



**Blackburn with Darwen Strategic Partnership Board
Minutes of a Meeting held on Monday, 9th June 2008**

PRESENT:

Councillors	Alan Cottam
	David Foster
	Kate Hollern
	Michael Lee
	Colin Rigby
	Chris Thayne
Business Sector	Mike Murray (Chair) (Community and Business Partners Ltd)
	Amanda Meachin (Community and Business Partners Ltd)
	Ian Gallagher (Trades Council)
Public Sector	Nick Kennedy (Blackburn with Darwen Primary Care Trust)
	Rob Bellingham (Blackburn with Darwen Primary Care Trust)
	Andy Rhodes (Lancashire Constabulary)
	Liz Gill (Government Office North West)
	Ian Kent (Job Centre Plus)
	Ian Clinton (Blackburn College)
Community and Voluntary Sector	Geoff Townsend (Interfaith Council)
	Garth Hodgkinson (Social Enterprise Network)
	Pauline Walsh (Voluntary Health and Social Care Forum)
	Derek Estill (Interfaith Council)
	Fawad Bhatti (CVS)
	Laurence Loft (Safeguarding Children's Board)
	Ivy Oglesby (Community Association Forum)
Council Officers	Graham Burgess (Chief Executive)
	Andrew Lightfoot (Deputy Chief Executive, Regeneration and Technical)
	Peter Morgan (Strategic Director of Children's Services)
	Tom Stannard (Director of Policy)
	Saeed Sidat (Policy Department)
	Philippa Cross (Policy Department)
	Ros Davies (Policy Department)

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair, Mike Murray, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Michael Law-Riding, Alasdair Reid, Tom Finn, Mike Damms, Phil Richards, Malcolm Harrison, Peter Neill, Mike Leaf, Bob Simpson, Peter Hobkirk, Elizabeth Taylor, Judith Griffin, and Minhaz Khalya.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10TH MARCH 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2008 were agreed as a correct record subject to the change of representation of Ivy Oglesby from Darwen and Rural Neighbourhood Area to Community Association Forum.

3 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON 14TH APRIL 2008

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 14th April 2008 were submitted for information.

4 REVIEW OF THE LSP, INCLUDING THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

A report was submitted and a presentation given on the review of the Local Strategic Partnership and the adoption of a new constitution.

The aims of the review were:-

- To build on the LSP's strengths and successful track record – evolution, not revolution.
- To consider the LSP's structure – looked at smaller sub group structure to reflect the 4 LAA priorities, but the Sustainable Community Strategy was wider than the LAA. While it encompassed the LAA, it also included the 2020 vision and the Neighbourhood Area Plans. While recommending the retention of the existing thematic forum structure, it also recommended the addition of the Older People's Partnership as an LSP thematic forum in its own right.
- To address governance issues – develop a constitution for the LSP and terms of reference for the Thematic Forums in a common format.
- To enhance the role of the Executive to ensure robust arrangements for interventions on the ground which make a difference. Increased frequency of meetings from 4 to 6 per year.
- Review membership and nominating mechanisms.
- Duty of members to take issues back to their organisations for action – noting that LSPs are non statutory bodies and so are not the ultimate decision makers.

It was recommended that the links between the LSP and its thematic forums be strengthened and that communication with the wider public be improved by open meetings, the availability of information on the website, and producing an annual report with input from each thematic forum.

It was reported that consultation on the review had taken place with all thematic forums and 2 Neighbourhood Renewal Advisers.

It was further reported that the Children and Young People's Partnership had now become the Children and Young Peoples Trust.

AGREED - (1) That the review proposals outlined in paragraph 2 of the report be approved;

(2) That the new constitution, including the terms of reference for each of the thematic forums, be approved and adopted;

(3) That it is noted that as a non statutory body, the LSP is not the ultimate decision maker on the implications of plans such as the Local Area Agreement. All target setting and consequential financial, commissioning or contractual commitments proposed by the LSP must be formalised through the relevant LSP partner governance bodies. It is each member's responsibility to ensure that they progress this;

(4) Each member of the LSP is requested to take the report and its attachments back to their organisation's governance body for endorsement;

(5) That each of the Thematic Forums ensures that terms of reference are drawn up in a common format for each of their sub groups, which the Thematic Forums will be responsible for approving, with the exception of the Economic Regeneration Partnership which has already done so;

(6) That the Local Public Service Board, the Community Network and Community and Business Partners Ltd be requested to confirm their nominations to the LSP Board. Until notification on this matter is received the membership will remain as at present; and

(7) That the Local Public Service Board, the Community Network and Community and Business Partners Ltd be requested to determine their representation on the LSP Executive from amongst their representation on the Board. Until notification on this matter is received the membership will remain as at present.

5 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Further to the Boards approval of the new constitution, the Board were requested to elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the current municipal year in accordance with the constitution's provisions

AGREED - (1) That Mike Murray be the Chair of the LSP Board for the current municipal year; and

(2) That Councillor Colin Rigby be the Vice Chair of the LSP Board for the current municipal year.

6 LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT FINAL SIGN OFF AND FUTURE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Reports were submitted and a presentation given on the endorsement of the Local Area Agreement 2008-2011 and an update on Local Area Agreement financial arrangements for 2008-2009.

The first report provided the LSP Board with an update on the LAA development, including:-

- Updated Story of Place
- Update on negotiations with Government Office North West, including Blackburn with Darwen's final proposals for an outcomes framework including designated (up to 35), non-designated (local) indicators and the 16 statutory DCSF indicators

The second report updated the LSP Board with regards to the LAA financial arrangements, including:-

- Details of funding arrangements for transitional NRF projects, as agreed by the LSP Finance sub-group at their meeting in April and outlined in Appendix D
- Overview of the Area Based Grant expenditure profile for 2008-2009, mapped against the LAA outcome themes, as outlined in Appendix E
- Proposals by the LSP Finance sub-group to develop a new framework for commissioning and governance of projects against the LAA outcomes, and submit these proposals to the LSP Executive at their meeting on 4th August.

The presentation outlined the revised 2020 vision, Blackburn with Darwen in 2008 and the ambitions for 2011.

Thanks were conveyed to Government Office Northwest for all their help and support.

AGREED - (1) That the updated Story of Place as presented in Appendix A be noted;

(2) That the information provided relating to the updated Outcomes Framework be noted and the final version identified in Appendix B be endorsed;

(3) That the target levels identified in Appendix C be noted and that the final details or target levels submitted at the meeting be endorsed;

(4) That the final set of named delivery partners, as submitted at the meeting, be agreed;

(5) That the decisions made by the Finance Sub-group in relation to funding for the transitional NRF projects be noted;

(6) That spare funding being identified by October, to allow the 25% short fall for some transitional NRF projects to be addressed, be agreed;

(7) That the profile of the Area Based Grant outlined in Appendix E be noted; and

(8) That the proposals for the development of a new framework for commissioning and governance of projects against the LAA outcomes, including terms of reference for the Finance Sub-group, be noted and submitted to the LSP Executive for their meeting on 4th August.

7 NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON CAA

A presentation was given on the Comprehensive Area Assessment, updating on current thinking and potential risks. It was reported that the CAA will have two main elements, namely an area assessment and organisational assessment. The area assessment (LSP) comprised three components:-

- Key priorities
- Overall successes and challenges
- Summary of prospects

The organisational assessment comprised of two components:-

- Performance Management
- Use of resources

The presentation went on to outline risks and concerns for both the LSP and the Council and the next steps for both the CAA and CPA.

8 PENNINE LANCASHIRE AND MAA FINAL SIGN OFF

It was reported that this was in fact not the final sign off of the MAA, as this would probably be in the Autumn. A presentation was given which outlined the profile of Pennine Lancashire and gave information on:-

- The history of partnership working
- PLLACE (Pennine Lancashire Leaders and Chief Executives)
- Pennine Lancashire Economic Development Company
- Multi Area Agreement – Policy context
- What are Multi Area Agreements
- Our Approach
- MAA priority area – economic and physical development
- MAA priority area – transport planning
- MAA priority area – skills and worklessness
- MAA priority area – spatial planning and housing
- What's next and key messages

9 COMMUNITY COHESION AND NEIGHBOURHOOD VOICES

A presentation was given on Integration and Cohesion 2008. It outlined:-

- Key issues
- Globalisation
- Identity/Belonging
- Why integration and cohesion is important
- Government agenda on cohesion and integration
- Commission on Integration and Cohesion
- Where we are now
- Business Case/Census 2001
- Cohesion and Integration Strategy
- Belonging Campaigns
- 100 Voices
- LSP People and Communities Forum
- Neighbourhood Voices & key outcomes

10 OUTLINED PROPOSAL FOR A BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN LSP PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS SCHEME

A report was submitted on the outlined proposal for a Blackburn with Darwen LSP Public Service Awards Scheme. The report outlined the context and background, and suggested categories for awards and scheme operation. Consideration needed to be given on how and when the scheme might be broadened to include the third sector partners within the LSP given the partnership focus of the awards.

Further details of the scheme would be brought back to the Board in due course.

11 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Future agenda items included:-

- Civil Contingencies
- NHS Strategic Scenario Planning

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A document was tabled on the Youth Zone development in the town centre. The Youth Zone will be a major contribution to the services for young people in the town, and will be a signifier of the care and concern of local agencies and businesses, and of the Council, for the well being of all Blackburn with Darwen's young people.

The bid was due to be submitted in July and the LSP were asked to support this project. More detail on the project would be submitted to the next meeting of the LSP

AGREED – That the LSP supports the Youth Zone development in the Town Centre.