

# Minutes

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## Local Public Service Board

**30 March 2010**

**Oldham Sixth Form College**

2pm

**Present:** Nick Brown (Chair)  
Gail Richards  
Tim Forber  
Charlie Parker  
Carolyn Wilkins  
John Eley

**Apologies:** Howard Sykes (Due to unavoidable work commitments)  
Bill Edwards

### **A SECTION OF MINUTES**

#### **1 Notes from 25 February**

Notes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.

#### **2 Regional Science Centre (RSC)**

An update was provided in relation to negotiations. If required a further report would be prepared for the Oldham Council Cabinet meeting on 14 April 2010 in order to put in place the remaining required approvals/consents.

The publicity for RSC decision was discussed and purdah conditions highlighted. OSFC would host an event at an appropriate point to raise the profile of the scheme.

The discussion also considered wider proposals for the town centre investment and an update requested.

#### **ACTION:**

- **Charlie Parker to continue negotiations in relation to the Regional Science Centre.**
- **John Eley to arrange for an update to be provided to a future Local Public Service Board meeting on the wider town centre development and investment proposals.**

### 3 **Area Based Grant Review**

A discussion took place concerning the proposed approach to review Area Based Grant (ABG). As previously agreed the approach is based on the principle that ABG should be prioritised to support key transformational initiatives for the borough as contained in the Oldham Partnership Prospectus.

The Challenge Panel approach was agreed, with membership as follows:

- Chair of Challenge Panel – Nick Brown
- Elected Member representative – Councillor Lynne Thompson
- Safe and Strong Communities Board representative – Tim Forber
- Economy and Enterprise Board representative – Elaine McClean
- Health representative – Gail Richards
- Children's Trust representative – Tim Mitchell
- VCF representative – Liz Windsor-Welsh
- Private Sector representative – Dave Benstead

The Panel would be supported by the Partnership Support Team and Finance Team support in relation to accountable body responsibility.

It was agreed the Panel would also serve as a learning process for the development of the Single Commissioning Board, and that the Board would be established following the Challenge Panel process.

Gail Richards stressed the importance of clarity in relation to the wider governance arrangements for the borough. It was agreed that a map and information/decision flow of the wider governance arrangements was required. This would include key responsibilities/requirements of the Accountable Body, as well as other organisations' decision-making requirements

**ACTION: Carolyn Wilkins/John Eley to provide a paper for a future meeting of the Local Public Services Board.**

### 4 **Single Commissioning Board**

It was agreed that learning from the Challenge Panel process would be used to inform the Single Commissioning board. It was noted that Challenge Panel was not a decision-making body but would make recommendations to the Partnership Executive.

**ACTION: John Eley to prepare role descriptions as part of development of the Single Commissioning Board**

### 5 **ABG Exception Report**

As agreed at the Oldham Partnership Executive Group meeting on 24 March 2010 a paper providing details in relation to the funding for Oldham Council was included in the ABG Exception Report. The paper stated this was required in relation to expenditure arising from the extreme weather conditions in January 2010

**ACTION:** The allocation of £500k to Oldham Council was agreed to fund the additional winter gritting which was required to keep the borough's highway infrastructure open and enable public services to continue to be provided. This falls within the remit of the Area Based Grant as a non ring-fenced mainstream grant for use against local priorities.

6 **City Region Governance**

A discussion took place in relation to the update report provided

**ACTION:** Carolyn Wilkins to provide further updates as appropriate