

# **Bolton Vision Event**

## **Questions and Answers**



# Social Value

Darren Knight

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## Q) Where can I get the Social Value Challenge online please?

A) You can find the Social Value challenge on the [Bolton CVS website](#) and via the Bolton Family Twitter Account: @FamilyBolton

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## Q) What can I do to embed Social Value into my business as a starter guide?

A) There are a range of things you can do, but first things first is to understand what you've already got in place; it may be that you already do lots of great things; from re-cycling to paying the Living Wage Foundation's Accredited Living Wage. So always have a look at what you've got in place and start from there. The Bolton Social Value policy and a range of tools are available from our [website](#).

All partners from all sectors can attend the [Social Value training](#), delivered free by Bolton CVS to identify what social value your organisation is already delivering, some simple ways you can do more and how to tell your social value story to others.

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## Q) Do the panel from other sectors feel that the voluntary sector has equal partnership in the 2030 Vision?

A) Bolton CVS champions the voice of the voluntary sector as a membership organisation, with almost 600 active member groups and organisations currently.

Bolton CVS is not the only voluntary and community sector organisation represented on the Vision Steering Group or The Action Group within the partnership. There is also faith representation, culture representation, sports and physical activity representation within the wider partnership from the voluntary sector. 2 of the leads for the 7 areas of focus within the Vision Action Group are voluntary sector leaders, with a further 2 being from our largest local and well-connected housing association.

I do of course think there could be more, and I'd welcome the opportunity for more voluntary sector voices, particularly focusing on young leaders from across the voluntary sector. Furthermore, whilst Bolton CVS does champion the voice of those Social Enterprises within our membership, I think it would be great to work on a establishing a voice for collaborations of Social Enterprise too.

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**Q) 'Good' jobs defined as secure in work? Technical and career. Using contractors within Bolton?**

A) 'Good jobs' is quite subjective and relies almost wholly on 'good employers'. It is essential that we challenge ourselves as employers in Bolton to make sure that we're listening to staff and aligning our offer to the Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter (to be launched late July 2019). You can find out more about the Good Employment Charter on their [website](#).

Doing all we can to be an employer of choice is essential and introducing simple tools such as staff listening events, an accredited living wage policy, disability confident policy and Investors in People can all help too. Local employers who prioritise recruiting locally, skilling up their existing workforce, building their supply chain locally, connecting to other employers through networks and building their social value can only lead to better employment. This will then build opportunities for technical roles and careers, with skilled jobs in the local economy as things develop and grow. It's all about identifying priorities for employers and employees and achieving those goals.



# Strong and Engaged Communities

Jon Lord

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**Q) By what metric/how are we measuring the 'engagement' of an individual?**

A) Officers from Bolton at Home and the council are working up options with regard to local metrics, the aim being to identify marginalised individuals / groups / locations that the proposed activities look to engage. The aim is not to create an industry in this regard but to streamline to key outcomes for the individual concerned.

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**Q) Do the panel from other sectors feel that the voluntary sector has equal partnership in the 2030 Vision?**

A) This is a re-energised Vision and as part of that refresh there has been a commitment to equality of opportunity and voice and to deliver against an initial tranche of key issues – these include Social Value, engagement and developing skills and aspirations. Tasks that do involve and will involve the voluntary sector – in some instances as Lead and in all with an active role.

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# Neighbourhood Models

Jackie Bene/Wirin Bhatiani/Rick Jackson

## Q) How are the 9 Neighbourhoods defined / categorised?

A) Our aim is for services in the borough to operate in nine neighbourhoods, 3 districts and 1 borough model. The neighbourhood delivery footprints are how services will organise themselves to deliver health and care in a more local and joined up way. They were defined by Primary care leaders in partnership with public health colleagues by overlaying population data and GPs' registered lists.

There is evidence that a population of 30-50,000 is the right spatial level for integrated working between public services this is small enough to be locally sensitive, and large enough to create some economies of scale and we will align our workforce into these service delivery footprints. The delivery of care in Neighbourhoods will allow for the integration of public services and will enable staff from the public and voluntary sector to work more effectively together, with a shared understanding of their communities.

Unified public services at the neighbourhood level will be the default. This approach does not prevent us organising services on a borough level but wherever possible we are committed to delivering at a community level. The nine neighbourhood and three district configuration is not intended to replace communities understanding of where they live.

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## Q) How will people and carers be involved in the neighbourhood care model?

A) We very much want local people to be involved in where and how the team deliver local services; involved in the design from the early stages and how we let people know about them. We want our model of health and care to look very different, tailored to what people want and need recognising their strengths and ensuring they people are fully connected with the assets in the local areas. It will be a very different way of working and we will need people to help us understand how we can get it right and to make sure we deliver what's needed. We are already engaging with local people about our new approach and as the model progresses to implementation this will continue.

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## Q) Where can we locate the neighbourhood level data about life expectancy referred to by Jackie and Wirin?

A) There is work going on with all the data teams across partners to update this information once its finalised we will share with Vision and partners and more widely.

**Q) Do the panel from other sectors feel that the voluntary sector has equal partnership in the 2030 Vision? CVS have been part of the team that designed the neighbourhood model**

A) The Voluntary Sector has been integral to designing our approach to neighbourhoods. Funding has been secured to ensure leaders from voluntary sector organisations are part of the governance and implementation for neighbourhoods to ensure the voluntary sector is represented at all levels and that we invest in capacity at this key juncture in neighbourhood development. The voluntary sector offer in neighbourhoods is critical to the new ways of working.



# Economic Prosperity

Noel Sharpe

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**Q) What plans are in place to ensure that the transport infrastructure keeps pace with new developments?**

A) Clearly there are issues involving the transport flows in and out of Bolton that are governed and managed at a GM and national level which are more difficult to influence and shape. However, we will look to focus more closely on the inter borough transport network to see what we can do to influence and shape the service offer to ensure the communities of Bolton are well served in order that they can fully access employment, training, leisure and entertainment opportunities

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**Q) How and what are Bolton council and partners planning in order to ensure that Bolton has technical talent to support local businesses?**

A) Keeping and attracting into Bolton a skilled and talented workforce will be key to increasing economic prosperity in the town. There is clearly a close synergy of meeting this challenge with the work of the Skills and Aspirations group. Whilst the focus of that group will be around ensuring there is the right educational and training offer the economic prosperity group needs to focus on supporting the development of an environment where people want to stay after their study to work and live, where businesses want to grow and expand them.

Bolton needs to be seen as a place where businesses are supported, and encouraged and a destination of choice for both big and small business.

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**Q) What provision financially have we put aside to support people to gaining digital skills? We cannot have future prosperity without unlocking digital literacy and basic digital skills**

A) This question will be raised with the wider group.

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**Q) Climate change is potentially a huge threat to economic prosperity. How can we work together to tackle the climate emergency challenge in Bolton?**

A) This question will be raised with the wider group.

**Q) Household income vs household cost (in different categories) and understanding how a base line delivers a 'reasonable standard'?**

A) Once we have further insight from STEER we will know more positively what we can measure and be able to identify whether household oncome levels will be one such indicator.





# Skills and Aspiration

Bill Webster

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## **Q) How are we 'bigging up' apprenticeships in the borough?**

A) There have been various campaigns promoting apprenticeships generically, but one of the areas of the Skills groups interest will be to try and support a more coordinated approach to the boroughs response. One example is the recently formed 'Connected' brand which has brought together, for the first time, a one stop shop for employers wanting to contact re apprenticeships and wider employer engagement, made up of the University of Bolton, Bolton College and Alliance Learning.

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## **Q) Can Bolton create a digital skills group, focused on software development, cyber security, AI and games?**

A) Anything is possible! At present the approach is being taken by the Vision partners to look at ways of engaging with key stakeholders with a focus on 'cross-cutting' themes such as 'digital' rather than specific elements. That said there is already a significant amount of growth in these subject areas at the higher Skills level available locally.

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## **Q) What provision financially have we put aside to support people gaining digital skills? We cannot have future prosperity without unlocking digital literacy and basic digital skills**

A) Outside school budgets and existing access to courses and in work training and development I am not aware of any specific funding that has been 'put aside'. There are opportunities (that are currently being pursued) to access funding via GM for specific areas of development tied to digital skill shortages by employers.

Fully agree with the second part of the question and further work is needed to ensure all children get an 'equivalent' digital experience to an appropriate level whilst at school. Most young people are 'tech savvy' in using devices, games, smart phones and social media, but far fewer will understand the potential opportunities available through learning more specific 'tech' skills such as coding, systems development and cloud computing. Equally many adults are in a similar position. There is access to basic skills through community learning routes, but the gap is still significant.

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# Big Up Bolton

Tony Oakman

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**Q) How are we bigging up apprenticeships in the borough?**

A) This is something which will be raised with the Skills and Aspirations group. As part of the campaign we will have a section on “why I want to study and work in Bolton?” Clearly apprenticeships will form part of this theme.

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**Q) What plans are in places to ensure everyone, not just businesses and colleagues are bigging up the place?**

A) That’s exactly what the current campaign #Iloveboltonbecause #Thisisbolton is about, its gathering everyone’s views and ideas on what’s great about Bolton. This will form the narrative for Bolton and help inform how we create a digital navigation for all interested parties. This phase of the work will be started in the autumn of 2019.

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**Q) Will the promotion video be available for sharing through our social media?**

A) Yes - we are working through how we share without breaching licensing laws – we anticipate this being shared shortly

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# Active and Confident

Roddy Gauld

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**Q) What are we going to do to ensure young people get involved in physical and cultural activities?**

A) There are lots of opportunities and things happening for young people in Bolton through groups like Bolton Wanderers Community Trust, Bolton Lads and Girls Club, and the recent Sport on the Square events. There are lots of cultural activities too but not so much available as free at the point of contact and we will want to have a look at what could be available as a universal offer.

With regards to cultural activities as a group we recognise that we need to connect better with schools. We know this can be harder for schools because there is no curriculum measures around culture but the evidence suggests that those young people who participate in cultural activities flourish and can outperform their peers.



**Q) What will culture look like in Bolton in 2030 and how will it have changed the town?**

A) Personal aspiration for me clearly is that the Octagon and other theatres in Bolton continue to thrive over the next ten years. However alongside that I want the our work to help enable people to just get on and do more stuff. An example for me would be something like the Bolton Film Festival which was self-started and has now become an important feature. I really want to see the community partnership at the train station flourish in all they are doing. Really it is about more volunteering and more people doing things for themselves - I hope that organisations like mine at the Octagon Theatre can act as initiators and people use there initiatives to do more to enrich our culture.



# General Questions

**Q) Do the panel from the other sectors feel that the voluntary sector has equal partnership in the 2030 Vision?**

A) The Voluntary, Community and Faith sectors all have an equal and very active role in delivering Vision 2030. They are all represented on the Vision Strategic Partnership and are also involved on a number of the Vision Action Groups.

**Q) What is the digital infrastructure plan for the Bolton?**

A) I think that this has to be a priority for Bolton and something that we escalate and deliver not just through the skills agenda, but through the economic prosperity agenda. A better-connected Bolton will reduce isolation, improve wellbeing and also our creative and tech industry potential. I think it's time for Bolton to focus on this agenda as a whole place with business, education and community at its core.

**Q) When and how will the aspirational videos that showcase economic plans for the town be shared with residents and partners? Could we all use the same Vision video on our websites?**

A) We need to do this and we need to do it now. The videos are public, so we can all take the action to share across our staff emails, websites, bulletins and social media. It's our Bolton and we all need to do our bit.