



Bangladeshi
Women's Association Limited



Tipton Development Group

empowering communities together



Celebrating Achievements

SEPTEMBER 2017

A Community Led Regeneration Programme of the Bangladeshi
Women's Association Limited in conjunction with Tipton
Development Group.



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Foreword

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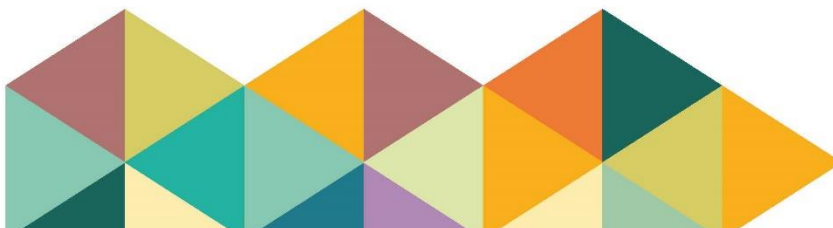
Razia Sattar
Chairwoman of BWA Limited

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the Celebrating Achievements Report 2017 for the Bangladeshi Women's Association Limited. I hope you will find this report both informative and interesting and that it will give you a greater understanding of the work undertaken by our organisation. Our report provides just a snapshot of the work that we have carried out in the past three years and I am delighted to share it with you to highlight the breadth of activity that is undertaken by BWA Limited. It is an excellent record of achievement.

In 2017, we look to a new sustainable development agenda for community led regeneration in Tipton, with community sector capacity building, economic development and women's empowerment at its heart. The BWA Limited is rising to that challenge and building upon a history of achievement, including the development of a comprehensive Tipton Community Economic Development Plan 2017.

In everything we do, we recognize that success is founded on partnership and joint working. We have therefore taken every opportunity to promoting partnership working between all sectors in Tipton through collaboration, co-production and planning of community services. Ultimately, all our work is directed towards changing lives, and helping the Tipton residents achieve their full potential. We are driving for better educational and employment opportunities for girls and women, including through the increased use of local community facilities, as well as measures to continue to increase women's community leadership.

The aspirations and actions set in motion this year will influence generations to come. We know this well and strive to achieve the maximum impact with the resources entrusted to us. We invest in evaluating our work so that we can continue to learn from what we do and to improve further. As this report underscores, BWA Limited strongly committed to delivering well-targeted programmes, and enlisting game-changing partners to accelerate the pace of change. Together we can usher in a new era that is more just, resilient, and inclusive of all.



4 Executive Summary

Bangladeshi Women's Association Limited

At BWA Limited we are committed to creating social capital and social change through delivering community led regeneration, giving the residents of Tipton free access to advice information and training whilst providing local venues for all communities to get more connected, empowered and confident to have a real stake in the development of the area. Over the past thirty two-year BWA has developed into a community organisation of standing, providing a holistic and integrated package of community services to meet the needs of diverse residents in Tipton. Supported by a number of funders and partners BWA currently has 19 active projects related to health, education, employment, skills, and social inclusion. According to BWA client monitoring data, the organisation annually provides direct services to an average 2500 residents, deals with 3400 queries and increases household income by an average of £300,000 annually.



In the delivery of community services BWA has adopted a community led regeneration approach where communities are supported to take the lead in identifying and implementing local solutions. An example of this is the introduction of the Tipton Development Group which has a membership of forty stakeholders fostering strong partnership and community involvement in the development and delivery of community services. In October 2012, BWA supported by Tipton Development Group, launched its comprehensive community consultation programme which led to the introduction of a 5-year Tipton Communities Connected programme funded by Sandwell MBC and the Big Lottery Fund.



Majority of BWA Limited community services are delivered from its 2 community centres: Tipton Muslim Community Centre and Jubilee Park Community Centre both of which have now been transformed into thriving community hubs and places of welcome providing a variety of high quality community development services to residents of Tipton. BWA advice service each year assists hundreds of Tipton residents with general advice and claim their entitlements to benefits, fuel bills, healthier food, care, mobility and council tax. Positive Activities for Young People is a youth development programme of BWA Limited providing positive activities such as youth club, homework club, and leadership training aimed at improving the quality of life of young people. The Healthy Lifestyle's Programme has been providing multiple integrated health activities promoting benefits of healthy lifestyle. The project is supported by the Big Lottery fund and the Sandwell Council's public health.

Employability Support Programme works closely with SMBC Think Sandwell, Sandwell Consortium and the City Deal Working Together supporting those who are economically inactive and those who are unemployed with job search, interview techniques etc. The Interfaith and Cohesion Programme of BWA Limited promotes education of the community and the contribution that faith and interfaith based activities can make to the promotion of community cohesion. The Families Support Programme engages with local families and delivers activities related to improving their health and wellbeing, creating choices; encouraging social interaction, and ultimately creating a more resilient community in Tipton. Volunteers play an important role at BWA Limited and through the engagement of volunteers, BWA aims to further its reach into the community, facilitating the two-way transfer of skills and knowledge.



ESOL courses provides help to new and old migrants settle into the area. Students particularly women learn to read and write English and how to speak it to others. The Come Dine with Neighbours project brings together people of different nationalities to share commonality with food, all showing a keen interest to cook for their Neighbours. Multicultural groups are given a budget to prepare a three-course meal for their neighbours providing an opportunity for multicultural communities to showcase talent in their own cultural cooking. Held annually at

the Victoria Park, Tipton Community Funday brings together over 5000 residents from Tipton for a fantastic, fun-filled day with fairgrounds rides, various cultural food stalls, stage performance and car boot sale, being just a few of the attractions. BWA Limited has been a proud partner in the delivery of the Sandwell Parks Summer Activities and the Let's do Lunch Programme in Tipton. Throughout the school summer holidays, BWA delivers a variety of fun activities for over 300 children and young people at the Jubilee Park Centre.

In The development of sports in Tipton, BWA is committed to promoting the importance of participation in sport and physical activity through delivering a range of sports initiatives such as the Cricket Clubs, and the Sport in Friends Programme. The Tipton Development Group of BWA was one of just twenty groups selected to participate in a government-sponsored initiative called the Community Economic Development Programme to work with the community to develop the best ideas to strengthen the Tipton economy. A Tipton Community Economic Development Plan has now been produced and endorsed by the Department of Communities and Local Government. BWA Train2Lead Programme has been designed to empower and up skill women as community development champions with possible employment or volunteering opportunities within community sector organisations across Sandwell. In February 2016 BWA received support from locality to help advocate for neighbourhood planning within the Jubilee neighbourhoods including raising awareness of how neighbourhood planning could help to tackle some of the area's issues. A forum had been established to move forward with the development of a Neighbourhood Plan.



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Between 2010 to 2015 the Royal Society of Arts and Manufacturing and its partners at the University of Central Lancashire and the London School of Economics worked with communities in seven locations in England to research & strengthen relationships within communities. BWA supported the research into social networks and well-being in Tipton, and then worked with local-residents to build programmes that support social connections. ODESSA is an international research venture which works with people who are over the traditional retirement age of 60 to find new and innovative ways of adapting a person's home. Tipton was chosen specifically along with Stratford Upon Avon and Norwich as the UK sites for this work. In the delivery of the research in Tipton, Dr Manjit Bola of the University of Central Lancashire works with BWA team to undertake the research work in Tipton.

Working in Partnership with Bangladeshi Regeneration Council & Birmingham Bangla Mela, BWA Limited held an 'Open Air Bangladeshi Community Development Consultation' attracting over 45,000 residents from the West Midlands region. The consultation was designed to enable the community to become creators instead of just consumers of services. BWA Limited also support the Vision 2030 programme - a monthly talk show on SKY 814 which aims to engage and involve the wider Bangladeshi community in England and Wales to move forward with a national regeneration agenda so that by 2030 the Bangladeshi Community should no longer be regarded as a disadvantaged community in the UK.

Syeda Khatun MBE
Chief Executive Officer



Introduction

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Bangladeshi Womens Association Limited

The Bangladeshi Women's Association Ltd works in Tipton- a small town with a population of 340,000 located in the Metropolitan Borough of Sandwell. Encountered with multiple deprivation, the association was established in 1985 by a group of enthusiastic South Asian women who wanted to meet the social and economic needs of their disadvantaged peers, young people, and families in Tipton. They started by addressing issues related to social exclusion and lack of community services as well as voicing their ideas for community development.

In the past 32 years, BWA has developed into a community organisation of standing providing a holistic and integrated package of community services to meet the needs of diverse residents in Tipton. In October 2014, BWA launched its five year Tipton Communities Connected programme funded by Sandwell MBC and Big Lottery Fund. Supported by a number of funders BWA currently has 19 active Programmes related to health, education, employment, skills and social inclusion which are delivered from two community centre facilities based in Tipton which are managed by the BWA Limited. According to the BWA client monitoring data, BWA annually provides direct services to an average 3000 residents, deals with 3400 queries and increases household income by an average £300,000 annually.

The Vision of BWA Limited is to work towards an improved quality of life for residents living in Tipton and the wider Borough of Sandwell by providing free access to advice information and training whilst providing central venues for all community groups to get more connected, empowered and confident to have a real stake in the sustainable regeneration of their own neighbourhoods.

BWA Limited is committed to:

- ▶ Increasing residents access to high quality Information Advice and Guidance.
- ▶ Increasing psychological and physical well-being of women and the elders.
- ▶ Increasing communication and strengthening citizenship.
- ▶ Increasing skills and learning abilities of residents.
- ▶ Promoting pride of place and sense of a shared future.



Historical Development

Bangladeshi Women's Association Limited

I first met Syeda Khatun when she phoned me up to talk about the BWA getting the Community Legal Service Quality Mark. She told me how the Bangladeshi women from this part of Tipton had got together to try to improve the area. They had set up school holiday play schemes, organised trips to the sea side and theme parks and some of them were keen to become youth workers. So, the first seeds of community development activity were sown, and in this environment of discussion, debate, listening and talking, the Bangladeshi Women's Association (BWA) developed. In the period 1983 – 1984 the women's group formed and they did achieve the CLS Quality Mark.

By 1985 BWA was ready to become formally constituted. It is significant that the members came from a good cross section of the women, with different ages, backgrounds and lives, and meetings were always bi-lingual so the those who were just starting to learn English could contribute in confidence. Arts and crafts and English classes were also started and this helped to draw in the wider community. From this contact and trust, understanding developed and it soon became obvious that many local people needed help to solve problems with their welfare rights, immigration issues, housing problems, accessing the health service, education and employment opportunities.

In 1989 the BWA Management Committee worked with Sandwell Council to build the Tipton Muslim Community Centre, so that services to meet these identified needs could be established within this community. In 1993, the BWA started to run the Asha project to provide advice and advocacy using the Community Legal Service framework to ensure quality and confidentiality. The Tipton Young Asian Women's Forum was also started to provide education, training and social activities for the young women. The Right Hon Betty Boothroyd came to the centre in 1999, to launch the Bangladeshi Women's Association's Community Capacity Building Project, and in 2002 the BWA supported the TYAWF to deliver a 3year 'Reach' peer education project. These projects quickly 'built capacity' of the organisations and their staff and by 2006 TYAWF gained the Young People's Charter Award (1st in Sandwell) and BWA established its Community Advice Service.

The BWA also needed to develop its own organisation – to improve its long-term sustainability and make it able to take on external contracts to increase its income. Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and IT Access points were established. On 5th Jan 2007 BWA was registered as Charity by the Charity Commission. The staff and Management Committee attended a number of training sessions to learn about their roles, the financial management of Charities, the requirements of Child Protection Policies and Procedures and other essentials. In addition, the Management Team increasingly used a strategic planning approach to identify local priorities and potential funding.

Detailed monitoring systems were introduced, so that evidence of the level of demand and services being delivered could be provided. In 2009, BWA began to offer AIG and training programmes for unemployed people in Tipton. It achieved the Matrix Quality Mark. On 28th May 2012, BWA became incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee. This meant that the original Charity registration was closed, but the Company was registered with the Charity Commission on 29 April 2013, as the Bangladeshi Women's Association Ltd, (All the original assets were transferred to this new Charity).



The BWA Ltd. gained a 5-year Service Level Agreement to manage the Sandwell Council owned Tipton Muslim Community Centre. A Microsoft Hub was also established. The Management Committee were also successful in getting a grant from the SITA Trust to do structural improvements and internal decoration. In 2013 BWA Ltd gained a 25year lease to manage the TMCC, and HTP Enterprise was appointed to improve organisational and programme and development capacity. A few years later they took on the management of the Jubilee Centre, where they have established similar services.

In 2014 a 5-year programme "Tipton Communities Connected" – a community-led regeneration programme involving partnership work was launched. So, throughout the last 30 years, by working closely with, and listening to its local community and finding other like-minded partners and funders, the Bangladeshi Women's Association Ltd. has grown to become a resilient and responsive organisation, even in these challenging times.

Marilyn Burrill
Marilyn Consultancy



10 Community Led Regeneration Approach



Anam Choudhury MSc
Development Manager

BWA Limited Community-led Regeneration approach is defined by actions that are based on the needs and issues understood by and experienced by communities themselves, where communities are supported to take the lead in identifying and implementing local solutions. Our approach is localist - putting residents, community sector organisations and community activists in the driving seat and providing them with hands-on support to drive growth and improve the socioeconomic conditions of Tipton neighbourhoods.

Introduction of Tipton Development Group in 2012, Tipton Communities Connected Programme in 2014 and Tipton Community Economic Development Plan in 2017 are notable examples of community led regeneration in Tipton which aims to deliver real improvements to people's lives. In the sustainable delivery of these initiatives, BWA is committed to building community, capacity and influence by:

- Developing shared spaces.
- Supporting independent action.
- Encouraging social support networks.
- Undertaking continuous needs analysis.
- Improving local community facilities.
- Supporting local people to come together.
- Building skills and knowledge of residents.
- Untapping, mobilising and building on local assets.
- Building local groups & supporting local governance.
- Engaging communities in decision making processes.

There is no doubt that community led regeneration in Tipton can be achieved through the sustainability of the programmes identified by the community. There is, however, no question that delivering community led regeneration – and rising to all the challenges that stand in the way – will require adequate financial and human-resource capacity and expertise, with adequate local authority support, partnership working and by communities empowered to make well-informed choices.

With the local authority facing a record budget deficit and less money available for investment in community led services, BWA Community Regeneration approach will continue to focus on procurement of external resources as well as creating approaches that involves from 'Asking to Earning' considering opportunities for diversification across the range of available income source needed to ensure that the neighbourhood of Tipton prospers.

COMMUNITY REGENERATION VISION

- Transform Tipton into an aspirational place to live.
- Skilled, healthy and cohesive communities in Tipton.
- Creating opportunities for all communities to thrive.
- More integrated and resilient communities in Tipton.
- Joint celebration of history, heritage and culture of Tipton.
- Community focused and community led services in Tipton.



BWA Board of Directors

As a not for profit, community organisation, BWA Limited is governed by a group of Board of Directors from representing the diversity of the Tipton area.



Razia Sattar

Razia Sattar is the Chairwomen of BWA Limited Board of Directors and has been working in the community sector for over 15 years. Razia is also undertaking a PhD degree at Birbeck College, London looking at how Black Minority Ethnic groups engage in local decision-making structures.



Derek Rowley

Derek Rowley is an Independent Advisor to BWA Limited Board. Until recently, Derek was a Councillor for 14 years representing the ward of Great Bridge in Tipton. Derek is also the chairperson of Tipton Development Group.



Sayrun Nessa

Sayrun is a Director to BWA Board. She is a local resident and mother of five. She has been a community activist for about 25 years and enjoys helping the community and arranging events and activities for all the people to get together.



Hazera Zehora

Hazera is a Director to BWA Board. She is a local resident and actively involved in facilitating activities for the local community. Hazera works as a Play Development Officer at Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, a School Governor and passionate about education and children's development.



Alek Ahmed

Alek started working with BWA as a young apprentice. He then worked his way to become the BWA Senior Adviser. Alek works for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) as an Administrative Officer and works in several departments across government such as Department of Works and Pensions (DWP) and Foreign Commonwealth Office (FCO) in various roles to deal with peaks of work, as well as priority and crisis situations.



12 Senior Management Team



SYEDA KHATUN MBE

As the Chief Executive Officer, Syeda is responsible for overall management and monitoring of all BWA Limited services and accountability to its stakeholders. Syeda's community development career began in 1984 and in 2004 she was made a Member of British Empire for her services to the community. Syeda also serves as a Councillor for the Tipton Green Ward, first elected in 1999.

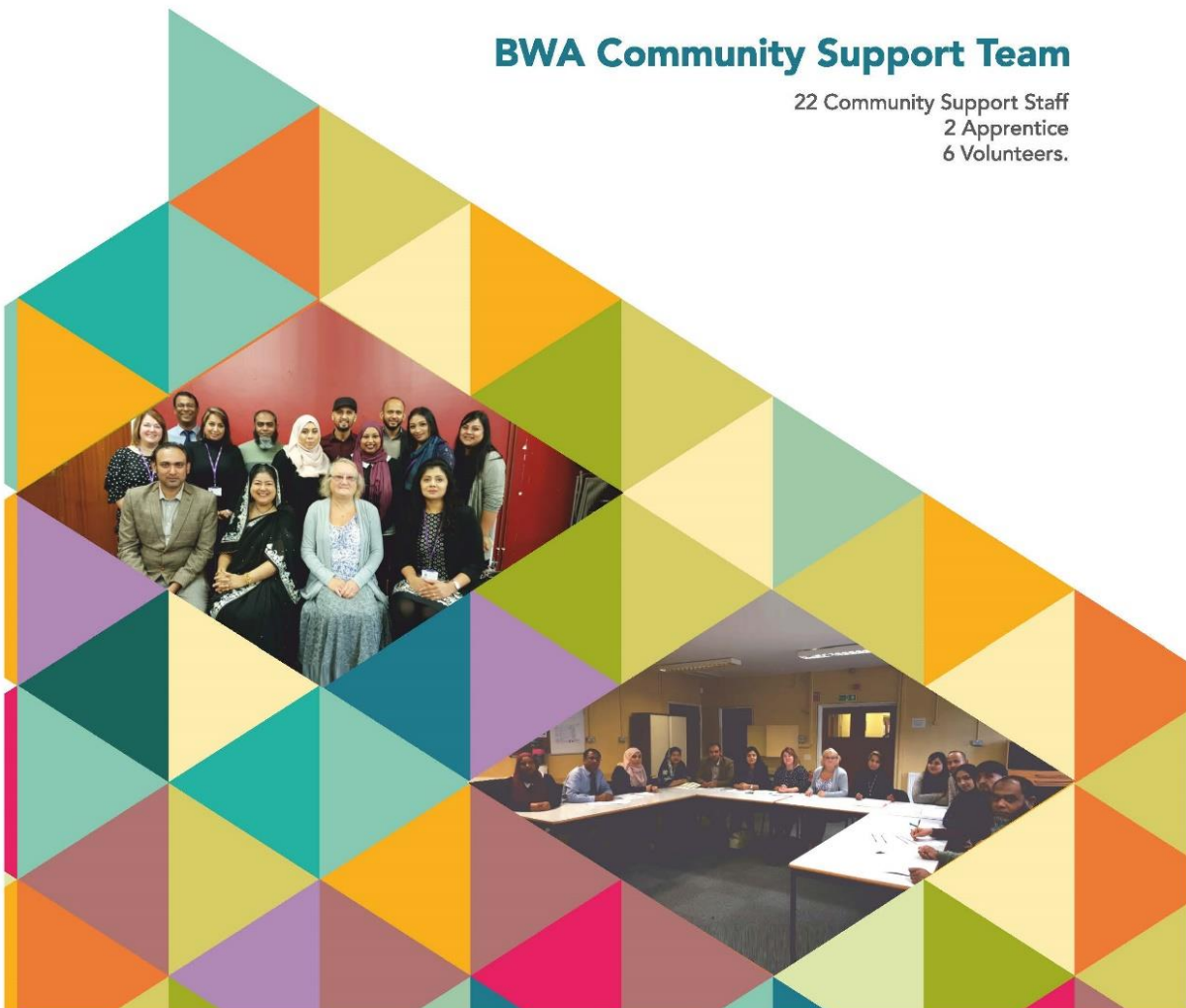


ANAM CHOUDHURY MSc

As the Development Manager, Anam is responsible for overall development and sustainability of BWA services and coordination of community led regeneration programme in Sandwell. Anam has a Master of Science degree in Urban Regeneration, Research & Public Policy from University of Birmingham and has successfully designed fifty-five community development Programmes.

BWA Community Support Team

22 Community Support Staff
2 Apprentice
6 Volunteers.



Tipton Development Group 13

Tipton Development Group (TDG) was established in 2012 by BWA Limited Board of Directors as a Programme Development Forum. The Group now has membership of 40 representing the Tipton residents, community sector, business and public-sector professionals meeting quarterly to discuss current and future community development programmes for Tipton. The Vision of Tipton Development Group is to 'create thriving neighbourhoods in Tipton' where its residents are happy, proud to live and experience positive outcomes with regards to education, health, employment and prosperity. To achieve this vision, the Group focuses on two methods of service delivery:

- ▶ Support Community Sector groups such as BWA and its associates with design, management, evaluation and sustainability of innovative community regeneration programmes such as the Tipton Communities Connected and Tipton Community Economic Plan; and/or where necessary carry out front-line activities by directly undertaking the different aspects of community led regeneration programmes in Tipton.



Key Responsibilities:

- ▶ Take a lead in the sustainable community led regeneration process in Tipton.
- ▶ Keeping programmes and facilities on track to its delivery plan and budget.
- ▶ Overseeing the development, monitoring & sustainability of programmes.
- ▶ Helping agencies and programmes to see more effective ways of getting things done.
- ▶ Advising on Plan of Action and content of community regeneration service materials.
- ▶ Manage the delivery team to ensure that they adhere to their vision of the TDP.
- ▶ Providing a channel of communication between residents and the Programmes.
- ▶ Assisting programmes and agencies to enable social action and social change.
- ▶ Monitor the performance of programmes to ensure that they are making a difference.

Working Together

BWA Limited is committed to working in partnership with the local council to achieve its ambitions for Vision 2030. BWA Limited is therefore committed to promoting closer partnership working between all sectors in Tipton through collaboration, co-production and planning of community services. BWA Limited working with the Tipton Development Group are working together in bringing community and public sector together to develop community services with the aim to achieve ambitions for the borough especially on the following four key themes:

- ▶ Raising aspirations and resilience.
- ▶ Healthier for longer and safer.
- ▶ Young people to have skills for the future.
- ▶ Lowering crime and antisocial behaviour.

3 YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS 2014-2017

NUMBER OF
RESIDENTS
ACCESSING
SERVICES

2014  1825

2015  2163

2016  2494



NUMBER OF
RESIDENTS
Supported with repeated
ADVICE & INFORMATION

4819

NUMBER OF
RESIDENTS
SUPPORTED WITH
Employability
SKILLS



330

NUMBER OF RESIDENTS
SUPPORTED
WITH
SECURING
EMPLOYMENT

69



NUMBER OF RESIDENTS
SUPPORTED WITH
Educational
COURSES/CLASSES



NUMBER OF
RESIDENTS
SUPPORTED WITH
Healthy
LIFESTYLE
ACTIVITIES



630

NUMBER OF RESIDENTS
SUPPORTED WITH

WELFARE
BENEFITS

5982



NUMBER OF RESIDENTS
SUPPORTED WITH



LEARNING
ENGLISH
LANGUAGE



NUMBER OF
RESIDENTS
SUPPORTED WITH
VOLUNTEERING
OPPORTUNITIES

75

NUMBER OF
RESIDENTS
SUPPORTED WITH
SOCIAL
INTERACTION

876



NUMBER OF
RESIDENTS
INVOLVED WITH
COMMUNITY
CONSULTATIONS



2250

NUMBER OF
RESIDENTS
SUPPORTED WITH
Community
FUN DAY



15,000

NUMBER OF
RESIDENTS
SUPPORTED WITH

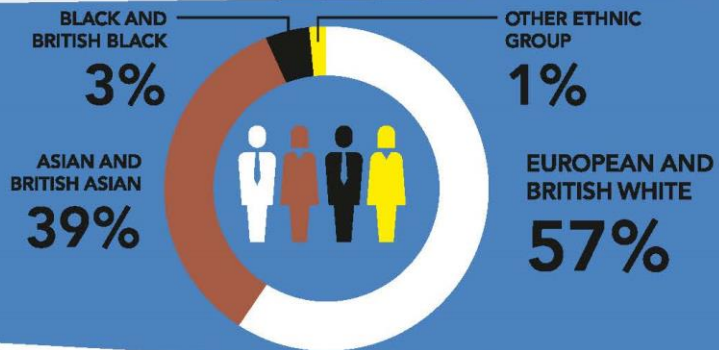
Positive
YOUTH ACTIVITIES



240

SERVICE USER STATISTICS

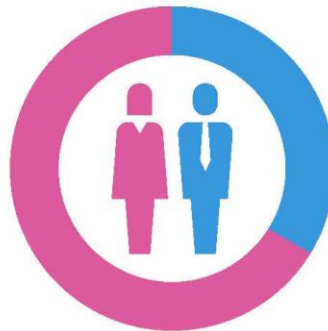
ETHNICITY



GENDER

Percentage

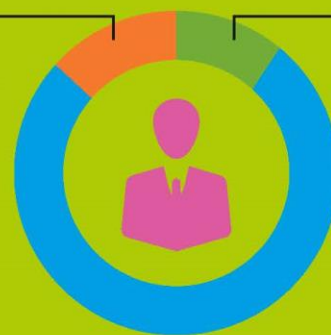
FEMALE
68%



MALE
32%

USER AGES

65+ YEARS
12%



0-24 YEARS
11%

25-65 YEARS
77%

£ FINANCIAL GAINS FOR
THE COMMUNITY
1.3 MILLION

Places of Welcome

Programme Aim:

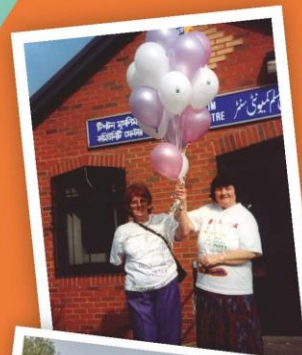
BWA Limited is committed to ensuring the long-term future, development and success of Tipton Muslim Community Centre and Jubilee Park Community Centre which have now been established into thriving community hubs and places of welcome providing a variety of high quality community development services to residents of Tipton. The Centre facilities includes offices, community hall, community library, community kitchen, sports facilities, general meetings and social rooms.

Support Offered:

- ▶ General & Welfare Benefits Advice and information.
- ▶ Community groups access to community facilities.
- ▶ Range of easy to read Information publications.
- ▶ Employability support and training.
- ▶ Work and volunteering placements.
- ▶ Lifelong learning and Language courses.
- ▶ Health checks and advice workshops.
- ▶ Women and youth only social clubs.
- ▶ Culturally appropriate exercise classes.
- ▶ Community events and private party.
- ▶ Meeting and conference facilities.

Community Benefits:

- ▶ Increased access to community facilities
- ▶ Increased access to community development services
- ▶ Increased access to advice and information service
- ▶ Increased confidence of community & partnership working



Advice and Welfare Rights

Programme Aim:

Advice Information & Guidance Service is built on supporting residents in the area, some with little spoken English, and very little understanding of local culture, customs and services. Each year BWA Limited assists hundreds of Tipton residents to claim extra benefits which helps towards regular costs such as fuel bills, healthier food, care, mobility, rent and council tax.

Support Offered:

- ▶ A team of multilingual and friendly advice works providing general help dealing with correspondence, translation and interpreting, benefit advice, form filling, welfare benefit advice, and help to access health, education and housing services & other day-to-day problems.
- ▶ Signposting and referral support on debt, immigration issues, homelessness, drug dependency and family matters as well as support to secure hardship grants.
- ▶ Door knocking in target areas to identify those not accessing help and supporting individuals to identify issues acting as barriers to self-improvement.
- ▶ Actively enabling new migrant groups to access community development services.

Community Benefits:

- ▶ Increased financial gains for individuals and families
- ▶ Increased self confidence and access to services
- ▶ Improved mental health and reduce stress



Positive Activities for Young People

Programme Aim:

Positive Activities for Young People is a youth development programme based at the Tipton Muslim Community Centre. This programme is jointly run by BWA Limited and Tipton Young Asian Women's Forum and funded by the BBC Children in Need and the Sandwell Council. The services provided by positive activities programme are delivered by qualified staff and is aimed at improving the quality of life of young people.

Support Offered:

- ▶ Homework Club: Supported by a qualified Tutor, young people have access to a well-equipped, safe and comfortable and local environment for English and Maths study, homework, revision and access to IT, printing and presentation material at the local one stop shop.
- ▶ Advice Club: Supported by qualified Advisor, young people have access to general advice information on entitlements and receive help to produce a Personal Development Plan as a guide to achieve long term academic and career ambitions.
- ▶ Youth Club: Supported by qualified Youth Workers, young people participate in planning and benefiting from indoor/outdoor activities, meet other young people, and get support and advice from external service providers including training.
- ▶ Volunteering: Young people receive volunteering and work placement opportunities with the centre helping to promote citizenship, life skills, confidence and awareness of opportunities.
- ▶ Health Club: Young people have access to weekly structured football and cricket activities. Girls in particular benefit from arts and crafts and healthy cooking sessions.
- ▶ Holiday Club: Young people have access to Easter, half term and summer breaks activities involving football, residential, drama, indoor games, and fun educational and social events.
- ▶ Leadership Club: Young people benefit from community development, Programme planning, fundraising training & activities towards promoting social responsibility, effective community leadership and sustainable development of their deprived area.



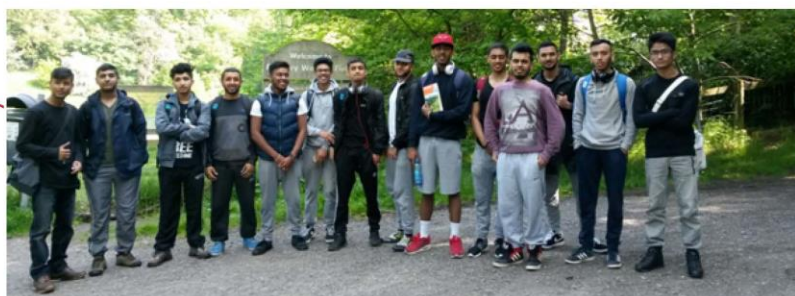
Community Benefits:

- ▶ Increase self-confidence.
- ▶ Raise educational attainment.
- ▶ Develop a healthy lifestyle.
- ▶ Increase access to work & training.



"The Duke of Edinburgh's Award has helped countless young people on their sometimes difficult path to adulthood."

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG KT



For the past three decades, BWA Limited has inspired and transformed the lives of hundreds of young people from Tipton. From volunteering to physical activities, life skills to expeditions, achieving a DofE Award is a passport to a brighter future, valued by employers and universities. BWA Limited is proud to deliver the award which drives and supports leadership credentials of young people. It's our ambition to continue to give young people this life-changing opportunity.

Honouring Achievements UNVEILING THE FUTURE

BWA Limited working in partnership with Tipton Young Asian Women's Forum organised a number of gala events focusing on highlighting the achievements of youth work and to highlight the future plans to support young people.



Healthy Lifestyle

Programme Aim:

The Healthy Lifestyle Programme has been providing multiple integrated health activities promoting healthy lifestyle choices, in a manner which actively encourages and supports residents to make meaningful changes to their lifestyles through accessing information and activities.

Support Offered:

- ▶ Health information
- ▶ Healthy cooking and eating
- ▶ Physical exercise and keep fit
- ▶ Understanding mental health
- ▶ Health checks for women and elderly
- ▶ Health talks on diabetes, cancer, heart disease etc.
- ▶ Smoking cessation
- ▶ Health coaching
- ▶ Walking and jogging



Community Benefits:

- ▶ Increase knowledge of healthy lifestyle
- ▶ Improve confidence and self-esteem in healthy living
- ▶ Increase engagement in health activities



Employability Support

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Programme Aim:

The Employability Programme works closely with SMBC, Think Sandwell and the City Deal Working Together programme primarily targeting those who are economically inactive and those who are unemployed. The programme aims to address the persistent disadvantage experienced by Tipton residents with lower levels of skills, employment and earnings. In the delivery of the programme, a team of Personal Employment Coaches will build a trusting relationship with each individual client engaged and provide 1 to 1 support in a constructive environment that is suitable for them to reach their full employment potential.

Support Offered:

- ▶ **Diagnosis of the needs of participants and plan Bespoke Training Plans that is developed to record the barriers and support required for individual participants.**
- ▶ **Deliver training service that prepare and provide the adequate skills for participants to secure sustained employment, accredited vocational training, basic skills, Confidence building/mentoring, CV building and interview techniques, Non-accredited training, ESOL and self-employment support.**
- ▶ **Employer engagement and job brokerage.**
- ▶ **Sustained Support to prevent further disengagement.**

Community Benefits:

- ▶ **Improve self confidence.**
- ▶ **Improve skills for work.**
- ▶ **Improve access to work.**



Interfaith and Social Interaction

Programme Aim:

The primary focus of the Interfaith and Cohesion Programme is the education of the community and the contribution that faith and interfaith based activities can make to the promotion of community cohesion. BWA Limited works closely with the Near Neighbours Programme and works to promote potential roles that faith and interfaith can play in promoting community cohesion through faith and interfaith groups as spiritual capital, personal capital, social capital, regenerative capital, as leadership capital, as inter-cultural capital, training capital, youth capital, civic capital and international capital.

Support Offered:

- ▶ Interfaith dialogue
- ▶ Information seminars
- ▶ Communities and faith tours
- ▶ Community lunch clubs

Community Benefits:

- ▶ Improve self confidence
- ▶ Improve community relations
- ▶ Improve knowledge and information



Support For Families

Programme Aim:

We know that some of the families in Tipton often have poor outcomes in health, social interaction and educational attainment. The BWA Limited Families in Tipton Programme therefore engages with local families to improve their health and wellbeing, create choices; encourage social interaction, and ultimately a more resilient community. In the process of doing so, the Programme uses a whole family approach. With the child's needs at the centre, all family members needs are identified so that we can include and support all of them. This is essential to helping them build positive relationships in those crucial early years. We also work with our partners such as children centres to make sure families get tailored, wrap-around packages of support.

Support Offered:

- ▶ Assessment of health and well being of families
- ▶ Early Interventions for families with children under 5
- ▶ Regular Healthy Living Activities such as healthy cooking
- ▶ Regular Positive Activities for Children and Young People
- ▶ Assist service providers to help access hard to reach areas
- ▶ Create links between services, local organisations and the community

Community Benefits:

- ▶ Improve mental and physical well being
- ▶ Better healthy lifestyle choices
- ▶ Happier and more stable families



Skills Based Volunteering

Programme Aim:

Volunteers play an important role at BWA Limited. Their ability to enhance programs, events and operations beyond the skill and resources of staff is greatly valued. Through the engagement of volunteers, BWA Limited aims to further its reach into the community, facilitating the two-way transfer of skills and knowledge.

Support Offered:

- ▶ Assessment of employment and skills needs
- ▶ Named line manager with clear role & responsibilities
- ▶ Work placement & employment opportunities
- ▶ Flexible working hours and commitments
- ▶ Formal and informal training
- ▶ Volunteers award



Community Benefits:

- ▶ Improved self-confidence
- ▶ Improved skills and learning
- ▶ Improved employment prospects
- ▶ Happier and stable families



Programme Aim:

ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) courses are aimed at non English speakers. The main aim of ESOL courses is to help people get by in everyday life. Teaching therefore covers everything from how to use public transport, what different ingredients are called in supermarkets to calling emergency services such as Fire, Police and Ambulance.

Support Offered:

- ▶ Qualified and experienced tutor
- ▶ Assessment of language skills needs
- ▶ Classes in Entry Level 1 & Entry level 2
- ▶ Work placement & employment opportunities
- ▶ Flexible learning hours and venue.
- ▶ ESOL Learners Award.

Community Benefits:

- ▶ Building emotional resilience
- ▶ Increasing self-confidence in everyday life setting
- ▶ Widening their social support networks
- ▶ Improving their well-being
- ▶ Improving ability to manage key transitions in lives



Come Dine with Neighbours

'Integrating Communities through Cultural Cooking'

Research by Royal Society for the encouragement of Manufactures and Commerce RSA revealed a very important link between feeling close to your community and feeling good about your life. For this reason, RSA offered grants for groups to develop ideas that will bring people together, promote their happiness and help them feel like they can make a difference. 'Come Dine with Neighbours' CDWN was therefore introduced in 2014 as a part of BWA's Tipton Communities Connected TCC programme.

The CDWN project brings together people of different nationalities to share commonality with food, all showing a keen interest to cook for their neighbours. Volunteer Chefs are given a budget to prepare a buffet for their neighbours providing an opportunity to showcase talent in their own cultural cooking; which is often hidden from the wider society.

Previously, all those who participated reported to have felt happy, empowered and confident to have shared with neighbours the ingredients, style and methods of their own cultural food.



African Caribbean Group 2015 and Bangladeshi Group 2014

"The project has been a wonderful example of local initiative and succeeded in bringing together different communities, all around the kitchen table- making and sharing food."

"It is also a fun and meaningful way to bring people together, using the universal language of food." said Gaia Marcus a senior researcher at the RSA.



Tipton Community Funday

Programme Aim:

Held annually at the Victoria Park, Tipton Community Funday organised by BWA Limited in partnership with Sandwell Council and other partners is a wonderful summer event. Over 5000 residents from Tipton have been coming together for the past 11 years for a fantastic, fun-filled day with fairgrounds rides, various cultural food stalls, bouncy castle, stage performance and car boot sale, being just a few of the attractions. Community and public-sector agencies are also invited to run community consultations, information points and demonstrations for their services.

Activities Offered:

- ▶ Family Entertainment
- ▶ Cultural Entertainment
- ▶ Service information
- ▶ Talent Show

Community Benefits:

- ▶ Community integration
- ▶ Community cohesion
- ▶ Breaking down barriers
- ▶ Celebration of diversity & cultures



Summer Play Scheme

Programme Aim:

Throughout the school summer holidays, BWA Limited delivers variety of fun activities for young people at the Jubilee Park Community Centre. On average over 300 children and young people are engaged in positive activities during the summer holidays. In the delivery of the scheme, BWA Limited provides dedicated staff members to: oversee the management of summer activities; liaise with agencies and partners; engage in consultation with the local community; ensure that the necessary Health & Safety, Safeguarding and First Aid arrangements are in place.

Support Offered:

- ▶ Fun and educational activities based on local consultation
- ▶ Structured and informal 'turn up and play'
- ▶ Lunch club

Community Benefits:

- ▶ Reduction of anti social behaviour
- ▶ Early help agenda
- ▶ Readiness for school
- ▶ Activities during summer holidays
- ▶ Encourage further community use of local parks by local people

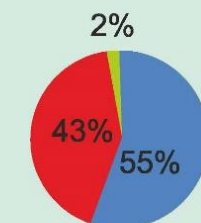


Sessional Data - breakdown by park

Project	Attendees	Attendances	Session hours	Sessions delivered
Britannia Park Rowley	517	1160	206	103
Brunswick Park Wednesbury	356	529	111	61
Victoria Park Smethwick	499	1097	151	96
Sandwell Valley West Bromwich	1242	1520	199	33
Barnford Park Oldbury	198	689	106	52
Jubilee Park Tipton	526	1826	406	207

Jubilee Park Tipton

Male Female Unknown



According to the SMBC Evaluation of the Summer Programme, BWA's Jubilee Summer Programme achieved the highest number of attendances, sessions delivered and hours of sessions compared to all other partners.

Community Sports Development

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Programme Aim:

In The development of sports in Tipton, BWA Limited is committed to promoting the importance of participation in sport and physical activity. The Role of Sport in Regenerating Deprived Areas Report indicates sports development initiatives with the most chance of success achieves a balance between developing sports in the community and the 'development of the community through sports' such as community sports day, cricket clubs, and the sport in friends programme by BWA Limited.



BWA

Community Economic Development (CED)

In 2017, we look to a new sustainable development agenda for the people of Tipton, with economic empowerment at its heart. The Tipton Development Group TDG of BWA Limited is rising to that challenge and building upon a history of excellent community involvement and strong partnership working across the three neighbourhoods of Tipton. In 2012, Tipton residents undertook a programme of community consultation working towards improving the lives of communities in Tipton. The process, and the results, have supported the development of a five-year community led regeneration initiative called the Tipton Communities Connected.



In October 2014, work on development of a Tipton Development Plan began with the acquisition of the Jubilee Park Community Centre which provided a central platform from which Community Consultations were undertaken which engaged with 2430 Tipton residents so far and exposed the stark imbalances in Tipton and recommend solutions to implement.

In 2017, Tipton Development Group was one of just twenty groups selected to participate in the Community Economic Development, or CED, a government-sponsored initiative that provided specialist support, advice and a small amount of grant funding to help communities to work together to develop the best ideas to strengthen the local economy.

The consultation for the CED Programme was undertaken by local residents- with support and training provided them to gain skills as Researchers. The research method included workshops with TDG Members, one to one interviews and survey questionnaires at community events such as dinner dance, family funday and drop in sessions.

Based on the consultation analysis, Tipton CED Plan was devised and endorsed by DCLG which envisions the creation of centralised community economic hub at Jubilee Park Community Centre. At the hub, residents, businesses and agencies would come together to work for the improvement of Tipton through implementations of the priorities identified in the Tipton CED Plan, such as:

- ◆ Creating new jobs in Tipton.
- ◆ Getting people into work and improving skills.
- ◆ Supporting capacity of local small businesses.
- ◆ Supporting local residents to develop enterprises.
- ◆ Supporting introduction of creative social enterprises.
- ◆ Building employability capacity of community sector.
- ◆ Improving local community and sports facilities.

Key to Implementation of the Tipton CED Plan is the appointment of Tipton Economic Development Manager whose primary responsibility will be development and coordination of economic development priorities and programmes identified in the plan



Women's Empowerment - Train2Lead

Programme Aim:

Community or not-for-profit sector is an important yet often misunderstood segment of the economy. Crossing many areas of the economy, it has the potential to generate economic value- employing full-time equivalent of 1.5m staff; engaged with skills and enterprise development; and addressing worklessness, health inequalities, social issues and community cohesion. The sector is also directly linked to a healthy economy with a collective annual turnover of £46bn (ACEVO). Despite the positive outlook, community sector organisations are also facing very different challenges and its future depends on a strong representative voice and a skilled workforce. BWA Train2Lead Programme has therefore been designed to empower and skill up women as community development champions with possible employment or volunteering opportunities with a third sector organisation.

Community Benefits:

Twenty-five learners and five community groups, to date, benefited directly from this Programme. Increased knowledge and understanding of the Community sector indicates the potential for greater benefit through this Programme in the future. The Programme has also generated a large amount of goodwill. Most specifically, we have seen indication of learners:

- ▶ Improved confidence to engage in community sector
- ▶ Enhanced skills for the development of community sector
- ▶ Improved communication and social well-being
- ▶ Increased volunteering and involvement in the community
- ▶ Creating a pathway for their personal development

Support Offered

- ▶ Introduction to community development
- ▶ Introduction to community needs analysis
- ▶ Introduction to community delivery plan
- ▶ Introduction to organisational management
- ▶ Introduction to income generation



Using diversity as a strength

Developing neighbourhood planning in Tipton, in partnership with the Bangladeshi Women's Association and Tipton Development Group

Despite the challenges in Tipton, there is a very positive culture of activism and volunteering within the community by a fantastic local charity, BWA - that has a vision to 'create thriving neighbourhoods' in the area.

In February 2016 BWA received a small grant from central government to help them advocate for neighbourhood planning within the community including raising awareness of how it could help to tackle some of the area's issues.

BWA organised a series of community workshops; distributed 200 leaflets door-to-door; and set up a website to help engage local residents, local groups and representatives from local service providers.

By far the most popular session, however, was the local walkabout which energised people into thinking about what they like, what they dislike, and what could be improved or worked on in the area. The walkabout resulted in a smaller area being considered for the neighbourhood plan rather than the Great Bridge ward as was originally envisaged but residents felt that the 'Jubilee Park' area required the greatest investment.



Jubilee Neighbourhood Plan



"Where you live...even the buildings, the houses, it all impacts on people's lives and how they get out of poverty and getting jobs, and that's why we thought this would be a good idea...and it will give people a sense of ownership and pride about the area" PARTICIPANT, BWA Limited.

Their aspiration is to create a neighbourhood where there is:

- affordable and attractive premises for local businesses, and convenient local shops
- greater mix of housing (including social housing) that maintains a mixed community
- green spaces protected for community use
- increased facilities – including safe pathways on green space
- better parking
- more scrutiny of licensing

Next steps - making a plan

BWA are now working with local residents and partners to actively develop a neighbourhood forum, which can lead the process of developing a neighbourhood plan.

Another round of local walkabouts is planned, together with more local consultation activities. In keeping with their assets based approach that recognizes the value of different skills, experience and perspectives, BWA are trying to recruit people that can make the forum effective, as well as reflective of the local area.

They are looking for people that have:

Influence and authority – such as community activists, local authority and public service officers, politicians

Insight (into local need) – such as residents, and frontline community workers and service providers

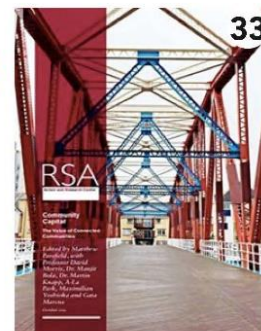
Resources – such as asset managers (the park, community centre, faith buildings), resident volunteers and fund raisers

Expertise – such as specialists in planning and development

Information – such as community activists, local residents, local workers and local services

Connected Communities

From 2010-2015 the RSA and its partners at the University of Central Lancashire and the London School of Economics (LSE) was working with communities in seven locations in England (including Tipton) to research & strengthen relationships within communities. The Connected Communities programme explored this vision by surveying residents in ward-sized localities, analysing this data for insight into local social networks and wellbeing, and then working with local people to build Programmes that support social connections such as the Come Dine with Neighbours Programme.



The activities and research presented in the report demonstrate that through working with communities this value can be grown by connecting people to one another in their local areas. The Report argues that investing in interventions which build and strengthen networks of social relationships will generate social value or 'dividend' related to wellbeing, citizenship, economic and capacity shared by people in the community. BWA Limited is working on the implementation of the findings in the report.



ODESSA Research

ODESSA is a 3 year venture which works with people who are over the traditional retirement age of 60, with a particular focus on the over 80s, to find new and innovative ways of adapting a person's home so that they can live independently for longer and avoid going into residential care as well as making it easier for them to access public services such as health and social services. The Programme is co-funded by UK, France and China.



BWA Limited was asked to represent Tipton people's experiences of the issues that affect them in their homes and local area which in turn will help to influence local and global policy and contribute to the development of an international framework for ageing in place with research partners in France and China. Tipton was chosen specifically along with Stratford Upon Avon and Norwich as the UK sites for this work. In the delivery of the research in Tipton, Dr Manjit Bola of University of Central Lancashire provided a full day training to a group of Tipton residents to undertake the research work.

BRC Vision 2030

WWW.BANGLADESHIREGENERATIONCOUNCIL.CO.UK



THE BANGLADESHI REGENERATION COUNCIL ENGLAND & WALES

A disproportionate number of Bangladeshi residents living in England and Wales are experiencing high rates of poverty and deprivation and continues to fare worse on a number of key indicators particularly in employment compared to all others. For far too long the Bangladeshi community has been regarded as one of the most socially and economically disadvantaged ethnic groups in the country. Therefore, to tackle the multiple and generational deprivation within the community, BWA Limited has supported: the introduction of the Bangladeshi Regeneration Council. It is founded on the fact that the Community is a rich source of entrepreneurship and talent and that the community coming together to work on the things that matter to them is a key way of unlocking that resource. BWA also supported an 'Open Air Bangladeshi Community Development Consultation' for the West Midlands region, in partnership with the Birmingham Bangla Mela 2016, giving the community an important voice and an opportunity to influence and enable the people of the Bangladeshi community to become creators instead of just consumers of services.

Vision

"By 2030, the Bangladeshi Community should no longer be regarded as of the most 'socially and economically disadvantaged ethnic groups in England and Wales'".

Aim

The overall aim of the Council is to work towards improving the social and economic conditions of the Bangladeshi community living in England and Wales.

Primary Objectives

- ◆ Enthuse, engage, and empower the Bangladeshi community and the community sector organisations to be in the driving seat for socioeconomic development.
- ◆ Introduce and implement a series of 'National Networks' focusing on services that addresses deprivation related to Income, Employment, Health, Education, Skills, Training, Services & Civic Society.

BWA Limited is also pleased to support Vision 2030 - a monthly talk show on SKY 814 which aims to engage and involve the wider Bangladeshi community to move forward the national Bangladeshi Community Regeneration Agenda.

Governance and Involvement

As a Community Regeneration Organisation, the Bangladeshi Regeneration Council will be governed by an Assembly of 45 Regional Members and a Committee of 10 Directors. We hope that everyone will have a valuable role to play in delivering all aspects of this vital process, and that your involvement will result in prosperous, more sustainable and successful outcome for the Bangladeshi community in England & Wales.



BWA Funders





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