

Dartford and Gravesham Local Strategic Partnership

PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

MINUTES of the meeting of the Public Service Board held on Thursday 28 September 2006 at Dartford Civic Centre at 7.30pm.

PRESENT:

Public Service Board

Cllr Jeremy Kite – Chairman, Dartford Borough Council

Cllr John Burden - Gravesham Borough Council

Cllr Mrs Ann Allen – Dartford Borough Council and Kent County Council

Eddie Falvey – North West Kent Council for Voluntary Service

Dev Sharma – North West Kent Racial Equality Service

Val Miller – Primary Care Trust

Officers

Graham Harris – Dartford Borough Council

Jim Wintour - Gravesham Borough Council

Adrian Gowan – Dartford Borough Council

Christopher Woodley - Gravesham Borough Council

Josie Gill – Dartford Borough Council

Susan Bourke - Gravesham Borough Council

Also in Attendance

Jay Edwins – Primary Care Trust

1.0 Apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies received from Chief Super Gary Beautridge of North Kent Police and Cllr Mike Snelling of both Gravesham Borough Council and Kent County Council.

2.0 Minutes of the meeting held 31 May 2006

2.1 The minutes were approved.

3.0 Matters arising and announcements

3.1 No matters raised or announcements made.

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8.0 SEEDA Briefing Note – brought forward on the agenda

- 8.1 Jay Edwins explained that SEEDA are looking for community development bids. After a discussion with Ann Knight of SEEDA, it was agreed to go with an 'Action Now' bid through the LSP. Gravesham Borough Council is the lead for community work and therefore the body accountable. This bid will stand alongside the Kent Thameside bid for employment and will join with PAN North Kent.
- 8.2 Christopher Woodley raised concern that the 2006 to 2007 financial year is well underway and no decision has been made yet. Jay confirmed that SEEDA are meeting on 13 October to look at all funding bid priorities across Kent.
- 8.3 Jay confirmed £236,000 capital investment and £55,000 revenue investment from SEEDA over two years. £230,000 would come from other public sector organisations. Jay explained that most of the capital will be spent on the old Town Hall in Gravesend, which will become the central social enterprise hub. Jay mentioned the inclusion of Colin Ferguson from Urban. Graham raised his concern that he had not authorised any Urban bid and Jay confirmed that an Urban bid had not been made yet.
- 8.4 The Chairman raised his concerns that the LSP had agreed to focus on a few key projects and that this was a new project that could duplicate the work on a café project in Swanscombe. The Chairman asked that the Town Council be spoken to in order to establish this.
- 8.5 When asked what work was being done in order to ensure that the project would be successful, Jay explained that applications from artists will be agreed by a panel of people whose organisations are providing funding, i.e. a minimum of representation from SEEDA, Urban, Fit Voices, Ground Works and an additional guest art specialist. The applicants will need to satisfy a range of criteria including saleability and business acumen, and sign an agreement committing to perform over the three years and become a fully independent business.
- 8.6 The Chairman questioned the opportunities available for measuring success throughout the first year. Jay confirmed that the funding will decrease over the three years with the expectation that the applicant will become more self reliant. Cllr Mrs Allen asked if the applicants will do any educational work and Jay confirmed that each applicant will have to commit to involving schools and community groups. Jay confirmed that the revenue investment will need to go towards the further development of the café in Temple Hill. The Chairman asked what this project will mean for those businesses that are already established. Jay confirmed that the cafes will have a back room that will be used for administrative activity with internet facilities so that established businesses can also make use of the resources.
- 8.7 Jay concluded by saying that he would welcome the support of the LSP in the form of a letter. The Chairman confirmed that the LSP will support the bid as long as there is co-operation with other projects (i.e. the town council of Swanscombe) and that the

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businesses have the best chances of survival after the project support is taken away. There must be a sufficiently robust approach. It was suggested that the LSP could send a representative to the applicant selection process. Cllr Mrs Allen questioned Jay about the proposed garden, mentioning potential links with horticultural schools. Jay said that SEEDA wanted to support the social enterprise aspect of the art cafes.

8.8 **Agreed:**

8.8.1 The LSP will support the bid.

4.0 **CDRP Arrangements**

4.1 The Chairman gave the board members an update on the arrangements. The merger will remove duplication of work and provide a chance to focus on the needs of the community, as the residents are the ones who suffer directly from crime. There will be a more reactive approach to emerging crime. CDRP practitioners will have a place for both rest and relaxation and professional work once the Public Safety Units and Community Hubs are established. Peter Coombs will be managing the merger.

4.2 Jim Wintour added that one strand of the new CDRP will look at performance management. Targets and results will be made available to the public and will allow patterns of crime to be identified for Dartford and Gravesham. The information will need to pass the resident test. Graham stated that one of the key things will be sharing information and developing a protocol for dealing with them. GIS systems will be needed to map information and allow attention to the hotspots. This merger is unique and we have the opportunity to trial it. This has the Home Office's attention and we may receive money for it. The launch is in early December and the merger must be working on the ground.

4.3 Val Miller asked if the information exchange protocol of 2002 would be used. The Chairman said that a paper would be produced on the subject in due course. Jim added that we would not be changing protocols but making them work. Graham mentioned that much of the data would need to be depersonalised. In response to Val, the Chairman could not give a guarantee on the long term agendas for the CDRP but acknowledged that it would need to be sympathetic to the PCT's long term ambitions.

4.4 Cllr Burden stated that the CDRP must be very clear and focused on getting into both ends of crime – prevention and punishment. The long term option needs to be there so once punished, individuals have something to aim for. The Chairman agreed that the CDRP must be a learning organisation. Dev Sharma added that he was happy to see the duplication of work being reduced. The final point from the Chairman was the need to communicate all good work to residents. Chief Super Beautridge is working hard with his team to give a visible presence and deserves recognition. Dev said that he liked the idea of just the relevant organisations getting involved once an incident happens, rather than all organisations getting involved as they do under current procedure.

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5.0 Away Day Action Plan Follow Up Report

- 5.1 The deep clean bid for £70,000 of Pump Priming Grant (PPG) money from the Kent Partnership (supported by the Kent Officers Group) was unsuccessful. The bid was considered too large and thought to be planned for core activity. Adrian Gowan has written to Richard Spoerry for a breakdown on PPG projects and the response will be reported back.
- 5.2 The Community Strategy is being refreshed and a first draft concentrating on key targets has been circulated to partners. A draft will be submitted to the PSB meeting on 29 November. The Chairman added that he hoped that the strategy would be more ambitious and would allow achievement. Adrian reiterated the focus on key targets and outcomes.
- 5.3 Adrian has started to look at a performance management framework for the LSP and has contacted the IDeA, who is offering advice on how to integrate the community strategy into a performance management system. Adrian will report back on to the PSB on 29 November.
- 5.4 It was noted that the plans for the youthfest project would need to take into account the traffic and crowd management arrangements for the Tour De France. Christopher confirmed that the details were still to be agreed and the project required further clarification.
- 5.5 Val is the interim chair of the Obesity Strategy Steering Group but Health Action Team (HAT) chairs are being approached in order to raise the profile.
- 5.5.1 The PCT board has signed off the strategy on the understanding that a costed action plan will be submitted. Funding is the issue, especially how some interventions will be funded in the future. Val added that KCC and the school clusters will fund 23 new school nurse posts who will implement weighing and heighting of school children. There are issues around what to do with this information and how to reduce figures.
- 5.5.2 Dev highlighted that the Local Area Agreement picked up on obesity as a priority and that we should have such as it could get us more funding. Last year, during the local development plan round, bids went to Choosing Health. Christopher asked if the Choosing Health money had been lost for this year and if so, funding should be sought via the Local Delivery Board. Val confirmed that the money for this year had gone but allocations were being made for next year.
- 5.5.3 The Chairman asked if the LSP should focus on a specific base of people, e.g. a certain age group. It was suggested that the youthfest project could combine targeting a particular age or sector and bring this together.
- 5.5.4 A document showing the PCT's performance against LAA targets was distributed at this point.

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- 5.5.5 The Chairman stated that money seemed to be the key problem and asked what the LSP's campaign should be to support the PCT. It was agreed that the Obesity Strategy Steering Group could come up with two or three quick win projects. These will be brought to the next PSB on 29 November.
- 5.5.6 It was suggested that the Princes Park opening could be used to launch the obesity strategy. Val agreed to send out copies of the strategy as not all members had seen it. Adrian suggested that the HAT may be able to contribute funds. Graham said that projects could be reshaped to take into account the work of the PCT. Dev said that Charlton football club has £45,000 available for projects and these projects would fit perfectly.
- 5.6 In relation to project five, Jim said that the Home Office was concerned that people were committing crime for drugs and entering the custody suite multiple times. Help must be provided to prevent continual use of drugs and stop individuals coming back time and again. Val agreed to take this point back with her to see if the PCT could help.
- 5.7 **Agreed:**
- 5.7.1 Adrian will report Richard Spoerry's response to the November PSB.
- 5.7.2 Adrian will report the progress of the performance management system to the November PSB.
- 5.7.3 The Obesity Strategy Steering Group will decide two or three quick win projects and bring them to the November PSB.
- 5.7.4 Val will send members the Obesity Strategy.
- 5.7.5 Charlton football club to be contacted for funding opportunities.
- 5.7.6 Val will speak with PCT colleagues about strategies to prevent individuals re-entering the custody suite.
- 6.0 Policy Co-ordinator's Report**
- 6.1 In relation to item number three, the KCC Arrangement, Cllr Burden spoke with Peter Carter and Paul Gilroy and they confirmed that officer support will be greater. When asked to confirm why no money was coming to the LSP, they were surprised by this.
- 6.2 In relation to item number five, the Cultural Framework and Toolkit, the Chairman thought that the report was quite unfocused and did not support the community. Christopher mentioned that it was skewed towards Medway.
- 6.3 In relation to item number six, the development of a post that would bid for funds, Adrian confirmed that Dartford already had an officer with this role. Jim asked that the title be reworded.

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7.0 Inter-faith Capacity Building Fund Report

7.1 Christopher introduced the report and reiterated the recommendation that asked for endorsement from the board. The Chairman said that Dartford Borough Council had recently appointed Dev as their official spokesperson on such matters and asked for his opinion. Dev said that there was no feedback as to why the first bid was unsuccessful due to the volume of applications. The inter-faith group had asked the Racial Equality Council (REC) to be the body accountable and they had agreed. Susan Bourke will provide support where necessary.

7.1.1 Graham said that he could not see where this bid fitted into the LSP's major priorities. Christopher said that the bid does not but the receipt of funds will fit LSP outcomes exactly, emphasising the need to be smarter and ensure the focus is on community strategy outcomes. Dev said that he agreed with Graham and stated that the bid was being made with or without the LSP's support.

7.2 Agreed:

7.2.1 The LSP will support the bid.

9.0 Any other business

9.1 Eddie Falvey announced that the Community Assembly will take place on Tuesday 7 November at Acacia Hall. The draft COMPACT will be presented to voluntary and community groups. Underspend from last year will be taken through to this year.

10.0 Date of next meeting

10.1 The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 29 November 2006 at 7.30pm at Dartford Borough Council Civic Centre.

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