

2015

Annual Report

Covering the 2014/15 financial year

Hamilton Davies Trust
Supporting local people



Hamilton Davies Trust

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Chairman's Report

I am delighted to introduce the 2014/15 annual report for what has been an exceptionally busy year with more than £1.1 million spent, including 51 grants supporting a variety of community and regeneration projects.



Irlam Station was undoubtedly the biggest achievement of the year after being transformed and is one of the most significant and impressive projects we have been fortunate enough to be involved in. I am so proud of the HDT team who were instrumental in driving this forward from inception, through some difficult times to its completion. It was a massive challenge for all parties and I would like to thank the many partners, contractors, volunteers and contributors who came together to deliver a masterpiece, so much more than a station and an absolute delight for the area.

In addition, we were very happy to provide support and a financial contribution to the second phase of the Liverpool Road Street-scene Project which

was completed by Salford City Council, improving the main thoroughfare through the district and continuing its transformation.

During the year we agreed to manage the Chris Stocks Fund set-up to support local young people seeking traditional apprenticeships and vocational training. Chris, extremely grateful for the support he received during his early career in Irlam, wanted to give something back to the area. Since setting up the fund, Chris sadly passed away on 22nd March 2015. We feel privileged to continue to manage the fund, together with Ruth, Chris's wife, in his memory.

Our support to the community goes beyond the provision of grants and includes free meeting facilities, administrative support and advice. Our meeting rooms have proved a great community resource with over 4,000 visitors this year from local organisations and groups providing a range of services including: finding employment, counselling, fostering, managing recreational clubs, health and well-being, social inclusion, faith groups etc.

Our iTea and Biscuits courses have continued to grow in popularity with almost a 100% increase in demand during the year, which led to the introduction of a second session being required to accommodate around 50-60 learners per day, representing over 1,600 attendances to date. We couldn't have achieved this without the support of over 500 volunteer appearances from local companies including TalkTalk, Kingsland Wines, Mark's Memorials and the Rotary Club of Irlam, as well as local residents.

Building on the success of iTea and Biscuits we have been engaging local people to develop further volunteering opportunities. We are very grateful to those volunteers who have given their time to help in the office with administration and meeting and greeting our many visitors; help with the research and production of a souvenir newspaper to celebrate the re-opening of Irlam Station House;



litter picking; public art; and support with planning cycle ways across Irlam and Cadishead.

We have ventured down new and exciting roads, with the first being public art. We engaged a local artist who has been working on our first piece which we are very excited about launching in 2015, as well as some further artwork commissioned at Irlam Station House. Public art is something we are very passionate about as we believe this will provide pleasure to local people; further improve the appearance of the area and attract visitors.

Another first was the provision of two community loans. After approving the feasibility of the respective business plans we agreed to support Cadishead Band to renovate their new premises and Hollins Green Community Shop to enable local people to fund, set up and run this great new community resource.



The last of our new ventures was to fund the Business Enterprise Project which focuses on the development of business and enterprise in technology and other related sectors, and its impact on regeneration. The result of which should help to improve communication and promotion of tech enterprise in Manchester.

2014 was a special year for us at HDT as we celebrated our tenth anniversary and reminisced on all of the great work that had been achieved in partnership with the community over the years. As part of the celebration, we held our first Community Awards to say a massive thank you to some of the stars from our local community in recognition of their hard work and passion for the area.

We also welcomed Tony Prescott to the team in the role of Operations Manager, launched our new website and entered the wonderful world of social media, so please pay us a visit on Facebook and Twitter!

Last but not least, I would like to show my appreciation to everyone who helps to make all these great things happen on the ground. My thanks go to our staff for continuing their committed hard work, which often gets overlooked, and to all of those people who love the area and are committed to make it an even better place to live, work and enjoy. Let's do it together!

Neil McArthur



Highlights

Here are the highlights of 2014/15:

- Celebrated ten years supporting the communities of Irlam, Cadishead and Rixton-with-Glazebrook, by hosting our first Community Awards to thank the stars within the area for making it an even better place to live, work and enjoy.
- Instrumental in the Irlam Station Re-development Project comprising: project management; stakeholder engagement; public realm improvements; restoration of the iconic clock; delivery of artwork, sourcing and showcasing heritage items; production of a souvenir newspaper; and managing the launch event.
- Developed our volunteer database through engagement with local people and organisations with over 50 now on board.
- Agreed to provide our first two community loans to enable local projects to happen.
- Started to develop public art for the area, with numerous projects underway.
- Improved our digital presence through the introduction of a new website (www.hamiltondavies.org.uk) and embraced Facebook and Twitter.



Facts and Figures

So much has been achieved to date and here is a summary:

£5m

Over £5 million worth of support provided

400+

Provided over 400 grants to over 155 different individuals, groups and organisations

70+

Over 70 community organisations supported

20+

Supported more than 20 different schools or educational bodies

55+

Over 55 recreational organisations, sports clubs or activities supported

5

Supported 5 regeneration projects

50+

Improved more than 50 local facilities, including new build, redevelopment and enhanced equipment

Lots!

Countless hours of support and advice to local groups

24k

Over 24,000 people have used our free facilities

8

Hosted 8 iTea and Biscuits courses, with over 1,600 learner attendances

6

Worked with 6 local companies to help deliver Corporate Social Responsibility, with more than 500 volunteer attendances

50+

Over 50 volunteers now on board participating in different projects on the ground





Community

“The community is at the heart of what we do”

There has been a lot of great activity in the community over the past 12 months with more than £97,000 provided across 29 different grants.

Our largest community grant of £29,000 supported Irlam and Cadishead Youth (ICY) Positive Moves after losing almost all of their much needed funding during the year. ICY deliver a range of vital support services to special needs groups, children and young people affected by abuse, plus transport to enable vulnerable older people to access every day services.

We joined forces with Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service to co-fund the installation of a climbing wall at Irlam Fire Station, providing a £14,000 contribution. The wall which will open in 2015 will hopefully become a great community resource providing benefits for health and well-being as well as being a diversionary activity for young people, for a nominal charge.



A loan of £42,000 was provided to enable local people to fund, set up and open the Hollins Green Community Shop. Opened in February 2015, the shop has become a hub in the area helping to bring back the ‘village’ feel and providing easy access to good quality local produce on the doorstep.

We also continued to fund some of our usual projects including the Irlam and Cadishead Festival for the 10th year running, provided £13,000 to 100% match the Rotary Club of Irlam’s own fund raising efforts and supplied even more Christmas lights to brighten the area during the festive period.

And that’s not all! A range of other projects have also been supported including the first Rixton-with-Glazebrook Carnival in 30 years and a commemorative event and plaque to remember the lives lost in the Bob’s Ferry Disaster.

“A massive thanks to Manchester Fire & Rescue and Hamilton Davies Trust for providing the pennies to create the new climbing wall. This will be a fantastic facility for the community and the hard work will definitely be worth it!”

Dave Pike,
Manchester Fire and Rescue



Education

“Supporting young people from pre-school through to university”



Over £41,000 worth of grants were awarded to educational establishments during the year supporting a range of different activities from sports and after school clubs; new equipment and external play areas, plus much more.

We agreed to continue our partnership with the Manchester United Foundation (MUF) for another year providing £22,000 to facilitate sports development to the 10 schools across the area. The programme, co-funded with the Premier League Charitable Fund focuses on enhancing the personal development of children in different age groups, as well as addressing the issue of girls’ participation in physical activity. Working with us since 2010, the MUF has delivered sessions to over 3,000 pupils, with a contribution of more than £60,000 from HDT.



“All of the MUF lessons have been well delivered and most, if not all, participants have improved their physical literacy. The children have all enjoyed each session and were looking forward to the next one as soon as the last one finished.”

Representative,
Irlam Endowed Primary School

A grant of £2,800 was awarded to Irlam Primary School to enable them to purchase a new stage for the delivery of assemblies, plays and productions. The new stage, lighter and safer than the previous one, will not only benefit the 400 students at the school, but also members of the wider community as in its Centenary year the school looks to become the central hub in Irlam, opening its doors to drama clubs, choirs etc.

When their climbing frame was condemned as unsafe at the tender age of 50, St Josephs the Worker Primary School needed to raise funds to buy a new one. The school managed to raise £1,000 themselves and we were more than happy to contribute a further £3,000 to help the school provide the necessary equipment for the 200+ children who will benefit this year alone and many more in the years to come.

HDT wants young people across the area to have the very best start they can in life and we are delighted to fund or contribute to projects that enable this to happen.





Recreation

“Supporting local people to bring their passions to life”

Over £79,000 was invested in helping people keep active across the area supporting a total of 10 recreation projects in 2014/15.



Our biggest grant of the year across all areas of focus was awarded to Irlam FC. Following the clubhouse at Silver Street being deemed unfit for purpose and then subsequently being demolished, the club had to take action to plan and source funds for a new building to support its numerous teams and the raft of supporters who attend games each week. Irlam FC managed to source £100,000 funding from the Football Foundation on the basis that the club could find the same amount to match fund their new facility. That’s where we came in! We stepped in to support the project and provide the necessary match funding for a new clubhouse and community facility with changing rooms and social area, which will become an asset to the club. The new facility is expected to open in summer 2015.

Women’s football has been a transient sport in the area over the years with different teams starting and then folding. After over a year without a female



outfit in the area, Irlam Vale wanted to fill this void and create a ladies open age team to give girls who do want the opportunity to play football to do so. Starting from scratch, the ladies team needed financial support to get them on their feet. Happy to help with their set-up, we provided a grant of £1,200 contributing towards a new kit and vital training equipment. The team, now 20+ girls strong is competing in the Greater Manchester Women’s Football League during the 2014/15 season.

“Our largest and most significant project to date, the creation of a community clubhouse has been made possible by the help of HDT who provided the much needed match funding, alongside the Football Foundation. Words cannot do justice to the impact that HDT has had on us over the years, we have come on leaps and bounds because of their help!”

Warren Dodd, Irlam FC

Further funding was provided to Cadishead Rhinos, Irlam Royalties and the Hornettes Cheerleading Club to support our belief that recreation and leisure activities are important ways of enhancing our quality of life. Let’s stay active!



Regeneration

“Working in partnership to create a great place to live, work and enjoy”



The biggest regeneration scheme of the year was the Irlam Station Re-development Project, to which we are contributing circa £300,000. We are immensely proud to have worked in partnership with Salford City Council, Transport for Greater Manchester, NC Developments, Network Rail and Northern Rail, over recent years and in the last year in particular, to completely transform the Station House and its surroundings. To celebrate this wonderful achievement we hosted the launch event on 26th March for local people, community groups and all who worked on the project including the tradesmen who did such a fine job. The Mayor and Ceremonial Mayor of Salford officially opened the Station House, such a fine community facility, which stands proudly on the platform and provides a place to shelter, enjoy refreshments and appreciate local history with so many wonderful artefacts from the past featured inside.



Phase two of the Liverpool Road Street-scene Project was completed during the year and brought the introduction of traffic calming measures, a narrower carriageway and wider pavements, alongside the planting of new trees. The changes bring many benefits including increased street parking, a greener environment, new crossings to establish road sharing with pedestrians and motorists, as well as improved health and safety for residents. The aim of the overall scheme, managed and funded by Salford City Council and the Cycle City Ambition Grant is to improve the aesthetics and uses of Liverpool Road (the main thoroughfare through the district), to encourage new businesses



and residents to the area; improve access to local services; and provide an increased sense of health and well-being. We provided £150,000 contribution to the funding pot plus advice and assistance to the project, supporting our vision to make the area an even better place to live, work and enjoy.

“The station building and its surroundings are a joy to see. After many years of neglect the once solid old building had slowly become derelict, an eyesore with boarded up windows, slates missing from the roof and birds flying in and out of it. It’s been wonderful to watch its transformation back into such a fine-looking station, something for the people of the district to be proud of. I seriously believe it can now be considered one of the best stations in the country.”

**Margaret Vaudrey,
Local Resident**



An Historic Day for Irlam Station

26th March 2015 marked the re-launch of Irlam Station House, 122 years to the day since it first opened its doors to the public. After standing derelict for almost a quarter of a century, the Victorian building which now sits proudly on the platform has been restored to its former glory!



Following years of planning, consultation and extensive (and expensive) work, the revitalised station provides lots of new facilities alongside original architectural features, offering visitors a taste of the present and a flavour of the past.

A substantial amount of restoration work was completed on the exterior of the building to try and recreate how it looked when it was first built. Original slates adorn the roof, the bright new paintwork is in the original London, Midland and Scottish Railways (LMS) colour scheme, a distinguished drinking fountain replicating the original Cheshire Lines Committee design from 1872 incorporating the Irlam coat of arms is a central feature, and a magnificent canopy provides visitors with shelter on rainy days and welcome shade from the hot sun.

Modern construction techniques and materials mean the building will be sustainable for many years to come. The brickwork on the extension was matched to the original building, but using an insulated cavity design to improve its thermal efficiency, while the installation of modern heating systems, electrics, LED lighting and data ensures the building is very energy efficient.

There is also free parking for over 60 cars (including disabled bays), motorcycles, and a new cycle hub. Enhanced lighting, security and pedestrian footpaths ensure a safe environment. The general surroundings are planted with shrubs and trees, providing a peaceful area for both people and wildlife and the planned station garden will add splashes of colour throughout the year.

Inside the building the pristine décor and comfortable seating provides a relaxing atmosphere whilst you wait for your train. Should you want a bite to eat, there is '1923' a café bistro serving delicious freshly prepared food and beverages. Additional facilities include new toilets, free wi-fi and meeting space.



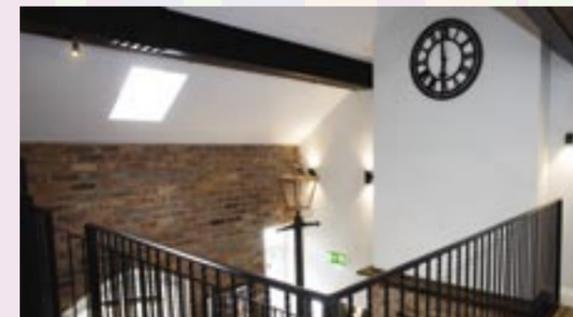
There is plenty to see too, with fascinating heritage material, photographs and artifacts from by-gone days. The magnificent clock has a story to tell; it began life in 1907 on the old Irlam Council Offices building. From there it moved high up on a barn at Chat Moss, before finally being restored to its former glory, and coming to rest in a fitting new home where it will hopefully continue to serve the district for another 100 years.

'The Carriage' provides a boothed area within the café bistro where people can meet up, relax and enjoy a spot of lunch. The design, based on the Soap Works Special, will transport guests back to the great age of steam.



Railway memorabilia such as fire buckets, Companies' brass plates, scales, and a porter's trolley are on view, alongside other historic artefacts including CWS Soap Works' packaged soaps and 'dolly blue', holiday posters, a red telephone kiosk and a vintage 'press button B' telephone.

Delivery of the project to the standards that have been achieved is a true testament to the great



partnership work achieved between Salford City Council, NC Developments, Transport for Greater Manchester, Northern Rail, Network Rail and ourselves.

Whatever the reason for visiting, it is now so much more than a station and provides a safe and enjoyable experience for the local community and over 240,000 rail users who use the station each year.



Facebook Comments

"Been this evening, really nice and the staff are lovely, a real asset to the area."

Julie Spender

"It's most impressive. What a great achievement and the combination of modern comfort and historic pieces and photos make it a real pleasure to enjoy a drink before taking the train."

Helen Marie Clare

"It's beautiful. Thank you!"

Catrina Holt



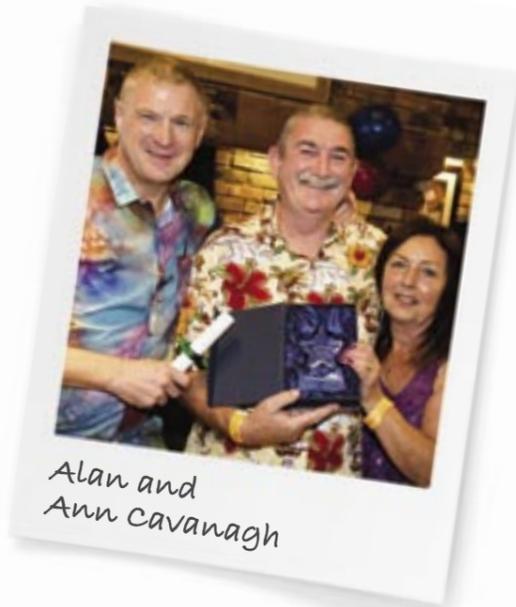
Ten Years Ten Stars!

This year we celebrated our 10 year anniversary with around 150 friends of HDT. As part of the celebration, we were really excited to recognise and to say a massive thank you to some of the stars amongst our community and we surprised them with an award in recognition of all their hard work, dedication and commitment.

Here's a snapshot of the awards presented:

Alan and Ann Cavanagh's award was for their joint and individual contributions to the Friends of Irlam and Cadishead Parks, Horticultural Society, Rotary Club of Irlam, In Bloom project, Irlam and Cadishead Community Committee and of course their ever cheery smiles and wonderful hotpot suppers!

Harold Bate was recognised for his 46 years commitment to Rixton-with-Glazebrook's Community Hall where he held various voluntary roles, as well as his input and support to the Rixton Tennis Club and Hollins Green Indoor Bowling section which have provided years of social activity for many.



Alan and Ann Cavanagh

Colette Fairfax's award was for making a difference to Rixton-with-Glazebrook through her contributions and commitment to Pre-school, Hollins Green Scout Centre, St. Helen's School, the Community Book Exchange and Parish Plan Group. For unstinting community spirit and willingness to give time, support and encouragement to others of all ages.

Allan Whitfield was recognised for his passion for Irlam and Cadishead and active contributions to the Rotary Club of Irlam, Cadishead Youth and Community Association, as well as being a driving force behind the Irlam Festival for over 10 years.

Irlam and Cadishead First Responders Keith and Olwen Hanson were awarded for their commitment to actively promoting emergency life support, delivering regular Heart Start Courses to individuals and groups and for 'Going the Extra Mile'.



"A million thanks to HDT for the community award, it will take pride of place alongside my parrot. It has been an honour to work alongside such a dedicated group of friends and like-minded individuals. Long may we support this fine district in which so many of us were born and bred. Long live Irlam, Cadishead and Rixton-with-Glazebrook. Roll on the next ten years!"

Allan Whitfield,
Rotary Club of Irlam



Pete Higson

Pete Higson was recognised for making a difference for his contributions to the Friends of Hollinfare Cemetery, the Rixton-with-Glazebrook Parish Plan Group and respective Action Groups. For his unstinting community spirit and willingness to engage with and encourage volunteers of all ages.



Sheila Breese
On behalf of Friends of Hollinfare Cemetery

Friends of Hollinfare Cemetery received an award for making a difference to Hollinfare Cemetery through their commitment and engagement of over 40 volunteers of all ages. Improvements and the Grave Tending Scheme are vastly enhancing the look and feel of a prominent public green space within the centre of the parish.

"We are delighted, encouraged and humbled by the amount of hard work and wonderful results that many people in the area deliver and wanted to recognise this and to say a big thank you to them."

Mandy Coleman,
HDT Consultant
General Manager



Joan Hill

Joan Hill was recognised for her passion for Irlam and Cadishead and contribution in documenting and sharing the history of the area, for her support of Friends of Hollinfare Cemetery and for being a good friend to HDT and keeping the team supplied with boiled sweets and unique personal knitted goodies!

Sylvia McDowell was recognised for making a difference to Irlam and Cadishead through her work with ICY (Irlam and Cadishead Youth) and 'Referred Young People' and their families. In particular for her passion for supporting young people and the challenges they face and the creative and effective ways she develops their self-esteem, confidence and involvement in sport and recreation.

Neil McArthur was recognised by the HDT team for being hugely passionate about wanting, driving and delivering the very best for Irlam, Cadishead and Rixton-with-Glazebrook and for being incredibly generous to the district over the past ten years.



Celebrating 10
years of HDT!



Bob's Ferry Memorial

More than 230 people gathered on the Manchester Ship Canal on 30th April 2014 to remember those who lost their lives or were injured in the Bob's Ferry Disaster in 1970.



Wreaths were laid at the site of the disaster and a two minute silence held during a cruise to commemorate the anniversary. Family, survivors and representatives from Salford City Council, Trafford Council, Shell UK, Peel Holdings, the Rotary Club of Irlam and HDT paid their respects amongst others.

unwell. After suspending the service he then went to help a group of workers who had started to row across the canal when the mile long fire which was 60 feet high hit. Despite his brave efforts, he died at the scene.



The Bob's Ferry Disaster is something close to the hearts of many locals and we were therefore passionate about supporting the commemorative cruise, as well as installing a memorial plaque which is located at Bobs Lane, Irlam.



"It's still very sad to remember what happened on the canal 44 years ago. Many of those who died were very young and this cruise to mark the anniversary of the disaster remembered not only them but the courage and bravery of those who tried to help."

Neil McArthur,
Chairman, Hamilton Davies Trust

"I was 17 at the time of the disaster, four weeks from my 18th birthday which I spent in Withington Hospital burns unit. I don't remember much about the disaster, I try to put it to the back of my mind. The memorial has meant I've been able to catch up with people I've not seen for a long while and it was nice to see the wreaths being put in the water"

Stephen Hunter,
Sole survivor of the disaster

Six people died and three were injured when thousands of gallons of petrol which had spilled into the canal exploded as workers made their way to work by boat.

At the time of the disaster, Bob's Ferry was used, as it had been for more than a hundred years, to transport workers on a five minute journey across the canal from Cadishead to Partington.

The ferryman Bernard Carroll alerted authorities to a strange smell and a mist making people feel

Community Shop



The Hollins Green Community Shop opened its doors for the first time in February 2015, providing easy access to good quality local produce on the doorstep.

Acting as a general store, the shop offers a variety of goods ranging from fresh bread, meat and vegetables, to newspapers, frozen foods, dairy products, wine, beers and household items. So whether you are out of toothpaste or need some beer to get the party started Hollins Green Community Shop will be happy to help!

And it doesn't end there. The friendly shop also has tea and coffee making facilities, a book exchange and FREE wi-fi. So why not pop in for a cup of tea and slice of cake or enjoy a coffee whilst surfing the internet?



Registered as a not for profit organisation, the community shop sells goods at competitive prices, putting any profits made back into the shop or gifting them to other local community projects.

The idea for the shop was born back in 2010 following the results of the Parish Plan Survey which highlighted that local people would welcome a community shop. The Shopping Action Group was then formed, feasibility research completed and plans put into action to find suitable premises and secure funding.

Many local volunteers worked hard to set up the shop made possible by funding of £9,500 from



'Awards for All' and a loan of £42,000 from HDT, plus a contribution from the purchase of shares by local residents. The shop, which helps to bring back the 'village' feel is run by a team of local people including a raft of volunteers. so lots of familiar faces!

Hollins Green Community Shop, is not just any shop, it's your shop!



"I came on the morning of the opening of the Community Shop and was delighted with the range and quality of the produce. It is now a life line for me. Before the opening I had to rely on other people to take me down to the Supermarket, plus I had to ensure I had a good supply of bread and frozen food. The shop incorporates the Village library and I love to read so its a great asset for me. I love the idea, I love the friendliness and feel like I have got back my independence."

Joan Hardman,
Local Resident



Looking Ahead

2014/15 was a hugely productive year with lots of progress made to support and enable community projects and regeneration. This forms a great foundation for the next 12 months and the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

The launch of the transformed Irlam Station and the continued regeneration of Liverpool Road are moving the area in the right direction, helping to revitalise pride.

Further cuts in local government budgets will continue to impact the services provided to the area and therefore delivering improvements at a grass roots level becomes more important, through our support of local community projects.

We will continue to engage local stakeholders and the community to develop and maintain relationships and enable more activities to happen from the community up.

2015/16 will be another busy year and here are a few things we look forward to being involved in:

- Start work on plans for the area once known as 'Cadishead Village'

- Launch our first piece of public art and continue to evolve further projects to enhance the area
- Build on the success we had with our volunteer programme by engaging local people to help deliver more to the community, with the community
- Launch our new community websites for Irlam and Cadishead and Rixton-with-Glazebrook and ramp up our engagement via social media
- Complete the final elements of the Irlam Station Redevelopment Project, providing improvements to the embankments and public realm, as well as introducing a station garden and access ramp to the Liverpool bound platform
- Refurbish our office to provide even better facilities to the thousands of people who come through our doors each year
- Complete the Irlam FC project, which will provide a great new clubhouse to the long standing football club
- Continue to work in partnership with local stakeholders to drive regeneration in the area
- Work with local organisations to encourage support via Corporate Social Responsibility projects

We are passionate about the areas of Irlam, Cadishead and Rixton-with-Glazebrook and want to build on the great community and regeneration projects that have been delivered so far.

There are many hurdles ahead, but working together in partnership with local stakeholders including the community, we can help to make the district an even better place to live, work and enjoy!





HDT
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