

MINUTES OF LSP EXECUTIVE MEETING
10.00am, 21st May 2010, West Lancashire Investment Centre

Present:

CLlr Ian Grant	Chairman	Angela Anspiwall-Livesay	Children and Young People Thematic Group Vice Chair
Bill Taylor	Chair of Community Safety Thematic Group	CLlr Blake	
Ian Cropper	Parish Councils' representative	Greg Mitten	Chair of People and Communities Thematic Group
Steve Igoe	Edge Hill University	Stuart Williams	Lancashire Constabulary
CLlr David Westley	Chair of Funding Management Group	Dr Zakyeya Atcha	NHS Central Lancashire
CLlr William Cropper	LCC	Jane Cass	NHS Central Lancashire
Dr Richard Small	Chair of Environment Thematic group	CLlr Owens	Chair of Employment, Learning and Skills Thematic Group
Louise Dawson	Skelmersdale and Ormskirk College	Jacky Citarella (for Rodney Dykes)	Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust

In attendance: Cath McNamara (LSP Secretariat); Shaun Walsh (LSP Secretariat); Tracey Jardine (LSP Secretariat); Gillian Whitfield (WLBC); Ian Gill (WLBC).

1 Apologies

Steve Costello	LCC	Rodney Dykes	Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust
Dr Alex McMinn	Older People's Partnership Board		

2. Declarations of Interest

The Borough and County Councillors present expressed an interest in items relating to PRG.

For approval

3 Minutes of the Executive meeting, 13.03.10

AGREED as an accurate record

4 Matters arising

The Chairman advised the meeting that the tabled item on PIDs had been postponed in order to provide theme leads with sufficient time to develop the strongest proposals by exploring opportunities for joint working and match funding. Theme Leads were thanked for their continued efforts in this work.

Bill Taylor thanked the Executive for agreeing to recommend funding for the Supporting and Strengthening CCTV Project through PRG. Research showed that residents wanted more CCTV as it was important in terms of reducing fear of crime.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that the Deputy Prime Minister had indicated that introducing legislation around use of CCTV would be a consideration of the Coalition Government.

Bill Taylor advised the meeting that the legislation was likely to be around how CCTV is used in terms of privacy and human rights issues, rather than prohibiting the expansion of its use.

The Chairman raised the possibility of writing to the Home Office for guidance on the matter.

For note

5 Minutes of the Funding Management Group

Cllr Westley advised the meeting that the FMG was winding up in October. There have been difficulties in achieving the quorate attendance at meetings and they had consequently been cancelled.

There had been an underspend of the LiB monies. Agreement had been obtained to extend the project for three months in order to pay for a Consultant Report on Skelmersdale Railway.

The Chairman thanked Gary Jones for leading on this work.

Noted

6 LDF Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Presentation and report of WLBC

The meeting received a presentation from Gillian Whitfield and was advised that the Core Strategy set out a vision for what West Lancashire could look like in 20 years. It was based upon local issues.

There was a need to look at infrastructure to ensure the deliverability of the Core Strategy and therefore the Sustainable Community Strategy.

A joint working group with Liverpool City Region had been established to consult with the utilities companies and avoid duplication.

Bill Taylor highlighted the need to put the issue on the Lancashire Chief Executives' agenda.

The issue of broadband was raised. Steve Igoe highlighted that maximising the opportunities of joint working would reduce costs i.e. tapping into the University high speed broadband. Working together would also maximise the opportunity to influence.

The Environment Agency and Natural England had been engaged with the process and more localised contact was being made e.g. with the Environment Thematic Group.

Zakyeya Atcha suggested that the team should revisit thematic groups to ensure that their information was current.

It was expected that the Core Strategy should be adopted in 2010. Consultation on the preferred option would take place at the end of this year.

Steve Igoe suggested that a meeting should be convened bringing together the big players to share what they are doing. Membership should be driven by impact.

The Chairman thanked Gillian and Ian.

**Agreed: That the contents of the report are noted;
That future updates regarding the progress of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan be provided to the LSP; and
That the LSP Secretariat contacts the Executive seeking interest in participation in an Infrastructure Task and Finish Group.**

7 Second Homes Fund Monitoring. Report from LSP Secretariat.

The Executive received a report updating the meeting on the current position on Second Homes Fund spending, at the end of year and year to date. Relevant project monitoring reports were also provided.

Greg advised the meeting that a graduate had been employed whose role was to develop community asset maps of Skelmersdale and to prepare bids for bringing forward funding from LCC. In response to a query regarding sustainability, the meeting was advised that an Asset Based Community Development Working Group had been established. Partnership working had produced sustainability.

Louise Dawson advised the meeting that 159 learners had been engaging in volunteering. This meant that by the end of the year, 3229 hours would be volunteered that would not have been otherwise.

Cllr Owens was very impressed with this work. The Employment, Learning and Skills Thematic Group had received a presentation from the graduate.

Greg informed the meeting that a further project proposal might be submitted (c.£4.5k). He liked the new format of the monitoring reports.

**Agreed: That the Executive notes the expenditure incurred and commitments against the fund to 31st March 2010 (appendix A);
The proposed allocation of funds for managerial purposes; and
The release of a second stage payment of funds for the Parents in Sport project, subject to a satisfactory interim report (App Ci).**

**Noted: That there remains £6338.48 as yet unallocated in this year's budget;
The progress against the projects (Appendix C);
The interim reports for Burscough Timebank and Community Food Growing Initiative (apps Cii and Ciii); and
The final report of Connecting People to Jobs (App Civ)**

For Noting

8 Performance Update. Report from LSP Secretariat.

Cath McNamara advised the meeting that there had not been any areas of difficulty or concern reported to the Secretariat. There had been some very positive performance relating to reductions in crime.

Bill Taylor praised the calibre of leadership in the Police, which he said was responsible for the exceptional crime reductions. Stuart Williams advised the meeting that serious acquisitive crime levels were likely to be showing a 38% reduction on the previous year. There was a 56% reduction

in burglaries and 19% reduction in overall crime. However, these figures were provisional and might yet be changed.

There were discussions regarding handing prosecuting powers back to the Police from the CPS.

9 Second Homes Fund – Project Proposal: Membership of the Blackpool and Lancashire Tourist Board. Bid from the Economy and Employment Thematic Group.

Cllr Owens provided an outline of the merits of the bid. It was felt that membership allowed smaller players to figure on a bigger stage.

Benefits of the membership also included the opportunity to participate in a successful graduate programme.

Concerns were raised regarding the benefits that the project could deliver. It was felt that there was insufficient cross-boarder working, especially with Southport.

Richard Small advised the meeting that it was important not to be complacent regarding the ability of larger attractions to market their own businesses. The visitor numbers at Martin Mere were declining.

Greg Mitten advised the meeting that feedback from the Rural Economy Local Action Group on which he represents the LSP, was that the Tourist Board had had positive involvement, particularly in the provision of advice.

Agreed: That the bid be approved and membership funded for one year.

Agreed: That future funding of the membership be subject to the Executive being satisfied that the project was delivering sufficient benefits.

10 LSP Constitution Review. Report of the LSP Secretariat

The meeting was advised that a review of the constitution was required, as it had been agreed that it would be reviewed within two years of adoption. A draft revised constitution had been circulated with the papers.

The Chairman requested that references to the 'Chair' should be amended to 'Chairman'.

It was felt that YPS was represented through LCC.

Agreed: That comments on the draft revised Constitution should be sent to the LSP Secretariat.

That a private sector representative should be approached again regarding attendance.

11 Proposed Annual General Meeting Arrangements. Report of the LSP Secretariat.

Agreed: That bolstering the economy, avoiding double-dip recession and achieving efficiencies with minimal impact on services should be the focus of the AGM.

That the Secretariat would bring a report to the next meeting of the Executive outlining a draft programme.

12 Duty to Involve. Report of WLBC

Shaun Walsh presented the report which detailed a proposal to meet the Duty to Involve whilst minimising the effort required from partners. This involved providing links to relevant web pages.

Noted: That information should be passed to the LSP Secretariat before 4th June.

13 Community Cohesion Advice Note. Report of the Community Cohesion Thematic Group.

Tracey Jardine presented the report. It was felt that the action plan was realistic and that the advice note provided a useful map of what partners were doing.

A huge amount of work was going on. The action plan would be reviewed annually and presented to the Executive.

The People and Communities Group was a subgroup of this thematic group. Its role was to look at how the third sector could play a part in turning strategy into action.

The advice note was the first action on the action plan and was now complete.

Bill Taylor highlighted the lack of community tension that had arisen following the conviction for murder of a Polish national. This was thanks to cross-organisational working.

Cllr Grant highlighted the success of Freshers' Week. Steve Igoe gave credit to the Students Union for this. A 'PC Paul' virtual police officer initiative had been very successful. Cllr Cropper felt that one could scarcely find a better example of partnership working.

Noted: The contents of the report.

14 WLBC Corporate Priorities 2010/11. Report of WLBC

Cllr Grant presented the item and highlighted the focus upon the best use of resources. It was a statement of intent.

Steve Igoe felt that MAAs would become more important. He felt that the one in which West Lancashire was involved looked Preston-centric. The importance of recognising West Lancashire and retaining a talented workforce were highlighted.

Cllr Grant explained the rationale behind MAAs and stressed that the West Lancashire corner was being strongly fought.

There was campaigning for an improved rail link to Preston from Burscough and Skelmersdale, so benefits to Preston could be realised by West Lancashire.

Noted: the contents of the report.

15 Forward Plan 2010

Partners were reminded that the next meeting of the Executive would commence at **9.30am**.

16 Any Other Business

Greg Mitten wished to acknowledge the partnership working that was going on. There had been a noticeable difference in the support that he had received by being a member of the LSP.

The Children's Trust had allocated £13k to fund two paid workers at a crisis centre until 31/1/11.

With regard to Future Jobs, LCC had worked well with CVS. Four young people were now working at Red Apple. The college were recruiting for a further eight. There were three other vacancies to fill. These would provide six months training.