

Paper to Cheltenham Strategic Partnership

Feedback from the West End community cohesion/low carbon project

22 October 2009

Background

In June 2008, the CSP agreed to fund Cheltenham West End Partnership to carry out a community cohesion / low carbon project in the West End. As the project has now completed, I have invited Bernice Thomson to make a presentation to the meeting.

I have attached the original proposal as reference.

For further information, contact

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Policy and Partnerships Manager
Cheltenham Borough Council

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Commissioning Form 2008/09 Low Carbon Partnership / Stronger Communities Partnership

Name of accountable body for project	
Cheltenham West End Partnership	
Named contact for application	
Name: Bernice Thomson Position: Partnership Manager Contact Details: E-mail: cheltenhamregeneration@wwmail.co.uk Phone: 01242 692112	
Name of project A strong and resilient West End (Pilot project for Cheltenham)	
What is the total amount of money being applied for?	
£ 15,000	
Project/intervention timescale	
Start date: July 08	Finish date: June 09

<p>Brief outline of proposal (including; what are the outcomes of the project/intervention, who is it targeted at) Please show how you're engaging with other partners in particular the Voluntary and community Sector.</p>
<p>To run a twelve month pilot project in Cheltenham's West End aimed at creating an integrated and strong community where people from different backgrounds feel that they are part of a cohesive neighbourhood.</p> <p>In order to achieve this we will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employ a part time project worker. 2. Set up an inclusive and representative residents' forum. 3. Set up an inclusive and representative traders' forum. 4. Map the community and create a community profile. 5. Identify tensions and opportunities 6. Use specific issues and projects to increase community participation and identify community champions. <p>In order to ensure that this project is successful a cross-sector steering group will be put in place to monitor and evaluate the project's progress and provide support to Cheltenham West End Partnership in managing the project. There will be links with the Stronger Communities Partnership Integration and Cohesion Working Group to ensure that the project delivers against the Integration and Cohesion Action Plan.</p>

VCS and statutory sector organisations operating in the area will be invited to engage with the project either with the steering group, delivery or both. These are likely to include:

- Cheltenham VCA
- Vision 21 (Gloucestershire)
- Cheltenham Borough Council
- County Community Projects
- Library Service
- PCT
- Police
- Museum & Art Gallery
- Faith Groups
- Glos County Council
- Schools/Children's Centre
- University
- Gloucestershire College

Outcomes for the project will be:

- A community profile
- Identification of tensions and opportunities
- An active and representative residents forum
- An active and representative traders forum
- Increase in local volunteering
- Community Champions
- A model that can be rolled out across other parts of Cheltenham

How will this work support the principle of tackling inequalities and promoting cohesion?

Cheltenham's West End has the highest incidence of diverse communities in Cheltenham and it contains people from a range of different backgrounds, including Chinese, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Caribbean, African, Irish, Polish and other East European. The two wards within which the West End Partnership works are St Peters and St Pauls and they have a BME of 8.9% and 9.3% respectively compared with Cheltenham as a whole which has a BME of 6.5%.¹

We want to pilot a project that can benefit the widest possible range of different backgrounds and create a cohesive community where people feel integrated. This area creates a challenge which will provide a meaningful pilot providing transferable practice.

How will this work support the principle of promoting community engagement and participation?

The project is about engaging with a range of people from different backgrounds and enabling them to participate in:

- Identifying issues and solutions within their local area.
- Volunteering
- Improving their local area, socially and environmentally

¹ ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 February 2008] provided by Maiden.

How will this work support the principle of tackling climate change?
<p>The floods of summer 2007 highlighted the importance of strong and resilient communities in dealing with disasters. This project will contribute to the creation of a strong and resilient community in Cheltenham's West End.</p> <p>We know that strong communities are also low carbon communities and we need to realise the potential of building on the concept of localism not only in terms of giving communities more say in the decision-making process but also giving them the means of sustaining themselves in terms of employment, housing, food and energy supplies.</p> <p>We anticipate setting up some small projects aimed in particular at improving the built and natural environment, tackling waste & recycling and preventing fly-tipping. Where opportunities arise, issues around climate change will be raised and local people will be encouraged and supported to take measures that will help to reduce their own carbon footprint and improve their quality of life.</p>
How will this work be monitored/evaluated?
<p>A multi agency steering group will be set up and one role of this group will be to monitor and evaluate the project.</p> <p>Methods for carrying this out will be developed prior to the project start in July.</p>
How do you intend to sustain the outcomes you hope to achieve?
<p>By creating forums for residents and traders we will be able to continue supported community involvement beyond the life of this project.</p>

INCOME – for <u>this</u> project or service only	
Amount requested from this fund	£15,000
Income from other sources (please state the source e.g. sales, contracts, in-kind contributions)* * please put brackets round funding that has not yet been confirmed	CWEP will provide office accommodation and IT to support the project. Steering group members will provide their time free of charge.
TOTAL Partners (6X 2 hr mtgs @ £20/hr X 6 members of steering group) = £1440	CWEP estimated = £3500 £4940

How will you spend the grant?		
	Total spend	Grant requested
Equipment or materials (<i>please specify</i>) IT, photocopying, etc	1,000	0
Staff expenses (salary 16 hrs/wk + on costs)	12,000	12,000
Room hire/rent or other overheads (<i>please specify</i>) office rent	2,000	0
meetings & events for residents	2,000	1,500
Other (<i>please specify</i>)		
Management (10%)	1,500	1,500
Steering Group attendance	1,440	
TOTAL	£19,940	£15,000

Are you signed up to the Gloucestershire Compact? If not, are you willing to consider it?

No/Yes

This will be discussed at the next meeting of the CWEP Board.

Signed by applicant:

Name: Bernice Thomson
Position: Partnership Manager

Date: 20/5/08

For administration use

Application: Successful Rejected
(please circle/delete) Give brief reasons for rejecting the application
Amount agreed and start date...