

**MINUTES of
LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP STEERING GROUP
Special Meeting – 12 JULY 2010**

PRESENT

Cllr Penny Channer	Chairman of Maldon District LSP and Leader of Maldon District Council
Hazel Berrett (HB)	Strategic Director, Maldon District Council
Paul Murphy (PM)	Maldon and District CVS (Chairman of Health Housing and Wellbeing Partnership)
Carl Pullen (CP)	Essex Fire and Rescue (Chairman of Solution Group)
Cllr Lew Schnurr (LS)	Heybridge Parish Council (EALC representative)
David Stephenson (DS)	Chairman of Local Delivery Group Plus (Head Teacher. The Plume School)
Fiona Marshall	Chief Executive, Maldon District Council
John Zammit	Partnership Project Officer, Essex County Council
Salleigh White	Moat Homes (for James Cornelius)
Glenn Mayes	Chairman, Maldon Business Partnership, Vice Chair, FSB Branch
Dale Robinson	NHS Mid Essex

IN ATTENDANCE

Lynn Marston (LM)	LSP Development Officer, Maldon District Council
Richard Holmes	Head of Leisure and Liveability, Maldon District Council
Jennifer Candler	Head of Planning Services, Maldon District Council
Susan Hylands (Minute Clerk)	PA to Strategic Director

1. Welcome

- 1.1 Cllr Mrs Channer welcomed everyone to the second emergency steering group meeting and introductions were made.

2. Apologies for Absence

- 2.1 Apologies for absence were received from John Moulson, Essex Fire and Rescue, and Supt O'Callaghan, Essex Police, Ch Inspector Steve Ditchburn, Essex Police

3. Minutes from the Emergency meeting on 12 July 2010

- 3.1 The minutes from the meeting held on 12 July 2010 were agreed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

- 4.1 LM advised that in regard to the LSP seeking clarity on the £75,000 transferred to ECC for the marine apprenticeship scheme she has been advised by Jenny Lewsey that the contract has been signed and as such the money is "spent" and the project will proceed.
- 4.2 The partnership event scheduled for 5/7/10 was cancelled and LM will be putting together a questionnaire for circulation.
- 4.3 With regard to who has the ultimate liability for any PRG to be paid back to ECC it is difficult to confirm the legal liability as the LSP has no legal entity.
- 4.4 LM has advised RUSTIC that it will not be receiving £5,000. The meeting will discuss how to prioritise projects and once this is agreed the way forward can be considered.

5. PRG Template and Assessment of Impact of Cuts submitted to Essex Partnership on 2 July for information

- 5.1 Appendix 1 shows the information submitted to the Essex Partnership and gives bullet points on the likely impact of cuts.

6. The Performance Reward Grant position – further news from the Essex Partnership/Essex County Council

- 6.1 Appendix 2 details a number of principles set out by the Essex Partnership requesting comments/agreement to allow confirmation of final allocations by 19 July 2010. LM had identified some "first thoughts" for discussion.

7. Current LSP budget position

- 7.1 Appendix 3 shows the update on the current budget position with spend to date and potential for saving/recouping
- 7.2 In response to a query it was confirmed that the Youth Participation and Development Officer unspent balance should read zero.
- 7.3 Any unspent balance from the NI4 money would be returned.
- 7.4 There will be a cost to close down the Hospital Link Worker and IT projects. Costs to close other projects would be less.

7.5 The figure relating to the Maritime Centre/Marine Apprenticeship Scheme should read £75k spent with 0 to recoup.

8. Predicted 'savings'

8.1 JZ advised that the recent information provided from Kevin Nunn shows a shortfall of £124,000 against that in Appendix 4 of £96,261.49. This is due to the fact that Kevin Nunn's figures are based on the total PRG allocation over six years rather than five years.

8.2 JZ also confirmed that the ideal situation would have been to have assessed savings from the thematic partnerships first, however due to the requirement to give as much notice as possible figures of both 50% and 75% have been used. More information on the final figures should be available by 19 July.

8.3 It was confirmed that the predicted savings in Appendix 4 take into account the cost of closing projects.

9. Priority list of Year 2 PRG projects

9.1 LM produced Appendix 5 to facilitate prioritising projects. It was noted that if the situation occurs where there is an overspend then all projects which can be closed will be and at this point there is no merit in prioritising projects.

10. Questions for the LSP

Does the LSP agree with these principles (Appendix 2)

10.1 The meeting discussed the principles outlined in appendix 2 and agreed that it should respond advising that the LSP acknowledges that there has not been time to carry out needs assessments and that the proposals have been drawn up in response to the urgent nature of the situation and would accept these principles but is seeking further clarification as follows.

10.1 Clarification on the status of the Marine Apprenticeships Scheme.

10.2 Is the domestic violence advisor scheme able to achieve its aims at 70% funding?

10.3 There is no percentage given as to the cut to activity supporting the Olympic games; has this been cut and if not why not?

10.4 Supports £100,000 for access to services in rural communities but would like clarification as to whether this includes the Village Agents scheme.

10.5 Supports the proposal that voluntary sector endowment fund will be fully protected but that endowment fund income could be used to support projects, however has concerns that in reality timescales will not allow this to happen.

10.6 Supports the suggestion that the balance of funds available be distributed to LSPs in proportion to their approved allocations or capacity and project funds and that the Area Based Grant is allocated to district LSPs however acknowledges that CSPs will have concerns around this proposal.

- 10.7 The LSP believes that if it is not able to achieve sufficient savings to return to the partnership the Essex Partnership should reassess its proposals to protect certain schemes such as the Olympic activity or domestic violence advisors.
- 10.8 JZ confirmed that he would ask to see a draft of the questions put to the Essex Partnership Board.

ACTION: LM to draft a response to the Essex Partnership based on the discussions of the meeting outlined above.

Support for the LSP

- 10.9 Does the LSP agree to defer issuing a formal notice of redundancy to the LSP Development Officer until after the next meeting of the Steering Group? – Lynn Marston left the meeting and the members discussed the proposal.

AGREED: To defer issuing a formal notice of redundancy to the post until after the next meeting of the Steering Group assuming this is in July.

- 10.10 Should the LSP encourage partners to come forward with proposals to the next meeting on what is required to support partnership work in the District in the future and how can it be supported? It was noted that functions currently carried out by the LSP Development officer were important such as the link role with tier 1 councils and wider issues such as the SCS. DR expressed a concern about the closing down of projects and the resource required to do this – there may be a higher cost to closing down than saving from the post. DR also noted that there may be an argument for the PCT to allocate £5k to support health and wellbeing and other partners may be able to offer similar support. PM advised that the Health Housing and Wellbeing Board will be meeting this week. DS advised that the LDG had met and had contingency to exist until April 2012 and this may indicate that there is some capacity from this group. A meeting of the Place Shaping Group is to be convened.

11. Meeting of the Steering Group w/c 19 July to discuss:

- How to allocate the LSP's new allocation
- Future support for partnership working in the District in the light of the LSP's financial situation and any indications of what the new Government's position on LSPs will be.

- 11.1 It was agreed that a further emergency meeting should be arranged following 19/07/10 when the allocation should be known. After discussion it was agreed the next meeting will take place on **Wednesday 21 July 2010 at 1.30 pm in the Council Chamber, MDC Offices.**

12. Any Other Business

- 12.1 A letter from R Edwards, PCS Eastern Regional Secretary was tabled. The meeting noted the letter but did not consider that it required a response.