ITEM/ISSUE	DOI	COMMENTS/ DECISION	ACTIO N	Does it need Council approval/ Endorsement?	Are any other boards affected?	CONTACT
WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES  Noted		Noted	No	No	No	Sarah Upex, Area Partnership Board Coordinator, SBC
2. MINUTES OF THE STOCKTON RENAISSANCE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETINGS HELD ON 9 <sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008 Minutes agreed as a true and accurate record.		Noted	No	No	No	Sarah Upex, Area Partnership Board Coordinator, SBC
3. COMPACT REFRESH 2008/09  Members were informed that the Compact between Stockton Renaissance and the Voluntary and Community Sector was reviewed and signed off in January 2008 and an accompanying action plan was produced. The work on the Compact was lead jointly on by Stockton Residents & Community Groups Association (SRCGA) and Stockton Borough Council with support from public sector partners, Tees Valley Rural Community Council and Catalyst.		Noted	No	No	No	Dawn Welsh, Partnerships & Engagement Team Manager, SBC
All the agreed actions in the Compact 2007/08 were achieved including registering our Compact on the National Register. Registering ensures our Compact is available on the national Compact website and entitles us to receive quarterly electronic newsletters with updates on national and regional		Noted	No	No	No	

Compact issues such as good news stories, national debates, important dates such as the National Compact Week.					
It was noted that the Compact action plan proposed for some work to be done to review Stockton Boroughs third sector Governance arrangements. The action on involving the Voluntary and Community Sector in Stockton Borough's Governance Code of Practice Reviews in underway. SRCGA and the SBC's Community Development Team are working together to run a number of workshops for the Third Sector on a number of issues such as Business Planning, HR, Accounts etc all to promote good governance arrangements.					
Members noted that following a meeting with the Compact Champions, representatives from each of the public sector agencies and the voluntary and community sector umbrella agencies, no changes were required to the context of the document, however it was agreed that a version number would be included on the front page of the document, along with the refreshed date.	Renaissance endorse the refreshed Compact for 2008/09	No	No	No	
Members noted that the Compact will continue to be jointly reviewed annually by the LSP and Third Sector umbrella organisations.	Noted	No	No	No	
4. JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT It was noted that the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) has been completed. The JSNA is a statutory duty for the PCT and local authority to work together to compile needs assessment information to provide a concise summary of the main health and well-being needs of a community.	Noted	No	No	No	Elizabeth Shassere, Director of Public Health

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Members were informed that the JSNA identifies relevant best practice, innovation and research to inform how needs will						
best be met. It also considers the long term (5-10 years)						· ·
strategic priorities using a core dataset, plus locally relevant information. It also links to other strategies and plans.						
information. It also links to other strategies and plans.						
Members were informed that from the end of October 2008						
onwards, the JSNA information will be available for use in						
NHS and Stockton Borough Council planning cycles.						
		Noted	No	No	No	
5. CORE STRATEGY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT						Rosemary
FRAMEWORK (LDF)  Members were informed that the consultation for the Core						Young, Spatial
Strategy, which will replace the Stockton-on-Tees Local Plan		Noted	No	No	No	Plans Manager, SBC
is ongoing. The consultation will run for 8 weeks from the 27 <sup>th</sup>		Noted	INO	110	NO	SBC
October 2008 and will be available on the Stockton Borough						
Council website.						
It was noted that the 'publication' of the Core Strategy DPD is						
a new stage in the preparation of DPDs, introduced in The						
Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England)						
(Amendment) Regulations 2008.						
The published version of the Core Strategy is the plan that the						
Council believes will best meet the future requirements of the						
Borough, having taken account of the plans and strategies of						
partners and stakeholders, and having considered the						
responses received to consultations. This is the plan that the						
Council wishes to submit to the Secretary of State for		<b>.</b>				
examination. There will be an eight-week period within which		Noted	No	No	No	
representations can be made to the Council regarding the			ĺ			

<ul> <li>Core Strategy. Ideally, any representations, both of support and objection, should relate to the 'soundness' of the Core Strategy.</li> <li>Members were informed of the expected sequence of events following publication: <ul> <li>Consideration of representations received. Only minor changes may be made to the Core Strategy prior to submission;</li> <li>Submission of the Core Strategy, and supporting documents, to the Secretary of State (February 2009). All representations received as a result of the publication of the Core Strategy are also sent to the Secretary of State as part of the submission, to be considered at the examination;</li> <li>Independent examination into the 'soundness' of the Core Strategy (14 weeks after submission);</li> <li>Receipt of the Inspector's report (29 weeks after submission);</li> <li>Amendment of the Core Strategy in line with the Inspector's requirements, and adoption (Autumn 2009).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Noted	No	No	No	
6. COMMUNITIES FUND  Members were informed that the Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) was created by Government to simplify and refocus local level funding to tackle worklessness and low levels of skills and enterprise within some of the most disadvantaged communities. This new fund, part of the non ringfenced Area Based Grant (ABG) replaces Communities					Roland Todd, Labour Market Coordinator, SBC

and Local Government's Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and concentrates the focus of neighbourhood renewal on these core areas of regeneration. It has been agreed by Stockton Council's Cabinet that the WNF will be referred to as the 'Communities Fund'.		
Members were informed that the balance of the Communities Fund in Stockton following the allocation for the transitional year for the existing 40 NRF projects and the allocation to the Area Partnerships is £10,209,333, which is available for activities to tackle worklessness and increase the levels of skills and enterprise in the Borough.		
In line with Government guidance for the Working Neighbourhoods Fund to tackle worklessness and the low levels of skills and enterprise consideration has been given to allocate the Communities Fund to three distinct elements in recognition of the work that will be required to improve the status quo. This will be as follows:  • £7.2M of the fund will 'follow the person' and will be allocated to employability activities and increasing skill levels. This will be aligned to the five stages of the Regional Employability Framework, which are 'engagement', 'action planning', 'employability services', 'job placement' and 'aftercare and retention'.		
£2M will be targeted towards increasing levels of enterprise in the Borough in line with the themes identified through the previous Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) bid.		

£1M will be allocated to a Communities Contingency Fund for ongoing evaluation of the programme, good practice dissemination events and a further Skills Audit to better inform the needs of the community around factors that may still remain as a barrier to residents accessing jobs.		
Members were informed of the consultation, which has taken place with key stakeholders to secure support for the publication and procurement processes. The Stockton Employability Consortium, in line with some of the recommendations of the Select Scrutiny Review, has agreed the groups that should be supported and the principles and criteria for the development of the Communities Fund delivery plan. This includes representatives from Jobcentre Plus, Learning Skills Council, North East Employer Coalition, PCT, CESC (STEPS & Drugs Action Team), Housing, Tristar Homes, Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder and representatives from the Voluntary and Community Sector, including Catalyst and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Economic Development. The proposed approach will build upon the previous successful partnership arrangements in the Borough and strengthen both the LSP and community role in working together to deliver the employability agenda.  Members were informed that delivery will commence in the first WNF financial year, which is likely to be February 2009 and will be for a period of up to three years from the awarding of the contract. This will result in some monies rolling into a fourth year.		

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A number of queries were raised by Members regarding the					
Communities Fund, which included:					
<ul> <li>Issues around ensuring that activity is not duplicated.</li> </ul>					
<ul> <li>Discussions arose regarding the providers and issues</li> </ul>					
with and who they are accountable to. Members were					
informed that complaints/issues regarding providers					
will be addressed via Stockton Council procedures.					
<ul> <li>It was also raised that the lead providers should be</li> </ul>					
local. It was noted that local providers are wanted and					
organisations that deliver on the ground are also					
wanted. Providers can register their interest by					
submitting a pre qualification questionnaire.					
<ul> <li>Programme needs to be shaped so that the voluntary</li> </ul>					
and community sector are able to deliver projects					
hence recycling profit into deprived areas.					
<ul> <li>A number of concerns were raised regarding the</li> </ul>					
Communities Contingency Fund and the skills audit,					
which will potentially be carried out at the end of the					
fund. However, it was noted that this will provide a					
strong indication of where Stockton needs to go and					
will support the work of the Regional Employability					
Framework (REF).					
It was recognised that a proxy measure needed to be					
developed for VAT registrations in order to identify		Members			
entrepreneurial activity at a community level. The		accepted the			
current VAT registration process can often mask		recommendations			
successful work, which is being done.		for the			
It was requested that regular undates are provided to Steelston		Communities			
It was requested that regular updates are provided to Stockton Renaissance on the Communities Fund.		Fund process			
Achaissance on the Communities Fund.	, ,	•			

7. COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT NETWORK/BME NETWORK QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS  Members were informed of the results of the annual Community Empowerment Network (CEN) and Black Minority Ethnic (BME) Networks questionnaire for 2008/09.  The questionnaire was carried out in April 2008 and was completed by members of Stockton Renaissance, thematic partnerships, area partnerships, CEN and BME networks.  The questionnaire was intended to determine the level of understanding of the LSP and its role/function within the voluntary and community sector and to identify future training/support requirements.	Agreed	No No	No	Dawn Welsh, Partnerships & Engagement Manager & Kelly Brown, SRCGA
The initial questionnaire received a poor response rate, so in consultation with the CEN/BME Networks, a second questionnaire was distributed to the CEN/BME Networks exclusively during May 2008 to further highlight the specific support needs for this sector.				
<ul> <li>Members were informed of the key headline results from the questionnaire:</li> <li>78% of respondents are aware of the CEN and its role</li> <li>67% are aware of Stockton Renaissance and the structures that feed into</li> <li>57% are aware of the Local Area Agreement and 78% are aware of the Sustainable Community Strategy</li> <li>78% are aware of the four area partnership boards, which operate across the Borough.</li> <li>61% of respondents feel that the Community</li> </ul>	Questionnaire results were noted	e No No	No	

Empowerment Network has an influence on other partnerships.				
<ul> <li>Members were informed that the CEN and BME Networks have been involved in a range of activities:</li> <li>Phase 1 and 2 of the Sustainable Community Strategy Consultation</li> <li>Securing nearly £8,000 from the Improvement Partnership Grant, which has been used to develop a Faith Network and enabled a BME Visioning Event to take place</li> <li>Networks will play a key role in the Area Partnership Board Review as key interviewees for the support which is given to the voluntary and community sector.</li> </ul>	Noted	No No	o No	
Members were informed that the results from the questionnaire indicate the following headline support needs for the current year:				
<ul> <li>Potential to change the format of the meeting</li> <li>Continue to address funding support for the CEN/BME Networks</li> <li>Increase the influence/impact that members have on the CEN.</li> </ul>				
Members were informed that the training needs identified will be looked at in consultation with the networks. Future training sessions are intended in conjunction with training delivered by the CEN. Using the feedback from the BME visioning event, a training programme is being developed, which will focus primarily on capacity building issues.	Noted	No No	No No	

As agreed by Stockton Renaissance, consideration will be given in future years to focus group work to support the questionnaire work.					
8.ANY OTHER BUSINESS None	Noted	No	No	No	Sarah Upex Area Partnership Board Coordinator

Attendance: Cllr Lupton (Chair), Chris Willis (Vice Chair), Jane Humphreys, Val Goodrum, Paul Thomas, Alex Bain, Geoff Harrison, Paul Burns, Cllr McCoy, Dave Brunskill, Cllr Laing, Cllr Mrs Fletcher, Jim Beall, Tony Campbell, Tina Williams, Dave Pickard, Cllr Gibson, Graeme Oram, Neil Schneider, Jonathan Lamb

Advisors: Dawn Welsh, Sarah Upex, Elizabeth Shassere, Julie Nixon, Hilton Heslop, Kelly Brown, Kellie Hopkins, Rosemary Young, Roland Todd

Observors: Phillipa Corner, Paul McGee, Kevin McAuley, Doff Pollard, Jan Doherty

**Apologies:** Cllr Cunningham, Julie Derbyshire, Neville Anderson, Chris Livingstone, Cllr Cook, Cllr Mrs Rigg, Ian Harrington, Helen Dean, Rev David Whiting, Richard Poundford, Cllr Mrs Womphrey, Ed Rowley