

WYCAS 10th Birthday Event

13th October 2010

“Best Value & the Voluntary Sector”

Working Together - Delivering Value

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Presentation contents

- A bit of context – about Bradford, and our joint-working approach



- An environment for a Thriving Sector
- Commissioning in Bradford District
- Changing landscape & the opportunities for VCS

Bradford as a Place

- 501,700 people live in Bradford District – fourth largest district in England
- Only a third is built up. Much is undisturbed countryside
- Population concentrated in urban centres of Bradford, Shipley, Bingley, Keighley and Ilkley
- Large economy worth £7.5 million & predicted to grow
- 32nd most deprived district on IMD.
- The gap between the most wealthy and the least is the largest in the country.

Ambitious Bradford

- Our Sustainable Community Strategy (the Big Plan) sets out 3 transformational priorities:

Regenerating the City & major towns

Improving Skills at all levels

Improving educational outcomes

- Developing the next Big Plan
- focus on the right things in the current climate



A thriving VCS

- **Harness the vitality of the VCS and the sector's ability to be:**

Capacity builders

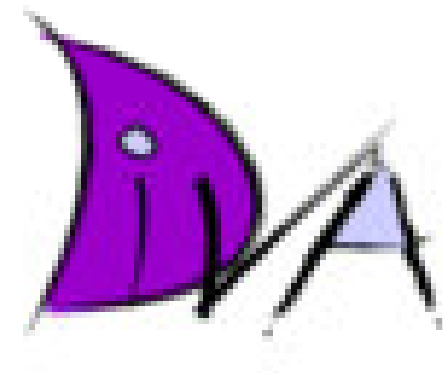
Fundraisers & entrepreneurs

Contributors to civic life & wellbeing

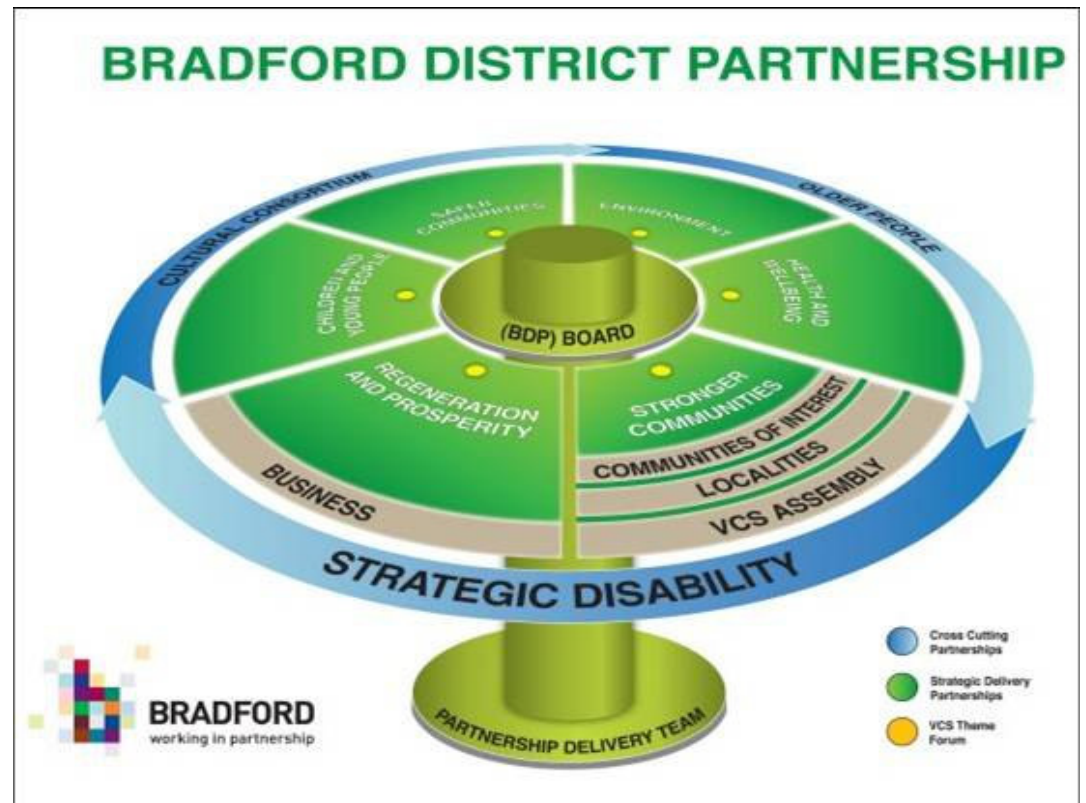
Contributors to policy development

Service deliverers

Representative role

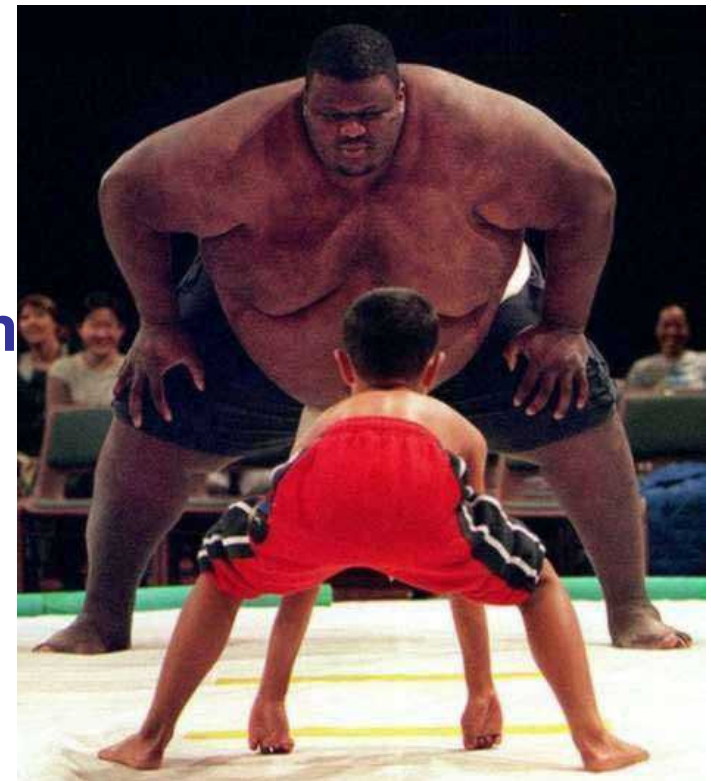


Bradford in Partnership – working together



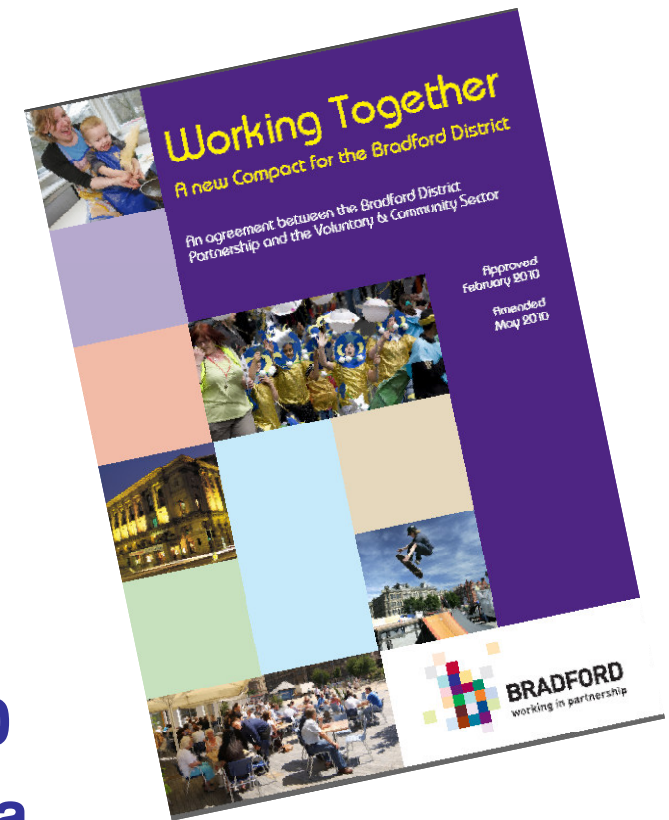
NI 7: environment for a thriving third sector

- Bradford VCS scores itself highly on this measure: 19% compared to national figure of 16.2% in 2009
- There is more to be done, but we are beginning to move away from impressions like this...



More than just statistics

- Third Sector Review & implementation
- Total Place pilot
- A new Compact for the District
- Multi agency Commissioning Forum
- Very active sector: employs 6,000 people, has 27,000 volunteers, & a turn-over of £100m



Commissioning Forum

- **Implementing the recommendations of the Third Sector Review:**
 - A clear framework in development for a consistent approach & to support the delivery of value for money
 - Eight Principles of Good Commissioning developed by the Cabinet Office and promoted by I&DeA adopted wherever appropriate

Commissioning Forum

- Spreading best practice about engaging with the sector & enabling access to infrastructure support
- Supporting the commissioned organisation to develop capacity to meet expectations & provide feedback on actual performance
- Relationship management – clear understanding of accountability & expectations
- Outputs are being achieved, & above all, improved outcomes are secured for our citizens.

Forum - Work in progress

- VCS wants commissioners to recognise indirect as well as direct costs when making funding allocations
- Commissioners want the VCS to recognise the Council & partners' obligation to consider VfM
- Commissioning Forum will help us collectively to consider funding formulas for indirect costs to ensure fairness and VfM



Bradford Meet the Buyer Events

- Changing landscape from grants to competitive tendering
- Building capacity of the VCS to get involved in tendering
- Act upon the valid concerns from potential bidders to reduce & simplify the bureaucracy

“The practical workshops were of immense benefit in demystifying the process and providing the opportunity for some ‘hands on’ experience” – event participant

The Changing Landscape

- Ending grants such as Working Neighbourhood Funds & LEGL in year
- CSR announcements on public spending cuts going forward
- Decentralisation & Localism Bill. NHS reform
- Welfare reform & impacts on our most vulnerable people
- Our partnership Executive leading on understanding the impact & local response. VCS representative on the Executive Group.
- **Delivering outcomes effectively & efficiently will be higher on the agenda than ever.**

Opportunities for VCS

- **Alternative ways to deliver services**
- **Help communities build resilience & encourage active citizenship**
- **Consortia for public funding procurement**
- **Rationalisation of VCS's own back office (facilities management; accountancy; payroll)**
- **Increased focus on contribution to the delivery of outcomes to communities and citizens**
- **Big Society & localism – VCS central to Government thinking**

Thank you!

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