

**OLDHAM PARTNERSHIP
EXECUTIVE GROUP MEETING
HELD ON 18TH SEPTEMBER 2008
GROUNDWORK ENVIRONMENT CENTRE, SHAW ROAD, HIGGINSHAW**

MEMBERS: Gail Richards	- Acting Chair/ Oldham Primary Care Trust
Caroline Ball	- Greater Manchester Police
Cllr P Dean	- Oldham MBC
Michelle Ford	- Learning & Skills Council
Carol Hopkins	- Private Sector
Andrew Kilburn	- Oldham MBC
David McGealy	- Voluntary, Community & Faith Partnership
Cllr Jim McMahan	- Oldham MBC
Cllr Howard Sykes	- Oldham MBC
Cllr L Thompson	- Oldham MBC

OBSERVERS:

Graham Birch	- Oldham MBC - Regeneration
Michele Carr	- Oldham MBC – Regeneration
Sarah Diggle	- CPA Inspector
Bill Edwards	- Oldham Partnership Steering Group
John Eley	- Oldham Partnership Support Team
Tom Flanagan	- Oldham MBC - Regeneration
Ian Flanagan Smith	- Oldham Partnership Support Team
Bruce Penhale	- Oldham MBC - Communities
Michelle Renshaw	- Oldham Partnership Support Team (minute-taker)
Phil Sumner	- Community Cohesion Advisory Group
Alison Vaughan	- Oldham Partnership Support Team

MEMBERS

APOLOGIES:

Nick Brown	- Chair & Further/Higher Education Sector
Marie Gillott	- Job Centre Plus
Jennet Peters	- Government Office North West
Geof Harris	- Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service

Sarah Diggle the CPA Inspector was welcomed to the meeting. Sarah gave a brief introduction into her role.

28/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

**29/08 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE GROUP
(18th June 2008) AND MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Matter Arising

10/08 MULTI AREA AGREEMENT (MAA)

Concern was raised by Father Phil Sumner on how the understanding of Community Cohesion is being addressed in the MAA.

An invitation was given out to members inviting them to attend a workshop on the MAA which would enable issues like the above concern to be raised and discussed.

It was **agreed** this would be brought back to the next meeting.

21/08 COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE USE OF ALCOHOL IN OLDHAM

A process is now being taken forward by John Rice. Funding still needs to be identified for this.

Action: Alan Higgins and John Rice will distribute a re-drafted paper to partners to enable comments to be submitted.

End of Matters Arising

30/08 LAA UPDATE: SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES BLOCK

Caroline Ball, Chief Superintendent -Greater Manchester Police, presented the report (please refer).

A discussion highlighted the following:

- It would be useful to have previous years figures/information within the tables to enable a better understanding of the figures and also highlight any trends that are emerging.
- Re. figure 5 on page 8
 - 4th Indicator listed: Total value of contractual opportunities awarded to the voluntary and community sector, through the Oldham Commissioning Process.

It was requested that the actual monetary value be shown to give meaning to the % figures shown.

- 5th Indicator listed: Proportion of adults who say that people from different backgrounds can get on well in their area

It was suggested that other places across the country be included to give a comparison.

Having to work with refreshed LAA's is currently making it difficult to show comparisons across years and across the country.

- A query was raised re the Social Marketing project mentioned on Page 4 under the LAA Performance section.

Residents are being given the opportunity to feedback how they would like to receive different messages and how they would like to be able to feedback on these.

- There does not seem to be any information/breakdown within the report detailing how and whether the activities have made a difference.

Caroline Ball responded that the Safer and Stronger Communities Board can provide the detail, as they commission the work which will include its evaluation.

- There is a lot of good work being undertaken and the group need to look at how this good work and the results are shared with the communities and show things are improving and moving forward.

The Oldham Partnership collectively have a responsibility to do this and the marketing and resources for this should be looked at to ensure the opportunities are not missed.

A discussion then followed about the recommendations.

Re. recommendation 2: “That the Safe & Strong Communities Board provide the overall coordination and accountability for the entire Safe & Strong Communities Theme, which will include the Children, Young People & Families and the Housing Improvement Targets.”

It was **proposed and agreed** that the next stage should move to a debate. A separate session of the Executive and other key personnel to meet to discuss this further allowing all views to be considered and any risks highlighted.

Action: John Eley to arrange and co-ordinate.

Re. recommendation 3: “That the Executive should conduct a strategic review of the ABG to ensure the Grant is being optimised for the delivery of the Local Area Agreement.”

The recommendation was noted and is incorporated in developing the new Commissioning Framework and allocation process, and would need full Executive engagement.

31/08 TIF/METROLINK

Graham Birch, Regeneration Department – Oldham MBC, presented the report (please refer).

A pack was distributed to members of the Executive Group providing further information.

The deadline for initial responses is the 10th October 2008. After this time the revised proposals will be circulated. It is important the opportunity to respond/input into the initial proposals is not missed.

A discussion highlighted the following:

- The Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTA) will feedback early November the responses they have received.
- Need to ensure there is a good turn out for the voting and that members of the public have a good understanding of the proposals. An awareness training workshop is being arranged for partners to enable them to gain a clear understanding of the proposals and disseminate this to others.
- There is a lot of publicity being undertaken to try and reach as many people as possible with the necessary information to vote.
- The Partnership needs to have a view as to whether they agree or not that this is a good idea. It is important not too leave this too late to have an impact on the decision.
- It is important to ensure that the message is clear and understood by all that the outcome of the Congestion Charge will impact on the TIF.
- All views need to be gathered from the different events taking place and collated to enable the Executive Group to decide how to take these forward.
- Concern was raised re the wording in the booklet being distributed. Please forward any feedback on the information being circulated to Graham Birch: graham.birch@oldham.gov.uk
- Partners are asked to ensure details are forwarded to all members of staff of where information on the Metrolink can be found.

It was **proposed and agreed** that a single item meeting would be arranged prior to the 10th October to allow a debate to decide on how to take this forward and to agree on a collective response to be sent into the initial proposals. Michele Carr to arrange with Nick Brown.

Any views and suggestions on the proposals should be sent to John Eley:
john.eley@oldhampartnership.org.uk

32/08 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY & LAA UPDATE

John Eley, Partnership Development Manager, presented the report (please refer).

The refresh on the LAA is due in December '08 with Ministerial sign off in March '09. The LAA will be on the partnership website for comment and input. The Reward Grant is currently out for consultation and a response will be collated.

A discussion highlighted the following:

- The tremendous progress made to date, and the commitment to work together to address the challenges outlined.
- Concern was raised re. page 25 of the LAA in respect to the content on Community Cohesion.

Action: This will be picked up during the refresh and revised. John Eley, Bruce Penhale and Father Phil Sumner to discuss and amend as necessary.

33/08 PCT STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING PLAN

Gail Richards, Chief Executive, Oldham Primary Care Trust, gave a presentation (please refer).

The Primary Care Trust will be monitored on this document and how commissioning is taken forward. It gives the partnership an opportunity to pick out the most important actions needed to make an impact. It is building on everything previously undertaken and the Primary Care Trust would like to take this forward as a Partnership.

A discussion highlighted the following:

- The partnership approach to commissioning was welcomed
- Three areas were highlighted as being critical which need to be cross-referenced within this document: Alcohol, Exercise and Transport.
- Mental Health support services need to be broadened to tackle the impact the current economic climate is having on individuals.
- There is a need to focus delivery plans within localities and neighbourhoods as some areas are at national average and others are below.

Action: Gail Richards will send an email to partners for further comments on the priority programmes, and the 'language' to describe them.

34/08 LAA REWARD GRANT

John Eley, Partnership Development Manager presented the report (please refer).

Additional support is being made available if required for leads to address potential under-performing Stretch Targets and to look a ways forward.

It was **agreed** this item would be placed on the agenda for the December meeting when firm proposals will be presented to the group.

The principles within the document were fully supported.

Action: John Eley to collate views on the suggested options within the document and to circulate.

(35).1 It was then decided that agenda items 8,9,10,12,13 and 15 would be taken collectively as they all deal with structures and the need to change.

The presenter of each item gave a brief summary before a discussion took place. Key comments raised are shown under the relevant agenda items below.

35/08 PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

John Eley, Partnership Development Manager, gave a brief overview of this report (please refer).

Whilst the underlying approach was welcomed, the following concerns were highlighted:

- That another layer was being introduced rather than the Public Service Board replacing the Oldham Partnership Executive Group it would be an additional group.
- Concern that another group would be introduced therefore two groups would be undertaking very similar roles.
- Cllr Jim McMahon sought clarification on the membership of the group.

36/08 OLDHAM PARTNERSHIP AND OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY DEVELOPMENT

Cllr Howard Sykes, Leader of the Council, gave a brief overview of this report (please refer).

37/08 STRONG COMMUNITIES

Bruce Penhale, Assistant Director – Communities, gave a brief overview of this report (please refer)

Concerns highlighted:

- The Voluntary & Community Sector expressed concerns around the change in funding and the impact it could have on the sector.

A Risk Assessment will be undertaken to look at the impact.

38/08 LSP ELECTED MEMBER PROTOCOL

This is a working document which will be updated as required to reflect changes.

39/08 PLACE SHAPING REPORT

Tom Flanagan, Executive Director – Regeneration, gave a brief overview of this report (please refer)

40/08 CITY REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

Michele Carr, Service Director – Economy & Enterprise Unit, gave a brief overview of this report (please refer).

Comments highlighted:

- The Steering Group widely accepted the report apart from Accountability and Transparency. The group felt that there was a risk that local people were too far away from the decision making process.

(35) .2 The following outcomes from the above documents being taken as a whole are:

It was **agreed** that the principles behind the reports be accepted with further comments being collated by John Eley.

Action: John Eley to produce a paper to capture what the new arrangements will look like ensuring duplication is avoided and how these will work in the future.

41/08 COMMISSIONING THE AREA BASED GRANT

John Eley, Partnership Development Manager, presented the report (please refer).

A discussion highlighted the following:

- Consultation on Resource Allocations will be undertaken over the next couple of weeks looking at how these are taken forward/ timescales. Recommendations will be reported at the next Executive Group in December.

If you want any further information on this please contact Alison Vaughan, LAA Commissioning Unit Manager: alison.vaughan@oldham.gov.uk

The recommendations in the report were **agreed**.

42/08 COMMUNITY TENSION ASSESSMENT

Bruce Penhale, Assistant Director – Communities, presented the report (please refer).

The recommendations in the report were **agreed**.

A discussion took place re. the Community Cohesion Strategy as mentioned in the Matters Arising, the following queries were raised:

- Concern was raised by Father Phil Sumner that the Community Cohesion Strategy is not fully understood and may just end up as a written document. It is important that the delivery agents understand the document and embrace it in all work being undertaken. It was highlighted that documentation at a recent conference on Education did not make any reference to the document or reflect it in the final strategy.

Action: Andrew Kilburn will liaise with the relevant personnel on the Education document and review the content with regards to the Community Cohesion Strategy.

Action: Bruce Penhale to discuss strategy with Block Leads and to challenge them with ensuring it is included in all documentation and to undertake any additional mapping of key community cohesion leads if required.

- It was expressed that this should be a two way challenge between the Community Cohesion Advisory Group and others.

Action: Father Phil Sumner, Bruce Penhale and John Eley to put this challenge out to partners and delivery agents.

It was **agreed** community cohesion would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

It was requested that the results in the MORI survey mentioned in the previous minutes be shared with partners prior to the next meeting.

Action: Bruce Penhale to circulate this information.

43/08 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

44/08 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

No changes were made.

45/08 AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

No additional items added at this stage other than those agreed in these minutes.

The meeting closed at 4.15pm

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 18th December 2008

Venue: Groundwork Environment Centre, Shaw Road, Higginshaw

Time: 2pm