



Halton Strategic **PARTNERSHIP**

Environment and Regeneration Specialist Strategic Partnership

(E&R SSP) Meeting Minutes

Willow Room, Municipal Building, Widnes

10th October 2013

Present:

Mick Noone (MN)	Halton Borough Council (Planning and Transport) : Chair
Cllr Keith Morley	Halton Borough Council – Elected Member
Susan Humphreys (SH)	Norton Priory Museum
Wesley Rourke (WR)	Halton Borough Council (Economy, Enterprise & Property)
Paul Hurst (PH)	Groundwork Cheshire
Jimmy Unsworth (JU)	Halton Borough Council (Waste & Environmental Improvement)
Collette Butterworth	Stobart Group
Ian Boyd (IB)	Halton Borough Council (Logistics)
Tracy Ryan	Halton Borough Council (Children & Enterprise)
Shélah Semoff (SS)	Halton Borough Council (Partnership Officer)

In Attendance:

Frank Hargrave – Norton Priory
 Matt Roberts – Halton & St Helens Voluntary & Community Action
 Steve Dooré – Halton Borough Council (Corporate & Organisational Policy)
 Alasdair Cross – Halton Borough Council (Planning Policy)

		<u>Actions</u>
1	Apologies C Griffiths, D Lyon, G Hazlehurst, J Hughes, M Knowles, N Renison, N McGrath, R Polhill, T Gibbs, D Ainsworth, D Houghton, J Yates, B Taylor, C Cosgrove, A Kirk, H Dooley, T Rimmer, C Oliver	
2A.	Minutes & Matters Arising Minutes from 7 th May 2013 agreed as a true and accurate record.	
2B.	Introductions and welcome Several new members were welcomed to the SSP, and the new Chair was introduced (Mick Noone).	

<p>3.</p>	<p>Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) Review and Partnership Website Development</p> <p>The group was informed that the Partnership was doing a light touch review of the measures and outcomes in the SCS, along with information about the process for the redevelopment of the website. Steve Doore gave a short presentation showing the sections of the SCS and website that this SSP was responsible for.</p> <p>It was explained to the new members of the group that this was an opportunity to engage with the process and ensure that the work of the SSP was a fair reflection of what the strategy contained, and to align this to their own organisational priorities. The refreshed SCS would be used to develop the new website, where performance information could then be linked to each measure. This would be supported by agendas and minutes from meetings, terms of reference, and examples of the work that Partners are doing.</p> <p>It was agreed to hold a special meeting in early January 2014, dedicated to a review of membership, refreshed SCS and website content.</p>	<p>SS</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>St Marie's Church Redevelopment</p> <p>Matthew Roberts from Halton and St Helens Voluntary and Community Action (HStVCA) informed the group of the work being undertaken to turn the above disused church into a heritage site and office space for the VCA. The project is supported by a partnership which includes public, private and voluntary sectors, and it's hoped work will start in October 2013, finished by May 2014. The centre would then be open to continue the support they currently provide to over 900 groups.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Heritage Lottery Bid : Norton Priory</p> <p>The group was joined by Frank Hargrave, Chief Executive of Norton Priory, to talk about the development of the site. They have passed round 1 of a Heritage Lottery Bid, and are currently working on the round 2 application. As well as improving the museum and education centre on the 47 acre site, and joining the two separate grounds, the new development will open up the 18th Century Priory and increase visitor numbers. It is a £5m bid and its needs £980,000 match which they are currently fund raising for. It's hoped that the work will begin in January 2015, with the new centre opening in Spring 2016.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Green Belt Review</p> <p>Alasdair Cross gave a presentation explaining that Halton Borough Council was having to review the areas of green belt across the district due to the decision taken by the Planning Inspector that there wasn't enough land currently available to meet the targets set for new housing. There is a National framework for how this work should be carried out, which included a rough timetable. Partners were invited to send comments and the full documentation was available upon request.</p>	<p>ALL</p>

7.	<p>Site Allocations</p> <p>The group received a report explaining that Halton's Unitary Development Plan had been replaced in part by the Core Strategy which contains 25 different policies, one of which is the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan, whose main role is to allocate sites and provide detailed policies for Halton's places, areas and issues. A scoping document has been produced which will be used to review the main policy areas that the Council plans to cover when preparing the Delivery and Allocations Plan. The scoping document has been brought to this group as part of a wider consultation plan, and Partners were invited to comment.</p>	ALL
8.	<p>Update on Merseyside Combined Authority</p> <p>Mick Noone gave the group a verbal report on the work currently being undertaken across the Merseyside sub-region to develop a Combined Authority (CA). He set the background and context, and explained that following a consultation period, it was agreed to look at the model that will be responsible for Economic Development and Transport. Halton's transport authority powers will be transferred to the CA and the Merseyside Integrated Transport Authority will be abolished and subsumed within the CA. Details and protocols are still to be developed, but it's hoped to receive Government approval with a start date for the new CA of April 2014.</p> <p>The CA will consist of the 5 Council Leaders, the Liverpool Mayor and the Chair of the LEP.</p> <p>Group members asked for a link to be circulated to the appropriate documentation.</p>	SS
9.	<p>Mersey Gateway Update</p> <p>Group members were informed that the MerseyLink Consortium has been announced as the Preferred Bidder for the new bridge. Planning applications are currently going through the relevant processes and it's hoped that Financial Close will be achieved by Mid-December. It's suggested that there won't be any visible work until March 2014, however there will be activity going on behind the scenes such as dedicated meetings with specific partners likely to be affected by the work, e.g. hauliers, suppliers..</p> <p>A link will be circulated to group members to the Gateway website which can provide more details.</p>	SS
10.	<p>Daresbury Funding</p> <p>Wesley Rourke presented a report detailing the work being carried out at the Sci-Tech Daresbury site, which is a designated Enterprise Zone, and the 25 year Masterplan to support the development of the site as a world class location for high tech businesses and leading edge science.</p>	

	<p>The main partners at the site have established a Joint Venture Company and are involved in collaborative work with a range of UK Universities, all of which has the support of the Liverpool City Region, Cheshire and Warrington and Manchester Local Enterprise Partnerships.</p> <p>The Masterplan has 4 phases of investment over the next 25 years, with funding being set aside to look at transport issues to support the benefits for local residents. This is a long term strategy and is about growing the Enterprise Zone for the benefit of the Northwest.</p> <p>The Group requested a more detailed item on a future agenda.</p>		WR/SS
11.	Regeneration in Runcorn		
	Item deferred		
12.	Next Meeting & Future Diary Dates	<p>7th January 2014 (special meeting)</p> <p>20th March 2014</p> <p>19th June 2014</p> <p>18th September 2014</p> <p>18th December 2014</p>	

YET TO BE AGREED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD