

# DRAFT

**Devon Strategic Partnership Delivery Board  
Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> March 2008  
East Devon District Council, The Knowle, Sidmouth**

## Minutes

**Present:** Bob Spencer, Devon and Cornwall Police (Chair)  
Mark Williams, East Devon District Council  
John Smith, Devon County Council (for Phil Norrey)  
Robert Fyfe, Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue  
John Sunderland, North Devon District Council  
Philip Bostock, Exeter City Council  
Nicola Bulbeck, Teignbridge District Council  
David Incoll, West Devon Borough and South Hams District Councils  
Martin Weiler, Environment Agency  
Chris Roberts, LSC  
John Van De Laarschot, Torridge District Council  
Karen O'Donnell, GOSW  
John Bodley Scott (for Gerald Hirsch)  
Sally Foxhall (Chair of the Devon Strategic Partnership) - observing  
(Caroline Rae, DCC, Devon Strategic Partnership)

**1) Notes of Last meeting** – approved.

**2) Sustainable Community Strategy update**

- a) The Delivery Board considered the Sustainable Community Strategy outcomes provided and approved them as a draft that can be sent to the Devon Strategic Partnership conference for scrutiny, with the proviso that conference would be facilitated so it would not change them in a major way, as the current set of outcomes were the result of a lot of careful consideration by many people.
- b) The Delivery Board noted the proposals for the production of the Sustainable Community Strategy document

**3) Conference agenda.** A draft agenda was circulated and discussed. A meeting with the facilitator Robin Douglas the previous day had led to a couple of changes to this proposed agenda, with the Local Area Agreement discussion being confined to one session, the introduction of a panel with Q&A about the Local Area Agreement concluding the Local Area Agreement session and the afternoon being given to work to discuss about raising our game with regard to partnership working in Devon. The meeting approved the changes, suggesting that the afternoon session included consideration of the future role of sub partnerships in the Devon Strategic Partnership structure. Sensitive handling of parts of the agenda was encouraged

**4) Development of the 2008-11 Local Area Agreement – update paper.**

Karen O'Donnell and John Smith updated the meeting. Currently negotiations were at 31 NIs, with some discussion around a further couple. The chosen NIs all related to priorities for Devon, with the potential for local indicators to be added against other priorities. Detailed work is starting on developing targets. This was recognised as good progress. Karen O'Donnell stated that the NIs would be formally presented to CLG the following week; that between then and the end of March baselining work would commence; that the conference would consider spatial aspects; and that by mid May target setting would be complete. The group considered the latest Local Area Agreement priorities and provisional NIs and were content with them, subject to some comments:

- a) Robert Fyfe asked about the possibility of including the arson NI and the NI relating to number of primary fires. It was agreed to look again at this, but it was recognised that it was important that the NIs chosen to have targets associated with them reflected the top few

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priorities for Devon, based on evidence, and that all 178 NIs would be need to be monitored. There was also the possibility of including local targets

- b) Philip Bostock asked about the target relating to 1<sup>st</sup> time entrants to the Youth Justice system and the possible conflict between this and Police's sanction detection target. Bob Spencer told the meeting about the restorative justice initiative in Devon, which is a way of trying to overcome this conflict.
- c) David Incoll expressed disappointment that the economic indicators did not include one about providing employment workspace, as this was very effective in rural Devon. John Van de Laarschot echoed this view.

John Bodley Scott asked whether NIs had greater priority than local indicators, but was advised that they did not, they were just monitored by Govt.

There was discussion about whether there would be a reward grant, and how insignificant it would be.

Chris Roberts congratulated the team on the progress so far, and advised caution when deciding how many local priorities/ NIs to have, given they have to be identified with SMART measurements, baselined and have targets set by mid May.

- 5) **Area Based Grant** John Smith advised the meeting that the ABG was totally unhypothecated from the Local Area Agreement, and that it comprised mostly mainstream funding. An attempt had been made to show how it is currently spent in districts, but this has not been an easy exercise. It was felt that it would be important to try to realign some of this funding to help Local Area Agreement priorities in future years, and for partners to review all resources where necessary to ensure delivery of the priorities. There was discussion re governance and ultimate resource allocation decisions – e.g. who should decide on the ultimate allocation of ABG against the LAA priorities? And at what point in the future might the pre-commitments against so many of the constituent funding streams making up the ABG be relaxed? And how and when would partners' mainstream funding be more effectively aligned with LAA priorities? A process was needed to help this to happen. Chris Roberts said that the Local Area Agreement was about all partners realigning their own budgets at the margin; that whilst ABG was important, and that a strategy was needed to free it up within 12 months, the big money needed to come from partners' budgets. This view was welcomed. It was agreed that an item to start to address such fundamentals would be put to an early meeting of the Partnership Board.

6) **Development of a Resource Hub**

John Smith confirmed to the meeting that if the Delivery Board wished the resource hub to happen, in the absence of significant available funding then the pragmatic approach would be to build it piecemeal as resources become available. Phil Norrey was prepared to coordinate its inception. David Incoll supported this and offered a member of staff for 0.5FTE. John Sunderland encouraged the consideration of a coordinated secretariat of all LSPs. The recommendation in the paper was supported, and it was agreed that DCC should aim to have the resource hub in place by the time the Local Area Agreement was signed in June.

7) **Safer Devon Partnership**

A paper about the future resourcing of the Safer Devon Partnership was presented. Recommendation 1 was agreed. Re recommendations 2&3, it was agreed that a meeting would be set up between the Police and Devon County Council to take this forward.

8) **Future agenda planning** The meeting received a paper about future agenda planning. It was agreed:

- a) To reconsider the frequency of meetings after June
- b) To become more outcome focussed if possible
- c) To work more from a 'business cycle' related to the monitoring of the Local Area Agreement
- d) To remember that the Devon Strategic Partnership and the Delivery Board is about more than just the LAA and must be bigger than that.

9) **DONM:**

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Thursday 3 April	2.00 – 4.00	Committee Room, Riverbank House Bideford (Torridge District Council).
Thursday 1 May	2.00 – 4.00	Council Chamber Forde House, Newton abbot, (Teignbridge District Council)
Thursday 5 June	2.00 – 4.00	Mayoralty Room, Town Hall Tiverton, (Mid Devon District Council).
Thursday 3 July	2.00 – 4.00??	Exeter City Council (BUT DATE MAY NEED TO CHANGED AS CLASHES WITH LGA CONFERENCE)
Thursday 7 August Council	2.00 – 4.00	Fortescue Room, County Hall, Devon County
Thursday 4 September	2.00 – 4.00	
Thursday 2 October	2.00 – 4.00	
Wednesday 5 November	2.00 – 4.00	