



STROUD DISTRICT LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

<http://community.stroud.gov.uk/lsp>

Meeting held on Friday 6th March 2015
Council Chamber, Ebley Mill

Present:

Les Haines (Chair)	Voluntary & Community Sector Forum	David Hagg	CE, Stroud District Council
David Miller	Stroud Hospital League of Friends	Dr Claire Mould	OPENhouse
Russell Warner	FSB	Helen Edwards	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group
Beth Whittaker	Stroud Businesswomen's Network	Acting Chief Inspector Andy Poole	Gloucestershire Constabulary
Elin Tattersall	GRCC	Cllr Geoff Wheeler	Leader, Stroud District Council
Pamela Tawse	Gloucestershire Older Persons Association		

Apologies and absent:

David Nairn	Fluid Transfer	Martin James	Job Centre Plus, Gloucestershire & West of England District
Dr Stuart Wilson	Stroud District Schools Partnership	Geoffrey Beckerleg	Chamber of Trade, Stroud
Catherine Green	Stroud Businesswomen's Network	Barbara Pond	GRCC
Mary Hutton	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group	Dr Hein Le Roux	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group
Christina Snell	Age UK Gloucestershire	Max Comfort	Social Enterprise & WCCG
Dr Claire Feehily	Healthwatch Gloucestershire	Geoffrey Head,	Job Centre Plus, Gloucestershire & West of England District
Martin Wright	National Farmers Union	Brian Oosthuysen	Gloucestershire County Council
Sir David McMurtry	Renishaw Plc	Kim Bedford	GAPTC
Geoffrey Clifton-Brown	MP for Cotswolds Constituency	Neil Carmichael	MP for Stroud Constituency
Jane Ball	Mayor of Dursley	Margaret Willcox	Gloucestershire County Council
David Tate	Silverwood UK Ltd	Kevin Hamblin (Vice Chair)	South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (SGS)
Charlotte Bignall	Stroud District Youth Council	Libby Powell	Stroud District Youth Council

Guests & Support Officers:

Sarah Dunning, CE Westmorland Services	Carole Garfield	Carole Wilkins, Hill, Valley & Vale Children's Centres
Joe Forbes, GOPA	Jim Rawlinson, GOPA	Jackie Godwin, Stroud District Council

1. Welcome, introductions & apologies

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. A number of apologies had been received. The Chair advised that Christina Snell, CE Age UK Gloucestershire, would be retiring at the end of March: her successor Rob Fountain will be invited to join the partnership.

2. Notes of the previous meeting

Accuracy of these was agreed.

3. Gloucester Service Stations update

Sarah Dunning, CE Westmorland Services, provided a very comprehensive and interesting overview of how the company had first established itself in Cumbria and the current position locally. Sarah emphasised the importance of strong social objectives and the need for healthy, robust partnerships – both markers of the company's success.

Subsequent discussion points included:

- o Attention to detail in the build, with a rigorous design process
- o Good communication with the local planning authority (Stroud) and the LEP
- o Very strong local food source policy (130 local food producers within a 30-mile radius)
- o Close ties with charities and organisations including the Nelson Trust, Fair Shares and Glos. Gateway Trust to help support the long-term unemployed into work
- o Westmorland Services won the Best Retail Entrepreneur Investec Food and Drink award 2014 (turnover over £20m)
- o The Gloucester southbound service station is due to open mid-May

Sarah was thanked by everyone for what she has done for the District.

4. Children's Centres in the Stroud District

Carole Wilkins, Locality Manager, Hill, Valley & Vale Children's Centres informed the partnership that the charity has been selected as the recommended provider to lead the Stroud family of children's centres.

Consisting of former and current staff and governors from Park Infant School and Dursley Primary School, local professionals, and children's centre staff from the Treetops and Park clusters, the organisation has a strong track record of managing successful children's centres.

Subsequent comments included:

- o GRCC is very pleased to be working with the 7 children's centres in Stroud through the Growing Futures Project
- o The term is for 7 years, with call-ins at 3 and 5 years
- o Most services are free but schools have to pay in some instances
- o The organisation is working with partnership agencies to identify achievement gaps
- o Parental involvement is strong

Further information is available via

<http://www.grcc.org.uk/growing-great-futures/growing-great-futures-1>

5. Stroud Tea and Tell

Pamela Tawse and Jim Rawlinson provided a progress update on the District's Tea and Tell forums. Established to encourage older people to discuss their experiences in an informal setting, the sessions highlight the needs, concerns and satisfaction of everyday life.

Discussion points included:

- Information gathered is referred on to other agencies, including Healthwatch Gloucestershire
- Interpreters can be accessed via Glos. CCG: Glos. Constabulary also recommended using Language Line
- An award for businesses that help older people would increase support and raise awareness of issues through press coverage

The presentation, containing further information is available on the LSP website

<http://community.stroud.gov.uk/lsp/new/index.html>

6. Gloucestershire Building Better Opportunities

Elin Tattersall provided an overview of the Big Lottery Fund's Building Better Opportunities programme. Its aim is to promote social inclusion and combat poverty by improving people's life chances and provide better opportunities to unemployed people.

Subsequent points made and areas of discussion included:

- GRCC is leading awareness-raising of the project, working closely with key organisations including Westmorland Services and local children's centres
- The Big Lottery Fund is looking for evidence of strategic fit and capability of delivery for stage 1 of the process – including case studies of new, exciting projects that couldn't otherwise be achieved
- The programme is about adding value to existing statutory provision
- Funding is likely to be awarded to 1 lead organisation but does not prevent partner-groups being involved

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7. Stroud LEADER LAG

A late additional agenda item, Carole Garfield was very pleased to advise that following an appeal against the initial unsuccessful proposal, DEFRA has just overturned its decision and awarded £1.9m to the Cotswold Conservation Board. This will enable the formation of a Local Area Group (LAG) that will award grants to create jobs in areas such as farming and tourism. Although Stroud Town will receive no direct funding – it being a rural development programme - it is important that the District gets a share, so partners need to work together to achieve this.

Further information is available via <http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/?page=NewsView&itemid=689>

8. Partners' update

- The major brownfield site at Littlecombe, Dursley, is being developed, creating new housing as well as employment opportunities. Other brownfield sites in the District are also being considered, although some are prone to occasional flooding and need flood-alleviation schemes in place
- The Cotswold FSB branch held a successful event on 2nd March, engaging with the Growth Hub
- Stroud Businesswomen's Network continues to grow in membership and attracts very interesting speakers to its monthly meetings
- Glos. Constabulary faces further budget-cuts - however Stroud and Dursley stations will remain open. Inspector Andy Poole will be in charge of the Stroud District, there no longer being the position of Superintendent
- The new Police custody suite at Waterwells is open

- Phase 1 of Glos. CCG's social prescribing initiative has been implemented. Phase 2 is being tested in the Stroud district
- Glos. CCG has put in a bid for funding from the Prime Minister's Challenge Fund, set up to help improve access to general practice and stimulate innovative ways of providing primary care services
- Glos. CCG will manage the co-commissioning of primary care services from April 2015
- OPENhouse has a new shop due to open at the end of March, involving local farmers
- Students at OPENhouse have built a canoe which will be launched on the canal
- Stroud Hospital League of Friends is very concerned about the new out-of-hours service awarded to South Western Ambulance Service, as there is no certainty that the mobile doctor available will be based in Stroud
- There are serious concerns that the pharmacy at Stroud Hospital, which employs 10 people and provides an excellent service, will close due to a change in provision
- Stroud Older Persons' Community Hub now operates from 4 sites in Stroud
- Stroud Chamber of Trade has been involved in the creation of the Local Neighbourhood Plan

The Chair thanked all for their contributions to a very informative meeting and asked that suggestions for future agenda items be forwarded to Jackie.

Future meeting dates

	2015
Friday 5th June	Museum in the Park, Stroud
Friday 11th September	Council Chamber, Ebley Mill
Friday 4th December	Council Chamber, Ebley Mill