



Halton Strategic **PARTNERSHIP**

Environment and Regeneration Specialist Strategic Partnership

(E&R SSP) Meeting Minutes

7th Floor Marketing Suite, Municipal Building, Widnes

18th September 2014

Present:

Mick Noone (MN)	Halton Borough Council (Planning and Transport) : Chair
Cllr Mike Fry (MF)	Halton Borough Council (Elected Member)
Paula Lowrey (PF)	Sefton MBC (REECH)
Paul Mullane (PM)	Halton Housing Trust
Chris Gibbins (CG)	Halton Housing Trust
Jimmy Unsworth (JU)	Halton Borough Council (Waste & Environmental Improvement)
Paul Hurst (PH)	Groundwork Cheshire
Jon Hutchinson (JH)	Groundwork Cheshire
Jacqui Walsh (JW)	Homes and Communities Agency
Wesley Rourke (WR)	Halton Borough Council (Children & Enterprise)
Shélah Semoff (SS)	Halton Borough Council (Partnership Officer)

		<u>Actions</u>
1	Apologies C Griffiths, D Lyon, G Hazlehurst, J Hughes, M Knowles, N Renison, R Polhill, T Gibbs, D Houghton, J Yates, T Rimmer, M Fearnhead, L McEvoy, S Humphreys, C Berry	
2.	Minutes & Matters Arising Minutes from 19 th June to be circulated at a later point and agreed at the December meeting.	
3.	REECH Presentation Paula Lowrey from Sefton MBC gave a presentation on the REECH programme on Merseyside (Renewables and Energy Efficiency in Community Housing). This was an ERDF project across social housing which had the following main aims of:-	

- Stimulating the market for low carbon retrofitting of houses.
- Drive up demand for low carbon energy saving technologies.
- Pilot the use of new low carbon technologies, share learning and disseminate the findings.
- Promote and develop of the local supply chain.
- Improve the energy efficiency of homes in some of the region's most deprived communities.
- Contribute towards the reduction of fuel poverty.
- Assist SME's in Energy and Resource Efficiency.

MF, as a business owner in the Borough was unaware of the potential funding support available to SMEs through the programme and will share the information with the Chamber of Commerce.

MF

4. Standard Update Items:

Mersey Gateway : not progressing as well as expected – due to delays in recruiting staffing – however this is starting to pick up speed and will soon be back on schedule.

LCR Rail Strategy : this is a rail strategy for the whole of the northwest and includes not only the LCR but also Travel 2 Work areas. It's going to the Combined Authority for approval on the 19th October, and will include 12 packages of work over the next 20-30 years but these haven't, as yet, been finalised. There has been approval of £10.4m for the Halton Curve rail line – which will improve connectivity between Liverpool, Cheshire and North Wales.

LTP 4 : The Local Transport Plan 4 is being developed for 2015-21 and will bring together two separate documents. This is a strategic document with the details being held elsewhere, in more detailed documentation. Should be ready for February 2015.

Daresbury : various highway improvements on going by the Highways Agency – still awaiting approval for the new junction M56 (11A) which will link to the new bridge.

Tour of Britain : A very successful event with the tour going through Halton – very positive feedback from the organisers and public – a bid being made to have it come back in 2015.

HSPB : MN gave a more details regarding the main Partnership meeting which had focussed on delivering differently and improving the partnership working. Transport had come out quite favourably and the key messages had been around closer working with the Fire Service, Road Safety Educational training, looking at sharing message delivery via Partners' own mechanisms. There was also mention of resources being released to help tackle some of the issues around obesity and road safety and looking at possible links. In other news, the Police are considering moving into John Briggs House, a new Voluntary, Community and Faith Forum is being discussed with David Parr as Chair, the Board supported further development of the Asset Management Group, the revised SCS and performance framework has been approved and the presentation was

	about the changes to the Early Help locality teams available in Halton.		
5.	<p>Project Up</p> <p>Paul Hurst and Jon Hutchinson from Groundwork Cheshire talked about their furniture upscaling project which has received funding from the Merseyside Waste and Recycling Authority. Several Partners have supported this project which was now up and running, including some who were from other SSPs – referring NEETs. The project is still seeking any additional help if Partners are in a position to do so, including a special request for pallets which are used to create new pieces of furniture.</p>		ALL
6.	<p>HCA Funding Update</p> <p>Paul Mullane gave up update on HHT’s developments. Following approval in July, HHT has secured £6.2m of grant funding that will provide an additional 290 affordable homes across Halton, with a total of £31.7m investment, split across Runcorn and Widnes. A copy of the development schedule is available upon request.</p> <p>Jacqui Walsh then gave further information regarding the total HCA investment in Halton, amounting to £15.7m since April 2011 to end of August 2014. This was spread across several disciplines including £438k for Homeless Change, £991k Mortgage Rescue, £424k Travellers Pitch and £4.4m First Time Buyers. HCA had also approved a new programme for 2015-18 of £7.8m for Halton.</p> <p>JW was asked to presentation a more formal breakdown at a later meeting.</p>		JW/SS
7.	<p>Sci-Tech Daresbury</p> <p>Item deferred to a later meeting</p>		WR/SS
8.	<p>Information Sharing</p> <p>None to report</p>		
9.	<p>Next Meeting & Future Diary Dates</p>	<p>11th December 2014 @ 14:00 (please note change of date : was previously 18th December)</p>	