

BOARD MEETING OF THE SOUTH DERBYSHIRE
LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Held at the Civic Offices, Civic Way, Swadlincote
on 21st September 2006 at 9.35 a.m.

PRESENT:-

Local Authorities Sector

Councillor Joyce Sanders (Derbyshire County Council), District Councillors John Wilkins, Barrie Whyman M.B.E. and Mrs. Heather Wheeler and Ian Reid (Deputy Chief Executive, South Derbyshire District Council) substituting for Frank McArdle (Chief Executive, South Derbyshire District Council).

Other Public Sector

Vicki Price (Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire Primary Care Trust), Melanie Alsop (Learning and Skills Council)

Private Sector

Colleen Hempson (Nottingham East Midlands Airport), Sophie Churchill substituting for Clive Keble (The National Forest Company], Karen Bradley (Toyota UK Ltd) and David Parkin (Derbyshire Chamber and Business Link).

Voluntary/Community Sector

Jo Smith (South Derbyshire CVS) and Glenys Williams (Old Post Regeneration Association Ltd).

Also in Attendance

South Derbyshire District Council

Mike Greenway (Principal Policy Officer), Mike Roylance (Principal Economic Regeneration Officer) and Frazer Powell (Democratic Services Officer).

LSP/15. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF THE SOUTH DERBYSHIRE LSP**

The Board was advised that following the resignation of Commander Tony Hurrell as Chair of the LSP, the LSP needed to appoint another Chair for the period of office until March 2008. Nominations for the Chair of the LSP for the remaining period of office until March 2008 were requested.

It was proposed and duly seconded that Councillor Barrie Whyman be appointed Chair of the South Derbyshire LSP for the remainder of the term of office until March 2008.

RESOLVED:-

That Councillor Barrie Whyman be appointed Chair of the South Derbyshire Local Strategic Partnership for the remainder of the period of office until March 2008.

LSP/16. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR OF THE SOUTH DERBYSHIRE LSP**

The Board was advised that following the appointment of Councillor Barry Whyman M.B.E. as Chair of the LSP the Board now needed to appoint a Vice-Chairman for the remainder of the period of office until March 2008.

It was proposed and duly seconded that Mrs. Jo Smith be appointed Vice-Chair of the South Derbyshire LSP for the remainder of the period of office until March 2008.

RESOLVED:-

That Jo Smith be appointed Vice-Chair of the South Derbyshire Local Strategic Partnership for the remainder of the period of office until March 2008.

LSP/17. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for non-attendance at the Meeting were submitted on behalf of Chief Superintendent Jack Russell (Derbyshire Constabulary), Karen Jones (Trident Housing Association), Clive Keble (The National Forest Company), Ian Philiskirk (Swadlincote and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce), Gary Wain (Groundwork Erewash Valley), Graeme Royall (South Derbyshire Citizens' Advice Bureau), Frank McArdle (Chief Executive, South Derbyshire District Council), Helena Stubbbs (Derbyshire Rural Community Council) and John Gibb [Connexions Derbyshire].

LSP/18. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 6th July 2006 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair, subject to an apology being recorded for Vicki Price from the Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire Primary Care Trust.

LSP/19. **MATTERS ARISING**

Melanie Alsop advised that she had replaced Clare Williamson as the Learning and Skills Council representative on the LSP. Reference was made to Minute No. LSP/5 - Youth Matters – Green Paper. Information was requested on the joint meeting between Derbyshire County Council, the LSP's Lifelong Learning Culture theme group and South Derbyshire CVS to discuss the nature of the Youth Offer with particular focus on activities for young people and volunteering. It was confirmed that arrangements for this meeting were being made.

The Deputy Chief Executive of the District Council advised the Board that the South Derbyshire LSP Forum event on 27th July 2006 had been successful and that the format of engaging with people throughout South Derbyshire had worked particularly well.

A number of members requested that consideration be given to the Forum Meetings being held in late June with a 6.00 p.m. start time.

RESOLVED:-

That the Strategic Co-ordination Group be requested to give consideration to the date and start times of future South Derbyshire LSP Forum events, particularly that they be held in late June and that start time of 6.00 p.m. be considered.

Reference was made to the Community Strategy Action Plan and that its layout was very similar to the previous Community Strategy Action Plan. It was proposed that consideration be given to changing the format so it was more distinct which might make it more accessible to the public.

RESOLVED:-

That the Strategic Coordination Group be requested to give consideration to the layout and design of future Community Strategy Action Plan documents so that they are laid out more clearly and accessible to the public.

LSP/20. **DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP (DDEP) FUNDING**

The Board considered a report on priorities for capital funding expected to be available from the Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership (DDEP) to the South Derbyshire LSP in 2007/08. The Board was advised that for three consecutive financial years, 2004/05, 2005/06 and 2006/07 DDEP had offered to four of its sub-regional LSPs (Amber Valley, Erewash, Derby City and South Derbyshire) an annual funding allocation to undertake projects through the DDEP Business Plan which contribute to local development and implementation of the Regional Economic Strategy. The projects undertaken had been local rather than sub-regional in their economic impact and had supported local economic priorities and need. Over a three-year period £2.25m of single programme grant funding had been allocated to this initiative and that by the end of the three period a minimum of 58 projects would have been supported.

In South Derbyshire the capital projects supported included:

- West Street Redevelopment Phase 1 – external improvements to premises seeking to be redeveloped by the West Street Community Partnership (2004/05);
- Findern Access Centre – refurbishment and equipping of community facility (2004/05);
- Swadlincote Tourist Information Centre at Sharpe’s Pottery Museum – fitting out and installation of IT equipment (2004/05 and 2005/06);
- Woodville-Swadlincote Regeneration Action Area – Wider Options Study – study of employment land issues (2005/06);
- National Forest Business Grants – grants to support development of wood-related businesses (2005/06 and 2006/07);
- National Forest Site Development and Training Project – creation of a new woodland near Melbourne as a demonstration site and visitor attraction (2006/07 subject to approval); and,
- Business Navigator Scheme – business frontage and security improvement grants (2006/07 onwards subject to approval).

The Board was advised that DDEP in partnership with the East Midlands Development Agency (EMDA) had commissioned consultants to undertake an independent review of the benefits of its allocation system both from the perspective of the Partnership and that of LSPs. The review would evaluate what had been achieved and consider planned future activity in terms of value for money, outputs and outcomes. The review would also consult on proposals for changing the format and context of the support that DDEP provides to its sub-regional LSPs in the future. The findings of the review would be used to inform DDEP, EMDA and the regional partners of the impact of its approach for supporting LSPs and the alignment of single programme funding with local priorities. The review would be completed and submitted to DDEP by 30th October 2006. Members were advised that subject to the outcome of the review, the LSP would need to identify further capital projects (possibly including related research and feasibility work) to commence in April 2007. Key considerations in the evaluation of the past projects had included:

- Contribution to the achievement of DDEP/EMDA economic objectives and outputs (for example the number of jobs created);
- The availability of match funding locally (typically at least equal to DDEP's grant contribution.
- That the necessary plans and permissions are in place to start on site.

The Board was advised that part of the LSP's allocation from DDEP for future years had already been committed through projects and would continue beyond March 2007.

The South Derbyshire Community Strategy Action Plan 2006/08 had identified a number of economic actions with potential capital implications including the following:

- 3.2 Explore ways to improve workforce skills, raising staying on rates, encouraging participation in Further and Higher Education and promote uptake of training by those in work (LSP Flagship Action).
- 4.2 Explore barriers to the take up of employment, particularly for the long-term unemployed (LSP Flagship Action).
- 4.3 Work with investors to bring more higher skilled jobs to the area and explore ways of providing facilities for smaller enterprises.
- 5.3 Promote the continuing revival of Swadlincote Town Centre as a retail and leisure destination, enhancing its image and attractiveness.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That the content of the report to bring forward opportunities for capital projects that will help deliver the LSP's Action Plan be noted.***
- (2) That the Chair when he is attending future Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership meetings be requested to make the following points on behalf of the LSP:***
 - ***That it is advantageous to DDEP to have information from its partnership members on the appropriate economic development for their particular area as they have the necessary local knowledge and experience.***

- *That when considering bids for future funding it is important that DDEP consider small projects from both urban and rural areas as it is crucial to those particular communities that a flexible approach is followed.*
 - *That the Board support the current business link approach as this is a return to the successful system that was carried out approximately ten years ago.*
 - *That DDEP be requested to trust Local Strategic Partnerships and agree a de-minimus level of funding.*
- (3) *That the vibrant economy group in consultation with the Chairs of the thematic task groups be requested to arrange a workshop which would enable contributions and attendance from as wide a group as possible to discuss the Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership review of its funding allocation to Local Strategic Partnerships in Derbyshire.*

LSP/21. **SOUTH DERBYSHIRE LSP COMMUNITY STRATEGY ACTION PLAN 2005/06 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT DOCUMENT**

A copy of the LSP Community Strategy Action Plan 2005/06 Performance Management document was circulated to all members present at the Meeting. The Deputy Chief Executive of the District Council introduced the report and advised that this was Performance Management Information for 2005/06. The Board expressed its support for the Performance Management document and acknowledged that it was an important tool in measuring the success of the LSP.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) *That the content of the South Derbyshire LSP Community Strategy Action Plan 2005/06 Performance Management document be noted.*
- (2) *That the comments column of the Performance Management document be strengthened to provide further relevant information.*
- (3) *That when further information in respect of the Lifelong Learning and Culture theme is available it be reported to a future Meeting of the LSP.*

LSP/22. **SOUTH DERBYSHIRE LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY STRATEGY ACTION PLAN 2006/08 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT DOCUMENT**

The Deputy Chief Executive of the District Council introduced the report and explained its purpose and relevance to the work of the Board. A copy of the Community Strategy Action Plan 2006/08 – Performance Management Document is attached to these minutes as Appendix A.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) *That the content of the South Derbyshire LSP Community Strategy Action Plan 2006/08 Performance Management document be noted and that updates of the document would be submitted to future Board Meetings.*

- (2) That the LSP Community Strategy Action Plan 2006/08 Performance Management document framework be approved for future use.***

LSP/23. **DERBYSHIRE PARTNERSHIP AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT UPDATE**

County Councillor Joyce Sanders gave a brief verbal update to the Meeting on the Derbyshire Partnership and Local Area Agreement. The Partnership were advised that the Local Area Agreement was reported to the County Council's Cabinet Meeting and would shortly be considered by the Partnership Forum. The report to the Partnership Forum Meeting was a comprehensive one and had received a number of positive responses.

Jo Smith referred to Minute No. 16/06 from the notes of the Derbyshire Partnership Forum held on 30th June 2006 and asked whether a presentation on Derbyshire COMPACT could be given at the next meeting. There was general support for this proposal.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That the notes of the Derbyshire Partnership meeting held on 30th June 2006 be noted.***
- (2) That the co-ordinator for the voluntary sector COMPACT be invited to give a presentation on progress with the COMPACT to the next Board Meeting in November 2006.***

LSP/24. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Community Strategy Action Plan

The Principal Policy Officer advised the Board that copies of the second Community Strategy Action Plan were available and asked that Board Members confirm how many copies they required. It was confirmed that copies could be collected, emailed or delivered to Board Members as required.

New Derbyshire County PCT

Vicki Price advised that a new Chief Executive had been appointed for the new Derbyshire County PCT and that the interviews for the various director posts were being conducted at present. It was proposed that when the new Director for Public Health is appointed they be requested to give a presentation on health matters particularly the provision of local health facilities in the South Derbyshire area to the next available Board Meeting.

RESOLVED:-

That the recently appointed Director of Public Health at Derbyshire County PCT be requested to give a presentation on health issues, particularly the provision of local health facilities in the South Derbyshire area to the next available Board Meeting.

Construction of New Youth Hostel

Sophie Churchill advised the Board of a new youth hostel which had been constructed near Moira, North West Leicestershire. It was confirmed that this would have considerable health and social benefits for the people of South Derbyshire and tourists visiting the area, it would also support a number of the actions in the Community Action Plan.

The Board was advised of the National Forest Forum Meeting on 2nd November 2006 and every one present was invited to attend and support the event.

LSP/25. **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Board noted that future Meetings would be held on the following dates:-

Thursday, 16th November 2006 – South Derbyshire District Council

Thursday, 25th January 2007 – Annual General Meeting, Toyota Burnaston

Thursday, 17th March 2007 – South Derbyshire District Council

The Board was advised that in future Meetings of the Strategic Co-ordination Group would also be shown on LSP agendas.

B. WHYMAN M.B.E.

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 10.55 a.m.