



Be Birmingham Executive Board Brief

The meeting of the executive board on 22nd October considered the following:

Total Place

Three months into the Total Place programme the board was presented with a review of the work that has been taking place with a specific focus on emerging strategic issues. The following areas were also discussed to help move the programme forward:

- Support is needed from board champions to help the lead officers to manage workloads and facilitate the pilot
- Board champions should get out on site
- Theme lead officers need to present regular work updates to the board

The discussion emphasised the importance of public agencies enabling citizens to be more confident and self sufficient in accessing services.

In order for the programme to be successful there is a need for robust governance arrangements, which the board will develop.

CAA

The government has a new way of assessing the performance of public services in England. The Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) focuses on getting better outcomes on local priorities. Green flags will highlight where there is exceptional performance or outstanding improvements in outcomes whilst red flags highlight where targets are off-track and action needs to be taken to ensure the outcome is achieved.

The board was presented with the draft CAA report and will be able to comment and look into any issues before it is finalised.

The final report for Birmingham will be made available in December. The results will be communicated to Birmingham citizens, partners and central government on December 10th.

Total Place budget

To ensure the Total Place programme is successful some of the pilots will need funding to help them to develop their pilot. The board will approve project proposals after a clear business case has been submitted. The drug and alcohol pilot has had £200,000 approved to help them deliver the programme.

Working Neighbourhoods Fund review

The board was presented with a report focusing on how each thematic partnership is performing on their WNF allocation.

The overall total allocation for the three-year programme is £115.17m, approximately £97.3m funding has been approved. The board recognised that its plans for addressing worklessness had been ambitious, using smaller tailored contracts rather than a single one size fits all approach, and as a result it was necessary to re allocate £15.3m from underperforming areas to ensure that there was maximum spend and impact on the priorities set out in the LAA.





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£14m of these resources was re allocated to the following programmes:

- £9.2m to improve the level of residential care and access to employment for people with learning difficulties
- £4.8m to provide targeted family support, residential parenting services, neighbourhood care respite services, preventative payments, graduate support programme and boosting social work capacity

A number of barriers have also been removed which will ensure that funding will be utilised efficiently, whilst thematic partnerships have been asked to take a tighter grip on the performance of their programmes. Be Birmingham will keep the WNF programme under review and will ensure that resources are redirected when necessary and used appropriately.

The board will now be looking forward and will begin to plan for the end of WNF funding.

Review of CSP's

Be Birmingham has conducted a review of Constituency Strategic Partnerships (CSP's) to ensure they are more efficient and able to deliver local services. The review agreed there was a need to strengthen and improve relationships between Be Birmingham and CSP's. Support and commitment from partners is also required to ensure the success of CSP's. An action plan will be developed to take this work forward.

Future Jobs Fund update

The Future Jobs Fund programme is well underway and is developing positively. More than 60 organisations will be offering jobs as part of the programme and the first job has now been secured with mental health charity, Bitá Pathways.

Next meeting

The next meeting is to be held on 26th November at 8.30am.

Jackie Mould, director

