

**Minute/Decision Summary - unconfirmed  
Meeting- Stockton Renaissance  
Date – 11<sup>th</sup> April 2006  
Newtown Community Resource Centre**

ITEM/ISSUE	DOI	COMMENTS/DECISION	ACTION	Does it need Council approval/ endorsement?	Are any other boards affected?	CONTACT
<b>1. Presentation meeting - Apologies for absence</b>		/	No	No	No	Lesley Dale Area Partnership Coordinator on (01642) 527568/ 526438
<p><b>2. Stockton Resident's Survey 2006</b> The board were informed of the proposed Stockton-on-Tees Residents Survey 2006 and were invited to consider possibility of submitting further questions for inclusion in the survey.</p> <p>Potential new topic areas could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and exercise (smoking, alcohol etc) linking to the LPSA targets</li> <li>• Transport agenda</li> <li>• Children &amp; Young People</li> <li>• Devolution agenda/Lyons Review</li> </ul> <p>There is a cost implication if partners wish to utilise this survey, however this would be minimum compared to generation their own</p>		The partnership approved the Local Resident's Survey for 2006.	No	Yes	No	Helen Dean Head of Policy & Performance Contact 527003

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<p>survey/questionnaire. It was noted that the PCT are currently liaising with KD to regarding data around Health Life Styles.</p>						
<p><b>Welfare Reform Green Paper</b> A presentation was given on the Welfare Reform- A new deal for welfare: Empowering people to work. A paper supporting the presentation had been submitted to the board containing concerns deriving from a previous presentation with cabinet members. This paper highlights the Governments aspiration of achieving an employment rate equivalent to 80% of the working age population.</p> <p>The key proposals for the green paper are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incapacity Benefit Reform</li> <li>• Housing Benefit Reform</li> <li>• Lone Parents</li> <li>• Older People</li> <li>• Delivering Welfare Reform</li> </ul> <p>The board were asked for a response in relation to this green paper.</p> <p>General concerns were raised around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment to Tenants - the proposal to increase personal responsibility by transferring housing benefits payment</li> </ul>		<p>The board overall supported the Welfare Reform Green Paper, however a formal response will be submitted highlighting the boards concerns.</p> <p>The board showed concerns regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payments of Housing Benefit to tenants.</li> <li>• Amount of jobs matching peoples skills</li> <li>• Resources to enable the voluntary &amp; community</li> </ul>	<p>Formal response to be coordinated and submitted by RT</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Ian Thompson Head of Regeneration &amp; Economic Development Contact 527024</p>

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<p>directly to the individual rather than the private landlord. It was felt that this might allow the payment to be possibly used for alternative purposes, consequently putting the person into arrears.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The achievement of employment rate of 80%, this included 129,000 additional people in to work in the North East. The proposals concentrate on getting the person into work. A question was raised regarding how had this figure been derived and how could this be achieved? Are there enough skilled people for the jobs created? It was highlighted that currently there are more jobs than people in the region and it was a case of matching the skills to the right job.</li> <li>• Reference is made to some delivery of the proposals by the voluntary and community sector but it is unclear where the resources will come from.</li> </ul> <p>The board was informed that all PSL and Job centre Plus led action team and ethnic minority</p>		<p>sector to deliver some of the proposals.</p>				
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<p>outreach activities will cease at the end of September 2006. The Department for Work &amp; Pensions is working with Jobcentre Plus to develop a future deprived area strategy that aims to ensure that all area-based activities are more effectively targeted at people and places with the greatest needs. This has involved a review of their programmes and service to ensure they provide good value for money and continue to meet their needs. It was highlighted that the future strategy will provide more flexibility to local areas regarding the types of provision and support needed. To enable local workless people to move into employment or close to the labour market</p> <p>A difficult concept was apparent regarding the reference made to the piloting of 'city consortiums' to tackle worklessness in the green paper. This is still to be confirmed and there appears to be little funding to help with this. Despite there being a number of caveats the board did support the proposals of this paper.</p>						
<p><b>RSPB Saltholme - The International Nature Reserve in the Tees Valley</b> Kevin Bayes presented the board with an inspirational presentation on the Saltholme</p>		<p>The board fully supported the Saltholme Project and will submit a</p>	<p>Letter of support to be submitted.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Kevin Bayes Saltholme Project Manager RSPB</p>

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<p>project.</p> <p>Saltholme will be the largest wetland re-creation project in the North of England. The reserve is being developed with community support and will bring out significant quality of life improvements to local communities. The vision of the project is to create the largest wildlife tourism facility in the Tees Valley, bringing over 100,00 visitors to the area and contribution £1.4 million to the local economy.</p> <p>The board fully supported the project and the vision.</p>		<p>formal letter.</p>				<p>0191 2334300</p>
<p><b>Next meeting: 6<sup>th</sup> May 2006</b></p>						

**Attendance:** Cllr B Gibson, Cllr Maureen Rigg, Ann Baxter, Jeremy Garside, Olive Milner, Jim Beall, Cllr Robert Cook, Cllr Jennie Beaumont, Paul Thomas, Tony Campbell, Chris Willis, John Tough, Cllr David Coleman, Jeremy Garside

**Advisors:**, Lesley Dale, Kate Dumain, Helen Dean, Linda Stephenson, Mark Rowell, Roland Todd (SBC/PUB), Julie Derbyshire (SRCGA), Paul McGee, Lynne Melvin, Steve Davison, Kevin Bayes (RSPB), Geoff Lee, Toks Sangowawa

**Observers:** Rev David Whiting

**Apologies:** Frank Cook, Jenny Haworth, Graeme Oram, Cllr Dave Coleman, Frank Ramsey, Margaret Waggot, George Garlick, Dawn Welsh, Ian Thompson, Rev Derek Rosamond, Jan Mccoll.