

Minutes of the Cambridge sub-Regional Housing Board (CRHB) held on Friday 7 May 2010

1. Introduction and Apologies

Present

Alan Carter (AC)	Cambridge City Council (Chair)
Stephen Hills (SH)	South Cambridgeshire District Council (Vice Chair)
Jane Hollingworth (JH)	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Dan Horn (DH)	Fenland District Council
Steve Clark (SC)	Forest Heath District Council
Frank Mastrandrea (FM)	Huntingdonshire District Council
Jo Emmerton (JE)	Huntingdonshire District Council
Carole Herries (CH)	St Edmundsbury Borough Council
Sue Beecroft (SB)	Cambridgeshire Horizons
Tom Purser (TP)	Go-East
Sarah Ireland (SI)	RSL representative
Nigel Howlett (NH)	RSL representative
Kathy Brown (KJB)	Cambridge City Council (taking minutes)
Liz Robin	Director of Public Health, NHS Cambridgeshire (Item 1 only)
Melanie Gray	Supporting People (Item 1 only)

Apologies

Steve Plant (SP)	Huntingdonshire District Council
Paul Kitson (PK)	Homes & Communities Agency
Trevor Baker (TB)	Cambridgeshire County Council

Action

2. Community Well-Being

Presentation by Liz Robin, also attached

Key points from discussion

- A county-wide Homelessness Executive Group is emerging from the current Cambridge City group to oversee the implementation of the Homelessness JSNA.
- The Extra Care group is developing a strategy for the County?
- Do we work on a County basis to access capital from DH? Not enough
- Work with planners to ensure they do not develop care homes where no need? Yes BUT private developers can still get planning unless there is no good planning reason. This then brings in people from outside the region who end up being the responsibility of Cambs.
- Are older people's housing needs identified in strategies and LDFs? yes

Steven Hills to report back to CRHB following meeting with Jane Crawford-White, lead OT. SH

Cath Mitchell, Director of Integrated Commissioning of NHS Cambridgeshire, has contacted SB wishing to get more involved with housing. SB has invited her to attend CRHB once she has got herself established in this role.

JH agreed to broker a meeting with Cath Mitchell, and other attendees. SI to contact NH with an RSL representative. SI/NH

SH will be writing a South Cambs Older People's Strategy to help housing get SH

a high profile with members.

Should CRHB be the pressure group to support SP funding? DH to bullet point some ideas for the next steps. SB has a report coming out next week on Supporting People with data etc; one page will have spend on Supporting People and the anticipated savings to be made. SB volunteered Horizons Marketing section to promote this and will work with DH. CH or SC to also work on this for Suffolk to ensure housing has a strong voice. DH/SB

“Well-being” representatives as opposed to housing representatives sit on the officer groups – is this correct? Districts to go away and think, however it is member driven and not officer driven.

3. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

- Enablers training day - papers are on the Horizons website. SB to circulate to CRHB. SB
- When Growth PIs are reported, CRHB should take sharper ownership of non-growth PIs that have a housing function, eg homelessness. As SB has previously reported, although the data is being collected it is difficult to obtain the figures from the County.

4. Spotlight Review of CRHB

Wiring diagram – this is still work in progress.

- SB circulated a comprehensive wiring diagram of how CRHB links to other housing related groups - each page giving different information eg Chairs; officer reps; members of groups; web links. SB urged members of the Board to send through information to help complete any gaps to get it up to date. It was suggested that full names be used rather than acronyms. SB/All
- Link this to the Suffolk groups. CH/SB
- To keep members informed of housing issues, there was no objection by CRHB if members wished to attend to observe a CRHB meeting. However, Go-East has some money which could pay for an annual member briefing on housing. AC to pursue with TP. AC/TP
- County wiring diagram – SB to send to AC.

Links to the 5 LAAs - CRHB confirmed there were appropriate links.

Horizons' CRHB website pages - “real life stories” – use this page to promote areas of good practice. Send anything through to SB at Horizons. All

Sub-Regional Strategy outcomes (impacts) – if no outcome, then note the measure of progress. Proving difficult to pull together; approaching a new strategy. Discuss in more detail at the next meeting - if there are gaps, why? All/SB

5. Work Plan

- June - SB is waiting to hear back from Shelter. Bev Williams, Jimmy's Night-Shelter has confirmed attendance.
- Post-election review – TP to lead and to invite Graham Tomlinson. TP
- Add “Sub-Regional action Plan – Outcomes” - SB KLB
- 2 July – KJB has confirmed that Paul Kitson will be attending. SC to invite Scott to attend for Suffolk. The purpose is to bring the group up to date and obtain the HCA view of where it goes next, beyond the conclusion of the Local Investment Plan. KJB/SC

6. Consultation / Publications

Paper circulated

7.1 Cambridgeshire Horizons

John Williamson to participate at CRHB when there is a planning related item and prior to the Horizons Board meetings.

7.2 Homes and Communities Agency

No representative present.

7.3 Go-East

A briefing note will be circulated following the election result.

7.4 Single Conversation

The HCA has agreed that the Local Investment Plan should be a collation of existing strategies. The first draft went to the Horizons Board in March and the next stage is for Cambridgeshire districts to pull together investment needed in their own areas to go to the Horizons Board in July. SB is working on a template for districts to collate that information. CRHB will review the draft at the Single Conversation focus in June.

NH reported that at the recent RSL forum, Cambridgeshire and Suffolk had very different approaches, which led to the question, where does the prioritising of the plan begin between authorities?

The HCA had recommended that Milton Keynes be used as a model (template), to follow, however, they now suggest using the Kings Lynn model which has now been signed off.

HCA is setting up monthly meetings with GoEast and Horizons.

The first version of the LIP is to be signed off by districts in September.

Information gathering needs to be done by June to feed into the July Horizons Board.

8 Any Other Business

Making Cambridge Count – 7 - 8 projects are all becoming established. DH - Arbury and March – projects for assessing total investment of public funds in an area. A pilot project in Fenland is creating a management team across all agencies. Mapping what assets are out there which adds value for attracting funding. The Gypsy & Traveller Services Strategy links to Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment, Supporting People funding and the Gypsy & Traveller Needs Assessment – it cuts across sections but it could be pulled together.

Communities of Practice – anyone can join the group to look at projects.

<http://www.communities.idea.gov.uk/comm/landing-home.do?id=1921484>

Please can someone check that this is the correct link?

Recent RSL forum - DK ran through a few sites where delivery of key worker housing had been achieved. NH has recommended Ann Brighton, Regional Director for Orbit, to sit on CRHB as the RSL Housing Management representative. NH will circulate her CV to CRHB for agreement.

Graham Tomlinson's letter – SB will do some number crunching. SB and AC

will put a presentation together and attend RHAG. SB/AC will test out the revised version with FM/the Enablers. The affordable housing policy will also be presented in summary – what are our policies. SB to co-ordinate this via the Enablers.

Regional Improvement Funding – another pot of money similar to the £6k from last year.

Gypsy and Traveller feedback – consultants brief for the Strategy is agreed and is out to tender. County Council Gypsy & Traveller sites – district local authorities would be given first refusal if they are sold. A report from the health representative – mental health in women takes up a lot of their time and they would like a district nurse.

9 Future meetings

The next meeting will be held at 10am, on Friday 4 June 2010 at East Cambs DC and finish with lunch by 1.00pm.

Apols from AC, SH to Chair. FM to

Future Meetings

4 June - ECDC

2 July – Boathouse Wisbech

6 August – Sanctuary Hereward

3 September - ECDC

1 October – Sanctuary Hereward

5 November - ECDC

3 December – Sanctuary Hereward