

CARLISLE HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

EXECUTIVE

Date: Thursday March 8th, 2012

Venue: Committee Room B, Civic Centre 2.30pm

Attendees: Phil Houghton (Chair - CHP), Rachel Lightfoot (Chair - Housing Market group), Paul Musgrave (Chair - Decent & Healthy Homes), Keith Gerrard (Carlisle City Council), Simon Taylor (Carlisle City Council), Andrew Williams (Carlisle City Council)

<h2>MINUTES</h2>		Actions
1.	<p>Introduction / Welcome from Chair</p> <p>PH welcomed attendees to the second meeting of the CHP executive.</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr Ray Bloxham and Neil Waller.</p>	
3 & 4	<p>Minutes from last meeting & Matters Arising</p> <p>Minutes were accepted and there were no matters arising.</p>	
5.	<p>Individual Group Chair reports / feedback</p> <p>PH highlighted the progress of the CHP. Previously the voice for housing came predominantly through the economic development group. Since the inception of the CHP, strong progress has been made, with the successful LSP event (see below) evidence of this.</p> <p>RL - Housing Market group Discussions within the HM group have focused on trying to flesh out the Housing Strategy, to make it more realistic and more responsive to the groups' priorities. A real issue has been the failure to secure public sector land for affordable housing, at a price less than market value. County representatives are feeding back on this. The group is also looking to progress a standard viability assessment, work that the LEP is pushing. RL, PH, RB and Jane Meek are all part of the LEP Taskforce for Housing & Planning. The group also has a watching brief on the Localism Bill.</p> <p>ST added that the HCA had very recently been in touch to ask Allerdale, Copeland and Carlisle to submit a joint bid for Empty Property funding. This was seen as an opportunity for the district. PH highlighted how the HCA were disappointed no bids originated from Cumbria in the previous funding bid. It was agreed that the City Council should push our work on this forward, and be mindful to build on previous experiences.</p> <p>PM - Decent & Healthy Homes group</p>	<p>Group to monitor funding bid for Empty Home programmes.</p>

	<p>The group's work on Empty Homes is covered in the previous agenda item. The group is struggling to engage with the University of Cumbria & other RP's - Riverside aside. The group currently has good relations with private landlords and N-power. It was agreed that a letter from the Chair of the CHP should be sent to relevant RPs and the University of Cumbria, looking for more representation in the group.</p> <p>The group is involved with ensuring information from the Housing Stock Condition Survey features in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. The Healthy City event in Carlisle highlighted housing as a root cause of health problems, and a launch event for the Survey results will be held soon (24th April). KG highlighted the Healthy City working group; the group is looking to strengthen, and is looking to establish links between itself and the Health & Wellbeing board and the Decent & Healthy Homes group. PM highlighted the potential for a localised version of the Health & Wellbeing board, something already in place in Barrow.</p> <p>ST- Supporting Vulnerable People group At present, the CHIP group has the SVP remit. The last CHIP meeting had a low attendance and so was not minuted.</p> <p>Where next for the SVP group? PH stated that presently actions possibly focus on particular sectors, and as the group action plans develop a wider representation (eg. an population) will be picked up. Work needs to be done to avoid duplicating/creating other groups while ensuring the SVP agenda is managed effectively. It was agreed a letter would go out for the next meeting, looking for interest from a wider audience.</p>	<p>AW & PH to produce letter to be circulated to RPs and UoC.</p> <p>KG & PM to discuss further.</p> <p>AW/PH to draft letter, and further consideration to be given to make-up of group.</p>
6	<p>General discussion - views & feedback from LSP event November 22, 2011 The last Executive met a few days prior to the LSP event on Nov 22 2011. It was agreed event had been successful, with a real pro-active 'buzz' being felt around the venue. The importance of maintaining momentum was discussed. AW stated that feedback from the event had played a key role in the development of the final Housing Strategy Vision 2012-16, which passed through Full Council on Tuesday 6th March. KG added that the Strategy was a significant public document, supported by cross-party acknowledgement. The action plans are being examined by City Council staff, focusing on areas where the City Council should be committing resources. The action plans will then be taken forward by the partnership groups.</p>	
7.	<p>Chair's next report to CP(19.03.2012) - Key themes PH highlighted the possibility of a housing theme for the Carlisle Partnership AGM in June. It was agreed that this would benefit the housing agenda in Carlisle.</p>	
8.	<p>Discussions on latest Government policies / initiatives RL highlighted that the final version of the NPPF will be little different that the consultation document. PH highlighted that the Council should be praised for extending consultation on its interim planning policy statement, which was viewed as an inclusive and as a willingness to engage.</p>	
9.	<p>Funding streams / opportunities RL and ST brought up Gentoo Housing Association and its pension-funded RP scheme. RL to feedback from Gentoo's presentation to Cumbria HS group. PH highlighted dangers of duplicated work and the importance of engagement across County.</p>	
10.	<p>Attendance / sub-group membership While attendance at the Decent & Healthy Homes group needs reviewing (as above), attendance at the Housing Market group is strong. It was agreed that there was an optimum level of membership for the sub-</p>	

	groups, and were that to be exceeded, a review would need to be undertaken.	
11.	Any other business There was no other business.	
12.	Agenda Items for Next Meeting As per actions.	
13.	Date for Next Meeting TBC	