

MINUTES OF LSP EXECUTIVE MEETING
9.30am 16th July 2010, West Lancashire Investment Centre

Present:

Cllr Ian Grant Ian Cropper	Chairman Parish Councils' representative	Cllr Blake Greg Mitten	Vice Chair Chair of People and Communities Thematic Group
Hugh Evans	Chamber of Commerce	Dean Holden	Lancashire Constabulary
Steve Costello Cllr William Cropper	LCC LCC	Dr Zakyeya Atcha Mark Wardale	NHS Central Lancashire LCC (obo Tracey Jardine)
Rodney Dykes	Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust	Cllr Owens	Chair of Employment, Learning and Skills Thematic Group
Louise Dawson	Skelmersdale and Ormskirk College	John Buck	Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service
Alex McMinn	Chair of Older People's Partnership Board	Kim Webber	WLBC (obo Bill Taylor)

In attendance: Cath McNamara (LSP Secretariat); Shaun Walsh (LSP Secretariat); Andrew Hill (WLBC).

1 Apologies

Bill Taylor	Chair of Community Safety Partnership (Kim Webber deputised with Andrew Hill in attendance)	Tracey Jardine	District Partnership Officer (LCC) (Mark Wardale deputised)
Cllr Westley	Chair of Funding Management Group	Steve Igoe	Edge Hill University
Cllr Forshaw	Chair of Integrated Transport Group	Stuart Williams	Lancashire Constabulary (Dean Holden deputised)
Angela Aspinwall- Livesay	Chair of Children's Trust		

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided an update about the changes that had been announced to PRG by the Coalition Government, and the implications of these announcements on the work that had previously been undertaken by the Group.

2. Declarations of Interest

It was agreed that these would be dealt with by each item.

For approval

3 Minutes of the Executive meeting, 16.07.10

At item 16, this should be amended to reflect £136k until 31/3/11 and 3 frontline projects.

AGREED as an accurate record

4 Matters arising

N/a

5 Performance reward Grant

The Chairman advised the meeting that PRG would still need to be spent with a 50/50 capital/revenue split. The purpose of the item was to seek tacit approval of interest.

Louise Dawson and Greg Mitten advised the meeting that the groups had worked together to look at scaling down the funding required, without sacrificing outcomes. Match funding etc had been considered. The revised proposal was a collaboration between Skelmersdale and Ormskirk College, WLCVS, the NHS, PCT, Children's Trust and the regeneration team at WLBC.

The project had a number of strands and would be called 'West Lancs Passport', the idea being that residents sign up to a number of objectives that they will then receive support to achieve. Targets were around number of volunteering hours and apprenticeships.

Greg felt that the project would develop employment opportunities, improve health and have a number of other cross-cutting benefits. The working group was satisfied that the project met all of the requirements, based on a revised CCTV project requiring a similar amount of capital funding.

A draft structure was distributed amongst the meeting.

Greg highlighted the use of community assets in the public sector – wants to be in a position to continue future funding, for example to create and address issues regarding employment, community safety and community food growing.

There were links to rural development. It was outcome, not aspiration based. The focus was upon creating self-sustaining organisations and asset-based community training.

The bid was made up of the following:

Funding required for 2 years:

2 Development Officers (£60k pa)

Health related training (£5k pa)

Further funding for management, co-ordination, travel and contingency.

In total, the project was estimated to cost at £386,934, of which £177,650 match funding had been identified.

There would be a senior management co-ordination group, whose target would be to make the project self-sustaining. The group would be akin to the LSP Action Groups and would

spearhead the new way of working. The Employment, Learning and Skills Thematic Group would take the work forward and manage it.

The Group believe the project to be achievable and were continually looking at further funding opportunities.

Cllr Owens was generally supportive of the work and Kim Webber highlighted how important and positive it was that the groups were working so closely together, instead of retreating into silos. Kim also felt that there were possible opportunities for greater synergy with leisure services and the MAPS team in terms of links for referral.

Louise Dawson advised the meeting that match funding was secure. Greg added that the centralised use of development workers and future jobs trainees would equal a better use of that resource. Risk strategies had been developed in case any funding was lost.

Andrew Hill provided an update on the possibility of revising the CCTV project. Improvements could be made with any amount of funding, but he felt that a worthwhile project could still be undertaken with reduced funding of £220k capital.

Agreed: That a revised CCTV proposal would be brought to the next meeting.

Agreed: That the group was still happy with the principle of a CCTV proposal.

Shaun Walsh highlighted the need to ensure that funding remained available for any project management costs.

Dean Holden reinforced the importance of CCTV in West Lancashire and offered to come back to the meeting with a presentation about its hidden benefits.

In response to a query regarding the possibility of the PRG that had been received being clawed back, the group was advised that currently there was no knowledge of this being a possibility.

In response to a query from Ian Cropper regarding when it would be possible to commit to funding a project, there was some discussion around contractual commitments. Kim felt it was important to weigh up the risks and that the suggested route was the right approach from a scrutiny perspective.

Agreed: That the Executive notes that the level of PRG which will be received is unlikely to be in excess of the £478k already received and that this will still need to be spent equally on capital and revenue.

Agreed: That no commitments involving use of PRG monies are entered into until there is certainty as to the amount of money WL LSP will receive.

Noted: That the Executive agrees an alternative way forward with regard to allocating the PRG.

Agreed: That a further paper would be brought to the next meeting of the Executive.

Agreed: That a special half-hour meeting of the Executive be held after the Annual Forum to agree a way forward on PRG allocation.

6 Funding Management Group Round Up Statement

Only £3k had been unspent.

Noted: The paper was noted and the Chairman thanked Gary Jones for the

producing it.

7 Second Homes Monitoring. Report from the LSP Secretariat.

Noted: The report was noted.

Agreed: That a report would be brought to the November meeting of the Executive, clarifying where projects were up to and whether the monies allocated to them would be spent.

8 Second Homes Fund Project Proposal – Outreach service providing free money education and fairly priced loans in the rural parishes of West Lancashire and the hard to reach areas in Skelmersdale. Report from LSP Secretariat.

The Chairman asked that Item 12 be considered along side this project proposal, as the Rural Development Programme might provide an alternative source of funding.

Greg advised the meeting that the provision of rural advice had been included in the PRG proposal considered at Item 5, however the second homes fund bid application had preceded this inclusion. The group submitting the proposal were now aware of the Rural Development Programme and were going to look into it.

The Chairman advised the meeting that as we were only quarter of a way into the financial it would be unwise to commit further revenue at this stage.

Dean Holden said that LCC Trading Standards were also looking into this area of work at the moment and it was important to ensure that there was no duplication.

Agreed: That the bid be deferred to the November meeting.

9 Neighbourhood Management. Report from LSP Secretariat.

Kim Webber outlined the work that had been conducted by WLBC Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee had asked that it be brought to the attention of the Executive as it was an area of potential cross-agency working. The Executive was asked whether this was something that it wanted to look at, bearing in mind the financial situation.

The Chairman didn't believe that the LSP could sign up to funding a Neighbourhood Manager and Cllr Grant expressed concerns regarding the extra cost and how proportionate this was to the value that it would add.

In response to a query regarding carrying on the SSCF work, Andrew Hill advised the meeting that it was about using the skills gained through SSCF and taking them elsewhere, one neighbourhood at a time.

Dean Holden felt that sustainability of such projects had been demonstrated through SSCF.

Agreed: That the project be supported, in principle.

Agreed: Costings, outcomes and measures would be discussed at a future meeting,

Agreed: Funds could not be committed by the LSP but alternative means of funding could be explored at a future meeting.

Agreed: that the existing Neighbourhood Manager be invited to speak at the November meeting.

Noted: The contents of the report.

10 Performance Update. Report of LSP Secretariat.

The People and Communities Thematic Group were bringing together Ormskirk Community Partnership, Skelmersdale Community Partnership and Burscough Moving Forward. Its focus was upon two LAA targets: creating a thriving third sector and involvement in volunteering. It was aligned to the Community Cohesion Action Plan and was an opportunity to highlight rural West Lancashire.

Dean Holden provided an update on crime and disorder performance and explained that there were difficult times ahead, especially when compared with performance last year which was particularly good.

There had been an increase in lower level assaults in Skelmersdale, which were probably alcohol related. There was a project going on in Skelmersdale to address the issue of alcohol misuse.

There was good partnership cross-boarder working, for example notifying when offenders were coming into the area.

Rodney Dykes advised the meeting that there had been no increase in violence to staff during the World Cup. There had been a marginal increase at Southport, but it had been far below what had been feared. They had worked proactively to minimise any potential increase.

There had been discussions regarding misconceptions around Edge Hill. Positive projects had been undertaken and they were trying to get more positive news published through the press.

Andrew Hill felt that the Face the People Event had demonstrated the positive impact of students on the local economy.

Ian Cropper queried whether there had been an increase in mob culture. Dean advised the meeting that an incident in Tarleton had been an isolated one. Problems being experienced in South Ribble were not mirrored in West Lancashire.

Noted: The contents of the report.

For Noting:

11 LSP AGM. Verbal update from LSP Secretariat.

The Chairman felt that this should be a 2 hour meeting, followed by a Special Meeting of the Executive.

There was discussion around the title of the meeting and whether this could affect attendance.

Agreed: That the Secretariat would draft an agenda reflecting comments made during this discussion.

12 Rural Development Programme for England – Calls for Expression of Interest. Update from WLCVS

Greg Mitten advised the meeting that this was an information item.

If any partners were aware of potentially suitable projects in rural communities they should contact Karen Kerrigan.

Ian Cropper advised the meeting that Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council had already submitted an application.

Noted: The contents of the report.

13 Forward Plan 2010

Agreed: That the Annual Forum would start at 9.30am.

Agreed: That the Secretariat would amend the forward plan to include the additions agreed at this meeting.

15 Any Other Business

1. Zakyeya Atcha advised the meeting that, with regard to the White Paper ("*Equality and Excellence: Liberating the NHS*"), the Chief Executive of Central Lancashire PCT had written to local authority Chief Executives. The Executive would be approached regarding its response.

Rodney Dykes wanted to put on record the excellent support that had been received from Central Lancashire PCT. Kim Webber added that there had been many benefits from PCT input into LSP projects.

2. Alex McMinn queried whether any clarity had been received on what was meant by the 'Big Society'. He felt that a good understanding of this would enable the LSP to be proactive once the new approach started to be implemented.

The Chairman felt that clarity regarding *localism* would also be helpful.

Kim Webber felt that the 'Big Society' provided an opportunity to share what we do.