

G R E A T Y A R M O U T H



LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Working with the Community

A G E N D A

for the

GREAT YARMOUTH LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE

14 March 2008

at 10.00 am

**at the Cobholm & Lichfield Resource Centre,
Pasteur Road, Great Yarmouth**

**LARGER PRINT COPY AVAILABLE
PLEASE TELEPHONE: 01493 846325**

MEETING OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH LSP EXECUTIVE

**Date: Friday, 14 March 2008
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: The Cobholm & Lichfield Resource Centre,
Pasteur Road, Great Yarmouth***

*** Please note the venue**

A G E N D A

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members should declare interests in any items on the agenda when a decision on it could affect the financial position of himself, a relative or friend. Having declared an interest, the Member should not take part in the discussion of, or voting on, the item if the interest is significant. A "significant" interest is one which a member of the public would consider to be so significant as to prejudice the individual's consideration of the public interest.

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. MINUTES**

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2008 (pages 1-10).

3. MATTERS ARISING

To consider any matters arising from the above minutes.

ITEMS FOR DECISION/DISCUSSION

4. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY – FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

David Stannard will report further at the meeting.

5. NORFOLK LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT – NATIONAL AND LOCAL INDICATORS

A list of the agreed 35 Indicators is attached (page 11).

6. ITEMS FROM GYP/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

To consider any items from GYP/Community Partnerships.

7. DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR LSP EXECUTIVE

The LSP Officer's report will follow.

8. EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS SUB-GROUP

(a) Action Plan

To consider the latest version of the Action Plan (copy to follow).

(b) Update on Sub-Group meeting

To receive an update on the next Sub-Group meeting to be held on 11 March 2008.

(c) Working Neighbourhood Fund – Criteria for Commissioning

The LSP Officer will report further at the meeting.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

9. INCAPACITY BENEFIT RESEARCH

To consider the above research (pages 12-17).

10. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN – PLANNED EXPENDITURE IN GREAT YARMOUTH

To note the attached update in relation to the above following the recent presentation to the Executive (page 18).

11. “ASPIRE 2 PERFORM”

To note the launch of the Eastern Region LSP Health Check process “Aspire 2 Perform”.

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT

The Neighbourhood Manager’s report will follow.

13. LEGI

To receive an update in relation to the above.

14. FORA UPDATES

Forum Facilitators will report on any activity since the last meeting.

15. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

To confirm the date of the next meeting as Friday, 18 April 2008 at 10.00 am.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

To consider any other items of business.

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**LARGER PRINT COPY AVAILABLE
PLEASE TELEPHONE: 01493 846325**

MEETING OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH LSP EXECUTIVE

22 February 2008 – 10.00 am

PRESENT:

J Ratcliffe (GYBC) (in the Chair), T Aydin (Community Connections), L Blizzard (Great Yarmouth and Waveney Primary Care Trust), P Cheeseman (Voluntary Sector Partnership), C Congreve (Norfolk Constabulary), H Foale (Partnership Manager, LSC), A Forrest (Great Yarmouth Community Trust), R Gregory (Neighbourhood Manager), J Holt (Jobcentre Plus), R Leak (Norfolk County Council - Children's Services), T Leonard (LSP Officer), D Martin (Business Link) and L Rogers (Norfolk Voluntary Services),

R Darnell, S Goodrum, M Hartley, J Jackson, M Smith, D Stannard and P Wright and K Edmonds (GYBC Officials)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from E Dewsnap, D Glason and B Horner.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2008 were confirmed, subject to the amendment that the Business Link representative had asked for National Indicator 171 to be included, along with National Indicator 172.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

The Service Manager for Culture, Leisure and Sport tabled a document relating to the SeaChange Arts presentation given at the previous meeting. The Executive were asked to agree in principle, arts and culture being a designated priority of the Local Strategic Partnership.

The Chair pointed out that as this was already included in the Sustainable Community Strategy, this would already be given a priority by the LSP.

The Service Manager for Culture, Leisure and Sport stated that SeaChange needed to secure funding for the cultural event to take place and that the LSP endorsing arts and culture within the Borough would assist with this.

The Primary Care Trust representative stated that this would also help with the wellbeing of people within the Borough. The LSP Consultant stated that the Cultural Partnership wording within the Sustainable Community Strategy stated to promote creativity and cultural vibrancy. This would be reworded.

RESOLVED:

That the LSP Executive endorsed the proposal to make arts and culture a priority within the Borough.

4. **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY**

(a) Report from Community Conference

The LSP Consultant's report in relation to the Community Conference was detailed and noted.

(b) Progress and Results of Community Consultation

The LSP Consultant reported that the Community Consultation period would end next week and that a report would be presented to the April Board. Some stakeholders still had not responded. 1,700 questionnaires had been distributed and there had been a 9-10% response so far. The Priory was being given the questionnaires in order to analyse and report back to the GYP Event and a future Board. Trish

Aydin informed the Executive that 400 questionnaires had been sent out by Community Connections with 200 of these being completed on a one to one basis.

The Executive were informed of the Martham consultation event where Norfolk Constabulary did not attend the meeting and four Councillors had attended thinking that the meeting was a public meeting. It was noted that the Focus Groups did not work as they should have but overall the consultation was good as there had been an increase in public engagement within the Borough which should be celebrated. Carol Congreve clarified the confusion over Norfolk Constabulary's non attendance at the Martham meeting stating that the CDRP needed to consult on their 2008/2011 six priorities and wanted to use the Focus Groups in order to consult. However, the Crime Reduction Manager and Sally Rozier had been cancelled from attending.

5. DRAFT NORFOLK LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT INDICATORS

The LSP Officer drew the Executive's attention to the Local Area Agreement Indicators. The Government office's comments had been received on the Norfolk agreed priorities.

NI 11 – Engagement in Arts

GO-East had queried this as a priority for the Local Area Agreement stating that further evidence and an explanation to support the rationale needed to be included.

NI 47 – People Killed or Seriously Injured in Road Traffic Accidents

GO-East queried this as a priority for the LAA as they felt that evidence does not show that the performance is poor and that evidence needs to be provided or an explanation to support the inclusion.

NI 79 – Achievement of Level 2 Qualification by the Age of 19

GO-East would prefer to include National Indicator 90 the take up of 14 to 19 diplomas instead of National Indicator 79. They felt that performance of Level 2 had been steady for a number of years and that the diploma take up was more of an issue. National Indicator 79 was included as one of the five litmus tests in the 14-19 strategy. National

Indicator 90 was not one of the five so the LSP would need to decide what the position on this was.

National Indicator 117 – 16-18 Year Olds Who Are Not In Employment, Education or Training (NEET)

GO-East queried this as a priority for the LAA. They pointed out the progress that had been made in recent years and stated that they would need further evidence or an explanation of the rationale for inclusion.

National Indicator 171 – VAT Registration Rate

It was agreed that National Indicator 172 or a local alternative re-growth was also included as a local indicator. Members discussed this and stated that this would be difficult to measure.

National Indicator 197 – Improved Local Biodiversity – Active Management of Local Sites

GO-East queried this as a priority for the LAA stating that further evidence or an explanation to support inclusion will need to be provided.

However, the Government's comments suggested that the following six indicators should be included:-

- National Indicator 8 – Adult participation in sport, stating that there is compelling evidence to support the inclusion of this indicator, National Indicator 35 both from GO-East and from Active Norfolk stating that we perform badly on this indicator and it had links to many other priorities, however, including it would mean losing one of the current choices.
- National Indicator 90 – The take up of 14-19 diplomas.
- National Indicator 133 – Timeliness of social care packages.
- National Indicator 139 – People over 65 who say that they receive the information, assistance and support needed to exercise choice and control to live independently.
- National Indicator 153 – Working age, people claiming out of work benefits in the worse performing neighbourhoods.

- National Indicator 198 – Children travelling to school. Mode of travel usually used. Department for Transport are asking for this National Indicator to be included, however, there was good evidence to show that we performed very well against this indicator both regionally and nationally compared with other similarly large rural counties.

RESOLVED:

That LSP Executive Members would e-mail further evidence and information to the LSP Officer who would forward these comments or information onto the County Local Area Agreement Team.

6. WORKING NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND – SELECTION OF OUTCOMES

The LSP Officer informed the Committee that DCLG had informed Great Yarmouth that they would now be receiving more than £7.1m which was previously stated, due to the number of houses of multiple occupancy and hostels in Great Yarmouth. It was felt that using an outcomes approach would ensure value for money and would greatly facilitate evaluation of the programme. A list of proposed outcomes was detailed. The LSP Officer stated that some local companies had suggested employing a Support Officer to facilitate work experience. John Holt reported that he had looked at the number of jobs advertised by Jobcentre Plus and had found that for every job advertised there were 15 potential applicants.

The Economic Development Officer stated the Employment and Skills Group had already created an action plan and that this could be developed. It was pointed out that the proposed outcomes do not currently include enterprise.

The Chair tabled a document on working neighbourhood funds/cohesion funding, informing the Executive that she had attended an empowerment network and had found that many organisations have struggled to keep services schemes going in a transitional period from NRF to WNF. It was reported that Great Yarmouth Borough Council would be the accountable body for the WNF funding and that more funding may be required for their administration costs. It was agreed there was a need to carry on supporting schemes currently running which offer links to employment and skills.

The Executive were asked to:-

- (i) Note the pressures on the Borough Council's budget.
- (ii) Endorse the creation of the post of the Cohesion Officer who would be a Borough Council employee.
- (iii) Agree to establish a Committee Cohesion Working Group and nominate representatives, agree the role of the CCWG as outlined in the report which would report back to the Executive.
- (iv) Endorse a proposal to assist voluntary community sector organisations as outlined in section 4 of the report.

Clarification was given on the current grant aid given by Great Yarmouth Borough Council to voluntary organisations and it was reported that this would remain. It was reported that a 12 month transition period would be used to support schemes currently running. A Member of the Executive asked what the Community Cohesion Officer's role would be and the Chair stated that Great Yarmouth Borough Council were required to employ someone to carry out this role as community cohesion funding was being given. It was suggested the Community Cohesion Fund could fund GY People and that a Community Cohesion Group would be created to discuss the remit of the Community Cohesion Officer. Carol Congreve, Marie Hartley, Rob Gregory and Trish Aydin all nominated themselves to be part of the Community Cohesion Group. Trish Aydin pointed out that last year Community Connections had already met with partners within the Borough who had discussed Community Cohesion and would like these links to be continued. It was suggested that the WNF funds could be ring fenced for £0.5m for the first year which would be invested into Community Cohesion. Members discussed the possibility of sustainability funds which would help the transitional period between services. The LSP Officer stated that arrangements needed to be in place for the exit of NRF projects. It was noted that the third sector was vital at providing services and a one year transitional period would be important.

A document was tabled giving details of the Great Yarmouth Borough Council Study Brief and the Economic Development Officer stated that IIC funds needed to be spent by the end of March and that a brief had been distributed for consultation. The Executive were asked for comments on the brief which should be fed back to the Economic

Development Officer or the LSP Officer and the results would be considered at the Employment Skills Action Group meeting on Monday, 25 February.

RESOLVED:

(i) That minutes from the Employment and Skills Action Group be presented at future LSP Executive meetings.

(ii) That all of the recommendations listed above were agreed.

(iii) That Carol Congreve, Marie Hartley, Rob Gregory and Trish Aydin be agreed as Members of the Community Cohesion Group.

7. ITEMS FROM GYP/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Trish Aydin detailed her progress report on the Rural Partnership Transport Project stating that the project was awarded £57,000 and it was forecast that there would be a final spend of £26,000 by the end of March 2008 against the original amount, leaving an under spend of £31,000. The Executive were asked to consider the under spend being rolled over to finance a second year of the project.

RESOLVED:

That the Executive endorsed the proposal to roll over the under spend from the funding to the second year of the project.

8. DCLG COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT NETWORK

The Chairman verbally reported on the meeting held in London on 7 February 2008 stating that Great Yarmouth Borough Council had been asked to be one of 18 Community Empowerment Champions due to the work carried out. The event was used to raise the profile of the districts and Boroughs and to share information on how each measures Community Empowerment.

RESOLVED:

That Jane Ratcliffe would report on this issue at future meetings of the Executive.

9. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF LSP EXECUTIVE

The Committee noted the LSP Officer's report which was attached to the agenda and the Chairman tabled a further document giving the draft terms of reference for the Great Yarmouth LSP Executive which the Committee were asked to consider. It was agreed that this would be an item on the agenda of the next LSP Executive meeting.

RESOLVED:

That terms of reference for LSP Executive be placed as an agenda item at the next meeting of the LSP Executive.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING

The NRF Manager's report on the latest claims received to date was tabled. The Executive were informed that there was an under spend of £111,296.00. Six applications of interest have been submitted for the funding including applications from GYB Services, The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, SeaChange Arts and Great Yarmouth Community Housing. It was agreed that the Chair of the Executive be given authority to endorse the spending of the funding and that a group should be set up to decide how to allocate the funding. Carol Congreve, Marie Hartley, Rachael Darnell and Tim Leonard were all nominated as becoming Members of the Group.

RESOLVED:

That Carol Congreve, Marie Hartley, Rachael Darnell and Tim Leonard set up a group in order to decide how to allocate the funding.

11. EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS SUB-GROUP

The Economic Development Officer stated that he would take into account the comments raised to date and would raise these at the meeting on Monday, 25 February 2008.

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT

The Neighbourhood Manager detailed his report stating that the Middlegate Visioning Exercise had already engaged 20% of households on the estate through street based consultation and that pertinent things were emerging from the consultations and it appeared to be worklessness due to underlying issues of anxiety and depression and cohesion issues of racial tension and harassment.

13. LEGI

The Economic Development Officer informed the Executive that the LEGI Hub had gained planning permission and that the Enterprise Awards would be held on 16 May 2008.

14. FORA UPDATES

The Executive were informed that there were no Fora updates.

15. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Executive were informed that the date of the next meeting would be Friday, 14 March 2008 at 10.00 am.

16. OPPORTUNITIES WEEK

The LSP Consultant tabled posters and handouts advertising the Opportunities Week stating that so far the response he had hoped for had not been received. The main event would be held at the Marina Centre on 17 March. Great Yarmouth Mercury would be doing an eight page supplement which could include good news stories. A new directions road show would be held showing how volunteering could be a means to a career. Trish Aydin reported that Community Connexions Community Development Workers had been distributing leaflets on the event.

17. BIG SKILLS AWARDS 2008

The Learning Skills Council in Partnership with the BBC TV and radio would be holding a Big Skills Awards 2008 Event. There are eight categories for learners providers and details of this are available via www.bbc.co.uk/norfolk or via the Information Line on Tel: 01603 631631. The event would be held at the Forum, Norwich on Friday, 30 May 2008 and the celebrity, Kenny Logan, would be attending the event to show off his new dancing skills.

18. SHAPING THE FUTURE

The LSP Executive were informed of the Shaping the Future Event to be held on 8 April 2008 at Norwich Football Club, Carrow Road, Norwich. It was reported that £1.5m funding would be allocated to Norfolk and details of this will be given at the event.

19. REGENERATION AUDIT

The Economic Development Officer informed the LSP Executive that a Regeneration Audit would be carried out.

20. GREAT YARMOUTH TOGETHER EVENT

The Executive were informed that the Great Yarmouth Together Event would be held on Saturday, 15 March 2008 at the Marina Centre. The event would include a talent contest.

21. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 12.30 pm.

National Indicator Selection

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|--|
| NI 1 - % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together |
| NI 4 - % of people who feel that they can influence decisions in their locality |
| NI 7 – Environment for a thriving Third Sector |
| NI 8 – Adult participation in sport |
| NI 21 – Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police |
| NI 32 – Repeat incidents of domestic violence |
| NI 39 – Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates |
| NI 47 – People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents |
| NI 51 – Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHs) services |
| NI 56 – Obesity among primary school aged children in Year 6 |
| NI 60 – Core assessments for children’s social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement |
| NI 79 – Achievement of Level 2 qualification by the age of 19 |
| NI 89 – Number of schools in special measures |
| NI 110 – Young people’s participation in positive activities |
| NI 111 – First time entrants into the Youth Justice System aged 10-17 |
| NI 112 – Under 18 conception rate |
| NI 115 – Substance misuse by young people |
| NI 117 – 16 to 18 year olds who are not in employment, education, or training (NEET) |
| NI 121 – Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75 |
| NI 123 – 16+ current smoking rate prevalence |
| NI 125 – Achieving independence for older people through rehabilitation / intermediate care |
| NI 130 – Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support (Direct Payments and Individual Budgets) |
| NI 135 – Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer’s service, or advice and information |
| NI 141 – Number of vulnerable people achieving independent living |
| NI 153 – Working age people on out of work benefits in worst performing neighbourhoods |
| NI 154 – Net additional homes provided |
| NI 155 – Number of affordable homes delivered (gross) |
| NI 163 – Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher |
| NI 166 – Average earnings of employees in the area |
| NI 171 – VAT registration rate |
| NI 175 – Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling |
| NI 186 – Per capita CO2 emissions in the Local Authority area |
| NI 188 – Adapting to climate change |
| NI 193 – Municipal waste land filled |
| NI 197 – Improved local biodiversity – active management of local sites |

INCAPACITY CLAIMANTS – SUMMARY OF REPORT

Context

Great Yarmouth's incapacity numbers

Great Yarmouth has a particularly high incapacity claimant rate of 9.5 per cent of the working age population in August 2006. A total of 5,180 people (3,040 men and 2,140 women) in Great Yarmouth were claiming incapacity benefits in February 2007

The district is ranked 72nd out of just over 400 GB districts – this places the borough within the worst fifth. It has the worst rate in Norfolk.

The Survey

The survey was carried out during July and August 2007. In total there were 407 useable interviews – 215 men and 192 women. Individuals were selected on the basis of postcodes, spread randomly across the whole borough.

Great Yarmouth's stock of incapacity benefits

Age and duration on benefits

Incapacity claimants are skewed towards the older age groups, particularly in men. Women are slightly younger reflecting the move to the state pension at an earlier age.

More than a quarter of all males in the survey had been claiming for 10 years or more with a further quarter between 5 and 10 years. This is similar for women.

Qualifications

Over half of the claimants have no formal qualifications and just under a third have GCSE's or 'O' Levels.

Work Experience

5 per cent of men and 9 per cent of women say that they have never had a job. Over a third of all cases, it has been 10 years or more since the individual was last in regular employment.

The main occupational category for claimants when they had a job fell into 'manual workers'. When employed, claimants had been in the same job for a reasonable time – nearly 40 per cent of men and 30 per cent of women had been in their last job for 20 years or more.

Reason for job loss

The survey asked the individuals what their principal reason for leaving their last job was and nearly 80 per cent of men and 70 per cent of women cited illness or disability. Compulsory severance accounted for around 10 per cent.

Health Issues

The main health issues amongst the claimants were behavioural/mental problems and musculoskeletal problem accounting for between half and two-thirds of all men and women.

Nearly half of all men and women claim their disability causes 'a lot' of limitation on their ability to work and 60 per cent expect their condition to worsen.

Job Aspirations

Fewer than a fifth of all claimants would like a job and a further 13 and 9 per cent (for men and women respectively) would like a job in the future. These figures are below the national average.

The main response by the claimants who do not want a job was 'health not good enough'

Government initiatives

Nearly all the respondents to the survey had not been in contact with the New Deal for Disabled People or Pathways to Work initiatives

Sources of Income

IB is rarely the main source of income, as claimants often receive further top-up benefits. Men get extra income from their private pension but fewer women do. A partner's income is also an important source of financial support whether it is employment, benefits or pension.

Household circumstances

Nearly half of those claiming live with a partner, with only a few of the couples having dependant children. A sizeable majority of claimants live alone.

Just over a half of the claimants live in social rented housing, either council owned properties or housing associations.

The target group for back-to-work initiatives

Size of group

The target group is estimated to comprise of just over 1,300 individuals – 780 men and 530 women. This represents less than a third of the stock of incapacity claimants in the district.

The majority of those wanting to go back to work are aged between 35 and 44.

Personal Characteristics

Men are just as likely to want to go back to work if they have been claiming for a long duration or are new claimants. Amongst women, those who have been claiming for a short time are the most likely to express an interest in going back to work.

The survey results show that quite a number of those who have been out of work for a long time express an interest in going back to work.

Those who express an interest in returning to work are generally more qualified than the group as a whole however, a high proportion of those who would like to go back to work have no formal qualifications.

Of those expressing an interest to go back to work, the main health problem is mental/behavioural problems including stress and depression.

Job Aspirations

Half of the women in this group would prefer to go back part-time whereas the majority of men would prefer full time employment.

Half of those wanting to go back to work are keen to start fairly soon, with a third unsure of when they want to return.

A third would like to return to their previous occupation but many have an alternative occupation in mind.

Of those wanting to return to employment, the majority will only consider employment in Great Yarmouth itself.

64 per cent the men would require £300 per week after tax before they would consider going back to work. Nearly half of the women would like £200-249 per week after tax and a third of them would go back to work for less than £200.

Obstacles to employment

The main obstacle that the group thinks they would face is their ill health, injury or disability. They also cite this reason for not gaining further qualifications to help regain employment.

Of those wanting to return to work, a third are aware of the relevant services with Jobcentre Plus being the most frequently mentioned. Others quoted were Meridian East and Learndirect.

When asked what they thought a potential employer would think of them, over a half thought they would be viewed as too ill or disabled.

Over two thirds of men and over half of the women who expressed an interest did not think that there were appropriate job opportunities in the local labour market.

A quarter of the men expressed an interest in becoming self employed although there were far fewer women.

Building on temporary or casual work

12 per cent of those who expressed an interest undertake temporary or casual work, all of which differ from their 'usual occupation'. Half would like to continue doing their job on a fairly long-term basis and a third have considered building on this experience.

The target group – what is likely to work?

Seven lessons have emerged from those wishing to return to work:

1. Target group is fairly small in relation to the overall stock so information would need to be widely spread but expectation should be that only modest number reply.
2. Most receptive IB claimants are likely to be the most recent claimants, particularly amongst women.
3. Health problems and disabilities remain a core obstacle. The problems need to be addressed through provision of rehabilitation services
4. Opportunities for part-time working need serious emphasis. It can provide an easier transition back into employment
5. Guidance needs to be available on the financial pros and cons of returning to work.
6. Back-to-work services need to respond to the specific aspirations of individual men and women
7. The potential for building on temporary and casual work, often of a voluntary basis, needs to be fully explored.

The absorption capability of the Great Yarmouth Economy

Demand and supply

Back to work initiatives are usually 'supply-side' initiatives. However, the research team argues the reason for big increases in claimants is primarily the result of a deficient demand for labour. Therefore Great Yarmouth's ultimate cause of the high IB numbers is the weakness of the economy.

Commuting

The commuting and survey data show that the ability of the labour market to absorb the IB claimants depends almost entirely on the Great Yarmouth economy itself.

Job growth

Between 1998 and 2005, there have been an additional 1,000 jobs in the economy representing a 3 per cent increase in the stock of jobs. If this growth was to be repeated over the next seven years and the jobs were to be filled by local men and women who would otherwise claim, the incapacity numbers would fall by around a fifth and the rate would drop to somewhere between 7 and 8 per cent.

Claimant Unemployment

The main impact in employment growth in the local economy has been the reduction in claimant unemployment. This creates a growing potential for placing IB claimants in work. A further factor in assisting this is the effectiveness of back-to-work initiatives.

Migrant workers

The above could be affected by the impact of migrant workers from abroad. The migrants tend to be younger, healthier and willing to take a lower wage and therefore employer may prefer the migrants.

Wage levels

A key problem in the area is the quality of available jobs and in particular the level of wages.

As seen earlier, the discrepancy between local wage levels and the aspirations of many IB claimants underlines the importance of encouraging clients on back-to-work schemes as some will offer top-ups if they accept a low paid job.

Lessons from elsewhere

Pathways to Work initiative is widely regarded as a great success.

Conclusions and implications

Survey findings show that Great Yarmouth's stock of incapacity claimants will not be easy to move back into employment or training as the majority are now very detached from the labour market.

It appears that in a difficult labour market, normal competitive pressures have marginalised the men and women who find it difficult to get a foothold in employment and gravitating to incapacity benefits as the best way to get by.

Recent growth in employment in the Great Yarmouth economic and relatively low level of claimant unemployment indicate that for the first time in 20 years, there is now a real prospect of bringing IB numbers down.

The research offers five practical pointers:

1. The target group for back-to-work initiatives is relatively small
2. Back-to-work initiatives need to respond to individual needs and aspirations
3. Part-time working may often offer a way forward
4. Successful interventions will often require a 'health' dimension
5. Most clients of back-to-work initiatives should also be encouraged to register for Pathways to Work.

Sarah E. Davis

From: Leonard, Tim [leonardt@norfolk.pnn.police.uk]
Sent: 03 March 2008 10:30
To: Sarah E. Davis
Subject: FW: LSP meeting 18 January 2008

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From: Parkes, Ian [mailto:ian.parkes@norfolk.gov.uk]
Sent: 29 February 2008 11:49
To: Leonard, Tim
Subject: LSP meeting 18 January 2008

Tim,

At the LSP meeting on 18 January 2008 a question was raised about the level of LTP money spent in Great Yarmouth. Please find below an email providing some more detail.

I cannot recall who asked the question but would be grateful if you were able to forward to the right person. Thanks.

Regards, Ian.

-----Original Message-----

From: Cornell, Louise
Sent: 21 January 2008 15:07
To: Parkes, Ian
Subject: Funding for Great Yarmouth

Ian

Slightly more information on funding to be spent in Great Yarmouth

Total budget allocation for 08/09 will be £377,000, this is out of a total budget of £11,040,000 for Integrated Transport. However, we will be spending £139,000 in other funding, predominantly developer contributions, also delivering schemes within the borough. Some schemes are also revenue funded - for example the 3rd River Crossing feasibility study.

The programme of schemes is planned on a countywide needs basis which is why some districts have less expenditure than others in some years. During 07/08 we will have spent a total of £6,236,000 in Great Yarmouth, including developer contributions for Marine Parade and St Georges park schemes. This is more than funding spent in any other district in 07/08.

Louise
