

# Strategic Board Meeting

## Report to Strategic Board Meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> March

### **General**

The Group has now met on two occasions:

11 December – to set out broad agenda of the group and consider relationships with other theme groups, the JDT and Strategic Board.

22 January – to scope out the activities agreed in the first meeting and to agree initial priorities for progressing key actions.

We have also now agreed a schedule of future meeting for the group that align to other theme groups and are timed to enable update reports to JDT and the Strategic Partnership.

### **Estates and Asset Management**

The group agreed that this work should be taken forward by establishing a short life working group. Nominations have been sought and so far membership has been identified from – SBC, Fire Scotland, Borders Scotland, Waverly Housing, NHS Borders, Eildon Housing Association and a potential nominee from Police Scotland.

The principle focus of this group is to better understand and share the pattern of asset ownership and future intentions, in order that opportunities for effective disposal, sharing, maintenance, efficient use can be identified.

It is recognised that undertaking this task across the whole of the Borders in one leap would be a daunting undertaking, therefore it is proposed that a settlement by settlement approach is taken, starting with Hawick.

It is also absolutely appreciated that there are significant sensitivities and governance issues related to sharing information with respect to the potential future use of property assets. Therefore, it is proposed that the initial mapping exercise is undertaken on a confidential basis in order to inform further work within the group, which will engage with local fora at a later stager.

It is proposed that, in order to help facilitate the work of the group and provide independent support and challenge, some external support is likely to be required. Soundings are currently being taken regarding how this will be achieved.

Dates are currently being agreed for the initial meeting of this sub-group.

Proposed outcomes (subject to approval) of this workstream are:

- To develop and test an approach for sharing future plans related to the estates and asset management plans of partner organisation, initially in the Hawick area, to better co-ordinate the

use of our collective assets. The pilot process will report at the end of 2015 and will inform bi-lateral discussions on assets.

- Based on the experience of the pilot area, consider a wider role out of this approach to other localities by end 2015.

### **Procurement and Community Benefit**

The group also agreed that this strand should be taken forward through the establishment of a short life working group. Nominations for this group have so far been received from – SBC, Borders College, NHS Borders and Eildon Housing Association.

The working group is being established principally in order that procurement activity can be aligned to ensure that maximum community benefit is achieved. It is not intended that this group would seek to influence individual Community Planning Partners procurement processes in any other way. The main objective is to ensure that collective partners' efforts on securing community benefits are balanced, delivered / deliverable, sustainable and meet local needs.

Proposed outcomes (subject to approval) of this workstream are:

- Establish a common understanding of significant procurement exercises across the partner organisations over the next 3-5 years, by Summer 2015.
- To share knowledge, experience and best practice with respect to securing community benefits and ensuring that they are delivered, by Summer 2015.
- To seek to co-ordinate an agreed optimal mix of community benefits from partner investments by Autumn 2015.
- To assess the need for a standing CCP group to enable partners to keep abreast of developments and opportunities with respect to procurement collaboration, by Winter 2015.

### **Digital Services**

It was agreed that the main focus of this activity within the CPP is currently the development of the 'Looking Local App' pilot, and that this should be monitored closely before agreeing further progress with this strand. It is also acknowledged that this work cuts across the Future Services Group and also the Reducing Inequalities group. This group will follow up for digital services delivery opportunities that emerge out of the Looking Local App pilot.

Proposed outcome (subject to approval) of this workstream are:

- To identify learning from the looking local app pilot process to help inform future collective digital service delivery initiatives, by Autumn 2015.

### **Health & Social Care Integration**

We have reiterated that the Future Services Reform group should act as a reporting channel for the Integration structure to feed into the CPP. The group will keep an eye on progress with the integration process with a view to identifying any additional opportunities that the progress of this major piece of work may enable. Discussions are on-going about the precise nature of the link between these groups.

Proposed outcome (subject to approval) of this workstream are:

- To establish an appropriate reporting mechanism linking the Integration Partnership with the Community Planning Partnership by Summer 2015.
- To ensure that wider opportunities arising from the development and implementation of the Integration agenda are identified on an on-going basis.

### **Shared Services**

The group have approached this strand with caution at this stage. Information is being gathered on Shared Services initiatives elsewhere in Scotland in order to assess successes and failures elsewhere. This will help inform future activities on this strand.

On a more specific note, and following subsequent discussion with the Joint Delivery Team, we are investigating the opportunity to develop co-produced material / literature that partners can use when recruiting staff that promotes the benefits of living and working in the Borders. This objective is that we are able to attract talent to the area and that Community Planning Partners can adapt the material (top and tail it) to suit their recruitment and promotional needs.

Proposed outcome (subject to approval) of this workstream are:

- Based on identified best practice, establish the opportunities and appetite to progress shared services activity in the Scottish Borders where relevant partner agencies have signalled serious consideration of an opportunity.

**Nile Istephan**

**25 February 2015.**