



## Leigh Neighbours Project

### Community Plan 2018 – 2021



Local Trust | Big Local



LOTTERY FUNDED

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## **SECTION ONE: Context**

### Background

The Leigh Neighbours Project is one of 150 Big Local areas across the country. Big Local is a programme aimed at communities which had not previously benefitted from lottery funding. The programme differs from traditional grant schemes in that it places the responsibility with local residents for the identification and allocation of funds for community priorities, bypassing local authority officers and Council control.

Leigh was identified as a potential beneficiary for funding when lottery officers saw the development work which had been completed locally using Department for Communities and Local Government 'Connecting Communities' grant funds.

Seed funding from Big Local allowed the first stages of the Big Local process (E.g. Consultation with local residents, the formation of a local management board, the drafting of a Community Plan) to be completed, and access to the lottery grant of £1M was approved in February 2013.

### Board Membership

The Partnership Board has had some changes in membership since first convening, though many of the original members remain.

At the time of writing the Board comprises:

Helen Ahmed	Headteacher: Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School
Bill Burton	Resident
Deborah Catchatoor	Headteacher: St. Mary's CE Primary School
Jan Eckersley	Resident
Christine Farnworth	Resident
Christine Fullelove	Resident
John Gredecki	Resident
Susan Gredecki	Resident

Dawn Hurst	Headteacher: Leigh Central Primary School
Pam Smith	Resident
Sandra Traynor	Operations Manager: Citizen's Advice
Audrey Ward	Resident

The Partnership Board meets monthly to review the strategic management of the project, to plan the delivery of events and activities and to oversee the management of financial resources.

The Board recognise that their composition is a limiting factor in terms of representation and diversity: there is an imbalance of women against men, members tend to be older rather than younger (there isn't anyone younger than 30 on the Board), and there aren't any members from recent settlers in Leigh. Opportunities to recruit new members who will change the composition of the Board are explored whenever they present themselves.

The Board are supported by a Big Local Representative (Rob Billson) and engage freelance workers to deliver project management (Stephen Ruffley), PR and Comms (Cathie Peloe) and Financial Management (Sue Shaw).

The Community Plan drives the project. The Plan was drafted using the results of the wide-ranging community consultation undertaken at the start of the project. The Plan was for the period 2013 – 2018. The purpose of this document is to review progress against the aims and objectives identified in the first Plan and to draft a new Plan for the period 2018 – 2021.

### Our Values

The Board has a set of values which were agreed at a Board meeting held on 26 June 2018. These are:

#### WORKING WITH PARTNERS

**We will show Honesty, Transparency and Diligence** working with Partners; we will always be thorough, effective and reliable; we will deliver what we agree to and always provide clear communications to Partners about the decisions we make as a partnership.

**We will be Fair, Non-judgemental, Considerate**; we will listen, be open-minded and treat people with kindness and manners.

**We aim to be a learning organisation;** we will collaborate, inspire and empower; we welcome people to be part of a grand vision that involves and inspires local people to do great things.

#### WORKING WITH EACH OTHER AS TRUSTEES AND PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS

**In our work together we will be Collaborative, Empathic and Considerate:** be open, honest and impartial

**We will all be Diligent and Professional and follow Due Process:** showing how we make decisions in the open, based on evidence and ensure that our finances are sound and audit trails clear.

**With each other we aim to be Creative and Courageous** and ensure that being part of and working with LNPB is enjoyable and positive.

#### WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

**We want local people to see us as Compassionate, Empathic, Courageous:** we will treat people with kindness and make working with Leigh Neighbours enjoyable and fun.

**The way we do it is with Integrity:** we aim to be fair, transparent, democratic, accountable and diligent.

**How we will do it is by being Positive, Pro-active and Engaged:** we will always be community -led, we will use all ways to get our message out and to ensure local people can hear us and we can hear, listen to and give local people the tools they need.

#### Our Area

Our project area was defined by the Big Lottery. It is the area of Leigh bounded by Atherleigh Way, Kirkhall Lane, Leigh Road/Market Street/King Street and Twist Lane.

In our project area there are:

- Approximately 1800 residential and 200 business properties
- Four schools; St. Mary's CE Primary School, St. John's CE Primary School, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and Leigh Central Primary School

- Four churches: Kingsleigh Methodist Church, St. Mary's Church of England Church, Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Leigh New Life Pentecostal Church
- A number of charities and CIC's which operate: As in Eden, True Colours, Leigh Homeless Support Project, LASARS, Atherton and Leigh Foodbank
- Hostels for homeless and vulnerably housed people. Riverside Housing Association are a major provider and support people referred by the Probation Service, the Police and Social Services.

Map of the project area



## SECTION TWO: Review of the Community Plan 2013 - 2018

### Background

The Community Plan was drafted after an extensive public consultation programme which included public meetings and questionnaires delivered to individual properties, as well as the use of the 'Planning for Real' methodology. Planning for Real delivered over 2500 suggestions for improvements for the area from 700+ adults and children. The suggestions were grouped under broad themes:

### Community Plan Themes

The themes adopted for the Community Plan were:

- Community Facilities
- Community Spirit
- Crime and Community Safety
- Education, Employment and Training
- Environment
- Financial Matters
- Health
- Housing
- Leisure
- Traffic and Transport

### Vision for 2023

In 2013 the Board noted that local people wanted: *'...the area to be safer and healthier. They want there to be employment and work experience opportunities, especially for young people so that they have a positive future to look forward to. They want the area to be clean and green. They want property to be kept in good condition and for both sale and rental prices to be competitive. They want there to be lots of community spirit with people from all backgrounds getting on together, mixing together and respecting each other.'*

The Board believed that they would know whether their hopes had been met if there was::

- ✓ An increased sense of community
- ✓ More community spirit

- ✓ Environmental improvements
- ✓ Support for people with training, apprenticeships and business start-ups
- ✓ Outstanding schools
- ✓ An area where people feel safe and where there is minimal crime

### Local Trust/Big Local Programme Outcomes

The funding from Local Trust/Big Local comes with a number of conditions, these include adherence to their programme outcomes:

- a. Communities will be better able to identify local needs and take action in response to them
- b. People will have increased skills and confidence, so that they continue to identify and respond to needs in the future
- c. The community will make a difference to the needs it prioritises
- d. People will feel that their area is an even better place to live

We have addressed each of these outcomes...members of the community now approach us with ideas, plans and proposals as to what needs to be done locally and how improvement can be achieved...Board members, as well as local residents and others, have more confidence and have adopted a more proactive role in identifying local needs...ways of addressing local need which were identified in the first round of consultation are now firmly embedded in the local consciousness (Community Garden, Railway Road allotment)...local people recognise the difference that Leigh Neighbours has made and welcome the positive change that we have facilitated.

### What Themes were identified as priorities in the Community Plan for the period 2013 - 2018?

We said:

*We want to focus on a number of areas. These were identified as being important in maintaining momentum and encouraging local participation in our Pathway Funding application made in July 2012.*

*We want to focus on four areas for the first two years of our project. We are not going to focus on these four to the exclusion of anything else, but they are going to take up the majority of our time and effort.*

*We held a special meeting of our Partnership Board in October 2012 to talk about a draft of this Plan and to see whether we agreed on the priorities that had been identified for Years One and Two...we agreed on the priorities identified later in this section. We also did a lot more thinking and talking about what sorts of things we'd like to do to help bring different communities and people of different ages together.*

The areas we are going to focus on in Years One and Two are:

- Community Facilities and Community Spirit
- The Environment
- Housing
- Financial Matters

What specific actions did we propose and how did we do?

Community Plan Theme: Community Spirit and Community Facilities

Project	Narrative
<p><b>Food Project</b> - Create foodbank using local supermarkets</p>	<p>The Partnership Board learnt of the formation of a local food bank (Atherton and Leigh Foodbank) organised under the aegis of the Trussell Trust and concluded that it would be more appropriate to support the work of a specialist foodbank than to create their own.</p>
	<p>Annual grants are made to Atherton and Leigh Foodbank (and to Compassion in Action, the Homeless Support Project and the Bridge Community café). All of these organisations provide material support for local people who are homeless, vulnerably housed or who are in need. Board members provide support on a personal level, either by volunteering or donating food regularly. Donations made at events such as our hanging basket workshops are given to the Foodbank too.</p> <p>Potatoes were grown last year at the Community Garden and these were donated to the Foodbank. As our efforts towards developing Incredible Edible gather pace we will generate surpluses and these will be shared too.</p>
<p><b>Food Project</b> - Create a community</p>	<p>The Board considered the issues associated with setting up and delivering a community café (identifying and</p>

café (empty shop unit)	<p>acquiring a property, sourcing ingredients, organising and managing volunteers) and decided that these logistical issues, alongside the number of cafes in the town meant that this was not a viable proposition. Since the Board decision three different charitable providers have opened food outlets which, in various ways, support local people in need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Bridge Community Café – the Bridge is located just outside our project area, but supports many of our residents. They have a ‘pay as you can’ café where proceeds are used to support a community food store</li> <li>○ Leigh Homeless Support Project – HSP provides warm lunchtime and evening meals for local homeless or vulnerably housed people</li> <li>○ The Hub – The Hub provides hot food for local homeless people</li> </ul> <p>The Board have made Resident’s Fund grants and Christmas donations to The Bridge and Leigh HSP.</p>
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<p><b>Food Project</b> - Develop an intergenerational and community cohesive food and cookery event</p>	<p>There has been no action on this specific idea to date however the Board have provided funds through the Big Lunch initiative which have supported intergenerational and community food events. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● St. John’s CE Primary School Queen’s Jubilee Garden Party</li> <li>● Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School outdoor party</li> <li>● Leigh Youth Group Big Lunch barbeque</li> </ul>
<p><b>Food Project</b> - Grow and sell food</p>	<p>The Board worked hard to identify land in the project area which could be used to grow and sell food. One area was identified (the former home of Leigh East rugby club), which also offered the possibility of creating a shale sports area. Discussions were held with local Councillors and attempts were made to identify contractors who could support the work. Efforts were hampered by the fact that the Council had granted Planning Permission for the construction of a small number of retail units on the site. The site was later acquired by Five Boroughs NHS Trust to build an inpatient facility. The steps taken at the Community Garden in the past, and the adoption of the principles of Incredible Edible support the aim of helping those less well off in the community.</p>
<p><b>Food Project</b> - Mela (Food Festival)</p>	<p>Approaches have been made to the organisers of the Wigan Food Festival to explore ways that the Festival could include Leigh and the Board could support local events. The approach was unsuccessful.</p>

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<b>Community Plan</b> - Making the Community Plan easier to understand	A single page version of the Community Plan was developed and is available to view on the Project website. It has been printed and is shared widely at information days, in information packs and in talks to groups and organisations.
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## So, what's Leigh Neighbours all about...?



Leigh Neighbours is a non-political community project which aims to give a voice to local people and helps make them proud of where they live.

It's about improving and enriching lives whilst creating new and exciting opportunities for people of all ages.

This is YOUR project, based on YOUR ideas and suggestions.....

Improvements to local HOUSING to create a place where people aspire to live.

Access to better local HEALTH FACILITIES to tackle key issues such as drug abuse, alcohol, smoking and obesity.

LEISURE facilities for all ages to reduce anti-social behaviour and to help people get fit and healthy.

CRIME & COMMUNITY SAFETY initiatives to help reduce anti-social behaviour.

ENVIRONMENTAL projects to make the area 'cleaner and greener'.

More opportunities for EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT including apprenticeships schemes.



Promoting a greater sense of COMMUNITY SPIRIT by laying on events to bring people together.

More COMMUNITY FACILITIES such as an outdoor play area and a multi-use community centre.

Improvements to TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT to make the area safer for pedestrians, cyclists, children and the elderly.

Do you have an idea to make a positive difference in your community? We might be able to help. We've got the resources and the skills - we just need your ideas, inspiration and passion! Grants are now available from Leigh Neighbours Residents Fund. For more information or to apply for funding, email [info@lnpb.org.uk](mailto:info@lnpb.org.uk) or call Stephen Ruffley on 709709.



Leigh neighbours  
PROJECT

**Young People** - Pilot the planning and delivery of an event or activity



The Project worked closely with Council Youth Workers during the first three years of the Project. Funds were allocated to allow workers to hire meeting rooms, provide refreshments for young people's groups and to provide leisure opportunities. Young people attended Board meetings and one of their number became a joint Chair of the Board. A grant was made available for young people to plan and organise their own events and these included a Barbeque on the Civic Square alongside the Big Lunch promotion and a Skaters Day which included a consultation event.

More recently a small group of young people have expressed an interest in helping out at the Community Garden. These young people are being encouraged to continue through careful marshalling of their help and through the provision of gardening fleeces, gloves and tools.

Local schools are encouraged to participate in our Hanging Basket workshops and children from Reception to Y6 regularly attend.

**Community Arts Project**

A very successful arts project (Our Art Neighbourhood) was delivered in 2014. The project included work with schools, groups and organisations and the public in a range of settings. A number of art forms were used and the events culminated in a series of public showings; through yarn-bombing of trees, street furniture and other objects, through an exhibition of work in a pop-up gallery, and through two billboards in the project area.





More modest arts and crafts events have been organised since 2014. There is now a concerted effort to use the arts to deliver a series of pieces of public art, designed and commissioned by local people, to enhance the local environment. The first of these is a sculptural piece designed by pupils at Leigh Central Primary School which marks the start and finish of their Daily Mile route, and which will be part of our Incredible Edible initiative. This piece of work is a pilot and the provision of public art planters will be extended through work with other schools, groups and residents. The pilot was an opportunity to learn and has been invaluable in understanding the many demands that the local authority has around the siting of artwork in the community.

We have also run monthly crafts workshops for local children (but most parents join in too). These are designed and delivered by a local resident (Michelle Downs) who has warmed to her role and regularly sees 40+ attendees at our sessions on a Saturday morning.

**Services for Parents - Nappy change facilities:**

Work with library, town hall and others to co-ordinate provision of baby change facilities.

Monies to provide baby change facilities for public buildings were set aside and a proactive approach adopted in speaking to managers of these facilities. There were no applications for funds.

**Youth Club/Youth Shelter - Undertake feasibility study in partnership with stakeholders and other agencies – Council, Police, Youth Services**

It was suggested by a former Board member (also a Councillor in a neighbouring ward) that funds could be made available to provide skate facilities and a shelter for young people on the car park next to the Town Hall. This location was rejected and an alternative – the Doctor’s Nook car-park was proposed. The Board confirmed that they were in favour of funding such a proposal providing that it was a reflection of the wishes of young people who currently used the area. Several attempts were made to engage Council officers with expertise in working with young people to undertake the consultation, but with no success.

As stated earlier in this review, funds have also been made available for a Council led youth group to meet at different venues in the project area.

The Board were also approached by the same Councillor as in the previous note to ask whether they might be able to provide funding for a skate facility located in Lilford Park. The Board agreed the request in principle, after consulting with the Big Local Rep (Lilford Park is outside the Project boundary, but a case could be made that the resource would support young people from the project area). No further approach was made to the Board for financial support.

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<p><b>Community Centre</b> - Undertake feasibility study in partnership with stakeholders and other agencies – Council, Police, Youth Services</p>	<p>A local charity (Douglas Valley Partnership) which manages a number of community facilities in the Borough as well as providing consultation services was engaged to undertake the feasibility study around the scope for additional community resources. They concluded that there was sufficient community capacity within the project area and that a positive way to develop that capacity would be to provide grants for organisations to enhance their facilities. This approach was adopted and Kingsleigh Church Community Centre was chosen to act as a pilot. The centre was refurbished according to consultation with users and the Church confirmed that they were very happy with the results. A list of potential candidates for funding was compiled and other organisations on the list are being approached.</p>
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<p><b>Mediation Training</b> - Provide mediation</p>	<p>Mediation training was funded for a Czech/Slovak translator who supported the project from her permanent</p>
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training to volunteers from the area, may include Homewatch organisers, Young People...	post at Citizen's Advice.
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Community Plan Theme: The Environment

<b>Project</b>	<b>Narrative</b>
<p><b>Clean Up Campaigns</b></p> 	<p>The Board have organised a number of clean-up campaigns, targeting Walmesley Road, Railway Road and Glebe Street in particular. We have also persuaded the Council to change their litter-picking routes and encouraged them to place additional bins in key locations.</p> <p>Support has also been provided alongside the annual 'Keep Britain Tidy' Spring campaign (such as 'Clean for the Queen'). The project has provided 'clean-up' kits for residents, schools and organisations so that they can take responsibility for litter picking and other activities. Organisations which have taken part, or supported, clean-up campaigns have included: As in Eden, Prince's Trust, True Colours, Sacred Heart, St. John's CE and Leigh Central Primary Schools, Asda and Kingsleigh Methodist Church. Volunteers from the Council Archive Service also supported us by using their staff volunteer allowance to help clear the Railway Road allotment area.</p> <p>We have persuaded the Council to work with us in addressing some of the local issues: they have added an extra bin to the area next to the car-park on Railway Road and added the carpark and allotment area to their litter pick schedule</p>

<b>Dog Mess Problem</b>	<p>Dog fouling is a persistent problem in parts of the project area, and tackling the issue remains a priority for local residents. Leigh Neighbours has raised the issue with local councillors and council environmental officers, especially in relation to 'hot spots' around terraced street shared backs and public access ginnels.</p> <p>Concern has also been expressed in relation to the council car park on Railway Road. A section of the car park has been earmarked by Leigh Neighbours as the location for a new <i>Incredible Edible</i>-inspired community allotment. We've called on the council to assist in this pilot project by installing appropriate signage and pavement stencils, as well as in laying on additional patrols. We also plan to work with enforcement officers on gathering intelligence from the community to help identify perpetrators. Leigh</p>
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Neighbours has also previously met with officers from the council's environmental education team to discuss the feasibility of a promotional campaign to engage dog owners in a range of positive activities which would include the responsible disposal of waste.

We believe our environmental improvement projects create a positive ripple effect, generating greater pride in the area. Incidents of dog fouling in our community garden, for instance, has declined over the past few years as the local community have embraced this new resource and share in its success. We are also considering investing in a pilot to develop some of our back alleys to create shared communal areas for leisure, to include for example a safe play area for children and a green space for *Incredible Edible* projects. By empowering the community to take ownership of these often unloved areas, we hope to see a decline in dog waste and a greater sense of civic pride.

We hope that this 'carrot and stick' approach combining education, empowerment and enforcement will provide a positive influence for dog owners in the future.

## Greening Activities



The Board has made a significant contribution to the greening of the project area. The first initiative was the transformation of a piece of derelict land owned by the Council on Gordon Street. This was the site of the demolished St. John's church and had been mentioned several times in the consultation we'd undertaken prior to the project.

A licence to use the land was obtained from the Council and volunteers, including young people working on a Prince's Trust project, set about transforming it into the green oasis it is today. Some groundwork and building work was required to install a garden path and to rebuild the wall which had been destroyed during the demolition of the church. Funds were also used to commission the manufacture of a set of garden gates which matched the design of the original gates. St. John's, the school next door have used the area as an outdoor classroom and as a venue for their Queen's Jubilee celebrations. They also commissioned an artist to work with pupils to design and install a themed mosaic.

Hard work has seen the garden blossom and we are very proud of what we have achieved: a newly married couple chose to have their wedding photographs taken there, and a new resident to Gordon Street bought a picnic table for the garden because he was so impressed with his new neighbourhood. Maintenance of the garden is done by local residents – Christine and Ken Farnworth and Mark Roberts, on a voluntary basis.

Their enthusiasm and commitment has recently encouraged younger members of our community to join in with the maintenance of the garden and we have seen the formation of our 'Gardening Gang'...the next generation of keen and committed gardeners.



The site of the former St. John's CE Church as it was before we started to turn it into the Community Garden



Christine Farnworth and Anita Thorpe helping with the development of the Community Garden



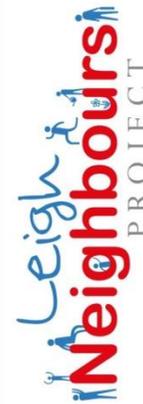
The Community Garden as it is today.

We have held hanging basket workshops in Spring and Autumn for a number of years now in locations across the project area. The idea is a simple one: residents bring their empty baskets and we provide compost, plants and friendly advice on what to do. Last year we found ourselves with queues as we started the workshops at 10.00am and had to order in more plants and compost – we knew then that what we were doing was valued by local residents. This year, for the first time, we'll include edible plants in our baskets in line with our Incredible Edible intentions, with tumbling tomatoes, strawberries and a range of herbs. We also use the Big Local principle of 'sticky money', ordering our plants and compost from a long-established Leigh grower (Moss Bank Nursery) rather than through a national chain such as Suttons or B&Q.

We estimate that we have filled over 750 baskets and troughs for local residents since we started doing the workshops. People value what we do and often ask if they can make a donation towards costs – any money that

we collect is donated to Atherton and Leigh Foodbank.

We use the hanging basket workshops of Railway Road to support local residents as well as businesses – part of our Railway Road improvement initiative. This year we're supporting residents from the Riverside Housing Association accommodation on Findley Street to make hanging baskets. They are organising a home-made cake sale with proceeds to the Foodbank.



**Come along to one of our free hanging basket workshops!**



We'll show you how to craft beautiful hanging baskets.

10am Thursday 8th June  
St John's Community  
Garden, Gordon Street

10am Friday 9th June  
Sacred Heart Parish Centre  
Walmesley Road

10am Saturday 10th June  
Railway Road  
Opposite the old college

All materials provided free to those who live or work in the Leigh Neighbours project area!

Terms and Conditions: To claim your free plants and compost, you'll need to bring along your voucher from the latest issue of Neighbour Leigh News, the newsletter which is hand delivered to homes across the Leigh Neighbours project area. People from outside the Leigh Neighbours project area are still welcome to come along to the workshop, but will be asked to donate £5 towards the cost of materials, with all monies raised passed on to local charities.

Local Trust **Big Local**

/Leigh Neighbours

/Leigh Neighbours Big Local

One of our earliest environmental improvement initiatives was around 'alley-greening'. We identified residents who would support the greening of their alley between Grasmere Street and Gordon Street, checked that what we were planning wouldn't impede the Council's bin wagons as they reversed down the alley and the ear-marked a May weekend to engage with residents and transform the space. We invested in some wooden benches and planters and then asked Moss Bank nursery whether we could have a tonne of compost and some plants (Moss Bank donated these). We pushed a flyer (In English and other community languages) through the letterboxes of houses that backed onto the alley and then encouraged everyone to come out and plant whatever they had to hand. As well as brightening the alley hugely we found that we'd managed to address a couple of our objectives: we'd brought people of different generations together, we'd brought people from different backgrounds together (where

there had been some hostility beforehand), we had encouraged people to see the area as somewhere to be looked after (one resident was prompted to nip to the shops and buy a paintbrush and bucket of whitewash and paint his wall where it backed on to the alley), and we created a sense of collective responsibility for the alley.



We have another example of 'alley-greening' in the alley behind Selwyn Street. Two residents there – Carol and Arthur, approached us asking whether we could help them clear up the back – there was gravel and soil blocking the gully, dog waste and litter. We asked Prince's Trust to help with the clean-up, which they did. We sourced low cost planters from the 'Brickworks', a charity in Wigan and compost and plants from Moss Bank Nursery. Carol and Arthur, and their neighbours, were delighted with the scheme and it has generated lot of interest via our Facebook



More recently we have adopted the principles of ‘Incredible Edible’ after a visit to the area by Pam Warhurst, the founder of Incredible Edible in Todmorden. We are including edible plants in our Hanging Basket workshops, we’re planning to encourage residents to grow potatoes in a grow bag and to donate their crop to the Foodbank, and are encouraging organisations with green spaces (like local churches) to turn over some of their land to growing schemes. We have also adopted a green space adjacent to a car-park on Railway Road to create the ‘Railway Road allotment’ where we intend to grow a selection of fruit and vegetables alongside the garlic we planted in December 2017.

**Pavements, Drainage and Streetlighting**

One of the key principles of Big Local is that funds are not used to support statutory provision of services. Pavements, drainage and streetlighting are the statutory responsibility of the Council and therefore not eligible for financial support even though Ward Councillors have suggested that funds could be used this way. We have asked for the drains and gully in the alley at the rear of Selwyn Street to be cleaned as part of a clean-up and greening campaign sparked by local residents Carole and Arthur. Our requests for help from the Council went unanswered until we were able to speak to a senior officer (Matt Kelly) who expedited matters for us.

<b>Pest Problem</b>	The Local Authority is informed whenever the Project becomes aware of issues with pests, such as the rat infestation at the rear of the old College on Railway Road.
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Community Plan Theme: Housing

The Board recognised that addressing the issue of housing was a key part of their desire to make the area a better place to live. Their plan, in simple terms, was to purchase properties and to refurbish them to a high standard and then let them through socially responsible agents.

The Board decided to pilot the housing project by purchasing and refurbishing a property which could provide living accommodation as well as office space for project workers. Premises on Railway Road were identified and an offer made at the asking price. This offer was accepted. A survey revealed a number of issues as well as a recommendation that a detailed structural survey be undertaken. The Board decided that the cost of refurbishment, alongside the costs of further surveys, did not make economic sense and withdrew their offer. Another property to pilot the housing project on will be found.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Narrative</b>
<p><b>Work with Council to identify and target priority properties</b></p> <p><i>Set aside £50,000 for low interest loans for landlords and tenants.</i></p>	<p>We made a start on this project, with a resident survey of property conditions using pre-paid postcards. Sadly our effort to engage local authority officers were not met with the enthusiasm that we'd hoped for, and there was no real effort towards partnership working. At the time of writing we have learnt that the lead officer has left the Council and so a fresh attempt to engage the LA will be made.</p> <p>The Council did access grant funds available nationally to provide housing in our area with External Wall Insulation (EWI). Initially the scheme was funded through grants to and an interest free loan to the homeowner. When grant funds were exhausted the Council approached Leigh Neighbours to provide funds to support the insulation of a further 100 homes – a figure of £600,000 was identified by the Council, reasoning that they could make better use of our grant funds than we could. The invitation was rejected because it was not appropriate for the project to gift sums of up to £6,000 to individual homeowners irrespective of the aesthetic value or benefits of the scheme. It should also be noted that the approach from the LA was not one where they wished to form a meaningful partnership.</p>

<p><b>Develop training and employment opportunities</b></p> <p><i>Develop apprenticeship opportunities with W+L College and local building firms to refurbish properties locally – either private lets or houses we’ve bought and are refurbishing</i></p>	<p>This remains an aspiration of the Project. It had been hoped that the partnership project that we anticipated we would develop with Groundwork CLM would deliver this, but our discussions were inconclusive.</p>
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<p><b>External repairs – walls, fences etc.</b></p> <p><i>Work with Council to pilot external improvement schemes working with volunteers, apprentices, community service</i></p>	<p>Extensive development work was undertaken with an officer from the LA and a representative from the Probation Service with the intention that Leigh Neighbours provided funding and materials and the two partner organisations working together. Sadly our partners did not follow through on the initiative, possibly through concerns around Health and Safety.</p> <p>It may be possible to deliver this scheme using a different approach which empowers residents and provides the appropriate materials at no or low cost.</p>
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Community Plan Theme: Financial Matters

<b>Project</b>	<b>Narrative</b>
<p><b>Low interest improvement loans for private landlords</b></p> <p><b>Low interest improvement loans for local homeowners</b></p> <p><b>Low interest business start-up loans</b></p> <p><b>Low interest study loans</b></p>	<p>We met with the Chief Officer from ‘Unify’, the Wigan Based Credit Union on a number of occasions and made a series of proposals including the offer of Leigh Neighbours depositing a portion of our £1M grant with them in order that they could have a source of capital. The Credit Union were not in a position to assist us at that time. They were, and still are, cash rich because they have more savers than lenders, so there was no benefit to them in having us make a deposit of funds.</p> <p>We also met with the Chief Officer at the Lancashire CDFI (Community Development Finance Institution). She was interested in exploring partnership working with Leigh Neighbours; however at that time we were not a legal entity so we were unable to progress matters.</p>

<i>Work in partnership with Credit Union</i>	
<p><b>Hardship Relief Fund</b></p> <p><i>Work with Citizen’s Advice, LASARS, local churches to explore benefits of a hardship fund for local families</i></p>	<p>Whilst no formal approach has been made to the agencies named, the Project has made donations at Christmas to local organisations which support residents in need as well as awarding Resident’s Fund monies in response to specific applications for grants.</p> <p>Grants have been made to: Atherton and Leigh Foodbank, Compassion in Action, The Bridge Community Café, WAVE (a Domestic Violence charity), Riverside Housing Association, Homeless Support Project, Adactus Housing Association and a local homeless shelter. In December 2017 donations were also made to our four local schools so that they could make provision for those families which they knew would most benefit from additional support at Christmas.</p>
<p><b>Financial Literacy</b></p> <p><i>Develop training opportunities for local residents</i></p>	<p>We have plans to deliver a series of workshops in partnership with Citizen’s Advice.</p>
<p><b>Baby Bond scheme</b></p> <p><i>Investigate feasibility of Baby Bond scheme for children born in the area who remain until 16 years.</i></p>	<p>We will explore the feasibility of a Baby Bond scheme and will fully understand the issues around setting up a scheme.</p>
<p><b>School Savings Scheme</b></p> <p><i>Work with local schools to explore savings schemes for pupils</i></p>	<p>We understand that the Credit Union operate a savings scheme at one of our local schools, but that uptake is minimal with the suggestion being that the incentives to save aren’t great enough and that the Credit Union are not able to dedicate sufficient resources to managing the project. We will discuss with our headteachers what it would take to make the scheme more attractive and prepare a report to discuss at the Board.</p>

Other issues identified for Years One and Two.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Narrative</b>
<p data-bbox="96 180 506 212"><b>Crime and Community Safety</b></p> <p data-bbox="96 256 472 288"><i>Extend Smart water initiative</i></p>	<p data-bbox="640 180 2134 288">The Neighbourhood Police Sergeant was approached with an offer from Leigh Neighbours to provide funds to complete the property marking scheme using Smart water. The sergeant explained that the police themselves had undertaken this using their own resources.</p>
<p data-bbox="96 406 495 475"><b>Education, Employment and Training</b></p> <p data-bbox="96 523 600 632"><i>Convene brains trust and explore educational development opportunities for years 2, 3, 4, 5</i></p>	<p data-bbox="640 406 2101 515">The 'Brains Trust' has not been convened. A proposal to establish a specific education funding scheme was put the Board but they agreed that schools should use the existing funding structures (Resident's Fund (&lt;£500) and Grant Scheme (&gt;£500)).</p>
<p data-bbox="96 643 495 711"><b>Education, Employment and Training</b></p> <p data-bbox="96 759 551 791"><i>Investigate apprenticeship scheme</i></p>	<p data-bbox="640 643 2029 711">We have worked in partnership with Groundwork CLM to deliver two successful apprentice programmes for residents from within our project area.</p> <p data-bbox="640 759 2134 903">We have also worked with the Council Archive Service in Leigh to recruit an apprentice. Unfortunately the successful applicant found alternative employment before taking up the post. We agreed with the Archives Service to recruit again but weren't able to find a suitable candidate. A further attempt to recruit will be made over Summer 2018.</p> <p data-bbox="640 951 2107 1059">The offer of support in recruiting apprentices is made to organisations that the Project works with. The conditions are that the apprentice must live within our project area and the post must provide a nationally accredited qualification.</p> <p data-bbox="640 1107 2123 1216">The Board have briefly discussed ways that the scope of the support that is offered to local people is extended. This will be discussed further with a view to providing financial assistance for education and training which is not in the form of a formal apprenticeship.</p>
<p data-bbox="96 1308 185 1340"><b>Health</b></p> <p data-bbox="96 1388 264 1420"><i>Food project</i></p>	<p data-bbox="640 1308 2085 1377">A joint growing and healthy eating scheme for children at local schools is in development in partnership with the Bridge Community Café.</p>

<p><b>Traffic and Transport</b></p> <p><i>Zebra crossing on Twist Lane</i></p>	<p>This was identified as an issue during consultation with residents at the sheltered accommodation at Selby Court. They found that crossing Twist Lane to get to their Bingo club at the Leigh Miners Institute at the crossing adjacent to Findley Street was impossible because of the speed that vehicles exited the roundabout junction on Atherleigh Way. Representations were made to the Council which coincided with the redesign of the junction and the conversion to a traffic light controlled junction. This appears to have resolved the issues of speed and made crossing Twist Lane less dangerous.</p>
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What Have We Done That Wasn't Prioritised For 2013 – 2018?

Community Plan Theme: Community Facilities

<b>Project area</b>	<b>Narrative</b>
<p>Grant scheme</p>	<p>We recognised the success of our Resident's Fund and came to the conclusion that we needed to be in a position to provide grants for sums greater than £500 and that we'd need a set of funding criteria, Terms and Conditions, due diligence process and other checks. We have developed a process which allows residents and organisations to apply for funds to support their project. Our process allows Board members to make objective decisions about applications and also provides the applicant with experience in applying for grant funds which will help them in future should they apply to the Arts Council, National Lottery etc.</p> <p>We have supported Soroptimist International schedule a 'Women's Zone' information day as well as supporting Sacred Heart Summer School for a number of years.</p>

Community Plan Theme: Community Spirit

<p>Arts and Crafts events</p>	<p>We saw that there was a demand for a range of arts and crafts activity when we completed our consultation with local people in 2012. We used a large scale arts project (Our Art Neighbourhood) to share arts activity with local schools, organisations and residents in 2014 and have also held seasonal workshops (Christmas, Easter, St. Valentine's) for a number of years. In 2017 we piloted monthly craft workshops delivered by a local resident. These have proved hugely successful and we now run these on a regular basis.</p> <p>We have had over 200 people visit our monthly craft workshops.</p>
<p>Big Lunch</p>	<p>We have used the 'Big Lunch' theme for a number of years as a 'way of encouraging local people and groups to put</p>

	on events which will bring people together in a spirit of friendship and neighbourliness. We have provided grants to local schools, residents (Grasmere Street), LASARS (Leigh Asylum Seekers and Refugee Support) and youth groups.
Community Christmas Tree Lights	Around three years ago there was a call in the local media for donations to the cost of a Community Christmas Tree for Leigh Civic Square. This was needed because the Council, due to their austerity cuts, could not afford to provide one. Leigh Neighbours spoke to the organiser of the scheme and agreed to fund the cost of Christmas Tree lights to a total of £2,000. The Board attend the official switch on of the lights and the support that is offered is marked by a banner and brass plaque at the site.
Church Fields Resident's Association	Local people formed their own residents association early in the life of the Leigh Neighbours Project. Material support was provided through the services of the project officer, who acted as a Secretary for the group. Grant funding was also made available for the hire of meeting venues, stationery and IT resources.
Friends of Lilford Park (FOLP)	The Board were approached by members of the FOLP committee for a donation towards the cost of their celebration of the centenary of the Park. The Board noted that whilst the park was outside their project area, the event was a celebration which would be attended by many residents from the project area, and would serve to help develop community spirit in the town.

Community Plan Theme: Crime and Community Safety

Bike Repair workshops	<p>We were offered the opportunity to put on bike repair workshops by 'Gearing Up' (Part of a Methodist Church Charity based in Wigan) and realised that these would be a great opportunity to address issues around the safety of local residents who cycle, by making sure that their bikes were roadworthy and through us providing lights, hi-viz tabards, luminous slapbands and reflectors. We also recognised that through fixing bikes and encouraging people to get out and ride, we were supporting a culture of exercise which would help make our community healthier, both physically and mentally. We also recognised that riding a bike was a key life skill and that children would gain self-confidence as well as independence through learning to ride.</p> <p>We've held at least three workshops a year since 2015, often using national campaigns such as 'Big Bike Revival' as a marketing hook. Our relationship with 'Gearing Up' is such that they have donated bikes to each of our local schools and have used the community work that they have done with us in Leigh to support an application to the Council's Community Investment Fund (CIF) for funding for a three year community cycling project. This is called 'On Your Bike' and they have worked with St. Mary's CE school to develop a parents cycling group.</p> <p>We estimate that we've fixed 250+ bikes since we began the workshops and local schools have received 50+ bikes</p>
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	for free.
Crime and Community Safety workshops	In discussions with members of the Neighbourhood Police Team we recognised that there was an opportunity to address some of the concerns that local people had about crime and community safety by organising a number of events where a range of community safety organisations (the Police, Restorative Justice etc) were available to talk to residents.
Body worn cameras	The Board agreed, after an approach by a local PCSO, to make funds available to purchase Body Worn cameras for the three PCSOs who worked in our project area. We have shared the offer with the Neighbourhood Sergeant on a number of occasions but it has not been taken up. It is our understanding that GMP do not resource body worn cameras for officers at PCSO level.
Stop and Lock	<p>We were approached by members of the Police Neighbourhood Team to see whether we could provide any support to local older residents who had been the victims of crime and who felt vulnerable at home. A scheme was devised where residents were identified by the Police and we arranged for a tradesman (an ex PC who was also a joiner) to visit them, review their home security and fit a range of additional safety devices, such as door chains, window alarms and mortice locks.</p> <p>We helped 40 older vulnerable people feel safer at home.</p>

#### Community Plan Theme: Education, Employment and Training

Summer School	Sacred Heart school run a Summer School every year to provide learning opportunities for their pupils who qualify for Pupil Premium Grant. The Summer School gives children a week of fun activities around a theme (Transport, Circus, Water) which help children practice their literacy, numeracy and other skills over the six week break, helping the target group avoid a summer dip in performance. Sacred Heart recognised that there were a number of pupils at school who lived in our project area, who would benefit from the Summer School but who did not qualify through Pupil Premium funding and the Headteacher approached the Board to see whether they would be able to provide any funding. The Board has been able to support the Summer School for three years to date, helping 50 children refresh vital skills before their return to school in September. Testing by the school, before and after the Summer school, shows that the majority of pupils maintain the level they were at before the start of the holidays, whilst some improve their performance as a result of the intervention.
Case Study	<i>One of the pupils that took part in the Sacred Heart Summer School in 2016 presented himself as disinterested in school and education. His language, reading and writing skills were poor and he lacked motivation to learn,</i>

	<p><i>especially in English.</i></p> <p><i>From day one the activities appealed to him and he wanted to get involved. He grew in confidence each day. At the beginning of the week he did not want to be filmed but he was willing to use the iPad to film others, he progressed to playing the role of Stage Manager</i></p> <p><i>By the end of week he had been filmed presenting a weather forecast that he had written. He spoke confidently in sentences which could be heard by others.</i></p> <p><i>During the academic year 2016/17 this child continued to flourish, although he found English difficult, he accepted the challenge and had a much more positive attitude to learning and enjoyed the regular praise for the steps forward he was taking. Summer school gave him experiences he was able to draw on in his learning through the year, and contributed to the change in mind-set and confidence in his own ability.</i></p>
Autism Awareness	<p>We were approached by 'True Colours' a charity which supports young people with Autism and other conditions, to see whether we could support them in presenting a workshop for local residents and shop owners around Autism Awareness. We hired a local venue, provided refreshments and helped local businesses understand the issues in a way that would help make their businesses more attractive to a new customer base.</p>

Community Plan Theme: Environment

Incredible Edible	<p>The need for community food was identified in the consultation that we did for the Community Plan (through ideas for food banks, allotments and so forth). The Board invited Pam Warhurst from Incredible Edible to visit our area and to talk to them and agreed to adopt the principles of Incredible Edible.</p> <p>Physical manifestations of our commitment include the Railway Road allotment (which has seen the first crop of garlic sprout this Spring) and the addition of edible plants to our Spring hanging basket workshops.</p> <p>We have also worked in partnership with Sacred Heart church cubs – they are growing food to donate to the local food bank as a way of acquiring their Community Service badge.</p>
Riverside Housing Association	<p>Riverside Housing Association provides single person accommodation in rooms and dormitories for people who are referred to them through the Police, Probation Service, Social workers etc. They also have emergency accommodation to address the 'No second night out' agenda. The accommodation is located on Railway Road and some residents from Riverside are involved in the drink and drug related anti-social behaviour that Railway Road residents and business owners experience. These Riverside residents are in a minority though, many are trying to</p>

	<p>get their lives back on track and some are in employment.</p> <p>We were offered the opportunity to work in partnership with Riverside and their residents to help them show that they can make a positive contribution to the local community and to help improve the environment where they live.</p> <p>We have brightened the area outside the unit by planting spring bulbs. We have invited residents to our next Hanging Basket workshop and will be showing them how to make baskets for the centre. They have made some groundwork improvements to the central courtyard at the centre and we will support them by donating edible plants and herbs to create an 'Incredible Edible' area.</p>
In Bloom	<p>In order to encourage residents to take a lead in making our area greener we developed our own version of the national 'In Bloom' competition. We had a number of different categories and our judges were delighted with the standard of entries. For 2018 we have decided to enter the whole project area into the Northwest In Bloom competition.</p>

#### Community Plan Theme: Financial Matters

Large Grant funding scheme	<p>As we described earlier in this Review, we came to recognise that we needed to be in a position to offer grants of sums greater than the £500 available from the Resident's Fund, and so devised a series of criteria for organisations and others applying for funding from us. These rules, terms and conditions are reviewed each time we make a grant to ensure that they are effective in each situation.</p>
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#### Community Plan Theme: Housing

Night Shelter	<p>There has been a Winter night shelter to support homeless people in Atherton, Tyldesley and Leigh for the past three Winters. The shelter has been organised by Warren Done, who is the leading light in the management of the Atherton and Leigh Foodbank. We have made Christmas donations to the shelter annually.</p>
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#### Actions with no specific Community Plan Theme

<b>Leigh Neighbours Project</b>	<p>We think it is important to make sure that local leaders, people like the Chief Executive of the Council (Donna Hall CBE), the previous MP (Rt. Hon. Andy Burnham) and the current MP (Jo Platt) have an understanding of what the</p>
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Raising the organisation profile	<p>Leigh Neighbours Project is. We have given each of them a tour of our project area, highlighted some of our many achievements, as well as noting some of the issues which frustrate us. Our tours are well received and we believe that we have generated support for the project at a strategic level.</p> <p>Copies of the briefing notes that we prepared for Jo Platt can be found at Appendix Three.</p>
<p><b>Leigh Neighbours Project</b></p> <p>Information Days</p>	We have had Information Stalls at events at Lilford Park, on the Leigh Civic Square and at the Coffee Stop on Railway Road. These serve to let local residents know who we are and what we do as well as changing people's perceptions for the better about our project area
<p><b>Leigh Neighbours Project</b></p> <p>Leigh 10K Road Race</p>	We provided sponsorship to the inaugural Leigh 10K road race in 2017 and will do the same in 2018.
<p><b>Leigh Neighbours Project</b></p> <p>Newsletter, Facebook, Website, Twitter</p>	<p>Our Community Plan had a Communications Plan in which we undertook to keep local residents informed about the Leigh Neighbours Project.</p> <p>We do this by the production and circulation of a bi-monthly newsletter which is hand delivered to every property in our project area. We also have a website and Facebook presence and an active Twitter account.</p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.lnpb.org.uk">www.lnpb.org.uk</a>  Facebook: @leighneighboursbiglocal  Twitter: @leighneighbours</p> <p>We make a point of keeping the local 'movers and shakers' informed by sharing e-bulletins with them on a regular basis</p>
<p><b>Leigh Neighbours Project</b></p> <p>Prince's Trust partnership</p>	Prince's Trust is a long established young people's charity which helps people aged 11 – 30 get into jobs, education and training. We have established a fruitful partnership with the Leigh Prince's Trust coordinator so that we are now the regular partner when they have a two week community project to deliver. In the past they have helped us with landscaping to a planted area in front of two of our schools, a clean-up of a memorial garden at Sacred Heart Church, improvements to traffic calming areas on Grasmere Street, development of the Community Garden, refurbished a storage space at the As in Eden building and a clean up behind Selwyn Street

<p><b>Governance</b></p> <p>Constituted Group</p>	We completed the steps in the Big Local Pathway (Getting people involved, exploring community visions, creating a local partnership etc) in 2011 – 2012 in order that we were able to access our £1M grant. Since then we have taken a number of steps towards self-governance and permanence beyond the 10 year term of our Big Local
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Locally Trusted Organisation Charitable Incorporated Organisation	funding; we became a constituted group with a Constitution and Code of Practice. We then became our own Locally Trusted Organisation (LTO) and then attained charitable status as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).
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<b>Community Base</b>  As in Eden	<p>We have worked closely with As in Eden (a locally based CIC) since they established themselves in the area. They were an organisation which used a range of leisure activities: sewing, knitting, singing, painting, to bring people together in informal friendship groups, often supporting people with low self-confidence.</p> <p>The Directors at As in Eden (Jan Harney and Chris Fitzsimmons) decided in March 2018 that they needed to step away from their project for personal reasons. They wanted the work that they had begun to continue and so approached the Leigh Neighbours Board to see whether we would be interested in taking over the lease on the Council building and continuing their good work. The Board were in favour of this and so there was a joint approach to the Council with a business case which they accepted. The handover date for the building was 30 April 2018 and the Board will continue the good work of Jan and Chris as well as developing our own events and activities at 14 Walmesley Road.</p>
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<b>Resident's Fund</b>  Grants provided across almost all themes	<p>The Resident's Fund was one of our earliest initiatives started with the funding received from the Department for Communities and Local Government 'Connecting Communities' grant. Our thinking was that we could use smaller grants to local residents and organisations to kick start the process of developing community spirit by encouraging local people to talk to each other in order to access funds for projects which had local support.</p> <p>A full list of recipients can be found at Appendix Two.</p>
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Case Studies	<p><i>Case Study: Pre-school literacy bags</i></p> <p><i>We were approached by a local school for funding to create a pre-school literacy project for children about to join the Reception class. Before each child joins the school their parents receive a Leigh Neighbours branded bag which contains an easy read book with a CD, a paly set and a set of simple instructions. The idea is that parents read the book to the child so that the child comes to understand the idea of a story, ,that books work by turning pages, what letters and words look like and that reading is fun. Imagine reading 'The Tiger who came to tea' and then recreating the story with your child using the tea service provided with the storybook...</i></p> <p><i>The story set is returned when the child starts school and can then be used by the next cohort of Reception</i></p>
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	<p><i>children.</i></p> <p><i>Case Study: Refurbishment of traffic calming area</i></p> <p><i>We received an application for funds for local residents to refurbish a traffic calming area in front of their house on Walmesley Road. There are a number of these areas locally and they used to be tended by the Council's Grounds Maintenance section. This hasn't happened for a long time and many of the areas are used for parking, dog toilets and as litter bins. The application involved building a low level fence to surround the area and extensive planting. The scheme looks great and now includes a piece of public art as well as a tyre minion. The project encouraged others on Walmesley Road to get involved in the Leigh Neighbours Project. The Board were impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment of the couple who had applied for the funding that they were invited to join the Board and are now the driving force behind the Railway Road allotment.</i></p>
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<p><b>Local Trust and Big Local</b></p> <p>Learning and Networking</p>	<p>We have supported Local Trust nationally by delivering a number of seminars and workshops for other Big Local areas using our own funds as well as allocations from the North West Network Learning and Networking Fund. We have delivered one day sessions on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Improvements</li> <li>• Community Arts</li> <li>• Housing improvement</li> </ul> <p>To share the learning and good practice from these sessions, many were filmed and are available as You Tube videos.</p> <p>We have also attended a number of Local Trust events: Our Chair and Vice-Chair have attended workshops on Charing meetings, our project officer has attended seminars aimed at LTO workers and Board members have attended workshops on a range of subjects at venues across the country.</p>
<p>Training at Local Trust/Big Local events</p>	<p>We have been asked to provide training at Local Trust events at a range of locations as well as through video-conferencing.</p>
<p>Inspections and audits</p>	<p>We have been inspected or audited by a number of representatives from Local Trust around our Community Plan, our financial governance and our environmental programme</p>

## Partnerships which didn't bear fruit

We have explored partnership working with a number of different individuals and groups which did not bear fruit:

- The Bridge Community Café – The Bridge run a 'pay as you can' café alongside a social supermarket, a second-hand clothes store and a second-hand furniture store. They approached us in 2017 to see whether we would be able to support them with a grant towards the refurbishment of premises because their existing premises were not suitable for their expanded business. The Board met with their Trustees, looked at their business model and heard a presentation from them. Their original plans to purchase a property in our project area fell through and they eventually identified another location outside our area.
- WigLe Dance – WigLe Dance is a community dance organisation which is housed in the refurbished upper floor of an ex cinema on Railway Road. We were approached for a grant of circa £50,000 towards the cost of a range of equipment and began the process of due diligence which is integral to our grant giving criteria. For reasons we don't fully understand the applicant stopped answering our emails and texts and so eventually the Board agreed to suspend the grant application process.
- Skate facility at Doctors Nook carpark - This partnership has been described elsewhere in this document. We were approached by local police officers to see whether we would be amenable to a funding application towards the cost of providing a skate facility on the public carpark adjacent to the Town Hall because there was a group of young people who used it at evenings and weekends. Councillors from the Leigh West Ward disagreed with this proposal but Councillors from Leigh East Ward suggested that the Doctors Nook carpark, just over the road in their Ward would be suitable. Our criteria for funding included a proviso that young people should be fully included through a comprehensive consultation exercise. The delivery of this consultation was discussed with a number of Council officers but ultimately it was not completed.

## Vision for 2023: Outcomes so far

What do we mean by 'outcome'? An outcome can be described as the consequence of the range of inputs that we have invested in the area...the difference that we have made to how people feel and think about where they live as a result of our hanging basket workshops, our investment in the Community Garden, our support for the Sacred Heart Summer School at Sacred Heart, our yarn bombing and all the other events and activities that we have made happen.

Outcome...what difference are we	Narrative...why do we think we've made a difference?
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<b>trying to make to people's lives?</b>	
An increased sense of community	<p><u>Newsletter:</u></p> <p>We share good news stories about our community, schools and churches</p>
More community spirit	<p><u>Our Art Neighbourhood:</u></p> <p>Our public workshops brought people of different ages and backgrounds together in shared settings where they quickly began to share and talk...watch our video of OAN on You Tube:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YxEez1ph7pc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YxEez1ph7pc</a></p>
Environmental improvements	<p><u>Environmental improvements:</u></p> <p>Our Hanging basket workshops bring people together as they make and distribute baskets for their friends and neighbours who can't attend the workshop in person  Our support for Carol and Arthur on Selwyn Street has created a sense of shared ownership and encouraged a change in behaviour – the dog owner who previously let their dog loose in the alley has now stopped!</p>
Support for people with training, apprenticeships and business start-ups	<p><u>Apprenticeships:</u></p> <p>We have sponsored two local unemployed people to BTEC Level two through partnership working with Groundwork CLM.</p>
Outstanding schools (we aren't using the Ofsted definition here...we want our local schools to be amazing places)	<p><u>School Support:</u></p> <p>The Leigh Neighbours Project would not claim that the success of our four local schools was down to anything other than great leadership, great teaching, dedication and professionalism at each school. What the Project does is to try and add value to what the school can provide with their own resources in order to help give local children the best start in life they can have. We've done that in a number of ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sacred Heart Summer School</li> <li>• Daily Mile arts project</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Art Neighbourhood – school workshops</li> <li>• Bike donation scheme in partnership with Gearing Up</li> <li>• Community Garden</li> <li>• Big Lunch funding</li> <li>• Resident’s Fund grants</li> <li>• Participation in Hanging Basket workshops</li> </ul>
<p>An area where people feel safe and where there is minimal crime</p>	<p><u>Crime Prevention:</u></p> <p>We have supported 40 vulnerable local residents through our Stop and Lock campaign  We offered to purchase Body worn cameras for our community policing team PCSOs  We have organised a number of Crime and Community Safety events  We have provided a range of anti-theft kit – key chains, purse bells, personal attack alarms, for local residents</p>

Personal Development

We recognise that being involved in the Leigh Neighbours Project can help people gain skills and experience that they perhaps wouldn't otherwise get in their day to day lives.

<p><u>Development and Learning by the Partnership Board</u></p> <p>Board members have gained first-hand experience of:</p> <p>Financial management for small organisations and charities  Governance of constituted groups and charities  Community Development  Community resilience  Being Community Champions  Environmental improvement projects</p>
<p><u>Development and Learning by the individual members of the Partnership Board</u></p>

Chairing meetings – Susan Gredecki

(Susan attended a series of Big Local Action Learning workshops with the Chairs of other Big Local Partnership Boards)

Chairing meetings – Jan Eckersley

(Jan attended a series of Big Local Action Learning workshops with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of other Big Local Partnership Boards)

Public speaking – John Gredecki

(John has spoken at public events with Prince's Trust volunteers and also spoke to the Kamosi Youth group about his own and his Father's experiences of Leigh)

Networking – Christine Farnworth

(Christine has attended a number of Big Local events including at the Eden Project)

CHEOP and Safeguarding – Lisa Brew

(Lisa is a former Board member and co-chair who attended a national workshop in London)

#### Development and Learning by local organisations as a result of interacting with the Leigh Neighbours Project

Grant applications – Soroptimists International, Sacred Heart School, St. John's CE School, Kingsleigh Methodist Church

#### Development and Learning by the individuals as a result of interacting with the Leigh Neighbours Project

Michelle Jones

Michelle is a local Mum who volunteered to help with our monthly children's craft workshops. Michelle has taken on responsibility for the planning and delivery of the workshops and we are now exploring how we can support Michelle to develop her skills around working with children through formal teaching qualifications, which may set her on a new career path.

Groundwork Apprentices x 2

We supported two local residents, who were unemployed at the time, to complete apprentice training with Groundwork. As well as their training in groundworking techniques they learnt health and safety, basic first aid, how to operate a range of tools and equipment and flora identification.



### SECTION THREE: Community Plan Themes and Priorities for 2018 – 2021

The Board considered whether there were any themes from the Community Plan 2013 – 2018 which would not be needed in the new Plan. The Board agreed that all of the existing themes should be retained. The reasoning was that even if no proactive plans were developed, it was useful to have them in order to provide a place for opportunistic community development initiatives.

Community Plan Theme	Status: retain or not?
Community Facilities	Yes
Community Spirit	Yes
Crime and Community Safety	Yes
Education, Employment and Training	Yes
Environment	Yes
Financial Matters	Yes
Health	Yes
Housing	Yes
Leisure	Yes
Traffic and Transport	Yes

#### Legacy – Beyond the life of lottery funding

The Board don't see the end of Local Trust and Big Local as the end of the line for them as an organisation or as a body which endeavours to improve the local area. They have already made provision for the end of the formal Local Trust/Big Local organisation by establishing 'Leigh Neighbours' as a charity (Charity Number: 1161291). The Board have also established a Legacy Fund where income derived from activities undertaken by or on behalf of the Board (such as Big Local workshops attended by the Project Officer) are deposited. The Board are also their own Locally Trusted Organisation (LTO), so have firmly embedded good financial practice in all they do and have a clear understanding of the principles of good governance.

The Board have also recently taken responsibility for the lease of 14 Walmesley Road, Leigh, the former base of the CIC 'As in Eden'. The lease has another six years to run and it is intended that an application for a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) will be made to the Council before the end of the current lease. (N.B. the Council says it has a CAT process, but in reality it does not allow the full transfer of assets, rather it provides long leases on buildings. The Board will attempt to secure a lease of at least 25 years on the building). A Lettings Policy for the meeting room at 14 Walmesley Road has been developed and income from room hire will also be used to support the project once funding is no longer available.

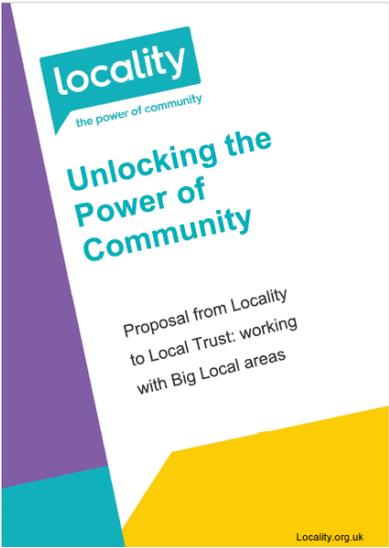
The Board took the view from the outset of the project that they would endeavour to support and promote events, activities and organisations which were sustainable. Their ambition has been to develop the local social infrastructure in a way that meant that eventually the event, club etc would not be reliant on Leigh Neighbours for funding, but rather would be self-reliant.

The individual projects identified below in the Community Plan have been given a 'legacy score 'to indicate whether they are sustainable and could be considered a legacy of Big Local funding.

The score is 1 😊 – 5 😊😊😊😊😊, with 1 😊 being the lowest and 5 😊 the highest.

**SECTION FOUR: Community Plan 2018 – 2021**

Theme: Partnerships and Relationships

Project	Narrative
<p data-bbox="91 379 297 411">Locality Project</p>  <p>The poster features the Locality logo at the top left, with the tagline 'the power of community'. The main title is 'Unlocking the Power of Community' in large, bold, blue letters. Below the title, it reads 'Proposal from Locality to Local Trust: working with Big Local areas'. The background is white with a purple triangle on the left and a yellow triangle at the bottom right. The website 'Locality.org.uk' is at the bottom right.</p>	<p data-bbox="640 379 2116 683">Leigh West Big Local area (us) have been invited to be part of a project by Locality to explore ways of developing or resetting relation between Big Local areas and local government. The Board have committed to supporting the project with a hope that what was a sometimes difficult relationship with Ward Councillors can be developed into one which is much more productive and mutually beneficial. There have been a couple of meetings with Ward Councillors over the Summer months and Board members are optimistic about the future. Ward Councillors were invited to provide feedback on the draft of this Plan and their input was invaluable, not least because they were able to highlight how our Plan echoed the broad strategic aims of the Council (Start Well, Live Well, Age Well and Integration). It is also hoped that the 'curate's egg' relationship with council officers can become one which helps Leigh Neighbours support local residents in making the area a better place to live.</p> <p data-bbox="640 1054 965 1086">Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊</p>

Theme: Community Facilities

This broad theme reflects the Board's desire to invest in the social infrastructure of the area by providing development grants to other community facilities; by developing 14 Walmesley Road as a community resource; by enhancing the area through public art and by encouraging children and young people to participate in shared activities. The Board see the development and enhancement of community resources in this way as providing a tangible improvement to the area – making it a better place to live. As well as providing a legacy beyond the life of Big Local.

Project	Narrative
Improvement Grants Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	The programme of providing local community facilities with improvement grants (as benefitted Kingsleigh Methodist Community Centre) will continue. Facilities identified include: St. Mary's Vestry, Sacred Heart Parish Centre and True Colours
As in Eden – Development programme Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	<p>The range and number of groups using 14 Walmesley Road will be expanded through an advertising campaign as well as word of mouth. A Lettings Policy will be developed which serves to support community groups and organisations as well as encouraging commercial bookings as an income stream.</p> <p>Taster sessions will be developed as well as invitations to local groups extended.</p> <p>A modest refurbishment programme has been approved by the Board (plumbing improvements, remodelling the kitchen, some decoration, upgrade to wi-fi and broadband) which will improve the facility and the commercial hire potential.</p> <p>An official opening will be organised.</p>
Our Art Neighbourhood Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	<p>The Board have agreed to build on the success of the Planter on Glebe Street which was developed as part of the Our Art Neighbourhood project and we are in the process of developing a series of public and school workshops to develop ideas, and maybe artwork to be used in future.</p> <p>A walkaround by the Vice Chair and Martyn Lucas has identified a large number of sites suitable for a range of public art: mosaics, planters, murals as well as other interventions, such as turning traffic bollards into sundials.</p>
Craft workshops Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	<p>The programme of monthly craft workshops has been planned to Christmas 2018 and it is intended to extend the volunteer pool and run workshops throughout 2019.</p> <p>A pilot project running weekly workshops during the school Summer holidays is planned. The project will run every Friday and will provide a target group of 10 children with activities, including crafts, reading, planting, healthy cooking as well as breakfast and lunch.</p>
On-line booking for community facilities Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	An on-line booking system which allows local people to book space at any of the local community facilities will be developed and maintained.

Theme: Crime and Community Safety

Dr. Bike sessions Legacy score: 😊😊😊	Regular bike repair workshops, delivered in conjunction with 'Gearing Up' from Wigan, will be arranged at key points in the calendar (back to school, get ready for Summer). Support for the 'On Your Bike' programme at local schools and at others sites will continue.
Defibrillator Programme Legacy score: 😊😊😊	A programme to provide heart defibrillators to local community groups and public spaces will be developed.
Risks in Leigh Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	The Board will convene a meeting of key agencies and organisations (GMP, MP, Council, Ward Councillors and other local groups) in Leigh and work to identify the main issues in Leigh and seek to support ways of addressing those risks. For example, the Board supported the work of a domestic violence charity for some years. It might be that there are similar organisations locally that could benefit from financial or in-kind support. The possibility of establishing or supporting a 'Street Angels' scheme for Leigh will be investigated.
Night time economy Legacy score: 😊😊😊	There is a thriving night-time economy in Leigh based upon pubs and clubs. Ways of adding value to the night-time economy which doesn't rely on the consumption of alcohol will be investigated.
Target hardening project Legacy score: 😊😊😊	The 'Stop and Lock' project delivered in partnership with our Community PCSOs will be revived and funds suitable to 'target-harden' 50 properties will be made available.

### Theme: Education, Employment and Training

The Board recognise the local context around education and educational attainment in the local area: That education has ended for many by the age of 16; that the qualifications that local people have are below the local and regional mean; and that as a result local people often find themselves in low paid jobs with few prospects of advancement. The Board also recognise the positive differences that their investment can make for the life chances of children and young people in the area. The Board have identified a range of events, activities and opportunities which they will support to help our young people, especially those who are at a disadvantage from an early age, to get the most from their formal and informal education in order to maximise their opportunity in the future.

Apprenticeships	The Board is still seeking opportunities to support local people attain nationally recognised accredited qualifications through formal apprentice schemes – there is on-going dialogue with the Archives Service around the recruitment of an apprentice who would be based at the Archives Service and who accessed the Council's Apprentice Training
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Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	programme.  The Board are also exploring other ways that they can support local people in attaining formal qualifications in other ways and are exploring a partnership with Discover Training to deliver a Level 2 qualification for Teaching Assistants starting in September 2018.
Summer School Legacy score: 😊	The Board have supported the cost of local children attending Sacred Heart Summer School for a number of years, with the positive academic and social impact detailed in presentations by the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher. An application for sponsorship has been received and approved for the 2018 Summer School.
Personal Development Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	The ways that the Project has supported the personal development of Board members and others has been described elsewhere in this paper. The Board will continue to explore ways that this can continue, especially in developing Board members to fulfil some of the tasks undertaken by paid workers.
Arts and Culture for children Legacy score: 😊😊😊	The Board are exploring the possibility of supporting local schools through the funding of visits to local arts and culture venues as an enhancement to their curriculum. Visits to the Lowry theatre for Shakespeare, the Bridgewater for music and the City Art Gallery to view works by Turner could all be interesting, stimulating and provide local children with opportunities to enjoy the arts which otherwise not present themselves.
Pre-school Literacy Bags Legacy score: 😊😊😊	Some years ago the Board approved a Resident's Fund application from Sacred Heart school to develop a pre-school literacy scheme. The Board wish to help Sacred Heart renew their scheme and to offer the opportunity to develop a scheme to our other local schools.
Prince's Trust Legacy score: 😊😊😊	The Project have worked in partnership with Prince's Trust for a number of years in identifying community projects in our area for their students to complete as part of their course. This partnership working will continue. It is also intended that a closer relationship will be developed whereby LNP and Prince's Trust work together to identify young people from the area to undertake the 16 week Prince's Trust Personal Development programme.
Sure Start Centre Legacy score: 😊😊	The relationship with the Sure Start Centre will be renewed and ways of supporting local parents will be explored.
College bursary scheme Legacy score: 😊😊	A bursary fund will be established to support local young people to study at University, especially where it can be shown that the cost of living or tuition fees would otherwise preclude the person from going to University.
High Schools	The Board will make fresh efforts to create relations with high schools which teach children from our project area.

Legacy score: 😊😊😊	Support for those pupils will be explored with headteachers.
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Theme: Environment

The Board believe that there are benefits which accrue from their investment in environmental improvements beyond the fact that they make the area look nicer. Encouraging residents to have a hanging basket, do some alley-greening or to support the community garden or allotment helps develop a deep-rooted pride in the area, people start to value where they live and want to continue to play their own part in the improvement of the area. 'Community Spirit' is a difficult thing to measure, but the Board know it instinctively when they see a queue form at a hanging basket workshop, have people volunteer to help with a clean-up campaign or donate plants to the community garden.

Hanging Basket workshops Legacy score: 😊😊	The Board intend to continue with their highly popular hanging basket workshop programme providing baskets for winter and summer from a number of different locations in the project area. Autumn 2018 will see the introduction of an additional workshop for local schools to attend. This will allow Board volunteers to spend more time with classes and address some H+S concerns that were identified in May 2018.
Community Garden Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	The Community Garden continues to be a wonderful resource for local people. The Gardening Gang will continue to be supported and there are plans to grow Pumpkins for a Hallowe'en Craft workshop in October.
Railway Road allotment Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	The allotment has been a resounding success, not only in growing edible produce, but in serving as a focus for community activity. As well as volunteers from Wigan Council helping to develop the scheme early in 2017, local residents have been joined forces to fill the water butt and to water vegetables in the dry spell in Summer 2018. The first year of growing has been very much a pilot year. It is intended that the allotment will be developed over time to build on the successes of the first year.  A You Tube video can be found at: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4MRopW9ngUs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4MRopW9ngUs</a>
Alley greening Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊	The alley greening programme will be relaunched on the back of the success of the Selwyn Street project. Existing leads will be followed up and the possibility of linking alley-greening with Our Art Neighbourhood activities explored.
Planting schemes Legacy score: 😊😊😊	The proactive approach identified in a separate review of Incredible Edible – to approach local community organisations, such as local churches, schools etc to identify and plant edibles will be followed up.

<p>Environmental Crime</p> <p>Legacy score: 😊</p>	<p>The Board have been approached by a senior officer at Wigan Council with an offer for the Council to manage a dedicated Environmental Enforcement and Education Officer if LNPB were able to fund the salary for 12 months. The Board have met with the officer and have posed a number of questions. Whilst the offer is an attractive one, and Board members can see many benefits to having such support, there are also a number of issues to be addressed. Whether for example, such an officer would form part of the Council's statutory duty and therefore be outside of the funding scope of the project.</p> <p>The Board have decided to put the proposal on hold until the invitation to participate in the Locality research described earlier has borne fruit.</p> <p>In the meantime, the Board will look to work in partnership with the Council in providing more waste bins in the area and to deliver a schools education programme.</p>
<p>Dog Fouling</p> <p>Legacy score: 😊</p>	<p>The Board will purchase and supply dog waste bags to local dog owners. Plans will be developed to host a dog chipping open day.</p>
<p>Re-homed Plants</p> <p>Legacy score: 😊😊😊😊😊</p>	<p>Board members have made one of the traffic calming areas on Walmesley Road into a home for unloved plants. Local residents who don't want to keep a plant take it there and plant it. So far there have been donations of Peace Lilies, Foxgloves, Lavender and a Greengage.</p>

Theme: Financial Matters

<p>Development programme</p> <p>Legacy score: 😊</p>	<p>The Board wish to explore the help and support that can be given to local people to maintain their financial health. This will include programmes in local schools. One of the Board's contract workers is also a Trustee at the local Credit Union which should help with partnership working.</p>
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Theme: Health and Lifestyles

The Board know that addressing health and disease and health inequalities is the principle responsibility of the health service and public health organisations. However, they also know that work they have undertaken in the past, in supporting local residents set up a Bingo club to address the social isolation of older people for example, can make a significant difference to the life expectancy of local people (a recent study showed that lacking social connections is as damaging as smoking 15 cigarettes a day). The Board see their work in developing 14 Walmesley Road, as well as support for other friendship projects, as a vital cog in helping residents live longer in our area.

Healthy Eating Legacy score: 😊😊	A healthy eating project will be explored as a partnership programme with The Bridge Community café. The summer crafts sessions will be used to pilot and develop the programme.
Bikes Legacy score: 😊	The partnership working with 'Gearing Up' which led to bikes being donated to local schools will be reviewed with a view to servicing or replacing the existing bikes and exploring ways of gifting bikes to older residents.

Theme: Housing

Housing Strategy Legacy score: 😊😊	The Housing Strategy will be reviewed and relations will be developed with the new Housing Officer at Wigan Council. It is to be hoped that the recent discussions with the Ward Councillors will also allow that relationship to be reset after what councillors perceived to be a rejection of their invitation to support the EWI scheme
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Theme: Traffic and Transport

The Board have noted the range of research which shows the impact of traffic pollution on both adults and children and believe that reducing, even slightly, the amount of Carbon Monoxide (CO) and Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) gases around our schools will be of huge benefit to schoolchildren, their siblings, parents and grandparents and will be of lasting benefit to the local community.

Air Quality Legacy score: 😊😊	The air quality in towns and cities throughout the UK is a major concern, especially in the vicinity of schools. A research programme will be developed which tests the air quality at our local schools, both at normal and peak times, and ways of reducing harmful levels will be explored with the local authority.
Alternative Transport scheme Legacy score: 😊😊	Enquiries will be made about the possibility of extending the Mobike scheme from Manchester City to Leigh.
Advocacy and Information Legacy score: 😊😊😊	Ways of sharing local residents concerns about traffic and transport, including the quality of specific roads will be explored. Options might include artistic ways of addressing potholes and alternative ways of marking traffic calming and platforms

Theme: Young People. 0 – 18.

<p>Awareness and Participation Programme</p> <p>Legacy score: 😊😊</p>	<p>A comprehensive review of groups for local young people will be undertaken and ways that Leigh Neighbours could support those groups, and therefore young people, will be explored.</p>
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Theme: Isolation and Inter-generational activities

<p>Working with partners</p> <p>Legacy score: 😊😊</p>	<p>Partnerships will be developed with local agencies, such as Age Concern, Men in Sheds and Selby Court to develop a range of events and activities which reduce social isolation. These might include a local branch of 'Men in Sheds' and inter-generational activities.</p> <p>Ways of developing links between local schools and sheltered accommodation in the project area will also be explored.</p> <p>A programme of dementia awareness training will be delivered in partnership with the council to support local businesses and to help 'dementia-proof' our area.</p>
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**Table showing consolidated list of projects and activities with outline costs for 2018 – 2021**

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Cost per Annum</b>	<b>Cost for 2018 - 2021</b>
Community Facilities	20,000	40,000
Community Spirit	16,600	49,800
Crime and Community Safety	6950	11850
Education, Employment and Training	31,000	61,000
Environment	6000	14000
Financial Matters	42,500	62,440
Governance	500	500
Health and Lifestyles	1,600	3,800
Housing	100,000	100,000
Isolation and Inter-Generational activities	2,000	2,000
Traffic and Transport	7,000	9,000
Young People: 0 - 18	500	1,500
<b>Activity Total</b>		<b>355,890</b>
Officer costs	65,000	194,400
14 Walmsley Road - Running costs	625	1,875
<b>Total</b>		<b>552,165</b>
Contingency funds @ 10%		55,217
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>607,382</b>
Local Trust Management Fee @ 5%		30,369

## APPENDIX ONE

### Consultation Process and Results

The review of the 2013 – 2018 Community Plan and the drafting of the Plan for 2018 – 2021 has been undertaken through workshops with Board members as well as a series of public workshops held at 14 Walmesley Road (Public workshops delivered on Wednesday 09 May 2018, 5.00pm to 8.00pm and on Friday 11 May 2018, 3.00pm – 8.00pm at As in Eden.) A questionnaire was also developed and shared at events like the Soroptimist International ‘Women Zone’ and at hanging basket workshops. The project officer was also invited to talk to local young people (see below).

### Consultation Survey Results

A one-off session was held with young people from Wigan Council’s ‘Leigh Youth Voice’ group on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Key points from the workshop were:

- Railway Road – need to clean it up, drugs and needles
- Impact of take-away shops on Railway Road and lack of healthy options
- Safety concerns for young people at night given the number of pubs and clubs in the area
- Dog fouling
- Environmental awareness, especially around recycling and what goes in which colour bin
- Positives in the area: Portuguese restaurant on Railway Road, Turnpike Gallery, One Stop café, Library, car-park to skate on
- The need to promote family businesses rather than big chains
- Lack of information about the town centre – maps with ‘you are here’

The results from completed questionnaires are listed below:

#### **Greatest Concerns/Issues**

Addiction Services/Mental Health Services  
ASB. Integration in community  
Homelessness. Drink/Drugs. Less education

#### **Priorities**

Advice and Guidance  
Young people. Sustainable living. Activities. Entrepreneurship for YP. Ownership of area  
Homelessness. Children. More educational programmes

Homelessness. Begging.  
 Traffic. Housebuilding  
 ASB. Drinking. Drugs.  
 ASB. Lack of opportunities for young people  
 ASB, Violence, Drug use, Poverty  
 Immigration, Waste dumping  
 Smackheads, prostitutes  
 ASB, homelessness  
 Crime  
 Poverty, Family breakdown, no community pride  
 ASB, homelessness, drugs, crime  
 Rubbish thrown in the backs  
 Overfilled wheelie bins  
 ASB

Traffic  
 Pot holes  
 Lack of green spaces / amenities for young people  
 Drugs  
 Residents parking near town centre  
 Litter  
 Litter / drugs on Railway Rd  
 Leigh College frontage / dog & pigeon fouling  
 Isolation  
 Rubbish & fly tipping in alleys

Community Spirit. Promote groups and help available. Youth club. Encourage local shopping  
 Appearance of town centre. Demolish older disused shops  
 Workshops to highlight dangers of drink/drugs  
 Improve opportunities for young people  
 Music, recording studios, skate park  
 Community Projects, PSCOs on the street  
 Making Leigh a better, safer, cleaner place to live  
 ASB, Homelessness, improving the enrichment within Leigh  
 Housing and crime  
 Family activities, education on nutrition  
 Childrens Clubs  
 Clearing rubbish, planting

Improving the area & more activities for children  
 Homelessness  
 Roads and traffic  
 Activities for teenagers  
 Environmental improvements / opportunities for young people  
 ASB  
 Cleaning back alleys / residents parking permits  
 Clearing litter / clean back alleys  
 Litter / drugs on Railway Rd  
 Litter  
 Integration of new comers / old timers  
 The Bridge / Brick projects

**Assets**

Community Organisations  
 Churches. People.

**Resource Targets**

Grants/Information drops

**Other**

Town Hall and Archives. Library	Leafletting Clubs and activities for young people Challenge Wigan Council Young peoples activities	Can BL area be extended? Good market. Poor appearance of town centre. Moss Bank flowers
Leigh Neighbours Nothing	Young peoples activities Higher branded shops	Looking forward to seeing the improvements Leigh is not good
Nothing Events like Women's Zone.	Better shops Community events	Please help us
Lovely areas, youth groups Nice parks, more clubs/activities	Involve families in improving the area Advertising, social media, fundraising	Brownies/Guides from Sacred Heart want to get involved Contact The Round Table
The people of Leigh Leigh neighbours	Keep doing what we do Activities for children & YP	More activities and events are needed
Flower arrangements in public spaces Not many for young people Advertising volunteering opportunities Encourage street cleaning More action by all People to clean up after themselves People of Leigh LASARS, volunteers	Young peoples activities Litter / dog fouling Young peoples activities WMBC / Parking permits Neighbourhood watch  Youth clubs / place for young and old to mix	Road improvements  Keep up the good work Thanks for all you do  Never see police officers on the beat Regular yearly event to bring the community together Educate young people re dog waste. Annual Dog Day inc pet service

## APPENDIX TWO

### Resident's Fund recipients (list to May 2017).

Paul Bennett / David Turton	Environmental clean up to unadopted alley to rear of Windermere Road/Peel Street, inc Skip Hire	DCLG	500.00
Alison Eaton/Kath Pedigrew	Pilot Project - Friday evening music project for young people	DCLG	500.00
Aliguena Honore	Funds for Football Kit	DCLG	500.00
Kelly Wall, Leigh Childrens Centre	Welcome Pack for parents for who English is not their 1st language	DCLG	450.00
Julia Mwaluke	Volunteer clean up team via LCIP	DCLG	500.00
Mo Lamboune	Set up of Churchfield Residents Association	DCLG	500.00
Carolyn Neale	Carpe Diem Sewing Group	DCLG	500.00
Leigh Community Intergrated project	Volunteer Cleanup	DCLG	500.00
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	Pre Reception Literacy Project - Book Bags	DCLG	500.00
Stephen Ruffley	Inv LN0011 - Spring Bulbs (community Garden)	DCLG	54.96
Christine Farnworth	Hanging Baskets	DCLG	360.00
Leigh Neighbours Community Garden	St John's Commnity Garden (Materials)	DCLG	99.40
Churchfield Residents Association	Refund of overpayment of grant (initial grant paid by WMBC)	DCLG	-200.00
David Boydell	Alley Greening, Grasmere Street	DCLG	527.94
Leigh CE Infant School	Contribution to cost of greenhouse for gardening club	DCLG	500.00
St Johns CE Infant School	Contribution towards St John's Community Garden (Sleepers/transport/bricklayer)	DCLG	542.30
St Johns CE Infant School	Contribution towards St John's Community Garden (1/3rd of cost of gates)	DCLG	187.33
Leigh Neighbours Community Garden	St John's Community Garden (Flagging materials)	DCLG	88.89
Leigh Neighbours Community Garden	St John's Community Garden (Sleepers for raised beds)	DCLG	64.00
Leigh Neighbours Community Garden	St John's Community Garden (Materials)	DCLG	70.20
Wigan Council	Travel costs for Young People (Lisa and Sam) to attend Child Protection Training in London	Pathway Funding	540.00
Bill Burton	Fencing round planted areas on Walmesley Road	Pathway Funding	500.00
Kevin Crinks	One Community - engaging with agencies to provide for vulnerable members of neighbourhood	Pathway Funding	500.00
Leigh Parish Church	Tree stakes & ties	Pathway Funding	253.20
David Boydell	Alley Greening, Grasmere Street	Pathway Funding	500.00
Leigh Neighbours Community Garden	St Johns Community Garden (Topsoil)	Pathway Funding	210.00
Audrey Ward	Selby Court Gardens	Pathway Funding	500.00
Christine Fullelove	Alley Greening, Grasmere Street	Pathway Funding	499.62
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	Bark for School Playground (Appvd 23/5/13)	Pathway Funding	500.00

Christine Farnworth	Hose pipe for Community Garden	Pathway Funding	69.99
Paul Bennett	Walmesley Road	Pathway Funding	500.00
Paul Bennett	Refund of Residents Fund Grant - Walmesley Road	Pathway Funding	-500.00
Wigan Council	Youth Council Bid for Laptop & Software	Pathway Funding	465.00
Wigan Council	Refund of Youth Council Bid for Laptop & Software	Pathway Funding	-465.00
316 (Leigh) Squadron Air Training Corps	MOT & Repair Costs for Minibus	Pathway Funding	250.00
316 (Leigh) Squadron Air Training Corps	Contribution to replacement of Standards	Pathway Funding	500.00
As In Eden	Residents Fund Grant - Notice Board	Community Facilities	500.00
Salvation Army	Night Shelter Pilot Project	Connecting Communities	500.00
Susan Allred	Garden makeover front of 139 & 149 Walmesley Road, Leigh	Environment	59.84
Melvyn Rothwell	Kingsleigh Methodist Church - Toaster & Plates	Community Spirit	268.21
Friends of Lilford Park	Centenary Celebration	Community Spirit	500.00
Kingsleigh Methodist Church	Peace Garden	Community Facilities	500.00
Adam Barratt	Residents Fund Grant - IROAM	Community Facilities	500.00
Christine Farnworth	Planting/Cleanup @ Kirkhall Lane/Leigh Rd Junction	Environment	120.00
Christine Farnworth	Tools for Community Garden	Environment	47.00
Turnpike Community Theatre	Legs to raise stage @ Turnpike Gallery	Leisure	500.00
Kingsleigh Methodist Church	Anitvandal paint & lights - car park improvements	Crime & safety	368.95
Leigh Caring Kitchen	Contribution to Van Hire	Community Spirit	500.00
Leigh Residents Association	Leigh Res Assoc set up / project costs	Community Spirit	500.00
Leigh Community Dance	Open day / hoodies	Health	500.00
Christians in Leigh	Art Workshops in October	Community Spirit	469.00
Monument Men	3D Printer (paid 11.10.16)	Educ, Employment & Training	488.97
Homeless Support Project	Food for Homeless Support Project	Financial Matters	500.00
Leigh Parish Church	Cherry Tree	Environment	105.60
Christine Farnworth	Lights for Community Garden	Environment	27.93
			<u>14,073.33</u>
			<u><b>18,523.33</b></u>

## APPENDIX THREE



**Leigh Neighbours project is a Lottery-funded, resident-led, community development project. In 2015, we established ourselves as a registered charity to formalise our organisation.**

The Lottery stream is called *Big Local*, and the intention is to empower local people to enable them to identify how they can make the area where they live and work a better place. *Big Local* gives us the funds we need in order to make these changes and to achieve our shared objectives.



The Lottery helped us to define a specific part of Leigh to work in, and gave us £1 million to spend over 10 years. We have a fixed geographical area bounded by Kirkhall Lane to the north, Leigh Road to the east, Twist Lane to the south and Atherleigh Way.

We have a Community Plan which we prepared after consulting with over 700 local people. We have a number of partners in the statutory, voluntary and charitable sectors and have good visibility in the local community.

Our Management Board, which includes two local headteachers and ten residents, meets monthly, and drives all the strategic decision-making.

We have categorised our priorities into a number of key strands:

- **Access to community facilities**
- **Building community spirit**
- **Education, employment & training**
- **Improving the quality of local housing**
- **Opportunities for leisure**
- **Health improvements**
- **Tackling financial inequalities**
- **Traffic & transport initiatives**

All of our projects reflect the priorities that local people told us were important to them, and demonstrate partnership-working in action.



## Providing easy access to a Resident's Fund

**Our Resident's Fund provides access to grants up to a value of £500 for projects which address some of the issues identified in our Community Plan.**

So far, we've given away £15,000 through the Resident's Fund, which represents an investment into over 50 local projects. The breadth and scope of these projects reflects the diversity of our local community. For example, we've invested in:



We funded the replacement of new standards for the local **Air Cadets** after theirs were stolen. We also contributed towards the maintenance costs of their vehicle.



We provided starter funds for the **Over-50s Monday Club** which now runs at full capacity every week, supports more than 75 older people and helps to tackle social isolation.



Leigh Neighbours has funded several events as part of The **Big Lunch** initiative, which aims to bring people together over shared meals.



We covered the cost of materials and a visiting tutor for **Carpe Diem crafts group**.



A new all-weather noticeboard for **As in Eden**, a well used community venue in Leigh West.



**i-Roam** is an online tool which gives people with learning difficulties a chance to preview public buildings prior to visiting. Leigh Neighbours provided funding to purchase film equipment.

## Supporting our local community Champions

**Leigh Neighbours recognises the contribution that so many organisations, schools, churches, volunteers and charities make to our project area.**

And to show our support, we sometimes make donations to these groups, which we hope helps them bring even more value into the lives of local people. So far, we've provided financial support to organisations such as:

- As in Eden CIC
- True Colours CIC
- Atherton & Leigh Foodbank
- Compassion in Action
- Homeless Support Project
- Atherton & Leigh Shelter of Hope
- Christians in Leigh
- Leigh Caring Kitchen
- Prince's Trust
- Gearing Up CIC
- Groundwork
- WAVE domestic abuse charity



We lent our support to **Leigh Caring Kitchen**, a facility which provides food and shelter to the homeless.



We contributed towards the cost of laying on a Star Wars-themed party hosted by **Churches in Leigh**, which offered children a less spooky alternative to Hallowe'en.

We regularly donate funding to **Atherton & Leigh Foodbank** which assists families struggling on benefits by distributing groceries and food, and offering help and advice.



We sponsor **Sacred Heart RC Primary's Summer School**, a programme which gives children a chance to consolidate their learning in a fun and relaxed environment before they embark on a new academic year.

## Your local priorities

### Building community spirit

Our events and activities aim to build community spirit. The community arts project, **Our Art Neighbourhood** was not simply designed to add colour to the area, but also to act as a catalyst to bring people together. We also provide funding to groups, churches and schools so they can lay on events and activities for the wider community. We funded Leigh town centre's **Christmas tree lights**, as well as several **Big Lunch** events to help people forge new friendships.



### Raising aspirations and investing in people



We've worked with the charity **Groundwork** to fund two local apprenticeships, enabling them to learn new skills and obtain NVQ qualifications. And we're working with **Wigan Council** to support another two apprentices in Archives and Libraries. Working with Wigan-based CIC, Gearing Up, we've provided a number of recycled bikes to local schools, giving pupils a chance to learn to ride after school.

### Encouraging people to be healthier...

Our regular **Be Seen Be Safe** events - organised in partnership with schools, the police and Gearing Up - are very popular with cyclists of all ages. We're also working with Leigh Central Primary School to add value to their **Daily Mile** project. And we sponsored the goody bags for the inaugural **Leigh Community 10k**, in an effort to promote health initiatives.



### ... and to feel safer



**Stop & Lock** was a 'target hardening' initiative to provide additional home security to some of our more vulnerable residents. We've also organised events to give local residents an opportunity to meet the police and other **community safety** professionals. And we support the **Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service** in their campaigns, too.

### Improving community facilities



The unveiling of a plaque at **Kingsleigh Methodist community centre** marked the official re-opening of the venue following its £25,000 renovation, funded by Leigh Neighbours. We're now looking at how we can help to improve **As In Eden** - host to many of our popular craft events. We plan to target a number of other community facilities for improvements over the next two years.

## Making the area cleaner & greener

### Jubilee community garden

With the support of the Probation Service, Prince's Trust and the Council's Restorative Justice team, we transformed an area of derelict land next to St John's CE School, and turned it into a community garden.



### Leigh Neighbours In Bloom



**Leigh Neighbours In Bloom** is our annual competition designed to recognise and celebrate the skills and efforts of our most talented green-fingered experts. Pictured: 2016 winner Derek Cunliffe of Findlay Street with judge Bill Burton.

### Hanging basket workshops

We've delivered over 30 hanging basket workshops for local residents and schools. All materials are provided free of charge, and as well as making the area more attractive, the workshops are a great way of bringing the Whole community together.



### Clean-up campaigns

We've organised dozens of litter picks in partnership with the community, and we support all the national campaigns. During **Clean for the Queen**, we co-ordinated community litter picks and sponsored a school art competition.



### Landscaping projects

As part of their personal development programme, we have commissioned **Prince's Trust** students to undertake various projects to help improve the area, such as clearing the grounds of **As in Eden** and stripping back overgrowth around Sacred Heart church.



### Sustainable projects

We're currently developing a project in partnership with the charity, **Incredible Edible**, which aims to increase the amount of local food grown and eaten in local communities.



## APPENDIX FOUR

Budget 2018 – 2021

Theme	Project	Cost per Annum	Cost for 2018 - 2021
Community Facilities	Improvement Grants	10,000	30,000
	14 Walmesley Road - Improvements	10,000	10,000
	On-line booking for community spaces	2,500	3,000
		20,000	40,000
Community Spirit	Community Arts	10,000	30,000
	Mediation Training	500	1,500
	Craft Club	600	1,800
	Big Lunch	500	1,500
	Christmas Donations	5,000	15,000
		16,600	49,800
Crime and Community Safety	Dr. Bike sessions	450	1,350
	Stop and Lock/Target Hardening	4,000	8,000
	Defibrillator Programme	2,500	2,500
	Risks in Leigh	-	-
	Night time economy	-	-
		6950	11850
Education, Employment and Training	Summer School	2,500	7,500
	Summer Holiday Craft Club	1,500	4,500
	Apprenticeships	12,000	12,000
	Arts and Culture for children	1,000	9,000
	Personal Development	-	-
	Pre-school literacy bags	2,000	2,000
	Prince's Trust	2,000	6,000
	College Bursary Scheme	10,000	20,000

	Sure Start Centre	-	-
	High Schools	-	-
		31,000	61,000
Environment	Grow Food	500	1,500
	Clean up campaigns	500	1,500
	Dog Mess problem	500	1,500
	Hanging Baskets	2,000	6,000
	Alley Greening	500	1,500
	Riverside Housing	500	500
	Community Garden	500	500
	Railway Road Allotment	500	500
	Planting Schemes	500	500
	Environmental Crime Officer		
		6000	14000
Financial Matters	Low interest loans for landlords	10,000	10,000
	Low interest loans for homeowners	10,000	10,000
	Low interest business start-up loans	10,000	10,000
	Hardship relief fund	2,500	7,500
	Financial Literacy	500	1,000
	Baby Bond scheme	1,500	4,500
	School Savings scheme	3,000	4,440
	Large Grant Scheme	2,500	7,500
	Resident's Fund	2,000	6,000
	Development Programme	500	1,500
		42,500	62,440
Governance	Personal Development	-	-
	Locality Project	500	500
		500	500
Health and Lifestyles	Healthy Eating	600	1,800
	Bikes	1,000	2,000
		1,600	3,800

Housing	Pilot Housing scheme and scale up	100,000	100,000
		100,000	100,000
Isolation and Inter-Generational activities	Partnership Working	2,000	2,000
		2,000	2,000
Traffic and Transport	Air Quality	5,000	5,000
	Alternative Transport Scheme	1,000	3,000
	Advocacy and Information	1,000	1,000
		7,000	9,000
Young People: 0 - 18	Awareness and Participation	500	1,500

<b>Activity Total</b>			<b>355,890</b>
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Officer costs		65,000	194,400
14 Walmesley Road - Running costs		625	1,875
<b>Total</b>			<b>552,165</b>
Contingency funds @ 10%			55,217
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>607,382</b>
Local Trust Management Fee @ 5%			30,369

## APPENDIX FIVE

List of organisations that the Leigh Neighbours Project has worked in partnership with since 2010.

Adactus Housing Association	Groundwork: Cheshire, Lancashire and Merseyside	St. John's C of E Primary School
Atherton and Leigh Foodbank	Homeless Support Project	St. Mary's C of E Primary School
The Bridge Community Café	Kingsleigh Methodist Church	St. Mary the Virgin C of E Church
Citizen's Advice	Leigh Central Primary School	Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School
Coffee Stop Café	Leigh Community 10K	Sacred Heart 9 <sup>th</sup> /15 <sup>th</sup> Cub Scout group
Compassion in Action	Moss Bank Nursery	Soroptimist International
Gearing Up	Prince's Trust	Wigan and Leigh College
Greater Manchester Police	Riverside Housing Association	Wigan Council: Wigan in Bloom Youth Services Restorative Solutions B'You Youth Group Kamosi Youth Group Leigh Youth Voice Car Park Services Waste Management Archives Services Leigh Library