

PRESENT

Members of the Committee

Councillor Merrick Cockell (Leader of the Council, RBK&C)
Malcolm Spalding, Vice-Chairman (President, Kensington and Chelsea Chamber of Commerce)
Michael Bach (Chairman, Kensington and Chelsea Social Council (KCSC))
Councillor Judith Blakeman (Notting Barns Ward, RBK&C)
Gillian Bowen (VOF Children and Young People representative)
The Reverend John E. Davis (Forum of Faiths)
Don McBean (Partnership Manager, Learning and Skills Council - London Central)
Jamie Renton (VOF Disability Issues representative)
Councillor Nicholas Paget-Brown (Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environmental Management and Leisure, RBK&C)
Councillor Shireen Ritchie (Cabinet Member for Family and Children's Services, RBK&C)
Dave Evans (in place of Dominic Clout, MPA)
Celia Rees-Jenkins (The Kensington and Chelsea Societies)
Dez O'Neill (VOF Arts and Culture representative)
Damian

Others in Attendance

Derek Myers (Town Clerk and Chief Executive, RBK&C)
Sheila Dane (Community Engagement Officer, KCSC)
Lin Gillians (Chief Executive, KCSC)
Councillor Dr Iain Hanham, (Lead Member, RBK&C)
Sudeep Chand (Kensington and Chelsea, PCT)
David Prout (Executive Director of Planning and Borough Development, RBK&C)
Paul Morse (Director of Environmental Health, RBK&C)
Tony Redpath (Director of Strategy and Service Improvement, RBK&C)
Steve McCormack (Planning Policy Team Leader, RBK&C)
Rachel Smith (KCP Support Manager, RBK&C)
Jerome Treherne (Governance Services, RBK&C)

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1 Apologies for Absence

Received from Tim Chidgey (Borough Commander, Fire Service); Dominic Clout (Borough Commander, MPA); Zrinka Bralo, (VOF Education and Employment representative); Geeta Nanda (Notting Hill Housing Group); Juliette Rawlings (Chairman, TMO Board)

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2007

Amendments:

The minutes should record that Cllr Ritchie had submitted her apologies. Page four, the penultimate sentence under Kensington and Chelsea Societies should read a wild/flower garden was planned. The last sentence should read 'garden plots at the Pupil Referral Unit were planned.' In the fifth paragraph in section 6 the word *for* should be deleted before residents associations. With these corrections, the minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising:

The Community Strategy Sub-Group had met and would feedback at July's KCP meeting on the detailed implications of the new LAA.

3 Public Health Strategy

Sudeep Chand introduced the Strategy noting that comments from the champions had already been incorporated. Cabinet on 24 April had commented on the Strategy. Comments from the PCT's Clinical Excellence Committee were expected. Members raised the following issues:

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There was a continued need for planning officers to contribute to the Strategy. Over new buildings, planning officers took advice from housing colleagues over public health aspects and in assessing potential planning gain amenities. Planning officers liaised with the PCT over the Council's estate development policies.

Cllr Blakeman referred to the recommendations from the health inequalities subgroup for work to be more focussed on those areas such as social housing where ill health was worse. Sudeep Chand noted that the Strategy was a long term one, those drafting it were aware of inequalities and he expected annual action plans to target these areas.

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Cllr Paget-Brown drew attention to the poor referral rate to rehabilitation services by doctors for those undergoing cardiac treatment. Sandeep Chand was to discuss improving referral rates with Councillor Dr Hanham after the meeting. The role for these referrals was to be included in the Strategy. **Action by: Sudeep Chand**

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Gillian Bowen was concerned that voluntary and community sector bodies were not being consulted sufficiently widely. She asked for the timing of feedback from these agencies to be written into the delivery plan. Michael Bach said that voluntary sector organisations would like to scrutinise the action plan including the piloting of the Well-being scheme detailed on page 12, row three of the delivery plan. Sudeep Chand reported that a partner from the voluntary sector would be asked to examine the action plan, and for each area the lead officer would be able to take any suggestions forward.

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Sudeep Chand reported that actions recorded in the Delivery Plan would comply with the new Community Strategy Monitoring Plan which was to form the basis for the Local Area Agreement. No additional resources had been set aside to implement actions in year one. He recognised the mental health problems that afflicted the elderly. The PCT was likely to take the approach recommended by NICE likely to report on this issue this autumn. An 'Public Health A-Z internet site had been set up for agencies to update and record good practice in this field.

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Paul Morse clarified the Borough's approach to publicising the prohibition on smoking in workplaces; from July officers would focus on businesses and companies where the message prohibiting smoking was less likely to have reached.

Sudeep Chand accepted that swimming for the young and elderly was an effective way of combating obesity. He also noted the link between poor accessibility to amenities for the disabled and the poor health suffered by many people in this group.

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4 LSC - Tackling Youth Unemployment

Don McBean introduced the report drawing attention to the commitment to reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) by two percent by March 2008. He noted that Wandsworth and Westminster had already reduced their NEET percentage to 6 percent. He agreed to provide a more precise figure on how many new young people would need to be placed to meet the 6 percent target.

Action by: Don McBean

The Steering Group noted the successful job fair attended by employers including Wholefoods. The LSC with the assistance of a new dedicated Council team were focusing their support on hard to reach young people. The Jobcentre Plus was reported as working closely with employers.

Don McBean was collaborating with Hammersmith and Fulham six forms in the development of specialist diplomas to supplement the opportunities for these courses at the two six forms in Kensington and Chelsea.

Cllr Ritchie hoped that the Council could lead in offering Workbased Learning Apprenticeships. The Children and Young People's Plan highlighted the number of young people caring for adults and the LSC was encouraged to refer to this plan in assisting this group.

Action by: Tony Redpath

5 Local Development Framework and Retail Commission

Mr Prout summarised the Local Development Framework (LDF) noting that it was a key decision-making document which had to be consistent with other Council strategies and, in general conformity with the London Plan. He drew attention to its six fundamental overarching goals of the spatial strategy on page four of the document. From an early stage draft policy documents had been made available to the public through papers

submitted to the Local Development Framework Advisory Group meetings. In Autumn 2007 there would be an issues and options paper on North Kensington. Further options for the spatial strategy and the LDF as a whole would be prepared towards the end of the year.

Michael Bach hoped that walkable neighbourhoods would aim at local amenities within ten rather than 30 minutes from homes. He believed that only as a last resort should affordable family housing be provided off site. He drew attention to the shortage in affordable housing and welcomed the policy to retain hotels.

Mr Prout clarified proposal for the borough to achieve the lowest carbon footprint per resident in London; officers were to develop policies with this aspiration in mind and at a later date a decision would be made on the realism of this stance.

Cllr Blakeman noted the current inconsistency in her ward where planning applications for subterranean development rather than loft conversions had been approved despite residents preferring loft developments. Mr Prout noted that research into subterranean development and underground rivers was taking place. He stated that in relation to mixed and balanced communities, there was no proposal to displace existing residents and re-house them.

Mr Prout hoped that by the end of this year the LDF could be applied to planning application decisions. He noted that planning briefs were being prepared for major sites.

He reassured Des O'Neill that strong emphasis on design would be evident within the LDF policies. A design panel for the borough to advise both Members sitting on planning committees and designers was under consideration.

Malcolm Spalding noted that a network of recharging outlets would encourage wider use of electric cars. Officers reported that petrol stations were to be protected and could provide alternative forms of fuelling. In addition, underground car parks could be provided with facilities for recharging electric cars.

The Retail Commission

Mr Prout drew attention to the distinguished membership of the commission which would add more weight to its conclusions to be published on 23 May. The Chairman asked for the findings to be discussed as an agenda item at the next KCP meeting.

6 New and Views

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

- The Police had monitored gang activity following the murder of Kodjo Yenga and reported no significant problems with gangs in this borough.
- All were invited to a launch at Westbourne Studios on 18 June for the programme of projects on grot spots. The new Opera Holland Park's canopy was to be erected shortly.
- VOF representatives were to examine how to manage changes in the commissioning of services on 21 May.
- a number of events had been arranged on 5 June at the Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre as part of North Kensington Environment Day.
- VOF (Disabilities Group) were discussing the need for long term premises for Advocacy Alliance within the borough.
- Further Education funding was to change with half of current funding to be taken from colleges and given to employed learners. Two seminars explaining the changes were planned to take place in north Kensington.

7 Forthcoming meeting dates

Future meeting dates were: 4 July (in the Chelsea Methodist Church) where food would be provided, 12 September and 14 November (all Wednesdays).

Any other urgent matters

There were none.

The meeting ended at 6.58 pm

CHAIRMAN