

Report of	Meeting	Date
Chief Executive	Council	3 June 2014

CHANGES TO PARTNERSHIP WORKING

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. This report proposes changes to two current committees, the Chorley Partnership Executive and the Equality Forum.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Chorley Partnership Executive is deleted and replaced with a Chorley Public Service Reform Board.
3. That the Chorley Public Service Reform board appoints the Leader of the Council and an opposition member as its representatives.
4. That the meeting arrangements for the Equality Forum are transferred to the Chorley VCFS Network.
5. That a member is appointed as the Council representative on the Equality Forum.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

6. The Chorley Partnership Executive have reviewed the purpose and arrangements of partnership working in Chorley and agreed that a formal change to the governance and structure of the partnership would enable them to achieve greater transformational change. This report proposes that these new arrangements are agreed.
7. The Equality Forum arrangements have also been reviewed and it is proposed that whilst the purpose and outcomes of the meetings are beneficial, that greater value and input from the wider community could be gained by transferring responsibility for the meeting arrangements to the Chorley VCFS Network. This report proposes that these new arrangements are agreed.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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CORPORATE PRIORITIES

8. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all	x	A strong local economy	x
Clean, safe and healthy communities	x	An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and	x

CHANGES TO THE CHORLEY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE

9. The Chorley Partnership Executive has been operational for a number of years. Historically it had a large support structure of sub groups and delivered the Local Area Agreement in conjunction with County wide structures. A number of reviews have taken place since then to keep the partnership fit for purpose, with the sub group structure being continually reduced. The Partnership currently operates to deliver the Sustainable Community Strategy, last updated in 2010 which presents agreed priorities for focus. In recent years, they have chosen a number of key projects annually to deliver in partnership to tackle cross cutting issues. An example of the projects and what they have delivered is included below.

Issue	Outcomes
Mitigating impact of Welfare Reform 2012/13 Key Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £40k of DWP funding allocated to provide 1:1 support for unemployed residents Jointly funded financial capability project providing 1:1 support on budgeting issues Early support system established with Help Direct Credit Union established with financial support from Chorley Council, small contributions from housing associations and in kind support from Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust establishing it as the main credit union for their 7000 employees Welfare Reform Partnership established
Reducing Alcohol Related Harm 2011/12 Key Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Stop Health Shop – Pop up shop with Lancashire Care Foundation Trust undertook 400 health checks in 8 months with 35% resulting in onward referrals Hospital Alcohol Liaison Service (HALS) 7-day-a-week hospital service launched by Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust Total Alcohol Project – Community Budget research project which calculated costs associated with alcohol related harm on all public services (£44k per high risk drinker). Number of recommendations delivered as a result including Brief Intervention Training delivered with 50+ employees from all partner agencies Alcohol awareness in schools – over 900 pupils received alcohol advice sessions

10. Partnership working is an important way for the Council to influence and work with other organisations. To ensure that this partnership is achieving maximum value, a review has recently been undertaken. This recommended that given the current opportunities to change services (such as the integration of health and social care), and the good levels of strategic engagement from other organisations, that some governance changes would help to focus the work of the partnership.
11. It is proposed that the Partnership shifts its focus to how organisations can collectively deliver public services to the public efficiently and effectively in Chorley. To enable this change, it is proposed that the partnership adopts a new name, terms of reference and purpose.
12. It is proposed that the Partnership becomes the Chorley Public Service Reform Board and that its purpose will be “work together to ensure high quality public services with the best outcomes and value for residents and provide better coordinated and integrated services which are intelligence led”.
13. This board will be an important mechanism for the Council to have greater collaboration and influence on other organisations. The Council will retain an oversight of the work programme through the Member representatives on the board, and also through quarterly reports to Executive Cabinet. All agendas and minutes will continue to be published through the mod.gov system, and Councillors will be able to attend as observers.
14. Within the terms of reference, it is proposed that;

- a. The board will deliver this purpose through an annual work plan. The four workstreams for 2014/15 are;
 - Intelligence led services and sharing intelligence
 - Joint Commissioning
 - Integrated assets
 - Chorley wellbeing and resilience system
- b. Each board member will be responsible for gaining commitment from their organisation to support the delivery of these workstreams. Each board member has committed to;
 - Strong and dedicated leaders who are able to commit their organisations to exploring and where agreed, delivering, the new ways of working
 - Allocation of staff resource to workstreams to deliver on workstreams on their behalf
 - Removal of organisational barriers to data sharing where possible
 - Collective honesty up front about what is and isn't deliverable in partnership
- c. The board will lobby and influence other partnership bodies, such as the Children's Trusts, Community Safety Partnerships, Health and Wellbeing Partnerships, to ensure that Chorley issues are recognised and acted upon.

15. The membership is proposed as;

Organisation	Representative
Chorley Council	Leader of the Council
Chorley Council	Opposition Member
Chorley Council	Chief Executive
Chorley VCFS Network	VCFS Network Rep
DWP	Divisional Manager
Business Representative – focus on social responsibility	Business sector representative
Chorley and South Ribble Clinical Commissioning Group	Chief Officer
Lancashire Care Foundation Trust	Chief Operating Officer
Lancashire Constabulary	Chief Inspector
Lancashire County Council	Director of Public Health
Lancashire County Council	Elected Member
Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service	Divisional Manager
Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust	Director of Strategy
Runshaw College	Principal
Start Well Champion	LCC Children's Services Officer
Live Well Champion	VCFS Network Rep
Age Well Champion	Chief Executive, Age UK Lancashire

CHANGES TO THE EQUALITY FORUM

16. The Equality Forum invites representatives from groups of all strands of diversity to participate in discussions about new policies and Council activities and raise any concerns with regards to policies and service delivery. Any member of the community is welcome to attend and take part in meetings.
17. It has been proposed that additional value may be gained from these meetings if the arrangements were transferred into the community. The Council would continue to be an important partner at the Forum, but would take on a responsive rather than administrative role, enabling the issues that are affecting our communities to take prime space on the agenda. The Council will still use the Forum as a consultative body for changes to services or policies.

18. The benefit of this change will be threefold; firstly it will ensure a greater influence from the community on the agenda of the meetings, secondly, that it will fit into the role of the VCFS Network and build on their current programme of work, and thirdly, that it will encourage greater contributions from all public sector partners to present items for feedback rather than just the Council as the host organisation.
19. Within the new arrangements, it is proposed that the Chorley VCFS Network are appointed as the host organisation. We already hold a contract with the Network in which they take the lead on developing the voluntary, community and faith sector in Chorley.
20. The Chorley VCFS Network have developed four principles to assist in the transfer of the Equality Forum to the management of the Chorley VCFS network;
 - a. The Chorley VCFS network proposes to organise two meetings in each financial year (October and April) to enable engagement with equality related issues, chaired by a member of the VCFS Management Group.
 - b. A Standing Committee comprising of three members of the VCFS Management Group and three members of the Equality Forum, one of whom should be a borough councillor, will form a Standing Committee which will also meet twice each year (July and January) to plan the agenda for the following meeting and assess progress on specific issues
 - c. It is proposed that the database held by Chorley Borough Council is transferred to the VCFS Management Group so that invitations to events can be distributed both electronically and via the postal service. Agenda items will be requested by the Standing Committee.
 - d. To facilitate the above, it is proposed that the Borough Council makes financial provision in the 2014/2015 contract with the VCFS Management Group finances to enable the new forum to meet in venues other than the Town Hall. It is also proposed that the contract makes provision for BSL interpreter costs.
21. It is recommended that the Council accepts these principles, and that arrangements are made to facilitate the transfer of the Equality Forum from 2014/15 onwards.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

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

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	x
Legal		Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area		Policy and Communications	x

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

23. No comments

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

24. No comments

COMMENTS OF THE HEAD OF POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS

25. The council's continued involvement in the Equality Forum will support the organisation in meeting its duties under the Equality Act.

GARY HALL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Sarah James	5348	19 th May	Changes to Partnership Working