



Meeting notes: 20 May 2009, 10.30am

Room 23, Wychavon District Council, Pershore

Present: Cllr Audrey Steel (Chairman), Michael Amies (Persore MTP/LSP), Cllr Bob Banks (Worcestershire CC), Chris Brooks (Wychavon DC), Brian Browne (Worcestershire CALC), Maggie Bryan (Worcestershire CC), Lodee Dudley (Worcestershire PCT), Cllr Pam Davey (Droitwich Area LSP), Dave Hemming (Wychavon DC), Dave Holland (Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue), Clare Holloway (Rooftop Housing), Mark Jackson (St Richard's Hospice), Sue Keating (Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Service), Sean Kent (West Mercia Police), Cherrie Mansfield (Wychavon DC), Hazel Robinson (Worcestershire CC), Elaine Salter (Wychavon DC), Angela Smith (Worcestershire Federation of Small Businesses)

Apologies: Andy Ford (Wychavon DC), Helen Gray (Wychavon Community Action Partnership), Ian Hughes (Rooftop Housing), David Noyes (Evesham MTP/LSP), Richard Quallington (Community First), Phil Reed (LSC), Frances Roberts (LSC), Phil Russell (Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue).

Agenda item & key points/decisions	Actions agreed
<p>1. Welcome & introductions</p> <p>Audrey welcomed everyone. Sean Kent is the new Inspector for Wychavon following Steve Brooker's retirement. Clare Holloway has recently joined Rooftop as Head of Community Partnership. Hazel Robinson is a new member of Maggie's team and is currently shadowing Maggie at LSP Board meetings.</p>	
<p>2. Notes of the last meeting & matters arising – 19 March January 2009</p> <p>Agreed correction to page 4 of the notes of the last meeting. The PCT's new five year draft strategy mentioned in the Health and Social Care Board report from Mark is for everyone in Worcestershire, not just 0-13 year olds!</p>	<p>Cherrie to amend the notes on the website</p>
<p><i>Presentations & strategic issues</i></p>	
<p>3. Worcestershire signposting service</p> <p>Sue Keating, Signposting Co-ordinator with Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service, gave a presentation about the signposting service.</p> <p>The service provides a single gateway to a range of services for vulnerable adults across the county. Its aim is to 'prevent a crisis before it happens' by connecting people to services they should be engaging with to help them stay safe in their homes.</p> <p>The main client groups are older vulnerable adults and at risk families. The service is used by frontline members of staff from a wide range of organisations (e.g. police officers, fire fighters, district nurses, housing officers) visiting people in their homes to highlight concerns unrelated to the services they provide and refer them on to other agencies for advice</p>	<p>Cherrie to circulate slides with the notes</p>

Agenda item & key points/decisions	Actions agreed
<p>and support. Sue circulated copies of the signposting referral form.</p> <p>Signposting has been operating successfully in Herefordshire for more than seven years. It has resulted in over £11million of unclaimed welfare benefits being taken up. It is now being replicated in Worcestershire and is currently operating across Bromsgrove, Redditch and Wychavon. It is contributing to LAA targets: NI116, NI142, NI152 and NI187 and has the potential to reduce emergency hospital admissions (from slips, trips and falls) and reduce doorstep crime.</p> <p>For more information contact Sue: e-mail SKeating@hwfire.org.uk or ring 01905 368229.</p> <p>Mark highlighted the role of the voluntary sector in supporting vulnerable people. There is an opportunity to make Parish Clerks, GPs and vicars aware of the signposting service. Dave Hemming asked Sue to put referrals for security equipment in Wychavon through to him.</p>	
<p>4. Older people's research</p> <p>Elaine Salter, Wychavon's Housing Services Manager, shared the headline results of recent research into the needs of older people in Worcestershire – now and in the next 20 years.</p> <p>The research was jointly commissioned by the Worcestershire district councils, social care and the PCT and was funded through Supporting People. 1300 older people completed a short survey left in a range of public places and 84 people attended eight focus groups.</p> <p>Key findings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wychavon has the highest number of people over 65 and the highest predicted increase over the next 20 years. ▪ There's a good supply of sheltered housing, but it's not spread evenly across districts. <p>Survey respondents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1 in 5 have already adapted their property; 4 in 10 want to make some adaptation. (In Wychavon, demand for adaptations exceeds the resources available.) ▪ 1 in 3 owners would consider retirement housing or extra care if available to purchase. ▪ 40% of tenants would consider sheltered housing for rent, but want more space/two bedrooms. ▪ Low level of support sought – e.g. gardening, shopping, cooking (the new county wide Care and Repair service may be able to provide a handy person service). <p>Focus groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Want better information, from a trusted source. ▪ Extra care models of housing viewed positively. ▪ Difficult for owner occupiers to get practical jobs done. ▪ Residential care is unpopular. 	<p>Cherrie to circulate slides with the notes</p> <p>Elaine to share final report when available</p>

Agenda item & key points/decisions	Actions agreed
<p>The research provides figures about the types of housing provision for older people needed in Worcestershire in the next 20 years. The biggest challenge is how it will be funded.</p>	
<p>5. LAA areas of highest need project proposal</p> <p>As discussed at the last meeting, Worcestershire Partnership has invited district LSPs to put together project proposals for delivering the current LAA in areas of highest need. The projects will be eligible for approximately £0.5 million of the 2006-2009 LAA Reward Grant.</p> <p>Cherrie circulated the draft proposal that officers from Wychavon DC, Worcestershire PCT and Rooftop have been working on for the Wychavon Strategic Partnership. The focus of our project will be on delivering economic, health and housing/fuel poverty outcomes in the following areas of Wychavon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'Central' Evesham: encompassing parts of Bengeworth, Evesham South and Evesham North wards ▪ Badsey: three 'output' areas ▪ Broadway & Wickhamford: two 'output' areas ▪ Harvington & Norton: two 'output' areas <p>Lodee asked why Droitwich had not been identified as one of the areas of highest need. Whilst there are well-documented needs in parts of Droitwich, there are less clear links between the town and rural areas of need, which we agreed would be covered by our project. Also parts of Droitwich have benefited from targeted partnership working and funding in the past.</p> <p>There will be a meeting at the Civic Centre on 10 June at 10.30am for any partners interested in helping plan and deliver one or more strands of the project.</p> <p>Agreed the approach being taken and the draft project proposals.</p>	<p>Lodee to provide Information on health and rural disadvantage</p> <p>All to send any information that will strengthen the proposal to Cherrie</p> <p>Anyone interested in attending the partners meeting on 10 June to contact Cherrie</p>
Operational issues	
<p>6. Mapping our contribution to the LAA</p> <p>Cherrie circulated a paper setting out how the Wychavon Community Strategy priorities link to Worcestershire's Local Area Agreement 2008 – 2011. It also set out how projects in Droitwich Area Partnership, Evesham and Pershore Market Town Partnerships' action plans contribute to delivery of the LAA targets. She recommended that we put forward a number of the projects for inclusion in the LAA delivery plans.</p>	<p>Chris to ask the three Partnership Managers to check the action plan mapping and respond to Cherrie by 5 June</p>
<p>7. Funding for health projects</p> <p>a. LAA Health improvement fund</p> <p>Our bid to for the smoking cessation project needs to be resubmitted to the next round in light of changes to the Smoking Cessation Team.</p> <p>So far the only projects in Wychavon to receive funding are Droitwich</p>	<p>Paul Madill to resubmit bid for round 3</p>

Agenda item & key points/decisions	Actions agreed
<p>Spa High School for a project to engage a group of young people in sporting and physical activities and the Droitwich Spa Young Peoples Action Group for the youth zone.</p> <p>Traci Lloyd-Moore can advise on preparing round bids for round three.</p> <p>b. Wychavon Strategic Partnership £10k health fund So far the following proposals have been received/are being prepared for the Wychavon Strategic Partnership's £10K health fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'Off the rails' – Pershore tarmac and public art mural project: submitted by Pershore Market Town Partnership ▪ Supporting volunteers with special needs – submitted by Pershore Volunteer Centre ▪ Young befrienders – being developed by Evesham Market Town Partnership ▪ People with chaotic lifestyles – being developed by housing. ▪ Chawson community market – via Droitwich Area Partnership <p>The deadline for submitting expressions of interest is 1 June. We will consider all proposals received and allocate funding at our next meeting.</p> <p>c. County Council Community Leadership for Health fund Lodee reported that four bids have so far been approved in Wychavon. These are:</p> <p>Three projects from Cllrs Pinfield & Harwood for 1) extend classes 2) Droitwich Spa Area Forum for Older People newsletter 3) Support services for older people via Age Concern Droitwich (Cllrs Sheldon and Broomfield have also contributed to this project)</p> <p>One pooled proposal of £7000 to run a drugs and alcohol peer mentor programme delivered by South Wychavon Youth Network from Cllrs Banks, Holt, Adams, Eyre, Sheldon, Smith and Broomfield.</p>	
<p>8. Consultation on Worcestershire Compact Steering Group roles</p> <p>The Worcestershire Compact, is an agreement that determines the working relationship between all statutory bodies and the voluntary and community sector in Worcestershire. As set out in the Compact, each signatory organisation is invited to nominate a Compact Champion and a Community Groups Champion to support the implementation of the Compact. The Compact Steering Group has asked district LSPs to provide feedback on the draft role descriptions for these positions.</p> <p>There were two main issues to feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The public sector needs to train its managers about how to work with the voluntary sector. ▪ What are the Compact's intended impacts and outcomes? 	<p>Cherrie to forward feedback to the Compact Steering Group</p>

Agenda item & key points/decisions	Actions agreed
<p>9. Priorities for tackling the economic downturn</p> <p>The Worcestershire Economy Watch Taskforce has asked district LSPs to identify their top three priorities for tackling the impacts of the economic downturn.</p> <p>We identified the following priorities to feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Making the towns more attractive to visitors, including improving signage so people know where local attractions are. ▪ Promoting the tourist attractions located in rural areas too. ▪ Setting up a Worcestershire wide business opportunities website to act as a portal bringing together a wide range of information all in one place, e.g. training, work placements, procurement opportunities, volunteering placements, business support and advice, vacant properties. Could be part of the Worcestershire Hub and potentially put together by Worcester University. ▪ Unilateral adoption of small business rate relief by one or more district councils – so that all those eligible to apply have it automatically taken off their bills, rather than having to apply for it retrospectively. Nationally 60% of small business rate relief isn't claimed. ▪ More incentives for businesses – e.g. Wychavon DC is using a small amount of funding to provide start-up grants and improve shop fronts, there is evidence these small incentives are having an impact. ▪ There is real need for one to one business start-up advice, not group sessions, which Business Link is now providing. ▪ Funding for and delivery of the Worcestershire Worklessness project, which is aimed at reducing worklessness and financial exclusion. ▪ Training frontline staff to be able to give basic information/advice on benefits and other forms of support in the course of their work, e.g. GPs, health visitors. 	<p>Cherrie to feedback priorities to Economy Watch Taskforce</p>
<p>10. Round the table updates</p> <p>Droitwich Area Partnership: St Richard's Day went well. The recent Business Day to highlight opportunities related to the canal regeneration went well. However, the number of local traders attending was disappointing. The Youth Zone opened on 3 May. The young people were involved in painting it and getting it ready. The initial sessions have gone well with around 45 young people attending on Friday and Saturday nights. The next phase will involve locating advice services on the first floor. Alcohol awareness sessions start this month.</p> <p>Evesham Market Town Partnership: Chris circulated a newsletter summarising the partnership's work. Events and festivals to promote local distinctiveness remain a priority for the partnership. The MTP has helped VECTA establish the Evesham Promotion Group to promote the town as a proactive and dynamic business and tourism destination. Better Welcome funding is being used for information display units in car parks, a new map, heritage information plaques and a marked battlefield trail.</p> <p>Pershore Market Town Partnership: is focusing on three main projects this year. The first is improving and enhancing Pershore Rail Station, including</p>	

Agenda item & key points/decisions	Actions agreed
<p>extra parking spaces, improved pedestrian access, new railings, better shelters and a very large mural on the Tarmac building. A detailed proposal for the burgage plots riverside development has been drawn up, with help from Pershore College, and presented to AWM. The LSP is waiting news of funding from AWM. New pedestrian signs for the town centre are being produced and Worcestershire CC has been approached about improving signs that lead visitors to Pershore on main roads and from the motorway.</p> <p><u>Worcestershire Partnership</u>: nothing new to report.</p> <p>South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership: Dave gave an update on the Youth Zone and the youth bus. The youth bus should be operational in July. Ten volunteers will be trained shortly.</p> <p><u>Economy & Transport Group</u>: has been taken over by the Economy Watch Taskforce.</p> <p>Health & Social Care Board : <u>Worcestershire PCT</u> is consulting on 'Investing in health': its five year draft strategy for health in Worcestershire. It puts forward seven strategic priorities. These are: staying healthy; maternity services; children and young people; adult mental health and well-being; long term conditions; falls prevention; and, end of life care. The deadline for feedback is 24 July.</p> <p>Mark informed us National Carers Week commences 8 June. Worcestershire Carers Day is on 8 June and the Carers Forum has an event at Worcester racecourse on 10 June. Mark also reported that St Richard's Hospice has recently seen a change in the profile of its volunteers, with younger people volunteering.</p> <p><u>Cultural Theme Group</u>: Michael informed us about a study commissioned by Worcestershire County Council and the Elmley Foundation into the economic and social impact of arts in Worcestershire. The report states that 'every £1 invested in the arts by local authorities in Worcestershire has generated £32 of value within the Worcestershire economy.'</p> <p>Chief Housing Officers Group: is producing a newsletter.</p>	<p>All to comment on PCT's draft strategy for health</p> <p>Elaine to provide newsletter to circulate with the minutes</p>
<p>11. Dates & items for next meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thursday, 16 July in the Committee Rooms <p>Agenda items to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation on PCT's draft five year strategy ▪ Update on LAA areas of highest need project proposals ▪ Health fund – review of applications and allocation of funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tuesday, 22 September in the Training Room <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Full results of older people's research(Elaine Slater) <p>Meetings start at 10.30am with refreshments and networking from 10am.</p>	<p>All to e-mail other agenda items to Cherrie</p>

Agenda item & key points/decisions	Actions agreed
<p>Distribution list: Michael Amies: Pershore MTP Cllr Bob Banks: Worcs CC Chris Brooks: Wychavon DC Brian Browne: Worcs CALC Maggie Bryan: Worcs CC Phil Russell: H & W Fire & Rescue Service Fred Davies: Wychavon DC Cllr Pam Davey: Droitwich Area Partnership Lodee Dudley: Worcs PCT Andy Ford: Wychavon DC Helen Gray: Wychavon Community Action Partnership</p>	<p>Dave Hemming: Wychavon DC Dave Holland: H & W Fire & Rescue Service Ian Hughes: Rooftop Mark Jackson: St Richard's Hospice Sean Kent: West Mercia Police David Noyes: Evesham MTP Richard Quallington: Community First Frances Roberts: LSC Elaine Salter: Wychavon DC Angela Smith: Worcestershire Federation of Small Businesses Cllr Audrey Steel: Wychavon DC</p> <p>For information: Fiona Narburgh: Wychavon DC Leigh Marchant: Worcestershire Partnership Jennifer Springer: Worcestershire Partnership Richard Davis: GOWM Wychavon DC Info. Pack Website @ www.wychavon.gov.uk/communityplanning</p>