

- 2.00pm**
- 1. Apologies**
 - 2. Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting of the Steering Group held on 16 April 2013
 - 3. Matters Arising**
- 2.05pm**
- 4. Partnership Boards – updates
Partner Updates – Current Issues**
- 2.15pm**
- 5. Future GSP meetings** *(Pages 11 – 14)*
Sheila Johnston, Gateshead Council
- 3.00pm**
- 6. Vision 2030 - 2013 refresh** *(Page 15)*
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Sheila Johnston, Gateshead Council
- 3:05pm Pathways
- Will these pathways deliver the Big Idea outcomes
- 3:20pm A collage of success
- What we have achieved over the last 6 years
- 3:30pm Consultation
- Discuss programme and involvement
- 4.00pm**
- Close**

Date and Time of the Next Meeting: To be confirmed following agenda item 5



Gateshead Strategic Partnership Steering Group

16 April 2013

Minutes

Present:

Cllr Mick Henry	Gateshead Council
Neil Adamson	Northumbria Police
Joan Moon	Gateshead Community Network
Mark Shilcock	Gateshead Community Network
Valerie Ender	Gateshead Youth Council
Ian Atkinson	Gateshead Involvement Forum
Bahal Singh Dhindsa	Diversity Forum
Gev Pringle	GVOC
Carole Wood	Health and Wellbeing Board
Jane Mulholland	Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group
Sandra Brydon	DWP / Jobcentre Plus
Cllr Martin Gannon	Gateshead Council
Mark Gerrard	Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue Service
Suzie Robson	Economy Environment & Culture Board
Margaret Whellans	Children's Trust Board

In Attendance:

Sheila Johnston	Gateshead Council
Lindsay Murray	Gateshead Council
Chris Ord	Gateshead Council
Charlotte Wainwright	Gateshead Council
Gayle Groombridge	Gateshead Council
Rosalyn White	Gateshead Council

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Richard Thorold, Jane Robinson, Martyn Strike, Esther Ward, Mark Dornan, Mark Adams, Ian Renwick, Hugh Kelly and Atma Gill.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2012 were agreed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

The Housing Strategy was approved by Cabinet today, this may be reported to a future meeting or be circulated electronically.

4. PARTNER UPDATES

- **Northumbria Police**

The end of year crime figures show a crime reduction in Gateshead of 10%, with the total number of crimes at 8,300 this is the lowest it has ever been. The only crimes that there has been an increase in is theft of motor vehicles and burglary. Anti social behaviour incidents are down 12%.

Since 2002/03 there has been a 65% reduction in crime. Northumbria Police has been grouped with 14 other similar forces and in terms of resident confidence and satisfaction Northumbria force is performing at the top of that group. The challenge for the future is to keep levels and reduce further.

- **Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB)**

The Ofsted inspection outcome was reported to Cabinet today, with overall performance rated as good in terms of safeguarding. The report is available to view online.

The LSCB has appointed two lay members to the Board, it was noted that this will provide an opportunity for the community to be represented on the Board. It was confirmed that the lay members responded to an open advert and have a background in the voluntary and community sector.

- **GVOC**

GVOC has received money from NESTA to develop community libraries and support volunteers in the first year. Development work will start from 1 May 2013 and arrangements for community libraries will be in place from 1 July 2013.

- **Council**

The Peer Review of adult care was carried out in November 2012, the feedback was positive and showed examples of good practice.

5. **VOLUNTEER FRAMEWORK**

The Group received a report and presentation on the Gateshead Council Volunteer Plan which is aimed at providing a more structured approach to supporting volunteering. The context of the plan is focused around sustainable economic growth and in particular the ambitions contained in Vision 2030 and the Council Plan 2012-2017. The Council Plan focuses on four integrated areas; economic growth, managing demand, volunteering and efficiency, therefore this demonstrates that volunteering is at the heart of delivering the Council Plan. This is also rooted in Vision 2030 with the ambition to make Gateshead the volunteering capital by 2030.

Current volunteering activity has increase over the last two years; formal volunteering has increased to 18% and informal volunteering increased to 34%. Formal and informal volunteering was mapped through the Residents Survey 2012 and shows the volume of volunteers in each area. This shows that volunteering is variable across the Borough and also allows work to be targeted where it is needed.

Examples of current volunteering were identified including; Flood Wardens following recent major incidents, Friends of Chase Park are currently bidding for Heritage

Lottery Funding, the Jobshop in Swalwell and the Café within Wrekenton Methodist Church are ran by volunteers.

Following consultation on the Volunteers Plan it was clear that strong partnership working needs to continue. The aims of the Volunteers Plan are:-

- Enable everyone to make a recognised contribution to their community and become the volunteering capital of England.
- Deliver economic growth and wellbeing
- Volunteering activity adds value to local service provision, enabling neighbourhoods to have services that would not be otherwise provided and enhancing core public services
- Increase formal volunteering from 18% to 25% by 2017
- Increase informal volunteering from 34% to 40% by 2017

In order to achieve these aims the Council will adopt certain principles, including providing training, covering expenses and carrying out DBS checks. This requires investment and resources and therefore it was pointed out that this is very much a Council principle. Priority areas will be focused on for further development, this includes digital inclusion champions and sport, in relation to the European Athletics and Commonwealth Games.

It was noted that the consultation was very well received, thorough and supportive to the voluntary and community sector. It was also pointed out that there are sensitivities in terms of replacing services with volunteers and it was noted that it needs to be clear that this is in response to community pressure whilst enhancing core services.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Steering Group approved the Gateshead Council Volunteer Plan.
 - (ii) That the Steering Group agreed to work with the Council in support of Gateshead Council Volunteers Plan to deliver Vision 2030 Big Idea Gateshead Volunteers.
 - (iii) That Steering Group members discuss with their own organisations as to how to support the Volunteers Plan and Volunteer Month.

6. OURGATESHEAD

The Steering Group received a presentation on the OurGateshead website. The website was set up in 2010, led by Gateshead libraries in partnership with the Gateshead Community Network (GCN). Originally the site was launched with 25 groups and was used to promote themselves and was used as a news and events calendar. From November 2010 GCN took over the management of the site.

By the end of 2012 the number of groups listed on the website had risen to 747 and the number of visitors to the site trebled to just under 22,000. 2013 is on track for 50,000 visits and 180,000 page views.

Over the last year changes have been made to improve the design and layout and also improved search facilities allows visitors to search by area, activity or demographic.

The aim for 2013 is to increase the number of groups to 1,000 as well as working with Neighbourhood Management teams to find ways to map groups. It is also hoped that by the end of June 2013 the site will be mobile friendly and have social media integration.

It was pointed out that organisations can add links to their own sites and the website is able to respond quickly, for example during the floods the site was updated to add a support page.

It was questioned what was being done to help those groups and individuals with no access to the internet. It was confirmed that Mark Shilcock is a member of the Digital Inclusion Board, working to increase accessibility and inclusion, in addition printed reports are made available in libraries. It was also noted that on average 80% of residents have access to the internet, however for over 65's this rate drops to 45%.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Steering Group noted the contents of the report.
 - (ii) That members of the Steering Group would promote the OurGateshead.org site within their organisations.

7. RESIDENT SURVEY

The Committee received a presentation around the information collected from last years Residents' Survey. Gateshead Council joined forces with six other local authorities in the North East to commission the survey, this was good value for money and allowed information to be shared.

13,500 questionnaires were sent out and just over 4,000 responses were received, this is a 31% response rate and represented 5% of all Gateshead households.

People were asked their views on the recession, 76% felt that the local economy was struggling and 60% have been affected by the economic downturn by not being able to go on holiday, job insecurity and difficulty paying fuel and energy bills. It was found that the most likely to be affected are young people, those in poor health, those with children in the household, carers and those from an ethnic minority background. 34% of respondents were pessimistic that the economic situation would get worse.

Residents were asked whether the economic climate had affected their local area and two thirds had noticed a reduction of services. The areas of improvement most needed were identified as road and pavement repairs, street cleansing, job prospects and the level of anti-social behaviour. These areas have changed since the 2008 survey when facilities for teenagers and traffic congestion were the main areas that residents' felt should be improved.

It was confirmed that, since the 2008 survey, perceived safety has improved with an increase in people who feel safe during the day and at night. Females and residents from BME groups are more likely to say they felt unsafe however there are no significant differences across the age bands. In addition, those in the Central or East areas are more likely to feel unsafe. Most anti-social behaviour problems are decreasing, with the exception of rubbish and litter. It was noted that older residents are less likely to see anti-social behaviour as a problem with 25-44 year olds the most likely to see this problem.

In terms of volunteering, home owners and carers are more likely to formally volunteer, whilst those with children are more likely to do so informally. Also, residents in the West are more likely to do some form of volunteering.

Questions were asked in relation to health and wellbeing, it was confirmed that those residents' out of work are more likely to experience difficulties in terms of mental health. 20% of Gateshead residents needs help or support with daily living or have a family member with such needs.

Through the Residents' Survey a number of areas have been identified which require further work:-

- Older people and isolation
- Identifying opportunities to develop social capital
- Community facilities and support review
- Serving and former armed forces
- Digital inclusion
- Customer contact
- Awareness and access to preventative health services

The point was raised that more work needs to be done to combine health care with helping residents to move into work. It was also suggested that more should be done to support police in dealing with mental health issues, as they are usually first responders and are experiencing a huge demand in relation to this issue.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

8. APPRENTICESHIP UPDATE

An update report was presented to the Group on the progress of the Gateshead Apprenticeship Plan, which was approved by the Steering Group in January 2011. The aim of the plan is to increase the number of apprenticeships available in Gateshead and increase the number of Gateshead residents accessing apprenticeships.

It was noted that there are difficulties in terms of getting employer's to support apprenticeships in the current economic situation. Therefore, there is a need to rate priorities and review progress in order to refocus work. It was recognised that there has been success in the development of the Gateshead Single Offer which has aimed to clarify the message to employers by using the Gateshead Council brand to promote apprenticeships. A telemarketing campaign has been underway to target employers, this has resulted in 150 appointments being set up and so far 30 employers have signed up with 67 places generated. In addition, there are a further 22 employers considering sign up which could result in over 40 more places.

It was confirmed that numbers of apprentices has increased, however this tends to be in the adult market and it was noted that this is usually not about up-skilling but rather creating a qualification. Therefore support is needed to move to increasing take up of 16-24 year olds. Work is ongoing in schools to promote apprenticeships and there is currently excess learner demand but not enough placements.

The Group was asked to receive a further report in the future which will outline refreshed priorities.

It was pointed out that the North East LEP has developed an apprenticeship hub and is keen on Gateshead's model and it is hoped that information can be shared with other local authorities.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Steering Group noted the progress against the delivery of the Gateshead Apprenticeship Plan 2011-14.
 - (ii) That the Steering Group endorsed the Gateshead Apprenticeship Partnership to revisit and review the objectives identified in the Apprenticeship Plan for Gateshead 2011-14.
 - (iii) That the Steering Group agreed to receive and review an updated version of the Apprenticeship Plan and revised objectives.

9. VISION 2030 – BIG IDEA UPDATES AND 2013 REFRESH

The Group received a presentation outlining the progress and proposed changes in the Vision 2030, 2013 refresh. Over the last three years 40 milestones have been completed, overall this is 104 out of 172.

The six Big Ideas were discussed and proposed amendments highlighted:-

City of Gateshead

Progress has been made in central Gateshead with the imminent opening of Trinity Square in addition to improved local centres in Blaydon, Birtley and Felling. A new health centre has also recently opened in Gateshead town centre and a cinema and student accommodation will be opening in September 2014. The Rural Economic Strategy has been launched and this saw the Garden Shed secure funding and open, in addition the Rural Growth Network received funding from DEFRA. In terms of crime, there has been a 10% reduction in crime rates, with levels halved since 2002/03. The Gateshead Regeneration Partnership is waiting for the first three applications to be validated to start construction on new affordable housing.

Areas of challenge were highlighted where milestones may not be reached, this includes transport milestones in relation to affordability of transport and transforming West Street into a quality pedestrian space.

The number of priorities are proposed to be reduced to five, with the bid for City Status removed as an immediate priority. A priority has been proposed around increasing the number of students however it was challenged whether this should be amended to focus on 'retaining' students. In relation to the milestone proposals, City Status achieved by 2030 could be added whilst it is felt that 'competition for best community festival' should be deleted.

Global Gateshead

The Steering Group received this update in November 2012 so it was not felt necessary to discuss further.

Creative Gateshead

In terms of progress it was noted that good progress has been made around the Apprenticeship Offer as presented earlier in the agenda. A memorandum of understanding has been signed with Northumbria University and so far 20 graduates have started businesses in Gateshead which has created 51 jobs. Creative businesses in Gateshead have increased by 38% which is the highest change in the region. Northern Film and Media has moved premises to the Quayside and is being supported through NGI, in addition management of the Old Town Hall has been transferred to the Sage, it is hoped that this will broaden participation programmes.

It is proposed that three milestones; 35% increase of visitors at heritage and cultural sites, sustain the Aimhigher Programme post 2011 in all secondary schools and Aimhigher extended to all schools, be deleted. It was noted that this is due to the increase in visitors not being able to be measured and the Aimhigher funding has now ended.

Sustainable Gateshead

In terms of progress, the Rural Growth Network has received £3.2m to support the development of seven new enterprise hubs, the Council's carbon emissions continue to reduce, in 2012 there was a reduction of 2.5%. Sustainable transport funding has been received and £64m has been awarded to relieve congestion on the A1. In addition, a Local Nature Partnership has been established.

The priorities for this Big Idea remain the same, however new milestones are proposed;

- The Council continues to reduce its own carbon emissions, aiming for 35% reduction by 2016
- All houses in Gateshead are in the highest energy efficiency band by 2030
- Delivery of sufficient housing capable of meeting the needs of our residents by 2030
- Milestones relating to flood prevention – details still being confirmed.

It was also proposed that certain milestones be deleted; carbon neutrality on all buildings is not achievable, reducing benefit rates has been overtaken by welfare reform and SustainableGateshead status in schools no longer exists.

Active and Healthy Gateshead

It was acknowledged that the changes proposed in this Big Idea are to align with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy that has been extensively consulted on with partners. In relation to milestones it was proposed that a new milestone be added

to show the impact of healthy schools programme. Also, amendments are proposed to extend deadlines and align to Public Health Outcome frameworks.

Gateshead Volunteers

It was confirmed that no revisions are proposed to these priorities however four milestones are proposed to be amended to become more specific.

The Steering Group was asked to feed into the pathway which will be published annually and receive a further report.

It was suggested that there was not enough time to fully discuss this item in the meeting and therefore it was requested that this be deferred until the next meeting.

RESOLVED - That the item be deferred until May's meeting.

10. FUTURE GSP MEETINGS

RESOLVED - That the item be deferred until May's meeting.

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place at 2.00pm on Tuesday 21 May 2013, in the Whickham Room, Gateshead Civic Centre.



Gateshead Strategic Partnership Steering Group

Tuesday 21 May 2013

Future GSP Steering Group meetings

Purpose of the report

1. To discuss and agree the future of GSP Steering Group meetings.

Background

2. At the last meeting a report ([Future GSP Steering Group meetings report](#)) was deferred which set out proposals for future GSP Steering Group meetings to ensure that it meets its terms of reference and fulfils its role (agreed 18 October 2011).
3. Discussions have taken place with seven of the partners to help inform the proposals further.

Findings

4. Appendix 1 gives a summary of the comments made by the partners.
5. The report was well received and it was agreed that some change is needed. It was commented that the purpose and format of the GSP Steering Group meetings need to be agreed before the membership and frequency can be discussed.

For discussion

6. What is the **purpose** of the Steering Group?
7. It was agreed in January 2012 that as a result of the GSP Review the purpose of the Steering Group is to have overall responsibility for the delivery of Vision 2030, based around the six Big Ideas.
8. What **format** should the meetings take?
9. Meetings can take a flexible format which complements the work programme. It was also suggested on a number of occasions to hold an event/summit where we celebrate what we have done – this event would be a ‘Gateshead Family’ event.
10. There was a proposal to theme the meetings according to the big ideas. However, this may prevent information or issues being dealt with in a timely manner.
11. How can more **debate and challenge** be encouraged?
12. To help encourage debate and challenge the following can be implemented:
 - Reports need to change to demonstrate the link to Vision 2030, specifically which big ideas and milestones it is helping to deliver – then the Steering Group can challenge if it is helping to deliver this

- Reports need to have specific questions for partners – then the partners know what is expected of them.
 - Performance to be reported from Partnership Boards and exception reports regarding issues/barriers. The Steering Group could call for an update on a particular issue or initiative.
13. On the whole it was agreed that the Steering Group comprised of the right people but that the meetings were too frequent.
14. There was also agreement that closer links need to be made with the Partnership Boards so that these become the cornerstones of the GSP.

Detailed findings

1. It was challenged by some as to whether a GSP was needed anymore. When the GSP was set up originally there was funding attached which was an incentive to work in partnership. The majority agreed that there still was a need for the GSP especially in this time of reduced resource and partners could see this from where they work (or have worked) in areas where the LSP has been removed.
2. It was said that partnership working in Gateshead is way ahead of other areas in the region.

Membership

3. On the whole it was agreed that the Steering Group comprised of the right people however some of the partners do not feel valued.
4. There were some concerns however about the number of representatives from some of the theme partnership boards on the Steering Group and the capacity to attend both the theme partnership boards and the Steering Group.

Frequency

5. Everyone agreed that there are currently too many meetings. The proposal to go quarterly seems too long but a proposal of 8 weeks was suggested.
6. It was noted that if the frequency of the meetings are reduced that we need to ensure that momentum is not lost and that the agenda is managed carefully. It was also reiterated that information item should just be e-mailed for information and not presented at the meetings.

Format

7. Current meetings are said to be well chaired and you feel at ease to ask questions. The section for the partnership updates is also useful and interesting.
8. However partners feel that the meetings are very 'one dimensional' and that they are very 'talked at'. It was claimed that 'everything is already done' by the time of the meeting and that the meetings should be more like an interactive workshop and less of a committee meeting.
9. Thoughts for future meetings are:
 - theme the meetings according to the big ideas
 - hold summits and have one of the theme partnership boards lead on a topic
 - include more evidence based cases and more evaluation
 - annual event in June/July to say what has happened and collectively set priorities. An annual Gateshead review/Vision 2030 refresh type exercise.

Purpose

10. It was raised on a number of occasions that the purpose of these meetings has been lost and that some partners are unsure of why they are there. The meetings need to home in on issues and generate more debate.

11. Some partners realised that the purpose of the GSP is to collectively add value, drive improvement and challenge however the agenda does not lend itself to fulfil this role.
12. It is suggested that the Steering Group needs a unique selling point.

Working with partnership boards

13. The partnership boards were highly thought of and in most cases the partners felt that they got more from and contributed to these meetings more than the steering group. There is still work taking place to refine some of these boards such as rationalising the number of sub groups and defining what success will look like.
14. It was claimed that these Boards need to be the cornerstones of the GSP and that there definitely needs a mechanism to co-ordinating these work programmes.
15. Discussions took place with all of the Partnership Board co-ordinators and they agreed that:
 - it would be useful to share lessons learnt with the other partnership boards
 - they do not use the Steering Group and unsure how to contribute to it
16. It was also raised that there should be closer links to the Area conferences.

Supporting Mechanisms

17. Discussions regarding the supporting mechanisms varied from being useful, not having the time to read them and a number of partners had not looked at the website.
18. Some questions raised were:
 - Who is the audience of the website?
 - Is it possible to have a partnership newsletter like the Council News to celebrate success and give messages?



Gateshead Strategic Partnership Steering Group

Tuesday 21 May 2013

Workshop: Vision 2030 refresh

Workshop Outline

3:05pm **Priorities and milestones**

Activity: Challenge, add milestones or highlight any milestone changes to the Big Idea pathways

Outcome: Finalised pathways for consultation

Questions:

- Are the revised pathways going to deliver the Vision 2030 outcomes?
- Are the ways partners are helping achieve Vision 2030 outlined in the pathways?
- Are all partner plans aligned and picked up in the pathways?
- Which milestones would you challenge?
- Are we still being ambitious

3:20pm **A collage of success**

Activity: **Partners are to fetch examples (or have ideas)** of pictures, newspaper articles or graphs that show our progress/success and assign them to the relevant big idea

Outcome: Update the 'what we have achieved' sections for each big idea

Questions:

- What does the success and progress of the past 6 years look like?
- How have we added value?

3:40pm **Consultation**

Activity: Discuss programme for consultation and partner involvement

Outcome: Consultation programme and potential timescales The refresh will need to be consulted on with Gateshead Residents.

Questions:

- What is the most effective way to do this?
- Are there any existing events and mechanisms we can join with?
- How can you help with the consultation on this plan?