funds (the concept) and City Funds (the fund). However, City Funds will have regard in making investments to the stated Funding Priorities of City Funds.

There will be no advisory role regarding investments from the FPGs to the Fund. However, The FPG's stated priorities would be public realm under the City Funds umbrella and so accessible to the investment functions of City Funds.

Promotion of City Funds:

FPG members cannot promote City Funds to prospective investors to come in alongside BCC and BSC, as this function needs to be carried out by regulated persons.

FPG members may promote the fund to prospective recipients so long as they fall short of arranging deals in investments/making arrangements with a view to that, which would take them in to regulated territory. In other words, the facts of the existence of the Fund and its investment criteria can be promoted. However, FPG members cannot fall into the realm of "financial promotion" activity - but this will be avoided if they merely publicise the existence of the Fund in a generic way.

We need to discuss grant guidelines within this group.

**Action: Taylor to share legal document from Ed on promoting City Funds and BBRC.**

Sado mentioned a BSWN event on 29<sup>th</sup> May BSWN. Contact her for more info.

## **9. Next meeting date**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019 from 1200-1330.