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MEETING OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH LSP EXECUTIVE

16 November 2007 – 10.00 am

PRESENT:

J Ratcliffe (GYBC) (in the Chair); T Aydin (GYP), L Blizzard (GY&WPCT), P Cheeseman (GYP), T Cockburn (NCC), E Dewsnap (NCC), R Gregory (Neighbourhood Management Board), M Hardman (GY&WPCT), J Holt (Job Centre Plus), B Horner (Norwich and Norfolk Voluntary Services), D Martin (Business Link) and C Reilly (Great Yarmouth Community Trust)

L Offord (GY&WPCT) attended by invitation for item 4

R Darnell, N Darwish, D Glason, S Goodrum, M Hartley, M Smith, P Wright, S Davis (GYBC officials), T Leonard and D Standard (LSP Officers)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from M Burns, J Cook, A Cousins, N deJong, G Empson, H Foale and T Gonzalez.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2007 were confirmed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Joint Meeting of the LSP and Children and Young People's Board

The Board received a copy of a proposed Action Plan drawn up following the above meeting. It was noted that five areas had been identified to focus on, namely attendance, celebrating success, early years take-up, advice and guidance and raising aspirations.

RESOLVED:

That the five identified areas to focus on be agreed.

4. CONSULTATION ON MENTAL HEALTH AND OLDER PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH

Linda Offord from GY&WPCT gave a presentation on the consultation document which proposed changes to Older People's Mental Health Services in the Great Yarmouth and Waveney PCT area. She reported that the aim of the changes was to move towards modernising older people's services to become a Service of Excellence across the coast. She added that the consultation period had been extended to 14 January 2008 due to the recent postal strike. The Executive was informed that the PCT would produce a Mental Health Strategy based on the recent consultation, which would then go out to consultation itself prior to an Action Plan being drawn up.

A discussion ensued on the link between the PCT and the Norfolk and Waveney Mental Health Partnership and Practice Based Commissioners. Linda Offord explained that the PCT worked closely with these bodies and she agreed that there was a need to educate GPs on alternatives to writing prescriptions. The point was made that there was also a need to engage employers, as mental health was the second biggest reason for absenteeism from work. Linda Offord responded that a scheme which engaged employers was currently being piloted in Waveney and it was hoped that this would be expanded to Great Yarmouth. It was added that the Pathways to Work scheme could be linked in if this project was expanded. Clarification was sought as to why the PCT was proposing interim solutions rather than detailed options.

Linda Offord responded that this approach freed up resources which would then enable options for the longer term to be investigated.

RESOLVED:

That Linda Offord be thanked for her informative presentation.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING – QUARTER 2 CLAIMS

The Executive received the NRF Manager's report on Quarter 2 claims which indicated that £506,698.34 had been spent at the end of that period.

Members were informed that the Partnership for Health had allocated their underspend and the CDRP had given three suggestions for using all of their funding. Members received a report giving details of a proposal to hold a Great Yarmouth Opportunities Week in March 2008. A suggestion was made that the Prince's Trust and a self-employment element also be included in this event. The point was made that substitute projects were still required in case there was any further underspend. The Executive received a copy of a report detailing three options put forward by the Learning Forum. Reference was made to Option 2 and it was noted that an Opportunities Week was unlikely to exceed £50,000 which meant only a small amount of the Learning Forum's underspend would be needed. Reference was made to the money returned to the Housing Action Group. It was also noted that two bids had been received following the mini-bidding round from the Excellence Cluster and Norfolk Family Learning.

The LSP Officer reported that expressions of interest for funding had been received for Williamson's Lookout, the DERT Team and to fit out the Bretts building.

The point was made that the proposal for the Bretts building was a new NRF project and accordingly the agreed procedure needed to be followed. It was noted that the Neighbourhood Management Board supported the proposed capital project, bearing in mind that the reduction of NEET people was one of the LSP's targets. A suggestion was made that the project be proposed through the Housing Action Group as they also had relevant links to the project.

A discussion ensued on the possible implications of the Comprehensive Spending Review and the changes to the LAA in relation to externally funded programmes such as NRF. It was agreed that an item would be included on a future agenda once further information was available. Eve Dewsnap reported that the Norfolk County Strategic Partnership had agreed that if a particular funding stream was contained within the area based grant, and the recipients had previously received funding, they would continue to receive that funding in 2008/09.

It was suggested that this Executive should also consider the Job Centre Plus information on Indices of Multiple Deprivation at a future meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the proposals put forward by the CDRP be approved.

- (ii) That the Learning Forum's proposal that some of its allocated under-spend be put towards the Opportunities Week, to a maximum cost of £50,000, be approved, with the remainder being returned to the NRF central pot.

- (iii) That approval, in principle, be given to a proposal to fund the fit-out of the Bretts building if further under-spend was available.

- (iv) That approval be given to partners informing their contacts that capital funding might be available if there was any further underspend.

- (v) That information on Indices of Multiple Deprivation, together with the outcome of the Spending Review and LAA changes be discussed at future meetings.

- (vi) That approval, in principle, be given to the proposal to hold an Opportunities Week to raise aspirations.

**6. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY (SCS)
CONSULTATION AND PREPARATION**

The Executive received the summary of the latest draft Community Strategy. It was noted that, following discussion at each of the themed Fora and the next Executive meeting, the final version would then be

sent out to public consultation. David Stannard reported that a section of the Strategy had been removed following the Government's draft consultation on performance indicators. The point was made that Great Yarmouth needed to identify the indicators relevant to them for inclusion within the LAA. It was suggested that sub-regional indicators were also needed, bearing in mind the number of initiatives across the county border. He added that he would welcome any further comments on the draft Strategy as soon as possible as it was hoped the final version would be available in January.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the draft Strategy be endorsed in its current form, however, anyone with further comments was asked to contact David Stannard as soon as possible.

(ii) That consideration be given at the next meeting to the Government's draft consultation on performance indicators which would finish on 21 December 2007.

7. WORKING AGE BENEFIT CLAIMANTS BY LOWER SUPER OUTPUT AREAS

The Executive considered a table which showed the above. The point was made that the table identified definite pockets of deprivation in some areas. It was also clear that mental health was the main problem for those on Incapacity Benefit.

8. THE FUTURE OF COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM IN GREAT YARMOUTH

The LSP Officer expressed concern at the possible relocation of the Community Safety Team out of Great Yarmouth following the need for Norfolk Constabulary to identify savings. A query was raised as to whether the LSP should lobby Norfolk Constabulary to retain the presence of the Community Safety Team within Great Yarmouth. The point was made that this was a major restructure for Norfolk Constabulary, however, the Safer Neighbourhood Team, which was the local police force, would be retained. It was agreed, therefore, that a

decision on whether to comment should be delayed until after the exact proposals were known.

9. COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW

The Executive received a briefing note in relation to the Comprehensive Spending Review. It was agreed that a further update on this issue would be given to the Executive once information was available.

10. INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHANNEL DOCUMENTARY

The LSP Officer reported that he had been approached to take part in a Local Government Channel TV documentary which would be screened at the LGA Annual Improvement Conference in 2008. He added that the cost was likely to be in the region of £12,500. Clarification was sought as to whether this would prove value for money and it was suggested that the LSP Officer investigate the offer further.

RESOLVED:

That the invitation be pursued further and a report be made back to the next meeting.

11. EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS ACTION PLAN

The Executive received the latest version of the Action Plan. The Economic Development Officer reported that the IIC Board had asked the Employment and Skills Sub-Group to consider a bid for funding for a feasibility study into the building of a small business incubator at Flegg High School.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal to provide IIC funding for a feasibility study into a business incubator at Flegg High School be endorsed.

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT

The Executive received the Neighbourhood Manager's report and attention was drawn in particular to the Neighbourhood Management Board's concern in relation to pooled funding through the LAA.

RESOLVED:

That the Neighbourhood Manager's report be received and the desire to continue delivering Neighbourhood Management through LAA pooled funds from 2008 to 2010 be supported.

13. LEGI

The Executive received the LEGI Programme Manager's report and it was noted that a mid-term review of the Programme will be held shortly.

14. ITEMS FROM GYP/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Members were reminded that it had been agreed the LSP/GYP annual event would be held at the Marina Centre on 15 March 2008. Members also noted that a Sub-Regional Housing Network was being developed and Norfolk Voluntary Services' new website would be available shortly.

15. FORA UPDATES

It was noted that there were no updates since the last meeting.

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Friday, 14 December 2007 at 10.00 am.

17. GREAT YARMOUTH COMMUNITY TRUST

The Executive received details of an administrative problem which had resulted in the Great Yarmouth Community Trust's application to deliver

courses being rejected. Carole Reilly explained that there was no appeal process to the Learning & Skills Council and the complaints process took 40 days which would take the Trust past the submission of tenders date. The point was made that Great Yarmouth Community Trust was the largest provider of non-statutory education provision outside of the College in Great Yarmouth and the implications of not being able to tender to deliver the courses would be extremely detrimental. A suggestion was made that the LSC should be asked to delay the submission of tender date until after the complaint had been heard. It was also agreed that a letter detailing this LSP's concern should be sent to the LSC's Regional Director.

RESOLVED:

That a letter of support from the LSP be sent to the Regional Director of the LSC, expressing grave concern at the effect of not allowing the Community Trust to submit a tender and the affect this would have on the provision of learning in Great Yarmouth.

18. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 12.25 pm.