



Gateshead Strategic Partnership Steering Group

8 September 2015

Minutes

Present:	Cllr Mick Henry Laura Young Ian Warne Vikas Kumar Trevor Atkinson Neil Davy Abigail Pogson Carol Belk Andrew Sugden Joan Moon Jane Mulholland Julia Bell Ian Atkinson	Gateshead Council Northumbria Police Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue Service Diversity Forum GVOC NEXUS Sage Gateshead Barnardos Northumbria University Gateshead Community Network Newcastle Gateshead CCG Baltic Involvement Forum
-----------------	---	--

In Attendance:

Jane Robinson	Gateshead Council
Alice Wiseman	Gateshead Council
Joy Evans	Gateshead Council
Charlotte Wainwright	Gateshead Council
Gayle Scurfield	Gateshead Council
Luke Mitchell	Gateshead Council
Rosalyn White	Gateshead Council

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Ian Renwick, Judith Doyle, Alison Dunn, Helen Matthews and Sandra Brydon.

2. MINUTES

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

It was confirmed that information on the co-location of Police and Fire and Rescue Services has been provided to councillors.

4. PARTNER UPDATES

- **Gateshead Community Network**

A meeting will be held tomorrow to discuss a way forward following the restructure of GVOC.

The Gateshead Communities Together Strategy was due to be refreshed in March 2015, however it was proposed to develop a new strategy for the whole sector instead. This is currently on hold and further information will be brought back to the Steering Group when there is an indication of how this will be taken forward.

- **Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue Service**

A bid has been made by the Fire and Rescue Service to work with the Health Service. Further information will be provided to the Steering Group in due course.

- **Northumbria Police**

There has been media coverage around the cuts to Police forces. It was noted that in the future there may be circumstances where the force will be restricted in how they respond, for example issues which could be resolved through organisational and industry changes. It was reported that the concept of neighbourhood policing is good for Northumbria Police and it is hoped that this can be retained, however there will be challenges in terms of funding and it is envisaged that the force will be hit hard for the next financial year. Further updates will be brought to the Steering Group as appropriate.

The point was made that it is important for all GSP members to share information as it is expected that there will be difficulties and the group needs to do all it can to mitigate the impact.

- **GVOC**

It was reported that it was identified that GVOC had serious financial problems going a long way back. A crisis management plan was put in place and now the organisation is going forward with reduced staff. Discussions are ongoing with partners and the Council to look at structures. It was confirmed that there would be more communication about what would be delivered going forward. The point was made that the Gateshead Family need to mitigate the risk as far as possible.

- **GemArts**

Work has been ongoing with students from Thomas Hepburn School and Joseph Swan School to develop work to raise awareness of reporting hate crimes and different ways to spread the message. The project will be launched next month.

- **CCG**

Planning is underway for the 2016/17 commissioning intentions.

The flu vaccination programme has started this week and work is ongoing with stakeholders around winter pressures, as hospital activity has not slowed down.

- **Sage Gateshead**

Sage Gateshead is entering its second decade and discussions are being held about increasing work with partners. Further information on this will be brought back to a future Steering Group meeting.

- **Banardos**

The parent programme being delivered is being very positively received especially within prisons. A service user group is being developed to shape the service.

- **Disability Equality Service User Information Forum (DESUIF)**

It was reported that 18 – 25 people are attending these meetings, however the group is looking to widen and involve more groups. Two meetings have been held around transport, specifically access barriers, and a third roundup meeting will be held next week. Also on the agenda is housing standards and adaptations.

- **Nexus**

A decision on the Quality Contracts Scheme is expected by the end of October and further information will be brought back.

Refurbishment of Felling and Gateshead Stadium stations has started.

5. ELECT VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED - That the Steering Group agreed that the Vice Chair for 2015/16 would be Trevor Atkinson.

6. VISION 2030 – REFRESH DOCUMENT

The Steering Group received a report on the refreshed Vision 2030. It was noted that in 2007 it was agreed that an ambitious vision was needed for Gateshead and, following a consultation, a long term vision was decided. The point was made that there has been a huge change to the context in which all partners are now operating and therefore it was agreed that the Vision 2030 document needed to be refreshed.

The key message of the refresh is that the long term ambition remains and the Six Big Ideas have been retained. The document is now shorter than the original and contains only key outcomes and not operational information. It was confirmed that whilst the vision remains, how to achieve it is very different to what was originally envisaged.

The Steering Group was asked to take the document back to their organisations and further discussions would be held about how it becomes a reality.

It was suggested that in 2017, the tenth anniversary, an event should be held involving local communities to endorse progress.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Steering Group approved the document as the refreshed Vision 2030.
 - (ii) That the Steering Group agreed that the Chair has the authority to approve any further changes prior to publication.
 - (iii) Once the final version is published, all partners take

Vision 2030 through their own governance arrangements for endorsement.

7. PARTNERSHIP WORKING DISCUSSION

The Steering Group received presentations and took part in discussions around key action themes. It was noted that there are challenges in all areas and it is therefore important to look at the best ways of working together.

A presentation was given on how more can be achieved by working together to deliver Vision 2030 by working with each other to empower and engage local people. An asset based approach ensures community development as it allows people and communities to come together to achieve a positive change using their own knowledge and skills. It was noted that 'assets' can be social, financial, physical, environmental or human resources. It is therefore important to agree asset based approaches to accelerate what is already going on, using a broader view to get communities to develop their views.

The point was made that there is a lot that everyone could do to be more efficient, for example capitalising on who makes contact with the community. It was acknowledged that there are a lot of examples of good collaboration over a few organisations and that this needs to be turned into practical plans.

The point was raised that when involving voluntary and community sectors there are a lot of data protection barriers, therefore there is a need to understand restrictions on some collaborative work. It was confirmed that the Fire and Rescue Service has met with the health commissioning team around data protection issues and good progress has been made. An example was provided that a midwife can identify fire risks and pass that data to the fire service, there is no disclosure of medical issues.

It was noted that any barriers to the voluntary and community sector must be addressed and use GVOC as the conduit. It was also recognised that there are more mechanisms for communication which all need to be utilised.

The group was asked to consider what the future should look like and what is needed to enable and support this. In terms of Baltic, it was acknowledged that there is a desire for the community to understand that it is their venue and there is a keenness to support education, social care and diversionary activities for young people. It was felt important to continue further discussions with community groups around this work. The point was made that in five years' time it would be hoped that more disadvantaged families would be accessing the facility without support.

It was suggested that there be a concerted effort to diversify leadership roles, to create progression routes, for example include community representatives on more decision making groups.

It was also felt important to shift the relationship between statutory organisations and individuals and to build more engagement to better support other groups to become more involved. It was noted that work needs to get underway to energise

and offer more joined up help to mobilise people and make sure those people who need targeted support get it.

It was agreed that the presentation be provided to the Gateshead Youth Assembly and look at potentially rolling it out to other groups such as the Older Peoples' Assembly.

It was reported that it is important to connect people and communities and it was suggested to look at the role of councillors to build on conversations they have with people and groups within the community. It was suggested that it would be useful to have a Gateshead newspaper and it was pointed out that the OurGateshead website should be utilised a lot more.

It was noted that the next steps will be to speak to various groups, look at what is being done elsewhere and develop a work programme outlining areas of focus. Possible themes were suggested; environment, ageing population, young people and volunteering, culture and behaviour change and communications plan.

The Steering Group was asked to consider whether it agrees with the suggested themes, where there is scope to change or strengthen the current approach and what needs to be focused on to empower communities.

It was agreed that three or four work themes would be emailed to all GSP members and then work would be carried out to look at developing an action plan with key partners and bring specific recommendations to the next meeting.

8. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place at 2.00pm on Tuesday 24 November 2015, in the Whickham Room, Gateshead Civic Centre.