

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



LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Working with the Community

ADDITIONAL PAPERS

for the

GREAT YARMOUTH LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

7 January 2008 at 3.30 pm

**at the Training Room, Time and Tide Museum,
Blackfriars Road, Great Yarmouth**

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PLEASE TELEPHONE: 01493 846325**

GREAT YARMOUTH LSP BOARD

7 January 2008

ADDITIONAL PAPERS

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2007 are attached (pages 29-34).

6. WORKING NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND – ALLOCATION TO GREAT YARMOUTH 2008/09

The LSP Officer's report is attached for consideration (pages 35-37).

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LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

8 October 2007 – 3.30 pm

PRESENT:

Representing Great Yarmouth Borough Council:
Councillor Barry Coleman (in the Chair)

Representing Great Yarmouth People:
Adrian Barnes, Lindsay Seward and Michael Hewitt

Representing Norfolk County Council:
Mike Jackson

Representing JobCentre Plus:
David Baldry

Representing GO-East:
Nick de Jong

Representing Great Yarmouth and Waveney PCT:
Bernard Williamson

Representing Norfolk Chamber of Commerce:
Caroline Williams

Representing Norfolk Constabulary:
Carol Congreve

Representing Norfolk Police Authority:
John Holmes

Representing the Economic Forum:
Mike Gouldby

Representing the Environmental Forum:
Simon Mutten

Paul Cheeseman (GYP Officer), Trevor Cockburn (Norfolk County Council) and Rob Gregory (Comeunity/Neighbourhood Management Board) attended by invitation.

Peter Wright, Rachael Darnell, Peter Warner and Sarah Davis (Great Yarmouth Borough Council Officials), Tim Leonard (LSP Officer) and David Stannard (LSP Consultant) also attended.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Trish Aydin (GYP), Chris Mowle (Norfolk County Council), Alistair Lipp (Great Yarmouth and Waveney PCT) and Andy Hayes (Norfolk Constabulary).

2. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2007 were confirmed, subject to item 10 relating to the Employment and Skills Action Plan being amended to reflect that the vocational training project was aimed at those who had been unemployed between six to 18 months and that the Pathways to Work Project was aimed at tackling the problems of those on incapacity benefit.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

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

4. **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY (SCS)**

(a) **Results for the August SCS Workshop**

The Board received a progress report in relating to the development workshops which were held in August. Members noted that the workshops had been organised under three themes of the existing 20/20 Vision with each session examining four specific interest topics reflecting the eight components of the Government White Paper.

(b) Draft Strategy

The Board received the latest draft Strategy and it was noted that, following the workshop sessions, the LSP Executive had suggested that a wider consultation exercise be undertaken to ensure that there was community ownership. The Executive had agreed that a sub-group comprising Paul Cheeseman, Trish Aydin, Carol Reilly, Tim Leonard and David Stannard would look at the style of consultation. In the light of this decision and the fact that negotiations on the new LAA had slipped, it was unlikely that the Strategy would be published until spring. A suggestion was made that input was also needed from Suffolk County Council and Waveney District Council bearing in mind the need for agreements to be aligned due to the joint Great Yarmouth and Waveney PCT. The Board then split into three workshops to consider each of the three themes.

RESOLVED:

That the Strategy be amended in the light of the feedback from the workshop sessions.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING

(a) Activities for Young People

The Board was reminded that they had granted the LSP Executive delegated authority to agree projects for allocating any underspend. Accordingly, they received a list detailing the results of funding bids for activities for young people which had been agreed by the Executive.

(b) NRF Spend Report

The Board received the NRF Slippage and Spend Report which had also been considered by the LSP Executive in September. The LSP Officer reported that more slippage was likely and a clearer picture would be known once quarter two claims were submitted in a few weeks.

6. EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS ACTION PLAN

The Board received the latest Action Plan, together with a paper detailing the activities and investment in Great Yarmouth from the

Investing in Communities (IIC) Fund. The Economic Development Officer reported that the IIC Board wanted an acceptance that the Action Plan Sub-Group could represent the Great Yarmouth LSP on IIC Project Development with the LSP Executive making decisions on proposals as they met on a more regular basis. Members were reminded that the Economic Development Officer was the Borough Council's representative on the IIC Board. Members also received details of the Alchemy project which it was proposed to fund via any underspend from within the region during 2007/08 with the understanding that further capital would be required in 2008/09.

RESOLVED:

(i) That approval be given to the Employment and Skills Sub-Group taking responsibility for developing an area based package of investment for the Great Yarmouth area for the IIC for the remainder of the business plan period (to March 2011) with delegated authority being given to the LSP Executive to make decisions on proposals.

(ii) That approval in principle be given to funding the Alchemy 2 project by utilising any underspend from within the region during 2007/08 on the understanding that further capital will be required in 2008/09.

7. RAISING EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The LSP Officer reported that the joint meeting of the LSP/Children and Young People's Board had taken place on 27 September 2007. It was agreed that the Action Plan would be circulated to Members once finalised.

8. EXTERNAL FUNDING

Members noted that St George's Parkway Scheme was progressing well and to timescale. In relation to the £100,000 capital funding made available for bids from the community for open space improvement schemes, it was noted that four projects had been granted funding, namely Williamson's Lookout, Gorleston Bandstand Project and two Grey to Green Schemes. Simon Mutton reported that some concerns had been raised by residents in relation to the lack of consultation on the St George's Parkway Scheme and Officers were currently in discussions

with them to resolve any issues. Discussions were also underway with the Neighbourhood Management Team and Community Connections following the disbandment of the Friends of St George's Park Group. A form for green flag status next year had also been submitted.

The Chairman suggested that the possibility of a "wet house" in the Park vicinity should be investigated as this may help to move persistent drinkers from the area. Carol Congreve reported that the CDRP had commissioned work with NORCAS to look at the issue of a drop-in centre and there was also a joint CDRP and Neighbourhood Management project, working in conjunction with NORCAS, for a street outreach worker who would commence work soon and they would be able to provide information and data for a potential wet house. It was agreed that Simon Mutton would include the possibility of a wet house in the Management Plan for the Park and the LSP Officer would look into whether NRF funding would be available.

The Board received an update in relation to LEGI and it was noted that a mid term review of the scheme would be conducted shortly. The issue of a hub was on-going and an enterprise week would be held in November.

The Board also received a report on programme development for the Comeunity scheme, together with an update on the "Narrowing the Gap" Middlegate project.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the progress on the St George's Parkway be noted and the possibility of a wet house being developed in the area be supported in principle.

(ii) That the Neighbourhood Management proposal for the "Narrowing the Gap" Middlegate project be ratified.

9. GREAT YARMOUTH PEOPLE/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Paul Cheeseman suggested that a joint LSP/GYP event take place in March which could promote or tie in with other events such as the Opportunities Fair and/or Sustainable Community Strategy. The point was made that the issue of resources to plan for the joint event needed to be investigated.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal to hold a joint event in March be agreed and the LSP Executive be asked to look into the more detailed plans and identify available resources.

10. UPDATE ON FORA ACTIVITIES

It was noted that the Learning Forum had looked at the Life Long Learning targets.

The Economic Forum had received presentations from 1st East on its preferred options document and it had been agreed to enter into a reciprocal arrangement with the Waveney Enterprise Partnership whereby a member from each group would attend each others meetings. Discussions had also taken place in relation to unitary status.

Simon Mutton reported that the Environmental Forum had received a presentation in relation to the Bio-Diesel Partnership which had discussed how to dispose of domestic waste cooking oil at Caister and convert it to bio-diesel. The Forum had also suggested that all LSP Members should join the project as well. Discussions had also taken place in relation to the Nottingham Climate Change Declaration and the Environmental Forum Members had agreed to co-sign a similar declaration. A presentation had also been received in relation to the success of Great Yarmouth in the Britain in Bloom Competition.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting would take place on Monday, 7 January 2008 at 3.30 pm.

12. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 6.05 pm.



LSP Board

Meeting 7 January 2008

AGENDA
ITEM

6

Working Neighbourhoods Fund 2008/2011

Background

Since October, with the publication of the list of "Grants to be delivered via the Area Based Grant" we have been aware that there was going to be a replacement for the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF). We knew the fund would be called the Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) but we did not know whether or not Great Yarmouth would be eligible. Neither did we have any idea of the money sums that would be involved.

Award to Great Yarmouth

On 6 December we learned that Great Yarmouth would receive £7.1 million over the next three years. The yearly split is £2.0 million, £2.5 million, £2.6 million.

It is important to note that full guidance has not yet been published but we have been advised the funding is for the Borough and is not restricted to the existing NRF areas. A concentration on the most deprived areas however is being encouraged.

A Commissioning Approach?

Great Yarmouth is well placed to invest this money. Following the last LSP Performance Management Assessment when we gave "Jobs" the worst "traffic light" rating, we have been developing initiatives to get people to be better placed to enter the job market. Jobcentre Plus were invited to join the LSP Board and have done so and we have formed the Employment and Skills working Group. This Group has a broadly based membership including Jobcentre Plus, the Borough's Economic Development Officer, the Chamber of Commerce, the County's Investing in Communities officer, the Voluntary Centre Partnership and Community Connections. As a large proportion of those not working are workless due to incapacity, there is a proposal that the PCT join this Group.

One of the projects that has been developed has involved research into views, attitudes and barriers of those not in work. A parallel piece of research into employers in the Borough, their requirements and their perceptions of skills gaps has taken place. This research was funded by Investing in Communities.

Given that we have good data on the background and the issues of worklessness, it is proposed that we use a commissioning approach to the investment of WNF rather than open up a bidding process.

The Economic Forum would appear to be the obvious choice to recommend how the WNF should be used. But when worklessness was being considered recently by the Economic Forum it was stated that the Social Forum had a role to play when dealing with the unemployed. The Economic Forum, however, has the key role to play in job creation and working with employers on their staffing needs.

It is therefore proposed that the Economic Forum, the Social Forum and the Employment and Skills Working Group, being mindful of the yet to be published guidance, develop a commissioning framework, identifying initiatives, investments and interventions.

This framework will need approval before the next Board on 14 April 2008. The Board is asked to delegate authority to the Chairman or a sub group of the Board to agree the framework in order that work can commence early in 2008/9.

Local Enterprise Growth Initiative

The initial announcement of LEGI funding in February 2006 was for three years committed funding of £8.7m. The bid had outlined a 10 year programme. Funding for years 4 and 5 and beyond had not been confirmed in the Comprehensive Spending Review until the WNF announcement. Shortly after the latter, it was confirmed that LEGI rounds 1 and 2 winners would be funded until 2011 and were additional to the WNF. Given that enterprise is one of the three elements of WNF it is essential that there is close co-operation and co-ordination of LEGI and WNF. The Board might like to give guidance on whether or not the WNF money should be used only for worklessness and skills.

Management and Governance

Norfolk County Council, as the designated recipient of Area Based Grant monies, has advised us that in the case of WNF, Great Yarmouth will receive the money direct. At the time of writing this paper, however, it is unclear who will be the accountable body for WNF.

The management of NRF has been taking place through a dedicated team of two, based in the Borough Council and supported by GYBC's finance team. The County Council are not in a position to run this programme from County Hall and have asked that we manage it in Great Yarmouth. It is recommended that the NRF team, whose administration has passed all audits, be the team who administer WNF. Their costs will be covered by the management allowance within WNF.

Will the Board:

- **Note the availability of £7.1 million over the next three years through the Working Neighbourhoods Fund to improve worklessness, skills and enterprise in the Borough.**
- **Agree that a commissioning approach is used to invest the Working Neighbourhoods Fund.**

- Agree that the Economic Forum, the Social Forum and the Employment and Skills Working Group, being mindful of the yet to be published guidance, develop a commissioning framework.
- Agree that the LSP Chairmen be given the authority to approve the commissioning framework in advance of the 14 April 2008 Board in order that activity can start as soon as possible in the new financial year.
- Agree that the Working Neighbourhoods Fund is administered and managed by the existing NRF procedures/team.

TEL 20 December 2007