ITEM/ISSUE	COMMENT S/ DECISION/ ACTIONS	CONTACT
1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES	Noted	Sarah Upex,
Cllr Bob Cook was welcomed as the new Chair of the Board.		Community
		Development &
The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted.		Engagement Officer, SBC
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (DOI)	Noted	Sarah Upex,
Members were advised to declare DOI at the start of the meeting before any items are discussed.		Community
		Development &
Cllr Jim Beal declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in Item 4 as Chair of Eastern Ravens and Chair of		Engagement
the Central commissioning sub group		Officer, SBC
3. MINUTES OF THE STOCKTON RENAISSANCE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETINGS HELD ON 1 <sup>ST</sup>	Noted	Sarah Upex,
FEBRUARY 2011		Community
Minutes agreed as a true and accurate record.		Development & Engagement
Minutes agreed as a true and accurate record.		Officer, SBC
4. STOCKTON COMMUNITIES FUND	Noted	Richard Poundford,
The Board were provided with an update on the performance and progress of the Communities Fund of both		Head of
the 'employability and skills' and 'enterprise' elements of the Fund. An update was also provided on the		Regeneration &
Communities Fund allocation for the Future Jobs Fund and the Area Partnership Boards.		Economic
		Development, SBC
Employability		
As previously reported, five contracts were procured through open and competitive tendering and were		
awarded to three organisations; The Five Lamps Association, New College Durham and Now How North		
East. Over the two years to March 2011, the Communities Fund providers have engaged with and completed action plans for 2,716 residents, which is 133% above profile. All of the providers have exceeded their total		
contract values for the numbers of people engaged and action planned. The following are some of the		

priority groups engaged:	
<ul> <li>338 lone parents</li> <li>157 people with a drug or alcohol issue, of which at least 52 are currently in drug treatment</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>137 people with a drug of alcohol issue, of which at least 52 are currently in drug treatment</li> <li>288 ex offenders</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>227 people with a health condition</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>194 residents from a BME community</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Over 300 residents have citied multiple barriers not included in the above figures</li> </ul>	
Over a quarter of people engaged have been out of work for over two years, with 22%, nearly 600 people having been unemployed for over three years. After two years of delivery 1,037 of those residents engaged have found work. The types of jobs people are moving into covers a wide spectrum of occupational areas from office work, building operatives, riggers to dog groomers. The majority of job outcomes are full time positions, but where they are of a part time nature they are generally above 16 hours, ensuring individuals are able to claim tax credits and therefore will not be worse off in work.	
The number of people engaged who have been in sustained employment at 26 weeks is now 401, an increase of 246 in the last six months. As a result the job retention rate is now 62%. The Lead Providers are expected to work in partnership with other public, private and voluntary and community organisations either on a formal or informal basis. To date over £750,000 has been paid to sub-contracting organisations.	
Between February and April 2011, New Skills Consulting was commissioned to undertake an interim evaluation of the Communities Fund of the service delivery and the impact it is having on tackling worklessness for participants and their families, increasing enterprise and the wider economic benefits the work. This interim report will help start to inform an exit strategy for the funding and future delivery of employability provision in Stockton. The final evaluation will commence early 2012.	
Future Jobs Fund	
£650,000 of the Communities Fund was allocated to the Future Jobs Fund by providing employment for up to	
52 weeks, a wage of £6.22 per hour and 30 hours per week. The Council worked with over 20 partners from	
the public, private and community sectors to secure employment opportunities aimed at young people. As a	

result, 166 people aged 18-24 were employed and 15 people were over 25years. After the initial 26 weeks 162 people were still in employment. The Future Jobs Fund scheme ended in March 2011 after which 38 people were retained in employment by their Future Jobs Fund host organisation, 35 have found jobs with other employers and some others have now chosen to return to full time education. 628 pieces of accredited training was undertaken, with 80 NVQs being completed and 27 full apprenticeship frameworks.	
<u>Area Partnership Boards</u> Each Area Partnership Board was requested to identify a limited set of deliverable priorities from within the framework provided by the Community Strategy and set up a sub group to commission a number of interventions to address the Area Partnership priorities.	
The Northern Area Partnership allocated all of their funding to the Billingham Environmental Link Project (BELP). They have engaged with 55 people in total, all of whom have had tailored action plans developed; 7 of the recipients went into employment with a number of them taking further training to enhance their CV.	
The Central Area Partnership have funded a number of different projects including support for piloting the Viva Volunteers project, support for enhanced Housing Options Officer for the Central area and an Employability Pathways programme ran by the YMCA. Viva successfully registered 357 potential volunteers and provided 230 opportunities with 52 successfully matched into a placement. The Employment Pathways project has successfully placed 10 full time and 24 part time young people into employment placements within the VCS some of which were dedicated to those young people working with the Leaving Care Team. The Housing Options project has only been running for around 6 month but has already engaged with 184 people and helped 38 clients retain their accommodation.	
The Eastern Area Partnership also funded a number of projects to tackle their local priorities including Reaching Eastern Areas Together project (REACT), which has engaged 367 young people and the allotment project has been a great success. The Debt Advice and Support has case loaded over 300 people and dealt with debts totally over £1million. Both were funded over the three years and the Credit Union Capacity Building project.	
The Western Area Partnership commissioned Tees Achieve to coordinate some targeted work to deliver a	

number of taster sessions in the smaller pockets of the Western Area that have high levels of deprivation. They have engaged with 47 people, 39 of which have enrolled on courses of which 9 are progressing onto a family learning course to help their children with maths. A project is also being finalised for the remaining allocation to be used for young people to access training.	
<u>Welfare to Work</u> The Work Programme replaces Flexible New Deal as the Governments key welfare to work initiative. Two organisations Avanta and Deloitte have been chosen to deliver across the North East. Avanta have selected TNG and the Five Lamps Organisation to deliver their end to end provision in Stockton. Ingeus have subcontracted their Tees Valley delivery to Triage, a Scottish based provider.	
Enterprise In addition to £2million from the Communities Fund, the Stockton Routes into Enterprise package of projects was successful in gaining £570,000 of funding from ERDF.	
Enterprise Gateways The Gateways have been established to overcome identified barriers to enterprise and to promote enterprise by providing local access to a range of enterprise activities. The target outcome for the project is to give enterprise coaching to 900 people and create 180 businesses by 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2012. Up to the end of March 2011 the Enterprise Gateways have provided a minimum of 3 hours of enterprise coaching to more than 646 residents and supported the creation of 147 businesses.	
Enterprise Culture A dedicated coordinator is employed to work with schools, colleges and learning institutions to develop innovative and engaging projects and give young people the experience of setting up and running real businesses with the help of business ambassadors.	
Over The Threshold The project offers support to existing small businesses to overcome key barriers such as the additional paperwork associated with VAT registration, taking on their first employee or employees who may need to have special checks to do a particular job, accessing training or the tools and knowledge to be able to submit	

tenders for contracts. The project started in April 2010 and to the end of March 2011 85 clients have been assisted through the project of which 41 have received intensive support.		
<u>Start-up Business Grants</u> The scheme supports new businesses in the Borough and is available to businesses that are in the process of starting up. The grant is up to a £1,000 and primarily available for capital costs such as equipment and applicants are expected to be receiving support through the Enterprise Gateways or another Enterprise Agency. Up to the end of March 2011 a total of 146 new businesses have been supported. The interim evaluation found that it had a positive impact on job creation, with each new business creating 1.3 jobs on average.		
Digital City Business Digital City Business is a regeneration project originally grounded on Teesside University's expertise in digital media and digital technology. The overarching project objective is to create and manage a range of services, initiatives and activities that will continue to foster, support and stimulate the creation of a self-sustaining, vibrant and successful digital media, digital technology and the creative sector in the Tees Valley. Stockton's contribution is ring fenced and for use only against activities for Stockton.		
The Board were presented with a number of case studies demonstrating the positive impact that the Communities Fund employability and skills and enterprise programmes have had on the lives of local people.		
The Board discussed that this is a good example of innovative and integrated support for the third sector and a good example of partnership working. It was suggested that it is likely there will be a seamless transition into the new work programme and the foundations built will not be lost.		
5. STOCKTON TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS Stockton Borough Council have developed a Town Centre Urban Design Guide and consultation on the	Noted	Richard McGuckin, Head of Technical
Prospectus will take place between 10 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2011. The Prospectus will sell and market the town centre. It identifies projects that are currently being delivered, being worked on and working towards. It showcases the potential of the high street and seeks views on future regeneration. The Prospectus will		Services
highlight the Globe investment. The Globe will reopen as a major music venue and will have an impact on the town centre and will transform a big building on the high street. It will also encourage other investment		

along the high street. Over 1,000 people have said that they are really keen for the Globe to re-open and many want to volunteer to help transform it.		
The next steps will be to consider the consultation results, continue to develop the proposals in detail and continue to engage with the local community, businesses and key stakeholders. Momentum will be maintained in improving the physical appearance of the high street throughout the process.		
<ul> <li>6. LOCAL IMMIGRATION TEAMS UPDATE North East Asylum Support has distinct regional presence in Newcastle, North Shields and Thornaby. The Newcastle office mainly deal with case work, North Shields do some case work and are also a reporting centre and the Local Immigration Team is based in Thornaby. The Thornaby office look at enforcement, trafficking, terrorism, illegal working, drugs and work closely with the Police, local authorities and schools. The office covers an area to the south of Durham, Tees Valley and Scarborough and it is hoped that the Teesside team will hopefully expand in the future, however it was discussed that there will be a 25% reduction of staff in the UK Border Agency. The Local Immigration teams can remove people if they do not have the legal right to remain in the UK. Some people have to have enforced removals and the main aim is to safeguard children and young people. Staff are often deployed to Police stations. </li> <li>It was noted that the legacy cases which are planned to finish in July will still be completed on time and it was confirmed that this was still on track. In terms of housing of families, every case has to be approved by the regional director and places are very carefully considered and include consultation with the local authority. </li> </ul>	Noted	Katherine Hierons, North East Asylum Support
The Board were informed that an event is to be held in Leeds in July to discuss the plan for a regional aggregated model and Stockton should attend this event if they want to have input into the new system.		
<ul> <li>7. DRAFT COMPACT BETWEEN STOCKTON RENAISSANCE AND THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR</li> <li>The Board were presented with the detail on the draft refreshed Compact, developed jointly with Catalyst, which covers the principles under which Stockton Renaissance and the voluntary and community sector work together in the Borough. The existing Renaissance Compact has been refreshed to reflect changes to the Compact with the voluntary and community sector at national government level. The main changes from the 2008 Compact are:         <ul> <li>Document has been streamlined into chapters</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Noted	Dawn Welsh, Stockton Borough Council

<ul> <li>Includes a contact for any Compact compliance issues</li> <li>Specific chapter on advancing equality</li> <li>Commissioning chapter strengthened</li> <li>There will also be an opportunity within the document for public sector organisations to sign up to adhere to the principles in the document within their own organisations; recognising that some may have other arrangements in place. The Council and the Police have taken the opportunity to sign up to the Compact in this way. The draft Compact will complement the work that is being undertaken around the VCS including the Third Sector Strategy that Catalyst has developed.</li> </ul>		
<b>8. DRAFT SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY REFRESH UPDATE</b> Stockton Renaissance agreed in January 2011 to refresh the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). The infrastructure and governance arrangements of Stockton Renaissance are aligned to the strategic themes in the SCS and a recent refresh of Stockton News has utilised the same thematic areas and has been well received. Historically the delivery plan for the SCS has been the Local Area Agreement which provided detailed actions and measurable targets against which delivery of some of the ambitions within the SCS could be monitored and measured. Other actions out with the LAA were contained in the strategic plans of key contributing organisations e.g., the Council Plan, the PCT Annual Operating Plan, the Community Safety Plan, and the Local Policing Plan etc.	Noted	Laurayne Featherstone, Stockton Borough Council
The SCS and the themes within it have served the Borough well since 2008 and external inspection and assessments have commented positively on it and its delivery. However, given the current significant changes and unprecedented circumstances facing the organisations that are key contributors to, and deliverers of, the SCS following the change in government and the termination of the LAA, Renaissance agreed that the SCS should be reviewed. Following the agreement to refresh the SCS a Stakeholder workshop was held in March 2011 which identified some of the changes that had taken place, some changes that were on the horizon and looked at each of the Themes in the light of these changes. What this exercise illustrated is that, whilst the Core Themes remained the same and ambitions, priorities and challenges were identified by the groups, many of the key strategies, policies and plans were currently under development and were about to undergo the approval process of various bodies. In many cases approval has been delayed by the local elections but also because of national policy and legislative reforms currently working their way through Parliament, particularly in the Health Service.		

Within this context appropriate aspects of the 'front end' of the SCS have been temporarily refreshed. All of the statistics and general context have been updated. It is proposed that the Core Themes ambitions and priorities should go through the Thematic and Area partnerships following approval of the documents mentioned above. This will then provide a coherent and comprehensive Delivery Plan for further consideration by the LSP. The SCS Delivery Plan will determine the key priorities for Renaissance across the improvement themes with clear actions/objectives, linking to the emerging picture of performance measures as appropriate. The delivery plan will then become the performance framework for Stockton Renaissance.		
The SCS will be presented to Stockton Renaissance for final approval towards the end of 2011.         9. DRAFT COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER STRATEGY CONSULTATION         The Board were updated on the progress of the consultation to date. The consultation document has been to the Area Partnership Boards, a drop in session has been held for councillors and the online consultation will be live on the website until 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2011.         Feedback on the consultation process will be fed into the strategy and will go through the approval process. Allison Agius informed the Board that the Catalyst Council of Interest have looked at and discussed the strategy at their 12 <sup>th</sup> June meeting.	Noted	Laurayne Featherstone, Stockton Borough Council
<b>10. THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON ON TEES THIRD SECTOR STRATEGY 2010-2015 AND ACTION</b> <b>PLAN FOR 2011/12</b> The Third Sector Strategy is a 5 year document which is looked at every year and the action plan is refreshed accordingly. The strategy looks at 2 areas; the Hubs model and outcomes. It identifies 4 key areas that most organisations will require in their lifetime. We currently have two hubs in the Borough – Volunteer Hub (Viva) and the Training Hub (The Academy). Work remains for two further hubs the Voice Hub and Management and Money hub (last year launched Fit For Change 2010 project). Various work continues to take place around the 4 hubs.	Noted	Allison Agius, Catalyst
The Board were informed of performance to date: - All the actions in the action plan for 2010/11 have been completed except 2		

<ul> <li>All the priorities for improvement set and agreed by the COI and the Catalyst Board for 2010/11 and 2011/12 have been completed except for 2.</li> </ul>		
The current core work for 2011/12 includes: - HWB consortium/GP dialogue - Quality Assurance work - Private sector interface		
<ul> <li>Career path development</li> <li>Grass routes participation</li> <li>User Led Organisations, Service Navigation Pilots and Investment Fund.</li> </ul>		
Allison Agius will report back to Renaissance in 2012 on progress of 2011/12 work. 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS	Noted	n/a
Development of Health and Wellbeing Board (Ruth Hill). Ruth informed the Board of the proposals for the new statutory Health and Wellbeing Board and related structures, including terms of reference. The new statutory board will have a number of key functions and will allow local authorities to take a strategic approach and promote integration and partnership between NHS, social care, public health and other local		
services and improve democratic accountability. For Stockton, this new Board will be built on the work that has already been undertaken and building on current partnership working. The new Board needs to ensure that it is a strong partnership and is upfront about challenges. The proposal for Stockton has been to develop a small discrete Health and Wellbeing Board, based mainly		

Attendance: Cllr Cook (Chair – SBC), Graham Prest (Vice Chair – Health & Wellbeing Partnership), Neil Schneider (Local Public Service Board), Jane Humphreys (Children's Trust Board), Neville Anderson (Trade Union Council), Jim Scollen (Community Empowerment Network), Val Scollen (Northern Area Partnership Board), Graeme Oram (Western Area Partnership Board), Carol Langrick (Momentum), Alex Bain (Community Empowerment Network), Dave Pickard (Housing & Neighbourhood Partnership), Paul Thomas (Central Area Partnership Board),

Cllr Beall (Health & Wellbeing Partnership), Cllr Laing (SBC), Tony Campbell (Business Forum), Cllr McCoy (Health & Wellbeing Partnership), Cllr Gibson (SBC), Lucia Saiger (Safer Stockton Partnership)

Advisors: Ruth Hill (SBC/SPCT), Laurayne Featherstone (SBC), Dawn Welsh (SBC), Sarah Upex (SBC), Paul Dobson (SBC), Julie Danks (SBC), Stephen Childs (NHS), Richard McGuckin (SBC), Richard Poundford (SBC), Allison Agius (Catalyst), Carol Daniell (Job Centre Plus), Roland Todd (SBC), Mike Batty (SBC)

**Observers**: Jan Doherty (SBC), Danielle Barnes (KHNE), Paul McGee (KHNE), Cllr Womphrey (SBC), Chesney Simpson (Shepherd Construction), Wallace Wilson (NEAS), Katherine Hierons (NEAS), Fiona Chesters (TVRCC)

**Apologies:** Alex Cunningham (MP), James Wharton (MP), Shanim Ahktar (BME Representative), Lesley Cannon (Job Centre Plus), Julie Derbyshire (SRCGA), Paul Burns (Arts and Culture Partnership), Darren Best (Safer Stockton Partnership), Tina Williams (Community Empowerment Network), Cllr Rigg (Western Area Partnership Board), Mike Lakinski (Economic Regeneration & Transport Partnership)