



**Blackburn with Darwen Strategic Partnership Board
Minutes of a Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2013.**

PRESENT:

Councillors	Kate Hollern
	Frank Connor
	Yusuf Jan-Virmani
	Michael Lee
Business Sector	Mike Murray (in the chair)
	Mohammed Isap
	Amanda Meachin
	Mike Damms
	Bob Eastwood
	Harry Catherall
Community and Voluntary Sector	Garth Hodgkinson
	Angela Allen
	Amar Abass
Council Officers	Jonathan Tew (Head of Policy)
	Sayed Osman (Director of Environment, Neighbourhoods & Housing)
	Dominic Harrison

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting. It was reported that Councillor Frank Connor had replaced Councillor Maureen Bateson. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Andy Kay, Councillor Mohammed Khan, Abdul Mulla, Ian Clinton and Pauline Walsh.

2. RETIREMENT OF THE CHAIR OF THE LSP.

The chair, Mr Mike Murray informed the partnership that this was to be his last meeting and that he was retiring. The board presented the chair with a token of their appreciation and paid tribute to the long and distinguished work he had undertaken for the benefit of the Borough and its citizens. The Leader of the Council informed Members of the Board that it was the intention that a civic reception would be arranged to mark this retirement.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, 11TH FEBRUARY 2012.

Agreed- The minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2013 were agreed as a correct record.

4 FUTURE LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP MODEL.

The board received a letter from the Chief Executive of the Borough Council outlining options for the future of the partnership and responses that had been received to the consultation on the future arrangements.

It was reported that there had been a number of consistent themes within the consultation responses received and these are summarised below: -

- Partnership working in BwD had been extremely effective for many years, with implicit benefits for all sectors and positive implications for the external reputation of the borough.
- The fact that the LSP Board had held meetings in public and has welcomed all sectors (private, public, voluntary and community) to take part in shaping the future vision and strategy for BwD had been, and still is, valued.
- The role of the faith sector should be explored in future partnership arrangements and underpinning programmes of work.
- The pace of any changes to the partnership framework, and particularly the proposed removal of the LSP Board, should therefore be tempered, pending a further opportunity to capture fully the views of partners involved.
- The changing statutory arrangements and their implications for remodelling wider partnership arrangements, particularly around Health and Wellbeing, are acknowledged.
- The proposed reduction in the pseudo-democratic nature of some partnerships, bureaucracy in support processes and weight of meeting schedules – with linked rebalancing of partners' energy towards community engagement and programmes of work that genuinely add value – was broadly welcomed.
- The need to 'capture' existing effective programmes of work and roll these forward into future partnership arrangements was identified; as was the need to quickly respond and 're-convene' relevant partnerships as and when national and regional agendas required an effective BwD response or joint initiative.
- The willingness of the Council to lead future partnership forums, particularly through strong political leadership, was welcomed. The emphasis on business and voluntary, community and faith sectors defining their own forums and bespoke mechanisms for contribution to the wider partnership framework was acknowledged.

As a result of the issues raised during the consultation process, a further proposal would entail: -

- Retention of a much ‘slimmed-down’ LSP Board with a quarterly, public meeting cycle. Membership of this Board would be made up of the five chairs of remaining thematic groups, with vice-chairs nominated as substitutes: -
 - The Local Public Service Board;
 - The Community Safety Partnership;
 - The Health and Well-being Board;
 - The Prosperous Group; and
 - The VCS Voice Forum.
- Review of the work programmes of existing thematic groups and adoption of a programme management approach to ensure that effective activity rolls-forward into a ‘new home’ within the partnership framework.
- Removal of: -
 - The LSP Commissioning Board;
 - The Clean and Connected Groups; and
 - The representative role of the Community Network and Community and Business Partners.
- Pending a bespoke and on-going consultation exercise, the work of the Children’s Trust to be moved into a ‘delivery partnership sub-group’ of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- A review of engagement processes be undertaken to ensure that whole-borough, area-based and client-based (e.g. Children and Young People and / or Older People’s) engagement is effective and augments the partnership approach to strategy, commissioning and delivery.

The Board also received a draft constitution for remodelled partnership for consideration.

RESOLVED-

1. That the reconstituted, revised model for the Local Strategic Partnership set out above be approved for adoption.
2. That the draft constitution now submitted by approved.

Chair.....

Date.....