

TORBAY LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

PRELIMINARY MEETING

10TH SEPTEMBER 2002

RIVIERA CENTRE

1. Chairman for the Meeting

Eileen Salloway (ES), Leader of Torbay Council, welcomed everyone and proposed that she chair the meeting for the evening. Each person present introduced him/herself and identified who they were representing. (A list of all attendees is attached to this note.)

ES gave the background to the meeting. Each person has been invited as a representative of an existing partnership. The LSP is being proposed, not because the government has ordered it (Torbay is not an authority which is required to have an LSP), but in the spirit of something we want to do – it is our partnership.

The membership of the LSP will be determined by the partnership itself. We are looking for a true community feed into the partnership. Certainly the Council is entering into it in the spirit of co-operation and partnership working.

2. Briefing – What is an LSP?

Bernard Page (BP) circulated copies of the IDeA presentation ‘Community Planning for Torbay’ and expanded on the issues raised in the paper, in particular Core Tasks, General Expectations, what is required to achieve the expectations and How Partnerships can Add Value.

3. Terms of Reference

Jon Andrewes (JA) suggested that success will be achieved through:

- Having an agreed Vision for Torbay
- Enthusiasm from all involved
- Commitment and community involvement, including from the hard to reach groups and representatives from the three towns.

JA reminded all of the good work being carried out in partnerships which already exist in the Bay.

The meeting then split into four groups. Each group was asked to address the Aims and Objectives for the proposed partnership and also one allocated subject from the following list:

- Structure
- Meetings
- Terms of Membership
- Review Mechanisms.

Feedback from the Groups:

(a) Aims and Objectives (all groups), to:

- Produce a Community Plan for Torbay
- Join up existing partnerships and provide an overview for them
- Add value to the work and contributions from each partner
- Provide cross cutting links to address the issues facing Torbay
- Have clear outcomes
- Identify, allocate and monitor clear (SMART) targets for members of the partnership
- Develop initiatives that will lead to renewal and regeneration of Torbay
- Set the strategic agenda for Torbay.

(b) Structure:

- Be truly representative of the public, private and voluntary sectors and the community
- Rotation of members (annual membership? Non renewable?)
- Appointments process
- Size – balance inclusivity and manageability
- Hold an annual conference
- Be a clearinghouse on issues.

The group agreed that it is vital to fill the membership gaps left by the current meeting, eg from the towns, residents' associations, schools, clubs and sports and the hard to reach groups, eg youth, disabled and ethnic communities. (This is not an inclusive list.)

It was also agreed that it would be beneficial to everyone if at an early meeting of the partnership each partner was given a short time to explain to the others the role, activities and issues facing the organisation or body they represent.

(c) Meetings:

- Balance between geographic and thematic
- Inclusivity – need to make sure that elected ward members, community groups etc have a voice
- Venue must vary – migrate around the Bay
- Budget and secretariat – who is contributing what?
- Confidentiality / openness
- Chair to rotate
- Standing Orders / Constitution to be agreed.

(d) Terms of Membership:

- Maximum size of @ 20
- Address the democratic issue – allow individual sectors to elect single representatives
- Annual period of office for members
- Equal status of members

(e) Review Mechanisms:

- Partnership is a visionary group – long term vision for Torbay
- Must be removed from the political arena
- Should be a small effective body with good communication channels
- Have a small executive (3 or 4) to monitor the effectiveness of its operation
- Map existing partnerships in the Bay
- Learn from other LSP's – good and bad practice
- Equal status around the table.

4. Composition of LSP

This issue was dealt with under the previous item. However, the current meeting recognised that it was light on representatives from the voluntary sector and the community.

Voluntary Sector - it was reported that the Voluntary Sector Annual Conference is being held on 3rd October. Eileen Salloway is giving the opening address and could include a reference to the LSP. The delegate pack could also include information about the LSP.

It was agreed that the opportunity of the forthcoming Voluntary Sector Annual Conference is used to promote the LSP and encourage involvement from the voluntary sector – Eileen Salloway and Bernard Page to action.

Community Sector – ES reported the response from the three town meetings. These could be reconvened and each meeting invited to select a representative. It was clear from the meetings held that there is a desire to hold further meetings. **A report on the Town Meetings held earlier in the year is to be presented to the next meeting of this group – Bernard Page to action.**

Steve Swani (SS) reported that an overarching Neighbourhood Watch already exists within the Bay. SS also reminded the meeting that Council Members are the legitimate elected representatives of the community.

5. Work Programme

Paul Lucas (PL) proposed that at the next meeting:

- It would be helpful to address and understand existing partnerships – 5 minutes explanation of each partnership
- Good practice from other LSP's
- Consensus on the proposed LSP Conference – preparation for the conference and launch of the true LSP.

The meeting agreed to establish a sub-group to plan the proposed LSP Conference. The date and timing of the Conference is critical to encouraging attendance and participation. Sub-group to be Dominic Acland, Peter Bushell, James Davis, Penny Ross, representative from TPC, Police or Health representative.

6. Comments on 'Looking Ahead – Looking Well Ahead'

PL reported that the Council would welcome comments on its first Strategic Plan – 'Looking Ahead – Looking Well Ahead' and its Budget Issues report which have been circulated to those present. **All comments to Bernard Page - ALL.**

7. Any Other Business

- i. Press statement on this meeting to be prepared by Paul Lucas, Peter Bushell, Peter Colclough and Simon Tonge.
- ii. Minutes of this meeting to be posted on the Council's Website.
- iii. All to provide Bernard Page (Policy Team, Torbay Council, Town Hall, Torquay TQ1 3DR, tel 01803 207021, email bernard.page@torbay.gov.uk) with their contact details.
- iv. The LSP to be renamed.

8. Next Meeting

5.00 – 7.00 pm on Monday 21st October at the Riviera Centre.

Torbay Local Strategic Partnership

Preliminary Meeting

10th September, 2002

Name	Representing
Ray Waller	Job Centre Plus
Rosemary Roberts	Job Centre Plus
Penny Ross	Groundwork
James Davis	Member of Youth Parliament
Steve Swani	Devon and Cornwall Police
Peter Bushell	South Devon Chamber of Commerce
Jon Andrewes	Managing Agent – Torbay Council
Heather Maxwell	Acting Principal, South Devon College
Elizabeth Thomas	Torbay Partnership Committee
Peter Colclough	Torbay Primary Care Trust
Jean Midgley	Councillor, Torbay Council
Dominic Acland	Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust
Bernard Page	Torbay Council
Paul Lucas	Torbay Council
Eileen Salloway	Councillor, Torbay Council
Jean Turnbull	Councillor, Torbay Council
Simon Tonge	Paignton Zoo
Brendan Hanrahan	Editor, Herald Express