

**Minutes**  
**The Western Area Partnership Board (WAPB)**  
**25<sup>th</sup> January 2010, Conference Room 2, Municipal Buildings, Church Road, Stockton-on-Tees**

**Chair:**

**Councillor Maureen Rigg** (Stockton Borough Council)

**Members:**

**John Rosser** (Long Newton Parish Council), **Maurice Snowden** (Over 50's Assembly), **Philip Addison** (Yarm Fellowship Hall), **Tony Hampton** (Kirklevington Parish Council), **Alan Lewis** (Stockton Borough Council), **Jennifer Pinkney** (Yarm & Willey Flats Residents Association), **Nora Rosser** (Long Newton Wilson Centre), **Geoff Turner** (Egglescliffe & Eaglescliffe Parish Council),

Members are representing their nominating body.

**Advisors:**

**Zoe Rutter, Andy Whinnerah, Gareth Carson, Nigel Laws, Faye Dunnill** (Stockton Council), **Angela Corner & John Cottey** (Stockton Citizens Advice Bureau)

**Apologies**

**Members:**

**Marjorie Simpson** (Yarm Town Council), **Karen Baker** (Yarm Residents Group), **Ian Garrett** (Cleveland Police), **Laura McGuinness** (North Tees PCT), **Doug Nicholson** (Friends of Tees Heritage Park), **Marjorie Simpson** (Yarm Town Council), **Jennie Beaumont** (Stockton Borough Council)

**Observers**

**Tracey Roberts** (SRCGA), **Steve Owens** (Cleveland Fire), **Councillor John Fletcher** (Stockton Borough Council), **Roger Mosley & Frances Hayes** (Standards Committee)

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| ITEM/ISSUE   | DOI | ACTION |
|--|-----|--------|
| <p><b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b></p> <p>Members were introduced and welcomed to the Western Area Partnership.</p>  |     | No     |
| <p><b>2. Apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies were noted.</p>  |     | No     |
| <p><b>3. Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>No declarations of interest were made.</p>  |     | No     |
| <p><b>4. Minutes of Last Meeting</b></p> <p>Minutes of the last meeting held on 30 November 2009 were agreed as a true record.</p>   |     | No     |
| <p><b>5. Matters Arising</b></p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>   |     | No     |
| <p><b>6. Stockton Citizens Advice Bureau – John Cottey &amp; Angela Corner</b></p> <p>John Cottey (JC) gave a presentation on the wider work of SDAIS. He explained the role of the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) and its core values which are around free, impartial and independent advice. They also specialise in Housing, Employment, Benefits, and Community Care etc; however he explained that their biggest and growing area of work was now debt, where 1 in 3 of their queries are now about debt matters. He explained through a chart how the work had increased and how this year financial related queries had doubled since the previous year, these figures refer to Stockton only. It was described how debt can be the root</p> |     | No     |

DOI – Declaration of Interest

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| <p>to a wider range of problems i.e. family breakdown, health etc; and the importance of financial capability i.e. Prevention etc; He also gave details of their Money Education service, and details of their four projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Horizons – Barclaycard</li> <li>• Public Legal Education - Big Lottery Fund</li> <li>• Money Active – Nationwide</li> <li>• Money Made Clear - FSA</li> </ul> <p>He also described some of their partnership working which was key to ensuring that these services are provided. All of the partnerships that the CAB have established are very successful. Clients can obtain access to a partnership via a referral route. He also gave details of some of the impact they have made to date for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frontline workers - 2,238 attendees on our courses</li> <li>• Members of the public - 900 attendees on our courses</li> <li>• 56% will set up a budget</li> <li>• 44% will change the way they borrow money</li> <li>• 33% will contact their local credit union</li> <li>• 33% will change fuel supplier</li> </ul> <p>JC explained to the Board that the CAB hold training sessions and 1-2-1 sessions with clients if necessary. The training sessions are focused around managing money and making people understand the importance of not getting into debt unnecessarily.</p> <p><b>Comments and Decisions</b><br/>None</p> <p><b>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement?</b><br/>No</p> <p><b>Are any other boards affected?</b><br/>No</p> |  | <p>No</p> <p>No</p> |
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| <p><b>Contact:</b><br/>         John Cottey<br/>         (01642) 633877<br/> <a href="mailto:cabstockton@btconnect.com">cabstockton@btconnect.com</a></p>   |  |           |
| <p><b>7.'A' Board Policy – Faye Dunnill</b></p> <p>Faye introduced the report that was sent to members prior to the meeting. Stockton Council are exploring the introduction of a new Advertising Board Policy to assist in the promotion of businesses whilst safeguarding highway users and protecting their right to pass along a highway (this can mean the pavement, not just the road) unhindered. The policy will propose the regulation of Advertising Board use, with businesses having to apply for permits to put advertising boards outside their premises. It is proposed to pilot the policy on Yarm and Norton town centres commencing in the coming financial year. These areas are recognised as being the most problematic in terms of uncontrolled usage causing problems for pedestrians. All comments will be fed back to the Council's Urban Environmental Task Group. FD requested comments and feedback on the questions as noted in the report. It was agreed that we those around the table would vote and this was the result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you think that advertising boards make out town centres look more colourful?<br/>             Yes = 2, disagree = 5, don't know = 0</li> <li>• Do you think that advertising boards make our town centres look cluttered?<br/>             Yes = 5, disagree = 2, don't know = 0</li> <li>• Do you think that advertising boards cause a nuisance for pedestrians using the footpath?<br/>             Yes = 6, disagree = 0, don't know = 2</li> <li>• Do you think that businesses' use of advertising boards should be controlled?<br/>             Yes = 8, disagree = 0, don't know = 0</li> </ul> |  | <p>No</p> |

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| <p>Faye advised the Board that if the policy is approved there will be an annual fee of £50 which will allow the business / person permission to display their 'A' Board on the highway. It was also noted that if the pilot scheme was approved it would be reviewed after a period of time with a view to roll it out across the whole Borough with a specified size of 'A' Board.</p> <p>Members identified that 'A' Boards can be seen as an obstacle on the highway, particularly if they blow over. The policy sets out a specified size of 'A' Board and standard of construction. It also requires 'A' Board to be located outside the property and not the opposite side of the kerb. Members identified that in Yarm there are businesses and community venues located down alleyways off the High Street. FD advised that each individual application would be treated on its own merits. Members asked whether short use of 'A' boards such as advertising an event, such as Weight Watchers meetings on a weekly basis would require planning permission and a permit. FD advised that there is a legal requirement for any advert to have planning permission, and if the policy is rolled out there will be a requirement for any 'A' board located on the public highway to have a permit.</p> <p><b>Comments and Decisions</b></p> <p>None</p> <p><b>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement?</b><br/>Yes</p> <p><b>Are any other boards affected?</b><br/>Yes</p> <p>Faye Dunnill, Stockton Borough Council<br/> (01642) 526031<br/> <a href="mailto:Faye.dunnill@stockton.gov.uk">Faye.dunnill@stockton.gov.uk</a></p> |  | No |
| <p><b>8. Thematic Updates</b><br/> <b>a. Youth</b></p> <p>GC informed the Board that all the youth clubs in the Western Area have reopened after the</p>  |  | No |

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| <p>Christmas break. Layfield Youth Club have started a football club on a Monday evening at Conyers School which has been very well attended.<br/> Layfield Youth Club remains open on Wednesday evening, 6.45 – 8.30pm.<br/> Long Newton Youth Club remains open on a Tuesday evening, 7-9pm.<br/> Egglescliffe Youth Club remains open on a Tuesday evening, 6-8pm.<br/> Kirklevington Youth Club remains open on a Friday evening, 7-9pm and all youth clubs are doing really well at the moment.<br/> GC informed the Board that a young active participants residential weekend is due to take place shortly.</p> <p><b>b. Economic Regeneration &amp; Transport Partnership (ER&amp;TP)</b></p> <p>An update on the ER&amp;TP was circulated.</p> <p><b>c. Play Partnership</b></p> <p>MR informed the Board that the play areas that have been previously allocated funding are all due to be installed this financial year.<br/> MR informed the Board that there has been some problems with the mobile play area which are being addressed and the mobile play area should start travelling the Borough very soon.<br/> There are still some issues of access for disabled children and publicity to be resolved.</p> <p><b>d. Health &amp; Well Being Partnership (H&amp;WB)</b></p> <p>MR attended the last H&amp;WB Partnership where the main item for discussion was lifestyle issues for the Tees Valley, anybody wanting further information to speak to MR after the meeting.</p> |  | <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> |
| <p><b>9. External Funding Opportunities</b></p> <p>There were no new external funding opportunities notified to the board.</p>  |  | <p>No</p>                     |

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| <p><b>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement?</b><br/>No</p> <p><b>Are any other boards affected?</b><br/>No</p> <p><b>Contact:</b><br/>Zoe Rutter, Stockton Council<br/>(01642) 526025<br/><a href="mailto:zoe.rutter@stockton.gov.uk">zoe.rutter@stockton.gov.uk</a></p>  |  |    |
| <p><b>10. Any Other Business</b><br/> <b>a. Communities Together</b></p> <p>The Board noted that the recent bus tours had been beneficial but the night time tour was maybe not as successful as the daytime tour due to it being dark and the weather conditions. It was noted that overall the bus tours were a success and it was a good chance to share information. NR noted that Haleem’s letter of thanks was gratefully received and will be passed on to the community.</p> |  | No |
| <p><b>10. Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the WAPB will be held on:</p> <p><b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010, 6pm at the Long Newton Wilson Centre, Darlington Road, Long Newton</b></p>   |  | No |