Democracy Day - PB Works
Project Launch
Crescent Arts Centre, Wednesday 14 March 2018
Welcome
Dr Louise O’Kane, Community Places
 Participatory Budgeting Works

• BCT: Civic Activism Programme
• Collaborative effort
• Raise awareness of and advocate for Participatory Budgeting (PB)
• Tailored Training and Support - working with PB Partners and Democratic Society
• PB Works Website  www.participatorybudgetingworks.org
FIND OUT MORE
RESOURCES

LINKS TO PB IN ACTION
- HOLYWELL STEW

- YOUR VOICE, YOUR CHOICE

- MAKING PEOPLE COUNT

VIDEOS

DOCUMENTS

PB SUPPORT WEBSITES

- DUNDEE DECIDES

- PB CASE STUDY

- TRIANGLE HOUSING ASSOCIATION VOTE FOR FUN
Introduction to Participatory Budgeting
Jez Hall, PB Partners
PB PARTNERS

Independent social enterprise that is working to empower citizens
• Supporting new ways of doing PB
• Community engagement specialists

PB Network: Advocating for PB across the UK
www.pbnetwork.org.uk and supporting PB in Scotland
Participatory Budgeting is Worldwide
EUROPEAN PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

Latin countries... Reformist, participatory
Germany ... Consultative, transparent
250 municipalities on their map of participatory budgeting processes
Portugal: 80,000 voters in its 3m euro national PB
Nordic Countries: school/ neighbourhood/ environment
Paris: 426m euros <2020, <5% of the city budget.

USA and CANADA

Chicago: first major programme $1m in 49th Ward (now $4m)
New York: 8th year growing < $35m per year (50,000 voters)
City of Boston: 4th consecutive year of $1m of PB capital funds branded as Youth Lead the Change:
THE START OF PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

Began in Porto Alegre, Brazil in the 1980s
End of dictatorship and rebirth of democracy
Public finances were empty (stolen), citizens had unmet expectations, and wanted...
 Democracy to be done differently

= Democratic innovation!

Something drives the need for PB?
e.g.... The 141 experiences in Scotland
like.... The Scottish Independence Referendum 2014???

Or... Brexit??
WHAT IS PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING?

‘PB directly involves local people in making decisions on the spending and priorities for a defined public budget.’

Or…

‘Local people deciding on how to allocate part of a public budget’

Or……

‘If it feels like we have decided ---- it’s PB.
If it feels like someone else has decided, it isn’t”

(Brazilian resident)
Connecting and complimenting existing democratic processes

- Only a small percentage of any public budget will be allocated using PB
- Formally mandated and ‘signed off’ by the elected legislature... ... but then the decision is ‘the communities’
- Supports:
  - Representative Democracy
  - Public Service Reform
  - Community Development
UK PB MODELS

- Small grants allocation

- Mainstream Investment
  (the 1% commitment)

- Commissioning, community planning and budget development and consultation
The Scottish Policy Context

Referendum – September 2014
“Harnessing the Democratic Energy” (Nicola Sturgeon)

Commission on Strengthening Democracy (2014):
“that a process of participatory budgeting, covering tax and spending options, is adopted by all local governments ...”

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Provisions for public participation on decision making (including resources)

Programme for Government 2017 and the COSLA 1% agreement

“the best people to decide the future of our communities are the people who live in those communities.”
Objectives of PB In Scotland

- Increase quality and quantity of community engagement (more deliberative, inclusive and transparent);
- Increase trust in politics and in politicians;
- Stimulate dialogue and positive action within communities;
- Encourage well targeted public investments.
How PB might support Democracy

Margo Howe, a local Councillor said:

I think it’s revealing that people themselves have grabbed the opportunity and seen the benefit of it. It’s their ideas and, because of this, they will make it work. They’re loving it!”.

“Democratic power should be delivered from communities up, not drip down from above.”


PB brings new opportunities for engagement with voters and, perhaps most importantly ...

building trust in the democratic process.
Scottish PB infrastructure

- Training and capacity building – on how to ‘do PB’
- Resources - how to guides, briefings for elected members
- Research, testing, and implementation of digital platforms
- Scottish PB identity and network
- PB advisory group
- PB evaluation
- Trained facilitators and advocates
- SG funding and leadership
- A critical mass of processes from which to learn
ONLINE PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

Digital tools and engagement

Connecting on and offline participation

To reinforce and amplify…

Ideas, engagement, deliberation and voting
ONLINE PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

Council grant funding to support Local Communities

£2.5k per project

150 ideas generated online

1,300 people taking part in discussions online

Map shows the spread of ideas

The Democratic Society
ONLINE PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

Dundee Decides

£1.2 million Community Infrastructure fund.

7,000 people taking part online

Aiming for 12,000

The Democratic Society
SMALL GRANTS ALLOCATION

A grants pot / initiative funding
- community chest, etc

Bidders present proposals to residents,
who vote on which to support

Limited impact on mainstream

Effective at engaging, networking
and enthusing local people
THE NEED FOR PB

Christie Commission (September 2011) - Four P’s’

• a decisive shift to **Prevention**;
• continually improving **Performance**
• working in **Partnership** (nationally and locally)
• engaging and developing our **People**
The Empowerment Line
PB works in different ways, but should be meaningful and change how money is spent

Communicate → Consult → Involve → Partnership → Decision making

Scope of PB activity

Passive engagement (not PB?) → Empowerment through PB

Progression
MAINSTREAM PB – SOME COMMON ELEMENTS

THE ANNUAL CYCLE

Evaluation and Learning

Design

Scrutiny and Monitoring

Delivery of new projects

Decision Making

Informing and engaging

Setting of Priorities

PB budget cycle = participatory activity at all stages

Develop budget Ideas
MAINSTREAM PB –
A NEW COMMUNITY CHARTER

Localism in practice?

• Local Governance
• Widening of participation
• Co-production
• Rights AND Responsibilities
### MAINSTREAM PB – THE BUDGET MATRIX

<table>
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<th>Geographic Area</th>
<th>Priority total</th>
<th>Need total</th>
<th>Population total</th>
<th>Total Score</th>
<th>% of total city score</th>
<th>Resource available (£41,200)</th>
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<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td>£5,314</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area C</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<td>£4,038</td>
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<td><strong>Total for all areas of the city</strong></td>
<td>163</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<td>£41,200</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Evaluation and Learning

Design

Informing and engaging

Setting of Priorities

Decision Making

PB budget cycle = participatory activity at all stages

Delivery of new projects

Scrutiny and Monitoring

Evaluation and Learning

Develop budget Ideas

Yr 1

Yr 2

Yr 3

Yr 4

PB Partners

Making People Count

PB = 1 (PB in at least 1 legislature)

PB = 0 (no PB)

share of PB=1 with PB

Health & life expectancy

% change in PB 1995-2005

Year

1995

2000

2005

2010
Key challenges

Reconciling representative democracy with open, direct participatory democracy.

When resources are tight, and people worried about the withdrawal of cherished services, will vested interests try to unfairly influence the opening up of decision-making?

Concerns about ‘up-front’ costs to implement PB.

Inclusivity and connecting with seldom heard groups.

Strategic/sensitive issues (not amenable to PB?)
PB Resources:

PB works Website: [participatorybudgetingworks.org](http://participatorybudgetingworks.org)
PB Resources:

PB Scotland Website: [www.pbscotland.scot](http://www.pbscotland.scot)
PB Resources:

The UK PB Network Website: [www.pbnetwork.org.uk](http://www.pbnetwork.org.uk)
PB Resources:

Democratic Society Scotland

http://www.demsoc.org/participatory-budgeting-in-scotland/
Learning from PB Practice from Scotland
Lorna Ahlquist, Argyll and Bute
Learning from PB Practice – Triangle Housing Association
Denise Magill, Director of Support Services
Triangle Housing – Vision and Mission

Vision - Building Better Lives Together

Mission Statement – Triangle enhances lives by providing homes, supporting individuals and families, sustaining communities and promoting equality.
Support Services Directorate

Supported Living – provides individualised housing and care support to people with a learning disability. We currently have 24 supported living services supporting 167 individuals.

Progression to Employment Services – Provides support for individuals with learning disabilities to enter or re-enter work activities. We currently support over 300 individuals.

Outreach – provides home based community support to 26 individuals with a learning disability/complex need.
Participatory Budgeting – The Idea!

Participatory Budgeting can be described as “Local People deciding how to allocate part of a public budget”

Participatory Budgeting has three simple steps

1. Generate ideas
2. People vote
3. Winning Projects Funded

PB Network
Participatory Budgeting – The Fit

Triangle’s Core Values – Respect, Dignity, Inclusion, Empowerment and Choice

Triangle’s Participation and Engagement Strategy

- Tenant and Advisory Group – T.A.G
- Choice Checkers
- Advocacy Training
- Participation in Triangle – Choosing staff and SS Committee
Two Events – Oct 16 and Oct 17

Oct 16 - Prepare a short 5 minute presentation on how you would use £500 to enhance the lives of all tenants in your Service

Oct 17 – Present an idea on how you would use £500 to promote social inclusion/community engagement
2017 Winners

Baronscourt – Sleeping Bags for the Homeless
Alex from Baronscourt helping to hand over 40 'sleep tight' packs to the Hope for The Homeless charity.

Handover to ‘Hope for the Homeless’ Charity
2017 Winners

Tower Court – Dogs Trust and Neighbourhood Dog Walking Service
Lessons Learnt

- It’s not the money that is important, it’s what everyone gets out of the process
- Explain the concept and process well at the outset
- Planning the event is critical
- Ask for a budget
- Think about your voting – you may need a mathematician
Participatory Budgeting- The Evaluation

- Enhanced engagement by many of our tenants who are otherwise uninvolved
- Promoted partnership working with tenants and staff
- Tenants and staff got the opportunity to be innovative and creative
- Provided a fun event with the opportunity to socialise with others
- Created a learning opportunity – idea, presentation, voting
- Opportunity to share practice and ideas
Participatory Budgeting – The Evaluations

- Empowering
- Enjoyable
- Helped my confidence
- Fun
- Liked the voting
- We got to decide
- Made some new friends
- Can we do it again next year
- Would have liked a dessert!
Further Development of PB in Triangle

Our Housing Department are using PB to encourage community involvement and engagement amongst general family tenants and others in local decision making.

We are part of a Steering Group with the Causeway Coast and Glens Council, the Waste no Time project in Coleraine and Cushendall.

We have shared our experiences to date and provided part of the funding for a PB event in these areas which will take place soon.
Table Discussion - Questions
Plenary Discussion - How could you apply PB?
PB Works Training and Support Offer
PB Works Training and Support

• Four Day tailored Training and Support Package to 5 PB Projects
• June and December 2018
• Approx. 15-20 people from a range of sectors per PB Project
• To explore and put in place the critical elements to help you plan and deliver a PB Project. For example, Briefings with key partners or elected members; half day action planning sessions with your PB Steering Group; attending PB event.
• Support Partners: PB Partners and Democratic Society
PB Works Training and Support

• Applications will be prioritised where they can demonstrate:
  - Commitment to work with a range of partners and sectors
  - A committed PB resource
  - Support for the PB Project from a range of sectors
  - Project take place between June and December 2018
  - Evidence of commitment to and support for the project at a senior organisational level

• Closing Date: 4.00 pm Friday 11 May 2018

• Applicants may be interviewed as part of the short-listing process
**PB WORKS TRAINING**

If you are interested in developing a PB project please complete and return the PB Works Training and Support Application Form by 4.00pm Friday 11 May 2018.

The project can offer expert training and tailored support to help you design and plan your PB project between June and December 2018. A limited number of places will be provided. PB Works Training and Support Forms that are best able to demonstrate potential practical application of PB and that have support from partners to deliver a PB project will be prioritised.

Request your application form:

**PB WORKS TRAINING AND SUPPORT APPLICATION FORM**

Fill out your details below to receive your PB Works Training and Support Application Form

[Form inputs]

Your Name

Your Email

Your Telephone

DOWNLOAD NOW
Themed PB Workshops

• June and September 2018
• Open to all
• How PB can help to engage with those who don’t normally get involved: ‘harder to reach’ individuals, groups and communities
  **Wednesday 13 June 2018**
• PB On-line and Digital Engagement  - **Wednesday 20 June 2018**
• [www.participatorybudgetingworks.org](http://www.participatorybudgetingworks.org)
Evaluation
Thank-you for participating

www.participatorybudgetingworks.org