



## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Monday 6 July 2009

Rufford Suite, County Hall, Nottinghamshire County Council

### MINUTES

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#### **Present:**

##### Board Members:

Cllr Martin Suthers, Deputy Leader of the County Council (**Chair**)

Cllr John Wilmott, Deputy Leader, Ashfield District Council

Cllr Mike Quigley MBE, Leader, Bassetlaw District Council

Dean Fathers, Chair, Bassetlaw PCT

Cllr Michael Rich, Leader, Broxtowe Borough Council

John Dowson, Head of Policy and Representation, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce (DNCC)

Cllr Carol Pepper, Strategic Planning Portfolio, Gedling Borough Council

Marie-Laure Huke, Director for Nottingham City/Nottinghamshire, Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM)

Cllr Tony Roberts, Leader, Newark & Sherwood District Council

Tom Fremantle, Chair, NHS Nottinghamshire County

Cllr Darrell Pulk, Chair, Nottinghamshire/City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority

Cllr Mrs Kay Cutts, Leader, Nottinghamshire County Council

Phil Lyons, Chair, Nottinghamshire Partnership Management Group

Cllr John Clarke, Chair, Nottinghamshire Police Authority

Cllr John Cranswick, Rushcliffe Borough Council

##### Officers in attendance:

Philip Marshall, Interim Chief Executive, Ashfield District Council

David Hunter, Chief Executive, Bassetlaw District Council

Ruth Hyde OBE, Chief Executive, Broxtowe Borough Council

John Robinson, Deputy Chief Executive, Gedling Borough Council

Caroline Agnew, Head, Economic Development, Nottinghamshire County Council (Item 7)

Faye Booker, Service Director - Policy Development and Partnerships, Nottinghamshire County Council

Mick Burrows, Chief Executive, Nottinghamshire County Council

Matt Lockley, Economic Development Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council (Item 7)

Chris Hooper, Partnership Manager, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service

Alison Brock, LSP Secretariat

Paul Roberts, LSP Secretariat



## **Apologies:**

### Board Members:

Cllr Roland Spencer, Leader, Gedling Borough Council (represented)  
Terry Laws, Partnership Director, Learning and Skills Council  
Tony Egginton, Executive Mayor, Mansfield District Council  
Nina Dauban, Chair, Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations (NAVO)  
Cllr Neil Clarke, Leader, Rushcliffe Borough Council (represented)

### Officers:

Ruth Marlow, Managing Director, Mansfield District Council  
Andrew Muter, Chief Executive, Newark and Sherwood District Council

#### 1. **Welcome, introductions and chairing**

Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts, Leader of the County Council, welcomed colleagues to County Hall. She introduced Councillor Martin Suthers, Deputy Leader of the County Council, who will be taking the lead for partnerships on behalf of the County Council and will Chair the Nottinghamshire Local Strategic Partnership Board.

Councillor Martin Suthers took the Chair, confirmed the County Council's commitment to co-operative working for the benefit of Nottinghamshire with a focus on outcomes. Introductions were then made around the table.

#### 2. **Apologies**

Apologies were noted, as above.

#### 3. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 April 2009**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

#### 4. **Matters arising**

(a) Structure and governance. Phil Lyons advised Board colleagues that the structure and governance review had gone out for consultation on 13 May 2009.

**Board colleagues agreed an extension of the consultation period until 31 July 2009 to allow time for the new County Council administration to consider the proposals.**

(b) Teenage conceptions. Phil Lyons referred Board colleagues to the circulated report which contained aims and questions designed to help Board members assist partnership with this target, as agreed at the previous meeting. **It is proposed that this issue will be discussed at a future meeting of the Board.**



Tom Fremantle raised a concern that figures for 2010 will not be available until 2012, he asked if the statistics could be obtained at an earlier date to inform future planning.

Marie-Laure Huke confirmed that the delay was due to the figures relating to conception whereas information on live births is available sooner.

Faye Booker confirmed that the team who presented at the last Board meeting are using proxy data and the Audit Commission have acknowledged improvement in performance in this area. Councillor Tony Roberts questioned the purpose of obtaining this information and highlighted the importance of getting the message across to young people in schools. Councillor Carol Pepper suggested that focus should be placed on how many young women who have had a termination become pregnant again. Mick Burrows confirmed the importance of prioritising this issue, particularly because of the socio-economic implications.

5. **Local Area Agreement (LAA) 1 (2006/09) performance report**

Paul Roberts gave Board members a headline performance update on LAA 1 (**a copy of the presentation is attached**). The year end was 31 March 2009 and data collection ran from April to June 2009. **A more detailed update of LAA1 and LAA2 will be provided at the next meeting of the Board.**

In response to the queries and concerns raised by Board members, Phil Lyons confirmed that the question of division of the reward grant monies was a matter for Board's final agreement once the total is known. The recommendation from Finance and Management Group, which has already been agreed in principle by the Board, is that 10% is allocated to the Board to deal with immediate strategic issues such as mitigating the effects of the economic downturn; 55% to theme Boards and 35% to local areas.

6. **Feedback from Nottinghamshire Partnership Management Group**

(a) LAA audit report. Phil Lyons advised Board members of the audit report which had been undertaken by the Audit Commission on the Nottinghamshire LAA. The audits key recommendation is to agree the new governance and performance management arrangements and implement them within six months.

(b) Comprehensive Area Assessment. Faye Booker gave a presentation to Board Members (**copy attached**) giving an overview of the CAA and challenges for the Nottinghamshire Partnership

Tom Fremantle raised a concern about the timing of data gathering as there was a real danger of organisations having to do this on numerous occasions. Allen Graham sought clarification on arrangements for the organisational assessments. Faye Booker confirmed that these would be arranged with the organisations direct and the outcomes will affect the final area assessment. Phil Lyons highlighted the opportunity for the Board to consider what its priorities would be. Mick Burrows confirmed that the purpose of the CAA was to streamline inspections and focus on partnership action. It was an opportunity





for the Board to agree in which direction it is trying to take the Partnership and this would be determined through an agreed vision and priorities for the Nottinghamshire Sustainable Community Strategy.

(c) Economic downturn – big ideas and future jobs fund. Phil Lyons referred to the five big ideas discussed at the Management Group meeting in April 2009 and mentioned at the last meeting of the Board. These were: Nottinghamshire apprenticeships; creation of 600 jobs in social care; targeted intervention in hotspot areas; local procurement; and unblocking of infrastructure projects.

## 7. Economic downturn – a Partnership response to the recession

Caroline Agnew, Head of Economic Regeneration, and Matt Lockley, Economic Regeneration Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council, gave a presentation (**copy attached**) on the big ideas identified to mitigate the effects of the economic downturn for Board members to discuss, agree, prioritise, suggest further options, and identify potential resources.

Caroline Agnew provided the context, advising Board members that the LAA economic Indicators had been refreshed in January 2009 in light of the current economic climate but these have not been locked down to reflect this unprecedented situation. The big ideas were presented in turn:

Big idea - young people (1), which is being led by Connexions Nottinghamshire, is for a public sector apprenticeships brokerage service. A PQQ submitted to the Learning and Skills Council in June 2009 for £700,000 pump-prime was unsuccessful but further development is planned. Funding from the New Initiatives fund would be required to progress this.

Allen Graham welcomed this scheme but requested that the categories for those that would benefit from it should be widened to, for example, include graduates. He offered to become actively involved and suggested potential funding from the Nottinghamshire Improvement and Efficiencies Group. Councillor Mike Quigley advised Board members of the work that was already taking place in Bassetlaw and the reintroduction of Meet the Buyer events. John Dowson requested further information on the hard data, potential outcomes and plans for the future, and highlighted the need to look beyond the public sector for apprenticeships. Mick Burrows confirmed that the proposed apprenticeship scheme was based on a model where the individual would move to different partner organisations and access training opportunities.

Cllr Kay Cutts raised two notes of caution with the development of this proposal, firstly that in the economic climate we are experiencing it would be unlikely that many public sector organisations would be recruiting large numbers of new people. Secondly, that the Partnership should not be seeking to set itself up as an employment agency, there are already a number of organisations that develop and run apprenticeships and that we should look to work with them.



**It was agreed that Caroline Agnew and Matt Lockley will feedback to Connexions Nottinghamshire on the models of existing practice which had been highlighted and the suggestion to access funding from the Nottinghamshire Improvement and Efficiencies Group.**

Big idea – young people (2), led by Nottinghamshire County Council, is the Future Jobs Fund. Government funding is available for six month jobs for unemployed young people and those in the most disadvantaged wards. 465 jobs have been pledged by partners to date. The business case is currently being developed with a potential August submission for November 2009 start. To add value to this initiative an estimated up to £1 million was identified to enhance the model although this would need to be confirmed when the business case has been completed.

Mick Burrows referred to the rising unemployment levels across the county and stressed the potential social impact of not providing jobs. He also highlighted the need to improve levels of employment of young people in local government. Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts stressed the importance of providing training for people to support themselves and develop resilience rather than providing employment. She also put forward the idea that parents should be given the opportunity to take a month's unpaid leave during the summer school holidays and that young people should be employed during that period for work experience.

Big idea – adults, with Job Centre Plus and Nottinghamshire County Council identified as leads, for three pilot multi-agency 'weeks of action' in worklessness 'hotspots'. The model which is in design is being adapted from that used in Staveley, North East Derbyshire, which achieved some very impressive outcomes. It is anticipated that the weeks of action could be in place by the autumn. The estimated cost is £5,000 per intervention (to include branding, promotion, venue and staff time) with the source yet to be identified.

Allen Graham suggested that the weeks of action should include access to information and advice on how to complete a curriculum vitae (CV) and requested that they be extended to include areas such as Rushcliffe where there are growing levels of unemployment. Councillor Mike Quigley confirmed the recognition of good practice by North East Derbyshire, a Sheffield City Region partner.

Big idea - business start-up, being led by Nottinghamshire County Council, is for social enterprise and start-up opportunities around personal care. It has been identified that over 600 extra personal carers are needed. Initial meetings have been held with Adult Social Care and Health department, New Business Venture, Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN) and NAVO. The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) and DNCC are involved.

Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts put forward the view that the idea of personal care should be expanded to consider skills such as decorating so that young people can acquire the skills and, potentially, set up their own businesses and employ others. It is important to learn from the business sector.





Big ideas – business survival, led by Nottinghamshire County Council, is looking at unblocking capital investment in stalled projects. The list of projects is currently being worked up. It is also looking at improving accessibility to procurement processes in the public sector. This is co-operation intensive and cash light. The DNCC and FSB are involved in this area of work.

Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts expressed the view that procurement using sub-contractors needs to be improved. Councillor John Clarke also requested that tender lists be opened up to local businesses.

The Resilience sub-group of the Economic Development and Enterprise Partnership (EDEP) has agreed to lead on the development of a Nottinghamshire Resilience Plan which would commission and monitor evidence of recession impacts; identify and co-ordinate interventions to mitigate impacts; and examine and influence actions of Government, emda and other national, regional and local organisations which may impact on Nottinghamshire.

Ruth Hyde spoke in support of a Nottinghamshire Resilience Plan, the need for which has been highlighted in the Nottinghamshire Local Government Leaders' Group.

Councillor John Wilmott expressed the view that young people should be given the opportunity to consider and gain work experience in different areas from an early age. He also stressed the importance of land prices and available leisure facilities to new businesses, which could also stimulate business growth.

**It was agreed that commitment should be made for those ideas which are co-operation intensive and partners should be diverting existing resources. Caroline Agnew and Matt Lockley will contact Philip Marshall regarding staff input from Ashfield District Council.**

**Mick Burrows suggested that the key actions identified from the four breakfast meetings should be fed back to the next Board meeting to plan the next steps.**

**It was also agreed that Caroline Agnew and Matt Lockley would come back to a future meeting of the Board when the detailed costings have been produced.**

8. **Any other business**

There was no other business.

9. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 14 September 2009, at 2 pm in the Rufford Suite, County Hall