

Minutes

Local Public Service Board

27 April 2010

Oldham Sixth Form College

2pm

Present: Nick Brown (Chair)
Gail Richards
Charlie Parker
Carolyn Wilkins
John Eley
Howard Sykes
Bill Edwards

Apologies: Tim Forber

A SECTION OF MINUTES

1 Notes from 30 March

Notes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record subject to a minor alteration to the recommendation in item 5 to add “to fund the additional winter gritting which was required to keep the borough’s highway infrastructure open and enable public services to continue to be provided. This falls within the remit of the Area Based Grant as a non ring-fenced mainstream grant for use against local priorities.”

2 Regional Science Centre (RSC)

The project is continuing on track and could be finalised in the near future. A launch is being organised for the afternoon of 19th May by OSFC. The project Board is working well and European funding opportunities are being investigated.

ACTION:

- **Charlie Parker to keep Nick informed regarding the final stages.**
- **John Eley to work with Nick on a learning paper to help apply this methodology to other strategic initiatives.**

3 Area Based Grant Exception Report for Quarter 4 09/10

New activity requests by the Health and Well-Being Block will be reported to the Health & Well Being Board for resubmission to the Public Service Board if necessary.

Short descriptions of some of the commissioned activities were requested (Muslim Communities, ACCESS, PACT Vehicles, and IB Claimants into work, and also if any capital funding is being provided within the ABG expenditure.

It was also requested that the description of funding expenditure for the Rapid Intervention Fund reflects the actual position as per defrayed expenditure.

Roll forwards and transfers to the single pot were agreed.

ACTION: John to update the exception report in the light of the above conversation. John to email PSB members to provide further information in relation to the discussion points raised.

4 **Area Based Grant Review**

A discussion report was circulated based on work with Gail Richards. A pictorial version is in production, a factsheet has been produced and information on all ABG funded activities is being prepared against key review criteria. Briefings are being organized for staff and explanatory materials, timescales etc will be placed on the LSP website to help make the review understandable and transparent.

The Board requested a review of the timetable and meetings, and an initial feedback to Accountable Bodies in July and detailed feedback in September. Nick requested that a high level synopsis of why we are doing the review be made publicly available and Howard requested that the Challenge Panel be amended to incorporate Elected Members. The meeting of the PSB on 27th May will need to be rescheduled.

ACTION: John Eley to action and update the next meeting.

5 **LSP Conference**

This has been arranged for the morning of 16th July at Smokies. The Board suggested that the theme should be 'our time is now' and that the Conference should cover:

- What we have achieved and where are we going
- Link into improved community cohesion (education, housing and health) ten years on
- Public sector reform and future scenario planning
- Structured on the prospectus in terms of vision, journey and themes
- Workshops and ongoing engagement mechanisms throughout the year

ACTION: John and Carolyn to meet and draw up a programme for the event

6 **Future Membership of the Board**

Bill Edwards will be stepping down from this role. A representative from the Voluntary and Community Sector will need to be nominated and agreed at the Oldham Partnership Executive. Bill suggested Liz Windsor Welsh as an interim pending formal agreement at the Executive.

Bill was thanking for his outstanding contribution to the borough and agreed to continue to help develop the role between overview and scrutiny and the Oldham Partnership Steering Group.

ACTION: John to action and work with Bill to produce a paper to further develop the Steering Group/O&S linkages.

7 **OCR**

An allocation has been agreed to support this by the Oldham Partnership Executive. The Board agreed that community radio has massive potential and that the initial work could be followed by further investment.

ACTION: Carolyn to arrange a meeting to organize the initial phase of work.