

**OLDHAM PARTNERSHIP
EXECUTIVE GROUP MEETING
HELD ON 19th July 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
Robin Henshaw	- Voluntary, Community & Faith Partnership
Andrew Kilburn	- Oldham MBC
Cllr Mohammed Uddin	- Oldham MBC
Michelle Ford	- Learning & Skills Council
Marie Gillott	- Job Centre Plus
Charles W. Shaw	- OCVYS

OBSERVERS:

David Davies	- Government Office North West
Adam Patterson	- Oldham Partnership Support Team
Rachel Reid	- Oldham Partnership Support Team
Lori Hughes	- Oldham MBC (minute-taker)
Phil Sumner	- Community Cohesion Advisory Group
Michele Carr	- Oldham MBC
Mark Reynolds	- Oldham MBC
Alan Higgins	- Oldham Primary Care Trust

MEMBERS

APOLOGIES:

Cllr David Jones	- Oldham MBC
Cllr Jean Stretton	- Oldham MBC
Cllr Howard Sykes	- Oldham MBC
Steve Burns	- Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive
Carol Hopkins	- Private Sector

The chair welcomed Michelle Ford from the LSC to the meeting..

It was also noted at this time of the measure of recognition being received by Oldham in particular at the recent Partnership Seminar in London.

25/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

**26/07 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE GROUP
(17 May 2007) AND MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

07/07 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The strategy was presented to the Steering Group – approval was delayed due to wider consultation being undertaken. Phil Sumner stated that the document had never been accepted and the whole report was to be discussed with Bruce Penhale.

Action: John Eley to write to Bruce Penhale to progress and resolve the issue and ask him to meet with Phil Sumner, Steve Mills and Councillor Dean before the next meeting.

03/07 LAA / LSP UPDATE OF PROGRESS

A copy of the terms of reference for the LAA Steering Group was tabled. One issue is the branding for Oldham.

05/07 STRATEGIC PLANNING

Michele Carr will report back to the next meeting in relation to the LAA and the Community Strategy.

15/07 – COMMISSIONING FRAMEWORK FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Alan Higgins stated that a stakeholders workshops will be held after the summer break.

16/07 REFRESHED LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

A meeting will be arranged with GONW looking at the value and monitoring of contracts for the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sectors. Commissioning will be a major issue both at the Executive and Steering Groups. Michele Carr commented that baseline figures have been completed. Chief Superintendent Ball raised the issue of availability of up-to-date information, i.e. some is only published annually.

Action: John Eley will arrange for information to be published

End of Matters Arising

27/07 LAA UPDATE: SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES BLOCK

Chief Superintendent Ball presented the annual update to the group. The Sustainable Neighbourhood Board focuses on a broad range of issues as well as crime. The terms of reference are now clearer with more synergy between the teams. There is still an emphasis on crime, but the agenda is becoming broader.

The Task and Finish Groups are managing the delivery of partnership activity including the Area Action Teams. Late funding has raised concerns and make

commissioning difficult. Increasingly, services are commissioned across blocks, this has been by a strategic assessment which did not focus on crime but incorporated a broad range of Block priorities.

Funding through Preventing Violent Extremism was discussed. Chief Superintendent Ball also added the reassurance agendas is one at which the partnership is good. The Respect Agenda was also raised along with its links through a variety of work programmes.

The report was very well received and highly commended. One major item from the report is the issue of funding streams not being available before the year starts. It is important that the Government hears the annualised budgets for these areas of work are not helpful. A Government report has suggested three-year contracts – however, this cannot be done on annualized budgets.

Action: John Eley to write to GONW highlighting the issues around late notification of funding streams and the major impact on programmes and LAAs and urge for longer term contracts and also write to the appropriate minister to raise the profile.

28/07 LAA UPDATE: HOUSING BLOCK

Mark Reynolds, Service Director – Strategic Housing, presented the report.

It was noted that the membership of the Local Housing Board has changed. New developments in the housing area were noted including Strong and Prosperous Communities Paper and the emphasis on tenant involvement. Performance of the block was reported as nine achieved targets including the stretch target. Targets were not met were around thermal comfort and number of households in B&B – these deficiencies are being addressed. Research has been commissioned. It was also reported that 7% of households in Oldham are overcrowded. It was raised that targets are hard to establish especially with regard to homeless as there are the “hidden homeless”, i.e. those living with friends, relatives, etc., but are not picked up in any data.

Councillor Dean also raised the issue of the immense problems with Housing and the long waiting lists. No new social housing has been built in the Borough since 1982.

A Multi-Area Agreement is being explored with other authorities, there is still working to be done with regards to the benefits of this type of scheme.

29/07 LAA/LSP DEVELOPMENT

John Eley presented the report which provided feedback from the LAA First Year Performance. Areas of risk are crime levels, NEETS, teenage conception and economy & employment. Stretch targets were raised as a way to deal with these issues but remaining funding needs to be deployed soon. Feasibility testing feedback from Government is due in September which will assist in priority setting.

Another point raised was the consensus with Cumbria and GONW which emerged as part of the Feasibility Testing process.

Members were asked if they were satisfied with the outcomes as outlined in the paper and take the document forward as a new model for the LAA.

Action: Members were asked to write to John Eley with any amendments.

David Davies commented that the document met with GONW expectation, each LSP will learn as will Government Office and the Governments as the partnerships develop. It was clarified that the document was not next year's LAA, work will continue from now until next year. National indicators will be set in September.

John Eley also tabled a Performance Management Summary Report for the 1st Quarter. Some indicators were not reported as some are only available annually.

Crime Performance was showing an improvement, other areas of concern were highlighted. Outstanding areas of work were raised and will need to be looked at over the year. Delivery plans will need to be progressed and updated.

30/07 IDEA REPORT

Andrew Kilburn presented the IDEA Peer Review for the Council. The report noted the progress in improvement and key areas of activity of the Council.

The group noted the report.

Items For Information

31/07 CULTURAL AWARD

John Eley reported the success of the "Art for All, All for Art" – the performance has been spectacular and excellent engagement in the activities.

32/07 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

OLDHAM PRIDE (*John Eley*)

John Eley informed of activities taking place on 28 July 2007 to include a parade. Members noted the information.

RACE STRATEGY DOCUMENT (*Michele Carr*)

It was agreed that Michele Carr would send the document to members of the group.

It was noted at the end of the meeting that this would be Robin Henshaw's last meeting. Nick Brown thanked him for his contribution which Andrew Kilburn seconded. Mr Henshaw has highlighted the role of the voluntary sector.

33/07 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

No changes were made.

34/07 AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

No changes were made.

The meeting closed at 3.50pm

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 15th November 2007

Venue: Groundwork Environment Centre, Shaw Road, Higginshaw

Time: 2pm