

Resilient Communities Partnership

Note of meeting held on 5 November 2008 at CIB offices, Devizes

Present: Niki Lewis, Wiltshire County Council (Chair)
Margaret West, VCS Infrastructure Consortium
Jen Wildblood, Wiltshire and Swindon Community Foundation
Kate Godfrey, Salisbury Citizens Advice Bureau
Lynn Gibson, Community First
Tim Mason, Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership
Karoline Fudge-Malik, Wiltshire Racial Equality Council
Richard Rogers, West Wiltshire District Council
Annie Child, Wiltshire County Council
Peter Dunford, Wiltshire County Council

1. Apologies: Pippa Read, Sheila Venn, Rex Webb, Jo Cogswell, Karen Scott, Ariane Crampton

2. Note of Meeting held on 5 September 2008

Correction – The Volunteer Centres have had government funding withdrawn but have found some monies from other sources. Some of their work may be taken on by the Councils for Voluntary Service. Issue to be discussed at the next meeting.

Correction – under ‘Peer Support Offered or Required’ Race Equality Framework should read ‘Equality Framework’.

3. Matters Arising

MW to source a representative to the Partnership from the Local Involvement Network. **ACTION: MW**

A Communications Strategy and common branding is to be prepared on behalf of the wider family of partnerships in order to communicate the ethos of what we are trying to do (which JW described as ‘selling the shiny new car’). TM reported that the Community Safety Partnership now prepares a monthly newsletter. He suggested we consider using social networking sites such as myspace, facebook etc. to get the word out.

It was confirmed - at the request of the Co-ordinating Group – that the name of the Partnership will henceforth be the ‘Resilient Communities Partnership’. TM confirmed that the Community Safety Partnership wishes to become a standing member. It was proposed that the next meeting should be a workshop-style partnership development event, possibly externally facilitated. The Terms of Reference of other Partnerships will be circulated ahead of this. **ACTION: PD**

Partnership Manager - NL reported that the structure for the new Wiltshire Council Community Leadership and Governance team was currently being finalised. This

includes a post to support the work of this Partnership, for which recruitment is now urgent. **ACTION: NL**

4. LAW/ LAA timetable – noted

5. LAA Annual Refresh and Review – noted. A ‘rough cut’ of the Place Survey is now available, further details from Phil Morgan at WCC.

6. Review of National Indicators

The ‘stronger resilient’ indicators in the LAA and the LAW will not be affected as these are mostly about perception. This may not be the case for ‘children’, ‘lives not services’ and ‘culture’ targets.

Some of the indicators relating to the development of the Area Boards will only be realised once the project is further advanced and we are at the ‘sharp end’ of delivery.

NI 35 and NI 36 relate to the prevention of terrorism and extremism agenda and will be taken on by the Community Safety Partnership.

7. Performance and Planning Information

A proforma was circulated seeking information on the Partnership – its mission, structure, membership, priorities, funding, budgets, staffing, performance management, monitoring, governance, equality and diversity, risk management, challenges, strengths and weaknesses.

A draft will be prepared by PD in consultation with partners. Further details will be gathered at the workshop in January. **ACTION: PD/ ALL**

8. Webpages

The Performance Team have designed a simple webpage to capture the main information for each ambition – contact details, agendas, minutes of meetings etc - this will then be designed up more professionally by the Communications Team. **ACTION: PD/ AC**

This is an interim solution pending the production of a full Communications Strategy.

9. Partnership Contribution to the Impact Assessment of the Economic Downturn

The Wiltshire Assembly has commissioned a piece of research into the effects of the economic downturn/ recession on the county. Some of the effects already witnessed include the slow down in the construction industry and housing market, an increase in late payments to suppliers, the rise in repossession orders, the increase in debt counselling, the rise in benefit claimants and an increase in crime and assaults on migrant workers, amongst other indicators.

George Bright, former Principal of Trowbridge College and Chair of the West Wiltshire Economic Partnership, has been engaged to carry out this work and will be wanting to work with and through the family of partnerships in carrying out this task. LAA / LAW targets may need to be reviewed to reflect the new economic circumstances.

The Social Inclusion Partnership is collecting data from partners on the downturn. The Citizens Advice Bureau is preparing a report on the 'credit crunch'. It is also an agenda item for the VCS Assembly.

The Credit Crunch Project Brief is attached to these minutes. It was agreed to invite George to the next Partnership meeting in January. **ACTION: PD**

10. Partnership Monitoring – deadline for Quarter 3

The end of Quarter 3 is 31 December so project updates will be required before the Christmas vacation to allow for holiday absences. **ACTION: PD**

11. Date of Next Meeting

A morning session sometime in January, 9.30am to 1.30 pm, to include lunch. Date and venue to be confirmed.

12. Any Other Business - none