

**Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership
Tuesday 4th December, 2012 4.00-6.00pm
Suite 1, Jurys Inn, 101 Stroudley Road
Brighton, BN1 4DJ**

Present:

Roger French	Business Sector (Chair)
Cllr. Geoffrey Bowden	Brighton & Hove City Council (Vice-chair)
Chris Todd	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum (Vice-chair)
Cllr. Jason Kitcat	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr. Gill Mitchell	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr. Geoffrey Theobald	Brighton & Hove City Council
Penny Thompson	Brighton & Hove City Council
Jeremy Graves	Sussex Police
Katy Bourne	Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner
Grahame Widdowson	Job Centre Plus
Trevor Freeman	Business Sector
Tony Mernagh	Business Sector
Ian Chisnall	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Gail Gray	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Doris Ndebele	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
John Holmström	Advice Partnership
Jackie Lythell	Arts & Creative Industries Commission
Lynn Thackway	City Employment & Skills Steering Group
Vic Borill	City Sustainability Partnership
Chris Thomson	Learning Partnership
Leighe Rogers	Safe in the City Partnership

Independent Secretariat:

Charmian Hay-Ellis (minutes)
Simon Newell

Presenting:

Paula Black	Brighton & Hove City Council
Thurstan Crockett	Brighton & Hove City Council
David Golding	Brighton & Hove City Council
Nikki Homewood	Brighton Housing Trust
Geoff Raw	Brighton & Hove City Council

Officers Attending:

Carolyn Bristow	Brighton & Hove City Council
Richard Butcher-Tuset	Brighton & Hove City Council
Clair Farenden	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Frank LeDuc	Brighton & Hove News
Tom Scanlon	Brighton & Hove City Council
Dan Steedman	Sussex Police Authority
Heather Thompson	Brighton & Hove City Council

Apologies:

Graham Bartlett	Sussex Police
Geraldine Hoban	NHS Brighton & Hove
Colin Monk	University of Brighton
Rachel Brett	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Geraldine Des Moulins	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Christine Easterbrook	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Gary Peters	Economic Partnership

1. Welcome, Introductions & Chair's communications

- 1.1 Apologies listed as above
- 1.2 Roger French (RF) welcomed Penny Thompson (PT), new Chief Executive of Brighton & Hove City Council, and Katy Bourne (KB), the new Police & Crime Commissioner for Sussex.

2. Introduction to Brighton & Hove City Council's New Chief Executive Officer

- 2.1 RF welcomed PT to the group.
- 2.2 PT thanked partners for the warmth of welcome she has received already in the city. She brought out that for her first 3 weeks at the council she had been conducting a listening tour which had proved extremely helpful and has brought up some clear messages around direction of travel, including the way in which priorities are managed.
- 2.3 Monday 3rd December was her first day officially as Chief Executive of the Local Authority.

3. Introduction to the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

- 3.1 RF welcomed KB to the meeting
- 3.2 KB confirmed that she would like to become a member of the BHSP board. She noted that she recognised the need for her to work in partnership with others in order to make the role a success.
- 3.3 KB brought out that she was currently in the process of writing a three year plan for the region. She noticed that included in the CPP papers for this meeting that one of the areas highlighted as a major issue for the city is alcohol abuse. This is an area that is high on her agenda for tackling.
- 3.4 KB encouraged the group to visit the Police & Crime Commissioner website (<http://www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/>) and to watch future Police & Crime Commissioner Panel meetings that are available to view live.

4. Minutes & matters arising from the BHSP meeting 18/09/2012

- 4.1 The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed.
- 4.2 **A briefing paper outlining the actions and follow-up from the last meeting were agreed.**

5. 6 month City Performance Plan (CPP) update

- 5.1 Paula Black (PB) provided some background information around the CPP. She brought out that this is a performance plan for monitoring the Sustainable Community Strategy priorities. During the 18 months that the CPP had been in use, the shared city risks have now been incorporated into the CPP report. Officers accountable for targets have also been named in the plan.
- 5.2 PB stated that the CPP had shown that improvements are being made within the city. One example is that of the decent homes standard (the decent home standard was highlighted as an issue for the city by the Comprehensive Area Agreement in 2009). PB brought out that the city is now going to meet its target for decent home standards in the city. Tony Mernagh (TM) asked if this correlates to the national average. PB brought out that this would need to be checked. **Action: Paula Black**
- 5.3 PB brought out that over the next 12 months, 3 potential areas of concern for the city will be looked at in more detail in order to maximise the opportunities for improvements in these areas. The three areas are:
- Youth employment
 - Housing, including homelessness
 - Alcohol related hospital admissions
- 5.4 Vic Borill (VB) noted that none of the sustainability areas were included among the three priorities, even though these are not doing as well as they should be. PB brought out that this is a rolling programme and other areas will be considered in due course. She added that for many of the sustainability indicators, there is a substantial time lag on available data which makes it difficult to fully understand the issues involved.
- 5.5 PB confirmed that all the targets have been taken from published strategies

6. Performance Accountability Framework (Including Youth Unemployment Challenge meeting feedback)

- 6.1 PB brought out that the accountability framework previously set by central government had been abolished and that it therefore rested with the Public Service Board (PSB) to hold itself to account for performance in the city. Therefore a new accountability framework, including new operating principles for the PSB, has been put together to reflect these changes.
- 6.2 The first priority being looked at in this new challenge framework is youth employment. An initial workshop was held with a number of key partners in mid November, the results of which are going to PSB on 11th December. Subject to the PSB's agreement, an improvement plan for this area will be put together in order to hold partners to account.

- 6.3 Simon Newell (SN) stated that this process will help to improve areas of issue and not just report on them. He added that there is a need for partners to be honest about the areas for improvement
- 6.4 SN brought out that the process was currently very resource heavy, which is something that will need to be considered going forward. Also, in future, the performance challenge areas will need to be run more concurrently in order to maximise the benefits and be able to cover more areas.
- 6.5 Ian Chisnall (IC) asked if it would be possible to have it listed in future who had been involved in each session. This will be included going forward. SN noted that relevant voluntary sector colleagues from each thematic partnership are being included depending on the partnership. **Action: Paula Black**

7. Citytracker

- 7.1 PB provided a presentation to the group from wave 2 of the citytracker results
- 7.2 RF brought out the need to work together as partners to promote this survey in the city.
- 7.3 IC thanked PB for the adjustment to the wording of the CVSF question around satisfaction. He asked if anything more could be done with this data in order to further encourage volunteering. PB replied that the percentage could be broken down further in order to help nudge people into volunteering
- 7.4 John Holmström asked why there was a significant difference in mental health figures included in the slides. PB responded that the figures represented the difference between people who had actually used the service and the general population
- 7.5 Trevor Freeman (TF) raised a point concerning sample size and was reassured by PB that Brighton & Hove's sample size is the same as that being used by the LGA across the entire country
- 7.6 PT brought out that often stories are powerful tools that can be used when promoting statistics. **It was agreed to explore the communication of headlines from the Citytracker on behalf of the BHSP. Action: Paula Black**
- 7.7 Chris Todd (CT) noted that although the citytracker results are mostly positive, there is still an issue around air pollution that people are concerned about. This is an issue for the city that needs to be dealt with.
- 7.8 PB informed the BHSP that there would be one more wave of questions, which would then conclude the survey's funding. RF brought out that a decision needs to be made about if/how this will be funded in the future. BHSP partners to discuss future resourcing of Citytracker. **Action: BHSP partners**

8. Census Demographic Detail

- 8.1 David Golding provided a presentation for the group on the latest census results
- 8.2 Gail Gray (GG) noted that the census indicates that substantial pressure on schools would be imminent. Cllr. Jason Kitcat brought out that the city was on track to deliver this.
- 8.3 IC noted that it would be interesting to know why students tend to stay on in the city, and how this compares to other places. TM added that 2/3 students are still in the city 3 years after graduation
- 8.4 Cllr. Geoffrey Bowden expressed his concern about the increase in population and noted the need to cooperate with other neighbouring authorities around this issue.
- 8.5 Cllr. Gill Mitchell asked about the significance of people having a second address. DG replied that this was most likely to be a result of students, but that this wouldn't be certain until more detail is provided next year
- 8.6 TM asked when information would become available around travel to work plans. DG confirmed that this would be available next year
- 8.7 Doris Ndebele (DN) brought out that it would be interesting to know how many resident young people leave to study outside of the city and don't come back
- 8.8 DG stated that more information around members of the population who are 90+ years would be available next year. Further information to be circulated to members. **Action: David Golding**

9. Strategic Finance Session Feedback

- 9.1 SN provided a brief overview of the strategic finance session that took place on Friday 26th October. He brought out that the session focused on the medium term financial situation.
- 9.2 SN highlighted the key recommendations under item 4 of his paper. He added that this process had enabled the start of a coordinated approach to how services will be provided collectively.
- 9.3 SN brought out that under the new thematic partnership protocols, partnerships will be asked for relevant financial information in order to try and understand total costs. GG asked if any analysis of cross benefit would be done. SN confirmed that this is something that will be done in the future
- 9.4 Jackie Lythell (JL) noted the need to break down costs as much as possible, particularly in areas of arts and culture, as much of the funding is generated by income.
- 9.5 TM brought out that the scale of the cuts are not necessarily understood fully by the general public. Clear messages are needed.
- 9.6 **The recommendations were agreed.**
- 9.7 An update that will be brought back to the next meeting. **Action: Simon Newell**

10. Draft Sustainability Action Plan

- 10.1 VB provided an overview and background to the plan. The plan is currently out for consultation and can be accessed via the link:
http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/downloads/bhcc/sustainability/Sustainability_Action_Plan_v_10_for_P_R_29_11_12.pdf
- 10.2 VB highlighted the request for thematic partnerships to take forward the commitments included within the plan, working alongside the City Sustainability Partnership.
- 10.3 RF encouraged the group to look at the link and provide feedback on the plan to Thurstan Crockett, Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy, Brighton & Hove City Council –
thurstan.crockett@brighton-hove.gov.uk

11. Big Lottery Fund – Single people with complex needs

- 11.1 Nikki Homewood (NH) provided a presentation on the Big Lottery Fund project around people with complex needs. The presentation will be circulated round to the group. **Action: Charmian Hay-Ellis**
- 11.2 TM asked that as this is a very long process, could a lot of time be potentially spent on doing the business plan with it then being unsuccessful. NH noted that this is a potential issue, but that the process has already been really positive so far and it is hoped that this will continue in order to be able to provide the best bid
- 11.3 VB asked if, as this is a long process, if any short term work could be undertaken in the meantime. NH replied that unfortunately this isn't really possible, but that the process is enabling positive working between organisations where perhaps this wasn't as strong before, so it is laying the groundwork for the project.
- 11.4 Leigh Rogers (LR) welcomed this project and noted that there will be a number of people who are experiencing all four of the key areas (homelessness, offending, problematic substance misuse and mental ill health). This group of people will need to take particular focus in this project.
- 11.5 Further updates will be provided in 2013.

12. Economic Strategy Refresh

- 12.1 Geoff Raw (GR) gave an overview and background to the currently Economic Strategy refresh. He highlighted that consultation events were being arranged to look at this strategy.
- 12.2 IC brought out that the city needs to acknowledge that it cannot achieve this strategy on its own. There is a need to work in partnership with other areas where opportunities are available. TM replied that the City Prospectus and the Economic Strategy refresh both take into account the city's Functional Economic Area (FEA) and has strong ties to the City Plan. Cllr. Jason Kitcat added that this is beginning to be done a lot more often throughout the country.

Despite different political control in different areas, there is a lot of common ground that can be taken advantage of in this process.

- 12.3 TM brought out that the Economic Strategy consultation event will take place on 15th January 2013 from 5pm-8pm. This event will be principally a business consultation but the BHSP members will also be invited to attend. **Action: Tony Mernagh/Charmian Hay-Ellis**

13. Future Cities Large Scale Demonstrator

- 13.1 GR confirmed that unfortunately the city was not successful in its bid to receive the significant amount of money available for this project, and is currently awaiting feedback.
- 13.2 GR added that the work that has been done already will not be lost and is already being applied to other projects such as City Deal.
- 13.3 GR noted that overall this was a positive process and brought out the need to continually engage much more strongly with business organisations.

14. Items for information

- 14.1 RF encouraged the group to note the items for information

15. Date of next meeting

- 15.1 The next BHSP Meeting takes place on Tuesday 5th March 2013, 4.00-6.00pm, Suite 1 at the Jury's Inn Hotel, 101 Stroudley Road, Brighton, BN1 4DJ
- 15.2 RF confirmed that this would be his last meeting as chair and business sector representative. He encouraged the group to begin to give some thought as to who would take over as chair from March 2013. The vice-chairs will remain Chris Todd and Cllr. Geoffrey Bowden. Contact SN (email: simon.newell@brighton-hove.gov.uk, phone: 01273 291128) for more information. **Action: All members**