

Minutes - Local Strategic Partnership - Executive Board

(Not a public meeting)

Wednesday 29th September 2010

Present	
Chair	Cllr Simon Holbrook (Leader, Liberal Democrat Group)
Public Sector	Cllr Steve Foulkes (Leader, Labour Group), Wirral Council - Jim Wilkie (Deputy Chief Executive), Mike Hagen (Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service), John Martin (Merseyside Police), Sheena Cumiskey (Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Trust), Brian Simpson (Wirral Partnership Homes), Sue Allen (Job Centre Plus),
Voluntary, Community & Faith Sector	Annette Roberts (Voluntary and Community Action Wirral) and Bishop of Birkenhead, The Right Reverend Keith Sinclair
Private Sector	Neil Dutton (Federation of Small Businesses)
Advisors	Richard Perry (GONW)
Secretariat	Carolyn Curr (Head of Policy & Performance, Wirral Council), John Highton (LSP Coordinator), Jane Morgan (Wirral Council) Mark Smith (Wirral Council), Julia Hassall (Wirral Council) Fiona Johnstone (NHS Wirral & Wirral Council), Steve Russell (Wirral Council)
Other	John Smith (Merseytravel), Angela Green and Steve Mowbray (Wirral CVS)
Apologies	Cllr Jeff Green (Leader, Conservative Group, Wirral Council), Steve Maddox (Chief Executive, Wirral Council), Kathy Doran (Chief Executive, NHS Wirral), Len Richards (Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust), Ken Davies (Wirral Chamber of Commerce), Kevin Adderley (Head of Strategic Development), Howard Cooper (Director of Children's Services), John Webb (Director of Adult Social Services), Alberto Bertali (Private Sector, Pete Molyneux (Chief Accountant) Kevin Adderley (Interim Director or Corporate Services, Wirral Council)

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Minute 233 - WELCOME, APOLOGIES, INTRODUCTIONS

Apologies received as stated above.

The LSP would like to extend its thanks to both, Steve Maddox Wirral Council Chief Executive and Marie Armitage, former Director for Public Health (NHS Wirral & Wirral Council), for their support to the partnership over a number of years and offered them the best wishes of the LSP for the future.

The board welcomed Bishop of Birkenhead, The Right Reverend Keith Sinclair and Fiona Johnstone, Director for Public Health (NHS Wirral & Wirral Council) to their first meeting

The chair also welcomed John Smith (Merseytravel), Angela Green and Steve Mowbray (Wirral CVS), Jane Morgan (Wirral Council) and Steve Russell (Wirral Council)

Minute 234 - ACTIONS AND AGREEMENTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Actions and agreements from meeting held on Wednesday 30 June 2010

Note meeting scheduled for 11th August was cancelled

Minute 226 – Census 2011 - Partners agreed to promote and provide assistance to ensure the 2011 census was a success

Minute 228 – Comprehensive Engagement Strategy – the board noted the progress to date on implementation of the Strategy and will continue to receive further progress reports

Minute 229 – Sustainable Community Strategy Review 2009/10 – the board will be receiving further details on the review if the strategy

Minute 230 – National Coalition Government: Future Policy and New Priorities – Richard Perry's presentation was circulated to board members

Minute Decision :

Resolved that -

- 1) The minutes and actions of the 30th June meeting were accepted as a true record.

Minute 235 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by board members.

Minute 236 – VOLUNTEERING

Angela Green (AG), Steve Mowbray (SM) and Annette Roberts (AR) gave this presentation on Volunteering that informed partners on the work being undertaken in terms of supporting volunteering across Wirral, what developments are planned, the difference this project is making and how partners can offer their support.

They outlined data from the first year of the project that suggests there is a shift of new volunteers looking for opportunities that could assist their future employment chances.

Partners recognised the good practice already being operated in partner organisations and this should be used as good practice and to enhance the offer from all partners.

JW highlighted the need for local public sector employers in particular to make closer

links to this, and other volunteering projects, given the expected changes to public sector employment. This should be done with an understanding that the type, depth and level of volunteering opportunity is likely to need to change given the raised expectations of a new volunteer force that is fresh from established employment.

Sue Allen (SA) (JCPlus) highlighted new government programmes such as work clubs that volunteering will be an integral part of their offer. SA welcomed the chance to work even more closely with third sector volunteer providers and this project SA also highlighted potential changes to the benefits system that would likely bring former clients nearer to work, and volunteering could be that first step for them with extra support offered.

JW suggested that the project should be represented at the joint LSP Recession Monitoring Group meetings in order to integrate volunteering opportunities as part of any potential changes to public sector employment and other opportunities as they arise.

Chair also asked that the Volunteering project should consider its exit/continuity planning strategy ahead of its final year.

The Chair thanked Angela, Steve and Annette for their presentation.

Minute Decision:

Resolved that -

1) Executive Board members agreed:

- To note the progress to date of the volunteering project and partners would consider how they could support the project
- That the project should seek representation at the LSP Recession Monitoring Group meeting and consider its exit strategy
- To continue to receive further progress reports in due course

Minute 237 – LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN – LTP 3 – UPDATE ON DRAFT PREFERRED STRATEGY CONSULTATION

John Smith (JS) (Merseytravel) presented this report that set out for Executive Board members the present position of the Merseyside Local Transport Plan (LTP) and the draft Preferred Strategy for the area.

JS highlighted a number of changes occurring at the time of this LTP3 that could have a significant impact on the final strategy and delivery consequences such as a potential lower funding settlement, future increases in road usage, the significant challenges to local authorities funding.

However it was also an opportune time to reconsider how best the strategy could work in such challenging circumstances such as a new mobility culture for Merseyside, a use of more local solutions and increased cross sector working.

JS asked board members and partners to comments on the draft Preferred Strategy through the variety of routes to do so. The full LTP3 Consultation documents have been made available at www.transportmerseyside.org or direct via a [link](#).

The Chair thanked John for the presentation and update on LTP3 preferred strategy option

Minute Decision:**Resolved that -**

- 1) Executive Board members agreed:
 - To note the progress and consultation work to date for the LTP3
 - Partners would respond individually through their own internal processes to the consultation questions as available online at www.transportmerseyside.org.
 - To circulate today's presentation to partners for reference
 - To continue to receive further progress reports in due course

Minute 238 – 'WIRRAL'S FUTURE' BE A PART OF IT

Jane Morgan (JM), Corporate Policy Manager, presented this item which provided an update to Board members on the work being undertaken by Wirral Council to engage with residents, businesses, and voluntary and community groups from across the borough to find out their priorities for future spending.

Chair gave Executive board members an update on the background to the consultation process and the opportunities it offered partners in future years. The chair reported that there has been already a very encouraging response by Wirral residents.

John Martin (JM) highlighted the potential to be asking residents similar questions at different times and so welcomed the opportunity offered to develop the coordination of future consultations.

Sheena Cuminsky (SM) offered the support of the Cheshire & Wirral Partnership Trust engagement team to help facilitate the engagement of service users who may favour less traditional options of recording resident views. JM highlighted how all groups had been supported to complete the questionnaire to this point and welcomed the opportunity for additional support.

Richard Perry (RP) welcomed this extensive resident consultation and asked what level of response was expected. JM informed the board that although no specific target had been set the response was expected to be significantly higher than the previous exercise. Also a representative sample was being sought from across the borough and where groups were under represented then specific targeted activities would be undertaken to improve this.

Bishop of Birkenhead, The Rt Rev. Keith Sinclair asked JM how the results would be published and so people would/would not know if their contribution made a difference. JM highlighted the process for reporting back the findings of the consultation which included responding to everyone who had given their contact details and publishing online.

The Chair thanked Jane for the presentation and update on the consultation.

Minute Decision :**Resolved that -**

- 1) Executive Board members agreed:
 - To note the progress and work to date for the 'Wirral's Future' Be a Part of it' consultation
 - That partners could consider their wider involvement in future consultation

processes

- To continue to receive further progress reports in due course and share information relevant to the work of partner organisations
- To circulate today's presentation to partners for reference

Minute 239 – 2010 GOVERNANCE REVIEW AND FUTURE PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGES

Carolyn Curr presented the report that set presents the findings of the 2010 review of governance arrangements for Wirral's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). The review has considered the strategic and operational framework of the Partnership to date with a view to identifying how this might be refreshed in order to provide a revised set of shared improvement priorities that will provide the future basis for partnership working.

The review also considered the outcomes of the annual review of the Local Area Agreement, February 2010, and the findings of a self evaluation of the Partnership, 2009.

The report highlighted a number of significant changes in the external and internal environments in which the Partnership operates and this in turn poses a number of questions about the role of the Partnership in this new context.

Board members recognised the importance of the significant changes as outlined in the report and agreed that further work be undertaken to better understand the impact that these will have on partners and the future role of the Partnership. Board members agreed that this further work needs to be specific and inclusive of partners whilst taking account of expected changes to public sector funding and the continuing difficult economic position.

All partners expressed enthusiasm and support for a quick and productive process to reflect on the partnerships role, consider its place and position given the current real world circumstances and to plan and provide a possible partnership in light of the findings.

The chair thanked Carolyn for her report

Minute Decision : Resolved that -

- 1) Executive Board members agreed to:
 - Note the report
 - Ask Carolyn Curr and colleagues to provide the LSP with a further report at the November meeting on the potential for change for the LSP, what that process might look like and what further steps should be taken to ensure the LSP is 'fit for future purpose'

Minute 240 – LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS – REGIONAL GROWTH FUND

Jim Wilkie (JW) presented this report to the Executive Board members. It was an update on Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs). JW pointed out that there are a significant number of changes taking place nationally in relation to Economic Development, including the abolition of Regional Development Agencies, the introduction of a Regional

Growth Fund and the impact of this on the Liverpool City Region. JW outlined Wirral Councils response to the Regional Growth Fund consultation. JW also informed board members of the current arrangements for Wirral's involvement in the Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership. The bid team was optimistic that this proposal would be successful.

The Chair thanked Jim for his update.

Minute Decision :
Resolved that -

- 1) Executive Board members agreed to.
 - Note the details of the report on LEPs and agreed to receive future updates as and when the bid was successful.

Minute 241 - CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY STRATEGY FOR WIRRAL

Carolyn Curr (CC) presented the report that provided Executive Board members with an update on the current position of the work that is being undertaken in Wirral, in conjunction with Liverpool City Region authorities, on the development of the Wirral Child and Family Poverty Strategy to meet our obligations under the Child Poverty Act.

The paper covered a number of aspects of the work including: scope of the Child Poverty Act and statutory duties for local authorities; position of the Coalition Government in respect of the commitment to ending child poverty; the Liverpool City Region framework for developing a Child and Family Poverty Strategy and related activities; Governance and arrangements in Wirral and key dates and next steps.

Executive Board members agreed with the request that in support of the work being undertaken that the Local Strategic Partnership's existing Management Group undertakes the role of the Child and Family Poverty Management Board for Wirral. The chair pointed out that whilst it was acting as such it would be accountable to the Council Cabinet and not the Executive.

Mike Hagen and Bishop Keith both would welcome supporting this process, by both Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service and Wirral Churches & Faith groups, joining the Child and Family Poverty Management Board for Wirral

Minute Decision :
Resolved that -

- 1) Executive Board members agreed to
 - Note the approach and progress to date in developing a Child and Family Poverty Strategy for Wirral.
 - Support the proposal that Wirral LSP Management Group act as the Child Poverty Management Board, subject to consideration by Wirral Council's Cabinet as the statutory lead organisation for the Child Poverty Act.
 - To continue to receive updates on progress in developing the Child and Family Poverty Strategy prior to its adoption in April 2011.

Minute 242 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Annette Roberts, CEO -VCAW gave board members an update on Wirral's Third Sector response to the Invitation from Central Government ministers asking the voluntary,

community and social enterprise sectors to contribute their ideas to help reduce the economic deficit . AR informed board members that this response had been developed through the sectors Chief Officers Group (COG) and a collated report on the details would be submitted the Executive in due course. A number of aspects were considered by the group - such as the sector is anticipating cuts – there is more planned collaborative work – there is consideration of sharing and joining up services. Better planning will be evident in future as it is clear less money will destabilise work to local residents and beneficiaries. The situation is also see as an opportunity for the sector to input into the debate, the solutions and generally to think differently about a new approach. AR will keep the board informed.

Carolyn Curr to updated board members on the impending work relating to the Adaptation for Climate Change (NI 188). This update followed an email circulation to Executive Board members on 24th September 2010 that highlighted the forthcoming Workshop date for the Adaptation to Climate Change is set for the afternoon of Tuesday 16th November 2010 at Wallasey Town Hall and requested that partners please submit their organisational / sector nominations to Hazel Edwards, 0151 606 2423 at Wirral Council's Sustainability Team

Minute 243 – DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Venue Mersey Maritime

Wednesday 10 November 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm
Wednesday 19 January 2011, 5.00 – 7.00pm
Wednesday 16 February 2011, 5.00 – 7.00pm
Wednesday 30 March 2011, 5.00 – 7.00pm