



# WELLINGBOROUGH PARTNERSHIP

*the Local Strategic Partnership for Wellingborough*

*DRAFT – subject to approval at the next meeting*

**WELLINGBOROUGH PARTNERSHIP PROSPER TASK GROUP**  
**Wednesday, 13 December 2006**

Present:

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| David Cross (Chair) | Town Centre Partnership and Wellingborough Chamber |
| Nicola Dennis       | WBC, Investment Development Officer                |
| Andrew Bailey       | Tresham Institute                                  |
| Edith Galliers      | WBC, Partnerships Co-ordinator                     |
| Hugh Fenton         | Wellingborough Partnership Steering Group          |
| Tim Martin          | Northamptonshire Chamber/Business Link             |
| Jenny Platt         | Connexions   |
| Carole Stephenson   | WBC, Social & Cultural Development                 |
| William Thallon     | Wrenn School                                       |

Apologies:

|                |                              |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| Lyn McGinn     | KBVT                         |
| Mick Judge     | Innovation Centre            |
| Sian Macdonald | Tresham Institute            |
| James Wilson   | WBC, Sustainable Development |

**1. Welcomes / Introductions / Apologies**

Apologies were noted as above.

**2. Any items for any other business**

None.

**3. Approval of minutes of last meeting – 20 September 2006**

The minutes were agreed, subject to noting under item 8 that Matt Croxon worked for the National Training and Development Partnership, not Connexions.

ND advised that the Wellingborough Business Showcase exhibition should take place in 2007 in co-ordination with KBVT.

**4. Matters arising (not elsewhere on the Agenda)**

None.

**5. Neighbourhood Renewal Theme Group**

William Thallon reported that there were four current projects that the Neighbourhood Renewal Theme Group were investigating - Wellingborough Skills Centre; the viability of the existing swimming pool and working with safer community teams. It was noted that the current swimming pool would not be suitable for any other community use. Discussions were taking place with Sian Macdonald to discuss the possibility of a Wellingborough Skills Centre and how it might work with Tresham Institute. Working with the safer community teams, a survey was to take place shortly on the different neighbourhood's perception of safety in order to identify where the gaps were.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Renewal Theme Group was to take place on 19 January 2007.

Hugh Fenton advised that Connexions had been asked if they could split the NEET targets into wards.

**6. Enterprise Week Project/Primary Programme update**

Edith Galliers advised that the Enterprise Week had been extremely successful. Three employees from WBC attended All Saints School to run the Young Enterprise Primary Programme and the class were to meet the Mayor in January 2007 to see how the Council worked. It was noted that if any partner wished to undertake the Primary Programme, Edith had the contact details at Young Enterprise. CRB checks would be required, which would be paid for by Young Enterprise.

The Dragons' Den competition was also successful and generated media interest in the Business Times and the Evening Telegraph. All five Wellingborough Schools participated in the competition; Weavers School won the morning event and Wellingborough School won the afternoon event.

Very positive feedback had been received concerning the Dragons' Den competition and it was hopeful the competition could be repeated next year but possibly with 9 year students as opposed to 10 year students to enable non business study students to participate.

## **7. Progress against targets**

David Cross suggested clarification was needed regarding the LAA targets in order to establish how the Prosper targets would fit in with them. It would also be useful to know how the other LSP's were working towards achieving their targets.

Hugh Fenton advised that Kettering LSP had not met for 6 months and Corby LSP were re-shaping, although no further information was forthcoming at present.

Hugh Fenton confirmed that the Prosper targets would be reviewed once the LAA targets were known.

Hugh Fenton advised that Adrian Bell from the Children and Young People Partnership would be attending the Steering Group meeting on 23 January 2007 to discuss what was expected at local level and what would be best achieved at county level.

It was agreed that all partners, including NEL and LSC, would inform Barbara Grimmitt by 1 March 2007 of what targets they were currently working on; which were their top two targets; which targets they would like to work on and what could be done to achieve those targets through partnership working. The information would then be distributed with the agenda papers for the next Prosper Group meeting on 21 March 2007. and noted this would be the main item for discussion.

It was essential that target information was also received from NEL and LSC.

Jenny Platt advised that the NEET target for 16-18 group as at 30 November 2006 had been met and stood at 5.9% (143). It was noted this contributed to the County meeting their targets, which would mean an award of £400,000 - £600,000 being made to the County.

## **8. LSC update re education figures**

Nicola Dennis advised a meeting had been held with Malcolm Shakesbury, LSC to identify what educational statistics were collected by LSC in order to establish whether they could be downloaded at district level.

## **9. NEL update**

It was noted that Nicola Dennis had contacted Jez Goodman to establish whether there could be representation from NEL on the Prosper Group, although no news yet.

It was noted that clarification was needed from NEL as to what the expectation was for local delivery of the targets and once this was clarified, the Prosper targets could then be revisited as well as ensuring that they could be measurable. It was agreed that input was required from all partners in order that realistic targets could be set.

It was agreed that Nicola Dennis would contact Jez Goodman to establish representation from NEL on the Prosper Task Group and also obtain clarification as to which targets were specifically targeted at district level.

**10 14-19 Strategy Group update**

William Thallon advised that the 3 Wellingborough Town schools would be bidding for specialised diplomas in ICT (Sir Christopher Hatton), Creative Media (Wrenn) and Society, Health and Development (Weavers?) with possibly Engineering the following year. It was envisaged that the provision for the specialised diplomas would be phased in with pilots starting in 2008. It was noted that Wollaston School were not contributing to the discussions regarding the specialised diplomas at present as they felt the catchment area was too wide for the children to have to travel between schools.

Andrew Bailey advised he would be happy to be involved in the meetings regarding the specialised diplomas.

**11. Equality issues**

Carole Stephenson advised that Wellingborough Council had a Disability Equality scheme, which was available on the Council website. It was noted this was a working document, which would be reviewed every year. It was also noted that one of the requirements of the Disability Equality Scheme was that disabled groups were involved in the making up of it and should be active in ensuring it is workable and also to set up a Disabled Person Forum.

Carole Stephenson also advised that a Gender Equality Plan should be completed by March 2007.

It was agreed that all partners would exchange their Disability Equality policies in order to share ideas and information.

Hugh Fenton advised there needed to be representation from the Equalities Group at the Steering Group meeting on 23 January 2007. Edith Galliers agreed to attend on this occasion.

**12. Croyland Ward S106 monies**

Carole Stephenson advised that £570,000 had been received through S106 agreement on the John Lea site development. Following community consultation, it was decided that instead of having a community facility on the old John Lea site, the community facilities on Croyland Ward (Kingsway) would be upgraded. A meeting was arranged for January 2007, which would be facilitated by an external facilitator, to discuss how to regenerate the estate,

Carole Stephenson confirmed that £200,000 had been received in addition to the £570,000 to be used for building a sports pitch.

Nicola Dennis advised that she had visited the Youth Build Trust project along with Carole Stephenson, which aimed to help young people coming out of care to train for jobs as well as learning essential life skills. A PowerPoint presentation on the project was available from Nicola Dennis. Andrew Bailey and Tim Martin requested a copy of the presentation.

**13. Any other business**

William Thallon advised that the provision of pupils with behavioural difficulties was poor in Wellingborough. It had been suggested that learning support units were available in schools and it was likely that a co-ordinator would be appointed at head teacher level to run the Education Improvement Partnership Plan and to supervise the work of the three Wellingborough Schools. It was noted that Wrenn and Weavers School were keen to continue with the Plan although Sir Christopher Hatton school were presently having difficulties in selling it to their school governors.

**15. Topics for next meeting**

Prosper Targets (main agenda item)  
Northamptonshire Chamber/Business Link update  
Future of LSPs – feedback on consultation (EG)  
Equalities group update (EG)

It was agreed that BG would contact the University representative regarding attendance at the Prosper Group meetings

**14. Date of next meetings**

21 March 2007, 2.00pm–Room G13,Croyland Abbey