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MEETING OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH LSP EXECUTIVE

15 June 2007 – 10.00 am

PRESENT:

J Ratcliffe (GYBC) (in the Chair); T Aydin (GYP), P Cheeseman (GYP), C Congreve (Norfolk Constabulary), J Cook (NCC Adult Services), H Foale (Learning and Skills Council), R Gregory (Neighbourhood Management Board), J Holt (Jobcentre Plus) and L Rogers (Norfolk Voluntary Services)

N Darwish, M Hartley, T Howard, P Wright and S Davis (GYBC officials).

D Stannard (LSP/Sustainable Community Strategy) and J Drinkill (Community Connections/Fair Share) attended by invitation

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from L Blizzard, D Glason and T Leonard.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2007 were confirmed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Corporate Connect

It was noted that the sub-group meeting would be held next week.

(b) Reviewing Learning Interventions to reduce inequalities

It was reported that Andy Goff and Trevor Cockburn were deputising for Ray Leeke in his absence with regard to the organisation of a multi-agency workshop to devise a learning strategy to raise attainment.

4. COMMUNITY COHESION

A progress report in relation to the Community Cohesion Action plan was circulated and it was noted that another core group meeting would be held shortly. The following was agreed:

- The Strategy should be revised
- There was a need for cohesion initiatives and to identify where the resources could come from
- Schools and communities needed to be more involved
- Community cohesion should be branded with a strapline and logo for community cohesion within the Borough
- A community award for achievement could be established, possibly working alongside LEGI
- More work needed to be undertaken with BME communities
- More support should be given to the voluntary sector to look at practices and procedures for community cohesion and social inclusion
- Development of community radio
- Use NNREC mapping to ensure there was no duplication and everything was still relevant
- Develop a welcome pack for Great Yarmouth
- Work with health trainers
- Involve the County Community Cohesion Coordinator once in post and make links with the County Community Cohesion Steering Group
- Identify existing Community Cohesion Strategies in Norfolk
- The 20/20 Vision document/Sustainable Community Strategy must fit in with the Community Cohesion Strategy which would hopefully be available in draft by September
- Police training on community cohesion should be reviewed to meet the needs of the diverse community within Great Yarmouth

- The Community Cohesion Strategy should link into the existing Cultural Partnership and Cultural Strategy

A query was raised as to what extent the Strategy would have on directing services and the Chairman reported that this issue would be considered by the Borough Council and she agreed that there was a need for a robust response. She added that work also needed to be undertaken with Councillors in relation to community cohesion. The need to dispel myths was stressed, however, the point was made that the Borough did not have much data available on the number of migrant workers. Trish Aydin reported that research on this issue had recently been conducted and whilst actions were being taken they were not always joined up. The Chairman reported that the National Office of Statistics had stated that there were only a few hundreds of migrant workers in the Borough but whilst the Borough Council knew this data was unreliable, unfortunately it affected the amount of Government grant allocated. Members noted that West Norfolk were in the process of producing a welcome pack for its migrant workers. Reference was made to the County Community Cohesion Coordinator who would hopefully be in place by October and it was noted that whilst the postholder would be based in North Norfolk their remit would be county-wide and they should have some available funding.

RESOLVED:

That the Progress Report be noted.

5. PERFORMANCE AGAINST 20/20 TARGETS AND OBJECTIVES/ SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY UPDATE

The Executive received a report which gave details of a summary of achievements against the latest 20/20 targets and objectives together with the specified outputs and content of the project to prepare Great Yarmouth's Sustainable Community Strategy. The point was made that many of the high level targets within the 20/20 Vision document had already been achieved with some still progressing. David Stannard suggested that some of the areas not covered within the high level targets such as addressing crime, training and education should be introduced into the new Strategy. He added that he would be consulting more widely than he had originally envisaged and would include the Statement of Community Involvement that pulled together the Local

Development Framework as a basis for that consultation. He requested that any input/comments in relation to the Strategy be forwarded to him as soon as possible bearing in mind the consultation would hopefully take place in the autumn. It was hoped that the document would be implemented by 2008 or 2009. He clarified that Government guidance on how the Sustainable Communities Strategies should be consulted on, had not yet been received and therefore it was intended to produce the Strategy which may have to be amended later on once this guidance had been received.

RESOLVED:

That the LSP Officer's report detailing the specification and timetable for the preparation of Great Yarmouth's Sustainable Communities Strategy together with the appendix on progress against the targets and objectives in the revised 20/20 Vision document be noted.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING – FINAL SPEND 2006/07

Members received the NRF Support and Monitoring Officer's report detailing NRF spend for 2006/07. It was noted that approximately £142,000 had been carried forward for allocation in 2007/08.

RESOLVED:

That the NRF Support and Monitoring Officer's report be noted.

7. COMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

It was noted that the meeting to discuss commissioning activities for young people would be held on 18 June and it was suggested that that group work on the premise of approximately 50% of available NRF being top-sliced for their proposed projects. The Chairman reported on the proposed mechanism for allocating the funding and it was noted this would be considered by the LSP Board on the 25 June: it was being suggested that delegated authority be granted to the Board Chairman to approve any of the detailed projects for commissioning activities for young people. She added that it was possible more underspend would

be identified in June and Members were asked to bear this in mind if they knew of any projects which could benefit.

RESOLVED:

That the date of the meeting to commission activities for young people be noted and it be suggested to them that a reasonable amount for top-slicing of the neighbourhood renewal funding available would be approximately 50%.

8. 2006/07 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

The Executive received the LSP Officer's report in relation to the performance of each thematic area. It was suggested that there was no deterioration in health and learning performance and progress was being made in relation to jobs. The Economic Development Officer reported in relation to the latter, stating that the direction of travel was good and that the employment and skills action plan gave solid proposals which would address some of the issues.

RESOLVED:

That the LSP Officer's report be noted and it be agreed that there had been no deterioration in the health and learning performance and that jobs receive an amber/red traffic light for 2006/07.

9. EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS PLAN

The Executive received the latest version of the Employment and Skills Action Plan together with details of an employment needs study of a target group and timeline which would hopefully be funded by Investing in Communities. If the proposal was agreed by the IIC Board, it was hoped that the interventions would then start from February 2008.

The point was made that the training element of the Employment and Skills Action Plan would need to be tailored to the needs of businesses in Great Yarmouth including in particular the Outer Harbour. It was suggested that a commitment was needed that the community would be prepared to enable them to be competitive in the employment market, ie training on interview techniques etc.

RESOLVED:

That the latest version of the Employment and Skills Action Plan be received and the proposals put forward to the IIC Board be endorsed.

10. NATIONAL LSP CONFERENCE – 14 JUNE 2007

The Executive received a copy of the agenda for the LSP conference and it was noted that the main focus had been on the new LAAs, LSPs and the Local Government White Paper. John Drinkill reported that he would write notes for each of the sessions he had attended for the LSP Officer. He concluded that he felt that Great Yarmouth appeared to be ahead of the game in terms of progress made and the procedure used to run the LSP.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT

The Executive was informed that the Neighbourhood Management programme had been launched last Friday at the new Centre at 143 King Street with over 100 people attending. The Centre would house outreach workers, the CLIP, Shelter and the Safer Neighbourhoods Team. It was possible that representatives from the Rainbow Credit Union, Citizens Advice Bureau and possibly even elected Members would be represented at the Centre. Rob Gregory reported that the next phase of the ComeUnity Programme was to develop the thematic working groups and he would be working with partners to hopefully achieve the outcomes by next year although he stressed the need to recognise that more help was needed in this particular area than Borough-Wide. The Neighbourhood Management Board's main project was the Grey to Green Programme which looked at spaces with environmental issues and concerns and the main priority areas presently were Foxes Passage and Swirles Place.

RESOLVED:

That the position be noted.

12. LEGI

The Economic Development Officer reported that service level agreements had been signed with all grant recipients and a marketing company had been engaged to promote enterprise. Discussions were ongoing with the University of East Anglia and the Board was also looking at options for a hub building. Members received details of the outcomes for the business start-up and growth elements and it was also noted that the Alchemy Centre would be launched at Great Yarmouth College in September along with the majority of the education element of the bid. The Police were in the process of employing a co-ordinator for the crime and business element of the bid and discussions were being held in relation to how the Business Broker element would work within the Employment Plan. The LEGI Programme Manager was also focussing on franchising in the Borough.

RESOLVED:

That the position be noted.

13. ITEMS FROM GYP/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

It was noted that there were no items from GYP/Community Partnerships.

14. FORA UPDATES

It was noted that the Social Forum had received a presentation in relation to CLAC'S and CLANS together with a presentation from Warm Front. The Learning Forum had received a presentation from College in the Community and Teresa Gonzalez had been reappointed as Chairman in her new capacity as Connexions Manager. The Forum was also discussing the Learning Strategy, bearing in mind that learning and skills provision in the Eastern area was being reviewed in line with the schools review. It was clarified that this may result in a change for post 16 learning and further consultation will be held in the next few months. The Economic Forum had discussed the NRF underspend and it had been agreed to look at the possibility of using some of the money to progress actions within the Employment Plan. Discussions had also taken place in relation to Gapton Hall roundabout and businesses had

been urged to keep lobbying the Highways Agency. Representatives from 1st East would be invited to the next Forum meeting. The Environmental Forum had received a presentation in relation to smoke-free legislation and had discussed the realignment of the criminal damage target, recycling and twin wheelie bins.

15. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Friday, 13 July 2007 at 10.00 am.

16. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 11.25 am.