

Local Government North Yorkshire and York 16th September 2011

REVIEW OF LOCAL PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

1. The meeting on 24th June considered principles around which local partnership arrangements should be reviewed following on from a similar review of county based partnership arrangements.
2. It was recognised that the landscape is changing with such as the Police and Social Responsibility Bill, Health and Social Care Bill, Localism Bill, LEPs etc. and the flexibility this will require both in relation to local circumstances and national initiatives.
3. With the scenery as it is the following principles were supported for a review of local partnership arrangements:
 - Some form of strategic partnership forum at District level is required consistent with delivering the required outcomes and statutory requirements.
 - Local partnerships, including shared community engagement arrangements, should continue to operate at the most appropriate local level.
 - A North Yorkshire approach to District based partnership functions is not desirable or achievable given local requirements and the pragmatism that will be required.
 - Form should compliment function which is as streamlined and simple to operate as possible. The use of task and finish groups to deal with particular issues, rather than thematic partnerships or sub groups be supported.
 - New partnership requirements such as the Health and Well Being Board and the Local Enterprise Partnership should have local engagement and influencing mechanisms whether aligned to a 'local strategic partnership' or otherwise.
 - The future nature of community safety partnership working should be an early dialogue with the Police and Crime Commissioner.
4. The meeting asked that each District Council report back on the progress/outcome or possible timescales of these reviews. Respective positions are appended.

Recommendation

- **That the report be noted.**

Peter Simpson

Craven District Council

Craven held its final LSP at the end of the 2010/11 financial year and has no plans to refresh its' 2003 – 2013 Community Strategy.

To maintain partnership working the Council is developing Local Action Teams - five area based multi agency teams consisting of community, business and statutory organisations, which will draw up plans to deliver local projects and services. The first of these Local Action Teams is to be set up in Wharfedale in November 2011.

Funding has been reserved from the New Homes Bonus to support the development and objectives of the Local Action Teams.

Craven District Council is also maintaining its Community Engagement Group, a multi agency knowledge sharing group which co-ordinates engagement activity, although these meetings will now be virtual. Craven is also committed to the continuation of its Residents Panel which is held around four times per annum.

Finally the Community Safety Partnership is currently retained at CDC district level although discussions with Harrogate regarding a potential shared solution are set to take place in October 2011.

Hambleton and Richmondshire

The former Hambleton and Richmondshire LSP have now merged to better reflect our shared working arrangements and a 'natural' constituency recognised by many of the partners involved in the former arrangements.

Each District area has a revised community strategy focussed on priority areas and much streamlined. The new Strategic Forum will only take on issues identified in the revised strategies that are activities not being taken forward by other lead partners in task and finish mode i.e. broadband and winter issues for vulnerable people. As such the former thematic groups have ceased to exist.

The Strategic Forum has Area Partnerships are in place in both districts – 5 in each reflecting the different community identities. Each has its own local action plan. Also aiming to roll out Participatory Budgeting over next 6 months, using lessons from RIEP PB project. In terms of rationalising further –discussions had with NYCC; HDC Area Forums each looking at whether to merge with Area Partnerships or not

The two Community Safety Partnerships have now formally merged.

Connectivity with the new Health & Wellbeing Board and GP Commissioning Groups is not yet at a position to be defined but needs consideration.

There are strategic business forums in both District areas which are providing business to business connectivity and developing relationships with the LEP. This is supported by Barry Dodd.

Harrogate

There is strong support amongst partners to continue to have some form of district wide partnership forum due to all the on-going challenges and changes that we are all currently facing and working with. The partnership no longer has any financial

resources other than officer support.

In 2010/11 the Harrogate District Strategic Partnership consisted of an Assembly Board that met twice a year and an Implementation Board that met quarterly. Thematic groups covered Stronger Communities, Safer Communities, Sustainable Communities, Environment and Children & Young People.

The current governance will cease to exist and in its place a scaled down structure of:

- HDSF Forum: meeting 3 times a year that will be a networking opportunity to focus on the implications of new policy including Localism and the Big Society agendas, service provider changes, funding, community engagement and Harrogate District issues that are cross cutting which no other existing partnership or group operating within the District can address. The forum will also be crucial to the delivery of the Harrogate District Sustainable Community Strategy. The forums will be based on a specific theme
- Supporting structures:

'My Neighbourhood'; The 'My Neighbourhood' community engagement framework at a neighbourhood level will be the main collaborative partnership working supporting structure to the forum which will continue to roll out its projects in three priority areas per year. The framework targets resources to areas through using evidence bases and need and contributes to the Localism and Big Society agendas.

Prevent; The 'bronze' preventing violent extremism group will continue to meet and monitor progress against the District wide action plan.

Task and Finish Groups; The Local Strategic Partnership is seen as the last resort for an issue to be addressed. An issue will be referred to the appropriate lead organisation or existing forum group or partnership. If there is not a suitable group a task and finish group will be established to deal with the issue.

A piece of work that needs to be carried out so that issues can be sign posted to the relevant forum/partnership/organisation is to map all the groups and their leads that exist within the District, this will then be reviewed annually and published as part of the sustainable community strategy.

The new structure and governance will be adopted from July 2011.

Ryedale

The Ryedale Strategic Partnership (RSP) Board amalgamated with the Board of Safer Ryedale (the Community Safety Partnership) in April 2010. Each partnership has retained its own delivery mechanism. While some informal discussion has taken place concerning the future role of the RSP, a report has not yet been taken to the Board.

The Ryedale Sustainable Community Strategy - Imagine Ryedale - was published in 2003 and runs to 2013. The RSP Board currently monitors delivery of the Priority Action Plan for 2010-13. A Delivery Group oversees the Priority Action Plan. No dedicated action groups exist; rather existing groups with relevant expertise have been involved in delivery, e.g. the Ryedale Work and Skills Partnership, the Ryedale

Healthy Weight Active Lives Task Group, Parish Councils, Ryedale Together. The RSP has also worked with Ryedale Together (originally the BME Forum, now the Equality Forum for Ryedale) to facilitate Ryedale Together taking on the role of Bronze group for the PREVENT agenda.

Safer Ryedale shares a Board with RSP. Statute requires the publication of a district level Partnership Plan in line with the sub regional Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment. Safer Ryedale works to its annual Priority Action Plan, with delivery monitored by the Delivery Team. Priorities are driven by the Priority Action Groups, one of which (Safer Roads) became a joint Road Safety Group with Safer Communities Scarborough, in April 2011.

In order to adapt to the current funding environment, a paper will be taken to the RSP Board meeting in October 2011 with options for how the CSP could be structured in the future. Consideration will be given to restructuring delivery mechanisms (eg transferring delivery to Task and Finish Groups) once agreement has been reached on the most appropriate new structure.

The RSP has chosen not to adopt the area partnership approach to Community Engagement, as developed in some other districts. The preferred strategy is one that again involves existing forums and groups, with a particular focus on Parish Councils and the development of community led plans.

Scarborough

The Local Strategic Partnership for Scarborough Borough is the North Yorkshire Coast Community Partnership. Following a review by the partnership board it has decided to continue on its existing basis. The LSP is made up of a Board of around 15 members and 4 Area Forums covering the North, South, Central Urban and Central Rural areas of the borough. The chair of each Forum sits on the board together with the usual representatives from the public and private sectors. Forums are fairly well attended by the public and have been successful in terms of engagement and delivering local schemes and initiatives. There is a strong appetite for this set-up to continue.

In addition to the LSP framework the Council also has 4 Area Committees which are essentially sub-committees of the Council which have delegated powers to decide on the allocation of area budgets. There are plans to look at ways of integrating these into the Area Forums. The Council also engages with town and parish councils through area clusters based on the same areas as the forums except for Scarborough Town which is not parished. Engagement in Scarborough Town in areas of Town Centre development, Business Liaison etc has in the past been through the 'Town Team', a public consultation forum and part of the highly successful Renaissance Programme. The structure and format of this body is being reviewed and is likely to be replaced by a new group which will feed into the LEP structure through a local mini-LEP.

The Borough Council and the County Council meet with representatives from all the Parish Councils at a liaison meeting held every 6 months.

Selby

The Selby LSP has decided to reduce its meeting schedule and to concentrate on Task and Finish Group efforts on a small number of key projects which can add value at a local level.