



STROUD DISTRICT LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

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

Meeting held on Friday 4 December 2020
Online meeting

Theme for this meeting:

Support into Employment

Present:

Emily Gravestock	UK Space Agency	Carole Stubbs (Vice Chair)	Job Centre Plus, Gloucestershire & West of England District
Beth Whittaker	Stroud Businesswomen's Network	Tim Clapp	Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue
Cllr Doina Cornell	Leader, Stroud District Council	Cllr Stephen Davies	County Councillor and District Councillor
Dr Roma Walker	Chair, Stroud Hospital League of Friends	Tom Wickham- Bassett	Stroud District Youth Council Chair
Janice Banks (Chair)	Gloucestershire Rural Community Council	Kathy O'Leary	Chief Executive, Stroud District Council
Lisa	CEO Lilian Faithfull Care	Max Comfort	Social Enterprise & WCCG
Neil Grecian	Mayor of Dursley	Paul Cruise	Gloucestershire Constabulary
Kevin Hamblin	South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (SGS)	Sam Holliday	Federation of Small Businesses
Will Mansell	The Grace Network		

Apologies and absent:

Alison Robinson	Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils	Alison Truphet	Executive Director, New Ventures Trust
Anna Herbert	CEO OPENHouse	David Nairn	Fluid Transfer
David Owen	CE, GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership	Eilis Cope	Cope Sales & Marketing
Helen Edwards	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group	Geoff Beckerleg	Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Stroud
Fred Barker	Director of Transition Stroud	Margaret Wilcox OBE	Gloucestershire County Council
Mary Hutton	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group	Richard Kerry	Station Manager, Stroud District Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service
Sarah Telford	CE, Citizens Advice Stroud & Cotswolds	Simon Bernstein	Chief Executive, Longfield
Siobhan Baillie	MP for Stroud	Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown	MP for The Cotswolds
Sue Bailey	Sue Bailey Consulting	Tom Woods	MD Greiner Bio

William Frazer	National Farmers Union	Rob Fountain	Age UK Gloucestershire
Ben Falconer	Corporate Communications Manager, SDC	Chris Pockett	Renishaw PLC

Guests and Support Officers

Anna Reeves	Navigator Developer, CSCIC	Indigo Redfern	CEO GL11 Community Hub
Julie Wickham	Navigator Developer, Stroud Valleys Project	Steve Miles	Senior Youth Officer, SDC
Anne Radley	GGTrust - GEM Project	Monique Smith	Area Manager National Careers Service
Petula Davis	LSP Co-Ordinator, SDC		

1. Welcome, introductions, apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone, a number apologies had been received and noted.

2. **GEM Project – Anna Reeves (Creative Sustainability), Julie Wickham Stroud Valleys Project** – (presentation circulated 4/12/20)

Anna and Julie gave a joint presentation on GEM – Going the Extra Mile, on how the diverse partnership helps people into or closer to work, education and training, connecting people with their local services and communities.

Comments made:

‘Fantastic overview of the project and some brilliant cases, a great advocacy presentation.’

3. **An Introduction to the National Careers Service – Monique Smith (Area Manager NCS)** – (presentation circulated 4/12/20)

Monique informed the partners of the free careers services available providing impartial careers information, advice and guidance.

Comments made:

‘A very comprehensive presentation and some lovely comments about your work.’

4. **Kickstart and other support available from Stroud JCP – Carole Stubbs Employer Adviser for Stroud JCP & Vice Chair Stroud LSP** (presentation circulated 4/12/20)

Carole gave an in depth presentation of different help available including an overview of the Kickstart Scheme.

Comments made:

Good to hear about the Kickstart scheme, a real boost for the District. SDC is looking at becoming a gateway provider in partnership. Thank you for all the excellent presentations and contributions.

5. Partners Updates

Stroud District Youth Council is working with Glos Community Rail Partnership developing a survey and how to support young people's transport needs to education and employment. SDYC has also made a number of pledges including support to Black Lives Matter.

GL11 Community HUB (guest) covering a diverse community, delivering 100 food parcels a week. Have mental health case workers and provide benefit advice for Cam and Dursley. Are part of the GEM project and also 'Hot Spots' which is a new funding opportunity working with 5 partners across Gloucestershire supporting people to find positive ways to find their way.

Stroud Businesswomen's Network still continuing to meet but now moved online with a focus on training including 'How to use Zoom better for your business'.

Paganhill Community Group is still active and operates a 'Freezer of Love' which provides frozen ready meals from the Long Table.

Stroud District Council is supporting the Gloucestershire County Council Skills portal that is now live. SDC has been awarded Apprentice Employer of the Year with two apprentices being nominated and one being awarded South West Apprentice of the Year. Have been providing support to the High Street and to other businesses through Gov grants trying to help those who missed out the first time round. Help is also being given to those who are having to self-isolate.

UK Space Agency, employment in the Space sector is growing and offers a wide range of different placement opportunities – not just scientists. Details of the Space Placement in Industry can be found here

<https://sa.catapult.org.uk/work-with-us/space-placements-industry-spin/>

Stroud & South Glos College is experiencing a perfect storm

- increase in school leavers, many of which are not at the academic level they would have been in a 'normal year'.
- Apprenticeship opportunities down significantly, increasing FT numbers
- Unemployment rates beginning to rise, but we are at the start of this and we expect it to get considerably worse (we hope we are wrong in Stroud)

The college in Stroud will work with any community group as best we can to support the community in the District. We have no additional funding, but we do have facilities and a considerable amount of expertise if required. We are involved in a lot of initiative discussed today and it was great to hear all the support already available.

Lilian Faithful Care All the homes are open and are very pleased to have passed the recent CQC infection control inspection with flying colours. Unfortunately, the Uplands Day Centre has had to close until the new year.

Social Enterprise & WCCG A thank you to Stroud District Council for the support that the Exchange has received. Hot desking and meeting spaces still in demand and can be rented on a monthly basis.

Gloucestershire Constabulary – PCSO recruitment has just closed and there will be a new recruitment drive for officers in the new year

Stroud Hospital League of Friends with so many projects such ward refurbishment being suspended, SHL has donated £143k to 14 local organisations who support a wide range of health related needs.

Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue currently recruiting whole time firefighters and are running try outs.

The Grace Network – the Long Table still very busy supporting communities and individuals to help a growing number that are in food poverty.

FSB members are still getting to grips with all the Tier changes and it is still very difficult for many but we will continue trying to help and have been busy promoting to members and other SMEs the Additional Restrictions Grant Stroud District Council are dealing with.

Anna Reeves (Creative Sustainability) Project Summary - Let's Talk Travel - part of a Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership project about travel which has been funded by GWR. This strand of the project looks at barriers which stop job seekers from using public transport. It is separate but complimentary to the survey launched by Gloucester County Council last week. We are interested in both travel problems which might have been experienced by clients prior to COVID but also in the impact of COVID on travel confidence. These problems might be linked to a range of underlying issues such as learning disability, physical disability or mental health issues. We are interested in talking to employment professionals to see if they have had a similar experiences and how the problem was resolved. (*Survey circulated to members 4 Dec 2020*).

CN2030 SDC Climate Strategy Update The draft of the council's 2030 Strategy and Master Plan is available on line for consultation purposes. Focused on 'limiting, adapting and responding in a changing climate' it sets out an approach towards addressing climate and ecological emergencies with a focus on achieving carbon neutrality in 2030. The delivery of this goal has implications across all aspects of District life and so you are encouraged to submit your thoughts and encourage others to do the same via the online questionnaire.

Ideas for Future Meetings

- Affordable Housing and the changes in Homes England funding
- Land for Employment – discuss solutions for the lack of employment land/premises to rent for small businesses, creatives, start ups

Next Meeting

Date: **Friday 5 March 2021**

Venue: Online Meeting

2021 Meeting dates

4 June, 10 September, 3 December