

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7(3)

CAERPHILLY LOCAL SERVICE BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 19TH MAY 2009 AT 9.15 AM
AT THE INNOVATION CENTRE, TREDOMEN**

PRESENT:

Stuart Rosser – CCBC
Richard Davies – WAG
Mike Bridgman – GAVO
Chrissie Hayes - Caerphilly tLHB
Colin Palfrey – Caerphilly tLHB
Chief Superintendent Paul Symes - Gwent Police.
Superintendent Jon Burley – Gwent Police

Together with:

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

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lindsay Whittle – CCBC and Chief Constable Mick Giannasi – Gwent Police.

CHAIRMAN

In the absence of the Chairman (Councillor Lindsay Whittle) Stuart Rosser was elected as Chairman for the meeting.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st April were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING

Healthy Living Centres Funding (minute no 3)

CJ reported that he had received further information on this matter. The officer advised him that they are continuing to promote the Holistic Area Regeneration plans into which the Healthy Living Centres are incorporated and will continue to look for alternative sources of funding including the Lottery and WCVA grants.

A question was asked about the result of the funding bid referred to in the minutes on the 8th May and **Colin indicated that he would obtain a brief update on the position and circulate to members.** (Action: CJ)

WCVA Convergence Bid (minute no 5)

AP reported that a meeting had been held to discuss further details of the bid and to seek assurance that the duties of the post could be flexible. Although match funding had already been identified there would probably be no announcement on the funding bid until next year.

Aneurin Bevan Local Health Board (Minute no 6)

Noted that Dr Andrew Goodall had recently been appointed as Chief Executive and Sue Kent as Vice Chair of the Board.

1. AGGREGATE INFORMATION SHARING PROJECT

Vicki Doyle (Policy Unit) was attending the meeting with representatives from the Data Unit (Andrew Stephens, Richard Palmer and Ann Williams) to give a presentation on the Aggregate Information Sharing Project.

Vicki reported that, good progress had been made since working with the Data Unit to develop a web base solution for aggregate data. She placed on record her thanks to them for the help and support given.

Andrew explained that they were attending the meeting to illustrate the Data Unit proposal and to inform the Board of progress. He also explained that the project would be launched at the WLGA conference next month, which would be an opportunity to raise awareness of the project and to hopefully widen out to other authorities.

Andrew gave a background to the involvement of the Data Unit and the importance of local data being readily available to those who need it. He considered that the people who would need access would be:-

- The casual user – information needed for grant applications or members of public;
- Policy /Scrutiny Officers in partner organisations who would be comfortable accessing data;
- Research statisticians who are comfortable with data and need to access on a regular basis.

Andrew explained that the system could be developed to suit the needs of the authority and its partners and access to data made quicker and easier to increase efficiency and improve the way in which policies are developed.

CH questioned if the proposed system had the potential to illustrate efficiency outputs of strategic partnerships and is there potential for the new performance management system to combine with this information set?

Andrew responded that there would be potential for this as reports and evidence could be linked.

A question was raised if data from partners would be used and Vicki responded that following the launch in June she would be raising awareness of the system with all the partnerships and asking them what data they would want to include. In addition the Steering Group set up to progress the project is a multi agency group as it is not merely a local authority project.

Ann then gave a demonstration of InfoBaseCaerfilli - how it would be accessed, how some of the data would look and how it could be displayed in electoral wards, Communities 1st areas etc.

It was agreed that the data must be relevant and how it is accessed is important.

It was explained that it would be possible for a new resident to enter a postcode and then access information about local schools, libraries, sport facilities etc. and Vicki commented that there could be even more possibilities with, for example, school inspection reports available.

CP questioned the procedure for quality assurance of information and Andrew responded that the Meta data would be included giving where the data was originated and who published it.

A caution was raised on the project being part of a 'crowded arena' and the need for systems to be consistent across authorities and Andrew responded that his Unit are presently talking to other Welsh local authorities and that the launch at the WLGA conference in June would raise awareness with all the authorities.

SR concluded that there seemed to be excellent progress on the project and should there be any doubts on duplication they may need to be addressed at Chief Executive level with the WLGA. He also referred to a recent conference he had attended when a number of authorities were progressing similar projects and considered that the 'Making the Connection' team should be ensuring that there is no duplication of work.

2. LOCAL DELIVERY AGREEMENT PROJECTS UPDATE

CJ introduced the report and reminded members that the projects they are supporting are all progressing at different rates and that it may be timely to consider when the LSB's involvement in a project is nearing completion and other projects take their place.

It was agreed however that the new projects could be considered at a more appropriate time and that the current projects remain at present.

In discussion it was suggested that the projects must, in the difficult economic climate and budget reductions, provide evidence of improvement and provide 'more out of less'. There is a need to work together to reduce duplication and costs and there may in the future be a need to share resources across agencies.

It was agreed that all projects should be looked at in the context of the difficult financial/economic climate and that later in the year the Board have a broader debate on future work and look 3/5 years ahead, as priorities may change.

3. LIVING ENVIRONMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT

Anthony O'Sullivan (Director of the Environment), Paul Cooke (Team Leader - Sustainable Development and Living Environment) and Natalie Davies (Living Environment Officer) were attending the meeting to outline the Living Environment Performance Report).

Anthony reported that a new structure for the Living Environment Partnership had been agreed and the large number of local authority representatives reduced on all the groups.

The Living Environment Partnership (formally the Steering Group) now has a smaller membership of key people meeting quarterly. There are three working groups reporting to the Partnership (Local Environmental Quality, Great Outdoors and Climate Change) which share good practice and will develop action plans to drive their work programmes forward.

Paul gave a presentation of the 3 working groups and explained the work being done in each:-

Local Environmental Quality Working Group – will address sustainable homes and community participation in environmental improvement and community safety. The group will also be mapping partner activity to identify opportunities to add value and work effectively.

Great Outdoors – will concentrate on using the great outdoors for health benefits and encouraging access to countryside facilities.

Climate Change – a strategy is being drafted at the moment and will be encouraging people to sign a commitment to help tackle climate change.

A recent Viewpoint Panel on the subject of Climate Change had recently been held.

The immediate priorities for the Partnership include:-

- To agree an Action plan for each of the working groups.
- To agree Performance Indicators for each of these groups.
- To develop a Living Environment Communications Strategy.
- To develop a State of the Environment Report for Caerphilly.
- To increase links with the Regeneration Partnership.
- To promote a Caerphilly Climate Change Commitment (possibly launched at a Standing Conference in the Autumn).

It was agreed that the climate change sceptics who had attended the Viewpoint Panel meeting added to a healthy debate on climate change. Important links are being made with agencies and it was suggested that a presentation could be given to all the partnerships.

A question was raised on an appropriate timescale to bring the Action Plan and Indicators back to the Board and it was agreed that six months would be realistic. (Action: Living Environment Partnership)

Finally the representatives were asked if there were any concerns, which the Board could give assistance with and Anthony reported that there is a clear absence in getting the private business sector represented on the working groups. There is a need for big employers within the county borough to be aware of their responsibilities to reduce food miles and excess packaging.

SR indicated that he would address this issue of representation through the Business Forum and further thought would be given on ways of encouraging the big supermarkets to work with the partnership. (Action: SR)

4. MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT REPORT

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

Alison gave an update on the mental health progress report and outlined the work of the mental health summit which had developed an integrated model of care. A project Manager is to be appointed (through funding) to drive the project forward and although this person would possibly not be appointed until July the plan can continue to be developed. There will be continual feed back from Users and Carers and although there is only one representative on the summit, two stakeholder events have been very well attended.

A recent visit to Barnsley had been extremely positive and informative on issues around integration. Alison was asked how the model was different in Barnsley and replied that one main difference was a seamless service bringing together primary and secondary care.

SR suggested that a meeting with Andrew Cottom might be beneficial.

A question was raised on possible savings through efficiencies and Alison responded that the model might be more expensive initially although investment in mental health has been increasing and could be accommodated within existing budgets.

The next stage is for the plan to go forward to the Health Social Care and Well Being partnership.

Rhiannon gave an update on the progress of promoting positive mental health and explained that the Action Plan has had extensive consultation and is near to being published. The Plan will identify a number of activities to raise awareness of positive mental health and reduce the stigma associated with it.

Two Mental Health First Aid instructors have been trained to roll out a programme for all partner agencies during 2008-2010.

5. CONTINUING HEALTH CARE

Alison explained that the report outlined the background and legal judgements and the position in Wales regarding Continuing NHS Health Care (CHC). Guidance on the responsibility is presently being awaited from the Welsh Assembly Government.

Continuing NHS Health Care is a term used to describe a situation where an individual has been thoroughly assessed by a multi agency and multi disciplinary team of professionals and judged to have a primary health need that requires nursing and/or health services. If an individual's primary need is for health care, responsibility for funding for care services will rest with the NHS.

Torfaen Local Health Board are leading for Pan Gwent on the implementation of current CHC policy and procedures and decisions regarding eligibility for Continuing NHS Health Care are made following a multi disciplinary assessment.

The process continues to be excessively slow and there are currently 74 cases awaiting ratification.

Alison explained that as a partnership they are currently seeking independent legal advice and are continuing to lobby the Welsh Assembly Government for guidance.

A question was raised on the delay in other authorities and Alison indicated that the time delay varies although it is consistently poor across Wales.

Another question was raised on the guidance required from the Welsh Assembly Government and Alison reported that guidance had been requested a number of months ago and was required on legal compliance and for specific guidance on more detail areas of conflict.

Alison also reported that her department is working with health officials to resolve the issue and that in England there is guidance on providing joint packages.

It was agreed that the Health Social Care and Well Being Partnership be requested to develop an action plan for improving the situation in Caerphilly.

In addition RD indicated that he would convey these concerns back to the appropriate department and advise the Board of any response. (Action: RD)

6. COMMUNITY STRATEGY REVIEW AND FORMAT FOR STANDING CONFERENCE (9TH JUNE)

Colin referred to the draft Community Strategy Review that had been circulated with the papers and reported that the document had been agreed by all the partnerships. An important part of the document was the 'lessons learnt' section.

Colin reported that the document provides evidence of a huge amount of achievement and the LSB felt that the Lessons Learnt and associated Action Plan were an excellent basis to go forward.

The proposed format for the Standing Conference would be Navigant consultants giving an update on the Regeneration Strategy (which had been discussed at the previous conference) and the Community Strategy Review, which will give members of the conference an opportunity to have an input into the Review.

During discussion on the difficulties in demonstrating the work of the Board in relation to the Community Strategy, members agreed that their role would be to take an interest in outcome performance measures for each of the partnerships and that the performance of each partnership would be subject to continuous review by them.

The LSB felt that its intentions to performance manage and monitor the progress of partnership's work needed to be strengthened in the text of the review document.

Congratulations were recorded to all the people involved in producing the document.

7. WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE BOROUGH?

It was reported that boxing hero Joe Calzaghe has become the first ever recipient of the 'Freedom of the Caerphilly County Borough'. A special ceremony had recently been held in the council chamber at Penallta House.

8. AGENDA - 23RD JUNE 2009

- It was agreed that the following items be included on the agenda for the next meeting: The Prevent Agenda – Presentation by Chief Superintendent Paul Symes.
- Discussion on the future of the Education for Life Partnership.
- Discussion on the Communities Outcome Fund.
- Arrangements for cross cutting themes reporting into the Local Service Board.

The meeting closed at 12.05 pm.