

PRESENT

Members of the Steering Group

Councillor Merrick Cockell, (Leader of the Council, RBKC)
Michael Bach (Chairman, Kensington and Chelsea Social Council)
Cllr. J. M. Blakeman (Notting Barns Ward, RBK&C)
Gillian Bowen (VOF Children and Young People representative)
Chief. Supt. Dominic Clout (Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police)
Dez O'Neill (VOF Arts and Culture representative)
Cllr. Nicholas Paget-Brown (RBK&C Cabinet Member)
Juliette Rawlings (TMO)
Celia Rees-Jenkins (The Kensington and Chelsea Societies)
Cllr. Shireen Ritchie (RBK&C Cabinet Member)
Dr. Melanie Smith (Director of Public Health K&CP CT)
Malcolm Spalding (President, Kensington and Chelsea Chamber of Commerce)

Others in Attendance

Councillor Dr Iain Hanhan, (Brompton Ward, RBK&C)
Asha Gupta (Governance Administrator, RBK&C)
Eleanor Hobert (Community Strategy Project Manager, RBK&C)
Christine Lawrence (Head of Regeneration and Partnerships, RBK&C)
Joan McGarvey (Research and Consultation Senior Policy Officer, RBK&C)
Jill McNiven (Kensington and Chelsea Social Council)
Lewis Morrison (Environmental Co-ordinator, RBK&C)
Derek Myers - (Town Clerk & Chief Executive, RBK&C)
Augustine Omara (Kensington and Chelsea Social Council)
Tony Redpath (Director of Strategy and Service Improvement, RBK&C)
Rachel Smith (Partnership Support Manager, RBK&C)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Zrika Bralo (VOF Education and Employment representative), Menghi Mulchandani (VOF Disability Issues representative), Geeta Nanda (Notting Hill Housing Group) and Steve Crowe (London Central Learning and Skills Council)

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JANUARY 2006

Amendments:

Item 6, paragraph 2, line 5 should read "To bridge the gap, the Council was proposing to provide up to £120,000 for two years, and possibly a

further £130,000 for a third year, of its LPSA reward grant money to the Steering Group to deliver the Community Empowerment LAA targets."

Matters Arising:

An update on the Golborne Road Study would be circulated via email prior to the May Steering Group meeting, where it will be a substantive item on the agenda.

Action by: Rachel Smith

Dr Melanie Smith gave an oral update on the first Community Empowerment Sub-group meeting. She reported that the Sub-group had agreed to develop proposals around the five main areas of the Community Empowerment LAA targets. In particular, around developing voluntary organisation e-communications and supporting individuals to take a more active role within the local community.

RESOLVED-

- (i) that the Community Empowerment Sub-group was approved to be formally set-up to develop proposals around the Community Empowerment LAA targets.
- (ii) that the Sub-group present any proposals to the May Steering Group meeting.

Action by: Melanie Smith

Subject to the above, the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

Lewis Morrison, Environmental Co-ordinator gave a presentation on the draft Environmental Strategy. A copy of the slides have been placed in the Minute Book. Following his presentation he took questions from Steering Group Members. The closing date for the public consultation period was Wednesday 19 April.

The Chairman thanked Mr Morrison for his presentation and welcomed Members of the Steering Group to look in detail at the Environmental Strategy and submit any feedback and comments.

4 COMPACTS AND CODES OF PRACTICE IN RBKC

Augustine Omara, Chief Executive, Kensington and Chelsea Social Council gave a presentation on the Compacts and Codes of Practice in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. A copy of the slides have been placed in the Minute Book. Following his presentation he took questions from Members of the Steering Group.

Councillor Paget-Brown asked if the implementation of the new funding regime complied with the Compact. In response, Mr Omara said that some

sections of the Compact had not been complied with, for example the long-term benefits to voluntary organisations of securing three-year funding agreements was not met. Mr Redpath added that the Council was looking into introducing three-year funding agreements subject to further discussion.

Dominic Clout asked if the concept of a Compact, which was set-up back in 1988, was still effective and fit for purpose. Mr Redpath said that there was no statutory requirement but that there was an expectation for local authorities to honour compacts and codes of practice. He felt that they were useful tools for building relationships with the voluntary sector and he had seen occasions where it had added value.

5 COMMUNITY STRATEGY MONITORING PLAN

Tony Redpath introduced the report. He said that the Community Strategy Sub-group had had three opportunities to comment on the monitoring plan. The plan would be ready for publication by the May Steering Group meeting and he anticipated a low-key launch. The Steering Group made a number of observations and comments which Mr Redpath would take on board and incorporate into the final draft.

RESOLVED-

- (i) that subject to proofing and minor refinement the monitoring plan be approved for publication.

Action by: Tony Redpath

6 NEWS AND VIEWS

Steering Group members reported briefly on matters of current interest. In particular it was noted that:

- All wards in the Borough would have the maximum model of Safer Neighbourhood Teams in place by April 2006. These would consist of one sergeant, two police constables and three Police Community Safety Officers.
- Over 100 people had attended the Domestic Violence Conference held at the Town Hall on 15 March. There would be another conference in six month's time.
- Ms Anne-Marie Carrie had taken post as the Executive Director of Family and Children's Services. The new Business Group was now up and running.
- The Council would be rolling out free orange sacks for recycling to all Borough residents from April 2006 onwards. A pilot in North Kensington had seen an increase in recycling by 25 per cent.
- The TMO reported that 150 of its tenants had participated in the Residents Panel. A successful BME Panel was held at the Muslim

Cultural Heritage Centre. The TMO was also preparing for its re-inspection in July 2006.

- A local Cannabis Action Group had been set-up, which was chaired by the Police. The Group would be looking at issues of use amongst young people.
- The Social Council reported that Government Office for London's assessment of the Community Empowerment Network had been completed and positive feedback had been received.. Information on the assessment was tabled at the meeting and a copy has been placed in the Minute Book.
- The Council had commissioned an independent study to look into conserving niche retail areas such as Portobello Road, Holland Park Avenue and Brompton Road and prevent them from coming under pressure from High Street retailers.

7 KCP FUTURE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

Councillor Merrick Cockell introduced the report and invited Steering Group Members to give their views and comments. Mr Redpath reported that he was looking at how other local strategic partnerships worked and what their membership was. Some Members felt that Education should have a role in the Partnership.

RESOLVED-

- (i) that the suggested list of priorities outlined in paragraph 3.1 of the report be agreed;
- (ii) that the Community Strategy Sub-group present its proposals for the future working arrangements of the KCP at the May Steering Group meeting and that the implementation of any agreed proposals should be completed by Autumn 2006.
- (iv) that Gillian Bowen joins the Sub-group.

Action by: Tony Redpath

8 LAA FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

Councillor Merrick Cockell introduced the report.

RESOLVED-

- (i) that the Local Area Agreement (LAA) has been subject to further negotiations since the final submission was made to the Government Office for London on 6 February; that as a result the changes listed at annex A of the report have been made; and that additional changes may be required before the LAA is signed.

- (i) that authority be delegated to Councillor Cockell to endorse any further changes and sign the final LAA on behalf of the KCP on 23 March.
- (i) that the Cabinet of the Council had agreed to provide up to £2.12 million to support the delivery of the LAA, subject to scrutiny and approval of the initial allocations. This would supplement the Government Pump-Priming Grant of £924,359 and enable a LAA Delivery Fund totalling up to around £3 million to be established.
- (i) that the KCP Steering Group agreed to manage the LAA Delivery Fund, making adjustments to the initial funding allocations where necessary to maximise the chances of all LAA outcomes being met, subject to the Council's fiduciary duties as the accountable body.

Action by: *Tony Redpath*

9 FORTHCOMING MEETING DATES

It was noted that meetings would be held during 2006 on Wednesday 17 May, 5 July, 13 September and 15 November.

The meeting ended at 7.11pm