

# Localism Policy Context

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- New approach following dissolution of District Committees and Localised Management Structures
- Localism in Birmingham – a Framework for Future Policy’ (2018) and a policy paper entitled ‘Working Together in Birmingham’s Neighbourhoods’ (2019). Between them these papers set out some core areas of activity
  - Setting up Ward Forums
  - Each Ward setting out its priorities and actions in a Ward Plan
  - Establishing Relationship Managers.
  - Maximising resources that can be utilised at the local level
  - A new framework for relationships, giving greater clarity on how groups can get more involved in influencing or delivering services
  - The ability to draw up neighbourhood charters
  - A statement of support to areas wanting to develop neighbourhood/parish councils
  - The potential for devo deals with appropriately experienced and constituted groups.

# Progress - Key infrastructure

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- NDSU team three Governance Managers organising Ward Forums and two Community Support & Development Officers supporting Neighbourhood & Community Infrastructure
- Localisation Deliver Plan containing 40 actions against which progress is measured.
- Community Recovery Group and new Board chaired by Cllr Cotton considering programme of work required as a result of covid
- Localisation Star Chamber chaired by Cllr Thompson reviewing work to date by each Directorate and identifying areas where further progress can be made
- Pioneer places being used to challenge services, share best practice and to test thinking
- Ward Forums established and meetings adapted in response to covid

# Progress – capacity building, local resources, ward forums, ward plans

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- NDSU Community Support and Development team to increase from 2 to 6
  - Increased support for community organisations (smaller patches)
  - Drive forward specialist work on external funding, parish councils, community assets, ward plans etc
- NDSU supported community organisations through pandemic
- Parish Council Policy adopted – provides clarity for the 3 areas currently considering this
- Requirement for Ward Meetings and Ward Plans now part of the City Council's Constitution
- 52 Ward Plans complete – 17 detailed templates produced for utilisation locally
- £2m Celebrating Communities Fund for utilisation in wards established
- Approval to use local CIL £2m across 11 wards obtained and crowdfunding platform being procured
- Capacity building programme commenced including
  - 9 anchor organisations
  - 30 wards obtaining support to improve grant applications
  - £100k+ budget for capacity building
  - Support provided 30+ groups in city via Locality
- Increased support for Business Improvement Districts and 13<sup>th</sup> area seeking to be established