

**Minute/Decision Summary**  
**Meeting- Stockton Renaissance**  
**Date – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009**  
**Castlegate Quay Watersports Centre, Moat Street, Stockton-on-Tees**

ITEM/ISSUE	DOI	COMMENTS/ DECISION	ACTION	Does it need Council approval/ Endorsement?	Are any other boards affected?	CONTACT
<p><b>1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone 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>		Noted	No	No	No	Sarah Upex, Area Partnership Board Coordinator, SBC
<p><b>3. MINUTES OF THE STOCKTON RENAISSANCE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETINGS HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 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</b></p> <p>Board members were provided with the summary version of the Area Assessment. The independent assessment conducted by six inspectorates sets out how well local public services are tackling the major issues in Stockton-on-Tees.</p> <p>It was reported that there are a number of high profile projects across the Borough, improvements in the local environment and more people are using public transport. It was also noted that crime levels have decreased, school results have</p>						Phillipa Corner & Kevin Huggins- Cooper, Audit Commission

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<p>improved and the health gap for life expectancy for women has improved.</p> <p>It was noted that partners need to stay focussed in some areas, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public health improvements and the gap in life expectancy for men</li> <li>- Domestic violence – report of incidents has increased</li> <li>- Sufficient housing in areas to meet need for local people</li> <li>- Impact of the recession to be continued to be monitored</li> </ul> <p>Overall the assessment tells a positive story for the Borough with no ‘red flags’ (significant concerns, action needed) identified across any of our Sustainable Community Strategy themes. Unfortunately there were no green flags for the borough or any of our neighbouring areas in the Tees Valley. It was discussed why Stockton had not achieved a green flag for crime as the there has been a 47% reduction in crime, with a predicted 60% reduction from 2009 to 2010. It was noted that this could be due to the timing of the information being available and the need for a consistent approach to green flagging at a national level. It was felt by Board members that the good work should have been recognised with a green flag for crime.</p> <p>It was noted that comments on the Audit Commission press release regarding domestic violence does not reflect the positive nature that the fact that a rise in the reporting of domestic violence could be due to an increase in confidence</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Audit          Commission          would feed          discussions on          green flagging          into national          evaluation.</p>				
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<p>of reporting such incidents.</p> <p>The process for challenging green and red flags was discussed. It was noted that there is framework and criteria to call for a review of a red flag, however no framework if you want to challenge why a green flag had not been achieved.</p> <p>It was noted that lessons have been learnt from the first year of this process and the CAA leads will be feeding this into the evaluation process to add value to the future work. It was noted that it would be an independent evaluation process and key contacts from the Partnership will be contacted. Across the Tees Valley, the CAA lead will feedback comments from local authority chief executives and will form a reference group from people who have been supporting the process.</p> <p>The Chair noted that work has been done with the 26 London boroughs and they have similar stories arising from the CAA process.</p> <p>It was noted that as from the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009, the Oneplace website will be launched, where details on results of the CAA will be available <a href="http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/">http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/</a></p>					
<p><b>5. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT (LAA) 2008-2011 6 MONTH MONITORING REPORT APRIL 2009-SEPTEMBER 2009</b></p> <p>Board members were informed that Stockton’s LAA has been in place since June 2008 and covers the period April 2008 to March 2011. In total there are 52 separate measures in the LAA. There are 33 designated, 10 mandatory and 9 local measures. At this point, data is available for 41 of these</p>					<p>Lesley King  Head of Policy,  Performance &amp;  Partnerships</p>

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<p>measures. Of these:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 63% (or 25 measures) are achieved or are on track to be achieved</li> <li>• 38% (or 15 measures) have either slipped or missed their target</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that overall, good progress continues to be made against some very stretching targets particularly within a difficult economic climate. Key areas where performance has slipped or is predicting to miss targets are the economic measures such as the employment rates, people on out of work benefits and benefit claimants. Other areas include some educational attainment measures and the timeliness in provision of care packages. It was noted that all indicators are being closely tracked, particularly those impacted by the current economic conditions.</p> <p>Members were provided with an analysis of performance for the following themes within the Sustainable Community Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic regeneration and transport</li> <li>• Environment and housing</li> <li>• Safer communities</li> <li>• Stronger communities</li> <li>• Children and young people</li> <li>• Health and wellbeing</li> <li>• Older adults</li> <li>• Arts, leisure and culture</li> </ul> <p>Board members noted the progress which has been made in the first six months against the 2009/10 targets.</p>						
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<p><b>6. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2010 REFRESH</b></p> <p>Board members were informed that the Department for Communities and Local Government published an advice note for Government Offices in November 2009 which sets out the principles for the second LAA annual review and refresh, which is designed to be 'light touch'. The guidance note indicates that the review will focus firmly on the delivery of the LAA outcomes and avoid any separate assessment of local performance.</p> <p>It was noted that the analysis of Policing and Community Safety (APACS) annual review should be informed by the strategic assessments conducted by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, working in conjunction with the CRDPs and LSP to ensure that the review of priorities links with the LAA, again avoiding any duplication.</p> <p>Board members were informed that progress against the Department of Health Vital signs measures, some of which are included in the LAA, will be considered as part of the review of the NHS Operating Framework. This will be reviewed between December and March alongside the LAA Review and Refresh. It was noted that to keep focus firmly on delivery of the LAA outcomes and minimise bureaucracy the guidance suggests that the renegotiations will be limited in scope. The guidance indicates that the renegotiations will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nine economic targets exempted from reward lockdown in April 2009</li> <li>• A small number of targets deferred from last year</li> <li>• Place Survey indicators where data might have changed</li> </ul>		Noted	No	No	No	Lesley King Head of Policy, Performance & Partnerships
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<p>It was noted that indicators where more recent data has become available will not be included in the refresh. Target negotiation briefs will be published for those measures where targets can be revisited.</p> <p>Board members were informed that consideration will be given to discussions around the following measures which have been identified from the current LAA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The economic indicators (internal discussions have already started regarding economic indicators)</li> <li>• Place Survey Measures</li> <li>• Not in Employment Education or Training Target (NEETs)</li> <li>• Indicators deferred from previous negotiations</li> <li>• Indicators which require changes to data/targets e.g. NI 109 Sure Start Centres, NI 185 CO2 Emissions</li> </ul> <p>Board members were provided with a timeline for the review and refresh. Stockton Renaissance will receive progress reports over the coming months prior to final approval of the LAA for 2010/11, in March 2010.</p>		Refresh to be presented to the Board in March 2010.	No	No	No	
<p><b>7. REVIEW OF THE STOCKTON RENAISSANCE PARTNERSHIP BOARD</b></p> <p>Board members were presented with details of the outcome of the review of the Stockton Renaissance Partnership Board and proposals for the future working of the Board.</p> <p>The purpose of the review was to strengthen and rationalise partnership arrangements including engagement and culture;</p>						Dawn Welsh, Partnership & Engagement Manager

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<p>further improve the partnership approach to delivering better outcomes for local communities and support the Comprehensive Area Assessment. As reported to the April 2009 Stockton Renaissance meeting, the review focussed on a number of areas and a combination of methods including researching good practice, identifying toolkits and government guidance, reviewing outcomes from analytical activity to date and piloting a themed priority task based approach to cross cutting issues. This was followed up by a series of workshops/discussion groups with stakeholders. The feedback received from these discussions was that Renaissance is valued as a vehicle for partnership working in the Borough and was recognised by CAA as having strong arrangements in place.</p> <p>It was noted that part of the review included the piloting of a task based problem solving approach at meetings looking at topics requested by delegates at the annual Renaissance event in January. A number of themed sessions have taken place on the credit crunch, housing, Momentum, crime and community safety issues and the alcohol strategy.</p> <p>Members were informed that the areas which were highlighted for improvement throughout the review work included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governance</li> <li>- Reduce the number of meetings from monthly to bi monthly</li> <li>- Actions arising from themed debates and feedback on progress to be directed through appropriate thematic partnership for action and reporting arrangements to be strengthened.</li> </ul>		<p>Board agreed to holding meetings bi-monthly rather than monthly</p>				
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Include Renaissance, Area and Thematic Partnerships on the agenda system</li> <li>• A more focussed approach to performance reporting and Communication</li> <li>- Streamline and tailor performance reporting to our different audiences, using a revamped website</li> <li>- Revamp the Renaissance Website</li> </ul> <p>A query was raised regarding consultation and engagement with thematic partnerships at the Western Area Partnership Board. It was noted that the attendance of various agencies was not regular at some Boards. Other representatives from the CEN and Area Partnerships highlighted examples where consultation had resulted in change, including most recently the voluntary sector support fund and the CEN funding.</p> <p>An improvement plan has been developed for the Stockton Renaissance Partnership Board, which will begin to be implemented in March 2010. The report and the improvement plan will be presented to Cabinet in January 2010. It was requested that an annual assessment on the review be presented to Stockton Renaissance at its December 2010 meeting.</p>		<p>Improvement Plan noted.</p> <p>Annual assessment be presented to the Board in December 10.</p>				
<p><b>8.ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b> None</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Sarah Upex Area Partnership Board Coordinator



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**Attendance:** Cllr Lupton (Chair), Chris Willis (Vice Chair), Dave Brunskill, Cllr McCoy, Jim Beall, Cllr Laing, Neville Anderson, Neil Schneider, Tony Campbell, Geoff Harrison , Cllr Cook, Cllr Gibson, Alex Bain, Jane Humphreys, Cllr Rigg, Cllr Mrs Fletcher, Ian Harrington, Jeremy Garside,

**Advisors:** Ruth Hill, Richard Poundford, Dawn Welsh, Sarah Upex, Lesley King, Paul Dobson, Eddie Wrigley, Mike Batty, Carole Langrick, Steven Hume, Julie Danks, Mike Chicken, Philippa Corner, Kevin Huggins-Cooper, Kate Fulton

**Observers:** Linda Evans, Jan Doherty, Julie Derbyshire, Steve Boyd, Kevin McAuley, Doff Pollard

**Apologies:** Ross Hume, Paul Thomas, Val Goodrum, Cllr Laing, Val Scollen, Tina Williams, Dari Taylor, Alison Aguis, Jonathan Lamb, Paul Burns, Paul Chapman, Cllr Womphrey, Dianne Patterson, Dave Pickard,