

PRESENT

Members of the Committee

Councillor Merrick Cockell (Leader of the Council, RBK&C)
Michael Bach (Chairman, Kensington and Chelsea Social Council (KCSC))
Gillian Bowen (VOF Children and Young People representative)
Tim Chidgey (Borough Commander, Fire Service)
Dominic Clout (Borough Commander, MPA)
Mary Gardiner (Chief Executive, KCSC)
Don McBean (Partnership Manager, Learning and Skills Council - London Central)
Geeta Nanda (Notting Hill Housing Group)
Juliette Rawlings (Chair, TMO Board)
Celia Rees-Jenkins (The Kensington and Chelsea Societies)
Dr. Melanie Smith (Director of Public Health, K&C PCT)

Others in Attendance

Councillor Barbara Campbell, (Cabinet Member for Corporate Service, RBK&C)
Derek Myers (Town Clerk and Chief Executive, RBK&C)
Paul Morse (Director of Environment Health, RBK&C)
Tony Redpath (Director of Strategy and Service Improvement, RBK&C)
Richard Saunders (Project Manager, RBK&C)
Rachel Smith (KCP Support Manager, RBK&C)
John Wilkinson (Director of Strategy, RBK&C)
Asha Gupta (Governance Services, RBK&C)
Andrew Curry, (Project Manager, HenleyCentralHeadlightVision)
Jenna Stevenson (HenleyCentralHeadlightVision)

1 Apologies for Absence

Received from Councillor Judith Blakeman (Notting Barns Ward, RBK&C), Malcolm Spalding, Vice-Chairman (President, Kensington and Chelsea Chamber of Commerce), Councillor Nicholas Paget-Brown (Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environmental Management and Leisure, RBK&C) and Councillor Shireen Ritchie (Cabinet Member for Family and Children's Services, RBK&C).

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2007

Amendments:

Apologies for absence from Celia Rees-Jenkins to be added to the minutes.

Page 6, paragraph 4, line 2 to be replaced with '...if achieved would attract close to half a million pounds in reward grant.'

Subject to the above two amendments the minutes were agreed as a correct record.

3 Children's Trust

Mr. John Wilkinson, Director of Strategy, gave an oral report on Children's Trusts. He outlined that there was a duty on local authorities to improve the wellbeing of children through the setting up of Children's Trusts. The Government has issued guidance and the Council is to integrate its children's services in four key areas. A diagram showing the four areas of integration was tabled, a copy of which has been placed on the Minute Book.

In order to facilitate the integration, the PCT have agreed to hand over the management of some of its functions to the Council. The Royal Borough was seeking the Government's permission to allow the delegation to happen and to have them imbedded as targets in the Local Area Agreement (LAA). A Strategic Partnership agreement between the PCT and Cabinet has been agreed but may have to be amended in view of the Government's stand.

Dr Melanie Smith commented that from the PCT's point of view it was looking to delegate the management of functions to the Council but not redeploying its staff. The changes would be practical and on a day-to-day level enabling parents to experience a more holistic, seamless and integrated service.

In conclusion, Mr Wilkinson said that Children's Trusts were an exciting opportunity which should allow the Royal Borough to take its children's services to the next level. He tabled a copy of the Project Initiation Document - Establishing the Children's Trust and the Strategic Partnering agreement between the Royal Borough and the Kensington and Chelsea PCT, a copy of both have been placed on the Minute Book.

Following the presentation the Steering Group were invited to ask questions.

Gillian Bowen asked if budgets between the Council and PCT will be pooled and how far discussions had progressed on commissioning? Mr Wilkinson reported that work around pooled budgets had not yet started but was likely to come into play in the next two years after which the commissioning process could begin.

In response to questions on the relationship between the Family and Children's Strategic Partnership (FCSP) and the KCP and how many of the mandatory LAA targets will be related to children's services, Mr Wilkinson said that the FCSP was an operational body and would sit within the structure of the KCP and links between the two are formalised. The FCSP

would be responsible for the delivery of LAAs targets relating to children's services but the LAA would be overseen by the KCP. Although the Royal Borough was still in negotiation with the Government on the final targets, Mr Redpath felt that there may be up to 18 LAA targets relating to children's services. He added that until the targets were known it was difficult to determine where the primary responsibility for their delivery will rest.

In respect of the timescale, Mr Redpath that the whole LAA process has been painful and that the Government has recognised that its own timetable of having the targets imbedded by February 2008 is unfeasible. The Comprehensive Spending Plans are expected to be published on 8 October. Mr Redpath expected a flurry of activity post 8 October with a new Government imposed timetable.

Geeta Nanda asked what were the priorities of Children's Trusts and how can Housing Trusts help contribute? Mr Wilkinson said that there were five main outcomes which are published in the Council's Every Child Matters document.

4 Climate Change - Local Action

Derek Myers introduced the item and said that he wanted to take this opportunity to gauge the thoughts of Steering Group Members on where the Royal Borough was at on the debate of climate change. The Mayor of London has issued a Climate Change Action Plan. It was yet unclear what impact the Action Plan will have on a local level but it was clear that its delivery would depend upon partnership working which the Local Strategic Partnership may be asked to lead on.

Mr Myers then invited Steering Group Members to give details on what actions they were currently undertaking to promote energy efficiency and recycling in their individual organisations. Members gave details of steps their organisations were taking to protect the environment. The following key points were noted:

- The Council did not have a climate change strategy but was committed to adopting one.
- The Social Council was helping voluntary organisations by sharing and promoting best practices to help them to be more environmentally friendly.
- Mr Bach made the comment that all Royal Borough residents received free orange sacks for recycling and felt the voluntary sector should also be included in the scheme.
- Mr Chidgey reported that the Fire Authority has a national budget of £4.4 million to deliver energy efficiency.

In summing up, Mr Myers commented that he did not feel that a 'wake up' seminar on climate change was needed as partners were well aware of the issues and already making small changes within their organisations. He then went on to seek the views of partners on whose duty it was to educate local residents and local people on climate change - was this the sole responsibility of the Council or was this something that the Steering Group should lead on? The following main points were made:

- The Green Partners Group was a useful resource and brought organisations together enabling them to share ideas on what could be done at a local level.
- The Steering Group widely accepted that schools had a key role to play in educating children and their families.
- The Council was undertaking a lot of work in this area and it would be useful for Council officers to give a briefing on this work to the KCP.
- If the Government could find a way of designating climate change in the LAA targets then it would have an impact at a local level.

5 2028 - Project Briefing

Cllr Cockell introduced the item and explained that 2028 was an important Council Project looking at the longer-term vision and plans for the Royal Borough. He then introduced Andrew Curry, Project Manager to the Steering Group.

Andrew Curry gave a presentation on the 2028 Project. A copy of the slides have been placed on the Minute Book. Following his presentation he then sought the views and ideas of the Steering Group on what vision they had for the Royal Borough in 2028. This part of the meeting was not minuted as the consultants took a separate note of the discussion. However the following main themes were noted:

- Promoting community cohesion - especially amongst the youth in the Borough
- Provision of services for an aging population
- Bridging the rich-poor divide in the housing market. Providing a choice of housing, especially family homes.
- Strengthening the worklessness agenda and building the skills sectors in the Borough.
- A proposed new crossrail station.
- Responding to pressures of the market which is changing the characteristics of the Borough

Michael Bach said that there should be an opportunity for residents to input into the consultation. In response, Mr Redpath said that short on-line questionnaires will be prepared to capture the views of local people.

Mr Bach also reported that the Chelsea Society had organised two conferences looking at the next 10 years ahead. He would forward a copy of the minutes to Mr Curry.

Action by: Michal Bach

Mr Curry invited the Steering Group to submit further ideas by emailing them to betterfuture@hchlv.com or by calling 020 7955 1800. Mr Curry reported that the plan was to 'get the bones of the vision' together by December and then go out for wide consultation. The draft vision would be brought to the January Steering Group Meeting.

6 New and Views

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

- Kensington Fire Station had opened on 26 July.
- The crime and disorder figures for Carnival 2007 were now available and could be obtained from Chief Supt. Clout.
- The Met had launched Operation Curb. This is a youth engagement project whereby Police Officers and PCSOs will be travelling on the buses during before and after school hours.
- The Learning and Skills Council was now commissioning for 2008/09. Don McBean tabled a paper giving details.

7 Community Strategy Review Update

Cllr Cockell said that the Community Strategy sub group were working on the detail of the mid-term review and would report back in full at the next meeting.

8 Forthcoming meeting dates

Future meeting dates were: 14 November 2007, 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

Jane Mather had been appointed to the Partnership as the Forum of Faiths representative. The Partnership looked forward to welcoming her at a future meeting.

Mr Chidgey reported that he had attended a presentation on the Chelsea Academy and noted that sprinklers were not built into the design. He

reminded the Steering Group that there was a Government drive to have sprinklers installed in all new schools and major refurbishment programmes. In response, Cllr Cockell said that as it was a Government lead initiative they should pay for it and it was also 'a little late in the day' to change the design now, which would push the project overbudget.

This was Gillian Bowen's last meeting as she was leaving Space KC to join the City YMCA as Chief Executive. The Partnership wished her good luck for the future.

The meeting ended at 7.14 pm

CHAIRMAN