



**Blackburn with Darwen Strategic Partnership Board
Minutes of a Meeting held on Monday, 11th April 2011**

PRESENT:

Councillors	Kate Hollern
	Yusuf Jan-Virmani
	Faryad Hussain
	Andy Kay
	Mohammed Khan
	Tony Humphrys
	Michael Lee
Business Sector	Mike Murray
	Amanda Meachin
	John Slee
	Ilyas Munshi
	Neil McInroy
Public Sector	Dominic Harrison
	Kevin Ruth
	Anderson Coleman
	Peter Moss
	Robert Eastwood
	Janet Thomas
	Kevin Ruth
Community and Voluntary Sector	Mohammed Ilyas Patel
	Ian Gallagher
	Garth Hodgkinson
	Abdul Mulla
	Peter Neill
	John Sturgess
	Vicky Shepherd
	Laurence Loft
	Yvonne Hulse
	Vidusi

Council Officers	Graham Burgess (Chief Executive)
	Philippa Cross (Performance Manager BwD)
	Gladys Rhodes White (Strategic Director, Families, Health & Wellbeing)
	Sayyed Osman (Director of Environment, Neighbourhoods & Housing)
	Jonathan Tew (Head of Policy)
	Tom Stannard (Director of Policy and Communications)
	Ken Barnsley (Head of Corporate Research)
	Imran Akuji (Diversity and Cohesion Manager)
	Anisa Patel (Graduate Policy Officer)
	Christine Wood (Executive & Councillor Support Officer)

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Maureen Bateson and Dave Harling, Angela Allen, Ian Clinton, Tracey Ellmore, Peter Hobkirk, Sue Rowe, Mohammed Tayyab Sidat, Sir Bill Taylor, Pauline Walsh and Lynn Wissett.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10th JANUARY 2011

AGREED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2011 be agreed as a correct record.

3 COMMUNITY COHESION

EDL DEMONSTRATION AND COUNTER DEMONSTRATION

Councillor Kate Hollern referred to the EDL demonstration and counter demonstration that had taken place in Blackburn on 2nd April 2011, congratulating Tom Stannard, Chief Superintendent Bob Eastwood and their teams on the “exceptional job” that had been carried out, in response to the massive challenge. The demonstrations had been well managed with opportunities for damage minimalised.

It was highlighted that the demonstrations had raised the profile of community cohesion, and that new networks had developed within the partnership work of the Local Authority and the local Police, which had benefited and been much appreciated by Neighbourhood Teams.

COMMUNITY COHESION AND EQUALITY STRATEGY

Imran Akuji submitted the draft updated Community Cohesion and Equality Strategy to the Board which was currently subject to a consultation period, which was due to close on 28th April 2011.

Imran provided an overview of the draft strategy, including the definition of community cohesion at Blackburn with Darwen, key strategic priorities,

policy development, delivery framework, monitoring and review going forward.

It was stressed that the draft strategy was a broad framework, based on work that had been carried out in the previous twelve months, and not a response to the recent demonstrations.

Imran requested that Members respond to the consultation by returning the completed pro-forma that was attached to the draft strategy, no later than 28th April 2011.

4 DRAFT LOCAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT 2011-2014

A report was submitted to finalise the target outcomes for the 2030 vision and to propose a set of measures that would form the basis of a partnership agreement for the next three years.

Members were advised that the existing Local Area Agreement (LAA) had ended on 31st March 2011, and that the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government had removed the requirement for further LAA's from then. The LSP had previously agreed, that it wished to continue with a partnership plan, as a means of implementing its vision for 2030.

Members were reminded that at the last meeting of the LSP on 14th February 2011 the target outcomes for the vision had been agreed, with the exception of an outcome within the Connected Communities priority theme, for digital networks, for which the LSP had requested that the wording be again looked at. Key issues in relation to the Digital Technology Outcome and Performance Frameworks were outlined in the report. It was highlighted that it would be difficult to measure the impact of the increased availability of digital networks.

Details of the themes and outcomes were outlined in the report including the proposed revised wording, in relation to the Connected Communities digital networks outcome, for which approval was requested. Attached to the report was a proposed scorecard that would provide the basis of a Local Partnership Agreement for 2011 to 2014, for which approval was also requested. Each measure would now require a detail specification to be produced and targets set. It was proposed that this would be delegated to the new Thematic Groups and reported to the development session of the LSP session to be held in the autumn.

It was proposed to set targets for three years, but that the Local Partnership Agreement be established as a rolling plan, with the targets being extended, and updated each year, following a self assessment of progress. It was further proposed that each annual self assessment be undertaken during the summer with the results reported to the development session of the LSP and published as an annual report.

AGREED –

1. That the revised wording for the digital technology outcome be approved.
2. That the proposed scorecard as attached to the report be adopted as the LSP's Local Partnership Agreement;
3. That measure definition and target setting be delegated to the Thematic Groups for reporting to the LSP's development session in the autumn;
4. That targets be set for three years and rolled forward each subsequent year; and
5. That an annual assessment of progress be undertaken as described in the report.

5 CLES REPORT – UNDERSTANDING THE PLACE RESILIENCE OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN

Neil McInroy, Chief Executive, Centre for Local Economic Strategies presented the final report 'Understanding the Place Resilience of Blackburn with Darwen' to the LSP Board.

AGREED – That the report be noted.

6 NEIGHBOURHOODS ENGAGEMENT REVIEW UPDATE

Sayyed Osman submitted a presentation updating the Board on the review of Neighbourhood Engagement/Structures that had recently taken place.

AGREED – That the update be noted

7 GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE REVISED LSP STRUCTURE INCORPORATING DRAFT CONSTITUTION

A report was submitted to present a draft revised constitution for the new partnership structure, including options for membership of the LSP and links between the Board and Thematic Groups.

Members were reminded that at the LSP meeting on 14th February 2011, an approved revised structure had been approved, and the Council had been requested to review the membership of the LSP, the support arrangements for the new thematic groups and prepare a revised constitution for the new structure.

Details of the existing LSP Board/Executive were outlined in the report. Details of the new reduced structure, with only one overarching body, following a consultation period, were also outlined in the report. Links between the overarching LSP and thematic groups were also outlined in the report.

Attached to the report was a draft revised LSP constitution, with a request for approval, that incorporated the following changes:

The overarching body of the LSP would be called a Board with a total membership of 24.

Distribution of the membership would be on the basis of quarters made up as follows:

- 6 Borough Councillors as nominated by the Borough Council;
- 6 private sector representatives as nominated by Community and Business Partners Ltd;
- 6 representatives from public sector organisations as nominated by the Local Public Service Board; and
- 6 representatives from the voluntary, community and faith sector as nominated by the Community Network.

In its terms of reference the LSP Board would:

- Appoint at the beginning of each Municipal year the Chair of the Thematic Groups.

It was proposed that the LSP Board mandates the Council's Policy and Performance Unit, to facilitate a multi-agency workshop to define the terms of reference and work programme for the new LSP Commissioning Board.

Other changes to the constitution had been made to reflect the updating of the vision from 2020 to 2030, and to replace reference to Local Area Agreements with Local Partnership Agreement.

A discussion took place around the issue in which Ian Gallagher expressed concern about the reduced numbers of Community Network representatives on the revised Board. Tom Stannard advised that Pauline Walsh, Chair of the Community Network, who had submitted apologies for the meeting, had been consulted on the changes and was supportive of the recommendations.

A member of the public expressed the view that the Community Safety Partnership and Health and Well Being Board should have greater representation from the LSP on their groups, as their membership was limited to just statutory requirements at present.

RESOLVED – That the proposals as outlined in the report be agreed, and the draft revised constitution for the LSP be approved and adopted.

Ian Gallagher requested that it be noted that he did not support the above proposals.

8 POSITIVE ABOUT AGE – AN OLDER PEOPLE’S STRATEGY FOR BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN

Vicky Shepherd submitted a copy of the revised Older People’ Strategy 2011-2016, which had been published by the Blackburn with Darwen 50+ Partnership, requesting approval from the LSP Board. Members were advised that the revised strategy had built on the Older People’s Strategy, that had been adopted in 2007 and had recently expired.

Members were also advised that with the support of Blackburn with Darwen Policy team, extensive consultation had taken place with older people. If approved, the Strategy would link through the LSP until 2016 and would be reviewed in 2013/14 to address any new issues that had emerged.

RESOLVED - That the revised Older People’s Strategy be approved.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Murray referred to David Gavagan, who had recently retired from Blackburn with Darwen Council, following 30+ years of Local Government Service and expressed thanks for his hard work and dedication which had been very much valued, wishing him a long and happy retirement.