

# 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, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2005

## **PRESENT**

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

Cllr Merrick Cockell, Chairman - Leader of the Council (RBK&C)  
Michael Bach - Chairman, Kensington and Chelsea Social Council  
Cllr Judith Blakeman - Minority Party (RBK&C)  
Dominic Clout - Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police  
Fadi Itani - Forum of Faiths  
Geeta Nanda - Notting Hill Housing Group  
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  
Cllr Shireen Ritchie – Cabinet Member for Social Services and Health (RBK&C)  
Dr Melanie Smith - Kensington and Chelsea Primary Care Trust (PCT)  
Malcolm Spalding - Kensington & Chelsea Chamber of Commerce

### **Others in Attendance**

Eleanor Hobart - Community Strategy Project Manager (RBK&C)  
Christine Lawrence - Head of Regeneration and Partnerships (RBK&C)  
Jill McNiven - Kensington and Chelsea Social Council  
Paula McNulty - Kensington and Chelsea Social Council  
Derek Myers - Town Clerk & Chief Executive (RBK&C)  
Tony Redpath - Director of Strategy and Performance Improvement (RBK&C)  
Rachel Smith - Partnership Support Manager (RBK&C)  
Ainsley Walcroft - Governance Administrator (RBK&C)  
Jamie Wilcox - Kensington and Chelsea Social Council

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

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

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Timothy Coleridge, Steve Crow and Menghi Mulchandani. The Chairman introduced Cllr Shireen Ritchie, who would be officially replacing Cllr Timothy Coleridge on the Steering Group when the Council's new Cabinet portfolios are confirmed.

### **2. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2005**

The Minutes of the meetings held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **MAIN BUSINESS**

### **3. CHANGE UP**

#### **Presentation by Jamie Wilcox**

Jamie Wilcox from the Kensington and Chelsea Social Council introduced the draft Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure Plan. The plan was produced as part of the Home Office ChangeUp initiative on the provision of infrastructure support to frontline voluntary and community organisations. The Steering Group was invited to sign up to the plan and contribute to its implementation.

Jamie drew particular attention to the gaps in provision identified by the consultants on page 8 of the draft plan. These highlighted the main priorities. There was also a need for more one-to-one consultation on the frontline and improvements to ICT. The latter was a key part of the ChangeUp agenda.

The paper suggested that funding for some of the proposals come from the Safer Stronger Communities Fund agreement. It was pointed out by several Steering Group members that this agreement has already committed any funding available for the next 2 years. As such there is no funding available to support the proposals put forward in Change Up. The Steering Group therefore agreed to the proposals in principle only.

Members of the Steering Group recognised the importance of attracting more people to volunteering. This could include the creation of informal networks with the private sector and raising awareness of volunteering opportunities that were not immediately obvious.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Kensington and Chelsea Partnership would support the draft plan in principle but is not able to commit any funding at this stage..

*Action by: Tony Redpath?*

### **4. COMMUNITY STRATEGY PUBLICATION**

#### **Presentation by Tony Redpath**

As well as the Partnership, the Council's Cabinet had also been invited to comment on the latest draft of the community strategy ahead of final Council approval at its full meeting the following week. The Steering Group was invited to highlight any factual mistakes, which could be noted at the meeting or corrected right up until the publication of the final strategy. The following corrections were identified:

- Page 8, line 13: substitution of 'one of' with 'some of'
- Page 30: Dominic Clout felt that the 2004 crime survey figures were outdated and did not accurately represent the current situation in the Borough. It was agreed that figures from the more recent Public Attitude Survey conducted in 2005 would be included.

- Page 69: The mention of the building a new school in Chelsea would be reworded to emphasise that this was not biased towards the south of the Borough
- Page 48: The estimated figures for the empty TMO and Registered Social Landlord (RSL) properties would be checked with the Council's housing officers, along with the reasons for such a high level of vacancies

The amended final draft would be approved for publication by full Council on 20<sup>th</sup> September and the community strategy would be officially launched at the Electric Cinema on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

RESOLVED –

- (2) That the revisions to the community strategy highlighted in Annex A to the report be implemented.

*Action by: Tony Redpath*

## **5. NEWS AND VIEWS**

### **Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)**

Cllr Paget-Brown reported that unfortunately no progress had been made in recruiting the extra 30 PCSOs for the Royal Borough. Cllr Cockell had raised the issue with Sir Ian Blair, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, and would be sending a follow-up a letter.

### **July Bombings**

Dominic Clout said that the terrorist activity in July brought out the best in the Borough, with faith groups and key partners working tirelessly. The arrests in North Kensington had led to a well executed evacuation of the area.

Cllr Paget-Brown praised the Police for the arrests in North Kensington following the bombings and attempted bombings around London. He commended the way a potentially difficult situation had been defused with good community work during and following the arrests.

### **Work and Business**

Malcolm Spalding reported the following news:

- The first stage of research had been completed on LDA 2. The second stage would look at links between existing training provision and employment.
- The Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) would be looking at entrepreneurial activity in North Kensington.
- The Regeneration Exchange held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July was attended by 55 delegates.
- The Electronic Business Information Service had been launched.
- The Baseline Business Studios had let all 30 of its units.

## **Forum of Faiths**

Fadi Itani reported that the forum had met in July to agree action programmes for the next two years. These included youth interaction in faith communities using concerts and exhibitions.

## **Police**

Dominic Clout reported a significant rise in street robbery but a continuing reduction in house burglaries.

## **Notting Hill Carnival**

Cllr Cockell reported that the police had done a good job in policing the Carnival, despite the added concerns following the July terrorist atrocities, particularly considering the local connection.

For future Carnivals it was hoped that the Royal Borough would be able to work with the Mayor of London on the organisation of the event and employing permanent staff.

An estimate of the numbers of staff working over the Carnival weekend included the following:

- 10,000 police (5,000 on each day)
- 170 clean-up staff
- 100 St. John's ambulance staff
- Approximately 300 Civilian stewards
- Extra London Underground staff

## **INTERNAL BUSINESS**

### **6a. TAKING FORWARD THE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT**

#### **Paper presented by Tony Redpath**

Tony Redpath reported that since initial Steering Group discussion in July, councillors and colleagues across partner organisations had been consulted with to identify views on priority outcomes.

Steering Group members were invited to register their views on the priorities after the meeting. A Stakeholder conference will be arranged for Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September and Steering Group members are welcome to attend. The next opportunity for engagement would be with the Community Strategy Subgroup, the remit of which had been extended to include work on the LAA. A refined list of targets would then be presented to the next Steering Group meeting.

RESOLVED –

- (3) That the voluntary targets to be included in the LAA should meet one or more of the criteria set out in 5.4 of the report, and both the criteria set out in 5.6; and
- (4) That the process for progressing the Agreement set out in paragraph 14 be approved

*Action by: Tony Redpath*

## **6b. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT – VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR RESPONSE**

### **Paper presented by Kensington and Chelsea Social Council**

The Steering Group noted the Social Council's paper. Michael Bach, the Social Council's Chairman, highlighted basic requirements of the LAA described in the paper. These were:

- The LAA should take into account and dovetail with arrangements for increasing voluntary and community sector capacity building through the ChangeUp initiative
- Outcomes need to be agreed and shared by all LSP partners
- Initiative from the 'bottom-up' should be encouraged
- Need to focus on the strengths of the Borough and not just be needs led

A view shared by the Steering Group was that certain elements of Borough life, such as the Notting Hill Carnival, should be embraced as opportunities rather than problems.

Further priorities identified by the voluntary and community sector included:

- The role of volunteering as a cross-cutting theme to be addressed by each priority
- Disability and equality of access also needs to be a cross-cutting theme
- More specific work with children and young people
- More explicit focus on the Older People theme
- Better links between arts/cultural activities and economic and entrepreneurial development
- More involvement from residents and local traders in creating a vision for future development in the Borough.

## **FORWARD PLANNING**

### **7. FORTHCOMING MEETING DATES**

The meeting dates for 2005 and 2006 were noted.

The meeting ended at 6.55 p.m.

Chairman