

Devon Futures Decision and Action Log

Date: 7 October 2008

Present: **Edward Chorlton** Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director, Environment, Economy and Culture Directorate, Devon County Council, **Teresa Butchers**, Chief Executive, Devon and Cornwall Housing Group, **Vaughan Lindsay**, Chief Executive Dartington Hall; **Caroline Rae**, Development Officer, Devon Strategic Partnership; **Ian Hobbs**, County Community Strategy Officer - North Devon & Torridge; **Paul Sadler**, Environment Agency; **Paul Gompertz**, Director Devon Wildlife Trust and Chair Environment Devon; **Pip Tucker**, Head of Strategic Intelligence, Devon County Council; **Jay Talbot**, Chief Executive, Community Council for Devon and member of the Devon Consortium, **Nicola Channon**, Facilitator for the Group and Business Projects Officer, Devon County Council

Apologies: **Tim Jones** Chair of Devon Economic Partnership and Devon & Cornwall Business Council; **Mike Davy**, Director of Customer Services, edf energy; **Rob Varley**, Government Services Director, Met Office

Decision or Action or Message	Who will Action?	When?
All those attending introduced themselves and provided a summary of what they were seeking from the group and the meeting.		
<p>Pip Tucker made a presentation on the projections for the way that Devon will look in 2038. (A version of the presentation is attached).</p> <p>Pip talked about planning for the future with possible outcomes, probably outcomes or preferred outcomes. After his presentation the discussion suggested that the aim for this Group could be to consider the preferred options and aim to develop an apolitical preferred future to inform the DSP. It was agreed that to have an explicit preferred future would help clarify thinking across all the groups.</p> <p>The five key elements that appeared to have come out of his presentation were: energy, climate change, ageing population, wealth (linked to the ageing population and pensions); and migration. Some of these elements are more capable of responding to action than others so that the ageing population is already established and there is little that can be done to alter the ageing population profile now.</p> <p>As part of the discussions it was noted that input from younger people would be helpful.</p>		
Vaughan Lindsay made a presentation on the work that Dartington had been doing to establish the Trust's priorities for the future. He described how teams from across the Trust had been involved in establishing the work that would be the focus for future initiatives.		

<p>Vaughan spoke about how they defined 'knowns' and 'unknowns' and suggested that a response should be considered for the knowns, but that for the unknowns 'fortune favours the prepared mind' and that people should be encouraged to keep their minds open to possible ways forward.</p>		
<p>Peter Kingsley who, as a consultant, worked with Dartington to prepare the plans for the future, provided an overview of what had been done by his company working with a number of major companies in the UK to make preparations for what may occur in the future. In particular he highlighted the need for any organisation to build resilience and to manage risk and this should be something that the DSP could be addressing so that decisions made in the short term do not have negative implications for plans that might be needed for the longer term future.</p> <p>Peter also reminded the Group that planning for Devon in 30 years' time should be about planning for the period over the next 30 years so that everyone was engaged.</p>		
<p>Conclusions</p> <p>The Group then had a discussion about the way forward. It was noted that whilst much of interest was available to the Group, it will be important to find a way of using the information to inform the work of the DSP. It will also be important to answer the 'so what' question when gathering and hearing information.</p> <p>The preferred future should be based on the feedback that the DSP has already collected from Devon to create the Sustainable Community Strategy priorities. However, it was recognised that the priorities identified in such a way may not provide the framework for the future.</p> <p>The aim of the Group should be to develop a common purpose and a common picture which will help to prepare a common picture and this will translate into action to which everyone subscribes.</p>		
<p>Next steps</p> <p>It was agreed that the Group was about the right size and that no further members should be sought.</p> <p>It was also agreed that further presentations should be sought from members at a number of half day meetings in the early part of the year with a one day event in June with no further input when there would be discussions about the proposals for what might feed into the DSP.</p> <p>NC will ask other members if they would wish to make a presentation to the group and will arrange suitable dates for meetings. VL offered the facilities at Dartington for these meetings and thanks were expressed to him for this kind offer.</p>	<p>NC</p>	<p>End Oct</p>