

QUARTERLY UPDATE REPORT ON KEY PARTNERSHIPS**To: Cabinet****Date: 26th October 2010****From: Chief Executive****Electoral division(s): All****Forward Plan ref: Not applicable** **Key decision: No**

Purpose: In order to update Cabinet and enhance accountability of the activities of key strategic partnerships it has been agreed that a quarterly report should be produced. This paper provides the latest quarterly update report on the following six partnerships:

- A) Cambridgeshire Together (pages 2-4)**
- B) Cambridge Children's Trust (pages 4-5)**
- C) Cambridgeshire Care Partnership (pages 5-8)**
- D) Cambridgeshire Horizons (pages 8-10)**
- E) Safer and Stronger Thematic Partnership (formerly Community Safety Strategic Partnership) (10-11)**
- F) Greater Cambridge Partnership (pages 12-16)**
- G) Environmental Sustainability Partnership (17-20)**

Recommendation: Cabinet is asked to note the content of the report.

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A) CAMBRIDGESHIRE TOGETHER

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Cambridgeshire Together is a partnership of the County's most influential organisations that aim to improve the quality of life for all who live, learn, work and travel in Cambridgeshire.
- 1.2 The partnership was formed to meet the challenges of a changing county over the next decade and beyond. Its agenda is to innovate, transform and deliver high quality cost effective services that meet the needs of all communities and individuals throughout Cambridgeshire.
- 1.3 The Cambridgeshire Together Board includes Leaders of the County and District Councils, representatives of the Police Authority, Fire and Rescue Service, NHS Cambridgeshire, Cambridgeshire Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Consortium, Cambridgeshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) and business representatives.
- 1.4 All of the partners involved in Cambridgeshire Together are committed to delivering the partnership's priorities as set out in the Cambridgeshire Vision, the County's sustainable community strategy. The Vision sets out the partnerships priorities until 2021.
- 1.5 The Visions priorities are organised by five cross cutting themes and express the challenges the county will face in the future. These are:
 - Managing Growth
 - Economic Prosperity
 - Environmental Sustainability
 - Equality and Inclusion

- Safer and Stronger Communities

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

New Models of Partnership Working

- 1.6 The Cambridgeshire Together Board last met on 24 September and agreed to move ahead with a transformation of how the public sector, the business sector and the third sector work together. The new model of partnership working is defined by a set of principles agreed by the Cambridgeshire Together Board in May and is driven by an analysis of the evidence base of key community priorities.
- 1.7 The new approach will improve the way our organisations work in partnership to focus only on the issues that matter most to communities in Cambridgeshire. The model will mean we will have fewer countywide 'static' partnerships, with officers from partner organisations working closely together, practically as one team on the ground.
- 1.8 Where there is a need to improve a service or the potential to reduce costs by changing services it was agreed that Officers and Teams would be commissioned on a task/finish basis to resolve a problem and then be redirected elsewhere once their task was complete.
- 1.9 These proposals are designed to achieve the following objectives:
 - Rebalancing our activity and services on local priorities defined by a plan for Cambridgeshire not those prescribed by Central Government.
 - Creating flexible and dynamic structures that can respond to changing local priorities or external issues.
 - Moving away from static partnerships to supporting officers to work together in communities, practically as 'one team' on the ground.
 - Reducing costs by cutting the number of partnerships, meetings and bureaucracy.
- 1.10 The Cambridgeshire Together Board recognised that much progress has been made in a short period of time and the Board praised the work done so far. It is clear however that there still remains much detail to be worked through and the Public Service Board has been commissioned to develop a transition plan that sets out in more detail 'what' the new model will look like and 'how' we will move from our current arrangements to the new model. Recommendations will be made to Cambridgeshire Together Board at their next meeting in November.

Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) Reward Grant

- 1.11 On Friday 3rd September Ministers announced their decision regarding outstanding LPSA reward grant for all current and remaining waves.
- 1.12 The Ministerial decision is to halve the amount of LPSA reward grant payments due to be made and this was initially interpreted as meaning, halving all remaining cash payments due.

- 1.13 However on the 17th September a letter was received from the Department for Communities and Local Government that indicates that the Ministerial decision was to halve the total reward due which in Cambridgeshire's case means no more funding will be received from Government.
- 1.14 Cambridgeshire Together agreed that continued funding of projects will need to be the choice of individual LSPs and authorities using whatever resources are available to them.

B) CAMBRIDGESHIRE CHILDREN'S TRUST

- 2.1 Cambridgeshire Children's Trust Board replaced the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership in November 2009. Partners involved in the Trust Board include: district, city and county councils, police, fire and rescue, health providers and the primary care trust, probation service, Jobcentre Plus, and representatives from early years settings, schools, colleges, the voluntary and community sector and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).
- 2.2 The Children's Trust Board takes responsibility for the strategic commissioning of services for children and young people in Cambridgeshire in order to improve outcomes. It is not a separate organisation and each partner retains its own functions and responsibilities, though all can through the Trust pool budgets or share other resources if so determined. It is responsible for developing, publishing, implementing and reviewing the Children and Young People's Plan. The Trust should encompass and support all of the work of partners to improve outcomes for children and young people.
- 2.3 The Board will meet at least 3 times a year and will set the strategic direction of the Trust. It is supported by the Trust Executive which is responsible for implementing the strategy, the 3 Area Partnerships operating at the more local level and task and finish groups for specific pieces of work.
- 2.4 Cambridgeshire County Council is represented on the Trust Board through the Lead Member for Children and the opposition Spokesmen. The Board is chaired by the Lead Member for Children and supported by the Executive Director Children and Young People's Services. Safeguarding is of high importance to the Trust Board and the Independent Chair of the LSCB sits on the Trust Board in her capacity to both support and challenge the work of the Trust.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

- 2.5 The Children's Trust Board last met on 7th September.
- 2.6 The Trust Board has supported the development of the revised Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Children and Young People and received a presentation on the draft recommendations, which include a key focus on child poverty and deprivation.

2.7 The Local Safeguarding Children Board presented their annual review to the Trust setting out key challenges for the Trust. These were identified as:

- the shortage of Health Visitors especially in East Cambridgeshire and Fenland, and similarly the recruitment and retention of social work staff; proposed cuts in public spending will present a challenge to the Children's work force and locality teams;
- thresholds for children's social care, both the threshold as a whole, which appears to be lower than that of comparator authorities and the variation in thresholds across the county and the impact of the Common assessment framework and the efficacy of its support for social care.

2.8 The Trust Board has developed and approved a Planning and Commissioning Framework to enable them to align service and funding plans more effectively. Using the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) recommendations, individual organisational needs and the challenges from the Local Safeguarding Board, they will decide on collective action and joint commissioning intentions for 2011 at an extraordinary Board meeting in October.

2.9 The Trust through joint funding provided by partners in the voluntary sector and Children's Services are recruiting to a workforce adviser post to help the Trust implement its Children's Workforce Strategy.

2.10 The Board has also received presentations on the Integrated Youth Support Services consultation, a briefing on the Liberating the NHS white papers and heard a report on the progress of work in response to the Ofsted Inspections of Safeguarding and Looked After Children in 2009.

C) CAMBRIDGESHIRE CARE PARTNERSHIP

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Cambridgeshire Care Partnership (CCP) brings together members of the Council and non-executive members of Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) now called NHS Cambridgeshire, supported by senior officers, to provide the governance for the Section 75 agreements (formerly known as Section 31 agreements) and to recommend the joint strategic direction and commissioning strategies for adults and older people to Cabinet and the PCT Board.

3.2 The membership of CCP underwent significant change in membership following the creation of the single PCT and the new relationship has developed positively, with an ongoing commitment to working closely in partnership to deliver good quality services for the people of Cambridgeshire.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

3.3 Cambridgeshire Care Partnership on 23rd September received a first draft of the revised Section 75 Agreement for Older People's Services. As further changes were required to be discussed with partners, it was agreed that an updated version should come back to the November Care Partnership

meeting for comments before going forward to the PCT Board and Cabinet for approval in December.

3.4 The meeting also considered the finance and performance reports for the first quarter period and part of the second quarter period (July and August where available) for older people and occupational therapy, people with learning disabilities, the integrated community equipment services (ICES), and adults of working age with mental health needs.

3.5 For ICES the main issues highlighted were:

- As at 31/7/10 spend level was £1,370K which was similar to the same period for 2009/10.
- In terms of the valuable work being undertaken by the Tissue Viability Nurse to reduce the hire of larger / more expensive items such as beds / mattresses, a report on the success of the initiative was due to go to the ICES Commissioning Group the next day. More information on the achievements of the initiative and saving as planned for 2010/11 would be presented to the next Care Partnership meeting.
- Cumulative performance against the 7day target at the end of July was 98.1% against a target of 95%. With an update provided that for August the figure was 98.4% against the 95% target.
- That the commissioners continued to see an increase in the number of items for people being supported community showing increased complexity of need, as well as a significant increase in the number of terminally ill people wishing to be supported at home. The latter tending to require high value items. The Reablement Programme would also result in an increase in the amount of equipment used by people on a short term basis.
- In terms of commissioning it was noted that there were ongoing discussions regarding the provision of assistive technology such as telecare, sensory services equipment, wheelchairs and specialist Continuing Health Care equipment, with detailed discussions being undertaken to seek further efficiencies by combining some of these functions together with ICES. This was an area that could potentially be contracted separately to take advantage of specialist suppliers, without affecting the main provision of the existing contract.

3.6 In terms of Mental Health Services there was discussion regarding the following:

- Details were provided in respect of the newly agreed arrangements for the employment of NHS Approved Mental Health professionals (AMHPs). It was highlighted that to meet the current shortfall in the number of qualified AMHPs, locum AMHPs were being employed, especially to help with out of hour demands.
- The Care Partnership was pleased to note that considerable progress had now been made to overcome the difficulties resulting from working with two non-compatible IT systems and officers reported that they were now confident that arrangements were in place to collect and report data against all indicators. The work had identified the need to cleanse historic data on SWIFT, which was used to produce the management reports to the Care Partnership and the ongoing work was expected to

be completed at the end of September. As a result the Care Partnership accepted that no performance data had been presented at the current meeting on the basis that it would have been inaccurate. A full performance report would be provided at the next meeting in November and that in order to provide data on performance before this date, a report would be e-mailed to all Members of the Partnership by 20th October.

3.7 In terms of Learning Disability Services:

- The total budget for 2010-11 was £62,407,000 comprising locality budgets totalling £47,628,000, total special needs budgets totalling £8,987,000 and total Mental Health Partnership Trust held budgets of £5,792,000
- The projected year end variance was showing a pressure of £2,300,000 which it was anticipated could be recovered by actions already being undertaken.
- For the financial year 2010/11 the PCT's contribution to the Pool was £250,000 lower than originally requested by the Council. In order to maintain the agreed percentage split in contributions the Council duly reduced its contribution by an equivalent amount (Based on the agreed contribution levels) of £746,000. This has resulted in a total reduction from the original budget set for 2010/11 of £996,000.
- National Indicator 130 Social Care Clients Self Directed Support - A new member to the Committee was concerned that currently there appeared to be a significant fall from the number provided with the service the previous year. In response it was indicated that a large number of the reviews tended to be undertaken later in the year. Until a review was carried out and the direct payment was awarded in that year it did not register in the statistics and therefore showed the number of reviews undertaken and not the number of people in receipt of self directed support. It was suggested that a brief written commentary could help provide the necessary assurance and a profile of previous years activity could be applied to the way in which statistics were calculated which would present a more accurate picture than the current approach.
- Concern was expressed that the current outturn budget overspend had increased from the report submitted in July. It was explained that the figure represented a position without remedial action, based on the number of people coming through Transitions from Children's Services. As there was concern of the way this was being shown it was suggested that this could be shown as a written script note providing the necessary explanation.

3.8 In terms of the Older People's and Occupational Therapy Services Budget there was concern expressed regarding the actual year-to-date position for the Older Peoples Pooled Budget at Month 4 which was currently showing an overspend of £(292.9k), compared to a planned underspend of £18.6k and with at the current time a forecast year end overspend of £551.7K In response it was explained that the current forecast did not include savings opportunities from Reablement, estimated at £1,300,000 and the RAS, estimated at £750k. The Reablement and RAS initiatives would need to deliver approximately 27% of their predicted savings in order to achieve

financial balance on the pooled budget, assuming existing contribution levels were maintained which was considered by the Executive Director: Community and Adult Services to be a realistic target. Attention was drawn to the following five mitigating action areas being undertaken to recover the forecast overspend put into place the previous year which were:

- (1) The clinical teams closely monitoring expenditure and activity to remain within budgeted levels. This was now being supported by improved locality reporting.
- (2) Savings to be delivered through the Reablement Initiative as described above.
- (3) The roll-out of Self Directed Support and savings to be delivered from the agreed Resource Allocation System (RAS).
- (4) A review of central costs charged to the pooled budget by the council with a view to reducing these to 2009/10 outturn.
- (5) A cap on residential placements. (introduced in August)

The above was planned work of which the timing and phased introduction would enable the budget to recover and achieve balance by the end of the year. The Reablement initiative had commenced in September and would be phased in incrementally. The RAS initiative had begun on the 1st September which was a month earlier than the original timetable and this would have an immediate effect which would be reported in the next monthly report.

D) CAMBRIDGESHIRE HORIZONS

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Cambridgeshire Horizons is a not for profit limited company that was formed by the Cambridgeshire Local Authorities and other partners in order to help deliver the Government's growth agenda. The growth agenda involves the delivery of over 50,000 houses and associated infrastructure by 2016.
- 4.2 Cambridgeshire Horizons operates through a Board, which consists of representatives from all of the member organisations, as well as including a range of other interested parties. The County Council's representative is Councillor Jill Tuck, Leader of the Council.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

- 4.3 During the period since the last report to Cabinet in July, a range of activities have been undertaken by Horizons and partners including:
 - a) **Cambridge Southern Fringe** - Following the conclusion of the appeal process, discussions with the developer of Clay Farm and Glebe Farm have continued regarding delivery of housing in the area and all of the key planning permissions including for the spine road that will open up the site are in place. Physical development of early infrastructure will commence

shortly. One of the key elements that will allow this is an agreement between Horizons, the Councils and developer on an equity investment using Housing Growth Fund money. Development on the Trumpington Meadows site is to commence later this year and Horizons and the authorities have been negotiating the details of this development with the developer.

- b) Northstowe** – The details of the bid submitted to Communities and Local Government for funding under the eco towns programme have finally been concluded. Although only half of the funding originally pledged will in fact be available, this will still enable the delivery of the demonstrator building by the County Council and retrofitting to high sustainability standards of houses in Rampton Drift. Although progress with the plans for the development of Northstowe remains slow, the promoter Gallagher has recently produced a document setting down how development could be commenced. This is currently being considered by the county council and south cambs.
- c) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)** – Horizons continue to coordinate work on the CIL and in particular, working with Huntingdonshire District Council on the pilot application of the mechanism.
- d) Cambridgeshire Local Investment Plan (CLIP)** - Horizons have been coordinating the work on the CLIP which will set down requirements for infrastructure that will be needed to accompany new development across the area. This will then feed into what is called the 'single conversation' with the Homes and Communities Agency as part of discussions to identify what public funding will be available to support new developments and particularly affordable housing in them.
- e) Quality of Life Programme** - Horizons continue to provide guidance and events around the Quality of Life Programme to encourage all involved in the growth agenda to deliver the highest quality buildings that enhance quality of life.
- f) Specific studies and programmes** - Horizons continue to lead on a variety of specific studies and programmes focused around for example low carbon building techniques and the use of sustainable energy. It is intended that this will encourage practitioners and developers to be innovative in their delivery of development.
- g) Housing Growth Fund** - Horizons coordinate the Housing Growth Fund process, now into its final year. In particular, in recent weeks, activity has been around, working with the individual authorities to ensure that programmes either spend their allocations or that unspent funding is identified and reallocated where necessary.
- h) Project and programme management** – Horizons and partners have been working closely to manage work in relation to the major new developments. Close working continues with other agencies and the developers, particularly in relation to Cambridge Southern Fringe and Cambridge North West in seeking to increase the pace of housing delivery.

- 4.4 In addition to the points above, a wide range of other activities have been undertaken in support of the growth agenda. Work on a range of studies looking at arts, sport and faith provision are being rolled out.

E) SAFER AND STRONGER THEMATIC PARTNERSHIP

5. BACKGROUND

- 5.1 Following the partnership review, conducted by Gordon Jeyes on behalf of the Local Area Agreement Reference Group (LAARG) in January 2009 a new thematic partnership was formed bringing together responsibilities for developing “safer communities” and “stronger communities”. As a result of this proposal, a number of officers across the partnership worked to bring together the various duties and responsibilities. It was agreed to base the new partnership on the former Community Safety Strategic Board which had been in existence for two years and was a requirement of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The work to set up the new partnership has initially focused on identifying the groups currently in existence and trying to minimize the introduction of any new partnerships. The County Council portfolio holder chairs the Board (currently Cllr Sir Peter Brown).
- 5.2 The new Safer and Stronger Board is responsible for the following National Indicators:
- NI 1 - % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together
 - NI 4 - % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality
 - NI 7 – environment for a thriving third sector
 - NI 16 – serious acquisitive crime rate
 - NI 17 – perceptions of antisocial behaviour
 - NI 20 – assault with less serious injury
 - NI 21 – dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour (local target)
 - NI 32 – repeat incidents of domestic violence
 - NI 47 – people killed or injured in road traffic accidents
 - NI 115 – substance misuse by young people (local target)
- 5.3 The Safer and Stronger Board is required to ensure that there is a County Community Safety Agreement, which sets out how the group will cooperate to achieve crime reduction in their area and assist the districts in the achievement of their priorities. Statutory annual public consultation and Strategic Assessments undertaken at district Community Safety Partnership level inform the content of the Agreement.
- 5.4 The Partnership Board and the Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory duty to have an Information Sharing Agreement which sets out how partners will share non-personalised information. The Board is also required to identify which of its priorities shall be escalated up to the Local Area Agreement. These are set out in the Community Safety Agreement.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

- 5.5 Since the last report, the Safer and Stronger Strategic Board (SSSB) held its quarterly meeting on July 15th. The following decisions and recommendations were made:

Cllr Hansard was elected as Vice Chair of SSSB

- 5.6. An update was received on 'Preventing Violent Extremism': A meeting has been held between Cambridgeshire and Kent police and councils to share good practice and an action plan is now being developed.
- 5.7 Performance report received and exceptions included: NI 17 "Perceptions of ASB" and NI21 "Confidence in how Police and Local Authorities deal with crime and ASB" which are both amber due to the withdrawal of Place Survey which measures this indicator. The domestic violence indicator NI32 "Repeat referrals to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)" is also amber as referrals have increased and services are struggling to cope. The criteria for referral is now being reviewed to ensure only high risk cases are referred.
- 5.8 A report was received on the successful launch of the Third Sector Assembly. The assembly aims to formalise engagement with the voluntary sector, support infrastructure organisations, ensure smaller organisations can influence decision making and it also aims to engage better with BME groups.
- 5.9 The Board was informed of the reductions in funding. Home Office Grant (Safer and Stronger Communities Funding) has been cut in 2010 by £53,000. This reduction has been passed on to the five community safety partnerships which represents a 10% cut to their individual grants. The withdrawal of the LPSA reward grant directly impacts on the Domestic Violence Service. However, the County Council has for now identified funds which will sustain the service until end of March 2011.
- 5.10 The Board received a report on a review which has been launched by CCC Community Safety Team of the revenue allocation model for community safety partnerships. The Board agreed that for 2011/12 a formula based on crimes per 1000 would be used to direct funding towards areas of highest crime. However, it was also agreed that the partnership should consider a shared services model from 2012 onwards.
- 5.11 The Board agreed all recommendations on the action plan elaborated on how to ensure all community safety partnerships meet their new responsibilities around reoffending. It was therefore agreed that CCC Community Safety Team would organise a workshop for community safety partnerships and the Board in January on the subjects of reducing reoffending, increase community engagement and improved partnership working.
- 5.12 Presentations were received on Localism, New Models for Partnership Working and the JSNA action plan. In terms of the latter, it was advised that the County Council will most likely take over responsibilities for this plan from the NHS.

F) GREATER CAMBRIDGE PARTNERSHIP

6. BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) was formally established in 1998 as an alliance of public, private and community sector interests. In 2006 the GCP became a company limited by guarantee with the Partnership Board representing the members of the company and the Operating Board constituting the company's Directors. Membership of the Partnership Board is split with approximately one third each being:
- subscribing local authority leaders
 - representatives of private sector companies or associations
 - representatives of the 'community', including education and health.
- The Board is chaired by a representative from the private sector.
- 6.2 The Greater Cambridge sub-region reflects the "engine of growth" for Greater Cambridge as identified in the Regional Economic Strategy and the Cambridge sub-region in the Regional Spatial Strategy. In relation to local authority boundaries, the GCP area covers all of Cambridgeshire county and parts of Forest Heath, North Hertfordshire, St Edmundsbury and Uttlesford districts in adjacent counties.
- 6.3 The GCP seeks to engender greater understanding between the private, public and third sectors to ensure that sustainable economic development is delivered. It is the strategic partnership for the Economic Prosperity theme of the Cambridgeshire Vision and the Local Area Agreement (LAA).

SUMMARY OF RECENT ACTIVITY

- 6.4 In the period since the last report to Cabinet, a range of activities have been undertaken by the GCP and its partners. Key activities include:

Responding to the Recession

- 6.5 The GCP has been monitoring the effects of the recession and identifying potential actions to support the recovery. (The quarterly **Greater Cambridge Economic Review** is available on the GCP website) The latest quarterly report to the end of June 2010 reported the following headlines:
- The private sector still appears reasonably optimistic and there is a continuing downward trend in Job Seekers Allowance claimants for the Greater Cambridge area. In addition, the area has a lower unemployment rate in comparison to the East of England and Great Britain. However, the month on month decline in job vacancies for the Greater Cambridge area in June suggests that the upturn in the private sector is beginning to be affected by the economic uncertainty around the existing and anticipated further public sector cuts in funding and employment, after the coalition government's Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) in October.
 - There continues to be significant increases in the numbers of long term unemployed as people struggle to obtain employment, in a challenging economic environment, with a 66% rise in claimants out of work for

between six months and one year.

- An analysis of the soft data and anecdotal evidence suggests that the scale of the reduction in public sector funding and employment is starting to bite, with a number of public sector bodies, for example Addenbrooke's and the East of England Development Agency, forewarning of significant job losses to come.

- 6.6 For the year ahead and beyond, the inevitability of significant public sector funding cuts, remains a considerable threat to the local economy's fragile recovery. This is particularly so for Cambridge City with its relatively high rates of public sector employment. However, reports have also forecast that the level of knowledge-based businesses in the area could act as a counter-balance and help it rebound from the recession quicker than other locations.
- 6.7 A number of public sector bodies have indicated significant cut backs in jobs according to local press reports. Up to 500 posts will go at Addenbrooke's and almost 250 jobs will go at the East of England Development Agency (EEDA). Public sector funding has also been hit, with EEDA's budget reduced by £25m in 2010/11. Anglia Ruskin University however is bucking the trend, as it is set to benefit from £12m from the University Modernisation Fund to support new entrant places and projects which generate efficiency savings.
- 6.8 The GCP has updated its **Upturn Action Plan** (available on the GCP website) which lists partner activities to assist the recovery. The Plan helps:
- build our response through local partners, such as the local authorities, to local recession-linked issues
 - focus on support for businesses (and thereby indirectly also individuals/communities)
 - demonstrate links to other themes within the LAA
- 6.9 The Upturn Action Plan is principally an internal document to help coordinate the efforts of the GCP's delivery partners. A specific business user-friendly listing of the key help available to individual businesses is available on the homepage of the GCP website.

LAA Performance

- 6.10 The focus of LAA attention for the Partnership over its last few meetings has been on understanding the drivers, and monitoring the performance of, the key economic prosperity indicators. NI 152 (people on benefits in Fenland) and NI 171 (VAT/PAYE business registrations) are closely linked to the impact of the recession, and had showed worsening performance relative to the target (although for the latest quarter the gap between the Fenland and regional rate for NI 152 had stabilised) and are therefore rated as red. Also causing concern is NI 8 (participation in sport) although no more recent data is available than previously reported and as a result also remains as red. For the other two key economic prosperity indicators:
- NI 163 (Level 2 skills) performance has shown an improvement but is slightly below target and is therefore rated amber; and

- NI 182 (business satisfaction with regulatory services) is exceeding its target and is green.

6.11 Task groups reflecting the grouping of LAA economic prosperity theme indicators are meeting regularly, to drive and monitor the actions to improve the performance of the key indicators. Lead partners for each indicator, co-ordinate and prioritise the actions from a wide range of partners to try and achieve progress against the targets. For example, projects being implemented to help achieve NI 171 include:

- East Cambs – Ely Business Hub – enterprise champions offering advice and mentoring to start-ups;
- South Cambridgeshire – economic news detailing help available to businesses, including partners; providing business rate relief to businesses; launch of Climate Change Charter by (with Cambridge City) to assist businesses to reduce their carbon footprint;
- Fenland – Fenland CAB information kiosks providing support for businesses; Business Support Booklet: integrated and comprehensive business support service to enable businesses to flourish;
- Huntingdonshire – town centre shoppers loyalty card schemes in St Ives; Make it Your Market Programme training for market traders; St Ives workspace and office scheme, being jointly funded by HDC & CCC;
- March Enterprise Park – this building provides much-needed workspace for small businesses and social enterprises in the town;
- Fens Adventurers programme – potential funding to support business starts and growth. £1.4m has been allocated to support Sustainable Food & Farming and £700k to Rural Business Development over programme period;
- GCP - High Growth Company Support Programme: support for new hi-tech firms with significant growth potential provided by St John's Innovation Centre.

6.12 Projects being implemented to help achieve NI 152 include:

- Recruitment Subsidy initiated with 29 new jobs created;
- Partnership with Business Link/NWES to deliver business start-up support;
- Fenland Engineering Skills Centre operating in Chatteris;
- 30 Future Jobs Fund posts created in the district;
- Skills for Life training provided through the Community House in Wisbech;
- Fenland DC in Partnership with Roddons Housing Association delivering financial literacy sessions

Policy Development and Support

6.13 At its meeting on 9 September the GCP Partnership Board received a presentation on the preliminary findings and headline issues arising from the Economic Assessment of the county that the County Council has been undertaking, as a result of its new duty under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009. The draft Assessment will be consulted on during the autumn with the intention of refining the analysis and developing its key themes and messages into a strategy. Some of these are:

- The key constraint is around **infrastructure**, mainly in terms of transport, but also in terms of broadband access/speed in some areas;
- **Skills** is also significant – particularly skill shortages and mainly technical skills at the intermediate level. There is a shortage of NVQ level 3 equivalent across the county;
- **Business Growth** - the need to encourage the growth in the size of businesses and improve entrepreneurship rates outside Cambridge & South Cambs;
- **Public Sector Employment** – the threat of public sector cuts, and related unemployment will have an impact, particularly in the south of the county;
- **Gender Pay Gap** is particularly pronounced in this region, with men earning a third higher than women on average in some sectors;
- **Diversity of the business base** – currently there is low resilience due to a lack of diversity of sectors, particularly in East Cambs, Fenland and Cambridge;
- **Incapacity Benefit Claimants** - high levels in the north of the county and rising;
- **Migrant Workers** - the county is dependent on migrant workers: the north for lower skilled workers, the south for higher skilled.

6.14 In addition the Board received a presentation on the proposal to establish a Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for the functional economic areas of Cambridge and Peterborough (including Rutland), submitted recently to the Government. LEPs will seek to provide the right environment for business and growth in their areas by potentially tackling issues such as planning and housing, local transport and infrastructure, employment and enterprise and the transition to a low carbon economy. The roles and functions of the combined LEP would be to:

- Provide strategic economic leadership and the business vision for the area
- Produce economic intelligence and a business plan to put these priorities into practice
- Promote the area as a strong location for inward investment
- Develop new and innovative ways to raise the finance and resources to deliver the business plan
- Commission and ensure business influence in the delivery of a range of programme activity.

6.15 *Discharging these roles and functions could be:*

- *A small focussed LEP Board – drawn from business, civic, university and social enterprise leadership with a prominent business chair.*
- *A lean executive team supporting the board, drawing in funding and commissioning activities*
- *Project Teams will support business growth and enable investment programmes and projects.*
- *A clear relationship will be established between the Local Enterprise Partnership Board and:*
 - *Local Authorities - ensuring the LEP is influencing growth policy and delivery*
 - *Businesses - securing strong coherent business direction and mobilising and engaging business leaders in priority setting and implementation.*

- 6.16 EEDA has appointed consultants to undertake some research on The Cambridge Cluster 50 years on - What is the future for the Cambridge Economy? The work covers:
- an analysis of the key drivers of and opportunities for, the sub-regional economy and how current & projected performance is matching against the established aspirations;
 - working with the evidence and by engaging with key public, academic and business stakeholders, develop an understanding of the constraints to the Cambridge sub-regional economy in physical, market and policy terms;
 - taking account of the above and the coalition government's emerging agenda for business, identify what are the future prospects for the Cambridge sub-region's economy, it's role in the East of England and nationally;
 - identify what might be needed to achieve the economic potential and role for the sub region and what might the political, organisational, economic and spatial implications of this be.
- 6.17 The initial phase of the work has identified five potential roles for the city and has sought consultees' views on the prospective merits and issues/implications of pursuing each role. Feedback from this consultation was given to the Partnership Board meeting and comments sought.

Investing in Communities Programme 2010/11

- 6.18 Cambridgeshire's Investing in Communities (IiC) programme is part funded by the East of England Development Agency (EEDA), managed by Cambridgeshire County Council and delivered by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP), and helps people to improve their prospects of, or gain, employment.
- 6.19 EEDA approved the IiC programme for 2010/11 in January, following submission by the GCP Partnership Board, on behalf of Cambridgeshire Together. Due to cuts in EEDA funding, the county's programme in 2010/11 has been substantially reduced down to £713,000 (all revenue) compared to £1.9m in 2009/10, and because funding will not continue beyond this year, the emphasis is on continuation projects which are assisting individuals to gain employment and skills or to start their own business.
- 6.20 The outputs achieved in Q1 of 2010/11 from the 7 projects being supported are:
- 11 jobs created (year target – 33)
 - 108 people assisted to get a job (year target - 572)
 - 11 businesses assisted to improve performance (year target – 52)
 - 103 people assisted with skills development (year target – 651)
 - 36 people gaining basic skills (year target – 89)

G) ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP

7. BACKGROUND

7.1 The second full meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Partnership (ESP) took place on the 29th June 2010. The focus of this meeting was to review a draft action plan which was developed following a workshop in March at which Members and officers identified the priority themes for the partnership to address. The action plan was agreed at the meeting and set the future direction for the partnership.

7.2 Reporting into the ESP are five delivery partnerships:

a. Recycling in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (RECAP) Waste Partnership

The RECAP Partnership is a member-led partnership which has been in existence for 11 years. The success of the partnership was recognised with the award of a Green Flag for Recycling and Composting in the recent Comprehensive Area Agreement Assessment. It leads on the delivery of NI 191, 192, 193, 195, and 196.

b. Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Partnership (CFRMP)

The Partnership met for the first time in June 2009. It will be required to deliver on the recommendations in the Government's response to the Pitt Review as well as actions resulting from the Floods and Water Management Bill which was enacted in 2010. It leads on the delivery of NI 189 and contributing to NI188.

c. Cambridgeshire Climate Change Partnership (CCCP)

The CCCP has made significant efforts during the year to involve a wider range of partners. The Partnership has agreed to develop joint project working in three broad thematic areas: carbon reduction in the public estate, procurement, working with business. It leads on the delivery of NI185, 186, 187, 188 and 194.

d. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biodiversity Partnership

This is another well-established Partnership. The focus of joint working for 2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity, and the continued delivery against NI197.

e. Travel for Work Partnership

A well-established partnership that aims to be the leading provider of cost effective and sustainable transport solutions for the business community of Cambridgeshire. The partnership also successfully bid for a major European Union (EU) funded project on behalf of the County Council, which is establishing, running and monitoring a major Travel plan network in the Cambridge Science and Business Park area of the City.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

7.3 Recycling in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (RECAP) Waste Partnership

NI 191 - Amount of residual waste per household for 2009/10 – this target has been met with 539Kg per household against a target of 560Kg. This is in line with a broader national trend of reduced waste arising - likely a consequence of changed consumer behaviour in the economic context, and a response to many successful local and national waste prevention/recycling campaigns.

Performance against NI 192 - % of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting – for 2009/2010 has fallen short of the target reaching 51.32% against a target of 55%. The poor growing season in early 09/10 resulted in a lower composting tonnage than anticipated and this has not been recovered in the latter part of the year. This still puts Cambridgeshire among the very best performers nationally, with further improvements to come from new collection schemes and the Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) plant.

NI193 - The target for the percentage of municipal waste and household waste going to landfill has been met with the figure for 2009/2010 being 42.6% against a target of 45%. This is down to the successful timely operation of the MBT plant.

In June, RECAP (Recycling in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Partnership) produced a report celebrating its 10th year of operation. Across all themes of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy the partnership continues to excel.

The MBT plant is currently in its commissioning year. The plant is open and working, actively processing waste and reducing the landfill of biodegradable material. The Education Centre at the MBT is currently scheduled for opening early next year and a successful Open Day in June allowed over 2,000 attendees to see and appreciate the waste processing undertaken at the Waterbeach site.

7.4 Cambridgeshire Climate Change Partnership (CCCP)

NI 186 - Per capita percentage reduction in CO2 emissions in the Local Authority Area (LA) area - performance monitoring data is collected at a national level by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs(Defra). There is an 18-24 month time lag embodied in the production of this data, therefore a performance update and an indication of our trajectory cannot be provided until later this year.

NI 188 – Planning to adapt to climate change – the target has been met for 2009/2010 with all local authorities reaching Level 1 of preparedness (requiring a public commitment to adaptation and prioritised risk assessment).

The Cambridgeshire Climate Change Partnership (CCCP) partners also intend to work together to share delivery methods and experience relating to delivery under NI 188 - adapting to climate change, with all five districts councils now looking to make the jump from NI 188 level 1 to Level 2 by March 2011, and the County Council having completed Level 2 already.

The CCCP continues to make progress against its action plan. Specifically, following the mapping exercise of business support schemes on resource efficiency, the CCCP is now looking at ways to ensure that an understanding of climate risk and business continuity is part of the package of support provided to business, particularly small and medium enterprises. (SMEs)

The CCCP have made a number of proposals to Climate East and the Regional Improvement Partnership, who are administering a £1million climate skills fund for the benefit of local authorities in the East of England. The funding has now been confirmed by Government, and it is hoped that now CCCP partners can progress proposals working with other LAs across the East of England as necessary. This includes a proposal relating to training and support for planning officers in understanding and enforcing renewable energy policy, using the existing retrofit projects to support communications and training, and a proposal to develop a network of lead flood risk authorities.

7.5 Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Partnership (CFRMP)

NI 189 - flood and coastal erosion risk management – the target has been met despite delays in reporting by the Environmental Agency (EA). Cambridgeshire local authorities are scored against the actions detailed in the Great Ouse Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMP). The publication of the Plan has been delayed by the EA and they have therefore not been able to formally score the authority's performance against it. The EA did however score all local authorities on their preparatory work in advance of the publication of the Plan and Cambridgeshire authorities received a score of 100% compliance for both assessments.

Cambridgeshire County Council has been invited to play an active advisory role in an assessment of the costs to local authorities in undertaking their role as a SuDs (Sustainable Urban Drainage System) approval body (SAB). Cambridgeshire has convened a local advisory group for this purpose, including the City, Districts, and the County Internal Drainage Boards. The outputs from this group will feed into a national programme. Furthermore, following a visit to the Lamb Drove SuDs site, the Council has approached Defra to help fund further monitoring of the site and initial discussions have been favourable.

The Surface Water Management Planning Project Board has completed its tender process to commission a specialist consultancy to undertake Surface Water Management Planning in three phases. The first phase will be a broad brush assessment to identify areas that may be at risk of flooding (called flooding wetspots) and subsequent phases will involve undertaking detailed assessments for an agreed number of these flooding wetspots. The work commenced in September 2010 and includes consultation with elected members, parish and town councils and the public. The Board is the first to

do this and several Lead Local Flood Authorities have expressed an interest in learning from its process and documentation.

7.6 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biodiversity Partnership

NI 197- positive management of local wildlife sites (county Wildlife Sites) - a total of 195 sites out of 414 (47%) are in positive management. This compares with the 2009/10 target of 45% of sites in positive management (185 sites out of 412).

The partnership produced a document “Our Natural Environment 2010” in June to celebrate International Year of Biodiversity. The report is aimed at key decision makers and provides a snapshot of the state of nature in Cambridgeshire, indicating recent improvements as well as any further declines in biodiversity. A hard copy of the report has been provided to ESP members and other key decision makers within the district Strategic Partnerships.

The Biodiversity Partnership is moving to a more strategic way of delivering biodiversity priorities, focussing on groups of priority habitats and species in discrete larger geographical areas as set out in the Partnership’s 50 year vision rather than focussing solely on individual habitat or species action plans.

7.7 Travel for Work (TfW) Partnership

Despite the economic downturn businesses are still joining the TfW partnership. In 2009/10 TfW has recruited 20 new employers to its network employing 4,400 commuters. Taking the total number of employers to 89 employing over 59,000 commuters.

Two “Travel Plan Essentials” workshops have been developed to assist businesses new to travel planning with tools and information. The first in June and the second in September, during European Mobility Week, were both very successful. The workshops enabled delegates to assist each other with support of three expert travel planners from long-standing TfW employers.

The EU funded Travel Plan Plus (TP+) project based in the Science Park area of Cambridge, which is establishing a large travel plan network continues to progress well and has secured additional funding from the Highways Agency, Cambridgeshire Horizons and a Section 106 grant. Recent successes include the second bicycle user group event which attracted 65 attendees, distribution of a new bus map for the TP+ area, and delivering commuter surgeries at individual companies including one at the Royal Society of Chemistry which was attended by 120 people.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS IDENTIFIED FOR SPECIFIC PARTNERSHIPS

8. RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Financial

- 8.1 There are no financial implications as a result of action taken by the Cambridgeshire Together Partnership not already referred to.

Cambridgeshire Together is increasingly taking on a significant role in the alignment, and potential pooling, of partners' resources.

- 8.2 There are no financial implications as a result of current action being taken by the Cambridge Children Trust not already referred to.
- 8.3 The work on the budget building process for the Cambridgeshire Care Partnership pooled budgets links with the Council's Integrated Planning Process (IPP). Proposals for the 2010/11 budget were initially presented and discussed at a member only seminar held on 13th January 2010. A member briefing for Care Partnership on the budget for 2011/12 is due to held at the close of the November 2010 meeting.
- 8.4 One of the key roles of Horizons is to secure additional funding to support growth. A number of activities over the reporting period have secured additional resource and further activity to secure additional funding is continuing. This will benefit all partners and will substantially enhance the ability of the County Council to engage in the growth agenda. In parallel with this though, recent Government announcements from Government have reduced the amount of funding available to the partnership and this will have significant implications on the support that can be given to infrastructure delivery.
- 8.5 There are no financial implications as a result of the Safer and Stronger Thematic Partnership actions to date.

Risk Management Implications

- 8.6 The growth agenda is enormously complicated and carries many risks. Through close joint working, maximisation of the available resources and the application of strong project and programme management disciplines, these risks are being managed.

9. STATUTORY DUTIES REQUIREMENTS AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

- 9.1 The report as a whole deals with partnership working arrangements and any statutory requirements.

10. CLIMATE CHANGE

- 10.1 Members are advised that there are no climate change implications, relating to both climate change mitigation and adaptation, arising from the Cambridgeshire Together, Cambridgeshire Care Partnership, the Safer and Stronger Thematic Partnership or Greater Cambridge Partnership update report.
- 10.2 Members are advised of that there are no climate change implications, relating to both climate change mitigation and adaptation, arising from the Cambridge Children's Trust. However, members are invited to note that the Big Plan 2 targets includes targets within it (2.1 and 4.7 The Big Plan) around school travel and transport which will help contribute to developments around climate change.
- 10.3 There are no implications for climate change, arising from this report or the work of the Cambridgeshire Care Partnership at present.

10.4 The focus of the growth agenda is on creating sustainable communities through the application of close working and with additional resources, the delivery of such an objective can be maximised. The development of relatively self-contained communities not predominantly reliant on car transport will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and thus have a beneficial impact on the environment and climate change.

10.5 There are no implications for climate change arising from

11. ACCESS AND INCLUSION

Crime and Disorder Implications

11.1 Crime and Disorder is currently a key section in the Cambridgeshire Vision, and LAA including priority indicators and targets on community safety. The Cambridgeshire Together Board has also formalised its relationship to the countywide Community Safety Strategic Board to ensure this thematic partnership is appropriately linked to the Board and is accountable for achieving outcomes in community safety.

11.2 The Children Trust and the Youth Offending Service, is concerned with preventative work to support children and young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime and disorder, and has activity identified in the Big Plan towards this.

11.3 Members are advised that there are no direct links to the reduction of crime and disorder arising from this report or from the work of Cambridgeshire Horizons, or the Cambridgeshire Care Partnership at the present time.

11.4 Through strong design and planning of the new communities and the provision of appropriate social infrastructure, measures will be put in place that are intended to minimise the incidence of crime and the fear of crime.

12. ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

12.1 The Cambridgeshire Together Board has included community empowerment and engagement as a key priority in the Cambridgeshire Vision and LAA. The priorities in these documents were drawn from consultation with local communities done by the five District based Local Strategic Partnerships, resident's surveys (such as the Best Value Survey) and focus groups.

Source Documents	Location
For Cambridgeshire Together Cambridgeshire's Long Term Vision Cambridgeshire's LAA 2008/2011	Partnerships Team Room 219 Shire Hall Cambridge CB3 0AP
For the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership - The Big Plan	www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cypp

For the Cambridgeshire Care Partnership Section 75 agreements	C/o Lilian Cumic Third Floor, B Wing Castle Court, Shire Hall Cambridge CB3 0AP
Cambridgeshire Horizons Business Plan	Room B311 Castle Court, Shire Hall Cambridge CB3 0AP
Greater Cambridge Partnership Board Papers & Minutes 2009/10 liC Investment Plan	Guy Mills Box No: RES1219 42 Castle Street, Shire Hall Cambridge CB3 0AP
Environmental Sustainability Partnership	Box CC1008 Castle Court, Shire Hall Cambridge CB3 0AP