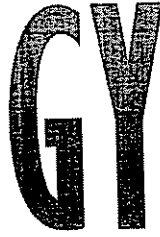


G R E A T Y A R M O U T H



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 E X E C U T I V E

23 January 2009

at 10.00 am

in the Supper Room, Town Hall, Great Yarmouth

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

Working with the Community

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PLEASE TELEPHONE: 01493 846325**

MEETING OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH LSP EXECUTIVE

Date: Friday, 23 January 2009
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: The Supper Room, Town Hall, 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 19 December 2008 (pages 1-6).

3. MATTERS ARISING

To consider any matters arising from the above minutes.

ITEMS FOR DECISION/DISCUSSION

4. IMPACT OF THE CREDIT CRUNCH

To discuss the above.

5. ITEMS FROM GYP/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

To consider any items from GYP/Community Partnerships.

6. WORKING NEIGHBOURHOODS FUNDING UPDATE

To consider the attached report considered by the LSP Board on 12 January 2009 (pages 7-8).

7. ACCESS TO SERVICES BY BME COMMUNITIES

To consider the above.

8. GREAT YARMOUTH CONTRIBUTION TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF NORFOLK'S LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

The LSP Officer will report further at the meeting.

9. COMMUNITY COHESION – UPDATE INCLUDING STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT AND COMMISSIONING FUNDS FROM AREA BASED GRANT

Rob Gregory will report further at the meeting.

10. ROLL-OUT OF LOCALITY WORKING

Rob Gregory will report further at the meeting.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Neighbourhood Manager will report further at the meeting.

12. enterpriseGY

A verbal update relating to the above will be given at the meeting.

13. FORA UPDATES

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

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To confirm that the next LSP Executive meeting will be held on 27 February 2009.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

To consider any other items of business.

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MEETING OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH LSP EXECUTIVE

19 December 2008 – 10.00 am

PRESENT:

J Ratcliffe (Great Yarmouth Borough Council) (in the Chair); L Blizzard (NHS Great Yarmouth and Waveney), P Cheeseman (Voluntary Sector Partnership), L de Beer (Neighbourhood Management), R Read & T Slater (Great Yarmouth Borough Council).

P Wright, R Darnell and S Davis (Borough Council Officials) and T Leonard (LSP Officer).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from C Congreve, J Cook, T Dadoun, N Darwish, E Dewsnap, H Foale, A Forrest, R Gregory, M Hartley, B Horner, R Leeke, D Martin and N Sabberton.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2008 were confirmed, subject to the addition of A Forrest (Great Yarmouth Community Trust) in the list of Members present.

3. MATTERS ARISING

It was noted that there were no matters arising from the above minutes.

4. NORFOLK SKILLS ROAD MAP

It was agreed that this item would be considered in February 2009.

5. PERFORMANCE AGAINST HOUSING PRIORITIES

The Executive received a handout giving details of a presentation on the Housing Market Assessment and Local Area Agreement Housing Indicators. The Housing Policy Manager reported that a Housing Market Assessment had been carried out in July 2006 jointly with Waveney District Council. The point was made that it was important to know what the housing need was, particularly in light of the credit crunch. Information was available on different locality profiles, and research had been carried out on the general housing need, market rents and BME communities which would be updated and monitored regularly. The main causes of housing need were overcrowding and medical need. The document also considered affordable housing and it had been found that there was a considerable gap in availability. The total in need in June 2006 had been 1877 but was 2315 in November 2008, an increase of 23%. Notwithstanding this, Great Yarmouth had done slightly better than had been thought because of the Bretts Project. 50 affordable units were available for rent already and another 45 would be available before the end of the financial year. The Housing Policy Manager reported that discussions were being held with GO-East to try to re-negotiate the Local Area Agreement targets as these were too difficult to meet in Great Yarmouth.

Clarification was sought as to whether the credit crunch was putting affordable housing provision in the Borough at risk and the Housing Policy Manager responded that, whilst developers appeared to be approaching Housing Associations which was quite positive, she was unsure as to whether Great Yarmouth would be able to deliver on all the sites which had been identified.

RESOLVED:

That the position be noted.

6. WORKING NEIGHBOURHOODS FUNDING (WNF)

The Executive received the LSP Officer's report on the latest discussions of the WNF Action Team. It was noted that a visit would be

made to Grimsby on 15 January to discuss a strategy on how to help projects become sustainable beyond the three year WNF funding period. Members were reminded that they had been asked to provide information on local provision and those who had not responded to the "Mapping" request were asked to do so. A briefing session on the local provision was being planned. The Action Team had suggested that, in the interests of retaining capacity, Target Opportunities and the Move-on East Project for ex-offenders would continue to be funded until the end of March 2009, subject to the provision of cost analysis and output information. It was agreed that the Senior Member Services Officer would forward details of these projects to Members. The Chairman reported that, in light of the credit crunch, the use of WNF might have to be slightly re-focused.

RESOLVED:

That the WNF update be noted and the Action Group's recommendations endorsed, including the proposal to fund Target Opportunities and the Move-on East projects until the end of March 2009, subject to the provision of cost analysis and output information.

7. ITEMS FROM GYP/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Reference was made to the discussions at the last meeting on problems by BME communities in accessing services and it was noted that Trish Aydin was currently working with GYROS on a report which would hopefully be available for the January meeting.

8. GREAT YARMOUTH CONTRIBUTION TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF NORFOLK'S LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

The Executive received a copy of the LAA Indicators for information. The LSP Officer reported that he was working with Partners to ascertain what was happening in Great Yarmouth that contributed towards the Local Area Agreement Indicators. He explained however that it was difficult to capture and evaluate the necessary information. It was noted that the Older People's Network was keen to help achieve those targets and had developed a template which hopefully could be rolled out and used to monitor performance against the LAA Indicators and the Sustainable Community Strategy.

9. IMPACT OF THE CREDIT CRUNCH

In light of the limited number of Partners at the meeting, it was agreed that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

The Economic Development Officer reported that the Economic Forum had also discussed this issue and had received information on services provided by Business Link. It had also been noted that the Chamber of Commerce had slightly altered their programme to help and were meeting banks in the New Year. Members had thought that, whilst Great Yarmouth could be slightly shaded from the crunch by the oil and gas industry and the Outer Harbour. The drop in oil prices, however, might reduce the positive impact of this sector.

Members noted the Jobseekers Allowance figures for Norfolk. The unemployment rate was 4.8% in Great Yarmouth giving a 0.8% increase compared to last November's figures. Great Yarmouth seemed the least hit by the rise in the register with only a 19% increase whereas Norfolk was 30% up. Great Yarmouth had also had more vacancies over the last three months and the notified redundancies were less than in Norwich.

Whilst it was noted that there did not appear to be any evidence that migrant workers were returning home because of the weak pound, GYROS had stated that there was no decrease in the number of people accessing their advisory services at the moment. The CAB had recorded that the number of visits from people concerned at the possibility of redundancy had gone up by a third. The Chairman stated that Suffolk County Council had recently held a summit for the public and voluntary sectors and it was agreed that perhaps Great Yarmouth should hold something similar.

10. COMMUNITY COHESION – UPDATE INCLUDING STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT AND COMMISSIONING FUNDS FROM AREA BASED GRANT

In the absence of Rob Gregory, it was agreed that this item would be deferred. It was noted however that a Community Cohesion Officer had now been appointed and was currently developing a strategy.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was agreed that the credit crunch would be the main topic for consideration at the January meeting.

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Executive received the Neighbourhood Manager's report and it was noted that the main focus of activity was the roll-out of locality working. A report on the recent consultation exercise would be given to the next meeting.

13. enterpriseGY

It was noted that the Catalyst Centre attached to the Novus Centre had been opened and contained offices designed to help businesses identified for future growth. The enterpriseGY Board was currently looking at the future of the funding programme as there was a need to balance business growth, support and developing the building as a hub.

14. FORA UPDATES

The Economic Forum had considered the impact of the credit crunch including the assistance that paying invoices more quickly would give to businesses, together with the recent decision to relocate HMRC staff to Norwich. It was noted that the Environmental Forum wanted to carry on their quarterly meetings with more emphasis on climate change. The Social Forum also wished to retain quarterly meetings but needed to give further consideration as to how to carry on with the delivery emphasis bearing in mind that it already had several delivery partnerships feeding into it ie Partnership for Health and Housing Action Group. The Learning Forum had also agreed to carry on quarterly meetings and had discussed the results for GCSE and Key Stage 3 results, the huge improvement at Great Yarmouth High School and the need for some more improvement at Oriel High School. They had also stressed the need for a closer working relationship with the Children and Young People's Partnership Board.

15. DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that LSP Executive meetings would be held on 23 January, 27 February, 27 March, 24 April, 22 May, 26 June, 24 July, 21 August, 25 September, 23 October, 20 November and 18 December.

16. NRF/WNF TRANSITION SLIPPAGE AND SPEND REPORT

The Executive received a copy of the above report covering the period 1 April 2008 to 30 September 2008.

17. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 11.00 am.

Working Neighbourhoods Fund

Background

Last December we were informed that Great Yarmouth was being awarded £7.1 million over a three year period to invest in measures to reduce worklessness, improve skill levels and increase enterprise in the Borough. It was decided that research was needed to map the needs of Great Yarmouth in these areas, updating and drawing on past work which had been carried out on, amongst others, employers' needs, employees and incapacity benefit claimants.

This work was carried out by Holden McAllister and was funded jointly by Norfolk Investing in Communities and Opportunities GY. The following six Key Challenges were identified in the report:

- Linking those with low Skills to the Labour market
- Retaining and attracting higher skills groups
- Increasing enterprise levels
- Tackling work limiting illness
- Increasing aspirations and horizons
- Improving outcomes for young adults

Breakdown of Investment

The original advised sum available to us was £7.1 million. Of the original sum, £0.5 million has been committed to former Neighbourhood Renewal Fund projects and interventions which meet the WNF criteria. The available balance of £6.6 million was considered by the specially formed WNF Commissioning Group on 5 November.

This group was drawn from LSP members not involved in and seeking funds from the Remaining "pot"; that is not having a vested interest in the outcome of the meeting.

Pam Fox's report and recommendations on WNF, which drew on the workshop in early September, and which has been endorsed by the LSP Executive was noted by Commissioning Group. There was confirmation of the projects and initiatives recommended for funding in this report.

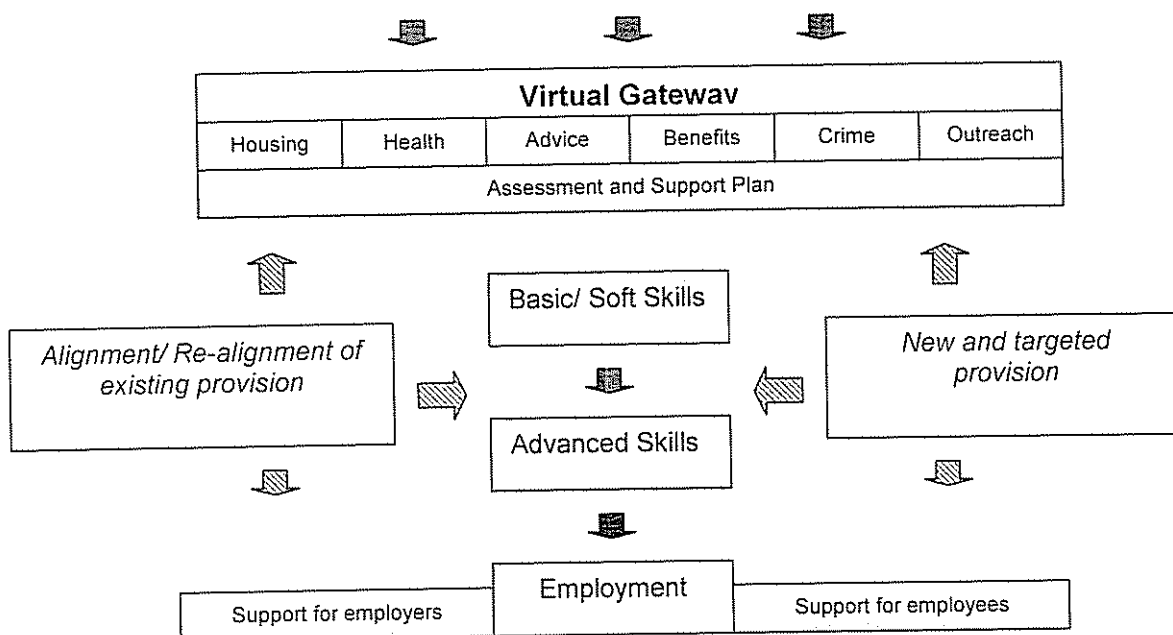
It was agreed that the remaining fund should be spent in the following areas:-

1. Information and evidence gathering
2. Labour supply, soft skills, accredited skills and barrier removal
3. Employment demand and enterprise
4. Infrastructure projects including the third sector
5. Small grants

6. Management and administration

A delivery model for Great Yarmouth

Great Yarmouth will be taking a dual approach to tackling worklessness, skills and enterprise in the borough. One element will look at supply the other will look at demand. A "Gateway Model" has been produced to respond to some of the challenges identified with current supply issues. A simplified version of the model is shown below:



The model recognises that;

- There is a wealth of existing provision and resource available in the borough which needs clearer co-ordination.
- There currently lacks targeted community engagement to link local residents into the provision available.
- Support is not always seamless and is at times disjointed.
- There are opportunities to utilise existing engagement gateways i.e. through benefits advice, housing support, health services to refer residents into employment, skills and enterprise activities.
- Targeted intervention will also focus on wraparound support for individuals, linking them into other services which will help meet their needs.

It is clear that there are gaps in provision, there are services which need to be re-aligned and existing provision which need to be incorporated into the gateway model. These will all be considered as part of the commissioning process.

Work is currently progressing around the demand model, where activity is currently underway to draw up specifications for further research around an Intermediate Labour Market.

Commissioning

Following the recommendations of the commissioning group GYBC is keen to start the commissioning process for WNF activity. Support for a limited period is currently being sourced to draw up specifications and project briefs. It is envisaged that the commissioning process will include a combination of grant giving, open tendering and direct commissioning. This commissioning process is anticipated to start in late February to ensure adequate delivery time for projects.

Infrastructure

Effective community engagement will be an essential component to the success of WNF. An intention to support the resourcing of a community engagement infrastructure has already been indicated. A consortium approach to providing this support is being explored, which will seek to recognise the diversity of community engagement provision in the borough and foster greater partnership working.

Secondment Opportunity/Fixed-term Contract

A secondment opportunity/ fixed-term contract will shortly be offered to help drive the WNF "Gateway" agenda in Great Yarmouth. The role will allow for the strategic development of the Gateway agenda, providing internal capacity to develop work with partners around the delivery of WNF and its alignment with existing activity.

Will the Board:

- **Note this status report on Great Yarmouth's Working Neighbourhoods Fund**

TEL/RG 12 January 2009