

BMBC Area Councils Covid19 Recovery Presentation June 2020

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Presentation Content

- Strategic Approach to the Recovery Phase – David Robinson
- Role of Area Councils and Ward Alliances in Recovery – Phil Hollingsworth
- Implications for the Area Council Planned Approach – Area Council Manager

Strategic Approach to the Recovery Phase

David Robinson

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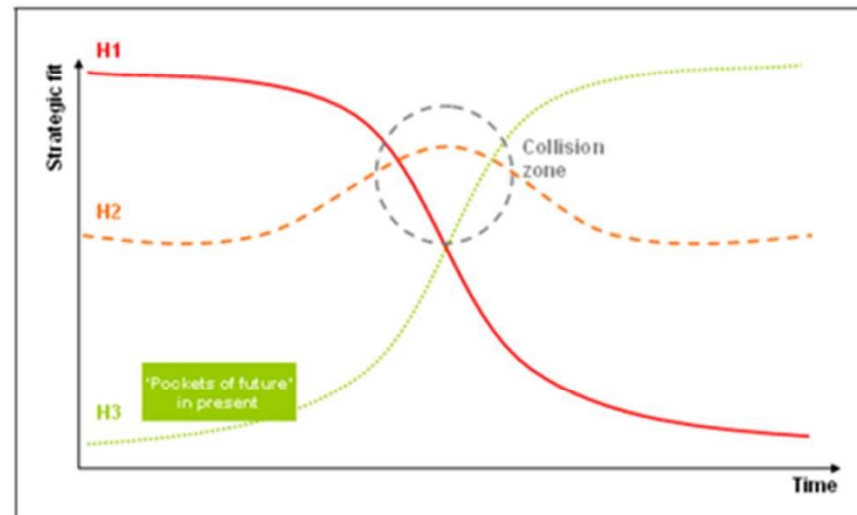


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Recovery, Renewal, Restarting, Restoring, Rebuilding, Moving on.....

- Its complicated, multidimensional requiring an agile and adaptive approach
- It is also an opportunity to realign with peoples values - build back better and give a sense of Renewal to communities
- To create a 'new normal' that sets a path towards longer term strategic goals and aligns with strategic phases of the virus containment.
- This 'new normal' will require dedicated, collective and focussed leadership alongside our communities, our businesses and our public services for some time.
- An emerging, developing Government Recovery & Renewal Strategy which requires aligning with our local strategies to meet the needs of the people and businesses of the borough.
- An agile and iterative arrangement is required to accommodate: -
 - Fluctuating restrictions depending on future peaks and outbreaks
 - Services may be need to be 'switched on and off' within the recovery period
 - The recovery period may be at least 12-18 months or until widespread immunity via a vaccine
 - Different population segments will have different need for restrictions i.e. Shielded population may have greater restrictions for longer.

- **Horizon 1 (H1):** Immediate Recovery steps (April – June 2020)
Horizon1 is the existing business as usual or the dominant way of doing things today.
- **Horizon 2 (H2):** Post Peak Recovery Foundations (July 2020 – December 2020)
Horizon 2 is the part of greatest innovation and disruption where new innovative thinking and new ways of doing or being emerge. A good example is the digital transformation of the past decade i.e. smartphones.
- **Horizon 3 (H3):** Realising the Recovery Objectives (2021 onwards)
Horizon 3 is the future we want; pockets of the future are already in existence and we want to see this grow and become the new future.



Proposing a 5-point Recovery / Renewal Strategy

1. Humanitarian - Health & Wellbeing

To help heal and restore the health of wellbeing to reduce and suppress infection across the borough.

2. Business Economy

To ensure that the boroughs' communities and businesses positively move on from COVID-19. To bring back public and investor confidence in our local economy.

3. Building Resilience

To improve resilience across the borough in preparation for potential future waves of the COVID 19; to continue to shield and protect the vulnerable.

4. Education & Attainment

To safely open and reinstate educational activity to catch up and minimise impact on children, young people's development and outcomes pre-birth to 25 years old through both traditional educational establishments and digital means.

5. Infrastructure & the Environment

To safely reinstate infrastructure and transport networks as soon as practicable.

Underpinning all these themes

To achieve financial stability of key anchor institutions.

To develop and deliver a concise, balanced, achievable and affordable recovery plan.



Develop the Recovery Strategy



Conduct Impact Analysis



Identify what's stopping, starting, continuing...



Set out key recovery actions & plan



Implement 100-day Recovery Plan



**Monitor & Learn
Test & Adapt**

Moving on.....

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Role of Area Councils and Ward Alliances in Recovery

Phil Hollingsworth

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A Valuable Framework to Build Upon

Through the Response phase we have seen:

- Commissioned service and community organisations flexed to adapt their service models and continue support for communities
 - New support networks and groups become established
 - The deployment of 'Community Responders' to support those in need
- As we move more towards Recovery, there is also a valuable role for our area governance arrangements to continue to provide.

Council's Overall Funding Position

- Uncertainties caused by Covid19 mean we need to review assumptions that were made for all budgets in 20/21.
- Furthermore, a re-focussing of priorities needs to take place to ensure we are addressing the new challenges brought about by Covid19.
- In line with this, on the 8th of April guidance was issued in the Members daily bulletin in respect of a cessation of all 'non-essential' expenditure.
- We need to explore what this means for Area Council's as we re-establish our schedule of meetings.

Area Council's Budgetary Position

- The funding allocation into Area Councils for 20/21 has not changed.
- Therefore the amount available to your Area Council is unaffected (we will look at this in detail shortly).
- We do however need to consider whether the planned priorities and commissioning intentions remain the right ones in the context of Covid19 long-term impact.

Anticipated Challenges for Communities

- Exacerbated impact on poverty & worklessness.
- Educational impact due to disruption to schooling.
- Economic impact on local high-street.
- Mental health and emotional wellbeing.
- Re-establishing the fabric of society – informal support networks through clubs/groups/organisations.
- Health & wellbeing impacts from lack of service access & people not seeking help.

Opportunities to Build Upon?

- Our strategic direction of travel priorities that still remain relevant:
 - digital agenda
 - inclusive economy
 - Zero40
 - Barnsley 2030
- More agile working as a result of Covid19 so people working closer to home – opportunities for local district centres?
- Changing support networks with greater insight of those who we would consider are our most vulnerable.
- Examples of greater community spirit e.g. Thursday night support for NHS & care workers.

Ward Alliance's Budgetary Position

- The base budget allocation into Ward Alliances has not changed.
- We had intended to delegate a further £210k into Ward Alliances in 20/21 but, in line with all additional investments, this remains on hold until we have a clearer picture on the overall financial position for the Authority.
- Therefore the base amount available to your Ward Alliance is the base budget of £10k/ward, plus any carry-forward.
- Area Council's may still choose to delegate additional funds to Ward Alliances if they feel that it where the Recovery effort is best served.

Ward Alliances – Covid19 Recovery Guidance

- Ward Alliance projects should be relevant to directly assisting our communities with their Recovery efforts in relation to Covid-19.
- All other projects should be considered 'non-essential' in the current financial climate and crisis response phase.
- Any projects that come forward should demonstrate how they benefit our recovery efforts and have taken current Covid-19 guidance into account in their proposals.
- As an exception, where a local business has already committed resources, we will honour these agreements for projects which may otherwise be considered 'non-essential' spend. However, no new projects of this nature should be commenced.
- We know there is an ambition to get back to normal and have community events and celebrations. At the current time we do not know how long social distancing restrictions will apply but in all likelihood these will continue in some form for most of the year, if not longer. It would therefore not seem appropriate to be planning any events at this time that would bring people together in large numbers – including outdoor events.

Ward Alliance - Update to Volunteer Match Funding

- The volunteer match is written into the Ward Alliance Fund requirements which means that at least 50% of the funding available to Ward Alliances requires a match in volunteering time, resources or income. This was included to ensure that the funding is used to facilitate greater volunteering and social action, and not to just buy goods or services without community involvement.
- Due to some volunteers socially isolating it has been acknowledged that the volunteer match element will be harder to meet this year.
- Moving forward it has been agreed that we will relax the volunteering element for 20/21 and we will amend the guidance to indicate that this is still strongly encouraged where safe and practical to do so, but that the 50% match would not be enforced.
- A review for 21/22 will take place to see whether it is sensible to reintroduce it at this time.

Grass Cutting Recovery Steps

- Covid-19 has presented a number of service delivery challenges across Neighbourhood Services
- Service delivery protocols have been amended in line with government guidance
- Staff from service have been redeployed to support domestic waste collection priorities
- Safe systems of work developed including maximum Driver plus 1 Operative in vehicles
- Grass cutting on partial delivery due to available staff resource

7 April 2020

Priority areas continued to be maintained – in line with available resource

28 April 2020

Mobilised skeletal team to cut residential high-risk areas i.e. sheltered housing

8 June 2020

Staff returned from waste to substantive grass cutting duties

8 – 12 June 2020

Re-induction and safe system of work briefing - staff returning to work

16 June 2020

Re-commence grass cutting core offer – backlog addressed in phased approach

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Green Waste Collection Recovery Steps

- Covid-19 has presented a number of service delivery challenges across waste and recycling
- Service delivery protocols have been amended in line with government guidance
- Staff have been redeployed from across the council and partners to support high priority services
- Safe systems of work developed including maximum Driver plus 1 Operative in vehicles

1-5 June 2020

Recruitment and induction of additional staff

1-5 June 2020

Re-induction and safe system of work briefing – staff returning to work

1-5 June 2020

Source additional support vehicles to support reinstatement of green collections

6-15 June 2020

Comms campaign – variety of media streams to support green collection re-start

9 June 2020

Re-commence green collections

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Implications for the Area Council Planned Approach

Rachel Payling

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Central Area Team's Response

Initial response: Community mobilisation and the Central Area Team's support

- Community mapping – reviewed, and promoted, all of the initiatives provided in the local area by various businesses, groups and services. The Area Team offered support and advice to community initiatives and made sure they were reporting the most up to date information on changes to local services.
- Ongoing communications and the promotion of support at local and Borough wide levels via social media

Localised support to the BMBC emergency contact centre – postcards delivered to vulnerable households in partnership with local providers to ensure everyone was aware of the contact centre number and where to go for advice and support.

Emergency COVID-19 contact centre

We've launched a new emergency contact centre to respond to COVID-19 (coronavirus) related emergencies for vulnerable people, and to respond to services who need support.

If you, or someone you know, needs emergency support visit barnsley.gov.uk/covid-19-emergency-support.

If you're unable to fill the online form in, you can call us on (01226) 774444 or freephone 0808 196 3531.

For general information about coronavirus disruption and support, please visit barnsley.gov.uk/coronavirus.

The centre can only help those vulnerable people and families who need emergency support such as;

- essential supplies
- help with medication
- over-the-phone befriending.



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Central, Dodworth, Kingstone, Stairfoot, Worsbrough



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Area Teams Community Response

- Community Responders are Volunteers who are working with people who are either shielding, or have been assessed to be vulnerable.
- Training packages have been implemented for Community Responders in partnership with Barnsley CVS.
- The whole Area Team has had 445 requests for support referred through to them and we have been working with 250 Community Responders across the Borough.
- The Central Area Team has ensured the Community Responders have been trained, given PPE, and issued with ID badges and we are currently supporting 54 Community Responders in the Central area, who are dealing with 110 requests for support:
 - 57 shopping requests – this is often not a one off interaction
 - 53 befriending support – this is often not a one off interaction
- Some Community Responders have been assigned to more than one case, some cases require ongoing support, and some cases were too complex for the Community Responders to deal with, and have been referred on to other services, such as Adult Social Care.

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Some examples of projects in local communities

- **Worsborough** – WA volunteer scheme continue to support local residents with shopping and prescription requests. 6 volunteers including WA representatives, elected member and other residents have so far supported 23 different individuals with 77 different requests for help
- **Dodworth** – 2 x new community notice boards installed last week. Happy to Chat Bench plaques ready to go when suitable and safe. **‘Honest Dodworth – Help a Neighbour Scheme’** still up and running, providing ongoing support to local residents for shopping, befriending, prescriptions, dog walking etc. Supported over 300 residents.
- **Kingstone** – 2 WAF forms considered and approved. 1 for an online mental health support system for HOPE in the community, giving online and telephone support for existing and new clients through the Covid-19 crisis and beyond. 1 for a local bowling club.
- **Stairfoot** – SWA Facebook page being kept up to date. *“Lock down Litter pickers”* campaign supporting individuals to do litter picking as part of their daily exercise. Working in conjunction with individual volunteers from local groups and new members of the community – supplying equipment, health and safety advice and supporting litter collection. Principal Towns Stairfoot Art Project Contract given to BEAM who have already done the initial consultation, and artist brief, they are now in the process of selecting and interviewing artists. The Steering Group is made up of BEAM, BMBC officers and community reps.
- **Central** – Ongoing planning with Dan Jarvis, Parks, Ward Alliance and Berneslai homes for Cllr Doug Birkinshaw’s Memorial Tree – which will hopefully be installed autumn time.

All five wards have continued to support their local community through Ward Alliance funding

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Impact and Implications for Central Area Council

The contracts and SLAs have been flexed as follows:

- **Twiggs** – has provided support to Neighbourhood Services with targeted clean ups and litter picks, has provided support to community group maintained areas, provided support to grass cutting across the wards. Flexing the Twiggs service has supported BMBC Core services in areas across all 5 wards, helping to clear litter, tackle fly tipping, and keep areas safe and tidy.
- **YMCA** – The YMCA has flexed its delivery from the beginning of COVID and has offered online platforms and phone calls, delivering positive activities online ensuring young people are safe.
- **Youth Work Fund** – legal agreements have been signed with the Youth Association and the YMCA - delivery will commence when safe to do so
- **Central Well-being Fund** – The welfare service provided by Dial has flexed its services to provide telephone consultations and online support. Hope House who provide support to families with young children have adapted the way they deliver their support due to COVID. The Social Isolation research will be shared with the working group to determine recommendations to go to the next Central Area Council meeting for a decision on a way forward.
- **District Enforcement** – are undertaking patrols with a view to being more the “eyes and ears” on the ground and a visible presence on the streets. Regularly reporting in any areas of fly tipping and community and neighbourhood intelligence. They are also linking with Parks Services ensuring that play equipment is not being used and reporting any damage. Enforcement Services have asked for their thanks to be passed on for their help.
- **Fly Tipping SLA** – Services flexed since COVID pandemic but they have continued to provide the same level of support but in different ways, leaflet drops in relation to duty of care and waste management, investigating vehicles involved with waste carrying, working with private sector landlords and letting agents to remove fly tipping. SLA ends in November 2020 – decision needs to be made at the next Central Area Council meeting for a way forward.
- **Private Sector Housing SLA** – Prior to COVID the number of new households identified to approach was 158, the number of new tenant household initial contact/visits successfully made was 35 prior to lockdown. Services have been adapted and flexed to follow the guidance through COVID. The SLA ends in November 2020 – decision needs to be made at the next Central Area Council meeting for a way forward.
- **Perinatal Home Visiting** – have continued to provide a service to new mums through virtual visits and telephone support, referring people into appropriate services when there is a need and particularly to single and pregnant women, they have supported several families with installing and using Teams and Google Duo successfully to complete initial assessments and match meeting, they have supported families with accessing food banks and food vouchers’ sourced relevant financial assistance, provided a listening ear and advice around managing pregnancy, preparing for birth and welcoming a baby into the family and undertaken work with families around relationships, conflict, domestic abuse and accessing counselling.

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Environmental Projects

- Some examples of the work of Twiggs in wards across the Central area:
- Friday 15/05/2020 - Stairfoot – Station Heritage Monument, Stairfoot Station Heritage Group, Friends of Stairfoot, Cllr Johnson, grass cut and litter cleared from the surrounding area.
- Twiggs, Cllr Bruff, Central Area Team, Queens Road Academy, and The Range Store have worked together to improve the environment in the school grounds. Twiggs donated two loads of topsoil from stock and used this to infill the raised sleeper beds ready for the students to use. Along with this Twiggs donated and delivered over £100 worth of shrubs and fruit trees that were reclaimed from the local Range store in the Central area the children will enjoy the activities when back in school.



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Current Central Area Council Priorities & Commissioning Intentions

Central Area Council Commissioning priorities	Contracts and Commissions supporting priorities	Contract end date
Young People	YMCA Youth Work Fund – agreements with the Youth Association Street Smart project and the YMCA Youth Work Project	Year 1 of a 3 year contract (1+1+1) Just going into Year 1
Environment	Twiggs Fly Tipping SLA	Year 2 of a 3 year contract (1+1+1) Comes to an end in November' 20
Community Safety	District Enforcement Private Rented Housing SLA	Year 2 of a 3 year contract (1+1+1) Comes to an end in November' 20
Health and Wellbeing	Perinatal Home Visiting Central Wellbeing Fund – Dial and Hope House	Year 2 of a 3 year contract (1+1+1) Year 2 of a 3 year contract (1+1+1)

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Central Area Council Commissioning Priorities

For 2020/21 the area has 7 Commissioned Services and 3 Grant Fund pots
The budget for 2020/21 is £500,000 plus £164,346 carried forward.

Commissioned Service	Value	End Date
YMCA	£134,965	31/03/2021
Twiggs	£95,000	31/03/2021
District Enforcement	£45,000	31/03/2021
BMBC Enforcement SLA	£13,000	Ongoing
Private Rented Housing SLA	£18,960	Nov-20
Celebration event carried forward due to COVID	£2,367	
Fly Tipping SLA	£21,330	Nov-20
Perinatal Home Visiting	£50,000	31/03/2021
Central Wellbeing Fund - Various projects	£55,000	13/07/2021
Voluntary Youth Support Work	£16,000	31/03/2021
Youth Work - Various Grants	£50,000	31/03/2021
Total	£502,122	
Unallocated monies	£162,224	

These cover the following priorities:

- Environment
- Health & Wellbeing
- Community Safety
- Young People

Additional things to consider:

- Social Isolation commission
- Voluntary Youth Club provision

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Area Council Discussion

Against the 5 recovery priorities:

- Humanitarian – Health & Wellbeing
- Business & Economy
- Building Resilience
- Education & Attainment
- Infrastructure & Environment

What are aspects of the Area Council plan that:

- Aligns and can continue (may need adapting)
- Doesn't align and needs to cease
- What are the gaps that need addressing