

**Minutes –Unconfirmed  
The Central Area Partnership Board  
29<sup>th</sup> July 2010, 2.00 p.m.  
Business Centre, Brunswick Street, Stockton.**

**Chair:**

**Paul Thomas** (Tilery Residents Association)

**Members:**

Jim Beall (Vice Chair, SBC), Roy Parker (Durham Road Residents Association), Jim Fenwick (Community Partnership), Gareth Rees (Thorpe Thewles Residents Association), Anne Howard (Primrose Hill Neighbourhood Watch), Cllr Cockerill (SBC), Mohammed Farook (BME Network), Edna Brown (Over 50s Assembly), Marilyn Surtees (Elm Tree Community Centre), Steve Roche (Police), Cllr Fletcher (SBC)

\* Members are representing their nominating body.

**Advisors:**

Sophie Richardson (SBC), Sue Westerman (Five Lamps), Len Junier (Five Lamps), Peter Chimney (New College Durham), Kevin McAuley (Know How North East), Kim Staff (CESC)

**Observers:**

Cllr Rix (SBC), Peter Braine, Ian Richardson

**Apologies**

Laura McGuinness (PCT), Lesley Cannon (Job Centre Plus), James Hadman (SRCGA), Insp Young (Police) Judith Turner (Stillington & Whitton), David Headland (Salvation Army), Mary Cartwright (NECIL), Edna Chapman (St John's Living Well), Neville Anderson (Trade Union Council) and Jill Anderson (ISA)

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<p><b>1. Welcome and Apologies</b> The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	No
<p><b>2. Declarations of Interest</b> None</p>	No
<p><b>3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2010</b> Minutes were agreed as an accurate record. At the last meeting Ann Howard informed the Board that she had been told 5 day centres had closed. Ann provided Jim Beall with a list of centres. Jim agreed to investigate this further; however he was confident that non of the centres mentioned had closed.</p> <p>Gareth Rees raised issue regarding the A177 near Wynyard Woodland Park. Gareth had seen 3 adults and children leaving the park walking down the central reservation and using the underpass rather than the side road. The Board discussed the safety issues</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>JB to contact AH when he has investigated this matter further.</p> <p>Steve Roche said he would report this</p>

DOI – Declaration of Interest

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<p>relating to members of the public leaving the Woodland Park and agreed to pass information through to the Police and Transport at SBC.</p> <p>Cllr Fletcher and Beall informed the Board that Youth Cafes and Youth Bank were involved in the Youth Capital Fund Review which has now had budgets cut in half.</p> <p>Cllr Fletcher asked the Board if Voice Box are supposed to raise issues to the Board. Paul Thomas as Chair of the Central Area Partnership will be attending Voicebox's next meeting to share and feed information into Voicebox and will provide an update at the next meeting.</p> <p>Jim Fenwick confirmed that he had received information from Katherine Linton regarding letters sent out to residents on Swainby Road.</p>	<p>issue back to the police. Sophie to inform Transport of the issue.</p> <p>Sophie to contact Terry Frank / Lynne Sparrey to provide an update on Youth Café at the next meeting.</p> <p>Paul to feedback at next meeting.</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p><b>4. Update on Communities Fund from: Know How North East (KHNE)(Formally Newtown Community Resource Centre)</b></p> <p>Kevin McAuley updated the Board on KHNE's progress to date. KHNE is a third sector not for profit company with charitable status that targets its efforts toward the most disadvantaged areas of the Borough of Stockton, creating change and opportunity for individuals, families and communities. Since 2009 KHNE has been able to utilise Community Resource Centres to engage with 865 unemployed people, helping 493 people complete an accredited learning outcomes and moving 180 people into employment. KHNE have engaged in partnership arrangements with the Corner House Youth Project. KHNE have been able to achieve some convergence between Get on in Life Project and Youth Crime Action Plan programmes to deliver the whole household intelligence led approach to working with individuals and families in the target communities. KHNE approach has acted as a catalyst to bring local housing providers and registered social landlords together under the banner of Worksteps to enable them to target with precision those furthest away from the labour market. KHNE have been successful in delivering a number of targeted campaigns</p>	<p>Noted</p>

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<p>focusing upon key client groups such as Lone Parents and people in receipt of incapacity benefit. Two members of staff from Tristar have been seconded to the Communities Fund team and support the delivery of a series of targeted campaigns focusing on Lone Parents by utilising a range of recruitment methods KHNE have been successful in recruiting cohorts of Lone Parents to engage in seven week soft skills programme delivered in partnership with Prior Pursglove College, Job Centre Plus and Citizens Advice Bureaus Horizons Project. To date KHNE have been successful in enabling 56 lone parents to complete this programme and carry out a key skills assessment. This has encouraged clients to consider further learning and the majority have signed up to take part in further learning opportunities including Key Skills and NVQ Health and Social Care. The evaluation of the programme identifies that this collective learning adds value to the one to one support provided by Communities Fund staff. KHNE have also made a commitment to employing local people to engage with people living in the target areas. At present KHNE employ 16 members of staff who live in the area which KHNE works. KHNE is constituted so that it can work without restraint with partners from all three sectors, its capability to trade as a limited company and its character as a registered charity enables it to span all sectors and engage in activities with a wide range of organisations. An example is with B and K Developments who are developing an Eco Care Home Facility in the Primrose Hill area due to open in September 2010 which has a potential of 60 vacancies in the Health and Social Care sector. KHNE have formed a partnership with the company that is enabling pathways to employment for local people to be developed. Through the Communities Fund KHNE have developed a Health and Social Care pathway for local residents to enable them to skill up to secure future positions when available. 45 Community Fund clients are currently nearing completion of this Health and Social Care level 2 pathway and KHNE are working in partnership with Working Links to identify further developmental opportunities. It has been agreed that KHNE will assist with the recruitment for the Care Home and it is anticipated that approximately 30 Communities Fund clients will gain employment over the two phases of recruitment.</p> <p><b>Five Lamps Organisation</b>            Len Junier and Sue Westerman provided an update on progress to date. Five Lamps have identified there are many long term and multiple barriers preventing people from entering the labour market and through the Communities Fund, Five Lamps are addressing these barriers by linking into other programmes and practices to eliminate barriers. This could include getting the client a bank account or offering volunteering and mentoring schemes. The teams are working out and about in communities and are working with housing associations and registered social landlords to target individuals. Five Lamps have also been working with employers to find out what skills and staff they are looking for and to then fill these gaps by providing clients with the relevant skills and training to make them suitable for vacant positions. In the last 3 months Five Lamps have engaged with 136 clients of these 102 have been on a one to one basis. Since the start of the project Five Lamps have engaged with 1007 people, with 971 of those on a one to one basis. 68 jobs have been sustained over the last 3 years with 384 clients into work since the project started. Five Lamps provide support for</p>	<p>Noted</p>

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<p>the client before and during employment and in some cases have supported clients up to one year into their employment. Five Lamps also provide support to the full family unit and work to resolve problems at home which may be preventing the client to get back into work. Five Lamps also provide support for people setting up social enterprises or going into self employment. The norms are changing and many people are entering into more flexible working arrangements which could include working for several months. Five Lamps have built good relationships with local organisations and companies, which enabled the Five Lamps to get clients into employment.</p> <p><b>New College Durham (NCD)</b>            Peter Chimely provided an update on New College Durham, Hardwick in Partnership, West Middlesbrough Neighbourhood Trust and A4e which represents a new partnership approach to work with the people in Hardwick and Ragworth to provide support and guidance to enable them to progress into employment. As of July 2010 they have engaged with 217 people with 51 progressing into employment. However NCD anticipate the employment figures to increase in proportion to the engagement figures during years 2 and 3.</p> <p>Much of the first part of year 1 was spent developing wider relationships across the Borough including those with Job Centre Plus, Connexions and other equally vital organisations. From August 2009 onward the average engagement figures has settled to around 15 per month which is close to the required engagement level necessary to achieve the overall figure of 282 into employment. To date 13 individuals have been recruited from outside the area representing just few than 6% of the allowed figure of 20% of clients from outside the area. Within the 217 engaged to date, a substantial proportion fell into one or more of the priority categories (including additional categories identified by project staff). Please see below table.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Lone Parent</th> <th>Disabled/ IB</th> <th>Health / Mental Health problems</th> <th>BME</th> <th>Homeless</th> <th>Drug Alcohol /</th> <th>Ex Offender</th> <th>Refugees</th> <th>Learning Difficult / SFL</th> <th>NEET</th> <th>Carers</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Actual</td> <td>42</td> <td>16</td> <td>40</td> <td>5</td> <td>0</td> <td>6</td> <td>29</td> <td>3</td> <td>13</td> <td>7</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Profiles</td> <td>85</td> <td>84</td> <td>No target</td> <td>17</td> <td>19</td> <td>23</td> <td>22</td> <td>9</td> <td>No Target</td> <td>0</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Percentage Complete</td> <td>49%</td> <td>19%</td> <td></td> <td>29%</td> <td>0%</td> <td>26%</td> <td>132%</td> <td>33%</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>55%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Lone Parent	Disabled/ IB	Health / Mental Health problems	BME	Homeless	Drug Alcohol /	Ex Offender	Refugees	Learning Difficult / SFL	NEET	Carers	Actual	42	16	40	5	0	6	29	3	13	7	12	Profiles	85	84	No target	17	19	23	22	9	No Target	0	22	Percentage Complete	49%	19%		29%	0%	26%	132%	33%			55%	Noted
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<p>It has become apparent that it has been particularly difficult to engage with Disabled and Incapacity Benefit (IB) claimants. Using anecdotal evidence compiled from IB claimants who have registered on the programme and information received from support workers it suggests that many are cautious about loss of benefit and are waiting until changes in the benefit, forces them to take action. The figures also show that a high proportion of people claiming long term physical and mental health issues which impacts on their employability, are not claiming IB/ESA. If these were included in the overall “health category” then NCD would be progressing well against the target. NCD have not yet engaged with any homeless people primarily due to their inability to identify and engage with the group. However they recently met with Stockton Housing Options and have established a referral protocol between the two organisations. NCD are also slightly under profile for individuals with drug and alcohol dependence issues. This project is based on self declaration with many clients involved not declaring themselves as dependant. Of the 217 people engaged the majority have been unemployed for between 7-12 months, however a more detailed assessment of these individuals shows that for many of them their employment history is patchy often due to a lack of vocational and employability skills. For those people who have been unemployed for less than 6 months this patchy work often due to a lack of vocational and employability skills. 51 people have secured employment during the course of the projects and of those 50% have been previously out of work for over 1 year. Employment has covered a number of sectors ranging from retail, call centres, construction, administration and asbestos clearing. The majority of people finding employment have been from lone parents, ex-offenders and people with long term health problems. NCD have a number of people who have progressed into employment but are now unemployed again, although this can be seen in a negative light, it can also be viewed as a step forward for a number of individuals as they are now starting to create a job history, which they have not previously had.</p> <p>Q: Would it be possible to get information on organisations employment patterns to identify any organisations who are disposing of employees and re employing to avoid providing holiday, sick pay and other benefits?</p> <p>A: It would be possible to get this information, and all providers said it would be something they would look into and update the Board where possible</p> <p>Q. Is childcare still an issue for Lone Parents getting back into work?</p> <p>A. More and more family networks are assisting Lone Parents to enable them to go back into work, but childcare is still very expensive. Kim Staff informed the Board that some parents are not aware of what support is available to them and that there are options for people to undergo training which has free childcare. Many of the Children Centres in Stockton are also carrying out work to target vulnerable lone parents.</p> <p>Q. How are the providers ensuring that organisations that are employing clients are providing the necessary benefits and not ceasing</p>	<p>Kim Staff to meet with providers to discuss any potential linkages.</p>

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<p>employment before 12 weeks, when they would be eligible for benefits such as sick pay? A. Five Lamps do not work with any recruitment agencies that take a percentage or cut from wages. All providers ensure that all the organisations they work with which provide employment to their clients are operating correctly. Marilyn Surtees informed the Board that Elm Tree Community Centre staff are still offering CV writing and support even though the funding they had received to offer this service had ceased and identified there is still a need for this type of service within the borough.</p>	
<p><b>5. Feedback from other Partnership from Board Members</b> <b>Children Trust Board (Marilyn Surtees)</b> – MS did not attend the last meeting, however she did raise an issue about the large volume of papers received for this meeting, and it was advised MS to discuss with Julie Derbyshire from SRCGA regarding additional support or options. Housing and Neighbourhood (Roy Parker) – RP informed the Board that at the last meeting the following was discussed:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Tees Valley Living</li> <li>-Improving private sector housing to bring unused properties back into use.</li> <li>-Parkfield phase 1 has been mothballed.</li> </ul> Health and Wellbeing Partnership (Paul Thomas) – PT informed the Board that at the last meeting the following was discussed:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Health Inequalities Review</li> <li>- Smoking Thematic Review – smoking in Stockton is reducing however 20% of women are still smoking on the day they give birth.</li> <li>- Illicit tobacco and Alcohol</li> <li>- Housing contribution to Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FACS Consultation / Review</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Stockton Renaissance (Paul Thomas) – PT informed the Board that at the last meeting the following was discussed:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Local Economic Assessment – The Board were informed of the context, progress to date and next steps in producing a Local Economic Assessment of Stockton-on-Tees.</li> <li>-End of year Local Area Agreement (LAA) Report – The Board were provided with the end of year update on the Local Area Agreement</li> </ul> </p>	<p>Rachel Swales will provide an update on Housing at the next meeting</p>

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<p>-Public Sector-Post Election Update – This report provided the Board with a post election headline update on the funding position of some of the key public sector organisations in the Borough including the Police, Fire Brigade, Probation Service and the PCT.</p> <p>Play Partnership (Roy Parker) – RP informed the Board that at the last meeting the following was discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Playbuilders Funding – Any Playbuilders projects which have not got a contract in place could be withdrawn.</li> <li>-Play Mobile Bus – Issues around Health and Safety have now been resolved, though discussions around disabled access are still ongoing. Jill Anderson has agreed to pay for leaflets to publicise the bus.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>6. Any Other Business</b></p> <p>The Board wanted to take this opportunity to remember fond memories of Stan Slater, Board Member who recently passed away. Sarah Upex has sent a card to his family on behalf of the Board.</p> <p>No external funding opportunities were discussed</p> <p>The Board viewed future agenda items on the Forward Plan 2010/11</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p><b>7 .Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Central Area Partnership Board will be held on:  30<sup>th</sup> September 2010, 10am, Castlegate Quay Watersports Centre</p>	<p>No</p>