

RASTRICK BIG LOCAL PLAN 2020-24

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1. INTRODUCTION

What is Big Local?

Big Local is a national initiative, funded through the Big Lottery Fund, which invests in local communities that have often been overlooked by outside funders.

£1 million is provided to each Big Local area over **ten years** to enable local residents to come together and make use of the funding to make a substantial, positive and lasting difference to their community.

Big Lottery expects that, as a result of such funding:

- Communities will be better able to identify their needs and responses to them and to take action to deal with them.
- People in the community will have increased the skills, confidence and social capital that are necessary to ensure that they continue to identify and respond to needs that matter to them in future.
- Communities will have made a difference to the needs they had prioritised.
- People will feel that their community is a better place in which to live.

Rastrick Big Local HD63

Rastrick was one of the areas chosen to receive Big Local funding and **Rastrick Big Local HD63 (RBL)**. RBL Partnership Group (RBLPG) is a resident led voluntary organisation that has responsibility for using its national lottery funding to deliver sustainable improvements to Rastrick by:

- increasing the range and amount of local facilities, activities and services

- creating more opportunities for local people to be involved in the community and make use of local provision
- attracting additional funding and resources

APPENDIX 1 sets out how RBL works and who is in it.

2. THE COSTED VISION

RBL's overall vision is to make Rastrick a better place to live and to enable positive change to take place.

We will focus on making our community more resilient, evidence shows that, in broad terms, successful communities are ones that are resilient and that means not just being able to overcome problems and challenges, but also having the capacity to help local people to achieve their potential and to thrive.

This can be broken down into three key elements – community, economic and personal resilience.

1. Community Resilience

- ✓ A strong, cohesive, active and connected community
- ✓ A high quality physical environment
- ✓ A community that is safe
- ✓ Enabling and responsive public services

2. Economic Resilience

- ✓ A strong local economy
- ✓ Local people in work
- ✓ Residents in financial control

3. Personal Resilience

- ✓ Children and young people get the best start in life
- ✓ People realise their potential
- ✓ People are healthy and have a positive sense of wellbeing

APPENDIX 2 sets out what each of these resiliences means and some of the ways in which they might be achieved, so that our community becomes an even better place in which to live.

How do we know this is the right vision for Rastrick?

RBLPG makes regular use of surveys, stalls at events and local markets, Voice Your Choice voting forms and dialogues with residents and other local groups to learn what the community wants and get feedback on projects already delivered.

Are our priorities still the right ones for our community?

We initially produced two year plans rather than develop a 10 year plan from the outset; this enabled us to check out the relevance of our priorities as things progressed.

RBLPG has identified several areas where there have been changes in the local community and surrounding environment which could influence decisions made in the second half of the plan period. These include:

- Increasing pressure on household incomes/ more families accessing foodbanks
- Changes in local infrastructure– proposed housing developments at the heart of the RBL area
- Poorer public transport
- Greater awareness of environmental concerns – higher recycling levels, electric car charging points
- More congestion on the roads
- Continuing lack of social capital – the connections and collective attitudes between people that result in a well-functioning and close-knit society

Additionally there could be significant changes in the income deprivation or health profile of the area; these have not been published since 2011 so any changes are purely anecdotal.

As the priorities for the Voice Your Choice programme are defined along themes (Work, Environment, Young People, Money, Health and Wellbeing) the partnership believes the themes are broad enough to be able to respond to changes in local priorities that may evolve over the next 5 years. Additionally, RBL periodically consults with voters as to the relevance of the themes and invites additional themes to be identified.

The recently introduced Big Impact fund also enables newly emerging issues that fall outside other funding streams to be considered for investment by RBL – by its very nature it is adaptable providing it meets key criteria, specifically around sustainability and legacy.

Who have we talked to in our community and what did they tell us?

We have spoken to multiple cross sections of the community – young people, older people via pensioner’s fairs, families at fun days, visitors to the new community centre in Field Lane and other voluntary groups. Many of the comments address areas where we have already delivered some improvement (e.g. public spaces and play areas for children). Inevitably many other comments relate to areas that are the responsibility of statutory organisations like the local council or NHS (e.g. litter, speeding, traffic congestion, local planning, health provision) and are thus outside the scope of projects that RBL can deliver.

COSTED VISION FOR REMAINDER OF PLAN

How much money is still to be spent out of the £1 million plus other add-ons?

The initial award was £1m, plus the windfall additional funds of £127,000 and market place funding of £22,500- a total of £1,149,500

£627,850 of grants have been awarded, this leaves a residual £521,650.

Indicative expenditure of remaining monies:

Priority	Project/Activity	How much will we spend on it between now and the end of RBL?
Working with others to improve the local community and create links between groups in the community	Community Development worker	£75,000
	Promotion and marketing	£8,500
	Efficient running of the partnership	£18,000
Improving local assets	Voice Your Choice	£290,150
Building resilience	Big Impact Funding / Research	£20,000
Encouraging creation and innovation	Community Small Grants	£25,000
	Big Impact Funding	£85,000
Close down costs	Redundancy payments	None forecast
	TOTAL	£521,650

The above amounts could be switched between sections depending on the number and size of proposals that emerge (e.g. between VYC and Big Impact).

3. RBL ACTION PLAN

The Plan will run from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2024

The Priorities for the next 5 years

- Voice Your Choice – continuing our programme of participatory budgeting, up to £65,000 per year
- Community Small Grants – including releasing small seed funding to non-constituted groups for pilot projects.
- Big Impact Fund – for larger projects with greater lasting opportunities and impact
- Local Assets and Resources – utilising / improving existing assets and identifying skills in the community that can be utilised.
- Promotion and Marketing
- Community Engagement – strengthening the links with the community, particularly young, isolated and elderly and strengthening the breadth of the partnership.

Measuring success

As part of the criteria for funding, our larger projects are required to report back on their success against the initial objectives. For the largest project, Field Lane community centre, there are specific key performance indicators around development of the resident committee and utilisation of the centre that will be monitored. Ultimately the success of RBL will be monitored by its legacy beyond the funding lifespan.

The Budget

Please see attached as Appendix 3

How does all this relate to the Big Local Outcomes?

Outcome 1: Communities will be better able to identify local needs and take action

Both the Community Small Grants programme and Voice Your Choice enable priorities for RBL to be identified by the local community and choose which projects are delivered. The Big Impact Fund relies on local community groups or individuals identifying specific needs which need addressing.

Outcome 2: People will have increased skills and confidence, so they continue to identify local needs in the future

Community Small Grants enables groups to test ideas, start their own projects to identifying what and how it could work or not without the administrative burden of applying for a larger grant.

The Voice Your Choice proposals require applicants to meet a robust set of criteria which develops a quality proposal which ensure positive results in the development, delivery and outcomes for the group and the community. These skills are transferrable and will benefit individuals and groups with future activities.

New members of the Rastrick Big Local group have increased and improved their skill sets (e.g. working with other residents, groups and organisations, computing, social media, holding roles on committees).

Outcome 3: The community will make a difference to the needs it prioritises

The aim of funding opportunities is focused on local groups and organisations who deliver various events and activities within Rastrick. The Voice Your Choice projects that have been proposed and implemented are by local community groups and organisations.

Outcome 4: People will feel that their area is an even better place to live

It is envisaged that people feel their place is better as the projects that meet the Big Impact funding or Voice Your Choice criteria and improve the local area.

Experience and Learning to Date

We have applied the lessons we have learned from previous Big Local work to the new plan. In particular we recognise the majority of the plan is delivered by a few paid workers and a small cohort of volunteers, we need to work to extend the breadth of the partnership and ensure it represents the diverse population of the area it represents.

The Plan Review Report 2019 is attached as Appendix 4.

We also had a visit from Matt Leach CEO Local Trust in April 2019 who gave feedback to the partnership on areas we could focus on in the second half of the plan- these include learning from other Big Local areas and exploring longer horizons.

4. LEGACY STATEMENT

The vision of RBL is to make Rastrick a better place to live, enabling positive change.

What will this mean for the future of Rastrick? What is our vision?

- People will have enhanced skills, confidence, experience and motivation to deliver further improvements in the area.
- Intra community relationships i.e. networks, organisations and community champions will be strengthened.
- Place (physical assets or activities that will continue) – improved public resources and open spaces, a sense of pride in Rastrick.

In order for the legacy to be strong and successful we need to work closely with residents and existing community groups. This is where we have the greatest strengths- with the formal and informal networks of the partnership and ability to deliver from grass roots up. We will continue to share our knowledge with other Big Local areas and seek to review best practice from other areas.

To date, our greatest legacies are focussed in 2 areas:

- Community Cohesion – Voice Your Choice has brought together a group of individuals who have delivered improvement to various play areas through the area and leveraged additional funding from external sources. A further group that developed a local park have stayed together and are now addressing local concerns regarding the proposed development in the area under the Local Plan

- Improved Amenities - the refurbishment and re-opening of an old community centre at the heart of Rastrick which was partially funded by Rastrick Big Local. The centre provides RBL with a physical home for our engagement worker and this enables opportunities for greater engagement with the community and working with the staff and volunteers of the centre and a platform to launch additional services, clubs, networking events etc. Additionally a Voice Your Choice grant was used to build an access ramp to the Rastrick Library, improving access and allowing it to develop further as a community hub.

It has recently been announced that Brighouse has been awarded up to £25m from the Stronger Towns Fund, to develop ambitious and innovative plans to boost the local economy. There is an opportunity for RBL to get involved in shaping these plans as a key local factor is the poor transport links between Rastrick and Brighouse centre.

To date there is no plan for the partnership to continue in its current form beyond the end of the RBL funding horizon. However, projects delivered over the second half of the period that may need ongoing governance or maintenance (such as investment in property or enterprise), will need to be addressed alongside any funding requirements.

The risks that face RBL and the second phase of the 10 year project are as follows:-

- Risk - the partnership could fail if existing members or paid worker leave and it does not attract new members or considers organisational structure up to or beyond 2024.
- Mitigation- continue to attract new members and skills to the partnership, build further links with the Field Lane community centre and seek other opportunities that could bring more resilience to the partnership.
- Risk- the community or groups working within Rastrick don't bring forward fresh ideas for projects.
- Mitigation- continue to work closely with local groups to tease out opportunities to develop projects. The partnership could commission a piece of work to be delivered if there was a perceived need for the project in the community but no group available to deliver.

APPENDIX 1

Sets out how RBL works and who is in it.

About us, our partnership

The partnership is led by a Chair, supported by a vice Chair comprised of a majority of local residents supported by a paid Engagement Worker, Secretary and Treasurer. It also includes non-voting members – a Big Local rep, a representative from Calderdale Council, a Rastrick Ward Councillor and the Neighbourhood Officer for Together Housing.

Principles and Criteria

Our principles are that we seek to always put the needs of Rastrick residents before any other competing criteria. We are open, honest and transparent- non members can attend our meetings, request financial information and we publish minutes of our meetings.

About Rastrick

Rastrick is a diverse geographic area. Whilst the overall demographic indices for the area as a whole are close to the average for Calderdale (mean age, health and income deprivation) there are marked variations within the area.

About our LTO

RBL is required by Local Trust (the national organisation that oversees Big Local) to appoint an organisation to care take our finances and ensure that monies are drawn down correctly.

The Community Foundation for Calderdale (CFFC) is RBL's Locally Trusted Organisation. CFFC holds the funds, manages them correctly, keeps proper financial records and reports to Local Trust in line with the terms and conditions of the grant. They are dedicated to supporting Rastrick Big Local HD63. They have pledged to support the group not only by holding the funding on behalf of the local partnership but also by pledging a minimum of £5,000 per year for grant making to RBL.

Community Consultation

As described in the first section, we seek to consult with the community at every opportunity. Our Voice Your Choice programme of participatory budgeting ensures that projects are chosen by the community.

Communications Strategy

We keep in touch with local communities and receive feedback using social media, events, meetings, presentations, consultation exercises, liaison with other local groups and schools.

APPENDIX 2 – Increasing Community Resilience in Rastrick

Healthy communities are resilient communities and we can break this down into three key elements – community, economic and personal.

Resilience is defined here as being able to thrive and make the most of opportunities as well as being able to withstand challenges and overcome problems

Here are some of the things that this might mean in practice.

1 Community Resilience	Examples of the sorts of initiatives that people might choose to pursue:
<p>A. A strong, cohesive, active and connected community</p> <p>so that: people from different backgrounds and ages are bound together by a common sense of belonging and come together to make a difference locally, to celebrate or just to have fun</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Timebank – a way of enabling people to come together and help each other through giving practical help and support to others ('depositing' their time) and 'withdraw' this time when they need something done themselves. • Increasing awareness of local heritage (e.g. development of <i>Community Timeline</i>) • Better organised opportunities for people to contribute to their community • Opportunities for people to do things together (particularly different generations); (e.g. digital inclusion project, with young people helping teach older people IT skills, perhaps in return for having IT qualifications funded). • Development of community events (e.g. organised parties or picnics), to better foster intergenerational understanding and enable vulnerable adults to get involved in community activities • 'Bring and fix' sessions where residents help to repair each other's goods
<p>B. A high quality physical environment</p> <p>so that: we have public spaces and facilities that people enjoy using and decent housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ventures that enhance our area and promote a clean, green and pleasant environment ('clean-up', 'in bloom', 'keep the area tidy' and the like) • Creation of allotments, community gardens and other common green spaces • Initiatives designed to facilitate community buying incentives for fuel • Projects that maximise recycling and re-use activities • Schemes designed to expand the use of environmentally friendly heating / power generation / water recycling etc. • Support for the creation of e.g. green gyms, picnic areas, nature trails, cycle paths etc. in new and existing public spaces
<p>C. A community that is safe</p> <p>so that: fear of crime and antisocial behaviour is low and people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with other agencies to address anti social behaviour and engage young people who are likely to cause problems (e.g. graffiti wall) • Providing information about real v imagined occurrence of crime

feel safe	
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***Resilience** – being able to thrive and make the most of opportunities as well as being able to withstand challenges and overcome problems

2 Economic Resilience	Examples of the sorts of initiatives that people might choose to pursue:
Resilience – being able to thrive and make the most of opportunities as well as being able to withstand challenges and overcome problems	
<p>A. A strong local economy</p> <p>so that: successful business enterprise and the creation of new jobs are encouraged in Rastrick</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Support for creating and sustaining small businesses (including advice and start up loans) ◆ Assistance – both practical and other – to those coming forward with business ideas ◆ Social Enterprises ◆ Creation of a business ideas forum: an opportunity for local companies to learn what services, goods etc. might be available to them on their own doorsteps, and to encourage collaboration between local companies on existing or future work ◆ A directory of local business – to provide new opportunities for existing companies – and help keep local money within the local economy ◆ Ensuring that projects, wherever possible, make full use of existing or new local businesses, facilities, skills expertise and knowledge
<p>B. Local people in work</p> <p>so that: local people are enabled and encouraged to get the skills and qualifications that employers need</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Training opportunities ◆ Encouraging local businesspeople to be mentors for people entering employment and increasing the number of apprenticeships. ◆ Support to assist young people either to gain some work experience, or to develop their portfolios in cooperation with local companies ◆ One-stop-shops to offer advice on employment (including CVs) ◆ Employment preparation opportunities
<p>C. Residents in financial control</p> <p>so that: people can make well informed decisions about their finances, debt and savings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Credit unions, using local people to run them (thus training and employing/giving experience to, local residents). ◆ Provision of financial advice - money workshops with focus on safe options for saving, advice on debts and benefits ◆ Initiatives to reduce fuel poverty (e.g. around energy saving, insulation)

3 Personal Resilience	Examples of the sorts of initiatives that people might choose to pursue:
Resilience – being able to thrive and make the most of opportunities as well as being able to withstand challenges and overcome problems	
<p>A. Children and young people get the best start in life</p> <p>so that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – children and young people have a positive environment in which to grow up and which supports their educational development and gives them the personal and social skills they need to succeed – parents feel supported to give their children a good start to life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Projects designed to give young people more voice in their affairs (e.g. Young Advisors, youth fora) ◆ Encouraging young people to take the lead in developing plans for aspects of the Big Local programme (e.g. website development etc.) ◆ Consulting young people on what they would wish to see in (and on ways in which they might contribute to) broader parts of the plan (e.g. allotments, community gardens, development of green gyms) ◆ Work around the needs of young carers ◆ Sport mentoring schemes ◆ Activities for single parents ◆ Opportunities to contribute to the community ◆ Community youth development that enables young people to carry out community based work projects for which they earn points which can be exchanged for trips or activities of their choice (e.g. Dreamscheme)
<p>B. People realise their potential</p> <p>so that:</p> <p>people can access a broad range of cultural, sporting and educational experiences which help them to develop their skills and competencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Encouraging the optimum use of existing facilities ◆ Supporting the enhancement or expansion of existing facilities that can demonstrate inclusiveness ◆ Support for proposals for new facilities where there is evidence of demand and the prospect of them becoming independently sustainable ◆ Support for proposals from cultural and other groups that can help generate a greater awareness of our area, and a pride in it ◆ Opportunities to form new groups to address needs which they identify by offering start-up funds through a small grants fund ◆ Community Bus Service to enable easier access to key facilities ◆ Community Skills Development to enable residents to participate more in community activities
<p>C. People are healthy and have a positive sense of wellbeing</p> <p>so that:</p> <p>more people are able to pursue active and healthy lifestyles, appropriate to their stage in life, that allow them to live a fulfilling life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Encouraging activities that focus on improving health and fitness ◆ Provision of information resources that promote healthy lifestyles ◆ Setting up a carers support group ◆ Support for projects likely to promote healthy activity and eating (e.g. allotments, community gardens, nutrition awareness) ▪ Tackling loneliness and isolation and finding ways for residents to keep in touch with each other

APPENDIX 3 BUDGET

Category		
VYC		290,150
CSG		25,000
ADMIN		7,500
EVENTS		8,500
ENGAGEMENT WORKER		75,000
SECRETARIAL SUPPORT		10,500
BIG IMPACT		85,000
LOCAL ASSETS		20,000
		521,650
Phasing		
2019-2020		119,600
2020-2021		109,600
2021-2022		109,100
2022-2023		109,100
2023-2024		74,250
		521,650

APPENDIX 4 PLAN REVIEW



**PLAN
REVIEW**



**OCTOBER
2019**



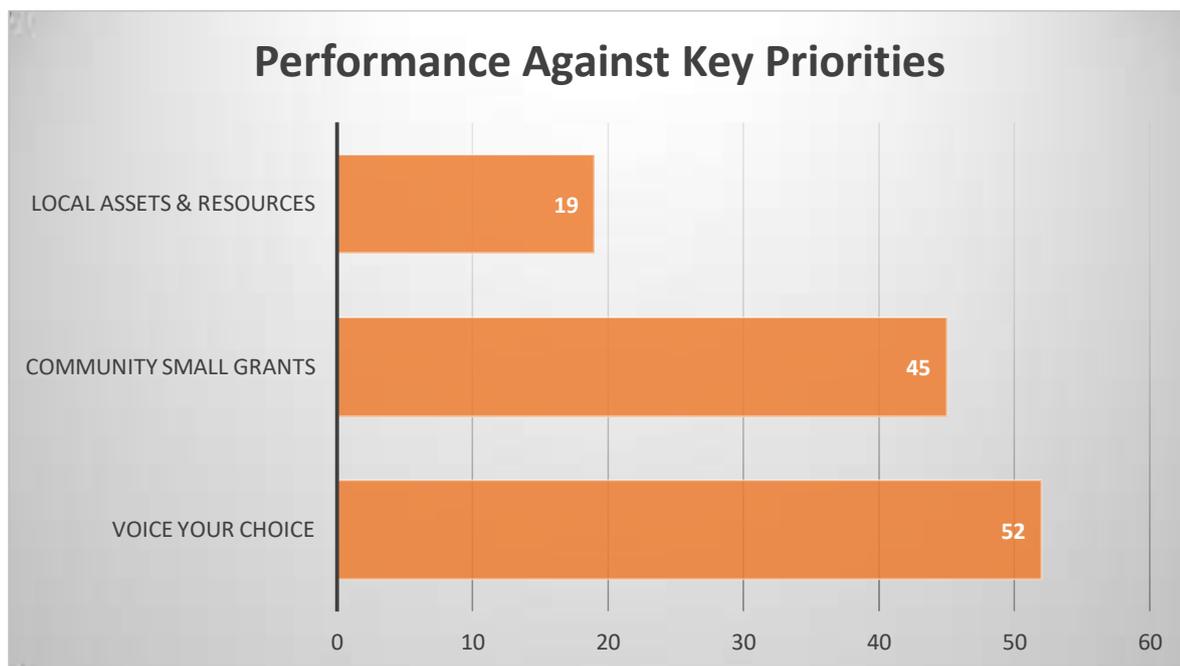
Introduction

The Rastrick Big Local Plan Review took place over three workshops in May, August and September 2019. These were attended by members of the partnership and board and facilitated by the Big Local Rep for the area.

Question 1

What has your area done against what was in your Plan

Partnership Board members were asked to complete an online questionnaire expressing their views on the progress made against key priorities. The outcomes were presented on graphs (see below) and discussed by the partnership at their second workshop which took place on 14 August 2019.



The partnership felt that Voice Your Choice had achieved an extremely impressive score (52 out of a possible total of 60) which is an indication of their high level of satisfaction in the way in which this scheme has been delivered and has performed.

They also noted that their Big Impact Fund was not included in the original Plan. This was added later to address gaps which the partnership recognised in their programme and evolved as an additional strand of work. They are also comfortable that the BIF has performed to expectations.

Further comments were offered by members as they completed the questionnaires, and these are summarised below.

Voice Your Choice

Voting turn out has been high and people are still continuing to vote. A good, imaginative choice of projects has come forward. RBL could do more about getting winning projects more involved in order to promote the work of RBL and to contribute to decision-making in the partnership (e.g. by having a representative serve a period of time on the board as part of the agreement of funding)

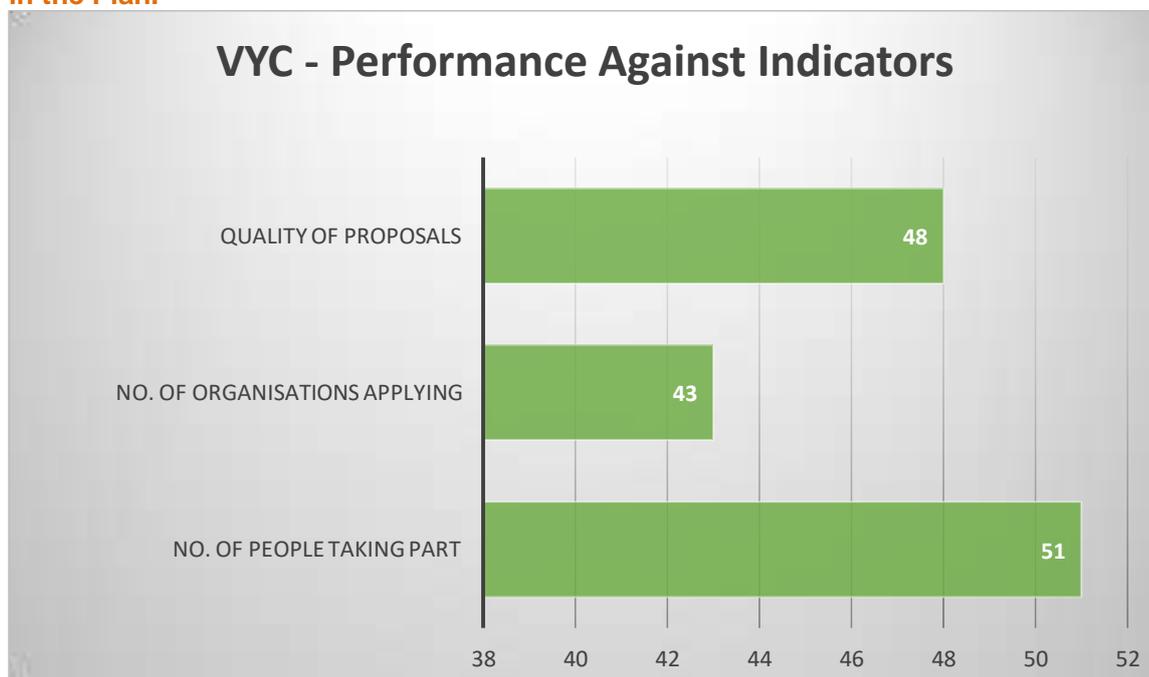
Community Small Grants

There have been fewer applications, but bids are still coming in. A poster has been designed and displayed around Rastrick specifically relating to small grants, but more promotion could be done to boost awareness. Small grants could be used as seed funding for initiatives that enable people to do things that bring people together (for example, offering up to £50 or £100 for schemes to enable things to happen involving a minimum of say 6 people)

Local Assets and Resources

The partnership always has limited capacity so this is something we need to tap into more and be more proactive about. RBL doesn't take sufficient advantage of what we have. To make meaningful progress, RBL will need to devote more time and develop a clear plan of action that gives people specific tasks to undertake.

Each Key Principle was considered individually against the outcomes and objectives as set out in the Plan.



The outcome was a relatively high degree of satisfaction with VYC in delivering against the agreed objectives. The specific comments noted both online and in the discussion on 14 August are summarised below.

Number of people taking part

The number of voters has increased this year and the numbers of people voting suggests a high level of wider community involvement.

Number of organisations applying

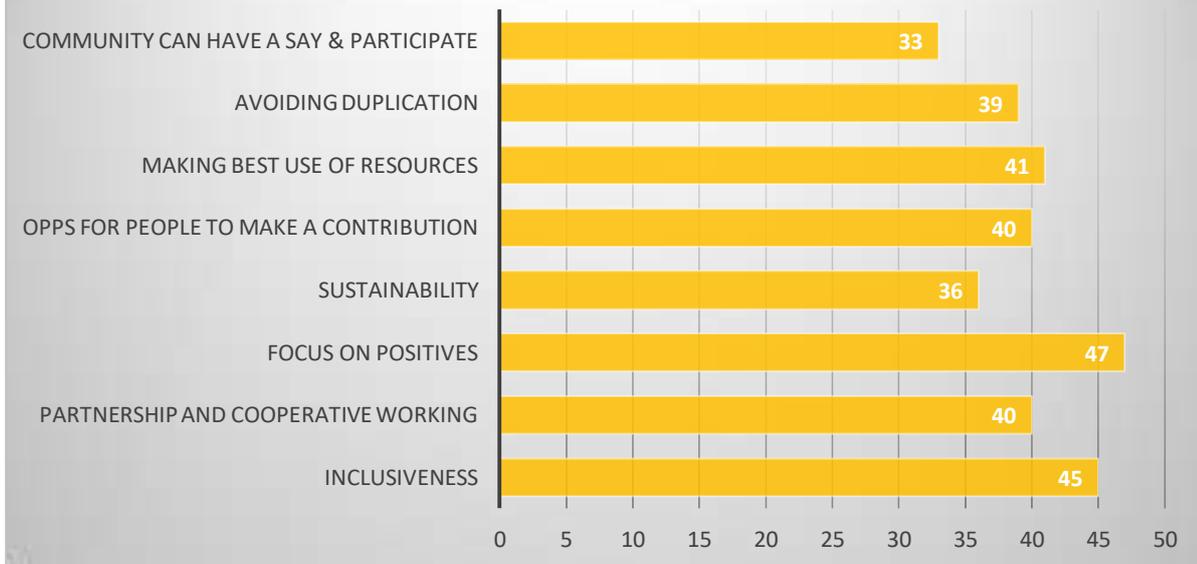
The number of organisations submitting bids appears to be around the same each year and these come from different organisations (i.e. not the same organisations each year)

As VYC operates a 'first past the post' system it is possible that some good ideas lose out to bigger groups. However, as the partnership always invests all the money allocated for each round some bids achieving second place have been allocated partial funds, or redirected to other potential funding streams

Quality of Proposals

Clear criteria are set out for potential bids and these MUST be met in order for a proposal to go forward. The quality of proposals has been good. Some of those not funded through VYC may be projects which could still be of interest to the Community (i.e. scavenger's project) and therefore more appropriately funded from elsewhere. BL can add value by signposting such bidders towards other funding opportunities.

Small Grants - delivering RBL principles

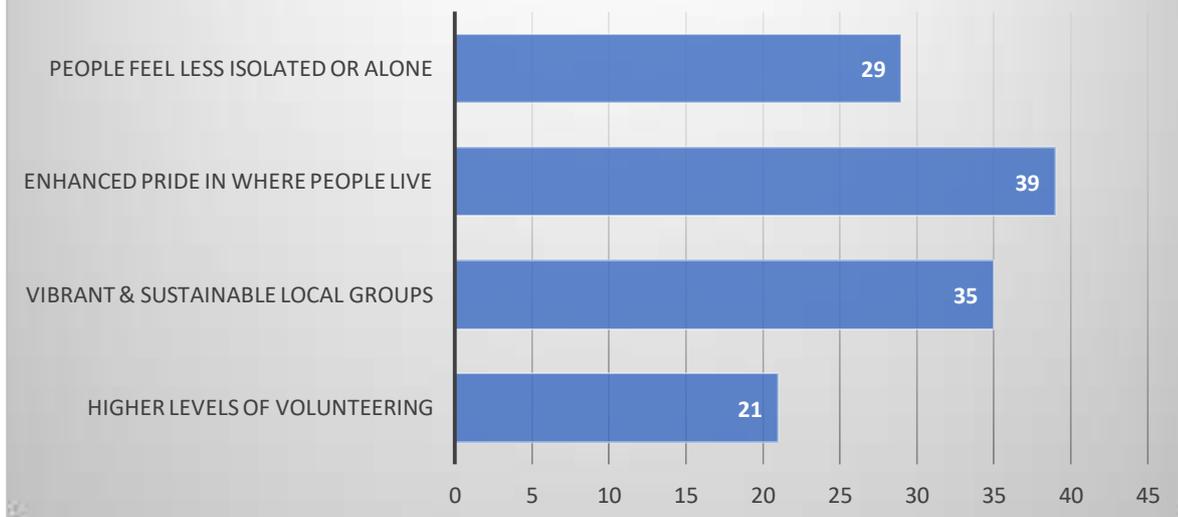


It was felt that there are a limited number of eligible groups to apply for Small Grants. There has been less feedback on the outcomes of grants than RBL would like. In future rounds the partnership will consider a feedback survey. For example, if 100 words of feedback could be obtained from successful bidders this could be used in promotion and marketing. The Community Small Grants scheme could help to raise the profile of Big Local. Some branded signage would be a useful addition going forward.

A number of success stories were identified:

- A grant given early on enabled a young person to set up their own digital media company.
- Two defibrillators have been installed around the area
- Brighthouse Arts Festival
- Two local churches now have better facilities to hold events
- Training given to would-be golf and tennis protégés
- Grant for community transport
- Christmas trees for Rastrick over the last two years

Better Understanding of Local Assets and Resources



This was the most problematic area to assess as it lacks clarity. There are no clear markers to judge against, but the following fairly subjective views were noted:

Improvements to the park have boosted local pride in Rastrick as a place to live. However, the bus network around Rastrick is not ideal which probably impacts on the elderly who find it difficult to get around.

Levels of volunteering are hard to measure, and it often seems as though the same few people do all the work. RBL has not succeeded well in recruiting new members although it was felt that the number of community groups in Rastrick has increased i.e. Rastrick Plays Better. There is a need to bring the older people together.

The groups funded by RBL continue to provide activities and appear to be sustainable (i.e. Brownies, Scouts, St Matthews Theatre Group, Friends of Rastrick Library). A group was funded through the small grants to combat isolation and whilst it struggled in the first instance it did appear to improve when it moved venues.

In addition to their own insights and perspectives reflecting the work of the last couple of years, the partnership also draw attention to the comments offered by the Plan Assessor when their current Plan was endorsed in February 2018. The Assessor also noted the successful development of the Voice Your Choice initiative and the Small Grants scheme. It was also noted by the Assessor that RBL's investment in play areas led to the development of two new community organisations – Rastrick Plays Better and Woodhouse Play Area – allowing them to lever in a further £210,000 to contribute to further play development.

Question 2

What money have you spent?

The partnership has spent £184,810 against a budget of £239,400. A further £69,283 is committed to ongoing projects.

Question 3

What impact have you had?

The Workshop participants considered both Hard Impacts (things that can be counted) and Soft Impacts (impressions, such as feeling happier).

Hard Impacts Achieved:

The partnership has been instrumental in improving open spaces, providing or enhancing local facilities and making improvements to the physical infrastructure in Rastrick.

Examples are:

- Defibrillators
- Goal posts
- Fruit trees planted
- Play equipment installed
- Camping pods constructed
- Zip wire installed
- Cycle track in play area
- Library ramp access
- Space @ Field Lane community centre
- Cricket Club living roof
- Access to nature reserve
- Assault Course

More opportunities for residents to be aware and to influence what happens in Rastrick, for example the high numbers voting in Voice Your Choice and increased social media engagement. A database of resident emails is being developed as a tool for future communications via mailshots and newsletters.

Soft Impacts Achieved:

- Young people are active and healthy
- Greater sense of pride
- Empowerment to achieve
- Increased sense of community
- Better networking in the locality, facilitating working relationships
- Improved capacity among local groups, including the ability to access additional funding
- Enabled social cohesion
- Fun, e.g. fun days, and spreading Christmas joy with trees

The 2016-2019 Plan identified three forms of resilience which the partnership hoped to strengthen. Partnership members were asked via the online survey to identify examples or evidence to indicate the extent to which this aspiration had been met. The Outcomes are below.

Community Resilience

A strong, cohesive, active and connected community	Positive use of Newsletters/website/Facebook Needs more work although RBL has funded projects which seek to build cohesion and community strength VYC methodology brings people together
A high quality physical environment	RBL has funded a lot of projects to this end and there are now without doubt much better public spaces that are staying cleaner We have enabled many projects to be developed through our funding streams which can be physically seen across Rastrick
A community that is safe	There is a perception that Rastrick is a relatively quiet area where people feel safe. There have not been measures so far to specifically address community safety or anti-social behaviour.
Enabling and responsive public services	Generally, the partnership feels that public services are good so measures not taken to specifically address this issue. Grants opportunities (Small Grants, VYC and Big Impact) could support local services

Economic Resilience

A strong local economy	There is a perception that Rastrick already has a strong local economy so no specific measures in place to address this. Foundations have been laid through Big Impact Fund
Local people in work	The percentage of Rastrick residents out of work is not above average so no specific measures to alleviate this issue
Residents in financial control	The definition "in financial control" is felt to be ambiguous and unreliable as the partnership does not have access to details regarding residents' financial circumstances. Groups in Rastrick are now prepared to ask for grants through VYC
Anything else to add?	This is an area we really need to work on

Personal Resilience

Children and young people get the best start in life	Some progress has been achieved, for example a number of projects have focussed on providing facilities for young people. These include playgrounds improved/activities for interaction 'Children' has been the theme for VYC on a couple of occasions which has resulted in projects being brought forward to benefit children & young people. RBL has invested heavily in this. The support and involvement of schools has been good but problematic with shift in curriculum activities
People realise their potential	Not specifically addressed but many of the projects that RBL has funded provided opportunities for people to do things that they wouldn't have previously been able to do There has been considerable interest in improving the area evidenced by Space young people group, fun days. Primary School involvement in planning, Star awards for some individuals
People are healthy and have a positive sense of wellbeing	Some progress has been made but could do more. We have promoted positive and healthy lifestyles through funding projects relating to health and wellbeing Many of the things we have funded would increase health and well-being

Question 4

- Aim for inclusiveness (giving everyone a chance to be involved) and encourage greater interaction between people (particularly from different generations, neighbourhoods, backgrounds)
- Look to encourage partnership and cooperative working to get things done
- Focus on the positives (what we can do, not why we can't do something)
- Are sustainable (avoiding expensive maintenance costs) and provide a legacy for the future
- Manage the opportunities for people to make a contribution
- Make the best use of resources, by encouraging people to do things for themselves, building on existing provision where it is successful and looking to secure additional funding from other sources
- Avoid duplicating activities that haven't worked in the past
- Make sure community members can have a say and participate

With the above in mind, Partnership members each identified three examples of projects or activities which have served to progress the Vision or partnership priorities. These were discussed and fell into several key themes.

1. Enhancements to the physical environment - RBL has planted fruit trees and made a range of improvements to the environment and to local green spaces.
2. Improving access to local amenities by works to make the library accessible to all
3. Improving the area for children and young people by enhancing play facilities and equipment and support to Rastrick Plays Better. Schools have become engaged in the VYC voting events, and facilities have been developed for young people, e.g. at Bradley Woods.
4. Community development work which has succeeded in developing new community groups and strengthening partnership working between local groups, schools, etc.
5. Big Local funds have been used to leverage in other monies, e.g. helping to attract other financial contributions which made the development of the community hub at Field Lane possible.
6. Practical improvements and quick wins, e.g. installing the defibrillators and purchasing Christmas trees.

Question 6

Do you need to refresh your vision and priorities?

Although implicit in much of the work undertaken by the partnership, the vision was not explicitly stated in the 2016-19 Plan. This was discussed at the workshop which took place in September 2019 and an agreement arrived at regarding the underlying Vision which has guided the work to date.

The Vision

To make Rastrick a better place to live and enable positive change by

- a) Working with others to improve the local community and create links between groups in the community*
- b) Improving local assets*
- c) Encouraging creation and innovation*

The Plan refers to three forms of resilience which Rastrick Big Local will seek to build and reinforce.

- Community Resilience
- Economic Resilience

- Personal Resilience

These remain relevant, and the core Vision has not changed, although the ways of delivering it have evolved over time. There has been a shift away from delivering the more tangible and straightforward benefits towards seeking to leave a lasting legacy. The partnership now looks to be more organic, and sustainability has become key. In the earlier years of Rastrick Big Local the partnership hoped that the community would be clear in articulating its needs and wants and the partnership could respond to those and direct respond accordingly. This has become more problematic because now the partnership is seeking to be more strategic, considering big and lasting investments rather than reacting to the disparate demands of the community.

Question 7

How does this relate to achieving the Big Local Outcomes?

Rastrick Big Local is pursuing six priorities in its current Plan. These are:

1. Voice Your Choice
2. Community Small Grants
3. Better understanding of local assets and resources and use them more productively
4. Big Impact Funding
5. New website, marketing and engagement
6. Recruit more partnership members and volunteers

Participants considered each of the six priorities in turn and identified the ways in which they contribute to achieving the Big Local Outcomes.

BLO1: Communities will be better able to identify local needs and take action in response to them

- P1 Voice Your Choice enables people to
- a) Identify priorities for the RBLPG to address and
 - b) To decide which projects best address those needs each year
- P2 Small grants facilitate local groups to action or progress their contribution in the community
- P3 More contact with businesses, and with all groups and organisations
- P4 Big Impact Funding relies on local community groups or individuals identifying specific needs which need addressing
- P5 If the partnership were to appoint a marketing manager this would increase Facebook contacts and increase contact with local media
- P6 If we can recruit a more diverse committee the local needs and responses will be more representative

BLO2: People will have increased skills and confidence, so they continue to identify and respond to local needs in the future

- P1 Voice Your Choice has provided a means of enabling members of the community to identify local needs
- P2 Small grants enable groups to start and grow their projects
- P4 By requiring proposals to meet a robust set of criteria, the quality of the proposal and its resulting delivery and outcomes are improved. These skills are transferable to future activities.
- P6 New members of RBLPG have improved and increased their skill sets (e.g. computing, social media, setting up groups)

BLO3: The community will make a difference to the needs it prioritises

- P1 All the Voice Your Choice projects have been proposed and implemented by local community groups and organisations
- P2 Small grants are accessible to carry out projects and involve others

BLO4: People will feel that their area is an even better place to live

- P1 Voice Your Choice has delivered a number of projects that have improved the area
- P2 Small grants bring people together
- P3 Space@ project funding may lead to ongoing relationships
- P4 If the project meets the Big Impact Funding criteria, it inevitably improves the local area

Question 8

Do you need a new or revised Plan, or will you continue with the existing one?

A new Plan will be required as the existing one comes to an end in December 2019.

Question 9

How do you know this is what your community wants?

Members of the partnership considered the questions

We know our community wants what is in our Plan because..., and

We'd be even more certain of community buy-in if we...

The individual responses were shared and discussed.

We know our community wants what is in our Plan because:-

The partnership makes regular use of leaflets, stalls at events, Brighthouse market, VYC voting to learn what the community wants and values. The community may not read the details in the Plan but they come along to BL events and are generally supportive when the contents of the Plan are explained. Residents are inclined to suggest that the BL Board 'knows best' and let them get on with it.



The partnership sees themselves as a conduit for local opinion. The ideas *must* come from the residents, because there is nowhere else they could come from.

Some schemes have been especially popular, for example, people seem to like picking the fruit from the fruit trees planted by BL, and they value the improved play areas. Feedback received suggests that the community appreciate the various improvements, but BL needs to signpost its achievements more prominently in order that local residents know that Big Local is responsible for the enhancements in their neighbourhood.

If the Board were getting it wrong, local people would be quick to point that out.

We'd be even more certain of community buy-in if we...

The Board membership would be improved by a wider spectrum of local residents, a more diverse partnership and more varied input.

Big Local could promote and market the work more, for example in schools and via local surgeries, and try to bring people together more. Members of the partnership could spend more time out there in the community, for example the community development worker is based at Space @ Field Lane.

More clarity in the information offered regarding what BL events and meetings involve. To an extent the partnership could be viewed as a closed society and should be more obviously inclusive.

The partnership could network more, by going to other local groups to explain Big Local. As well as establishing new networks, members could be more aware of existing links and networks and how best to exploit those.

Big Local consults widely, but perhaps the insights gained are superficial. The deeper (and more important) questions are harder to ask, for example around loneliness, debt and poverty.

A more effective social media presence would be a positive development, and in particular to emphasise that BL is not just about the money, a source of grant-giving. BL is not currently regarded as a remedy for social problems, but we could offer more in this respect, perhaps by starting to consult with GPs around social prescribing statistics.

Conclusion / Next Steps

Having concluded the Plan Review, the next step will be to use this as the basis for starting to scope out the new Plan, which will need to comply with the latest guidance issued by Local Trust regarding lifetime financial planning and legacy. This process will commence by agreeing the headings for the new plan, within the framework now suggested, and outline content to be included under each.