

BOLSOVER LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

BOARD

Minutes of the Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership *Board* meeting held on Thursday, 17th January, 2008, at 9.30 a.m., Committee Room No. 1, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover.

PRESENT

Mrs. Mandy Chambers	-	Derbyshire County PCT (Chair)
Ms. Lorna Wallace	-	Community Voluntary Partners
Mr. Andrew Marsh	-	Learning & Skills Council
Chief Supt. Debbie Kelly	-	Derbyshire Constabulary
Mr. Rob Kay	-	Chesterfield College
Mrs. Jo Dilley	-	Partnership Team
Mr. Richard Madin	-	Partnership Team
Councillor Geoff Carlile	-	Derbyshire County Council
Mr. Andrew Street	-	Alliance SSP
Mr. Andrew Pidluznyj	-	Jobcentre Plus
Councillor Alan Tomlinson	-	Bolsover District Council (representing the Vice Chair)
Ms. Cath Walker	-	Derbyshire County Council
Mr. Wes Lumley	-	Bolsover District Council
Mrs. Pam Brown	-	Partnership Team

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Daniel Murray (part)	-	WM Enterprise
Mr. Jon Jones (part)	-	WM Enterprise

Mandy Chambers in the Chair

LSPB43/07 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:-

Mr. Derek Bray	-	Derbyshire County PCT
Mr. David Hutchinson	-	Derbyshire Fire & Rescue
Mr. David Drew	-	Derbyshire Fire & Rescue
Councillor Karl Reid	-	Parish/Town Councils
Councillor Eion Watts	-	Bolsover District Council (Vice Chair)

LSPB44/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

LSPB45/07 URGENT ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE CHAIR OF THE LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

There were no Urgent items to be considered.

LSPB46/07 MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 18TH OCTOBER, 2007

AGREED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 18th October, 2007, be accepted as a true and correct record.

LSPB47/07 MATTERS ARISING

Page 1 – LSPB29/07 – Comprehensive Performance Assessment –
The Chair reported that Amanda Craig, Audit Commission, had recently contacted Mrs. Brown to invite the Chair and Vice Chair of the Local Strategic Partnership to attend an Audit Commission workshop event to be held at Loughborough University. The event would focus on the new framework for the Corporate Area Assessment. The Audit Commission had stated that Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership was considered to be an excellent example of partnership working and that it would prove useful to have our input.

The Chair mentioned that the Consultants would not be arriving until approximately 10.10 a.m., and suggested that Agenda Items 6 and 7 be discussed on their arrival. This was agreed by those present.

LSPB48/07 LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

Mrs. Walker briefly explained the report and advised that following the workshop event held in December, 38 priorities had been identified with another five indicators being added by Government Office for the East Midlands. A meeting had taken place during early January to negotiate and agree the list. Currently 35 indicators had been agreed (a copy of the Indicators was circulated for information), however, discussions were still ongoing with Government Office for the East Midlands. The deadline for submission of the agreed Indicators was 25th January, 2008.

Mr. Lumley referred to Indicator NI153 and advised that Government Office for the East Midlands had insisted that this indicator be included as it would be measured whilst utilising the Working Neighbourhoods Fund.

Mrs. Walker commented that the Teenage Pregnancy indicator had been withdrawn from the list, however, this matter was still the subject of discussion with Government Office for the East Midlands. The Chair stated that she could understand why the Indicator was removed, as Teenage Pregnancy was not a county-wide problem, however, there were isolated areas which did continue to cause concern. If it was

considered that Teenage Pregnancy would not form part of the Derbyshire-wide Indicator Set, it would be useful for it to be included at a more local level.

The Chair requested that the *Board* be kept up-to-date on progress.

AGREED that the comments be noted.

LSPB49/07 NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND

- Items referred from *Executive Support Group*
 - 2007/08 NRF Commissioning Update

Mrs. Dilley briefly explained the report and advised that all offer letters had now been issued. The NRF programme had been over-committed by £70,000 which equated to 3.4% of the total programme. A letter had been sent to Derbyshire County Council, for onward transmission to Government Office for the East Midlands, querying whether it would be possible for any underspend to be carried forward into the next financial year. The Chair commented that previous discussion had taken place at *Executive Support Group* regarding the over-commitment of the programme, particularly because this was the last year of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding. It had been agreed that the 3.4% over-commitment was a reasonable risk. Mrs. Dilley advised that although all projects had been requested to confirm spend/underspend during December, it was intended to write out to all projects again during February asking for final spend predictions in order to identify any potential underspend. Regular updates would be provided to the *Executive Support Group* as well as the Chair, Vice Chair and Mr. Lumley.

AGREED that the report and comments be received.

LSPB50/07 DERBYSHIRE PARTNERSHIP FORUM MINUTES

Mrs. Brown reported that the Derbyshire Partnership Forum Minutes had been provided for information purposes only.

AGREED that the Derbyshire Partnership Forum Minutes be received.

The meeting adjourned at 9.45 a.m. to await the arrival of the WM Enterprise.

The meeting re-convened at 10.15 a.m.

LSPB51/07 NRF EVALUATION AND FORWARD STRATEGY

Mr. Murray presented the key findings and recommendations that had been included in the NRF Evaluation and Forward Strategy. A copy of the presentation was circulated for information.

Councillor Carlile raised his concerns at the high level of Derbyshire County Council resources currently servicing Local Strategic Partnerships and that Members had requested a review due to the involvement of the Local Area Agreement. He specifically raised concerns in relation to the number of Theme Groups and the need to avoid duplication.

Chief Supt. Kelly stated that she favoured Option 4 as this not only linked in with the Local Area Agreement it also provided a solid foundation through the Theme Groups to ensure that work was being carried out consistently throughout the County.

Mr. Street queried the impact of any future structure when still dealing with the Theme Groups. With respect to the Working Neighbourhoods Fund, a considerable amount of ground work had already taken place in relation to potential sources of funding, i.e. LEGI; the infrastructure was already there – how would the proposed structure work with existing structures.

Mr. Murray agreed with some of the concerns mentioned, however, having considered the activities and outputs of the Theme Groups, he was comfortable with the recommendations as provided.

The Chair reminded those present that the Local Strategic Partnership did not just function to administer the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and that it was important to consider what was previously achieved under the current structure as well as what could still be achieved in any future structure. The information contained within the NRF Evaluation and Forward Strategy document had been gathered by interviewing people involved in the Local Strategic Partnership. The document, would be circulated for consultation, together with a pro forma for any comments.

Mr. Street queried whether an evaluation of the existing Action Groups/Neighbourhood Renewal Fund achievements was available. The Chair advised that the NRF Evaluation and Forward Strategy was a very detailed report and the information referred to would be included within it.

Mrs. Dilley referred to the commissioning process and the fact that the evaluation had highlighted the success of the commissioning approach. All Action Groups had contributed to this success as they agreed priorities against their respective targets and commissioned organisations/agencies to prepare projects to tackle them.

The Chair commented that the Local Strategic Partnership had been successful at working at a local level, in particular engaging with the community and voluntary sector and this needed to be retained. Ms. Wallace mentioned that this had been reflected at the Voluntary Sector

Forum. It was important that the structures allowed local people to have a voice and influence what was happening and being delivered at a local level – Option 4 allowed for local community input.

Councillor Carlile raised the importance of getting value for money and stated that he felt it was important to agree the right structure and get the right people attending meetings.

The Chair advised that the NRF Evaluation and Forward Strategy, together with the feedback proforma, would be placed on the website for consultation. Hard copies were available by contacting the Partnership Team. All proformas to be returned to Mr. Madin at the Partnership Team by no later than 15th February, 2008, for onward transmission to WM Enterprise.

The Chair thanked Mr. Murray for his presentation.

AGREED that (1) the draft NRF Evaluation and Forward Strategy and feedback proforma be placed on the Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership website for consultation,

(2) all completed proformas to be returned to Mr. Madin at the Partnership Team by no later than 15th February, 2008,

(3) the completed proformas to be forwarded onto WM Enterprise as soon as possible after the deadline, and

(4) the comments be noted.

LSPB52/07 WORKING NEIGHBOURHOODS FUND

Mr. Madin reported that he had contacted the author of the document and requested the definition of “worklessness”. He had been advised that there was no set definition, however, the term “worklessness” had been utilised to capture anyone claiming an out of work benefit. Mrs. Walker, Derbyshire County Council, had been contacted for a steer in relation to NI152/3 which referred to out of work, excluding carers; Nomis included carers. A definition was currently being prepared. Mr. Pidluznyj commented that there were significant numbers of people out of work who were not on traditional benefits. With regard to the measurement of target NI153, this could be a potential issue.

Mr. Marsh queried whether the Working Neighbourhoods Fund was part of the Area Based Grant which was normally ringfenced. Mr. Lumley confirmed that it was an Area Based Grant awarded directly to the District Council and was non-ringfenced, however, would need to be measured against the Local Area Agreement targets.

AGREED that the comments be noted.

LSPB53/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Annual General Meeting – Thursday, 3rd April, 2008, at 9.30 a.m.,
South Normanton Community Centre

Thursday, 8th May, 2008, at 9.30 a.m., Committee Room No. 1,
Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover

The meeting concluded at 11.11 a.m.