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Minutes of the Camden Local Strategic Partnership Thursday 15 October 2009, 10:30am, Camden Town Hall

Present:

- Cllr Keith Moffitt (Chair of LSP), London Borough of Camden, Leader
- Professor David Latchman, Master, Birkbeck College
- Stephen Jordan, London & Continental Stations and Property, Managing Director
- Mick Hickey, Job Centre Plus, External Relations Manager – Central London District
- Chief Superintendent Dominic Clout, Metropolitan Police
- Simone Hensby, Camden Community Empowerment Network (Chair) and Voluntary Action Camden
- Pat Stack, Camden Community Empowerment Network and Disability in Camden
- Lincoln Lim, Camden Community Empowerment Network CCEN (in place of Shelagh O'Connor)
- Sarah Elie, Camden Community Empowerment Network and Somerstown Community Association
- Moira Gibb, London Borough of Camden, Chief Executive
- Mark Hazelton, London Fire Brigade, Camden Borough Commander
- Dr Mark Atkinson, NHS Camden, Chief Executive
- Dr Quentin Sandifer, NHS Camden and London Borough of Camden, Director of Public Health
- Chris Shaw, Camden Town Unlimited, Chair
- Ann Baxter, London Borough of Camden, Director of Children's Services
- Kevin Munslow, The Holborn Partnership, Vice Chair
- Karen Wilson, Camden Housing Association and Co-op Forum, Chair

Also in attendance:

- Sarah Mullen, London Borough of Camden, Assistant Chief Executive
- Jackie Barry-Purssell, Audit Commission, CAA Lead for Camden
- Joyce Saunders, Audit Commission
- Omar Ralph, Government Office for London, Locality Manager – North London
- Donna Turnbull, Camden Community Empowerment Network, Strategy and Policy Officer
- Ed Watson, London Borough of Camden, Assistant Director, Planning and Public Protection
- David Joyce, London Borough of Camden, Planning, Policy and Information Manager
- Oliver Myers, London Borough of Camden, Head of Corporate Sustainability
- Claire Smith, London Borough of Camden, Senior Sustainability Officer
- David Wilson, London Borough of Camden, Senior Sustainability Officer
- Jonathan Mills, London Borough of Camden, Interim Head of Performance
- Mary Burguieres, London Borough of Camden, Head of Policy
- Yoav Gordon, London Borough of Camden, Senior Policy Officer

1 Introductions and apologies for absences

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Andrew Marshall and Richard Bell

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- 1.2 After a round of introductions the Chair welcomed three new members to the LSP, Dr Mark Atkinson, Chief Executive of NHS Camden and Dr Quentin Sandifer, the newly appointed joint Director of Public Health for NHS Camden and Camden Council, and Borough Commander Mark Hazelton from the London Fire Brigade.

2 Election of vice chair

- 2.1 The Chair began the meeting by thanking to Rob Larkman for his contribution as the former LSP vice chair and formally nominated Stephen Jordan as his replacement.
- 2.2 There were no other nominations from the floor and the Chair's nomination was carried by the LSP. The Chair thanked Stephen for taking on the role.

3 Comprehensive Area Assessment

- 3.1 The Chair invited Jackie Barry-Purcell, the Audit Commission's CAA lead for Camden to provide feedback on the draft Area Assessment report which was circulated recently to the LSP. Jackie presented the key messages from the report, most of which were familiar to the LSP thanks to the regular CAA updates over the year.
- 3.2 The Area Assessment is generally very positive and the partnership is working well to deliver real outcomes. She noted examples of exceptional performance and innovative practice in adult social care as well as community safety. There have not just been increased levels of performance but examples of real innovative work, especially in Camden Town, that had made a real impact on the local area. Jackie then elaborated on how Camden was addressing a range of the borough's key priorities.
- 3.3 On sustainability, a wide range of issues and areas are being addressed including environment, housing and recycling. There has been good progress in these areas and good examples of joint working to reduce carbon emissions.
- 3.4 There has also been positive work to address issues of homelessness and overcrowding. However the partnership still faces the key challenge of delivering on the decent homes standard. However the partnership is aware of this challenge and is building on plans to deliver on the decent homes agenda in the coming years.
- 3.5 In providing a Connected Camden, LSP partners are making achievements around health especially in terms of access. Good examples include the Kentish Town health centre as well as wider innovative work around children and older people services.
- 3.6 The assessment found improving levels of community cohesion and good working through the voluntary and community sector to empower people. There remain some challenges posed by issues of life expectancy in parts of the borough as well as addressing health challenges in a number of key

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areas. Jackie also highlighted the pilots of an innovative outcome-based approach to voluntary sector commissioning.

- 3.7 There has been good progress on making Camden safer but challenges remain, particularly the number people entering the youth justice system and delivering on the prevent agenda.
- 3.8 Overall the Audit Commission's view of the LSP is of a well functioning partnership that is working together and making strong progress. Jackie thanked LSP members for their co-operation during the CAA process.
- 3.9 Jackie's colleague Joyce Saunds then demonstrated the "Oneplace" website which will be accessible from 10 December 2009. The site provides a picture of how well local public services are performing in a particular area, showing areas of excellence and innovation as well as areas for improvement and links to further data from individual organisations. For areas with red flags, improvement interventions are noted.
- 3.10 The website will be a helpful tool for sharing good practice across areas of the country. It will also include a range of public finance data such as council tax spending per head.
- 3.11 The Chair thanked Jackie and Joyce for their presentation and reminded members that Camden will get its final report on 19 October which will be made public on 10 December.
- 3.12 The Chair thanked all partners who had been involved in the process and noted interest in the two areas of innovation flagged in the presentation. He noted that although adult social care is often seen as a 'Cinderella Service' it is often an area that provides high quality service provision and he was delighted that we were doing so well to support vulnerable people.
- 3.13 Dominic Clout welcomed the positive feedback on the Safe Camden theme and thanked Tony Brooks, the council's Assistant Director for Community Safety who will be leaving the borough soon, for his contribution over the last three years on this challenging agenda.
- 3.14 David Latchman recognised the achievements made but wondered how the public would make use of the information on the Oneplace website and how it would inform their decision-making. Jackie replied it will give people access to a range of data and help them make appropriate decisions as they needed. LSP members thought it would be useful to hear more from the Audit Commission about how the website was being used by the public once an evaluation had been undertaken.
- 3.15 Moira Gibb asked whether the public finance data available would be limited to the local authority or also include information from other local public sector organisations. Following on from this, Stephen Jordan asked whether Oneplace and Total Place were linked or part of a wider programme. Jackie replied that the website was pulling in the same direction as Total Place in the sense of pulling together information about an area.

4 Camden's Local Development Framework (LDF)

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- 4.1 Ed Watson and David Joyce introduced their presentation on the LDF which invited comment on the final draft as well as an endorsement from the LSP to take it forward in the coming years in terms of delivery.
- 4.2 The LDF will replace the Unitary Development Plan and the transition to spatial planning will facilitate joined up strategies across partners to deliver a 15 year vision. The major aim of the strategy is to manage growth of 35,000 additional people, 13,000 additional homes and 40,000 additional jobs.
- 4.3 The LDF consists of 4 major documents: the core strategy, development policies, the joint waste plan and site allocations document. The consultation to date on these documents was broadly supportive and reflective of the community strategy and its support for addressing issues of sustainability.
- 4.4 It is intended that the LDF will be a flexible document that reflects changes in the wider environment. Camden's approach to infrastructure development will include regular conversations around delivery and the impact of changing priorities in different areas.
- 4.5 The Chair thanked Ed for his presentation and noted the complex and wide ranging nature of the LDF which is often mistaken for a planning document but should be understood as being much more than this.
- 4.6 Simone Hensby asked whether consideration had been given to the impact on capital expenditure as a result of constrained public finances following in 2011. Ed replied that the plan in its most recent iteration reflected the current economic environment but would obviously be subject to changes in the wider environment in the future. Changing financial circumstances should be a catalyst to think as a partnership about how we use our assets and different models of service delivery.
- 4.7 Karen Wilson asked what the most significant challenges facing the LSP were in terms of taking the LDF forward. Ed replied that one of the biggest opportunities was for the LSP to use the LDF to help co-ordinate the delivery of partnership and individual organisation's plans.
- 4.8 Chris Shaw suggested that the LSP had been very proactive in taking the LDF forward which itself has been facilitated by it being a much more flexible document in helping to address the future challenges to the borough.
- 4.9 Ed agreed to arrange for hard copies of the LDF documents to be sent to LSP members.

5 Health Outcome Measures for Camden

- 5.1 The Chair introduced Dr Quentin Sandifer, the newly appointed joint director of public health for NHS Camden and Camden Council. Quentin outlined the Department of Health's 2008 framework for assessing PCTs in delivering 'world class commissioning' against a set of health outcome measures for each area.
- 5.2 In January 2009, the first panel reports were published on each PCT area and work was now underway in NHS Camden to prepare for the second year of this process, due for completion by December 2009. Camden PCT has been

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invited to reconsider the outcome measures chosen last year in light of feedback from the panel.

- 5.3 Camden PCT is required to select ten indicators, two of which are statutory indicators measuring health inequality and life expectancy. Of the eight remaining discretionary indicators, the PCT is in the process of reviewing these and Quentin wanted to share with the LSP their thinking and seek views from LSP members. Any new measures will need to be capable of benchmarking at a national level.
- 5.4 Having chosen MMR vaccinations as a key measure during 2008, the PCT were considering replacing this with a more challenging measure around obesity in children. For 2009, the PCT is intending to include alcohol related hospital admissions replacing the longer term measure of mortality from liver disease. This new measure will enable consideration of wider issues including the impact on younger people, binge drinking and their impact on acute hospital services.
- 5.5 Drawing on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, other measures currently being considered include levels of diabetic treatment and patient reported measures of access to GPs. The PCT is also proposing to change the mental health measure to one focussing on users in settled accommodation as this links to one of Camden's LAA targets. There was no intention to change measures around smoking, long term health conditions and there will be a continued focus on chronic heart disease (CHD) in males and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) as well cholesterol levels in males.
- 5.6 Anne Baxter said that the Health and Wellbeing board would consider these indicators in further depth in the near future. Additionally she wanted to know the extent to which the pan-London health inequality plan would link into the process of setting indicators. Quentin replied that although this was a regional activity the PCT would be seeking to undertake an audit to ensure their work reflected what was currently underway across London.

6 Responding to the Recession

- 6.1 Sarah Mullen provided an outline and overview of the recession dashboard.
- 6.2 The latest figures on the unemployment claimant count released on October 14 showed an increase of 2%. In addition to this, the borough is experiencing a rise in youth unemployment although this increase is from a low base, and remains relatively low when compared to London as a whole. The dashboard also includes a new indicator (referenced in blue) that addresses the impact of the recession on issues of domestic violence.
- 6.3 David Latchman suggested that the mixture of quantitative and qualitative data had some potential risks, namely that people will simply use the recession as an excuse or cause of problems that really cannot be directly attributed to economic downturn. It was important that the dashboard was clear about what was contextual information and to be mindful of its limitations in drawing conclusions.
- 6.4 Simone Hensby recognised that the data in the dashboard reflected some of the qualitative feedback that she was receiving from VCS organisations. There was anecdotal experience of more young people congregating in

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different areas of the borough. There was also evidence to suggest that more people were using gym membership which while very positive in general terms may not reflect the social economic groups which were being specifically targeted.

- 6.5 Dominic Clout raised the point that it was still quite difficult to determine the impact of the recession on levels of crime and the most recent data suggested that levels of serious acquisitive crime were still relatively low.
- 6.6 Simone made the point that the rise in the number of volunteers, many very highly skilled, was placing pressures on VCS organisations to respond and manage effectively this new demand. In particular, the sector is keen that the highly skilled new volunteers do not adversely displace other volunteers who may also benefit from volunteering opportunities. Sarah Elie echoed this point and noted that it was important to create volunteering opportunities for both groups.
- 6.7 The Chair reminded the LSP that Philip Colligan will be presenting a paper to the December meeting on youth unemployment issues. Mention was also made of the future challenge posed by the 'lost generation' of young people who are likely to be excluded from opportunities when the current economic conditions improve.
- 6.8 Mary Burguieres drew the LSP's attention to the future jobs fund which has been established to support young people who were long term unemployed. The Chair suggested that it would be helpful to pick up the 14-19 agenda at the December LSP business meeting.
- 6.9 Omar Ralph informed the LSP that future jobs fund continues to be a rolling programme of activity and to date London has been underrepresented. GOL are encouraging London based bids, particularly those that are joined up across boroughs. GOL were willing to provide support to any authorities seeking to pursue any bids in the coming months and he would be happy to follow up any enquiries in this area.

7 Sustainability Update

- 7.1 Oliver Myers introduced his paper which was in two parts, and was intended to provide an update on the Camden Climate Change Alliance as well as an introduction to the 'Good Food for Camden' initiative.
- 7.2 The Climate Change Alliance Advisory Board, a cross organisational body representing partners from the public, private and voluntary sectors has met quarterly since November 2008 and has recently conducted its first annual review providing valuable feedback on the climate change project and its future direction.
- 7.3 The advisory board has been supporting the Alliance's vision to reduce carbon emissions by 10% by 2012 and to date has recruited 74 members who have committed to measuring, managing and reducing carbon emissions. The Alliance accreditation scheme has seen 20 members 'going green' with a number of members shortly qualifying for the 'cutting carbon' grade.

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- 7.4 The Alliance is currently in the process of collecting data to better understand the combined carbon footprint from the emissions of all members who are able to disclose their figures. Data has currently been collected from 23 out of the 74 members totalling 53,200 tonnes of CO₂.
- 7.5 The Alliance is planning to mark its anniversary with a networking event for its members in November 2009, plans for which are currently being finalised.
- 7.6 The Chair asked Oliver why there was such a low level of retail membership in the Alliance. Oliver answered that while the retail sector was not directly covered in the work of the Alliance this sector was not deliberately excluded either. Oliver also noted that many of the larger retail chains addressed sustainability issues at their corporate centres which were not necessarily located in Camden and therefore felt that they did not need to join local initiative such as the Alliance.
- 7.7 Oliver then introduced the second part of the report on the 'Good Food for Camden' initiative. This initiative has been part of a joint Council and NHS Camden programme with support from the voluntary and business communities to tackle issues of health inequalities and sustainability through improvements in the function of Camden's food system.
- 7.8 The final plan has now been published on Camden's website and seeks to meet its key aims through increased access to good food which has been defined as food that is healthy, of good quality, nutritious, affordable and sustainable which in turn will address health inequalities while minimising environmental impacts.
- 7.9 The strategy has continued to build on existing work across the borough and has achieved a number of positive outcomes including the development of food growing at Calthorpoe Project and supporting a community café to provide healthy cooking classes in a local school.
- 7.10 The Chair asked whether a members' toolkit on healthy food and sustainability was available. Oliver replied that one does exist and it is targeted towards small and medium enterprises (SMEs) providing them with advice on the procurement of sustainable food and is due for circulation later on this year.
- 7.11 Quentin Sandifer recognised the contribution that this initiative will make to the wider health agenda in Camden and that there were significant linkages between growing your own food and the promotion of physical activity which in turn contributes to improved levels of mental health and wellbeing. Ann Baxter also noted that all schools in Camden have targets around healthy meals and healthy eating.
- 7.12 Simone Hensby informed the LSP that there was anecdotal evidence that the healthy food agenda was being challenged by the existence of junk food which was becoming increasingly popular with people due to its relative low cost.
- 7.13 The Chair concluded the session by informing the LSP that Camden Council has now signed up to the 10:10 climate change campaign which seeks to reduce the country's carbon emissions by 10% by 2010.

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8 Thematic Updates

- 8.1 Ann Baxter provided an update on the recent meeting of the Children's Trust Board which will shortly be publishing Camden's children and young people's plan and wished to formally thank colleagues for their roles in helping to draft and agree it.
- 8.2 There had also a recent unannounced safeguarding inspection. The Council is currently in the process of discussing feedback on the findings with the inspectors although initial comments were positive about the extent to which children are safeguarded in the borough.
- 8.3 Dominic Clout provided an update from the Community Safety Partnership. There continue to be reductions over a range of crime types including serious violent crime and acquisitive crimes. However there had been recent concerns around serious youth violence particularly a number of serious incidents around the Westminster Kingsway College.
- 8.4 There has also been some positive joint working undertaken between the Council and the Police around confidence and perception including the joint delivery of a partnership week of action. Other activities included face the people surgeries. The Community Payback web page and nomination form are now live on the Policing and Safety section of Camden website, and will be promoted in the October edition of Your Camden. The Police and Council communication team were now working closely together.
- 8.5 The chair informed the LSP that Philip Colligan in his new role as Assistant Director for Regeneration and Partnerships will provide an update of work being undertaken by the Economic Development Partnership at the December LSP meeting.

9 Reports on LSP Seminars and Groups

- 9.1 The Chair provided an update on the recent Social Cohesion Forum and the meeting's focus on the prevent agenda and a very successful role-playing activity around the issues of radicalisation in local communities. The Chair and Dominic Clout reflected on the key challenges that issues of radicalisation pose to local communities and recognised that these were not easily rectified.
- 9.2 Dominic Clout informed the LSP that the threat of terrorism still remains high in the borough. He added that there was intelligence that confirmed that there are people in Camden actively engaged in acts of terrorism at the moment. The key challenge posed by radicalism and the terrorist threat is how the community can support and influence those young people currently on the cusp of radicalisation.
- 9.3 Mary Burguieres provided a brief overview of work underway as part of the biennial review of the Community Strategy. Work undertaken to date has included a presentations and discussions at each of the thematic partnerships to seek views on how effectively the community strategy has helped in developing their priorities and work programmes.

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- 9.4 The next stage of the review process will be an LSP evening seminar in November considering the key findings of the review in which members will think about future challenges and the impacts on the LSP work programme.
- 9.5 Sarah Mullen suggested to the LSP that this was a good opportunity to think about the Community Strategy within the context of the current financial environment and to consider how the changing political and economic landscape might impact on its future delivery.

10 Minutes of the previous meeting

- 10.1 The minutes of the July 9th meeting were agreed

11 Matters arising

- 11.1 There were none.

12 AOB

- 12.1 None

Actions:

- Hard copies of the LDF documents to be distributed to all members