

Report of	Meeting	Date
Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) (Introduced by the Executive Leader)	Executive Cabinet	1 October 2009

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TASK GROUP LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP 2009

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To respond to the findings and recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny inquiry report on the Local Strategic Partnership.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. That the Executive Cabinet endorses the response attached to be received by Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

3. To inform Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Executive's response to the recommendations made by the O&S inquiry on Local Strategic Partnership.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

4. None

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

5. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region	√	Develop local solutions to climate change.	√
Improving equality of opportunity and life chances	√	Develop the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live	√
Involving people in their communities	√	Ensure Chorley Borough Council is a performing organization	

BACKGROUND

6. At the request of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee a scrutiny Inquiry into the Chorley Local Strategic Partnership (Chorley Partnership) was undertaken between October 2008 and April 2009. The purpose of the Inquiry was to understand how the LSP works with the Council and the extra value it provides linked to three objectives:

- To ensure the wider engagement of the Council, local councillors and local people in the work of the Local Strategic Partnership and its thematic groups;
- To maximise the capacity of the Local Strategic Partnership through the projects it delivers; and
- To investigate how the Local Strategic Partnership will tackle one of the big issues of the Borough, the high rate of alcohol harm related hospital admissions rates and its impact on anti-social behaviour.

7. The report containing a number of recommendations was presented to Executive Cabinet in August 2009. Outlined below are the responses to each of the nine recommendations.

1. In order to continue to improve Members knowledge and understanding of the work of the Partnership, future information regarding LSP activity will be included in the Members e.bulletin 'intheknow'
2. That links be provided in the 'intheknow' to the 'Ambition' County newsletter and the Chorley Partnership website.

Prior to the introduction of 'in the know' there was a range of information either e-mailed or sent in hard copy to all members regarding the Chorley Partnership e.g. a quarterly digest of the LSP meetings and the Chorley People newsletter. However following the O&S recommendations, information regarding LSP activity has been included in the members e bulletin e.g in 31st July 'in theknow' it contained information on the successful LSP projects for 2009/2010. In addition, a link was also provided to the Ambition County Newsletter in 14th August bulletin. Looking ahead we will continue to include information in the members e-bulletin on the Chorley Partnership and include a link to the Chorley Partnership website.

3. Thematic groups be encouraged to publish all their agendas and minutes on the Chorley Partnership website within 10 working days of their meetings to promote a consistent approach.

The Council in its role as community leader currently services the LSP Board and Executive. The agenda is currently issued 7 working days prior to the meeting in line with other Council supported meetings. However, with regards to the LSP meetings we are happy to move to the 10 days recommended to ensure a consistent approach. In addition, the Performance, Partnerships and Equalities Manager has informally been encouraging all the thematic partnerships to respond to the recommendation. However, there will be an opportunity to formalise this recommendation when the LSP constitution is next updated later this year.

4. To suggest that the Chorley Partnership concentrate on fewer projects, covering more than one of the thematic groups to achieve a greater impact on the key strategic objectives in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

The current Community Strategy developed in 2005 and refreshed in 2007 has five priorities underpinned by appropriate strategic objectives. Whilst these priorities and strategic objectives will remain relevant until the next refresh due in 2010, during 2008/09 the LSP has also identified two key issues for attention, not reflected in the current Community Strategy - supporting people where possible through the economic recession and tackling alcohol related harm. As a consequence, a fewer number of projects have been selected this year (a

total of 9) of which 6 will support our aim to address alcohol related issues and 1 will provide support to people in managing their money better through the recession. In addition, work is currently underway to maximise the spend of the one –off performance reward grant expected later this financial year and consideration will be given to having a limited number of projects covering more than one of the thematic groups that will achieve the maximum impact.

5. In order to increase the spend available, there is a need to attract money from other funding sources and also look at how other funding sources outside the Local Strategic Partnership eg. Funding from Lancashire Locals, could be better co-ordinated to maximise impact.

The Council's External Funding officer currently plays a key role in working with the LSP partners to access additional funding to support the work of the LSP and its theme groups and this will continue for the foreseeable future. In recent discussions with our major public sector partners there is a definite willingness and some examples of using funding pots to co-ordinate investment to address the objectives of the community strategy and maximise impact. Looking to the future, every opportunity will be taken to work with partners to co-ordinate funding sources to achieve the maximum impact.

6. That in recognition of the seriousness of this issue one of the Chorley Partnerships projects be to help address the major issue of alcohol related harm, possibly using all or a large part of the funding available to achieve a high impact in the Borough.
7. That if Chorley Partnership decide to invest in a project relating to Chorley's alcohol harm related statistics, they be invited to come and talk to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee about their proposals

At the approval of the LSP there is currently a group of partners led by the council who are looking at how the forthcoming PRG from the Local Area Agreement could be used to reduce NI 139 alcohol related hospital admissions. To date, the group have identified current activity in tackling alcohol issues in Chorley and once final analysis of NI139 is available, will bring forward proposals for consideration by the LSP Executive. Attendance at O&S to share the proposals can be part of this process.

8. That Chorley Partnership give consideration to a Young Persons Intervention Programme in Chorley.

Of the nine LSP projects funded for 2009/10, two are funding diversionary activity for young people at risk of alcohol abuse or Anti Social Behaviour and seeking to raise the self-esteem and aspirations of these young people. The group referred to above will also look at the potential for further young persons intervention work in Chorley.

9. That in conjunction with the Safer Chorley and South Ribble Partnership, the Executive Cabinet be asked to investigate the introduction of and Alcohol Designation Order for Astley Park; all parks and recreational grounds; and the Town Centre and that local Councillors be involved in the consultation process.

The Safer Chorley and South Ribble Partnership have formally supported progress to be made on the establishment of a Designated Public Place Order for the Town Centre, Chorley and Astley Park. We propose to bring a report to the Executive Cabinet in November which will outline the process and seek approval to go forward. As with the first DPP order, we will need to receive formal 'Council' sign-off as part of the process. Consultation will take place in the form of direct consultation with elected members, stakeholders and specifically the

police. The process also requires us to place notice of order in the local press, to seek comments, objections etc.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

8. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Corporate Directors' comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		No significant implications in this area	√

LESLEY-ANN FENTON
ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE POLICY & PERFORMANCE

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Lesley-Ann Fenton	5323	14 th September 2009	***

Background Papers			
Document	Date	File	Place of Inspection
Final report of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group on the Local Strategic Partnership 2009	August 2009	***	***