

MINUTE of MEETING of the WEST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP held within WEST LOTHIAN HOUSE, LIVINGSTON, on MONDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2009.

### **Present**

Council Leader Peter Johnston (Chair)	West Lothian Council
Councillor Willie Boyle	West Lothian Council
Alex Linkston, Chief Executive	West Lothian Council
Donald Lumsden	Skills Development Scotland
Dave McDougall	Chamber of Commerce
Mike Dunne	L & B Fire & Rescue
Principle David James	Oakridge College
Chief Superintendent Ronnie Liddle	Lothian & Borders Police
Mhairi Laughlin	West Lothian College
Pauline Anderson	Pensions Service
Mhairi Laughlin	West Lothian College
Richard Duffner	Voluntary Action West Lothian
Alistair Short	SESTran
John Richardson	Association of Community Council
Jim Forrest	Director of CHCP
Peter Corry	Chair, Voluntary Sector Gateway

### **In Attendance**

Karen Cawte	West Lothian Council
David Greaves	West Lothian Council
Alistair Shaw	West Lothian Council

### **Apologies**

Pauline Anderson	Local Pension Service
Jim McGonigle	Job Centre Plus
Malcolm Barron	Skills Development Scotland

#### 1. Welcome, Apologies and Introductions

Councillor Johnston welcomed the partners to the meeting, and gave a special welcome to those who were attending their first meeting of the Board.

#### 2. Minute

The Board approved the Minute of its meeting held on 17 August 2009 as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising

Peter Corry, Chair of the Voluntary Sector Gateway provided the Board with a progress report of the work that had been carried out to date. He also advised the Board that it was hoped that the Voluntary Sector Gateway hoped to appoint a Chief Executive in the New Year.

The Chair thanked Peter for the update,

4. BACKING YOUNG BRITAIN, YOUNG PERSONS GUARANTEE AND FLEXIBLE NEW DEAL – PRESENTATION BY ANN SCOT, JOB CENTRE PLUS

Ann Scott, Job Centre Plus provided the Board with an overview of the new scheme that had been launched by the Government, know as “Backing Young Britain” and which called upon businesses, charities and government bodies to create more opportunities for young people.

The presentation outlined the four key elements of the proposal and were detailed as follows: -

- Routes to Work – launched in autumn and expanded in winter;
- Future Jobs Fund – launched in October;
- Work Focussed Training – launched in autumn; and
- Community Task Force – would be launched in early 2010.

A progress report was then provided for each of the key elements and it was noted that 57 jobs had been created in the West Lothian area, with a second bid for an additional 30 jobs to follow. It was further noted that any jobs created had to be of a benefit to the community.

With regards to the Future Jobs Fund it was anticipated that 150,000 jobs lasting 6 months would be created, with 100,000 of them allocated to 18-24 year olds who were approaching 12 months on Job Seekers Allowance.

Additional information was provided with regards to the Job Seekers and Flexible New Deal that would provide tailored individual support to customers and would ensure that customers were provided with an action plan, regular contact with Job Centre Plus and would include fortnightly job search reviews at Job Centre.

The Flexible New Deal had commenced on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009 and two providers had been identified for the Edinburgh, Lothian and Borders area.

The Chair thanked Ann Scott for the informative presentation.

The Chair then enquired as to who would be taking the lead within West Lothian to implement the proposed strategy. It was noted that all the partners had to work together on the issue and that the Economic Partnership Forum could provide much guidance and focus for the strategy.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the presentation.

#### 5. SCOTTISH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION – PRESENTATION BY DAVID GREAVES, WEST Lothian COUNCIL

David Greaves, West Lothian Council provided the Board with an overview of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, which was a method that had been devised in 2004 by the Social Disadvantage Research Centre in Oxford.

The method combined a number of factors including employment, health, crime, access to services, housing and education, which when combined created a score for each datazone within Scotland.

It was however noted that the latest data available was from August 2008 and therefore did not cover the recent period of recession and that it was not possible to measure individual or household deprivation and therefore could not be used to target individual groups such as More Choices More Chances.

There then followed a series of charts and maps comparing the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation in 2006 to 2009 for the area of West Lothian. It was noted that there had been a net increase of 3 from 14 to 17 datazones in the worst 15%, however 2 of the 3 datazones were partly due to the change in domain methodology.

The presentation concluded that the data was a general picture of deprivation but should be used alongside other data and information.

The Chair thanked David Greaves for the informative presentation.

#### Decision

To note the content of the report.

#### 6. COMMUNITY PLAN – TOWARDS 2020

The Board considered a report that advised of the work undertaken to develop a new Community Plan for West Lothian to cover the period until 2020 and to seek the Board's agreement to adopt the draft plan as the

## Community Plan for West Lothian.

The report advised that West Lothian's first Community Plan "Shaping the Future" was published in 2000 and set out how the Community Planning Partnership would work together to meet 15 high level targets as detailed in the plan and which focused on a range of actions that would improve the quality of life and prosperity for all our citizens.

The report advised that the partners had agreed that the new plan would be high level and strategic and would focus on what we wanted to achieve, but not the detail on how to do that, as the detail would be found in other plans and strategies developed by the individual partners as well as other partnerships.

A key element of the development of the plan was engaging with the community about their hopes and aspirations for the year 2020 and during November and December 2008 various community events were held throughout West Lothian.

Community Planning Partners considered the feedback from these community events at their annual gathering in January 2009 and a number of high-level strategic aspirations were identified, details of which were outlined in the report.

The report concluded that whilst this was a long term plan, it was recognised that it had to be flexible and able to adapt to changing circumstances and priorities and that the plan reflected the clear commitment by all Community Planning Partners to improving the quality of life for the people of West Lothian.

It was recommended that the Board: -

- Note the work undertaken to develop the draft Community Plan; and
- Agree to adopt the draft Plan as the Community Plan for West Lothian.

### Decision

To approve the terms of the report.

## 7. UPDATE ON FAIRER SCOTLAND FUND

The Board considered a report which advised that the Fairer Scotland Fund was allocated by the Scottish Government to Community Planning Partnerships to help them achieve sustainable economic growth by: -

- Regenerating disadvantaged communities;

- Tackling poverty by helping vulnerable people and groups; and
- Overcoming barriers to employment.

The total fund allocated to West Lothian amounted to £5.64m over three years and was allocated by a Fairer Scotland Fund Working Group and approved by the Community Planning Partnership Board.

The report further advised that the Community Planning Partnership Board had previously agreed an indicative three-year allocation of funding and the Working Group had confirmed that there was sufficient funding to meet the allocation plus additional projects.

The report then provided further details on the funding package beyond 2011 and included details of a final evaluation report that would be produced in Spring 2011.

It was further noted that the Scottish Government and COSLA had recently issued a joint statement that set out the case for continuing to allocate and target resources to the worst 15% datazones and that there was concern that the Scottish Government would use the SIMD 2009 results as a basis on which to allocate current and former ring-fenced grants including the Fairer Scotland Fund.

It was recommended that the Board: -

- Note the progress in performance delivery of Fairer Scotland Fund projects aligned to the Single Outcome Agreement;
- Note the funding for 2010/2011 based on the initial three-year budget plus additional projects subsequently agreed by the Fairer Scotland Fund Working Group and approved by the Board;
- Note commencement of an interim and final evaluation of the 2008-2011 Fairer Scotland Fund programme; and
- Note concern about potential loss in Fairer Scotland Fund related funding if the Scottish Government re-allocated it on the basis of the 2009 SMID.

The Chair advised the Board that the report made reference to two appendices but these had not been circulated as part of the agenda papers.

Therefore the Head of Cultural, Communities and Economic Development undertook to circulate these documents to all the partners following the conclusion of the meeting.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

8. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT

The Board considered a report, which advised of the proposed process and timescale for developing the Single Outcome Agreement for 2010 and beyond.

The report advised that following the submission to the Scottish Government of the Single Outcome Agreement in both 2008 and 2009, the Council commissioned SOLACE Enterprise to undertake a mapping exercise to establish “the Golden Thread” between Council plans and the Single Outcome Agreement. The Golden Thread exercise demonstrated where there was activity to support the achievement of an outcome and where there were gaps.

Further details were summarised in the report of the previous 12 challenges of the Single Outcome Agreement and how these would align to the 15 national outcomes, which the three community planning forums would lead on.

The report concluded that West Lothian had been at the forefront of the Single Outcome Agreement development over the last two years and that the Golden Thread review would give an independent view of progress and where work needed to happen, to develop further activity and further align plans.

It was recommended that the Board: -

- Note the progress made with the Single Outcome Agreement so far;
- Note the series of workshops in November to look at the detail of the Golden Thread Review;
- Agree that an Away Day was arranged for the end of January to discuss a new draft Single Outcome Agreement and supporting activity.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.

9. MINUTES FROM THEMATIC FORUMS

- (a) The Board noted the Minute of the Community Safety Forum held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2009.

- (b) The Board noted the Minute of the West Lothian Economic Partnership Forum held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2009.
- (c) The Board noted the Minute of the West Lothian Community Health and Care Partnership Sub-Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

10. AOCB

At the request of Mike Dunne, Director of Service Delivery, Lothian and Borders Fire Service, the Board agreed that at the next meeting there would be a presentation of the recently published "Community Fire Safety Report".

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

The Board agreed the following dates for future meetings of the Community Partnership Board: -

- 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010
- 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010
- 16<sup>th</sup> August 2010
- 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2010

It was further noted that the meetings would commence at 10.00am and would be held in Council Chambers, West Lothian Civic Centre.