

KETTERING PARTNERSHIP

LSP EXECUTIVE BOARD

Meeting held: 18th January 2019

Present: Councillor Russell Roberts (Chair)

Councillors Scott Edwards, Ian Jelley and Lesley Thurland

Also Present: Lisa Hyde (KBC)
Hazel Webb (KBC)
Collette Lilley (KBC)
Julie Trahern (KBC)
Sgt Sean Marshall (Police)
David Pope (Committee Administrator)

18.LSP.13 APOLOGIES

None

18.LSP.14 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 20th July 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

18.LSP.15 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

18.LSP.16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

18.LSP.17 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

A brief presentation was provided to the meeting outlining the context and current status of Local Government Reform in the county and the potential timeline going forward.

The meeting heard that the eight local authorities across the county had received an invitation from the Secretary of State (SoS) to submit a proposal for alternative governance arrangements in the county, with a number of specific criteria needing to form part of any submission.

Following extensive consideration, a report had been submitted to meetings of Council at all eight authorities during the same week in August 2018, with a proposal for two unitary authorities to replace the current governance arrangements, one covering North Northamptonshire, the other West Northamptonshire. All eight authorities with the exception of Corby Borough Council agreed to submit this proposal to the SoS.

It was noted that should the SoS move forward with the submission, the services provided by the four districts in North Northamptonshire would be amalgamated, with county council functions for the area disaggregated and subsumed into the new body.

The government had made clear that following any submission there would either be no action taken, or a formal strategic consultation process would be undertaken on the proposal submitted. The latter option was taken forward, with the consultation commencing on 29th November 2018 and due to close on 25th January 2019. The options available to the SoS once the consultation concluded were:

- To implement the proposal as submitted
- To implement the proposal with modifications
- Not to proceed with the proposal

Key Dates that formed a possible timeline were provided. Discussions with civil servants had indicated that a final decision could be made by SoS before the Parliamentary Easter recess on 4th April. Once the decision had been made, the government would need to go through the parliamentary approval process resulting in a Structural Change Order (SCO). Again, indications were that this may happen prior to the summer recess in mid-July 2019.

The SCO would legally disband the current local authorities from a specific date, legally set out interim governance arrangements and legally create the new unitary authorities. All final decisions regarding the SCO would be made by the SoS. Senior government officials had requested that each local authority provide preferences on issues attached to the SCO.

Once the SCO had been approved, there was a duty to hold a meeting of the shadow Council within 14 days of approval and a

meeting of the shadow Executive within 21 days. In addition, a great deal of detailed work would be undertaken in the background in terms of the creation of the new authorities to allow for safe and legal services to be delivered from day one, potentially 1st April 2020.

The budget process for the new authorities would be undertaken roughly between December 2019 and March 2020, with budgetary decisions and Council Tax setting to be made by the shadow authority, with a full membership of over 160 elected members.

The meeting heard that should 1st April 2020 be the chosen date for the commencement of the new unitary authorities, the existing authorities in the county would cease to exist from 31st March 2020. Shadow arrangements would continue until new elections were held in May 2020 that would provide elected members for the new unitaries.

18.LSP.18 PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE FEEDBACK

A review of the tenth annual LSP Partnership Conference held on 17th October was provided, with the meeting noting that nearly 70 delegates had been in attendance at the event.

Details were provided of presentations given by:-

- Dr Ann Limb – Chair of SEMLEP
- Public Health – Health and Wellbeing
- Health and Wellbeing Board – Health and Wellbeing
- Kettering Voluntary Network
- Kettering Futures Partnership
- Police – Operation Viper update
- Claire Cowland (KBC) – Growth and Regeneration

Feedback from the event was extremely positive with all attendees rating the conference either “good” or “excellent”. Attendees had also appreciated the opportunity to network with other organisations.

It was **AGREED** by the meeting that the date for the next conference be moved to September to allow for proper resourcing of event by KBC’s Communities and Communications teams.

18.LSP.19 PURPLE FLAG

It was heard that the Purple Flag Award, an accreditation for the Night Time Economy in Kettering was due for renewal, with the current submission due to be completed by the end of January.

The process was undertaken in partnership with a number of different service areas across the council as well as external organisations including the police and fire services, Street Pastors and licensees.

It was heard that at the interim review in 2018 assessors had noted the good range of culture and leisure venues on offer and Kettering was the first market town of its size to achieve the accreditation. Crime and ASB were relatively low and assessors had appreciated the format of the written submission. Assessors had requested an update on the Night Safe Plan, as well as an update on CCTV in the town centre and for additional stakeholder representation at partnership working groups to be evidenced.

Once the bid had been evaluated, an overnight assessment would take place during March 2019 featuring a number of partnership organisations. Officers were confident that Purple Flag status could be retained.

18.LSP.20 OPERATION VIPER

Sgt Marshall introduced himself to the meeting as the new sergeant for the Neighbourhood Team, taking over from Darren Bishop on a temporary basis for at least the next year.

It was heard that the Neighbourhood Team was comprised of four active PCs and seven PCSOs, working closely alongside KBC wardens.

A new Chief Constable had recently taken up the role with a new policing plan having been published internally featuring a new set of objectives that saw a greater emphasis on neighbourhood policing. It was recognised that a significant level of intelligence could be gathered at neighbourhood level.

The police proactive team for the Kettering area would now be under neighbourhood command allowing for closer working and would provide the Neighbourhood Team with additional capabilities.

The meeting was advised that there were currently 11 potential “cuckooing” locations being monitored across Kettering, with regular disruption visits undertaken as well as checks on the status of occupants. There was currently one active address where the occupant was not working with police, and police and KBC’s Housing Team were working to address this.

A total of 17 arrests for a variety of offences had recently occurred as part of Operation Viper, with further outcomes and offences that would be detected as a result of those. A number of stop and searches had been undertaken with two arrests arising from those.

Arrest warrants had been executed at different addresses in Kettering on both 9th and 15th January with arrests made for GBH and the car key for a stolen vehicle recovered.

It was noted that although KBC’s budget for the forthcoming financial year had yet to be set, it was suggested that financing would continue to be offered for the PCSOs funded by KBC.

18.LSP.21 KETTERING FUTURES PARTNERSHIP

It was heard that the annual KFP conference had been held in November, receiving positive feedback and with approximately eight new members being added to the partnership. The membership and board were keen to look at expanding the partnership across North Northants, although the timing of this expansion needed to be right.

The meeting heard that a document was under creation to detail how the KFP would work under the likely new form of local government in the county. In addition a brochure for schools was being prepared and further details would be obtained at the next board meeting.

The Mental Health Coordinator responsible for the two new mental health advisors available in the customer service centre was very positive at the number of customers who had been in contact, both for themselves as individuals or to discuss family issues.

18.LSP.22 VOLUNTARY SECTOR UPDATE

None

18.LSP.23 HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD UPDATE

Hazel Webb reported that she had taken over as the chair of the Health and Wellbeing forum with effect from August 2018 and was working with Public Health and CCG colleagues to look at how work could best be aligned.

A varied program of agendas was being composed, with presentations planned from Public Health and the local planning team being invited to talk about health and wellbeing. In addition there would be discussions with a pharmacy lead regarding changes to prescriptions for patients. It was anticipated that an action plan for 2019/20 would be formed shortly.

18.LSP.24 AOB

None

18.LSP.25 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The date of the next meeting was scheduled to be Friday 12th April 2019.

(The meeting started at 9:00am and ended at 10.14am)

Signed

Chair

DJP