

Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership

**Tuesday 28th February, 4.00-6.00pm
Suite 1, Jurys Inn, 101 Stroudley Road
Brighton, BN1 4DJ**

Present:

Roger French	Business Sector (Chair)
Chris Todd	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum (Vice-chair)
John Barradell	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr. Gill Mitchell	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr. Bill Randall	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr. Geoffrey Theobald	Brighton & Hove City Council
Geraldine Hoban	NHS Brighton & Hove
Graham Bartlett	Sussex Police
Grahame Widdowson	Job Centre Plus
Colin Monk	University of Brighton
Trevor Freeman	Business Sector
Tony Mernagh	Business Sector
Paul Bramwell	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Ian Chisnall	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Christine Easterbrook	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Gail Gray	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Neil Holmes	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Doris Ndbele	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
John Holmström	Advice Partnership
Adam Trimmingham	City Creatives
Vic Borill	City Sustainability Partnership
Karen Prout	Learning Partnership
Leighe Rogers	Safe in the City Partnership

Independent Secretariat:

Charmian Hay-Ellis (minutes)
Simon Newell

Presenting:

Kerry Clarke	Brighton & Hove City Council
Sarah Colombo	Brighton & Hove City Council
David Murray	Brighton & Hove City Council
Libby Young	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum

Attending:

Corinna Allen	Brighton & Hove City Council
Paula Black	Brighton & Hove City Council
Carolyn Bristow	Brighton & Hove City Council
Richard Butcher-Tuset	Brighton & Hove City Council
Thurstan Crockett	Brighton & Hove City Council
Clair Farenden	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Frank LeDuc	Brighton & Hove News

Geoff Raw	Brighton & Hove City Council
Charlie Stewart	Brighton & Hove City Council
Tracey Wallace	Brighton & Hove City Council

Apologies:

Cllr. Amy Kennedy	Brighton & Hove City Council (Vice-chair)
Rachel Brett	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Geraldine Des Moulins	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Jackie Lythell	City Creatives
Phil Frier	City Employment & Skills Steering Group
Simon Fanshawe	Economic Partnership
Chris Thomson	Learning Partnership

1. Welcome, Introductions & Chair's communications

- 1.1 Roger French (RF) opened and welcomed the meeting
- 1.2 Apologies listed as above
- 1.3 RF brought out that the Working Together Project is closing at the end of March. Therefore, Paul Bramwell (PB) will sadly be stepping down as a CVSF rep and this will be his last BHSP meeting. Lisa Dando will be taking his place from April onwards. RF thanked PB on behalf of the BHSP for all of his hard work and effort supporting the partnership. He also noted this would be the last meeting being attended by Councillor Bill Randall as leader of the city council and thanked him for his unstinting support for partnership working and the BHSP in particular during his term of office.
- 1.4 RF brought out a couple of highlights from the partnership feedback that had been received:
 - 1.4.1 Strategic Housing Partnership: The Council is carrying out further consultation to seek views on the proposal to implement an additional licensing scheme for houses in multiple occupation (HMOs) in five wards in the city. The consultation will run until 31 March 2012 which will include door to door surveys and discussions with partners and stakeholders, neighbourhood groups, student unions, landlords and lettings agent forums and business forums.
 - 1.4.2 City Employment & Skills Steering Group: The skills and jobs shop in Queens Rd is expected to be launched by the end of March 2012. The CESSG is working on a coordinated approach amongst different organisations that will help employers and residents to get clarity on the help that's available for apprenticeships, work placements and job opportunities. Social media and a website will be developed.
 - 1.4.3 Only 4 partnership feedback forms were received by the Partnerships Team. He therefore encouraged the group to continue to complete these forms.
- 1.5 RF reminded the group that a development session is being held on the new date of 28th March to discuss the Biosphere strategy (This has been changed from 29th February). He added that if any partners would like to offer a venue for this event, to please contact Charmian Hay-Ellis (charmian.hay-ellis@brighton-hove.gov.uk) before the end of the week.
- 1.6 RF noted that item 7 on the 'Health of the Cultural Sector in the City Survey' is being deferred until the next meeting as the report is still to be finalised. He apologised for any confusion
- 1.7 RF reminded the group of the intention to finish by 5.50pm in order that attendees are able to go to the Chamber event on the Living wage being held at City College
- 1.8 RF invited John Barradell (JB) to comment on the upcoming Council change from the cabinet to the committee system. JB brought out that the change to

the committee system has been a long term aspiration for the city council. The new system will commence in 17th May 2012. Details about how the system will work are continuing to be thought through at this present time. Cllr. Bill Randall added that the new system will make things more democratic for the city.

2. Minutes & matters arising from the BHSP meeting Tuesday 6th December

- 2.1 Under item 9.3, Simon Newell (SN) confirmed that the retro-fitting item is being discussed at a future meeting of the Strategic Housing Partnership
- 2.2 All other items have either been completed or will be discussed on this agenda
- 2.3 Chris Todd (CT) brought out that he was concerned about a number of the changes currently taking place at the local authority, specifically around the sustainability team budgets, which could have large implications for the City Sustainability Partnership (CSP) and the implementation of the Climate Change Strategy. JB replied that he will respond to CT before the next CSP meeting

3. Clinical Commissioning Group Update

- 3.1 Geraldine Hoban (GH) provided an update and presentation on the Clinical Commissioning Group.
- 3.2 Tony Mernagh (TM) asked what was meant by the Clinical Commissioning Group being responsible, but not accountable. GH replied that the group currently reports to NHS Sussex for sign off, but that this will change over time.
- 3.3 TM brought out that 52% of the city's unemployed suffer from mental health problems and this doesn't appear in the list of priorities. He asked why this was. GH replied that, in terms of mental health, the list is not exhaustive and mental health services are included in the large transformational programme.
- 3.4 Ian Chisnall (IC) asked if there was a 'plan B' as such for this work if changes are made by Government before the legislation is passed. GH brought out that there is not anything specific around at the present, but that by having a local and co-terminus Clinical Commissioning Group, the chances of the process not working through are very minor.
- 3.5 IC noted that this process will have incurred cost, and therefore asked if the majority of merging backend services had already happened to try and reduce costs. GH replied that the group is a member of the Shared Support Steering Group, chaired by Charlie Stewart, BHCC, which looks at how services can be shared across the city in order to reduce duplication and improve efficiency.
- 3.6 IC also asked if Dr Xavier Nalletamby could be invited to a future meeting to present. **Action: Roger French/Simon Newell**
- 3.7 Cllr. Bill Randall brought out that he was aware that some Lewes GPs wanted to join the Brighton & Hove group, as they were too small to have their own. He asked if this was still the case. GH stated that Lewes did want the groups to merge, but that the Brighton & Hove group were not drawn to this as it could mean losing the current city focus. This discussion is ongoing. If the two groups were to merge, Lewes' budget responsibilities would be brought with them.
- 3.8 Trevor Freeman (TF) asked if any quality control measures were in place for monitoring this process. GH brought out that a Quality Assurance Group has been put into place in order to keep a handle on this.

4. Neighbourhood Governance

- 4.1 David Murray (DM) gave a brief overview of the content of the Neighbourhood Governance paper. He brought out that the local authority will continue to explore the localism act in more detail, particularly around planning, and will look at the means by which methods such as social media

- can be used to engage with the community. He concluded that a method of engagement will be created for Brighton & Hove specifically
- 4.2 Paul Bramwell (PB) asked if a report summary of the consultation will be published. DM confirmed that it would.
- 4.3 PB brought out that, at a previous CVSF event, highlighted the need to improve capacity and to build on existing groups. DM noted that there are many areas in which this can be done,
- 4.4 CT asked if an outline of costs had been produced. DM stated that this was currently uncertain.
- 4.5 CT noted that this work would have an impact on councillors and create boundary issues. He asked who would decide what the boundaries of a 'neighbourhood' are. DM brought out that this was a bigger debate still to be had. The council is not interested in telling neighbourhoods what to do, but wards seem a logical position to start from. The focus will be what makes a difference to people's lives.
- 4.6 Cllr. Bill Randall asked if there had been any expressions of interest from other groups in the city. DM said that there had been a lot of interest so far, and that initial discussions with these groups will take place with them in the near future.
- 4.7 Cllr. Gill Mitchell asked if the pilots will have devolved budgets. DM noted that this is currently uncertain, but agreed that by empowering communities, it will help achieve more meaningful outcomes.
- 4.8 DM agreed to return to the BHSP to provide updates as the programme progresses. **Action: David Murray**

5. Transforming Local Infrastructure

- 5.1 Libby Young (LY) gave a brief overview of the Transforming Local Infrastructure project, that will run from April 2012 to October 2013. She highlighted that the project will focus on 3 key outcomes:
- The creation of a single infrastructure support organisation that is viable, efficient and relevant is explored and implemented
 - The needs of front line community and voluntary groups are better served through more effective diagnosis and meeting of need, integrated delivery mechanisms, streamlined access routes and increased co-ordination of support services
 - Greater and better co-ordinated investment, sponsorship, pro bono support, employer supported volunteering and mentoring services with businesses, the public and university sectors to help support civil society organisations
- 5.2 This project will look at creating a number of varied activities, including creating a shared information database, and developing a cross-sector mentoring programme. The project will enable the sector to reduce duplication and improve efficiencies.
- 5.3 LY highlighted that the grant is transformational, not just to fund services. She noted that although the change may be difficult, partners are fully committed.
- 5.4 IC noted that the Working Together Project helped to make Brighton & Hove the thriving place for the third sector that it is today, and therefore is disappointed that this is going, as this would have been a valuable group to use during this process

6. A Next Phase for Stronger Communities Partnership

- 6.1 Simon Newell (SN) highlighted a list of the fundamental changes to the SCP:
- To cease operating as of 31st March 2012
 - To re-brand and re-promote the partnership as the 'City Engagement Partnership', operating from 1st April onwards
 - To focus and streamline its membership

6.2 These changes were agreed at the last meeting of the SCP in February 2012.

6.3 The BHSP endorsed the SCP changes

7. Food Strategy

8.1 Vic Borill (VB) conducted a presentation on the Brighton & Hove Food Strategy.

8.2 RF mentioned that the food that is served at the Royal Sussex County Hospital could be done in line with this strategy. GH stated that she would look into the possibility of doing this. VB added that it doesn't always cost more to follow the guidelines outlined in the strategy. **Action: Geraldine Hoban to follow-up**

8.3 Cllr. Geoffrey Theobald asked if work was being done with Southdowns. VB confirmed that it was, and noted the importance of using Sussex based produce.

8.4 VB brought out that ongoing work is being done around the 'love food, hate waste' campaign in educating people about food, particularly when it comes to 'best by' dates listed on food.

8.5 Cllr. Bill Randall noted that, in addition to the 'scores on the doors' that restaurants have in Brighton & Hove, we might consider including two other factors being 'locally sourced' and 'organic'. RF agreed that this would be useful for Brighton & Hove as well. **Action: Simon Newell to follow-up**

8.6 The Brighton & Hove Food Strategy was endorsed by the BHSP

8. Brighton & Hove Child Poverty Strategy

9.1 Sarah Colombo (SC) gave a presentation to the partnership on the Brighton & Hove Child Poverty Strategy.

9.2 IC stated that he welcomed the strategy. With regards to outcome 4, he noted that capacity building takes time and effort, and therefore asked if there was any financial resource for this work. SC replied that the commission does not have a child poverty budget attached to it. The strategy is honest about what needs to be done

9.3 Under strategic outcome 3, Gail Gray (GG) asked how levels of pay would be improved. SC responded that this strategy has links with the living wage commission to look at this area.

9.4 GG noted that domestic violence was not specifically mentioned under strategic outcome 4. SC brought out this is a cross-cutting issue, but this may become an area of potential focus.

9.5 John Holmström (JH) expressed his support for this work. Under item 2.3, he brought out that many families do not have disposable income to lose. VB added that this links in with the food strategy and the connection it has with poverty. SC brought out that a lot of work is currently going on around taking forward some of these large issues, including raising schools awareness of child poverty in families

9.6 CT asked SC how she envisaged the BHSP playing a genuine role in this area. SC suggested that she create a portfolio of evidence for the BHSP to look at and support. **Action: Sarah Colombo**

9.7 Under item 2.4, CT noted that some of the limiting influences are not always financial and may include other factors such as personal safety.

9.8 Cllr. Bill Randall noted the importance of teaching children about how to manage money.

9.9 Doris Ndbele (DN) asked what plans were in place for including more about BME populations. SC suggested contacting Nicky Cambridge directly on this matter. **Action Doris Ndbele/Sarah Colombo**

9.10 Sarah Colombo agreed to make the above changes for the BHSP to endorse this item

9. Services for Young Peoples, Joint Commissioning Strategy

- 10.1 Kerry Clarke (KC) provided a summary of her paper on the Services for young People joint commissioning strategy. She asked the BHSP to agree to engage with the work to develop and implement the strategy citywide and to engage over possible future work on Youth Services
- 10.2 KC brought out that the joint commissioning approach to creating the strategy has proved very collaborative, and has been through an intense scrutiny process to get it right. This strategy has been signed off, and is now being worked through with partners to create formal arrangements for October 2012.
- 10.3 TF brought out that often the business community find that young people often don't have the soft skills businesses need (e.g.: arriving for work on time, being fit for work, etc). KC brought out that businesses are being spoken to about what soft skills it is that businesses are looking for. TM added that the business community is also responsible in getting young people ready for work, through offering work placements to children whilst they are at school
- 10.4 Cllr. Bill Randall brought out that Albion in the Community currently lists about 80 local companies who are willing to take on young people for work experience ranging from 1 day to 2 weeks, which is proving very successful. Grahame Widdowson (GW) noted that the city has been very successful at getting young people into work through government initiatives. However, due to negative publicity recently, there have been a number of companies that have withdrawn from the scheme. GW also pointed out that 40% of participants have gone on to full time employment, and there are no cases of anyone losing their benefits.

10.5 The BHSP agreed the recommendations set out in the report

- 10.6 SN noted that this item is also going to the next City Employment & Skills Steering Group for further discussion. **Action: Simon Newell/Kerry Clarke**

10. Items for information

- 11.1 RF drew the groups attention to the item for information and encouraged the group to read through the documents

11. Date of next meeting

- 12.1 The next BHSP Meeting takes place on Tuesday 19th June 2012, 4.00-6.00pm, Suite 1 at the Jury's Inn Hotel, 101 Stroudley Road, Brighton, BN1 4DJ