



WITHOUT WALLS PARTNERSHIP Minutes

DATE 8 Feb 2012

VENUE Marriott Room, York Explore, Library Square

PRESENT Board Members:

Cllr. James Alexander – City of York Council - Chair
Pete Dwyer – Director, Learning, Culture and Children
Kersten England, Chief Executive, CYC
Jill Gibson, External Relations Manager – Jobcentre Plus
Cllr. Ian Gillies – City of York Council
Angela Harrison, Chief Exec. – York Council for Vol. Service
Nigel Hutchinson- Chief Fire Officer, North Yorks Fire Service
Peter Kay – Chair, Economic Development Partnership
Deputy Chief Constable Tim Madgwick- North Yorks. Police
Colin Mellors, University of York & Higher York
Fred Ring – York Racial Equality Network
Cllr Carol Runciman – City of York Council
Rita Sanderson – Inclusive York Forum Representative
Mike Slater, Chair York Environment Partnership
Aubrey Smith, Safer Neighbourhood Commander - NYP
Dianne Willcocks – Chair, York@Large
Gary Williamson – Chief Executive, LYNYCC

In attendance:

Jane Collingwood – Strategy, Partnerships & Planning Officer
Katie Stewart – Head of Economic Development, CYC
Roger Ranson – AD Economic Development

Secretariat:

Stewart Halliday – Head of Strategy, Partnerships and Comms
Denise Simms, Strategy, Partnerships & Planning Officer

APOLOGIES:

Jayne Brown, Chief Executive – NHS North Yorkshire and York
Brian Cantor, Vice Chancellor - University of York
Sir Ron Cooke – Vice Chair
Grahame Maxwell - Chief Constable - North Yorks. Police
Sue Metcalfe – Chair, YorOK
Lisa Winward - Safer Neighbourhood Commander

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Jayne Brown, Brian Cantor, Ron Cooke, Grahame Maxwell, Sue Metcalfe and Lisa Winward. Tim Madgwick was also congratulated on his recent appointment as Deputy Chief Constable.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2011 were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Kate Lock, Chair of York Environment Forum, spoke about agenda item 8, the City Action Plan. She commented that:

- The action plan should have been given greater prominence on the agenda as a major discussion item; and,
- That it was important to include more detail about the Sustainability Impact Tool in the City Plan brochure.

3 ECONOMIC STRATEGY CONSULTATION

Peter Kay explained that the draft Economic Strategy had been launched on 19 November at the Annual Business Conference. The proposals were ambitious, and included to improve York's national ranking to five from its current position of ten. Indices to measure progress needed to be fleshed out, but it was clear that this came at a time when others would also be upping their game.

Roger Ranson commented that getting the economy right would impact on all aspects of the Partnership's work e.g. reducing crime, improving skills etc. This also tied in with the aspirations of the council. There were many opportunities to build on including York's excellent quality of life, resilient economy and highly skilled workforce. However, challenges included low business start up rates and pockets of deprivation.

Katie Stewart, Head of Economic Development, clarified that the Economic vision had been kept simple in order to get people to buy into it and that a genuine partnership approach would be required to deliver through the five ambitions of:

1. Flexible and relevant workforce for the future
2. A growing and dynamic business base competing on a global stage
3. A globally connected, locally integrated knowledge base
4. A world class place for business communities, students and visitors
5. A coordinated and efficient approach to attracting and retaining investment in the city

An action plan was being developed and deliverables included development of a business mentoring gateway, launch of the internationalisation action plan and roll out of City Centre wi-fi and superfast broadband.

Comments from Partners included:

- York had performed well with regard to JCP's national enterprise scheme, in comparison to the rest of the district;
- It would be preferable to develop mentoring services around what was already available, however there was a gap in the market around more informal business mentoring;
- The Chamber of Commerce had seen 70 businesses created in Leeds as a direct result of a mentoring scheme;
- In terms of increasing the number of apprentices, parents and schools should be targeted;
- The Voluntary Sector had recently won funding to accelerate enterprise, which would be available for charities enterprise activities to those who wanted to set up a trading arm;
- More work was needed to retain graduates in the city.
- The skills of some graduates were also often under-used;
- Mentoring to help young people develop the skills they needed to run a business was necessary;
- There would be an opportunity to capitalise on different funding models, mutuals and new opportunities such as the new PCC to address social responsibility etc.
- More needed to be done to attract BME entrepreneurs to the city and to stamp out prejudice, this had recently driven a BME business man from York.

Action –It was agreed that:

1. JG would obtain feedback from the JCP business mentoring broker as to what prevented individuals from starting up a new business;
2. AH would investigate whether the Princes' Trust could offer training for young people in running their own business.

4 HEALTH UPDATE

Pete Dwyer explained that the Social Care Bill was likely to receive Royal Assent later in the year. The Clinical Commissioning Group was already making good progress. Public Health responsibilities would transfer from the PCT to the local authority in April 2013. The shadow Health and Wellbeing Board was established and were in the process of agreeing Joint Strategic Needs before establishing a health & wellbeing strategy. In addition, Healthwatch was in the process of replacing the Local Involvement Network.

A draft of the H &WB Strategy would be available by spring and was likely to major on addressing health inequalities and reshaping spending towards prevention and community based support.

Comments from Partners regarding the update included:

- There would be an opportunity for York to tie in the growth of biomedical companies with procurement and commissioning strategies;
- The CCG were not formally accountable to the H & WB Board, but their priorities would be brought to them;
- The H & WB Strategy would be the framework within which commissioning happened;
- TM intended to write to Mr Lansley regarding the risks associated with arrangements for violent offenders;
- There was an early opportunity to attempt to link the joint strategic needs assessments for health and crime, rather than try to graft together later;
- The North Yorkshire health review of Scarborough and Selby would look at transition from acute to community care.

Action – It was agreed that:

1. The draft H & WB Strategy would be brought for discussion at the next meeting in May;
2. TM would copy his letter to Mr Lansley to the Board.

5 YORK800

Dianne Willcocks reported on the activities planned for the York800 celebrations, which would be an opportunity for the people of York to celebrate, reflect and have fun. There was an opportunity for Partners to join in and join up activities. Resources were available, including

DVDs, and a supplementary list of more local issues would be developed.

It was suggested that Parish Councils were contacted with the details in order to get the villages involved.

6 FAIRNESS COMMISSION – INTERIM REPORT AND NEXT PHASE

The Fairness Commission was set up as an independent body whose initial role was to advise the council on budget spend that protected the vulnerable. The Commission's interim findings have been directed to the council and used to develop options for the budget in terms of spending, income and level of council tax. Commitment was also given, following this interim stage, to widen the scope of the Fairness Commission and engage Partners around the FC principles and to hold select committee style meetings around the following six themes:

- Health & Wellbeing
- Incomes, economy & jobs
- Education and training
- Housing and homelessness
- Equality and diversity
- Community / volunteering

The Commission's final report would build on their interim findings and feature results from the themed discussions and other cross-cutting recommendations. Partners would receive notification of the themed meetings over the next few weeks along with a topic paper for each and some specific questions. Partners were welcome to contribute on the day or via written submission.

Comments from Partners included:

- A framework would need to be developed against which to monitor outcomes and judge how effective the FC recommendations had been in making York a fairer place;
- The FC hoped to influence decision making processes following this final phase;
- Decisions being made should be checked against FC principles to see if they meet the test of fairness;

Action – It was agreed that the link to the interim report would be re-circulated to Partners.

7 POLICY VIEW OF THE YEAR AHEAD

Partners had received an update on national policy developments which were likely to impact on Partners over the forthcoming year for information.

Comments from Partners included:

- Elections of Police and Crime Commissioners would take place on 15th November 2012. A communications strategy would need to be developed and shared with Partners;
- Government Policy was quite fluid at the moment, consequently there was an opportunity to work together to get the York message into Westminster / Whitehall etc.
- York would need to be clear about the 4-5 key issues they wanted to lobby on;
- The backing of Universities / large businesses would make the key messages more powerful.

Action – It was agreed that an audit of York's connections into government would be completed and key lobbying messages would be worked up by the CYC policy team.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

City Plan, WOW Structure and Chairing Arrangements – Partners received the near final City Plan, which contained 36 actions within the agreed themes of Enabling Growth, Creating the environment for Growth and Sharing Growth. In addition, the Plan highlighted the main organisations that would work together to deliver the Plan priorities.

In response to the comments raised by the Chair of the York Environment Forum, it was confirmed that all of the additional comments submitted by the Environment Partnership had been incorporated, however, there was a limit to the amount of detail that could be included. The Sustainability / Fairness Impact Assessment guidance would be developed over the next 2-3 months, but this did not need to be included in the high level summary.

Further comments included:

- Reporting on delivery against the 36 priorities would be key;
- The structure did not propose to reinstate the Executive Delivery Board;

- More regular performance updates or extraordinary meetings of the Partnership to discuss performance issues may be acceptable;
- The Economic Partnership were to review their structures and would consider using the same format as the Partnership;
- It was suggested that Quorum for meetings needed to be looked at again;
- It was suggested that both the Chief Constable and PCC were members of the Board;
- YREN's 5-year business plan and website content would be underpinned by City Plan content.

Action – It was agreed that the City Plan draft would be finalised and that sustainability / fairness impact assessment and performance monitoring arrangements would be developed for the next meeting in May.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 18:00pm.

Date of Next Meetings – All to take place 4-6pm

- 21st May 2012
- 11th July 2012
- 7th November 2012
- 6th February 2013