

**Minute/Decision Summary - approved**  
**Meeting- Stockton Renaissance**  
**Date – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2009**  
**Castlegate Quay Watersports Centre, Moat Street, Stockton-on-Tees**

<b>ITEM/ISSUE</b>	<b>DOI</b>	<b>COMMENTS/ DECISION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Does it need Council approval/ Endorsement?</b>	<b>Are any other boards affected?</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>
<p><b>1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Eddie Wrigley (Government Office North East) to the meeting.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Sarah Upex, Area Partnership Board Coordinator, SBC
<p><b>2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (DOI)</b></p> <p>Members were advised to declare DOI at the start of the meeting before any items are discussed.</p> <p>Cllr Lupton declared a personal non prejudicial interest in item 5 as Leader of Stockton Borough Council.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Sarah Upex, Area Partnership Board Coordinator, SBC
<p><b>3. MINUTES OF THE STOCKTON RENAISSANCE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETINGS HELD ON 7 JULY 2009</b></p> <p>Minutes agreed as a true and accurate record.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Sarah Upex, Area Partnership Board Coordinator, SBC
<p><b>4. COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT (CAA) EMERGING PICTURE – SEPTEMBER 2009</b></p> <p>Partnership members were informed of the current position of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). The text for the report is currently being drafted. It was noted that this will not be a traditional inspection report and will consist of up to 700</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Philippa Corner, CAA Lead – Stockton, Audit Commission & Kevin Huggins Cooper, Audit

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<p>words. The cut off date for evidence to be included in the report is 25<sup>th</sup> September 2009 and Lesley King will share the draft with partners for comment. The 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009 is the final date for editing on the system and the final report will be published on the One Place website on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009. The report will focus on how well local priorities express community needs and aspirations. It was noted that there is still work to be done to pull together evidence at a local level. It was suggested that capacity in the voluntary and community sector is an issue, but there are plans and actions in place to address this and it was suggested that volunteering is an issue. It was requested that capacity and volunteering be looked at separately. The Audit Commission noted that the sector recognises that this is an issue and the reason why there is a Compact in place and Catalyst will help to build capacity in the sector.</p> <p>The report will focus on the 5 key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic Regeneration &amp; Transport</li> <li>• Environment &amp; Housing</li> <li>• Safer Communities</li> <li>• Children &amp; Young People</li> <li>• Health &amp; Wellbeing</li> </ul> <p>As a separate focus, the issue of how well local priorities express community needs and aspirations was explored. A number of issues were identified, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The LSP has an understanding of its diverse communities and there are numerous examples of involvement and engagement informing the</li> </ul>		Noted	No	No	No	Commission
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<p>development of local strategies from across a range of issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LSP priorities and arrangements are flexible enough to respond to key local issues</li> <li>• Capacity on the voluntary and community sector is an issue, but there are plans in place to address this</li> <li>• Some very good results on resident satisfaction, but Place Survey some results are below the national average</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that there are several red tags but not red flags. There are a number of possible green flags at this stage, however any proposed would go through national discussions/moderation process before a final decision is reached.</p> <p>Economic Regeneration &amp; Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visible impact of regeneration across the borough</li> <li>• More people using public transport</li> <li>• LSP is working with VCS to improve employability and access to work using communities fund. It was noted that capacity has been built with the third sector and work has been done to provide longer term contracts. It was raised by the Board that a key piece of evidence seems to be missing which is the impact that the Future Jobs Fund is having. It was noted that if Stockton Borough Council had lowered targets to take account of the recession, these would have been met. However these targets have remained which highlights aspirations</li> </ul>		Noted	No	No	No	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High and increasing number of young people not in employment, education or training. This figure is higher than other areas and needs to be a focus for attention but is not a red flag</li> <li>• *Unemployment is unlikely to improve in line with targets that have been set – likely to deteriorate further. *As the evidence is constantly changing, this has changed since the slides have been produced and unemployment no longer seems to be going in this direction and the number of people going into work has increased</li> <li>• Risks around Corus and the petro-chemical industries – CAA will be looking closely at this. Need to work with partners and show the impact and progress that has been made over time. It was raised that we need to show a balance and highlight the opportunities which are being made in the fields of carbon and bio genetics and the need to take advantage of this for the future economy</li> </ul>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p>Environment and Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stockton-on-Tees has been performing well in building new properties though there is a risk to this due to the recession</li> <li>• Population of the borough is increasing and there continues to be a demand for executive housing</li> <li>• The Audit Commission were requested to check their statement regarding affordable homes remaining low in comparison with other local authorities</li> <li>• Statutory Homelessness was high but appears to have</li> </ul>		Audit Commission to check the data for the level of affordable homes	No	No	No	

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<p>reduced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good plans to reduce CO2 emissions and there is the possibility of a green flag for this</li> <li>• Mixed picture on waste – there is a big plant in Stockton. Waste production per person is in the lowest quartile, however people are producing too much waste and this is something which needs to be looked at for the future. It was also raised that in terms of waste, there is evidence which could be added to this e.g. support for burning waste and policies</li> <li>• Pressure on supporting people budgets, but plans to tackle – it was requested that the context around this be reflected in the report and what is done with the amount of money we get and that services are still being delivered</li> </ul>						
<p>Safer Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stockton-on-Tees has been and remains one of the safer places to live</li> <li>• Overall crime is below average and falling</li> <li>• Fear of crime is rising – however it was noted that this is the same across a number of local authorities and work is ongoing to counteract</li> <li>• Place Survey 2008 indicates public concern on anti-social behaviour, drunk and rowdy behaviour, drug use and dealing as a problem and satisfaction that it is being dealt with by partners.</li> <li>• Partnership knows some parts of community are not using existing drug services</li> </ul>		Noted	No	No	No	

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<p>A specific example used in the presentation was:          “Increasing levels of domestic violence reported. Can services meet demand?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has been an increase of housing inspectors reporting domestic violence, which is good as many cases go unreported.</li> <li>• There has been an increase in the number of people receiving the service and an increase in the number of services.</li> <li>• It was discussed what is being done to provide this service to people, and how services will cope with an increased demand</li> <li>• It was noted that a huge amount of work is ongoing which has not been reported, such as the establishment of a refuge service</li> </ul> <p>Children and Young People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Centre of Excellence for Youth Homelessness in the borough</li> <li>• Obesity in childhood significantly worse than the England average – there are several local initiatives to address obesity.</li> <li>• Teenage conceptions have increased – the borough has worked with the National Support Team to address this issue</li> <li>• Positive overall service improvement and progress towards outcomes</li> <li>• Children achieving more at school</li> <li>• The approach to tackling youth homelessness has been recognised as good – statutory homelessness</li> </ul>		Noted	No	No	No	
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<p>appears to be reducing</p> <p>Heath &amp; Wellbeing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrowing the gap on female life expectancy but not quite on male life expectancy</li> <li>• Performing well on smoking quitters but smoking is higher than the national average, including during pregnancy</li> <li>• There are residual concerns about the following areas: teenage pregnancy, childhood obesity, substance misuse and domestic violence, however there are good plans in place</li> </ul> <p>Board members were also presented with the prospects for future improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross-cutting work on MAA, regeneration, response to the recession and housing – clear marker but high risk – will need to follow this up across the Tees Valley in year 2</li> <li>• Cross-cutting work on health outcomes and health inequalities – building on the work of the National Support Team and AC – areas of concern focussed on specific issues to be discussed with joint inspectors</li> <li>• Further exploration of the polarisation within the borough; progress, intelligence and plans in relation to the objective “Promoting Achievement: Tackling Disadvantage”. It was noted that there is a great deal of progress and intelligence and data down to a local level.</li> <li>• Further work on long-term plans re waste and</li> </ul>		Noted	No	No	No	
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<p>sustainability in year 2</p> <p>There was a discussion surrounding the further expansion of the waste management site and the amount of waste which individual households produce. It was noted that this is something which will be looked at in year 2, however there was no suggestion that this was going to be a major issue. It was noted that along with partners across the Tees Valley, an overall waste strategy is being looked at beyond 2020.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p><b>5. NEW EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS</b></p> <p>Neil Schneider took the chair for this item due to a possible conflict of interest for Cllr Lupton.</p> <p>Board members were presented with the requirements regarding new executive arrangements contained within the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, which requires Councils to adopt one of two new governance models. Councils such as Stockton Borough Council presently operate an “old style Leader and Cabinet executive” as provided for in the Local Government Act 2000, and as such must make a change in governance arrangements in accordance with the 2007 Act’s requirements. The 2007 Act now allows for only two specific models:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Directly Elected Mayor and cabinet; or</li> <li>2. Executive Leader and cabinet</li> </ol> <p>It was noted that an authority must take reasonable steps to consult Local Government electors and other interested parties before it draws up and finalises its proposals for change. There is currently no prescription or guidance about</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Neil Schneider, Chief Executive, Stockton Borough Council

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<p>the form any consultation should take, nor in Stockton’s case how long the consultation should take.</p> <p>The consultation programme Stockton is currently undertaking consults on both specific models of executive arrangements and asks which model people and interest parties would prefer to see put in place. The outcome of the consultation will be evaluated and, subject to that outcome, a preferred model will be agreed and proposals for change, based on that model, will be drawn up which will then be subject to approval in a referendum at which all local government electors will be entitled to vote, early in 2010.</p> <p>No queries were raised by board members.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p><b>6.ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>Richard Poundford provided the board with information on the Community Champions Award. In support of the Awards, Stockton Borough Council is sponsoring the Children and Young People’s category, which recognises the achievements of individuals and groups who have made a positive difference to the lives of young people. The closing date for entries is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2009.</p> <p>Tony Campbell informed the board that the Fair Share Trust has a £5,000 small grants fund which will close on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009. Any schemes which fit the criteria must submit expressions of interest before this date.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Sarah Upex Area Partnership Board Coordinator

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**Attendance:** Cllr Lupton (Chair), Dave Brunskill, Paul Thomas, Cllr McCoy, Jim Beall, Cllr Laing, Dave Pickard, Neville Anderson, Neil Schneider, Tony Campbell, Paul Burns, Cllr Cook, Cllr Gibson

**Advisors:** Ruth Hill, Julie Danks, Richard Poundford, Dawn Welsh, Sarah Upex, Lesley King, Paul Dobson, Chris Livingstone, Eddie Wrigley, Mike Batty

**Observers:** Philippa Corner, Kevin Huggins Cooper, Alison Aguis, Andy Whinnerah

**Apologies:** Chris Willis (Vice Chair), Paul Chapman, Ross Hume, Cllr Cunningham, Cllr Rigg, Cllr Mrs Fletcher, David Whiting, Val Goodrum, Ian Harrington, Jeremy Garside, Alex Bain, Jane Humphreys, Val Scollen, Tina Williams,