

## DERWENT VALLEY PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING

A meeting of the **DERWENT VALLEY PARTNERSHIP BOARD** was held in Consett AFC, Delves Lane on Wednesday, 17 October 2018 at 6.00pm.

**PRESENT:**

**Councillors**

Joanne Carr, Derek Hicks, Watts Stelling, Owen Temple and Alex Watson (Chair).

**Partner Organisations**

Mark Clelland - Derwentside Trust, Craig Farrage - Co Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Service, Rachel Rooney - Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Gary Scott - Derwentside Business Network (DBN)

**Public Representatives**

Helen Marley, Rosemary Morris, Shelley O'Brien and Donna Summerson.

**APOLOGIES:**

Cllrs Ivan Jewell and Alan Shield - Elected Representatives; Phillip Curran - Karbon Homes, Alison Lazizzera - DCC and Insp Keith Wardle - Durham Constabulary - Partner Representatives; Marlene Boyles and Jeannette Harold - Public Representatives.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Derek Snaith - AAP Co-ordinator, Fiona Kelly - Community Development / Project Officer, Lynn Dougal - Support Officer and Corinne Walton (DVP Co-ordinator).

**PRESENTERS:**

Lee Mack – Active Durham, Rachel Rooney – CCG on Shotley Bridge Hospital and Craig Farrage – Fire and Rescue Service.

Members of the Public – 23

**1. Introductions**

Cllr Watson welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were noted and Board members introduced themselves. Cllr Watson also said Mark Clelland will be joining the Board as a Partner Representative and will be attending the meeting later.

Derek reminded everyone to abide by the Code of Conduct, which is available on the reverse of the agenda, in respect to discussions taking place this evening.

**2. Minutes of Previous Board Meeting (26 September 2018)**

There were no issues raised/matters arising and the minutes were AGREED.

**3. Active Durham**

Lee Mack gave a presentation on Active Durham which is a partnership of organisations from the private, public and voluntary and community sectors to promote and support the uptake of physical activities in adults and children (a copy of the presentation is available upon request).

Active Durham aims to increase awareness, engagement and ideas and Lee asked people to visit the website at [www.activedurham.org.uk](http://www.activedurham.org.uk) and use the resources. He asked for support from the AAPs and community groups/organisations to get the physical activity message out and how Active Durham could help with local project ideas and identify barriers to physical activities.

Rosemary Morris asked if all this is working and what the success rate is. Lee said they are keen to do things in an evidence based way and track how they are working. They will share

data on the projects they run but they still have a lot of work to do. By increasing the level of scale, they will get close to achieving their ambition.

Brenda Bell (Forum) asked if they can help with publicity for existing groups. Lee said they would like to increase their social media presence and asked Brenda to contact the Locality Delivery Manager Suzanne Richardson.

Richard Judd (Forum) asked if Run Durham and Walk Durham are part of Active Durham and wondered if there was any assistance available to improve access for wheelchair/pushchair users in Watling Woods in Leadgate. Lee said he would find out about assistance for Watling Woods. Regarding Run Durham and Walk Durham he is not sure if they are linked in with Active Durham. He is aware that County Durham Sport, for example, support people to set up groups such as workplace running groups.

Phillip Marshall (Forum) asked if there has been any engagement with young people to prevent anti-social behaviour as being involved in activities can help deter young people from going down that route. Lee said they have looked at this and have included guest speakers from minority groups to speak at awards ceremonies. They are looking to raise greater awareness about the benefits of physical activities and how these activities are a good way to help people reconnect with their community.

Cllr Watson thanked Lee for his presentation and for attending the meeting.

#### **4. Shotley Bridge Hospital update**

Rachel Rooney, Head of Engagement for North Durham CCG gave a short presentation on Shotley Bridge Hospital (SBH) (a copy of the presentation is available upon request) and advised that this does not form part of the formal engagement process.

The CCG has a statutory responsibility to engage and consult with the public on any significant service change. Therefore we need to be clear in our vision so the public can make informed comments and decisions based on that information. Rachel reiterated that no decisions have been made about the future of SBH.

An 8 week period of engagement with the public will take place, through different media, hopefully before Christmas. From a list of options available and from the feedback they receive, there will be a shortened list of options and a preferred option and these will be formally consulted on. Following the consultation, a business case will be developed and then submitted for approval.

Rachel said she would keep the Board updated on the engagement/consultation process. Cllr Watson said there was no mention of a new build. Rachel said no decision has been made on SBH as a site. However there is a commitment to have a facility in the area, which could be a new build or using the existing site.

Cllr Stelling asked where 'in this area' would a facility be located. Rachel said there is no predetermined site but it is envisioned there would be an accessible facility for people to access from the locality.

Mike Brierley (CCG) added that the data from postcodes in the area will be used to build up a picture of activity. The engagement process may identify a particular area, but we want to know what needs to be in a facility and how good the transport links are.

Cllr Temple asked if assurances could be made that the information fed into the NHS health planner software will reflect demand and not just activity. Mike said the demand aspect is looked at but not always made clear. We look at other sites that run similar outpatient services to understand where people from this area are going to and the findings are then input into the healthcare planner. There is some growth built into the planner which takes the current activity and looks at the demographic growth over time and a percentage uplift is added.

John O'Connor (Forum) asked who approves the business case. Rachel said it is ultimately the CCG and then NHS England. However, the CCG has to assure NHS England that they have engaged with the public and the proposals they put forward are the best option. With any service change, they have to meet 4 tests – information about these are available on the internet.

Vera Parnaby (Forum) said appointments up until January are being cancelled at SBH and moved to Durham and said it would be easier for a small number of doctors/nurses to have clinics at SBH than many people travelling to Durham. Rachel said she is unsure why that is happening but they are working with County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust (CDDFT) and looking at what is currently being delivered and what should be delivered out of SBH. Rachel said as part of the engagement process this is the kind of information that they should be made aware of.

Brenda (Forum) asked why this consultation is out of sync with the County Durham Plan (CDP). Mike said there is no plan to make it out of sync. They work around a timeline and a specific process which is linked to the availability of the capital funding from NHS England. Rachel added that they will be linking in with the local authority and town planners.

A Forum member asked why there is a £2m maintenance backlog and also referred to an STP report from October 2016 regarding reducing poor quality and not fit for purpose buildings and reconfiguration of hospital provision in Northumberland and North Durham. Also as reductions of £20b are to be made across England, she asked if this was a cutting exercise.

Mike said it is not a cutting exercise; as this is public money they have to make best use of it and there is a lot of estate that is half occupied therefore they have a responsibility to make best use of the estate. The STP is 'old language' and replaced by Integrated Care Systems.

The condition of the building is the driver for what they are doing, it is an old building with a backlog maintenance and a lot of history attached. They are committed to a facility in the area and whether that is improving SBH or a new facility – this will form part of the discussion. Although they do have other buildings that are half full, they are not planning on dispersing all of the services in SBH to other facilities nor will not demolish SBH first and then consider what they should do next.

A Forum member mentioned a new model of care which has been introduced which aims to keep people out of hospital and asked if they will review how effective this is before cutting bed provision. Rachel said the clinicians/GPs are reporting that we need bed provision and no matter what the community provision is, people still need care within that setting.

Cllr Watson thanked Rachel and Mike for their contribution at the meeting.

Derek said as Rachel is a Board member she will keep the DVP updated and there may be an opportunity at future Board meetings to ask further questions as the process/consultation progresses.

## 5. Project Proposals

### *Welfare Reform (£10k)*

Derek said at the last Board meeting in September, the Board agreed to defer the 2 project proposals from Wheels to Work and Age UK County Durham until more information about the projects had been received. The Board has received updated information around the queries raised and a representative from each organisation was also present at the meeting.

The Board were asked to make a decision regarding the Welfare Reform money.

Gary Scott said both project proposals came in speculatively and without a callout for projects being undertaken and at the last Board meeting, he felt there was a 'lukewarm' response to these. Therefore he suggested that a third option should be available to not support these projects and to ask for a call out.

Cllr Temple said at the last Board meeting he was very supportive of the Age UK project. He did not think it would be a good idea to defer again and asked the Board to make a decision this evening. He also said Age UK's lottery funding has ended and we will lose this service; he proposed that the Board support this project.

Cllr Watson asked Board members if they have any questions they would like to ask the prospective applicants. There were no questions.

The Board then voted and the results were as follows:

1. To reject both proposals = 6
2. To support either the Wheels to Work project or the Age UK project = 5

Therefore the Board AGREED to reject both proposals and to undertake a call out for projects.

Cllr Carr wondered if they could still speak to the applicants. Cllr Watson said they would not speak to them as both proposals had been rejected.

Rachel added that although the decision was made to reject both proposals, another point to note is that this gives an opportunity for a wider audience to apply.

Phillip M (Forum) asked if the two applicants could reapply – the answer was yes.

## 6. Partner Updates

*Craig Farrage gave a presentation on the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) (a copy of the presentation is available upon request).*

Craig is the Community Safety Manager which includes linking in with the district team in Derwentside and looks at initiatives and activities to see where they can target resources and assist local teams.

Over the last 5 years, the CDDFRS has lost about a third of its funding but they are continuing to provide frontline services that they did 10 years ago. The Combined Fire Authority, who look after the CDDFRS, are very supportive of the Chief Fire Officer who has managed the budgets well and they are considered as a good example as to how finances should be managed.

A county wide campaign will be launched on the 22 November and runs for 4 weeks that aims to reduce accidental dwelling fires. They are introducing a superhero Flaming Nora to help engage with the public and to raise awareness of fires in the kitchen.

Electrical Fire Safety week is in November and they will be out and about across the county.

They provide home fire safety visits and are developing a schools education programme.

They have appointed 5 Road Casualty Reduction Ambassadors which aim to reduce road casualty figures through hard hitting campaigns. In Derwentside road casualties are relatively low compared to other areas in the country.

*Gary Scott, gave an update on the Derwentside Business Network (DBN).*

Gary said in this area we have an amazing community of small businesses with some of them winning national awards. The DBN are supporting small businesses and helping them to grow by giving them the basic skills to be successful and sustainable. He thanked the DVP for entrusting them to deliver two business growth projects and as a result of this they have won a large project with New College Durham. They will be working with more small businesses, giving them the skills they need, for example, in sales, marketing and managing their cash flow.

In 4 years, the DBN has gone from 17 businesses to 125 who are working together, supporting each other and helping to grow together.

## **7. Coordinators report**

Derek summarised the report which gives an update on the work of the DVP.

### *AAP Priority Survey*

Every year the AAPs consult with the public and ask them to vote for their top 3 priorities which are important to them in their local area. The local priority survey is available online at [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/1920Priorities](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/1920Priorities) as well as paper copies available. There is also a schools version for young people to complete, although at this point the responses have been disappointing. The priority survey ends on 30 November 2018.

The results of the survey will be collated and the information will be presented to the Board in January. The Board will decide on which priorities to focus on in 2019/20 and potentially in 2020/21.

### *DCC's Vision for the future*

It is nearly 10 years since DCC became a unitary council and the Council is reviewing its 'Altogether' vision. The AAPs are engaging with the public to find out what their views are and what is important for the county as well as in their locality.

Derek has visited 2 local groups to discuss the vision and to get their views – one was at Delta North, Consett with a group of young people and the other was at a ladies group at St Patrick's Church Hall, Consett.

### *Youth Fund*

The Youth Fund will be launched shortly with a call out for projects that will include the additional criteria linked to alcohol and drug misuse and its impact on young people and their families.

There was also a recommendation for the Board to set up a dedicated panel who would review the applications on behalf of the Board, this was AGREED.

*Meet the Detectives Event*

The event took place in Delves Lane Village Hall on 10 October where residents could ‘drop-in’ and engage with the police (CID, Neighbourhood Police Team, etc.) and get advice and information on home safety (which included free home and personal safety devices), fraud and cyber-crime, drug and alcohol harm and hate crime. If U Care Share and the DVP also attended the event. The event was very well received with over 70 people attending.

*Staffing Update*

Derek said his role as temporary AAP Co-ordinator has come to an end and he will be going back to Chester le Street and District AAP. Corinne Walton will be returning to work week commencing 12 November. Derek thanked everyone for their support over the last year.

Cllr Watson thanked Derek for his work with the partnership and wished him all the best for the future.

**8. Any Other Business**

The Board were asked to note the dates for Board meetings for next year – there were no comments made.

Cllr Watson suggested that we should be notified in advance of the meeting of any other business so we can be prepared.

**9. Meeting Close and Date of Next Meeting**

Alex thanked everyone for their attendance.

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday 30 January 2019 at 6pm in the Salvation Army Hall, Consett.

Signed as a correct record: .....

Date: .....