

REPORT FOR DECISION

Agenda Item	
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DECISION OF:	Cabinet
DATE:	28 November 2012
SUBJECT:	Community Cohesion Plan 2013-16
REPORT FROM:	Cabinet Member – Community Development
CONTACT OFFICER:	David Fowler, Head of Communities Mark Burke, Community Cohesion Officer
TYPE OF DECISION:	KEY DECISION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	This paper is within the public domain
SUMMARY:	<p>This report outlines work undertaken through Team Bury to refresh and develop the Team Bury Community Cohesion Plan for 2013-16. It outlines the legislative context within which the Plan has been developed, the purpose of the Plan, process followed for developing the Plan, priority objectives agreed, performance management framework in place and the role of the Council in supporting delivery of the Plan. The Council’s contribution to the Plan will take place within existing budgetary frameworks.</p>
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	<p>Option 1 (Recommended)</p> <p>a) Cabinet support and adopt the Community Cohesion Plan for 2013-2016 on behalf of the Council;</p> <p>b) It be noted that an annual action plan will be developed and agreed through the Team Bury Communities Group (to support delivery of the objectives in the Community Cohesion Plan). Work undertaken by the Council (through this annual action plan) will take place within existing budgetary frameworks.</p>

	Option 2 (Not Recommended) Cabinet do not support the priorities and principles included in the Team Bury Community Cohesion Plan for 2013-16 (Appendix A).
IMPLICATIONS:	
Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes
Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:	The Council's contribution to the Team Bury Community Cohesion Plan will take place within existing budget provision.
Statement by Executive Director of Resources:	There are no other specific resource implications arising from the Plan.
Equality/Diversity implications:	Yes. An Equality Analysis has been undertaken and it concluded that the plan is positive by aiming to improve community cohesion for all residents in the borough.
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	Yes – Members must have due regard to any matters raised in the Equality Analysis that would impact on the Councils' equality duty.
Wards Affected:	Boroughwide
Scrutiny Interest:	

TRACKING/PROCESS

DIRECTOR:

Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Executive Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
	Cabinet Member, Community Development, 09.11.12.		Team Bury - Communities Group (13.09.12 & 08.11.12) Chair, Team Bury Executive (09.11.12)
Scrutiny Committee	Committee	Council	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Team Bury's Community Cohesion Plan for 2010-2013 is due to expire at the end of the year. Work undertaken through this Plan has helped to ensure that Bury continues to be a place where people of all backgrounds can live together safely, happily and with a sense of belonging. This includes multi-agency work with partners to tackle and combat hate crime, work through schools such as the 'Be Safe, Be Cool' initiative, work to support Councillors as community leaders and the development of Township Plans.
- 1.2 The Community Cohesion Plan for 2013-16 (Appendix A) will build on this good work. The priorities identified support Team Bury's joint ambitions of making Bury 'the place to live in Greater Manchester' and 'each Township thriving'. The priorities also support the Bury Values Prospectus – a set of shared values which provide the foundations for community cohesion in the borough. The Plan supports the Council's priority outcomes contained within the Corporate Plan and the Plan for Change, informing its values and outcomes.
- 1.3 At a local level, the ability for local communities to shape their area is a key factor in building community cohesion. The priorities identified recognise this and will both support and add value to the work of the Township Forums in delivery of their Township Plans.
- 1.4 The refreshed Plan has been developed and approved by Team Bury's 'Communities' thematic Group, chaired by the Cabinet Member for Community Development. It has been approved by the Chair of Team Bury (on behalf of the Team Bury Executive), who has invited Team Bury Partners – including the Council, to 'sign up' to, and support the priorities and values contained within it.

2.0 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

The key policy and legislative drivers for developing the Community Cohesion Plan are as follows:

- 2.1 **'Creating the Conditions for Integration'** sets out the Government's approach to community cohesion and integration. Local authorities are encouraged to take a 'leading role' working through existing partnerships, to promote integration and cohesion. The emphasis is on 'mainstreaming' Cohesion into the every day business of organisations and communities.
- 2.2 **Prevent Strategy:** the government has recently refreshed its counter-terrorism strategy known as CONTEST. This has four strands, three mainly aimed at the police and security services: Pursue, Prepare and Protect. The fourth, the Prevent strategy, is focussed mainly on local authorities and through them local areas and communities. Much of the work is around community capacity building and ultimately promoting community cohesion.
- 2.3 **Schools Duty to promote community cohesion**

Whilst the duty under law to promote community cohesion in maintained schools in Britain has been removed, it still forms part of

the inspection framework carried out by Ofsted. The local authority still has an important role in supporting schools in delivering this as part of their wider cohesion agenda.

Bury Council's Children's Services through the Curriculum and Language Access Service (CLAS) team have continued to include support to schools in their work planning.

- 2.4 Bury's Community Cohesion Plan will help us meet these policy and legislative drivers.

3.0 PURPOSE OF THE TEAM BURY 'COMMUNITY COHESION PLAN 2013-16

- 3.1 The Community Cohesion Plan sets out a firm commitment (across the Team Bury Partnership) to maintain and build community cohesion over the next three years. The Plan will provide the framework within which the Council will work with Team Bury Partners to support and develop community cohesion in the Borough. It will help ensure the Council and Team Bury partners have a means of monitoring the impact and progress of the Cohesion Plan and the difference it is making to communities in the borough.

4.0 PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING THE PLAN

- 4.1 The Community Cohesion Plan has been developed using a combination of local evidence based data, consultation with stakeholders, aspirations of the Bury Values Prospectus, national policy guidance and best practice.
- 4.2 Team Bury's Communities Group have overseen its development. This group is chaired by the Cabinet Member for Community Development. Membership comprises of representatives from Bury's Third Sector, faith representatives, Older People Forum, Children and Young People's Service, BME Forum, LGBT network, BADDAC, Greater Manchester Police and colleagues from NHS Bury and Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service.
- 4.3 Further consultation on the Plan was carried out through Bury Third Sector Development Agency who invited comments across the Sector via their weekly bulletin.
- 4.4 A number of responses were received from key organisations and groups representing the communities of Bury. Feedback was generally positive and amendments/additions were suggested that have helped to enhance the impact of the Plan.
- 4.5 Appendix B provides a summary of the consultation responses received, which have been anonymised. These responses were considered by the Communities Thematic Group when developing and agreeing the Plan.

5.0 THE COMMUNITY COHESION PLAN 2013/16 (Appendix A)

- 5.1 The Plan details six priority objectives for building community cohesion across the Borough over the next three years. Also included are headline aims and proposed actions relating to these priorities.

- 5.2 Following agreement by the Council and Team Bury partners to the Community Cohesion Plan, work will begin (through the Team Bury Communities Group) on an annual action plan to ensure delivery of these objectives.
- 5.3 The annual action plan will detail the actions to be taken over the next year. It will clearly state the organisation responsible for delivery of the actions, timescales and resources required.
- 5.4 Contributions by the Council (to the annual action plan) will take place within existing budgetary frameworks.

6.0 PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 The Plan has been developed around six key objectives:
 - 1. Develop strong leadership in communities
 - 2. Encourage active engagement by communities
 - 3. Develop shared values and a sense of belonging
 - 4. Develop confident citizens
 - 5. Develop safe and resilient communities
 - 6. Develop a Borough that communicates effectively
- 6.2 These objectives support Team Bury's joint ambitions of making Bury 'the place to live in Greater Manchester' and 'each Township thriving'. They also support the Council's priority outcomes contained within the Corporate Plan and the Plan for Change, informing its values and outcomes.
- 6.3 At a local level, the ability for local communities to shape their area is a key factor in building community cohesion. These objectives will add value to the work of the Township Forums in delivery of their Township Plans.

7.0 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 In assessing levels of Community Cohesion, Team Bury will measure a range of contributory factors in order to monitor progress. These measures will be agreed through the Partnership using information from existing surveys, including the Council's 'Community Voice' annual survey.
- 7.2 An annual action plan (to support delivery of the Plan's objectives) will be developed and monitored through the Team Bury Communities Group. This will be reviewed and refreshed annually during the lifetime of the Community Cohesion Plan (2013/2016).
- 7.3 The Council's contribution to the annual action plan will be built into the Council's performance management framework.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL

- 8.1 The Community Cohesion Plan will provide the strategic framework within which the Council will work with partners to develop community cohesion across the Borough. This will allow the Council to make the

most of shared (existing) resources across the Team Bury Partnership, to achieve the joint aim of building communities in Bury which are strong, vibrant and safe.

- 8.2 As stated above, Team Bury's Communities Group will develop and agree an annual action plan to support delivery of the objectives identified; work undertaken or led by the Council as part of the annual action plan will take place within existing budgetary frameworks.
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9.0 CONCLUSION

The Community Cohesion Plan (2013/16) will continue to build on the good work already carried out (through Team Bury) to ensure Bury continues to be a place where people of all backgrounds can live together safely, happily and with a sense of belonging. It provides the strategic framework for the Council to work together with Team Bury Partners to help us work with communities to make them strong, vibrant and safe.

List of Background Papers:-

Community Cohesion Plan 2013-2016 (Appendix A)
Consultation responses (Appendix B)
Equality Analysis (Appendix C)
Creating the Conditions for Integration, 2012 (Communities and Local Government)
Bury Values Prospectus

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Appendix A – Community Cohesion Plan 2013 – 2016

Plan attached

Report to Cabinet, Community Cohesion Plan, 28 November 2012.

1. Leadership

- Leadership - this assumes leadership is confined to elected members whereby in practice this extends to those involved in partnerships e.g. CCG and C&D. Both are not exclusively local authority responsibility.
- Point 2.2 - Produce an annual equality objectives report on hate crime etc
- Not sure what this is and what additionality there is outside the usual crime reporting?
- Put 'Bury Council appointed' in front of Cabinet Member for Community Development – and a short sentence to explain what this role is about?
- Stress 'Accountability' theme here (leaders being accountable, etc) About Public Confidence? (see After the Riots)
- Produce an annual Equality Objectives report on Hate Crime, Domestic Violence and Anti-social behaviour
- Will this include raising awareness of what a hate crime is?
- Will this include targets to reduce it?
- Produce an annual Equality Objectives report on Hate Crime.....this is in line with GMP's Equality Objective where activity will be published on the GMP website every year. This is required by the Neighbourhood policing teams together with partners, community & voluntary organisations. To avoid duplication, this could be completed together - the deadline for GMP is April 2013

2. Active Engagement

- Under Bullet 2 - Tackling Pockets of deprivation, the actions look a bit thin. I would include things such as access to advice and measures to tackle poverty, such as access to affordable credit and consideration being given to the impact on poor areas of any public bodies changes to policy or practice
- The definition of engagement should include somewhere the empowerment issue.
- Point 2 - Township Forums – whilst still important they are now more of a council process are they not? Also Health has a major role in deprivation. Is there an issue of how these 'plans' will relate to the CCG?
- There's also the issue of deprivation being described by geography, but that negates the potential solution being non-geographical.
- Point 3 - This should read Develop Volunteering in Bury and Promoting a 'Bury Pathway' of Volunteering. This recognises that people will want different things from volunteering. It will also require a more joined up approach to volunteering, maybe the development of a strategy. On this point Bury Volunteering Centre can lead on this but it does require input from other agencies and more importantly a willingness to join up. In that context the Forum can play a part
- I am delighted to see that there is a clear emphasis on 'listening' in the paragraph about Active Engagement.
- "It is only by listening to the experiences and ideas of people who live in these communities that we can find solutions that will make a lasting difference."
- However, there doesn't seem to be a corresponding priority. Saying we want to listen is lovely, but if we don't explicitly state how, then people reading the

Appendix B – Summary of Consultation Responses

document will think that even mentioning 'listening' is just lip service rather than a genuinely desired outcome.

- I wonder if there should be a stated priority promising actively to seek new opportunities to listen to existing community groups, projects and individuals; to seek to build stronger links and networks between them; and to increase the sharing of resources and experience between new and existing community groups and projects across the borough. I'm sure that this may be something the Volunteer Forum may wish to work on, but I think this should be a bigger priority in Active Engagement than volunteer recruitment alone
- Should this be called 'Participation and Empowerment' rather than engagement? i.e. to quote 'Creating the Conditions for integration' "people of all backgrounds have the opportunity to take part, be heard and take decisions in local and national life'
- Can we include the principles we agreed at the last thematic group meeting?
- Number 2 where it says "work in partnership through township forums to tackle pockets of deprivation in the borough" – can we re-word this in more positive language? To me, it is about harnessing the strengths/assets in the Township, not just looking at their needs and problems? Lets not just see communities as needy and deprived (although this is still important) "Work in partnership through Township Forums to both address social and economic inequalities and harness the many strengths communities already have, including local groups, strong community networks, talented young people, charities, voluntary groups, local parks, etc, etc" (you can probably word better than me!)
- Mention 'social mobility' here? -is this the right place also to mention the Poverty Strategy and the Troubled Families work happening? these two key pieces of work I think?
- Refer to themes in 'After the riots' around engagement. i.e. see below (extract)
- "Community engagement, involvement and cohesion
- Communities we spoke with felt they had a significant role to play in putting right the issues in their neighbourhoods, such as poor parenting. However, residents felt they had lost the ability to intervene in each other's lives. This 'disconnect' may go some way to explaining why in our Neighbourhood Survey 61 per cent did not agree that theirs was a close, tight-knit community or that neighbours treated each other with respect.
- Residents want to be involved in improving their areas. By assisting them to do so we can hope to better tackle the issues they face and improve cohesion, but at present only around one in three in our neighbourhood poll felt public services listen to them or involve them in decision making. In the riot affected neighbourhoods we surveyed, this lack of involvement tends to be even worse.
- Neighbourhood engagement to neighbourhood involvement
- By interacting with individuals at the neighbourhood level, we can increase the number of those willing to get involved in tackling shared concerns.
- We do not believe, at present, that local public services are paying sufficient attention to creating and publicising opportunities for individuals to make a difference in their own communities. Organisations regularly using volunteers report excellent results – often because those at the receiving end of interventions better relate to a 'peer' than an 'official'.

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- Public services – from local authorities to schools to housing associations – can help create and publicise wide ranging, high quality neighbourhood opportunities that will interest different individuals and groups.
- The Department for Communities and Local Government should work with public services and neighbourhoods to develop community involvement strategies, with volunteering at their heart
- Be Active - try taking some exercise you like - walk, dance, swim, spring clean the house! Regardless of your age keeping active is very important. It is worth remembering that 30 minutes a day of moderate exercise at least 5 times a week can bring health benefits. It can help to protect you from heart disease, stroke, some cancers and diabetes. It also makes you sleep better, look better and feel better - whatever the weather. Most importantly discover a physical activity you enjoy
- Keep Learning - get involved with something new and set yourself a challenge. Learning new things can make you more confident. Maybe you could rediscover an old skill or hobby you had or you could look at courses available at your local college or library and sign up for them. Remember to celebrate the things you like about yourself!
- 3. Promote volunteering in the Borough, include Bury 3rd Sector - main recruitment of volunteers

3. Promoting Share Values and Belonging

- B3SDA run a Volunteers Celebration event where they seek to acknowledge and reward the work of volunteers in the borough. They don't give prizes as such as they don't think it is fair to reward one volunteer and not another. But he wondered if there is something that could be done where we support this event through the work of the Cohesion Plan and both join any resources we have for both these ideas together, to develop something together
- Recognise and develop the role that culture, leisure and sport have in enabling people to connect to the communities and places around them
- Create well designed, safe open spaces and facilities that allow people to meet and mix
- Also for theme 3 – point 3. Challenge discrimination, prejudice and isolation and encourage all groups within Bury to feel part of the community. Can you add religious festivals i.e. Ramadan/Eid
- Point 3 – There's the need to include involvement with the health agenda through Healthwatch – this is now being consulted on and there is an opportunity to embed young people in that, maybe through the existing Bury LINK who are involved in this consultation.
- There's the need to think about re-engaging with individual services that have a big input into front line social behaviour e.g. police. The context here is the new PCC due in November. Sometimes the usual engagement processes are skewed to council business
- I commend the intentions of the priorities for this theme, but I am slightly concerned that the admirable scope of the third priority ("Challenge discrimination..."etc.) is not matched by the action proposed. Events and initiatives are important, but by themselves will not impact on existing and often hidden cultures of prejudice and discrimination.
- I really think this needs to link up with the Active Engagement task of listening – there is something fundamental here about listening together to the experiences and values of different communities and cultures, whether based,

for example, on lifestyle, ethnicity or faith, in order to move beyond simplistic understandings and myths that can often lead to prejudice, and to develop together common understandings of shared values and belonging. I would suggest that bringing together such communities and cultures is about developing regular contact and forums, not just for leaders but for the members of such groups themselves – and that this should be a priority for community cohesion. It is often said that education is the best way to tackle prejudice – but real education is a two-way process, and I think it begins with listening. Special events and projects tend to appeal to the kind of people who like to be involved in special events and projects – and with current funding issues facing everyone, there is a question about how many such initiatives could be afforded?

- Mention Township Plans (after Township Forums)
- Do you mean Asset Based Community Development rather than Area Based Community Development? Explain what is meant by this approach (Look at Glass Half Full for help on this?)
- Active Engagement
- Key priority should be around identifying barriers to engagement from underrepresented groups and how to tackle these barriers
- Shared Values.
- Challenge discrimination, prejudice and isolation and encourage all groups within Bury to feel part of the community
- We need to include an event run in conjunction with disability led groups that promotes disability equality, understanding and awareness. This is an absolute priority as disability hate crime is on the rise <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-19589602>, and disabled people are rarely seen as productive valued members of society. A good example of this is Brighton and Hove Councils celebration of International Day of Persons with Disabilities. <http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1222641>
- Connect with others - talk to people around you, whether it be with family, friends, colleagues or neighbours. You could be at home, work, school or just wondering through your local community. Talk to someone if you're feeling distressed or upset and remember to also listen. Think of these as the cornerstones of your life and invest time in developing them
- Take Notice - be curious and take notice of what is happening around you whether you are walking to work, sitting on a bus or just catching up with friends savour that moment.
- Give - do something nice for a friend, neighbour or even a family member. Smile! If you have some spare time and are at a loose end volunteer, there is so much happening within our communities. You could join a local group and become connected with the wider community
- 1. Promote activities that bring communities together..... what that looks like in practice, Does Home watch & Business watch fall into this? Also the ROC cafes across the Borough?

4. Developing Confident Citizens

- Support schools to address bullying, racism, homophobia and religious harassment
- Include new priority under theme 4 called work with staff groups, for all the employee groups as we represent many aspects such as challenging injustice

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and inequalities, having respect for people, having a sense of identity and self-esteem and have a value and respect for diversity

- One of the things I think you need to develop is the sense that the Council will persevere in building up good relationships. Time and again we have tried to make contact with the Council either through officers or through elected members or even both. We think we have got something in place and then personnel move on, or there is a shift in policy, or we are seen as not fitting what the Council thinks we ought to look like and we are back to square one. Community cohesion demands consistency
- Point 3 - Youth Clubs delivered by volunteers – take this out and perhaps talk about developing a modern youth engagement activities programme where volunteers can have a role – see Volunteering Pathways. Also of course young people can volunteer as part of that activity. This will see a need to map out youth provision – a piece of work already started by the Children’s Trust
- I think the second priority “Support the development of interfaith understanding” is too weak. As you will know better than I do, the history of interfaith dialogue in Bury is littered with false dawns and frustration. I think this is too vague to move things forward, and perhaps that may well be because a stage has now been reached where the problem seems intractable. May I suggest that the best way to respond is to break the issue down further?
- Rather than starting with ‘interfaith’ can we use the term ‘between different faith communities’? I suspect ‘interfaith’ is so loaded for people at the extremes of many faiths that it is almost an immediate turn-off. I also think we need to separate out three different aspects – 1) the relationship of each faith community or group to the council/borough; 2) the relationship if any between different faith communities and groups; 3) the relationship if any among each faith community. These are very different issues, and taking them together is probably unhelpful.
- The key question for the council should then be ‘what do we want from faith groups & communities?’ It seems to me what the council should want is, 1) to engage with existing faith group initiatives that serve the wider community; and through this, 2) to develop better relationships with different faith communities & to explore ways of working together to benefit all residents of the borough; and , 3) to promote dialogue and ways of working together between different faith communities in the borough.
- I would suggest these should form the basis of an alternative second priority along these lines:
- Priority 2: Develop stronger relationships with and among different faith communities
- What this looks like in practice:
 - Engage with faith group initiatives currently serving the wider community
 - Develop relationships with faith leaders
 - Explore ways of working together for the common good
 - Promote dialogue and co-operation between different faith leaders and communities
- Could we bring the themes ‘Participation/Empowerment’ together with this in one theme?
- Emphasise personal and social responsibility more?
- Explain ‘Circles of Influence’ event (what is it etc?)

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- Perhaps find out how the National Citizens Service is being promoted (if at all) in Bury/social actions pilot? and if so, include here?
- I think it is important to mention the Corporate Social Responsibility role of business which supports “local neighbourhoods within which they operate” – this is mentioned in ‘After the riots’ – would be interesting to know what more we can do in Bury to promote Corporate Social Responsibility?
- Mention importance of building “social and economic resilience” and explain this?
- Is this the right place to refer to “A year of Service” website and does this present opportunities in Bury? Also see ‘Faith through the lens’ website?
- Positive activities for young people to inter-act – change order of this to put Advisory Group representation last?
- Can you weave in the ‘Participatory budgeting’ work undertaken in Bury East – commitment to build on this (or should this go in the empowering communities section?)
- Developing Confident Citizens
- Priority 1 examples need to be also around specific groups
- Priority 3 need to consider inclusivity
- i.e. Provide positive barrier free activities for young people to interact
- A specific target should be around disability equality and understanding, as well as faith.
- - disabled children are four times more likely to be victims of violence compared to non-disabled children
- - people with learning difficulties in general are particularly vulnerable, and often targeted by other young people - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-19009826>
- Safety
- Priority 3: Nothing stated as to how this will be done
- Provide positive activities for young people to interact

5. Community Safety and Resilience

- Work needs to be undertaken to address disaffection amongst young people. If left unaddressed, this can lead to anti-social activity, and also contribute to the development of a gang culture causing tensions between young people from different communities
- Explain Partnership Meetings – what are these etc.
- Reword Hate Crime to say “Improve reporting of hate crime
- Seek views of your Chanel Contacts on this section (about work already happening in Bury etc?)
- Deliver Extremism/terrorism schemes of work within all schools for Yr9 – 11 pupils, and to all college pupils, and promote and deliver safeguarding against violent extremism training to all staff at all schools within the Borough.
- Promote CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) and Staying Safe on the Internet Packages within schools/colleges and to any other identified vulnerable group or community

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- Deliver Extremism/Terrorism Inputs to Community groups – Neighbourhood Watch, Residents Associations, mosques, churches, synagogues, Business Groups and Voluntary Organisations, Youth Groups / Centres, Sports clubs, etc
- Prevent Media campaign within borough to highlight Crime stoppers and Anti-Terrorism hotlines as well as Local contact numbers/points for Prevent Engagement Officers, Neighbourhood Policing Teams and local Councillors – Highly visible Links on Partnership and major businesses website pages. Posters in Community Centres, Public Buildings, Transport & Transport hubs , in Hotels and on prominent advertising boards on main thoroughfares through the Borough
- On-Street proactive work to identify and work with vulnerable people/ communities through all partnership areas of work. To identify and challenge any Extremist Ideologies seeking to undermine or cause harm to our communities
- Promoting of “Channel” across all agencies to ensure safeguarding of vulnerable people at risk of being drawn into Violent Extremism
- Ensuring that safeguarding against Extremism is mainstreamed into strategic and tactical plans across all partnership areas of work
- 1.Continue to develop work to promote confidence & reassurance - what this looks like in practice - Can we include GMP’s confidence & satisfaction/ face to face surveys?, NPT also complete newsletters (volunteers) and circulate to the public, Make Radcliffe Safer - reduce perception of crime (why just Radcliffe?).
2. Tackle and combat hate crime - what this looks like in practice - 3rd Party Hate crime reporting centres - to continue to work with them & develop additional centres aimed at disabled groups, GMP Action from Hate crime steering group - Corporate Comms to develop 'Hate Crime Awareness week' - this could include all partners, In Partnership with MENCAP develop easy read template for distribution to local police stations, libraries, community centres, etc.

6. Positive Communications

- What is ‘Community Voice’ – define?
- Communication also a theme in ‘after riots’ where importance of Accountability (through communication) is highlighted?
- Importance of Social Media – after Riots said “the panel believes that better use of social media presents huge opportunities and recommends every neighbourhood team have its own social media capability” – could put Bury perspective in here? (speak to Police etc?) or refer to importance of social media here?
- See below extract from ‘After the Riots’
 - The riots highlighted how far behind many public services are around the use of widely used modern methods of communication, such as social media. We believe that public services need to work together to develop better neighbourhood level engagement capabilities.
 - The Panel recommends that the Department for Communities and Local Government work with local areas to develop better neighbourhood level engagement and communication capabilities
- Communication
- Another priority - Ensure that information is provided in accessible formats – easy read, different languages, in BSL etc

Measuring Community Cohesion

- I'd move 'measures' to beginning of document?
- Could priority themes be SMARTER (measurable, what is it we are aiming for under each theme?)
- Monitoring
 - To add: % of hate crime recorded and dealt with satisfactorily

Additional

General Comments

- Really good positive piece of work that is structured well and clear to understand.
- Need to say somewhere in the document that the high level priorities/themes will (next steps) have action plans developed over the next few months with detailed actions attached? Say this earlier in document?

National Context

- Can we mention/refer to key national documents under 'national context' and refer to governments aims (generally)? i.e. Our strategy supports these wider aims?, etc.
 - Creating Conditions for Integration
 - After the Riots (recommendations relating to community cohesion – especially that in the Neighbourhood Survey (nationally) 61% did not agree theirs was a close, tight knit community or that neighbours treated each other with respect, etc)
 - Strategy for Social Mobility
 - Equality Act
 - Localism Act
- "Communities may define themselves in a variety of ways, i.e. neighbourhood, ethnicity or culture, age group make-up, faith, sexual orientation, language, gender or other interests"
- needs to include disabled people – many disability groups see disability as a specific culture

Local Context

- Think this should be the same section as 'Bury Statistics'
- Opportunity here to show how the Cohesion Plan is 'evidence based' – and that our priorities link to the local context/issues in Bury MBC
- Can we include evidence/case/statistics (if we have them) relating to the priority outcomes identified in the Strategy?

Report attached