

Corporate and Social Inclusion Scrutiny Update Darlington and Stockton Partnership

Sue Reay

Xentrall Shared Services Manager

Background

- Members approved the establishment of the Darlington Stockton Partnership in November 2007
- Ground breaking Public / Public partnership
- Savings of approximately £7m in total over 10 years
- Expectation of expanding in the future
- Gateway Review July 2007

Gateway Review - Update

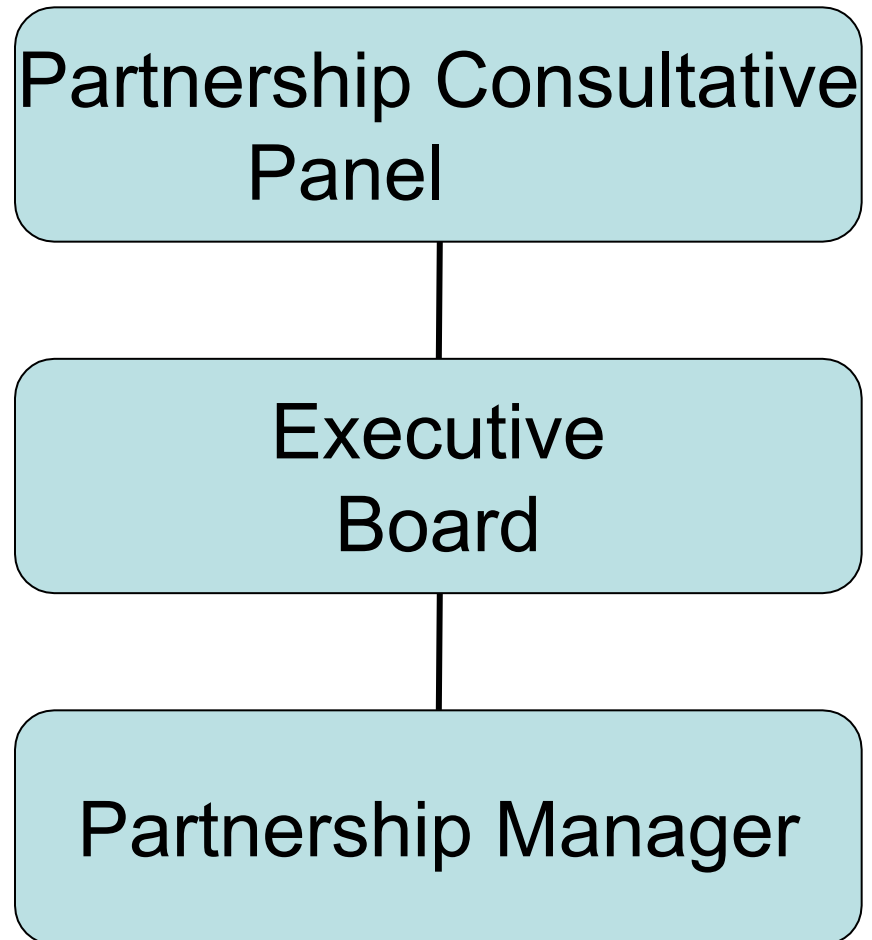
- Benefits Realisation
 - Plan now in place to measure this
- Improve Business Case
 - Complete, all recommendations taken into consideration
- More involvement from Legal
 - They were involved in recruitment issues & developed the Legal Agreement
- Improve Communications
 - Increased communications and involvement with staff throughout
- Improve Programme Management arrangements
 - Stronger project management arrangements put in place
 - Detailed plans developed
 - Regular progress reporting
- Recruit Partnership Manager
 - Complete

Management Team

- **Sue Reay** appointed November 2007
 - Partnership Manager external appointment
- **Ian Miles** already in post
 - Head of ICT and Design and Print (Previously Stockton Head of ICT)
- **Ian Coxon** appointed January 2008
 - Head of Transactional Finance and HR (previously Head of Resources, Children's services Darlington)

Governance

- Employing authority is Stockton Borough Council
- Legal agreement signed
- Reporting structure / accountability:



Main Activities

- Recruitment of all employees
- Establishing governance framework
- Improving Communications
- Implementation of new Financial Management System (Darlington)
- Centralisation of Creditors and Absence Management (Darlington)
- Establishing the Performance Management Framework
- Computer links in place
- Partnership name

What's in a Name

- Very difficult to find name
 - Engaged marketing company
- Xentrall Shared Services
 - Central point for shared services in Darlington and Stockton Councils
 - Unique – necessary for website address
 - Not Darlington and Stockton – therefore future proofed
 - Demonstrates boldness

Next Six Months

- Develop a full Business Plan
- Develop an Organisational Development Strategy
- Establish appropriate User Groups
- Implement process changes to sustain initial savings
- Implement improvements in customer services
- Co-locate all services

Next Steps

- Launch Xentrall (other local authorities and interested parties)
- Xentrall Member Seminars
 - Both Stockton and Darlington
 - Frequency?
- Quarterly reporting to Partnership Consultative Panel

Tricky Issues

- Still not started Computer Room build
- Co-location later than originally planned
- Transition planning means that employees will take longer to establish themselves into their new roles:
 - ICT business account managers

Success Stories

- Staff savings made
 - But only 4 redundancies, 3 of which were voluntary redundancies
- Successful collaboration with Unions throughout
- Extremely talented senior management team with experts from Darlington and Stockton Councils
- Procurement of digital press
- Computer link between SBC/DBC in place

Any Questions