



## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT GROUP

Tuesday 9 June, 2009

Rufford Suite, County Hall, Nottingham

### MINUTES

Steve Barnett	Senior Manager, Audit Commission
Faye Booker	Temporary Service Director – Policy, Performance & Partnerships (Nottinghamshire County Council)
Stephen Bray	Head of Strategy and Performance, Gedling Borough Council
John Buckley	Assistant Chief Fire Officer and Strategic Director, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service
Les Cowling	Programme Manager: Children achieving their full potential (Nottinghamshire County Council)
John Endersby	Operations Director, Connexions Nottinghamshire
Steve Derbyshire	Nottinghamshire Partnership Support Officer – Sustainability and Economic Development (Nottinghamshire County Council)
Peter Elderton	Head of Policy and Performance, Nottinghamshire County Council
Gill Francis	Assistant Director - External Relations, Nottinghamshire Probation
Diana Gilhespy	Executive Director of Regeneration, East Midlands Development Agency (EMDA)
Sue Griffiths	Deputy Chief Executive, Rushcliffe Borough Council
Cathy Harvey	Programme Manager: Health and Well-Being (Nottinghamshire County Council)
Chris Hooper	Partnerships Manager, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service
Anne-Marie Hawkins	Programme Manager: A Strong sense of place (Nottinghamshire County Council)
Marie-Laure Huke	Director for Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire, Government Office for East Midlands (GOEM)
Geoff Hulse	Nottinghamshire County Council Business Improvement Board (Independent Observer)
Paula Jezewski	Nottinghamshire Partnership Support Officer – Stronger Communities; and Health & Wellbeing
Liz Jones	LAA Programme Manager, Nottingham City Council
Chris Kenny	Director of Public Health for NHS Nottinghamshire County and Bassetlaw PCT
Terry Laws	Partnership Director, Learning and Skills Council Nottinghamshire (LSC)
Matt Lockley	Economic Regeneration Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council
Maria Lyle	Government Office for the East Midlands





Phil Lyons	Chair, Nottinghamshire Partnership Management Group
Ruth Marlow	Managing Director, Mansfield District Council
Kate Miller	Nottinghamshire Partnership Team
Joe Pidgeon	Programme Manager: Vulnerable People (Nottinghamshire County Council)
Nicola Reece	Performance Specialist, Audit Commission
Dawn Reeves	Lead Local Improvement Advisor (RIEP)
Paul Roberts	Nottinghamshire Partnership Manager
Michelle Sewell	Partnership Communications Officer, Nottinghamshire Partnership
Fiona Simpson	Chief Executive, NAVO
Simon Starr	Director, Sport Nottinghamshire
Chris Walker	Programme Manager: Safer (Nottinghamshire County Council)
Debbie Widdowson	Acting Partnership Manager, Ashfield Local strategic Partnership
Richard Wilding	Head of Executive Office, Ashfield District Council
Keith Wood	Newark and Sherwood Local Strategic Partnership

**Total Present: 36**

### Apologies

Ian Ackerley	Assistant Chief Constable, Nottinghamshire Police
Caroline Agnew	Programme Manager: A thriving economy (Nottinghamshire County Council)
Mick Burrows	Chief Executive, Nottinghamshire County Council
Rob Crowder	Chief Executive, Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN)
Nina Dauban	Health and Well-Being Partnership Chair (NAVO)
Ged Greaves	Strategic Manager, Policy and Performance, Newark and Sherwood District Council
Jean Pardoe	Chief Executive, Connexions Nottinghamshire
David Pearson	Strategic Director, Adult, Social Care and Health, Nottinghamshire County Council
Chris Kelly	Criminal Justice and DIP Manager, Nottinghamshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team DAAT

**Total Apologies: 9**





## MINUTES

NO.	ITEM	ACTION
1.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed Fiona Simpson as the new Chief Executive of NAVO.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Amendment to the Attendance list of 20 April 2009</b></p> <p>Chris Kenny is Director of Public Health for NHS Nottinghamshire County and Bassetlaw PCT</p>	
	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>All matters arising are covered in the agenda.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Economic Issues</b></p> <p><b>a) Downturn Big Ideas, Matt Lockley</b></p> <p>Matt Lockley summarised the progress on the 'big ideas' that emerged from the last Nottinghamshire Partnership Management Group (NPMG) meeting in April:</p> <p><u>i) Nottinghamshire Apprenticeships-</u></p> <p>Connexions are leading a Nottinghamshire bid to the National Apprenticeship Service; if successful this will give the Partnership £700k to develop a Nottinghamshire Apprenticeship.</p> <p>The aim is to deliver 200 apprenticeships per year across the Partnership and there is a request for volunteers from partners to commit to this scheme.</p> <p>If the initial bid is successful further engagement of partners will be required, Connexions will contact people directly for help in developing this proposal further.</p> <p><u>ii) Back to Work Weeks of Action</u></p> <p>The proposal is to develop a series of "Weeks of Action". These will be multi-agency events and cover a range of interventions aimed at getting people back to work. The initial proposal was to focus on the areas identified in the LAA, namely Ashfield, Bassetlaw and Mansfield.</p> <p>Stephen Bray suggested that other areas of concentrated unemployment should be considered, for example Killisick in Gedling.</p> <p>Gill Francis flagged up that the Community Safety Partnership is also undertaking weeks of action at a locality level and care should be taken to avoid overlap.</p> <p>The weeks of action will be delivered during the autumn.</p>	<p><b>Connexions to contact Partners directly for support with the Apprenticeship bid.</b></p> <p><b>Weeks of action should be considered in the most affected communities across the county.</b></p>





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	<p><b>B) Future Jobs Fund, Matt Lockley</b>            Matt Lockley informed colleagues that a business case is being developed and will consider issues of viability and risk for taking this forward.            To date a potential 400+ jobs have been put forward by partners.            The Government expects national coverage by January 2010.            There may be a need to underwrite the programme; initial estimates are for a maximum total cost of £1million.            The Chair invited questions and comments.            Terry Laws welcomed the proposed inclusion of pre and post training for the Nottinghamshire Apprenticeship which would enhance the quality of the scheme overall and benefit the young person when they leave the scheme.</p> <p>Ruth Marlow said any participants on the programme placed with Mansfield DC would have the opportunity to complete the NVQ level 2 Skills for Life programme.</p> <p>The Chair secured agreement in principle that the Nottinghamshire Partnership underwrites the programme, subject to a satisfactory business case, detailing financial arrangements and risks. The support would be conditional on funds being advanced by NCC and repaid from the LAA Performance Reward Grant. This will be a standing agenda item as the proposal develops.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Proposed Partnership Resources Framework, Dawn Reeves on behalf of Finance Working Group (FWG)</b>            Dawn Reeves (Local Improvement Advisor) introduced this paper on behalf of the FWG.</p> <p>The paper proposed a number of developments, these included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costing delivery plans</li> <li>• Prioritising within the LAA</li> <li>• Moving to a commissioning approach</li> <li>• Allocation of Reward grant</li> </ul> <p>Partners offered the following in response:-            Chris Kenny and other partners questioned the value of costing delivery plans; this had been attempted previously without success. Colleagues remain unconvinced of the value of such an exercise, and the resources required to conduct the work.</p> <p>A proposal was put forward by the Chair that programme managers/theme leads, with their partners, conduct a plausibility and risk review of delivery plans. This would include an assessment of whether</p>	



NO.	ITEM	ACTION
	<p>resources were in place to deliver the plans, and if the actions described were likely to deliver the improvements required.</p> <p>Faye Booker said that programme managers have been asked previously if the resources were in place to deliver their plans, a new exercise may present opportunities to focus PRG money once it is available.</p> <p>Joe Pidgeon explained that the Programme Managers have undertaken a process of identifying cross-cutting issues which would be a useful starting point for prioritising. He also said that the proposals around commissioning would present a structural challenge for the Theme Partnerships.</p> <p>The proposal that the performance reward grant is divided in the following way: 10% Strategic, 35% district, 55% for themes – remains the preferred option.</p> <p>Stephen Bray, Ruth Marlow and other colleagues strongly disagreed with the suggestions around how the reward grant would be accessed and how it could be spent. The concerns were that unnecessary and bureaucratic “strings were being attached”. At a District and Borough level the LSP’s all have Community Strategies and delivery plans that are aligned to the LAA – they should be able to decide in these partnerships how resources are deployed.</p> <p>Dawn Reeves suggested that the Partnership considers adopting the principles and approach being developed in the Total Place pilots. Marie-Laure Huke offered to prepare a written briefing and a short presentation about Total Place to a future Management Group.</p> <p>The Chair in summary, thanked the FWG for the considerable work that had gone into developing the proposals. He stressed that the paper was intended to challenge our thinking and flag up possibilities for the future. It is clear to the response at this meeting that more work needs to be done around our approach to resources.</p> <p>He also said that under the new constitutional arrangements a proposal to strengthen the strategic leadership between the Executive and all of the sub groups would help focus our resourcing approach as we move forward. Expressions of interest from Management Group members to sit on the Finance Working Group would be welcomed.</p>	<p><b>GOEM to prepare short briefing paper on Total Place and give a presentation at a future NPMG meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Colleagues to contact Phil Lyons if they are interested in supporting the Finance Working Group.</b></p>



NO.	ITEM	ACTION
5.	<p><b>Draft LAA Audit Report</b></p> <p>Phil Lyons said that the report had been circulated amongst partners and had been accepted as a fair reflection of the current positions. He thanked Nicola Reece who conducted the audit and the report was accepted by the Partnership.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Comprehensive Area Assessment- Process and emerging issues, Steve Barnett</b></p> <p>Steve Barnett informed colleagues that the Audit Commission plans to publish findings from the CAA Area Assessment in November. He stated that they intend to give more detailed feedback of emerging issues at the next NPMG meeting in July and again in September. Feedback will also be given to the Strategic Partnership Board before it is published.</p> <p>A Reference Group has been established and monthly meetings have been planned until November to enable ongoing dialogue.</p> <p>The Inspectorates are meeting on 16 June prior to the next Reference Group on 19 June.</p> <p>No issues have emerged to date that were not presented in the trial.</p> <p>At the next meeting of the Reference Group, they will be looking at progress against the potential red flags.</p> <p>There will be a focus on inequalities and narrowing the gap, the assessment will be looking at what partners have in place to address these issues.</p> <p>Chris Kenny was comfortable that narrowing the gap was under review, but wanted to highlight very recent local reports that had focussed on this issue and he made a plea that these were used in any assessment.</p> <p>Ruth Marlow and Stephen Bray both raised concerns about how any final assessments can have an unfair detrimental effect on specific geographical areas. Stephen Barnett said he understood the points being raised and that through the reference group process, discussions about these concerns could be explored further.</p> <p>Joe Pidgeon said one of the areas identified as a potential green flag had been put forward because of the positive findings of three significant areas of research. He asked that these were considered by the inspectors, and that a light touch was used in interviewing staff and service users when such evidence was already available.</p>	



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7.	<p><b>Comprehensive Area Assessment- Partnership Arrangements, Pete Elderton</b></p> <p>Pete Elderton informed colleagues that the Partnership Reference Group has met and information has been pulled together and circulated. Pete asked colleagues whether they had any comments/feedback.</p> <p>Liz Jones said that Nottingham City has fed some comments into the process.</p> <p>Ruth Marlow advised that Craig Bonar will be feeding in some additional comments from Mansfield.</p> <p>The Chair expressed thanks to colleagues for all of the work to-date on the CAA Self-Assessment, with particular thanks to Geoff Hamilton who has been pulling together the reports.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Nottinghamshire Partnership Annual Review Process, Paul Roberts</b></p> <p>Paul Roberts informed colleagues that partners have been feeding performance information into the hub and that theme leads have been sent a summarised document of this information.</p> <p>A detailed report will be brought to the next meeting of the Nottinghamshire Partnership Management Group from the Theme Partnerships.</p> <p>Marie-Laure Huke said that this work would be helpful as part of the GOEM review arrangements.</p> <p>Faye Booker asked why it was necessary to have a GOEM Annual Review if we have Area Assessments.</p> <p>Marie-Laure Huke explained that the GOEM review was a CLG requirement and was focussed on LAA's. There will be a progress report in July from GOEM. This will use much of the material we are collating as part of CAA and our LAA annual review.</p>	
9.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Greater Nottingham Partnership has issued a call for potential capital projects. Colleagues should contact <a href="mailto:kay.massingham@nottscc.gov.uk">kay.massingham@nottscc.gov.uk</a> if they require any further information.</li> <li>2. The Partnership Team update paper will be circulated with the minutes of this meeting.</li> </ol>	
	<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> Monday 20 July at 2pm in The Music Room, Kelham Hall, Newark and Sherwood District Council.</p>	

Meeting Closed: 4.05 pm