

# **Winsford and Rural East Area Partnership Board**

## **Minutes of Meeting**

**– Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

### **In attendance**

John Salt (Chair) – Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service  
Ian West – Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service  
Barbara Johnson – Job Centre Plus  
Ewan McHenry – Cheshire West and Chester Council  
Councillor Charlie Parkinson – Cheshire West and Chester Council  
John Stephens – Director of Children's and Young Peoples Services,  
Cheshire West and Chester Council.  
Alison Armstrong – Cheshire West & Chester Council  
Pat Johnson – Cheshire West & Chester Council  
Paul Hickson – Cheshire West & Chester Council  
Pat Johnson – Western Cheshire Primary Care Trust  
Liz Noakes – Western Cheshire Primary Care Trust  
Roy Johns – Weaver Vale Housing Trust  
Sue Lowe – Central & Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust  
Paul Nichols – Citizens Advice Bureau  
Jane Makin – Cheshire West & Cheshire Council

### **Apologies –**

Cllr. Keith Musgrave  
Police Inspector Dave Snasdell  
Chris Mitchell – Connexions  
Jonathan Griffiths – GP, Chair of Vale Royal Practice Based Commissioning  
Consortia  
Graham Roberts – Weaver Vale Housing Trust  
John Reilly – Mid-Cheshire College

### **(1) Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair, John Salt Area Commander with Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service welcomed everyone to the meeting. Partners then introduced themselves.

### **(2) Minutes of last meeting**

**Agreed:** That the minutes of the last meeting, held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 were approved as a correct record.

### **(3) Action List 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010 (as attached)**

Action 1.1 awaiting report on the accessibility situation regarding young people and Princes Trust

Action 2.1 it was confirmed to the meeting that Future Jobs Fund provision cannot be specifically targeted to those wards identified through National Indicator NI153. Further initiatives are being offered through employment subsidy vouchers and flexible new deal.

Action 2.2 ongoing

Action 3.1 resolved

Action 4.1 Chair confirmed that 633 home visits had been undertaken with a positive response in building confidence levels through a multi agency approach.

Action 5.1 ongoing

Action 6.1 Abbotts Way Service Area, Winsford – consultation exercise with the local community is planned

Action 6.2 Meadowbank Estate, Winsford – a meeting is planned with the community to ascertain how the council and community in an isolated area can work together more effectively

Action 6.3 Woodford Lane – concerns over lack of road markings outside St Josephs School - ongoing

(4) **Area Partnership Board – Terms of Reference / Constitution**  
(copy as attached)

The first twelve months of the partnerships framework has focussed on the establishment of the Local Strategic Partnership and the Thematic Partnerships to drive forward improvement.

It is acknowledged that during this period there has been only loose guidance and arrangements as to the business and direction of the Area Partnership Boards. To promote working more effectively on a business type footing clear governance arrangements are required.

The core constitution is based on that of the Local Strategic Partnership outlining those business processes namely membership, chair, terms of office, disputes and decision making guidance.

There will be a core membership of Local Authority, Police, Fire & Rescue Service, Primary Care Trust, Town & Parish Council representative, 3<sup>rd</sup> sector assembly representative, representative of the three community forums.

Alison Armstrong also provided an update on the Total Place Project which is currently being delivered in Ellesmere Port and this concept encourages

analysis of the resources that are being used to tackle issues that have been highlighted for action by local communities.

Total Place is being driven through thirteen national pilots focussing on making a difference through the best use of resources and efficiency savings.

Total Place is currently being piloted in Ellesmere Port focussing on Child Poverty; once processes and practices have been defined the process will be rolled out Borough-wide. The challenge being to identify what resources (cash, assets, personnel) are currently being utilised to tackle a particular problem identified by communities and deliver efficiencies in the provision of services.

John Salt stated that he had also been involved in the pilot in Ellesmere Port and there was potentially a huge benefit however as with all new initiatives there is a challenge and corporate governance issues.

Pat Johnson from Western Cheshire Primary Care Trust stated that mapping exercises are currently ongoing in identifying provision and one particular area of analysis has been around parenting projects delivered through voluntary and statutory agencies.

**A copy of the report Total Place: A whole new approach to public services is available on request.**

**(5) Safer & Stronger Communities Group** (copy of presentation attached)

Jane Makin – Community Safety Team Leader at Cheshire West & Chester Council explained the role of the above group in undertaking those statutory duties of the Crime & Disorder Partnership (CDRP) and the coordination of the thematic partnership.

The role of the Thematic Partnership is to undertake a strategic assessment of communities, identify strategic priorities and deliver on these priorities within local communities. The thematic partnerships mechanism for local delivery is through Task Groups which have been formed within the five APBs in Cheshire West & Chester.

The Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership has identified three key priorities within Cheshire West & Chester:

- adult reoffending (tackled through the delivery of integrated offender management)
- alcohol misuse (cross cutting theme inclusive of alcohol misuse by young people)
- reducing anti social behaviour (delivery of anti social behaviour operational panels, anti social behaviour hotline launched)

The local priorities in Winsford & Rural East being focussed on by the partnership are as follows:

- Anti Social Behaviour
- Arson & Secondary Fires
- Assault with Less Serious Injury
- Communication and Public Confidence

Ian West from Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service highlighted the Bonfire Initiative that has been delivered in Winsford for a number of years and has achieved reductions in the number of bonfires reported during October/November. However due to the success of the project those lighting fires have shifted emphasis onto bin fires therefore there is a need to shift focus onto waste collection during the bonfire period.

John Salt added that there is a significant impact on all agencies of these fires for example additional costs to the local authority, damage to Weaver Vale Housing Trust properties, school attendance, injuries to both those setting fires and other members of the community.

The Community Safety Task Group are currently making preparation for the next Bonfire Initiative and further information on new initiatives to tackle secondary fires will be shared with the next Area Partnership Board meeting.

### **Action**

#### **Report to the Area Partnership Board on proposal to tackle secondary fires during the bonfire season in October/November**

#### **(6) Health Inequalities Action Plan for Cheshire West & Chester**

Liz Noakes, Associate Director of Public Health at Western Cheshire Primary Care Trust presented the findings of the latest draft of the Health Inequalities Action Plan (copy of presentation attached).

The reduction of health inequalities in Cheshire West & Chester is not just about health (20%) it is about other determinants of lifestyle, social and economic networks and finally general socio economic, cultural and environmental conditions.

Health inequalities vary widely throughout Cheshire West and Chester and inequalities are most apparent in those areas highlighted through the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 namely:

- Winsford South & West - 6 Lower Super Output Areas
- Winsford North & East – 6 Lower Super Output Areas

Alison Armstrong highlighted the outcomes of the Audit Commission findings and the red flag risks around health inequalities whereby there is a

requirement of evidence towards the delivery of local outcomes in reducing inequalities.

It was also highlighted that health inequalities can only be tackled through a partnership approach.

Weaver Vale Housing Trust highlighted a recent exercise that they have been undertaking on Greenfields Park in relation to heating and fuel poverty proactively involving local residents in decision making around improvements in properties energy efficiency.

Pat Johnson from the Primary Care Trust stated that a Healthy Homes project had been undertaken in another area with the focus on private housing and that there is a need to identify those wards with lowest standard of housing stock.

Paul Nicholls from the CAB also stated that they are undertaking significant work on tackling fuel poverty.

**(7) Key Priority Update:**

**Children & Young People**

The key achievements in period are that Connexions are developing a template to illustrate performance measurement of the NEETS cohort in Winsford and a clear understanding of pathways for both Pre-NEETS and NEETS is being developed.

There are further opportunities to contribute to positive outcomes for young people in Winsford & Rural East through the delivery of two additional Princes Trust programmes and the creation of an Integrated Family Intervention Programme in Winsford.

A further key priority highlighted is informing young people and adults of *What's On* for young people in Winsford and a marketing strategy is being developed through voluntary sector partners to keep local communities informed.

**Adult Health & Wellbeing**

The key achievement within the period is a successful bid to the IDeA for funding to deliver a community capacity building project enabling communities to define their determinants that contribute to Health. This will be delivered within deprived neighbourhoods of Winsford & Rural East.

Links are also being developed between the Group, Cheshire West and Chester Council and Winsford Town Council to increase the potential of green spaces for Community Gardens for the purposes of promoting the consumption of fruit and vegetables. This work has clear links to Area Asset Management Strategy due for discussion at the next meeting.

## **Jobs & Enterprise**

The wards within Winsford & Rural East which are being measured within National Indicator 153 (wards where more than 25% of the working population are unemployed) have been identified namely:

- East Winsford L3
- Winsford Central L2
- West Winsford L2
- West Winsford L3

Those wards where the % of the population with no education qualifications is above the national average in Winsford are as follows:

- Dene, Gravel, Verdin, Wharton, Over, Swanlow

The challenge for the jobs and enterprise group is to identify what activity can be delivered more effectively through a partnership approach to the skills gap and reducing unemployment rates in the wards identified.

### **(8) Neighbourhood Management in West Winsford**

Paul Hickson – Neighbourhood Manager with Cheshire West and Chester Council attended the meeting to discuss the work of the neighbourhood management partnership board and the structures and governance arrangements being proposed. The West Winsford MSOA comprises of mixed tenure housing stock with a large percentage of housing stock managed by three registered social landlords Weaver Vale Housing Trust, Riverside and Muir Housing Group.

The main focus of neighbourhood management in the first year has been in relation to community capacity building, getting communities involved and providing links into the decision making processes. This work has been undertaken through a partnership between the agencies and the community.

West Winsford MSOA has been selected to deliver neighbourhood management in Winsford and Rural East due to inequalities identified in this locality through the Index of Multiple Deprivation, Place Survey and the Local Area Agreement.

Key partners have been identified from statutory agencies, voluntary sector and community representatives to participate on the Neighbourhood Partnership Board which will report to the Area Partnership Board. Full details of the governance arrangements are attached.

A draft Action Plan has been developed for West Winsford and this is due to be discussed further at the inaugural meeting of the Neighbourhood Partnership Board in May 2010.

John Salt stated that it was important in ensuring both the Area and Neighbourhood Partnership Board is representative of communities and therefore representation should be sought from young people wherever possible.

Councillor Parkinson stated that the increase in participation in West Winsford is reflected in the volume of applications for members budget support in the area.

**(9) Safer & Stronger Communities Group Update**

Ian West from Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service provided a brief update on the work currently being undertaken through the Winsford & Rural East Community Safety Task Group.

Problems of alcohol being consumed outside licensed premises around DBs and Red Lion in Winsford had been reported. The Community Safety Team at Cheshire West & Chester Council are currently analysing the data to identify incidents that have been caused by the consumption of alcohol in a public place.

The Anti Social Behaviour Panel which manages the behaviour of those involved in anti social behaviour is now operating and part of this Groups remit is where appropriate to publish Anti Social Behaviour Orders.

The Bonfire Initiative is due to commence in October 2010 and linked to this project will be the delivery of a Confidence/Safer & Stronger Week in Wharton on week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

There has also been a successful application for a Gating Order to close an alleyway in West Winsford that had been a hotspot for crime and anti social behaviour for a number of years. Councillor Parkinson also stated that there was further work required to clean-up an area of Council land nearby on Whitbys Lane and the Councillor may wish to support the clean-up through the members' budget.

**(10) Any Other Business**

Request that an update be provided at the next meeting on the proposal for the creation of an Academy in Winsford.

Paul Nicholls from the CAB informed the Board a new single advice line across Cheshire West and Chester has been established – 08445 576611.

The memberships of the Board were informed that there is now a designated partnership notice board in Wyvern House and therefore if they would like to raise awareness of initiatives being delivered then please forward to Ewan McHenry.

The Chair John Salt closed the meeting reflecting on the first twelve months of the APB and whether communities in Winsford & Rural East know the APB exists. Therefore a key area of work is to begin to develop how we brand ourselves in the delivery of initiatives.

**(11) Date of Next Meeting**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 9.30am – venue to be decided.**