

Dartford and Gravesham Local Strategic Partnership

DARTFORD AND GRAVESHAM LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES of the meeting held on Wednesday 13 January 2010 at Gravesham Borough Council at 2.30pm.

PRESENT:

Members

Cllr Jeremy Kite, Chairman, Dartford Borough Council
Cllr Mike Snelling – Gravesham Borough Council and Kent County Council
Chief Supt. Paul Brandon – North West Kent Police
Chief Inspector Phil Painter – North West Kent Police
Steve Jeffery – Kent Fire and Rescue
Cllr Ann Allen – Dartford Borough Council and Kent County Council
Cllr Kevin Lynes – Kent County Council
Will Farmer – Kent County Council
Rob Hancock – Kent County Council
Rebecca Leaman – Kent County Council
Anne Knight – Kent Thameside Regeneration Partnership
Graeme Brown – Kent Partnership
Glyn Thomson – Chief Executive, Gravesham Borough Council
Graham Harris – Managing Director, Gravesham Borough Council
Jay Edwins – NHS West Kent
Dev Sharma – Racial Equality Council
Vinay Sangar – Kent Adult Social Services

Officers:

Ben Turner – Gravesham Borough Council
Michelle Parfitt – Gravesham Borough Council
Jackie Denton – Gravesham Borough Council (taking minutes)
Adrian Gowan – Dartford Borough Council

1.0 Apologies for absence

- 1.1 Apologies received from:
Mike Bodkin – Kent County Council
Marilyn Keating – North West Kent CVS
Sheri Green – Dartford Borough Council

2.0 Declarations of interest

- 2.1 None declared.

3.0 Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2009

- 3.1 The minutes were approved.

Signed by Cllr Jeremy Kite:

Dartford and Gravesham Local Strategic Partnership

4.0 Matters arising and announcements

4.1 No matters arising.

4.2 No announcements.

5.0 KA2 and KA3

5.1 Graeme Brown of the Kent Partnership attended to give a presentation on achieving the Vision for Kent and Kent Agreement. A number of partners feed into the Kent Partnership, 8 District LSPs of which we are one (each having our own priorities at a local level), Kent Children's Trust, Safer & Stronger Communities Group, Safer Kent Delivery Group, Public Health Board, Public Service Board, Kent Economic Board and the associated Working Groups who lead on the priority outcomes. They are all coherent with the Vision for Kent and KA2. Whatever agency or partnership you are working with you cannot do anything in isolation. You need the buy-in and engagement of the other working groups to really get progress.

The Dartford and Gravesham LSP priorities are:

- To promote Ebbsfleet Valley as the financial/business heart and to support business growth
- To improve the health of local people through reducing obesity and smoking and increasing physical activity
- To increase public confidence and reduce the fear of crime
- To manage transport demand in a sustainable way and increase transport options
- To meet the housing needs of the area
- To help create strong, integrated communities

At County level we agreed 35 outcomes and each of the LSPs were asked to identify from those 35 which were their high priorities and Dartford and Gravesham have identified 16 which are:

Economic Success

152 Working age population on out of work benefits

163 Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher

171 New business registration rate

188 Adapting to climate change

Improved Health, Care and Wellbeing

55 Obesity in primary school age children in Reception

120 All age all cause mortality

Environmental Excellence

186 Per capita CO2 emissions in the LA area

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Stronger and Safer Communities

- 3 Civic participation in the local area
- 6 Participation in regular volunteering
- 15 Serious Violent Crime Rate
- 21 Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and Police

Enjoying Life

- 8 Adult participation in sport and active recreation
- 110 Young people's participation in positive activities

Keep Kent Moving

- 175 Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling

High Quality Homes

- 154 Net additional homes provided
- 155 Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)

We are now working on the delivery of these priorities.

County Level Management: The Kent Partnership is overall accountable for KA2 but they do that through the Public Service Board and they report twice yearly.

At the Public Service Board on 14 December 2009 of the 35 indicators 6 were red risk and we were behind trajectory and at risk of not meeting those:

- 152 Working age population on out of work benefits
- 154 Net additional homes
- 39 hospital admissions for alcohol related harm
- 162 learners achieving an entry level 3 qualification in numeracy
- 163 Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher
- 187 Tackling fuel poverty

There are 15 months left and we need to:

- Deliver the countywide outcome
- Deliver the local outcome
- Mitigate impacts of the recession
- Seize the opportunities for
 - Alignment, collaboration and support
 - Joint innovations
 - Capture and exchange best practice
 - Efficiency gains
 - Maximise Performance Reward Grant

If there were to be a KA3 it is likely to be less driven by national priorities and much more focused on local priorities. We would want to identify our own outcomes and select our own outcome measures and work more closely around two tier and sub-regional agendas so it is much more recognised in the LAA. The refresh will take place between now and March 2011.

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We need a trajectory to see if we are improving or not. The LSP need to know if they need to take action. Michelle Parfitt advised that it is our intention to bring back to the May LSP a more broken down version of the PIs to cover trends, targets etc.

6.0 Performance Management of Sustainable Community Strategy

6.1 Ben Turner presented this report to outline the progress made against SCS performance objectives. The performance management process was established at the September LSP. This report builds on September's input and outlines progress made between September and January. The performance management report shows that progress since the last meeting has been considerable with 11 of the 19 live actions reporting increases in the progress percentage score. There have been two completed objectives within this report ED1a and HW1b. There have been three significant increases in progress (over 25%) since the last meeting – SC1a, SC2a and HW1a. Six objectives have recorded smaller rises in progress since the last report – ED2b, HW2a, HW2b, SC1b, ET1a and HSC2a. There are two overdue objectives ED1d (it was at 80% last time but we have been unable to obtain a progress report) and ED2a but we expect an increase in progress to be recorded at the next meeting.

6.2 The group noted and understood the report.

7.0 Kent Thameside Regeneration Partnership

7.1 Anne Knight attended to introduce herself to the group and give some background on the work of Kent Thameside which involves delivering regeneration within Kent Thameside. She has been in post since June and has a team of 10 based at the Old Rectory in Northfleet. They have a number of initiatives which the team are project managing including Fastrack, Employ Kent Thameside and supporting local authorities in terms of the LDF.

Our work should not just be about providing additional houses, it should be about creating a place where people want to live as well as looking at the economy, the environment and the social side which is why it is important to understand how this partnership is working.

Kent Thameside are particularly interested in three of the objectives of this LSP (1) to promote Ebbsfleet Valley and to support business growth (2) to manage transport demand and (3) to meet the housing needs of the area.

It is a very challenging agenda and not one that a single organisation can do on its own which is why partnership is so important. Kent Thameside wants to understand how it can best interface with this group in helping the LSP achieve its objectives and how the LSP can help Kent Thameside achieve theirs.

There is a real opportunity for partnerships like this to prove that what we are passionate about works on the ground with the people out there. We need to focus on what we are going to do over the next 20 years and not the short term.

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8.0 Sustainable Community Strategy

8.1 Adrian Gowan presented this report and asked that the LSP agree the production of an updated Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for 2010-2013 as a rolling three year document rather than the current fixed term three year document.

Last February the LSP agreed to an update to the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) but since re-writing the strategy we have faced a number of issues and as a result of the deepened recession this has had an effect on a number of the targets we have set, particularly in the regeneration section and the development of a Multi Area Agreement (MAA) between Dartford Borough Council, Gravesham Borough Council, Medway Unitary Authority, Swale Borough Council, Kent County Council and Central Government. That agreement also includes a number of targets and we need to ensure that the SCS reflects that. We now have Anne Knight at the Kent Thameside Regeneration Partnership which will enable us to involve them more in terms of looking at actions in the economic and regeneration section of the plan. Another issue is the Total Place which is a major national initiative which, in terms of Kent who are one of the 13 areas piloting the scheme, is looking at issues around asset management and better ways of managing projects for people and how we ensure that where we have projects to benefit the community that they actually do that. The report will be published in March 2010 and there are likely to be implications for the LSP and we need to ensure we reflect those in the SCS.

We are starting the process of re-drafting the SCS to take into effect those issues. In the meantime, we are undertaking a series of individual discussions with partners and will be setting up more general meetings with various community groups to bring a draft report back to the meeting in May.

Discussion took place about moving to a rolling programme in terms of the SCS rather than the present three year strategy. One proposed option was to produce a rolling document so the strategy would cover 2010-2013, 2011-2014 etc. Another option was to maintain a three year period, but to produce an annually refreshed document to account for external factors. The group agreed that we need to have flexibility and be able to tie in with the Local Area Agreement.

The group agreed that the strategy needs to be about people. It needs to be our aspirations for our community. Total Place should not be part of that strategy. We need to ensure the strategy is consistent.

9.0 Future Openness of LSP Meetings

9.1 Glyn Thomson presented this report to provide members of the LSP with information regarding the openness of LSP meetings. The group were unsure whether allowing the public to attend would achieve very much and questioned who would be interested in attending such meetings. It was suggested that we could widen the membership to get more representative people attending.

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9.2 The Police and PCT expressed caution about the meetings being open to the public. During the discussions it became apparent that if a member of the public sought to attend a meeting the constitution as it now is written would prevent this.

9.3 It was agreed that the meetings should continue to be closed but BT and AG to have a look at the constitution to see how we can achieve our objectives which are to bridge the accountability gap by being more open and transparent, to engage and involve service users in decisions and to ensure effective communication with the public.

10.0 LSP Membership

10.1 Ben Turner presented this report which outlines recent requests for representation to the LSP and to ask for a decision, with a view to any accepted Members or Partners attending the LSP in May 2010.

The requests were from:

- The Environment Agency – Harvey Bradshaw, Area Manager Kent and East Sussex
- Dartford Association of Parish and Town Councils – Cllr Ann Allen

The group agreed that we should invite The Environment Agency to join as a partner.

The group agreed that the Dartford Association of Parish and Town Councils should be co-opted to attend when necessary.

Jay Edwins asked that the group accept Julie Hunt, Director of Nursing and Quality, should be invited to be a member of the group. The group agreed.

11.0 Consultation and Engagement Management

11.1 Adrian Gowan presented this report and asked that the LSP note the progress. It was agreed at the last meeting that DBC would investigate further the possibility of having a web based system which would allow partners to identify what consultations are being planned by other partners in order that they could undertake a joint consultation.

DBC have submitted a bid for funding to Progress through Partnerships for £6,000, available for LSPs for projects designed to enhance partnership working. Partnerships will be informed if their bids have been successful in February 2010. In addition to this there is an additional £6,000 available to each district towards LSP work. If the bid is successful work will begin on implementing the system and it should be live by the beginning of 2010/11. The effectiveness of the system will then be assessed and reported back to the LSP in May.

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12.0 Any Other Business

12.1 The group agreed that it would be useful to have one or two partner-led presentations at each LSP meeting.

Action: Jay was asked to give a brief presentation on the Health Inequalities Profile and the Prevention Strategy at the meeting in May.

13.0 Date of next meeting

13.1 To be arranged. The meeting will take place at Dartford Borough Council.

The meeting finished at 5pm.

Signed by Cllr Jeremy Kite: