



Mediators for Roma inclusion Good practices and recommendations

Bradford For Everyone

European Roma Communities
A Strategy for Bradford District

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EUROPEAN ROMA COMMUNITIES

A Strategy for the Bradford District

2021- 2025



European Roma Communities A Strategy for Bradford District

For more information about the strategy please contact Bradford For Everyone

Or email

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[Roma-Strategy-2021-2025.pdf](https://bradfordforeveryone.co.uk/Roma-Strategy-2021-2025.pdf)
(bradfordforeveryone.co.uk)

<https://bradfordforeveryone.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Roma-Strategy-2021-2025.pdf>



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Strategy background

- The aim of the Roma Strategy is to improve engagement between statutory public services and the Roma community – working WITH the community.
- Map existing provision being provided for the Roma community and identify gaps
- Carry out a robust and thorough asset based engagement process with the Roma Community and agencies
- Enable and support a District strategic approach to Roma integration in Bradford District through the development of a strategy that addresses the local priorities and needs of the Roma community primarily working with Health, CCGs, Fire & Rescue Service, Police and Council
- Increase Roma participation and improve access to local services
- Ensure Bradford District has a strong united voice in influencing policy and practice affecting Roma at national and local levels.
- The Roma Strategy was developed in collaboration with cross sector partners, agencies, key stakeholders and the Roma community.

Bradford District Process

- Partnership approach – Public (Local Authority, NHS, Police and Fire and Rescue) working with and led by the VCS Sector
- Roma people participation – working ‘With’ the community – 104 questionnaires completed
- Roma Strategy Network Group with over 50 people attending
- Strategy development – output and outcomes – actions going forward
- Governance process and ‘buy in’ from partners

Strategy Approach

- Asset Based Community Development Approach – community groups, schools, Roma organisation, key people, local community centres, engagement professionals – community positives
- COVID-19 challenges and learning – online and rumours
- Language development and wider inclusion – breaking down barriers
- Partnership and engagement process with community and organisations
- Launch December 2021 with partners – next steps

Outcomes and action plan areas

- Access to services
- Cultural awareness
- Customer service
- Communications
- Service Design
- Skills and Opportunity
- Housing
- Health and well-being
- Children and families
- Young People
- Developing issues
- Brexit & EUSS
- Covid 19
- Building Trust
- Building Capacity
- Community Cohesion
- Cultural positivity

Mediation Learning Points

- Define and understand community – be proactive
- Agree clear thematic outcome agreement for actions
- Trust and relationship building – work with people in their community space to build capacity
- Break down barriers – understand not homogeneous and consider intersectional identities – youth, gender, race, religion
- Understand history, global context and local perspectives/context – wider diverse community
- Understanding existing initiatives and learning from past work in community – develop partnerships and work together
- Developing partner led Roma community training and critical thinking sessions
- Link with wider cohesion strategy/City of Sanctuary strategy and actions

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