



**Blackburn with Darwen Strategic Partnership Board
Minutes of a Meeting held on Monday, 19th March 2007**

PRESENT:

Councillors	Kate Hollern
	Dave Harling
	Dave Hollings
	Andy Kay
	David Foster
	Collin Rigby
Business Sector	Mike Murray (Chair) (Community and Business Partners Ltd)
	Peter Hobkirk (Blackburn & District Chamber of Trade)
Public Sector	Sharon Roscoe (Connexions)
	Ian Clinton (Blackburn College)
	Alice Knowles (Lancashire Constabulary)
	Mike Leaf (Blackburn with Darwen PCT)
	Judith Holbrey (Blackburn with Darwen PCT)
Community and Voluntary Sector	Geoff Townsend (Interfaith Council)
	Pauline Walsh (Lancashire Voluntary Community and Faith Health and Well-Being Forum)
	Ian Gallagher (Blackburn with Darwen Trades Council)
Council Officers	Andrew Lightfoot (Deputy Chief Executive, Regeneration and Technical)
	Steve Hoyle (LEGI Programme Director)
	Habib Patel (Performance Advisor)
	Peter Morgan (Strategic Director Children's Services)
	Phil Llewellyn (Executive & Regulatory Support Manager)
	Mike Kinsella (Economic and Regeneration Manager)
Also in attendance	Ian Gordon (Government Office North West)
	Linda Shields (Chair of Chorley LSP)
	Lesley Fenton (Chorley Borough Council)

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

Apologies for absence were received from Peter Neill, Laurence Loft, Sharon Kemp, Tom Finn, Alasdair Reid, Ian Kent, Junaid Quershi, Councillor Mohammed Khan, Councillor Maureen Bateson, Councillor Frank Connor, Councillor John Milburn, Graham Burgess, Garth Hodgkinson, Malcolm Harrison, Mike Damms, Amanda Meachin, Phil Richards, David Mallaby, John Jordon, Catherine Whittaker and Elizabeth Taylor.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13^H NOVEMBER 2006

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2006 were agreed as a correct record.

3 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON 8TH JANUARY 2007 AND 13TH FEBRUARY 2007

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 8th January 2007 and 13th February 2007 were submitted for information.

4 LEGI UPDATE

Steve Hoyle, LEGI Programme Director, carried out a presentation which outlined the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI), which would ultimately lead to the investment of £23,400,000 across the Pennine Lancashire area (Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn, Burnley and Pendle).

The successful LEGI bid focussed on residents within the most deprived communities, and one of the unique features of the proposal was the role of the three football clubs (Blackburn Rovers, Accrington Stanley and Burnley) in development and delivery of a number of the projects.

He outlined the key national outcomes of LEGI: increased total entrepreneurial activity among the population in deprived local areas, support for sustainable growth and reduced failure rates of locally owned businesses in deprived areas and attraction of appropriate inward investment and franchising into deprived areas, making use of local labour resources. The six key principles of LEGI were:

- Effective targeting (to ensure people living in deprived areas benefit)
- Effective solutions (to address the fundamental barriers to growth, including crime)
- Significant commitment (of resources and partners over the long term)

- Strong local and regional partnerships (with business and the wider community)
- Integration (with broader regeneration efforts and business support initiatives) and
- Evaluation and evidence building (to inform continuous improvement and the development of future policy)

In terms of Pennine Lancashire, the LEGI strategy would focus on Enterprising Individuals (developing a strong enterprise culture), Enterprising Communities (building the capacity for enterprise) and Enterprising Businesses (accelerating business growth). Steve Hoyle also reported on the LEGI delivery plan and programme outputs, including 'Ten Great Goals' which included Enterprise Havens, School's Out, Enterprise Challenge, Women Mean Business and Shooting Stars.

The LEGI Governance Framework was also outlined, which highlighted the key role to be played by Local Strategic partnerships and the Council as the accountable body for the LEGI programme.

5 100 VOICES

The Leader of the Council, Kate Hollern carried out a presentation which outlined the 100 Voices Strategy to tackle cohesion issues in the Borough.

The key issues arising from the two events held to date were:

- The problems created by the misuse of drugs and alcohol and the impact on Blackburn with Darwen, and how this could lead to social cohesion problems.
- The need for more well paid jobs and opportunities for local people, in order that local people saw their and their children's future in the Borough.
- Concerns over general community safety within neighbourhoods and town centres.
- The strong desire to provide more opportunities for people from different backgrounds and different cultures to come together, and how this was not always possible due to geographical and cultural reasons, especially amongst young people in schools.

On 3rd March a 100 Voices Conference had been held, with Jack Straw and Trevor Phillips in attendance to hear the views of local people on cohesion issues. It was also proposed to extend 100 Voices to each neighbourhood co-ordination area in the Borough – with 100 Voices from each area being led by an Executive Member and the Chair of the

relevant Area Agency Partnership. Other proposals included activities based around sports, arts and crafts and a food festival. Greater emphasis would also be placed on increased twinning between schools with greater community involvement. It was considered particularly important that people from different backgrounds had more opportunities to meet and interact.

A 100 Voices DVD had been produced, featuring some of the people involved in the initiative so far, and it was shown at the close of the presentation.

6 PERMANENT SECRETARIES VISIT TO BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN

Andrew Lightfoot, Deputy Chief Executive, updated the Board on the recent visit to the Borough by senior civil servants.

He explained that the visit had been the Annual Away Day by senior civil servants chaired by the Cabinet Secretary and was held outside of the South for the first time, and the theme this year was Place Shaping/Community Leadership/Partnership Working. The visit had gone extremely well, and very positive feedback had been received about the positive work being undertaken by the Council and Partners. He thanked all Partners for their involvement and assistance with the visit.

7 LAA REPORT 2007- 08

Habib Patel reported that negotiations had been ongoing with Government Office North West about the LAA Refresh for 2007/08. It was agreed that the LAA would be signed off by Ministers during March 2007, with delivery due to start in April.

The refreshed LAA aimed to stretch ambitions further, adding value and building upon the platform provided by the 2006/07 delivery plan. The targets or indicators that had been changed or modified from the 2006/07 LAA agreement were highlighted.

8 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items were suggested at the meeting.