

**Tonbridge & Malling Local Strategic Partnership
Minutes of Meeting – 12 September 2014**

Present: Cllr Nicolas Heslop – Leader, TMBC
 Mark Raymond – TMBC
 Cllr Brian Luker – TMBC
 James Harman – KCC
 Gill Fox – TMBC
 Julie Beilby – TMBC
 Peter Robinson – T&M District Cricket Partnership
 Harry Rayner - Kent Association of Parish Councils
 Karen Hardy – KCC
 Gill Ellis – Kent Police
 Graham Taylor – Federation of Small Businesses
 Simon Robinson - Federation of Small Businesses
 Amanda Forrest – Kent Libraries
 Nichola Hermitage – Kent Libraries
 Angela Painter – Kenward Trust
 Caroline Farquhar - CAB
 Capt Richard Garrett – 220 Med Sqn.
 Anita Iles- Circle Russet Housing
 Christine Grosskopf – KCC
 Linda Smith – KCC
 Cllr John Balcombe - TMBC

Apologies: Angela Newey – Tonbridge CAB
 John Handley – Bridge Trust
 Cllr John Balcombe - TMBC
 Jonathan Shaw - Shaw Business Partnership Limited
 Bev Cleves – Hadlow College
 Bishop Brian Castle - Bishop of Tonbridge

	ACTION BY
<p>1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies NH welcomed all. Apologies received from those listed above.</p>	
<p>2. Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2014 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a correct record. Actions relating to the Federation of Small Businesses and the Peer Challenge report covered later in the agenda. Action for further representations to Owen Patterson MP to support</p>	

<p>the funding bid relating to flooding; several letters have been sent – issues covered include insurance, ownership of land and responsibilities for clean-up and further re-enforcements to make much needed improvements.</p> <p>Action for further work around Family Focus programme – the Young Lives Foundation had been appointed help address issues with the need for positive male role models in some troubled families. It was also noted that work underway to organise a local Job Fair in the Baptist Church in Trench.</p> <p>AP mentioned an intervention programme with Sevenoaks, where families with problems of substance misuse go to the Kenward centre to access support and hear testimonials from those who have been through recovery programmes. This approach could be extended to Tonbridge and Malling.</p>	
<p>4. Presentation – Federation of Small Businesses – Graham Taylor and Simon Robinson, West Kent FSB</p> <p>GT and SR were welcomed as new members of the LSP at the previous meeting. A presentation was given regarding the work of the FSB and how they operate locally.</p> <p>PR raised the issue of links between schools and local businesses. Young Enterprise was involved in this area of work. Business Challenge events were also seen as a useful means to engage young people on this topic.</p> <p>A key raised related to the availability and access to local apprenticeships for young people. Following discussion, it was agreed that better access to apprenticeships and more promotion locally was required. A suggestion was made to hold a “open day” type of event to link local businesses with young people seeking job experience opportunities. JH mentioned that this kind of event had been trialled in Gravesham within a school setting. There were several learning points from this event: it needs to be within working day, needs motivational speakers, employers want to know what skill sets the young people had etc. It was suggested that WK College could be a good venue. CF from CAB mentioned that funding streams are available to support apprenticeships.</p> <p>NH thanked GT and SR for their presentation.</p>	<p>MR to arrange scoping meeting</p>

<p>5. Presentation – Update on the new Care Act – Christine Grosskopf, KCC</p> <p>A presentation was given by CG explaining the new changes that are coming into force regarding the Care Act and what it will mean for those involved. This is due in April 2016 with assessments starting in October 2015. At the moment it looks likely that older people in need of care will need to pay the first £72k of their care costs before the state takes over.</p> <p>Concerns were raised regarding the impact on family members of the proposed changes. It was noted that many carers are relatives. CG confirmed that this has been recognised in the new Act and there will be increased rights and support for carers as they play a vital role.</p> <p>JB suggested that local authorities, parish councils etc. could help with the dissemination of information regarding the new Act. Partners can also help with health improvement measures, meaning less people require care.</p> <p>NH thanked CK for the presentation.</p>	<p>All – assist with future information sharing.</p>
<p>6. Presentation – Kent Alcohol Strategy – Linda Smith, KCC</p> <p>LS gave a presentation on the new strategy. A paper was also tabled regarding T&M alcohol profiles. It was noted that there was a high prevalence within T&M for instances of repeat domestic abuse aggravated by alcohol use. It was agreed that this issue would be best addressed via the Community Safety Partnership. NH commented that TMBC have recently strengthened the CSP via a shared Licensing and Community Safety manager and is well placed to address licensing issues related to the purchase of alcohol by under-age persons. Involvement of the voluntary sector was seen as a crucial element in tackling problems of alcohol abuse. RG also drew attention to a particular problem of alcohol abuse by ex-service personnel and a drinking culture within the military generally. NH thanked LS for her presentation and requested that the presentation/papers be circulated with the minutes.</p>	<p>GF to circulate presentation</p>
<p>7. Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council Peer Challenge Report</p> <p>MR thanked all members of the LSP who took part in the Peer Challenge. A letter of thanks which included a link to the full report had been sent out. There were two main strands to the report – corporate issues including organisational capacity and financial management and the separate theme of economic regeneration. MR</p>	

<p>reported that more detailed analysis of the recommendations was underway and a full report will go to a Cabinet meeting on 8 October.</p> <p>With regard to economic regeneration, a number of strands had been recommended including working with SME's, town/village traders, and those affected by the recent flooding. A significant new area of work related to the funding now available from the South East LEP and the need to ensure the Borough was well-placed to make bids to help fund key infrastructure projects across the Borough.</p> <p>On corporate issues, the Challenge team has recommended the need for strategies to be joined up across services. A Corporate Strategy to achieve this will be developed in 2015 and will be reported to a future meeting of the LSP.</p> <p>Overall, it was agreed that the Peer Challenge had been a positive experience, and provided some useful focus for the future.</p>	
<p>8. KCC Update – James Harman, KCC</p> <p>JH provided a KCC service update which included information on KCC transformation, information regarding the Libraries/ Trust model proposal - which will go to full consultation and available on the KCC website. It was also noted that the next Children's Operational Group will be held in October and will focus on CAMHS, Obesity and Family Focus.</p> <p>NH thanked JH for the update.</p>	
<p>9. AOB</p> <p>The next meeting will be Friday 5 December. Venue to be confirmed</p>	