

**Minutes of Management Group meeting
26 February 2009**

Present:	Hugh Hastie Ray Cowlshaw – Chair Michael Foote Jonathan Guest Andrew Flack Helen Osler Andy Thomas Chief Supt Andy Hough Kim Harper Andrew Wakeman	Connexions Derbyshire Ltd Derby City Council Derby City Council Derby City Council / City Growth Derby City Council / Children and Young People Derby City Council / Cultural City Derby Community Safety Partnership Derbyshire Constabulary Derby Council for Voluntary Service NHS Derby City
Advisors:	Hazel Lymbery	Derby City Partnership
In attendance:	Beverley Parker Clare Labram Rita Silvester Nick Searle Gordon Stirling Alison Eldam Mohammed Sharief Rod Wood	Audit Commission – Item 3 Derby City Partnership – Item 3 Derby City Council – Item 3 Derby City Council – Item 3 Derby City Council – Item 3 Derby City Council – Item 3 Derby City Council- Item 5 Jobs, Education and Training (JET) – Item 7 Derby City Council – Item 7

Item	Issue	Action
1	Introductions	
	Apologies were received from Roger Baddley, Keith Burn, George Cowcher, Don McLure and Prem Singh.	
2	Minutes of the meeting on 15 January and matters arising	
	Ray noted that Michael Foote did attend the last Management Group meeting on Thursday 15 January. The minutes of the meeting on 15 January were confirmed as a true and accurate record. Item 6 – Child Poverty: Clare to follow up with Lead Officers for them to nominate appropriate representatives to join the task and finish group.	Clare
3	Beverley Parker – Derby CAA Lead	
	Beverley Parker from Audit Commission gave a presentation on the Comprehensive Area Assessment. Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) is the new framework for the independent assessment of local public services in England. Audit Commission, Commission for Social Care Inspection, Healthcare Commission, HMI Constabulary, HMI Prisons, HMI Probation and Ofsted have developed CAA together.	

CAA will have two main elements:

- **Area assessment** that looks at how well local public services are delivering better results for local people across the whole area
- **Organisational assessments** for councils. The organisational assessments for the other main public bodies in each area are described in the respective frameworks for NHS organisations, police authorities and forces and fire and rescue authorities

There are four underpinning themes that thread through the area assessment:

- sustainability
- inequality
- people whose circumstances make them vulnerable
- value for money

The process for the CAA has already begun and the Audit Commission have started pulling findings together from other reports. In June there will be emerging thoughts and findings and discussions will start on red and green flags. In September a draft report will be available and in November the final report will be agreed.

There will be a quarterly review cycle and in January, March and June the findings will be reviewed but not issued publicly.

Beverley explained the flag system noting that green flags represent exceptional performance or outstanding improvement that is sustainable. Green flags will be used to highlight innovative practice that has promising prospects of improving outcomes for local people that the Audit Commission consider others can learn from.

Red flags will be used where there are significant concerns about outcomes and future prospects for outcomes. If performance is poor, slipping or not improving red flags will be used. A formal approach to challenges of flags will be published by 31 March 2009.

The Audit Commission has a strong quality assurance process which is applied throughout the life of the assessment.

Ray Cowlshaw highlighted that the LAA is not the only focus for this piece of work and that the Sustainable Community Strategy is very important. Beverley confirmed that the Sustainable Community Strategy provides additional key sources of evidence for the CAA and that the LAA is one focus but not the only focus.

Beverley informed the group that she will be attending other Management Group and some City Executive meetings.

Hugh Hastie stated that with the current recession we need to be looking at ways of mitigating any negative impacts. Beverley explained that if in their view a local partnership or the accountable partner body is taking effective action to mitigate the impact of the economic downturn a red flag would not be reported.

Rita Silvester expressed concern that the Children's Services Inspection Guidance is not yet complete. Beverley explained that Ofsted will be

	<p>mirroring the Audit Commission's structure for the assessment and that it is not mandatory to carry out a self assessment for Children's Services.</p> <p>Ray finished by saying that the LAA has improved over the years and that we will do what we can to support this year's CAA.</p>	
4	Tackling the Local Area Agreement	
	<p>Helen Osler gave a presentation on Cultural City's LAA indicators. Cultural City only has four indicators which have a significant impact on other cities targets. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of public libraries • Positive activities for young people • Children and young people taking part in sport • Adults taking part in sport <p>Helen updated the group on the progress/anticipated performance on each indicator. Details of this can be found on the presentation attached with the minutes.</p> <p>Andy Thomas noted that he has seen a massive difference in the cultural change and Andrew Flack felt that there had been a great link between schools and the new libraries. Ray felt that there is a great opportunity for the cultural agenda at the Playhouse which the University have taken over.</p> <p>Michael Foote felt the connection between Cultural City and older people needs to be strengthened - there is an opportunity to link QUAD with this as there is an older people's dimension within this new development.</p> <p>Garry Bryant asked what the links were to the tourism agenda. Helen said that there is a very strong link with the World Heritage Site and that there are opportunities that need to be developed.</p> <p>Andrew Flack noted that the Youth Opportunities Fund could be a possible source of funding.</p> <p>Ray noted that the health authorities are very keen to get involved in the cultural agenda particularly around sport.</p> <p>The Cultural Strategy has just been updated and will be launched on 1 April and the action plan for the Sustainable Community Strategy is being worked on.</p> <p>Helen circulated a flyer on the Culture Club and noted that the next session will be held on Thursday 5 March at 5.30pm for the launch of the Format 09 International Photography Festival.</p>	
5	LAA Performance Report Quarter 3 2008/09	
	<p>Alison Eldam gave an update on the LAA Performance Report for quarter 3. She explained that there are only 10 indicators with specific information and there is only data missing from one. Alison to let Ray know of the outstanding data.</p> <p>Areas of strong performance and areas for improvements were noted and it was agreed that two indicators NI47 and NI135 will go back to the</p>	Alison Eldam

	<p>Performance Support Group to be discussed, as well as the results of the place survey.</p> <p>Ray expressed concern that 27% of indicators have no baseline targets and 56% have no quarterly indicator but explained that other Council's have similar problems.</p> <p>Alison circulated an update on the LAA refresh. A final submission of Derby's refreshed LAA needs to be with GOEM by 27 March.</p> <p>Given the economic situation four indicators in Derby's LAA can be reviewed again next year and their performance will still count towards the overall LAA performance and the amount of reward we may receive – these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI 116 – Proportion of children in poverty • NI152 – Working age people on out of work benefits • NI 154 - Net additional home provided • NI 172 – VAT registered businesses in the area showing growth <p>Alison explained that there is a pot of £340m for the performance reward grant nationally and Derby stands to receive approximately £1.6 million if all LAA final year targets are achieved in full. To receive reward monies a minimum average performance level of 60% must be achieved.</p> <p>Garry Bryant thanked Alison for her great contribution to the work on the LAA – this was supported by Ray.</p>	
6	Economic Assessment for Derby	
	<p>Jonathan Guest gave an update on Derby's Economic Assessment and the City Growth Strategy. He explained that the Government's Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration set out a series of reforms that will enable regions and local areas to respond better to economic challenges.</p> <p>Emda has requested that the first assessment is completed by March 2010. A working group has been set up consisting of officers from the Council and Derby City Partnership and its first meeting was held on 10 February. The City Growth Executive has agreed that the refresh of the City Growth Strategy should be undertaken once the Economic Assessment is complete in 2010, to ensure it remains relevant to local documents. In April 2009 a full colour version of the strategy will be published to serve in the interim.</p>	
7	Employment opportunities for the Pakistani Community	
	<p>Rod Wood, Assistant Director of HR at Derby City Council presented a paper on the under representation of Pakistani origin employees and explained that according to the 2001 census this is the largest minority ethnic community in Derby and the under representation is getting worse.</p> <p>Rod highlighted the range of current interventions, including working in partnership with Jobs, Education and Training - JET - to deliver interview skills, workshops and job coaching. Rod asked for partnership support to make the project available to other parts of the partnership.</p> <p>Mohammed Sharief, Chief Executive of JET felt that involving the</p>	

	<p>partnership at the time of the recession would give far better potential. Andrew Flack said that we must consider the root causes behind this problem. What are the causes if a project is being set up? Mohammed Sharief said that opportunities for the Pakistani Community are limited but with a broad partnership approach more opportunities would become available.</p> <p>Ray suggested that Rod puts a proposition together on a partnership approach to this project.</p>	Rod Wood
8	Communication and Engagement Group	
	<p>Hazel highlighted the work of the Communication and Engagement partner group, which brings partners together to develop a shared approach to communication, consultation and engagement issues across Derby.</p> <p>The group has proposed producing a single newsletter for Derby which would make communication more effective and consolidate our messages in a more coherent and targeted way. The newsletter could be developed within the framework of the Sustainable Community Strategy.</p> <p>Hazel recommended that rather than the group reporting directly to Management Group, they report to the newly formed Strategic Intelligence Group. This group has formed to help the partnership co-ordinate its approach to the range of survey information and intelligence being gathered across Derby. The Strategic Intelligence Group would report to Management Group, and be supported by task and finish groups where appropriate.</p> <p>Ray supported the idea of a partnership newsletter though advised not to underestimate the challenge of achieving this. It was agreed that the Communication and Engagement Group would report to the Strategic Intelligence Group.</p> <p>Andy Thomas noted that as we are moving towards more perception based surveys in Derby, it would be a very powerful message to the public to show that agencies are working well together. This was supported by Kim Harper.</p> <p>Andrew Flack felt that the key to the success of the newsletter might be the lack of explicit badging, linking it to a particular agency.</p> <p>It was agreed that there would need to be a very clear angle to the newsletter and concern was expressed over how the newsletter might be seen politically.</p>	
9	Funding News	
	<p>The report was noted for information. It was agreed that the funding report be circulated electronically when the papers are sent out so that it can be cascaded by the group within their departments.</p>	DCP Centre
10	Director's Report	
	<p>Hazel highlighted the next State of the City Forum taking place on 10 March at JET on Normanton Road. The focus will be on the current economic climate.</p>	

	<p>Preparations for the CAA are underway, particularly for the self-assessment. A communication plan is being developed and briefings for the partnership will take place early April and a specific briefing for named partners with a duty to co-operate.</p> <p>A successful business briefing, attended by over 50 partners took place on 26 February, looking at how to create a healthy workplace and further develop the Workplace Health Network.</p>	
8	Any other business	
	There was no other business.	
9	Date, time and venue of next meeting	
	Thursday 2 April, 3.30pm – 5.30pm, 7 th Floor, St Peter’s House, Gower Street	