

**Oldham Partnership
Steering Group Meeting
Held at Civic Centre, Oldham
on 5th July 2007**

Members	Bill Edwards Zuber Ahmed Jon Bloor Laura Breslin Steve Burns John Crompton David Cummins Cllr Barbara Dawson Jo Farrington Judith Haughton Cllr Jean Jones David McGealy Cllr Jim McMahon Mark Powell Kevin Shaw Valerie Smith Cllr Mohammad Uddin	Chair and Environment Partnership Oldham Primary Care Trust Local Learning Partnership Children & Young People Partnership (for Ruth Baldwin) Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive Failsworth Community Council Housing Partnership Oldham MBC Community Cohesion Advisory Group Oldham Council for Voluntary Youth Service Oldham MBC Voluntary & Community Sector Oldham MBC Greater Manchester Police Oldham Coliseum East Oldham Area Committee Oldham MBC
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Observers	Michele Carr John Eley Steve George Martin Gleeson Rob Haddrell Robin Henshaw Adam Patterson Bruce Penhale Rachel Reid Mark Reynolds John Rice Michelle Renshaw Jonathan Yates	Oldham MBC, Corporate Policy Oldham Partnership Support Team Greater Manchester Police Oldham Trade Union Council Oldham MBC, Overview & Scrutiny Voluntary & Community Sector Oldham Partnership Support Team Oldham MBC, Diversity & Cohesion Oldham Partnership Support Team Oldham MBC, Housing Oldham MBC, Environmental Services Oldham Partnership Support Team (minute-taker) Oldham Citizens Advice Bureau
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Members Apologies	Mohammed Azam Pam Bailey Ruth Baldwin Philip Davenport Roger Gould Steve Mills	Voluntary and Community Sector Oldham MBC, Finance Children & Young People's Partnership Saddleworth & Lees Area Committee Faith Sector – Churches Together Shaw & Royton Area Committee
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23/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

24/07 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Oldham Partnership Steering Group 19th April 2007

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

18/07 LAA PERFORMANCE UPDATE QUARTER 3

Laura Breslin informed the meeting she had spoken to Tim Mitchell re. the NEET figure within the LAA being broken down to show those within the BME groups. It is not a legal requirement that this is included however, Positive Steps does record this information and can provide their figures if required.

End of matters arising

25/07 OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

To provide an update on the progress made in delivering the new Overview & Scrutiny programme in Oldham.

Rob Haddrell presented the item. Please refer to the report circulated.

A training session has been arranged for Monday 23rd July, 5pm – 8pm. If you would like to attend please contact: Rob Haddrell at Robert.haddrell@oldham.gov.uk or on 0161 770 3931.

A discussion highlighted the following:

- The latest work programme is available to download from: <http://www.Oldham.gov.uk/council/overview-scrutiny.htm>. If further information is needed about a particular item this can be requested from Rob Haddrell at Robert.haddrell@oldham.gov.uk or on 0161 770 3931.
- The Group suggested the following items to be included in the work programme for scrutiny:
 - Oldham's performance on stretch targets
 - Look at reducing the number of sub-groups and duplication across the blocks
 - Look at the various forms of analysis, management and research across partners to try and rationalise how this is presented. Data Sharing is currently being reviewed with CLG.
 - Look at how the new Community Councils are progressing and review how this process is going.

Community Councils will be reviewed once they have been in operation for a full municipal year.

- Clarification was sought on the prioritisation of items needing scrutiny. A scoring system is shown within the report to assist with this process.

26/07 LAA UPDATE: SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES BLOCK

To provide an update on the Safer & Stronger Communities Block within the LAA.

John Rice presented the item. Refer to report circulated.

The Chair expressed thanks to all those who had assisted with the areas showing improvement.

A discussion highlighted the following:

- Clarification was sought as to how the block measured the work it commissioned re. the impact it made above the normal variations.

There is a process specialists use to check the impact however other variables may distort findings therefore evidence base re:

- The need for intervention
- Viability/ suitability/ previous experience

is also looked at.

- Re. paragraph 3.5.2 it was expressed that 'total value' could distort the true picture if a major proportion of this amount goes to one project. More detail would be required to aid in the transparency of the contracts awarded to Voluntary & Community Sector.

A recommendation within the report (refer to 4.1) suggests the establishment of a sub-group to oversee the development of targets in relation to two contractual indicators relating to the Voluntary and Community sector as outlined in paragraph 3.5.2 of the report.

This was **agreed**.

The sub group to be: David McGealy, Jon Bloor, Zuber Ahmed, Robin Henshaw, Jo Farrington, Mark Powell and a representative from GONW.

Details within sections 3.10 and 3.11 to be shared with Community Councils.

27/07 LAA UPDATE: HOUSING BLOCK

To provide an update on the Housing Block within the LAA.

Mark Reynolds presented the item. Refer to report circulated.

The Chair expressed thanks to those who had assisted in the areas of improvement.

A discussion highlighted the following:

- Clarification was sought as to what control the block has re. the standard of accommodation Asylum Seekers are housed in.

If they are housed in the Private Rented Sector then there is no obligation for the Council to be informed of who these are. However, multi agency working with Asylum Seekers/ Refugee Agency gives a mechanism to help the Council know about any problems.

- Clarification was sought as to whether the indicator 'Percentage of dwellings that are in Council Tax Bands C & above' could be split between HMR and non-HMR properties.

28/07 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

To present the final draft of the Community Engagement Strategy which has been produced on behalf of the Oldham Partnership

Bruce Penhale presented the item. Please refer to report circulated.

The Chair expressed thanks to the Community Cohesion Advisory Group for the work undertaken.

A discussion highlighted the following:

- A structured discussion on the document would be more beneficial than just responding by email.
- The document needs to be discussed with a wider audience, members of the Steering Group are asked to make it more accessible to other groups and to facilitate this action and the feedback.
- A short summary of the document would be beneficial to share wider.

Action: Bruce Penhale to arrange for a summary to be available.

- It was suggested that 'Neighbourhoods Together' gets involved.
- Further opportunities to develop the Action Plan are needed.

Action: All comments to be forwarded to Bruce Penhale.

It was **agreed** to have a Community Activist Network. This network is to include residents and organisations.

The concept of a Community Activist Network is to be developed further. The following volunteers from the Steering Group will undertake this:

Cllr Jean Jones, Robin Henshaw (for Groundwork), a representative from the Community Councils, a representative from the Community Cohesion Advisory Group, a representative for Culture.

29/07 LAA UPDATE OF PROGRESS

A presentation to provide an update on progress in delivering the LAA over 2006/7 and discuss emerging priorities for Oldham

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

30/07 OLDHAM BEYOND

To seek the establishment of a sub group to consider future consultation needs for the implementation of Oldham Beyond.

Michele Carr presented the item. Please refer to report circulated.

The recommendation to establish a sub-group was **agreed**.

The sub group to include:

Kevin Shaw, Judith Haughton, David McGealy, a representative from the Housing Partnership, a representative from the new Community Council co-optees.

The time frame is as follows:

- It is expected that the sub-group will meet 3 times at the most with the first meeting being in September.
- The first draft to be available in October
- Finalised in Jan/Feb
- Go to print in March

For Information

31/07 CULTURAL AWARD

Kevin Shaw updated the group.

Oldham won the Academy for Sustainable Communities Award with its entry 'Art for All; All for Art'.

Thanks was given to Kevin and all those who had helped with the submission.

32/07 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

33/07 DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS AT THIS STAGE.

No changes made.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

Date of Next Meeting

Date: Thursday 18th October 2007

Time: 6pm

Venue: Lees Suite, Civic Centre, Oldham