

## Minutes of Board Meeting

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2010

10.00m – 12.00 noon

Meeting Room LB41, Loxley House

### Present

Councillor David Mellen, Portfolio Holder for Children's Services **DM**  
 Nigel Cooke, Director, One Nottingham **NC**  
 Ron Buchanan, Chairman, NHS Nottingham City **RB**  
 Peter Hill, Archdeacon of Nottingham, Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham **PH**  
 Mark Bowyer, Broxtowe Partnership Trust **MB**  
 Andrew Campbell, African-Caribbean & Asian Forum **AC**  
 James Russell, PR Director, Experian **JR**  
 Jane Todd, Chief Executive, Nottingham City Council **JT**  
 Mike Bent, Corporate Director for Care Standards, Pathway Care Solutions **MB**  
 David Walker, Deputy Divisional Commander for Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire Police (representing Julia Hodson) – **DW**  
 Derek Brewer, Chief Executive, Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club **DB**

### In Attendance

Penny Wakefield, Director – Strategic Partnerships, Nottingham City Council **PW**  
 Liz Jones – Head of Partnership Policy, Nottingham City Council **LJ**  
 Maria Lyle, Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM) **ML**  
 David Coope, Marketing & Communications Manager - One Nottingham/Nottingham City Council  
 Jo Dean, Partnerships Manager, Nottingham Community and Voluntary Service (NCVS)  
 Lorel Manders – One Nottingham, Nottingham City Council

Item	Agenda Item	Action By/When
1.0	<b><u>Welcome and introductions</u></b>	
	Councillor David Mellen, Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, chaired the meeting. He welcomed everyone to Loxley House and everyone introduced themselves.	
2.0	<b><u>Apologies for absence</u></b>	
	Apologies were received from Councillor Jon Collins, Leader of Nottingham City Council and Chair of One Nottingham; Julia Hodson, Chief Constable, Nottinghamshire Police; Francesca Fowler, Director of Organisational Development & Business Improvement, NTU. (Mike Bent had sent notification that he would be late to the meeting).	
3.0	<b><u>Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2010</u></b>	
	The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.	

<b>4.0</b>	<b><u>Actions and Matters arising from the Board meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2010</u></b>	
	<p><u>Third Sector Performance Information</u> – this information has been circulated as requested.</p> <p><u>Length of Board Papers</u> – NC had circulated a letter with this meeting's board papers outlining options for consideration on how large volumes of papers could be distributed.</p> <p><u>LAA Position Statements from Theme Partnerships</u> – these are to be circulated next week.</p> <p><u>Get Nottingham Working</u> – DB had been contacted to be involved in this promotion.</p> <p><u>One Nottingham Lead Officers Group</u> – being arranged for September.</p> <p><u>Fairness Commission amendment to terms of reference</u> -  NC reported that he had attended the Shadow Fairness Commission meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> July which was chaired by Councillor Ahmed. The Commission asked for some slight amendments to be made to the Fairness Commission Terms of Reference, and for them to be brought back to this Board Meeting. The Terms of Reference would then be worked with for 12 months.  NC clarified the amendments to the Terms of Reference as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principle discussion around the relationship between Overview and Scrutiny and the Fairness Commission.</li> <li>• In section 2b) – objectives – wanted to be explicit about the areas covered.</li> <li>• Wanted the groups/communities of interest to be identified in section 3 about the Fairness Commission Membership.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair added that fairness should be looked at in the broadest terms. It is important to understand how the whole of Nottingham is affected as well as individual communities of interest. The Fairness Commission needs to begin work and to be reviewed in 12 months.</p> <p>NC had been asked to draw the Board's attention to the comments about the Fairness Commission role raised by the NCC Overview and Scrutiny Committee. These views had been circulated in the paper that was distributed before the meeting for the Board to note. Overview and Scrutiny' contribution is regarded as valuable and the board are keen to ask O&amp;S Committee to be part of the review after the first 12 months. The Board asked NC to write to Overview &amp; scrutiny Committee to thank them for their contribution and to invite them to take part in the 12 month review.</p> <p>The Chair summed up by stating that the Board were content for the Fairness Commission to run for a year and then to report back.</p>	<p><b>NC/ MB/ PH</b></p> <p><b>NC</b></p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b><u>WNF and ABG Financial Savings / Cuts 2010</u></b>	
	<p>NC presented the report. He apologised that the report was circulated late. This was so that the report could reflect decisions made at the Nottingham City Council Executive Board on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August. The main report covers proposals for achieving the Government's cuts in the Working Neighbourhoods' Fund of £1.217m. The appendix covers all grant areas. The report includes the criteria used and the recommendations for making cuts.</p> <p>The report also covers potential other savings but there are no firm recommendations on these yet. A report will be brought to the September Board to deal with these. Discussions have gone on with Theme Partnerships about savings beyond £1.217m. Other Area Based Grant streams will be reduced by 20% to enable flexibility in the</p>	<b>NC</b>

	<p>case of further reductions or unforeseen events.</p> <p>Maria Lyle (GOEM) informed the group that the government terms of reference for the spending review will be out in the next 10 days. GOEM have not heard anything about the WNF – although there is a CLG Group team working on spend for deprived areas.. The full Comprehensive Spending Review will be published in October 2010. Maria added that some of the work that the Coalition Government is doing around cuts is based on the model followed in Canada and she would source the information on this.</p> <p>Mark Bowyer thanked NC and the One Nottingham team for the work that had gone into this report.</p> <p>Mike Bent joined the meeting at this point and apologised for being late due to unavoidable circumstances.</p> <p>PH commented on the cumulative effect of cuts and the need for analysis of the impact on different organisations. JT responded that this had been talked about at the One Nottingham Executive Group. NC explained that Finance Officers from partner organisations have been meeting and NC is pulling together a mapping exercise to assess the impact on the community, the workforce, geographically etc. NC has produced a proforma for this exercise which partners will be returning to him on completion, and therefore hopes to have a better picture by mid August. Board members were encouraged to support this exercise.</p> <p>DB suggested having a future meeting to see where One Nottingham goes in regards to future funding and objectives. We need to be strategic and opportunistic. Derek identified as an example the England &amp; Wales Cricket Board are interested in looking at the relationship between the ECB and Nottingham. JR offered the help of one of his consultants to analyse and evaluate the impact of ON activity as a part of the Economic Resilience Work.</p> <p>JT asked Maria Lyle to pass the message back to Government that being forced to do things quickly is impacting on our relationships with organisations such as the Voluntary Sector and may have an impact on the Government's Big Society.</p> <p>A discussion followed at which the following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Danger of skewing services just to look for opportunities – but those who are stronger will survive and the smaller organisations will fold.</li> <li>• Need to speak to Government – what are we going to say about the effects.</li> <li>• Need to have economically effective systems in place – whether have money or not. i.e. generic meetings including all partners instead of individual ones.</li> <li>• Danger of duplication.</li> <li>• If money is taken away – what core things need to stay?</li> <li>• Need to use evaluation and evidence that may exist to move forward.</li> <li>• ABG was always going to come to an end – need to see what was effective in case funding is renewed so that successes continue.</li> <li>• Learning needs to filter down – need systems that work.</li> <li>• Consider Opportunities and risks including how we might develop and support the VCS in other but fair and equal ways.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair summarised that that we need to analyse the accumulative effects of the cuts, and it was suggested that we have a meeting later in the year to look at this. The strong partnership in Nottingham needs to become stronger. We need to avoid duplication. The Chair thanked everyone for their comments.</p> <p>The Board agreed the recommendations.</p>	
6.0	<b><u>Policy and Budget Implications of the Coalition Government</u></b>	

PW introduced the report and began by giving some background to the item. The Coalition Government have highlighted some key principles that are informing their policy approach:

- Delivering more for less – fundamental public sector reform, activity transfer from public sector to private sector, social enterprise, voluntary and community sector and volunteers;
- A smaller state, both central and local;
- Decentralisation and localism – pushing power down to the local level (a bill is to come out in the Autumn);
- Big society – showing people how to use that power (Announcement made this week);
- Regionalism no longer exists and there will be a significant reduction in the number of QUANGOs. RDAs will be abolished with effect from April 2012. Government Offices in the regions and PCTs are also being abolished .

An issue for all partners is the order and the pace at which things are happening.

PW continued by highlighting the key headlines and implications for One Nottingham partners as set out in the report.

Government departments will be expected to determine their objectives and spending based upon the following criteria – local authorities and agencies are being encouraged to familiarise themselves with these criteria and apply them locally:

- Is the activity essential to meeting Government priorities?
- Does the Government need to fund this activity?
- Does the activity provide substantial economic value?
- Can the activity be targeted to those most in need?
- How can the activity be provided at a lower cost?
- How can the activity be provided more effectively?
- Can the activity be provided by a non-state provider or by citizens, wholly or in partnership?
- Can non-state providers be paid to carry out the activity according to the results they achieve?
- Can local bodies as opposed to Central Government provide the activity?

The proposed 25% to 40% cuts to all Government department budgets (except the protected departments) by 2014/15 in the forthcoming Spending Review may have a disproportionate impact on Nottingham, given that 1 in 3 jobs in Nottingham are in the public sector. The changes in the public pay and pensions could also have a disproportionate effect in Nottingham. The poverty and welfare changes announced in the budget are also significant for the City.

In-year cuts announced to date include: £10m (£4.5m from Area Based Grant, including WNF; £2.7m for local transport schemes; 50% cut in Local Area Agreement (2006-09) reward funding of £2.8m). In addition, further rounds of the Future Jobs Fund and the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme has been ended.

PW has had discussions with the Chief Executives of key partner organisations to find out how the policy changes and current and proposed cuts are likely to impact on them. This information is attached to the report in appendix 2. The Board agreed that this information will not be circulated more widely at this stage because it contains informed opinions as well as facts and these may change as Government policy and budget emerges over the coming months.

The Chair asked for comments on the issues raised for us as a partnership. A discussion followed at which the following points were made:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to maintain authority for those organisations which the Government proposes to abolish, including the need for those organisations to maintain their performance management role of key institutions.</li> <li>• The cuts are not of our making. The need to minimise impact and maximise opportunities</li> <li>• The importance of Nottingham City Council's community leadership role – the Council intends to exercise this with confidence with its partners.</li> <li>• Partners commitment to the Nottingham Plan to 2020 as continuing to provide the overarching direction for Nottingham and as such providing a solid anchor during this period of change.</li> <li>• How to build upon current good practice and embrace concept of volunteering?</li> <li>• The need to clarify the proposed local enterprise partnership's relationship with One Nottingham.</li> <li>• How to embrace the emphasis on rebalancing the economy in favour of the private and voluntary sectors.</li> <li>• The need to rationalise the plethora of partnerships but not to lose the talented pool of people available who currently chair/lead partnerships.</li> <li>• Need to consider the future of One Nottingham as an LSP in the light of the changing policy and financial landscape.</li> <li>• Need to set up partnership to take forward the World Class Nottingham priority.</li> <li>• Evaluation (stress testing) is important – cumulative impact of cuts on specific communities before they become destabilised.</li> </ul> <p>Mike Bent asked what the politicians view on the future of One Nottingham is. NC responded that the Government is not talking about LSPs at the moment. He added that he had attended a LSP Conference last week at which CLG were present. The message from the event was that partnership arrangements should be based around what suits locally.</p> <p>Board members requested case study/ies on the impact of policy and budget cuts on specific Nottingham communities and /or population groups. This would help Board's understanding. There is a need to understand the impact in 2 or 3 years. Mark Bowyer added that a lot of knowledge and experience is in the city and there is a lot of knowledge in the Voluntary Sector. It all needs to be pulled together. James Russell offered to help with this.</p> <p>The Board agreed to have the effects/changes of government policy on the agenda as a regular item. It also requested that an update on local enterprise partnerships be provided for the next meeting.</p>	
<b>7.0</b>	<b><u>Getting Nottingham Working – Business Engagement</u></b>	
	<p>Mark Bowyer and Mike Bent presented a proposal on an idea for a 'badge' showing a businesses commitment to employee training etc of Nottingham people. Businesses will be encouraged to take part. They felt that they need to encourage Theme Partnerships to work better together for instance World Class Nottingham needs to link better with Working Nottingham. Mark and Mike have arranged to meet Patcee Francis from the Employment &amp; Skills Team, Nottingham City Council. It was suggested that NDE and the Invest In Nottingham Club should be involved. JT commented that she was supportive of the initiative but said that people need to be careful of their capacity to be involved. DB and JR also expressed their support and made offers of help. NC to discuss further with Mark and Mike.</p> <p>In this discussion JR stated that Experian enable their staff to do 3 days a year voluntary work experience in the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS). JR proposed that Experian will be pleased to be involved and encourage their staff to use</p>	<p>NC/ MB/ MB</p> <p>NC/JR</p>

	<p>their skills for the benefit of the VCS and Social Economy Groups.</p> <p>The Chair thanked everyone for very positive contributions and felt that ON and partners can develop this idea further.</p>	
<b>8.0</b>	<b><u>Nottingham City Families Total Place Approach</u></b>	
	<p>Liz Jones presented the report. During 2009/10 there were 13 national Total Place Pilots. They sought to demonstrate the greater value and improved outcomes that can be achieved when public services work better together. The approach has been framed around the three Cs: Counting, Culture and Customers.</p> <p>The Board approved Nottingham City Families Total Place approach which will focus on (i) families with disabled children and (ii) families with complex needs. There are four key strands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• integrating information around the family;</li> <li>• Cost and needs analyses around the family;</li> <li>• Understanding the way things are currently done and how far they help or hinder;</li> <li>• Developing service specifications for complex families.</li> </ul> <p>The full Project Initiation Document is available from Partnerships, Nottingham City Council. The Board welcomed the funding from East Midlands improvement and Efficiency Partnership and the partners in kind support.</p>	
<b>9.0</b>	<b><u>Local Area Agreement – 2009-10 Annual Report</u></b>	
	<p>Penny Wakefield presented the report.</p> <p>The Chair commented that the format of Appendix 1 (page 11 of the report) was very useful.</p> <p>Jane Todd stressed the importance of maintaining our strong performance management approach even though Government is dismantling the national performance framework Maria Lyle confirmed that Government will be introducing lighter touch performance management . She added that this provides an opportunity for Nottingham to focus on what worked well.</p> <p>Board members commented that they can understand the need for performance management but felt that methods should be developed which illustrate the impact that activity and interventions have achieved. Future board meetings could for instance consider the performance by theme or by specific issues or by community/area. NC &amp; PW to consider these options for the future.</p> <p>PW thanked the team at GOEM for all their help and support with the first and second LAAs.</p>	
<b>10.0</b>	<b><u>Any Other Business</u></b>	
	None.	
<b>11.0</b>	<b><u>Dates of Future Meetings</u></b>	
	<p>The dates of the next 2 meetings were confirmed as 24<sup>th</sup> September and 26<sup>th</sup> November.</p> <p>Board members agreed that they preferred a central Nottingham location for the meeting.</p>	NC