

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Manchester Partnership (LSP) Board
Held on 17 January 2006**

Present: Councillor Richard Leese MCC (in the Chair)
Councillor Simon Wheale MCC
Michael Eakin North West Arts Council
Khan Moghal MCCR
Tim Atkinson GM LSC
Davy Iredale CN4M
Mark Nesbitt CN4M
Jean Laurie GMPTE
Cliff Ellison GM Chamber of Commerce
Sue Jarvis Manchester Enterprises
Adrian Mercer South Manchester PCT
Lyndsey Harman Jobcentre Plus
Steve Mycio Deputy Chief Executive
Performance, MCC

Also Present: Michael Greenwood GONW
Eddie Smith Head of Regeneration MCC
David Regan Joint Health Unit
Kath Smythe Manchester Partnership Manager
Peter Jones MPSL

Apologies: Councillor Imran Rizvi (MCC), Justine Curran (GMP), Briony Simister (GM Chamber of Commerce), Richard Guy (Manchester Enterprises), John Korzeniewski (GM LSC), Keith Howcroft (GMPTE) and Geoff Little, Head of Performance MCC.

1. Minutes of the Meeting of the Manchester Partnership Board held on 20 December 2005, Action Note and Briefing Note

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 20 December 2005, Action Note and subsequent Briefing Note were presented for consideration.

Resolved/-

That the Minutes and Action Note be received.

2. Matters Arising

(a) Development of Board (minute 3)

Kath Smythe reminded the Board of the importance of the Community Strategy being signed by Partner organisations at the most senior level.

3. Alcohol Strategy

Adrian Mercer introduced a report setting out progress on the implementation of the Alcohol Strategy through the Thematic Partnerships and other partners such as the Places Project. He drew attention to the Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaigns, the other public health campaigns and activities being carried out by the Health Inequalities Partnership and the continuing work through the Transport Thematic Partnership in police support for late night bus loaders. The drawing up of an Alcohol Harm Index, similar to the existing Drug Harm Index and the Indices of Deprivation 2004, had also been suggested.

A number of issues arose in discussion, including

(a) it was important that the present arrangements for support of bus loaders for late night bus services be continued post March 2006, when the present funding arrangements ended; discussions were continuing with the relevant organisations, including GMP, the City Centre Management Co and others to try to reach a solution; publicity through the Chamber of Commerce's news letter could help to get the private sector involved;

(b) Housing and Sustainable Communities had requested ward co-ordinators to list the priorities of local areas; the Drug and Alcohol Team would work with ward co-ordinators to tackle the priorities, including youth nuisance and appropriate referrals to youth support services; the Crime and Disorder Partnership were finalising their proposals on youth nuisance and were looking at ways to link with the Children and Young People's Plan;

(c) an evaluation of the various activities under the Strategy was important, with appropriate performance management information.

Resolved/-

(i) that the Board support the continuing city-wide campaigns carried out under the Alcohol Strategy.

(ii) that the Board support the proposed alcohol index together with pooled funding arrangements where appropriate.

(iii) that the Board support continued negotiations to resolve the issue of financial support for bus loaders on late night bus services.

(iv) that appropriate evaluation of Strategy activities be undertaken with performance management of sub-partnership indicators and targets.

4. Community Strategy 2006-2015

Kath Smythe introduced a report and gave a presentation on the proposed Community Strategy for 2006-2015. She outlined the main proposals for the Strategy: the new Vision for Manchester brought to life through *The*

Manchester Story audio/visual, the forthcoming Local Area Agreement (LAA) with central government, Partner Agreements containing local commitments of Partners to delivery and change and the Mancunian Agreement that would set out the expectations of people who lived and worked in Manchester.

The new Vision would show Manchester as an original, modern and progressive city, driven by the economic performance of the city and sub-region, that would result in a larger population with an appropriate demographic mix that would be wealthier and live longer and healthier lives.

The LAA would focus on removing barriers to effective delivery of what was most important and had greatest impact on the city, through, for example, the creation of freedoms and flexibilities to ensure unequivocal support for the Children Act, the targeting and measuring the performance of services for worklessness, streamlining Partnership targets and performance reporting to government and pooled funding streams.

The Partner Agreements would focus on local action to tackle worklessness and young people not in education, employment or training, a commitment to local purchasing, district collaboration for services to children and young people, promoting the participation of children and young people in active leisure and cultural activity and promoting travel plans.

The Mancunian Agreement would set out what it meant to be a good Mancunian and everyone's role in achieving changes to develop the third spine of the LAA submission, individual self respect and esteem.

The Board's role in delivering the Strategy included ensuring that the Strategy was produced, ensuring that the priorities of the Strategy were reflected throughout mainstream delivery and governance, achieving clarity in the Board's role and expectations of members and championing the Strategy within partner organisations.

A number of issues arose in discussion, including

(a) it was important to ensure that Board member organisations had enough information to sign off the LAA and Community Strategy at the highest level; this could be achieved through a summary document for discussion by governing bodies and partners;

(b) more thought needed to be given as to how the Manchester Partnership incorporated sub-regional partnership priorities as well as influencing the identification of them to ensure maximum benefit for Manchester

(c) economic growth needed to be brought out more strongly within the Community Strategy; Manchester was improving nationally but had some way to go internationally; the Strategy and the LAA should set out what needed to be improved over the next ten years, for example, business start ups and a more enterprise culture for the city, and, through the disaggregation of data,

identify gaps and under-performing areas where action would need to be taken and targets set for improvement;

(d) the proposed indicators on three levels set out in Appendix C to the report needed further work to include indicators for environmental issues, well being and cultural factors and wealth indicators such as the city's GVA and GVA per head of population;

(e) the Mancunian Agreement would the first instance raise awareness about roles, responsibilities and expectations and over time by being adopted by all agencies would become part of formal agreements entered into with residents, thereby providing the wherewithal to hold people to account;

(f) the LAA would need to be agreed by the end of February to allow for it to be circulated to other government departments and signed off by ministers at the end of March 2006.

Resolved/-

(i) that Kath Smythe be thanked for her helpful presentation

(ii) that a final version of the LAA submission be submitted to the February meeting of the Board.

5. Respect Agenda

Steve Mycio gave a verbal report on the launch of the Respect Action Plan (RAP) project by government on 10 January 2006. The Prime Minister had emphasised that the Respect Agenda was central to the government's aims of investing in good behaviour and deterring bad behaviour and setting out the duties and responsibilities of citizens. The government intended to uphold the law, protect the vulnerable and tackle the root causes of bad behaviour. The RAP covered a range of areas, including the importance of good parenting, encouraging youth activity that resulted in good behaviour, tackling truancy and poor behaviour in schools, supporting communities through appropriate public services such as neighbourhood policing. All government departments would be expected to contribute to the Action Plan. It was proposed that a whole partnership approach to addressing the RAP was needed

He added that the Respect Agenda fitted in to a number of Partnership priorities such as the third spine of the Community Strategy and the Mancunian Agreement. Each organisation represented on the Board would need to consider the Respect Action Plan in the context of their own organisation and Thematic Partnerships would also need to consider how they could contribute to the Action Plan and should be asked by the Board to identify a lead person to co-ordinate action.

Some relevant work had already been carried out successfully in the public sector, for example, the zero tolerance approach of JobCentre Plus. This could be built on for the Respect Agenda. The role of the voluntary and community sectors in the Respect Agenda also needed consideration.

In summing up, the Chair stated that there would need to be new legislation to implement some aspects of the Respect Agenda. NRF investment and the new Community Strategy would both need to include the Respect Agenda in their activities and there was an overall responsibility for partners and thematic partnerships to demonstrate that they would contribute to the Respect Agenda.

Resolved/-

that the report be noted and that further developments be reported to future meetings of the Board.

6. Community Strategy – Portfolio Approach

Kath Smythe introduced a report on a Portfolio Approach to the Community Strategy. She informed the meeting of the eight elements of the Approach, comprising a series of materials and including the LAA, the Partner Agreement, the Mancunian Agreement and Performance Indicators. The third Manchester Conference would take place on 18 March 2006 and would be an opportunity to communicate the new Vision, launch the new Community Strategy and engage residents in discussion on the Mancunian Agreement. This would start a broader consultation process to last until the end of July 2006. The programme for the event was being drawn up and would be submitted to the February meeting of the Board.

In discussion, it was noted that a Consultation Plan would be drawn up that would focus on those groups that were hard to reach, such as those in receipt of incapacity benefit and income support.

Resolved/-

(i) that the Portfolio Approach be noted

(ii) a draft Programme for the Manchester Conference be submitted for consideration at the February meeting of the Board.

7. ODPM Consultation - LSPs

Kath Smythe introduced a report on the consultation being carried out by ODPM on the future of Local Strategic Partnerships. The consultation paper recognised the need to make progress on accountability for the implementation of the Community Strategy and to create stronger links to delivery, key priorities already discussed by the Board.

A response had been drafted but further work was required on a number of issues and areas, including clarifying that the Children's Trust would be part of the Manchester Partnership, emphasising that any clustering should be locally determined and not prescribed by blocks and that partners to which a duty to comply should apply included Police, Health, Jobcentre Plus, schools, colleges, Connexions and any publicly funded training providers. The deadline for the response to the consultation was 3 March 2006.

Resolved/-

- (i) that the draft response to the consultation be noted.
- (ii) that any further comments be submitted to Kath Smythe.

8. NRF

Eddie Smith spoke to a report setting out proposals for the investment of Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and Stronger and Safer Communities Fund allocations for 2006-2007 and 2007-2008. He reminded the Board of the one off uplift in funds that was made available from central government for 2005-2006. The report proposed that for 2006-2007 some funds amounting to £13,000,000 remain unallocated until the Community Strategy had been agreed and the Board then set a direction for NRF and SSCF projects and allocations.

In discussion, a number of points arose, including

- (a) further work was required to evaluate the outcomes of NRF investment to date; Steve Jones' work on performance management would contribute to this and thematic partnerships would need to take account of his work; partnerships did produce action plans for NRF projects and these were vetted by the Management Group;
- (b) by the end of March, the partnerships would have been informed of their allocations for 2006-2007; the Management Group would have reviewed the Action Plans and the evidence base for the proposed activities; action should be taken by partnerships to avoid any delay in starting projects
- (c) to date there appeared to be a lack of cross-cutting work and impacts; it was important that priorities be identified for cross-cutting work, as set out in the report; the three key themes were ones to which all thematic partnerships could contribute: Children and Young People's Plan, Greening Manchester and Respect.

Resolved/-

- (i) that the Board support the allocation of 2006-2007 NRF as set out in Annex 1 of the report.

(ii) that the Board support the allocation of 2006-2007 SSCF Neighbourhood Element to the Crime and Disorder Partnership to support neighbourhood management interventions.

(iii) that the Board support the base allocation of 2007-2008 NRF, as set out in Annex 1 of the report.

(iv) that a report be brought to a future Board meeting on the future role of and strategy for the Community Network in supporting the delivery of the Community.

9. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

10. Next meeting

The following was noted as the date for next meeting: 14 February 2006, 8.00am to 10.00am.

**MEETING OF MANCHESTER PARTNERSHIP BOARD HELD ON 17
JANUARY 2006**

ACTION NOTE

1. Minutes of meeting held on 20 December 2005 and Action Note

Noted. No action.

2. Alcohol Strategy

Action

A. Evaluation of Strategy activities be undertaken with performance management of indicators. (**Management Group**)

3. LAA/Community Strategy 2006-2015

Action

A. Final version of LAA submission be submitted to February meeting of Board. (**Kath Smythe**)

4. Respect Agenda

Action

A. Further reports to future meetings of the Board. (**Steve Mycio**)

