

REPORT TO GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

REPORT OF: Cllr Linda Neal

REPORT NO: PLA951

DATE: 25th September 2012

TITLE:	Significant Partnerships Annual Review 2011/12	
KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:	N/A	
PORTFOLIO HOLDER: NAME AND DESIGNATION:	Cllr Linda Neal Policy, Strategy and Strategic Partnerships Portfolio Holder	
CONTACT OFFICER:	Karen Sinclair, Planning Policy & Partnerships Service Manager 01476 406438 k.sinclair@southkesteven.gov.uk	
INITIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS:	Carried out and Referred to in paragraph (7) below	Full impact assessment Required:
Equality and Diversity	N/A	No
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:	This report is publicly available via the Your Council and Democracy link on the Council's website: www.southkesteven.gov.uk	
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None	

1. RECOMMENDATION

1.1 That the report is noted.

2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

2.1 The report updates Members on the work of the Council's significant partnerships during the period 2011-12 and highlights future plans, activities and developments.

2.2 Significant partnerships covered by this report include:

- Grantham Growth Point
- Local Strategic Partnership
- Community Safety Partnership

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

3.1 The Council's Partnership Policy defines significant partnerships as one where:

- the Council is required to have one be statute e.g. Community Safety Partnership
- the Council is the accountable body
- the partnership has a budget of more than £100k a year e.g. Grantham Growth

3.2 Reporting annually to Members on the work of the significant partnerships in which the Council is involved, was a recommendation of the last internal audit report on partnerships completed in 2010.

3.3 For each of the partnerships identified in paragraph 2.2, the information in the appendices highlights the purpose of each, gives an overview of the past year's activity and a brief outline of future activity.

3.4 As indicated in last year's Partnership Report, the intention is for the Bourne Town Centre Management Partnership to be dissolved. As this process has not yet formally been completed the Partnership remains on the Partnership Register but as it has not been operational over the past year there is no activity to report on. The Local Strategic Partnership was also formally dissolved during the reporting year (as set out in Appendix 2).

4. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 None.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None, except those already agreed in relation to individual partnerships.

6. RISK AND MITIGATION

6.1 A Partnership Risk Register has been produced as per the Partnership Policy and for those partnerships that have been flagged as 'red' in terms of the agreed scoring matrix, there are appropriate governance arrangements in place and individual risk registers are produced and monitored.

7. ISSUES ARISING FROM IMPACT ANALYSIS

7.1 None arising from this report.

8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None arising out of this report.

9. COMMENTS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

- 9.1 Governance and Audit committee members are reminded of their responsibilities to ensure the effectiveness of the governance arrangements underpinning the effectiveness and maintenance of key partnerships.

10. COMMENTS OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

- 10.1 It is appropriate that a review of activity relating to strategic partnerships is made available to Members and that proposals for progress are considered to ensure partnerships are fit for purpose and continue to deliver results.

11. APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Grantham Growth

Appendix 2 – Local Strategic Partnership

Appendix 3 – Community Safety Partnership

Grantham Growth Point

Purpose: Development and delivery of a strategy for the economic and housing growth of Grantham.

Key Partners: District Council, Homes and Communities Agency, County Council (the accountable body)

Overview of activity during 2011/12

Activity included:

- Submission of an outline planning application for the comprehensive redevelopment of Station Approach in accordance with the principles set out in the adopted Development Brief.
- Ongoing development of the Southern Quadrant Masterplan.
- Completion of major public realm improvement project in Market Place and Westgate
- Partners submitted a bid for funding in relation to the Business Innovation Centre (BIC) from the European Regional Development Fund. Approval for this funding was conditionally confirmed.

Future Activity

Work will be undertaken during 2012/2013 to include:

- The next phase of public realm improvements in Wide Westgate.
- Partners will continue to progress negotiations for the freehold acquisition of land at Station Approach. In parallel, proceedings will be instigated to acquire the land using compulsory purchase powers should private treaty negotiations prove unfruitful.
- Appoint a design team and submit a detailed planning application for the BIC
- Submit a planning application for the Southern Relief Road
- Adopt Masterplan for the South Quadrant

Main benefits to the Authority in being part of this partnership

Facilitates the delivery of growth in Grantham including: two major sustainable urban extensions capable of providing circa 7,500 dwellings as well as the regeneration of the town centre to provide enhanced retail, leisure and employment opportunities.

Local Strategic Partnership

Purpose: A non-statutory partnership bringing together agencies from the public, private and third sector to promote joined up working, avoiding duplication and adding value to existing programmes of work.

Key Partners: District Council, County Council, Health, Lincolnshire Police, South Lincs Community and Voluntary Sector, Community Safety Partnership, Education, Job Centre Plus, Environment Agency.

Overview of activity during 2011/12

During 2011, the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Executive Board undertook a review of the Partnership in light of changes to government policy and the withdrawal of funding from Lincolnshire County Council for partnership working. Whilst there had been no real discussion or statement from Government around the future of local strategic partnerships, the Executive were of the view that the question of remaining effective and the need for such governance structures needed to be seriously considered at local level.

Consultation with the LSP sub-groups, whose membership was drawn from the LSP Full Assembly, was undertaken. This revealed that whilst projects had been delivered which had added value to South Kesteven's agreed outcomes, the sub groups had enjoyed varying levels of success and there was recognition from all parties that there was a need for change.

At the meeting of the 8th June 2011 the LSP Executive determined that:

- The LSP Full Assembly would be dissolved with immediate effect
- The Sustainable Growth group would be dissolved with immediate effect transferring any relevant parts to the Stakeholder groups connected to Grantham Growth
- The Community Cohesion group would continue under the governance of the Community Safety Partnership
- The Healthy Living group would continue to provide a link between the Shadow Health Board and local activity. This group would be managed and supported by the District Council's Environmental Health Service.

The LSP was formally dissolved on the 31st December 2011.

South Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership

Purpose: To bring together statutory agencies to build safer and stronger communities. South Kesteven and North Kesteven Crime Reduction Partnerships (CDRP) have informally merged during the last 12 months. The new partnership area has been rebranded as "The Kestevens' Local Safety Partnership" (LSP) it aligns with the local Policing boundary and has good attendance from all relevant partner agencies. The partnership has access to local crime data and sets the strategic priorities on an annual basis.

Key Partners: District Council, Lincolnshire Police, Police Authority, County Council, Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue, Public Health, Lincolnshire Probation Trust.

Overview of Activity in 2011/2012

The Partnership has focused on three main priority areas: anti-social behaviour; substance misuse (drugs and alcohol) and acquisitive crime (burglary, theft). These priorities were identified through the partnership's annual strategic assessment. Lincolnshire County Council provided £23,000 of funding for the partnership for year 2011-12. This funding allowed the partnership to support a variety of projects and interventions with an aim to improve community safety in the local area, these included;

- Young fire fighters schemes were run across South Kesteven
- The LSP has commissioned work to increase the amount of Neighbourhood Watch schemes in our area.
- Multi-agency action and enforcement days took place around Halloween and Christmas. These activities prevented a seasonal spike in anti-social behaviour and night-time economy-related crime. Both events ran alongside media campaigns including the use of posters and media articles.
- Car meets were held in South Kesteven in conjunction with the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership.
- The Mobile CCTV Unit continued to operate throughout the Kestevens.
- The LSP continued to support the Grantham Street Pastors and allocated funding to enable a similar scheme to start operating in Stamford.
- The Kestevens LSP was involved in work to implement and develop a new ASB case handling system for Lincolnshire.
- South Kesteven has three Joint Agency Meetings (JAM's) that meet monthly; these meetings provide an opportunity for agencies and the community to feed in their local community safety problems.
- District Council officers have been instrumental in the creation of an Anti Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference.

Future Activity

The LSP has recently been engaged with Partners from across the County to set community safety priorities for the next six months. These are;

- Substance Misuse
- Violent Crime
- Acquisitive Crime
- Anti-social behaviour
- Road Safety

Representatives from the LSP will sit on county wide delivery groups formed to address the priorities, these officers will report back to the LSP.

Main benefits to the Authority in being part of this partnership

- Broader knowledge base being available
- Better attendance as lead agencies have less meetings to attend
- Larger funding resource available allowing bigger projects to be supported
- Fulfils the statutory obligation to be a part of the partnership

