BROMLEY LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a Meeting held on Monday 13th October 2008 at Bromley Civic Centre at 2.00pm

Present:

Councillor Stephen Carr (Chairman)
Liz Butler (Chairman, Bromley PCT)
Paul Dale (Deputy Chief Executive, LBB)
Chief Superintendent Charles Griggs (Borough Commander)
Jean Levy (Chairman, Community Links Bromley)
Eithne Rynne (Director, Community Links Bromley)
Clive Uren (Bromley PCT)

Also present:

Councillor N Bennett JP
Councillor C Bloom
Councillor Peter Morgan
Councillor Colin Smith
John Hazeldine (LBB Assistant Chief Executive, Strategy and Improvement)
Rosemary Lacovara (Head of Training Options, Bromley College)
Andy Mitchell (Government Office for London)
Joanna Smith (LBB Policy & Partnership Manager)
Graham Walton (Democratic Services)
Chris Widgery (Transport for London)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Simon Robbins and Sarah Dowling (Bromley PCT), and Simon Randall and Vicky Bonner (Broomleigh). Apologies had also been received from Huw Alderman and Michael Marchment (Bromley Hospitals Trust) - Elizabeth Butler reported that Huw Alderman had agreed that the Trust would be best placed at the Health and Social Care Board rather than the LSP Executive.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 21ST JULY 2008

RESOLVED that the minutes of the LSP Executive meeting held on 21st July be confirmed.

3. LAA PERFORMANCE MONITORING – QUARTER 1, 2008/09

The LSP Executive received an overview of the first quarter’s performance indicators in the new Local Area Agreement, highlighting areas of good performance and areas of concern.

The Chairman underlined the need to focus on delivery; he suggested that the officers responsible for problem targets attend future meetings. Others proposed a shorter, more focussed LSP report rather than trying to monitor everything, particularly as the thematic partnerships
were accountable for and should be performance managing their lead areas. It was also suggested that the impact of the difficult financial situation on LAA priorities needed to be considered – John Hazeldine confirmed that he would report back on this.

RESOLVED that early updates be sought from those responsible for areas where there were concerns about performance, and these areas be considered at the next meeting.

4. OUTCOMES FROM LSP AWAYDAY

The LSP Executive received a summary of outcomes from the LSP awayday on 10th September 2008. The priority themes were set out in section 4 of the report.

The Chairman stated that he disliked the term “collaborative” – “family” was suggested as an alternative. He emphasised delivery, holding people to account and identifying lines of responsibility. There were issues to resolve concerning the Constitution and Code of Conduct. John Hazeldine reminded the meeting that there was a constitution in place, but it was out of date and it was difficult to get the right balance for an informal body that was not a legal entity.

Liz Butler suggested that it was important to use the constitution to provide focus and prevent “mission creep,” and reminded everyone that the finished document would need to be approved by each partner agency, including her own Board, as well as full Council.

Councillor Colin Bloom supported the proposed constitution, urging that it was used to work together more effectively to achieve priority outcomes more efficiently. He also pointed to the need to consult people more.

Joanna Smith would be meeting with LSP partners and the thematic boards before a final draft was presented in December.

5. BROMLEY PARTNERSHIPS WEBSITE AND HUB

An online intelligence and data resource was proposed, to be called the Bromley Hub. It was intended that this would provide a single, consistent set of demographic, social and performance information available for all LSP partners and with some information available for the general public.
The early phases of the website and hub project could be delivered fairly quickly and simply; resources needed for the later phases had not yet been fully scoped. There was general support for the project, but it was considered that it should be kept simple with realistic aims.

RESOLVED that the Bromley Hub project and the proposed approach to phasing is approved.

6.  A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH TO EQUALITIES

Charles Griggs presented a report proposing a multi-agency Equalities Group be set up. This would be charged with ensuring that equalities was mainstreamed across all partnership activities to improve equalities outcomes in service delivery. It was also important that effective equalities could be demonstrated to the public and in the CAA.

While there was support for the proposals, there was also concern that there were more pressing priorities, and that any further work needed to avoid duplication.

RESOLVED that the Director of Legal, Democratic and Customer Services be requested to review what needs to be achieved with representatives from the Metropolitan Police, the PCT and the voluntary sector.

7.  COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

John Hazeldine presented a discussion paper and early draft community engagement strategy, inviting comments to feed into the ongoing work. It was agreed that a focus on better coordination was needed rather than more extensive activity, and the following comments were made –

- this might be an issue for further discussion at a future partnership awayday, possibly with an extended invitation list;
- the role of locally elected representatives had to be respected;
- faith groups needed to be involved;
- the Safer Neighbourhood Panels were useful forums which should be encouraged to work more effectively;
- “participation” was not necessarily in demand – local people wanted to be consulted and feel that their views were respected;
- better use should be made of new technology, such as web-casting of meetings;
- more effective ways of sharing information and experience should be developed.

RESOLVED that work should continue with a focus on better coordination and streamlining the wide range of current engagement activity into a strategic framework.
8. BBB20:20 VISION – UPDATE

Since the partnership awayday, Cllr Graham Arthur, Adult and Community Portfolio Holder, had re-drafted the section on housing. The full document would be re-presented shortly for sign-off by the LSP, Council and other agencies.

9. UPDATE ON THE COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT (CAA)

John Hazeldine encouraged everyone to attend the briefing on the CAA by the CAA lead and GOL representative at the Civic Centre on 20th October.

10. CONSULTATION RESPONSES FOR THE CAA

John Hazeldine presented an early draft of the proposed response to consultation from the Audit Commission on the CAA framework. The CAA appeared to be less streamlined than had been hoped.

11. WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme was still being developed. It needed to pick up the main themes from the partnership awayday and to focus on delivery. Joanna Smith asked that partners inform her of any issues that needed to be included.

12. NATIONAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

A summary information document concerning the new national performance network, including the role of newly signed LAAs and their links with the new CAA arrangements, had been circulated for information.

13. CROYDON’S BEACON OPEN DAY

Information about Croydon’s Beacon Open Day on Monday 3rd November was noted.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Nicholas Bennett suggested that each meeting should include a report back on outstanding matters from previous meetings.
Eithne Rynne reported that Community Links Bromley had been awarded a grant from CapacityBuilders to set up and facilitate a Bromley Consortium, the membership of which would comprise both voluntary and statutory partners. She was drafting terms of reference to circulate and encouraged partners to join the consortium.

15. **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Chairman noted a number of potential issues for the next meeting on 15th December 2008 at 2.00pm –

- equalities;
- exception reporting of performance monitoring;
- community engagement;
- the LSP Constitution.

The meeting ended at 3.45pm.

Chairman