

Report of: CLLD Programme Manager

**Report to: Inner South Community Committee – Beeston & Holbeck, Hunslet and
Riverside, Middleton Park.**

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Date: 4 March 2020 To note

Update on the Community Led Local Development programme in South Leeds

Purpose of report

1. To provide the Inner South Community Committee with an update on the progress of the Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme in South Leeds.

Introduction

2. The report outlines the progress of the Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme in South Leeds.
3. There will be an opportunity for questions from elected members and residents after the presentation.

Background

4. In 2017 Leeds was successful in securing over £3 million investment from the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) Programme to deliver Community Led Local Development (CLLD) in South Leeds. The investment comprises of £1.5m from the ESIF Programme, which requires £1.5m of match funding.

5. The CLLD Programme in Inner South is made up of two funds; the European Social Fund (ESF) is managed by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) is managed by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). ERDF supports projects that help to stimulate economic growth and create jobs and ESF supports projects that create employment and skills opportunities.
6. In 2016, before the submission of the final proposals for ESIF, a South Leeds Local Development Strategy was developed. This strategy was written by the Local Action Group (LAG) – a partnership of local residents, private, public and third sector representatives. The strategy sets out the area's economic issues, and potential opportunities, and what might be the best ways of tackling these at a local level. The Leeds South strategy focuses on three key groups of people, those being; workless families, people with disabilities, and sex workers.
7. The South Leeds CLLD area comprises of Beeston & Holbeck, Hunslet & Riverside, Middleton Park and a small area of Morley South. Participants in the project must target the bottom 20% Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) according to the 2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). Participants can also be from a bottom 30% LSOA area, but, if organisations which to include such participants, they must first submit a business case detailing why they wish to include them and how they will ensure that those from a bottom 20% LSOA area will be prioritised.
8. Organisations can apply for funding in response to calls which are published on the Leeds CLLD website – www.leeds.gov.uk/clld. Once an application has been received it is assessed by the CLLD Programme Team and appraised by the Local Action Group. Those projects that have been funded so far are listed later in the report.
9. On the South Leeds CLLD Programme we have allocated just under 20% of funds from ERDF to one project and nearly 80% of funds from ESF to four projects. More detail regarding the projects can be found below.

Update on Progress

10. The South Leeds Local Action Group (LAG) is made up of three resident representatives, four third sector representatives, two private sector members and two public sector members. The independent chair is Revd. Lindsey Pearson and the Community Committee representative is Cllr Andrew Scopes.
11. The role of the LAG is to progress the outputs and outcomes identified in the South Leeds Local Development Strategy, as well as to appraise, and approve or not, eligible bids from organisations and agencies wishing to contribute towards the achievement of these aims. They meet every six weeks to consider bids for funding, scrutinise governance and monitor budgetary issues ensuring adherence with ESIF conditions.
12. As the Community Committee representative on the LAG, Cllr Scopes has been an active and supportive member of the group; attending appraisal training sessions, as

well as undertaken appraisals of applications and regularly attending Local Action Group meetings.

ESF

13. We have four organisations that have been awarded ESF money in the South Leeds CLLD area. They are as follows:

Hamara:

The *Connected* project will help workless families with employment support in the South Leeds CLLD area. The aim of the project is to support people who face the most difficult challenges and barriers to work. The project will provide individuals with confidence building, taster sessions and volunteering opportunities so that they can effectively prepare for work.

Scope:

Scope were awarded funding to deliver their *Starting Line* project in the South Leeds CLLD area. *Starting Line* is a joined-up support package for disabled job-seekers furthest from the employment market. Their project focuses on a person's strengths and on removing barriers to employment and will provide highly personalised support.

Basis:

The *Employment for Sex workers* project aims to empower female sex workers with confidence, self-esteem, education, and training in order to prepare them for employment. Basis provide protection and support to female sex workers and those at risk of exploitation by offering choice, support and provide advice and information to the wider public to reduce stigma and discrimination.

Health for All:

Raising Aspirations is a new 'whole family approach' project for families in south Leeds. The project offers one to one support and a network of peer led groups for families who are facing barriers to employment, education and training, to help them progress into job search, employment, further training and enterprise.

14. **ERDF**

On the South Leeds CLLD Programme we have one project that has been awarded ERDF money. This project is run by Leeds City Council's economic development team:

LCC Economic Development:

The Creating and Sustaining Local Jobs in South Leeds project will focus on supporting existing small and medium sized businesses within the South Leeds CLLD area, removing barriers to help business growth, and assisting in the creation of new employment opportunities located in the target area.

All projects across all funds must be complete by March 2022.

Recommendations

15. The Inner South Community Committee is asked to note the contents of the report.

Appendix 1 – List of LSOA areas covered by the CLLD Programme in South Leeds