

## **PRESENT**

### **Members of the Committee**

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)  
Tim Chidgey (Borough Commander, Fire Service)  
Geeta Nanda (Notting Hill Housing Group)  
Zrinka Bralo, (VOF Education and Employment representative)  
Cynthia Dize (Sixty Plus)  
Silvia Collette (in place of Juliet Rawlings (TMO)  
Mary Gardiner ((Chief Executive, KCSC)

### **Others in Attendance**

Sheila Dane (Community Engagement Officer, KCSC)  
Tony Redpath (Director of Strategy and Service Improvement, RBK&C)  
Tom Burford (Project Manager, RBK&C)  
Rob Hannan (The Church of England Diocese Board)  
Peter Bradbury (Tribal Consultancy - Education Project Manager)  
Marigold Webster (Architect from Feilden Clegg Bradley),  
Jerome Treherne (Governance Services, RBK&C)

## **1 Apologies for Absence**

Received from Councillor Merrick Cockell (Leader of the Council, RBK&C), Dominic Clout (Borough Commander, MPA), Derek Myers (Town Clerk and Chief Executive, RBK&C), Juliette Rawlings (Chair, TMO Board), Dez O'Neill (VOF Arts and Culture representative) and Rachel Smith (KCP Support Manager, RBK&C).

## **2 Minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2007 and Matters Arising**

### **Amendments:**

Some typing errors were noted in the final paragraph of page two and following these corrections the minutes were signed as a correct record.

## **Matters Arising:**

Michael Bach noted that discussion of the Retail Commission's findings had been postponed until September's meeting.

### **3 Chelsea Academy**

Mr Burford, Rob Hannan, Peter Bradbury and Marigold Webster presented an update on the Academy. By September 2009 the Academy was expected to be teaching all year groups. The preceding year it would start with a year seven intake of pupils. During the discussion the following points were raised:

The building would be fully wheelchair accessible and include lifts. Special Educational Needs teachers would complement the pastoral support offered by a house system. Jamie Renton was assured that disabled pupils would be welcomed as would those with complex social needs.

The building was designed to minimise energy use with 10% provided from a renewable source.

Ventilation was fully mechanised but windows could also be opened.

Supervision would minimise security issues such as loss of equipment. Staggered midday breaks as well as staff offices that overlooked spaces would reduce the likelihood of any bullying.

Despite the London-wide campaign for sprinkler systems in schools, the fire engineer advising the architects had not supported the provision of sprinklers. Marigold Webster agreed to discuss this issue with Tim Chidgey after the meeting.

#### ***Action by: Marigold Webster and Tim Chidgey***

The choice of specialising in science was well balanced by different specialisms offered in other secondary schools in Westminster and this borough.

As the Academy was to stay open during evenings members of the local community would be able to use its facilities.

IT facilities were to be accessible after school, in the library and as whole class facilities. Technology was to be used to reinforce, not replace teaching.

The admissions policy provided 50 percent community (open) and 50 percent foundation (Church) places. The criteria for allocating places differed for foundation and community places and was detailed within the draft admissions policy which was made available to the meeting. Preference was being given to children who attended Royal Borough primary schools. It was envisaged that 70 percent of pupils attending the Academy would be Royal Borough residents. The Partnership expressed

concern that the multi-faith aspects of the borough might not be reflected in the Academy's intake of pupils.

#### **4 Community Strategy and LAA Development**

Cllr Shireen Ritchie introduced the report highlighting that it was a mid-term review with little substantial change but with some updates of aims and objectives. Cllr Paget-Brown requested that the section on sustainability and climate change issues, incorporate elements of the Council's Environmental Strategy. He also wanted a clearer focus on employment as part of improving economic success. Malcolm Spalding pointed out that affordable housing should be a key issue included in the review. He also noted the need for the range of issues to be balanced.

Mr Redpath asked for innovative ideas to be suggested to him by not later than 11 September. These would be brought back to the subgroup before being reported back to the full steering group in November. The full scale review would follow from November 2007.

#### **5 New Horizons - Older People's Centre in Chelsea**

Cynthia Dize introduced the paper on the new centre. She highlighted the vital role played by partner organisations in assisting the Voluntary Sector which had led on this project. A programme at the centre would begin in July 07 and it was expected that by this September a near full programme would be underway.

Cllr Shireen Ritchie and Jed Davis congratulated Cynthia Dize , Open Age and Sixty Plus on their sustained leadership which had resulted in the new centre.

#### **6 New and Views**

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

- Kensington Fire Station was to reopen on 25 July and provide the HQ for the borough fire team and some of their engines.
- Ofsted inspection results showing good results from six borough schools was to be on the Council website soon.
- The Tabernacle was to be reopened very soon, managed by Carnival Village, and was to offer a full range of arts and community activities.
- Cllr Paget-Brown invited members to see the recently refurbished Westfield Park playground. By early August Kensington Memorial Park would have had its new water feature and play area completed.
- The draft programme of the regeneration team was comprehensive and focused on remedying worklessness and the shortage of temporary accommodation for those with employment needs.

- Melanie Smith thanked all those who had contributed to the Public Health Strategy and noted that the health champions would be asked to input to the more detailed action plan. She reported that re-accommodation of the services delivered by St Charles Hospital was ahead of schedule.
- Zrinka Bralo drew attention to the consultation due to finish at the end of July on the Mayor of London's Integration Strategy.
- Cllr Judith Blakeman notes that as Deputy Mayor she was able to attend events in that capacity.
- Representatives of more than 40 local voluntary organisations attended an equality fare recently to be briefed on PICASSO. Michael Bach reported that many smaller organisations needed support over governance issues in the 'Change Up' initiative in connection with funding changes.
- The Borough's assistance with Criminal Record Bureau checks had resulted in speedier checks, some being completed within four weeks.
- Jamie Renton reported that ADKC could advise over policies and practice on disabled access. Progress had been made on starting up a course on disability access issues.
- Malcolm Spalding noted that from 1 July workplaces were required to display 'no smoking' signs which could be downloaded from the smoke free England website.

## **7 Commissioning Services from the Voluntary Sector**

Mary Gardiner tabled a discussion paper on the impact of contracts on the voluntary sector outlining possible advantages, disadvantages and solutions.

Cllr Shireen Ritchie recognised that contracting caused smaller organisations concerns and therefore Family and Children's Services had adjusted their funding plans to allow for more flexibility. The majority of funding was to be allocated in September 2008 with current grants rolled forward by six months. For services for Children and young people six months notice would be given of any change in funding plus assistance from the Council in the new bidding process.

Melanie Smith said the PCT understood the issues that contracts raised for smaller voluntary organisations. She highlighted the value the PCT placed in the commissioning process on local responsiveness and local knowledge.

Zrinka Bralo pointed out the lack of market research on the impact of commissioning nationwide. She noted the professionalism of larger charities that placed them at an advantage when bidding for services. She

said that BME organisations had no channels to feedback their needs to commissioning bodies.

Mr Redpath drew attention to the role of the Delivery Strategy of feeding back into the Community Strategy. He reported that 20 percent of Council grants were not solely concerned with contracting but were designed to assist in capacity building and helping the sector grown and evolve.

## **8 Community Strategy Mid-Term Review Report**

Mr Redpath introduced the report. The following points were made:

Cllr Judith Blakeman asked Mr Redpath to clarify the performance measure on composting household waste (No 9). **Action by: TR**

Mr Redpath was to find out from the planning department why the target for determining planning applications within eight weeks had been deleted.

**Action by: TR**

Mr Redpath clarified that where performance measures had no traffic light rating or milestone, current performance had not yet been established.

Michael Bach suggested that where annual targets were absent such as in performance measure 51 and 52 trends could still be described.

For performance measure 60, a definition of an 'acceptable waiting time' was needed in order to make sense of the measure. **Action by: TR**

Cllr Judith Blakeman commented that for performance measure 75 progress had been affected by a shortage of funds.

Zrinka Bralo believed that for performance measure 93, on line reporting of racial incidents was an unrealistic mechanism. Mr Redpath reported that the system used was compliant with the CRE's best practice. Zrinka Bralo was to explore a local reporting mechanism that would work more effectively. Mr Redpath was to examine the NHHT's reporting mechanism that Geeta Nanda reported was effective. **Action by: ZB and TR**

Mr Redpath requested that members comment to him before the next steering group meeting on any targets they felt were of little use or that needed amending. **Action by: ALL MEMBERS**

## **9 LLA 6 Month Monitoring Report**

Mr Redpath noted that a more detailed monitoring report covering the initiative had already been submitted to Government Office for London, and welcomed comments on it from members. The Borough were, as a statutory body, answerable to GoL for all the initiatives. Potential reward grants came at the end of year three of each initiative.

Geeta Nanda felt the use of colour and layout in the traffic light reporting system helpful in highlighting areas of concern.

Malcolm Spalding expressed surprise that with all the expertise available locally on event management, the strengthening the organisation of the Carnival had proved so difficult.

Tim Chidgey reported that two targets linked to increasing fire safety were on schedule and if achieved would attract close to £1 million in reward grant.

## **10 Forthcoming meeting dates**

Future meeting dates were: 12 September, 14 November, 16 January 2008, 12 March 2008, 14 May 2008, 16 July 2008, 17 September 2008 and 12 November 2008 (all Wednesdays).

## **Any other urgent matters**

Malcolm Spalding, on behalf of the steering group thanked Jed Davis for his support and input to the partnership of which he had been a founding member. Jed Davis expressed gratitude for the companionship from partnership members. Members were invited to a buffet directly after the meeting.

The meeting ended at 7.15 pm

**CHAIRMAN**