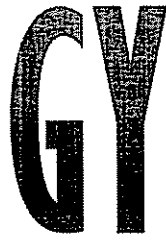


G R E A T Y A R M O U T H



LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Working with the Community

A G E N D A

for the

GREAT YARMOUTH LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE

27 February 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



LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Working with the Community

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

MEETING OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH LSP EXECUTIVE

Date: Friday, 27 February 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 23 January 2009 (pages 1-8).

3. MATTERS ARISING

To consider any matters arising from the above minutes.

PRESENTATION

4. NORFOLK SKILLS ROAD MAP

Howard Foale will give a presentation on the above.

ITEMS FOR DECISION/DISCUSSION

5. IMPACT OF THE CREDIT CRUNCH

To discuss the above.

6. ITEMS FROM GYP/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

To consider any items from GYP/Community Partnerships.

7. WORKING NEIGHBOURHOODS FUNDING UPDATE

The LSP Officer will report further at the meeting.

8. INVESTMENT OF AREA BASED GRANT – UPDATE

The Chairman will report further at the meeting.

9. “OUT THERE” FESTIVAL - ANALYSIS

Marie Hartley will report further at the meeting.

10. SECOND HOMES COUNCIL TAX 2009/2010

The LSP Officer will report further at the meeting.

11. LSP CHANGE MANAGEMENT

To consider the Change Management Group's report (pages 9-10).

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

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 March 2009.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

To consider any other items of business.

* * * * *

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

MEETING OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH LSP EXECUTIVE

23 January 2009 – 10.00 am

PRESENT:

J Ratcliffe (Great Yarmouth Borough Council) (in the Chair); T Aydin (Community Connections), P Cheeseman (Voluntary Sector Partnership), S Derbyshire (Learning and Skills Council), E Dewsnap (Norfolk County Council), A Forrest (Great Yarmouth Community Trust), J Holt (Jobcentre Plus), M Burns and R Read (Great Yarmouth Borough Council) and L Rogers (Norfolk Voluntary Services).

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from L Blizzard, C Congreve, J Cook, T Dadoun, N Darwish, H Foale, B Horner and N Sabberton.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2008 were confirmed, subject to the cancellation of the LSP Executive meeting scheduled for 18 December 2009.

3. MATTERS ARISING

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

4. IMPACT OF THE CREDIT CRUNCH

The Executive received the latest unemployment figures for December 2008, together with details on the UK and East of England Labour Force Survey Results and the Jobseekers Allowance claimants, together with the vacancies and redundancies notified to Jobcentre Plus. Partners provided information relating to their own sectors including the following:

- Until the end of December 2008, the Citizens Advice Bureau had not received any redundancy enquiries in Great Yarmouth but had given advice regarding tax credit changes and debt advice. Discussions had also been held with some organisations regarding volunteers and giving general advice. The CAB would probably need to start prioritising clients due to the numbers in difficulty.
- In relation to housing and homelessness acceptances, whilst these were still reducing in number, the amount of enforcement activity around repossessions was increasing which could lead to increasing problems. Registered social landlords were also being impacted upon and this could affect affordable housing availability. Officers were also concerned in relation to the impact on the SHIP and SHARP2 projects.
- It was felt too early yet to understand the impact on individuals, particularly those on benefit, although it was expected to impact on their physical and mental health and increase deprivation.
- In relation to the BME Community, it was understood that Bernard Matthews might be making redundancies. Notwithstanding this, it was felt that focus should be on those who had been unemployed for some time. It was also necessary to ensure that small organisations could still deliver services to those who were in need.
- Apprenticeship programmes were now affected as employers were reluctant to employ young people, particularly those between the ages of 16-18 and employer engagement in the 14-19 programme was diminishing. The Next Step Roadshow for those aged 20 plus would bring in additional flexibility and details would be circulated once available.
- Jobcentre Plus had now increased frontline staff by 20%. The number of vacancies notified was declining and the unemployed

register was rising. There was a 40% increase in people claiming Jobseekers Allowance across Norfolk with 23% in Great Yarmouth year on year. There had been a 31% reduction in the number of vacancies notified in Norfolk with an 8% reduction in Great Yarmouth. 3,620 redundancies were notified across the County to the end of the previous week, with Norwich accounting for almost 50% and Great Yarmouth having the least in the County. These figures did not include companies who had not involved Jobcentre Plus. There were a number of initiatives and strategies commencing in April to help the long term unemployed; to help employers recruit staff by subsidising wages for the first 26 weeks; financial help for business start ups and more provision for re-skilling and training the long term unemployed. Reference was made to research carried out by the LEGI programme that had shown Great Yarmouth had some resilience in terms of the impact on businesses although, of course, being a seasonal town, there were problems with employment peaks.

- Other schemes available included the IIC Funded Meridian East Project for the long term unemployed, Train to Gain and the help that business start ups were being given by LEGI, together with the new Business Link voucher scheme. There was also an initiative to develop skills for those in the third sector.
- There had been an increase in the number of people accessing benefits advice and housing advice in the Community Centre. There had also been a twofold increase in the number of people signing up to the Credit Union.
- GO-East had offered to re-negotiate some LAA targets which could include the affordable housing and worklessness targets.
- Norfolk Voluntary Services' key message was that organisations needed to show value for money and that partnership working was a key element, including the pooling of resources. There was also a possible impact on unfunded childcare ie the reduction in day nurseries and out of school hour activities.
- Statutory organisations such as the Borough Council were being affected ie the reduction in the number of right to buys impacted on the capital programme which could then impact on the decent homes standard. The Chief Constable was reporting an anticipated

impact of the economic downturn on crime with burglary and shoplifting predicted to rise.

- Around 90 affordable housing units had been created in the past year but Registered Social Landlords were now struggling to get credit although the HCA was responding by being more flexible but Boards were reluctant to fund the schemes. Investment income had been reduced dramatically and this, together with over exposure because of house buying, was impacting.

It was reported that the LSP Change Management Group would be discussing the LSP Annual Conference Event and it was possible that the credit crunch might be a suitable topic. It was noted that the Norfolk County Strategic Partnership had agreed six actions which might be used as a starting point and it was agreed that details would be forwarded to the LSP Officer. The need for co-ordinated services and to ensure that all communities received support was stressed. It was also accepted that tourism industries should be supported as this was likely to create jobs. The Chairman reported that other local authorities had provided a co-ordinated advice event for businesses, together with special editions of county newsletters relating to individuals, businesses etc. The need to ensure that any initiatives or events fitted in with the WNF work was stressed. Reference was made to the joint event with the GYP in March and it was suggested that feedback from this event be considered when deciding the next course of action. It was agreed that a small sub-group should be formed to move this issue forward and to consider events and newsletters etc.

RESOLVED:

That a small sub-group be formed to progress the issues further.

5. ITEMS FROM GYP/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Trish Aydin reported that discussions with GYROS regarding BME communities accessing services was on-going and that she wished to discuss the issues with the Community Cohesion Group before bringing to the LSP.

RESOLVED:

That a report on access to services by the BME community be included on a future agenda.

6. WORKING NEIGHBOURHOODS FUNDING UPDATE

The Executive considered a report considered by the LSP Board on 12 January 2009. Members noted that the largest pot of money had been identified for labour supply, soft skills, accredited skills and barrier removal in order to get people more employable. Attention was drawn to the gateway delivery model and it was noted that an individual would be employed on a short term contract or secondment to co-ordinate and deliver the programme. It was also reported that Spirals, had been commissioned to ensure that commissioning of projects was in line with the strategy. Rob Gregory, Paul Cheeseman and Naji Darwish were thanked for their work in creating the gateway model.

The Chairman reminded members that the Area Based Grant was a non-ringfenced grant paid to the Borough Council. The Council's budget had been affected due to the credit crunch and a low Revenue Support Grant meant that some of the Area Based Grant would need to be used to balance the budget in 2009/10. Members were assured that any funding used would accord with the aims and objectives of the funding streams otherwise there would need to be significant cuts to non-statutory services. It was noted that the Norfolk County Strategic Partnership had decided not to make any changes to its Area Based Grant although it was possible that some cuts would be made to non-ringfenced budgets. Depending on the outcome of Local Government Re-organisation, the Borough Council would need to look at the longer term opportunities in order to balance the budget which might include shared services. It was intended at this stage to continue funding grants to the voluntary sector from the mainstream budget rather than out of the Area Based Grant. The LSP Officer reported that the LSP Board Chairman had indicated that the Area Based Grant could be used to benefit the local economy and help address the issue of worklessness and encourage enterprise.

RESOLVED:

That the WNF Update be noted and the Chairman produce a paper on the proposed use of Area Based Grant to the next meeting.

7. ACCESS TO SERVICES BY BME COMMUNITIES

As stated previously, it was agreed that this item would be deferred to a future meeting.

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

Members were reminded that, at the last meeting, they had been asked to provide information on programmes and projects which would help achieve the LAA targets and the objectives of the Sustainable Community Strategy. Eve Dewsnap reported that information was required by the end of March with each district being asked for an annual assessment of activities. She clarified that it was more important to have an idea of the projects rather than any costings if these were not easily quantifiable.

RESOLVED:

That the proforma be re-sent out to Partners who were asked to submit them to the LSP Officer as soon as possible.

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

The Executive received an update in relation to the activities undertaken by the Community Cohesion Steering Group and it was noted that the Community Cohesion Strategy would hopefully be launched at the end of April at the Voluntary Sector Partnership Conference. Any Partners with details of projects that met the Community Cohesion objectives were asked to provide details to the Community Cohesion Officer as soon as possible.

10. ROLL-OUT OF LOCALITY WORKING

It was noted that this issue had been discussed at the LSP Board and following the consultation responses, the business case had been revised with the roll-out being narrowed down to three areas, namely Southtown and Cobholm (working with SHIP project), Magdalen (working with the Safer Neighbourhood Team) and Caister and the Coastal Villages. These areas had also been chosen based on the index of multiple deprivation. It was not intended to duplicate the work of any existing organisations such as Parish Councils but to work with them. Concerns had been expressed from areas that had received neighbourhood renewal funding and it had been agreed to include sustaining existing activity in Gorleston and North Yarmouth in the

business case. The next step was to develop the funding strategy with partners such as the Police, PCT and the County Council to use existing resources in a smarter way. An implementation plan would be developed in February and would include Local Ward Members in order to get their buy-in.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT UPDATE

It was reported that the Borough Council would be hosting a regional empowerment event on 26 February and partners were asked for examples of projects to showcase.

Members were also informed that Great Yarmouth had been awarded £3m of a £4m coastal funding bid for the St George's Chapel area. The element not being funded due to the shortfall was the green corridor linking in with the central library. The next stage was to fine tune the project due to the £1m shortfall and to secure match funding. A public consultation exercise would commence in March using the Inspire/Aspire event.

12. enterpriseGY

It was reported that the programme was coming to the end of its first three year tranche of funding with 83% of the targets being delivered against, including the provision of Novus House and the Catalyst Incubators. The enterpriseGY Board had reviewed its plans for the next two years (to March 2011) and decided to refocus the programme to include only start up, new business incubator, training and targeted marketing. This would result in some of the existing programme not being continued. The proposal for a business incubator was in order to strengthen businesses and make them more resilient.

13. FORA UPDATES

It was noted that no Fora meetings had been held but the Change Management Group was focusing on what the new Delivery Partnership should be and the resources available to support and facilitate them.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 27 February 2009.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that a revised Sustainable Community Strategy would be available in glossy final version shortly. An event led by the Norfolk PCT in relation to Improved Access for Psychological Therapies would be held on 24 February 2009 in Fakenham if anyone wished to attend.

16. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 12.00 noon.

**LSP Change Management Group
Wednesday 23 January 2009 at 16.00 hrs
Supper Room, Town Hall, GYBC**

Notes of Meeting

Present

Cllr B Coleman
Carol Congreve
Brian Horner
Brian McDonnell
David Martin
Jane Ratcliffe
Robert Read
Tim Leonard

Apologies

Mike Jackson

Delivery Partnerships

The Group considered the analysis of LAA national and local indicators and sustainable community strategy indicators broken down by the following possible/draft delivery partnerships:

- Stronger Communities
- Safe Communities (existing CDRP)
- Health and Independent Living
- Housing
- Environment and Climate Change
- Economy and Enterprise
- Learning and Skills
- Children and Young People (existing Eastern Partnership Board)

There was a debate on the ability to provide adequate secretariat and facilitator support for an increased number of theme groups at a time when financial pressures were affecting all partners. Mike Jackson's views were also noted and informed the discussion. It was decided learning and skills for those not working (JSA and IB) claimants should be covered by the stronger communities partnership. It was further concluded that housing, which has comparatively few indicators, would also be incorporated into the stronger communities partnership.

Going forward, the delivery partnerships would be as follows:

1. Stronger Communities
2. Safe Communities (CDRP)
3. Health and Independent Living
4. Environment and Climate Change
5. Economy and Enterprise
6. Children and Young People (existing Eastern Partnership Board)

LSP Board Membership

As to Board Membership, the Group, noting the LSP stocktake report and recommendations that had been agreed and approved by the LSP Executive and the Board, the Board composition was agreed as follows:

1. LSP Chairman
2. Great Yarmouth & Waveney NHS (PCT) representative
3. Police Representative
4. Police Authority Representative
5. Great Yarmouth People (CEN) Chairman
6. Voluntary Norfolk Representative
7. Chair of LSP Delivery Executive
8. GYBC Chief Executive
9. Norfolk County Council Member Representative
10. Norfolk County Council Representative
11. GYBC Opposition Leader
12. Chamber of Commerce/Business Link Representative

Officers supporting the above would only be invited to attend when relevant items were on the agenda.

Government Office and EEDA would be invited to send non-voting members.

The next meeting will be held in the Nelson room at GYBC at 09.00 hrs on Thursday 19 February.

Apologies have been received from Brian Horner and Brian McDonnell.

TEL 16 February 2009