



**Minutes of the Local Strategic Partnership meeting held on  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at 10am, Lewes Town Council**

**Present:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Cllr James MacCleary	LSP Chair, LDC	Owen Clifford	LDC
Carina Hinkley	LDC	David Kemp	LDC
Tim Davies	LDC	Michelle Twiddy	ESFR
Andrew Watson	ESFR	Adam Chugg	3VA
Melanie Cutress	LDC, RVRC	Arnold Goldman	3VA, Lewes District Senior Forum
Mary Carruthend	Sussex Community Funding	Jackie Blackwell	3VA
Barry Atkins	ESCC – ASC	June Pattey	ESCC – ASC
Peter Crowley	Wave Leisure	Alex Mc Gillivray	LDALC
Nick Lear	Barcombe PC RVRC	Elizabeth Newton Price	Lewes Senior Forum
Cllr Jon Freeman	LDC	Sheila O’Sullivan	NHS ESDW
Sam Chittenden	NHS ESDW	Scott Lipa	Airs
Sue Harvey	LDC	Ian Chisnall	Churches Together
Paul Hoppen	LDC	John Webber	Lewes Town Partnership
Penny Shimmin	NCDA		

**1 Apologies**

Sue Griffiths	Peacehaven Area Partnership
Katie Wride	RVRC
Vicky Hill	Alzheimer Society
Keith Blackburn	Seaford Area Partnership
Janice Leeming	Age Concern

**2 Minutes of the last Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009 and Matters Arising.**

The minutes of the last meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> December were read and verified. There were no matters arising.

**3 Setting the scene**

Cllr James Mac Cleary outlined that this is the first meeting under the new format, which now involved a theme at wider stakeholder’s meetings. There has been a perceived lack of direction by the LSP, and it is hoped that the thematic meetings will provide the partnership and its action groups with tangible actions.

The new format will include presentations about the theme which will be followed by workshops including set questions.

#### **4 Presentation on the statistical background on an aging population**

**Sue Harvey, LDC**

SH gave an in depth presentation as background to the topic, giving an overall picture of the District in population terms.

She also made a comparison between now and 2026, showing that the numbers of people aged 65+ will be increasing significantly and therefore also the number of single person household and the corresponding services.

The question is what sort of implication this is going to have on local communities and on local government.

Please see the attached for the full presentation.

#### **5. Presentation about Crime statistics concerning elderly victims**

**Carina Hinkley and David Kemp for CI Natalie Carron**

CH gave short update on crime statistics.

Where the age of the victim was 65+ there were a total of 414 crimes analysed from Lewes District during January to December 2009, compared with 418 the previous year. This is a decrease of 4 (-1%) crimes. The main hotspot for crimes occurred around Lewes Town Centre, with smaller hotspots in Newhaven and Seaford. There is also a small hotspot in Ringmer, which is partly due to a spree of Criminal Damage offences to vehicles on an evening at the end of September 2009. Theft and Criminal Damage offences made up 60% (248) of the total crime for the district.

The total number of Theft offences in Lewes district has decreased by 14 (-11%) when 2009 is compared to 2008. 1 in 3 (34%) Thefts occurred in Lewes, whilst only 1 in 10 (10%) were in Newhaven. 3 in 4 (75%) victims of Theft were female. The majority (93%) of victims from Peacehaven were female, which is proportionately higher than any other area. Of the 118 Thefts, 35 (30%) did not state the item stolen. However, 16 (13%) stated cash and debit cards were stolen, and 15 (13%) stated garden equipment including plants.

The peak time for Thefts was during summer months (June to August) where 45 (38%) offences occurred. The highest number of Thefts occurred on a Tuesday (25), and 1 in 3 (36%) Thefts occurred at weekends (Friday to Sunday). Just over half (53%) the thefts occurred between 9am and 4pm, peaking around 2pm.

The total number of Criminal Damage offences in Lewes district has decreased by 16 (-11%) when 2009 is compared to 2008. Almost 1 in 3 (30%) Criminal Damage offences occurred in Lewes, which is higher than any other area. Of the 130 Criminal Damage offences, almost half (48%) were to vehicles. A further 41 (32%) were to buildings, consisting of 31 Dwellings and 10 buildings that were not dwellings (OTD).

Of the 41 damages to buildings, over half (51%) sustained damage to windows. Of the 63 damages to Vehicles, 10 (16%) were to vehicle accessories. 3 in 4 (76%) vehicles were parked on a public road, and 5 (8%) were in a car parked when damaged. 2 in 5 (42%) vehicle damages occurred between April and September. The highest number of offences occurred on a Saturday (29), and over half (53%) the damages occurred at weekends (Friday to Sunday). Almost 2 in 3 (62%) vehicle damage offences occurred at night, between 6pm and 1am.

The total number of Burglary OTD offences in Lewes district has increased by 26 (+96%) when 2009 is compared to 2008. 3 in 5 (60%) offences occurred in Rural areas. Of the 53 offences, 3 in 5 (60%) were from garages or garden sheds.

DK gave a short presentation about the meaning of these figures and told members to be careful when interpreting these figures, as only in only 1 in 3 cases age was stated.

However, the most important aspect is to address the perception and fear of crime, which the CRP has done, with a number of operations and publicity. Awareness raising campaigns were held on theft of handbags and purses and trolley tokens have been given out outside supermarkets to raise awareness without raising the fear of crime.

Regarding Burglary Other Than Dwelling (OTD), DK emphasised that this is a County wide issue, not just Lewes District.

All in all, the crime statistics are very positive and prove that we have good partnerships operating in the Lewes District.

## **6 Presentation on 'The health and wellbeing of older people': Director of Public Health Annual Report 2009/10**

**Sam Chittenden, PCT**

Sam Chittenden gave a presentation with the above title.  
Please see attached document.

SC commented that partnership working needs to be seen as an opportunity to provide better services, especially within the financial context.

## **7 DVD on Presentation on Community transport issues Scott Lipa, Action in Rural Sussex**

SL presented a short DVD about rural transport issues "Get going in East Sussex: A Guide to Community Transport". He explained that community transport is a non-profit transport service that has a big impact on the community.

SL also explained that ESCC have commissioned Airs to consult on their transport programme in the rural areas. Consultation events have been held at various locations, emphasising that Community Transport should add value to the service, not replace public service. SC hopes that funding available will kick-start projects, which will be funded on a first come first served basis.

Often, there is no need for additional services, but this fact also needs to be identified. The consultation will be ongoing until September. The plan is to form a parish Community Transport Steering Group, which would set the mode and type of consultation and assist with getting the message out. Feedback could then be collated and a report be drafted for the Parish Councils and ESCC.

## **8 Workshops**

Because of time constraints, the two planned workshops were rolled into one:

### **8.1 Identification and categorisation of issues**

Groups were asked to consider what will have the greatest effects in the next 10 years of an ageing population on their area of activity/responsibility and to consider how these effects might impact on each other.

Also, what evidence/information is available to support these predictions? What information is lacking for more reliable predictions

## **8.2 Prioritisation of issues down to top 3. Three focus groups led by Thematic Chairs**

Groups were asked what the top 3 single most important changes/impacts are and what they consider to be the three most important data information needs

## **9 Feedback to the group**

After the workshops took place, the workshop leader fed the comments and issues back to the full group

### **9.1 A Valued Environment**

Points on post-its were as follows:

- Energy efficiency of homes/heating/fuel costs
- Provide a travel plan for the District and larger organisations and monitor and review its value
- A need to help older people prepare for change and understand why this is happening
- Differing perceptions of good developments – play areas?
- Community Transport is more environmental friendly than individual car owning - not just for the elderly
- Access to environment needs to recognise older people's mobility issues
- Older people value the quality of the environment – high expectations

### **9.2 Good access to facilities**

Points on post-its were as follows:

- As family units break down, community is becoming the new “family”
- Help for the elderly to access internet
- Community transport
- See “Don't Stop Me Now” Audit Commission July 2008
- Health Access through PCT vouchers
- Collaboration with community partners to encourage access to facilities via transport?
- Better “information points” - know what is available
- Access means better pavements
- Develop specialist services eg OP gym or extend mainstream to better respond to OP's needs
- Better communicate when bus services are disrupted

### **9.3 Safer and Stronger Communities**

Points on post-its were as follows:

- Support Senior Forum “Voice”
- Utilisation of VCS, incl churches, for reassuring residents whose fear of crime is out of proportion to the reality around them – depends on data sharing
- Access through carers/local knowledge of vulnerable individuals (Who Cares scheme)
- Need for safety for elderly in shopping centres
- Better communication with those not having internet access
- Partnership working to get into target areas
- ESFRS Home visits
- Partnership working for safety in the home
- “Misuse” of official uniforms to gain trust and entry to homes – I.D Awareness needs to be raised!
- Distraction Burglary – awareness raising

- Ownership of a community plan must come from the community and town councils

#### **9.4 A vibrant and sustainable economy**

Points on post-its were as follows:

- Ageing population should be seen as a asset – possible volunteer help
- Part time employment for retired people
- Staff needed for Care Homes
- Experienced people in care home group eg dementia
- Gastronomy and local shops to reflect older people’s needs
- Training and support for volunteers
- Need people to provide care in the home
- Older workforce generally? Retirement ages more flexible
- As retirement takes place at a later stage of life, the value of skills and willingness to engage with the economy needs to be considered
- Respect to be taught to younger generations so “elders” feel opinions and input are valued
- Need for shops catering for the needs of older people

#### **9.5 Decent and affordable Housing for all**

Points on post-its were as follows:

- Tied cottages (farm cottages) – who to contact to get improvements?
- Working with planners and Housing Dept to develop a range of housing options
- Finalise “OP Housing and Support Strategy” and initiatives to help OP avoid moving
- Need for LDC to build council housing
- Develop smaller housing for older, live alone individuals across the District, providing them with incentives to move out of family homes which can then offer space for younger families
- Potential for multi generational living arrangements
- A Health and Wellbeing agenda to out reach physical agenda opportunities for sheltered housing
- Type of housing – smaller single units and social housing
- Sheltered housing – market planning?
- Encourage better lifestyles choices BEFORE older age: Fitness, Food, Exercise
- Extra care needs – dementia related

#### **9.6 Healthier communities**

Points on the post-its were as follows:

- Retirement fairs
- The old looking after the very old
- How to focus services – income deprivation/life expectancy/mental wellbeing
- Outreach services
- Statistics required about cost of accidents related to cost of pavement repair and coping with icy conditions
- Health screening at retirement
- Different wishes of an ageing population
- Mental Health & Wellbeing and Physical
- Prevention should be a higher priority in relation to mental wellbeing
- Expectations changing for older people

- Carer's increased sport needs
- Outreach services vs centralisation
- Collaboration with community partners to encourage access to facilitate transport
- Preventative service costs
- Encouraging and maintaining volunteers – all generations
- More allotments! Community working, healthy food – fresh air!
- How to address issues maximising existing networks and partnerships

## **10 Next steps and conclusion**

After the workshop was finished, it was decided that the issues are to be drawn up and distributed to the relevant chair. CH will arrange that.

## **11 Any Other Business**

### **11.1 Scott Lipa:**

Announced that this would be his last meeting due to imminent paternity leave. The group thanked Scott for his hard work. Pat Buensel would be the future representative for this meeting.

### **11.2 Fit For Nothing:**

Jackie Blackwell informed about a partnership event called "Fit for Nothing" which would be held at Peacehaven Meridian Centre on 17th Feb. It is a free wellbeing event with workshops and over 30 stalls run in partnership with East Sussex Downs and Weald PCT, Wave Leisure, Peacehaven Town Council and Local Partnerships for Children and 3VA Lewes District.

### **11.3 Future themes:**

Topics for future themes had been suggested in the past and another one will be chosen for the next meeting. CH will organise this

## **12 Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting will be on **Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 10 am** – Venue to be confirmed