

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

MEMBERS: Nick Brown - Chair & Further/Higher Education Sector
Paul Argyle - Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service
Michelle Ford - Learning & Skills Council
Marie Gillott - Job Centre Plus
Andrew Kilburn - Oldham MBC
David McGealy - Voluntary, Community & Faith Partnership
Cllr Jim McMahon - Oldham MBC
Gail Richards - Oldham Primary Care Trust
Cllr Howard Sykes - Oldham MBC

OBSERVERS:

Michele Carr - Oldham MBC
John Eley - Oldham Partnership Support Team
Ian Flanagan Smith - Oldham Partnership Support Team
Beverley Gallier - Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTE)
Karen McCrackle - Oldham Partnership Support Team
Bruce Penhale - Oldham MBC
Jennet Peters - Government Office North West
Michelle Renshaw - Oldham Partnership Support Team (minute-taker)
John Rice - Oldham MBC, SSC Block
Cllr A Roughley - Oldham MBC
Phil Sumner - Community Cohesion Advisory Group
Alison Vaughan - Oldham Partnership Support Team

MEMBERS

APOLOGIES:

Caroline Ball - Greater Manchester Police
Cllr P Dean - Oldham MBC
Cllr L Thompson - Oldham MBC
Carol Hopkins - Private Sector
Gail Porter - Government Office North West

The new members of the Oldham Partnership Support Team were introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

14/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

15/08 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE GROUP (13th March 2008) AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Matter Arising

03/08 REGIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE

Nick Brown met with the Learning Skills Council yesterday to look at how this can be moved forward.

04/08 NEW MODEL LAA – PROGRESS & IMPLICATIONS

Re. Action point a), a report is on the agenda today.

Re. Action point b), this has been deferred to allow discussions to take place with the new leader of the council.

08/08 BRANDING

The new branding was approved on the 16th April and endorsed by the Oldham Partnership.

Hemisphere are to produce a toolkit for guidance on using the new brand.

10/08 MULTI AREA AGREEMENTS

Clarification was sought as to whether the inclusion of the Community Cohesion aspect had been undertaken.

The wording re. the Community Cohesion aspect had been produced by Shah Newaz.

The MAA is a Greater Manchester agreement and therefore it will be necessary for Oldham to look at the implications for the borough. Tom Flanagan will be the link into the Partnership on the MAA.

End of Matters Arising

It was agreed that item 5 on the agenda would be taken next.

16/08 POLITICAL CHANGES

Nick Brown opened the item by welcoming Councillor Sykes to the meeting.

The Oldham Partnership has progressed considerably and has been successful in building up transparent communications, robust partnership working and holds a high profile nationally, it has built up a trust on what it does.

Cllr Howard Sykes, the new leader of the Council addressed the meeting. A list has been produced (please refer) to show the new administration and their respective responsibilities.

Increased engagement and involvement with thematic partnerships to gain a clear understanding of what is going on across areas is planned, as is, the delivery of the plans in place.

Jim McMahon, the leader of the opposition, addressed the meeting highlighting that although the leaders may not always agree they do have a good working relationship and will work together for the people of Oldham. Both parties value the work of the partnership.

An update was given on the recruitment of a new Chief Executive to replace Andrew Kilburn later this year. The closing date was yesterday (17th June) and the decision on the replacement will be ratified by Council on the 18th July.

17/08 LAA UPDATE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE BLOCK

Michele Carr, Service Director – Economy & Enterprise Unit, presented the report (please refer).

The following queries were raised:

- Re. The Enterprise Factory, this appears to be in one particular place. Clarification was sought as to whether it should be looked at taking this into all communities in the borough i.e. Satellite branches.

The Enterprise Factory is specific to the New Deal for Communities (NDC) scheme and sits within in this area. There are other projects that do go out into the community. It may be possible to make links with other projects to extend the service wider than the NDC.

- The Primary Care Trust welcomed the report. It clearly shows the engagement with the private sector but also needs to ensure inclusion of the contribution from the Public Sector and inclusion re. the aspect of Community Cohesion.

There is a need to capture and harness where local people have been employed to ensure inclusion from all sectors. It was suggested that a workshop for the partnership might assist to discuss and move this forward. This was **agreed**.

- Clarification was sought re. data and whether an analysis on the impact on variations in and between wards and communities was available.

Once some of the initial schemes have been running 12months it will be possible to undertake an analysis of the impact as mentioned above.

- The report gives the Partnership the opportunity to focus on how it can commission work to address how it makes an impact.

- There will be opportunities to look at how the Voluntary, Community & Faith sector can benefit from the media move into Manchester.

18/08 COMMUNITY COHESION STRATEGY

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

- The outstanding changes to the document are:
 - Some baseline targets are still to be included. These will be completed once the results from the MORI survey are received.
 - There are a few areas where the Action Plan needs further development.

The Executive Group **approved** the Community Cohesion Strategy and Action Plan subject to the above inclusions which are to be agreed with the Community Cohesion Advisory Group.

A discussion highlighted the following:

- The Community Cohesion Strategy is specific to Oldham and should be used as a National model.
- Concern was raised that now the Community Cohesion Strategy is in place how does the partnership ensure the ethos of the document is understood and adhered to by partners.

It was **agreed** that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting to enable the partnership to start and look at how this can be monitored. The results of the MORI survey are to be available for the next meeting to have as the starting point for the discussion.

19/08 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY/ LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

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

A discussion highlighted the following:

- Government Office expressed that it had been a pleasure to negotiate with Oldham as the focus had been on the whole package and not just the 35 stretch targets. As the process developed the cross cutting issues had become clearer and clearer.
- Economic and Enterprise Block had been in discussions with Government Office re. the worklessness figures. Government Office have agreed to look at these later on at the refresh.

- Gail Richards will email the partnership from an NHS perspective to involve partners in looking at how the NHS take forward their own strategy and how this can link into Oldham's Community Strategy and Commissioning Framework.

20/08 COMMISSIONING THE AREA BASED GRANT

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

A discussion highlighted the following:

- The document reflects how far the Partnership has moved on and should be used to build on its progress and move forward.
- Concern was raised re. the monitoring and reporting and clarification was sought as to whether anything had been considered on this.
- Concern was raised re. the amount of opportunity partners had been given to be involved with the process, especially as changes to the funding do have an impact on partners. Also, how can this be moved forward so they are included within discussions.
- It was mentioned that the partnership should start looking now at how the Reward Grant should be used.
- Concern was raised as to whether it had been impact assessed re clarity of resources needed.

It was **agreed** that the report would be accepted in principle but a workshop would be arranged to enable all partners to be involved and to look at how the process should be developed for the future to ensure inclusion of partners. The workshop would also look at how the Reward Grant should be spent.

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

Andrew Kilburn, Chief Executive – Oldham MBC presented the report (please refer).

A discussion highlighted the following:

- This is a local issue not just a national issue and it is important that the partnership as a whole try and understand it and address it rather than it being tackled by individual partners.

It was **agreed** in principle that work around this issue should be undertaken on behalf of the Partnership. The work to be undertaken to address this would be agreed between the Chair, the Council and the Primary Care Trust.

- Government Office offered assistance and additional support on this issue.

22/08 OLDHAM BEYOND REGENERATION STRATEGY 2008-13 AND OLDHAM BEYOND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2008-9

Michele Carr, Service Director – Economy & Enterprise Unit presented the report (please refer).

A discussion highlighted the following:

- Concern was raised re. the use of a mapping system and the potential sensitivity of the information available. Also it was felt care was needed when using information on the mapping system in particular re. proposed plans which could change or may not go ahead.

The mapping system would be used to illustrate approved plans/facilities not proposals.

- The importance of having contact details available on the mapping system for the different facilities to enable an up to date position to be given at all times by those involved with the developments.
- It was felt that the word ‘amongst’ should be included within page 60 of the Oldham Beyond Strategy document to enable expansion to other initiatives such as Community Radio to be included under the section ‘Communicating with the public’.

23/08 OLDHAM COUNCIL BUDGET 2008/9

This item was deferred.

24/08 METROLINK AND TIF

Andrew Kilburn, Chief Executive – Oldham MBC presented the report (please refer).

A discussion highlighted the following:

- A public consultation exercise will be undertaken from July – October re congestion charges.
- Clarification was sought as to whether the two proposals were linked.

The two proposals: The section running through the town centre and the congestion charges are linked.

- The Council and the Partnership need to be proactive and lead the debate explaining the implications to the members of the public.
- Need to be clear that if the scheme is not accepted there will not be an option to take it up in the future.

- Time needs to be built into the consultation to ensure sufficient time is available to the members of the public to consider the implications of the options on offer before they have to make a decision.
- It would be beneficial if more detailed information was available before the consultation has to take place.

As and when more information is received it will be share with partners.

- Oldham Council will work with the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTE) to full brief partners on the options being proposed.

Action: Partners should feedback their responses via John Eley, Partnership Development Manager, who will collate a response on behalf of the Oldham Partnership.

- Clarification was sought as to whether it would be possible to have someone independent to undertake the analysis.

25/08 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Andrew Kilburn informed the meeting that the Council's CPA will be underway during the next meeting of the Oldham Partnership Executive Group.

26/08 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

No changes were made.

27/08 AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The following additions were requested:

- TIF and Metrolink
- MAA

The meeting closed at 3.10pm

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 18th September 2008

Venue: Groundwork Environment Centre, Shaw Road, Higginshaw

Time: 2pm