

# Cheltenham Strategic Partnership

## Notes

Thursday 20 August 2009  
12.00 noon Pittville Room, Municipal Offices

### In attendance:

**Jill Crook (Chair)**

Gloucestershire PCT

**Angela Gilbert (Vice-Chair)**

Cheltenham VCA

**Caryn Hall**

Gloucestershire PCT

**Cllr. Steve Jordan**

Cheltenham Borough Council

**Andrew North**

Cheltenham Borough Council

**Andy Hayes**

Stronger Communities Partnership

**Margaret Sheather**

Gloucestershire County Council

**Richard Gibson**

Cheltenham Borough Council

**Saira Malin**

Cheltenham Borough Council

**Karen Robinson**

Gloucestershire County Council

**Gill Morris**

Cheltenham Borough Council

**Helen Down**

Cheltenham Borough Council

**Supt. Tony Godwin**

Gloucestershire Police

**Martin Quantock**

Cheltenham Business and Economic Partnership

**Hazel Lonsdale**

Stronger Communities Partnership

### Apologies:

**Charles Welsh**

Children and Young People's Partnership

**Rachel Wigglesworth**

NHS Gloucestershire

**Chris Hickey**

Low Carbon Partnership

### In attendance

**Claire Cullen-Jones**

Cheltenham Borough Council

### Item

### ACTION

**1 Welcome and apologies**

Jill welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received as above

**2. Minutes of last meeting 25 June 2009 and outstanding matters arising**

Angela, Caryn and Jill are to meet after the meeting to agree a way forward for the VCS funding.

**3 Developing the strategic role for the CSP**

Richard went through the paper previously circulated. This highlighted three areas where the CSP can exert more strategic influence:

- Through developing more place-based commissioning
- Being more influential in county/ sub-regional initiatives
- Being more influential in place-shaping initiatives such as civic pride / joint core strategy.

In terms of place-based commissioning, the CSP discussed how it could be used to support the delivery of the sustainable community strategy. Steve also mentioned the opportunity to align resources and identify gaps in service delivery and coordinate.

Andrew mentioned that this would follow current government thinking as set out in its [Total Place](#) initiative – though he pointed out that the original [Cumbria model](#) was not about cost savings but on building relationships which would be more appropriate for the work of the CSP.

The CSP was in general agreement that place-based commissioning was something it should lead on locally;  
The CSP should be clear about what the local issues are based on assessment of local needs  
The CSP should identify and champion a handful of priority issues / geographic areas including LAA targets that are under-performing  
The CSP should help understand what partners are currently doing to resolve the issue  
The CSP should promote more effective use of partner resources.  
The CSP should advocate for a greater role of the VCS in place-based commissioning.

**It was agreed that for the next meeting:**

- **Richard would bring together an up to date assessment of local needs**
- **The partnership officers would ask their partnerships to identify their key priority issues so that the CSP can agree the priority issues.**

RG  
P'ship  
officers

In terms of county / sub-regional initiatives, the CSP supported the view that it should be more pro-active and that this would be through the following:

- **Ensuring our reps on county partnerships gain the best outcomes for Cheltenham Ensuring that Cheltenham is using its expertise to support county initiatives even when these might not benefit Cheltenham directly.**

all

In terms of place-shaping initiatives, the CSP agreed that it will be pro-active in influencing initiatives in Cheltenham with a particular focus on civic pride and the joint core strategy.

#### **4 Neighbourhood Management Structures**

Richard went through the paper previously circulated. He explained that the proposed structure that would build on existing community-based organisation where it is felt they are in a position to support neighbourhood management. This has resulted in a two-stage approach that was agreed in principle by the Stronger Communities Partnership subject to detailed consultation with the named organisations. The 8 organisations are:

- Charlton Kings Parish Council
- Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish Council
- Up Hatherley Parish Council
- Prestbury Parish Council
- Swindon Parish Council
- Hesters Way Partnership
- Oakley Regeneration Partnership
- Cheltenham West End Partnership

The CSP acknowledged that this was the most sensible structure at this time but highlighted two health warnings:

- The police boundaries are likely to change
- Parish Council boundaries do not align with the proposed boundaries which is not such a problem in the initial stages but may be an obstacle if the PCs have to rely on charging a precept to sustain their involvement in the future.

## 5 Joint Core Strategy

Claire Cullen-Jones (CBC Strategic Land Use Team) updated the CSP on the Joint Core Strategy and to discuss the best way for the Joint Core Strategy Team and the 4 Local Strategic Partnerships to work together on developing the Joint Core Strategy.

There has been engagement with the 4 LSPs in the past including the joint visioning event in November 2008, but at a recent meeting of LSP and JCS officers, it was agreed that there was a need to formalise this engagement through improving representation on the governance structures. A number of options were discussed:

- **JCS officers to engage with Thematic Partnerships as part of stakeholder engagement rather than individual LSP representatives** - agreed, these may be in addition to individual meetings if already arranged.
- **JCS to consider inclusion of one LSP/GSP representative on the Cross Boundary Programme Board** – The CSP considered it would be difficult for one LSP member to adequately represent all 4 strategic partnerships. Andrew North and Councillor Jordan currently sit on both boards. The CSPs would rather receive a report at meetings and have specific involvement where necessary through the Policy Advisory Group. Discussions as to when there should be involvement should be channelled through Richard Gibson. RG
- **JCS to consider inclusion of LSP representatives from each district, and County, on the Policy Advisory Group (PAG), particularly around visioning and objective issues** - Agreed that LSP members would be invited to attend relevant PAG meetings. Agenda to be circulated to Richard Gibson who would then circulate it around the CSP. This may be in addition to engagement via the thematic partnerships. RG
- **JCS officers to consider another joint LSP event in the Autumn** - agreed that the previous event generated useful discussion and it would be beneficial to have another half day event for all LSPs in the Autumn.

## 6 Partnership reports

### Low Carbon

The good progress being made was noted – mention was made of the event for the VCS and micro-businesses on 30<sup>th</sup> September.

### Economic Partnership

The progress made by the new partnership was noted.

### Health and Wellbeing

Saira mentioned the emotional health and wellbeing event planned for 10 October (World Mental Health Day).

### Children and young people

The good progress was noted – NEETs will be on the agenda of the next meeting.

### Stronger Communities

The good progress was noted.

### Community Safety

The good progress was noted.

## **7 Any other business**

Andrew asked the CSP whether it would be prepared to support a bid from Cheltenham and Gloucester for the UK City of Culture; the Dept of Culture Media and Sports is inviting expressions of interest by 21<sup>st</sup> August. He mentioned that the bid would include the rural areas as well and that there was a lot of support from the other districts.

The CSP welcomed the news that an expression of interest would be submitted as it would be an opportunity to build civic pride in the town and build and develop relationships.

Richard mentioned that the council was currently consulting on its business plan and that an on-line survey was available from the [council's website](#).

## **8 Key communication messages**

- **The CSP discussed options to develop its strategic role and agreed that it would endeavour to create a place-based commissioning role. The next steps will be to prepare an up to date assessment of local needs and for the thematic partnerships to identify their key priority issues so that the CSP can agree the priority issues.**
- **The CSP agreed that its representatives on county partnerships should be working to gain the best outcomes for Cheltenham but equally we should be ensuring that our representatives are using their expertise to support county initiatives even when these might not benefit Cheltenham directly.**
- **The CSP agreed proposals to improve its engagement with the Joint Core Strategy process.**

## **10 Date of Next meeting**

Thursday 22 October 2009

Pittville Room, Cheltenham Borough Council

Proposed agenda items:

- Strategic role – needs and priorities
- CWEP project review