

Devon Futures Decision and Action Log

Date: 13 May 2008

Present: Edward Chorlton, Teresa Butchers, Caroline Rae, Tim Jones, Sue Smith, Ian Hobbs, Paul Sadler, Rob Varley, Nicola Channon

Apologies: Vaughan Lindsay, Mike Davey, Jay Talbot, Sue Craythorne, Paul Gompertz

No.	Decision or Action or Message	Who will Action?	Who will Communicate?	When?
1	<p><u>Action log from meeting on 19 November 2007</u> The action log was noted. The inclusion of Matt Carter and Phil Collins in the membership was agreed.</p>	NC		
2	<p><u>Update on activities since the last meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of the work of the group since its inception was given. It was reported that the recommendations that had been made to the Delivery Board had been well received, in particular the proposal that DSP partners should find ways of sharing premises to the benefit of staff travelling throughout the County. • The Devon Strategic Partnership has been focused on developing the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement. The SCS will be published shortly. • It was agreed that the Devon Brand should be adopted if at all possible for the publication of the SCS and CR will endeavour to have this included. • The LAA will be linked to the SCS targets. • The cross cutting themes in the LAA must be capable of being reflected in the actions. • All 'duty to cooperate' partners are being asked which actions they are going to support. • The Partnership Board considers that the Futures Group fulfils an important function and now that both the SCS and LAA have been finalised, it will be important to look further ahead than the lifespan of the LAA which is just 3 years. The aim should be to identify how we can help Devon's people to do better. 	CR		
3	<p><u>Future role and composition of the group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that the current length of time given to meetings was insufficient to allow for a useful discussion and that more occasional day or half-day meetings would be more productive. It was also agreed that meetings away 			

from the Council's offices in a more open environment might also help discussions.

- An initial meeting would take the form of an introduction to the state of Devon as it is by the Council's Strategic Intelligence Officer, Pip Tucker, who would also project current trends into the future. This would provide a basis for further discussions.
- The idea of inviting external speakers to stimulate debate was also agreed, with a possible speaker being Bill Sharpe from the dti's Foresight Programme which suggests some challenging implications of current trends for 20/30 years time.
- The Council also offered the possibility of an analysis of economy amongst the FTSE 100 companies to see the trends for the economy and the investment.
- Anything coming out of the discussions would feed into a future DSP conference as a starting point for further debate.
- EC circulated the CSS publication 'Travel is Good' as another resource to generate discussion about the likely future context for the country and the County.
- The aim will be to identify 'what will a Devon citizen be like in 30 years time?'

Methods to generate discussion:

- Using the experience of those on the group will be the most important aspect of the group and we need to harness the experience to the benefit of the Group.
- If the group starts to develop some ideas, radio stations could be used to continue the discussion with the wider public by suggesting some scenarios and work through the responses.
- It was agreed that the group would not have a chair but rather a facilitator to make the meetings take place and do the organising, rather than leading the debate.

Dates and venues for meetings

- It was agreed that the next meetings should take place in the autumn with external speakers invited.
- The venue should be one that encourages 'blue sky thinking' and debate and discussion around the challenges for Devon. Dartington was suggested as a possible venue.