

**Oldham Partnership  
Steering Group Meeting  
Held at Civic Centre, Oldham  
on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2007**

<b>Members</b>	Bill Edwards Moira Blood Steve Burns John Crompton Philip Davenport Jo Farrington Marie Gillott Roger Gould Judith Haughton Mushtaq Khan Mark Powell Fazal Rahim John Tummon	Chair and Environment Partnership Housing Partnership (for David Cummins) Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive Failsworth & Hollinwood Area Committee Saddleworth & Lees Area Committee Community Cohesion Advisory Group Jobcentre Plus Faith Sector – Churches Together Oldham Council for Voluntary Youth Service Housing Partnership Greater Manchester Police Community Cohesion Advisory Group Oldham Race Equality Partnership
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<b>Observers</b>	Laura Breslin Michele Carr John Eley Rob Haddrell Cllr David Hibbert Susan Kirkham David McGealy Adam Patterson Bruce Penhale Rachel Reid Michelle Renshaw Paul White	Children & Young People Partnership Oldham MBC, Corporate Policy Oldham Partnership Support Team Oldham MBC, Overview & Scrutiny Oldham MBC Oldham MBC, Research Voluntary, Community & Faith Partnership Oldham Partnership Support Team Oldham MBC, Diversity & Cohesion Oldham Partnership Support Team Oldham Partnership Support Team (minute-taker) Oldham MBC, Regeneration
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**Members  
Apologies**

Government Office North West	
Zuber Ahmed	Oldham Primary Care Trust
Mohammed Azam	Voluntary and Community Sector
Pam Bailey	Oldham MBC, Finance
Ruth Baldwin	Children & Young People's Partnership
Jon Bloor	Local Learning Partnership
David Cummins	Housing Partnership
Cllr Barbara Dawson	Oldham MBC
Clare Fish	Health & Social Care Partnership
Cllr Jean Jones	Oldham MBC
Cllr Jim McMahan	Oldham MBC
Steve Mills	Shaw & Royton Area Committee
Shah Newaz	Chadderton Area Committee
Mohammed Sumidh	Oldham West Area Committee

## 11/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

## 12/07 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

### Oldham Partnership Steering Group 11<sup>th</sup> January 2007

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

### **Matters Arising**

#### 38/06 OLDHAM DIVERSITY & EQUALITY AWARDS

Please refer to appendix one attached.

#### 42/06 INVEST TO SAVE BID

The bid submission was unsuccessful. The possibility of using other funding to invest in volunteering is currently being looked at.

### Oldham Partnership Executive Group 1<sup>st</sup> February 2007

The meeting with Phil Woolas to discuss the White Paper – Strong & Prosperous Communities /LSP Development is in the process of being re-scheduled.

## 09/07 NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKS

Oldham worked jointly with Salford to look at Capacity Building and Neighbourhood Management. The programme ran over 15 months and the strategic issues to be addressed were identified. These will be fed into the Improvement Plan for the Oldham Partnership. The work is continuing with Salford.

Please refer to appendix two attached.

### **End of matters arising**

Adam Patterson provided the following update to the meeting:

Oldham Partnership was awarded a 'Highly Commended' in the Local Strategic Partnership Award category of the LGC Awards 2007.

The Partnership has also been shortlisted for the Cultural Award in the 'Creating the Future - ASC Awards for Sustainable Communities'. The results will be announced in June.

The 'Increasing Opportunities' booklet produced and circulated in March to each household in the Borough highlighted projects supported by the Oldham Partnership. If you would like extra copies please contact the Oldham Partnership Support Team on: 0161 615 5038.

13/07 DVD – PRODUCED BY GONW

*To view the DVD produced by Government Office North West. This included a feature on Oldham.*

The DVD demonstrated a couple of projects within Oldham:

- Home Shopping Scheme
- Bronchial Boogie

These projects have been included as models of best practice.

14/07 BEST PRACTICE WORK ON COMMUNITY COHESION

Fazal Rahim updated the group on the recent attendance of the Oldham Inter-Faith Forum at a Conference held at University Catalonia. The Oldham Inter-Faith Forum was the only organisation from Britain to be asked to speak at the conference.

Bruce Penhale presented the report, please refer.

The strategy is now scheduled to be produced in September 2007.

Discussion highlighted the following:

- The wording within B1 of the document was discussed in particular having the words nurturing and faith in the same sentence.

The sentiment of this section is not about promoting religion but more about your religion being part of your personal identity.

It was suggested that the wording should be changed to reflect this.

Concern was also raised that the terminology in this section could affect funding being allocated.

- Oldham Community Radio is now up and running. This service is something that should be considered for inclusion within Communication Strategies.

A pledge card "I'm in to Oldham" has been produced and will be circulated throughout the borough. Members of the group were asked to take this back to their different community groups.

15/07 OLDHAM BEYOND - PROGRESS

*To detail progress being made in current regeneration activity to implement the Oldham Beyond vision and to respond to major programme priorities that have emerged recently.*

Paul White presented the item. Refer to report circulated.

Discussion highlighted the following:

- Section 7.3 states the 1000 Days Campaign will come to an end in November 2007. It was suggested that someone from the Oldham Partnership Steering Group could attend the meeting to look at ways of continuing with Oldham Beyond.

#### 16/07 UPDATE ON STRATEGIC REGENERATION PROGRAMMES

*To provide an update on the Strategic Regeneration Programmes.*

Paul White presented the item. Please refer to report circulated.

A 'Name the Place' exercise was undertaken to review the groups knowledge of the current regeneration programmes which are currently underway.

Discussion highlighted the following:

- Re. Section 5.3.4 within the report. Partners were asked to look at this area and highlight how they could work in a more joined up way re. consultation rather than working separately within their organisations.

Clarification was sought on how the Regeneration Department measured the latter part of Section 5.3.4 'communities feeling involved and valued'.

- The Steering Group welcomed the actions within Section 5.3.6 and 5.3.7 of the report.
- An interactive facility for regeneration programmes is currently being developed. This will be available on the OMBC Website.

#### 17/07 LAA UPDATE/ DEVELOPING THE OP STEERING GROUP

*To update the Steering Group on future proposals to develop the Local Area Agreement and expand the role of the Oldham Partnership Steering Group.*

John Eley presented the item. Please refer to report circulated.

Discussion highlighted the following:

- Clarification was sought on the balance between National and Local priorities within the LAA following the changes in the White Paper - Strong & Prosperous Communities.
- Clarification was sought re. the work being undertaken by New Deal for Communities (NDC) and if duplication was occurring.

Michele Carr informed the group that the neighbourhood development in the NDC area will be used as a pilot. Government Office suggested the neighbourhood agreement should be included within the LAA.

The key point with neighbourhood agreements is that it is a two way contract with communities.

- Cross cutting issues will be closely looked at when a detailed timetable is drawn up.

The Steering Group **agreed** with the recommendations within the report with the following **actions**:

- The Steering Group expands its remit to cover performance management reporting to the Partnership.
- 'Lack of clarity about the decision making process for the partnership and are the elements fit for purpose' working group led by Bill Edwards to meet and make recommendations.
- 'Communication with the public and residents of Oldham is inadequate' – Oldham Partnership Marketing & Communications Plan to be revised (Adam Patterson) and agreed by the Steering Group.
- 'Communication across the partnership blocks is inadequate' working group led by Adam Patterson to meet and make recommendations.
- 'Capacity and capabilities of partnership members are not assessed and maximised' working group led by Bill Edwards to meet and made recommendations.
- 'Blocks/ partnership is not flexible enough to respond quickly to changing circumstances' working group led by Bill Edwards to meet and made recommendations.

#### 18/07 LAA PERFORMANCE UPDATE QUARTER 3

*This report provided an overview of performance for the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for the third quarter of the financial year 2006/7.*

Rachel Reid presented the item. Please refer to report circulated.

Discussion highlighted the following:

- Re. Section 3.3 in the report. The Overview and Scrutiny Panel undertook work in relation to households placed in bed and breakfast accommodation. A report with recommendations to address this issue has gone to cabinet.
- Re. Section 3.7 in the report. Work is being undertaken on the linkage between Crime and the Unemployment Rate.
- Clarification was sought on the impact new technology i.e Satellite Navigation systems has on vehicle crimes.
- It was suggested that the dates of the Oldham Partnership Steering group meetings should be reviewed to allow maximum benefit from the Performance reporting to be utilised fully.

**Action:** Oldham Partnership Support Team to review the date of the meetings to take the above into consideration.

- Re. Section 3.4 in the report. Clarification was sought as to whether the NEET figure within the LAA should include the breakdown of those within the BME groups.

## 19/07 UPDATE OF RESEARCH

*This report provided an update on the progress of the Oldham Partnership Strategic Research Working group on taking forward proposals to support the development and implementation of a strategic research programme for the Oldham Partnership.*

Susan Kirkham presented the item. Please refer to the report circulated.

Discussion highlighted the following:

- It was suggested that an ongoing overview of the allocation of funding being approved by the Steering Group should be supplied to maintain understanding and clarity.

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

## 20/07 OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

*This report sought views on the findings of a workshop which identified key roles for those who will be involved within the scrutiny process in the borough of Oldham.*

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

The report included a suggested:

- Knowledge and Skills Framework and,
- Scrutiny Member Role Description

for those who will be involved within the scrutiny process.

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

## 21/07 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

## 22/07 DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS AT THIS STAGE.

No changes made.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Date: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2007

Time: 6pm

Venue: Crompton Suite, Civic Centre, Oldham

## Appendix One

The discussion on the future of the Equality and Diversity awards at the Community Cohesion Advisory group meeting led to the following recommendations;

- That the awards be biannual.
- That they can include a celebration but a greater proportion of the investment should be in the ongoing mechanisms of sharing good practice and publicity of award winners.
- That there will not be a single winner or competition but that a standard will be set, which when achieved will be awarded.
- That there will be an open commissioning process.
- That the awards should next take place early in the 2008/9 financial year.

In the light of the discussions on Community Cohesion and engagement about the meaning that people ascribe to terms like community cohesion and equality and diversity, we may also consider changing the name to give the awards a wider relevance/audience but this has not yet been decided.

## Appendix Two

### **FINAL OUTCOME OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKS PROGRAMME**

The following issues were highlighted as key issues requiring attention if we are to improve our approach to multi-agency neighbourhood working:-

#### ***Community Engagement***

Our Community Engagement Strategy is a key opportunity for us to define exactly what we need to achieve. We must use the opportunity to achieve better co-ordination of the estimated 70+ community engagement specialists and achieve greater impacts.

#### ***Clarify exactly what can be delivered locally***

We need to develop a common language and a shared understanding of which services are relevant i.e. define what we mean by local (“neighbourhood, locality, area, local” are all used interchangeably) and then we need to agree what can be delivered/managed more effectively at different geographic levels. Some services do not lend themselves to local delivery and local delivery is not the only way of engaging with people.

#### ***“You Said, We Did”***

It is important that the Oldham Partnership adopts this phrase as a signature of the way we work together and that we always provide feedback. It is also important that we are able to provide an audit trail about how decisions are taken. This is an increasing challenge for multi-agency working because the combination of different governance mechanisms can make it difficult to understand where decisions are made.

#### ***Developing Community Leaders***

It is important that we support the development of leadership qualities both within the communities and amongst Elected Members so that they in turn can support local communities to play an effective role in helping agencies to provide increasingly appropriate services. This should include the development of organisational role definitions.

#### ***Information Sharing***

There needs to be an increased emphasis upon sharing the information we already have across services and agencies in order to help us fill knowledge gaps, identify priorities and to identify and share good practice about what works within the partnership.

#### ***Community Involvement in Setting Indicators and Outcomes***

The opportunity afforded by the Local Government White Paper which seeks to focus on outcomes and allow us to set indicators and targets locally, will enable us to be more innovative in using indicators that are more meaningful for local people.