

## Environmental Sustainability Thematic Group

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> November 2009  
**Time:** 10am-12pm  
**Venue:** Committee Room 1, County Hall

<p><b>Attending:</b> Cheshire West and Chester Council</p>	<p>Phil Bamford, LDF programme Manager          Rob Brooks, Shared Services and Contract Manager          Peter Bulmer, Climate Change Team Leader          Helen De Lemos, Waste Strategy Manager          Andrea Mageean, Partnership Manager          Jamie Matthews, Team leader LTP          Gill Rogerson, Performance Manager          Cllr. Neil Ritchie, Environment Portfolio Holder          Steve Kent, Director Of Environment          Robbie Taylor, Partnership Manager</p>
<p>Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service</p>	<p>John Salt, (Vice Chair), CW&amp;C Unitary Manager</p>

**Support Staff:** Elaine Grant, Partnership Assistant

**Apologies:** Jim Hughes, NHS Western Cheshire, Jane Staley, Groundwork Cheshire

<p><b>Item 1</b> Welcome, Apologies &amp; Introductions</p>	<p>John Salt chaired today's meeting as Jane Staley was unavailable to attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were no issues relating to any other business.</li> <li>• A request for item 4 on the agenda to be brought forward was approved.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Item 2</b> Minutes and actions from the last meeting (14<sup>th</sup> October)</p>	<p>No comments on the minutes or actions from the last meeting were recorded.</p>
<p><b>Item 4</b> SCS,LDF and LTP development: presentation and progress update</p>	<p>Andrea explained to the Group that they would be viewing three short presentations on the Sustainable Community Strategy(SCS), Local Development Framework (LDF) and Local Transport Plan(LTP) which are all being jointly consulted on (Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> November – 13<sup>th</sup> January). There would be an opportunity for the Group to ask questions after each presentation.</p> <p><b>SCS</b> The Sustainable Community Strategy is a long term (5-10yr)</p>

partnership plan working towards key priorities based on aspirations and joint visions of all parties for the benefit of the community. The presentation concentrated on why the SCS is important and its three themes of:

- **Living Well Together,**
- **Right Services, Right Place, Right Time**
- **Rising To The Challenge.**

Andrea explained that the main task was trying to refine the big issues and the Group were asked if they thought that there were any gaps or anything still to be considered.

The Group were assured that environmental protection as well as environmental sustainability had both been considered within the themes.

#### **LDF**

Phil presented on the Core Strategy which is part of the LDF. The Core Strategy sets out a spatial portrait for the borough and objectives to achieve the vision to 2026. This included a shared vision which would identify individual strategic sites e.g. Ellesmere Port Waterfront and an Issues and Options report with key issues looking at evidence and setting out a number of options to address topic based issues e.g. affordable housing, car-parking etc.

The next stages of consultation were:

- “Have your Say” – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2009
- Responses from consultation – Spring 2010
- Preferred Options – Summer 2010
- 3<sup>rd</sup> round of consultation
- Public Inquiry
- Adoption 2012

It was noted that a key part of the strategy would be to ensure areas are protected as well as developed.

#### **LTP**

Jamie briefly explained that this was the third Local Transport Plan produced. The Plan also supported the LAA, LDF and the SCS and had to be in place by April 2011.

- The consultation for the LTP had been launched a few weeks ago, with the deadline being the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010.
- The next stages were :
- End of first round of consultation – 13<sup>th</sup> January
- Prepare Draft Document – Spring 2010
- Summer 2010 – Published document
- Autumn 2010 – second round of consultation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spring 2011 – New LTP3 finalised and published</li> </ul> <p>Andrea, Jamie and Phil were meeting regularly to ensure that the three strategies were running in agreement with one another. A questionnaire and shared vision statement had also been jointly produced.</p> <p>Accessibility to any new developments was raised by the Group as was the ability of the community to be able to recognise accessibility as a key issue in the consultation period. The ESTG were assured that this had been given consideration.</p>
<b>Action/Decision</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The three presentations to be forwarded to Group with minutes</li> <li>• Joint questionnaire to be circulated to the Group after Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November</li> <li>• It was agreed to respond to the Joint Consultation both as a group and individually (agency/organisation)</li> </ul>
<b>Item 3 “Whatever It Takes “ Initiative Update</b>	<p>Peter explained that he, Helen, John and Jody Sherratt (Waste Strategy Awareness Manager) had recently met as a small sub group to discuss the concept of moving environmental sustainability more prominently into the business of the Area Partnership Boards.</p> <p>A spreadsheet had been produced following the meeting to show the APB linkages/priorities to the ESTG in the five geographical areas. This was shown to the Group for discussion.</p> <p>Robbie also informed the Group that at the next Thematic Leads meeting, 16<sup>th</sup> November, there would be a paper to clarify the relationships between APB’s and Thematic Groups to explain who commissions who.</p> <p>John suggested that the ESTG should be commissioned into the APB’s to support environmental sustainability. The Group were informed about a campaign called “Love Food, Hate Waste” which would be running from the beginning of January with thirty road shows concentrating on the large amount of household food waste generated. It was suggested that the campaign could perhaps be better focused on where to hold the road shows if the APB’s were consulted and this would link in with healthier lifestyles priority.</p> <p>A discussion ensued around the Thematic Partnerships and APB’s discussing their respective roles and responsibilities/support and closer engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Thematic groups were required in helping to deliver the LAA but needed to build a dialogue with the APB’s.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not a lot of evidential information/data is readily available e.g. carbon reduction in Rural West</li> <li>• Each area should be looked at even if there is not enough information e.g., flooding in Chester.</li> <li>• APB priorities aren't refined enough and needed more discussion to get real meaning.</li> <li>• Thematic Groups must be adding value</li> <li>• A particular project may contribute to all the APB's hitting several targets at the same time.</li> </ul>
<b>Action/Decision</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robbie to share paper from Thematic Leads meeting with ESTG</li> <li>• The suggested approach for ESTG/APB working would be presented at the next ESTG meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Item 5 West Cheshire Together LSP meeting feedback</b>	<p>The LSP met on the 29<sup>th</sup> October and the following items were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The LSP were advised on the three major consultation exercises which they agreed in principle.</li> <li>• Julie Webster was now acting Director of Public Health as Wendy Meredith has been seconded to GONW for a twelve month period.</li> <li>• Julie presented the Annual Public Health Report with key findings on the effects and impact of the economic recession has had on local public health and well-being and the Tobacco Alliance Control Report.</li> <li>• The Economic Recession Action Plan was endorsed by the LSP</li> <li>• The Community Cohesion Strategy was also endorsed.</li> </ul> <p>There had also been a Thematic Partnerships Spotlight with the spotlight on the ESTG. Peter and Jane had presented on the work to address climate change locally and highlighted the need for all organisations responsibility and the need to satisfy themselves that they are addressing the issues and making changes to reduce emissions. A research project with the University of Chester is progressing well and will be used to demonstrate predicted changes if current emission levels continue along with global warming. The LSP also supported the bid by Blacon Community Trust and the Partners agreed to share details of the climate change contacts within their organisations to ensure that opportunities to reduce CO2 emissions are maximised.</p> <p>Robbie reported that at the last meeting with Government Offices North West regarding the review and refresh process it was indicated that there may now be an opportunity to review the indicators themselves.</p>

<b>Action/Decision</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robbie to will identify the key deadlines in the Review and Refresh process.</li> </ul>
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<b>Item 6 Thematic Partnerships and APB Interaction</b>	It was agreed that this item had been covered in Item 3.
<b>Action / Decision</b>	None
<b>Item 7 Any Other Business</b>	Examples of good practice and projects for all LAA outcomes from other parts of the country to be discussed and evaluated for possible local interventions.
<b>Item 9. Future Meetings</b>	The next meeting is due to take place on <b>Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> in Committee Room 1 at 10.00am.</b>

Signed (Chair):

John Salt

Date: 19/11/09