

MINUTES

6th October 2020
10.30 am – 12.30 pm
Via MS Teams

Attendees:

Jacob Bayliss	Community Works
Tracy Beverley	BHCC, Transport Team
Lucy Bryson	BHCC, Communities, Equality & Third Sector
Atif Choudhury	Equality & Diversity
Geraldine des Moulins	Possability People (Joint Chair)
Tantara Fox-Stillwell	Sussex Police
Melinda King	BHCC Communities, Equality & Third Sector
Debbie Ludlam	B&H Clinical Commissioning Group
Emma McDermott	BHCC Communities, Equality & Third Sector
Nora Mzaoui	Community Works
Sarah Podmore	BHCC Public Health
Cllr. Steph Powell	BHCC (Joint Chair) - <i>Chair for this meeting</i>
Momtaz Rahman	University of Brighton
Katie Read	BHCC Transport Team
Anne Richardson Locke	BHCC Health & Adult Social Care
Paul Ross-Dale	BHCC Finance & Resources
Cllr. Dee Simson	BHCC
Emma Turner	Equality & Diversity
Laura Williams (left at noon)	Community Works

Apologies:

Cllr Carmen Appich	BHCC
Barbara Harris	Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust
Dee Humphreys	BHCC, Policy, Partnerships & Scrutiny
Keira Woodroofe	East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

1 Welcome, introductions and apologies

Cllr Powell, Green lead for Communities and Equality, welcomed everyone to the meeting as the new council chair for the partnership – alongside the community chair Geraldine Des Moulins.

Introductions and apologies were given as noted.

2 Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes agreed as an accurate record of the meeting held on 22nd July 2020.

All actions had been completed with the exception of:

- EMcD and ET to meet about hidden disabilities. EMcD suggested that a better link would be MK and the Equalities and Access Workstream.
- AB to discuss a communication to disabled groups and residents on measures taken and how to feed back

Action: ET and MK to link

Action: EMcD to follow up with AB re; comms to disabled groups and residents

ET/MK
EMcD

3 Equalities and Access Workstream Interim Report

MK presented the report to the meeting, outlining the findings and describing the recommendations.

Atif asked whether there would be a focus on understanding the impact on individuals based on their protected characteristic and their socio-economic circumstances.

EMcD updated about the research requested by the council's Recovery Committee to determine the impact of Covid-19 on communities of disadvantage and identity. She reported that issues with data – availability, quality and time lag – had made it difficult to take this work forward. Therefore, consideration was being given to a piece of work to apply national research to the city population.

Action: EMcD to update on the research at the next meeting.

EMcD

GDM welcomed the report coming back to the workstream to oversee the development of actions in response to recommendations and continue the work.

Action: Equality and Access workstream to report back on progress in January 2021.

MK

4 Changes to transport operations and supporting people to use public transport safely and confidently

Tracy Beverley and Katie Read presented a report to the meeting.

JB and TFS left the meeting at 11.30

Discussion followed and the following points were made:

- Widening the cycle/pedestrian lane from Rottingdean to the Marina to make it safer had been considered but not prioritised, as it had lower usage than other routes.
- Communications would be in languages other than English and the council's interpreters, Big Word, would be used.
- The council had communicated with the Taxi Forum.
- It was suggested that the Advisory Group agenda and minutes, if made available, would evidence the council meeting the PSED. Officers confirmed that the group's meeting would be made formal.
- Clarity was given around what actions could be done quickly and what might take time. Officers confirmed that it would take approximately eight weeks to make a change.
- The group was pleased that there was an equality impact assessment (EIA) and that it was being used correctly as a working document, and that the Advisory Group would be able to act as a critical friend for the EIA.
- Information was slow at the start and there had been unnecessary conflict due to lack of/poor communication. Looking forward to better communications.
- **Action:** KR to share with GDM the list of changes made as a result of resident feedback. **KR**
- **Action:** KR to check changes to where blue badge holders can park – consultation out at the moment. **KR**
- TB considering opening up Maderia Drive and currently working through the process; being informed by user group feedback.

- Pilot assistive technology button at West St/Kings Rd junction pedestrian crossing (Neatebox). Plans to roll this out in Phase 2 had not yet been confirmed.
- A query was raised about contacting Black, Asian, minority communities including refugees and migrant organisations and those that provide support to these communities who can disseminate the information in other languages, as often people with low-level English will not request the information in their own language, unless they have been signposted or made aware of its importance. Officers confirmed they had been working with colleagues in the Equality Team to get some information out to groups from these communities, but that this was not necessarily extensive.
- Wider pavements give way to more street clutter. Noted that the Highway Regulation Team would enforce if there was a breach. However, some had been widened to allow spacing of tables and chairs to allow social distancing to continue.

Action: EMcD to schedule an update at future meeting Equip meeting.

EMcD

5 Anti-Racism Strategy Update

EMcD updated the meeting on progress of the actions announced when the council made its pledge in August to work towards becoming an anti-racist council. She explained that a full progress report was being presented to the council's Tourism, Equality, Communities and Culture (TECC) Committee in November and the report would be shared with the Equip.

Link to progress report: <https://present.brighton-hove.gov.uk/documents/s159723/Progress%20Report%20on%20Anti-Racism%20Action.pdf>

ARL informed the meeting that the recent research on experience of disabled and BAME people in receipt of care would be used to inform the council's commissioning of adult social care.

Action: ARL to share the findings of the research with Equip members when available

ARL

6 Community Insight Tool

David Golding gave the meeting a 'tour' of Community Insight showing the data available and the reports that could be created including some specific Covid19 data. <https://brighton-hove.communityinsight.org/>

7 Inclusive Cities Project – Update

LB reminded the meeting about the Inclusive Cities project led by the COMPAS at the University of Oxford that the council had signed up to last Autumn. The first meeting of the city's taskforce had been about to meet when national lockdown was initiated. The programme was put on hold by COMPAS but was now being restarted. The Partnership agreed that they would like to convene the taskforce and start the work.

Action: LB to convene the taskforce as soon as possible

LB

Noted that of the councils on the Inclusive Cities list, Bristol and Birmingham had instigated an anti-racist policy/pledge. Hackney was also working on anti-racism.

8 Any other business

EMcD informed the meeting that the council's TECC committee on 19th November would have reports on council supporting the third sector (report No.43) and anti-racism progress report (report No.44) which might be of interest to partnership members.

Link to the reports <https://present.brighton-hove.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1019&MId=9991&Ver=4>

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 20th January 2021 10.00 a.m. – Noon
(post-meeting note: revised timing 10.00 – 11.30 am)