

BRIEFING BRADFORD

28th January 2026



MUST READ 

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Share your views on the proposed changes.

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WYCA are looking for dynamic and forward-thinking local VCSE leaders

[Digital Innovation for Neighbourhood Health](#)

How AI and technology can deliver integrated, preventative care closer to home

District News

Consultation on Proposed UK Immigration and Settlement Pathways:

The government has launched a consultation, "[A Fairer Pathway to Settlement: statement and accompanying consultation on earned settlement](#)" inviting public views to help shape the proposed changes to UK immigration. The consultation closes on 12th February at 23:59. Before [completing the form](#), respondents should read and understand the changes.

The consultation follows a May 2025 white paper, "[Restoring Control over the Immigration System](#)," which set out major reforms to reduce net migration. Some changes have already been implemented: since July 2025, the skills threshold for Skilled Worker visas increased to graduate level, the Social Care Worker visa route closed to new overseas applicants, and the Immigration Skills Charge rose by 32%. Since 8 January, English language requirements have increased to B2 level for Skilled Worker, Scale-up, and High Potential Individual applicants.

The most significant proposed change is that the current five-year route to Indefinite Leave to Remain would be replaced with a baseline ten-year qualifying period. This period could be reduced based on contributions such as high earnings, public service or volunteering. These changes would apply retrospectively to people already in the UK who are currently on a pathway to settlement, though those already granted settled status will retain it.

Particularly relevant to the VCSE is the opportunity to reduce the qualifying period by volunteering, what do you think of this? Have your say before the consultation closes!

Save the date: Bradford Doulas Open Day

Ever thought about volunteering as a doula?
Do you have a passion for volunteering long term?
Are you interested in supporting pregnant families?
Are you aware of the difference a doula can make to women's and birthing people's experiences but want to learn more?
Need a pathway to further education or employment?
Can you support women during labour?

[Bradford Doulas](#) is hosting an open day on Tuesday 10th February, from 10:00 to 11:30 at Carlisle Business Centre, BD8 8BD. Come and see us to explore the rewarding world of Bradford Volunteer Doula support and meet members of the team. The next round of training starts in mid-March 2026. [Visit the website](#) to view detailed programme topics and call 01274 223232 or email info@bradforddoulas.org.uk for more details.

Nominate your VCSE Champion:

The [NHS Excellence Awards 2026](#) are now accepting nominations. These awards recognise and celebrate innovative work that's driving real improvements across health and care. If you know a Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisation working in partnership with the NHS to deliver local health and care services in England, now's the time to put them forward. **Why nominate?** This is your chance to shine a light on local projects and teams making a real difference to patients and communities. The awards celebrate work that delivers on the ambitions of the [10 Year Health Plan](#) and inspires others to adopt innovative approaches in their local areas. With 10 diverse categories to choose from, there's ample opportunity to showcase the very best of what's happening across Bradford District.

Entries are completely free to submit, and the deadline is Friday 6th March 2026 at 17:00. [Nominate your VCSE champion today](#) and help celebrate our district's excellence.

District News

Safeguarding Made Simple – Essential Training for Voluntary Sector Workers:

[Community Action Bradford and District](#) is offering introductory safeguarding training designed specifically for frontline workers. Through the course, you will learn the fundamentals of safeguarding, from recognising different forms of abuse and their warning signs to handling disclosures with confidence, reporting concerns properly, and maintaining confidentiality.

More than just training, this online course is part of Community Action's comprehensive support package, created to help grassroots organisations truly thrive. We're here for the long haul with Getting Started training courses, dedicated 1:1 Development Officer support, and three months of payroll assistance. The best bit? It's all fully funded for organisations with an income under £100,000, thanks to Community Action's trading income and reserves.

Getting Started courses are exclusively for staff, volunteers and trustees from voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations in Bradford District and are free for organisations with income up to £100k, or £20 per person for larger organisations (£100,001 or above). Join us on **5th February from 10:30 to 12:00**, register now by [booking online](#). If you have any questions regarding the course, please contact Chris Hancox by calling 07539 684668 or via email chrish@cabad.org.uk. Protecting your community and empowering your organisation starts here.

New Family Hub in Bradford City Centre

The Bevan Family Hub has opened in Bradford centre, providing support services for children and families. The hub, located at the [Bevan Community Benefit Society](#), launched on 16th January 2026. This is a partnership between Bradford Children and Families Trust, Bradford Council, and Bevan.

Bradford Council's [Family Hub Start for Life programme](#) funded renovations to make the space more accessible and family-friendly, with accessible ramps, a sensory room, baby changing facilities, and updated interiors. The hub offers free sessions including play groups, reading activities, baby massage, infant feeding support, health clinics, and sessions with family navigators who provide guidance on parenting and local family resources. These complement existing programmes already offered at Bevan.

You can drop in at most events but some do require bookings, consult the [February timetable](#) for information or contact them at 01274 322400 or Familyhubwest@bradfordcft.org.uk

Voluntary Sector Area Networks:

The voluntary, community and social enterprise sector faces rapid change: reduced funding, shifting priorities, increased need for collaboration, and the upcoming elections in May. [Community Action Bradford and District's](#) Area Networks offer practical solutions.

Sessions are split in two: the first half tackles funding and sustainability challenges, while the second session focuses on the May 2026 local elections, when all council seats face re-election, exploring how the voluntary sector can engage with this political transition.

Five free sessions have been scheduled across the district:

- [Silsden, 9 February, 9am to 12pm](#)
- [Bradford East, 10 February, 9am to 12pm](#)
- [Bingley, 11 February, 9am to 12pm](#)
- [Bradford West, 11 February, 1pm to 4pm](#)
- [Bradford South, 12 February, 9am to 12pm](#)

Visit our [Events Calendar](#) or [Eventbrite](#) to get all the details you need and to register your place. Book your place today and be prepared for what's ahead, plus get access to support!

Funding

Help the Homeless:

Help the Homeless is a grant-giving trust founded in 1975 that supports homeless people to live healthy, independent lives. The charity funds organisations helping vulnerable people, with a particular focus on small, grassroots charities. It relies entirely on donations to continue its work and welcomes contributions to help reach more people in need. Grants of up to £5,000 to support projects for charities working directly with homeless people across the UK are offered 4 times per year with the next upcoming deadline 20th March 2026 by 17:00.

Amazon Literary Partnership:

The Amazon Literary Partnership (ALP) is now accepting applications for its seventh year of grants supporting non-profit literary organisations across the UK and Republic of Ireland. In 2025, the programme supported 38 groups working with writers of all ages and stages. The ALP aims to help diverse communities tell their stories and find audiences by funding organisations that empower writers to create, publish, learn, and thrive. Applications for 2026 funding are now open through the ALP Submission Portal. Applications are accepted until 30th January 2026 23:59.

Music with Purpose: Apply for BRIT Trust Funding Today:

The BRIT Trust was established in 1989 by UK record labels, the BPI, and the wider music community to harness the transformative power of music and the arts to create positive opportunities for young people from every walk of life. Through the generous support of the BRIT Awards and the Music Industry Trusts Award, the Trust has become a driving force for social change, committing an impressive £30 million across more than 280 grants to UK charities and causes. These investments help people unlock their full potential and achieve their aspirations, regardless of their abilities, ethnicity, gender, or sexuality. Applications are currently being accepted for grants of up to £50,000 until 30th April through the BRIT Trust website. To be eligible, applicant organisations must be a registered charity delivering music-focused activities aimed at individuals aged 16 and above. Interested organisations are invited to complete the online application form and join this inspiring legacy of empowerment through music.

Delamere Dairy Foundation:

Inspired by sustainable business approach and a desire to give back to communities, the Delamere Dairy Foundation provides discretionary grants and financial assistance to charities and organisations. Applications are welcome from groups working in five key areas: advancing agriculture and environmental protection, developing young people's capabilities, relieving financial hardship, advancing education, and relieving sickness. Charities and organisations can apply for grants ranging from £1000 to £5000 once per calendar year. Applicants based in England, Scotland & Wales have until 31st January to apply online.

Truemark Trust:

Grants of up to £5,000 are available for small, locally based charitable organisations addressing social distress and disadvantage, with a preference for neighbourhood-based community projects. To apply or get more information call 07970 540015 or email truemark.trust01@ntlworld.com

More Funding and support:

Visit the Funding and Grants page on the Community Action Bradford & District website for an introductory guide to fundraising, up-to-date list of funding opportunities and guidance on applying for grants.

VCSE Jobs



Get seen by the right talent,
without the premium price
tag!



Bradford District and Craven Mind: Chief Executive Officer

Hours: 37

Salary: £70,000 to £80,000

Closing date: 2nd February 2026

Details: snicket.org

CommunityWorks: CEO

Hours: 30

Salary: £42,839 to £54,495 pro rata

Closing date: 2nd February 2026

Details: snicket.org

Staying Put: Domestic Abuse Case Worker

Hours: 37.5

Salary: £27,554

Closing date: 3rd February

Details: snicket.org

CommunityWorks: Community Environment Worker

Hours: 22

Salary: £16,000

Closing date: 9th February

Details: snicket.org

Family Action: Perinatal Peer Supporter

Hours: 22.2

Salary: £24,449 FTE £14,669 pro Rata

Closing date: 16th February

Details: snicket.org

Cost of Living Support in the Bradford District



#CostOfLivingSupport

Keeping warm in good company in Bradford's Warm Spaces:

Bradford District offers a network of free Warm Spaces where anyone can relax, enjoy a hot drink, and meet friendly faces. These welcoming venues are open to everyone, especially those struggling with rising living costs. Visit [Bradford's Cost of Living website](#) to find your nearest [Warm Space](#) in the regularly updated directory, organised by area. Organisations offering Warm or Welcoming Spaces not yet listed can [complete a quick form to join the network](#). Let's stay cosy together!

Training and Events

Getting Started – Protect your data

When? Tuesday February 3rd, 10:30 to 12:00

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Leaders' Network

When? Thursday February 5th, 10:00 to 12:00

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Getting Started – Safeguarding

When? Thursday February 5th, 10:30 to 12:00

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Voluntary Sector Area Network – Silsden

When? Monday February 9th, 9:00 to 12:00

Where? Silsden Town Hall

[Book your spot](#)

Getting Started – Set up a new group

When? Tuesday February 10th, 10:30 to 12:00

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Voluntary Sector Area Network – Bradford East

When? Tuesday February 10th, 9:00 to 12:00

Where? Gateway Centre

[Book your spot](#)

Voluntary Sector Area Network – Bingley

When? Wednesday February 11th, 9:00 to 12:00

Where? Cardigan House

[Book your spot](#)

Voluntary Sector Area Network – Bradford West

When? Wednesday February 11th, 1:00 to 4:00

Where? Manningham Mills

[Book your spot](#)

Voluntary Sector Area Network – Bradford South

When? Thursday February 12th, 9:00 to 12:00

Where? Woodside Village Centre

[Book your spot](#)

Getting Started – Measure your Impact

When? Thursday February 12th, 13:30 to 15:00

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Getting Started – Manage Volunteers

When? Wednesday February 25th, 13:30 to 15:00

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Duties and responsibilities of a safeguarding lead

When? Wednesday March 4th, 10:00 to 12:30

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Support and Supervision

When? Thursday March 12th, 10:00 to 12:30

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Time Management

When? Tuesday March 24th, 10:00 to 12:30

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Getting Started – DIY Fundraising

When? Wednesday March 25th, 13:30 to 15:00

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Getting Started – Measure your Impact

When? Wednesday April 15th, 13:30 to 15:00

Where? Online

[Book your spot](#)

Leaders' Network

When? Thursday April 16th, 14:00 to 16:00

Where? BTM, 11-12 Eldon Place, BD1 3AZ

[Book your spot](#)

Community Action's VCSE Big Meet 2026!

When? Thursday 23rd April, 12:45 to 17:00

Where? TBC

[Book your spot](#)

Head to our [events calendar](#)

Follow up on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#)

Email: info@cabad.org.uk

Calendar of events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		28	29	30 Amazon Literary Partnership Grants deadline
2	3 Ufi: VocTech Activate – grants deadline	4 Grow Wild Community Programme – grants deadline	5 Leaders Network	6
9 Voluntary Sector Area Network – Keighley	10 Voluntary Sector Area Network – Bradford East	11 Voluntary Sector Area Network – Bingley Voluntary Sector Area Network – Bradford West	12 Voluntary Sector Area Network – Bradford South	13 Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust deadline.
16 GiveBradford: Thrive Together Fund small grant. GiveBradford: Thrive Together Fund large grant.	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

Voice and Influence

An Open Call for Membership of a new West Yorkshire VCSE Advisory Group:

The Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector plays a vital role in ensuring that the benefits of devolution reach all our people and communities.

That's why West Yorkshire's Combined Authority, Local Authorities, and place-based Local Infrastructure Organisations are working in partnership to establish a new VCSE Advisory Group. This group will act as advocates, champions, and ambassadors for this important and valued sector.

What will the group do? The Advisory Group will serve as the VCSE sector's strategic point of contact with the Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin, and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

They are looking for dynamic and forward-thinking local VCSE leaders to join the group and work alongside senior representatives from the region's five Local Infrastructure Organisations. Membership is voluntary, but support will be available, including mentoring and training for early-stage leaders with outstanding potential. More information can be found on this [linked document](#).

Co-Design Bradford District's Digital Inclusion Network:

Over the past few years, significant progress has been made in improving digital inclusion across communities through collaborative projects, working groups, and on-the-ground support. The commitment and insight of partners have been central to this progress.

As the work has grown, so has the appetite for a more connected, collaborative space that brings together professionals and partners from every sector. Many have shared that whilst working groups have been valuable, there is a real desire for a broader, more flexible network. In response, a Digital Inclusion Network is being developed by Bradford Council, a space designed with the community, for the community. To ensure this network reflects your needs, partners are invited to co-design workshops to shape the network's purpose, operations, terms of reference, and opportunities for collaboration, along with anything else considered important for its success. Three sessions are planned, the first one on **3rd February from 9:30 to 12:30** at the [Sutton Centre](#). The other two sessions will take place on 10th February and 17th February. For more information and to reserve your place, contact Ayisha.hameed@bradford.gov.uk.

Mind Your Business:

Bradford District and Craven Mind invites you to ["Mind Your Business"](#), an engaging workshop linking with the national Time to Talk Day campaign on **5th February**. The event will take place at [Fortem People](#) (BD23 3QD) **from 10:00 to 12:00**. This interactive session offers an opportunity for individuals and businesses to enhance their approach to workplace mental health and wellbeing.

In today's fast-paced work environment, prioritising mental health has never been more important. Attendees can expect specialist knowledge and skills to support leaders and managers, opportunities to connect with local businesses, a welcoming environment to share experiences and ask questions, and valuable insights from partner [The Workplace Collective](#). Whether you are a business owner, team leader, or simply passionate about mental health and wellbeing, this is a chance to connect with like-minded people, learn, and support a healthier workplace culture. Tickets cost £3 and can be [booked online](#).

Upcoming fundraising events include [Step Up Bradford](#) on 22nd March, [Malham Adventure Hike](#) on 2nd May and [Great Yorkshire Abseil](#) on 12th September. Visit [their events page](#) regularly to see all current activities and events.

Resources and Opportunities

Get Lease-Savvy: Free Webinar for the Voluntary Sector:

The [Ethical Property Foundation \(EPF\)](#) is offering a free webinar on understanding leases for charities and community groups. Taking place Thursday 5th February 2026, 12:00 to 13:00 on Zoom, expert solicitors and surveyors will cover lease essentials, key terms, rights and responsibilities, and common risks. Attendees will receive a practical information pack and access to free follow-up advice. EPF is the UK's leading property advice charity for the voluntary sector. Find out more and register on [Eventbrite](#).

Community Car Seat Checks:

Did you know that around two-thirds of children's car seats are incorrectly fitted? Now is your chance to make sure your child is safely strapped in by attending one of 3 free car seat checking event organised by [Good Egg Safety](#) in partnership with Bradford Council.

Pop over to one of the events between 10:00 and 15:00 on [12th February](#) (South Hawksworth Street, LS29 9DX), [6th March](#) (The Rockwell Centre, BD10 8DP) and [13th March](#) (Keighley Leisure Centre, BD21 3JN).

It only takes 5 minutes to get peace of mind.

Combat Gambling-Related Harms: Training for Frontline Professionals:

Millions of people across the UK are affected by gambling-related harms, either directly or indirectly. Yet many who would benefit from treatment or support are unaware that help is available. The consequences can be devastating; hundreds of people lose their lives to suicide each year as harms often go unidentified until it's too late, leaving those affected feeling isolated, alone, and unfairly blaming themselves.

Bradford is taking action. Bradford City Council has commissioned [Chapter One](#), a charity specialising in gambling harm prevention, to deliver a comprehensive training programme for professionals who may encounter adults at risk of or experiencing gambling harm. The free 2-hour online session is designed for frontline professionals, support workers, advice services, healthcare professionals, community organisers and recovery support workers.

[Reserve your spot](#) on a date that works for you. If you are an [individual suffering from gambling addiction](#), or you are [worried about someone who is](#), you are not alone, get in touch for a helping hand. For more information about Bradford GRH Group, please contact Richard.Porter@Bradford.gov.uk

Discover Co-ops: Free online events:

Are you based in West Yorkshire and looking for a fairer, more democratic way to start or run a business? Join these free Discover Co-ops webinars this February and learn how co-operatives can help your community and your working life thrive. These events are delivered by [Co-operatives UK](#) in partnership with [Business for Good West Yorkshire](#), which is funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund:

- [Discover Co-ops: Community Shares & Ownership](#): Tuesday 10th February from 10:30 to 12:00
Learn how West Yorkshire co-ops are using community shares to save pubs, venues, and community centres through democratic ownership.
- [Discover Co-ops: Workers Unite! \(Worker Co-ops\)](#): Tuesday 24th February from 10:30 to 12:00
Discover how worker co-ops create fairer, more secure jobs for freelancers and employee-owned businesses, with insights from local success stories.

Health and Care System News

Digital and AI in Delivering Neighbourhood Health.

[Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber](#) is hosting a virtual event examining how digital technology and AI can help support the [Government's Ten Year Health Plan](#) by enabling more integrated, preventative, and person-centred care.

Open to all but specifically designed for NHS, public and voluntary sector staff, this session explores how digital and AI solutions can strengthen neighbourhood health services, enabling teams to work more collaboratively and effectively, deliver care closer to home, and better serve the diverse needs of local communities. The programme features a national update on the neighbourhood health programme from Dr Minal Bakhai (Primary Care and Community Transformation), regional perspectives from the North East and Yorkshire from Tracy Wright (Regional Portfolio Lead, Community Health Services) and Professor Arunangsu Chatterjee (West Yorkshire ICB).

Attendees will benefit from practical local case studies from organisations including City Health Care Partnership in Hull and the British Red Cross. Key themes will include using digital tools and AI to better identify and manage people with multiple long-term conditions, whilst addressing the practical challenges of implementing these innovations at scale, from data sharing and interoperability to clinical decision support systems that genuinely enhance community care teams' capabilities. This free online event takes place on 4th February from 10:00 to 14:00, [reserve your spot today](#).

Integrated Neighbourhood Health webinars:

NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board runs a monthly Integrated Neighbourhood Health (INH) webinar series, the next two sessions are currently accepting bookings:

[Mental Health & INH](#): February 11th, 12:00 to 13:00. Explore how mental health services integrate with INH models, with practical examples and local opportunities.

[Palliative & End of Life Care](#): March 11th, 12:00 to 13:00. Discover how INH can improve care delivery for people receiving palliative care or nearing end of life, using findings from the West Yorkshire Needs Assessment.

These sessions bring together NHS, local authority, community and VCSE partners across West Yorkshire to share honest, practical learning about neighbourhood-based work. They create space for reflection, build system-wide capabilities, and help you connect with colleagues facing similar challenges so we can learn together. For more information contact hayden.ridsdale@nhs.net.

30-Minute Stop Smoking Training.

Bradford Metropolitan District Council's Public Health team is offering free [VBA+ \(Very Brief Advice\) stop smoking training](#) for anyone working in health, social care, or support roles in the Bradford District. Helping someone quit smoking is a life-saving intervention. VBA+ promotes quitting and can be delivered in under 30 seconds in almost any situation. [NICE](#) recommends that all health and social care professionals be trained in VBA. The [e-learning session](#) is available online at any time.

Food Support for Pregnant Women & Children under 4:

The [NHS Healthy Start scheme](#) supports families on low incomes to access healthy foods, milk, and vitamins. If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have children under 4 years old and receive certain benefits, you may be eligible. Bradford District also runs an additional [Healthy Start vitamin scheme](#). For information, please contact Katie.Smith@bthft.nhs.uk.



Thank you to each and every one of our loyal subscribers – we hope you enjoy the read each fortnight!

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