

Minutes of a meeting of the Warwickshire Public Service Board held on 20 February 2008 at the Trident Centre, Leamington Spa.

Present:

Members of the Public Service Board

Council Leaders: Alan Farnell - Warwickshire County Council
Dennis Harvey – Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
Craig Humphrey -Rugby Borough Council
Les Topham– Stratford on Avon District Council

Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce – Dianne Williams, Director of Operations (substitute for Louise Bennett)

Warwickshire Association of Local Councils – Councillor Vaughan Owen

Learning and Skills Council (C&W) – Peter Shearing

Warwickshire PCT - Bryan Stoten, Chair of PCT

CWIC- - William Clemmey

Invitees

Colin Ball –Pride in Camp Hill Project Director.

Stronger Communities Theme Block Representatives- minute 3a refers

Chris Elliott – Block Lead
Kate Mulkern – Heart of England, Chair of Theme Group

Healthier Communities & Older People –minute 3b refers

Graeme Betts – Strategic Director of Adults, Health and Community,WCC and Block Lead
Tim Davies – Warwickshire PCT/ WCC

Observers

County Councillor Peter Fowler

Officers

District/Borough Council Chief Executives:

Chris Elliott – Warwick District Council
Christine Kerr – Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
Dave Nash – Strategic Director (representing Paul Lankester, CE) – Stratford on Avon District Council
Ian Davis – Corporate Director (representing Simon Warren) -Rugby Borough Council

WALC Alison Hodge

Warwickshire Police David Whitehouse – Head of Community Safety
(representing Keith Bristow)

GOWM Sharon Shattock

County Council

David Carter- Strategic Director of Performance and Development
Dave Hill-Economic Strategy Advisor
Geoff King, Children, Young People & Families Directorate
Julie Sullivan – Corporate Community Safety Manager
Louise Richards – Policy and Partnerships Manager
Janet Purcell – Member Services Manager
Oliver Winters- Head of Finance
Virginia Rennie- Group Accountant

1	Apologies	
	<p>Apologies for absence were received from Members of the Board – Louise Bennett (Chamber of Commerce), Councillor Michael Coker (Warwick District Council), Ian Francis (Police Authority, Councillor Colin Hayfield – North Warwickshire Borough Council</p> <p>Apologies were also received from Keith Bristow, (Chief Constable), Jim Graham (Chief Executive of the County Council), Paul Lankester, (Chief Executive, Stratford on Avon DC), David Rose, Chief Executive, Warwickshire PCT.</p>	

2	Minutes of meeting held on 23 January 2008	
	<p>Resolved</p> <p>That, subject to the inclusion of William Clemmey in the board membership list (rather than officer list) the minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2008 be agreed as a correct record.</p> <p><u>Matter Arising – Social Cohesion Grant –minute 3 refers</u></p> <p>Sharon Shattock advised that clarification had been sent to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council with regard to their Social Cohesion Grant.. Christine Kerr advised that she was not aware that this had been received and Sharon undertook to follow this up.</p>	
3	Block Presentations	
3a	<u>Stronger Communities</u>	
	<p>Chris Elliott reminded the Board that this block had been developed ‘from scratch’ over six months but was already on target to achieve all of the things the block was committed to, and for which it was possible to measure. He added that the block had decided it was fruitless to develop indicators for areas where there was no base line or targets against which to measure performance.</p>	
	<p>The achievements to date and the opportunities and challenges are set out in the appendix to these minutes. The key areas of achievement are community empowerment, community cohesion and volunteering and in the cross-cutting areas of access to services (through one stop shops etc) culture and third sector capacity.</p> <p>The Board noted, however, that there had been no progress on affordable housing and the development of a protocol on what is an affordable price. Chris Elliott expressed his disappointment as Stratford and Warwick remained in the lowest quartile for affordable housing in the country.</p>	
	<p>William Clemmey commented that, in relation to the support to the third sector, there had been joint work between the sector</p>	

	and WCC on the development of performance indicators and requested that this work be followed up. Chris Elliott welcomed this information on standards and added that it would also be useful to know who was reaching the standards set.	
3b	<u>Healthier Communities and Older People</u>	
	<p>Graeme Betts, Strategic Director of Adults, Health and Community Services reported on progress with this theme block and highlighted achievements in improving health (with exceeding targets for 5 a day fruit/vegetable consumption and physical exercise). He added, however, that progress was slow in the north of the County with health inequalities and mortality rates amongst men remaining high in Nuneaton and Bedworth. This reflected the slow progress on smoking cessation and diet and exercise changes in this area.</p> <p>Graeme added that there was also not enough progress in supporting people to stay in their own homes, although the data may be distorted due to lack of recording.</p> <p>The Board noted that a stakeholder event in November had identified three priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in health inequalities • Support and encouragement for healthy lifestyles • Support for people to live independently at home <p>Local targets and indicators were also needed and four specific areas had been identified for partners to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stroke care • Support for carers • Telecare • Falls prevention <p>Graeme stressed that the block were trying to avoid being driven by targets but to focus on using the block to improve broader partnership working, so leading to better outcomes for Warwickshire’s citizens.</p> <p>Tim Davies added that local targets were important and that these should include the areas of nutrition and mental health in the workplace. Bryan Stoten advised that the health inequality gap had widened as the 1-3 social economic groups improving</p>	

	<p>their healthy lifestyles but with no improvement in groups 4 and 5. There was, therefore, a need to focus on the semi and unskilled and to focus on improvements in education and prospects for these groups as there was a clear link between educational attainment and health.</p>	
4	Performance Reporting	
4a & 4b	<p><u>Quarter 3 Performance – General Report and Quarter 3 LPSA2 report relating to current reward targets</u></p> <p>The two reports were discussed together.</p> <p><u>Progress against targets/reward grant</u> The Board received the quarter 3 performance information.</p> <p>The report showed that of the 66% of the targets were going to be met or exceeded with 33% not meeting the targets. Remedial action was also set out in the report.</p> <p>The Board noted that, on the current assessment of predicted outturn, the forecasted reward grant resulting from LPSA2 was estimated to be £10,383,563 (74% of the maximum eligible grant) against a potential of £13,612,754. The two areas that were least likely to hit the targets were violent crime and healthy schools.</p> <p>The Board discussed these two areas and noted that the project end date for crime is 31 March 2008 and that there was insufficient time to address this area but that the healthy schools end date is 31 December 2009. Bryan Stoten suggested that this be looked at and undertook to deliver whatever was needed to achieve the target. It was agreed that a report on progress on this be brought to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Tackling poverty</u> Chris Elliott suggested that HCOP3a and 3b be looked at to see whether there was a way of moving some of results across to 3b from 3a.</p> <p>The Board noted that, in relation to HCOP3b on page 72 (benefit claims) progress had also been slow due to a 6 month delay in funding to the CAB.</p> <p>Christine Kerr asked about progress in GP services in the north</p>	<p>Marion Davis/ Geoff King/Bryan Stoten/David Rose</p> <p>Graeme Betts/Tim Davies</p>

	<p>and was assured by Bryan Stoten that the Professional Executive Committee was receiving a report on this at their meeting today and were aware that progress must be made this year, not just in relation to Camp Hill, but also to the wider area of Nuneaton and Bedworth and north of the County where there was a need to increase access rates.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the Board note the performance management information.</p> <p>(2) That an alternative method of providing access to the detailed information be found, to avoid large reports to the Board meetings.</p> <p>(3) That the Board note the performance of the LPSA2 targets and forecast reward grant based on current performance</p> <p>(4) That the progress on the blocks and remedial actions are noted, and that, in addition to these actions, the following suggestions made by Members be taken forward by the Block Leads and the outcome reported back to the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action to speed progress on the healthy school initiative. • Access to GPs • The inter relationship of indicators HCOP3a and 3b 	
5	Financial Monitoring Report	
	<p>The Board considered the quarter 3 monitoring report and noted that there was an overall projected underspend of £40,559, just 0.4% of the total LAA grant. (The appendices referred to in the report were tabled). Part of this related to a likely underspend on improving waste performance and efficiency and the accountable officer recommended that the approach be to allow this to be carried forward.</p> <p>The Board noted the position and agreed as follows:</p>	

	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the Quarter 3 position and projected outturn position at 31 December 2007 be noted.</p> <p>(2) That North Warwickshire borough Council be allowed to carry forward any underspend in their allocation for improving waste performance and efficiency at 31 March 2008 to complete the projects outlined in Appendix B.</p> <p>(3) That those theme blocks forecasting an underspend report back to the next meeting of the PSB outlining proposals on how these underspends could be utilised to deliver the LAA targets.</p>	All block leads
6.	<p>Narrowing the Gap – Nuneaton and Bedworth LSP</p>	
	<p>Christine Kerr presented a report, as Chair of the Nuneaton and Bedworth LSP, on a programme of work for Narrowing the Gap. This report had been requested by the Board at its meeting in November. A supplementary paper was also tabled that set out proposed areas to tackle health inequalities and a summary of total funding requirements of the LSP- covering each of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health inequalities • Skills and qualifications • Crime and disorder • Cohesive communities • Marketing and promotions. <p>Christine invited comments on this interim report before its submission to the LSP meeting on 3 March.</p> <p>During discussion, Christine drew attention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of tackling teenage pregnancy as a specific problem in Nuneaton and Bedworth, although not a main target for the PSB • targeted intervention with young people (at a cost of £1500 per student) • A proposal to fund 16 more police posts • The proposal to have posts to facilitate cohesive communities 	

Board members commented on:

- Possible strengthening of the focus on skills development and a need to meet the gap in business support and new business start up when the current package for this ends in March.
- Alternative methods for taking witness statements by the police, rather than using police officers (already being considered as part of the Police modernisation programme).
- Major factors that determine health and longevity are educational achievement and opportunities for post 16,

The Board was advised that the proposal was for a three year action plan that could be implemented quickly in Nuneaton and Bedworth to tackle the particular concentration of problems and start narrowing the gap, with such interventions also being taken up in other parts of the County where the need arose. The additional paper also referred to the need to develop a mechanism for addressing the issue countywide and to this end proposed that the lead for narrowing the gap rests with the Nuneaton and Bedworth LSP but that it should engage with other LSPs across the County and with LAA blocks to start a long term strategy.

Christine also requested that the issue of allocation of funding and sustained long term investment in the north of the County is addressed. Christine argued that continuing to allocate resources equally across the County would lead to further widening of the gap and that public service providers should also be locating some of their facilities in the north of the County.

The Board noted that this was an interim report and that further work needed to be done on the proposed outcomes of initiatives. The Board was advised that the deadline for bids was Friday 22 February and that clarity would be needed around what areas had been included in the bids already submitted.

The Board agreed that they would receive a report back from the LSP.

	<p>Resolved</p> <p>That the report be noted and a further detailed report (including more precise outcomes) be put to the next meeting of the PSB.</p>	
7	Development of the New LAA	
7a & 7b	<p>David Carter presented a draft of the ‘Story of Place’ and priorities and indicators for the new LAA. The Board discussed the process for developing a Vision, recognising that priorities and performance indicators were already being developed and that ideally the Vision would have been produced first but that the timescales did not allow this.</p> <p>David explained that proposals for the strategy had been to Warwickshire Association of Chief Executives the previous week. It was envisaged that the Sustainable Community Strategy would draw on current LAA,LSP and local material and be brought back to the Board to agree before submission of the new LAA in June.</p>	
	<p>The Board agreed that, once agreed, an accessible version should be made public via the website and by other means.</p> <p>The Board discussed the draft performance indicators and Considered that the performance indicators within the children and young people block should include post 16 (extending level 2 at 19 at least) as this was an important area to ensure skills development but also had particular consequences for narrowing the health inequalities gap. It was agreed that this be investigated to see whether it needed to add to the indicators beyond that included in NI 163.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) That, subject to further consultation and refinement, the ‘Story of Place’ at appendix 1 of the report be agreed. (2) That, subject to further engagement, negotiation and discussion (and (3) below), the priorities and indicators for the new LAA be as set out at appendix 2 of the report. (3) That the CYP Block be asked to consider the need to have an indicator applicable for post 16 (at least to cover level 2 at 19) in order to ensure the issue of improving education and skills at this age is not omitted. 	<p>N-GJ – to discuss with block</p>

	(4)That the Board note the timetable for the remaining phases of development of the new LAA and its subsequent endorsement by the Board and partner agencies.	
7c	Area Based Grant	
	<p>Oliver Winters presented a report on the resources available for 2008/9 and likely to be available for the following two years, under the new Area Based Grant regime. (Appendix A was tabled and set out the available resources against current commitments). The report also a framework for allocating the ABG which included accepting that, due to the constraints, 2008/09 is treated as a transitional year with allocations confirmed for one year only. In future proposals will be brought through the County Council and PSB as part of the normal timetable for setting the Council's budget.</p> <p>David Whitehouse made a request, on behalf of the Safer Communities Block, that grant is drawn down to help this financial year.</p> <p>Oliver Winters advised that all bids were due Friday and the Board agreed that, as there were likely to be more bids than funds available, they should meet to agree the allocations. It was agreed that a special meeting be arranged to fit the timetable for approving the allocation by WCC Cabinet on 13 March and Council on 18 March).</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) That the Board note the report and existing commitments against the Area Based Grant and consequent available resources summarised in table 2 and in the appendix to the report. (2) That a special meeting of the Board take place on Wednesday 12 March 2008 (2.00 pm) to consider that allocation of grants. (3) That a further report go to the WCC Cabinet on 13 March with proposals on the implementation of the agreed framework for allocation the Area Based Grant and for recommendation to WCC Council on 18 March 2008. 	
8	Other Business	
	<u>Meetings to support delivery of LAA</u>	
	Councillor Craig Humphrey requested that thought be given to	N G-J?

	ways of working that would prevent some officers involved in cross-cutting issues (e.g. housing) having to attend a high number of meetings.	
9	Future Meeting Arrangements	
	The Chair referred to the large amount of paper in this agenda, which related mainly to the performance reporting papers, and requested that an alternative method be used of ensuring the Board had the key issues but could access the supporting data elsewhere (e.g. via the website).	N G-J
	Future meetings :	
	<u>Wednesday 12 March – 2.00 pm. Special meeting for Budget allocations only.</u> <u>Tuesday 15 April – 2.00 pm.</u> To include presentations from theme blocks: Healthier Communities & Older People; Children and Young People. Approve budget and service plans	JP to arrange
	<u>Thursday 26 June 2008 – 10.00 a.m.</u> Q4 performance and final outturn for LAA	
	<u>Tuesday 19 August 2008 – 10.00 a.m.</u>	

The meeting finished at 12 p.m..

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Chair