



Public Service Reform Board

Date: Thursday 30 September 2021

Time: 2.00 pm **Public meeting** Yes

Venue: Via MS Teams

Membership

Councillor Rajbir Singh (Chair)	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Brigid Jones (Vice-Chair)	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Ian Brookfield	City of Wolverhampton Council
Councillor George Duggins	Coventry City Council
Councillor Simon Phipps	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Bob Sleigh	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Stephen Craddock	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Sebastian Lowe	Rugby Borough Council
Councillor Izzi Seccombe	Warwickshire County Council
Henrietta Brealey	Greater Birmingham Chamber of Commerce
Laura Caulfield	Higher Education
Sue Ibbotson	Public Health England
Vanessa Jardine	West Midlands Police
Tom McNeil	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Catherine Mangan	Higher Education
Sarah Middleton	CEO Black Country Consortium
Jatinder Sharma	Further Education
Alison Tonge	Director of Commissioning ,NHSE
Gary Taylor	West Midlands Fire Service
David Melbourne	NHS

Quorum for this meeting shall be one third of its members

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact:

Contact Wendy Slater, Senior Governance Services Officer
Telephone (0121) 214 7016
Email wendy.slater@wmca.org.uk

AGENDA

No.	Item	Presenting	Pages
1.	Apologies for absence	Chair	None
2.	Declarations of Interest Members are reminded of the need to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests they have in an item being discussed during the course of the meeting. In addition, the receipt of any gift or hospitality should be declared where the value is thought to have exceeded £25 (gifts) or £40 (hospitality).	Chair	None
3.	Chair's Remarks (if any)	Chair	None
4.	Minutes of the last meeting	Chair	1 - 6
5.	Matters Arising (if any)	Chair	None
6.	PSR Comms- Fairer, Greener, Healthier Publication	Ed Cox	To Follow
7.	Presentation: From Public Service Reform to Social Innovation	Ed Cox/Claire Dhami	7 - 28
8.	Mayoral, Police and Crime Commissioner and WMCA Collaboration	Claire Dhami	29 - 32
9.	PSR Annual Performance and Forward Planning	Claire Dhami	33 - 38
10.	Homelessness Taskforce Update	Neelam Sunder	Verbal Report
11.	Inclusive Growth Update	Claire Spencer	Verbal Report
12.	Date of next meeting - 7 December 2021	Chair	None



**West Midlands
Combined Authority**

Public Service Reform Board

Thursday 4 March 2021 at 2.00 pm

Minutes

Present

Councillor Wasim Ali	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Karen Grinsell	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Izzi Seccombe	Warwickshire County Council
Henrietta Brealey	Greater Birmingham Chamber of Commerce
Laura Caulfield	Higher Education
Sue Ibbotson	Public Health England
Paul Jennings	Chief Executive NHS Birmingham & Solihull CCG
Jatinder Sharma	Further Education

In Attendance

Ed Cox	West Midlands Combined Authority
Claire Dhami	West Midlands Combined Authority
Claire Spencer	West Midlands Combined Authority
Neelam Sunder	West Midlands Combined Authority
Councillor Sharon Thompson	Birmingham City Council

23. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Crompton (Sandwell MBC), Councillor Jones (Birmingham City Council), Vanessa Jardine (West Midlands Police), Phil Loach (West Midlands Fire Service), Tom McNeil (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner) Alison Tonge (NHSE) and Jean Templeton (Homelessness Taskforce).

24. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made relative to the items under consideration at the meeting.

25. Chair's Remarks

Councillor Ali reported that he would be chairing the meeting today as unfortunately both the Chair, and Vice-Chair were unable to attend the meeting.

26. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2020 were agreed as a true record.

27. PSR Annual Business Plan : High Level Deliverables

The Director of Inclusive Growth and Public Service Reform, Ed Cox, presented a report that informed the board of progress made on the high deliverables for the year 2020/21 and set out the proposed high level deliverables for the coming year 2021/22.

The Director of Inclusive Growth and Public Service Reform reported that a number of changes had been made to the high level deliverables (HDLs) as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and outlined the changes that had been made which included the addition of four new high deliverables in the context of Region's recovery and the proposed high level deliverables for 2021/22.

The Director of Inclusive Growth and Public Service Reform also highlighted the key achievements of the directorate during the year that were set out in paragraph 2.7 of the report. This included the publication of the Community Recovery Road Map, the launch of the digital inclusion coalition, a rough sleepers initiative and an Inclusive Growth Framework for Kinghurst redevelopment in Solihull amongst other work.

In relation to an enquiry from Councillor Grinsell regarding inclusive growth for Kinghurst, Solihull and how this board links with the work being undertaken on inequalities, the Director of Inclusive Growth and Public Service Reform reported that tackling inequalities is at the heart of everything the WMCA does and referred to the integration of the work of this board with the Wellbeing Board that has a focus on health inequalities.

The Senior Adviser- Public Services and Inclusive Growth, Claire Spencer advised that with regards to Kingshurst, the next stage of the programme would be to undertake community engagement to understand the views of various groups and to connect them with investment.

Further to an enquiry from Sue Ibbotson regarding how this board engages with the Directors of Public Health on Integrated Care Systems, its core themes and inequalities, the Director of Inclusive Growth and Public Service Reform advised that the WMCA's Wellbeing Board was undertaking this role; the Wellbeing Board had oversight of 50 different commitments with partner organisations to tackle health inequalities that are 'owned' by the Strategic Transformation and Recovery Board (STaR Board).

The Head of Public Service Reform and Prevention, Claire Dhami considered that the Chair of this board might want to consider 'cross-fertilisation' working with the Wellbeing Board.

Councillor Seccombe, Chair of the Wellbeing Board, reported that inequalities feature across the work of many boards and should be owned by all partners in the West Midlands. Councillor Seccombe added that she would welcome the Wellbeing Board connecting with this board as proposed by Claire Dhami.

Resolved:

1. That progress to date on 2020/21 high level deliverables be noted;
2. That the proposed high level deliverables for 2021/22 be endorsed

and

3. That an update on the high level deliverables be submitted to every board meeting be agreed.

28. Community Recovery

The board considered a joint report of the Director of Inclusive Growth and Public Service Reform and the Head of Public Service Reform and Prevention that provided an update on community recovery progress since the last meeting.

The Head of Public Service Reform and Prevention, Claire Dhimi outlined the report and provided an update on the delivery of the 6 priorities areas identified by the Citizens Panel that are being led by a local authority 'Sponsor' along with one of the 'cross-cutting' principles.

The Head of Public Service Reform and Prevention also highlighted the Community Recovery Innovation Challenge Competition aimed at grassroots organisation and SMEs to put forward their ideas/innovation for improving the lives of citizens and communities. It was noted that the top twenty ideas would be awarded a cash prize of £500 plus an invitation to a business development masterclass delivered by Power to Change and the top 3 ideas would also receive support, investment and coaching up to the value of £15k each.

In relation to an enquiry from Councillor Grinsell as to whether all the competition ideas could be shared with this board after the winners have announced so that local authorities could take forward any ideas with the potential for future development, Claire Dhimi advised that this was the intention and to also link ideas to local initiatives.

The Chair asked members to help promote the competition with their network of organisations; it was noted the closing date for entries was 21 March.

Resolved: That progress since the publication of 'Levelling up West Midlands: Our roadmap to Recovery and Prospectus for Government' be noted.

29. Homelessness Taskforce : Children and Families and Young People Taskgroup

The Programme Manager for Homelessness, Neelam Sunder, provided an update on the Homelessness Taskforce since the last meeting.

The Homelessness Programme Manager reported that significant progress had been made by cross sector support services working in partnership with local authorities and the Rough Sleeper Task Group to tackle homelessness during the pandemic ; their combined efforts had resulted in a reduction of 62 % in the number of rough sleepers in WMCA area during autumn 2020, the lowest in 10 years. It was noted that an action plan would now focus on

preventing rough sleeping.

The Homelessness Programme Manager advise the board that the Homelessness Taskforce would now focus its attention on future homelessness and what could be achieved as a collective for children, families and young people and reported on a specific task group for this area. The Children, Families and Young People Task Group would seek to reduce the number and time households spend in temporary accommodation and look to increase the numbers in secure and affordable accommodation.

Councillor Thompson (Birmingham Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods) thanked Neelam Sunder and the team for their work on tackling homelessness in the West Midlands and by the same token, Neelam Sunder conveyed her thanks and appreciation to Councillor Thompson and the Taskforce Members Advisory Group for all her support in this area.

Resolved: That the update be noted.

30. Verbal Updates :

The Senior Policy Adviser – Public Services and Inclusive Growth, Claire Spencer, provided updates on the Social Economy Business Plan and on the Inclusive Growth workstreams and the Head of Public Service Reform and Prevention, Claire Dhami, provided an update on the Punishing Abuse work.

In relation to the Social Economy Business Plan it was noted that the first draft of the Social Economy Business Plan (taking forward the recommendations of the Social Economy Taskforce) would be submitted to stakeholders, local enterprise partnerships and universities for consideration before submission to this board after the mayoral election.

In relation to Inclusive Growth, Claire Spencer reported that 20 Inclusive Growth Business partners have recently been confirmed which includes the Black Country Consortium and the Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP. Claire advised that the Inclusive Growth Team was interested in working with local authorities and partner organisations to help support the region and add value;

Dudley Interchange project was one example where the team was unlocking inclusive growth potential with regards to the construction and build value of the scheme. Claire Spencer asked colleagues to let her know of any areas they would like the team to be involved with.

Further to consideration of the Punishing Abuse report at the last meeting, the Head of Public Service Reform and Prevention, Claire Dhami reported that a joint policy response from the Police and Crime Commissioner and Mayor would be published on 12 March with regards to the report's recommendations.

The report recommendations set out the case for system reform to prevent children being admitted to the criminal justice system in the first instance and

the need to tackle broader structural issues.

The Chair noted the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's representative on this board, Tom McNeil was unable to attend today's meeting but had submitted comments on the report findings. His comments noted the hardship endured by many children in the criminal justice system, the powerful evidence for pushing public health approaches in criminal justice and recognised this research was a great example of cross-party and inter-agency collaboration.

Resolved: That the updates be noted.

The meeting ended at 3.23 pm.

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From Public Service Reform to Social Innovation

September 2021

Building on success

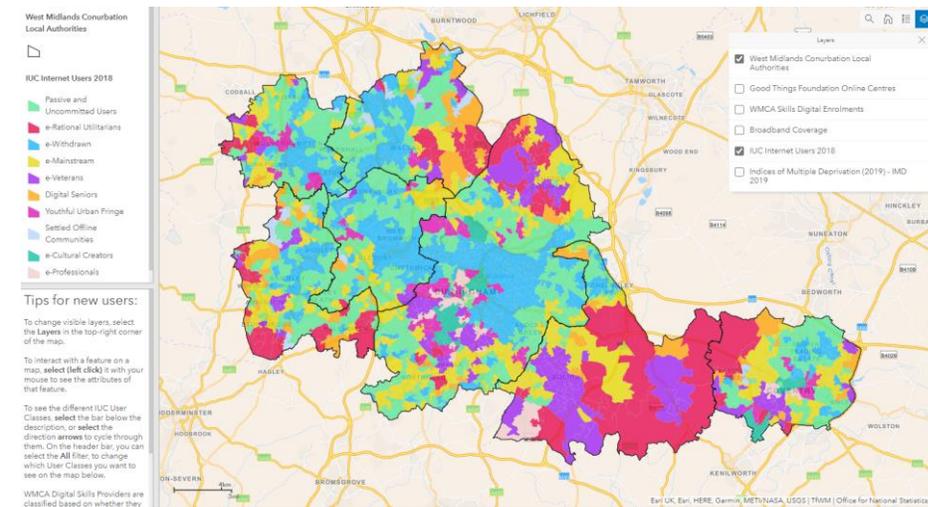
Homelessness Taskforce

- Attracted government funding
- Strong, visible leadership
- Members Advisory Group
- ‘Designing out’ approach
- Highly adaptive each ‘term’

Coalition on Digital Inclusion

- Open to all
- Co-design of programme
- Strong learning dimension
- Use of digital tools & techniques (Miro, Trello etc)

Page 8



Public Service Reform

Public service reform has typically been about enhancing the productivity of public services – local government, police, schools, health services - through a focus on best value, performance management and spending control.

It is associated with ideas such as:

- Public value
- Demand and risk management
- Audit
- Floors, ceilings and targets

The approach has largely failed due to:

- ✘ Unsustainable fiscal pressures
- ✘ Preoccupation with inputs/outputs rather than outcomes
- ✘ Top-down approaches
- ✘ Waning government appetite for lessons learned e.g. Total Place, Community Budgets, Troubled Families
- ✘ Lack of focus on any particular problem or ‘public service’

Reforming 'Public Service Reform'

During 2016/17 there were a number of efforts to rescue some of the ideas around Public Service Reform including:

- Barber Review
- Public Transformation Academy
- RSA's Commission on 2020 Public Services
- University of Birmingham Policy Commission

... some of this filtered through into Devolution Deals

But much of its learning and new ideas went unheeded because:

- ✘ Fiscal pressures increased
- ✘ Demand pressures increased
- ✘ Appetite in government fell further
- ✘ Culture-shift takes time – much of the language didn't change and fundamental principles remained unquestioned – value, services etc.

A new approach is emerging, which has come to the fore during the pandemic ...

SOCIAL INNOVATION

What is Social Innovation?

- A set of principles which form an ‘approach’
- A definition
- A set of tools which shape practice

... much of this is happening already in parts ... our aim is to build success, scale and spread

Social Innovation principles

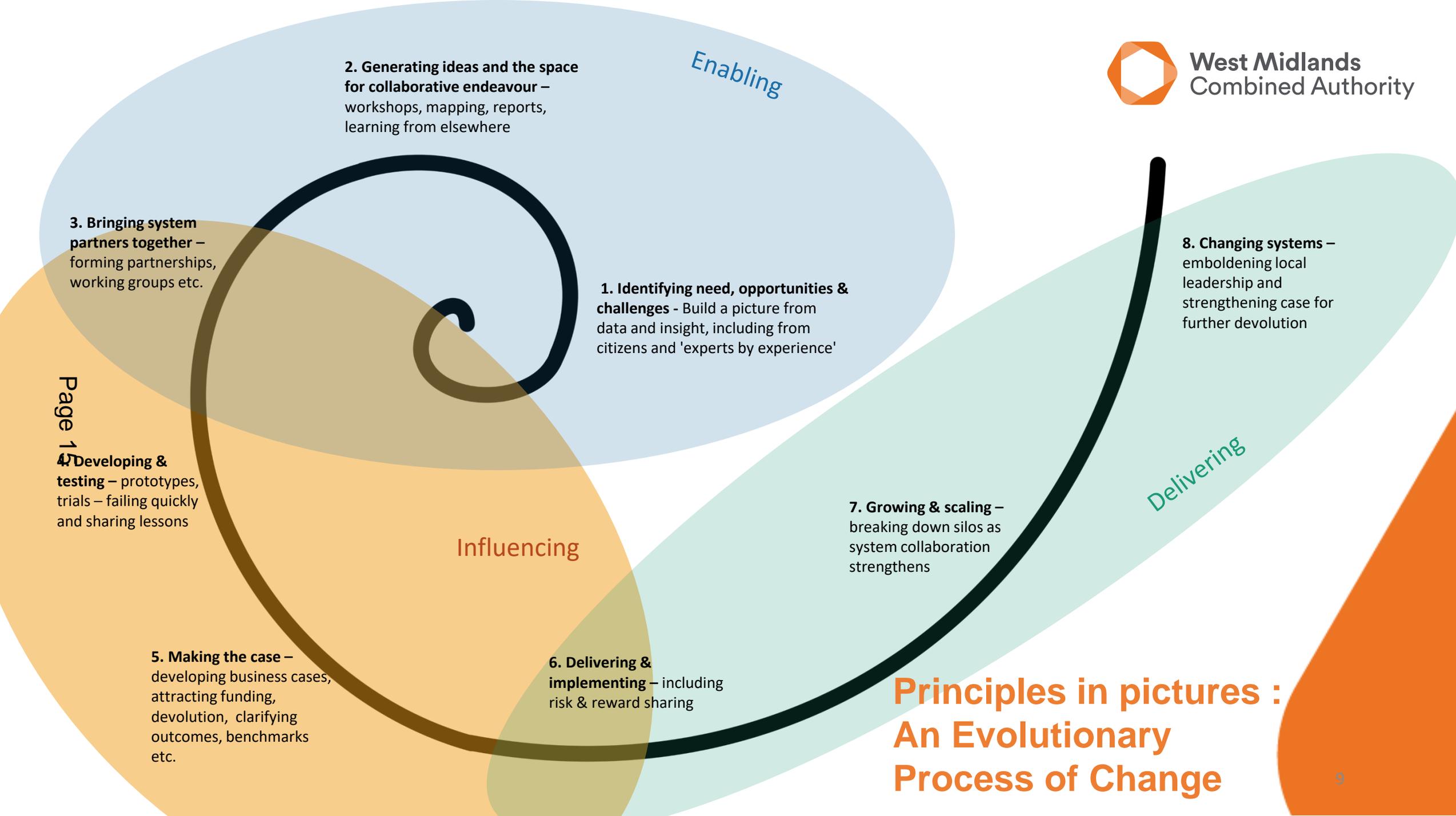
Social Innovation	Public Service Reform
Addresses complex social needs, upstream	Addresses discrete public services at the point of delivery
Open, evolutionary and process-driven	Targeted and delivery-focused
Enhancing society's capacity to act	Services provided 'to' or 'for' people
Mobilises different types of asset and resource	Preoccupied with public expenditure and audit
Encourages creativity and innovation	Concerned with risk management

Principles in
pictures:

Page 14

Addressing
complex needs,
upstream





Enabling

2. Generating ideas and the space for collaborative endeavour – workshops, mapping, reports, learning from elsewhere

1. Identifying need, opportunities & challenges - Build a picture from data and insight, including from citizens and 'experts by experience'

3. Bringing system partners together – forming partnerships, working groups etc.

Influencing

Page 15

4. Developing & testing – prototypes, trials – failing quickly and sharing lessons

5. Making the case – developing business cases, attracting funding, devolution, clarifying outcomes, benchmarks etc.

6. Delivering & implementing – including risk & reward sharing

Delivering

7. Growing & scaling – breaking down silos as system collaboration strengthens

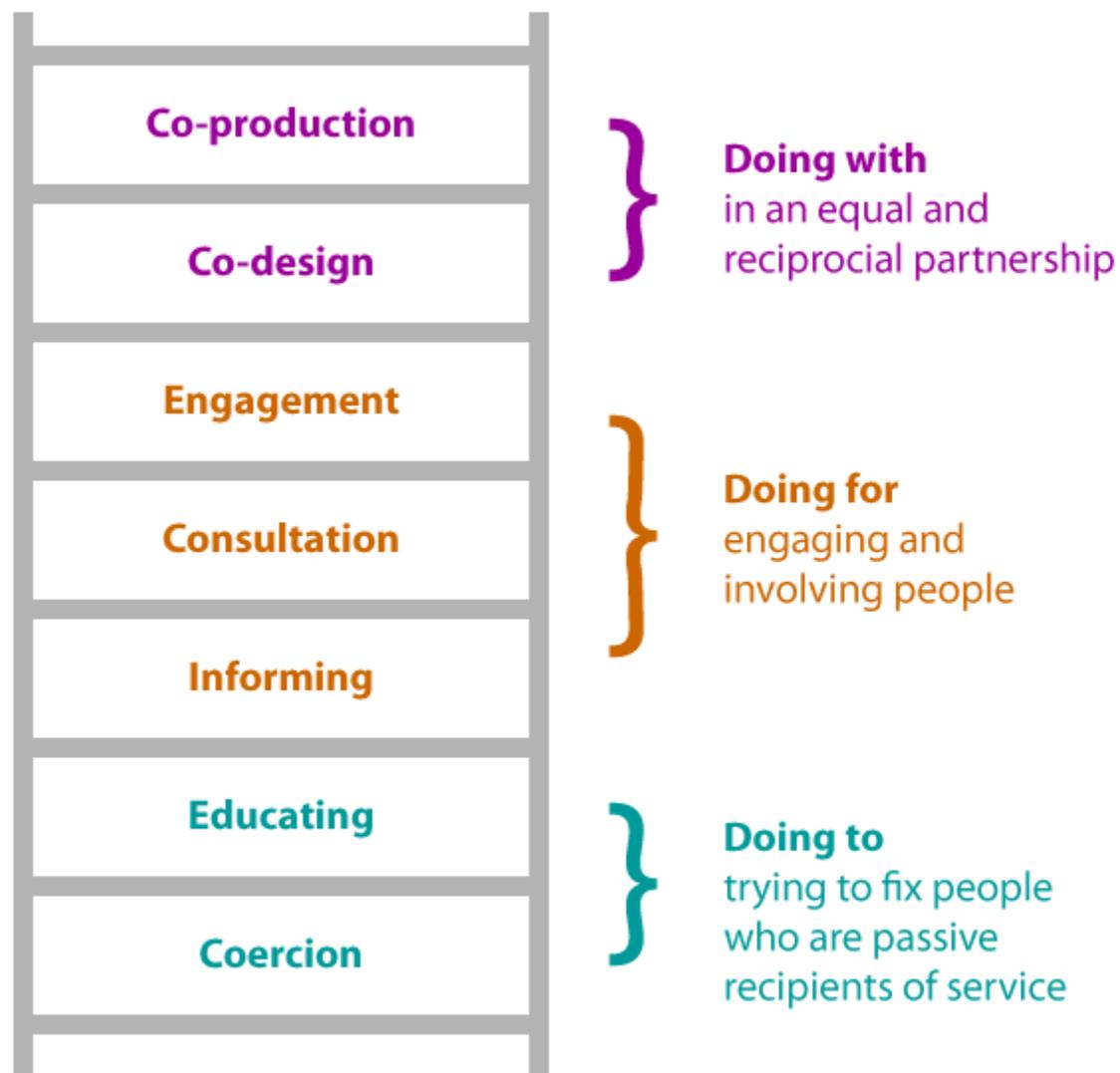
8. Changing systems – emboldening local leadership and strengthening case for further devolution

Principles in pictures : An Evolutionary Process of Change

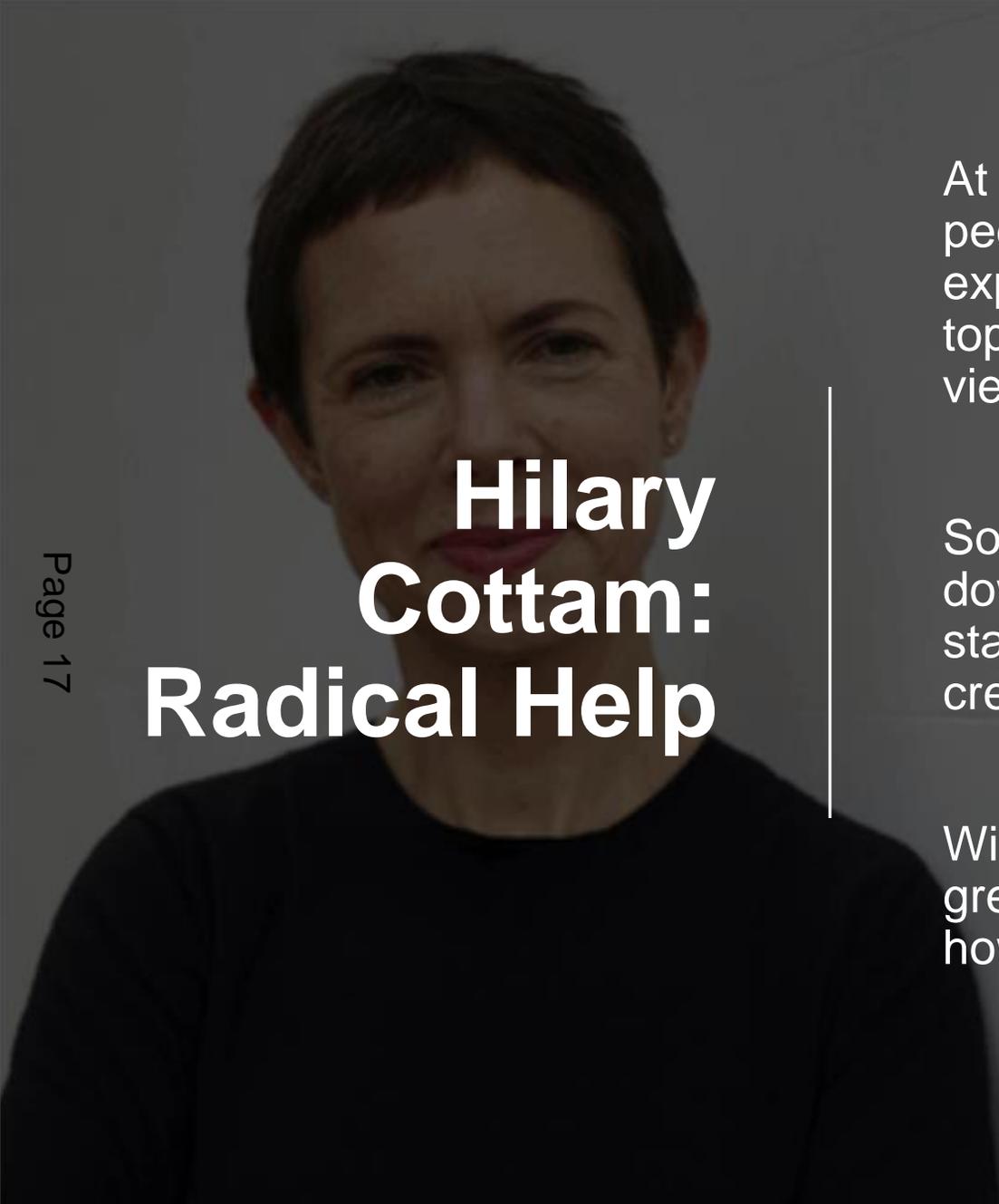
Principles in pictures:

Enhancing community capacity to act

Page 16



Think Local Act Personal

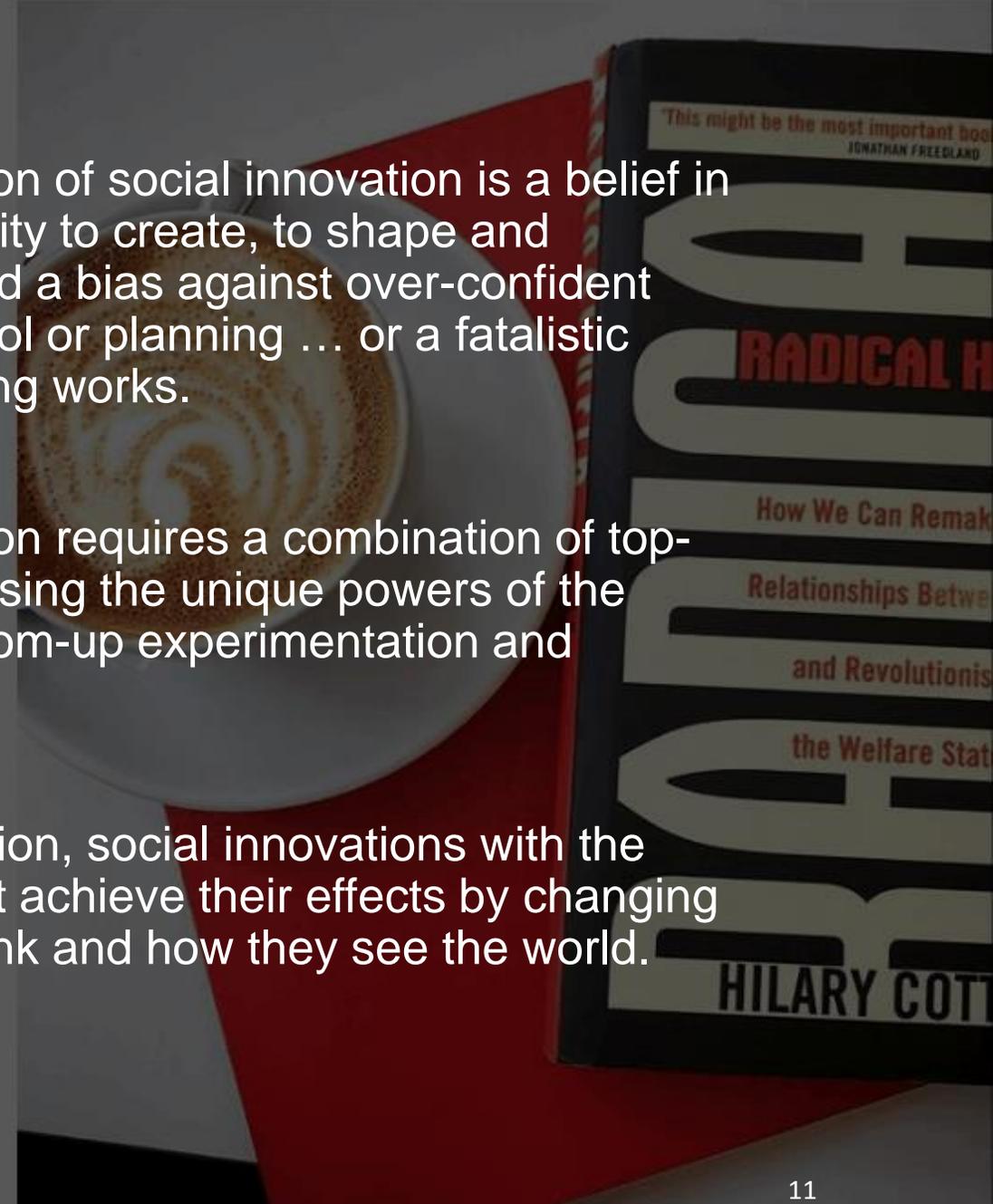


Hilary Cottam: Radical Help

At the foundation of social innovation is a belief in people's capacity to create, to shape and experiment, and a bias against over-confident top-down control or planning ... or a fatalistic view that nothing works.

Social innovation requires a combination of top-down reform, using the unique powers of the state, with bottom-up experimentation and creativity.

Without exception, social innovations with the greatest impact achieve their effects by changing how people think and how they see the world.



A WMCA Definition

Social innovation is **how we change the way we work** (our investments, our services, our products) so that they support fairer, greener and healthier communities.

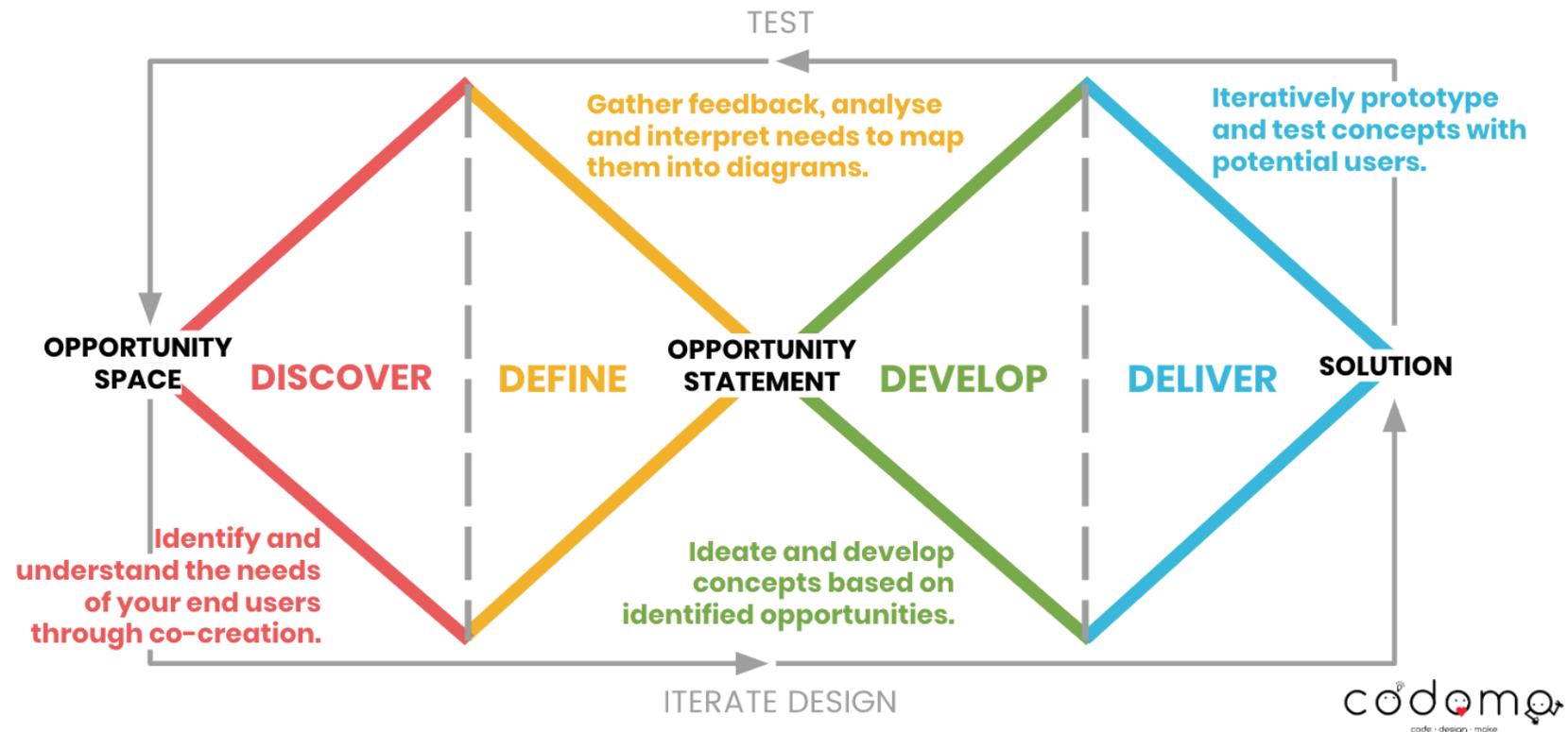
It will often involve individuals, communities and public agencies **working more closely together** to combine resources in new ways.

It will often mean **addressing complex challenges** by focusing on their root causes and **reducing demand and dependencies** that can be so costly.



Social Innovation Tools: Design Thinking

Double Diamond Design Framework



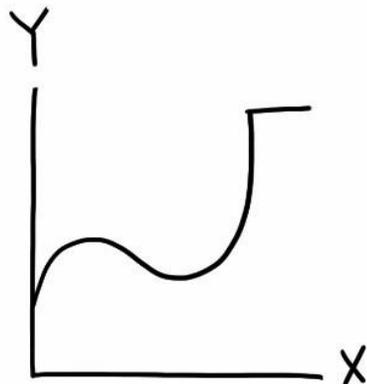
Social Innovation Tools: 100 Days Challenge

Page 20

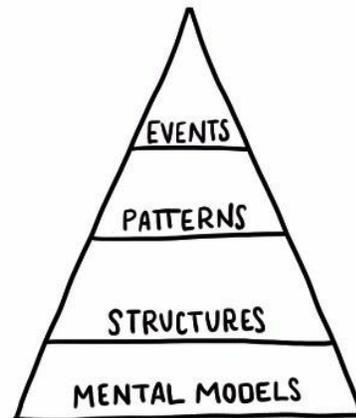


Social Innovation Tools: Systems Thinking

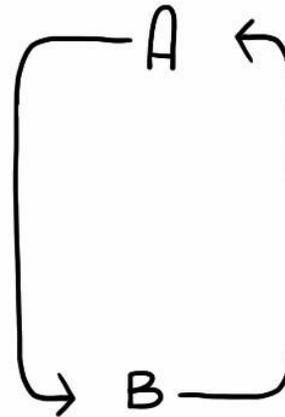
TYPES OF SYSTEM MAPPING



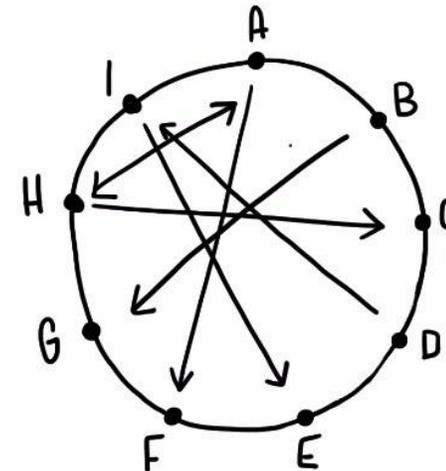
BEHAVIOUR OVER
TIME GRAPHS



ICEBERG
MODEL



CAUSAL LOOP
DIAGRAMS



CONNECTED
CIRCLES

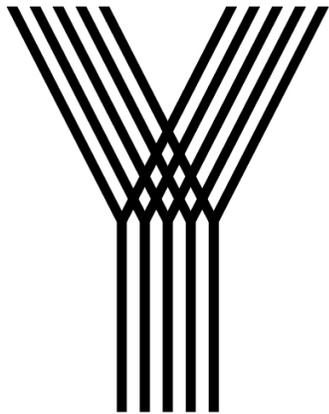


Social Innovation Tools: Asset Mapping



Social Innovation Partners

Page 23



**THE
YOUNG
FOUNDATION**
THINKING
ACTION
CHANGE



Possible opportunities for collaboration

Addressing the
mental health
challenges arising
from the pandemic

Making digital
services accessible
to all

Using data more
effectively

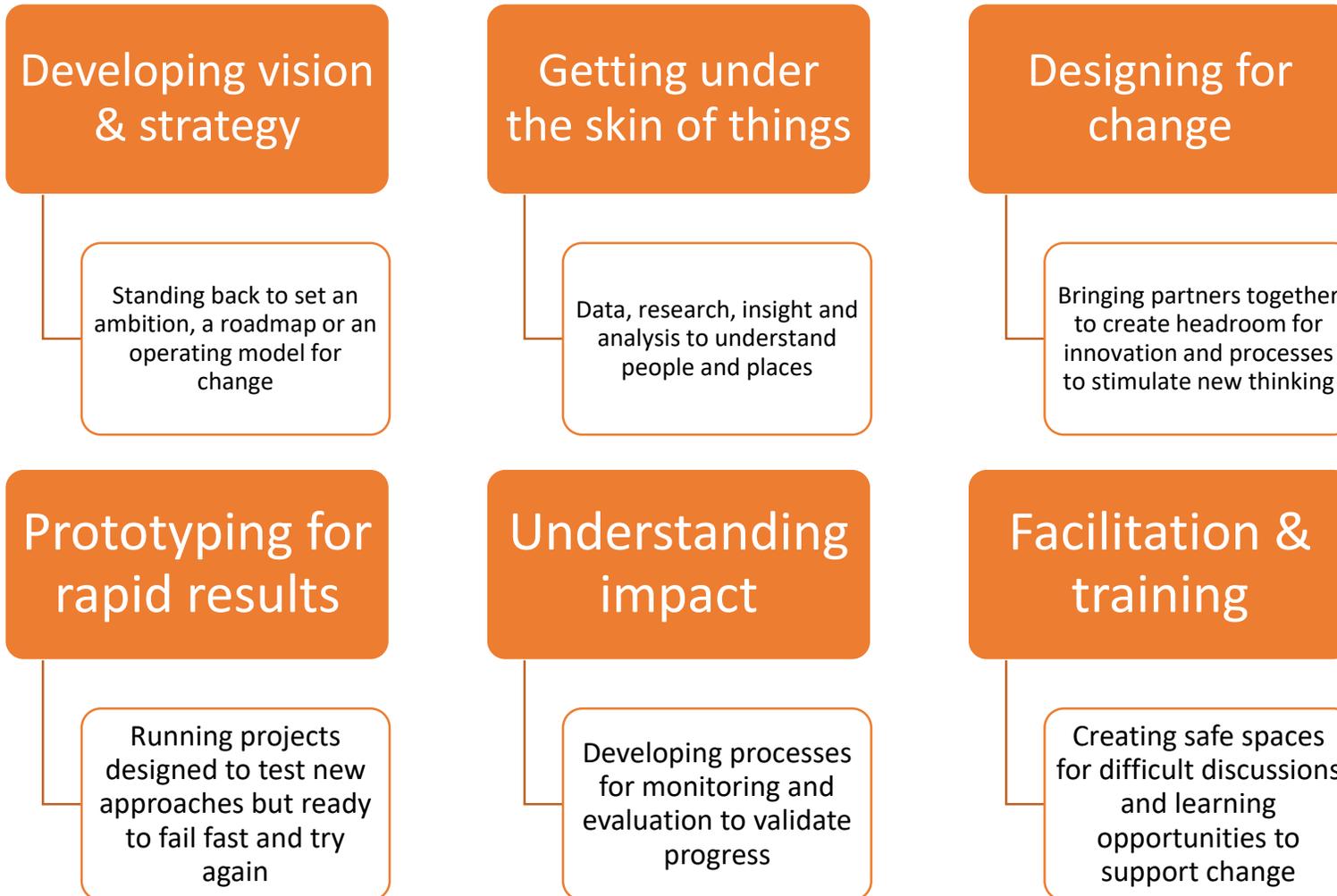
Improving early
years support

New approaches to
adult social care

Developing trauma-
informed
approaches

Tackling domestic
violence

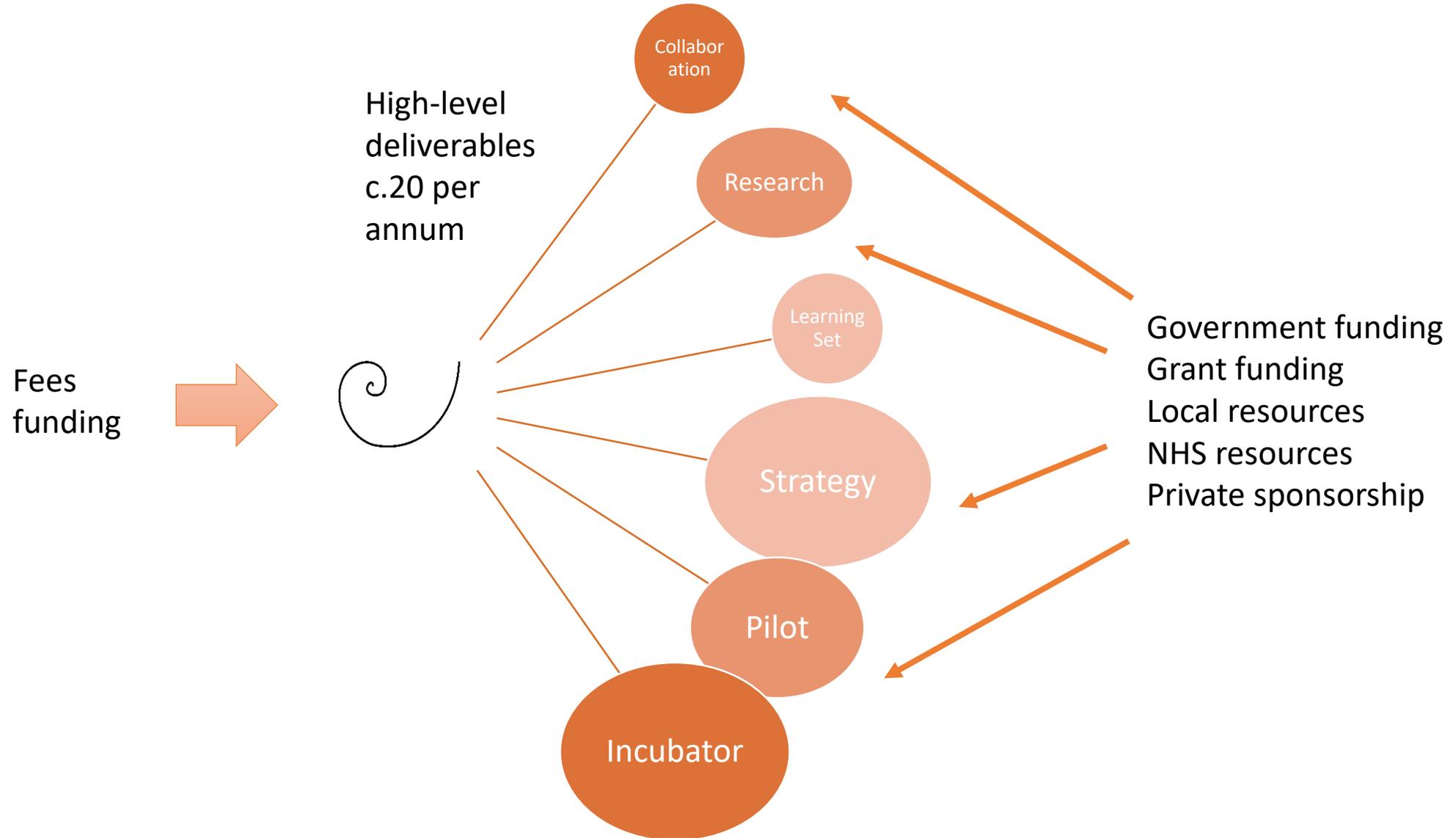
Our social innovation 'offer' to partners



Our current business model



Our future business model



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Public Service Reform Board

Date	30 th September 2021
Report title	Mayoral, Police and Crime Commissioner and WMCA collaboration
Portfolio Lead	Councillor Rajbir Singh, Portfolio Holder for Public Service Reform & Social Economy
Accountable Chief Executive	Laura Shoaf, Interim Chief Executive, West Midlands Combined Authority Laura.Shoaf@wmca.org.uk
Accountable Employee	Ed Cox, Director of Inclusive Growth & Public Service Reform Ed.Cox@wmca.org.uk Claire Dhami, Head of Public Service Reform and Prevention Claire.dhami@wmca.org.uk
Report has been considered by	

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

Public Service Reform Board is recommended to:

- (1) Note and endorse the joint areas for collaboration between the offices.
- (2) Identify any areas which the Board wishes the WMCA and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to explore further joint work on.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This paper outlines the key priorities identified in the Mayoral and Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)'s manifesto's and the ongoing joint work and priorities between the WMCA and OPCC.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Mayor and the PCC, as well as the WMCA and the OPCC have a strong track record of collaboration on key policy areas including violence reduction, safer travel, ANPR, childhood adversity, youth justice, mental health, reducing reoffending, whole system approaches to women and girls and domestic abuse.
- 2.2 It is more important than ever for us to work together to take action on crime and the causes of crime. Crime of all types is strongly associated with wider social determinants such as unemployment, income and gender inequality, limited educational opportunities cultural, social and gender norms, and weak governance. The coronavirus pandemic has highlighted the significant inequalities which exist in the West Midlands and how some households, communities, children and families have been disproportionately affected. The WMCA's Health of the Region report highlighted a number of these inequalities alongside the WMCA's Community Recovery Roadmap which detailed the impact of the pandemic and demand in specific areas including mental health, domestic abuse, homelessness and criminal justice.
- 2.3 The Mayoral WMCA and the PCC share the same geographic boundary and serve the same electorate. Both the Mayor and the PCC share the ambition to address the issues which reduce life chances, create inequality and lead to unnecessary demand and dependency on public services. We will do this by adopting a data and evidence led, public health approach and tackling wider determinants in a co-ordinated, collaborative and strategic way.

3. Areas for joint collaboration between WMCA and OPCC

- 3.1 The Mayor, WMCA and the PCC will continue to support key regional governance structures including the WMCA Board, Public Service Reform Board, Local Criminal Justice Board, Violence Reduction Board and Community Safety.
- 3.2 The Mayor and the PCC will work together, and with other partners in response to critical incidents and issues of concern as and when appropriate.
- 3.3 There are a number of key policy areas where the Mayor, WMCA and PCC have identified opportunities for collaboration and began to develop, or further, programmes of work within these areas.

3.4 Regular meetings between the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner have recommenced following the election. A significant partnership programme of work at officer level has been developed and is awaiting formal sign off by the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner which will then feed into the Police and Crime Plan and will be jointly presented to the Public Service Reform Board in December. The partnership programme includes continuing and driving existing areas of work including the Violence Reduction Unit and the Safer Tavel partnership as well as new approaches and initiatives.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 The WMCA budget agreed in February includes a focus on Police and fire collaboration. No additional resource is required. There are no other direct spend or budgetary implications as a result of the recommendations within this report.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 There are no identified legal implications as a result of the recommendations within this report. Opportunities to transfer power to the West Midlands will be presented to the appropriate governance forums should they be identified and progressed.

6. Equalities Implications to update

6.1 The Mayor, the WMCA and the PCC have a shared ambition around tackling inequalities in race and ethnicity and will use the levers they have to impact on policy, strategy and delivery in their respective areas of responsibility.

7. Inclusive Growth Implications

7.1 A number of the opportunities identified through the joint programme of work contribute to indicators on the inclusive growth framework. Achieving improvements through this joint programme will positively impact on the ability of the region to manifest our vision for inclusive growth.

8. Geographical Area of Report's Implications

8.1 The work of the Public Service Reform Board applies to relevant activity across both Constituent and Non-constituent areas.

9. Other Implications

9.1 None.

10. Schedule of Background Papers

10.1 None.

11. Appendices

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Public Service Reform Board

Date	30 th September 2021
Report title	PSR Annual Performance and Forward Planning
Portfolio Lead	Councillor Rajbir Singh, Portfolio Holder for Public Service Reform & Social Economy
Accountable Chief Executive	Laura Shoaf, Interim Chief Executive, West Midlands Combined Authority Laura.Shoaf@wmca.org.uk
Accountable Employee	Ed Cox, Director of Inclusive Growth & Public Service Reform Ed.Cox@wmca.org.uk Claire Dhami, Head of Public Service Reform and Prevention Claire.dhami@wmca.org.uk
Report has been considered by	

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

Public Service Reform Board is recommended to:

- (1) Note the progress against the 2021/22 High Level Deliverables to date.
- (2) Note the progress on 2020/21 High Level Deliverables.
- (3) Identify any areas which the Board wishes to receive a more detailed report on progress or activity.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This paper reports against progress to date against the 2021/22 deliverables and confirms the end of year position for the deliverables for 2020/21.

2. High Level Deliverables for 2021/22

PSR01

Aim:

Facilitation of the Homelessness Taskforce to develop, co-ordinate and embed a regional approach to designing out homelessness

Progress:

- Homelessness Taskforce steering group, Children, Families and Young People Task Group, Rough Sleeper Task Group, Members Advisory Group progress key objectives as planned.
- Commitment to Collaborate Toolkit launched on 28th July, now available for partners.
- Ongoing support and promotion of Change into Action in Birmingham, Coventry, Sandwell, Solihull and Walsall; Change into Action launched in Dudley on 8th September 2021.
- Exploration of use of Social Impact Bond for a recovery tenancy pilot continues.
- Work with DWP and Local authority partners to develop a solution to funding the recovery tenancy pilot.

PSR02

Aim:

Commission and provide oversight for grant-funded homelessness programmes

Progress:

- First phase of Housing First completed with 487 (current and former) clients accommodated across 7 Local Authorities – joint op-ed with GMCA and LCR published on 13/09/21 as part of wider lobbying effort to extend programme.
- Successful bids to Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme 2021/22.
- 19 properties acquired under Next Steps Accommodation Programme 2020/21 – 15 occupied by HF clients.
- WMCA Rough Sleeping Initiative 2021/22 projects commenced and delivering - 779 individuals supported as at end of August, work to develop Street Support website for region underway.
- Faith & Designing out Homelessness booklet launched and event with faith and community groups to promote held.
- 30 veterans supported via Royal British Legion spot purchase fund.

PSR03

Aim:

Community Recovery programme: coordinate delivery of community recovery priorities and cross cutting themes

Progress:

- Application for Local Data Accelerator fund unsuccessful, constructive feedback received.
- Recovery Coordination Group met 13th September and agreed a new approach to governance and oversight of agenda.
- All collaborative areas progressing including work on understanding people at risk of rising rent arrears and homelessness, and a draft options paper for 'Living Safely With Coronavirus' theme being considered.
- Community Recovery Innovation Challenge winners and runner ups being supported to develop their ideas, prizes awarded in some areas and outstanding for some.
- 'Covid keeps' publication currently with design team.

PSR04

Aim:

Criminal Justice and Fire Collaboration

Progress:

- Progress made on the Police and Crime Plan which will include a section on joint work with the WMCA, detailing a range of joint areas of focus and commitments which are progressing.
- Fire collaboration continues to progress well around trauma informed approaches, early intervention and prevention and rough sleepers.
- Application for 'WM safe centre' a new secure facility in the West Midlands in partnership with the regions Directors of Children's Services, the PCC and two charities submitted at the request of the DfE.
- VRU sports partnership board, trauma informed task and finish group and trauma informed design sprint, VRU executive board, Violence against women and girls, Domestic abuse, reducing reoffending boards all supported or led by the WMCA

PSR05

Aim:

Early Intervention and prevention programme

Progress:

- Key areas of work programme include; Data and intelligence; system leadership (including an option to undertake a review of Early Help governance); and school readiness.
- Progress impacted by failure to recruit to key role – key pieces of work will now be externally commissioned pending recruitment.
- Trauma informed design sprint concluded and recommendations in place to establish a trauma informed coalition, a training framework and commissioning guidelines.

PSR06

Aim:

JOINT WITH STRATEGY & CULTURE

Systems leadership: develop a regional programme of learning and development in systems leadership

Progress:

- CIVIC pilot development in second half of 6 month development phase with a multi agency stakeholder group combining both employment and leadership tracks - expect full programme to be launched in late 2021.
- Issues identified with the diversity of the co creation group and activity in place to address this.
- Contributions from a range of agencies. Opportunity to shape the programme from agencies not already engaged remains open.

PSR07

Aim:

JOINT WITH CULTURE & DIGITAL

Improve digital inclusion in the region through partnerships with Local Authorities and Civil society organisations

Progress:

- Coalition for Digital Inclusion meetings continue.
- WM digital inclusion charter developed and building agreement from local partners.
- Established data poverty and devises working group with clear actions and recommendations.
- Peer research on digital exclusion commissioned and will include a focus on families in Temporary accommodation.
- pilot data sharing in community hubs being developed.
- Proposals for £8m Great Digital Catch-up prepared and shared with government and private sector partners

IG01

Aim:

Embedding inclusive growth within the WMCA and its partners

Progress:

- Inclusive Growth Business Partners Network consultation in progress to develop next phase.
- Housing and regeneration Inclusive Growth Business Partners led a session on the inclusive growth levers associated with funding streams and Single Commissioning frameworks.
- No business cases available for SAF testing in their period.
- Summary report of JRF funding outputs shared with JRF, with session on lessons to follow.
- Created proposal / briefing for inseting fund and shared with IGN coordinator.

IG02

Aim:

Inclusive growth impact, monitoring and accountability

Progress:

- Plans created for 'Inclusive Growth Summit' event to enable regional peer and shared learning.
- Progress made on finalising the Inclusive Growth Framework refresh, which should be ready this Autumn.

- Data story Miro Board created to give IGBPs and others a broader sense of how we approach inclusive growth

IG03
<p>Aim: Support at least three local authorities and their partners with 'Inclusive-Growth-In-Action' initiatives</p>
<p>Progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Birmingham Board: Workshop to develop East Birmingham RPU delayed until September. Supported CCIN workshop to contribute to Ward End project. Successful in Nuffield + British Academy application to access workshops to access funding for East Birmingham, taking place in September. • Kingshurst: Reviewed the Kingshurst Community Engagement Strategy and Toolkit for SMBC and SCH • Attended DoFest Dudley to ensure synergy in supporting social economy growth in Dudley.

IG04
<p>Aim: Publish, unlock investment for and co-ordinate delivery of the Social Economy Business Plan</p>
<p>Progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First draft of document received, comments from the consortium sought and fed back to design team. • Arrangement with Midlands Engine and Black Country Consortium reached to do M&E. • Midstage review on Community Pubs funding. • Commissioned and completed framework and business cases from iSE-led consortium – see 'Growing the social economy' paper. • Establishing monitoring and evaluation systems in partnership with Black Country Consortium.

IG05
<p>Aim: Develop and support Inclusive Growth Corridors Board</p>
<p>Progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not progressed due to capacity issues in the team

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The WMCA budget agreed in February has been built around these High Level Deliverables. There are no other direct spend or budgetary implications as a result of the recommendations within this report. There is underspend in the budget due to being unable to fill vacancies.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 It is a statutory requirement that the Combined Authority has an assurance framework in place. The assurance framework approved by the WMCA Board on 24 July 2020 stipulates the requirement of the Public Service Reform Board to approve and monitor the deliverables of the portfolio.

6. Equalities Implications to update

6.1 The composition of the Thematic Boards and other governance structures of the WMCA normally reflect the composition of the political leadership in constituent local authorities. To this extent, at the current time, they do not reflect the full diversity of the West Midlands region and decision-making might be skewed by unconscious bias. Where there is scope for local authorities to consider diversifying who might represent them on such Boards this could be considered and where there is scope for the Thematic Board to consider co-opting non-voting members on the grounds of their gender or protected characteristics then this too could be considered.

7. Inclusive Growth Implications

7.1 This paper sets out plans to lead the WMCA's approach to Inclusive Growth in 2021/22 and the good progress that has been made in the previous financial year.

8. Geographical Area of Report's Implications

8.1 The work of the Public Service Reform Board applies to relevant activity across both Constituent and Non-constituent areas.

9. Other Implications

9.1 None.

10. Schedule of Background Papers

10.1 None.

11. Appendices