

Hateley
Heath

Stone
Cross

Big Local

Annual Report 2019-2020

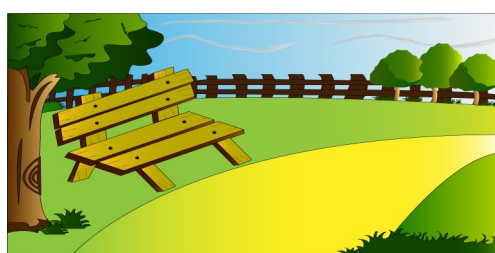
Active Community



Inspired People



Great Places



The Hateley Cross Big Local Partnership have been working throughout the last year to deliver projects and initiatives to improve the quality of life for our local community.

The Partnership secure funding from Big Local Trust to make a ***lasting, positive difference*** to the area. They have developed the following 3 key themes which are

Inspired People	We will create opportunities for people to get involved with our neighbourhood, get to know each other, develop as individuals, and help create a community where people belong - especially for those who feel excluded.
Active Community	We will support the development of clubs, services and activities for all sections of our diverse community, that reflect their needs, wishes, desires and aspirations. Where these are missing, we will work with them to identify ways to meet the need.
Great Places	We will work with Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council [SMBC] and others to support the provision of good quality, clean and safe spaces for our community to use. We will encourage and support people to become involved in the design, development and management of active community spaces.

The Partnership meet monthly and this report outlines how it has delivered its vision for the community over the past 12 months.

Inspired People

The Partnership have provided funding for 3 primary schools in the area to deliver a project that inspires their young people, these were:

St John Bosco	Hateley Heath	Hall Green
Purchase books to stock the library as well as buying an electronic scanning system to record which books children are taking out. This would also enable us to track how many books children are reading, etc.	Use funding for additional sports coaches to provide more after-school clubs (chosen by the children, e.g., dance, tennis, football, etc)	To nurture the growth of independent learners by investigating, including but not limited to, experiences for pupils to think wider, deeper, and differently.

Stone Cross Library – the Partnership has given an annual grant to the Stone Cross Library to expand their excellent programme of events for the local community. Events delivered have included quiz nights, breakfast reading sessions with children and a knit and natter group

Small Grant Programme – an annual small grant programme is offered to groups in the local community. Groups can apply for up to £500 for activities, successful bids this year have included the Hall Green Parents group to deliver a Christmas party and equipment for a local boxing group.

Active Community

In 2019 the group undertook a community mapping exercise which identified what local services and projects are delivered in the area. This was to ensure we were aware of what is available and to identify gaps.

In November 2019, the Partnership arranged a community afternoon tea to encourage the community to engage in the Big Local programme and get more involved.

Young Voices – the Partnership are keen to engage with young people in the area to find out what their priorities are and how we can encourage them to get involved in the programme. In December 2019 we engaged Sandwell ‘Go Play’ Team to undertake a comprehensive consultation with young people in the area. This will include delivering 30 focus groups with young people and 4 with parents. The results of the focus groups will be presented in a report which will inform the Partnerships future plans.

Great Places

St John Bosco	Hateley Heath	Hall Green
Develop a more purpose-built garden including compost area, recycling, bug hotel, etc. Pupils across the school to use the area during science lessons to enhance their understanding and encourage all children to look after our environment	Develop the school allotment by purchasing a range of seasonal fruit and vegetables alongside new equipment such as greenhouses, compost bins, etc.	Continue to develop our outdoor area with the aim of incorporating zones that recognise the importance of good mental and physical health. We would aim to develop an outdoor fitness area on our grounds that is accessible to all, weather permitting.

Development of the Green Space Strategy – the Partnership has established a Green Space Sub Committee that meets monthly to help progress the Green Space Strategy for the area. As part of the process 4 community consultation days were held on Marsh Lane, Kesteven Green, Somerset Green and Denbigh Drive. These proved extremely popular and provided the Partnership with a lot of information on each of these sites. This was drawn up into a report which the Green Space Group is working through to identify how they can implement the community’s ideas. This document is available on the Hateley Cross Website.

Go Play – in 2018-19 the Partnership funded over 25 ‘Go Play’ events across the area. They have worked with Go Play to promote the opportunity for local residents to be trained in delivering the Go Play model providing them with an NVQ qualification.

Mill Pool Feasibility – the Partnership and the wider community recognise the Mill Pool (*the Milky*) as a unique natural space and potentially a real asset for the area. The Green Space Group commissioned a Landscape Architect, ADP, to undertake a feasibility study for the area. They undertook significant research into the site and delivered consultation with partners and the local community. A final report will be produced suggesting ways to develop and improve the area, this will feed into the Partnerships future plans.



Involving the wider community



The Partnership constantly strive to try and involve the wider community in the Big Local programme. The lack of community facilities has been identified as a problem for a long time. The Partnership established a Community Hub group to explore ways that the programme can enable groups and members of the community to come together more regularly. This has proved a challenge due to the lack of accessible and available space in the area for the community to meet.

Last year we supported members in the community with a petition around the future of the SAPA building (former play association building) on Kesteven Green. This had been a community facility for a long time and is now vacant and boarded up. Local residents submitted a petition to get the building brought back into use for the community which Sandwell Council is now progressing.

The Partnership will continue to explore how it can develop and offer different opportunities for the community to come together.

Future Plans

The Partnership must submit a new Big Local Plan to secure future funding by April 2021. They will engage a plan writer to work with the partnership and the wider community to shape what will be delivered between 2021 and the end of programme in 2025.

At the time of producing this report the whole country is in lockdown due to Covid-19. The Partnership recognise that this will change the priorities and needs for many in the community. They are keen to explore how the Big Local programme can provide support and use its resources to help the community recover from these difficult and unprecedented times.

Although we cannot meet as a Partnership during these times you can still contact us through the mechanisms below:

SCIPS Phone Number – 0121 544 1230

SCIPS Email Address – enquiries@scips.org.uk

SCIPS Facebook Page: @SandwellCIPS

Hateley Cross Big Local Facebook Page: @HateleycrossBL

