

## Cheshire West LSP Thematic Leads meeting.

**Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> April 2009.  
**Time:** 2.30pm  
**Venue:** Committee Room 2B, County Hall, Chester.

### Attending:

Steve Robinson (Chair)	Cheshire West and Chester Council
Wendy Meredith	NHS Western Cheshire
Sara Mogel	West Cheshire College
John Stephens	Cheshire West and Chester Council
Steve Kent	Cheshire West and Chester Council
Mike Lewis	Cheshire West and Chester Council
Tim Jackson	Cheshire Constabulary
Jane Staley	Groundwork Cheshire
John Salt	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
Debbie Washington	Job Centre Plus
Ian Whitehead	Cheshire West and Chester Council

**Apologies:** Helen Bellairs (NHS Western Cheshire), Mark Wilson (Job Centre Plus)

**Support Staff:** Alistair Jeffs, Alison Armstrong, Robbie Taylor (Cheshire West and Chester Council)

Item No.1	<b>Welcome, introductions and apologies.</b>  The Chair welcomed members of the group and apologies were noted. The Group were reminded of their key purpose and function: to act as the strategic planning element of the LSP, to 'trouble-shoot' where necessary and to provide overall direction for the business and work programme across the LSP framework.
Action - Decision	None required.
Item No.2	<b>Minutes and matters arising from last meeting.</b>
Action - Decision	The minutes were agreed.
Item No.3	<b>Thematic Partnerships – progress, work programme and emerging issues.</b>  Each of the Thematic Partnerships provided a verbal update on

current progress, starting with the CYP Trust.

John Stephens reported that the Trust had committed itself to focus on a limited number of key actions for each major outcome; therefore ensuring results are more tightly driven. A future key task will be to establish (along with PCT colleagues) a strong commissioning framework, to target and drive investment through the Trust. The Trust will also cover support not just to children and young people, but include links to families and broader community cohesion issues.

Tim Jackson reported that lead officers for each of the LAA outcomes had been appointed and the associated delivery work-streams were continuing to develop. The Safer and Stronger Communities Group meets officially for the first time on 8<sup>th</sup> May and further consideration will given to finalising partnership membership. The partnership has a number of colleagues currently working through the delivery planning process and testing out the new templates.

Jane Staley reported on discussions at the recent Environment Sustainability Thematic Group meeting. Four of the performance indicators within the remit of the Group are driven independently of the new Partnership, for example, improving road maintenance is based solely on the level of spend directed at services. To draw value from the Group, the outcomes which partners can exert some influence to improve delivery will be concentrated upon, to make a difference. Once the LAA delivery plans are completed and a review has taken place, the membership of the Partnership will be revisited and finalised. The Partnership will concentrate on its LAA commitments before considering its contribution to develop a new Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). A discussion had occurred on the best home for the housing outcomes.

Wendy Meredith updated on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Group, the Group had met twice and had shared their strategic plans to look for synergies. The recent meeting examined the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment in some depth and its role to support evidence based activities and new SCS consultation. Future meetings of the Group will concentrate on single key issues each meeting: the next meeting will focus on the theme of older adults. There has been a good commitment from colleagues to support the objectives of the new Partnership.

Sara Mogul advised that she and Mark Wilson will be the respective Chair and Vice Chair of the Business, Enterprise and Culture Partnership: the first meeting of this partnership is currently under preparation. One key challenge will be the engagement and ongoing involvement of the business community: especially as achieving the two LAA skills targets relate to people

	<p>in employment and their progress in attaining NVQ Levels 2 and 3.</p> <p>The Chair asked where we can focus delivery below the Borough level, based on evidence and analysis, to enable the LSP to identify and target some quick wins to allow us to raise the profile of the new LSP and our work. A number of colleagues reported particular risks within the town of Ellesmere Port, where more concerted efforts are required. How can we now work differently in this area as a Partnership?</p>
Action - Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new Commissioning framework under development will be mainstreamed across the entire LSP framework.</li> <li>• A future meeting will concentrate on Ellesmere Port and service realignment to meet specific needs, especially when the new Area Partnerships Boards (APBs) are up and running.</li> <li>• The Third Assembly to assist in ensuring more representatives from the Third Sector and local communities are members of each Thematic Partnership.</li> <li>• The Environmental Sustainable Thematic Partnership confirmed all housing outcomes are fine where they are located.</li> </ul>
Item No.4	<p><b>Local Strategic Partnership agenda (30<sup>th</sup> April 2009):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LSP branding</b></li> <li>• <b>CAA – Initial Self Assessment Report</b></li> <li>• <b>LAA – Performance Management Framework</b></li> </ul> <p>Partners were shown the initial LSP branding ideas and decided it best not to go further with suggestions 2, 4 and 5 and to add West Cheshire Partnership as a further option.</p> <p>Alistair Jeffs introduced the Report produced on behalf of a number of public sector officers on ‘CAA Initial Self Assessment’. There will be four key lines of enquiry (paragraph 3.5) taken from the national framework and the report will evolve and contain more detail and be more accessible (for staff and the public) by its launch in June. The Chair asked whether Partners are clear about their role in the joint Assessment in the autumn and each Thematic Partnership needs to take ownership of the relevant sections of the initial self evaluation to build up a more detailed picture.</p> <p>Alistair also introduced the LAA Performance Management Framework report, this outlined the delivery plan template and process to ensure performance monitoring and reporting is robust and timely. Further confirmation of the key lead responsible officers for each LAA indicator is still needed and invitations will be circulated for partners to identify their appropriate colleagues. Colleagues commented that the delivery plans were just part of good performance reporting and that we need to additionally evidence sound qualitative evidence and ‘real benefits to real</p>

	<p>people'. Some performance indicators are not possible to report from the APB footprints and there are ongoing issues concerning evidence to support in-year performance reporting, where data is available only annually. However, significant improvements will only follow the realignment of budgets and services to our priority outcomes, not just the data underpinning the inherited LAA indicators.</p>
Action - Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Thematic Leads Group to review all LSP papers in advance of their circulation in the future.</li> <li>• The revised and updated 'CAA Initial Self Assessment' report to be revisited at a future meeting; especially concerning the cross-cutting details for APBs, equality and diversity, community empowerment etc.</li> <li>• All Chairs and Vice Chairs to ensure the LAA delivery plans are completed within the proposed timescale.</li> </ul>
Item No.5	<p><b>Migrant Impact Fund bid.</b></p> <p>John Salt advised the Group of the details of this GONW administered external funding scheme, aimed at providing additional support to agencies, working in partnership, with legal migrant communities. Approval and support from the LSP was required in order to submit a bid on behalf of the broader sub-region. The submission date of 1<sup>st</sup> May was the first step in the bidding process and any potential funding will not be available until April 2010. The bid would support the broader work of the LSP and be 'labelled' as a Partnership project if successful and it offered an early opportunity to work on cross-cutting sub-regional issues.</p>
Action - Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The bid was approved by colleagues and further detail of the project activities would be welcome as they progressed.</li> </ul>
Item No.6	<p><b>Any other business.</b></p> <p>The Chair updated the Group on some of the broader, strategic sub-regional partnership arrangements under development and outlined in a recent paper. There is a new sub-regional Leaders group (including Chief Executives) with a broader sub-group featuring the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer. The large number of sub-regional partnerships are being rationalised and orientated more sharply, for instance having only one partnership looking at the prosperity agenda. The Chair reminded the Group that a key undertaking of the LGR bid was to produce a stronger sub-region and these new partnerships would be the mechanism to do so.</p>
Action - Decision	<p>Comments on the sub-regional paper to the Chair would be welcome.</p>

**Details of next meeting:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 1.30pm – 3.00pm, Committee  
Room 2B, County Hall, Chester

Signed (Chair): .....

Date: .....