“Our Place!” and Neighbourhood Community Budgets:
Understanding the business case for decentralisation

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Decentralisation and Big Society Research and Analysis
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Neighbourhood Community Budgets

- Parallel to ‘Whole Place CB’ - resulted in an **operational plan** for FY 2013 onward

- 12 areas in 10 local authority districts:
  - **White City** (Hammersmith & Fulham);
  - **Poplar HARCA** (Tower Hamlets);
  - **Little Horton** (Bradford);
  - **Sherwood** (Tunbridge Wells);
  - **Norbiton** (Kingston);
  - **Haverhill** (Suffolk);
  - **Balsall Heath, Shard End, & Castle Vale** (Birmingham);
  - **Queens Park** (Westminster);
  - **Ilfracombe** (Devon);
  - **Cowgate, Kenton Bar, and Montagu** (Newcastle).

- Focussed on:
  - Service definition
  - Resource mapping
  - Community involvement
  - Governance
  - Cost benefit analysis
Role of evaluation in NCB pilots

- Role of evaluation determined by local areas
- All areas encouraged to conduct CBA to support the development of their operational plans
- Half the areas procured local evaluation support – others got research support through partners and DCLG
  - Contracted with local universities/consultants
  - 3 areas undertook formative evaluations to feedback learning
  - 1 area combined this with community capacity building
- All areas now thinking through the implementation of their operational plans and how they are monitoring and evaluating progress
- NCB pilots continue their work – neighbourhood decentralisation being rolled out to 100 more areas through the Our Place! support offer.
Method

Greater Manchester Cost Benefit Analysis: Technical Specification

THE GREEN BOOK
Appraisal and Evaluation in Central Government

Treasury Guidance
LONDON E10

Costs
- Capital
- Revenue
- In Kind

Benefits
- Fiscal
- Economic
- Social

Cost Benefit Analysis Tool

Predicted efficiency savings
Benefit – Cost Ratios
Payback period

A guide to
Social Return on Investment

Stage 4:
Establishing impact
Results

Over 5 years, via the Our Place! programme, Poplar expects to save the NHS £4 million by handing local people the power to address Poplar’s needs.

Team White City aim to recruit 20 Parent Mentors, who could support up to 350 families over a 5 year period.

One Ilfracombe will manage a £1m devolved budget, alongside a £400k aligned budget, to provide place-based services.

Community schemes to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in Balsall Heath, costing £35k per year, could produce benefits within 5 years of over £500k.
Co-production

"...the evidence base on co-production is limited and suggests that efficiency savings are not simple to achieve in the short-term."

We need to build the evidence base by gathering local evidence from the pilots and the Our Place! areas.