

Agenda

WM~RIEP BOARD MEETING ON 23RD OCTOBER, 2-4 pm

ROOM 2, REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP CENTRE, BIRMINGHAM

Activity	
1. Minutes of July Board Meeting (Paper 1)	For Information
2. National and Regional Update (10 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Overview of RIEP progress – 2 page update attached (Paper 2) ○ CLG are consulting on the distribution of a national £115m capital efficiency and transformation fund 	Andrew Sparke/Andy Hancox Discussion of possible West Midlands priorities
3. Waste (30 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Implications of the regional waste mapping exercise for the WM~RIEP programme (Paper 3) 	K. Gordon/(Nina Dawes)
4. LAA/CAA – How is progress/What are the Issues? (50 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LAA Support Programme: - update on progress and emerging issues from the Learning to Deliver Programme (Paper 4) ○ Children’s Services – key outcome indicators - oral ○ Emerging views on CAA - feed back from CAA Consultation (Paper 5) ○ Emerging issues/MAAs/Priorities - oral 	David Galliers Mark Rogers Jeremy Snape All
5. Procurement - Next Steps (10 minutes) (Paper 6)	Glyn Evans/Jonathan Jones
6. Governance Issues (15 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Board Member ‘Champion’ Roles (Paper 7) ○ New member Advisory Board – oral update 	To finalise and action these. Update on progress
7. Monitoring Report (5 Minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To update on the WM~RIEP financial position and the progress of projects /Communications Update (Paper 8) 	To follow
8. Dates of Future Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 22nd January 2-4pm - 23 July All Day - 23rd April 2-4pm - 22nd October 2-4pm 	

WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL IMPROVEMENT AND EFFICIENCY PARTNERSHIP

NOTES OF BOARD MEETING 23rd October 2008

INTRODUCTION

Andrew Sparke, the Chief Executive of Dudley MBC opened the meeting and welcomed everybody to the Regional Partnership Centre.

1. MINUTES

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted as a true record of the meeting.

2. OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS

Andy Hancox briefly introduced the report on overall RIEP progress. Examples of positive achievements in all workstreams were highlighted and progress was welcomed.

3. WASTE

Keith Gordon presented a regional perspective of waste collection, recycling and disposal issues for consideration by the Board. This included a proposal to twin-track an exploration of additional disposal options alongside the existing procurements taking place.

In brief, there may be potential for the regional authorities, working as a whole, to secure significant savings through reducing the number of procurements currently being proposed to fewer but larger ones. The details of these were set out in the associated paper.

The Board recognised that there are risks associated with trying to adopt a more strategic regional approach reflecting:

- Waste is a highly political issue.
- Planning for an uncertain disposal requirement
- Transport and infrastructure constraints
- Timing. In view of the fact that it takes so long for these projects to be delivered and that a number of existing procurements are under way.

Action

- Agreed to proceed with commissioning the business case for alternative disposal solutions; this work to be twin tracked with existing procurement arrangements continuing to be pursued.
- The Board also requested that the Waste Team look into the production of standard terms and conditions for waste collection purposes in particular as these are common areas that Districts struggle with over and over again.

4. LAA/CAA and CHILDRENS SERVICES UPDATE

David Galliers, Jeremy Snape and Andy Hancox provided an overview of progress.

The Board welcomed the fact that the officers involved are bringing together and sharing the information between the existing CAA project and the programme of support we are providing for the LAAs/LSPs. The relationship between these two projects is important to maintain.

It was suggested that the idea of improving the network and communications network between the different agencies and partners needed to be pursued and possibly build on the work that AWM and GOWM have already made a start with.

The Board also supported the idea of looking into how the different information from each of the LSP partner agencies and stakeholders could be captured, shared and then communicated back out to provide a richer picture of issues facing LSPs across the region.

With regards to MAAs it was brought to the Board's attention that these have been slow to get off the ground in the West Midlands region, but that a number of potential MAAs were now under active discussion. Future potential support for MAAs would need to be given consideration as this picture developed.

Jeremy Snape summarised the progress with the CAA work being delivered by the RIEP. Responses from recent consultation suggests that authorities are feeling more prepared for the CAA than they were the CPA process which was one of the outcomes we were looking for.

Uncertainties over the future of the CAA were discussed, but it was recognised that the focus of the CAA process is one that authorities should be looking to improve on anyway.

Agreed

- The need to continue to build a more systematic regional understanding of outcome targets and delivery best practice.

- The need to monitor the progress of MAAs within the region and their potential demands for future support

5. PROCUREMENT

Glyn Evans requested support for the proposal that individual authorities take a lead role with the various commodity groups trying to secure savings for all authorities in the region.

Agreed

- The strength of this approach was recognised by the Board and the proposal was approved.
- It was also noted that the DWP have expressed an interest in working with authorities on various commodity groups to look at shared savings. Glyn/Jonathan to take this forward.

6. GOVERNANCE

A number of Board members have agreed to take a lead on initiatives being delivered against by the RIEP but there were still some gaps. In addition, Andrew Sparke announced his plans to retire at the end of the month and therefore the position of the Chair is vacant. Specific Points agreed:

- Steve Wellings expressed an interest in leading on Climate Change given his existing role in the City Region project.
- Further consideration to be give to what leads are still needed – AH to discuss with relevant Board members
- Mike Barnes expressed an interest in involvement in transport related issues
- Soundings on the position of Chair to be undertaken with the matter to be referred to the RCEG meeting for endorsement once a proposition had been agreed.

7. MONITORING REPORT

The Board received the latest progress and budget monitoring report. Included within the report were proposals on the movement of CSR04 uncommitted funds to the CSR07 programme, and on increases in the Workforce Development budget.

The Board noted and approved the movements of funds involving:

- The transfer of £554k from CSR04 is agreed as is the addition of £100k to the employment reserve.
- The additional funding of the People and Leadership workstream as noted in the report.