



# West of England Partnership

**Bath & North East  
Somerset Council**



**North  
Somerset  
COUNCIL**

**South Gloucestershire  
Council**

## Minutes of meeting of the

## Planning, Housing and Communities Board

Monday 25th February 2013,

### Present

Cllr Tim Ball  
Cllr Elfan Ap Rees  
Cllr Brian Allinson  
Cllr Matthew Riddle  
Cllr Guy Poultney

Bath and North East Somerset Council  
North Somerset Council  
South Gloucestershire Council  
South Gloucestershire Council  
Bristol City Council

### In Attendance

Zoe Wilcox  
David Trigwell  
Mark Hughes  
Michael Reep  
Steve Evans  
Karen Ross  
Barbara Davies  
Laura Grady  
John Malyckyj

Bristol City Council  
Bath and North East Somerset Council  
North Somerset Council  
North Somerset Council  
South Gloucestershire Council  
South Gloucestershire Council  
West of England Partnership  
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### 1. Apologies for absence

There were none.

It was explained that Cllr Guy Poultney was now the cabinet member who would represent Bristol City Council on planning and housing issues.

### 2. Annual Business

It was proposed by Cllr Ball and seconded by Cllr Allinson that Cllr Ap Rees be elected chair.

It was proposed by Cllr Ap Rees and seconded by Cllr Allinson that Cllr Riddle be elected as vice-chair.

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

### **4. Member and Public Forum**

David Redgewell commented on:

- The duty to co-operate
- The linking of the four core strategies
- The importance of equalities impact assessments in development control
- Concern that the redevelopment of the Bristol harbour side was aimed at one particular socio-economic group

Cllr Ap Rees responded by saying that the four authorities were already demonstrating the duty to co-operate and this would be reflected in the agenda.

George Bailey on behalf of Radstock Public Transport Group

- On the need for balance between housing, jobs and transport.
- Sustainability in all planning: keep new housing with transport links and ensure business areas are planned to be near.

### **5. Minutes of meeting held on 21 November 2012**

The minutes were approved.

### **6. Duty to Cooperate: West of England Strategic Framework**

Laura Grady presented the report.

Cllr Riddle said that one of the reasons why the area had been of the first to achieve LEP status was that the authorities had been working across boundaries for a number of years. Referring to the section on gypsies and travellers he asked if there was a link to be made with the SHMA could it be cross-referenced?

Cllr Poultney felt that the scale and nature of the employment would be an important factor in driving economic regeneration.

Cllr Ball stressed the importance of the joint monitoring of economic intelligence data to ensure that it was accurate.

Cllr Riddle commented on the need to ensure partnership working with statutory bodies highlighting the redevelopment of Oldbury Power Station as an example. Local roads would be put under pressure with 5-6,000 people working on the site.

Cllr Poultney asked when the Parliamentary Select committee would report on the proposed Severn Barrage. Laura Grady agreed to circulate this information once it had been obtained.

Cllr Ap Rees asked that a specific reference be made to flooding against the DEFRA

### **Agreed**

Members endorsed the Duty to Co-operate schedule

## **7. West of England Strategic Housing Market Assessment Review (SHMA)**

Laura Grady presented the report.

Cllr Ball agreed that the SHMA needed to be carried out but was concerned about the timing in relation to the completion of Core Strategies.

Laura Grady explained that the report was describing a pre-production brief setting out the processes that would need to be undertaken to complete the SHMA.

Cllr Allinson understood the concerns of Cllr Ball but acknowledged that the work outlined in the pre-production brief was necessary.

Mark Hughes noted the indicative timetable and said that consideration would need to be given to authorities beyond the West of England area.

### **Agreed**

Members endorsed the requirement for needing to progress an updated SHMA and the proposed coherent and joined up approach for taking this forward.

It was also agreed that a press statement be prepared for later release outlining the agreement.

### **Next meeting**

TBA