

Inclusive Cities Action Plan 2018-19 Liverpool

Inclusive Cities- Our Strategic Narrative

The Inclusive Cities project is supporting five UK cities and their partners to achieve a step change in their approach towards the integration of newcomers to the city. The aim is for the approach to be strategic across the city administration and here in Liverpool to be a citywide task, not simply something for the City Council to be responsible for. In Liverpool, building a strong and fair city is a political priority and is core to our shared values as a city of social justice. This project chimes with, and reinforces the work the city has done over a number of years developing a Fair City Policy statement, in recognizing that, although the city has suffered significant cuts through austerity and is the fourth most deprived local authority in the country, we are determined to look forward and raise the quality of life for everyone. Integration and cohesion is not a special project- it is about how we all get on together and secure what is mutually desirable for our families and our communities.

Developing and consistently communicating an inclusive narrative for the city, which informs and drives good practice in all sectors will be challenging. It will require the local authority to work in close partnership with business and the public and third sector organisations to achieve shared goals.

In order to identify priority areas and initiate practical steps towards better integration the City Council will have to show leadership at both political and executive levels. Working in partnership with the Taskforce (which includes representatives from the business, housing and education sectors; the third sector; the trade unions and our thriving arts and culture community) the City Council is determined to meet this challenge. Good leadership will be an essential element of this work going forward and the “Our Liverpool” branding will provide a golden thread throughout the programme and beyond. Our Liverpool has been chosen as it resonates with the city’s history as a long standing city of migration welcoming people from across the globe, as well as recognizing the recent change in the city’s demographics which show that BAME (Black and Minority Ethnic) communities now account for approximately 14% of the population.

The Mayor of Liverpool and his Cabinet use every opportunity to reinforce their view that, “Liverpool is a welcoming city.” In the recently published Inclusive Growth Plan the council have identified maintaining community safety and cohesion as a priority. This priority includes a clear reference to the need for,

“... a welcome programme for all newcomers to Liverpool including asylum seekers, refugees and economic migrants.”

And,

“... The integration of newcomers to the city and (to) broaden the opportunities for all residents to be included in the economic, social and civic life of the city.”

We have developed our priorities based on these principles, recognizing, for example, that improved access to English language provision is a critical building block for success from a social, educational, and career progression perspective.

This is a city council objective but it will be necessary to involve all the various community partners if we are to deliver on the ambitions underpinning the “Our Liverpool” programme. Driving forward the idea of inclusion as a civic value will require commitment and energy from the Liverpool Taskforce.

The power of networks with a clear objective should not be underestimated but changing the current narrative about immigration and cohesion will present challenges. Simply giving the facts about the positive impact of immigration doesn’t always work. Human beings make irrational personal decisions every day, as it is not enough to ‘hit people with the facts’. Changing the narrative requires hard work and patience. As Clay Shirky said,

“You can’t bring fact checkers to a culture of war.”

As Richard Wilkinson has argued so persuasively (The Spirit Level 2009) – unequal societies are bad for almost everyone within them- the well off as well as the poor. Greater equality is the material foundation on which better social relations are built and the Liverpool Taskforce on Inclusive Cities hopes to contribute through its practical initiatives to a more inclusive approach for the city.

Frank Hont, Chair Liverpool Inclusive Cities Taskforce, July 2018

Other Taskforce Members:

John Au – Anthony Walker Foundation
 Claire Benjamin – National Museums Liverpool
 Garth Dallas – Dallas Legal
 Eve-Marie Evans – Liverpool City Council
 Tracey Gore – Steve Biko Housing
 Colin Heaney – Liverpool Council for Voluntary Services
 Lynne Morris – Unison
 Ewan Roberts – Asylum Link Merseyside
 Gill Rowlands – School Improvement Liverpool
 Jill Summers – Liverpool City Council
 Yvonne Turnbull – Liverpool John Moores University

	Priority area	How this supports the strategic priorities of the city	Actions to achieve this priori	Taskforce lead(s) responsible for delivery	Local authority lead responsible for delivery	Resources needed to accomplish the priority and action	Timescales	Success Criteria
1	Improving EAL provision within schools through targeted support and training	Inclusive Growth plan (referenced in section 2) Fair City principles- “.....protecting and supporting our most vulnerable citizens ... enabling all children, young people and adults	Introduce a Liverpool chapter of the Global Minds initiative for Liverpool schools to adopt- working through key schools and using the Schools Parliament- a Secondary school approach	SIL- Gill Rowlands	Julie K	Provided through Controlling Migration Fund	Planning July / August 2018 Implementation with one school – Autumn term 2018	Part of evaluation framework established through MCLG - Increased numbers of and variety of ESOL courses

		to maximize their capabilities and have control over their lives....”	to Schools of Sanctuary Further support for the strong informal ESOL through community and faith Groups Identifying EAL/ ESOL provision that already exists Increased support for migrant parents and carers to navigate the education system	Our Liverpool programme manager				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progression rates of students - Improved co-ordination of ESOL provision
2	Developing a welcoming narrative Leadership- taskforce members articulating the concept and playing an influencing role in partnership	“..the integration of newcomers to the city and (to) broaden the opportunities for all residents to be included in the economic, social and civic life of the city.”	Development and roll out of the ‘Our Liverpool’ concept and use of short multimedia pisece- (AWF eg)	FH/ JS/ JA?	JS/ EME/Hannah McCormick	Capacity of Communications, Digital and Marketing Services Resources identified through Syrian Resettlement Y2-5 monies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -positive reviews and media for campaign -traction and use across broad spectrum of arenas e.g schools, workplaces, public spaces – VCF organisations and Communities of Practice

	with the other Inclusive Cities- Making a moral and value based case alongside the economic case	Inclusive Growth Plan section 3: “...a welcome programme for all newcomers to Liverpool including asylum seekers, refugees and economic migrants.”	Wider engagement with community and schools offer at the International Slavery Museum (includes West African culture and crafts, Understanding Transatlantic Slavery)		Community Development Team Leader			-programme recognition
			Improved careers provision through National Museums Liverpool annual work experience and Ambassadors programmes	Claire Benjamin	Colin Heaney		Autumn term 2018	Increased diversity of National Museums Liverpool visitor profile
			Involvement with community engagement strategy for the Dr Martin Luther King Jr.	Claire Benjamin			January 2019	Increased workforce diversity at National Museums Liverpool. Increase in work based skills and confidence of young people interested in arts and culture as career route

			<p>Building and RE-SPECT group</p> <p>Engagement with the International Slavery Museum's Sankofa project to progress understanding of Liverpool's Black history, connecting people, places and things.</p>	Claire Benjamin			September 2018	<p>Increased community collaboration and partnership with diverse agencies in Liverpool</p> <p>Increased representation of people's heritage and culture in the city</p>
3	Community outreach and people getting on well together	Ensure the 'positive narrative' has a high profile within the planned 'City Conversations' Reinforcing the principles and strategic narrative at every opportunity	<p>Importance of networking in and between cities</p> <p>Implementation of first asylum seeker and refugee strategy for the city</p>	All Taskforce members	Jill Summers/ Julie Kashirahamwe	In kind resources of taskforce group members in utilizing their networks and opportunities	Our Liverpool and refugee strategy launch- September 2018	Our Liverpool 'brand' and its underlying narrative is widely recognized and its principles easily understood and embraced

		within plans, documents but out loud, at events, in person, using all media	<p>Development of opportunities for newcomers and local people to meet- reviewing events and initiatives with this in mind</p> <p>“Welcoming” initiative in libraries-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for staff • Identify focal points within libraries to be branded and re-sourced <p>Briefing sessions for VCF organisations across the City</p>	<p>Eve – Marie Evans</p> <p>Jill Summers</p>	<p>LCC Community Development Workers</p> <p>LCC Development team leader</p>	<p>to communicate the narrative</p> <p>Community grants programme to facilitate social mixing and contact – CMF funded</p> <p>Resettlement funding used to establish hubs and facilitate training</p>		<p>Measure of foot-fall in libraries- increase in non-English native speakers</p> <p>Greater take up of ‘Life in the UK’ online training tool</p>
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4	Working with the business community to develop and promote the benefits of inclusion	Links strongly with the Fair City Policy Statement (Jan 2018) and the Better Business Framework	<p>Work with business selling the Inclusive Cities and Our Liverpool message- International Festival of Business, business breakfasts, business in the community, CSR</p> <p>Trade Unions- creation of a 'buddy' scheme to help newcomers adjust to the working environment and conditions in the UK</p>	<p>Garth Dallas/ Business in the Community/ Lynne Morris</p>	Cllr Jane Corbett	In kind resources of taskforce members and partners	<p>Inclusive Cities introduced at IFB in June 2018 by Frank Hont/ Garth Dallas</p> <p>Identify programme of key opportunities to present throughout 2018/19</p>	Support required from Inclusive Cities/ Migration Observatory on how to measure impact over time
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