

Chichester District Council

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

13 June 2017

Chichester in Partnership – Annual Report 2016/2017

1. Contacts

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2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The committee is requested to review the progress achieved by Chichester in Partnership in 2016-17 and its Business Plan for 2017-18 and to make any recommendations it considers appropriate to the partnership.**

3. Background

- 3.1. Chichester in Partnership (CIP) was formed as a Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) in 2002. The Local Government Act 2000 placed a duty on local authorities to prepare a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) to promote and improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of their areas, and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It was expected that this would happen through LSPs. In 2006 the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill considered Local Strategic Partnerships as the overarching partnership to bring together key themes and deliver the priorities in the Local Area Agreement and Sustainable Community Strategy. The Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities Guidance in 2008 also provided an impetus for working in Local Strategic Partnerships.
- 3.2. The statutory guidance (*Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities*) that governed LSP's was rescinded by Government in 2012. Government also revoked the Duty to Involve and the Duty to Prepare a Sustainable Community Strategy in 2014, therefore there is no legal obligation for the Council to have an LSP or a Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 3.3. Although current government thinking may appear to place less emphasis on formalised local partnership arrangements, they still see collaboration and joint working as a key part of the national agenda on health reform, policing, and economic development. Support for the Localism and Devolution agenda remains. It is therefore considered good practice to maintain ways to encourage partner conversation and collaboration.
- 3.4. Improvements have been implemented including a newly agreed strategy and vision for the partnership. In recent years the partnership has become more focussed, productive with action plans and strategies, priorities developed and set, outcomes planned and projects delivered. The Partnership also

incorporates what was the Healthy Chichester Partnership and covers local health issues. The partnership enables work to happen on cross cutting issues that can be integrated into partner plans.(For example the Getting people into Work strategy) With the deep funding cuts that all partners face, there could be a tendency for partners to move away from the partnership to protect themselves. In other areas such as Horsham, Crawley, Havant and Gosport the LSPs have ceased or amalgamated with other partnerships. In Chichester the opposite is happening, partners are more engaged, and, we have engaged new partners including Change Grow Live, Citizens Advice Bureau and Chichester Cathedral.

4. Progress so far

4.1. The priorities for the partnership in 2016/17 were:

- **Getting People into work** – this task and finish group has had a change in chairmanship and a review of its membership and terms of reference. The newly constituted “Choose Work Group” has been reviewing the strategy to ensure that it is deliverable. Considerable progress has been made in the development of the Choose Work Project, CDC has agreed to part fund the project for three years and we have been successful in a bid for funding from the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) With this money we will now expand project to do preventative work with local schools.
- **Dementia friendly Chichester** – This work has been led by two local partnerships; the Dementia Alliance and the Chichester Learning and Arts Partnership with the aim to make the district a Dementia Friendly area. Both of which meet regularly and have terms of reference. Their focus has been to train people to be Dementia friends.
- **Helping residents with low level mental health needs** – a situational report was written about this issue and the Partnership is now a lead organisation in the development of the “Time to Change” campaign. Time to Change aims to reduce the stigma around Mental Health by promotion and training.
- **Tackling Financial Exclusion in Chichester** – This task and finish group has met irregularly and has struggled to find consensus between partners to take work forward, plus a lot of this work happens at a national scale. This project is currently being reviewed in light of the introduction of Universal Credit in April 2018. In order to inform that work a detailed report of the various benefit changes and their impact is being prepared.
- **Symposium of Partners** – We held our annual networking event in March at the Chichester Festival Theatre. The event was structured as a market place where partner organisations could showcase. Over 50 organisations attended with the feedback classing the event as Good/ Excellent.

4.2. The Community Safety Partnership plan and the Think Family priorities are reported separately in the Community Safety Partnership Annual Plan. Chichester in Partnership has oversight of both of these.

4.3. The Partnership is a very flexible vehicle designed to react to the needs of partners, therefore projects arise that are not always planned. Part way through last year, partners agreed that they wanted to try and address the transport issues for the district by looking at supporting local community groups to develop and help them to signpost to local services

- 4.4. Specific outcomes for the priorities are set out in the Chichester in Partnership Annual Report. (appendix 1)

5. Future of the Partnership - plans for 2017/18

- 5.1 Chichester in Partnership's Business Plan is set out in Appendix 2: In brief the lead projects will be:
- 5.2 **Getting People into work** – This work will continue with oversight of the Choose work project and the search for future potential funding and will investigate other project areas such as working with carers.
- 5.3 **Dementia Friendly Chichester** - A continuation of the support for the dementia Alliance and find opportunities to train more Dementia Friends.
- 5.4 **Helping residents with low level mental health needs** – A continuation of the support for the "Time to Change" hub and meeting the pledge made.
- 5.5 **Tackling Financial Exclusion** – Coordinate preparations for the implementation of Universal Credit.
- 5.6 **Access to services** - Identify locations where the vulnerable residents of Chichester District Communities know where they can go locally for information/advice about essential community services.
- 5.7 **Community Assessment Framework** – delivery of a Tangmere Community Assessment and development of a toolkit to guide use of the assessment
- 5.8 **Social Prescribing project** – To investigate the development of a Social Prescribing model in Chichester.
- 5.9 **Young People's services** – Linked to Choose Work we will develop a forum for local youth services and identify what young people's needs are in the local area.
- 5.10 **CIP Marketing Plan** – Delivery of another partnership show case event, events around the different projects to encourage networking and joint working and development of CIP Facebook presence.

6. Partners

- 6.1 Partners are part of the discussion when developing the forward plan for the partnership and issues they want to look at.
- 6.2 Chichester District Council is the lead partner on the partnership and is responsible for taking the lead and initiating projects this is done by the Partnerships officer. A number of the projects are now being led by partner organisations including the Dementia Friendly, Time to Change, Access to Services and Getting People into Work projects.
- 6.3 Chichester District Council is the lead accountable body for the partnership, therefore is responsible for any funding that comes through the delivery of this action plan. For example, Chichester District Council is ultimately responsible for the delivery of the Work Experience Coordinator posts.

7. Consultation

7.1 Partner organisations consulted in the development of the strategy and Annual report:

- Department for Work and Pensions
- Sussex Police
- West Sussex Fire and Rescue service
- Voluntary Action Arun and Chichester
- Chichester Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Chichester College
- University of Chichester
- West Sussex County Council
- South Downs National Park

7.2 We also consulted with the wider partnership which has membership of over 80 different organisations

8. Community impact and corporate risks

8.1. The work of the partnership encourages local organisations to work together to deliver on issues relevant to the local community. By working together they can share resources, avoid duplication and offer better value for money

9. Other Implications

Are there any implications for the following?		
	Yes	No
Crime & Disorder: Supports the work of Chichester Community Safety Partnership	✓	
Climate Change:		✓
Human Rights and Equality Impact: Partnership projects such as ChooseWork and SelseyWorks are fully inclusive and have been highly successful at reaching minority and hard to reach groups.	✓	
Safeguarding: Partnership projects are developed to help the most vulnerable in society. The partnership supports the work of the CSP including its Child Sexual exploitation work.	✓	
Other (Please specify): eg Biodiversity		

10. Appendices

1. Chichester in Partnership Annual Report 2016-17
2. Chichester in Partnership Business Plan 2017-18

11. Background papers

None