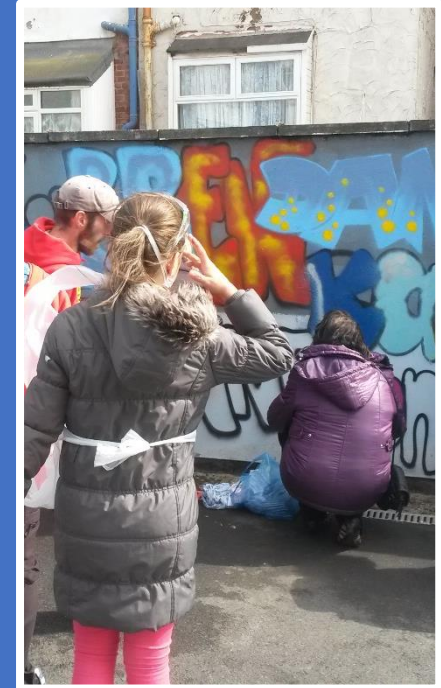


# THE BIG LOCAL REVOELUTION

Revoelution Plan 2020 - 2026



## **Introduction:**

Hello everyone - my name is Maddie Smith and I have been living in the Revoe area for 5 years. I joined the partnership about 2 years ago and was made Chair 18 months ago.

On becoming Chair I was very soon aware that the area was made up of several organisations that never came together. I am now pleased to say that over the last 18 months we have all come together – a good example of this was the Christmas Switch On where the Revoe Residents Association, Revoe Choir, The Electric Sunshine Project, His Provision and a band from a local school all took part and the event was very well attended by residents, our local councillors and our MP.

We have also extended our partnership membership, and which currently stands at 9 and is still growing.

Through funding from our Community Chest grants, we have supported a lot of community events including Winter Festival, dance projects, Sport, crafts, playwriting etc.

We have also been successful with employing a youth worker which has resulted in us starting a Youth Club.

We have also taken over the lease of New Life Church to become our Community Centre and have run some successful events there such as health and wellbeing support, dance and craft activities.

Another of our great achievements has been Friday Job Club which works in conjunction with the DWP and has been successful in finding employment for local people, helping them make CVs and sorting out Universal Credit.

We are working in tandem with: the Residents Association (which caters for our elderly), the Youth Club in conjunction with Blackpool Football Club Community Trust, the Park Rangers, Revoe school, Better Start, our local library, Blackpool College and many more. I hope to see all these relationships continuing on; with the Revoe Area being restored to its original ethos as being a small close knit community run by local people, where residents would feel comfortable to meet for help and advice and where people would want to live and stay.

## Our Vision

We have reviewed our vision and priorities as part of our review process – we met as a partnership to reflect on what we had learned and what people have been telling us, we ran street consultations, we talked to people at more than 20 events we planned and delivered and we held a series of discussion groups which brought residents and partner organisations together to look at what was needed. Local Trust asks us to make sure that we know what our community wants but we do more than that – we talk to our community about what might be needed based on the information we pull together.

Our priorities and goals stay aligned to our existing priorities – everyone told us that Health, Environment, Crime, Young People, Housing and Business on Central Drive are key. But we have changed how we are approaching these – we've learned that these issues don't stand alone but overlap. We've particularly focused on how Health could be used as the overarching theme of our work – health and wellbeing rely on the community having their basic and human needs met. We're going to look at whether we can usefully create a health model just for Revoe, based on our residents' experiences.

We have four themes to our new plan and we have forward planned these to form our costed vision:

- Community Wellbeing
- Housing and Environment
- Enterprise and Creativity
- Strengthening the Partnership

Our vision remains '**an empowered community that is able to help itself**'. We are creating a pool of residents with the knowledge, skills and confidence to help themselves and to help each other and a pathway for building community relations and raising aspirations.

Our area will look different in 2026 but everyone will still recognise the Revoe they are proud of – we do want to help to change the reputation of Revoe in others' eyes though. We're learning that with every bit of extra funding Revoe gains because we have the highest level of people 'experiencing deprivation due to low income' across England, we lose private sector investment that don't want to come here. We do expect there to be improvements to housing and other infrastructure in Revoe due to our partnership with Blackpool Council. We are a named partner in an urban planning exercise (from which we benefit by £30k for engagement) which the Council expects to lead to Homes England funding. We're also intent on 'greening' – we've done a lot of this type of work around grot spots and littering and we know how much this means to residents. It's the thing we are most likely to get them to help with.

We know now that it's most important for us to continue to support a network of community-based organisations, with connections to relevant professional agencies. And we will continually work to get local people involved in their community so that we can recruit more volunteers, gather new ideas and ensure that residents are involved in decisions we make.

We've also reviewed how we fund things – we've moved away from simply giving out grants, to identifying organisations to work in partnership with, even after our Big Local funding has ended. We want Revoelution to continue to have a long life and we've allowed funding in this current plan to pay for the training and support we need to establish a social vehicle by the end of this plan. We're also learning about how to generate funding and anticipate that we will have generated significant match funding by March 2023 too. We talk later in this plan about significantly reducing the size of our staff team and the implications of this.

So, we are not including any 'close down' costs in this plan – if it turns out we've been too ambitious there is time for us to address this in our final plan. We learned that things take time! Many of the things we've done – recruiting a youth worker, setting up the Newlife Centre, opening a café – have taken much longer than we expected. In future we need to accept that there may be delays and be flexible in our planning.

## Costed Vision

Based on our new themes, our costed vision to September 2025 looks like:

	1 <sup>st</sup> payment 2020 £k	2 <sup>nd</sup> payment 2020 £k	1 <sup>st</sup> payment 2021 £k	2 <sup>nd</sup> payment 2021 £k	1 <sup>st</sup> payment 2022 £k	2 <sup>nd</sup> payment 2022 £k	Total This Plan £k	2023 £k	2024 £k	2025 £k	Total £k	Total to end of Big Local
<b>Community Wellbeing</b>	8	9	8	9	8	9	51	18.1	12.1	6.1	36.3	87.3
<b>Housing and Environment</b>	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	45	18.1	12.1	6.1	36.3	81.3
<b>Enterprise and Creativity</b>	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.7	22.5	18.1	12.1	6.1	36.3	58.8
<b>Strengthening the Partnership</b>			2	2	3.5		7.5	2.8	1.8	0.8	5.4	12.9
<b>Contribution to Fixed Costs</b>	50.6	50.5	39	34	21.5	21.5	217.1	37.7	25.1	12.5	75.3	292.4
<b>Project Development Pot</b>		40	20	40	26.9		126.9					126.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	69.9	110.7	80.3	96.2	71.2	41.7	470*	94.8	63.2	31.6	189.6	659.6

\* Total of £500k with £30k provided by Blackpool Council

## Our Action Plan April 2020 – March 2023

This section concentrates on what we will be working on over the next three years, who we will be working with and how we will measure the difference we are making. We know we want to do better under this plan at evaluating the work we are doing and the work we are paying others to do. We're great at keeping a visual record of our work and recording activities in our newsletters but we want to have a better understanding of value for money and impact. This also applies to the Big Local Outcomes – we see and hear the difference we're making, that more people are involved and that they are feeling better. But we need to be better at measuring this – we've invested in some software that our LTO uses and will be trying this out. We are great at events, its one of our strengths. Residents have told us that they really value them and its proved to be a great way of engaging people – we've measured awareness of Revoelution this year and it's

increased to 53% during our last plan. But of course that still leaves us with much to do. We're good at pooling funds too and run joint events where we can, for example with the Revoe Residents Association.

Whilst we have consulted people (residents and other stakeholders) specifically for this plan, it's something we do continuously – this might just be chatting to residents when we deliver our newsletters or a formal questionnaire. We've also carried out street consultations, a drugs and alcohol consultation at Revoe School and we've provided a sofa to roll around our area with junior doctors ready to talk to people about health services!

We're also taking a more structured approach to governance – over the past eighteen months our partnership has grown with more residents getting on board and everyone getting more involved. We've more to do membership-wise and our new emphasis is on our learning and understanding – as you'll see below, one of our four priorities for this plan is Strengthening Our Partnership. As described in our vision, by the end of this plan period we want some form of social vehicle in place as part of our legacy and we want, as residents, to be writing funding bids. This is ambitious but we are confident that we can do it.

Being sustainable in every sense of the word is increasingly important too. For the first time, we've included climate action because its important to us and our residents, particularly young people. And we're viewing our investments differently too – we want to work in partnership with organisations, rather than grant fund, and we want to limit the things we do that can't be funded in other ways.

We'll continue to invest in communication too and we're going to use this plan as an opportunity. Once it's on its way to Local Trust, we're going to look at two new versions – a summary leaflet to deliver to every household in our area and a nicely formatted version that we can email to our other stakeholders.

Revoelution is a project run by the people of Revoe for the people of Revoe. To make it work, to get new ideas and visions of the future that meet everyone's needs, we have to involve all sections of the community. Reaching everybody in the area is an ongoing challenge so we have to be creative and keep working at it

**Some of the events we've run or funded include:**

Dance workshops  
Play-writing courses  
Storytelling sessions  
Mosaic-making  
Art workshops aimed at young people  
Street art  
Ukulele classes  
Drum and music sessions  
Rap workshops  
Gardening groups  
Parkour  
Kicks sessions  
Judo  
Litter-picking events  
Meditation and wellbeing sessions  
Yoga  
Men's Club for socially isolated men  
Winter Festival  
Revoe Fun Day  
Garden Tea Party

## ***Our Partnership***

The number of residents on our Partnership has doubled in the last eighteen months. There are now nine resident members of the Partnership, but we're always looking for more! An important part of our last Plan was to recruit a staff team to raise awareness, get more people involved and to drive the project forward. We now have five staff members, including a youth worker. Although the work of the team has been successful, this number of staff isn't sustainable for a Big Local project without additional external funding so the number of staff funded by Big Local will reduce significantly during the new plan period. Our Local Trusted Organisation is Blackpool Football Club Community Trust and the Partnership is continuing with BFCCT for this plan submission – our LTO provides additional services for us such as staff management and lease holding and we work closely with them on a number of projects.

## ***Our Buildings***

We continue to hold meetings and activities at the Revoelution Hub which we use rent free thanks to Blackpool Coastal Housing. But there is too much we can't deliver from the Hub and space was an issue for us. We have now also leased the Newlife Centre, a former church, on Queen Victoria Road. The Centre has already been used for Kicks sessions for young people, wellbeing sessions, a dance group, a drama evening, Park Rangers sessions with young people, lantern-making workshops and the Men's Club. We have built in a small budget under this plan for refurbishment and improving access to the building.

## ***Our Themes***

We've divided the work of Revoelution into four Themes. Three of these are based on the priorities identified in our consultations, our experience of working with residents over the last two years and in conversations with partner organisations. These are: Community Wellbeing, Housing and Environment, and Enterprise and Creativity. Our work on each of these Themes will be coordinated by a resident-led subgroup which will include relevant local agencies and will be chaired by a resident wherever possible. Our fourth theme is 'Strengthening the Partnership' and is based on our recognition that if Revoelution is going to be sustainable into the future we need to have a Partnership of residents that have the skills, knowledge and connections to run independently and to seek external funding after the Big Local project ends in 2026.

## 1.0 Community Wellbeing

This is a wide-ranging Theme that includes health, young people and crime & antisocial behaviour. We understand that the health of our community is determined by numerous different factors. We know what makes people unhealthy, we are learning what makes people become healthier, but we also need to understand what makes people stay healthy.

We want to collaborate with local specialist organisations in order to improve the health and well-being outcomes for our community. We will be trying out an empowerment approach to health. We wish to see a community where the residents become empowered to make decisions in relation to their own health.

Area of Focus	Why this is needed	What we've done so far	Our plans	Budget	Outputs	What will change
<b>Health</b>	<p>Many in our community have complex, multiple needs. We believe that we should listen to health needs of our community. Through community consultation residents have stated that they wish to see the issues of drugs and alcohol high on the list of Revoe's health priorities. Agencies involved in the area have also highlighted the importance of reducing smoking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revoe residents are 60% more likely to suffer from lung cancer than the NW average, 81% more likely to have coronary heart disease with 92% for respiratory diseases.</li> </ul>	<p>We have worked closely in partnership with our Local Trusted Organisation, Blackpool FC Community Trust, to develop projects aiming to improve health in the area through sports and activity</p> <p>We have funded community-based wellbeing activities such as yoga and meditation. Several of our creative groups specifically aim to improve people's mental health, and our gardening projects promote healthy eating.</p> <p>A Revoelution Partnership member attends Recovery College Blackpool Advisory Group and has run 'creative thinking' sessions for</p>	<p>We will be trying out an empowerment approach – giving residents of Revoe the information, connections and confidence to address issues that affect their health.</p> <p>We want to collaborate with local specialist organisations to improve the health and well-being outcomes for our community.</p> <p>We will also seek to work in partnership with organisations who can help reduce the stress caused by the social issues associated with life in Revoe, which have a negative impact on residents' health. These organisations include</p>	<p>£50k from Big Local</p> <p>Some activities at no cost e.g. Headstart</p>	<p>Number of residents reporting that they feel better about their health</p> <p>Number of residents having access to new or different health services</p> <p>Number of residents reporting improved mental health</p> <p>Number of sessions delivered</p> <p>Number attending and staying engaged</p> <p>Number of young people supported</p>	<p>Residents will be more able to make decisions in relation to their own health</p> <p>Agencies will report improvements in health</p> <p>Young people reporting greater commitment to their community</p> <p>Vibrant street art which is valued by residents</p> <p>Participants reporting higher levels of confidence and happiness</p> <p>CAMHS reporting a greater understanding of</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults are less likely to eat healthily, more likely to binge drink and significantly more likely to smoke.</li> <li>• 240 residents are in receipt of mental health related benefit.</li> <li>• 30% of children are measured as overweight at Reception - this rises to 40% by Yr6.</li> <li>• 17% of residents registered with a GP are being treated for depression</li> </ul>	<p>Partnership members looking at ways residents can address health issues.</p> <p>We have hosted counselling sessions and are involved in Blackpool's mental health support network.</p> <p>We have worked with agencies such as Horizon and Fulfilling Lives around drug advice and support.</p>	<p>Blackpool Credit Union, The Empowerment Charity, and Fylde Coast Advice and Legal Centre and CAB.</p>		<p>Lower number of crime and antisocial behaviour incidents</p> <p>Improved reported perception of the level of crime and ASB</p>	<p>issues facing young people in Revoe</p> <p>Some residents will report improved mental and/or physical health</p> <p>Blackpool Fylde College reporting a greater understanding of issues facing young people in Revoe</p> <p>Youth Club continues into the long-term, run by young people with adult volunteer support.</p> <p>Revoelution learns more about the needs of young people in Revoe</p> <p>Young people take part in structured activities. Residents feel safer</p> <p>People in Blackpool have improved perceptions of Revoe</p>
<b>Young People</b>	<p>The young people of Revoe are vital to the future of its community; young people have the potential to renew, refresh and maintain the community through their creativity, enthusiasm and skills. With the right support they can improve Revoe's environment, be healthy, have aspirations to develop the business community, be safe and thus shape the area to become the vibrant, multicultural neighbourhood its residents desire to be part of. Our aim is to facilitate this transformation by offering a diverse programme to include</p>	<p>We have recruited a youth worker and two sessional workers to set up our young people's provision, Revoelution Youth. The team has run outreach sessions and activities such as canoeing, photography and street art.</p> <p>Several of our funded projects have been aimed at young people, including Kicks, Skool of Street and arts workshops. Students from Blackpool and Fylde College have volunteered with Revoelution Youth.</p>	<p>Community artists will deliver a multi-week programme of sessions in 2020 based on street art with the involvement of students from Blackpool and Fylde College.</p> <p>The NHS Adolescent Mental Health Service for Blackpool will run counselling sessions for young people at Revoelution from Spring 2020 and will link with our activities.</p> <p>HeadStart, a Lottery project promoting resilience for</p>			

	<p>outdoor activities, educational and employment support, mental health support and creative arts sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All the residents of Revoe are living in the 10% most deprived wards in the country. This is measured across income, employment, education, health, environment, crime and access to services</li> <li>• 30% of children are measured as overweight at Reception - this rises to 40% by Yr6</li> <li>• Just under 50% of children live in out-of-work households and nearly 60% live with a lone parent – 43% are living in poverty.</li> <li>• At Early Years, children in Revoe are around the NW average in attainment with a slight decline by Key Stage 2. By Key stage 4 there is a 15% gap</li> </ul>	<p>We run a regular children’s group on Fridays at the Hub, with gardening, crafts and litter-picking.</p>	<p>young people, will link to our activities.</p> <p>Revoelution Youth is working closely with BFCCT to develop their “Kicks” session provision and engage a larger number of secondary aged young people in quality, structured, physical activity.</p> <p>The Electric Sunshine Project and students from Blackpool Fylde College are currently planning sessions offering dance and photography workshops for Revoelution Youth.</p> <p>New Life Community Centre will be fit-for-purpose and open to Revoelution Youth in spring of 2020. Regular Youth Club provision of somewhere to go, something to do and someone to talk to in a safe indoor space can then be offered.</p> <p>Continued engagement of and signposting for Revoe’s young people through focused outreach sessions</p>			<p>Businesses are more likely to set up in the area.</p>
<b>Crime</b>	<p>Compared with the North West average, Revoe has</p>	<p>We jointly organised and ran with the police a</p>	<p>We will be working with our LTO, Blackpool FC</p>			

	<p>more than 4x the level of violent crime, just under 4x criminal damage, just under 3x burglary and 6x anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Fear of crime causes anxiety and social isolation e.g. older residents report being too scared to go out</p> <p>High levels of crime worsen Revoe's reputation and reduce house prices/business investment.</p>	<p>consultation on drugs and alcohol in September 2018, attend PACT meetings (Police and Communities Together) and are in regular contact with local PCSOs.</p> <p>We have hosted a police engagement session and consultations about CCTV and Neighbourhood Watch.</p>	<p>Community Trust, on a targeted youth support project called Tower Above aiming to reduce young people's involvement in crime and antisocial behaviour. This has been funded through our previous plan.</p> <p>We will consider a range of options re: CCTV and will look into setting up Neighbourhood Watch areas in Revoe in partnership with the police.</p>			
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## 2.0 Housing and Environment

Our immediate environment is very important to residents and visitors alike. It is the first impression people have when they arrive here and the first and last thing residents of the area see every day. It is well documented that seeing run-down buildings and litter-strewn streets everyday can have a negative impact on how people feel about their lives and act as a barrier to being involved in issues that affect their wellbeing. Housing conditions are frequently raised by residents as an issue that is having a negative impact on their lives.

Area of Focus	Why this is needed	What we've done so far	Our plans	Budget	Outputs	What will change
Clearing	The problem of litter and poor-quality buildings is	We have held several volunteer-led clean-up days	We're in touch with several residents who are happy to	£45k from Big Local funding	Number of hours of enhanced	The impact of our partnership with

<p><b>waste, reducing littering</b></p>	<p>frequently raised by residents.</p> <p>Revoe scores 69 (almost 3x worse than NW average) on something called the AHAH index. This brings together scores across 1. access to fast-food, pubs etc 2. access to health services including leisure centres 3. quality of physical environment 4. Air quality</p>	<p>and regular litter-picking sessions.</p> <p>We're in touch with Council services who provide valued support in keeping the area clean and tidy including promoting our activities under the Keep Blackpool Tidy banner.</p>	<p>help out with clean-up days and clearing the area around their houses.</p> <p>Also see 5.0</p>	<p>Additional funds will be sought as a result of the housing masterplan</p>	<p>service</p> <p>Number of clean up days</p> <p>Number of people participating</p> <p>Number of gardening projects</p> <p>Number of people reporting benefits</p> <p>Number of visual arts projects</p> <p>Participation in Climate Change conference and climate change action supported in general</p> <p>Significant investment in improvements to the area (other than Big Local)</p> <p>Number of social activities</p>	<p>Blackpool Council.</p> <p>Increased access to healthy outdoor activities</p> <p>Improved mental health for some participants</p> <p>Improved perception of the area from residents and people /organisations from outside of the area</p> <p>Vibrant street art that is valued by residents</p> <p>New creative businesses and organisations will seek to deliver activities in Revoe and particularly on Central Drive</p> <p>Residents of Revoe will be more aware of climate change issues, engage them in activity and enhance community spirit</p> <p>Improved quality of life for our residents – a</p>
<p><b>Gardening</b></p>		<p>We have funded Urban Organics to maintain a beehive on the Revoe Park Community Garden and run sessions on a space on Kent Road, Revoe Gardening Club for planting in the garden outside the Hub, and a group on Ibbison Court to improve the area outside their flats.</p>	<p>We will bring in expert advice on planting and maintenance as often as possible and we'll link gardening to healthy eating projects and mental health support. The garden outside the Hub on Ibbison Court will continue to be developed, and we'll get more residents involved.</p> <p>The current urban planning exercise will include the identification of suitable places to develop more green space in the Revoelution area – see the Housing section for more detail.</p>			
<p><b>Continue and enhance street art</b></p>	<p>The Partnership's long-term vision for Revoe sees creative activity as key to improving the appearance</p>	<p>We've run several successful visual arts projects over the last two years, and the street art on Central Drive</p>	<p>Street artists will continue to create artworks in the area. We've identified the wall beside the Bethesda Square</p>			

(see also Theme 3)	and perceptions of the area, getting young people more involved and bringing a new range of customers to businesses on the Drive.	near Ibbison Court is very popular with residents.	car park as the potential site for a large 'Welcome to Revoe' piece.  Masterplan report from Blackpool Council (see below) will include plans for street art.			fundamental outcome for Revoelution.  Changes to the environment that have a high-profile measurable effect on perceptions and residents' wellbeing
<b>Climate Change</b>	Several residents have expressed an interest in taking action on Climate Change, and we want to support them – this issue is important to Partnership members too.	The Partnership has had a presentation on the Local Trust/IPPR initiative to bring a climate change conference to Blackpool which is happening this Spring	We will fund and help organise an awareness-raising campaign and actively seek to get involved with regional and national action.			
<b>Housing</b>	Housing conditions are raised frequently by residents as an issue that directly affects their lives.  Housing is linked to all other priorities for Revoe. Poor quality housing leads to poor mental and physical health. It is linked to low income and low levels of employ, both as a cause and as a result. It leads to poor health for children and low attainment in school. Poor housing in Revoe, together with a poor environment in general, reflects and helps perpetuate its bad reputation.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents in Revoe are</li> </ul>	Housing was raised as a priority for the Revoelution project in the first round of consultations in 2014. However, we have learned that we don't have the funding to address this challenging problem; we have learned that it is necessary to work in partnership with the Council and other agencies.	Revoelution has not been able to consider significant capital projects but we have an opportunity to make physical changes to the area and to take steps towards better housing conditions through our involvement in a Blackpool Council bid for Homes England funding. The first stage of this of this is a consultation taking place in early 2020.  Also involved in the work are Blackpool Housing Company and we will be working with them to find ways to help improve housing conditions.  Early stage suggestions from			

	<p>half as likely to own their home than the NW average and are 3x as likely to be in privately rented accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The average house price in May 2019 was £63k which is 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the NW average but the affordability gap is £-53k (the ability for residents to borrow) on even the cheapest 25% of prices</li> </ul>		<p>the consultation include: street greening, recommendations for changed use of buildings, re-development of areas, links to new developments nearby.</p>			
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### 3.0 Enterprise and Creativity

The Partnership has always recognised that improving the state of Central Drive is key to improving the Revoe area. Our activities over the last two years have shown us that arts and creative activities are important for a number of reasons; they engage people who can't usually be reached, improve perceptions of the area, provide opportunities for social interaction, improve mental health, bring vitality and innovation to the area and encourage a wide range of potential partner organisations to get involved.

Area of Focus	Why this is needed	What we've done so far	Our plans	Budget	Outputs	What will change
<b>Arts and Creativity</b>	<p>The need for arts and creative activities cuts across all of our themes.</p> <p>Our experience shows us that visual street art and creative activities based in the area will improve the environment, improve people's mental wellbeing,</p>	<p>We've run over 20 arts-based short projects or activities over the last two years. These have been successful in getting residents involved/raising awareness of Revoelution but we want to develop these into something with a broader and long-lasting</p>	<p>We will work with students from Blackpool and Fylde College who are keen to run photography and other creative projects on Central Drive.</p> <p>We will continue to seek to work in partnership with arts organisations such as</p>	<p>£22.5k in Big Local Funding</p> <p>Some activities are undertaken at no additional cost e.g. B&amp;F College</p>	<p>Number of activities</p> <p>Number of participants</p> <p>Number of venues suitable for arts activities</p> <p>Encouraged investment on</p>	<p>Increased aspirations in young people in Revoe</p> <p>Reported improvement in perception of area, particularly Central Drive, from residents, businesses and</p>

	<p>reduce social isolation and involve young people.</p> <p>Establishing a 'Creative Quarter' for Blackpool is a long-term aim for Revoe and we want to take first steps in that direction. We expect creative businesses on Central Drive to improve perceptions of the area and revitalise the high street offer.</p> <p>Blackpool has more job opportunities in arts than the average in the NW so involving people in creative activities will increase employ &amp; raise aspirations.</p>	<p>impact</p> <p>Students from Blackpool School of Art (at Blackpool and Fylde College) have given their help to visual arts and building work.</p> <p>We worked with the Princes Trust and Karl Tsang on street art projects next to Revoe school and on Ibbison Court, and with The Electric Sunshine Project on dance, drama and visual arts.</p> <p>We submitted a bid for Creative Civic Change funding which was unsuccessful but was useful in showing us that we need residents to play an active role in art project development rather than simply participating.</p>	<p>LeftCoast, Blackpool Council Arts Service, Blackpool School of Art, The Electric Sunshine Project and Last Legs Art Company.</p>		<p>Central Drive</p> <p>Numbers of businesses involved in Revoelution and with external agencies</p> <p>Numbers of new businesses in the area</p>	<p>people /organisations from outside of the area</p> <p>Residents reporting an increase in their wellbeing as a result of creative activity, including young people</p> <p>Some residents accessing employment in the creative arts sector</p>
<p><b>Business Support</b></p>	<p>Improving Central Drive has always been seen as key to the Revoelution project. Its poor appearance worsens the reputation of the area, suggests tolerance of crime and antisocial behaviour, dissuades quality businesses from investing in Revoe and has a knock-on effect on</p>	<p>The importance of improving businesses on the Drive is recognised, but our impact has been limited. We ran two small-scale gardening projects with shops that were popular.</p> <p>We looked into shop-front grants but were advised</p>	<p>We understand that it will be important to involve relevant partners, particularly Blackpool Council, in supporting businesses on Central Drive.</p> <p>We will work with partners to ensure that Central Drive businesses benefit from</p>			

	surrounding residential streets.	that costs would be too high. Discussions with businesses tend to raise issues that would be best dealt with by the Police or Council.	nearby developments such as Blackpool Central and Foxhall Village. This area of work links closely with others e.g. Environment and Creativity.			
<b>Employability and Income</b>	<p>Out of 32,800 neighbourhoods in England Revoe has the highest level of people 'experiencing deprivation due to low income' and the 7<sup>th</sup> highest level of 'people involuntarily excluded from the labour market'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 43% of the working age population has no qualifications compared to a NW average of 25%. 25% of those employed are in low skilled jobs.</li> <li>• There are the equivalent of 21 applicants per job (NW average 3.25%).</li> <li>• 63% of households do not have access to a car.</li> </ul>	<p>We run a successful weekly Work Club providing assistance with CVs, job searches, Universal Credit etc. We also run basic computer training sessions. The Club takes referrals from the Job Centre and other agencies.</p> <p>We work alongside organisations/projects offering employment or benefits support such as the Blackpool Centre for the Unemployed and More Positive Together.</p>	<p>We will continue to run the Work Club and will seek to expand its offer by bringing in other organisations such as CAB and Blackpool Credit Union.</p> <p>We will train our volunteers and staff so that they can offer a broad level of signposting, and where appropriate advice</p>			

#### 4.0 Strengthening the Partnership

Like all Big Local projects, Revoelution must be led by members of the local community. In the last 18 months the Partnership has grown – there are now nine voting members, and all of them are residents. Their confidence and participation have grown significantly too during the delivery of the current plan.



Partnership members contribute a significant amount of time to the project. Not only do they attend meetings to make plans, hear from potential service deliverers and discuss issues, but they also volunteer at events, attend Local Trust meetings around the country and get hands-on experience of running a complex project.

When the national Big Local programme ends in 2026 we want to be sure that residents of Revoe can continue the work they've done so far. To do this we need to make sure that there is a group of people with the skills, knowledge and confidence to continue to grow the project.

Area of Focus	Why this is needed	What we've done so far	Our plans	Budget	Outputs	What will change
<b>Comm-unications and Engage-ment</b>	<p>Revoelution decisions should be made by residents; projects and activities we run should be based on ideas from people who live and work here. It is therefore vital that we continue to find effective ways to talk to residents.</p> <p>This is often difficult. Revoe is poorly served by broadband and 66% of residents are described as e-withdrawn; many people are 'transient' i.e. recently arrived or about to leave; many people are reluctant to engage due to their conditions of life.</p>	<p>We have run several on-street consultations, engaging residents in conversations on a range of topics.</p> <p>We use our connections with local community groups such as His Provision and the Residents Association to gather opinions and information.</p> <p>We use a range of communications channels including newsletters, leaflets, social media, noticeboards.</p> <p>Our small-scale community-led activities have often been successful in engaging people that would not otherwise have made contact.</p>	<p>We will continue to prioritise engaging and involving Revoe residents. From the outset of this Plan we will focus on recruiting new members to the Partnership and to sub-groups.</p> <p>We will continue to use a range of communications methods, including online, press and other news media, flyers and leaflets, noticeboards, local connections and face-to-face contact.</p>	<p>£30k from Blackpool Council</p> <p>£7.5k in Big Local Funding</p> <p>(this in addition to the costs identified in our Fixed Costs budget)</p> <p>Some activities are undertaken at no additional cost e.g. some training</p>	<p>Numbers of Partnership and sub-group members.</p> <p>Numbers of residents and other stakeholders consulted</p> <p>Numbers of people engaged through activities</p> <p>An increased level of awareness reported Revoelution</p> <p>Number of partner agencies attending sub-groups</p> <p>Number of courses run</p> <p>Number of Partnership</p>	<p>A pool of residents will be available with the knowledge and confidence to take part in discussions, volunteering and running projects beyond the end of Big Local funding.</p> <p>A wide awareness of Revoelution among residents will mean that ideas and opinions are gathered easily</p> <p>All members have an active role to play in moving the Revoelution forward and it gets the necessary support and advice from other</p>

<b>Sub-Groups</b>	We have ambitious plans that involve a number of stakeholders – we need the right organisations involved and we need to develop a strong focused working relationship with them	We have tried sub groups before but we struggled to service them efficiently – we have learned from this experience and each group will have clear terms of reference	Work on each of the Themes will be led by a sub-group including at least two Partnership members plus relevant agencies, reporting regularly to the full Partnership meeting		members attending training  Reduction in staffing costs met by Big Local funding	stakeholders  Members will feel confident in all areas related to running a community organisation
<b>Training</b>	We have set a goal for setting up as a formal community organisation by the end of this plan and we need to make sure that members have the necessary skills to make this work	Resident members have grown in confidence and skill during the past two years and we feel ready to challenge ourselves further	Training for residents on topics such as engagement, governance, bid writing, project management and the responsibilities of being a trustee/director		Amount of external funding successfully applied for  Outputs and outcomes are systematically recorded and monitored	Revoelution is a viable community-led organisation able to achieve sustainability without Big Local funding A viable independent community organisation established the partnership by 2023  The partnership will be better able to evidence the impact that it is having
<b>Governance</b>	The long-term aim of Revoelution is to create a sustainable resident-led organisation that continues to work for people in the area after Big Local funding, structure and support has ended	We have discussed the need for this and are confident that this aim can be achieved by 2023	We will arrange support for the Partnership to determine the best structure for this organisation.  We will develop a comprehensive and welcome pack that ensures that Partnership members fully understand their roles			
<b>Staffing</b>	Running such a complex project with multiple partner agencies and responsibilities would be very difficult as volunteers	The Revoelution Partnership is currently assisted by a staff team of five, recruited to move the project forward and raise awareness.	It isn't possible to sustain a team of five so this Plan will include a reduction in the amount of Big Local funding over time used to cover staff costs  The partnership will start to consider how a smaller staff team might be funded moving forward.			

<p><b>Fund Raising</b></p>	<p>Budgets could be enhanced by sourcing external funding matched with Big Local funds</p> <p>Revoe has much lower levels of access to funding from all major funders than the NW average (£3 per head compared with £28)</p>	<p>The Partnership has already raised £30k match for this plan through its partnership with Blackpool Council and Homes England.</p> <p>The Newlife Centre has been hired out for private parties for a small charge</p> <p>We have sought advice from partner agencies re: donations from private companies and services</p>	<p>A long list of funding opportunities includes:</p> <p><b>Environment:</b> Parks Lottery funding, possible Heritage Lottery art project focusing on Revoe history.</p> <p><b>Crime:</b> Police and Crime Commissioner</p> <p><b>Youth:</b> e.g. Children in Need</p> <p><b>Health:</b> bringing NHS and Public Health services to the area with contributions.</p> <p><b>Business:</b> possible Council contribution related to the Blackpool Central development.</p> <p><b>Housing:</b> Homes England funding, plus Blackpool Housing Company involvement</p> <p><b>Building maintenance and refurbishment:</b> Veolia and other landfill funders</p>			
<p><b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b></p>	<p>We've been doing great things over the last two years but haven't recorded numbers or outcomes in a systematic way. If we're going to apply for external funding we'll need evidence of our successes</p>	<p>Through the support of our LTO we've acquired a licence for Upshot, an online monitoring system. We're currently implementing Upshot so that we can record people's attendance at groups and the reported benefits of attending.</p>	<p>We will develop a comprehensive monitoring system perhaps using Upshot, measuring outputs and outcomes in a way that is useful for both funding bids and for locally promoting our work.</p>			

## Projects Under Development

We have a number of projects under development – some of which may not come to fruition or we may decide not to contribute to. We have allocated a total of £125k to our four priorities and £248.1k to fixed costs which leaves £126.9k remaining from our £500k allocation – this won't fund everything under development and we will agree how to allocate it as the projects develop.

Theme	Description
Health and Wellbeing	Community Café - we plan to open a community cafe on Central Drive to offer a place to engage the socially isolated and improve perceptions of Central Drive. We also plan to offer space here for the delivery of creative activities and one-to-one recovery support.
	We are looking at a project being developed by our LTO, Blackpool FC Community Trust around sport and physical activity facilities. This is a high-level initiative mainly funded by the Premier League but will benefit residents of Revoe. However, this is at an early stage and we will submit a separate proposal for this.
	We have funded a well-received life coaching programme for three years. We want to pause in order to evaluate its impact and sustainability before committing to further costs.
Housing and Environment	We are working with the Council's environment team on enhancing the service they provide in Revoe perhaps involving a worker who would be based at our Hub and will focus on the Revoelution area. Having this link to the Council would help us increase the number of bins, clean alleys, educate residents about recycling and waste collection and make reporting of environmental problems more efficient.
	The Blackpool Council bid for Homes England funding will result in a report that will include potential sources of funding. We will be involved in projects arising from the report but will submit separate proposals as necessary as these develop.
Creativity and Enterprise	We are looking at an Arts Coordinator for Revoe to ensure a coordinated and targeted approach to arts provision in the area.
Partnership Development	We have invested heavily in a small grants Community Chest pot over the past three years. We are concerned about its relative impact and have suspended it while we review this.

## How we have calculated our Big Local Budget

We have allocated £500k (including £30k contribution from Blackpool Council) to this plan leaving us with £189.3k of Big Local funding to spend on our final three year Big Local plan. We've agreed this proportion for a number of reasons including:

- Our staff team currently costs us in excess of £107k per annum which we recognise is not sustainable – this will have reduced to c.£27k by the end of this current plan
- It is our intention to be seeking match funding for our activities as a matter of course by the end of this plan which will increase the remaining Big Local funding pot significantly
- It is also our intention to make sure our project deliverers have sustainable plans of their own so that their need for Big Local funding is finite
- We will be pursuing significant partnerships with service providers where they 'buy in' our resources and expertise e.g. we have secured £30k this year from Blackpool Council which will fund our new empowerment approach

<b>Committed Project Funding</b>	Community Wellbeing	50.0
	Housing and Environment	45.0
	Enterprise and Creativity	22.5
<b>Project Development Funding</b>	Total Pot	126.9
<b>Fixed Costs</b>	Staffing	188.1
	Training	4.5
	Office running costs e.g. stationary, printing, postage etc	21.0
	Building running costs (Hub and New Life Community Centre)	13.5
	Events	9.0
	LTO Costs	12.0
<b>Strengthening the Partnership</b>	Priority 4.0	7.5
<b>Total £k</b>		<b>500.0</b>
<b>Contribution from Blackpool Council</b>	Engagement	30.0
<b>Total Big Local Funding £k</b>		<b>470.0</b>

Our spending profile for this plan is included in our costed vision at the beginning of our plan.

## Our Legacy

We see our Legacy to be lots of things, some of which we are already doing and others that we are beginning to plan for. We're aiming high but we think we can achieve these things but as we've said elsewhere in this plan, we need to be better at recording impact where

and when it happens. We've thought about the risks that might challenge our legacy too:

*We might run out of money* – we have ambitious plans to bring in match funding with only £200k of Big Local funding left for the last three years. But we're making sure we have the skills and support we need to have the best shot at achieving this. We're going to be better at monitoring how we're doing too.

*We might run out of time* – we want to have our social vehicle up and running by 2023 as well as delivering an ambitious plan. But we've increased the size of our Partnership and it will continue to grow. And we're more involved too, giving more time to get the job done.

*We might run out of staff* – we're planning to use less Big Local funding on staff costs during this plan and if we can't raise funding from elsewhere our staff may feel that they need to move on. But we've guaranteed at least another 12 months of funding the cost of the existing staff team and our team will be consulted and involved in our fund-raising efforts.

*We might run out of volunteers* – this is a challenging plan and if we don't attract more partnership members, we might be expecting too much of ourselves as a Partnership. But we're committed to getting the right support – the learning opportunities planned will help too.

Our legacy is around People, Place and Partnership:

### ***People***

We can make sure that we invest in children and **young people** so that the benefit is taken forward with them as adults – we have ideas for how we might work with partners to support skills development for young people and to look specifically at their wellbeing. For example we are already working with Blackpool and Fylde College students on arts projects – we want the students to be an example to young people in Revoe and to help them see higher education as an achievable goal.

We can help to **change thinking** so that people raise their aspirations and receive the help they need to take control of their own lives – things like new employment pathways, citizenship, better access to health services and support to reduce poverty. For example we think that encouraging people to not only participate in activities such as gardening and arts, but also to help plan and develop these projects, gives people confidence and awareness of their strengths.

We can build **skills** in local people which support them to get employment and that help them achieve the Big Local Outcomes – we are planning to work with training providers in our area and engaging people in the decisions being made about them. For example we already directly help people with employability through our Work Club, but we want to go beyond simple job searches to improving people's computer skills. We also will be training residents on bid-writing, and other skills to ensure the sustainability of Revoelution.

We can address **isolation** and increase community cohesion – we're looking at how our projects can include all parts of our community.

A range of community-based activities in the area help combat social isolation but we also want to target specific groups – for example, the homeless, Romanian Roma families and people with mental health problems that have left NHS treatment but still need support.

We can build **community wealth** by making sure people have better chances of gaining good quality employment and access to income. Not only will we work with individuals to improve their skills and employability, but our efforts to bring new exciting businesses to Central Drive will hopefully provide opportunities for residents.

### ***Place***

We can look to support projects and initiatives that have a **sustainability** plan to make sure work can continue without Big Local funding – we want to focus our work on initiatives that can have a lasting impact on our area. For example, our Community Café idea is based on it not only being commercially viable but also likely to draw in partner agencies to deliver support from the premises – thus providing two sources of income.

We are investing in **community assets** that will remain after the programme finishes. For example, our New Life Community Centre is busy already with a range of users that deliver ongoing services. The space is value for money too and something we feel can be funded without Big Local funding.

We are planning a **social vehicle** of our own that will build in parallel with our Big Local Plan. We're not sure what shape this will have yet and we'll only launch it when we have the knowledge and skills to make it work.

### ***Partnerships***

We are building relationships and trust with a **range of stakeholders** – our partnership with Blackpool Council in gaining £285k Community Housing Fund, and an engagement budget for Revoelution of £30k, is an example of this work in practice.

We are helping to create **social networks** that sustain people's lives and build confidence. For example, Partnership members attend and/or help run Saturday Breakfast at His Provision, the Residents Association's Memory Lane café, an arts and crafts group, the Revoelution Choir and a club for socially isolated men. We're also in touch with two bingo clubs, two gardening groups and more – all community-based groups that together enable us to reach and support people in the area.

We can strengthen the **voluntary and community sector** in our area – we are involving the sector more in partnership now and have moved from passive Community Chest grants to jointly-developed project proposals. But the grant fund was really helpful in making the connections in the first place and we may do more of this in the future.