

## HALTON STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

### Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, 10 September 2014 at the Karalius Suite, Halton Stadium, Widnes

#### Present:

<b>Board Members:</b>	Councillor R. Polhill	HBC (Chairman)
	N. Atkin	HHT
	G. Batchelor	DWP
	S. Banks	Halton Clinical Commissioning Group
	S. Boycott	Cheshire Police
	J. Duff	Faith Communities
	S. Henshaw	Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service
	A. McIntyre	HBC – Halton’s Childrens Trust
	M. Noone	HBC Chair E&R SSP
	T. Parle	Halton Sports Partnership
	D. Parr	HBC
	C. Whittaker	Bridgewater NHS Trust

**Advisors to the Boards** J. Gallagher - (HBC) and T. Gibbs (HBC)

**In Attendance:** L. Derbyshire (HBC), Z. Gill (BITC) and V. Wright (HBC)

Apologies for Absence: P. Cain (Chamber of Commerce), K. Fallon (Bridgewater NHS Trust), M. Murphy (Riverside College), E. O’Meara (Director of Public Health), W. Rourke (HBC – Chair ELS SSP), S. Semoff (HBC – Policy and Strategy) and S. Yeoman (Halton & St Helens VCA).

#### 1 DELIVERING DIFFERENTLY: FEEDBACK AND SPOTLIGHT AREAS FROM 11 JUNE 2014 HSPB MEETING

The Board considered a report which outlined common areas of discussions raised as part of the feedback from the Delivering Differently session that had been held on 11 June 2014. The Board were requested to agree which areas they would like to take forward as part of a Partnership Action Plan and agree partner contributions/resources to progress each area. Appendix A to the report represented the feedback from the workshop.

The Board was advised that there had been a general consensus that the environment that everyone was now working continued to evolve, in light of Government cuts and policy changes. It was felt that the current economic situation offered different drivers of change, and these offered opportunities that had yet to be explored.

The key ‘spotlight’ areas for further innovation that emerged from the session were as follows:-

#### Partnership Spotlight Areas for innovation:-

- Better data sharing arrangements and taking forward more formal Information Sharing Protocols;
- Looking at early intervention and prevention rather than reactionary service provision;
- Resource targeting in a more effectively (evidence based) way;
- Encouraging communities to become more resilient and self-reliant – upskilling and maximising community skills. This required a culture shift within communities and service providers; and
- Improved 2 way communication: across the Partnership and with Halton's communities.

#### Public perceptions were as follows:-

- Joint working – there was a need to promote the joint working currently taking place;
- A need for an understanding of what Partners do and their respective responsibilities;
- A better understanding of what networks/groups/forums already existed in Halton, instead of creating more;
- More risk taking and innovative service delivery – looking at who delivered what and asking if they were necessarily the right ones;
- Better signposting across agencies and service providers;
- The Partnership must not lose sight of those most vulnerable in the community; and
- Sharing best practice.

#### The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- It would be beneficial to have the ability to concentrate on one geographical area; make a difference in that area and take forward lessons learned. In response, it was reported that the key was for the Partnership to do things 'differently' and a number of ideas on how to achieve this had been raised at the Delivering Differently session';
- The importance of helping the community to change its dependency culture whilst not creating a new dependency was noted. It was

suggested that the voluntary faith sector working in communities would have a significant role in helping to achieve this challenge;

- After considerable discussion, it was agreed that a small forum of the faith community voluntary sector be established to explore further how the Partnership could do things differently. They would also consider how various sectors worked with the public and private sector to encourage the public to be self sufficient. It was also noted that this would help the Partnership achieve more with limited resources;
- It was reported that there was evidence that 40 % of the population, very often the most vulnerable, living in the poorest areas was not being reached. This, it was reported, resulted in higher death rates as they presented too late. However, it was highlighted that work had been taking place to address this issue. Work was also taking place with groups such as 4Estates, and the Wellbeing Enterprise in order to bring funding into the Borough. When individuals accessed the service, they received a quick diagnosis and treatment, the issue was getting them to access the services. It was suggested that support for further ideas on targeting was required with a universal offer for all;
- It was suggested that there needed to be a focus on resources where they were really needed based on the point raised in the previous bullet point. Helping people to access services, change perceptions of several generations who were used to a certain level of service. This would enable the changes to be more focussed;
- It was reported that further targeted work undertaken with the faith communities would enable them to have a greater understanding of the changes that were required;
- Concern was raised at targeting particular areas of deprivation as it was highlighted that there were some affluent areas that had severe problems and the universal approach could be lost. It was also reported that a significant amount of time and resources had been spent looking at how to engage with hard to reach people and nothing was getting done and action was required now;
- It was noted that a lot of courage, leadership, drive and direction was required as the needs of everyone could not be achieved. There would always be some people who would be disappointed. A method of working was required which targeted the needy and also benefitted the less needy. This which would help to alleviate the financial costs and help people who are more affluent to have a greater understanding of the situation which would also contribute towards bridging the gap;

- The Board noted that Cheshire Police had undertaken a project to engage with the community in the Grange ward and additional resources had been identified with a view to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in that area. It was reported that a wider issue of establishing a relationship with the public and doing things differently had been identified. Over 700 people had been involved and 18 projects had been put forward. The project had been a great success i.e on one of the projects funding had been put into a lunch time club at the community centre and it had made a difference, the police were able to engage directly with young people in the community and the community had since taken ownership of the centre;
- Clarity was sought on how different the approach would be to the neighbourhood management scheme. In response, it was reported that the Neighbourhood Management Scheme had been based on funding whereas this project would also require a small amount of initial funding, to be discussed at a later date, which would be used to support initiatives;
- The Board noted the work undertaken by Wirral in testing locality working in respect of Health in Birkenhead. It was agreed that Gemma Batchelor be invited to the meeting to share lessons learned;
- The Board noted that meetings had taken place with Windmill Hill Community Group regarding community engagement; asking what does your community want and training people serving the community to do things in a different way;
- It was noted that there was a lot of activities taking place in communities. It was suggested that the JSNA which looked at all the issues in the wards would be a good place to start; and
- The Board noted the challenges in respect of road safety as a result of significant budgetary cuts. The Board also noted that a meeting had taken place with Officers and relevant fire service officers to identify how this issue could be addressed more efficiently with fewer resources. The Director of Public Health had also identified a small amount of funding and a dedicated officer to work with HBC Officers on road safety initiatives. Since 4 June 2014, it was reported that services had been more co-ordinated and there had been a better sharing of resources with better outcomes.

At the end of the discussion, the Board agreed that a small group from n the voluntary community faith sector with Job Centre Plus and the business community would be established to consider ideas and ground rules. The group would present an action plan to the next meeting of the Board.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments raised be noted.

## **2 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY (SCS) ADOPTION AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING FRAMEWORK**

The Board considered a report which informed the Members of the need to have the refreshed Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) formally adopted by the Partnership Board and to agree a proposed performance monitoring process that could be put in place for the SCS indicators.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the refreshed SCS be formally adopted at the September 2014 meeting;
- (2) the proposed bi-annual performance monitoring template and framework be agreed; and
- (3) the identification of measures and annual targets be finalised.

## **3 STREET PASTORS SCHEME**

The Board considered a report requesting financial support for the Street Pastor scheme in Halton.

The Board was advised that Widnes Street Pastors had been established late in 2012, with support from the Ascension Trust, a national Christian Charity – working to support local churches in much the same way as the Trussell Trust supports Food Banks.

The Board was further advised that Cheshire Police had requested that churches in Widnes establish a Street Pastor scheme. This dovetailed with discussions that had been taking place within the church community, and they were pleased to work with the Police to establish such a scheme.

It was reported that initially it was felt that the best way forward for the new scheme would be for the churches to get it up and running, thus providing evidence for a business case to demonstrate the role of the scheme and highlighting the benefits, prior to requesting funding. Subsequently, a team of Street Pastors had been on the streets each Saturday since June 2013.

Furthermore, it was reported that the scheme had been initially set up for a three year period (2013-2015), and had been in operation for 20 months. The funding had been received from local churches and members of the community. In addition, it was reported that earlier this year, the scheme had been awarded funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner, with a promise of match funding coming from Halton's Community Safety Team.

The Board noted the current financial situation and that the sum required to ensure the scheme's continuation until the end of December 2015 was £10,121. The Board also noted that it was anticipated that fundraising from the

churches and individuals would continue. It was proposed that £3,000 was committed from the Partnership budget, along with £2,000 from Public Health which would leave a shortfall of £1,000. Partners were requested to consider a contribution to meet the shortfall.

In addition, it was reported that consideration should be given to actually extending this timescale to March 2016 in order to fit more appropriately with a financial year calendar, as well as ensuring the scheme was in place for the busiest part of the year for the Night Time Economy, i.e. Christmas and New Year. It was also reported that there was also a commitment of £3,000 from Halton's Community Safety Team, which would be used to cover the three month extension.

The Board noted the six month analysis of the Street Pastor Night time work and the information relating to the Ascension Trust.

After considerable discussion, the Board agreed the £3,000 commitment from the Partnership. Information was also requested by Mr Simon Bell, NHS Halton CCG, on the analysis in respect of call outs so that consideration could be given to funding the £1000 shortfall.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Board support the funding request;
- (2) the Board agree to fund from the Partnership Funds £3,000 to support the Street Pastor Scheme; and
- (3) other members of the Partnership agree matched funding to achieve a total of £6,000.

#### **4 PARTNERSHIP ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The Board considered a report which updated the Members on the progress to date of the Partnership Asset Management Steering Group.

The Board noted the progress to date set out in paragraph four of the report.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- Mr Simon Banks reported that work had taken place on some void estates including Victoria House and Holloway in Runcorn. An Asset Utilisation and Disposal meeting had taken place on 19 September 2014 to firm up proposals for such properties. However, NHS property services, would not allow the CCG to sell Victoria House and it was suggested that an approach to the CX of NHS property Services was required as there would be a saving for all partners in the Borough if Victoria House was sold. It was highlighted that it was an opportunity to make the best use of some of the Borough's

facilities. The Board also noted the national agencies requirement that market value for such properties was secured, which was unrealistic. It was also reported that a third business case had been developed for how some of these assets could be utilised in order to provide a community base source with affordable rented housing. In response, it was reported that the CX had met with HCA. The Government had given them responsibility to manage derelict Government buildings and their responsibilities may extend to former NHS buildings. It was agreed that this would be investigated and encouragement given to HCA to take over these buildings; and

- It was noted that HBC held a register of all properties within the Borough and that it was annually updated.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the progress to date and comments raised be noted;
- (2) the principle of the baseline data currently contained within the asset register to also be placed on the Local Authority's electronic P2 System be supported;
- (3) the principles behind this project and in particularly the ethos of closer and more integrated working in respect of shared assets be continued to be supported; and
- (4) the achievements to-date of the Steering Group and support the move towards a more strategic approach which will ensure that we are in a position to take advantage of greater opportunities when they present themselves be recognised.

## 5 SPECIALIST STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (SSP) BRIEFINGS

A briefing note from each of the key partners on their areas in respect of: the Health and Wellbeing Board, Environment, Skills and Learning, Children and Young People (Children's Trust), Environment and Regeneration, Safer Halton and the Housing Partnership had been circulated prior to the meeting of the Board. There were no questions arising from the briefing note. The Partners agreed to receive the information in the same format at future meetings.

RESOLVED: That the information contained in the briefing notes be noted.

## 6 EARLY HELP

The Board received a presentation from Veronica Wright, Divisional Manager, Children and Enterprise on Early Help. The presentation:-

- Gave an update on new locality based teams and the remit of these teams;

- Highlighted the new project work in locality teams, the links with schools, with early years settings and enhanced two year old offer and GP surgeries;
- Set out the links with the Inspiring Families agenda;
- Outlined the development in Contact And Referral Team (CART) – early help in CART and plans to further extend it and the access to multi-agency data bases; and
- Detailed the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and Family Assessment work.

The Board noted that early years intervention was crucial and there was a much more robust approach to early intervention activities in the Borough.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the presentation and comments be noted; and
- (2) Veronica Wright be thanked for her informative presentation.

*Meeting ended at 11.15 am*