



**Blackburn with Darwen Strategic Partnership Board
Minutes of a Meeting held on Monday 18th June 2012.**

PRESENT:

Councillors	Kate Hollern
	Mohammed Khan
	Yusuf Jan-Virmani
	Maureen Bateson
	Michael Lee
Business Sector	Mike Murray
	Mohammed Isap
	Amanda Meachin
Community and Voluntary Sector	Garth Hodgkinson
	Abdul Mulla
	Pauline Walsh
	Angela Allen
Council Officers	Graham Burgess (Chief Executive)
	Sayyed Osman (Director of Environment, Neighbourhoods & Housing)
	Liz Hall (Director of Finance)
	Dominic Harrison (Director of Public Health)
	Brian Bailey (Director of Regeneration)
	Jonathan Tew (Head of Policy)
	Philippa Cross (Policy & Performance Manager)
	Phil Llewellyn (Executive & Councillor Support Manager)

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Ian Clinton, Mike Damms, Kevin Ruth, Joe Slater, Khalid Saifullah and Steve Kennedy.

2 LSP BOARD SELECTION PROCESS

Mike Murray explained that the Council had e-mailed members of the Board about the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair for the LSP Board, Chair and Vice-Chair for each Thematic area, including the LSP Commissioning Board and representation on the LSP Board. It was also reported that the Health and Well-being Board had recently appointed Councillor Kate Hollern as Chair, and Councillor Mohammed Khan as Vice-Chair. No objections had been received to the proposal that the

Chairs and Vice Chairs all continue for the Municipal Year 2012/13 and that the representation on the LSP Board remain unchanged.

Agreed – That the existing Chair and Vice Chair of the LSP Board, Chair and Vice Chairs of the Thematic Groups including the LSP Commissioning Board and current representation of the LSP Board continue for the Municipal Year 2012/13.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13th FEBRUARY 2012

Agreed – That the minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2012 be agreed as a correct record.

4 DRAFT LOCAL PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2012-2015

A report was submitted which provided the LSP Board with a draft action plan for 2012-2015, for consultation, an update from the Chairs of each Thematic Group in relation to their priority actions for 2012-2015 and requested a change to the wording of the 2030 Vision and scorecard.

The purpose of the draft LSP Action Plan was to pull together a short overview of all the thematic plans, into a single document, to act as a public facing statement of what the LSP planned to achieve over the next three years (2030 vision outcomes) and how it planned to achieve the results (delivery activities).

During the consultation on the draft LSP action plan a request had been received, from the Prosperous Group, to make a small change to the 2030 Vision and Scorecard.

The proposed changes were outlined as follows:

Request to change the current statement for prosperous from:

*“We see **prosperous** towns where residents aspire to achieve their dreams for education, learning and employment, with thriving businesses creating innovative products for local and world markets.”*

To:

*“We see **prosperous** areas where residents aspire to achieve their dreams for education, learning and employment, with thriving businesses creating innovative products for local and world markets.”*

Request to change the priority outcome for the prosperous group from:

Vision Priority	Outcome for the borough
Prosperous towns	Increased business competitiveness

To:

Vision Priority	Outcome for the borough
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Prosperous towns	Created an environment in which business flourishes.
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The report also outlined the recommended LSP Board Members for 2012/13 and the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Board and Thematic areas (as agreed at Agenda Item 2).

The Chair or representative of each thematic area outlined their individual plans and received feedback.

Pauline Walsh outlined her concerns that the Prosperous Group were excluding the valuable skills and experience that the Third Sector could offer. Brian Bailey explained that the businesses involved were establishing their relationships, but it was envisaged that other colleagues would be involved, the timing of which would be down to the Chair and Vice Chair.

Agreed – That the changes to be made to the 2030 Vision and Scorecard as outlined above and the subsequent publication of an updated 2030 Vision document be approved.

5 3D PRINTING

Mike Murray reported on a recent visit to Fab Lab in Manchester, where colleagues viewed 3D Printing devices in action.

The demonstration had shown the huge potential that such devices offered – machines were now significantly cheaper than previously and could produce solid objects from a design on a computer, utilising plastic, wood, metal and other materials.

The opportunity existed for Blackburn with Darwen to provide a hub facility, where the various machines could be sited and local trained on their use and the timing was right to do this now and be at the forefront of this exciting development. Funding of £250,000 would be required initially and Board Members were asked to consider the possibility of this funding being found and a suitable host being identified.

A video demonstration was shown, and those present discussed the proposal further. Mo Isap advised he would be interested in supporting this endeavour and that now was the right time for people to get on board. Graham Burgess suggested that going forward one of the Thematic Groups, such as prosperous, would be better placed to work on the proposal, rather than waiting for reports to come back to the LSP Board. Sayyed Osman suggested that the £250,000 would be a minimum investment and the sponsorship from a major local employer would be required.

Agreed – That further work on the 3D Printing proposal be undertaken.

6 IMPACT OF WELFARE REFORM

Liz Hall provided an update on the key changes to Benefits and Welfare as a result of the Welfare Reform Act.

The report submitted outlined the Housing and Council Tax Benefit changes, the Localisation of Council Tax and the Social Fund, as well as providing information on the introduction of a Welfare Cap, the introduction of Universal Credit and Personal Independence Payments.

The timelines for the Welfare Reform Programme were also outlined, with changes to the various credits and benefits taking place from the period 2011 to 2017.

The meeting discussed the impact of these major changes which would be very significant going forward. Discussions also focussed on help available such as food banks and the need for empty shops to be utilised for such services. Discussions also centred on the severe impact on deprived Boroughs such as Blackburn with Darwen.

Agreed – That the update be noted

7 NATIONAL PENSIONERS DIGNITY CODE

Jonathan Tew reported that the Council had recently adopted the National Pensioners Convention (NPC) Dignity Code for the Older People (details of the Code have been issued with the agenda) and proposed that the LSP and its constituent Organisations do the same.

Agreed – That the LSP Board and Thematic Groups adopt the NPC Dignity Code and that the constituent organisations be recommended to also adopt the Code.

8 DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2012/13

The Board agreed the following future meeting dates:

23rd July 2012 (*LSP Board meeting*) – *Time or date may change due to Ramadan*

1st October 2012 (*Development Session – half day*)

11th February 2013 (*LSP Board Meeting*)

8th April 2013 (*LSP Board Meeting*)