

CAERPHILLY LOCAL SERVICE BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE INNOVATION CENTRE, TREDOMEN ON TUESDAY, 20TH JANUARY 2009 AT 9.15 AM

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 and Superintendent Jon Burley -Gwent Police

Together with:

Colin Jones - CCBC
Dorothy Phillips – CCBC
Alison Palmer – GAVO

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2008 were agreed as a correct record.

1. WALES SPATIAL PLAN – MEETING 4TH MARCH 2009

Action : It was agreed that Stuart Rosser and Colin Jones (CCBC) be the representatives from the Caerphilly LSB to attend the meeting on the 4th March at the Vale of Glamorgan Council Offices.

2. PRESENTATION ON THE PROPOSED REFORM OF THE NHS IN WALES

CH gave a presentation on the reform of the NHS in Wales using the power point presentation prepared from the Welsh Assembly Government and then outlined to the Board details of the consultation paper. Responses to the consultation are to be submitted to the Assembly by 25th February 2009.

The Board made comments on a number of points including the proposals for the membership of the Stakeholder Reference Group and the Professional Forum and it was agreed that CJ would prepare a draft response for the Board to discuss at the February meeting. **Action**

3. RESOURCE CENTRE FOR THE NORTH

CH gave an update on the recent developments for the Resource Centre for the North.

She explained that at the end of November a letter was received by all Local Health Boards from the Welsh Assembly Government giving direction that no Third Party Developer should at the present time be appointed to develop the primary care premises in Wales.

Contact was made with the appropriate officer at the Assembly to explain the importance of several of the projects currently under development at the tLHB including the North of the Borough Resource Centre and also the advanced stage of the project. The officer subsequently agreed to meet to explore the possibility of re-submitting the bid as a test case for future projects. The tLHB has subsequently to submit a revised document for further consideration.

It is however hoped that there may be a response before the 28th January when a public meeting will be held at Rhymney to discuss the progress of the project with local residents.

The Leader of the Council indicated that he would attend this meeting in order to support officers of the tLHB in their discussions with local people.

MB reported that a letter of support for the project from the Voluntary Sector Sub Committee had been recently sent to the Health Minister at the Assembly and the Leader reported that the Chairman of the council's Health Social Care and Well Being Scrutiny Committee is considering inviting the Minister to attend one of their meetings to explain the reasons for the halt on appointing a Third Party Developer for the Resource Centre in the North.

The Board agreed that the Resource Centre for the North was not only an identified project supported by them but also an integral part of the success of the Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr.

CH also reported on the progress of the Specialist and Critical Care Centre project which is part of the Gwent Clinical Futures (GCF) programme. Recent correspondence to the Chairman of the Gwent Healthcare Trust (the body which submitted the bid) has however indicated that subsequent to a recent review of the GCF by Dr Chris Jones it is considered that more work needs to be done to ensure that the programme can deliver the improvements expected for patients across the whole-system of care – both in and out of hospital settings.

4. **INQUIRY INTO LOCAL SERVICE BOARDS – HEALTH WELL-BEING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

CJ outlined a report produced by the Assembly following evidence given to the Health Well Being and Local Government Committee by representatives from the six pilot Local Service Boards.

The report included a summary and 12 recommendations.

The Board considered that when it was established the role was different to present although one of it's main aims remain that it will try as a multi agency group to help with 'hard to solve' problems.

The Board must however demonstrate the difference it is making and that they represent added value.

During discussion it was agreed that many of the partnerships seemed to have reached a 'plateau ' as most have been in place for over five years. The Board considered that it must now question the direction of the partnerships in order to 'energise' them and also monitor their performance with a watching brief.

The proposed performance management arrangements should have the potential to make an enormous impact on the work of the partnerships. In addition to these arrangements CJ agreed to develop a template for all the partnerships with a small number a key questions which may help to identify areas where they need support or assistance. **Action**

In discussing the progress of the Board it was suggested that the identified chosen projects should report or give regular updates to the Board in order for progress to be scrutinised. **Action**

It was also agreed that the meeting should continue on a monthly basis and that the agenda be structured to ensure best use of time. **Action**

5. **WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE BOROUGH ?**

SR made reference to the difficult budget implications the council is facing and the possible impact on services.

The results of the Single Status (Job Evaluation) exercise have been presented to the employees and a series of meetings will now follow for staff to attend.

The recent withdrawal of the anchor supermarket store from the Bargoed retail development has been disappointing.

A team of consultants (Navigant) have been engaged to revisit the regeneration strategy of the county borough and they have indicated that they could outline their findings to a future meeting of the Board.

In response to a question on the £15m invested with the Icelandic Banks SR reported that the position is still unclear and although indications are that the money will be returned the loss of the investment income from it must also be considered.

MB reported on the successful 'One Beat' event held in November where the Community Directory and the Compact Document was launched. He expressed concern at the delay in receiving news on Community First funding and the possible loss of experienced staff because of the uncertainties of their funded posts.

CH reported that the First Minister, Rhodri Morgan, performed the ground breaking ceremony for the new hospital at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr on the 17th January 2009.

AT reported on the reorganisation of the Gwent Police and it was noted that the Chief Constable had given a briefing session to outline the changes to Cabinet and would also be attending a special meeting of Council. He introduced Superintendent Jon Burley who would attend future meetings of the Board.

The Chairman and other members placed on record their thanks to Alun Thomas for his contribution to the Board and wished him every success in the future.

The meeting closed at 11.25am.