

**OLDHAM PARTNERSHIP
EXECUTIVE GROUP MEETING
HELD ON 15TH NOVEMBER 2007
GROUNDWORK ENVIRONMENT CENTRE, SHAW ROAD, HIGGINSHAW**

MEMBERS: Nick Brown	- Chair & Further/Higher Education Sector
Paul Argyle	- Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service
Caroline Ball	- Greater Manchester Police
Paula Boshell	- Voluntary, Community & Faith Partnership
Cllr Peter Dean	- Oldham MBC
Michelle Ford	- Learning & Skills Council
Marie Gillott	- Job Centre Plus
Carol Hopkins	- Private Sector
Cllr David Jones	- Oldham MBC
Andrew Kilburn	- Oldham MBC
Cllr Brian Lord	- Oldham MBC
David McGealy	- Voluntary, Community & Faith Partnership
Cllr Jean Stretton	- Oldham MBC

OBSERVERS:

Cllr Riaz Ahmad	- Oldham MBC
Marc Booker	- Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive
Michele Carr	- Oldham MBC
Janet Donaldson	- Oldham MBC
John Eley	- Oldham Partnership Support Team
Nidi Etim	- North West Development Agency
Jim Leivers	- Oldham Local Safeguarding Children Board
Bruce Penhale	- Oldham MBC
Jennet Peters	- Government Office North West
Michelle Renshaw	- Oldham Partnership Support Team (minute-taker)
Anne Ryans	- Oldham MBC
Phil Sumner	- Community Cohesion Advisory Group

MEMBERS

APOLOGIES:

Gail Porter	- Government Office North West
Gail Richards	- Oldham Primary Care Trust
Cllr Howard Sykes	- Oldham MBC

The Chair updated the group on the success of the play 'One Extreme to the Other' which Oldham had commissioned. The play tackles the issue of extremism and was recently performed at a National Conference in London where it received an excellent response giving a strong reflection on Oldham.

35/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

36/07 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE GROUP (19th July 2007) AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

07/07 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The document has been presented to the Oldham Partnership Steering Group and the first part has now been approved.

End of Matters Arising

37/07 LAA UPDATE: CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE BLOCK

Janet Donaldson, Interim Executive Director – Children, Young People & Families, presented the report.

The report updated the Group on the progress in relation to the development and delivery of the Children and Young People Block of the Local Area Agreement, focusing on: Governance Arrangements; Funding; Commissioning; Performance; Children and Young People Plan; Prevention; Youth Matters; Locality delivery; Engaging the voluntary; community and faith sector.

The following points were highlighted:

Progress is good with 14 targets being achieved or on track; 3 improving well but not yet on track; 1 not met.

Child Poverty is emerging as the main priority from this Block for the new model LAA.

38/07 LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

Jim Leivers, Chair - Oldham Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB), presented the report.

The report focused on establishing the Governance Arrangements for the LSCB in Oldham. It was suggested that a small Executive Sub Group of the LSP be established and that the Executive Director of Children's Services and the Independent Chair of the LSCB be accountable to this sub group and through them to the LSP for the performance of the LSCB.

The group endorsed the report and the recommendations within.

39/07 COUNCIL BUDGET CONSULTATION

Councillor Riaz Ahmad and Anne Ryans, Assistant Director – Finance, Oldham MBC presented the report.

It was highlighted that nothing was being taken away from frontline services; the process is becoming sharper; a cross cutting approach has been taken; important key national priorities have been addressed as well as local priorities.

The following updates/changes to the report were highlighted:

Section 5.3 – the total figure has now been reduced by £700,000

Section 6.1 – the figure of £6.5 million should be changed to £5.7 million

A discussion highlighted the following:

- Clarification was sought as to what would happen to the results from the online consultation.

The results will be fed back to Council and the views considered.

40/07 UPDATE ON LAA – SHAPING OLDHAM'S FUTURE

John Eley, Partnership Development Manager, Oldham Partnership Support Team, presented the report.

Point 4 in Section 6 of the report should read 'LAA Commissioning Unit' not 'Boards'

A discussion highlighted the following:

- Clarification was sought from Government Office on what potential there was to simplify the process.

It is intended that the process will be simplified in the longer term however due to the new model LAA being in its early stages this may take sometime.

- Transparency is key along with a good understanding of what funding is currently available and where it currently goes to enable to review how this is now deployed.

Government Office confirmed that in the Initial Year funding will be marked to show where it originally came from.

- Scrutiny was seen as another important area to its success, ensuring the Steering Group receives adequate training to fulfill this role for the initiatives to be successful.
- Concern was raised around the timescales for commissioning the projects.

It is likely that a phased approach will be taken in respect to commissioning. John Eley confirmed that Oldham will get a 3 year payment to enable commissioning to be for a longer timescale than 12 months.

- It was suggested that the table accompanying this report could be split down further to show the component parts under each of the different funding streams.

Action: John Eley to ensure the comments around scrutiny are feedback to the Oldham Partnership Steering Group.

41/07 LAA 18 MONTH REVIEW

John Eley, Partnership Development Manager, Oldham Partnership Support Team, presented the report.

A discussion highlighted the following:

- NRF funding must be spent by 31st March 2008. All invoices must also have been presented by this date. Each LAA block has been advised of these requirements.
- The group requested that a more detailed report be produced for the next Executive group meeting to highlight those targets which are not being met and to detail what is being done to address this.

Action: John Eley to co-ordinate the production of this report ready for the next Executive Group meeting.

- As well as the key strategic projects already underway there are probably other projects that could assist further with delivery of the LAA. These are to be looked at when reviewing the NRF unallocated monies. Due to the short timescales this will be undertaken prior to the next meeting of the Executive Group.
- The Executive Group expressed the need for some guidance to be drawn up detailing what was expected from the OP Executive with regards to Commissioning.

42/07 OLDHAM BEYOND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Michele Carr, Head of Corporate Policy – Oldham MBC, presented the report.

The Oldham Beyond Implementation Plan (OBIP) will sit below the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement.

The penultimate draft of the OBIP will be brought to the next meeting following consultation with stakeholders in November and December. Proposals re. OBIP governance will also be brought to the next meeting.

Any feedback on the draft OBIP should be forwarded to Michele Carr at Michele.carr@oldham.gov.uk

Items For Information

43/07 BUILDING GOOD RELATIONS

Bruce Penhale, Assistant Director Communities – Oldham MBC presented the report.

A discussion highlighted the following:

- The success and the importance of the work already undertaken does not seem to be reflected within the report.
- The need to describe what Mediation is for Oldham and also to develop a model for Oldham.
- Input should be sought from those who have been through the training mentioned in the report.
- An evaluation of Mediation Northern Ireland has been conducted by Government Office North West.

Action: Bruce Penhale to distribute the findings to the Oldham Partnership Executive Group.

44/07 STATE OF THE SECTOR REVIEW

Paula Boshell, Chief Officer – Voluntary Action Oldham presented the report.

A State of the Sector Review booklet has been produced by Voluntary Action Oldham, this was circulated at the meeting.

The following key findings were highlighted:

Oldham has a vibrant voluntary, community and Faith Sector that;-

- Employs over 1700 staff (almost 2% of Oldham's workforce)
- Involves around 16,000 volunteers per year who provide approx. 32,000 hours of support every week,. Valued at over £16.7 million per year.
- VCFS generate an annual income of around £31 million that is invested in Oldham's communities and economy.
- Around 60 new organisations have been formed since 2000.
- 57% of organisations provide services Borough wide.
- Over 60% of organisations felt that they had influence on decisions that affected their local area.

The key challenges for the sector were highlighted as being:

- The moving from grant funding to commissioning.
- Recruiting, maintaining and supporting volunteers.

This document now provides a benchmark for the sector.

If you would like to discuss this further please contact Paula Boshell:
chiefofficer@vaoldham.org.uk or tel:0161 633 6222

45/07 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other matters were raised.

46/07 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

No changes were made.

47/07 AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

No changes were made.

The meeting closed at 3.50pm

NEXT MEETING

To be Advised