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13th July 2011

Dear Sir/Madam

DISTRICT BOARD

The meeting will take place on **Monday 18th July at 4.00pm** at Bromford Living, 5 Stowe Road, Lichfield, Staffs, WS13 6WA (map attached). Please note that the nearest car parks are Greenhill or Redcourt, please see attached link <http://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/carparkmaps>.

Yours faithfully



Cllr Mike Wilcox
Leader of the Council



Nina Dawes
Chief Executive

To: Elected Members:

Councillors Mike Wilcox and Colin Greatorex, Lichfield District Council
Councillor Matthew Ellis, Staffordshire County Council
Councillor Erica Bayliss, Staffordshire Fire Authority

Representatives from External Organisations:

Marie duQuesnay, People Directorate, SCC
Phil McFarlane, Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
Rosemary Crawley, Staffordshire Police Authority,
Juliet Prince, Staffordshire Police
Heather Sutton, Staffordshire Probation,
Rachel Chapman, Public Health Staffordshire;
Graham Morley, South Staffordshire College;
Rose Vakis, Lichfield and District Community and Voluntary Sector Support
Debbie Baker, Business and Economic Partnership
Julie Walker, Strategic Housing Partnership
Dr Gerbo Huisman

In attendance:

Nina Dawes, Helen Spearey and Lesley Bovington, Lichfield District Council
Graham Hunt, Community Partnership Officer, SCC

cc. Agenda for information only:

Councillors Neil Cox, Louise Flowith, Ian Pritchard, Val Richards, Neil Roberts and Margaret Stanhope, Lichfield District Council

Rita Booth, Richard King, Jane Kitchen; Ruth Plant, Neil Turner



AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

- a) Apologies for absence received from Graham Morley
- b) To introduce new Members

2. INTRODUCTION TO THE DISTRICT BOARD (15 minutes)

- a) Verbal presentation - Nina Dawes
- b) Terms of reference - *attachment*

Decision needed by partners: to approve terms of reference

3. ACTION NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING, 29TH MARCH 2011

To agree the action notes as an accurate record - *attachment*

4. MATTERS ARISING (20 minutes)

- a) Partners to provide a further update on respective budgetary positions
- *verbal reports*
- b) Health inequalities within Lichfield District - Rachel Chapman -
attachment
- c) To consider any other matters not arising elsewhere on the agenda

5. UPDATE ON LICHFIELD ONE PLACE PROJECTS (30 minutes)

- a) Let's Work Together Project - Rachel Chapman and Phil McFarlane
(powerpoint presentation and update)
- b) Supporting Families Project - Lesley Bovington - *verbal update*

Decision needed by partners: to note progress made and consider whether further action is required

6. SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COLLEGE RESPONSE TO THE STAFFORDSHIRE 16-19 COMMISSIONING PRIORITIES 2011-12 (30 minutes)

To consider and comment on the commissioning priorities of South Staffordshire College

Mark Robertson, Deputy Principal to lead a discussion

Decision needed by partners: to endorse the proposed response by the College to the commissioning priorities of the County Council

7. TACKLING LOW INCOME AND DEBT (15 minutes)

To consider and comment on the draft Strategy - Julie Walker - *attachment*

Decision needed by partners: to endorse the five key objectives agreed by the Strategic Housing Partnership

8. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE THIRD SECTOR

To provide an update - Lesley Bovington - *to follow*

Decision needed by partners: to note the report

9. FEEDBACK FROM STAFFORDSHIRE STRATEGIC BOARD (10 minutes)

Councillor Greatorex and Nina Dawes - *attachment*

10. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Discussion regarding agenda for the next meeting

Next meeting scheduled for 22nd November

Stowe Road, Lichfield

How to find us

FROM THE SOUTH

- Leave the M1 at junction 19, then join the M6 motorway (signposted M6, The North West, Coventry (North), Birmingham)
- At Junction 4 continue forward onto the M42 (signposted The North West M6 Toll)
- At Junction 9 continue forward onto the M6 Toll (signposted The North West, Cannock, Lichfield)
- Leave the M6 Toll at junction T4. At roundabout take the 2nd exit onto the A38 (signposted Burton, Lichfield)
- At Swinfen roundabout take the 2nd exit onto the A5206 (signposted Lichfield)
- At traffic signals continue forward onto the A51, Lower St John Street (signposted Lichfield)
- At traffic signals turn right onto the A5127 Birmingham Road (signposted Burton)
- Continue past the Railway Station, then the Fire Station on your right.
- At the next set of traffic signals, turn left onto Greenhill and immediately take the right hand lane for the next set of traffic signals.
- Turn right at the traffic signals into George Lane and continue down the hill.
- At the mini-roundabout continue ahead into Stowe Road around the 90° right hand bend.
- HomeZone Living's offices are situated on the right hand side immediately after the footbridge.

FROM THE NORTH

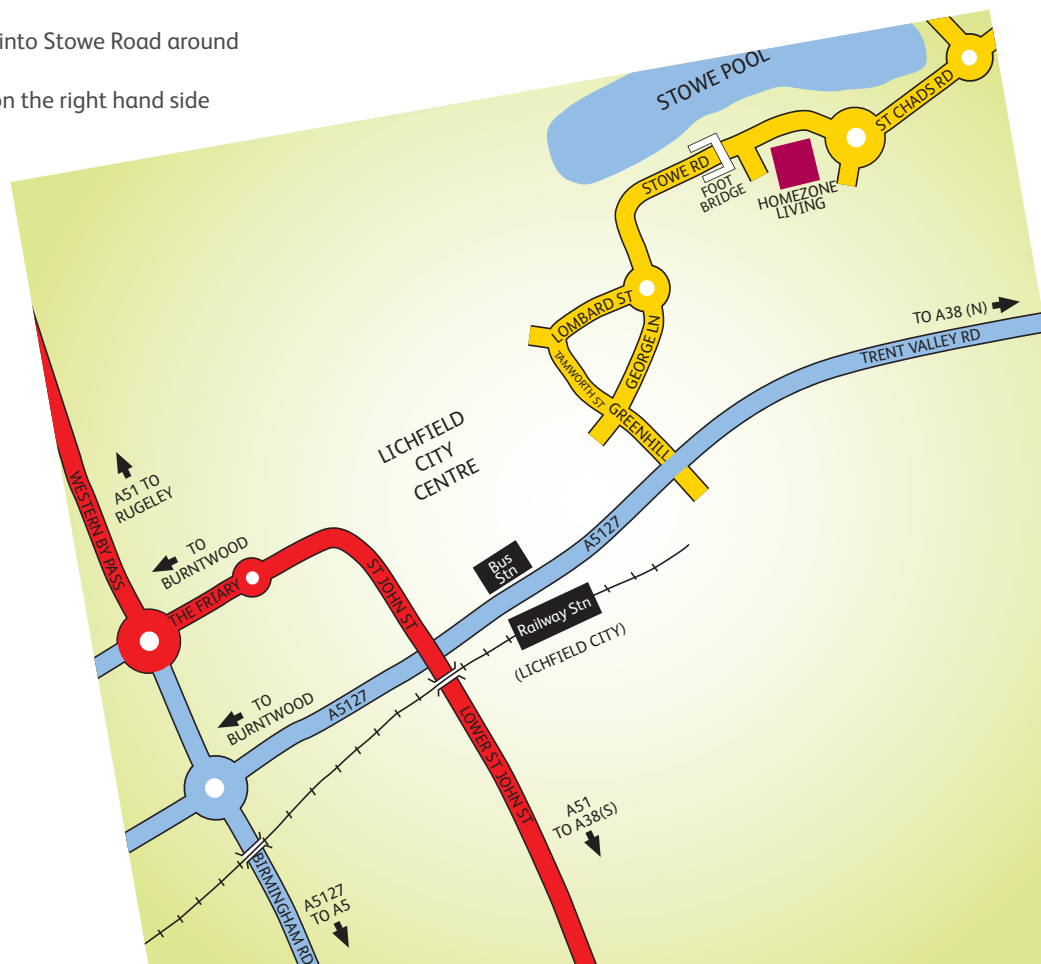
- Leave the M6 Toll at junction T5. Continue onto the A5148 (signposted Lichfield, Burton) Warning - vehicles will be merging from the left as you leave the toll-booths.
- Leave the A5148 at the first junction, then take the 1st exit at the roundabout onto the A5206 (signposted Lichfield)
- At traffic signals continue forward onto the A51, Lower St John Street (signposted Lichfield)
- At traffic signals turn right onto the A5127, Birmingham Road (signposted Burton)
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Satellite Navigation users:
Stowe Road's postcode causes confusion with some navigation equipment. Therefore please use postcode WS13 6AF for this purpose

HomeZone Living

5 Stowe Road
Lichfield
Staffordshire
WS13 6WA

Tel 01543 420800





Lichfield District Board Terms of Reference

1. PURPOSE OF THE BOARD

- 1.1 The District Board is a co-operative partnership with the shared purpose of improving the quality of life for all who live in, work in or visit Lichfield District. It is comprised of the key strategic decision makers from the public, voluntary and business sectors who are responsible for enabling the health, wealth and well being of the community. The Board sets shared priorities which are the focus of collective effort and investment. The Board will seek to make best use of all resources at its disposal and secure maximum value for the public purse.
- 1.2 Participants on the Board are expected to develop plans and strategies which take account of the Board's priorities and to consider these priorities when setting their respective budgets and business plans. Board Members are encouraged to share their plans with the Board and to seek input from partners when plans are being developed.
- 1.3 Partners are accountable to the Board for ensuring that they deliver outcomes they have agreed to undertake on behalf of the Board.
- 1.4 The Board leads the Lichfield District Strategic Partnership and is responsible for developing and maintaining strong and effective relationships between partners.

2. STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The Board is the Community Safety Partnership for Lichfield District and is therefore responsible for tackling crime and disorder. The Board will undertake various statutory roles as defined in legislation¹ including:
 - formulating and implementing strategies to reduce crime and disorder
 - carrying out an annual strategic assessment and produce an annual partnership plan
 - combating misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances
 - tackling prolific and priority offenders
 - considering anti social behaviour and the local environment within audits and strategies
 - reducing reoffending
- 2.2 Local Authorities have a duty to make arrangements to promote co-operation with partners with a view to improving the welfare of children in the authority's area - which

¹ Relevant legislation includes the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Police Reform Act 2002, Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003, The Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Act 2006, Police and Justice Act 2006 and the Policing and Crime Act 2009

includes protection from harm or neglect alongside other outcomes. Partners have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in accordance with legislation²

3. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 3.1 Lichfield District Council will be the accountable body for any funding held on behalf of the Board. Decisions regarding the allocation of this funding will be made by the Board and allocated in accordance with the financial regulations of the District Council.

4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

- 4.1 The current membership is listed at **Appendix 1**. Membership may change from time to time subject to agreement by the Board.
- 4.2 The Board may seek to invite other organisations / individuals to participate in Board meetings to discuss relevant issues.
- 4.3 The Leader of Lichfield District Council will be the Chairman of the Board.

5. ROLE OF BOARD MEMBERS

- 5.1 Members should make every effort to attend Board meetings and be represented by a suitable substitute (who can make decisions on behalf of their organisation) in their absence.
- 5.2 Members are responsible for communicating the business and decisions taken by the Board back into their host organisation (seeking comments / feedback / endorsement of decisions as necessary).

6. WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

- 6.1 The Board will meet on a quarterly basis, with the secretariat provided by the District Council.

² Sections 10 and 11 of the Children Act 2004



Lichfield District Board

Membership of the District Board as at July 2011

For the District Council:	<p>CLlr Mike Wilcox, Leader, Lichfield District Council (Chair)</p> <p>CLlr Colin Greateorex, Cabinet Member for Organisational Development and Community, Lichfield District Council</p> <p><i>Supported by Nina Dawes, CEO, Lichfield District Council</i></p>
For Staffordshire County Council:	<p>CLlr Matthew Ellis, Cabinet Member for Adults' Wellbeing, Staffordshire County Council</p> <p><i>Supported by Graham Hunt, Community Partnerships Officer, Staffordshire County Council¹</i></p> <p>Marie duQuesnay, District Director (Social Care and Health, People Directorate)</p>
For Staffordshire Police:	<p>Rosemary Crawley or Christine Edwards, representing the Police Authority²</p> <p>Juliet Prince, Local Policing Superintendent</p>
For Staffordshire Fire & Rescue:	<p>CLlr Erica Bayliss for the Fire Authority</p> <p>Phil McFarlane, Local Area Commander</p>
For Probation:	Heather Sutton, Head of Probation for Staffordshire
For Public Health:	Rachel Chapman, District Public Health lead for Lichfield, South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust
For the Business Sector:	Debbie Baker, Vice Chair or Peter Farmer, Chair of the Business & Economic Partnership for Tamworth & Lichfield
For the Third Sector:	Rose Vakis, Director, Lichfield & District CVS
For the Skills Agenda:	Graham Morley, Principal and CEO, South Staffordshire College
For Housing:	Julie Walker, Chair of the Strategic Housing Partnership for Lichfield District
For the GP Consortium:	Dr Gerbo Huisman, Spires Practice

¹ Staffordshire County Council: The officer support may be provided by the Lead District Commissioner for Lichfield District, once appointed (c July 2011); the District Commissioner will have a seat on the District Board in his or her own right, also.

² Police Authority representation: This may change once the Police and Crime Commissioner is elected.



LICHFIELD DISTRICT BOARD

Held at 4.00 pm on 29 March 2011 at Lichfield Day Centre Braeburn Close Lichfield

Present:	Elected Members: Councillor Mike Wilcox (in the Chair), Lichfield District Council Councillor Helen Fisher, Lichfield District Council Councillor Val Richards, Lichfield District Council Councillor Matthew Ellis, Staffordshire County Council Representatives from Partner Organisations: Marie duQuesney, representing People Directorate, Staffordshire County Council: and Rachel Chapman, representing Public Health, Staffordshire
In attendance:	Lesley Bovington, John Brown, Kerry Crowley, Nina Dawes, Helen Spearey and James Roberts, Lichfield District Council together with Carmel Warren who was seconded to Lichfield District Council, Graham Hunt, Staffordshire County Council Rose Vakis, Lichfield and District Community and Voluntary Sector Support Deb Baker and Peter Farmer, Business Economic Partnership Councillor Colin Greatorex
Apologies:	Anne Birch, People Directorate, Staffordshire County Council, Phil McFarlane, Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service, Juliet Prince, Staffordshire Police, Graham Morley, South Staffordshire College, Sharon Moore and Mick Harrison of Lichfield Police

Agenda Item	Minutes	Action
1	Welcome and Introductions Councillor Mike Wilcox welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.	
2	Action Notes of the Previous Meeting - 8 November 2010 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 November 2010 at the District Council House, Lichfield were agreed.	
3	Matters Arising a) Budgetary positions Marie duQuesney reminded Partners that Social Care and Health were the biggest spenders of Staffordshire County Council and thus had considerable pressures which resulted in an increased challenge to manage. However the Directorate remained within budget. Rachel Chapman informed Partners that the Financial Department of the Primary Care Trust was currently working on budget but that as demand increased budgets were being reduced.	

Agenda Item	Minutes	Action
	<p>Rose Vakis informed Partners that the Voluntary Sector was badly affected by budget cuts and that the future was unclear.</p> <p>Nina Dawes stated that a Partner Briefing had been issued to assist all involved in the budget process that the District Council was going through and advised that the new Council faced having to make difficult decisions.</p>	
4	<p>Update on Staffordshire and Lichfield One Place</p> <p>a) Helen Spearey presented the submitted report on the Lets Work Together Project and informed those present that Carmel Warren had been seconded from the Fire Service to work on the project. A case study example was given which was only one of a number that had been identified. In figures terms 4,400 Lichfield District Council Residents were of 80 years of age or more at the present time but in 2016 and 2033 the number of residents were like to rise to 6,100 and 12,500 respectively.</p> <p>Rachel Chapman explained that a number of risks could be identified by visitors to homes with the biggest impact items being fire, cold, personal safety, housing conditions, fall risks, debt and lifestyle issues. Once identified the issues needed to be directed to the correct persons for attention however there could be capacity issues to take into account. A pilot scheme looking at Chasetown and Burntwood was being introduced with some 30 home visits being involved. A company named Future Gov was currently developing software to assist with communications between organisations involved which could assist the process.</p> <p>b) Lesley Bovington updated Members on the Supporting Families Project and introduced Kerry Crowley who had been appointed as the Supporting Families Project Manager for a 12 month period. Whilst it was necessary for service providers to work together restrictions currently being introduced would not help but hopefully value for money would be achieved. The Anti Social Behaviour Action Group had done some initial work and whilst Lichfield were leading on the project partnership working was being undertaken with key County Council staff.</p> <p>Decision: That the progress reports be noted.</p>	
5	<p>Health in Equalities within Lichfield District</p> <p>Rachel Chapman presented the submitted report and explained the significance of Tables 1 and 2 which identified the Summary of Health Indicators by Ward and the Ranking of Health Indicators by Ward. The intention of the exercise was to identify patterns of health issues which occurred within some Wards and it had been identified that the Chasetown Ward was consistently one of the worst performers. It was recognised that whilst the National Health Service could not improve health alone as other issues such as housing provision and debt needed to be taken into account and Partners should be involved to see if they could improve the situation. A discussion took place on the way forward in using the information now obtained so that not only should each</p>	

Agenda Item	Minutes	Action
	<p>Partner consider the implications of the analysis for their own organisation but positive work could be done before the next meeting. The conclusion was that the top three Wards should be studied in detail by the Partners involved with a report to be submitted to the next meeting on progress made.</p> <p>Decision: That the Partners consider the implications of the analysis for their own organisation and that the top three Wards be studies in detail by Partners with a report being submitted to the next meeting of the Board.</p>	
6	<p>Tamworth and Lichfield Strategic Business Engagement Action Plan</p> <p>James Roberts presented the submitted report and introduced Peter Farmer and Deb Baker who were the Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively of the Business Engagement Project.</p> <p>The Partners were informed that businesses were trying to work together to identify and resolve issues that affected all and that a Business Network Forum was being developed to assist with that project. A series of action points had been identified and were provided for the Board Partners were informed that a meeting of ambassadors for the Forum was due to take place on 6 April 2011.</p> <p>An information document produced was circulated and this was designed to communicate actions to the business community involved. Whilst it was felt that this means of communication seemed to be working particularly as businesses preferred paper based information to electronic there was a funding deficit which needed to be addressed in order to improve. It was particularly noted that this scheme only related to Lichfield and Tamworth and that improvements were already being identified in those areas.</p> <p>Decision: 1) That the progress of the Business Engagement Project and specifically the Action Plan outlined be noted.</p> <p>2) That Partner Organisations contribute to the implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan.</p>	
7	<p>Finance Report</p> <p>Helen Spearey presented the submitted report which identified that the Board held funds totalling £257,000 which had been obtained from various sources and sought approval to the approach needed to allocate the Lichfield District Strategic Partnership budget. It was suggested that 65% be allocated to support third sector organisations, 18% for a contingency for the Lichfield One Place Project and 18% to be retained for a general "Fighting Fund" Contingency for up to 12 months. (It was noted that the figures had been rounded up).</p> <p>It was considered that an understanding of what the funding was to be spent on needed to be obtained so that money is not merely transferred from one organisation to another. In order to do that a process and analysis exercise was required and it was agreed that this should be done with Delegated Authority being given to Helen Spearey together with another Partner to agree the details of spending.</p>	

Agenda Item	Minutes	Action
	<p>Decision: 1) That the approach for allocating the Lichfield District Strategic Partnership Funding be agreed and that a process and analysis exercise be undertaken to identify how the funding should be allocated.</p> <p>2) That Delegated Authority be given to Helen Spearey and another Partner to process the allocation of funding and report back to the next meeting of the Board.</p>	
	<p>Councillor Wilcox left the meeting and Councillor Mrs. Fisher took the Chair.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>We Love Lichfield Fund</p> <p>Councillor Mrs Fisher provided details of the We Love Lichfield Fund which had been presented in a detailed report.</p> <p>Decision: That the report be noted.</p>	
<p>9</p>	<p>Feedback from Staffordshire Strategic Board</p> <p>Councillor Mrs Fisher informed Partners that she had, together with Lesley Bovington, attended at Staffordshire Strategic Board Meeting on 3 March 2011 and provided details of the issues discussed which mainly resolved around alcohol and drug misuse, the support for the aging population and crime and the fear of crime.</p> <p>Helen Spearey presented details of a new way of working for the Lichfield District Strategic Partnership which reflected changes that were being made countywide but still maintained the statutory duties that had to be undertaken. It was noted that there would be fewer formal partnership meetings but agreed that the Board should meet three times per year.</p> <p>Decision: 1) That the feedback from the Staffordshire Strategic Board be noted.</p> <p>2) That the new way of working for the Lichfield District Strategic Partnership as submitted be agreed.</p> <p>3) That the Chairman of the District Board write to the Chairman of the Groups that were being disbanded to thank them for the work done.</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>It was noted that the next meeting of the District Board would be held on Monday 27 June 2011 at 4.00 pm at a venue to be determined.</p>	



Lichfield District Board

18 July 2011

HEALTH INEQUALITIES WITHIN LICHFIELD DISTRICT : UPDATE

BACKGROUND

A report on health inequalities within Lichfield District was considered at the last District Board meeting (29.3.11). This report highlighted significant differences between wards in Lichfield District in relation to particular health indicators. Wards were ranked and the lowest ranked wards were identified. It was recognised that the NHS alone could not improve health as many other issues such as housing and debt, the so called "wider determinants of

health", have a big impact on the health of the population.

It was agreed that partners would consider the implications of the analysis for the own organisation, in particular looking at the worst 3 wards (Chasetown, Fazeley and Chadsmead).

PROGRESS TO DATE

Tackling inequalities requires a whole system approach. The Marmot report into inequalities (2010) stated that to reduce the steepness of the social gradient in health, actions must be universal but with a scale and intensity that is proportionate to the level of disadvantage, this is known as "proportionate universalism". This approach needs to be applied across the wider determinants of health, it translates into a greater intensity of action in the areas of greatest disadvantage (ie Chasetown, Fazeley and Chadsmead).

The work to date includes:

1. Piloting "Let's Work Together" to identify risks to individuals and families and put in place services to reduce these risks in the Chasetown and Burntwood area with roll-out now across the district. (covered as a separate agenda item)
2. Highlighting the wards with the greatest need as particular targets for the Lichfield District Strategic Partnership third sector funding. (covered as a separate agenda item)

3. Work with the Fire and Rescue Service to understand the impact they can have on inequalities. This includes: looking at their activity at a ward level (both fires and home fire risk checks) and using the information to raise awareness and stimulate debate around inequalities within each of the Watches.
4. Work with Lichfield District Council Leadership team on the role the District Council can play in reducing inequalities. The Marmot report highlighted the key drivers that account for people's poor health lie in the conditions in which "people are born, grow, live, work and age". The District Council has a crucial role in developing healthy environments, job opportunities and stable communities. Work to address inequalities will be considered across the functions of the District Council. The following were identified as priority areas of work to consider inequalities over the next few months: the new Strategic Plan; work on the Local Development Framework; profiling the local population; the approach to

commissioning services and the carbon reduction strategy.

5. A presentation on health, inequalities and the wider determinants of health to Members as

part of the “We don’t do it on our own” event.

PROPOSED NEXT STEPS

- Ensure the implementation of Lets Work Together follows the gradient in inequalities across the District
- Ensure the Lichfield District Strategic Partnership third sector funding contributes to addressing need proportionately across the District
- Work with the Fire and Rescue service as described above
- Work with the District Council as described above
- Start work with other partners on the contribution they can make to reducing inequalities

Author: Rachel Chapman

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Lichfield District Board

18th July 2011

TACKLING LOW INCOME AND DEBT

INTRODUCTION

Low income and debt are clearly issues that cause considerable suffering to those individuals most directly affected and their families, but that are also at the root of many wider issues in society, such as homelessness, child poverty and poor physical and mental health. Those affected may turn to crime.

BACKGROUND

The Strategic Housing Partnership started working on this approach in October 2010, with a multi-agency workshop. This identified evidence of good practice in the District, but a lack of a co-ordinated approach. The Partnership's ambition to improve on this has heightened with a reduction in the funds available to

These are cross-cutting issues, requiring a partnership response. The Strategic Housing Partnership has taken the lead in drafting a strategy for the District, and in promoting co-ordinated multi-agency activity to address the key objectives they have identified.

agencies and organisations to deliver services, combined with an economic downturn that has increased levels of unemployment and reduced the value of savings (through loss of interest), bringing many households under increased financial pressure.

OUTLINE PROPOSAL

The Partnership has agreed that it will focus on five key objectives, which are: -

1. Developing a financial literacy package, including a suite of leaflets and web based tools, which the key partners consistently signpost residents towards, to encourage self help.
2. Developing a co-ordinated approach to the provision of benefit and money advice across the district to ensure that resources are maximised and duplication avoided.
3. Increasing financial capacity by promoting a benefit take-up campaign.

4. Promoting greater access to affordable credit and savings products
5. Promoting opportunities for employment and training so that residents are as well equipped as possible to take advantage of any opportunities that may arise.

Action plans have been developed, and partnership activity in support of the five key objectives is underway, including the establishment of Work Clubs across the District that are already having an impact. (The Burntwood Work Club started in March 2011 and has already helped 8 people in to paid work, 5 into volunteering and 6 in to training.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

The District Board is asked to endorse the key objectives agreed by the Strategic Housing Partnership.

Author Julie Walker

01543-420830

Julie.walker@bromford.co.uk

Version 5 (at 23 March 2011)

DRAFT

FINANCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY FOR LICHFIELD DISTRICT

1 Introduction

The Credit Crunch has put pressure on many people, particularly those on low incomes, to manage their money. Frequently, people on low incomes do not have bank accounts and are unable to access financial products such as low cost loans. They are more likely to use the alternative credit market and pay higher levels of interest, leading to financial exclusion. Debt and money problems can often impact on people's mental and physical health and further contribute to social exclusion.

Our vision is to make a positive impact on the lives of those people who live in Lichfield District who are in debt, or at risk of falling into debt, by providing a co-ordinated approach to debt recovery and money advice.

2 Lichfield District Council – Background

In Lichfield District we know that some residents are unable to access financial advice and support, and that a number do not claim the benefits to which they are entitled. Information is available from different agencies; but there is an inconsistent approach and a lack of co-ordination in the district.

Compared to some Local Authority areas, the debt problems in Lichfield District are not on a massive scale. Nevertheless, some of the local statistics make harsh reading, and have a significant impact on the lives of local citizens.

For example, whilst the average household income in the district in 2009/10 was £507 per week, 24.7% of households had an income of less than £15,000 and 15% of households had income less than £10,000.

There were 16% of households in receipt of some form of Benefit, & in 2009/10 there were over 4000 new claims for Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Benefit. In March 2010, there were 1,786 Job Seekers Allowance claimants, representing 3.1% of the working age population of Lichfield District.

The Council Tax debt alone amounted to £1,035,393.75 at the end of 2009/10. Bromford Living, the main local Housing Provider, had 232 money advice referrals during the year and the Money Advisor supported clients with over £2.5million debt (excluding rent arrears). At the same time, the local Citizens Advice Bureau reported that they had 4000 individual clients with debt problems.

The District Council was notified of 55 Mortgage Repossessions & supported 3 mortgage rescues. An analysis of local data suggests that as many as 25% of mortgage payers could be at risk of falling into debt.

The numbers of enquires for Housing Advice increased from the previous year.

3 Lichfield District Priorities

In order to tackle these issues, the Lichfield District Housing Partnership is developing a partnership approach to debt and financial inclusion across key organisations. These include the Local Authority, Citizens Advice Bureau, the voluntary and community sector, Social Care and Health, local housing associations, Fusion Credit Union and others.

The aim of the Partnership is to improve financial inclusion in the district and to promote a more co-ordinated approach to the prevention of debt; debt recovery and access to financial services and money advice.

Through the Strategic Housing Partnership we will also be able to share best practice and maximise opportunities to reduce debt.

Our aim is to improve the life chances of those who are experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, financial exclusion. We will work together to deliver an agreed programme of action.

4 Lichfield District Plans

The Partnership has agreed that it will focus on five key objectives, which are: -

1. Developing a financial literacy package, including a suite of leaflets and web based tools, which the key partners consistently signpost residents towards, to encourage self help.
2. Developing a co-ordinated approach to the provision of benefit and money advice across the district to ensure that resources are maximised and duplication avoided.
3. Increasing financial capacity by promoting a benefit take-up campaign.
4. Promoting greater access to affordable credit and savings products
5. Promoting opportunities for employment and training so that residents are as well equipped as possible to take advantage of any opportunities that may arise.

5 Lichfield District – Delivery Arrangements

Each of the five objectives have been reviewed, and an assessment made on where we are now, the outcomes that we want to achieve, and the actions that will have to be taken to get there.

The plans will be monitored and reviewed annually through the Lichfield Strategic Housing Partnership.

STAFFORDSHIRE STRATEGIC BOARD

Friday 10th June 2011 – 10.00 am
Staffordshire County Council

PRESENT:

Staffordshire County Council – Chair

S-O-T and Staffordshire LEP
Staffordshire Probation Trust
Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
Staffordshire Police
Staffordshire Police Authority
S-O-T and Staffordshire PCT Cluster

SCIO
Staffordshire Moorlands DC

Cannock Chase DC

Lichfield DC

South Staffordshire DC

Tamworth BC

Stoke-on-Trent City Council
Newcastle-under-Lyme DC

Philip Atkins, Leader
Nick Bell, Chief Executive
Patrick Corfield, CC
Helen Riley, Director
Anna Halliday (Skills)
Maitland Hyslop, Chairperson
Heather Sutton, Head of Probation
Peter Dartford, Chief Officer
Douglas Paxton, DCC
Peter Vigurs, Vice-Chair
Alex Fox, Chair
Dawn Wickham
David Millard, Chairperson
Cllr Sybil Ralphs, Leader
Pat Wilson, Director
Cllr George Adamson, Leader
Tony McGovern, Director
Cllr Colin Greateorex, Cabinet Member
Nina Dawes, Chief Executive
Cllr Brian Edwards, Leader
Steve Winterflood, Chief Executive
Daniel Cook, Leader
Tony Goodwin, Interim Chief Executive
Mark Meredith, Cabinet Member
Neale Clifton, Director

Also Attending the Meeting: Aliko Ahmed (SCC/SSPCT), Peter Davenport (SCC), Rachel Chapman (NHS), Darryl Eyers (SCC), Christina Webb (SSP)

APOLOGIES: Michael Cunningham (Staffs Police), Simon Baker (SMDC), Cllr Stephen Sweeney and John Sellgren (N-u-L BC), Cllr Michael Wilcox (Lichfield DC), Cllr Mohammed Pervez and John van de Laarschot (S-O-T City Council), Cllr Richard Grosvenor and Andy O'Brien (ESBC), Graham Urwin (PCT Custer), Stephen Brown (CCDC), David Pearsall (Staffs Police Authority)

MINUTES:

No.	Item	Action
1.	<u>Welcome and Introductions</u> Philip Atkins, Chair of the Board, welcomed all those attending the Board meeting, particularly any attending for the first time.	
2.	<u>Minutes of the Last Meeting</u> – accepted as a true and correct record with one minor amendment: Heather Sutton is Head of Probation, not Chief Executive. <u>Matters Arising:</u> ▪ <u>Vice Chair</u> – the Chair proposed that the Vice-Chair is the Leader of S-O-T City Council. This was agreed .	

