



Leadership Gloucestershire – 27 July 2017

1 Welcome, introduction and apologies

Name	Organisation	Apologies
Cllr Mark Hawthorne (Chair) Pete Bungard	Gloucestershire County Council	
Cllr Steve Lydon David Hagg	Stroud District Council	
Cllr Jennie Watkin Jon McGinty	Gloucester City Council	Cllr Paul James
	Forest of Dean District Council	Cllr Tim Gwilliam Sue Pangbourne
Cllr Steve Jordan Pat Pratley	Cheltenham Borough Council	
Cllr Christopher Hancock Christine Gore	Cotswold District Council	Cllr Mark Annett
Cllr Dave Waters Mike Dawson Robert Weaver (Observer)	Tewkesbury Borough Council	
Martin Surl Richard Bradley	Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)	Paul Trott
Jon Stratford	Gloucestershire Constabulary	Rod Hansen
Dr Andy Seymour	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	Mary Hutton
Diane Savory David Owen	GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)	
Stephen Marston	University of Gloucestershire	
Jane Burns Simon Harper	Gloucestershire County Council	
Katie Jenkins	Government representative – Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS)	

2 ACTION NOTES

The notes of the meeting held on 16 February 2017 were agreed.

3 MATTERS ARISING

a) Business Rates Retention Scheme

The report prepared by David Hagg was noted. It was understood that the Government might still pursue local business rate retention but it would not be through primary legislation.

b) Gloucestershire Moves

The report prepared by Jon McGinty was noted. The Gloucestershire Moves bid had been shortlisted and was one of 19 bids being considered by Sport England. Active Gloucestershire remained confident that its bid for funding would be successful. An announcement regarding the bids made nationally was likely in September.

c) Strategic Planning

In presenting the report, Mike Dawson noted that the role of the Strategic Planning Coordinator fell into two areas: co-ordination as new development plans were put together and pulling together a shared evidence base to support spatial planning in the county. The role would not impact on the autonomy of individual planning authorities. He believed that it might be worthwhile for the county to explore with the DCLG the potential for a Strategic Development Statement for Gloucestershire.

He explained that the terms of reference of the Economic Growth Joint Committee would need to be adjusted to cover the governance arrangements around the new role. This would include setting up a Strategic Planning Leaders' Board to provide direction and monitor progress.

It was suggested that £5,000 be provided by each District Council and the LEP with the County Council providing matching funding of £35,000. Total annual funding would therefore amount to £70,000 for the duration of the post but this would not cover the one-off recruitment costs. These costs would be shared between the partners at the same rate of apportionment as the annual cost of the post.

There was support for the approach suggested. Partners were anxious that links were made between spatial planning, the Strategic Economic Plan and Vision 2050.

Further discussions would take place on the hosting arrangements. David Owen indicated that the LEP was prepared to host the new post.

It was agreed:

- i) To support the creation of a Strategic Planning Coordinator role.*
- ii) To fund the post in line with the recommendations in the report.*

- iii) *Recruitment costs to be funded separately and shared between the partners at the same rate of apportionment as the annual cost of the post.*
- iv) *To request officers to provide a report to the Economic Growth Joint Committee setting out the detailed governance arrangements.*
- v) *To make arrangements to complete the recruitment and hosting arrangements for the new post.*
- vi) *To request officers to open a dialogue with the DCLG to explore the potential for a pilot Strategic Development Statement for Gloucestershire.*

A report from the officer working group would be presented at the next meeting on progress with recruitment and hosting of the post.

Action – Mike Dawson

4 VISION 2050 AND LEADING PLACES

Pete Bungard explained that Vision 2050 was a Leadership Gloucestershire project and Leading Places was a national programme which the University of Gloucestershire was part of. The two projects had been brought together to consider where Gloucestershire needed to be in 2050.

Stephen Marston advised that the development of Vision 2050 could be thought of the ‘what’ and ‘why’ and the process of Leading Places the ‘how’. Two workshops had been held attended by a broad range of leaders from the public sector, businesses and the university. It was proposed that a ‘Big Conversation’ should be held to seek views on Vision 2050.

The programme would be made up of three parts:

- i) The ‘Big Conversation’: an innovative public engagement exercise to be launched in the Autumn.
- ii) A process to assess the impact of the ideas in Vision 2050 as a way of informing judgements about priorities.
- iii) An exercise to test the leadership models in the county for taking Vision 2050 forward.

A project manager would need to be appointed and a steering group put in place to oversee the programme. Overall expenditure was anticipated to be in the region of £200,000 but it was recognised that more detailed costings would need to be provided.

Pete Bungard advised that around £120,000 remained available in the Leadership Gloucestershire ‘pot’ (from historic partnership grants) and there had been previous agreement that Leadership Gloucestershire members would each contribute £10,000 towards priorities. District Councils and the

LEP had already committed £5,000 each for the Strategic Planning Coordinator leaving £5,000 towards Vision 2050.

David Hagg advised that a report would be provided to a future meeting of the Economic Growth Joint Committee regarding the use of funds generated through the business rates pool. He was not sure of the level of funding available but there had been a previous suggestion that funding could be provided for the Strategic Planning Coordinator post.

There was general support from partners for the Vision 2050 programme although the following issues were raised during the discussion:

- a) No voluntary and community sector involvement in the workshops.
- b) Making it a journey towards 2050 so that local people can relate to what's being proposed.
- c) Breaking away from what's happening in the next five years and doing an aspirational piece of work on what local people want Gloucestershire to look like in 2050.
- d) Being careful not to cut across other sensitive consultation and engagement exercises relating to the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP), Joint Core Strategy (JCS) and the 'Big Conversation' being undertaken by Gloucester City Council.
- e) Putting in place suitable governance arrangements including a steering group for the programme.
- f) Making sure that a proper funding model is in place with detailed costings.
- g) Ensuring that there is wide engagement across the county including the six MPs in the county.

The partners agreed in principle to support the project subject to the issues, particularly around governance and funding, being addressed. In the interim period, the County Council would bridge the funding gap subject to checking any major items of expenditure and ensuring that appropriate use was made of in-house resources.

A report would be provided to the next meeting setting out the detailed costings, funding, engagement proposals, launch date and make-up of the steering group.

Action – Stephen Marston and Simon Harper (to send out invoices to the District Councils and the LEP)

5 COMMUNITY SAFETY – SAFER GLOUCESTERSHIRE

In presenting the report, Richard Bradley advised that the first meeting of Safer Gloucestershire had recently been held. Stewart Edgar, Chief Fire Officer and Operations Director at the County Council, had been appointed chair.

Answering questions, he explained that in order to keep the size of Safer Gloucestershire manageable representation was through officers. He confirmed that wider political engagement would take place through other means including events held across the county.

6 HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

Jon McGinty advised that the DCLG had announced a new housing infrastructure fund amounting to £2.3 billion to support local authorities in providing infrastructure to deliver new housing. Bids for up to £10 million could be made through the Marginal Viability Fund and bids of up to £400 million could be made through the Forward Planning Fund. A report would be provided to the meeting of the Economic Growth Joint Committee on 6 September 2017.

Bids could only be put forward for projects which related directly to current development plans.

A meeting of the officer group would be held shortly and this would provide an opportunity to share information and review the guidance from the DCLG.

Cllr Steve Jordan referred to the potential for a bid related to the 6,000 new homes planned for Junction 10.

Cllr Mark Hawthorne felt that it would be beneficial to have a list of infrastructure projects that were ready 'on the shelf' when opportunities arose. He hoped that this would be addressed.

7 CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES

A report on the outcome on the recent Ofsted inspection of local authority services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers and wider Children's Services issues had been circulated with the agenda.

Pete Bungard explained that it was important to differentiate between:

- a) Single agency failure for the County Council and Gloucestershire Constabulary with specific issues identified around capacity, capability and management.
- b) Opportunities for improved multi-agency working on prevention to ensure that vulnerable young people did not fall through the gaps.

PCC Martin Surl stated that he had updated the Police and Crime Panel on the HMIC report on child protection. He believed that the HMIC report needed to be read in conjunction with the Ofsted report as both reports referred to the same vulnerable young people. He was proposing to hold a summit with key

partners to look forward and understand what 'good' looked like in terms of services for vulnerable young people.

Cllr Steve Jordan believed that it was important for Leadership Gloucestershire to make a collective contribution in responding to the Ofsted report. He said that Cheltenham Borough Council would be setting up a cross-party working group to look at the issues and work with relevant agencies including the County Council and the Police.

DCC Jon Stratford noted the importance of early intervention and believed that was where more resources needed to be directed. He said that the Police were working hard to address the issues raised in the HMIC report and the involvement of partners was critical in improving services.

Cllr Mark Hawthorne advised that the County Council was receiving support from the Local Government Association and was intending to appoint an improvement partner to help in raising standards of care. The improvement plan for Children's Services would cover a period of at least two years. He believed that there was a need to review the partnership arrangements across the county to ensure that they were sufficiently robust to respond to the concerns raised. He stated that David McCallum, Independent Chair of the Children's Safeguarding Board, would be leading figure and he undertook to invite him to attend the next meeting of Leadership Gloucestershire.

Action – Jane Burns

8 WORK PROGRAMME

Cllr Steve Lydon believed that partners needed to take a step back and consider what Leadership Gloucestershire should be looking at. This included understanding how related bodies such as the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Economic Development Joint Committee fitted into the overall picture. He was concerned that on occasions Leadership Gloucestershire seemed to bump into an issue requiring financial support without any planning beforehand.

9 TERMS OF REFERENCE

This item was considered as the first proper item of business at the meeting.

Cllr Steve Lydon requested that the terms of reference for Leadership Gloucestershire be reviewed to ensure that they remained fit for purpose. He noted that it was custom and practice for bodies such as Leadership Gloucestershire to appoint a chair on an annual basis.

Cllr Steve Jordan and PCC Martin Surl supported a review of the terms of reference. This should include the appointment of the chair and identifying

those members who were entitled to vote. Responding to a question, Jane Burns confirmed that Paul Trott, Chief Executive of the Commissioner's Office, was already invited as a member of Leadership Gloucestershire.

Cllr Jennie Watkins believed that it was timely to undertake a review and suggested that this included representation on other related bodies including the Health and Wellbeing Board. She said that she was a member of the board but found it difficult to represent the interests of the six district councils.

Cllr Mark Hawthorne requested partners to send their thoughts on the terms of reference to Jane Burns. Where there was a consensus on changes, recommendations would be brought forward to a future meeting.

Actions:

- a) All partners to inform Jane Burns of their thoughts on the terms of reference and identify topics they would like put forward at future meetings which reflect issues of common interest.*
- b) Jane Burns to review the terms of reference in the light of the comments received and produce a draft work programme.*

10 FUTURE MEETING DATES

26 October – 10am

14 December – 10 am