

Grace Mary to Lion Farm (GM2LF)

Big Local Plan

2017 - 2020

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Introduction and Background

The Grace Mary to Lion Farm (GM2LF) area is one of 150 community-led groups throughout England and Wales who have been granted £1million to be spent over 10 years. The grant is used to support people living in a targeted geographical community and identify issues of concern, propose solutions and resource those ideas.

The overall national programme 'outcomes' are:

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

This plan is for three years from April 2017 to March 2020. It will be reviewed annually to ensure that the priorities continue to reflect the needs of the area. This is the second plan, the first running from October 2014 to March 2017.

This plan builds on our first plan and reflects the needs and aspirations of local residents as they seek to use the money to bring change and make a difference within our local community. Big Local is unlike other initiatives that have impacted the area as the programme is led and developed by local people. It seeks to capture as many views as possible from those that live, work and volunteer within the area and embolden people and organisations to reach their aspirations to improve their community.

This plan is designed to be flexible to the longer-term needs of residents and acknowledges that residents will access Big Local in many ways over the remaining 8 years of the programme.

The GM2LF Area

The GM2LF Big Local area is made up of 5 separate neighbourhoods across 3 council wards and 3 parliamentary constituencies. The area is a mixture of council and private housing, with the Grace Mary Estate built on a very steep hill.

The GM2LF Big Local footprint area is the highest area in the West Midlands, and nearly 1000ft above sea level. Any crow flying due east at the same level would not encounter land until it reached the Ural Mountains in Russia.

The area is very diverse, however emerging from Big Local is exceptionally strong partnership work. This has been predominately led by voluntary and community organisations and churches and has led to improved opportunities and enhanced services for people in the area

Make up of Our Community

We submitted a community profile with the first plan, this was developed from significant research into the area. It showed the demographic breakdown, the key issues and the levels of deprivation. Our research shows that this data has not shown any significant change and the level of need across the area remains extensive. We have also recently dipped into the local mental health picture and this has been included as a focus within the Wellbeing Theme for the next three years. A full data analysis can be found in our first plan. Visit: www.gm2lf.org



Our Partnership – Making it Happen

GM2LF Big Local builds on and supports existing activity, delivered by a whole range of different people and organisations.

Big Local did not come with a set of guidelines or instructions for how to make things happen. We have had to develop ways of doing activities and projects that show we are behaving transparently and inclusively. This second plan is influenced by what we have learnt in the first two years.

We have recruited local people who work really hard voluntarily on our Partnership Board and through the various Theme Groups that we have established to deliver to our Plan.

To ensure that we continue to have the best possible balance of skills and experience on the Partnership Board, we have developed and will continually review our application process to ensure that membership is accessible to all sections of the community.

We will also continue to work on inclusion and accountability. We want to make sure that the people involved in the Big Local represent all of the area; this means people of different ages, genders, ethnicity, backgrounds and different parts of the area.

We are very keen that everything we do is fully transparent and that information is available.

Whilst recognising that local residents are central to Big Local, we understand and recognise the importance of partnership with

private, public and voluntary organisations who work in the area. With the mix of unique residents and organisations, the partnership brings together knowledge and experience that will be invaluable to the Big Local process, especially in the identified Theme Areas.

The partnership is supported by both voluntary and statutory organisations that have provided advice, guidance and support to the Big Local Process since the area was awarded the £1million grant. We acknowledge the invaluable support from Sandwell Council of Voluntary Organisations, our Local Trusted Organisation. Their role is to hold and administer the funding, ensuring that as a partnership we are spending the funds in line with the plan and community needs identified in the area.



Our Shared Vision

Our formula for change is local people working together for a better life - sustaining a community that is resilient, confident and enjoyable.

We developed our vision and priorities for this three year plan during events and consultations held with residents and other partners. This includes:

- **Annual General Meeting and community consultation** - (Over 60 people attended)
- **Community Festival** – (Over 250 people attended)
- **Safety Awareness for Everyone (SAFE) event** - (Over 40 people attended)
- **Queen’s Party in the Park** - (Nearly 200 people attended)
- **Three Community Litter Picks** - (Over 60 people got involved)
- **Celebrating 50th Anniversary of Holy Cross Church and Big Local in Bloom Awards** – (Over 90 people attended)
- **Four Making the Most of your Money Sessions** delivered to the over 50s group
- **Job & Volunteering Fair** - (Over 30 people attended)
- **GM2LF Big Local investment and development of churches as community hubs** which provides continuous interaction with the community
- **Facebook and Twitter** (increasing number of likes and followers)

Events are held in various parts of the Big Local area this is due to the geographical layout. Our well attended events have given us an excellent understanding of the needs and priorities for the area. We also gather ongoing insight via the partners involved in GM2LF Big Local including Lion Farm Action Centre, Wallace Youth Project, SAPA, Holy Cross Church, Oakham Church and St James Church, schools, libraries.

During the consultations and other events the following themes were identified. These remain the same as those in our first plan.

Community, Environment, Family, Finance, Learning, Wellbeing

Rather than having a separate ‘Family’ theme, each of our overarching priorities of Community, Environment, Finance, Learning, and Wellbeing we will continue to focus on positive outcomes for people of all ages. Our family focus is about providing resources, activities and aspirations that will bring lasting change to all residents regardless of age.

The consultation events and activities have identified a range of GM2LF Big Local priorities (please see Our Big Local Journey on page 7).

Our Big Local Journey

Since 2014 GM2LF Big Local has concentrated on three main priorities for the area. These priorities have provided focus and will still be intrinsic in the next three years.

Priority 1: Developing our Programme Support
Priority 2: Supporting and Developing Project and Activities
Priority 3: Developing Communications

Priority 1: Developing our Programme Support

This is about making sure we do things properly, work with others who can help and provide ourselves with the right space and support.

The Elements	Achievements -Year 1 and 2	Moving Forward – Year 3 to 5
<p>Managing the programme and funding.</p> <p>The £1million award sounds like a lot of money, however without the right management and infrastructure in place the money could easily be used without maximising the influence that this award can bring to our area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established a strong Partnership Board. • Recruited new board members. • Created and implemented Terms of Reference which are reviewed regularly • Held an annual AGM which enables a two-way communication dialogue between residents and the Partnership Board. • Set up thematic steering groups. • Established robust systems and processes for the authorisation of funding and activities. • Appointed a full-time Development Co-ordinator in February 2016 to provide support to the Partnership Board, manage delivery of the action plans and engage with residents, groups and organisations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer recruitment campaigns. • Recruit more partnership board members, to reflect the make-up of the community. • Regularly review processes and systems in place. • Continue strong link and partnership with SCVO. • Continue to review, monitor and assess work carried out in the Big Local plan. • Explore options for Big Local to become a separate entity, to be able to secure funding and for long term sustainability. • Extend contract for the role of the Development Co-ordinator.

The Elements	Achievements -Year 1 and 2	Moving Forward – Year 3 to 5
<p>Providing space(s) to meet residents, organise ourselves and deliver activities.</p> <p>Our Big Local area has some good but limited spaces for residents to meet; those that are available are not fully equipped to completely meet the needs of our residents due to a lack of finances. We would support existing community hubs to enhance their provision and provide additional spaces for residents to meet, to play a role in the provision and delivery of activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants ranging from £500 to £3,300 have been awarded and invested into local community hubs including churches, community centres and youth clubs. This has enhanced the service provision and sustained delivery of vital activities in the area. • Organisations in the area have worked more in partnership, sharing resources, skills and experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue Big Local investment and support in the existing community hubs and any new community venture which should emerge and fit within the Big Local plan. • To continue to strengthen the links across the area, maintain partnership working and sharing resources.
<p>Supporting volunteers</p> <p>Within our Big Local plan, we would seek to encourage more people to volunteers and play a role however large or small to benefit the wider community. We seek to continue volunteering schemes, and develop new opportunities for residents to share their skills to the mutual benefit of the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed volunteering roles within the area. • Developed volunteer recruitment campaigns, role descriptions and induction packages. • Worked with the Volunteer Centre Sandwell. • Held a Celebrating Volunteers event, part of the national Volunteer’s Week. • Held a Job and Volunteering Fair. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to celebrate and recognise the contributions volunteers make. • Hold an annual Volunteer’s Week event. • Hold regular job and volunteering fairs across the area. • Look at new ways to engage people, increase their skills, confidence and opportunities. • Seek to recruit more volunteers for the thematic steering groups. • Continue to build on the excellent work already done.

The Elements	Achievements -Year 1 and 2	Moving Forward – Year 3 to 5
<p>Develop effective partnerships</p> <p>Over the years there has been good partnership working across the Sandwell area. Through the Big local process, we would look at developing these links to ensure that the expertise and opportunities that these partnership links bring are maximised.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked in partnership and been supported by a wide range of voluntary and statutory agencies including Sandwell Council of Voluntary Organisations, Sandwell MBC, Portway Lifestyle Centre, Rounds Green Library, Grace Mary Primary School, St James Primary School, Welfare Rights, 6 Towns Credit Union, Job Centre, Sandwell Financial Hub, Welfare Rights, Sandwell College, Volunteer Centre, Sandwell Police, Sandwell Fire, Complete Kidz and Mytime Active. • As a result of partnership working secured match funding and in kind resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build on the foundations and maintain and create new links and ways to work in partnership, to enhance what is already happening in the area, create new opportunities and maximise the benefit for local residents. • To encourage and support local residents and our partners to consider sustainability and how we influence change that will last way beyond the period of the Big Local grant.

Local Trusted Organisation (LTO) and Development Support

Sandwell Council of Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) provided part time capacity building support over the first year of the programme. In addition, SCVO took on the role of the Local Trusted Organisation, responsible for holding and administering the Big Local money and ensuring that the Partnership Board is spending and delivering what is set out in the Big Local plan.

SCVO is a charitable organisation based in Sandwell which supports Sandwell’s Voluntary and Community Sector, comprised of voluntary-run community groups, charities, not-for-profit businesses, faith communities and social enterprises. visit: www.scvo.info

In 2016 the Partnership Board appointed a Full-Time Development Co-ordinator to provide support to the Partnership Board. To help ensure that the maximum benefit was achieved with the money available, manage delivery of the Big Local Plan and engage local residents and organisations. This post has been extended for a further three years.

SCVO continued as the LTO and will remain in this role for the foreseeable future. This will be reviewed annually and as the Partnership Board develops.



Priority 2: Supporting and Developing Projects and Activities

Big local is a great opportunity to focus on supporting and developing activities which will make the area better and people happier. Many organisations in the Big Local area operate within tight financial and human resources.

Since 2014 and for each theme listed below, we have focused on the outcomes and the activities which impact against these.

Community Theme Achievements - Year 1 and 2

Outcomes	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People from different neighbourhoods know each other better. • There is clear communication policy and practice. • People in the Big Local area have more confidence to voice concerns and know how to take action. • There is increased voluntary activity. • People of different ages know each other better. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a communication policy (newsletter, activity calendar, social media, publicity). • Created a Communications Steering Group. • Administered a Community Small Grants Programme. Grants ranged between £500 - £700. • Promoted and signposted activity already happening, engaged more local people. • Developed three churches in the area as community and learning hubs. Grants awarded to enhance current provision and support to help people access improved or new opportunities. • Developed the chance for people to volunteer by creating volunteering opportunities and holding a job and volunteer event and a celebrating our volunteers event as part of the national Volunteers' Week.



Environment Theme

Achievements - Year 1 and 2

Outcomes	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are taking more pride in the area. • There are more wildlife and sensory areas with easy access. • There are more safe spaces (park, play, allotments, etc.). • More safe spaces and community clean up days. • There is less litter and more flowers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed an annual Big Local in Bloom Competition and Poster Design Competition. • Held a Safety Awareness for Everyone (SAFE) event. • In partnership with the police launched a Selecta DNA campaign for residents in the area. • Held a Celebrating 50th Anniversary of Holy Cross Church and In Bloom Winners event • Launched a Big Local Balloon Race. The balloon which travelled the furthest landed in Edinburgh. • Held a Clean for the Queen and Queen's Party in the Park. • In partnership with Tipton Litterwatch organised three community litter pick ups. • Held a selfie with the Queen Competition. • Children from the area wrote letters/birthday cards to Queen. GM2LF received thank you card from the Queen. • Administered an 'Our Environment Fund' to develop wildlife and sensory gardens at schools within the area. • 6- piece gym purchased and to be installed in the Lion Farm Estate in 2017. Project organised in partnership with Sandwell Community Activity Network and Sandwell Council.



Finance Outcomes

Achievements - Year 1 and 2

Outcomes	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are affordable alternatives to doorstep and pay day lenders. • There is a greater understanding of money management. • There is funding for effective local community organisations. • Debt and benefits advice. • There is greater investment in the Big Local area from outside. • There is less family debt. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held out-reach sessions within the areas support people to open bank accounts and money management advice Sandwell Financial Hub delivered training sessions to established groups in the area. • Train the Trainer (Financial Capability Training) delivered to frontline staff and volunteers. • Citizens Advice Bureau delivered making the most of your money sessions. • Grace Mary Primary School delivered sessions from the My Money Toolkit at the school. • Commissioned 6 Towns Credit Union to help people open bank accounts, access affordable loans and manage their money. Out-reach points set up in the area. • In partnership with 6 Towns launched a Christmas savings scheme. Via the England Illegal Lending Money Team, 6 Towns provided £25 for the first 30 people who opened a Christmas account and saved £25. • Administered Money Matters Fund grants of up to £1,000 to support money management and enterprise programmes in schools. • Grant awarded to 6 Towns Credit Union to manage a Young Savers Scheme at the schools in the area.



Learning Outcomes

Achievements - Year 1 and 2

Outcomes	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is increased access to learning for all. • There is more one-to-one support for children and young people. • There is an increase in 'informal' learning that supports literacy and numeracy. • People are work ready for existing and new employment opportunities. • Reduced unemployment across the Big Local area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continual programme and delivery of on line Learn My Way courses. • One to one support with CV writing and applying for jobs. • Administered 'Our Learning Fund' small grants programme to support with the enhancement, set up and delivery of homework clubs and support for children and young people. • In partnership with Sandwell College held training sessions in the area. (Level 2 Food Safety Catering and Level 2 Health & Safety at Work). • Administered 'Out of School Activities Fund' small grants programme for schools to be able to hold events or deliver activities in addition to the curriculum. • Held a Job and Volunteering Fair.



Wellbeing Outcomes

Achievements – Year 1 and 2

Outcomes	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All ages are eating more healthily. • All ages are smoking less • All ages are taking more exercise. • People feel they are less isolated and more connected with their neighbours. • There is increased support for people with emotional and mental health needs. • There is increased work with schools in health and wellbeing education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In partnership with Portway Lifestyle Centre held a Community Festival whereby people could take part in a variety of activities and get advice about health eating and exercise. • Held a Celebrating Our Volunteers Event (Part of National Volunteers' Week) • Worked with other agencies to increase provision in the area around keeping fit and eating healthily. • 6- piece gym purchased and to be installed in the Lion Farm Estate in 2017. Project organised in partnership with Sandwell Community Activity Network and Sandwell Council. £4,000 match funding received via a grant from the council's Healthy Towns programme. • Developed new opportunities and classes for people to keep fit and lose weight, including the establishment of a new community group Get Motivated to Lose Fat.



Social Investment

In addition to the themes we designated some Big Local budget to Social Investment. Our understanding of Social Investment is that it is a mechanism through which we can both achieve the social impact we desire, but also have a financial return on our funding. We believe this is an important aspect of our plan that will enable the tackling of personal debt amongst our residents, and also be a means of sustaining our programme. We have commissioned 6 Towns Credit Union in order to support to address financial issues, make money available for loans and to

help people manage their money more effectively across the area. This partnership arrangement also support to address the outcomes within our Finance theme. 6 Towns Credit Union will have a regular presence in the area for two days a week and will work with several groups and organisations in the area to support and engage as many people as possible.

For more information about 6 Towns Credit Union visit: www.sixtowns.co.uk

Priority 3: Developing Communications

Developing Communications is essential. Our Big Local area has a lot going on that many do not know about.

Since 2014 we have developed a communications policy and created a Communications Steering group which oversees:

- **Newsletters**
Changing Times is produced 3 times a year, 1,500 copies are distributed to local residents, groups, organisations and agencies.
- **Website**
Refreshed and changed in terms of design to enable greater engagement.
- **Facebook and Twitter**
Regular contributions made. Facebook competitions launched and engagement has increased.
- **E-distribution lists**
Newsletters and information emailed to distribution list which has grown over the last 2 years.
- **Marketing and promotional materials**
Investment has been made in new promotional materials such as pens, banners, bugs, leaflets, flyers and posters.

Moving Forward - Year 3 to 5

Improved communications remain a priority for development in this plan. Our Big Local area serves diverse communities and the key to our communications is to make sure that that all the

different groups of residents are kept informed and involved. Therefore, we will need to ensure we use a wide range of communication techniques so that no groups of residents miss out on information. We will need to consider fresh approaches to involvement and being imaginative in terms of how we work in the area.

The implementation of this plan will continue to be an ongoing open discussion with transparent delivery and procedures. Our plan will develop our communication between:

- All local residents
- Groups, organisations and businesses working in the area
- Statutory and voluntary organisations working across the Borough of Sandwell and beyond

Keeping people informed about our Big Local and two-way communication with local residents, volunteers, groups, organisations and businesses will underpin all our activities.

Therefore, we need to ensure:

- **People know and understand what GM2LF Big Local is**
- **People are kept up to date where the programme is 'at'**
- **Success is celebrated**
- **Consultation and engagement is ongoing**
- **Big Local remains resident driven**

Spotlight on Success

GM2LF Big Local - Small Community Grants Support



Places of Welcome is a growing network of small community organisations sharing hospitality to everyone in their area to ensure that they have a place to go for a friendly face, a cup of tea or something to eat and a conversation if and when they need it.

The primary aim of the Places of Welcome network is that “Every neighbourhood has places where all people feel safe to belong, connect and contribute.”

Place of Welcome provide **an** accessible and hospitable building, open at the same time every week, that is open to everyone regardless of their circumstances or situation, and staffed by volunteers. It is a place where people actively listen to one another and provide free refreshments (at least a cup of tea and a biscuit) and basic local information, whilst recognising that every person coming to a Place of Welcome will bring talents, experiences and skills that they might be willing to share locally

St James Church started their Place of Welcome as a direct response to provide a place where all residents and visitors to the area could find a safe, warm and friendly place locally to be given hope and continue the process of changing lives, attitudes and opportunities.

The sessions which run on a Tuesday started with a few church members meeting together for a hot drink and a biscuit, but over the last two years and with a small grant from Big Local it is now able to provide a range of food and activities that draw in mums and their toddlers, pensioners in need of breakfast and a chat, and a range of residents from the most needy to those that just want somewhere to meet up with friends.

Our places of Welcome has also seen local residents wanting to support the initiative by giving up their time to help with catering, supporting parents with activities for their children, and supporting each other in the provision of advice and signposting to organisations that can help particular needs.

Though this initiative was started just before the launch of our initial Big Local plan, it is only with the support of Big Local that it now can meet the needs of the diverse group it now serves. The community grant enabled the Church to fast track the development of the initiative and gave a finer focus to ensure that the activity could be promoted widely and could provide activities that local people needed and wanted to use.

The Place of Welcome also hosts the 6 Towns Credit Union who are funded by GM2LF to provide banking, savings and money advice to local residents.

The 3 hour session attracts on average 40 people weekly and has made contact with over 140 new people beyond its normal church activities.

Our Big Local Journey Continues

We expect that during this next 3-year period of the Big Local Programme we will see relationships between people and organisations in the area grow and deepen and an increasing sense of community will emerge. As a partnership, we are developing the capacity to support each other and stand on our own two feet, manage our finances, deliver to our agreed priorities within the Big Local Plan and make a difference to the lives of local people.

As the Big Local delivers the events, activities and projects outlined in this plan we would expect there to be a growing confidence in our collective abilities to make the differences we want to see, and to achieve our vision to make the area of GM2LF an even better place to live, work and visit.

This plan reflects our learning to date and our listening to what the community has fed back through meetings, activities and

events that we have delivered or facilitated, such as our AGM, Celebrating Our Volunteers, SAFE Event, Queen's Party in the Park, Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Holy Cross Church, Job and Volunteer Fair, computer classes, social media, surveys and from the work carried out by our Development Co-ordinator.

Our Budget Years 3 – 5

The summary of planned expenditure outlined below has been based on our experiences of delivery in years 1 and 2 plus our ideas as so far developed for years 3 to 5. The budgets have been created from our first plan making them more focused and realistic to move Big Local forward. This 3-year plan will be reviewed annually and at this stage we want to leave ourselves flexibility to develop the activities as circumstances change and opportunities emerge.

Success of Working in Partnership

The Grace Mary to Lion Farm area is quite a diverse community made up of five neighbourhoods and two major areas separated by a steep hill and large open space. As a result the two areas have historically had little to do with one another. The Big Local has drawn the wider community together in mutual support. A recent example begun when we held a celebration event in Holy Cross church. The significant number of young people on the estate with little to do soon became apparent and the need for youth activities became one of our priorities. Experienced community and youth workers from other parts of the GM2LF area are working together with the church to establish a wide range of youth provision on the estate. Funding was secured from the Local Authority to set up a dance group. A youth club and football team are in the process of being set up with support from youth workers.



Summary of Planned Expenditure for Year 3, 4 and 5

	Description/ Activity	2017/18 Year 3	2018/19 Year 4	2019/2020 Year 5	Total
PROGRAMME SUPPORT					
Capacity development.	Big Local Development Co-ordinator and associated costs and resources.	£35,000	£36,000	£37,000	£108,000
Partnership running costs.	Administration, photocopying, printing, running costs, AGM.	£2,500	£2,500	£2,500	£7,500
Communications - (Development of communication policy – newsletter, activity calendar, social media, publicity).	Newsletter (3 a year). Promotional and marketing material. Website and social media development.	£2,500	£2,500	£2,500	£7,500
PROJECTS - THEMES					
Community					
Hold seasonal multicultural events.	Workshops, events, food markets etc.	£2,900	£2,900	£2,900	
Develop a community transport scheme.	Running costs towards mini bus Explore opportunities to lease/purchase through Social Investment budget.	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	
Develop the chance for people to volunteer.	Volunteer recruitment campaigns, events, training and learning, new volunteering roles etc.	£500	£500	£500	
Continued development of churches as community hubs.	Grants of up to £10,000 to further develop churches and the activities carried out (capital and revenue).	£30,000	£30,000	£30,000	
Promote and support community activity already happening.	Grants programme to develop new and existing groups.	£15,000	£15,000	£15,000	

	Description/ Activity	2017/18 Year 3	2018/19 Year 4	2019/2020 Year 5	Total
Environment		£22,000	£22,000	£22,000	£66,000
Plant more flowers in the area/develop garden competition.	Big Local in Bloom Competitions – Garden and poster design. To hold an awards ceremony.	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	
There are more safe spaces, community clean up days and community safety initiatives	Work with Tipton Litter watch - community litter picks Initiatives with Police. Early Intervention Programmes. Safety Goodie Bags.	£10,500	£10,500	£10,500	
There are more wildlife and sensory areas with easy access.	Environment enabler grant programme – wildlife clubs, herb gardens, vegetable patches etc.	£6,000	£6,000	£6,000	
People taking more pride in the area and more safe spaces, play areas, allotments etc.	Gym/play equipment in another area(s) within GM2LF	£3,500	£3,500	£3,500	
Finance		£10,500	£10,500	£21,500	£42,500
There is a greater understanding of money management.	Support schools with delivery of money management programmes – Grants programme	£3,000	£2,000	£1,500	
Money Management Programmes and help people open bank accounts.	Working with 6 Towns Credit Union – Junior Savings accounts – saving initiative (match funding). Up to 300 pupils per year.	£7,500	£7,500		
There is an investment programme for Big Local – Renewable energy development.	Workshops/events/feasibility study – to develop for year 4.		£1,000		
There is an investment programme for Big Local – Support to enable organisations in the area reduce their energy footprint and invest in becoming more energy efficient.	Renewable Energy Investment Grants programme – match funded.			£20,000	

	Description/ Activity	2017/18 Year 3	2018/19 Year 4	2019/2020 Year 5	Total
Learning		£12,000	£12,000	£12,000	£36,000
There is an increased access to learning for all – computer classes	Invest in existing opportunities via <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LFAC • Holy Cross • Oakham (Learn my Way) – 6 courses	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	
Develop access to work.	LFAC support with CV writing.	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	
Develop access to work training programmes and support people for gaining qualifications.	Develop a training programme – First Aid, Food Hygiene, Mentoring, Advanced learning	£4,000	£4,000	£4,000	
Develop access to work training programmes and support people for gaining qualifications and experience.	Hold Job and Volunteering Fairs across the area.	£1,200	£1,200	£1,200	
There is an increase in ‘informal’ learning that supports literacy and numeracy	Annual grants programme open to schools to contribute towards the cost of out of curriculum activities.	£1,500	£1,500	£1,500	
There is an increase in ‘informal’ learning that supports literacy and numeracy and more one to one support with children and young people.	Homework/youth work/breakfast clubs - grants programme.	£1,300	£1,300	£1,300	
There is an increased access to learning for all.	Community choirs/rock schools – GM2LF Big Local choir.	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	
Wellbeing		£19,500	£12,000	£27,000	£58,500
People feel less isolated and more connected with their neighbours. Improved health and wellbeing.	Celebrating Our Volunteers event – Volunteers week.	£500	£500	£500	
Run classes to help people eat well, health advice for all ages and health walks. There is an increased support for people with emotional and mental health needs.	Wellbeing Fair/Roadshows/Workshops. Focused work on mental health.	£3,000	£3,500	£3,500	
Develop and outside gym trail /children’s play equipment.	Gym/play equipment Oakham/Grace Mary/Wallace	£15,000		£15,000	

	Description/ Activity	2017/18 Year 3	2018/19 Year 4	2019/2020 Year 5	Total
Wellbeing (Continued)					
Increased work around raising drug awareness for parents.	Workshops/schools work.	£1,000			
All ages are taking up more exercise and people feel less isolated and more connected with their neighbours.	Ideas include Big Local Fun Run/Tough Mudder/Event at Portway/gym membership incentives.		£3,000	£3,000	
Run classes to help people eat well, health advice for all ages. There is an increased support for people with emotional and mental health needs. People feel less isolated and more connected with their neighbours.	Grants programme for people to experience something completely new, for example skiing, ice skating, rock climbing, music, art.		£5,000	£5,000	
SPEND SUMMARY (TOTAL)					
Annual Spend Profile		£153,400	£146,900	£173,900	£474,200
SOCIAL INVESTMENT		£35,000	£65,000	£35,000	£135,000
Working with financial partners.	Grants. Business support - set up and training/enterprises.	£10,000	£40,000	£20,000	
Working with financial partners.	Continued work with 6 Towns Credit Union, commissioned in 2016 to deliver outcomes set.	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	
Develop Community Transport.	Explore opportunities for a mini bus. To purchase/lease/running costs etc. This could be used for GM2LF, local schools, organisations/hire etc.	£15,000	£15,000	£15,000	
ANNUAL TOTAL OUTGOINGS		£188,400	£211,900	£208,900	£609,200

Checking Progress and Managing Risk

Our Big Local Plan will be used as a working document to ensure that we are achieving our priorities and outcomes. This will be monitored by:

Regular Consultation with Local Residents

This will determine whether local residents are satisfied with the level of progress achieved and help us to identify any new needs.

Partnership Board Meetings

Partnership Board meetings are held every month, we have a governing document, a membership process, codes of conduct, values and procedures in place which underpin the work we do. We will continue to review our governance regularly and ensure that the Partnership Board remains effective in the delivery of the Big Local Plan. All ideas and proposals for work carried out in delivering the plan are presented to the Board who must approve. We manage conflicts of interest and risks efficiently. If a matter arose by which we required specialist advice, we could contact our Big Local Representative in the first instance.

Local Trusted Organisation (SCVO)

This will determine whether the spend for the project is on target and if the money is sufficient for the activities that have been planned.

Open to Trying New Things

Whereas some funding programmes are quite prescriptive, the Big Local Programme provides a lot of flexibility. Big Local enables local residents to be more innovative, take risks and learn in order to make the lasting change and differences to the area.

Reports from the Big Local Representative

Our Big Local rep, Chris Allen, is our direct link with the Local Trust. This will highlight progress and any difficulties that arise whilst delivering the Big Local plan. His role is to support, facilitate and challenge.

Collection of Statistical Data

The Partnership Board will seek to use Statistical data from a range of local and national dataset that can be used to monitor the progress of the plan against the aims and objectives.

We will seek to collect a range of evidence regarding the progress of the Big Local plan this will range from photos, video, case studies, number of people involved in activities, witness testimonies, newspapers articles and resident surveys.