

## **Stockport Partnership Board – 26 May 2010**

### **Report of the Chair of the Public Services Resources Board (Corporate Director, Business Services, Stockport Council)**

#### **Update on the Public Service Resources Board (PSRB)**

##### **1. Purpose of Report**

Since the last meeting of the Partnership Board it has not been possible to convene a meeting of the PSRB, and therefore no minutes can be brought to this Board. This note therefore provides an update on activity since the last meeting.

##### **2. Background**

Towards the end of 2009 the Partnership Board agreed to re-constitute the former Public Services Commissioners Co-ordinating Board as the PSRB with a revised remit and terms of reference. Five areas of work were agreed as fundamental to developing partnership use of resources. It was agreed that the remit of the Board be to explore the development of partnership approaches to use and management of:

- Finances
- Estates (Land and Property)
- Information
- Workforce
- Governance

It was proposed that original membership be retained but that additional public sector partners be involved in specific work areas, as relevant, primarily through task and finish sub-groups which would be established for each work area.

##### **3. Progress**

- 3.1 The first action of the PSRB was to set up a Partnership Estates Group, which has been convened and has met on four occasions. An extract from the Terms of Reference report is attached as Appendix One. Each partner has presented an overview of their land and property holdings and key issues. Discussions have been held around the estates aspects of the 'Total Place' reports and pilots. The Group has commissioned NPS (Stockport) to review and map the relevant data, including ownership, location, utilisation and costs, and to make recommendations on how property could be used as a catalyst for a whole area approach to improving service delivery and achieving efficiencies.
- 3.2 The work of the Estates Group has challenged the assumption that the original membership of the PSRB could be retained. In order to effectively direct and challenge the work of the Estates Group, and any future groups established, it

is considered that additional partners can make a valuable contribution through being invited onto the PSRB.

- 3.3 In the absence of a formal meeting the Chair of the PSRB and the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy and Democracy) have met with partner representatives to discuss the working of the PSRB. As a result of those discussions it is suggested that the membership of the PSRB should be augmented to include the following partners:

Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service  
Stockport College  
Stockport Foundation Trust

This will be In addition to those organisations already represented:

Stockport Council  
NHS Stockport  
Greater Manchester Police  
Job Centre Plus

#### **4 Support for the PSRB**

- 4.1 The recent discussions with partners also covered the support needed to fulfil the remit of the PSRB and how the Partnership Support Budget could best be deployed. The Partnership Board will recall that it agreed to top slice £1m of anticipated Performance Reward Grant (PRG) to fund partnership support for a period of five years.
- 4.2 An outline budget has been drawn up and is attached at Appendix Two. On top of the two existing posts within the Partnership Office it is now recommended that the third post originally envisaged be established as a 'Resources Manager', a suitably qualified accountant providing financial management expertise across and to the Partnership. In addition allocations are proposed to support the work to be undertaken in the other three themes – estates, information (discussed further in a report elsewhere on the agenda) and workforce development. There is also provision for relevant consultation and engagement activities to be funded.

#### **5. Recommendation**

The Partnership Board is asked to note the recent activities and discussions under the auspices of the PSRB and to

- Increase the membership of the PSRB as proposed in the report
- Endorse the illustrative budget for partnership support

**Terms of Reference:**

**The Partnership Estates Group aims to:**

‘Develop a partnership approach to optimising the use of public land and property in the Borough, and to identify opportunities to improve its use and generate efficiencies.’

**The Group will:**

- Provide a forum for the discussion of property issues between partners
- Co-ordinate planning of public sector assets on an area wide basis
- Review property assets on a borough-wide and neighbourhood area basis through mapping asset ownerships of all partners
  - Identify surplus or under-utilised property
  - Identify opportunities for reconfiguration of services and administration so that they occupy less space
- Identify opportunities for sharing of assets between partners through co-location, partnership working and sharing of knowledge
- Seek to reduce carbon emissions from public sector property assets and improve environmental sustainability
- Ensure that there is successful engagement with communities, users and stakeholders

**Membership:**

Responsibility for the group lies with the Partnership Co-ordinator, NPS Group with membership drawn from a range of partners as follows:

- Partnership Co-ordinator – NPS Group
- Managing Director – NPS Group
- GM Fire and Rescue
- GM Police
- NHS Stockport
- Stockport NHS Foundation Trust
- Stockport College
- Stockport Sports Trust
- Stockport Homes
- Office for Government Commerce

- Solutions SK Ltd.
- Stockport Council
- Pennine Care Mental Health Trust

Other representatives to be invited as deemed appropriate.

**Key outcomes:**

Key outcomes for the group will be:

- Identification of efficiency savings through rationalisation, capital receipts and income streams
- Leaner, more fit-for-purpose estates that are managed co-operatively
- Rationalisation, refurbishment and relocation programmes
- Improved accessibility of services
- Increased environmental sustainability

## APPENDIX TWO

**PARTNERSHIP OFFICE - ILLUSTRATIVE BUDGET**

	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000	2013/14 £000	TOTAL £000
<b>Employees</b>						
Partnership Manager / Performance Officer	85	87	89	91	94	446
Partnership Resources Manager		51	52	53	54	210
	85	138	141	144	148	656
<b>Project Support - 'Total Stockport' (Illustrative Allocations)</b>						
Estates Information Management Workforce Development		25	25			50
		25	25			50
		25	25			50
<b>Consultation, engagement and research</b>	24	16	16	16	16	88
	109	229	232	160	164	894
<b>Running Costs</b>	22	22	22	20	20	106
<b>Total</b>	131	251	254	180	184	1000