

# **The Kensington and Chelsea Partnership**

Minutes of the meeting of the Partnership Steering Group  
held at Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX  
at 6.00 p.m. on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2003

## **PRESENT**

### **Members of the Steering Group**

Cllr. Merrick R. Cockell - Leader of the Council (RBK&C) (in the Chair)  
Cllr. Judith Blakeman (RBK&C)  
Cllr. Timothy Coleridge - Cabinet Member for Housing (RBK&C)  
Steve Crow - London Central Learning & Skills Council  
Jed Davis - Forum of Faiths  
Graham Downes - Kensington & Chelsea Social Council  
Bridget Guilteneane-Sanderson - Kensington & Chelsea Residents Association  
Paul Haigh – Kensington & Chelsea Primary Care Trust  
Menghi Mulchandani – Action Disability Kensington & Chelsea  
Cllr. Nicholas Paget-Brown - Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Community Safety & External Relations (RBK&C))  
Celia Rees-Jenkins - The Kensington and Chelsea Societies  
Malcolm Spalding - Kensington & Chelsea Chamber of Commerce  
Ch. Supt. Moir Stewart – Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police  
Karin Woodley - Representative for Arts and Culture (VOF)

### **Others in attendance**

Sue Beauchamp - Director of Finance & Information Systems (RBK&C)  
Ali Khan - Governance Administrator (RBK&C)  
Derek Myers - Town Clerk & Chief Executive (RBK&C)  
Sophia Nasir - Governance Assistant (RBK&C)  
Tony Redpath - Director of Strategy and Performance Improvement (RBK&C)  
Doninic Tkaczyk - Kensington & Chelsea Primary Care Trust  
Similola Towry-Coker - Kensington & Chelsea Social Council

## **A G E N D A**

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Zrinka Bralo and Dez O'Neill.

The Steering Group noted the sad news of Ms. Deacon's recent death. Councillor Cockell offered his condolences on behalf of the Partnership and members stood in silence to pay their respect.

## **2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2002**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2002 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Chairman introduced Councillor Judith Blakeman (as replacement for Councillor Cunningham) and welcomed Ms Bridget Guilteneane-Sanderson (as temporary KCRA representative until a replacement for Ms. Deacon is found).

## **3. BUSINESS PLANNING PROPOSALS**

### **The Royal Borough**

The Chairman welcomed Dominic Tkaczyk (Primary Care Trust) and then went on briefly to summarise the key elements in the Borough's 'Cabinet Business Plan' (copies of which had been previously circulated) and the Council's current financial position.

In response to a question regarding community nurseries, the Chairman stressed that there had been a shift in the Government's funding criteria in relation to community nurseries: within social services, local authorities were now being discouraged from providing subsidised childcare places and encouraged to concentrate more on priority groups, such as children at risk. However, the Council would continue to work with the voluntary sector on such matters.

Ms. Rees-Jenkins, referring to page 21 of the Cabinet Business Plan, suggested that the reasons for reduced or withdrawn services, together with alternatives, be included where appropriate.

The Chairman invited members to contribute to the Plan by making comments/suggestions in the coming weeks. He added that the Cabinet would look at the Plan on 6<sup>th</sup> March, so submission of comments and suggestions before 25<sup>th</sup> February would be helpful.

### **The Primary Care Trust**

Mr Dominic Tkaczyk, from the Primary Care Trust (PCT) was invited to discuss the Trust's Funding Allocations 2003/06 with the Steering Group. He circulated a summary of the Funding Allocations and highlighted several key issues.

In response to a question from Councillor Coleridge, Mr. Haigh indicated that the PCT's priorities for investment were currently the subject of consultation with wider audience. He further added that these priorities involved the strategic use of the allocated money in order to improve local services - including the number of GPs and waiting list times, together with capacity building and partnership work.

## **The Police**

Moir Stewart informed members of his particular efforts to get more investment for officers 'on the beat' (as against an overall increase which also takes into account the administrative resources). In addition, he mentioned that around 2% efficiency savings would be made.

## **4. ACTION PLANNING FOR THE PARTNERSHIP**

The key issue discussed in relation to the Partnership's action planning was the 'strategies implementation plan' (Appendix 1 to the main Action Plan).

Councillor Paget-Brown introduced the report, further explaining the idea of 'cluster champions'.

The following points were raised:

- Councillor Coleridge commented that those who become cluster Champions must be very willing, as the role seems a demanding one.
- Karin Woodley felt that it would be very difficult for Voluntary sector representative to take up the role of a cluster champion, as it will be very time-consuming.
- Similola Towry-Coker asked that 'arts' not be forgotten as part of 'Learning and Leisure'.

Councillor Paget-Brown indicated that he was open to new suggestions about the role of cluster champions and was willing to discuss new ideas in relation to this role, its responsibilities and modus operandi.

The Chairman concurred with Councillor Paget-Brown and Graham Downes that the idea needs to be 'cooked through' properly before each individual has a role as desired, however the Steering Group was happy with the principle and agreed it would like to work with it.

At the end of this item Councillor Paget-Brown circulated a form for partners to indicate which of the Community Strategy and Neighbourhood Renewal strategy themes members are most interested in championing.

## **RESOLVED-**

- (i) That the cluster champions preference forms be completed and returned by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2003 to Colin Richardson; and
- (ii) That, subject to the above, the action plan be approved for submission to the Government Office for London.

**Action by:** Colin Richardson

**5. SAFER, SURER - PREVENTING CRIME AND PROVIDING REASSURANCE IN THE ROYAL BOROUGH**

Moir Stuart explained the new scheme of Community Support Officers (CSOs) and confirmed that by the end of March 2003 thirty such officers would be allocated to the Borough. It was noted that Councillor Paget-Brown had written to fellow Councillors asking them to identify local priority areas for deployment.

The main role of the CSOs were highlighted, and comments made included the following:

- CSO's would be tried and tested and then local residents would be asked whether or not they view them as advantageous/beneficial to the local area.
- Recruitment and retention, i.e. 'is there going to be a special recruitment list?' It was suggested by Councillor Cockell that recruitment be primarily local. It was also stated that the introduction of the new CSOs resulted from the diversification of recruitment in the Police force.
- That the new officers could be viewed as 'Policing on the cheap'. To combat this perception, the new CSOs ought to be publicised in order to create a good public image.
- That they will be trained and their prime role is to be kept 'on the beat'.

Moir Stewart added that, these officers would work as the 'eyes and ears' of the regular Police. Mr Myers, while responding to a question, further added that the new CSOs were based on the already-successfully-operational model of 'Parks Police' and the idea had great potential.

**6. THE FAITH 'PLEDGE CARD'**

Reverend Jed Davis circulated two sheets, one titled 'Pledge Card' and the other 'Aide Memoire'. Copies of both have been placed on the Minute Book.

The following points were made:

- The Pledge has been supported by all faiths, including the Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Christian communities;
- The Borough has signed and the Primary Care Trust will be signing;
- The Pledge card implies that all should be treated equally irrespective of their religion;
- The Aide Memoire was particularly aimed at emphasising that the community works together through various joint initiatives; and
- It was proposed that the Partnership also sign the Pledge.

The Chairman added the important symbolic nature of this 'Pledge card' particularly in order to bring various communities and faith groups together.

**RESOLVED-**

That the signing of the Pledge Card by Kensington & Chelsea Partnership be put on the next agenda. Before then, members agreed to view the circulated sheets.

*Action by: All Steering Group members*

**7. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Dates of future meetings were noted as follows:

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2003  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2003  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2003  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2003  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2003  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2004

The meeting ended at 8.20 p.m.

Chairman