

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

G R E A T Y A R M O U T H L O C A L S T R A T E G I C P A R T N E R S H I P B O A R D

16 April 2008

at 3.30pm in the

**Norfolk Room, King's Centre, Queen Anne's
Road, Southtown, Great Yarmouth**

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MEETING OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH LSP BOARD

Date: Wednesday, 16 April 2008*
Time: 3.30 pm
**Venue: Norfolk Room, King's Centre, Queen Anne's
Road, Southtown, Great Yarmouth**

***Please note the revised date**

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

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on 7 January 2008 (copy to follow).

3. MATTERS ARISING

To consider any matters arising from the above minutes.

PRESENTATION

4. HEALTH IN GREAT YARMOUTH – PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS AND DELIVERY DEVELOPMENTS

To receive a presentation from Doctors Lipp and Winters in relation to the above.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION

5. GREAT YARMOUTH SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

To note the issues coming out of the community consultation and to approve the latest draft of the Strategy (copy to follow). A copy of the revised draft Strategy will be available on the LSP and Borough Council Websites shortly.

6. NORFOLK LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

(a) National Indicator Set

To agree the 35 indicators from the national indicator set selected by the Norfolk Local Area Agreement Negotiating Team and approved by the Norfolk County Strategic Partnership Board (copy attached, pages 1-3).

(b) Local Indicators and Targets

To review the progress in selecting local indicators and targets.

7. GREAT YARMOUTH PEOPLE/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

To consider any items from the above.

8. WORKING NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND UPDATE

The LSP Officer will report further at the meeting.

9. LSP/GYP JOINT EVENT – 15 MARCH 2008

To receive a verbal report on the event and to note issues arising from consultation with attendees.

10. SECOND HOMES COUNCIL TAX

The LSP Officer's report is attached (pages 4-6).

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

11. EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS ACTION PLAN UPDATE

To receive an update in relation to the above and to note the latest draft action plan (pages 7-11) and the results of the recent research relating to Incapacity Benefit (pages 12-17).

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND

To receive a verbal report on the latest expenditure estimates.

13. EXTERNAL FUNDING

To receive an update in relation to Cleaner, Safer, Greener, enterpriseGY (pages 18-19) and Neighbourhood Management funding (page 20).

14. UPDATE ON FORA ACTIVITIES

The Fora Chairmen/Facilitators will give an update on their activities since the last Board meeting.

15. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

To note that the next meeting will take place on Monday, 7 July 2008 at 3.30 pm.

National Indicator Selection

35 Designated indicators

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 and active recreation
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 - Rate of hospital admissions per 100,000 for alcohol-harm
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 - % of 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 - Reduction in number of schools judged as requiring special measures and time taken to come out of the category
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 - Stopping smoking
NI 125 - Achieving independence for older people through rehabilitation / intermediate care
NI 130 - Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support per 100,000 (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 152 - Working age people claiming out of work benefits
NI 154 - Net additional homes provided
NI 155 - Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)
NI 163 - Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2 or higher
NI 166 - Median earnings of employees in the area
NI 171 - New business 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 - Planning to adapt to climate change
NI 193 - % of municipal waste land filled

AGENDA

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National Indicator Selection

NI 197 – Improved local biodiversity – proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented

Statutory DCSF indicators:

NI 72 – Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy
NI 73 – Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold)
NI 74 – Achievement of level 5 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 3 (Threshold)
NI 75 – Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths (Threshold)
NI 83 – Achievement at level 5 or above in Science at Key Stage 3
NI 87 – Secondary school persistent absence rate
NI 92 – Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest
NI 93 – Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
NI 94 – Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
NI 95 – Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3
NI 96 – Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3
NI 97 – Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4
NI 98 – Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4
NI 99 – Children in care reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2
NI 100 – Children in care reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2
NI 101 – Children in care achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4

Proposed local indicators from the National Indicator Set

NI 6 – Participation in regular volunteering	In – baseline to be set by Place Survey in Autumn 2008
NI 13 – Migrants English language skills	Out – inclusion to be reviewed at first annual refresh
NI 19 – Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders	In from 2008/09
NI 30 – Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders	In from 2008/09
NI 40 – Drug users in effective treatment	In from 2008/09
NI 54 – Services for disabled children	In – baseline to be set in first year of the LAA
NI 55 – Obesity among primary school aged children in Reception Year	In from 2008/09

National Indicator Selection

NI 57 – Children and young people's participation in high quality PE and sport	Out – inclusion to be reviewed at first annual refresh (possibly in combination with new indicator re 'play' – NI199) In – baseline to be set in 2008/09
NI 136 – People supported to live independently through social services	Out – covered by inclusion of advice and advocacy indicator
NI 139 – People over 65 who say that they receive the information, assistance and support to live independently	In – Baseline to be set by Place Survey in Autumn 2008
NI 140 – Fair treatment by local services	In from 2008/09
NI 142 – Number of vulnerable people who are supported to maintain independent living	Out – inclusion to be reviewed at first annual refresh
NI 161 – Learners achieving Level 1 in literacy OR NI 162 – Learners achieving Level 3 in numeracy	In from 2008/09
NI 195 – Improved street and environmental cleanliness (graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting)	

Proposed local indicators not in the National Indicator Set

Better regulation of businesses	In from 2008/09
Growth of businesses (replacement for VAT registration indicator)	In from 2008/09
Employment land and premises	Out – picked up through LDFs
Skills gap measure (alternative for NI 174)	Out – inclusion to be reviewed at first annual refresh
Private sector – housing standards	In from 2008/09
Homelessness measure	In from 2008/09
Fuel poverty measure	Out – picked up in housing standards and climate change indicators
Housing adaptation measure	In – baseline to be set in first year of LAA
Ecological networks	In – baseline to be set in first year of LAA
Participation in cultural activities	In from 2008/09
All crime	In from 2008/09
Safeguarding measure – vulnerable adults	In – baseline to be set by Place Survey in Autumn 2008
Local advice and advocacy	
Mental health of adults and older people	In – indicator to be developed in first year of the LAA

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Second Homes Council Tax

Background

In April 2005 the Board agreed the recommendations of the working group as to the criteria to be used for spending the Great Yarmouth part of Second Homes Council Tax.

These were:

- a. Must address the concerns of the local community
- b. "Projects" must be highly visible to the local community
- c. Services provided should be Boroughwide and universally accessible wherever possible
- d. There must be an existing management structure in place to support the project
- e. Projects must be completed within 2 years OR must be capable of evolving into a longer term sustainable service
- f. Projects must contribute towards the achievement of Boroughwide objectives and targets set out in the Community Plan or Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy
- g. The funding should be used to fund a few projects in order to minimize the administrative support required to monitor them
- h. These must be evidence of Partnership working

£357 thousand was allocated in September 2005 from monies collected or anticipated to be collected up to up to March 2007. The commissioning was in accordance with the above criteria.

Investment of 2007/8 Second Homes Council Tax

In January of last year the Board considered how the expected £117 thousand to be collected in 2007/8 should be applied. The Board approved that funds should be spent in support of the Environmental Rangers and that Great Yarmouth people, and specifically the Rural Community Partnership should be consulted on how the remainder should be spent. This was in recognition of the fact that most Second Homes Council Tax was probably collected in the rural areas.

The conclusion of the Rural Community Partnership was for the money to be spent on improving access from the rural parishes. Investment of £57 thousand was confirmed by the LSP.

Environmental Rangers

Three Environmental Rangers operated in the Borough up to March 2007, one funded from GYBC mainstream budgets and two funded from Second Homes Council Tax.

Following the identification of a gap in service provision identified in a Best Value review, concerning a lack of environmental enforcement activity, a proposal to increase the activities of the Environmental Rangers was made. In January 2008 the LSP Board agreed that the money should be spent to enable the team to continue

their activities for another year and to sharpen the focus on envirocrime through additional manpower focused exclusively on surveillance and increased enforcement under the new Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act.

An additional "Surveillance Ranger", full time employed but on a rotating shift basis encompassing early mornings and late evenings was therefore proposed to provide daily surveillance in community identified hotspot areas.

Noting that the proposal would result in extra capacity and that the Borough Council would mainstream an additional ranger (making two in total), the Board approved the investment of £60 thousand.

There is much anecdotal evidence of the effectiveness of the Rangers and the value placed on them by the community. They work with the Community Safety team to prevent criminal damage, clear up damage when it occurs and are involved in the containment of anti-social behaviour.

A formal evaluation "On the Case for a Clean, Attractive, Safe Environment" is available for inspection.

Rural Transport Project

This project is not yet complete but has made considerable progress. Negotiations have been successfully carried out with bus companies on a more appropriate service provision, and innovative schemes, for example, taxi vouchers are being trialled.

The work has received very positive feedback from the rural community and organisations such as the Older Peoples' Network.

How Much Second Homes Council Tax Is Available?

Work is going on to ascertain how much Second Homes Council Tax was collected in 2007/8 and how much is likely to be collected in 2008/9.

There are some signs that Second Homes Council Tax collection is dropping due to the registering of second homes and chalets as businesses. Also some underspends from past projects are emerging and these will be returned. Bearing in mind the factors above, it would be prudent to assume £100 thousand is available to invest in 2008/9.

Environmental Rangers Funding 2008/9 Activity

The Borough Council Environmental Ranger Team currently consists of a Senior Environmental Ranger, 2 Environmental Rangers and a part time (24 hrs per week) Environmental Ranger Support Assistant. The Senior Ranger and one of the Rangers are mainstream funded by the Council Budget and the other Ranger and the Support Assistant have been funded through the 2007/8 £60000 Second Homes Council Tax funding.

As well as funding these two posts the Second Homes council Tax funding has been used to purchase covert CCTV equipment. This equipment is in addition to and complementary to identical equipment purchased through CDRP funding. The role of the Ranger Support Assistant is to deploy this equipment at identified fly tipping 'hotspots' (currently 15 hotspots have been identified) and then to view the CCTV footage and make the follow-up enquiries. These are passed to a Ranger to carry out the Pace interviews etc and to prepare the evidence files which are sent to the Legal Department for prosecution in the courts of the offenders.

Utilising the Ranger Support Assistant in this way has freed up the time of the Environmental Rangers to be able to carry out frontline duties. The viewing of the CCTV evidence is very time consuming and now having the extra resource has improved the efficiency of the team.

The cameras have been successful in that there are we now 11 ongoing cases where there is a good chance of a successful prosecution of the offenders identified from the CCTV footage. The Ranger Support Assistant has only been in post since February as employing her was delayed until technical problems with the cameras had been resolved. The impetus that we have gained now needs to be sustained.

The Environmental Ranger Team is much valued by the Community and deals with in excess of 2000 requests for service per annum. They also carry out multi-agency working to prevent criminal damage and help with the containment of anti-social behaviour

Proposed Investment of Second Homes Council Tax for 2008/09

1 Environmental Ranger salary inc on costs	£25000
1 Environmental Ranger Support Assistant salary inc on costs	£14000
Overtime, Training, Protective Equipment costs	£2000
Maintenance & running costs of Environmental Ranger Vehicle	£3000
Maintenance & running costs of the 2 covert CCTV vehicles	£4000
Servicing and maintenance of the covert CCTV equipment	£2000
Total	£50000

Will the Board:

- **Note the latest status of the Second Homes Council Tax Projects**
- **Approve that £50 thousand, part of the cost of the Environmental Rangers team in 2008/9, is funded by income for the period April 2008 to March 2009.**
- **Give guidance on how the balance of 2008/9 income should be used.**

TEL/PA 2 April 2008

GREAT YARMOUTH EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS ACTION PLAN (Updated 11 Dec)

What	Why	Who	Funding Source	By	Target/ Outcome
To undertake an analysis of Jobcentre Plus vacancies for Great Yarmouth by Occupational area.	To identify five priority occupational areas where we can potentially develop employer led training programmes and consider if they mirror Norfolk priority areas (Retail, Distribution & Logistics, Care, Construction, Leisure & Tourism).	Jobcentre Plus	NA	End December 2006 Completed	
To undertake an analysis of employers and recruitment agencies not using Jobcentre Plus to identify current/future vacancy trends.	To support the analysis by Jobcentre Plus and to provide a complete picture of the vacancy situation.	Consultant	NRF	Report delivered by end March 2007	Received April 07
To develop a detailed map of training providers and funders in Great Yarmouth leading to development of a web page detailing all support available.	To provide employers with a comprehensive overview of providers in Great Yarmouth what they deliver and where funding for training can be found.	Consultant	NRF	Consultant Report delivered by end March 2007	Received April 07
To develop occupational specific routeway training programmes in the key occupational areas targeted at key employers and sectors.	To meet employer needs and to assist workless benefit recipients to enter employment.	Jobcentre Plus: LSC Service Providers: (With support from Chamber of	New Deal funding (Jobcentre Plus) Train to Gain	iIC funded research around employers and	Research for community being undertaken by Workhouse (100 face to face client interviews). Employer work via CFE Ltd (400

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<p>This to include community engagement and address employer perceptions</p>		<p>Commerce, Voluntary Community Organisations, employers, GYBC)</p>	<p>(LSC) iic</p>	<p>community out to tender 19 July. Training programme developed and out to tender by Feb 08</p>	<p>employer phone contacts, 4 employer workshops and presentatuiou event) Workhouse report received & shared with Employment & skills group Dec 07 CFE report expected Jan 08</p> <p>To move 200 number of people in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance through a program of support resulting in 100 moving into employment within 6 weeks of support ceasing</p>
<p>To develop a fund to remove barriers to employment faced by unemployed people that cannot be removed through interventions of other agencies.</p>	<p>To ensure that unemployed people have greater access to employment and are more competitive in the labour market.</p>	<p>Jobcentre Plus via LEGI funding</p>	<p>LEGI (Barriers to Work Fund)</p>		<p>Barriers Fund not to proceed as single entity. Potential for this to be incorporated into the training and support detailed in item above maximising use of both iic & LEGI funding</p>
<p>To identify long term employment opportunities for local people resulting from East Port and Urban Regeneration targeting suitable employers who are willing to engage</p>	<p>To ensure local people have the opportunity and skills to compete for employment opportunities</p>	<p>LA/ JCP/ LSC GYBC EDO to arrange meeting with Nuttalls, JCP & EDO to discuss construction opportunities both for local businesses</p>	<p>LA</p>		<p>Construction of port has been contracted to Nuttalls who are sub contracting</p> <p>Post construction activity falls to Gt Yarmouth Port Co. who are in the process of</p>

			and people EDO to contact GY Port Co to discuss issues as above once more details known		Aug 07	agreeing next steps LA/JCP have made a joint nt approach to both organisations to establish coherent strategy around recruitment and use of local employers
To introduce a targeted programme of Work Trials to employers.	To involve employers more in recruiting people who have been unemployed.	Jobcentre Plus	Jobcentre Plus	Jobcentre Plus	Ongoing	27 Worktrial starts with 53% resulting in paid employment
To undertake consultative work with PCT around support available to those who are incapacitated to move closer to employment	To link to the Pathways to Work agenda around this customer group that is due to commence December 2007	Contact with Paul Bryce (PCT) re activities that assist those on IB returning to work	PCT/ NRF	PCT/ NRF	Jan 08	Project to go ahead funded by PCT& NRF looking at exercise as a way of enhancing life and reducing worklessness Fit for Work. Funding agreed of £6k to assist 60 people prior to March 08 with agreement to expand this to 180 people once demand established PCT & JCP have agreed referral process in place
To review the provision and research reasons for low take up of Childcare in Great Yarmouth to ensure that it meets the needs of parents seeking to return to work. Research above shows a	Childcare is perceived as a real barrier to Lone Parents and married couples to taking up employment opportunities but take up in some areas of Gt Yarmouth is very low. Lack of affordable childcare is a	Community Connections JCP	Community Connections JCP		End May 2007	Paper produced by Community Connections and Jobcentre Plus identifies take up is not a major issue in Gt Yarmouth compared to other parts of Norfolk
		LA/JCP to	Community	LA/JCP to	Oct 07	Spec for this compiled by

<p>high drop out rate from employment which may be due to childcare issues. Further research required to ascertain why and provide solutions</p>	<p>potential barrier to retaining employment</p>	<p>Connections JCP</p>	<p>consider use of NRF to fund research on reasons for drop out and potential solutions</p>		<p>JCP and submitted to social forum for consideration. Awaiting approval</p>
<p>To build upon work currently in progress in some High schools & GYCFE to build links with local employers (for example Ready to Work programme)</p>	<p>To enhance work experience and skills opportunities for children unlikely to obtain non vocational qualifications by establishing pre leaving school links with employers across a wide spectrum of occupations</p>	<p>Connexions, schools, LSC, Neighbourhood Management</p>	<p>Various</p>	<p>March 08</p>	<p>Proposal for Opportunities week submitted to NRF for approval by sub group including GYBC, Vol Sector/Potential Careers Fayres for all Gt Yarmouth schools</p>
<p>Raise aspirations of young people and their parents in order for them to understand the employment and skills needs of the future Gt Yarmouth economy by delivery of a set piece event</p>	<p>Young people in Gt Yarmouth are identified as having generally low work and training aspirations due to a number of factors. This needs to be addressed in a coherent way by all relevant agencies if we are to fill the future skills gaps of the local workforce</p>	<p>All partners</p>	<p>NRF</p>	<p>Event by end Feb 08</p>	<p>Development work via sub group of Neighbourhood Manager, Connexions, Voluntary Sector Partnership, linked to Comeunity programme Design for one day event (March 08) being formulated but to encompass schools, parents & employers</p>
<p>To increase volume of ESOL provision locally for those seeking or recently entering employment</p>	<p>Increase employability of target group</p>	<p>LSC</p>	<p>LSC</p>	<p>End June 07</p>	<p>There has been an increase in ESOL places available via LSC (throughout the county not just in Yarmouth) over the past 4 years year-on-year. Skills for Life training</p>

<p>Use the recently announced Working Neighbourhood Fund to meet gaps in current provision of employment & skills support in the borough</p>	<p>To provide an employment & skills focus to current and potential NRF projects to support the delivery of LSP priorities in Gt Yarmouth</p>	<p>To be agreed</p>	<p>Working Neighbourhood Fund over 3 years from April 08</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>includes ESOL. ESOL employability tasters and full courses have been developed in partnership with GMB Union and the Priority Centre/Skills for Life Team in Yarmouth.</p> <p>Awaiting guidance on the WNF remit, financial procedures, governance and relationship to Local area Agreement</p>
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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.



enterpriseGY (LEGI) PROGRESS REPORT TO LSP BOARD

16 April 2008

1. Funding

DCLG has announced future funding for the Great Yarmouth LEGI Programme, for the periods 2009-2010 and 2010-11:

	Capital (£M)	Revenue (£M)
2009-2010	0.492	1.516
2010-2011	0.407	1.601

These funds will be paid directly to GYBC as part of the Area Based Grant.

2. Future Activity

With the first three year tranche of activities to conclude at the end of the current financial year, it is the enterpriseGY Board's opinion that it is timely that an in-depth review be undertaken of the overall programme. That review will look at issues of alignment, effectiveness, value and sustainability.

This will occur mid this year; associated research is already underway with the UEA commissioned to look at local business support opportunities and barriers.

3. Building Report

The refurbishment of the enterpriseGY 'hub' building on The Conge (ex Futtters store) is proceeding on schedule and should be available for occupation in May. An appropriate 'launch' of the new centre is planned.

The 'Market' end of the structure is to be converted into a small office business incubator of 13 units. This will ultimately be a satellite of the main business incubator, potentially to be located at Beacon Park. Refurbishment works on The Conge incubator building is expected to start in May, with a completion date of July; liC co-funding has been sought for this work.

4. Current Outcomes

Whilst for many of the Delivery Partners involved in enterpriseGY, March 2008 marks the end of the first full year of activity there has, nonetheless, been some very impressive outcomes to date from the programme:

New business start ups	311
Business training days delivered	2946
New jobs created	302
Secondary students involved in enterprise activities	2100
New Business Watch membership	284

5. Coming Highlights

In mid May there will be a local 'Enterprise Week' held, with contributions from all eight Delivery Partners ⁽¹⁾, including a marquee event in the Market Place.

This activity will tie in with the enterpriseGY Spirit of Enterprise Awards that are to be held on Friday, 16 May at the Great Yarmouth Racecourse.

In May also there will be a number of events to mark the official opening of the enterpriseGY building.

Note: The current enterpriseGY Delivery Partners are:

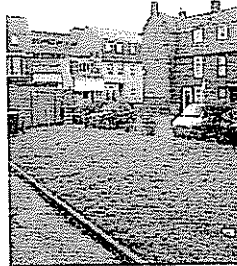
- NWES
- Prince's Trust
- Norfolk Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- Business in the Community
- University of East Anglia
- Norfolk Constabulary
- Great Yarmouth College
- East of England Energy Group

Community
ESTABLISHED LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Report to the LSP Board
16th April 2008

Recent Activity

Grey2Green



Feb 07



Feb 08

- The first Grey 2 Green project at Swirles Place is complete. Work at Fox's Passage will be complete by the end of the month. The third scheme at Peggotty Road will also commence the implementation phase shortly.
- Work continues to develop with the Middlegate Visioning Exercise with the Middlegate Community Association reforming to drive activity forward.
- The pilot Street Outreach programme for people with alcohol issues has engaged over 20 residents with alcohol issues in the neighbourhood. This programme will develop over the next year in partnership with the CDRP, to pilot more targeted engagement with individuals suffering a range of substance misuse issues.
- Target Opportunities continues to surpass expectation in linking local residents into training, volunteering and pathways to employment, 84 local residents have engaged in training, volunteering and employment pathway opportunities over a 16 week period.

Other Developments

- Thematic workshops have been held over the last two weeks, involving local residents and service providers to review the findings of the recent Residents Perceptions Study. This has helped to inform intervention designed for the following two years. 08-10 Neighbourhood Delivery Plans have been approved by the NM Board.
- The Neighbourhood Management Board have approved the recruitment process for the vacant Neighbourhood Officer post. This process will commence immediately.
- As a result of the Board Development Day a Forward Strategy for Neighbourhood Management in Great Yarmouth, will be developed by a sub-group of the Neighbourhood Management Board. This will consider both the sustainability of the existing programme and the roll-out of neighbourhood management as a neighbourhood-based delivery mechanism across the borough. This will culminate in a Stakeholder Event in early September.

Rob Gregory
Neighbourhood Manager