

**Minutes and Actions arising from
Sandwell Partnership Stakeholder's Board – 9th July 2009**

PRESENT:

Graham Bould	Groundwork B/C
Keith Stanley	Chamber of Commerce
Louise Barnett	SMBC
Peter Griffin	Sandwell Traders
Gary Bowman	Sandwell Partnership
A Shackleton	SMBC
J Sutton	SMBC
S Spence	BCHA
G Fisher	Greets Green Partnership
Naeem Arif	Ideal for All
Iris Boucher	Multi Faith Network
Joy Massey	SMBC
Val Bailey	Sandwell College
Dot Gospel	Resident
Tim Gardiner	WMFS
Ian Oakes	Wolverhampton University
Colin Wilkes	Multistory
Colin Wells	Multistory
Simon Smith	GOWM
David Johnson	WMFS
Shan Williams	SMBC
Frank Betteridge	SCCT
Tina Corfield	Black Country Consortium
Stewart Towe	Hadley Group
Catherine Marshall	Lighthouse SCVO
Patricia Bradbury	West Midlands Probation
Peter Shirley	Environment Partnership
Chris Martin	WMFS
Gary Egginton	Jobcentre Plus
John Garrett	SMBC
Steve Dugmore	WMP
Rob Bacon	Sandwell PCT
Chris Handy	Accord Housing
Ian Cotterill	Sandwell Partnership
Allison Fraser	SMBC
Helen Stevens + 1	Ideal for All

Apologies for absence:

Cllr Pauline Hinton, Serge Paul, Roger Crouch, Karen Walker, Brian Oakley, Steve Tilsley, Cllr William Thomas, Frank Mills, Ally Allerson, Carol Allen, Cllr Cooper, Cllr Badham, Cllr Linda Horton, Paul Bradley, Kevin Griffiths. Richard Nugent

Item 1		The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies for absence.	T Aston to register
Item 2	1.	The actions agreed at the last meeting held on 11 th December 2008 had been completed	noted
Item 2	2	The Stakeholders Board were updated on the current actions being pursued by the Executive Board by the action log as at 25 th June 2009.	noted
Item 2	3.	The Stakeholders Board noted a strategic risk register was now in place and being monitored on their behalf by the Executive Board and Performance Group. The Stakeholder Board requested a risk assessment in relation to the voluntary sector, young people and economic downturn.	G Bowman J Massey
Item 2	4.	The Stakeholders Board received a summary of the Business Plan 2008-2011 of the Sandwell Partnership and its six thematic partnerships. The Stakeholders Board advised that much more achievements could be reported in section 4 of the document	G Bowman
Item 2	5.	The Stakeholders Board confirmed a number of changes to the governance arrangements as outlined in the papers circulated in advance. Updated governance protocols are on the Sandwell Partnership website.	G Bowman A Fyfe
Item 2	6	The Stakeholders Board welcomed a verbal report on the progress of Black Country Housing Group and Accord Group regarding their work on leading regeneration in Tipton and Wednesbury.	Noted
Item 2	7.	A report on the response of the Partnership (led by Sandwell Council) to the economic downturn was shared. A group chaired by John Sutton is driving the actions in the Plan	Noted
Item 2	8.	<p>The Chair invited Catherine Marshall, Chair of SCVO to highlight recent impact of the economic downturn on some of the voluntary sector, especially decisions made regarding the use of Working Neighbourhoods Fund for 2009/11.</p> <p>Catherine reported that 80/90 jobs in the voluntary sector are at immediate risk due to proposed reductions in grant and associated delays in funds being made available.</p> <p>Catherine advised that services will be reduced as a result, affecting some of the most vulnerable in Sandwell, unless the current efforts of partners in response to the situation brought about a solution to the loss of funding. Catherine highlighted also that the Sandwell Plan and Business Plans give no prominence to the substantial contribution of the voluntary sector. Graham Bould, Nayeem Arif and Frank Betteridge all confirmed that Catherine's story was consistent with their experience as voluntary organisations in Sandwell</p> <p>Cllr Ann Shackleton reported that talks were ongoing to try to resolve the situation at Lighthouse Project.</p> <p>Rob Bacon advised of the reduced funds available in the PCT and the need to learn how to manage having less money through mature dialogue between partners so that</p>	<p>Report to Executive Board on progress in resolving the Funding crisis arising from changes to WNF allocations</p> <p>G Bowman</p>

		the impact of reduced spending on vulnerable communities would be minimised	
Item 2	9.	The Chair invited Geoff Fisher of Greets Green Partnership to report on the acquisition of assets by the successor body, Greets Green Community Enterprise. Geoff reported that £5 million was set aside to purchase assets and that Wood Lane Centre, Belper Industrial Park, Great Bridge Industrial Centre had already been acquired. However, acquisition of Kenilworth Court was subject to lengthy delays in appraisal by Government. Geoff requested support from the Stakeholders Board in speeding up the decision making process, as an alternative scheme would need to be identified, worked up and completed by March 2010 if the Kenilworth Court scheme is not progressed. Simon Smith (GOWM) advised that the Government Minister is likely to decide against approval of the scheme and offered to work with Greets Green Partnership to help secure an alternative scheme in the timescale	Geoff Fisher Simon Smith Kevin Griffiths To update Executive Board
Item 3	1	The Stakeholders Board received a report on the performance of the Partnership in delivering the Local Area Agreement. Key points included 58% of targets (42) are being achieved or within tolerance of being achieved, 22% missing target (16), 15% not yet due for reporting, 5% have data but no agreed target.	Noted
Item 3	2.	The Stakeholders Board noted the agreement of a set of 'refreshed' targets following the annual review of the LAA with Government via GOWM.	Noted
Item 3	3.	The Stakeholder's Board noted the arrangements for Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) introduced by Government from April 2009, which assesses the performance of Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP) in improving local areas and quality of life in that area. Sandwell Partnership is the LSP responsible for Sandwell. The CAA will be facilitated by the Executive Board and reports made available to the Stakeholders Board. Five key areas for improvement have been highlighted in our area self assessment; Address health inequalities, improve pupil attainment, satisfy Every child matters agenda including safeguarding children, manage the economic downturn and address skills improvement and worklessness, improve perceptions and reputation particularly cleanliness, fear of crime.	T Aston to circulate CAA reports once received to Stakeholders Board
Item 3	4	In view of some of the issues highlighted in the Place Survey and the priorities informing the comprehensive area assessment, the Chair pointed to the need for partners to take a lead and be an example in maintaining the reputation of the borough as clean and tidy. Partners agreed that we needed a sustained effort/campaign that would lead to improvements in responsiveness and promptness from individual services, and spread a greater sense of ownership and responsibility for the place.	J Garrett G Bowman to incorporate these ideas in PRIDE campaign proposals to be reported to Exec Board in Nov 09
Item 4	1	Louise Barnett gave a presentation providing information on the Sandwell area assessment to inform CAA, Place	Exercise results

		Survey, IDEA peer review, state of Sandwell report and other needs and performance assessment data regarding Sandwell. The Stakeholders Board members worked in groups towards the identification of priorities which were then shared with the whole Board. See attached feedback. The Board agreed that a single shared set of priorities between partners was vital for Sandwell, and committed to co-operate towards achieving it.	(listed below) to inform future work to confirm shared set of priorities
Item 4	2	Suggestions for Sandwell's Unique selling point (USP) or specific regeneration objectives were sought from the groups. The attached feedback summarises the suggestions made. Suggestions will inform further discussions and influence decisions to be made in Autumn 2009.	Decisions to be communicated to Board.
Item 5	1	Ian Cotterill briefed the board regarding various news and information	
Item 5	2	It was reported that the theme of the 2009 Annual state of Sandwell Conference will be about PRIDE, Pride in Sandwell, Pride in ourselves.	Noted
Item 6		There were no items of other business	
Item 7		The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 7 January 2010, 9.30 to 12.00 at the Hawthorns.	

**Sandwell Partnership Stakeholder Board
Summary Feedback
Workshop: towards a single set of shared priorities**

Group 1

1. **Crime** – it is important that we don't just focus on young people in this area. The community policing role is key to changing people perceptions.
2. **Things for people to do** for example: baths/youth clubs. This required depend on where people live. What is the Youth Service's role in this? It is important that we consider people with disabilities in all of these areas.
3. **Long term health issues** particularly around the aging population. This links into the provision of health and housing.

The fundamental issue is to link in with the '**Community**'.

Other notes:

- The six towns of Sandwell are very different and need to be treated differently

- Some positives around Sandwell are the care, camaraderie and community spirit that we need to build upon
- The overall strategy should include environment, housing and anti social behaviour.
- Town Charters will link into this.
- It is important to consider the impact on grass-roots when priorities are being pulled together

Group 2

- 1. Improve people's well being**
- 2. Create a high quality environment to live, work, invest**
- 3. Raise aspirations (plus prospects)**
- 4. Communication: Good news, Involvement, Smart objectives.**

Other Notes

1 Young People
Improve prospects for young people

2 Improve people's Wellbeing

Well being - Wealth and health
Create the wealth – health will follow

Improve people's well being

- Skills
- Health
- Income
- Environment
- Raise aspirations

3 Jobs
Create a high quality environment for people to live, work and invest.

Group 3

- 1 Every Child Matters
Child poverty education
- 2 Safer, cleaner, active
Neighbourhood, safe, environment
Issues of pride, culture, we don't "own" our neighbourhood
- 3 Go for enablers to health
Who are 'WE' // Need to begin to be WE inclusive and all consulted
- 4 Economy, skills, jobs.
*Focus on jobs/training For young people colleges, apprenticeships – job preparation

*Attract investment

2 Sandwell's unique selling point

The people

Community spirit

Sandwell people strike me as artistic and musical in a broad sense

Sandwell is a friendly place

We are: "rich – diverse communities, historic heritage, current manufacturing, we work together"

Innovative, responsive, visionary

The location

M5, M6 AND M42 MOTORWAYS

ITS ACCESSIBILITY TO A RANGE OF AREAS

LOCATION – NATIONAL ROAD & RAIL NETWORK

The place

CENTRE OF MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE - (METAL BASED)

6 TOWNS, INDEPENDENT, DIVERSE, OWN IDENTITIES - (BUT TOGETHERNESS)

U.S.P - THE CANALS

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT OF WORLD HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE – CANALS & BUILDINGS

HISTORY OF ENTREPRENEURS PART OF BC GROWTH POINT – HOUSING WEST BROMWICH – KEY REGIONAL

STRATEGIC CENTRE WITH PLANS FOR MAJOR OFFICE & RETAIL INVESTMENT

MAJOR HIGH QUALITY EMPLOYMENT LAND / LOGISTICS LOCATION – LAND USE / ADJACENT TO 2ND CITY INVESTMENT