The Kensington and Chelsea Partnership

Minutes of the meeting of the Partnership Steering Group held at the London Lighthouse, 111-117 Lancaster Road, London W11 1QT at 5.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 26th January 2005

PRESENT

Members of the Steering Group

Malcolm Spalding - Kensington & Chelsea Chamber of Commerce (Vice-Chairman in the Chair)

Doris Besant - Kensington and Chelsea Residents Association

Cllr. Judith Blakeman - Minority Party (RBK&C)

Gillian Bowen – Representative for Children and Young People (VOF)

Zrinka Bralo - Representative for Education and Employment (VOF)

Cllr. Timothy Coleridge - Cabinet Member for Housing (RBK&C)

Paul Haigh - Chief Executive, Kensington & Chelsea Primary Care Trust

Menghi Mulchandani - Action Disability Kensington & Chelsea

Geeta Nanda - Notting Hill Housing Trust

Dez O'Neill - Representative for Arts and Culture (VOF)

Cllr. Nicholas Paget-Brown - Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Community Safety and External Relations (RBK&C)

Celia Rees-Jenkins - The Kensington and Chelsea Societies

Others in Attendance

Christine Lawrence - Head of Regeneration and Partnerships (RBK&C)

Derek Myers - Town Clerk & Chief Executive (RBK&C)

Lorraine Osewele - Shared Intelligence

Tony Redpath - Director of Strategy and Service Improvement (RBK&C)

Gillian Reid - NRF Programme Manager (RBK&C)

Jamie Renton - Action Disability Kensington & Chelsea

David Saunders - London Electronics College

Sivarupan Siltampalam - London Electronics College

Rachel Smith - Partnership Support Manager (RBK&C)

Hannah Terrey - Action Disability Kensington & Chelsea

Similola Towry-Coker - Kensington and Chelsea Social Council

Ainsley Walcroft - Governance Administrator (RBK&C)

Samuel Youziel - London Electronics College

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Merrick Cockell, Dominic Clout, Steve Crow, Jed Davis and Augustine Omara.

The Steering Group welcomed new Steering Group member Gillian Bowen from Space KC, an organisation working with young people in Earl's Court and North Kensington. Rachel Smith was also welcomed as the new Partnership Support Manager.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH NOVEMBER 2004

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th November 2004 were confirmed as a correct record, subject to the correction of minor spelling errors on page 3.

MAIN BUSINESS

3. INCLUSIVE KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Presentation by Menghi Mulchandani, Jamie Renton and Hannah Terrey (ADKC)

Menghi Mulchandani and her colleagues gave a presentation on 'Inclusive Kensington and Chelsea: A Report on the Inclusion Needs of Disabled People in Kensington and Chelsea'. The report aimed to identify the barriers and challenges that local disabled people face when accessing local services. This would lead to a joint approach to removing barriers in consultation with disabled people and would ensure that high quality access becomes an overarching theme and priority throughout the Borough. The physical, attitudinal and organisational barriers facing disabled people were discussed.

The report pointed out the need for strong leadership from key partners, particularly the KCP. A Compact Code of Practice would formalise commitment between partners and allow effective monitoring and data collection. It would also be innovative as the first code of practice of its type in the country.

The current timetable for the consultation and Code of Practice was as follows:

- 9 February Comments to ADKC
- 14 February Complete Document to KCP to start consultation
- 16 March Progress Report from Menghi
- 13 April Deadline for consultation
- 20 April ADKC Analyse Feedback
- 4 May Amended Document to KCP
- 18 May KCP agree report Compact Working Party Appointed
- 14 September Draft Code of Practice to KCP
- December Launch Code of Practice

It was explained that although the report was not yet fully comprehensive, it was hoped that the consultation would fill any gaps. Cllr Coleridge pointed out that the relationship between ADKC and the Council's Housing and Social Services departments needed improvement. Gerald Wild, the Chief Housing Officer, was keen to meet with ADKC to discuss 'adapted housing' but ADKC's present capacity prevented this. The Vice-Chairman suggested that the Partnership provide support to ADKC and encouraged dialogues with key partners outside the Steering Group.

Agreement of recommendations regarding the draft Code of Practice was deferred to the next meeting.

4. **COMMUNITY STRATEGY POLICIES**

Presentation by Tony Redpath, Director of Strategy and Service Improvement

Tony Redpath updated the Steering Group on the current progress of preparations for the new Community Strategy and requested endorsement from the Steering Group. Key ambitions were discussed, including the overall desire to increase the impact of the strategy and have more deliverable targets. A key concern shared by members was that the strategy should be designed to be easily readable for all stakeholders and residents.

Work completed to date included organising the work around the seven main themes, baseline briefings and public consultation. The immediate next step was to undertake a theme-based consultation with key partners to identify aims, objectives, priorities and current targets and to assign lead responsibilities. This would be followed by the development of the draft strategy itself and accompanying delivery plan. The draft strategy would be considered in April by Cabinet and by the KCP Steering Group at a special meeting on the 26th April. The draft would then be published in May with a final draft issued to the KCP and Cabinet in July. It would then go to full Council and be published in September.

Once the strategy was published and work was underway to implement the identified objectives, the KCP Steering Group would be asked to review its structure, constitution, working methods and accountability arrangements.

The cluster champions were advised to inform the Community Strategy Sub-Group if there were any important issues that should be included in the draft community strategy. Membership of the CSSG included Cllrs Cockell and Blakeman, Zrinka Bralo, Paul Haigh, Menghi Mulchandani and Celia Rees-Jenkins.

5. NEWS AND VIEWS

Kensington and Chelsea Primary Care Trust

Paul Haigh reported that the Kensington and Chelsea PCT had appointed a new GP practice to operate out of the Barlby Road Clinic. Also, the PCT had been approved for "LIFT" which would involve the redevelopment of the current Princess Louise Hospital and current Worlds End Health Centre for primary and community services.

Migrant and Refugee Communities Forum

Zrinka Bralo reported that funding had been received for registered doctors and dentists. A recent application for lottery funding had been unsuccessful.

Police Community Support Officer Allocations

Cllr Paget-Brown informed the Steering Group that consultation on PCSO allocation was complete. From April 2005 there would be a further ten PCSOs in Golborne Ward, ten in Brompton and ten shared between Notting Barns and Norland wards.

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The proposal for a dedicated Shopwatch PCSO was still a possibility but would have to be Borough-wide rather than confined to a single shopping area. Cllr Paget-Brown would shortly be meeting with the West London Retail Crime Coordinator.

Baseline Studios

Cllr Paget-Brown also reported that lettings of Baseline Studios had risen to 75%.

ALMO Funding

Cllr Coleridge thanked the Partnership for its help in securing further ALMO funding.

Portobello Bridge

Dez O'Neill reported that the recently refurbished tube bridge would be opening soon. He added that the work with Metronet Rail SSL should have opened the door for work on the bridge at Ladbroke Grove station.

Maxilla Gardens

Cllr Blakeman drew attention to Maxilla Gardens, a neglected area in her ward that should be considered for regeneration.

Chamber of Commerce

Malcolm Spalding reported that the Kensington and Chelsea Chamber of Commerce had managed to forge a relationship with the Portobello Business Centre.

A Regeneration Exchange meeting would be taking place in early April to discuss arts and culture in the Borough.

Space KC

Gillian Bowen, the new VOF representative for children and young people, gave an outline of the work completed by Space KC. Two centres in Earl's Court and Golborne Road provided support and advice to young people. Services included a needle exchange, a lesbian, gay and bisexual support service, support for sex workers and a drug programme.

INTERNAL BUSINESS

6. ISSUES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Performance Management Framework

Rachel Smith informed the Steering Group that the Performance Management requirements for 2005 would be based on the previous year's process, but with a 'lighter touch' for well performing Green Rated LSPs. Further guidance was awaited from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister before the Partnership could proceed. According to the flexible timetable, self-assessment would be ongoing to April 2005, with the

Partnership completing its 'traffic light' self-assessment by the end of April. The assessment process would be carried out by GOL and would be on-going throughout spring 2005. A final report was expected by August 2005.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND

a) Report on Year 4 Expenditure and Year 5 Programme Recommendations

Christine Lawrence reported that a full spend was predicted by the end of Year 4. She thanked all the projects and her team for their hard work. A total spend of £1,101,490 was forecast, which would leave an underspend of only 2.49% from a grant of £1,129,667. A maximum underspend of 5% of the grant could be carried forward into 2005/06. The Race Equality Partnership and the Environmental Improvements Project were recommended for any potential carry-forward as both had experienced difficulties in getting off the ground due to staffing problems.

Dez O'Neill and Zrinka Bralo declared an interest, one as a potential beneficiary of the Environmental Improvements Project and the other as a member of the Race Equality Partnership respectively. Both left the room while the decision was taken.

RESOLVED -

(1) That the Race Equality Partnership and the Environmental Improvements Project receive any potential carry-forward to 2005/06.

Action by: Christine Lawrence

The Steering Group had previously agreed an allocation of £30,000 in the Year 5 programme to support work-based training. Either Women's Education in Building (WEB) or NOVA was expected to receive the allocation but WEB had since gone into liquidation. It was recommended that £20,000 be awarded to NOVA, who had performed well to date, leaving a further £10,000 for Year 5 allocation.

RESOLVED -

(2) That a Year 5 grant of £20,000 be awarded to Nova New Opportunities from the funds already earmarked for work-based training.

Action by: Christine Lawrence

Over-programming had been agreed at approximately 10% for Year 4, but a lower level was expected for Year 5. A decision on the amount of over-programming would be taken at the March meeting, when more information would be available. Steering Group members were asked to suggest any projects or initiatives to take up any element of over-programming by 28th February 2005.

RESOLVED -

(3) That a further discussion regarding the potential over-programming for year 5 be held at the next KCP Steering Group meeting.

Action by: Christine Lawrence

b) Response to Consultation for Year 6 and 7 Funding

The Steering Group members were asked to decide if they would rather send a joint response to the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit, in the form of a letter from the Chairman of the KCP, or send their own individual responses. The draft proposed letter argued that the KCP was reaching its spending targets, delivering well and ought to be considered for 2006/07 NRF funding.

It was agreed that a joint response would be made, subject to small changes, although members were still free to make their own responses. Responses could also be made on-line. Derek Myers suggested that the letter make reference to the weighting for deprivation, referred to on page 27 of the consultation document. He pointed out that the Office for National Statistics had adjusted the Royal Borough's population from 160,000 to 174,000 and a proportion of the increase would constitute additional poor residents that should be taken into account.

RESOLVED -

(4) That a joint response to the consultation on the future allocation of NRF be submitted, subject to the agreement of Dominic Clout and Steve Crow as statutory members, who were absent from the meeting.

Action by: Christine Lawrence

FORWARD PLANNING

8. FORWARD PLAN FOR NEXT TWO MEETINGS (16th MARCH AND 18th MAY 2005)

Noted. Steering Group members were asked to contact Rachel Smith or the Agenda Planning Sub-Group if they wanted to suggest changes to either draft agenda.

The Steering Group was reminded that a special meeting to discuss the Community Strategy would take place on Tuesday 26th April 2005.

RESOLVED -

(5) That the Environmental Policy Statement item on the 16th March agenda be postponed to a later date and replaced with an update on Anti-Social Behaviour.

Action by: Rachel Smith

The meeting ended at 7.20 p.m.

Vice-Chairman in the Chair