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**MEETING OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH LSP EXECUTIVE**

**19 October 2007 – 10.00 am**

**PRESENT:**

J Ratcliffe (GYBC) (in the Chair); T Aydin (GYP), L Blizzard (GYWPCT), P Cheeseman (GYP), T Cockburn (NCC Childrens' Services), E Dewsnap (LAA Manager NCC), G Empson (NCC Social Services), H Foale (Learning and Skills Council), D Glason (GYBC), T Gonzalez (Connections), R Gregory (Neighbourhood Management Board), J Holt (Job Centre Plus), B Horner (Norwich and Norfolk Voluntary Services).

N Darwish, P Wright and K Edmonds (GYBC Officials) and D Stannard (LSP Consultant).

Tony Rozier (Community Connections) attended by invitation for item 4 to give a presentation.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from R Darnell, J Cook, A Cousins, C Congreve, M Hartley, T Leonard and D Martin.

**2. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2007 were confirmed.

Reference was made to item 8 – Sustainable Community Strategy and clarification was sought in relation to the composition of the sub-group set up to re-design the questionnaire.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

#### **(a) Community Asset Transfer**

Peter Wright informed the Executive that an application for funding had not been submitted as a fully worked up proposal could not be prepared in time to meet the deadline.

Trevor Cockburn informed the meeting that it was hoped that a bid would be submitted for Shrublands Barn and if successful this would be used for community activities.

### **4. RURAL TRANSPORT INITIATIVE**

Tony Rozier from Community Connections gave a presentation to the Executive on the Rural Transport Initiative. He reported that he had been working for the past four and a half months on this project and had carried out various consultations with user groups and partnerships which included a questionnaire asking residents if they used the public transport and if they did were they aware of what transport services were available to them. Monitoring of the services in place assessed how they were working and highlighted any areas for improvement.

From the questionnaires completed the point was raised, that there was a lack of information about the services that were available. As a result of this the Community Connections leaflet which is produced four times a year now includes information on the services available along with the frequency and times. The next issue of this leaflet is being distributed in November.

From the Monitoring Sheets completed the early findings are that:

- Some of the buses detailed on the timetables were missing
- Parts of routes were missed due to bus drivers taking short cuts
- The re-imburement that the bus companies receives is inflated
- Poor perception given by bus drivers that the traveller is travelling for free when in fact the company may receive more than they would have if the traveller paid per journey. This information has been passed onto Norfolk County Council and they will be liaising with the bus companies about this.

The Consultation carried out found that:

- The customers have stated that the service provided is not customer focused.
- First Bus have stated that they are a business.
- Anglian Bus have stated that they are a Customer Service Provider and since they began in 1999 have increased their fleet.

The Executive were informed that in mid-Suffolk, Portsmouth and Yorkshire areas some of their concessionary bus pass holders had exchanged their bus passes for Taxi Tokens and that a similar scheme was being investigated for the Great Yarmouth Area. It was proposed that an allocation of upto £280 worth of taxi tokens could be issued. From 1 April 2008 the Bus Pass Concession Scheme would be a national scheme and not just a local one, with some Councils offering an enhancement to local passes.

The Executive were informed that Wymondham currently offers a Flexi Bus Service which allows an individual to phone ahead. The route is set and takes you from a rural area to a main town or village.

A transport forum was in the process of being introduced so that service users would have a forum to discuss any areas of concern that they wished to be dealt with and would ensure a cohesive approach.

The aim of the initiative is to implement transport schemes and to look at the best schemes currently being run in other areas of the country.

## **5. QUARTER 2 NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING SPEND**

The Executive were informed that there was no update to be given and that an update would be given at the next meeting.

## **6. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY (SCS)**

David Stannard reported on the consultation event which had been held stating that the LSP Board had found more targets were required for the Strategy and that the Strategy had now been amended to include their comments.

The Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) consultation sub-group had met twice and would be meeting again next week with a work programme being produced.

It was reported that a summary of the draft Community Summary would be produced by next week which would be used for the public consultation.

Social and economic technical data had not been included in the strategy as it had been felt that it would be more appropriate via the Local Development Framework.

## **7. COMMUNITY COHESION**

Trish Aydin informed the Executive of the background of the creation of the Community Cohesion Strategy. A meeting had been held in September to discuss Health and barriers into cohesion and that the results of this had been fed into the Strategy ensuring that all relevant partners were involved.

The BME Groups felt that there was a need to have a central body in Great Yarmouth that would deal with BME issues. The Lesbian, Gay and Transgender groups felt that there was a need to raise awareness in schools. The conclusions from the meeting were that Community Cohesion needed to be taken forward, all partners needed to take an active role.

## **8. RAISING EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT**

Trevor Cockburn informed the Executive of the recent joint event held between the LSP Executive and the Children and Young People's Partnership. The members were split into two work shops and these were used to discuss raising Educational Attainment. The key outcomes were:-

- \* A need to improve the level of information provided on advice and guidance to Young Children
- \* A need to look into school attendance and promote the importance of this
- \* More work could be carried out around the celebration of good work in the Borough

- \* Work could be carried out around informing youths of the work that adults do to help them
- \* Work with parents to remove barriers in order for them to promote their children going to school
- \* Positive Promotion of Diplomas to ensure that these are not seen as an easier option than taking GCSE's
- \* Encourage Parents to take their children to clubs and activities.

Tim Leonard and Trevor Cockburn would be looking at the complete results from the joint event and would be preparing an action plan to be presented at a future meeting of the Executive.

Howard Foale stated that the event was useful and asked if this joint event could take place each year.

It was stated that it was not just the role of schools to raise the attainment levels but all partners had a role in this as there was a need to have a more holistic view of attainment.

**RESOLVED:**

That the results of the Raising Educational Attainment Workshop be produced at a future meeting of the Executive.

## **9. DRAFT TIME TBLE OF LSP MEETINGS IN 2008**

The Executive were asked to consider the draft LSP time table detailing the meeting dates for 2008.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Executive noted and agreed the dates for future meetings of the LSP Executive.

## **10. INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES**

The Economic Development Officer stated that the LSP Board had granted the Executive delegated Authority to agree any projects put forward by the Employment Skills Action Plan Sub-Group and asked the Executive to note the report attached to the Agenda.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Executive noted the report.

## **11. EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS ACTION PLAN**

The Executive noted that another meeting of the Action Plan Sub-Group would be held after the LSP Executive meeting.

John Holt informed the Executive of a meeting that had taken place with a research company called the Work House who would be carrying out research into unemployment. The relevant information had been gathered and that analysis was now being carried out. Some of the information gained was that some unemployed residents were desperate to gain work and that the New Deal offer after 18 months was too late and that an intervention needed to be in place before this. Literacy issues were also highlighted along with disappointment at not being able to apply for jobs working on the outer harbour.

Teresa Gonzalez informed the Executive that the recent Learning Forum meeting had discussed the barriers to learning in order to then set Adult Learning Targets. The results from the session were that people were not aware of what services were available to them in the Borough.

The Executive were informed of work that the Voluntary Sector Partnership would be carrying out around services that were available in the Borough and the Economic Development Officer stated that work would also be carried out around employers.

## **12. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT**

The Neighbourhood Manager's report was received. It was reported that the new centre had been open for four months and that they had received 482 visitors to the centre. Services now provided at the centre included Shelter, The Voluntary Sector Partnership, The Safer Neighbourhood Team and The Clip Office.

Targeted work around Bonfire Night and Halloween would be carried out in conjunction with the Safer Neighbourhood Team as crime figures in previous years had shown an increase at these times and diversionary events for youths would be held in the area.

A Free Christmas Wrapping Service for local residents would also be offered at the centre by any agencies wishing to engage with the residents.

A perception study would be carried out by the Priory Centre who would speak to approximately 300 residents and the results of this would also feed into the Sustainable Communities Strategy.

It was reported that the Grey 2 Green Projects had been successful as many residents had been involved. A mid-term evaluation of this project would be carried out to see how this had performed.

It was stated that there was a need to market the Neighbourhood areas positively in order to raise their profile and in November a marketing campaign would start to celebrate the positive elements of South and Central Yarmouth, under the strap-line "I ♥ GY" and car stickers showing this were distributed.

The Neighbourhood Manager spoke about a conference that he had attended and that the DCLG had stated that they see Neighbourhood Management as a positive way of delivering services but had not been prescriptive about how this should be carried out. A LAA meeting would be taking place next week to discuss future spend commitments for 2008-10.

The Executive were informed by the LAA Manager of future funding from the Neighbourhood Renewal Funds for £2b for improving the economic prospects of deprived neighbourhoods although the criteria for the funding was currently unclear.

### 13. **LEGI**

The LEGI Programme Manager's report was noted and the Economic Development Officer stated that more advertising was being used. Teresa Gonzalez asked if any work had been carried out in "employer brokerage" and the Economic Development Officer reported that this would be carried out in the second phase of the work.

### 14. **ITEMS FROM GYP/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

It was reported that the following points were raised from the Great Yarmouth People.

- \* That there is a shortage of dentists in the Borough
- \* That there is a shortage of doctors in the Borough

- \* That there are a number of homeless people sleeping in the cemetery and on the beach
- \* Young people in the Borough have requested a community building that they could go to so they could meet other young people
- \* It was asked if when considering new building developments, was consideration given to the extra burden on services such as schools and doctors as it was reported that some children were finding it difficult to get into a school?

It was reported that the Community Partnerships would be looking into Community Cohesion and looking at Community facilities.

Health Trainers were currently working with 14-15 year olds at Lynn Grove High School around Nutrition, Smoking and Health and also with Great Yarmouth College around Healthy Lifestyles and the future.

The Mental Health Action Group were looking into what mental health services were available in the Borough and how their needs and gaps could be identified along with looking into Women's Wellbeing Services which would include issues such as Eating Disorders.

Paul Cheeseman suggested that the Out Reach Team in conjunction with Norcas and Herring House could be used to look into what the actual Homelessness figures were and that the Homelessness Sub-Regional Strategy would be produced at the next meeting.

Trevor Cockburn spoke about the point raised by GY People that some children were having difficulty getting into a school and stated that he would like to be made aware of any individual cases as the application process was complex.

The Executive raised the point that if youths were involved in the setting up of a youth centre this would probably be used more.

Lyn Blizzard spoke about the point raised by GY People that some residents were struggling to register with doctors surgeries and that surgeries in the Central Yarmouth area of the Borough were now working together on a Voluntary rota system taking it in turns to accept new patients. This ensured that the numbers of residents registered in the Borough were evened out between the surgeries.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Homelessness Sub-Regional Strategy would be produced at a future meeting.

**15. FORA UPDATES**

The Economic Development Officer reported that a meeting had taken place with Waveney District Council to discuss a joint Regional Economic Strategy.

**16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Friday, 16 November 2007 at 10.00 am.

**17. MEETING WITH WAVENEY LSP**

Lynn Blizzard reported that a meeting had been held between Waveney LSP Block 3 group and the Great Yarmouth Partnership for health to form a single health Forum for both Waveney and Great Yarmouth LSP's. They would be holding a joint meeting at the end of October to discuss draft terms of reference, membership and the reporting process and the Inaugural meeting of the new Great Yarmouth and Waveney Health Partnership would be held after that.

**18. NRF UNDERSPEND**

The Economic Development Officer reported that he would progress an application for funding on behalf of the Economic Forum and would present this at the next meeting.

**19. NUTRITION EVENT**

The Executive were informed of a Nutrition Event which would be held on Thursday 25 October 2007 from 10.00 am until 3.00 pm.

**20. ADVISORY GROUP**

The Executive were informed that Hazel Blears the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government had written to Great Yarmouth Borough Council asking them to be part of an advisory group for Community Engagement.

**21. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The meeting ended at 11.50 am.