



**Brighton & Hove Connected**  
**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2014, 4.00-6.00pm**  
**Suite 1, Jurys Inn, 101 Stroudley Road**  
**Brighton, BN1 4DJ**

**Present:**

Tony Mernagh	Business Sector (Chair)
Cllr. Bill Randall	Brighton & Hove City Council (Vice-chair)
Penny Thompson	Brighton & Hove City Council
Paula Murray	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr. Jason Kitcat	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr. Geoffrey Theobald	Brighton & Hove City Council
Tim Smith	Jobcentre Plus
Richard O'Callaghan	Environment Agency
Ian Chisnall	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Lisa Dando	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Geraldine Des Moulins	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Doris Ndebele	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Gary Pargeter	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Sally Polanski	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Caroline Ridley	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Jessica Sumner	Brighton & Hove Community Works
Vicky Watson	Advice Partnership
Andrew Comben	Arts & Creative Industries Commission
Marcelo Staricoff	Learning Partnership
Leighe Rogers	Safe in the City Partnership

**Independent Secretariat:**

Charmian Hay-Ellis (minutes)  
 Simon Newell

**Presenting:**

Pinaki Ghoshal	Brighton & Hove City Council
Laura Williams	Brighton & Hove Community Works
David Wolff	University of Brighton

**Officers Attending:**

Rosemary Wisdom	Brighton & Hove City Council
Richard Butcher-Tuset	Brighton & Hove City Council
Carolyn Bristow	Brighton & Hove City Council
Frank LeDuc	Brighton & Hove News
Valerie Foucher	
Yvonne Rivers	

**Apologies:**

Vic Borrill	City Sustainability Partnership (Vice-chair)
Nev Kemp	Sussex Police, Brighton & Hove
Grahame Widdowson	Jobcentre Plus
Chris Baker	University of Brighton
Michael Davies	University of Sussex
Dean Orgill	Economic Partnership
Julie Frith	Strategic Housing Partnership

## **1. Welcome, Introductions & Chair's communications**

- 1.1 Tony Mernagh (TM) opened the meeting and everyone was introduced
- 1.2 Apologies listed as above
- 1.3 TM welcomed the new members of the board:
  - Caroline Ridley, new rep from Community Works, replacing Chris Todd
  - Marcelo Staricoff, new Learning Partnership rep, replacing Chris Thomson
- 1.4 TM highlighted the recent announcement of the city's successful biosphere accreditation, and thanked the board for its contribution to this work
- 1.5 Penny Thompson (PT) gave an update on the current work of the City Management Board (CMB). She provided the following highlights:
  - The previous CMB meeting was attended by LGA assessors who were very impressed by turnout and the quality of the discussions held
  - An update on the Royal Sussex County Hospital 3Ts development from Matthew Kershaw, CEO of Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals
  - A discussion item on the impact of university growth in the city, which involved looking at both the positive and negative impacts of growth. From this discussion, it was agreed that there would be a future CMB item on raising aspirations in the city.
  - A high level performance framework for CMB was agreed
- 1.6 PT stated that Brighton & Hove City Council was current undertaking its budget setting process for the future. She asked the board to consider how the Local Authority could connect more meaningfully with partnerships around financial issues. She added that the recently revised Sustainable Community Strategy would be used as a basis on which to build. She asked for responses to be sent to her directly. **Action: All members**

## **2. Minutes & matters arising from meeting 04/03/14**

- 2.1 The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed
- 2.2 All items had either been completed or would be discussed during this meeting

## **3. Interviews with 2 Brighton & Hove Connected Members**

- 3.1 TM conducted interviews with Lisa Dando (LD) from Brighton & Hove Community Works and Vicky Watson (VW) representing the Advice Partnership

## **4. Taking Account 3**

- 4.1 Laura Williams (LW) and David Wolf (DW) jointly conducted a presentation on Taking Account 3. Copy of the presentation to be circulated to board members. **Action: Charmian Hay-Ellis**
- 4.2 Cllr. Jason Kitcat suggested that benchmarking work be undertaken on the number of different organisations, in order to be able to compare meaningfully with other areas. **Action: Laura Williams**
- 4.3 TM queried the large number of existing organisations, and asked if this provided an opportunity for groups to explore working together. DW replied that this was a possibility, but that gaps still remained.
- 4.4 TM asked if the rate of volunteers in the city was good compared to other areas. Sally Polanski (SP) responded that the city provides a lot of opportunity for volunteering, but that generally take up is not as good. LW added that more work would be done to compare the findings with other areas. **Action: Laura Williams**

- 4.5 A copy of the report is to be circulated to the board. **Action: Laura Williams/Charmian Hay-Ellis**

## 5. Volunteering Strategy

- 5.1 LW provided a presentation on the Volunteering Strategy. Copy of the presentation to be circulated to board members. **Action: Charmian Hay-Ellis**
- 5.2 It was agreed that partnership representatives should be present on the strategy steering group in order to gain cross-sector input and approach.
- 5.3 Unfortunately, due to time constraints, it was agreed that the questions to be discussed by members would be sent out via email, with comments being sent back to LW. **Action: Laura Williams/Charmian Hay-Ellis**

## 6. Services for Children Forum update

- 6.1 Pinaki Ghoshal (PG) gave a presentation on the recently created Services for Children Forum. Copy of the presentation to be circulated to board members. **Action: Charmian Hay-Ellis**
- 6.2 Cllr. Bill Randall asked how academy and free schools fitted into the structure. PG replied that all schools were accountable for children's outcomes, no matter what their structure, and confirmed that they were involved in the new forum. It also included 6<sup>th</sup> forms which generally are not always engaged. TM added that others, including business and welfare representatives, also participate in this work.
- 6.3 Regarding the Learning Partnership, Marcelo Staricoff (MS) stated that the new phase of the partnership aimed to devise a clear remit to understand what is best for children, and to use this to go back to individual organisations to action as part of the wider group.
- 6.4 PT asked what the relationship was between the Learning Partnership and the City Employment & Skills Steering Group (CESSG). TM noted that there is an issue around the limited interaction between the different stages of education and this is reflected in the lack of collaboration between the two partnerships to date. PG stated the need to understand the journey children take in education.
- 6.5 TM highlighted the need for all to take responsibility for how the city raises its children and that it is not just the obligation of the council, health service, etc. to do this. Following this, he asked for board members on each table to consider and discuss the following questions:
- How does your organisation contribute to the raising of our city's children?
  - Where could engagement take place that does not currently occur?
  - What can Brighton & Hove Connected do to contribute?

A representative from each table gave the following feedback from these discussions:

- 6.5.1 Paula Murray (PM) stated the need to reduce duplication in support provided for children and young people. She also pointed out that the city has a huge cultural offer, but whether all young people receive the same opportunities to get involved is unclear (e.g. is there right/enough provision for the under 5's?). She concluded that she agreed that it should be everyone's responsibility to give our city's children the best start in life, but how people can be made accountable for this is unclear.
- 6.5.2 Jessica Sumner (JS) said the need for clarity around what each children's partnership role was. It was also suggested that the forum look at potentially connecting with the work being done around the Age Friendly City. PG replied that there was a danger of the scope

becoming too broad leading to mission creep, but that this will be considered going forward

- 6.5.3 LD stressed the importance of parents getting the right support before parenting problems become apparent (e.g. where children are taken into care, and costs for the local authority can escalate rapidly). PG stated that the new Early Help Hub will help with providing this support to families.
- 6.5.4 SP asked if any potential learning from the role of the CYPT in East Sussex could be researched. TM agreed that there is opportunity learn from other areas in this work. SP asked how the rest of the city could connect with the work of the Early Help Hub. PG responded that he would take on a coordination role and to contact him for further information.
- 6.6 It was agreed that a directory of Children's Services partnerships would be created and circulated for clarity on each partnerships role. **Action: Simon Newell/Charmian Hay-Ellis**
- 6.7 It was agreed that PG would represent the Services for Children Forum at future Brighton & Hove Connected meetings. PG asked for any additional feedback on this work to be sent to him. **Action: All members**

## 7. AOB

- 7.1 TM informed the group of the current Social Enterprise strategy refresh and website and two launch events happening in September around Social Enterprise Saturday. All were welcome to attend. Contact Toby Buckle ([toby@hazelbranch.co.uk](mailto:toby@hazelbranch.co.uk)) for more information

## 8. Partnership Feedback

- 8.1 5 out of 12 partnerships had responded with feedback. TM thanked the partnerships for sending these through and encouraged the group to read through these as it helps to strengthen the relationship between thematic partnerships and Brighton & Hove Connected. These have also been circulated to thematic partnership members for information

## 9. Date of next meeting

- 9.1 The next Brighton & Hove Connected meeting takes place on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014, 4.00-6.00pm, Suite 1 at the Jury's Inn Hotel, 101 Stroudley Road, Brighton, BN1 4DJ