ITEM/ISSUE	DOI	COMMENTS /DECISION	ACTION	Does it need Council approval/ Endorsement ?	Are any other boards affected?	CONTACT
1. Welcome & apologies		Noted	No	No	No	Sarah Upex Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Coordinator (01642) 526498
LEARNING AND SKILLS COUNCIL ANNUAL STATEMENT OF PRIORITIES An introduction to the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) was given to Renaissance. The North East is divided into North and South. North is Northumberland and Tyne and Wear and South is County Durham and the Tees Valley. In the South, partnership teams have aligned with local authority areas, with 6 partnership teams in the South of the region. The newly appointed North East Regional Director is Chris Roberts.		Noted	No	No	No	Val Goodrum, Partnership Director, Stockton LSC
Annual Statement of Priorities The Annual Statement of Priorities was published by the DfES on 18 th October 2006 and sets a clear direction of travel for the LSC. It sets national priorities with key actions at headline level, provides the overarching framework and context for regional and local planning						

and integrates resources and funding available in delivering the targets and priorities.			
The following are the 4 identified priorities:			
Priority 1 - Provide a choice of high quality, relevant learning opportunities to all young people to equip them with the skills for employment, further or higher learning and for a wider social and community engagement. Key actions include: 90% participation by 2015 Delivering a broader curriculum offer Increase the number of places for learners with learning difficulties or disabilities			
Priority 2 – Raise the skills of the nation, giving employers and individuals the skills they need to improve productivity, employability and social cohesion Key actions include: • Relative balance of skills • Work with large employers through National Employer Service • Offender learning and skills service			
Priority 3 – Build a world class system that is responsive, provides choice and is valued and recognised for excellence Key actions include:			

Increase contestability Use research and evaluation to underpin decisions at all levels Private investment in education and training					
Priority 4 – Provide greater choice and economic development locally and regionally through partnership working Key actions include: • Contribute and align to – city regions/city strategies; local area agreements and skills and employment boards • Help socially and economically disadvantaged people gain sustainable employment • Help develop sustainable communities					
LSP PEER CHALLENGE REVIEW SELF ASSESSMENT Members of Stockton Renaissance were informed of the review of the Peer Challenge Review of the LSP by the IDeA, which is taking place 16 th – 18 th January 2007 and will take the place in the form of interviews with members of Stockton Renaissance. The IDeA Peer Review team will be made up of 5 members and one observer. The officers will work closely with Stockton Renaissance and will create a positive atmosphere for learning and advice. The Peer	Noted	No	No	No	Dawn Welsh Neighbourhood Renewal Manager (01642) 526011

Review visit has been jointly agreed with the Review Manager and Stockton Renaissance and guidance has been provided. The results of the visit will be assessed with Stockton Renaissance at the end of the visit. A report will be compiled by the Peer Review Team, to indicate the strengths and the issues to be considered against the 17 benchmark competencies. It also includes recommendations for improvements. In response, Stockton Council will draw up an improvement plan. Prior to the visit a self-assessment of Stockton Renaissance has been compiled. A draft of this self assessment has been circulated with the papers and includes the following information: • Context and Overview • Achievements and Impact • Vision and Strategy • Leadership and Relationships • Governance and Performance	Self Assessment was agreed and noted	No	No	No	
COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT NETWORK EVALUATION The purpose of this report is for Stockton Renaissance to decide future funding support arrangements for the 2007/08 financial year for Stockton's Community Empowerment Network, which underpins the Local	Noted	No	No	No	Dawn Welsh Neighbourhood Renewal Manager (01642) 526011

Strategic Partnership. As agreed at Renaissance on 4 th October 2005, 6 monthly monitoring on CEN progress is carried out to identify; number of Voluntary and Community organisations supported, coordination and secretariat support for monthly network meetings, attendance and support at monthly area partnership meetings, attendance at events, conferences and the production of a quarterly newsletter. The evaluation for delivery for 2006/07 was carried out in October 2006 through the programme monitoring and a questionnaire jointly agreed with Stockton Borough Council and Stockton Residents and Community Groups Association (lead organisation for the CEN), which was sent to members of the following: Stockton Renaissance, area partnership boards, CEN, BME network and thematic partnerships. The questionnaire achieved a response rate of 6%.					
The CEN had previously received £106,000 per annum, however this has been cut due to a national cut in the Community Empowerment Fund. It is recommended Renaissance agree releasing the allocated £60,000 NRF monies and recommend	Board agreed to releasing £60,000 NRF monies and	No	No	No	
breakdown of monies into £30,000 for the Community Empowerment Network and £30,000 for the Black Minority Ethnic Network for the 2007/08 financial year.	recommend a breakdown				

Stockton Renaissance board supported the proposal to address the £65,000 shortfall through any under spends or additional funding. The Community Empowerment Network provides an important function as it enables the Community and Voluntary sector to play an active and vital role within their communities and within the decision making process. The funding is required to continue to provide the resources to enable local people, groups and organisations to play an active role and receive the support required.	of £30,000 for CEN and £30,00 for the BME network	
NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PROGRAMME 2006/07 6 MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and Programme monitoring 2006/7: Members were informed that at the end of the financial year 2005/06, the programme had spent the full NRF allocation of £7,704,408.		Dawn Welsh Neighbourhood Renewal Manager (01642) 526011
The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme for the 2006/08 financial years was approved by Renaissance between December 2005 - March 2006. The programme aims to tackle the floor targets and deliver the strategic aims of Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) as well as responding to the priorities raised through the Area Partnerships. The programme is monitored on a		

quarterly basis with progress reported to the Partnerships every six months. Key achievements and progress include: • Safer Communities: 281 young people have utilised the POD's (mobile youth facilities) facilities within the holidays. • Children and Young People: 67 young people completing accredited training at OCN teamwork level one through the Youth Voice project. • Healthier Communities and Adults: The Stockton Alcohol Counselling service councillor has established contacts within the target neighbourhoods and is delivering services to residents as well as signposting to other services. The NRF spend for 2006/08 to date is within the recommended 5% roll forward target provided and approved by GONE. It is important to ensure that we continue to work towards monitoring closely over the coming year to ensure that spend is programme managed to ensure no major under spends occur. The detailed programme management of NRF has been delegated from this Board to the Regeneration Sub Group. Neighbourhood Renewal Targets	
Neighbourhood Renewal targets for the 2006/7 were approved by each of the thematic partnerships through	

the 2006 Local Area Agreement (LAA) Performance Management Framework (PMF) annual review. These key targets have been streamlined to ensure that reporting on progress is aligned within key service plans. In addition these targets include actions that aim to tackle the floor targets and deliver the strategic aims of Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) as well as responding to local priorities. The data for these targets are made available on a six monthly basis with progress reported to the Board every six months. Progress across all themes is either on track or overachieving.		
Area Partnership Priorities A proportion of the NRF was ring-fenced in 2006/07 and 2007/08 specifically for the Area Partnerships, who were tasked to prioritise issues within their areas with reference to the relevant Local Action Plans, Neighbourhood Renewal Floor Targets and community views. The following allocations were given to each of the Area Partnerships: Central Area Partnership Board - £87,444p.a Eastern Area Partnership Board - £43,950p.a Northern Area Partnership Board - £18,606p.a		
These allocations were calculated according to the proposed Super Output areas based on a total allocation of £150k per annum for the Area Partnerships. This was then split according to the population that the super		

output areas represent.				
Cleaner Safer Greener Fund At the December 2005 meeting of Renaissance, a report was tabled outlining the new opportunities connected with the Safer Stronger Communities Fund. This fund is split into two elements, Cleaner Safer Greener and Neighbourhood Element. Progress on Cleaner Safer Greener Element is reported to the Area Partnerships annually or as appropriate i.e. when relevant schemes have been completed. Key achievements to date include: • Open Green Spaces - Improvement to the open green spaces within or adjoining the housing estates of the NR areas to create safe, green places to live. • Parks - Improvement work to the local parks that are in or adjoined to the NR areas to improve access and increase usage				
Neighbourhood Element At the December 2005 Renaissance meeting, a report was brought outlining the new opportunities connected with the new settlement under the Safer Stronger Communities Fund. The areas of benefit selected by Renaissance for funding from Neighbourhood Element were Portrack and Tilery and Mount Pleasant. Joint working with Stockton Residents and Community Groups	Paul Thomas Cllr Coleman			

Association (SRCGA) has enabled capacity building and ownership of the boards. An interim board, the St Ann's Development Board, was set up to tackle the priorities. Governance arrangements have been developed and put in place to assist the board function and support its role in delivering the initiative. To assist the board in delivering its priorities, a number of sub groups have been established including Liveability and Aspirations. Neighbourhood Element funding is part of the Safer Stronger Communities Fund block of the Local Area Agreement. To date spend is on track and it is anticipated that there will be no re-profiling required in this financial year.					
Minutes of meetings:	Noted	No	No	No	Zoe Rutter
The Billingham Partnership held on 2 nd October 2006					(01642) 52
The Eastern Area Partnership held on 24th October 2006	Noted	No	No	No	Nicola Hall (01642) 527823
The Western Area Partnership held on 25 th September	Noted	No	No	No	Zoe Rutter (01642) 52
2006					
BME Network meeting held on 25 th October 2006	Noted	No	No	No	Sean Ridgeway SIFC (01642) 612400
Regeneration Sub Group held on 5th September 2006	Noted	No	No	No	Kirstine Da
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Cllr Coleman noted that have had difficulty with					
attendance. There will be a review at the next business					

meeting to look at the sub committee structure.					
Community Cohesion Sub Group held on 20 th November 2006	Noted	No	No	No	Jas Lang (01642) 52

Attendance: Ann Baxter, Paul Thomas, Val Goodrum, Cllr Bob Cook, Alex Bain, Jeremy Garside, Steve Davison, Cllr Suzanne Fletcher, Tony Campbell, Cllr David Coleman, Chris Willis, Cllr Mrs Cains, Mike Picknett, Steven Bray, Jan Doherty, Saade Sangowawa, Cllr M Rigg, Cllr J Beaumont, Jim Beall, Kellie Hopkins, Toks Sangowawa, Geoff Harrison

Advisors: Dawn Welsh, George Garlick, Jenny Haworth, Kelly Brown (SRCGA), Julie Derbyshire (SRCGA) Sarah Upex, Fiona Chesters (TVRCC), Ian Thompson, Rob Strachan, John Tierney

Apologies: Lynne Melvin, Dari Taylor, Shirley Wells, Geoff Harrison, Olive Milner, Supt Dave Brunskill, Tina Williams