

West Sussex Public Services Board

Henty Suite, Avisford Hilton Hotel
20th March, 2006 at 3.15 p.m.

Attendees:

Henry Smith, Leader, West Sussex County Council (Chairman).

Melanie Blunden, Chairman of Planning, Adur District Council.

Gillian Brown, Deputy Leader, Arun District Council.

Michael Coughlin, Chief Executive, Crawley Borough Council.

Norman Dingemans, Leader, Arun District Council.

Christine Field, Leader, Mid Sussex District Council.

Mark Hammond, Chief Executive, West Sussex County Council.

Richard Hammond, Environment Agency (in lieu of Rupert Clubb)

Claire Holloway, Chief Executive, Western Sussex PCT.

Robert Jones, Chief Executive, VOLG.

Liz Kitchen, Leader, Horsham District Council.

Liz Lamport, Chair of Crawley Together LSP.

Jeremy Leggett, Chief Executive, Action in Rural Sussex (for part of the meeting).

Ian Lowrie, Chief Executive, Adur District Council.

John Marsland, Chief Executive, Chichester District Council.

Liz McSheehy, Area Director, South East England Development Agency.

Keith Mercer, Leader, Worthing Borough Council.

Chris Redmayne, Leader, Crawley Borough Council.

Lynne Regent, Chief Executive, Crawley PCT.

Andrew Smith, Leader, Chichester District Council.

David Smith, Deputy Executive Director, Sussex Learning and Skills Council.

Hilary Spencer, Chair Arun LSP.

Imogen Stephens, Director of Public Health, Western Sussex Primary Care Trust.

Mark Streater, Divisional Commander, Sussex Police Force.

Ian Sumnall, Chief Executive, Arun District Council.

Farhang Tahzib Director of Public Health, Adur, Arun & Worthing Primary Care Trust, and Chair of Worthing Together LSP.

Angela Ugur, Chief Executive, Horsham & Chanctonbury Primary Care Trust.

Martin Ward, Chairman, Chichester in Partnership LSP.

Bill Deakin, Horsham District Council.

Phillip Coleman, Head of Policy, West Sussex County Council.

Jeff Bartley, Head of Environmental & Economic Policy Service, West Sussex County Council.

Nick Bisson, Assistant to Chief Executive, West Sussex County Council.

Chris Duggan, Member Services Officer, West Sussex County Council.

Clare Blackmore, LAA Performance Manager (Designate), West Sussex County Council.

Apologies:

Mandy Clements, Business Development Manager, JobCentre Plus.

Rupert Clubb, Sussex Area Manager, Environment Agency.

John Haffenden, Airport Manager, Shoreham Airport.
Steve Phoenix, Chief Executive, Adur, Arun & Worthing Primary Care Trust.
Philip Robinson, Vice-Chancellor, University of Chichester.
John Simmons, Chairman, West Sussex Council for Voluntary Youth Services.

1. **Notes of Meeting held on 23rd January, 2006**

The notes were agreed as a correct record of the last meeting.

2. **Matters Arising**

The Board noted that there had been a small change to the formal terms of reference recorded in the Local Area Agreement as a result of clarification of grant conditions during negotiations. The change to the formal terms of reference is that the Public Services Board will: "...determine the collective view of the Partnership's Constituent Bodies on the allocation of government funding allocated to and distributed by West Sussex County Council as Accountable Body through the "single pot"; and in respect of any additional funds which may be pooled with a separate agreement of any individual Partner".

3. **Local Area Agreement (LAA)**

The Board noted that negotiations with the government on the LAA had concluded, following the last draft considered at the Board Meeting on 23rd January. The LAA was to be signed by the Chairman of the Board (on behalf of the West Sussex Strategic Partnership and the County Council as accountable body) and the Local Government Minister, David Miliband (on behalf of the government) on 24th March.

The Board noted the LAA progress report and the final LAA itself.

The Board also noted the position regarding partners who had yet to notify County Council officers of their formal commitment to the LAA and agreed that these should be encouraged to do so as soon as possible. An updated list of commitments will be circulated in due course.

4. **Investing in LAA Reward Targets**

The Board considered a paper presenting a revised proposal for allocating pump-priming money and PSA1 reward grant to the LAA outcomes and targets.

Relevant officers explained the targets in more detail and following discussion the Board agreed:-

- (i) The suggested allocations of investment set out in the paper presented to the meeting as indicative figures, to be released only when relevant action and resource plans had been agreed by the Board; and
- (ii) That where delaying final confirmation of investment until a future meeting of the Board would jeopardise efficient delivery of a target

the Chairman of the Board, acting with the Chairman of the relevant partnership as set out in Annex 2 of the paper before the meeting, be authorised to release funding for 2006/2007 only.

5. Local Neighbourhood Improvement

The Board considered approaches to neighbourhood improvement in West Sussex, having in mind particularly Outcome 22 in the LAA. For the purpose of detailed consideration of how various aspects of improvement might be sustainably delivered and of the possible governance arrangements, including the role of Local Strategic Partnerships and other partners and partnerships, the Board divided into four smaller groups. The discussions which took place in these groups were noted and salient points will be reported back to the next meeting of the Board.

6. The Local Authority Business Growth Incentive (LABGI)

The Board considered a paper which suggested exploring the possibility of locally pooling some LABGI revenues to support regeneration and economic development objectives.

Following discussion it was agreed that the West Sussex Economic Partnership be asked to convene a small working group including all the potential contributors to consider whether specific proposals for the local pooling of such revenues might be brought forward for Board consideration at a future meeting.

7. Performance Management

The Board noted progress with developing a performance management system for the LAA as a whole and were introduced to Clare Blackmore who will be joining West Sussex County Council at the beginning of May as the LAA Performance Manager to work on the further development of the performance management system for the LAA.

8. Supporting People

The Board noted that, following the discussion at January's Board Meeting, the Supporting People Commissioning Body had confirmed its commitment to the LAA, but declined to agree the inclusion of the Supporting People programme within centrally pooled funding for the time being. The Board agreed that this issue should be revisited in time for the first annual review of the LAA.

9. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The Board noted that, in order to maintain the impetus of developing the LAA initiatives, the next meeting will be held on Monday, 8th May, 2006, in the early afternoon at a venue to be arranged. The next meeting

following after that was already arranged to be held on Monday, 24th July, 2006, at 3.30 p.m. in Chichester (precise venue to be confirmed). The Board also noted that confirmation of investment funding on the basis of detailed action/resource plans will need to be confirmed at these meetings, and that a presentation on public reassurance was proposed to take place at one of them.