

COVID-19 COMMUNITY RECOVERY PLAN

REPORT TO EXECUTIVE



DATE	22nd September 2020
PORTFOLIO	Leader
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PURPOSE

1. To seek Executive endorsement of the council’s covid-19 community recovery plan and approval of the updated operating model for the Burnley Together Hub.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Executive:
 - a. Recommends that Full Council approve the Covid-19 Recovery Plan (appendix 1).
 - b. Approves the updated operating model for the Burnley Together Hub. (appendix 2)
 - c. Recommends that Full Council approves funding of £50,000 as set out in the report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. The aim of the strategy is to generate positive outcomes to address the fragilities, and make the most of the opportunities, that the emergency has exposed.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

4. The strategy identifies a range of interventions under the headings of humanitarian assistance, economic, infrastructure and environmental.
5. A key plank of the strategy is the development of the Burnley Together Hub. Burnley Together (the hub) has been operating for 25 weeks since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. Its contact centre received 11,045 contacts, providing direct support to 2,208 families. The hub offers a range of services both directly and through its network of partners. Throughout April, May, and June the hub made contact and checked on 2,930 of the town’s most clinically and socially vulnerable people. Mostly this was via telephone contact but on 152 occasions home visits were arranged to ensure safety. Outputs so far include:
 - 4,868 food parcels to those in need thanks to hub partners’ BFC in the Communtiy, Ghausia, and Gannow foodbank.

- During the summer holidays, with funding from DEFRA the hub distributed 52,772 meals through a new community food partnership including our foodbanks, Charter House, Northern Community Networks, Padiham Town Council and Burnley Boys and Girls Club ensuring that no family had to go hungry during the school holidays
 - The hub provided 545 residents with support for shopping whilst they have been shielded.
 - The hub's delivery service made sure 263 individuals have had uninterrupted supply of their medication.
 - The hub supported 145 individuals to register for volunteering. Thanks to Burnley, Padiham and Rossendale CVS the volunteers received training and had access to opportunities that met their skills.
6. Burnley Together's greatest strength is the broad range of partners it has brought together for coordinated action. At present, it has over 100 partners registered on its database. Building on this success, Appendix 2 gives an overview of how Burnley Together is to evolve. While continuing to support all vulnerable residents, a key priority for the hub is to provide a co-ordinated service to young people, by helping them with skills and employment.
7. The Executive will also be asked to consider a separate strategy prepared by the Head of Economy and Growth detailing the actions to be taken in support of the borough's economic recovery.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

8. A one-off grant of £10,000 for the community kitchen to ensure that the most vulnerable in society have free access to essential provisions.
9. A one-off grant of £10,000 to the Community Foundation for Lancashire, to support its efforts to bring in externally funded support for Burnley's most vulnerable residents
10. £30,000 to fund a post in the Burnley Together Hub.
11. The above will be funded through a one off payment from reserves.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

12. The main implications are:
- a. Establishing a governance structure for the Hub, including maintaining good data protection policy and practice.
 - b. Making sure that the Hub complements and enhances existing services and reduces complexity for residents in accessing the services they need. The Hub must work through all the issues holding back the life chances of its service users, going beyond the initial contact to create a culture of independence through empowerment and targeted support.
 - c. The council's community strategy and organisational development strategy must adapt to long term changes in society that could have been triggered by the pandemic: e.g. the homeworking 'revolution.'

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

13. Calico.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

14. None.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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