

MINUTES OF THE CAERPHILLY LOCAL SERVICE BOARD

**HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2008 AT 9.15AM
AT THE INNOVATION CENTRE, TREDOMEN**

PRESENT:

Councillor Lindsay Whittle – CCBC
Stuart Rosser – CCBC
Mike Bridgman – GAVO
Richard Davies – WAG
Chrissie Hayes Caerphilly tLHB
Colin Palfrey – Caerphilly tLHB
Chief Superintendent Alun Thomas -Gwent Police.

Together with:

Dorothy Phillips – CCBC
Jackie Dix – CCBC
Alison Palmer – GAVO

APOLOGY

An apology for absence was received from Colin Jones - CCBC

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 2008 were agreed as a correct record subject to the following corrections:

- the inclusion of teaching (t) when referring to the Caerphilly Local Health Board
- the deletion of the word 'small' when referring to the National Advisory Board chaired by the Minister (Page 1)
- Clarification that the Board endorsed and gave a strong commitment to the reporting Performance Framework and partnership rationalisation (Page 3) and circulated the CYPP mapping exercise for information.

1. WALES SPATIAL PLAN

Juliet Martinez (South East Area Manager- Spatial Plan Wales) attended the meeting to discuss the Wales Spatial Plan.

Juliet explained that the Wales Spatial Plan is a framework for spatial planning – to consider what can and should be done and where. There is a focus on sustainable development and the way people live their lives by recognising different regional needs.

For the Assembly it is an overarching framework document and an integration tool for policy and investment and a 20 year document. It shapes the Welsh Assembly Government's national policy and sets a regional context for local plans and policies.

Juliet outlined the three zones for South East Wales and made reference to the towns of Caerphilly and Blackwood which are identified as two of 14 identified hub settlements in the region. The Heads of the Valleys coming under a Strategic area.

In discussing the links with the Local Service Board Juliet explained that the Spatial Plan sets out a regional context within which public services are delivered- there is an opportunity for an alignment to exist with the Local Development Plan, the Local Development Agreement and the Spatial Plan delivery framework.

A number of questions/comments were then made:-

- Is it a Plan with budgets? *Juliet replied that it is not on it's own but will have significant influence over other department budgets.*
- From a local authority perspective the Spatial Plan is associated and reported mainly through the regeneration theme although it is much broader and encompasses the other themes as it is wider than physical regeneration. The point of contact tended to be through planning and it was thought that more work needed to be done to widen involvement.
- Are communities aware of the Spatial Plan? *Juliet reported that the Spatial Plan will be informed by the Community Strategy – there may be a role for the representatives on the Spatial Plan Area Steering Groups to raise awareness.*
- There needs to be a mechanism to inform the Voluntary Sector.
- There seems to be a connection issue – the Community Strategy and the Spatial Plan were drawn up with different time tables – how will they inform each other, agree and ensure a two way dialogue? *It was suggested that community strategy/LSB officers in the SE Wales area should meet to inform the Area Group.*
- It would have been advantageous for the borough if more that two key settlements (Caerphilly and Blackwood) had been identified as they will probably be instrumental to securing resources. *Juliet responded that all settlements have equal status and were evidence placed from a validation study (population etc.) the smaller settlements would however have a complementary role.*
- The Plan is a long term vision so would there be milestones along the way? *Juliet replied that a development framework would be an indication to show progress and measure success – regular bulletins will be presented to the Board.*

2. MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT / PROMOTING POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH

Alison Elliott (Assistant Director – Adult Services) and Rhiannon Urquhart (Team Leader – Health Improvement) attended the meeting for this item.

Alison explained that there were two separate strands to their work – she was responsible for the modernising and restructuring of mental health services and Rhiannon was responsible for mental health promotion.

Her work has progressed through a mental health summit (now referred to as a task and finish group) and the group is working to create a vision and robust structure for mental health services in the county borough.

The agreed vision and model is presently out for consultation until 24th December and a stakeholder event to include users and carers will be held on 8th November.

Mike reported that the Voluntary Sector are very involved in mental health issues and expressed concern that a mental health officer is presently only employed for 9 hours a

week The Group were asking for LSB development funding to employ a fixed-term project manager to take the work forward to the next stage.

Chrissie reported that Andrew Cottom (Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust) had been unable to attend the meeting but he had been consulted and positive discussions held on what an integrated service would look like. The success of the Caerphilly model would be an important prelude to rolling out Gwent wide.

It was agreed that this is a key priority for the county borough and Stuart and Chrissie would need to meet with Andrew Cottom to discuss issues and report back to the LSB.

Jackie outlined the LSB development funding available and informed members that the bids previously circulated had been submitted for the funding..

It was endorsed as a key priority and agreed that money would be found outside the LSB development funding for the project manager.

3. MARKETING MENTAL HEALTH TO ELIMINATE STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION OF MENTAL HEALTH

Rhianon Urquhart outlined the progress made towards the project dealing with promotion of positive mental well being. A consultation period for the development of an over-arching strategic plan is out until to 31st December 2008 and copies of a draft action plan will be e mailed out to members of the Board.

A member commented that it is sometimes easier to monitor interventions than to evaluate preventative mental health outcomes.

Action :The Chairman suggested that the new Youth Forum Champion (Councillor Mike Prew) could be involved in the project as mental health prevention could be an important part of working with the Youth Forum.

4. AGGREGATE INFORMATION SHARING PROJECT

Vicki Doyle (Policy Officer – Statistics and Funding) attended the meeting for this item. Vicki summarised the back round to the project and explained the need and advantages of the project which will aim to improve the flow of information between organisations.

There are presently a number of statutory requirements for base line data to be produced and this project would help assist in collecting some of that data as the process takes a lot of time drawing data from different sources. The project will make accessing core data much easier and less time consuming and provide information at a lower geographical level that currently available

Vicki outlined progress to date and explained that following a number of multi agency workshops it had been agreed that a data warehouse (to hold data in one location) had been chosen as the preferred option and that the data would be available to the public as well.

Following investigation of systems it was decided that Instant Atlas would be the most appropriate – it is currently used by a large number of local authorities in England and by the National Public Health Service in Wales.

Vicki gave a demonstration of their web site showing that information can be easily viewed and interpreted.

A question was raised on the updating of the data and who would be responsible- Vicki responded that it would depend on the data as some does not change on a regular basis e.g census data.

Vicki also confirmed that the proposed system would complement not duplicate or overlap the Performance Management system 'Ffynnon' as this would illustrates data in charts and tables not performance measures.

It was suggested that the system would benefit the voluntary sector as many organisations need statistical information when making funding bids.

It the local authority hosted the system it would need to rely on outside agencies to provide their data. It was noted that the Community Safety Strategic Appraisals required access to this type of data.

The Board noted the progress and endorsed the progress on the project to date.

Action : Further discussions will be held at officer level on costs etc.

5. WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE BOROUGH

The following events will be taking place in the near future:

- One Beat event at Penallta House on Saturday 8th November when the Annual Community Directory and Voluntary Sector Compact document will be launched.
- A visit to St Cenydd school by the King of Lesotho.
- Gwent Police awards on the 11th November.

6. CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT – MVA CONSULTANCY RESEARCH

The final document from the consultants was endorsed by the Board.

7. STANDING CONFERENCE – 26TH NOVEMBER

It was noted that the topic for the conference is the Community Strategy Review. The consultants involved with the review of the Council's Regeneration strategy, Navigant, had been invited to run a workshop session focussing on the regeneration review. It was stressed that it would encompass regeneration in the broadest sense.

The Standing Conference would include an exhibition from all the strategic and crosscutting partnerships on what has been achieved over the last four years and what actions are planned for the next four years. Coordinators will be on the stands and take comments from the attendees.

Concern was expressed by the board that they should have a clearer view of the progress of the review to take back to the November Standing conference to ask for views. Jackie explained the progress with the draft review document and agreed to circulate it to board members for comment.

It was agreed that Stuart would discuss the proposed agenda further with Colin Jones.

8. AGENDA JANUARY / FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Board expressed concern regarding the proposed January agenda. It was suggested that more description under each agenda item would explain why the item was included and what/if any issues needed to be resolved. There was concern that some issues had been discussed at previous meetings but not resolved and it was felt that the Board should take a leadership role not a passive approach to the agenda. It was thought that a forward programme needed to be set with key milestones, performance and key issues included. Dorothy circulated a draft forward work programme from the Living Environment Partnership. It was suggested that if similar information from all partnerships were put into a matrix showing future milestones it would enable the LSB to set its own agenda. It was agreed however that the next meeting be used to discuss some of these issues which would enable the LSB to clarify the information needed from each partnership.

Action :The Chief Executive indicated that he would discuss the contents of the next agenda with officers and a revised version would be circulated to members of the Board for confirmation. He would also clarify with Coordinators and their Partnership Chairs the information the Board should receive.

The meeting closed at 12.00 Noon
