

**RURAL WEST AREA PARTNERSHIP BOARD**  
**Barbour Institute Tattenhall**  
**30 April 2010**  
**(2-4pm)**

**Meeting Summary and Action Points**

**1. Welcome and introductions**

**Present**

Alison Roylance-White – Cheshire Community Action (Chairman)

Carol Berry – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector assembly Representative

Rob Callow – Area Manager Rural West, CW&C

Martin Dowle – Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service

Robin Hughes – CH64 Inc.

Steve Kent – Director of the Environment, CW&C

Paul Knight – Chester & District Housing Trust

Cllr Kay Loch – CW&C

Carol Weaver – Rural Parishes Representative

Pat Johnson – Western Cheshire PCT

Debra Brown – CW&C Rural West Team

Liz Noakes – NHS Western Cheshire

Phil Hodgson – Cheshire Police

Kathryn Hill – Connexions

Lauren Kelly – CW&C Management Trainee

**Apologies**

Jenny Hulme – Connexions

Sam Baxter – Connexions

Cllr Stuart Parker – CW&C

**2. Notes from the last Meeting and Matters Arising**

The notes from the last meeting were agreed.

**Constitution**

The constitution needs to go to the Winsford APB before for discussion before a final endorsement by all APBs can be given.

**Environmental sustainability Thematic Group**

Alison Roylance White met with Jane Staley, chairman of the Environmental Sustainability Thematic Group. Once the group have formulated their plans they will liaise with relevant APB's about potential joint working.

**3. NHS Western Cheshire: Health Inequalities Action Plan for Cheshire West and Chester**

Liz Noakes gave a presentation about the health inequalities across Cheshire West and Chester. The presentation outlined the detriments of health and wellbeing, the basis for the action plan and the policy objectives affecting all public, private and third sector. Two key priority areas were highlighted for Rural West, one within Mickle Trafford and the other within Neston and Parkgate.

A key message for partners was the need to consider how they can support the delivery of the Health Improvement Plan and interventions to be proportionate

across all neighbourhoods. An action plan on Mental Well Being is being developed by Pat Johnson. It was agreed that the APB would consider how it can support the action plan.

#### **4. Delivery Plan**

Rob Callow presented a quarterly report on the work of the Rural West Area Team to address the APB's priorities of Young People, Transport, Health, Rural Proofing, Participatory Budgeting and Community Forums.

A co-ordinating group will be set up for the Children and Young People's theme to include APB members, Children's Centre managers, EIP Chairs, YOT, with the aim of looking at gaps, issues and co-ordinating activities.

The APB has agreed to fund Road Safety training within schools. Further discussion is required with the Fire Service to ensure a fully joined up approach. Upton High Schools should also be included because of the number of young people that live in the rural west area that attend this school. There was general agreement that road safety training should start at a young age.

CW&C are proposing to pilot a new Customer service approach within the community with the aim of improving front line services. Research has been completed which shows how people like to access services, more information on this and how it impacts on the Rural West area will be made available.

A Rural West APB Participatory Budgeting event will be held to include all Community Forums. This will include presentation by applicants and voting for the winners on the night. The theme will be young people and access to services.

Members of the APB were happy with the format of the Quarterly Report and agreed that it should be sent out to Forums.

#### **5. Community Forum Update**

This item was included within the Quarterly Report. The main item was the splitting up of the original Gowy and Eddisbury Forum to two separate Forums; The Gowy Community Forum is now managed by the Rural West Area Team making four Community Forums across Rural West.

Cllr Loch said that in Neston the most effective Forum's had proved to be those where a single issue was being discussed.

#### **6. Rural West APB – Pooled Budget**

The Area Manager made a request for the APB to create a pooled budget to enable the APB to run and also contribute to events. The Fire Service said that they were willing to contribute on a project by project basis. Inspector Phil Hodgson agreed to look at the Project Rural Matters funding. Steve Kent suggested that this was something that the LSP needed to consider at a higher level. Carol Berry said that other APB's had agreed pooled budgets already. Pat Johnson has asked about pooled budgets and is waiting a response.

Members discussed if the APB servicing costs should be met by the Council. Steve Kent suggested a proactive approach was needed and this should form part of the current review of Area Working.

## **7. Emerging Issues**

### **a) Fuel Poverty**

The Chair outlined the emerging issues around fuel poverty and the current northwest work being undertaken. Malpas, Farndon and Tilston are all areas that have been identified as being in fuel poverty. As more details are made available they will be shared with APB members.

### **b) Older People's Day Care Provision**

The Area Manager distributed a briefing note which detailed the redesign of Age Concern Cheshire's day centre services in Malpas and Tattenhall. This is still being considered by Age Concern however the more general issue of service provision in rural areas and potential withdrawal of services were discussed. It was agreed that the APB should ensure that it is informed about key decisions that impact on services to rural communities.

## **9. Dates for Futures Meetings**

23 July 2010, 2 - 4pm to be agreed