

**Minute/Decision Summary
Housing and Neighbourhood Partnership
15th September 2009**

Item/Issue	Decision	Action	Contact
<p>Minutes of Previous meeting The minutes from the meeting of 14th July 2009 were agreed as a true record.</p>			<p>Simon Rogalski Housing Strategy Officer Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (01642) 528359</p>
<p>Matters Arising In the July meeting of the partnership, Mike Chicken had mentioned that the Primary Care Trust (PCT) had been approached to assist where there was a shortfall for fuel poor residents between the maximum grant and the amount needed to complete the works. It was confirmed that £30k had been secured from the PCT as a stop gap to fund top ups for fuel poor clients. It was asked whether this was in retrospect for clients.</p> <p>EAGA will be running a conference in October in the borough on Warm Front.</p> <p>It was noted that since the last meeting, the Council had secured a premises closure order on a property in Thornaby.</p> <p>There was a discussion about what would happen to households in these situations. It was noted that these orders are last resorts and the new Family Intervention Project in the borough (presented to the partnership in July) has been introduced to work with families such as these.</p>	<p>Agreed to circulate details with the minutes.</p> <p>It was agreed to include details of the project in the minutes.</p>	<p>Request from Mike Chicken information on whether top ups are in retrospect.</p> <p>Circulate details of conference with the minutes.</p> <p>Lynsey Jones Senior Project Leader – Family Intervention Project Fabrick (01642) 217080</p>	
<p>The Communities Fund and Future Jobs Fund Kay Glew gave an update on the Communities Fund (which seeks to address worklessness in the borough) and the progress of Worksteps, a partnership of housing organisations which has linked up with three successful bidders that will be delivering the Communities Fund (Newtown Community Resource Centre, The Five Lamps Organisation and New College Durham).</p> <p>It was noted that Worksteps is not an exclusive partnership and other housing organisations can join it.</p>			<p>Kay Glew Housing Operations Manager Tristar Homes (01642) 527986</p> <p>Roland Todd Labour Market Co- Ordinator Stockton Borough</p>

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<p>Roland Todd gave an update on the Future Jobs Fund. Stockton Council submitted a bid to create 181 jobs. The first jobs are due to start in October.</p> <p>It was asked whether prisons had been involved in the schemes. There had been some contact with local prisons and there might be an opportunity to link them with the lead providers.</p> <p>The Communities Fund has led to a Lone Parent campaign which is being supported by Tristar Homes. It was suggested that the scheme could be linked to an SDAIS scheme working in the same area.</p>			<p>Council (01642) 526184</p>
<p>Private Sector Stock Condition Survey – Headline Findings A presentation was given by Ed Diment of CPC Ltd. CPC were commissioned by Stockton, Hartlepool and Darlington Councils to carry out a Private Sector Stock Condition Survey. The headline findings for Stockton-on-Tees were presented. Headline findings included: It is estimated that 10,700 private sector properties in the borough are non-decent. The estimated cost to remedy all non-decency is £42m (£3,900 per dwelling). The estimated cost to remedy fuel poverty is £20.3m.</p> <p>It was noted that there is disrepair in all sectors however it is higher in the private sector. There is also a high proportion of vulnerable people in the private sector.</p> <p>It was asked whether there was any evidence of people using their surplus Local Housing Allowance to take on a 'hard to heat' property. There was no evidence to suggest this. From April 2010, claimants will no longer be able to keep any of the surplus (currently up to £15) if the LHA they receive is higher than their rent liability. For those already in receipt of LHA this reduction won't apply until the anniversary of their claim. It will only affect surpluses, and will not produce rent shortfalls.</p>			<p>Dave Stamper Service Development Manager Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (01642) 526589</p>
<p>Crime and Community Safety Issues Mike Batty, Head of Community Protection, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council gave a presentation on crime and community safety issues in the</p>			<p>Mike Batty Head of Community Protection</p>

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<p>borough.</p> <p>There has been a 30% reduction over the last 6 years in recorded crime. Suggested reasons for this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeting of drug related crime - Working with the most prolific offenders - An increased presence in the borough - A better local economy over that period <p>Future Challenges include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is no acceptable level for crime - The impact of the recession on crime (although this has not yet been seen in the borough) - Pressure on public spending - CCTV infrastructure - The reassurance agenda <p>It was asked whether as much crime is drug related, there any plans to introduce a drug-giving scheme similar to ones piloted in other areas of the country including Darlington. It was noted that this particular scheme had been discussed at the Safer Stockton Partnership and a future report would be presented at that partnership on the scheme.</p>			<p>Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (01642) 527075</p>
<p>Community Champion Awards – Children and Young Peoples Category</p> <p>The partnership were informed that Stockton Borough Council is sponsoring the Children and Young Peoples Category of the Evening Gazette Community Champions award, designed to celebrate people or organisations that exemplify hard work, commitment and a selfless attitude to improve the lives of those around them. Partnership members were asked if there were people or organisations they would like to nominate.</p> <p>It was suggested that the Cabin project run by SDAIS could be nominated.</p>		<p>Simon Rogalski to provide information to SDAIS on how projects can be nominated.</p>	<p>Simon Rogalski Housing Strategy Officer Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (01642) 528359</p>
<p>Community Cohesion Action Plan</p> <p>A 6 month progress update on the community cohesion strategy action plan will be reported to Stockton Renaissance. The partnership will be required to provide an update to their actions in the plan. A questionnaire will be sent out to organisations shortly to collect information to update Renaissance on the housing actions.</p>		<p>Send survey to all partnership members.</p>	<p>Simon Rogalski Housing Strategy Officer Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (01642) 528359</p>

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Any Other Urgent Business None			
Date and Time of next meeting Tuesday 3 rd November 2009, 2pm			Simon Rogalski Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council Housing Strategy Officer (01642) 528359

Present:

Partnership Members:

Diane Smith, Endeavour Housing Association	Debbie Morgan, Stockton Police	Lesley Wardle, Places for People
Val Scollen, Billingham Partnership	Roy Parker, Renaissance Central Area Partnership	Mike Robinson, SDAIS
Kay Glew, Operations Manager, Tristar Homes Ltd	Chris Fixter, Jomast Properties	Susie Thompson, Fabrick Housing Group
Michelle Street, Stockton Flats	Sue Thompson, Teesside Landlords Association	John Rosser, Renaissance Western Area Partnership
Helen Dixon, ASB Team, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Cllr Mrs Suzanne Fletcher, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	

Advisors/Officers

Ed Diment, CPC Ltd	Simon Rogalski, Housing Strategy and Development, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Louise Etherington, Housing Strategy and Development, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Susan Symmonds, Benefit Service, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Dave Stamper, Private Sector Housing, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Caroline Wood, Housing Options, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Mike Batty, Community Protection, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Roland Todd, Regeneration and Economic Development, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	

Apologies:

Partnership Members:

Cllr Steve Nelson, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Julie Nixon, Head of Housing, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Matt Reeves, Stockton Police
Kathryn West, Anchor Housing	Peter Smith, Adult Strategy Team, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Tracy Bradburn, HOME
Carolyn Wood, HOME	Nick Winn, National Probation Service Teesside	Julie Allen, National Probation Service Teesside
Dave Pickard, Tristar Homes Ltd (Chair)	Wanda Graham, Accent	