



WELLINGBOROUGH PARTNERSHIP

the Local Strategic Partnership for Wellingborough

STEERING GROUP MEETING 21 January 2008

Draft – subject to confirmation at the next meeting

Present:-

Mr Hugh Fenton	Chair, Business Advocate (Larger Business / Northamptonshire Chamber) (Chair, Environmental Task Group)
Mr David Cross	Business Advocate (Smaller Business / Wellingborough Chamber/Town Centre Partnership) (Chair – Prosper Task Group)
Mrs Jenny Dixon	Community Advocate (Older People)
Mr Martyn Emberson	Northamptonshire County Council Directorate, Fire & Rescue
Cllr Eileen Higgins	Borough Council of Wellingborough
Mr John Hughes	Northamptonshire Heartlands Primary Care Trust (PCT) (Chair – Healthier Task Group)
Mrs Lyn Martin-Bennison	Chief Executive – Borough Council of Wellingborough
Ms Carolyn Turner	Community Advocate (Rural)
Mr Jonny Whitmore	Community Advocate (Youth)

In Attendance:-

Cllr Rosemary Bromwich	Northamptonshire County Council/Chair of Healthier & Older People's Board
Mr Andrew Dutton	Northamptonshire County Council
Mr Bob Entwistle	Borough Council of Wellingborough
Mr Joe Hubbard	Borough Council of Wellingborough
Ms Dipana Patel	Northamptonshire County Council
Mr James Wilson	Borough Council of Wellingborough
Mr Terry Wright	Borough Council of Wellingborough

Apologies:-

Cllr André Gonzales De Savage	Cabinet member, Northamptonshire County Council
Mr Peter Hook	Connexions
Reverend David Hughes	Community Advocate (Faiths) (Faith Forum)
Acting Chief Supt Pete Windridge	Northamptonshire Police (for Safer Task Group)

1. **WELCOMES/INTRODUCTIONS/APOLOGIES**

Mr H Fenton welcomed Mr Jonny Whitmore as the recently appointed Community Advocate for Youth.

Mr H Fenton also welcomed Cllr Rosemary Bromwich, (NCC) Chair of the Healthier Communities and Older People's Board (HCOP), and Andrew Dutton, (NCC) HCOP Lead Officer, who were providing an update on the performance and future aspirations of the HCOP.

Apologies for absence were noted as listed above.

2. **MEMBERSHIP OF THE STEERING GROUP**

Mr H Fenton confirmed that Mr J Whitmore had been appointed as the Community Advocate (Youth) and Ms C Turner had been appointed to continue as the Community Advocate (Rural). It was noted that both appointments would be for three years with effect from 1 January 2008.

Mr H Fenton advised that unfortunately the Environment Agency had informed him that they were no longer able to support attendance on the Steering Group. It was noted there did not appear to be any other statutory environment groups that could be approached. Mr H Fenton suggested that further investigation be held in abeyance until the re-organisation of the Wellingborough Partnership, to make it fit to deliver the new Community Plan, was completed.

Mr H Fenton further advised that the Wellingborough Educational Partnership had shown an interest in becoming a member of the Steering Group but it was proposed this be considered as above.

This approach was supported by the Steering Group.

3. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2007 were agreed as an accurate record.

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

It was noted there were no matters arising from the minutes of 29 October 2007.

5. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT FOR NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Healthier Communities and Older People

Cllr Rosemary Bromwich, (NCC) Chair of the Healthier Communities and Older People's Board (HCOP) and Andrew Dutton, (NCC) HCOP Lead Officer attended. They tabled a paper summarising the achievements (including examples of work in Wellingborough) in this financial year together with the challenges.

It was noted that the Wellingborough Partnership was being asked to:

- Encourage organisations to sign up to the Health and Well-being Charter that supports employers and employees to improve the health of their workforce;
- Support the PCT to find a partner to deliver the 'Body for Life' nutrition and exercise programme;
- Promote physical activity;
- Promote the free Hazard / Home fire safety check awareness training to staff who visit people in their homes;
- Promote Stop Smoking and refer people to their GP / pharmacy or Stop Smoking Service for advice and support;
- Support and promote the new Health and Well-being Centre being formally opened in the Wellingborough library in March 2008;
- Building capacity for health through organisations working in neighbourhood management areas to link to the capacity building teams.

Ms D Patel confirmed that hazard spotting training was being undertaken by the Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) staff. It was noted that partnership projects / activities were being undertaken in the NR areas (Hemmingwell, Croyland, Swanspool and Queensway) focusing directly on getting people active, including the BME community.

Mr T Wright questioned whether community self service or expert advice would be on hand in the Health and Wellbeing Centres and it was noted that a large proportion of the Library service staff had been trained to enable them to offer basic health advice and support and also promote the local leisure facilities. It was envisaged that a Northamptonshire website for the Health and Wellbeing Centres would be developed, which would link to NHS direct.

Mr T Wright advised that the Wellingborough Library would be delivering a presentation to the Borough Council's Community Committee on 28 January 2008 on the work being undertaken by libraries in the Borough.

Mrs Jenny Dixon suggested that linkages were made with Northamptonshire Older People's Advisory Group (NOPAG) and the Kettering General Hospital (KGH) Patient Council to improve hospital discharges. Mr A Dutton advised that KGH were included on the Older People's Champions Forum and contact had been made with NOPAG.

Mrs Jenny Dixon reported there was a six month waiting list for people (including older people) wished to learn to swim. It was also suggested that Stagecoach be requested to stop outside country parks and open spaces to encourage those without cars to undertake some exercise.

Mr Martyn Emberson advised that the Fire Service prioritised responses to fire alarm requests, dependent upon the greatest risk. It was noted that the Voluntary Community Sector Forum would be encouraged to undertake the free hazard/home fire safety check training.

Mr B Entwistle advised that Wellingborough Council had signed up to the Health and Wellbeing Charter and DC Leisure would be actively recruiting swimming instructors to assist with the swimming lessons.

Mr H Fenton advised that the Task and Theme groups were actively encouraging healthier lifestyles and the 'Hearty Gardens' scheme had been established.

Mr H Fenton noted that HCOP did not seem to be pursuing any objectives for mental health. Cllr Rosemary Bromwich suggested that this be placed on the HCOP agenda.

Cllr Rosemary Bromwich advised there would be a Mental Health promotion week in April 2008, further details of which would be reported to the Group.

Mr H Fenton thanked Cllr Rosemary Bromwich and Andrew Dutton for their update on the work of the Healthier Communities and Older People's Board, at which point they both left the meeting as did Mr Bob Entwistle.

6. **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGIES/PLANS / LAA REVIEW / REFRESH PROGRAMME**

Outcomes in County SCS

Mr H Fenton advised that consultation on the draft Sustainable Community Strategy for Northamptonshire should be received shortly and upon receipt, he would forward it to the Group for responses to be made.

It was noted that the meeting of the Sustainability Forum on 21 February 2008 at 6.30pm in the Tithe Barn, Wellingborough would be held as a local consultation event on the draft County Sustainable Communities Strategy .

Output of workshop on 11 January

Mr H Fenton presented a tabled report on the workshop held on 11 January 2008, which considered the current Wellingborough Community Plan in light of latest National guidance and the draft County Sustainable Community Strategy/LAA2 priority outcomes. The aim was to have a refreshed Wellingborough Sustainable Community Strategy and Plan in place by June 2008.

Mr H Fenton advised that it was proposed that a small group would be meeting on a regular basis to discuss proposed outcomes/targets, review delivery structure / draft Strategy and Plan and prepare for the Partnership conference. It was envisaged there would be clarity by March 2008 as to which LAA2 targets were for local / county delivery.

Partnership Conference

Mr H Fenton referred to the provisional dates for the Partnership conference on 11 and 18 April and it was suggested that Friday 18 April 2008 would be the preferred date as it was less likely to involve people during school holidays, which were noted were after Easter this year.

The above approach to achieving a Wellingborough Sustainable Community Strategy & Plan was endorsed by the Steering Group and the Conference date agreed.

Mr H Fenton advised that consultation on County Community Cohesion strategy would also need to be managed within the timeframe.

Mr J Hughes advised that the Darzi countywide consultation on PCT fitted with the timetable and confirmed that a report to the April conference would describe what the population of Northamptonshire wanted to see in terms of health.

It was noted there would be some short, medium and long term targets over a three year period that would align with the LAA2 targets.

7. REPORTS

The written reports were noted from the Environment, Healthier, Prosper & Safer Task Groups and the Theme Groups. Mr D Cross, Mr H Fenton and Mr J Hughes updated the Group on their reports and target status. Mr H Fenton also provided an update on the Safer Task Group in the absence of Acting Chief Superintendent P Windridge.

Prosper Task Group (PTG)

Mr D Cross reported it was extremely difficult to get all partners to participate in the PTG meetings and there was difficulty in obtaining data relevant to Wellingborough.

Healthier Task Group

Mr J Hughes advised that a further four Children's Centres would be developed in Wellingborough and Ms Lesley Hamilton would be working in districts/boroughs to develop and implement a childhood obesity programme.

It was noted that Mr H Fenton had responded on behalf of the Wellingborough Partnership on the County Mental Health Promotion

Safer Task Group

Mr H Fenton reported on the update received from Acting Chief Superintendent P Windridge in that the number of thefts of and from vehicles had been reduced, although not above the base line. Very good progress had been made on the reduction of the number of residential burglaries although violent crime had increased. It was noted that COMPASS were undertaking research into the trends of violence, which was spread throughout the Borough.

Environment Task Group

Mr H Fenton advised that bus passenger numbers had increased by 75% since the new service was introduced. Recycling rates were extremely good and the measurement of 95% for the target to increase the cleanliness throughout the Borough was likely to be lower at year end.

Theme Groups

Children & Young People

Mr H Fenton reported on the well attended youth workshop held on 18 January 2008, which included 10 young people, who suggested real ideas rather than process ideas. The output from the workshop would be used to draft a Youth Strategy.

The Education Partnership continued to make progress with two Primary School Heads (Warwick and ex-Oakway) sharing the co-ordinator role.

Equalities and Community Cohesion

Mr H Fenton reported that an investigation into the structure of the theme group was needed as it was not performing well.

Mrs J Dixon advised that equality issues should be monitored in all partnership groups.

Neighbourhood Renewal (NR)

Ms D Patel advised that the NR group were looking at s106 agreements to deliver the projects in the Croyland area to enhance community usage. It was hopeful that neighbourhood partnership was working in the Swanspool area.

It was noted that the national award for the HOPE/WELL project had resulted in a number of enquires for them. It was hoped that the bid for skills centre would be successful.

Mrs J Dixon questioned whether there was any evidence that the success in the Hemmingwell Estate had pushed the problems into the neighbourhood estate as there was more litter and graffiti in that area. It was noted that PCSOs may have some evidence of that.

Older People

Mr H Fenton reported there had been a delay in setting up the initial meeting due to prioritisation being placed on the progress of the Youth Strategy. It was now planned only investigate if this group would have a role in the new Partnership structure.

8. **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE TEACHING PRIMARY CARE TRUST/HEALTH ISSUES**

Reorganisation progress

Mr J Hughes reported that 3/4 pre consultation workshops had been held on the identified priorities across the nine work streams and feedback from the workshops were being written and would be placed on the website. A proposed plan for the way the health service would be delivered would then go out for public consultation.

It was agreed that Mr J Hughes would forward the website link to enable the partners to participate in the consultation on the review of the National Health Service - 'Our NHS, our future': <http://www.ournhs.nhs.uk/>

The following link details the results of the discussions with stakeholders during December 2007 on the proposed plans for future healthcare:
<http://www.facingthefutureinnorthamptonshire.com/images/Next%20Stage%20Review.pdf>

Facilities upgrade in Wellingborough

It was noted that meetings had been held with planners regarding the impact of health facilities in the growth areas.

Mr J Hughes advised there were more opportunities for GPs to provide primary care facilities.

9. **GROWTH AGENDA**

Stanton Cross

Mr J Wilson tabled details of the overall community benefits from the Stanton Cross S106 Agreements, estimated at about £150 per household, together with the potential gaps in terms of highways, education, leisure/open space, community facilities, affordable housing, sustainability and waste. Mr J Wilson advised that once the consent was issued, the phasing of the development would trigger the need for the payment of the S106 monies. It was noted that additional funding would be required to meet any identified gaps.

Mrs J Dixon suggested that the Faith Forum be involved in seeking to establish what contributions they could make to the community.

Mr H Fenton understood that the Faith Forum were proposing to purchase a house as a community resource.

Town Centre Area Action Plan consultation

Mr J Wilson advised that a leaflet on the Wellingborough Town Centre Area Action Plan consultation had been sent to all interested parties and various exhibition and workshops were being held, details of which were tabled.

It was noted that Wellingborough Partnership would be hosting the workshop for interested parties at the Tithe Barn on 31 January 2008 at 6.30pm to 8.00pm and the Group were encouraged to attend this workshop to enable discussion on the consultation.

Mr J Wilson advised that Simon Toseland would be hosting a Business Breakfast for local businesses on 12 February 2008 from 8.30am – 9.30am at the Innovation Centre.

10. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

Mr H Fenton advised that, having spoken to Mrs L Martin-Bennison, it was proposed that the current Chair and Deputy Chair remain in office until the new structure is in place, at which point there would be an election for Chair and Deputy chair.

This proposal was agreed by the Steering Group.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 21 April 2008 @ 5.30pm to be held in the Committee Room, Swanspool House, Wellingborough

Mrs C Turner gave her apologies for next few meetings and confirmed she would email contact details for Northamptonshire ACRE to Mrs B Grimmitt.

The meeting finished at 7.20pm.