

Carlisle Partnership Forum and Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 25 June 2008, 09.00 – 12.30 @ Tullie House, Carlisle

Minutes

1. Introduction

Cllr Mike Mitchelson, Carlisle Partnership Chairman welcomed all attendees and opened the meeting.

*A full list of attendees and apologies are attached (**Appendix I**).*

2. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2.1 Introductory Remarks

Cllr Mitchelson opened the formal business. It was reported that the partnership and priority groups are now well established and doing good work.

2.2 Election of the Chair of the Forum and Executive

Cllr Mitchelson stepped down as Chairman and nominated Trevor Hebdon to take on this role. Cllr Allison seconded this nomination. No further nominations were received.

Trevor Hebdon was appointed Chairman for the forthcoming year.

2.3 Election of the Vice Chair of the Forum and Executive

Cllr Mitchelson nominated Jane Muller to continue in this role. Cllr John Mallinson seconded this nomination. No further nominations were received.

Jane Muller was appointed Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year.

2.4 Review of Membership and Structure: Questionnaire Launch

It was reported that a working group has produced a partnership questionnaire intended to evaluate the effectiveness of current structures and identify areas for improvement. Partners were encouraged to take the questionnaire back to their organisations and feed back responses by the end of July.

2.5 Any Other Business

Nothing to report

3. Delivering Carlisle Renaissance

Ian McNichol, Carlisle City Council Carlisle Renaissance Programme Director, gave a presentation addressing the following questions surrounding Carlisle Renaissance.

WHY?

To tackle basic local challenges including a legacy of low skills, low wages, low investment and low aspirations, to motivate people and realise tangible opportunities arising from Carlisle's strengths.

WHAT?

To devise an action/programme plan, provide resources and lead on actions to deliver the benefits aspired to in the Economic Strategy for Carlisle produced by the Carlisle Partnership.

HOW and WHO?

Cumbria County Council, Carlisle City Council and the North West Development Agency have committed to a formal collaboration agreement and the newly established Carlisle Renaissance Board will develop an balanced and ambitious action plan and lead on delivery. The Board is comprised of 12 individuals from the public and private sectors that will each take responsibility for a particular area of work and will engage with partners and stakeholders. The first board meeting is due to take place in July. An action plan will be available for consideration and adoption in Autumn 2008.

HOW MUCH?

Costs and other resources will be addressed in the action plan and will involve the minimum amount of public sector investment necessary.

*For details on the Carlisle Renaissance Board Members please refer to the presentation slides (**Appendix II**)*

Ian McNichol responded to group questions.

4. A Community Plan for Carlisle: Report and Update 2008

Ned Kemp, Carlisle City Council LSP Manager, presented the first annual Report and Update of the Community Plan for Carlisle and gave an update on the Cumbria Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2008-2011.

COMMUNITY PLAN: REPORT AND UPDATE 2008 (Carlisle Partnership)

Changes and improvements include:

- A new vision statement and cohesion statement
- Renewed emphasis on environmental issues
- Focus on the 'People' aspects of the Economic Strategy
- Refreshed priorities in partnership with Children's Services
- Continuation of successful health projects
- Inclusion of 'stronger' initiatives such as community engagement
- Renewed commitment to parish planning and rural priorities
- Recognition of the value of integrated working in spatial planning

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2008-2011 (Cumbria Strategic Partnership)

The contribution of the Carlisle Partnership and Carlisle City Council to the development process has been recognised at both national and regional levels. It was confirmed that the LAA would be signed off in early July. The new document includes:

- A descriptive 'Story of Place' (Cumbria Community Strategy 2008-2028)
- 35 agreed indicators from the National Indicator Set
- 16 statutory education and early years indicators
- 14 local targets
- 15 legacy 'stretch' targets

Ned Kemp responded to group questions.

*For more details on both of these topics please refer to the presentation slides (**Appendix III**)*

5. Community Cohesion – a Framework for Carlisle

Myrna Hill, Carlisle City Council Social Inclusion Policy and Partnerships Officer, gave a presentation on issues surrounding community cohesion.

WHAT IS COHESION?

In response to the 'Our Shared Future' report, central government released a definition of cohesion and a number of policy areas for development including a cohesion delivery framework and community empowerment.

COHESION AND INEQUALITIES

Cohesion sits alongside the equality agenda, but is a subtler concept all about perceptions. Cohesion is about building better relationships between people of different backgrounds whether in new or settled communities.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Potential for tension and conflict depends on many interacting factors. As a result, conditions can vary greatly and therefore a local response is required.

MAINSTREAM COHESION

Cohesion is about addressing multiple issues simultaneously, mainstreaming some work and targeting policy interventions.

COHESION IN CUMBRIA

Activity underway in Cumbria includes a Cohesion Strategy, Equality Impact Assessments and 'Hot-Spot' mapping.

CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL AND COHESION

Activity underway in Carlisle includes a Community Cohesion Framework and involvement in the IDeA Migrants Excellent programme.

CARLISLE PARTNERSHIP AND COHESION

The broad range of policy work involved means that cohesion fits into each of the task groups and should involve everyone in the community.

*For more details please refer to the presentation slides (**Appendix IV**)*

Myrna Hill responded to group questions.

6. Healthy City Update

Jane Muller, Cumbria Primary Care Trust Associate Director for Public Health (North), gave an update on the progress of Carlisle as a potential designated World Health Organisation (WHO) 'Healthy City'.

UPDATE

It was confirmed that it would take a long time to achieve designation and that the process assumes that Carlisle City Council and local partners have the legitimacy and strategic advantage to be both advocates and custodians of local citizens' health.

It was reported that feedback from the UK and Ireland Healthy Cities Network meeting held at Galway in May was positive and that further support is available for cities from both UK and European networks.

It was reiterated that the Healthy Cities programme is about committing to a process of improvement, rather than achieving a particular standard of health.

The 4 key elements required are:

- Explicit political commitment
- Leadership from health organisations and local council
- Institutional change
- Intersectoral partnerships

WHAT NEXT?

- Expression of interest letter to be submitted to WHO
- Proposal to be considered by Carlisle City Council Executive
- City Health Profile and a Joint Action Plan to be developed
- Carlisle delegation to attend the Phase V launch conference in October
- Input to be sought from partners and stakeholders
- Formal application

Jane Muller responded to group questions.

7. Closing Remarks

Cllr Mitchelson thanked speakers and attendees for their contributions and closed the meeting.

END