

BOLSOVER LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

EXECUTIVE SUPPORT GROUP

Minutes of a meeting of the Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership *Executive Support Group* held on Thursday, 26th April, 2007, at 9.30 a.m., in the Council Chamber, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover.

PRESENT

Mrs. M. Chambers	-	Derbyshire County PCT (Chair)
Ms. J. Cox	-	Derbyshire County Council
Ms. C. A. Walker	-	Derbyshire County Council
Councillor A. Western	-	Education & Training Action Group
Mrs. J. M. Wilkinson	-	Community Voluntary Partners
Mr. T. Trafford	-	Housing & Environment Action Group
Mr. A. Baig	-	Government Office for the East Midlands
Councillor B. Murray-Carr	-	Bolsover Community Safety Partnership
Councillor A. Tomlinson	-	Bolsover District Council
Mr. A. Diggles	-	Employment & Enterprise Action Group
Miss T. Glover	-	Cultural Forum
Mrs. J. A. Derricott	-	Health & Wellbeing Action Group
Miss D. M. Row	-	Education & Training Action Group
Mr. T. Whatton	-	Community Voluntary Partners
Mr. R. Madin	-	Partnership Team
Miss N. Price	-	Partnership Team
Mrs. L. Khella	-	Partnership Team
Mrs. P. A. Brown	-	Partnership Team

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. N. Boughey	-	Bolsover District Council
Mr. R. Bennett (part)	-	Bolsover District Council

Mrs. M. Chambers in the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ESG01/07 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:-

Councillor E. Watts	-	Bolsover District Council (Vice Chair)
Mr. W. Lumley	-	Bolsover District Council
Ms. L. Wallace	-	Community Voluntary Partners
Insp. I. Palfreyman	-	Derbyshire Constabulary

ESG02/07 **MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SUPPORT GROUP MEETING HELD ON 1ST MARCH, 2007**

AGREED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 1st March, 2007, be accepted as a true and correct record.

ESG03/07 **MATTERS ARISING**

Page 9 – ESG77/06 – Performance – Monitoring and Evaluation Feedback – Mr. Madin advised that a draft report had been prepared in relation to the Bolsover LSP logo and would be submitted to the *Board* meeting on 10th May, 2007, for consideration.

Page 11 – Any Other Business – Mrs. Brown reported that interviews for the Partnership Performance Management Officer post had been arranged to take place on Friday, 27th April, 2007. A report would be submitted to the next meeting of the *Executive Support Group*.

Blackbridge Traveller Site

Mrs. Brown reported that following concerns raised in relation to the condition of the site at the last *Executive Support Group*, discussions had taken place with Environmental Health. The site is privately owned and the owner had recently submitted a planning application to construct a bungalow and house static caravans. Conditions on the site had improved and regular inspections would be made as a consequence of conditions within the approved planning permission. Any future problems experienced with the site would be dealt with through the licence conditions.

Councillor Murray-Carr commented that he still considered the site to be in a poor condition.

Miss Glover advised that Junction Arts had been working with residents on the site and a good working relationship had been formed. It was hoped to continue work during 2007/08. The main concern for Officers of Junction Arts was the lack of electricity to the Portakabin and working toilets. A health and safety check had been undertaken and a Family Support Worker was assisting on site.

Councillor Murray-Carr asked that regular inspections of the site be made by Environmental Health Officers and that a meeting still be convened with interested parties.

AGREED that a meeting be convened of all interested organisations to further discuss the conditions at the Blackbridge Traveller Site.

Local Area Agreement – Community and Voluntary Sector Representation

This item to be discussed under Agenda Item No. 4

Annual General Meeting

Miss Price briefly reported on the Annual General Meeting held at Van Dyk Hotel, Clowne, on 5th April, 2007. A review of the Community Strategy had taken place which highlighted the Partnership's successes and areas which still needed to be addressed. Documents were produced for the event and these were available from the Partnership Team if required.

Comprehensive Performance Assessment workshops were held which had provided positive responses and would be used by Bolsover District Council in the submission to the Audit Commission. Mr. Trafford queried whether there would be any preliminary feedback from both the Comprehensive Performance Assessment workshops and the review of the Community Strategy. Miss Price advised that feedback would be provided in the near future.

The Chair suggested that in the interim period, Action Groups utilise the performance documents circulated at the Annual General Meeting to assist in prioritising actions.

ESG04/07 LAA PRESENTATION

Ms. Cox undertook a presentation which explained the arrangements for the Local Area Agreement and circulated a document prepared by the Department for Communities and Local Government entitled "Developing the future arrangement for Local Area Agreements" for information.

Ms. Cox stated that the Derbyshire Partnership Forum was open to any organisation which signed up to the Derbyshire Compact and worked towards the Derbyshire Community Strategy. The community and voluntary sector was represented at meetings.

Councillor Western referred to the Children and Young People Board and commented that although the top level of the structure was considered to be effective, it had become evident that there was a gap in the lower level of the structure. The Local Area Agreement would provide the opportunity for appropriate linkages to be made and it was suggested that the Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership, being well developed and pro-active, be utilised as a pilot to pioneer some of the work to enhance two tier working. Mrs. Brown to arrange a meeting to discuss this further.

Ms. Cox advised that the community and voluntary sector was represented at all Board meetings by two representatives, except the Healthier Communities Board which was one representative.

Miss Glover requested clarification on whether the Derbyshire Partnership Forum was open to individual voluntary organisations. Ms. Cox confirmed that any organisation could attend meetings as long as they were signed up to the Derbyshire Compact and working towards the Derbyshire Community Strategy.

Councillor Murray-Carr commented that, as a member of the Safer Communities Board, he welcomed the development of the Local Area Agreement. However, he raised his frustrations in relation to a cross-cutting project which had recently been awarded 70% of the project cost. It would, therefore, be necessary to seek the remaining funding. Ms. Cox concurred that projects had raised concerns in relation to the lack of notification and confirmation of available funding. The Chair asked that Central Government be made aware that projects were waiting to commence and delays were being experienced due to the late notification of funding. Ms. Cox stated that Derbyshire County Council constantly fed-back and had recently been selected as a feasibility study area for the new arrangements.

Councillor Tomlinson referred to the 35 targets that needed to be agreed and queried whether this would prove difficult taking into consideration the diversity of needs throughout the Derbyshire County. Ms. Cox agreed that agreement of the 35 targets would prove to be challenging, however, this would be undertaken by utilising District Community Strategies and the Derbyshire Community Strategy. It should be noted that some of the 35 targets may be mandatory. Councillor Tomlinson queried whether the 18 improvement targets were included in the 35. Ms. Cox confirmed that the 18 improvement targets were in addition to the 35.

Mrs. Derricott asked whether a timetable had been agreed for notification of the targets. Ms. Cox advised that confirmation of the targets would not be available until after the Comprehensive Spending Review which had been delayed until Autumn 2007.

Miss Glover referred to joint consultation. Mrs. Brown advised that Bolsover District Council and Derbyshire County Council were working together to establish Community Forums which would be used as an avenue for consultation to ensure that communities and neighbourhoods were engaging and contributing to the process.

Following a brief discussion regarding local targets, the Chair commented that it would be necessary to consider the national targets in order to identify how local targets could contribute to them.

The Chair thanked Ms. Cox for the presentation and asked that the Local Area Agreement be placed as a standard Agenda item for future *Executive Support Group* meetings.

AGREED that (1) the Local Area Agreement be placed as a standard Agenda Item at future *Executive Support Group* meetings, and
(2) the comments be noted.

ESG05/07 **NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND**

NRF Commissioning 2007/08

Mrs. Khella briefly explained the report.

Mr. Whatton referred to the re-allocation of the Invest to Save funding and asked that the age range of the project be extended to include teenagers.

Miss Glover advised that the N-Gage Partnership had recently completed a mapping exercise, the details of which could be utilised to undertake a gap analysis. The Cultural Forum had also undertaken a mapping exercise and was currently in the process of identifying gaps.

Councillor Western commented that she supported the funding opportunity for youth programmes, but raised concerns with communication links between all interested organisations/agencies.

Mrs. Khella stressed the importance of targeting support where needed.

Councillor Murray-Carr took the opportunity to mention that the Bolsover Community Safety Partnership had been awarded funding in the amount of £37,500 subject to match funding of £12,500. However, the deadline for this project was 5th May. If the match funding was not secured, the offer of £37,500 would be withdrawn. Mrs. Khella advised that Neighbourhood Renewal Funding for the current financial year must be undertaken in line with the Sustainable Community Strategy Core document in terms of targeting areas of need. She also mentioned that the commissioning process would not allow for the timescale involved.

Mr. Trafford queried whether Action Groups would be awarded £3,000 for the current financial year. Mrs. Khella advised that she would confirm the availability of the funding at the next *Executive Support Group* pending a review of the budget.

Councillor Tomlinson queried how people were made aware of the youth activities taking place. Mrs. Khella advised that the N-Gage Partnership consisted of many organisations that represented youth issues, however, although Neighbourhood Renewal Funding could be utilised for the whole District, the main aim of the funding was to reduce the gap between the worst and best performing areas. It would, therefore, be necessary for any activity to be targeted where it was most needed.

Mr. R. Bennett joined the meeting at 11.25 a.m.

Mr. N. Boughey left the meeting at 11.30 a.m.

AGREED that (1) the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund be over-committed up to a maximum of £200,000,

(2) Neighbourhood Renewal funding released as a result of projects being mainstreamed in 2007/08 remain with the relevant Action Group providing the Action Group can demonstrate how further commissioning will impact on the relevant targets, particularly those highlighted as areas requiring further improvement by the recent review of the Sustainable Community Strategy,

(3) the financial allocations for Youth and the Cultural Forum be supported,

(4) an Assessment Panel be established consisting of representatives from each of the Action Groups,

(5) the timetable for commissioned activity for the current financial year be approved,

(6) the report and comments be received.

Employment Training Programmes

Mrs. Khella briefly explained the report.

AGREED that the report be received.

DCC LSP Development Fund

Mrs. Khella briefly explained the report.

AGREED that the report be approved and reported to Derbyshire County Council Policy Team.

ESG06/07 PERFORMANCE – MONITORING AND EVALUATION FEEDBACK

Miss Price circulated the Performance Reports for the following Action Groups for information:-

- Cultural Forum
- Education and Training
- Health & Wellbeing
- Employment and Enterprise
- Housing and Environment
- Bolsover Community Safety Partnership
- Community Voluntary Partners

Miss Price reported that the self-assessment guidance had recently been received from Government Office for the East Midlands. The review meeting would be held in June (between 6th – 27th); it was suggested that the meeting be arranged to take place towards the end of June. The Chair commented that due to the Partnership's performance management processes, a considerable amount of work had already been undertaken. Miss Price advised that she would be seeking further clarification on the exact requirements, however, in the interim the same format as last year would be utilised.

AGREED that (1) the Action Group Performance Reports be accepted, and

(2) the date of the self-assessment be noted.

ESG07/07 JOINT TRANSPORT GROUP DRAFT ACTION PLAN

Miss Price circulated the North Eastern Derbyshire Transport Action Plan 2006 – 2008 for information.

Miss Price reported that the joint Action Plan for Chesterfield Borough Council/North East Derbyshire District Council/Bolsover District Council had been prepared following an Away Day event held on 4th April, 2007. The Action Plan had been approved by the Joint Transport Group. Although there were no specific transport targets to address, most of the actions included in the Transport Action Plan were specific to Derbyshire County Council.

Councillor Murray-Carr welcomed the content of the Action Plan, however, he raised concern with the Travel Plan for Brook Park, Shirebrook. A request was made for Councillor Western to pursue further at Derbyshire County Council.

Councillor Tomlinson reported that residents in the southern part of the District were impressed with the Bolsover Greenway Development project.

The Chair asked that any comments on the Action Plan be forwarded onto the Partnership Team.

AGREED that the Joint Transport Group Action Plan be discussed further at the next *Executive Support Group* meeting under Matters Arising.

ESG08/07 **2009 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY REVISION**

Miss Price briefly explained the report.

AGREED that (1) the Bolsover Sustainable Community Strategy be revised for 2009,

(2) the Partnership work with other Local Strategic Partners and the Derbyshire Partnership Forum during 2007/08 and 2008/09 to develop adequate plans (time and resources), and

(3) the report be received.

Councillor Tomlinson left the meeting at 12 noon

ESG09/07 **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**

Mr. Bennett stated that his purpose in attending the meeting was to discuss improving joint working in relation to Planning and the Local Strategic Partnership. He referred to the White Paper which stated that closer linkages should be made. Planning Services had already felt the benefit of working with the Local Strategic Partnership in the past when preparing the Local Development Framework.

Two documents were circulated for information which explained why Planners needed to work with Local Strategic Partnerships.

Mr. Bennett commented that it was necessary to ensure that the priorities of the Local Strategic Partnership was embodied within planning documents and he asked that the *Executive Support Group* endorse interim arrangements to improve joint working in the immediate future, consideration of a seat on the *Executive Support Group* and a standard item on the Agenda. Miss Glover commented that she felt it inappropriate to be represented on the *Executive Support Group*, however, it was important for Planners to attend Action Group meetings and link in to Community Voluntary Partners. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that a standard item be placed on future Agendas.

Mr. Bennett requested support, in principle, for joint resourcing of consultation and engagement where appropriate. He added that the

Partnership Team had been invited to attend future Planning Policy meetings.

Mr. Bennett suggested that a report be submitted to a future *Executive Support Group* for consideration to formalise joint working arrangements.

Miss Price commented that the link between the Local Development Framework and the Community Strategy would be raised within the Partnership's self assessment document.

Mrs. Wilkinson advised that Community Voluntary Partners were currently in the process of carrying out Village Appraisals which were scheduled to be completed by July. The information collated would be available if required. Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Wilkinson to discuss further after the meeting.

AGREED that (1) the Local Development Framework be placed as a standard Agenda item,

(2) support, in principle, be given to joint resourcing of consultation and engagements where appropriate,

(3) a seat on the *Executive Support Group* be denied, and

(4) the comments be noted.

ESG10/07 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Evaluation of the North Derbyshire & North Nottinghamshire Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) Programme: Final Report/Summary

The summary was provided for information purposes only.

Councillor Murray-Carr raised his concern that some retailers in Shirebrook Market Place displayed goods on the pavement.

AGREED that the summary be received.

Executive Support Group Nominations and Action Group Chair/ Vice Chair

Mrs. Brown reported that confirmation of representatives was still awaited. A report would be submitted to the next *Executive Support Group* for information.

AGREED that the comments be noted.

Mr. Madin reported that the Connect Newsletter was due to be published within the next 2/3 weeks.

The Chair reminded partners that this was the last *Executive Support Group* meeting before Natalie Price vacated her position; she thanked Miss Price for all her hard work and commitment to the Partnership and wished her well for the future.

ESG11/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 7th June, 2007, at 9.30 a.m., Committee Room No. 1, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover.

The meeting concluded at 12.28 p.m.