



Richmond Partnership Minutes

Adult Social Care

2 November 2016

Minutes of the Richmond Partnership Executive Group Meeting

Wednesday 2nd November 2016, 10.00 am to 12.00pm.
Room 7, York House, Twickenham

Attendance

Present

Cllr Lord True (LT)	Leader of the Council, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
Parm Sandhu (PS)	Richmond Borough Commander, London Metropolitan Police
Paul Martin (PM)	Chief Executive, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils
Mandy Skinner (MS)	Assistant Chief Executive, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils
Gabrielle Flint (GF)	Principal, Richmond Adult Community College
Don Shenker (DS)	Chief Executive, Richmond CVS
Robin Ghurbhuran (RG)	Principal, Richmond upon Thames College
Ivana Price (IP)	Strategic Head of Integrated Youth Support, Achieving for Children and Director of Children's Services, Richmond and Kingston Councils
Nick O'Donnell (NOD)	Assistant Director – Traffic and Engineering, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils
Carol Clapperton (CC)	Partnership Manager, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils
Matthew Maher (MM)	Communities and Partnerships Manager
Anna Raleigh (AR)	Senior Consultant in Public Health
John Atherton (JA)	Deputy Chief Officer, Richmond CCG
Laurence Wooldridge (LW)	Graduate Trainee, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils

Apologies

Cllr Susan Chappell	Cabinet Member for Community, Planning and the Voluntary Sector, Richmond Council
Cllr Pamela Fleming	Strategic Cabinet Member for Environment, Business & the Community, LBRuT
Cathy Kerr	Director, ACS, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils
Graham Lewis	GP, RCCG Board Member
Paul Chadwick	Director of Environment and Community Services, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils
Robert Henderson	Deputy Chief Executive, AfC

1. Welcome, Cllr Lord True

Lord True welcomed the group and gave apologies.

2. Chief Executive's Update, Paul Martin

PM gave an update on progress with the SSA. After a long prior planning period, the SSA had been ongoing for a month and the transition seemed to have gone reasonably smoothly.

PM reminded the partnership of the reasons behind the SSA: cuts to government grants required budget savings, and the changes initiated by the SSA should provide £10 million per year savings whilst maintaining service standards.

PM said that, in practice, the SSA has meant blending senior management from both councils. He said that partnership working would remain a crucial part of the way Richmond Council operates.

MM added that the Community and Partnership team was working to ensure that partners received consistency in their experience of service provision.

PM noted that council sovereignty continued, and that many partnerships (e.g. AfC) would remain Richmond-focused.

LT gave his thanks for officers' effort during the transition.

3. Introduction from new Borough Commander, Chief Superintendent Parm Sandhu

PS emphasised that an important priority for her as Borough Commander was maintaining stability and continuity in police strategy and management.

PS noted that there were two pilots taking place in London where forces were joining with each other. However, she emphasised that there were currently no plans for Richmond's borough force to amalgamate with any other service.

DS asked if the Force worked with voluntary organisations. PS replied in the affirmative, emphasising the importance of partnership working for the Police, especially in matters of Domestic Violence and with EMAG. PS also said that she was forming an Individual Advisory Group.

PM noted that there had been a management restructure in the Community Safety Partnership as part of the SSA. This was intended to preserve service capacity, though that was also dependent on funding from the Mayor.

MM asked about how important PS thought understanding and researching the demographics in the borough were. PS said it was a priority. The elderly population brought its own challenges, especially with regards to cyber-crime. There was also a lack of data *vis-à-vis* the transient daytime population when compared to the night-time residents, whom the census for example was based on. PS asked members for any sources of additional data on this demographic they were aware of. DS said charitable trusts had performed needs assessments, and MM said he would send these to PS. AR said that the JSNA would be of use, and would share it with PS.

IP said that AfC had been successful in securing youth representation. She asked for PS to attend her board meeting.

Actions: AR and MM to send links to data to PS. PS to be invited to AfC board meeting by IP.

4. Strengthening Families Update, Ivana Price

Key points covered:

- The Strengthening Families project is currently in its second year (of five). IP said that the programme was making good progress in meeting its target for the financial year and overall programme.
- How families identified: the number of families identified by referrals has come to 56%, which is seen as positive. Of these, 34 have been recorded as external, although this may underestimate the exact number.
- Future: In future seek to decommission specific services run by the SF programme that could be integrated into other services currently being run by the council, such as Substance Misuse support or adult mental health support. This will reduce duplication and improve partnership working.
- Finance: there has been good progress in claiming funding from the DWP, as compared against initial forecasts. Whilst it was never anticipated that Payment by Results (PBR) would be an important source of funding before the third year, it was noted that claiming PBR would become increasingly important henceforth. This would require improved data collection and especially data sharing between AfC and partners, although logistics and capacity issues remain barriers.

Questions

Domestic violence. PM asked whether enough support was being provided for cases of domestic violence, as only 14 ½ per cent of families in need of mental health support seemed to be receiving support. PM asked whether there was a resource issue. IP replied that the figure did not mean that the rest of these families were not receiving *any* support, as other services (especially children's services) were picking up many cases. Yet IP did recognise that there was a waiting list, and that an important focus for AfC was capacity building in this regard.

RG asked about challenges faced by AfC in getting families into employment, and mentioned that RAAC not being used or consulted, but that instead the programme was largely reliant on the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to signpost. IP recognised the need to focus on this more, but said that it was difficult due to challenges with staffing. RAAC offered assistance.

Additional comments

- MS added that this partnership remains the body to whom the Strengthening Families programme is accountable. Members of the RP should all think about how they can contribute to it.
- CC offered an update from the last meeting on the work fund (DWP). The DWP has shifted its focus onto those who are closest to entering employment.

5. Richmond CVS's Business Plan, Don Shenker

Key points covered:

- DS provided his vision for RCVS, which, on top of providing leadership and a voice for the voluntary sector, also included developing systems to signpost volunteers and potential service users to voluntary organisations in the community. This recognised that voluntary sector provision must be aligned with borough priorities.

- In an attempt to expand the amount of volunteering, it is essential to increase the flexibility and types of volunteering available.
- DS noted many challenges faced by voluntary sector organisations:
 - o Demonstrating the voluntary sector's impact
 - o Finding affordable office space. DS asked for a dialogue with the council about this.
 - o The increasingly complex challenges that were faced by voluntary organisations
- DS also asked members for support:
 - o DS noted that there were numerous vacancies for trustees in the borough, and invited members of the board to consider applying.
 - o He asked if members could consider areas where they might be able to effectively share information with RCVS to pass onto voluntary sector organisations
 - o He asked if members might provide opportunities for their employees to volunteer themselves.

MS, in response to DS's question about office space, said that this problem may require the Voluntary Sector to change its approach to accommodation. The sector could move to meet people rather than people going to visit the organisation at a designated 'front office'.

LT added that schools could be made hubs during the evening hours.

Actions: Members to consider whether they could support organisations through trusteeship, or improve data-sharing mechanisms.

6. Public Health Community Access Strategy

Key points covered:

- AR provided an outline of the key aspects of the Community Access Strategy (CAS). It was developed to challenge the isolation and loneliness that older people often suffer from by improving access to local community services. The CAS seeks to improve early intervention.
- The model seeks to improve signposting towards community services by improving links between GP practices and community organisations, through 'Community Navigators' and 'Health Champions', and by helping community organisations extend their services. This fits in with Phase Three of Village Planning, and also the Dementia Friendly initiative.
- Pilots will take place up in Barnes until March, with sports initiatives, Dementia Friendly Parks, and funding for Community Navigators. AR asked for support for these initiatives from partners working here, or in future areas.

Additional comments

- PM welcomed the focus on sport and parks, and wondered what role transport could play in support of the initiative, especially when people lose the ability to drive. AR agreed that this was an area for future cross-service collaboration.

7. Village Planning Update and Introduction to Phase 3, Matthew Maher

Update on Phase 2

- There have been well-attended consultation events for Tranche 4 of Village Planning, including the Hamptons and Teddington. SPDs for these areas will be adopted in early 2017.
- There are open consultations for planning guidance in the Old Deer Park, as well as Teddington and Hampton Wick. Members identifying with any of these villages are welcome to participate.
- Work is ongoing to develop a consultation strategy for Tranche 5 of Village Planning, which will include consultation events in Strawberry Hill and Twickenham. The initial consultation is scheduled for February and March 2017.

Introduction to Phase 3:

- MM discussed the aims of phase 3, which related to building community resilience and self-reliance, and embedding engagement and partnership working across the council.
- Village planning would have a renewed focus on people rather than place, with pilots in early 2017.
- MM asked partners to consider how they could contribute to phase three.

Additional comments

NOD raised concerns about the amount of work that Village Planning consultations were raising for transport services, including unspecific comments from services, and asked for the current processes to be streamlined and improved. MM said his team would investigate which changes could be made to reduce the workload for services.

Concerns were raised about the extent to which the younger generation's views were being heard. MM said that Community Links Officers were working with partners to improve youth engagement. MS said that there were attempts to engage commuters through engagement activities at the station, but she recognised that the council's use of social media could be extended.

Actions: MM to explore mechanisms to reduce work for services.

8. Children and Young People's Plan Consultation, Carol Clapperton

CC said that Richmond officers are working with AfC and Kingston to refresh both borough's Children and Young People's Plan, working in partnership to recognise the AfC link across the two boroughs and ensure a commonality of approach.

Consultation is taking place across age groups and through a variety of methods, including social media platforms like *TalkRichmond* and focus groups.

Actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A workshop is taking place in January, to which some partners are invited - Partners' public support for the consultation is encouraged

9. Any other business

Forward Plan

- CC asked for members to send through topics for future discussion to her for the next meeting.

Date of next meeting: tbc February 2017