



WITHOUT WALLS PARTNERSHIP Minutes

DATE 17 September 2014

VENUE Severus Room, West Offices, Station Rise

PRESENT

Board Members:

Cllr James Alexander – Chair – Leader, City of York Council

Alison Birkinshaw - Principal, York College

Cllr. Keith Aspden – Lib Dem Group Leader, City of York Council

Phil Cain – Safer York Partnership

Fred Ring - York Racial Equality Network

Cllr. Chris Steward – Conservative Group Leader, City of York Council

Kersten England – Chief Executive, City of York Council

Colin Mellors - University of York & Higher York

Nigel Hutchinson - Chief Fire Officer, North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue

Dianne Willcocks - Incoming Chair Fairness & Equalities Board

Chris Bailey – York@Large Board

In attendance:

Phil Witcherley – Head of Policy, City of York Council

Ian Cunningham – Group Manager Business Intelligence, City of York Council

Mark Alty - Principal Strategy & Economic Policy Officer, City of York Council

Josine Opmeer – Research Development Manager Social Sciences, University of York

Secretariat:

Katherine Peeke-Vout – Policy Officer, City of York Council

Ruth Lowman – Programme Support, City of York Council

APOLOGIES:

Sir Ron Cooke – Vice Chair of Wow Board

Garry Jones – Chief Executive, York Council for Voluntary Service

Cllr Cunningham-Cross – Chair of Health & Wellbeing Board

Joan Newton – Department for Work and Pensions

Tim Madgwick – North Yorkshire Police

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from those not in attendance as above.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held 25 June 2014 were agreed.

Action: It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Garry Jones from Cllr Alexander on behalf of the WoW Board, to thank him for his contribution to the Board.

Action: It was agreed that the Deputy Chief Executive of the CVS should be invited to attend Without Walls Board meetings until the new Chief Exec is in post.

3 LINKS BETWEEN UNIVERSITY OF YORK SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH AND THE CITY

Josine Opmeer from the University of York talked to the group about what her role entails as Research Development Manager for Social Sciences. Josine outlined the areas of work covered by the Social Sciences at the University of York. The themes that they are currently working on include:

- Social Justice and Equality
- Health and Wellbeing
- Risk, Evidence and Decision Making

Josine informed the group about the Economic and Social Research Council Impact Acceleration Account (ESRC IAA) that the University of York has been awarded, to support a four year programme of activities with external partners. This programme will be launched at an event in the Hudson Room at West Offices on 28th October. Josine will be sending an invite out shortly.

Action: Josine will send Phil the link to the website where further information will be available. Phil will distribute the link and the powerpoint slides to the Board.

Comments/suggestions from the Board about the ESRC IAA included:

- The work should complement (not duplicate) research being done by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.
- Alison Birkinshaw requested that education providers be included in the round table discussions about the programme and Josine agreed.
- We need to have realistic expectations about what can be achieved - there is not enough funding or time to tackle every issue.
- Kersten suggested that there may be scope for co-investment, to increase the amount of funding available.
- Kersten requested that Josine considers involving York's 'Genius' methodology.
- It was suggested that this programme could be linked into the Digital Inclusion work that is currently ongoing.

4 OPEN DATA

Ian Cunningham talked to the group about plans for the 'York Data Mill'. This will use the same technology as the Leeds Data Mill and will enable us to make some data sets available in real time, for other organisations, businesses and residents to make use of. The York Data Mill online platform will be delivered in early 2015. Later in 2015 a city dashboard will also be made available, showing key data sets in an easily digestible way for the public. There will be a number of events held over the coming year to identify agencies in York that can work together to put data on the platform.

Comments/suggestions from the Board:

- It is better to aim for a smaller amount of data to be available, and for it to be high quality.
- We should look to the market leaders for ideas (from the UK and internationally).
- A suggestion was made for differential access to the online platform for partners and for the public.
- A parallel workstream was requested looking at how the public sector shares information amongst itself.
- Nigel Hutchinson said that the fire service would like to be involved in developing the data mill.

- It was noted that some agencies cover the York and Leeds areas, so an easy way of feeding both data mills is required (not using lots of staff time).
- Contacting the NHS to hear their experiences of data sharing would be useful.
- The importance of ensuring that the project offers value for money and working with Leeds to take on board their lessons learned.

5 BUILDING ON THE SUCCESS OF THE TOUR DE FRANCE

Mark Alty and Kersten England asked the group for their reflections on the Tour de France event and their feelings about the possibility of York hosting part of the 'Tour de Yorkshire' in May 2015.

Comments from the Board included the following:

- The TDF was a great exercise in community cohesion.
- The retail sector in York really engaged with the TDF event.
- York should aim to utilise the spirit of the TDF to have a positive effect on the night time and weekend economy.
- The TDF event seemed to have a universal appeal to people of all ages and backgrounds.
- The media were very much on board with TDF.
- It could be useful to look at the TDF and York 800, to compare the positives and negatives of each.
- TDF has given York the confidence for running large events.

Figures for the economic benefit of the TDF in Yorkshire are expected to be available in November.

Chris Bailey has recently completed an evaluation of the 100 day cultural festival.

6 UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH THE CITY ACTION PLAN

Phil Witcherley outlined the background to the creation of the City Action Plan and it's three themes. He recommended that there is now a need to re-examine what we should focus on.

Action: this item should be brought back to the next Board meeting, as there was not sufficient time to discuss it.

Action: Everyone to consider how to ensure that the City Action Plan is adding value.

7 POLICY FOCUS

This item focussed on the issue of devolution. Phil is currently being asked to feed into various debates about devolution in the North.

Cllr Alexander explained that the geographical scope of this is yet to be agreed.