Minutes of the Sevenoaks District Local Strategic Partnership
held at Sevenoaks District Council Offices, Thursday 3rd September 2009

Sevenoaks District Local Strategic Partnership
making it happen
- together

Present:

Robin Hales (Chair)	RH	Sevenoaks District Council
Tony Bartlett	TB	Business Link Kent
Merle Bigden	MB	Sevenoaks District Council
Lesley Bowles	LB	Sevenoaks District Council
Chief Inspector Dave Cooper	DC	West Kent Police
Tony Cornfield	TC	Churches Together
Jamie Davies	JD	Kent Fire and Rescue Service
Ahmad Eslami	AE	Learning and Skills Council
Chris Hare	CH	West Kent College
Sharon Ives	SI	NHS West Kent
Chris Lay	CL	Kent County Council, Children Families and Education
Kristen Paterson	KP	Sevenoaks District Council
Tom Phillips	TP	Kent County Council
Chief Super Mark Salisbury	MS	West Kent Police
Paul Shallcross	PS	Kent County Council, Children
Nick Silvester	NS	Kent Fire and Rescue Service
Angela Slaven	AS	Kent County Council
Barbara Thorndick	BT	West Kent Housing Families and Education
Jo Ridley	JR	Moat Housing
Alan Whiting	AW	Sevenoaks District Council

Attending for Agenda Items

Richard Morris	RM	Sevenoaks District Council - item 8
Sandy Shattock	SS	Kent Environment Manager – item 9
Alan Dyer	AD	Sevenoaks District Council - item 10

1	**<u>Apologies for Absence</u>** Martin Adams — Kent Fire and Rescue Service	

	Bill Anderson — Kent County Council Liz Chapman — Kent Adult Education Nick Johannsen — Kent Downs AONB Jess Mookherjee — NHS West Kent Mark Whyman — Sencio Community Leisure Mandy Wynne — Voluntary Action West Kent	
2	**Notes of Sevenoaks District LSP meeting held on 3rd September 2009** The minutes were agreed. It was noted that AW circulated the consultation relating to the Vine Academy to all partners on 10th August. CL updated partners on the Academy. It was hoped that the development of an Academy would prevent upward of 60% of young people travelling out of the District for their educational provision. It was noted that there had been no formal objections to the public school closure notices. The public consultation period for the new Academy proposal ends on **2nd October 2009.** Results will be complied after the closing date but early analysis indicated that 60% of people support the proposal. CL said that the challenge now was to persuade the government to commit £28 million to make the Sevenoaks proposal possible. CL asked the LSP to consider formally giving its support to the proposal to development of an Academy in Sevenoaks. The LSP formally agreed to give its support to KCC's proposals to develop an Academy for Sevenoaks.	**All to note**
3	**Successes (all)** • TC: reported following its opening, the Child Contact Centre at the Vine Evangelical Church was now being fully used by 9 families (involving 15 children) • BT reported that there were as part of the Oliver Crescent development built by West Kent Housing in Farningham, there were 5 Homebuy schemes. This is a scheme designed for those people who cannot afford to buy a property outright. Homebuy enables the buyer to buy up to 75 per cent of the property while renting the remaining portion that they do not own. It allow the buyer to increase the amount they own over a period of time. • NS reported on the successful launch of the KF&RS Fire Bike which is being used by a team of four firefighters at club meets, shows and events around the county as an educational tool to raise awareness of road safety. The Fire Bike is a community safety tool aimed primarily at delivering road safety messages but will also be available to support other community safety activity. Further information is available from Lawrence Pater| at Thames-Side fire station on 01474 535 943 • MB highlighted recent successes of the SDC Community Development Team. This included the Council using the summer Youth Zone activities to carry out a range of consultations, including	

	consultations for the new Sustainable Community Action Plan. It was also noted that the Community Safety Unit Launch was taking place over lunch time (3rd September) • TB was pleased to announce that Sevenoaks District Council and Business Support Kent (provider of Business Link service) had signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The agreement sets out how both organisations will work in partnership to develop enterprise and support business in the District. • DC reported that DC said that the Neighbourhood Tasking Team started on 1 September, which consists of 1 sergeant and 5 PC's, they are currently tasked to Swanley for the next couple of months. • PS said that the Transition Days had been a good success. PS also said that the HOUSE Project has started in Swanley in the Martin's Newsagents and will be there until end of September.	
4	**Year 3 – Qtr 1 Monitoring** It was noted that there were continued issues with missing monitoring information. The overall partnership results for Qtr 1 were as follows: • 91% - green • 4% - amber • 0% - red • 5% - missing It was noted that KCC Highways had been unable to provide monitoring information in time for the partnership meeting. AW and TP to follow up with Malcolm Appleby. PS noted that Local Children's Services Partnership were working hard to improve target 15.1 "Absences reduced in line with County and national targets".	**AW/TP**
5	**New Sustainable Community Action Plan – review of consultations and emerging priorities** LB introduced this item. A document containing a summary of consultations held to date were circulated to all partners. LB stated that stage 1 consultations had now been completed. This involved collecting priorities from representative groups and residents in the District. Stage 2 consultations are planned/ underway. These involve looking at the priorities and sub-aims emerging from the consultations with small groups of partners, groups and partnerships that may be involved in taking work forward. It is also planned to take the emerging priorities and sub aims to the Council's resident's panel. This is designed to ensure statistically validate the emerging results. It was agreed that AW would circulate a copy of the draft questionnaire to all partners for their comments before the survey was approved. LB noted that as a result of the stage 1 consultations, the priority heading for equality had been removed. This is because it was felt this is something that should be part of the work we are already doing and would form part of the narrative for the new plan.	**AW**

	More work was also being planned for harder to reach groups. This would involve using the HERO project to reach residents being targeted by the project.	
6	**New Ash Green regeneration** AW noted that there had been no progress since the time of the last EVA review in July 2009. The Council were continuing to pursue enforcement action against the principal landowners using Health and Safety legislation and Planning legislation. It was also noted that there were issues surrounding non-payment of business rates. RH noted that he had pursued the issues relating to New Ash Green with KCC and was setting up a tour of New Ash Green for Mr Kevin Lynes, KCC's Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economic Development and the Interim Director for Regeneration and Economic Development for KCC. It is hoped this meeting will raise awareness at a senior level of issues in New Ash Green.	
7	**Update from Sevenoaks Health Action Team (HAT)** MB explained the role of the HAT. The HAT is a multi-agency group which contributes towards the delivery of key health priorities set out in Kent Agreement 2, Kent Public Health Strategy, Choosing Health Agenda and Sevenoaks District Sustainable Community Plan. Service delivery is focussed on priority wards such as Swanley and Edenbridge as well small pockets of deprivation and rural isolation in other parishes across the District. The work of the group makes important links to the Young Peoples Action Plan, which highlights the health concerns of young people, the Community Safety Partnership and Action Plan. It was noted that changes within the NHS West Kent Public Health Directorate has led to an internal reorganisation in NHS West Kent and the Choosing Health priorities will be changing from locality based to programme based. There will be five programme leads in place. This will help the Directorate to link more effectively with other parts of the NHS where services are being commissioned or developed. This will mean all the projects currently funded through general and choosing health budgets will be reviewed and further planned on a programme basis rather than locality. Overall priorities include improved value for money and reducing health inequalities. NHS West Kent felt the previous programme model led to limited services being provided within our District including Swanley. There were concerns about using this medical model to deliver services unrelated to locality. SDC and partners have proved that health gains and outcomes have been achieved, including direct improvements to existing medical conditions using a holistic/locality based model. MB noted that the Audit Commission carried out a workshop on tackling health inequalities in the District with the SDHAT in July 2009. The Audit Commission conducted an e-survey across all the health and well being boards/health action teams last year. As part of that survey, members were asked to identify some barriers to tackling health inequalities across Kent.	

	As a result, the action planning workshop with the SDHAT aimed to further identify any local issues and barriers Sevenoaks District face in tackling health inequalities and develop an action plan to help address these issues 3 key barriers were chosen for action and further discussion: • Perceptions of affluence v deprivation • Lack of co-terminus boundaries leading to lack of co-ordination/holistic approach • Sustaining success when funding moves with priorities As a result of the workshop the Audit Commission will compile an action plan for the SDHAT and will visit in 12 months to discuss how these identified barriers were overcome. MB also noted that the Sevenoaks SDHAT were reviewing the HAT Action plan to make it more measurable. The new SDHAT Action Plan will then feed directly to the Local Strategic Partnership and Community Plan. Additionally The SDHAT Action Plan will also feedback to the Corporate Area Assessment and Local Area Agreement.	
8	**Brief Update on major planning applications** **Update on major planning applications –** Richard Morris, Development Control Manager (SDC) **Swanley Town Centre** No further progress to report. The Council is still waiting to hear back from the landowner. **West Kent Cold Store Site redevelopment** The principle of the residential development on this site has already been established following outline planning permission being allowed at appeal by the Secretary of State last year. The approved outline consent will deliver 480 residential homes, of which 144 of these will be affordable units. The scheme also provides 4500 square metres of commercial floorspace, a medical/community facility, footpaths and cycleways, landscaping and a number of green open spaces, including play areas. the scheme provides highway improvements works There is also Section 106 Agreement The developers are looking to reduce the amount of affordable housing units and alter the terms of the S106 agreement. This application has been deferred by Members and will be discussed in a special meeting with the Development Control Committee. This will be a first reserved matters submitted pursuant to the outline planning permission for the mixed use redevelopment of the former West Kent Cold Stores site. The first phase is for residential scheme to provide 68 units, 15 of which are to be affordable units.	

	Horton Kirby Paper Mill The legal agreement has been signed and there are ongoing discussions with the developer regarding issues on site. Fairview are looking to re-negotiate the terms of the S106 agreement for the site and change the tenure on some of the units. Work is continuing on the site and negotiations are ongoing. **Fort Halstead:** Hines are seeking to promote a scheme through the LDF. They will prepare a draft planning application as a back up. They have prepared a submission is being reviewed. The primary concerns of this development, (proposing somewhere between 750-950 units of housing) are, accessibility, service provision and the deliverability.	
9	**The Kent Environment Strategy** Sandy Shattock, Kent Environment Manager at KCC delivered a presentation about the Kent Environment Strategy consultation for LSP partners. Comments from partners noted were as follows: • KP – KCC needed to think about ways they would engage the public as part of this consultation • BT – stated that in housing terms, there was a need to look towards sustainable housing for the future as well as looking at looking at climate change/ renewable issues relating to existing housing, offices etc. • AE: Highlighted that there was a difference in what LSP partners could do as practitioners and what the community can do. • CL – Stated that there was an increasing number of schools achieving and applying for ECO schools status. It was also noted that Children Families and Education run an Environmental Field Centre. When the consultation is available, SS will email to AW for circulation to all partners.	**AW**
10	**Update on the Local Development Framework** **Local Development Framework** The LDF is still on target to publish the Core Strategy in January/ February 2010. **<u>Retail Assessment</u>** The consultants looked at the capacity for further development in town centres. They found that due to the recession and changes in trends e.g. internet shopping there is no need for additional retail floor space in Sevenoaks for the next 10 years. There maybe some scope for additional retail units in future years after this. Swanley town centre's report was	

	about regeneration and trying to get people using the town centre to shop. No specific problems arose out of the assessment that wouldn't have arisen in other areas. **<u>Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)</u>** There is enough available land supply within built up areas to meet the housing demand without having to build on greenbelt sites. The housing supply position has been strengthened. In the assessment they have allowed for some housing in New Ash Green as part of a regeneration scheme with retail units. **<u>The Affordable Housing Viability Assessment</u>** The Affordable Housing Viability Assessment is also looking to reduce the size of developments that have to provide affordable housing or contribute to affordable housing. This should increase the amount of affordable housing in the District. **<u>Transport Strategy</u>** This is still in the process of being reviewed. KCC are leading on this document. SDC have been informed that it will be available for Cabinet in September 2009. The Planning Policy team are ensuring that SDC has made a substantial input into the strategy to address problem areas in the District. It was noted that AD was happy to meet partners to discuss any issues relating to the LDF.	**All to note**
11	**AOB** It was agreed that AS would update partners on the Edenbridge Community Centre at the next LSP meeting on 26th November 2009	**AS**
12	**Dates of future meetings in 2009/10** **Dates for 2009/10 now confirmed as:** • **Thursday 26th November 2009 10am – 12pm, Council Offices** • **Thursday 11th February 2010 10am – 12pm, Council Offices**	**ALL TO NOTE**