



**Blackburn with Darwen Strategic Partnership Board  
Minutes of a Meeting held on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

**PRESENT:**

Mike Murray (Chair)  
Amar Abass  
Joanne Bates  
Graham Burgess  
Bob Eastwood  
Ian Gallagher  
Judith Griffin  
Dominic Harrison  
Peter Hobkirk  
Garth Hodgkinson  
Yvonne Hulse  
Tom Keena  
Cllr Michael Lee  
Laurence Loft  
Amanda Meachin  
Abdul Mulla  
Peter Neill  
Mohammed Ilyas Patel  
Adam Scott  
Elizabeth Taylor  
Cllr Chris Thayne  
Sir Bill Taylor  
Vidusi  
Julie Wall

**OFFICERS**

Sayyed Osman  
Tom Stannard  
Gladys Rhodes  
Jonathan Tew  
David Gavagan  
Ros Davies  
Sarah Drea

**Apologies for absence** - Councillor Kate Hollern, Cllr David Foster, Cllr Alan Cottam, Mark Walkingshaw, John Slee, Mike Damms, Tom Finn,

Nick Kennedy, Ian Clinton, Steve Johnson, Kevin Ruth, Pauline Walsh, Angela Allen, Salim Mulla, John Sturgess, Shaukat Hussain, Moulana Mohammed Tayyab Sidat, Steven Sloss, Liz Hall, Ilyas Munshi, Ann Marie Bull and Dr Thomas Philips.

**1 WELCOME AND MINUTES OF THE LAST LSP BOARD MEETING ON 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2009**

Mike Murray welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked members to introduce themselves.

**AGREED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009 be approved as a correct record.

**2 MEETING DATE 2010-2011 / DETERMINATION OF THE DATE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT SESSION**

The Board considered a report by the Director of Policy and Communications concerning future meeting dates of the Local Strategic Partnership Board and Executive.

**AGREED**

1. That the report be approved;
2. that the meeting on 13 September 2010 should be designated as a private Development Session, commencing at 1pm
3. Members noted that all business meetings of the LSP would be advertised in the Shuttle to encourage attendance by local people.

**3 THIRD SECTOR REPRESENTATION ON THE BOARD**

The Chair asked Garth Hodgkinson to advise the Board of the third sector representation on the LSP Board, who have been appointed by the Community Network in accordance with the LSP's constitution. Garth informed the Board that the Community Network has 22 places on the LSP Board and has made the 19 appointments. He asked the Board to note that 3 vacancies remain which will be taken by representatives from the remaining three neighbourhoods in Blackburn with Darwen in the next few months.

Garth informed the Board that the Community Network now needs to appoint 7 of its representatives on the Board to the LSP Executive which will be done at its meeting in May 2010, in time for the next LSP Executive meeting on 7 June 2010.

The Chair welcomed the new members to the LSP.

## **AGREED**

1. That the Board welcomed the new members of the LSP to the work of the Board;
2. That the Board's sincere gratitude and best wishes went to the retiring third sector LSP representatives.
3. That the Board noted that the Community Network will appoint 7 of its LSP Board representatives to the LSP Executive at its meeting in May 2010.

## **4 2030 VISION**

Ken Barnsley, Head of Corporate Research, gave a presentation to the Board on the progress of the development of the 2030 Vision and the consultation to date. Ken outlined the challenges and explained that the 4 guiding principles were prosperous, connecting communities, clean neighbourhoods and feeling safer and being healthier and set out the draft outcomes for each theme. He explained that there were only a small number of high level outcomes as a number of agencies and partners existing performance indicators would provide detail.

The Board discussed the number, level and detail of the outcomes and how the public would relate to the document. The Board suggested that the format, content and wording should seek to maximise citizens' personal engagement in the Vision and include a section on how the document had been used in the past and what has happened as a result.

## **5 PARTNERSHIP IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME**

Jonathan Tew, Head of Policy, provided an update on the proposed work programme of the Blackburn with Darwen Local Public Service Board (LPSB). He explained that for a number of years the LPSB has sought to commission innovative approaches to public service delivery, which in turn enhance delivery against LSP strategic priorities. Jonathan provided an outline of notable projects which had gained regional and national prominence and the LPSB's strategic focus in 2010/11 which had identified key regional and national drivers of joint resourcing/Total Place, outcomes area focus and efficiency.

He explained that the LPSB had agreed to establish a Partnership Improvement Programme focusing on the key areas of –

- The Policy agenda around prevention and Think Family. This work strand would be taken forward by Gladys Rhodes of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council.

- A partnership improvement model that integrates resource mapping and systems analysis. This work strand would be taken forward by Ian Clinton of Blackburn College.
- Urgent consideration of collaborative intervention in under-performing LAA targets. This work strand would be taken forward by Dominic Harrison, Director of Public Health.
- Behaviour change, also under the leadership of Dominic Harrison, to provide appropriate leadership, high level coordination and embed consistency of understanding around Behaviour Change concepts and interventions.

Jonathan provided an update on the work that has progressed on Think Family, systems analysis, accelerated delivery planning, and behaviour change.

The Board discussed the work programme, and social marketing.

#### **AGREED –**

1. That the Board endorsed the LPSB's four areas of focus within an over-arching 2010/11 partnership improvement programme.
2. That the Board endorsed the LPSB's commitment to drill-down into areas for innovation and improvement, in line with the LSP Board's priorities, and agree to accept further progress updates in due course.

#### **6 LAA SIGN-OFF**

David Gavagan, Head of Partnerships and Performance, presented a report on the refresh of the Local Area Agreement (LAA). He explained that due to the unknown impacts of the recession, Central Government had agreed that targets for a number of LAA designated indicators relating to the economy and housing, did not have to be finalised until 2010, when a more informed judgement could be made and that negotiations on those outstanding indicators are now complete, and that the refreshed LAA for 2010 received ministerial approval on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

David outlined the final refresh negotiations, including updates to some locally agreed targets. He explained that the 6 outstanding designated indicators for economy and housing have been re-negotiated to take into account the recession and that the designated indicator for teenage conceptions has been removed from the designated set with the agreement of central government. With regard to the 43 non-designated indicators, David explained that the majority will remain as per the 2009 refresh and outlined the amendments to –

- NI130 Social Care clients receiving Self Directed support (direct payments and individual budgets)
- LI001 Dental health of children
- NI032 Repeat incidents of domestic violence

- LI009/NI006 Increase participation in volunteering
- LI010 Percentage increase in the workforce from under-represented groups within LSP organisations a) people from BME populations b) people with disabilities
- LI019 Average earnings of residents in the borough
- LI022b Reducing poverty amongst older people through increasing the number of people aged 50+ in employment

David presented the refreshed LAA document, as adopted by the Council's Executive Board at their meeting in March, to the LSP Board for their formal adoption and informed them that the updated LAA will be published in June, as an appendix to the LSP's annual report for 2009-2010.

### **AGREED**

1. That the Board noted the update in relation to the key changes made to the LAA during the 2010 refresh
2. That the Board adopted the refreshed LAA for 2010-2011
3. that authority for the development and agreement of a target for NI032 Repeat incidents of domestic violence, be delegated to the Chair of the Community Safety Partnership
4. that authority for the development and agreement of a target for LI009 increasing volunteering be delegated to the Chair of the People and Communities Forum
5. that the Board noted that targets relating to LI019, average earnings of residents, may require amendment at a later date, when further analysis has been undertaken
6. that authority for the development and agreement of a target for LI022b narrowing the gap between the overall employment rate and that of people aged 50+, be delegated to the Chair of the 50+ Partnership

## 7 COMMUNITY COHESION STRATEGY

Jonathan Tew, Head of Policy, presented a progress report on the Community Cohesion Strategy. He reminded the Board that an LSP commitment was made in autumn 2009 to adopt a 'twin-track' approach to community cohesion:

- Refresh the local mandate and strategic approach to cohesion through a proactive dialogue in the 2030 Vision process; testing community appetite to embed cohesion as a key element of the borough's vision, and truly seek to address root 'causes' of cohesion issues.
- Continue to invest in a range of short-term projects throughout the autumn and winter of 2009/10 to build momentum, embed infrastructural foundations and test some adventurous pilot activities.

Jonathan updated the Board on the strategic development through Vision 2030, collaborative working and the community cohesion taskforces. He explained that shorter term delivery included the Good Relations Programmes Youth 4 Unity, Living Libraries, Life Swap and the LSP Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion Group. He explained that a fuller update and map of project activity in 2009/10 will be circulated to LSP partners in May 2010, once year-end financial arrangements and project evaluation processes had been finalised.

Jonathan outlined a process of iterative (or 'live') strategy development throughout 2010, which would ensure that the collective and long-term approach to community cohesion builds from the foundation of the 2030 Vision exercise, whilst being rooted in the analysis, experience and recommendations of the community cohesion taskforces to be convened throughout 2010. He explained that in practice this approach would entail: -

- Short-term project work around community cohesion continuing, as commissioned, throughout 2010, with embedded and continual evaluation and dialogue through Neighbourhood Boards.
- A draft strategy framework which would be circulated to LSP partners in May 2010, mapping existing activity, providing consistency of definition and providing an over-arching framework for the strategy development process in 2010.
- The seven cohesion taskforces would provide the LSP Board and Council Executive Board with a series of policy recommendations throughout 2010, with iterative development into a long-term strategy.
- A first complete version of the strategy to be considered by the LSP Board in April 2011, to align with the anticipated publication of a new Local Area Agreement for Blackburn with Darwen.
- Thereafter, the Cohesion Strategy would be continually reviewed through a process of structured evaluation; building on

the changing context within the borough and the evolving experience of stakeholders.

The Board discussed the work of the Taskforces and how they will report information back to the LSP and asked that any future proposals, especially with regard to future funding be reported back to the LSP. The Board discussed work in other areas that affected community cohesion.

#### **AGREED**

1. That the Board noted the extensive activity around community cohesion being progressed in Blackburn with Darwen, at both the strategic and operational level.
2. To endorse the proposed approach around the development of a 'live' framework to guide community cohesion activity in the longer term.
3. That the Board committed to facilitate appropriate discussions within individual partner organisations upon the circulation of the draft strategy framework in May 2010
4. That the taskforces should look at the future funding of community cohesion issues.
5. That the LSP receive a presentation on the projects and on-going work at the next meeting.

#### **8 WORKFORCE REPRESENTATION GROUP OF THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES FORUM**

Jonathan Tew, Head of Policy, presented a report on a review of the remit and scope of the LSP Workforce Representation Group. He outlined the core remits of the group and its past achievements in relation to economy, Vision 2030, Equalities Bill and cohesion. He explained that following a period of extensive consultation in 2009, the People and Communities Forum decided on the 19<sup>th</sup> January, pending the view of the LSP Board, to change the name and broaden the focus of the Workforce Representation Group through a new LSP Equality, Diversity and Cohesion Group as it was felt that the proposed revision of the group's approach would instil a new sense of purpose, drive and energy into the LSP's drive to promote equality, diversity and cohesion across the borough. He explained that at a launch workshop with LSP partners that all partners had agreed that increased collaborative working would encourage more collective and efficient working and that acting as change agents, equality practitioners see the re-launched group as an opportunity to respond more effectively to local challenges through sharing intelligence and resources.

He informed the Board that the group had agreed a formal Terms of Reference and also developed a set of principles and emerging work programme, which were distributed to the Board.

Jonathan informed the Board that under the previous remit, the Workforce Representation Group was responsible for Local Area Agreement (LAA) local indicator 10 (*% increase in the workforce from under-represented groups within LSP organisations*) but that in light of the changed economic context, and the challenges experienced by the former Workforce Representation Group in establishing an accurate baseline around this indicator, it was proposed that the refresh of the LAA for 2010/11 revise this indicator to ensure that a fuller and more robust approach can be adopted from April 2011 onwards. This would revise the reference within the LAA to: - “The LSP Equality, Diversity and Cohesion Group to develop a robust and quality-assured baseline around workforce representation across the LSP, with the development of a broader basket of indicators around recruitment, retention and progression for launch in 2011.”

#### **AGREED**

1. That the Board endorsed the provisional decision of the People and Communities Forum to change the name and broaden the focus of the Workforce Representation Group, through the launch of a new LSP Equality, Diversity and Cohesion Group.
2. That the Board endorsed the attached new terms of reference for the LSP Equality, Diversity and Cohesion Group.
3. That the change to the proposed approach to the Local Area Agreement workforce representation indicator be reflected to the Local Area Agreement for 2010/11.

#### **9 CAA**

This report was deferred to a future meeting.

#### **10 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST**

Cllr Chris Thayne presented a report on the proposed new structure for the Children and Young People's Trust from April 2010 in light of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children & Learning Act 2009 and the recent guidance from the DCSF; '*Children's Trusts; statutory guidance on co-operation arrangements, including the Children's Trust Board and the Children and Young People's Plan*'. He explained that the Trust had been reviewed in February 2010 to consider the new legislation and guidance, the requirements to meet these and to ensure the Trust would be well prepared for future inspections of these arrangements.



Cllr Thayne informed the Board that in July 2009 the Trust Board was supported by a Children's Trust Executive group, as well as the 5 Every Child Matters Outcome Boards and 3 function groups which led to over 130 key partners and colleagues taking an active role within the Trust arrangements. He explained that the Trust would move to a revised and enhanced structure continuing with a Trust Board meeting quarterly and with the Trust Executive being the driver for review and challenge, in order to improve outcomes for children and young people. Gladys Rhodes, Strategic Director of Children's Services, outlined how this would be supported by Task and Finish Groups, Performance and Commissioning Group and Multi-Agency Forums and explained the role of each.

The Board discussed the new structure and recommended that parents and more representatives from the third sector be included. Lawrence Loft explained to the Board that the structure would be subject to further discussion by the Childrens and Young Peoples Trust and that the structure may still change.

**AGREED** - that the LSP accept the proposed changes to the structure of the Children and Young People's Trust in line with the recent DCSF guidance and the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning (ASCL) Act 2009.

## **11 LSP ANNUAL REPORT.**

Ros Davies, Principal Partnerships Advisor, informed the Board that work on the LSP's Annual Report was on-going. She explained that it would include an update on the work of the groups and a report from each network. She asked that any partners with updates on LSP activity pass them to her within the next two weeks.

## **12 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the LSP Board will be on 12th July 2010 at 5.30pm and the next meeting of the LSP Executive will be held on 7th June 2010 at 5.30pm.