



Coventry Local Public Service Board
 Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21st January, 2009
 held in Room 77, Council House.

Present:

Jos Parry	Coventry City Council (Interim Chair)
Dawn Ford	Coventry Partnership
Jane Beaver	Job Centre Plus
Ken Taylor	Coventry City Council
Dianne Williams	Chamber
Peter Shearing	Learning and Skills Council
Sarah Chand	West Midlands Probation
Stephen Banbury	Voluntary Action Coventry
Steve Glover	West Midlands Police
Jeb Francique	Coventry PCT
Barry Hastie	Coventry City Council
Adrian West	Coventry City Council
Paul Wells	Coventry City Council

Apologies

Richard Monk	Whitefriars Housing
Stephen Jones	Coventry PCT
Deborah Harrod	West Midlands Police
Mark Tovey	GOWM
Simon Shilton	West Midlands Fire Service

No	Item	Action
1.	Welcome and Apologies – The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table and apologies were noted.	
2.	Minutes of the last meeting – These were accepted as a true and accurate record.	
3.	Action log	Action Log to be updated.
3.1	Items 5, 23, 24 and 30 – Main item for discussion on agenda.	
3.2	Item 20 – Raise the public awareness of the partnership – Promotional campaign developed, new partnership banners have been produced and shooting of a DVD has commenced.	
3.3	Action Log – Item 28 – This should read that the ‘item be left in abeyance’.	

3.4	<p>Item 38 – Partners to nominate contact – LSC locally have very few employees under the age of 25. Peter Shearing to follow up.</p>	
4.	<p>LAA Funding – update on Progress – Barrie Hastie – A briefing note and appendix showing Area Based Grant Allocations for 2009-11 were circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Coventry City Council (CCC) published a pre-budget report for the financial year 2009-10 in December 2008. These proposals are very much informed by the vision and priorities set out in the Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy and the LAA,</p> <p>There was a £9m gap identified in resources and CCC applied strategies to manage the gap and balance the books – currently there is a shortfall of £3.5m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiency savings – A 3% cashable efficiency saving target was set over the current comprehensive spending review period for all directorates and remains a major challenge, but it is essential for CCC to balance the revenue budget over the medium term. • VFM work and Price Waterhouse Cooper – CCC are working in partnership with PWC to develop and deliver a VFM programme. <p>Ken informed the group he had written to all partners who Coventry City Council fund and explained the need to make efficiency savings and that their funding would be reduced by 3% to met the overall efficiency savings required. Reaction from Community Groups has been good.</p> <p>4.1 Financial Planning Horizon</p> <p>Local Authorities are facing lower levels of growth in funding and in real terms decreases in future years. The pre-budget report published by central government in November signalled an increase in the expectations of efficiency savings from 2001/12.</p> <p>The reality being that, although CCC would like to invest more in our priority areas, we need to become more efficient and productive and keep in mind that, given the economic uncertainties, pressures on public sector expenditure may increase while resources constrict and this will require us to be even clear about our focus and our priorities.</p> <p>4.2 Area Based Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ABG was introduced in 08/09 as a non ring-fenced addition to the Council's Revenue Support Grant – this has been applied to 	<p>Report noted.</p> <p>Criteria to be Est. JP/DF</p> <p>OBA events to be held</p>

<p>4.3</p>	<p>support Council-spending priorities for 08/09 and this is intended to continue in 09/10. Proposed areas of spend were shown in Appendix 1 to the briefing note.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexibility has been identified and where possible resources have been directed to priorities. There has been some proposed re-allocation of the ABG for 09/10 to provide funding for priority areas of spend including services for adults with learning difficulties and extending the city's recycling scheme. • It is proposed that an amount of £500K is devolved to the LPSB to be allocated in line with LAA priorities. The board may want to discuss how it would determine the allocation of this resource. In order to facilitate this, the finance section is in the process of producing detailed financial information which will support performance reporting against each key target and indicator. <p>A lengthy discussion took place. Some key issues for the board to keep in mind are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The city seems to be surviving comparatively well at present during the recession; however it will soon start to make an impact. • Government have miscalculated the surge in student numbers and from 2010 this will impact on our Universities, the student loan book. • JCP work closely with CCC and this will impact as 190 jobs at CCC are proposed to be cut. • CCC funding reliant on grant funding, this will have a bigger impact on recruitment. • Current position offers an opportunity to rethink how we deliver and commission services. • Employment skills – CSWP are tasked with dealing with issues and assisting people to retain skills. Agreed Dianne and Peter to chase up. • Need to understand what the economy in Coventry will look like in the future and what skills will be required. • New developments – what does this mean for future planning? <p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £500K will be allocated – CLPSB to identify how it might be used to support LAA. • Criteria will be drawn up to enable board members to make their decisions for allocation. • That the CLPSB request in-depth information around key priorities and challenge performance on LAA indicators. • Turning the curve workshops to be held and then decision can be 	
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	made on allocation	
5.	<p>Local Area Agreement Refresh Report – (A report was circulated with the agenda) The national process of reviewing progress all Local Area Agreements has begun and the new negotiated targets for a number of LAA indicators will be in place for the second year of the LAA which runs from April 2009. This "review and refresh" process is being led by the Government Offices on behalf of the range of departments responsible for LAA indicators.</p> <p>At this early stage much of the information required to assess progress on the three year LAA is not available – only 16 of the 35 indicators have performance data at the half year - so the review has focused on ensuring that local authorities and their partners have robust processes in place to achieve the targets set out in the LAA and also on how well communities are being informed and involved in the LAA process.</p> <p>The Coventry LAA has seven indicators which were due to be introduced in April 2009. One of these, NI 24 – satisfaction with the way the police and local council deal with anti-social behaviour has now been removed from the national indicator set. We have been asked to replace this with either NI 17 or NI 21 both perception indicators from the national Place Survey.</p> <p>Also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mandatory targets for children and young people are being reduced from 16 to 10 to reflect that testing at KS3 is now longer in place. • The refresh process will look to set targets for the remaining six indicators. • It is not expected that any of the other priorities and indicators in the LAA will change. • The indicators which reflect economic downturn, a priority currently for the partnership such as worklessness and housing are not currently among those that central government wishes to review and we will be asked to present a business case for each of these. • Coventry is working with six West Midlands Metropolitan district councils on the development of a City Region Multi-Area Agreement for skills and employment. This would look to maximise the benefits of working together across the City Region to target the most disadvantaged wards and to access additional flexibilities from Central Government. • MAA needs to be reflected as part of our LAA. 	<p>Agreed Agenda Item next meeting</p> <p>Report noted.</p>

<p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p>	<p>Timetable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GOWM have set a challenging target for the end of March 2009 • Full Council 17th March, 2009 • Final Draft to be ready by 25th February, 2009. • Negotiations are taking place with partners. • Indicator action plans to be reviewed and lead officers will be meeting next month. <p>Next Steps:</p> <p>Negotiations with central government will continue and we will need to meet some tight deadlines. It is expected that the final proposed "refreshed" LAA with all its targets will be available for the Local Public Service Board to consider at your next meeting on 25 February 2009.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Prevent Plan – Paul Wells - Since the plan was presented to the board in September 2008 work has been undertaken to develop the Prevent Plan and its associated action plan, which is still a working document and will be subject to continued review and amendment.</p> <p>The changes to the document were highlighted with the most significant change being the creation of a multi-agency Prevent Working Group to oversee and undertake the implementation of the plan. The CLPSB will continue to have the role of overseeing the performance management of the plan.</p> <p>A number of key personnel are now in place in the city in a number of posts dedicated to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE) – these include a post to address PVE issues with young offenders, three police officers working locally as Security and Partnership Offers and Paul as the Cohesion Co-ordinator, who is responsible for the co-ordination of activity across the city and for implementing the Prevent Plan.</p> <p>All LSP's, whether in receipt of funding or not, will be required to undertake a self assessment in 2009/10 against a national framework that is being developed as part of the national performance indicator NI 35 – Building Resilience to violent extremism. Assessment to take place in April 2009. GOWM will provide guidance on carrying out the assessment.</p> <p>The Coventry Plan will form apart of the wider Coventry Partnership Cohesion Strategy which is currently being prepared and will be considered by the Coventry Partnership Board as part of the Coventry Cohesion Strategy later this year.</p>	<p>CLPSB agreed version.</p> <p>PW to work closely with partners.</p>

<p>6.1</p>	<p>The board is asked to agree the final draft version, which was circulated with the agenda, so that it can be submitted to GOWM to meet the end of January deadline.</p> <p>Key priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple Messages should be communicated not to cause alarm and the messages should be embedded into core business. • Working Group to be set up. • Improve links to Neighbourhoods. <p>Next Steps</p> <p>If the board agree the Prevent Plan any amendments will be made and the final draft will be submitted to GOWM to meet the end of January deadline.</p> <p>Work will continue to develop and implement the action plan under the management of the New Prevent Working Group and progress on the plan reported regularly to the board.</p> <p>The Prevent Plan will be included within the Coventry Community Cohesion Strategy, which is currently being developed.</p> <p>The board discussed the strategy and approval was given. It was also stressed that training of employees within partner organisations was important for a better understanding, so people do not create problematic situations with interventions. Also the sharing of information is important.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Hate Crime Reduction Partnership: Sarah informed the board that a group of young people, who have had differing issues, had visited Poland and this had made the national press. The project has been extremely successful, trained staff have remained focused and the young men have responded very well to the approach taken. A National Toolkit for schools has been produced and the project will be part of the day to day activity for 2009.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Next meeting: 25th February, 2009</p> <p>Time: 10.00 a.m.</p> <p>Venue: Room 77 - Council House</p> <p>For your reference future meeting dates:</p>	



	06.04.09	10.00 – 12.00	Room 77	
	13.05.09	11.00 – 1.00	Room 77	
	17.06.09	10.00 – 12.00	Room 77	
	22.07.09	10.00 – 12.00	Room 77	
	09.09.09	2.30 – 4.30	Room 77	
	14.10.09	10.00 – 12.00	Room 77	
	02.12.09	10.00 – 12.00	Room 77	

Dawn Ford
Coventry Partnership Manager

dawn.ford@coventrypartnership.com

Tel: 024 7683 4356
Mobile: 07535655211