

Paper on The Future of the LSP

1. Background

- 1.1 At the last Board meeting the LSP discussed the role that the LSP could play in moving forward given it is unlikely that it will be required to prepare a Sustainable Community Strategy again, LPSA funding is coming to an end and the emergence of new local partnerships, such as the Local Health Partnership.
- 1.2 The LSP agreed to look again at the emerging local partnerships when it next met to assess if they sufficiently covered a breadth of local issues and if they involved a similar range of partners to the LSP, to assess if they can adequately take the place of the LSP in the future.

2. Other Partnerships

- 2.1 It is clear that there are a number of opportunities for current LSP members to directly influence the agenda of the new partnerships, with no obvious way for the LSP to add extra value to these arrangements directly. (See Appendix. 1 for current jigsaw and an overview of partnerships)

3. Opportunities to be Heard

- 3.1 One of the concerns that had been expressed by Board members in previous discussions on this issue was that any decision to abandon the LSP could reduce opportunities for the voice of representatives from the voluntary and community sector (VCS) to be heard by public sector agencies and other sector representatives that make up the LSP. This forum for liason is seen to be important because it is felt that the voice of the VCS has weakened in recent times with the rationalisation of some partnerships focused on the VCS, previously set up to support Cambridgeshire Together and the LAA.

4. The LSP Going Forward

- 4.1 Following the last Board meeting further discussions have taken place involving Tim Cracknell (GET Group), Jez Reeve (CCVS) and Priscilla Barlow (Faith Groups) as to how we can best maintain and enhance the voice of the VCS and liaison in the new partnership world and whether the LSP is the best means of doing it.
- 4.2 In these discussions the group concluded that:
 - The LSP in its current form was not necessarily the best way forward as it was likely to duplicate discussions being held in other partnership meetings and not add additional value.

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- It would be preferable to have a more focused meeting bringing public agencies and voluntary and community sector reps together.
 - This could include improving the contact between VCS and the public agencies and an annual review of the “health” of the VCS. The aim of the annual review would be to look at what had changed in the last 12 months, show the present state of the community and voluntary sector, and highlight strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for further joint working. This would allow dialogue between the sector and public agencies. It would provide an opportunity for all to share learning from the previous year and to discuss future plans and challenges. It would also provide public agencies with more detailed information about the community and voluntary sector to inform their future strategies and resource allocation.
- 4.3 The Group would like to propose this as a sensible way forward in the new environment. The views of the LSP are requested.

The Partnership Jigsaw



Overview of Partnerships

Local Health Partnerships

Cambridgeshire's Shadow Board agreed its terms of reference and four priority areas for early action when it met on 14 December 2012. The target date for the Shadow Board to become a statutory body is April 2013. It will then take over responsibility for public health and the commissioning of NHS services in Cambridgeshire from NHS Cambridgeshire.

The Shadow Board has a small membership of 9, with one member representing all the district councils. It sees itself as being at the heart of a wider network, which includes Local Health Partnerships covering each of the district local authority areas.

The Cambridge Local Health Partnership has yet to meet formally and South Cambridgeshire Local Health Partnership has met once. Both are developing terms of reference and will be looking to include voluntary and community sector representatives in their work, which is expected to involve helping to shape the county-wide Health and Well-being Strategy, influencing the content of Local Commissioning Plans and delivering a small number of local projects, through Task and Finish groups, to respond to pressing problems.

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Local Community Safety Partnerships

The Local Community Safety Partnerships for each area have been established for over ten years. Voluntary and community sector agencies are involved in the Partnership. Their work includes the preparation of Strategic Assessments, the delivery of their Community Safety Plans and Annual Reviews of progress in reducing levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in the district areas.

Local Children and Young People's Area Board

Cambridgeshire Children's Trust is a partnership between organisations with a role in improving outcomes for children and young people in the area. The Trust Board gives strategic direction and commissions county-wide activity. Area Partnerships inform the decisions of the Trust Board about the priorities in their area and commission local activity.

Area Partnerships have now prepared local commissioning plans, (from 2011 to 2014) and started to oversee their delivery. Priorities for the Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Area Partnership include support for vulnerable children (5 to 13 years of age); children in Traveller and migrant families; and, children with mental health issues. Voluntary and Community Sector organisations play a key part in the Area partnership.

Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)

The LEP is based on the economic areas of Cambridge and Peterborough, alongside neighbouring market towns and communities. Its Board is made up of a Chair from the business community and 13 members, including one voluntary sector/ social enterprise representative. The LEP has secured some funding and is putting in place a delivery structure, which may include local partnerships with a locality focus to help inform its plans.

Growth and New Neighbourhoods

The local authorities share a Development Control Committee to look at proposals around Cambridge's fringe. There are lots of opportunities to get involved in preparations for the new communities including the Southern Fringe Community Forum, which is now meeting regularly.

Local Learning Partnership

Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Informal Adult Learning Partnership continues to meet and allows opportunities for a range of providers across sectors to discuss the delivery of learning with commissioners and other agencies. The Voluntary and Community Sector are engaged with this partnership.