

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 8(6)**

**MINUTES OF THE CAERPHILLY  
LOCAL SERVICE BOARD  
HELD ON  
THURSDAY 14TH APRIL 2011 AT 1.30PM  
AT THE GATEWAY OFFICES, TREDOMEN BUSINESS PARK**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Lindsay Whittle – CCBC – (Chairman)  
Anthony O’Sullivan – CCBC  
Mike Bridgman - GAVO  
Dr Andrew Goodall – Aneurin Bevan Health Board  
Sian Martin – Aneurin Bevan Health Board  
Chief Constable Carmel Napier – Gwent Police  
Together with:

Daniel Perkins - CCBC  
Dorothy Phillips – CCBC

Albert Heaney (CCBC) and Superintendent Jon Burley (Gwent Police) were attending to give a presentation on Partnerships Together.

**1. PARTNERSHIPS TOGETHER**

Albert Heaney and Superintendent Jon Burley were attending the meeting to give an update on the funding bid submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government for the appointment of a Programme Manager to work to reduce bureaucracy and duplication surrounding existing partnership structures.

Albert explained that a number of meetings had been convened with representatives of the statutory partnerships to discuss how they could work closer together. At an initial meeting of the working party it became obvious that a large amount of duplication was taking place.

The working party consulted and visited two neighbouring authorities who were also addressing a similar issue.

A Partnership Forum has been developed to encompass a number of elements including the statutory requirements and timescales set down from the Welsh Assembly Government. Over 300 objectives from the partnerships need to be simplified into common themes but with responsibility and accountability clearly identified.

Notification had recently been received that the funding bid for a Programme Manager (Salary Scale 12) and additional monies to support the post to take forward this work had been successful.

A job description of the role has been drafted and the next stage would be to advertise the post (possibly a secondment).

A number of comments were made from the Board :-

- Operators at grass routes level are confused and this would give clarity.
- Good works are happening – but sometimes twice - the partnerships need to develop and manage change appropriately.
- This is an opportunity to influence locally – there is a need to be crisper with the common areas – track outcomes.
- The accountability path can be fragmented – must define who will own/support.

The Board supported the project to date and endorsed the work to the next level.

## **2. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chief Executive explained that ‘senior players’ of the Board had been requested to attend quarterly LSB meetings and that there would be a clear forward work programme. A forward work programme would also give the partnerships a clear indication when they would be presenting reports to the Board.

A draft programme of items for the next 3 meetings had been included with the papers for the Board to consider and three main topics were also suggested, (Child Poverty, Youth Employment and Asset Management).

The Board also considered that big items could be tackled by them where there is statistical evidence of poor performance by one of the partners.

Identifying certain challenging families who access many services across the agencies may identify common issues. A detailed level of information sourced with information must however be available for a better debate.(Gwent Police indicated that ‘Click View’ could identify challenging families).

It was agreed that an update from the Community Safety Partnership be brought forward from the proposed November meeting and presented to the next meeting in June. The partnership has identified alcohol misuse as one of their priorities and cross cutting links could be made. It was confirmed that data could now be made available from local hospitals illustrating statistics at A&E for alcohol related visits.

A discussion ensued on job opportunities for young people and the Leader of the Council reported that £485k had been identified within the budget to provide training opportunities and employment for 100 young people in the county borough (these would include opportunities for labourers, apprenticeships, park rangers and graduates).Gwent Police have a number of schemes to encourage youngsters to participate in activities and volunteer for unpaid work in order to gain life skills. ABHB have been working closely with a local college to encourage suitable qualifications and skills for care related work and to be able to apply for job opportunities at the new hospital.

## **3. THEME FOR STANDING CONFERENCE**

It was agreed that the next theme for the May Standing Conference would be Regeneration and that Equalities could be considered as a future topic.

#### **4. LSB LINKS ESF PRIORITY 4 PROGRAMME**

Approval was sought for officers to submit a bid to the Welsh Assembly Government for funding through the ESF Priority 4 Programme – with a theme of sustainability.

Funding schemes need to be submitted by 25th June and will need to demonstrate how to make better use of the local environment and develop a pride in their communities.

Consideration could be given to incorporating Project Bernie (Fire and Rescue Service) and Gwent Police enforcement of scrap metal thefts into a bid. The new health facilities within the borough are also being developed with regard for the environment.

The Board endorsed a submission of a funding bid.

#### **5. UPDATE ON ESF FUNDING BIDS**

It was reported that two funding bids on Citizen Engagement and Information Sharing have not yet been determined.

#### **6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Community Voice Programme Bidding**

A paper was circulated explaining details of a Community Voice Programme which will provide £12million to communities across Wales to enable their voices to be heard. The project is about people becoming more involved in meeting the needs of their own communities.

Only county voluntary councils (CVCs) will be able to make applications to apply and it is proposed that Alison Palmer (GAVO) will take the lead role to develop a portfolio of projects for Caerphilly with Blaenau Gwent and will be able to apply for up to £1.5million.

CVCs will need to show that their portfolio has the support of the LSB and will need to make sure that projects fit with local plans and priorities with public service providers working to support community led projects.

The Board supported progressing the programme. The need to align to LSB priorities was suggested and in response it was reported that any bid would initially be presented to the Board.

The Leader made reference to a number of important events taking place in the county borough :-

- World Indoor Bowls Championship – 19th April – Islwyn Bowls Club, Pontllanfraith
- Last Night of the Proms – September 10th – Owain Glyndwr Playing Fields, Caerphilly
- National Cycle Race – September 15th – Caerphilly

The meeting closed at 3.15pm