

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of a Meeting of the East Devon Local Strategic Partnership held in the Committee Room, East Devon District Council on Wednesday, 10 January 2007

Present:

Ian Tearle (Vice Chairman)	Devon PCT
Councillor Jill Elson (Communities Portfolio holder)	East Devon District Council
Peter Jeffs (Culture)	East Devon District Council
Karime Hassan	East Devon District Council
John Golding (Housing)	East Devon District Council
Roger Grainger (DCC)	Devon County Council
Marilyn Fearon (Voluntary Sector)	East Devon CVS
Becky Carmichael (PCT)	Devon PCT
Maureen Casey	Devon PCT
Chief Inspector Jim Nye (Community Safety)	Devon & Cornwall Constabulary
Eli Pang (Older people)	AGILE and Ottery St. Mary and District Later Life Forum
Robin Kanarek	Faith
Emily Farrell	South West Regional Development Agency
Apologies: Councillor Sara Randall Johnson	East Devon District Council
Councillor Stuart Hughes (DCC)	Devon County Council
Councillor Mrs. Margaret Rogers	Devon County Council
Councillor Tony Wilkinson	East Devon District Council/PCT
Malcolm Sherry (Business Sector)	East Devon Chamber of Commerce
Les Christianson	Heart of Devon Enterprise
Leslie Smith	Community Council of Devon

The meeting started at 9.30 a.m. and ended at 11.30 a.m.

*87 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the East Devon Local Strategic Partnership held on the 11 October 2006 were confirmed and signed by the Vice Chairman as a true record.

*88 Update on Cranbrook and Consultation on Science Park

A short presentation on "Cranbrook and the consultation on the Science Park" was received from Karime Hassan, Corporate Director – Environment, East Devon District Council.

1. Update on Cranbrook

Following 28 months of work on strategies Karime said an important milestone had been reached. The Development Control Committee have considered the outline planning application following the developers reproducing the application.

The legal agreement should be signed within 6 weeks and consent will then be issued. Details of the building schedule are being worked out with a view to construction commencing on site towards the end of this year.

Karime briefly highlighted some key objectives:

- The provision of 2,900 units of which 780 will be true affordable housing (shared equity and rented housing). A further number will be low cost.
- Appointment of Project Director
- Requirement to provide primary school prior to the first 500 units being built.
- Requirement to provide secondary school for 1150 pupils, this will reflect 600 spaces earmarked for the future expansion of the town.
- Temporary classroom facilities will be put in place while houses are being built.
- There will be significant works to highways, pavements, bus lanes, with 4 buses an hour will be provided to run from the new community into Exeter.
- £3m has been deposited to deliver a railway station.
- Footpath connections to be made.
- Requirement for country park and local nature reserve and funds for a nature reserves officer.
- Requirement for a cemetery which will take place during second phase.
- Funding needed for new Community Officer and Community Worker.
- No funding at present for a dedicated new Youth Centre.
- Requirement for town council offices and library.
- New community must have an administrative building to house essential services eg Police, PCT, DCC, Ambulance service. For this purpose we have been successful in obtaining funding for this building in order to deliver it earlier. This will prove a challenging exercise to demonstrate this can be built within the deadline of funding (March 2008) by the government. This building needs essentially to be built before anything else and will be a base from which to work from.
- Construction management plan required to set out how community to be built, eg where temporary site huts to be sited, effect of noise from construction work, use of local buildings/workers, etc. This will be the responsibility of the Project Director to manage the logistics.

- LSP to push for the need to use local buildings/workers and to sign a partnership contract in order to carry out the work on site.

Jim Nye said that he would like to meet the developers before the first phase commences.

2. Science Park

Karime showed a plan which identified special strategies in terms of major projects. The Science Park will be located at Junction 29 of the M5 and for the last 3 years EDDC has been working with Devon County Council, Exeter City Council, the Met. Office and Exeter University and have set up a partnership. The first step is to try and deliver a supplementary planning document. At the present time we are out to consultation on an option paper Which deals with the 'vision'. Need to define boundaries eg do we go for a parkland science park, or something more formal with a traditional street feel. Car parking will be provided and we are currently going through obvious options that you need, to arrive at a master plan. This plan will be the basis for which developers will come in and work to.

Karime said that the document in its current form is basic. There are lots of issues to develop eg science park relationship to skills, salary levels, and where people are expected to come from to work there.

Jim Nye said he would like a time line of the expected dates of when the development would start so he could brief the new Chief Constable. Karime said he was unable to at this stage but the Project Director, when appointed, would be able to.

Ian thanked Karime for his interesting update on Cranbrook and the Science Park.

*89 **Positive Mental Health presentation**

A short presentation on positive mental health was presented by Maureen Casey, Mental Health Commissioning and Development Manager to the Devon Primary Care Trust.

Maureen said that mental health was in the process of moving towards a different way of being delivered and in particular is focussing on 3 specific areas:

- i) recovery and independent living,
- ii) urgent care and in-patient acute services, and
- iii) mental health and well being.

She said changing the way in which services are delivered will avoid confusion when people are engaging the services i.e. Police. People who need access to mental health services are not sure who to ring and with these changes, and by working closely with the Devon Doctors, we should see a huge improvement for all sorts of people. Care and well being of patients is paramount.

Vulnerable people within East Devon need help as local support groups are diminishing e.g. walking and dancing clubs are struggling to survive.

Need to move staff into local areas to deliver the support to patients, (perhaps where EDDC's Scheme Managers are). Also looking closely at working with town team arrangements that are evolving.

Maureen said that for this to happen proper resourcing was needed to tackle these changes as responses to people in crisis has not been very good in the past, including emergency support for the under 18's.

Following a useful discussion the Vice Chairman said that there was a role for the LSP in this and it was decided to ask Richard Anderson (Manager, The CAPE project) to the March meeting of the LSP to answer various questions that were posed during Maureen's presentation.

The Vice Chairman thanked Maureen for her presentation and requested that Richard and a representative from the Childrens Services & Adolescent Mental Health be asked to the next meeting on Wednesday 4th April.

***90 Update on Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)**

Jim Nye gave a brief update on PCSOs and said that Sgt. Andi Turner is the new Sgt who is responsible for the PCOs and it is hoped he will be making links e.g. with the Housing & Social Inclusion Service via John Golding.

Jim said he was to have 42 PCSOs to cover East & Mid Devon. Debate ongoing within the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary as to how many Jim will actually get. He said he may have to drop by 1 PCSO per town.

The PCSOs provide a public face for the Force, give reassurance, tackle low level ASB using their limited powers. Constant uniformed presence in towns. Powers for dog fouling, littering, cycling on footpaths, alcohol abuse, obtaining persons details. PCSOs do not go into any difficult areas and are not trained nor kitted out like Police Officers. Intention to give them access to cars but principally they are on foot around the towns and are visible.

Their training takes 9 weeks and then in-house training continues. They go out in pairs to start with until confident to go out on their own. Ages range from 18-50 yrs old and work from 8 a.m to 10 p.m.

The Vice Chairman thanked Jim for his update.

***91 Patient transport**

Peter said that following the last meeting of the Partnership he had sent a formal letter to the South Western Ambulance Service about the wider context in which non urgent patient transport to health facilities operates and our concerns about the ongoing review of these services.

A detailed response had been received which addressed some but not all of the aspects and some had been overlooked. We wrote further and their reply has now been received (circulated with agenda). Our next approach may be to ask them to come to a future meeting of the LSPOG to talk further on the Partnerships' concerns.

Peter said this item would go before the next meeting of the Officer Group.

***92 Local Government White Paper**

Peter thanked Sue Craythorne (Devon County Council's Community Strategy Officer) for her paper on the government's proposals which very much link to the sort of work that the LSP gets involved in and how communities will help evolve our strategy. Also very much about the way we work as an LSP.

Peter said there are some very strong elements of community work highlighted in the paper eg responsive services, creating a citizen voice, holding Councils to account, setting local priorities, etc. Also about Councils as local strategic leaders and how they structure themselves.

Also a strong theme on community cohesion and the way in which we engage with the community and voluntary sectors. How will we get engagement about e.g. racism and crime as low down on local agendas. Strong message also on LSPs and their future role.

Roger said that organisations are facing “churn” and this was potentially a fundamental change. Looking at how things should be steered and the way we need to work together more collectively and to think about how we can engage our partners.

Other comments raised in discussion:

Government required Efficiency savings now 2% - next year will be 3%.
Neighbourhood policing will be good interaction between police, community and LSPs

Concern was raised as to how much bureaucracy the government was trying to create.

Need to encourage towns to look after their surrounding villages. Just do not have the money to develop community working– need an element of discretionary funding.
Government not giving us the funding to do what we would like to do.

Peter said we have the community strategy which links to the LSS so we have tried to put together the local issues with the broader ones. The future of the LSP is to continue in that vein.

Job to do in re-formulating LA area agreements. Our local LSP needs to understand what the situation is locally and ensure it is fed up to county level. They in turn should feed down crosscutting issues to us to implement appropriately. Need to ensure that is locally relevant and need to work closely with county.

The Vice Chairman concluded by thanking Sue Craythorne for her paper.

***93 Any other business**

1) Childrens Centres

Becky said that the PCT had now got final agreement for the location of the childrens’ centres in Exmouth and Honiton. This will involve bringing together all the joint services.

2) April agenda

- i) Older peoples mental Health – Richard Anderson to be invited
- ii) Children and adolescent mental health services – John Shaw to be invited
- iii) Update on progress on Community Plan priorities
- iv) What is an LAA and how we can influence
- v) Update on Youth Meeting

***94 Date and Venue for Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the East Devon Local Strategic Partnership would be held on Wednesday 4 April 2007 at 9.15 a.m. for 9.30 a.m.

Signed

Date

Chairman LSP - Councillor Miss Sara Randall Johnson