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# RUSHMOOR LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GROUP

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Notes of a meeting held on Wednesday, 30th July, 2003 at the Rushmoor Borough Council Offices at 4.00 pm.

Present:

**Rushmoor Borough Council**

Councillor John Marsh  
Leader

Councillor Peter Moyle (Chairman)  
Deputy Leader

Councillor Nigel Baines  
Cabinet Member for Borough Services

Mr Andrew Lloyd  
Chief Executive

**Hampshire County Council**

County Councillor David Kirk  
Executive Member for Community  
Development and Regeneration

County Councillor Rod Baulk

County Councillor Adrian Collett

**Military**

a Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Jack Matthews  
Garrison Adjutant

Captain Gary Young  
Project Connaught

**North East Hampshire Police  
Division**

a Superintendent Joe Apps

Chief Inspector Neil Sherringham

**Hampshire Fire Service**

Mr Robin Furniss  
Fire Inspection Officer

**Blackwater Valley and Hart  
Primary Care Trust**

a Mr Phil Chapman  
Health and Partnerships Manager

**Pavilion Housing Association**

a Mr Mervyn Jones  
Chief Executive

**Rushmoor Voluntary Services**

a Ms Sally Saunderson  
Chief Executive

**Farnborough College of  
Technology**

Mrs Christine Davis  
Principal

a Mr Phelim Brady  
Director of Further Education

**Blackwater Valley Enterprise Trust**

Mr John Mitchell  
Chief Executive

**North Hampshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

Ms Barbara Bryant  
Chief Executive

**In attendance:**

**Rushmoor Borough Council:**

Mr Andrew Colver  
Head of Democratic Services

Mr Les Murrell  
Local Agenda 21 Co-ordinator

Mrs Kathy Flatt  
Democratic Support Officer

**Hampshire County Council:**

Mr Terry Rath  
County Education Department

Apologies for absence had been received from County Councillor David Kirk, Mr Phil Chapman (Blackwater Valley and Hart Primary Care Trust), Superintendent Joe Apps (North East Hampshire Police Division), Lt Col (Retd) Jack Matthews (Military), Mr Mervyn Jones (Pavilion Housing Association), Ms Sally Saunderson (Rushmoor Voluntary Services) and Mr Phelim Brady (Farnborough College of Technology).

Ms Annette Williams of QinetiQ had indicated her wish to withdraw from the LSP Group.

1. **COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS – UPDATE –**

Andrew Lloyd gave a presentation on the community planning process, which included an update on current work, an outline of the programme of work, details of the community planning team and the process to be taken to take the process forward. *(A copy of the presentation is attached to these notes).*

2. **EMERGING THEMES –**

Andrew Colver gave an outline of the paper on emerging themes that had been identified following a comprehensive consultation and information gathering exercise to build a snapshot of the Borough. The results of some of this work had been presented in documentation to the community planning conference which had been held in February, 2003. Having taken account of the output from the conference and further analysis which had been carried out since that time, a number of themes had emerged and these had been sorted into logical thematic sets:-

**Safe and Secure**

- making people feel safe
- tackling drugs issues
- addressing anti-social behaviour

## **Transport Choice and Access**

- working towards an integrated transport system
- improving transport infrastructure
- ensuring ease of movement
- a safe and reliable transport system
- providing alternatives to the car

## **Healthy and Active**

- accessibility to leisure and community facilities
- improving healthcare
- addressing inequalities/meeting basic needs
- building supportive communities
- promoting healthy lifestyles
- supporting families

## **Planning for Prosperity**

- improving and regenerating town centres
- creating a sustainable economy
- providing enough affordable/key worker housing
- establishing a robust Local Development Framework

## **Green and Clean**

- conserving the natural environment
- making best use of parks and open spaces
- providing clean streets
- tackling local pollution
- managing resources sustainably
- addressing wider environmental concerns

## **Learning and Skills**

- improving levels of education attainment
- addressing skills needs
- providing opportunities for young people
- ensuring opportunities for lifelong learning
- raising awareness of key issues
- promoting citizenship

It was noted that further work was being undertaken to ensure validation and to add other issues which had been identified as new information became available. It was agreed that, wherever possible, existing partnerships or groups should be used for undertaking the work of the thematic groups. An example of such a partnership was the Rushmoor Community Safety Partnership which could be an appropriate body for progressing the work of the 'Safe and Secure' theme. It was noted that work would be undertaken to prepare baseline data for the thematic groups setting out the key information on which action plans could be developed. In the case of existing partnerships, this information would be presented to them, but where no clear partnership existed, appropriate organisations would be brought together for an initial meeting to discuss the way forward. Experience had shown that partnerships worked well by achieving early 'hits', either through a specific project or dealing with an issue. It was agreed that members would give early consideration to suggestions for projects or issues to be tackled by the thematic groups on which an early 'hit' could be achieved.

It was noted that the Borough Council would nominate a co-ordinator for each of the groups to facilitate work and to initiate the process and contact potential members. Members also agreed that each of the themes should be championed and further agreed to give thought to appropriate nominees for the groups.

During discussion it was suggested that it would be helpful to obtain from the Hampshire Strategic Partnership a copy of a document identifying the County's emerging themes. It was agreed that this document should be circulated to members at the next meeting. The subject of accessing Government funding for the groups was also raised and members were advised that work would be undertaken with the Government Office for the South East to identify such funding opportunities. With regard to the organisations which had indicated an interest in the work of the Local Strategic Partnership, it was suggested that the database should be expanded to include a short description of each of the organisations which would then provide a resource which was searchable.

An update would be given at the next meeting on progress with developing the thematic groups.

### 3. **PARTNERSHIP STRUCTURE –**

Andrew Colver introduced a paper on issues regarding a local strategic partnership (LSP) for Rushmoor and initial thoughts on a structure for the partnership. In Government guidance which had been issued in 2001, a local strategic partnership was seen as a body that:

- brought together at local level the different parts of the public sector as well as the private, business, community and voluntary sectors so that different initiatives and services supported each other and worked together;
- was a non-statutory, non-executive organisation;
- operated at a level which enabled strategic decisions to be taken and was close enough to individual neighbourhoods to allow actions to be determined at a community level; and
- should be aligned with local authority boundaries.

It was important that LSPs should not be seen as local authority partnerships, but district or county partnerships. Although the Borough Council had a key role, it should be seen as one of the partners. Individual organisations would retain responsibility for the services they provided. It was acknowledged that many local organisations already engaged in partnership working on a range of initiatives. LSPs were seen as building and complementing approaches that already existed. Although it was not a statutory requirement to have a LSP, local authorities were required to prepare community strategies for their areas. An effective strategy would need to be underpinned by a robust structure and a consensual approach. Such a strategy would also need to be owned by delivery organisations.

The paper set out a suggested partnership structure for Rushmoor which took account of the various areas of work to be undertaken. (*A copy of the draft structure is attached to these notes*). There were five elements to the proposed structure:

- a LSP Group to steer the process
- partnership forum/network of key people and organisations able to support the process
- thematic groups which would provide the action planning function

- communications team and community planning team to drive the process forward
- a monitoring and evaluation group which would be a semi-independent group representing the community

The main responsibilities of the LSP Group would be to:

- develop and implement a community strategy for Rushmoor, including identifying and delivering priorities, monitoring and evaluating progress and keeping the strategy up to date
- bring together plans and initiatives to provide a forum through which service providers can work together to meet local needs and priorities
- develop and deliver local area strategies when required
- champion and support local issues and, where appropriate, seek funding opportunities.

It was stressed that an early priority for the LSP Group would be to confirm the membership, bearing in mind that: the size of the Group was effective and representative; there was adequate and balanced representation from each sector (public, private, voluntary and community sectors); each of the thematic groups was represented (probably by the Chairs); and, representatives could speak on behalf of their organisations and reflect their priorities. It was noted that, initially, support for the Partnership would be provided by the Borough Council in terms of organising meetings, accommodation and implementing decisions.

During discussion it was agreed that membership of the Group should be expanded to include an organisation representative on environmental issues and also another representative of the community sector. It was agreed that members would give consideration to the current membership of the LSP with a view to ensuring that all sectors of the Borough were adequately represented on the Group and report back on possible omissions at the next meeting.

#### 4. **LSP COMMUNICATIONS –**

Andrew Colver introduced a paper on communications issues for the LSP. It would be important to ensure that LSP members had essential information to participate, have a clear plan of action for the work involved and know how they could contribute to the work. It was also essential that the public and other interested parties knew what the LSP was doing, what it was achieving and how they could become involved.

It was agreed that the range of audiences of the community planning work would have different demands and a range of methods of communication would have to be utilised. Communications would also need to be co-ordinated with other on-going campaigns. The Borough Council had allocated staff resources to help develop a communications strategy for the LSP. Members agreed that it would be useful for a small ad hoc team of members of the LSP Group to be established to plan and drive communications on behalf of the LSP. It was felt that initially work could be undertaken on developing and promoting the LSP's identity.

One area where it was felt there was an opportunity for further joint work was on consultation. The Borough Council already had a Citizens' Panel and both the Primary Care Trust and the Police Division were using the Panel to obtain feedback on their services. There might be opportunities for work in this area to be developed in the future.

During discussion, members endorsed the principle to establish a comprehensive communications process. John Mitchell spoke of the lack of businesses represented on the LSP Group and suggested that perhaps a public relations and communications company could be invited to join the LSP Group. It was also agreed that a small team, possibly comprising the Police Media Officer, Farnborough College of Technology and a possible representative from a public relations and communications company would plan and implement the communications work on behalf of the LSP Group.

5. **ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS –**

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Thursday, 4th September. A schedule of meetings for the LSP Group would be prepared for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 5.35 pm.

COUNCILLOR PETER MOYLE  
CHAIRMAN

**LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GROUP -  
ACTION SHEET**

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>BY WHOM</b>	<b>BY WHEN</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
<b>30th July 2003</b>	<b>Validation of thematic group areas</b>	Community Planning Team	September 2003	On-going
	<b>Preparation of baseline data for thematic groups</b>	Community Planning Team	September 2003	Work in progress for completion mid-September
	<b>Consideration to be given to suggestions for projects or issues to be tackled by thematic groups on which “early hits” could be achieved.</b>	Members of LSP Group	LSP Group meeting – 4th September	---
	<b>RBC to nominate a co-ordinator for each of the thematic groups</b>	Community Planning Team	September 2003	Some already identified – the rest to be nominated by mid-September
	<b>Nominations to be made from LSP Group for “champions” of thematic groups</b>	LSP Group members	September 2003	Ongoing
	<b>Obtain copy of Hampshire Strategic Partnership’s emerging themes</b>	Community Planning Team	September 2003	Obtained
	<b>Obtain information on funding opportunities for work undertaken by thematic groups</b>	Community Planning Team	November 2003	Work to start early October

	<b>Develop database of LSP Forum organisations to include brief description of activities of each organisation to provide a searchable facility</b>	Community Planning Team	LSP Group meeting – 22nd October 2003	Work will be commenced early September
	<b>Confirm membership of the LSP Group to encompass representation from all sectors including representative on environmental issues and a further representative of the community sector.</b>	LSP Group	LSP Group meetings as required	Options being considered
	<b>Establish small group of LSP Group members to establish a plan for communications and to drive communications on behalf of LSP.</b>  <b>John Mitchell/Barbara Bryant to investigate possibility of inviting a public relations and communications company to join the LSP Group.</b>	Rushmoor Chief Executive/ Community Planning Team  John Mitchell/ Barbara Bryant	September 2003  September 2003	
	<b>Prepare a schedule of meetings for the LSP Group.</b>	Community Planning Team	LSP Group meeting – 4th September 2003	List attached to the agenda