

Report to Adult Social Care Partnership Board

3 March 2009

Future of the Partnership Board – Next Steps

Report of the Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 The report follows on from the presentation given at the January meeting on the future arrangements for the Adult Social Care Partnership Board and sets out issues for consideration by the existing group.

2. Background

- 2.1 At the January meeting, a presentation was given on the future arrangements for the Board, in relation to the proposal that the Board becomes a formal partnership within the Local Strategic Partnership structure. It is proposed that the Board will act as an Advisory and Delivery Agent, which will result in changes to the terms of reference of the existing Board.

3. Proposed Future Arrangements

- 3.1 The LSP's raison d'être is to deliver the shared long term vision for the city articulated in the Sunderland strategy. In order to drive the main thematic agendas of the strategy, Delivery and Improvement Partnerships have been established.
- 3.2 It is proposed that the Partnership Board is a significant partnership within the overall LSP structure (alongside the Children's Trust Board).
- 3.3 The existing Partnership Board has been established for 2 years and its strength has lain with the strong elected member role and how the voices of vulnerable people are represented by six members of the voluntary and community sector.
- 3.4 For the wider LSP, it is proposed that elected members chair each of the Delivery Improvement Partnerships and this is something that the Partnership Board will retain. It has been helpful to have elected member representation on the Board and it is proposed to continue

with elected member representation on the same basis as currently operates.

- 3.5 It is proposed that the membership of the Board is reviewed to consider how it could be further strengthened. It is not proposed to change the existing membership, other than to consider whether additional members be invited to join the Partnership Board.
- 3.6 This is of particular importance in relation to the new responsibilities proposed to be taken forward by the Partnership Board. The Delivery and Improvement Partnerships, alongside the Children's and Adult's Boards will each take responsibility for the areas of locally agreed LAA, the National Indicator Set and the broader ambitions of the Sunderland Strategy.
- 3.7 Working with the Healthy City Partnership, the Partnership Board will identify the most relevant targets for delivery by the Board, hence the need to ensure the right members are part of the group.
- 3.8 Another key change being proposed is the responsibility for the Partnership Board to oversee other partnership arrangements which exist within the city and do not have a responsible group steering their agenda since MaCOG was disbanded. For example, the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board, Safeguarding Adults Partnership and Older People's Partnership Action Group could be formally linked to the Partnership Board as part of this proposal.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 A report will be presented to Cabinet which outlines all changes proposed for the future LSP arrangements. This report will include information on the Adult Partnership Board, in order to change from an Advisory Committee to Cabinet (council constituted) to a Delivery and Advisory significant partnership within the LSP structure.
- 4.2 These proposed changes, when approved, will require the Board to:
 - Review its membership
 - Review the Terms of Reference
 - Agree LAA/NI Targets for delivery

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Board receive this report as an update on future arrangements.

Sharon Lowes
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