

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Manchester Partnership (LSP) Board
Held on 29 November 2005**

Present: Councillor Richard Leese MCC (in the Chair)
Councillor Simon Wheale MCC
Councillor Imran Rizvi MCC
Khan Moghal MCCR
John Korzeniewski GM LSC
Tim Atkinson GM LSC
Ed Cox CN4M
Jean Laurie GMPTE
Kirsty Rawlinson GM Chamber of Commerce
Paul Thomas Manchester Enterprises
Steve Mycio Deputy Chief Executive
Performance, MCC

Also

Present: Jacquie O'Neill GONW
Geoff Little Head of Performance
Eddie Smith Head of Regeneration
Kath Smythe Manchester Partnership Manager
Peter Jones MP SL

Apologies: Michael Eakin (North West Arts Council), Justine Curran (GMP), Briony Simister (GM Chamber of Commerce) David Iredale (CN4M), Adrian Mercer (South Manchester PCT), Keith Howcroft (GMPTE) Lyndsey Harman (Jobcentre Plus), Richard Guy (Manchester Enterprises) and Brian Holmes (GONW).

1. Minutes of the Meeting of the Manchester Partnership Board held on 4 October 2005 and Action Note

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 4 October 2005 and Action Note were presented for consideration.

Resolved/-

That the Minutes and Action Note be received.

2. Development of the Board

Following one-to-one discussions between Board members and Paul Corrigan and building on developments arising from the Board Away Day, Geoff Little gave a presentation outlining a series of challenges for the Board to consider how it could accelerate improvements in the lives of Manchester people. The focus was on how the Board could add value and centred on seven challenges:

1. The Community Strategy review process December 2005 to April 2006 and the need for the Board to recognise the depth of changes that the new Community Strategy would bring
2. The Community Strategy review process post April 2006 and in particular the increased accountability and performance management responsibilities for the Board
3. Agendas and reports on performance with the need for the Board to receive bespoke information and be in a position to intervene on performance issues where necessary
4. Partnership taken as a specific issue and the potential impact of a unified campaign by all partners for one to two years on a key priority issue for Manchester
5. Joint Human Resources issues – the change organisational cultures to promote partnership working through joint action
6. Districts, wards and partnerships – the need for more co-ordinated development of local partnerships working on coterminous localities with shared local data
7. Marketing and resourcing the Partnership – whether the Partnership should have a public presence and the potential for strengthening the resource to support the Partnership.

The next immediate steps were the one-to-one meetings between Board members and Geoff Little or Kath Smythe, the results of which would be fed into a full session at the December meeting of the Board.

The Chair broadly supported the approach set out in the presentation. He added that it was important to keep the LAA work in perspective as it was only a part of the continuing work of the Partnership. The Vision for Manchester needed to include the aspiration of becoming a major European city by 2015. The Manchester Partnership had been established as a Partnership of partnerships. It was important for the Board to co-ordinate the work of the various partners and ensure that services were delivered.

A number of issues were raised in discussion, including the need to ensure that Partnerships and the Board were fully aware of their responsibilities, the importance of close liaison between the public agencies and the voluntary sector on issues such as human resources and the need to align funding and to share relevant data, wherever possible.

Resolved/-

- (i) that Geoff Little be thanked for his helpful presentation.
- (ii) that one to one meetings take place as set out in the presentation.

(iii) that a full challenge session take place at the meeting of the Board scheduled for 20 December 2005.

3. Essence of Mancunian

Kath Smythe spoke to a report on the Essence of Mancunian and the forthcoming third Manchester Conference. She informed the meeting that the new Community Strategy was an opportunity to focus on and adopt a fresh approach to what was different about Manchester, for example population churn and new and emerging communities. Building on the recent economic success and growth in Manchester, the Community Strategy would set out a new Vision for Manchester with a healthier and wealthier population by 2015. This would comprise an audio visual *The Manchester Story*, which would be available on DVD or on-line, and could include a series of case studies of Manchester residents at different stages of life. This would be supported by a number of objectives, targets and indicators over the next ten years by which the success of meeting the Vision could be measured. The three key mechanisms for delivery would be the LAA (the formal agreement with central government), the Partner Agreement (agreements made locally by partners without the need for government approval) and a Contract with Mancunians (the expectations of residents, linked to the third spine of the LAA negotiations – respect and self-esteem). The Contract could be linked to a number of other current developments, including community cohesion and the annual 100 days campaign, and allow the third Manchester Conference to focus on local people. A Delivery Strategy would be drawn up to describe the Manchester approach to high performance through city-wide, thematic, area and organisation-specific mechanisms that would translate high level priorities into action. It was essential, therefore, to be clear about the key messages so that people can use them in their own publications and presentations.

In discussion, a number of issues were raised, including

(a) there was broad support for *The Manchester Story* audio visual, the Contract with Mancunians and the focusing of the Conference on local residents; it would be useful, however, to ensure that all of these built on existing activities and that people received feedback on what had been achieved to date;

(b) for the Contract, there needed to be a balance between what was expected of residents and what they could expect in return; there was evidence that people did want to take responsibility, for example the Commonwealth Games volunteers and the 100 days campaigns; the overall gain for the city and its residents would be a better city and environment;

(c) some sections of the city's population were aspiring to achieve success; others would need to be encouraged to achieve their potential; also the possibility of involving young people in education and training could be explored;

(d) the content and editing of the audio visual would need to be professionally done; it should focus on the important events in people's lives;

(e) community engagement was challenging; it was important to ensure that it would actually change people's lives and the delivery of services in order to attract people to the Conference and to encourage them to make a contribution;

(f) the Conference could encourage dialogue by using a small group format, rather than the deliberative approach of actually voting on issues; it was noted that the Conference was part of a continuing approach with a number of events between now and March 2006.

Resolved/-

(i) that the format for the Community Strategy set out in the report be endorsed.

(ii) that the target audience for the Conference be local residents.

(iii) that the approach to Conference planning set out in the report be supported.

4. Housing Market Renewal

Eddie Smith spoke to a report setting a summary of the three years of work completed by the Manchester Salford Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder Scheme. The Scheme had been set up jointly with Salford City Council to provide a strategic direction for housing at the core of the conurbation and to try to establish Neighbourhoods of Choice. There were links to the Manchester Partnership through the Sustainable Neighbourhoods Partnership. Research had been commissioned from Oxford Economic Forecasting as part of the Research, Foresight and Intelligence programme. This research showed that there had been economic and population decline at the core of the conurbation over a fifty year period that had resulted in a loss of population of around 250,000 and low density poor quality housing. In turn, deprivation was concentrated in these areas of decline. As part of a strategy for the future, the research had produced two economic scenarios - a scenario based on current growth trends and an accelerated growth scenario. Economic growth was the key regional driver and the scenarios forecast that there would be an increase in households of between 54,000 and 73,000 by 2021. The level of in- and out-migration at the core of the conurbation was roughly in balance. There would be a demand for more housing but the challenges were to regenerate the core, to improve the east-west corridor at the north and east of Manchester and to provide the correct balance of housing to meet the needs of all residents. Thus, present and future housing stock had to be looked at so that new build, for example, provided more than just one and two bedroom apartments, and was affordable to all, not just key workers.

The Strategic Regional Frameworks needed to look at ways of creating Neighbourhoods of Choice with a high quality mixed tenure of housing stock. Pathfinder was focusing on areas that needed significant investment and would use the Private Finance Initiative to provide social rented housing stock. There was now some evidence that investment was beginning to show returns. It was intended to provide the better quality housing over a fifteen year period to attract more people to live in the core of the conurbation and to provide the associated infrastructure such as schools and social facilities.

In summing up, the Chair said that the balance of housing that would need to be provided was a complicated issue. There were, for example, pockets of good quality, sought after houses within predominantly poor areas. There were links to employment and, although welfare housing would still need to be provided, increases in population needed to be of a mixed type that could afford to buy better quality houses.

Resolved/-

- (i) that Eddie Smith be thanked for his helpful presentation.
- (ii) that the progress report be noted.

5. LAA/Community Strategy - Partner Agreement

Kath Smythe introduced a report on the opportunity for partners to secure commitments to change from partners better to deliver the priorities of the Community Strategy through a Partner Agreement. The Partner Agreement would run along side the LAA. A number of areas might be suitable for such agreements, including the achievement and well-being of children in a particular district, tackling worklessness, extending crime and disorder requirements to a wider range of partners and developing transport plans. The agreements could be progressed as part of the Community Strategy Review, involving one to one discussions as appropriate. The Chair welcomed the broad approach set out in the report and requested that consideration be given as to whether a number of partner agreements might be more effective than a single Partner Agreement.

Resolved/-

- (i) that the report be noted.
- (ii) that approach set out in the report be supported.

6. Quarterly Performance Report

The report on the performance for the second quarter of 2005-2006 was noted. Members were asked to raise any particular issues with the relevant member of the LSP Team.

7. Any Other Business

(a) Last meeting for Ed Cox, CN4M

The Chair informed the meeting that Ed Cox was standing down as a representative of the Community Network in Manchester, having completed two years service on the Board. He thanked Ed for all his work as a Board member and wished him well for the future.

8. Next meeting

The following was noted as the date for next meeting: 20 December 2005, 8.00am to 10.00am.

MEETING OF MANCHESTER PARTNERSHIP BOARD HELD ON 29 NOVEMBER 2005

ACTION NOTE

1. Minutes of meeting held on 4 October 2005 and Action Note

Noted. No action.

2. Development of Board

Action

A. One to one meetings be set up with Board members (**Kath Smythe**)

B. Full challenge session at December Meeting of Board (**All Board Members**)

3. Essence of Mancunian

Action

A. Format for Community Strategy and Manchester Conference be further developed (**Kath Smythe**)

B. Report to future meeting of the Board (Kath Smythe)

4. Housing Market Renewal

Noted. No action.

5. LAA/Community Strategy - Partner Agreement

A. Local partner agreements be developed as part of CSR (**All Partners**)

B. Report to future meeting of the Board (**Kath Smythe**)

6. Quarterly Performance Report

Noted. No action.

7. Next meeting

20 December 2005, 8.00am to 10.00am.