

# Welcome to Luton's Fairness Taskforce

Creating the force for change



#FairnessTaskforce

#CreatingTheForceForChange

@LutonCouncil / @LutonSJU

Luton's  
Fairness  
Taskforce

Creating the  
force **for change**

# What does a Luton built on fairness mean to me?

Pastor Trevor Adams

What does a Luton built on fairness mean to me?

Go to  
[www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com)

Enter the code  
**20 53 77 3**



Or use QR code

Luton's  
Fairness  
Taskforce

Creating the  
force **for change**

# Why we need a town built on fairness?

Cllr Hazel Simmons MBE, Leader, Luton Council

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**



# What foundations are we building on?

Robin Porter, Chief Exec, Luton Council

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**



# Our shared vision for Luton 2040

**Luton 2020 - 2040**  
**A place to thrive**

## Our Shared Vision for Luton:

Luton will be a healthy, fair and sustainable town, where everyone can thrive and no-one has to live in poverty.

## Our Strategic Priorities 2020 - 2025

Securing a strong economic recovery from COVID-19, which protects jobs, incomes and businesses and enables us to build a more inclusive economy.



Protecting the most disadvantaged in our town by prioritising services and interventions that focus on prevention, alleviate the impact of poverty and reduce health inequalities.



Making Luton a child-friendly town, where our children and young people grow up feeling happy, healthy and secure, with a voice that matters and the opportunities they need to thrive.



Becoming a greener and more sustainable town, to meet our long-term ambition to be carbon neutral and climate resilient by 2040.



A strong and empowered community supporting fairness, equality and local pride and speaking with a powerful voice.



# Luton 2020 - 2040

## A place to thrive



# Successes of the Last Six Months

## Luton 2020 - 2040 A place to thrive

£44.5 million of Covid-19 business grant support delivered to local businesses



Luton Social Work Academy launched



Reimagined Luton town centre masterplan consultation completed



Nearly £3 million of funding secured for arts, culture and heritage including Cultural Recovery Fund and project funding



University of Bedfordshire launched Passport to uni initiative



£2.4 million investment in Hat Works creative workspace completed



Hugely successful Covid champions programme



Six Luton parks retained Green Flag status



£92,531 of Community Led Local Development grants programme awarded to 26 organisations



Launch of the new 10-year heritage strategy for the town 'Curating Luton'

First Luton Community Spirit Awards held recognising the work of voluntary organisations across Luton



# £20m Town Centre Levelling up fund

**Luton 2020 - 2040**  
**A place to thrive**



# Covid Memorial

Luton 2020 - 2040  
A place to thrive



For more information: [www.ourriver.uk](http://www.ourriver.uk)

## **A Town Built on Fairness with a strong and empowered community**

- **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion – delivering a fit for purpose offer via a**
  - New EDI Board and divisional co-ordinators to be recruited (October 21)
  - New EDI Strategy being co-produced (April 2022 launch)
  
- **Fairness Task Force – Tackling the towns most challenging poverty and inequality issues via co-designed and community partnership solutions. (Opening event November 21).**

A strong and empowered community supporting fairness, equality and local pride and speaking with a powerful voice.



# Luton 2040 Conference

## Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Luton 2020 - 2040**  
**A place to thrive**

**Luton 2020 - 2040**  
**A place to thrive**

You are invited to attend the  
**Luton 2040 Annual Conference**  
**Levelling Up Luton**

30 November 2021  
9.30am – 4.15pm

Featuring our keynote speakers:

**Mike Brewer**  
Deputy Chief Executive of the Resolution Foundation  
and  
**Professor Sir Michael Marmot**  
Director of the UCL Institute of Health Equity

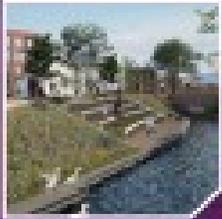
Featuring discussion and panel sessions with key decision-makers on:

 **Becoming a Marmot Town**     **Town Centre Masterplan**     **Launching our Fairness Taskforce**

This conference will be held at  
Venue 360, 20 Gypsy Lane, Luton, LU1 3JH

Book your place now through [Eventbrite](#)

Please sign up early due to limited places.  
Full details of the conference programme can be found [here](#).

# Talk, Listen, Change and community research What have we learnt from this experience?

Dr Nasreen Ali, Rifaat Mahmood & Kamal Acharya  
University of Bedfordshire

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**





# The COVID-19 Talk, Listen Change (TLC) community engagement project for tackling inequalities and co-developing solutions in Luton.

DR Nasreen Ali  
Dr Erica Cook  
Professor Gurch Randhawa  
Dr Muhammad Waqar  
Dr Alfredo Gaitan  
Ifunanya nduka  
Dr Louisa Donald



# Presentation outline



- ✓ What we wanted to do
- ✓ How we did it: an inclusive approach
- ✓ What we found
- ✓ Implications of the project findings and future actions
- ✓ The TLC Researchers: talking and listening

# What we wanted to do



To engage in a dialogue with Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Indian, the black African and black Caribbean groups in Luton to seek their views and experiences on:

- the disproportionate impact of COVID-19
- how they have been affected by the pandemic
- how to tackle related health inequalities and
- how to co-develop solutions

# How we did it



Interviews with front line health and social care workers



Interviews with key community stakeholders



Community Survey



Focus group discussions



# TLC branding/publicity



Are you from a Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Indian, black Caribbean, black African or mixed heritage ethnic/community background and live in Luton?

**COVID-19 affects everyone, but local data shows that Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Indian, black Caribbean and black African communities are more likely to be affected than the White British population.**

The COVID-19 **Talk Listen Change (TLC)** project aims to engage with you as individuals in these communities to get a better understanding of how you have been affected by the pandemic in order to develop services to meet your needs.

Please share your views and experiences of COVID-19 by completing an online survey [here](#).

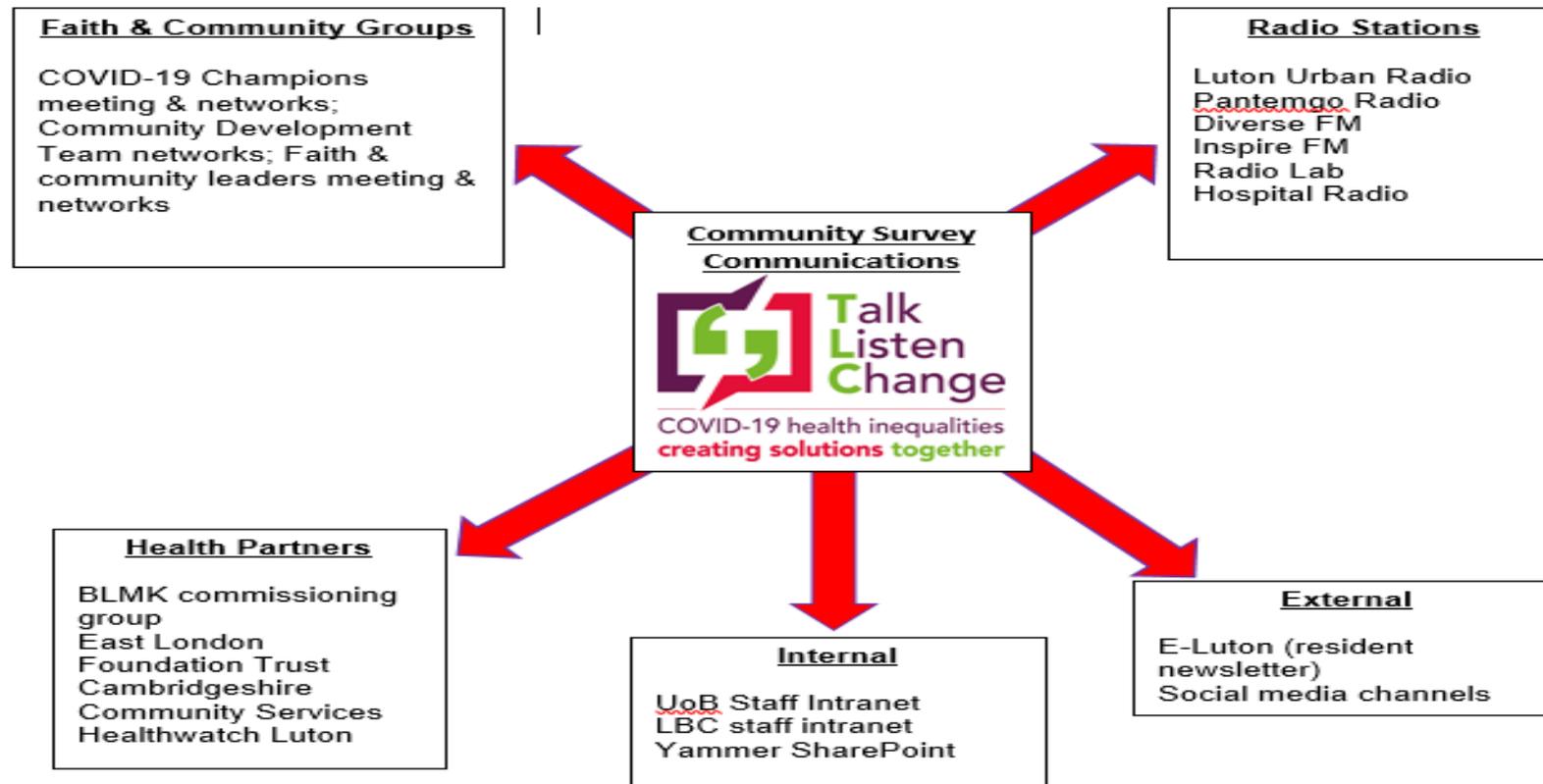
For more information about the project:

✉ [TLC@beds.ac.uk](mailto:TLC@beds.ac.uk) ☎ 07969 062428

➡ [www.luton.gov.uk/covid19tlc](http://www.luton.gov.uk/covid19tlc)



# The community survey: communications strategy



# Who were our participants?



Key Worker	Ethnicity	Gender	Age
1	Indian	Female	39
2	Bangladeshi	Female	43
3	Black African	Male	40
4	Pakistani	Female	50
5	Pakistani	Female	26
6	African	Male	33
7	Pakistani	Female	42
8	Pakistani	Female	51
9	Indian	Male	43
10	Caribbean	Female	-

Focus group	Ethnicity	Gender	Age range
1	Indian	Male	43-83
2	Indian	Female	41-71
3	Indian	Male (6) Non-binary (1)	28-73
4	Indian	Female	39-73
5	Bangladeshi	Female	37-53
6	Bangladeshi	Male	35-58
7	Pakistani (4) Bangladeshi (2) Kashmiri (1)	Female	18-43
8	Caribbean	Female	39-48
9	Black African	Female (3) Male (3)	18-52
10	Pakistani	Male	20-37
11	Pakistani	Female	23-55
12	Pakistani (5) Bangladeshi (2) Kashmiri (2)	Male	27-64
13	Caribbean	Female (6) Male (2)	47-59
14	Somali	Female	38-54



Key workers  $n=10$   
Focus groups  $\times 14$   $n=89$



Ethnicity	N	%
Indian	132	12.5
Pakistani	477	45.1
Kashmiri	35	3.3
Bangladeshi	176	16.6
Black African	91	8.6
Black Caribbean	75	7.1
Mixed: White & Black Caribbean	9	.9
Mixed: White & Black African	6	.6
Mixed: White & Asian	21	2.0
Any other ethnic background	26	2.5
Missing	10	.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1058</b>	<b>100.0</b>

# The TLC project



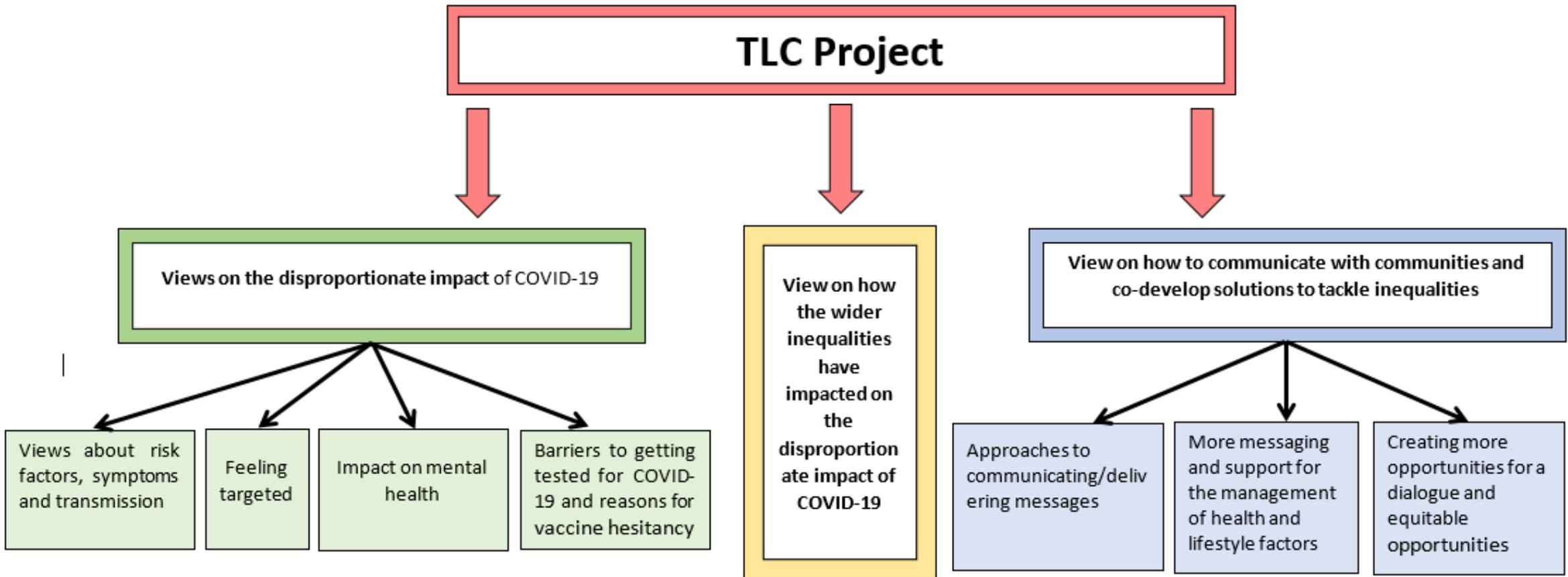
<https://sites.google.com/nih.ac.uk/pi-standards/home>

# Our inclusive research approach



- Access to lesser heard voices
- Empowering participants
- The lived experience
- Gathering better data
- Activating communities
- Benefits for the TLC Community Researchers

# What we found? ([www.luton.gov.uk/covid-19](http://www.luton.gov.uk/covid-19)),



# Implications of the project findings and future actions



## Inclusive Community engagement-Community focussed action



# The TLC Researchers: talking and listening



# Inspiration from further afield

Helen Goulden, Chief Exec, The Young Foundation

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**



# What does a Luton built on fairness mean to me?

Go to  
[www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com)

Enter the code  
**20 53 77 3**



Or use QR code

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**

# Coffee break!

Session returns at 11.30 prompt

Remember to Tweet:

#FairnessTaskForce

#CreatingTheForceForChange

@LutonCouncil/ @LutonSJU

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**



Welcome back

Now for you to help shape the agenda going forward

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**



# Plenary session

Find people with different coloured lollypop sticks to you

Share your tables theme and top points you agreed on

Which things do you think are achievable, pop them down on the carpark of ideas.

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**



# Closing words of morning session

Cllr Hazel Simmons MBE, Leader, Luton Council

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**



# Lunch!

For those staying the VCS session with Karen Perkins will be in the main room

The anchor institutions session with Helen Goulden will be in the breakout room

Session returns at 2pm prompt

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**



# BLCF Commitment to Fairness

Karen Perkins, Chief exec

Beds Luton Community Foundation

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**





Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation (BLCF) is committed to being the 'go to' grantmaker in the county through our real partnerships, innovative programmes, collaborative approach and commitment to Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Sustainability.

**Our Mission** is to be a catalyst for positive social change by connecting people, ideas, resources and needs to make a lasting difference. We strongly believe that there should be opportunity for all and that the lives of the most disadvantaged, the most marginalised and most underrepresented should be transformed through innovative, community-based solutions.

**Our Vision** is to stay locally focused but make real and lasting change to the lives of the people and communities of Bedfordshire.

Who are BLCF?



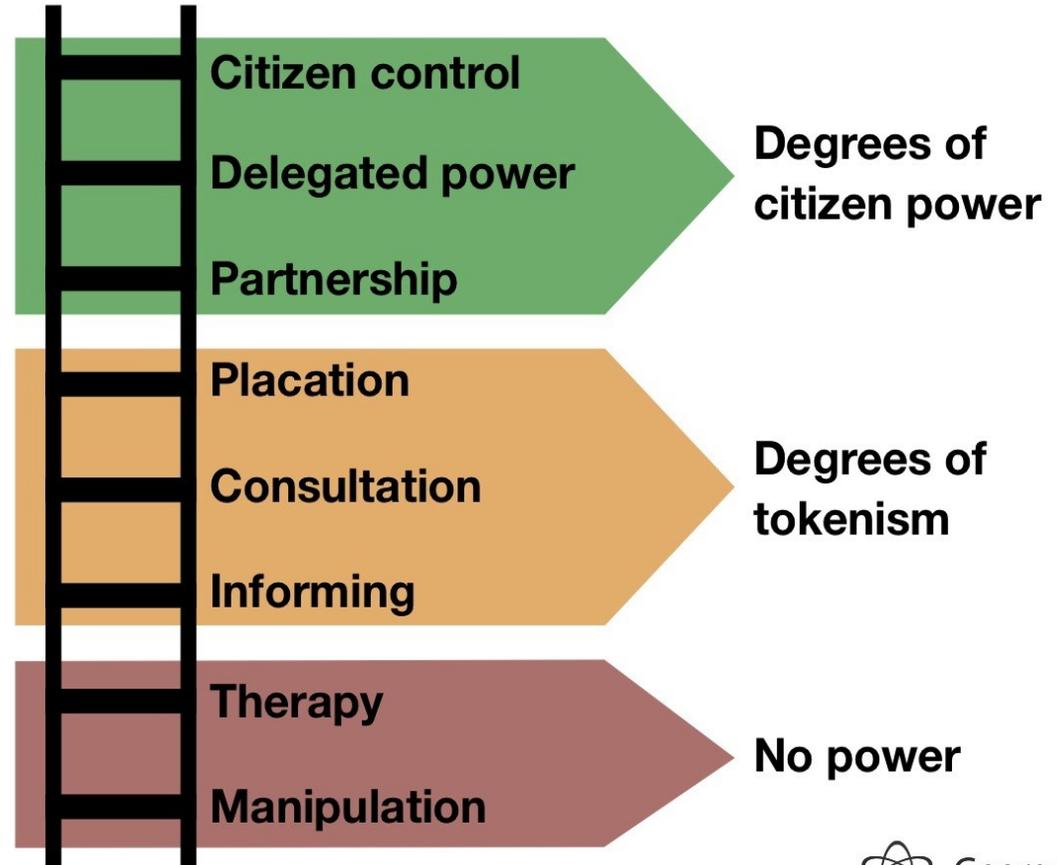
# BLCF Strategic Plan 22-27 and Luton 2040

## *Local Focus. Lasting Change*

1. Our Commitment is to
  1. **Addressing inequality** through improving access to our funding and support
  2. **Listening and learning from our community partners** to ensure system change
  3. **Contributing to addressing the Climate Crisis** through our own work and supporting others to do so as well.
  
2. Our priorities are to address
  1. **To eradicate poverty in our county** and in turn grow a more prosperous and thriving community
  2. **To create a healthy Bedfordshire** through address the health inequalities experienced
  3. **To grow stronger communities** through encourage greater cohesion, tolerance and understanding

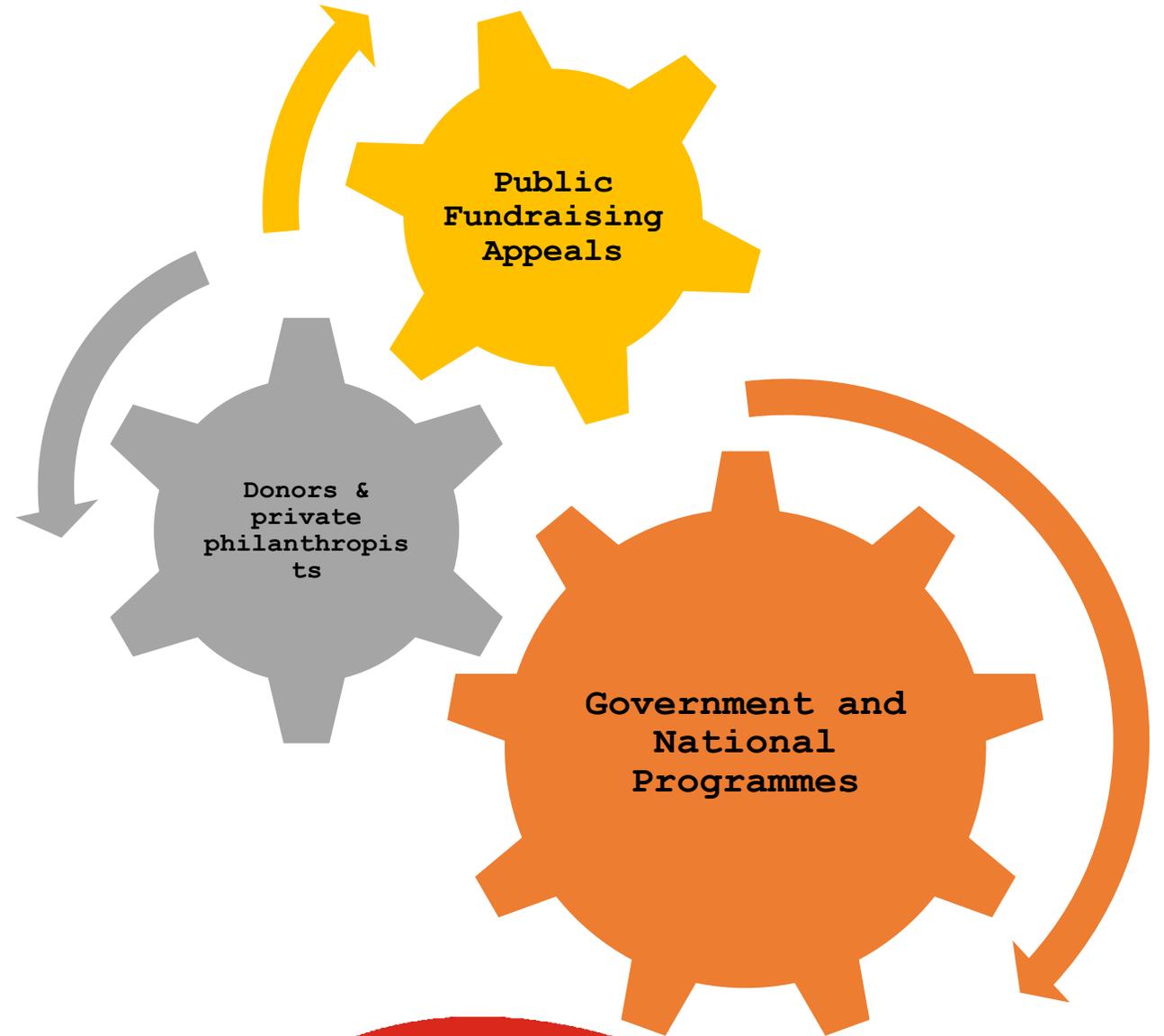
Is it all about  
power?

Arnstein (1969) Ladder of citizen participation





Where does  
'our' money  
come from?



# Discussion



## Questions to ask

1. Where does the 'power' sit with decision over funding and support for our VCSE sector?
2. What would a 'fairer' approach look like?
3. What 'systems' need to change to make this happen?

# Group feedback



## Questions to ask

1. Where is the voice of VCSE in determining what the need is?
2. How can the VCSE increase their voice in understanding the need?
3. Where and when should VCSE have a say, how can they 'co-design' this and the future of the Fairness Task Force?

# Group feedback





#### Citizen Led Fund (participatory)

- Where the decision is handed over to the people who will benefit most

#### Targeted Fund

- That are specifically aimed at minoritised and disadvantaged groups

#### Fast Track Process

- That allows groups, who are led by communities they serve, to get to the decision stage faster

#### Influenced Funds

- Which are created by philanthropists with a passion to 'do good' but who need help to redirect to the need

**How can BLCF  
be a fairer  
funder?**

# Current opportunities



## **Eg: A Citizens Led Fund**

[Luton Citizens Fund \(blcf.org.uk\)](http://blcf.org.uk)

The fund observes the principles of Participatory Budgeting (PB) in which citizens are involved in the process of deciding how public money is spent.

Fund will support work to address good Mental Health and Wellbeing, Violence and Crime Reduction, and new projects/ ideas in Luton.

**For Grants of up to £3,500 can be considered**

Those applications tackling racial inequality and led by members of those communities will be fast tracked to the public panel

**Opened 18<sup>th</sup> Oct closes 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2021**

Luton Citizens Fund



## Community Recovery Fund

### Eg: A Targeted Fund

[Community Recovery Fund \(blcf.org.uk\)](http://blcf.org.uk)

Funded through the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) it provides Luton with £1.3m to support recovery initiatives that will best meet the needs of their communities.

The CRF will tackle the impacts of covid in the community and work to help fair recovery from the pandemic.

**Grants of up to £25,000 over 2 years can be considered**

Key priority areas for this fund as follows:

1. Mental health (incl work delivered from outside the clinical sector that supports mental health)
2. Social isolation
3. People vulnerable and made vulnerable by Covid 19 (across all ages)
4. BAME communities disproportionately impacted by Covid
5. Impact on women disproportionately impacted by Covid

**Opened 8<sup>th</sup> Nov closes 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2022**





BLCF's  
commitment to  
fairness

- To **review all our funding streams** and look at how we can make them more equitable and accessible to those experiencing inequality
- Build **fairness and equality** into all our new partnerships
- Be open and transparent with our data on who we fund using **360Giving** website
- Offer support for groups who have been marginalized or disadvantaged through our **INSIGHT** Small Charities Forum
- Ensure we **Listen Learn, Adapt and Change** so we can start to shift the power.

# Many Thanks

[Karen.Perkins@blcf.org.uk](mailto:Karen.Perkins@blcf.org.uk)

[www.blcf.org.uk](http://www.blcf.org.uk)

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**



# Next steps

We will take away everything that has been said and look at how we can implement ideas you have said.

Date for your diary:

The next Fairness Taskforce event will be

10<sup>th</sup> March 2022  
Time and location TBC

Luton's  
**Fairness  
Taskforce**

Creating the  
force **for change**

