

**MINUTES OF THE  
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (LSP) BOARD**

**MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2009  
RUFFORD SUITE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
AT 2.00 PM**

**Present:**

Board Members:

Cllr David Kirkham, Nottinghamshire County Council (**Chair**)  
Cllr Tony Theaker, Ashfield District Council  
Cllr Mike Quigley MBE, Bassetlaw District Council – Items 1 - 8  
Cllr Michael Rich, Broxtowe Borough Council  
Cllr Wendy Golland, Gedling Borough Council  
Tony Egginton, Executive Mayor, Mansfield District Council  
Cllr Tony Roberts, Newark & Sherwood District Council  
Cllr Mick Storey, Nottinghamshire County Council  
Cllr Darrell Pulk, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Authority  
Cllr John Clarke, Nottinghamshire Police Authority  
Cllr Neil Clarke, Rushcliffe Borough Council  
Marie-Laure Huke, Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM)  
Nina Dauban, Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations (NAVO)  
Tom Fremantle, NHS Nottinghamshire County  
John Dowson, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Chamber of  
Commerce  
Phil Lyons, Nottinghamshire Partnership Management Group

Officers in Attendance:

David Hunter, Bassetlaw District Council – Items 1 - 8  
Ruth Hyde, Broxtowe Borough Council  
Stephen Bray, Gedling Borough Council  
Ruth Marlow, Mansfield District Council  
Andrew Muter, Newark and Sherwood District Council  
Michael Burrows, Nottinghamshire County Council  
Allen Graham, Rushcliffe Borough Council  
John Buckley, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Nottinghamshire Fire and  
Rescue Service  
Faye Booker, LSP Secretariat  
Alison Brock, LSP Secretariat  
Susan Lewis-Roberts, LSP Secretariat  
Alistair McGrady, LSP Secretariat

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Austin Rathe, Ashfield District Council (represented)  
Cllr Roland Spencer, Gedling Borough Council (represented)  
Terry Laws, Nottinghamshire Learning and Skills Council

Councillor David Kirkham welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 December 2008**

These were agreed as a true record.

**3. Compact endorsement**

Nina Dauban asked Board members to endorse the Nottinghamshire County Compact which has now been rewritten. It has been drawn up jointly by local voluntary and community sector (VCS) groups and public bodies, establishing principles and guidelines on working together.

Colleagues were asked to advise Rachel Clarke at NAVO of their organisation's representative on the Working Group if they had not already done so. **Action: All.**

Tendering processes and their accessibility to the Third Sector was discussed.

Tony Egginton spoke of the large number of voluntary organisations and the need for overall control. Nina Dauban stressed the importance of appropriate procurement and performance monitoring in this regard and expressed the view that there is not an issue of duplication of services.

**Board members agreed to endorse the Compact Plus framework.**

**4. Update on Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement (LAA) refresh**

Phil Lyons reminded Board members that it had previously been agreed that the majority of targets would need to be amended as part of the refresh process. Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM) have been asked for more time to finalise realistic targets. Marie-Laure Huke advised that the economic indicators will be revisited in a year's time.

A supplementary report was circulated at the meeting which contained LAA targets which had not been finalised when the draft LAA 2009 refresh document had been sent out in advance of the meeting.

Discussion was held about the nature of survey findings, particularly in relation to NI 1 – percentage of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area. Board members highlighted the potential impact of the nature of the question asked, timing of the survey, identify of respondees, and statistical significance on survey findings.

Phil Lyons confirmed the wording of the question. He also advised that the Place Survey will, in future, be standardised across the country. Marie-Laure Huke advised that it had been undertaken as a postal survey and the aim is to gain people's views across the country. It would be important for the County to aspire to a target of 4% increase to receive a reward grant. However, a partnership decision could be made to have a higher increase for those districts which are performing less well against the targets.

Nina Dauban put forward that it was important that the Board have confidence that partnership organisations are doing what they can and plan ahead rather than get caught up with specific figures.

Andrew Muter suggested that it was important to learn from those people who have answered in the negative to the question for NI 1.

John Dowson was of the view that partner organisations need to understand why people feel the way they do, and the issues involved, before targets are set.

Cllr Neil Clarke advised that districts such as Rushcliffe which are performing well at the moment may show a decrease in future years due to particular circumstances.

Mick Burrows suggested that the Board may wish to take a strategic view on communication and reputation management issues.

Cllr David Kirkham highlighted the importance of addressing underlying issues in areas of deprivation, such as Ashfield, as a matter of urgency.

Board members discussed the issue of reducing the gap between districts, particularly in relation to deprivation. It was agreed that target figures for the County would be identified with a commitment from all partner organisations that concerted efforts will be made to bridge the gap between districts.

**Board Members approved the refreshed Nottinghamshire LAA for 2008 – 2011, whilst noting and agreeing the following:**

**Priority 2: Improve educational attainment and skill levels (NI 163 now has a baseline of 68.1).**

**Priority 3: Improve community cohesion and participation (NI 1 figures based on place survey figures just received; and NI 4 – a 4 % County increase was agreed but with commitment to significant effort in partnership to improve certain districts by a greater proportion to reduce the gap, as with levels of deprivation).**

**Priority 4: Reduce crime and fear of crime (NI 17 – Susan Lewis-Roberts will check the methodology/targets with the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs).**

**Priority 9: Improve quality of life for vulnerable people (NI 136 – subject to agreement of figures with GOEM).**

**Priority 10: Promote environmental sustainability (NI 187 – measures are to be proposed at a steering group meeting, with full district representation, on 24 February 2009).**

## **5. Nottinghamshire Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)**

Alistair McGrady informed Board members that the Working Group had considered a first draft at a meeting on Friday 6 February 2009 and further information had been received since, including the Safer Nottinghamshire Board's Nottinghamshire County Strategic Assessment. Information still awaited includes the Place Survey results.

The SCS is concerned with identifying trends from the evidence base, qualitative data and local intelligence which assists to explain survey results.

District chapters are being produced using the template developed by Ruth Hyde. It was identified that some district chapters are going through decision making processes for sign-off. **It was agreed that Alistair McGrady or Alison Brock will contact partner organisations to identify sign-off processes and timelines.**

Mick Burrows confirmed the importance of the partnership approach to the final agreement of the SCS and the need to also align with the City Council SCS. This should not be compromised by keeping to a rigid timetable for approval, particularly in light of the County Council elections.

Alistair McGrady outlined the consultation proposals. Nina Dauban requested that an external facilitator should not be employed when the work could be undertaken by County Council and NAVO colleagues.

Communications colleagues have been identified to put the SCS in a style which is accessible to the public.

## **6. Structure and Governance of the Nottinghamshire Partnership**

Phil Lyons informed Board members that 73 responses had been received on the discussion paper. The majority were very positive and in broad agreement with the proposals, in particular the principles and aims. The purpose of the paper had been to identify any issues which could be taken into account to ensure that the Nottinghamshire Partnership is more streamlined and fit for purpose.

Issues to be resolved include Board membership, the role of Members, relationships with Nottingham City Council and involvement of the voluntary and business sectors.

The second stage of this process will be to produce a new constitution and terms of reference.

Ruth Marlow highlighted the short timescale given for comments and that Mansfield District Council Members had not had the opportunity to comment. Cllr David Kirkham and Phil Lyons acknowledged this and advised that NHS Nottinghamshire County had also responded to that effect. They confirmed that comments could still be made and that the document will also go out for formal consultation.

Board members agreed with the principles contained in the paper but wished to be consulted further on how these would be put into practice.

**It was agreed that Phil Lyons will convene an editorial/terms of reference group to include representatives of this Board. Board members were asked to let Phil Lyons know if they were interested in being included. The Group will report to the next meeting of the Nottinghamshire LSP Board on Monday 23 March 2009 and will produce the document for public consultation (following consultation with the Chair this has now been deferred to the meeting on Monday 27 April 2009).**

#### **7. Any Other Business**

There was no other business to discuss.

#### **8. Date of the next meeting**

The formal business meeting of the Board will take place on Monday 23 March 2009, following a presentation by Ben Page, Ipsos MORI, on findings of the Place Survey (**this presentation and meeting have now been postponed**).

**The next meeting of the Nottinghamshire LSP Board will now take place on Monday 27 April 2009, at 2 pm, in the Rufford Suite, County Hall.**

#### **9. Crime – Understanding the Challenge**

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board, Cllr Glynn Gilfoyle and Chief Constable Julia Hodson, and Chief Superintendent Helen Jebb, Nottinghamshire Police, joined the meeting for this item.

Cllr Glynn Gilfoyle gave a presentation on the Safer Nottinghamshire Board Change Programme. He outlined the three strategic themes: early intervention, prevention of offending and confidence; and the delivery structure which has been put in place (a copy of the presentation is **attached**).

Chief Constable Julia Hodson gave a presentation (also **attached**) regarding Policing for You - the vision for Nottinghamshire Police, safer neighbourhoods, key deliverables on crime and the outcomes of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) 2008 which highlighted high crime levels (awarding a red flag). She stressed the importance of a positive attitude and partnership working to meet the challenges ahead.

The Chief Constable described the Safer Neighbourhood Teams as key to partnership working, the importance of community engagement, staying on top of volume crime, and the need to improve on communications including branding and marketing.

The presentation highlighted that the public do not feel safer even though targets are being met on reducing levels of crime. Board members discussed in small groups what partners can all do together to improve public confidence in particular areas. Issues and suggestions arising from the discussion included:

- how do we build public confidence that the police and courts are carrying out their work effectively?
- the need to work in partnership to develop reputation management
- introducing measures, such as a community court, to reduce re-offending which do not stigmatise the offender and show that justice has been done
- a joined up approach to partnership working/reporting and responding to news stories
- inviting the Editor of the Nottingham Evening Post to a future Nottinghamshire Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Board meeting
- co-ordination of corporate literature; talking to communications officers in partner organisations and reflecting what other partners are doing in each others' publications
- communicating with integrity: be robust, truthful and honest
- use of visual imagery
- having a page on what each key partner is doing in the Nottinghamshire Partnership newsletter
- creating a positive storyboard for Nottinghamshire
- convening a task and finish group to look at reputation management/communications, with potential investment from the LAA reward grant
- anecdotal information is publicised regarding lack of response from the police
- youth issues: looking at ways that they can take risks in a contained environment

- informing the public what partners have stopped doing such as reducing bureaucracy
- benefits of staffing continuity/posting police back to the communities where they originally started.

**It was agreed that Phil Lyons will make arrangements for the establishment of a joint communications group, with representation of key partners.**