

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

FROM: Member Representatives

REPORT NUMBER: H217

**TO: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
(COMMUNITY SERVICES) COMMITTEE**

DATE OF MEETING: 31 March 2009

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS attached

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REPORT ON THE HAVEN GATEWAY PARTNERSHIP BY MR A J HINTON

APPENDIX B

**REPORT ON THE WESTERN SUFFOLK LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BY
MR C M SPENCE**

APPENDIX C

**REPORT ON THE BABERGH EAST LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BY
MRS S P CLARKE**

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**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY (COMMUNITY SERVICES) COMMITTEE –
31 MARCH 2009**

REPORT ON HAVEN GATEWAY PARTNERSHIP 2008/09

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This is the six monthly report presented to Members on the Haven Gateway Partnership.
- 1.2 After a general introduction to the partnership itself the report is split into two main sections. The first deals with the corporate issues covering governance, managing finances and risks. The second part concentrates on the targets the council set itself in relation to the partnership and how they contribute to the authority's plans and external indicators; and also the achievements of working with the partnership.

2. **THE HAVEN GATEWAY PARTNERSHIP (HGP)**

- 2.1 The Haven Gateway Partnership was launched in 2001 and brings together the ports of Felixstowe, Harwich, Ipswich, Mistley and their surrounding hinterlands including the regional centres of Colchester and Ipswich. The area includes the southern part of Suffolk Coastal District, the eastern part of Babergh District, Ipswich and Colchester Boroughs and Tendring District in north-east Essex. Collectively it is known as the Haven Gateway (sub-region).
- 2.2 The distinct identity of the Haven Gateway as a sub-region has been recognised and endorsed by the East of England Regional Assembly (identifying the sub-region in the newly adopted East of England plan). This also applies to the Government office for the East of England (in supporting/promoting the HGPs activities) and to central Government in awarding funding for the sub-region's growth plans. A previous report to the Committee (4 December 2007) provided full details for Members on the background to, and role of, the Haven Gateway area and the Haven Gateway Partnership.
- 2.3 At a recent House of Commons event the Government paid tribute to the shared vision and "joined-up thinking" of both private and public sectors within the Haven Gateway sub-region as well as commending the area's ambition and positivity.
- 2.4 The Partnership has also just announced funding and expertise to secure specialist consultants to produce a study that will provide the evidence base for Local Development Frameworks being prepared in Ipswich, Babergh and Suffolk Coastal areas.
- 2.5 The HGP is also involved in identifying suitable dry port sites. Dry ports aim to shift the transport of freight from road to rail and inland waterways. Dry ports are the extensions of gateway ports in the inland or, in other words, vital functions are moved from a harbour to a more or less remote freight combi-terminal. Babergh is working in partnership with the HGP on dry ports and drawing down European funding to achieve it.
- 2.6 Babergh's Member representative on the HGP is John Hinton and officer representatives are Mike Hammond and Rich Cooke.

2.7 The website for further information is www.haven-gateway.org

3. CORPORATE ARRANGEMENTS

(a) Governance

3.1 The Haven Gateway is a formal “body” with its own constitution and terms of reference. Senior Members and officers, plus private sector representatives attend the meetings regularly. It has a clear purpose, vision and values and detailed roles and responsibilities. Although the Partnership has no formal legal standing, Essex County Council is the accountable body for its activities which is managed through a Memorandum of Agreement.

(b) Managing Finances

3.2 The Haven Gateway Partnership’s priorities are taken into account through Babergh District Council’s three-year medium term action plan and one-year delivery plan. Furthermore, the priorities are considered as part of Babergh’s Service and Financial Planning process.

3.3 The next section of this report detailing targets and achievements also sets out the financial performance and outputs achieved for the Haven Gateway Partnership.

3.4 The Partnership is innovative in that it uses the skills and knowledge of all partners to create new and innovative ways of delivering shared priorities rather than each partner acting in isolation. An example of this for the Haven Gateway Partnership is the project at Pin Mill. Here the enabling roles of statutory agencies have enabled a project costing £250,000 to be put together involving a range of other funders in addition to the Haven Gateway Partnership to regenerate the area which will ultimately be managed by a not-for-profit company.

(c) Risks

3.5 The Haven Gateway Partnership has prepared a risk assessment with its business plan for 2009/10 covering the key risks of loss of partner core funding, the loss of funding to support key activities, the loss of key staff and the failure to recruit, the resignation of the Chair, the loss of private sector board members and earned income failing to meet targets.

4. TARGETS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Targets

4.1 These are attached.

Achievements

(a) Review of Strategic Partnerships

4.2 The Council’s review of five strategic partnerships this time last year concluded that this was a strong partnership of local authorities and the port authorities. It is fully constituted with good attendance by key decision makers, represents good value for money for the Council (£6,000 direct funding and £15,000 internal staff costs) and addresses many of Babergh’s priorities.

(b) Funding

4.3 Securing £1.53M from the HGP New Growth Points funding pot. This money has been allocated to the projects shown in the Targets sheet attached.

(c) Pin Mill

4.4 Project Scope

- Civil engineering works to restore the Pin Mill Hard to a facility that allows the repair of sailing vessels, and the landing of visitors at all tidal levels, together with the reconstruction of a derelict Thames Barge facility.
- Establishment of a 'not-for-profit' company to operate and maintain the facility.

4.5 Aims

To restore a historical maritime working environment at Pin Mill with the bonus of enhancing the tourism viability and to ensure continued sustainability through proper management and upkeep of the area.

4.6 Outcomes

- The creation of a working facility at Pin Mill that will also enhance the tourism value.
- Job creation and protection (in associated industries and activities).
- Economic spin-off gains.
- Retention of specialised local skills and knowledge.
- Enhanced tourism potential.
- Environmental enhancement through visual improvement of the hard facility.

(d) A12/A14 Traffic Modelling/Ipswich Area Transport Modelling

4.7 Project Scope

Principal Ipswich travel to work area

4.8 Aims

- Develop a multi-modal transport modelling tool for approval of transport and development options.

4.9 Outcomes

- A functioning fully validated transport model.

JOHN HINTON
Babergh District Council's representative
On the Haven Gateway Partnership Board

HAVEN GATEWAY PARTNERSHIP

TARGETS	CONTRIBUTION TO					
	FUNDING SECURED £000	BABERGH 1 YEAR DELIVERY PLAN	BABERGH 3-YEAR MEDIUM TERM PLAN	BABERGH CORPORATE OBJECTIVE	NATIONAL INDICATOR	LAA2 TARGET
<p>09/10 Target or Milestone</p> <p>Secure protection of existing employment land and contribute to the Haven Gateway Partnership target to create 30,000 new jobs in Suffolk by producing development plan and proposals for key employment sites including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site preparation to commence at British Sugar Site, Sproughton. • Preparation of development plans for Brantham Industrial Area. • Engagement with private developers to steer and promote redevelopment of Sudbury Town Centre. • Undertaking and completing regeneration work at Pin Mill including repairs and improvements to The Hard and provision of a service facility for traditional barge building and repairs. 	<p>1,000</p> <p>70</p> <p>300</p> <p>169</p>	<p>Using planning policies to protect employment sites</p>	<p>Action 7 Outcome 17</p>	<p>A strong and sustainable Babergh economy</p>		

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY (COMMUNITY SERVICES) COMMITTEE –
31 MARCH 2009**

REPORT ON WEST SUFFOLK LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This is the six monthly report presented to Members on the West Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership.
- 1.2 After a general introduction to the partnership itself the report is split into two main sections. The first deals with the corporate issues covering governance, managing finances and risks. The second part concentrates on the targets the council set itself in relation to the partnership and how they contribute to the authority's plans and external indicators; and also the achievements of working with the partnership.

2. **THE WEST SUFFOLK LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (WSLSP)**

- 2.1 The West Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership (WSLSP) comprises the district council area of Forest Heath, the borough council area of St Edmundsbury and the western part of the district of Babergh. These Councils started to meet in 2001 to look at ways of working together and this group later added other statutory and voluntary agencies to form the WSLSP in 2002. The original aims were to respond to Government policy and produce a Community Strategy, make better use of resources and bring together expertise and experience.
- 2.2 Babergh's member representative is Colin Spence and officer representation is Mike Hammond and Chris Foti.
- 2.3 The website for further information is www.onesuffolk.co.uk/wslsp

3. **CORPORATE ARRANGEMENTS**

(a) **Governance**

- 3.1 The LSP is a formal "body" with its own constitution and terms of reference. Meetings are attended by key decision makers. Although the Partnership has no formal legal standing, St Edmundsbury Borough Council is the accountable body for its activities. The LSP has produced two business plans, the second of which has been combined with an annual report. The plan also summarises the LSP's governance and structure, its past achievements and a two year business plan 2008/10. A Leadership Programme has been completed which helped parties define their role and work towards greater partnership working.

(b) **Managing Finances**

- 3.2 The LSP's priorities are taken into account through Babergh District Council's three-year medium term action plan and one-year delivery plan. Furthermore, the priorities are considered as part of Babergh's Service and Financial Planning process.

- 3.3 The next section of this report detailing targets and achievements also sets out the financial performance and outputs achieved for the LSP.
- 3.4 The Partnership is innovative in that it uses the skills and knowledge of all partners to create new and innovative ways of delivering shared priorities rather than each partner acting in isolation (see 4.4 to 4.6 below).

(c) Risks

- 3.5 The LSP manages risk to avoid fraud etc. through all partners agreeing an 'accountable body' which has robust accounting, risk management processes and fraud prevention measures in place. In the West Suffolk LSP's case this is done by St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

4. TARGETS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Targets

- 4.1 These are attached. Members will see that not only do they support Babergh objectives but also delivery of National Indicators and LAA2 targets.

Achievements

(a) Review of Strategic Partnerships

- 4.2 The Council's review of five strategic partnerships this time last year concluded that this was a strong partnership that raised no issues. It is fully constituted with good attendance by key decision makers and represents good value for money for the Council (£10,000 direct funding and £11,000 internal staff costs).

(b) Funding

- 4.3 The WSLSP received £521,303 from the Performance Reward Grant (PRG) as a result of targets achieved for Public Service Agreements agreed by Suffolk Councils in April 2002 and completed in March 2005. All LSP's in Suffolk received allocations based on the population of the LSP area. The payments came in two instalments of £422,114 in 2006 and £79,189 in 2008. The condition attached to the funds was that they should be spent on Community Strategy priorities and that Local Area Agreement (LAA) 1 targets should be taken into account with any allocations. The LSP also received £5,000 each from St Edmundsbury and Babergh Councils and £19,445 from Forest Heath District Council to boost funds during 2008. Examples of projects supported with this funding are set out below. The LSP will receive further funding from PRG this year (£420,555) and has agreed to allocate a proportion of this to grant aid projects in partnership with the Babergh East LSP.

(c) Think Smart, Drink Smart (£25,000)

- 4.4 The LSP funded a course called 'Think Smart Drink Smart' to help people beat alcohol dependency. The course is run by West Suffolk Mind and helps people examine their own relationship with alcohol and decide what they want to do about it.

(d) Keeping Warm for Winter (£15,000)

- 4.5 Many older residents across West Suffolk suffer in silence each winter as their homes are cold but they can't afford extra heating and they think that extra insulation would be too costly. One of the projects the LSP has been working on is raising awareness of affordable warmth amongst our older residents and helping them find out about free insulation.

Getting People Fitter and Healthier

- 4.6 Getting fit is important for health reasons yet many find the gym daunting and even more so if they have a disability. The LSP has supported a Health Inclusion Programme (HIP) in partnership with the disabled charity Optua to get people with disabilities back into fitness with a specially tailored personal training programme.

Respect Alcohol, Respect Yourself (£90,000)

- 4.7 This project aims to teach people about the dangers of alcohol misuse and to reduce alcohol-related crime and deaths.

To achieve this WSLSP are working on prevention, enforcement and treatment.

(a) Prevention

- Trained 133 bar staff and 20 door supervisors at local bars and clubs in the dangers of alcohol and how best to deal with people who have had too much to drink.
- Carried out 49 mystery shopper tests where young people have been supervised while trying to buy alcohol when they are underage. This resulted in 12 underage sales (24%).
- Launched a campaign amongst students at West Suffolk College to focus on awareness of alcohol related problems amongst students.
- Working with the Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds on an awareness-raising play for schools.
- Distributed education packs and information in places where staff have completed training.

(b) Enforcement

- All prolific offenders are now subject to a risk assessment
- National standards are applied to all offenders who are currently on licence or serving a community order.

(c) Treatment

- Increasing the number of people undergoing treatment programmes
- Funded courses called 'Think Smart Drink Smart' which are run by Suffolk MIND to help people beat alcohol dependency (see 4.4 above).
- Offering support for young carers who care for adults with alcohol problems
- Working with West Suffolk Hospital in training staff and signposting sufferers to appropriate treatment.

4.8 Training Needs Analysis (£10,000)

This project is to help small businesses understand and meet their employees' training needs.

West Suffolk College has worked with local businesses to develop a Training Needs Analysis.

- This project researched what was in use elsewhere and developed a flexible analysis form
- College staff have been trained to conduct analyses for small companies in West Suffolk to identify their training needs and to offer a better service to employers by making sure the training they provide is relevant to the business.
- The training plans will improve the performance of the business and enhance career development for individual employees.
- The needs analysis tool has been evaluated and well received by employers and is now offered to all companies when discussing their individual training needs.

4.9 Young Carers (£37,500)

The LSP has been working with Suffolk Carers to support young people in rural areas of West Suffolk who have to care for relatives or other adults with alcohol problems.

- There is now an outreach worker in post who has set up friendship clubs and social clubs
- A residential break was organised for 20 young people in Easter 2007
- Schools are being contacted to raise awareness and identify other young carers so that they can be offered help to support them.

4.10 Feasibility Study for a Higher Education Building

This project is looking at providing a university campus building for West Suffolk.

- A feasibility study has been undertaken and plans have been drawn up.
- This will be part of the whole college site redevelopment, which has a total budget of £60m over a 3 year implementation.
- The building will provide 2300 sq metres on two floors with excellent study facilities. There will be 17 classrooms, 150 seat lecture theatre, conference facilities, a science laboratory, computer facilities and a quiet study area.

4.11 Community Chest Fund

The Community Chest Fund has helped 19 local community projects benefit from over £20,000 of grant aid.

Successful projects in Babergh include:

1. Gainsborough's House Society workshop activities
2. Suffolk Befriending Scheme sport coaching
3. Glemsford Parent and Toddler Group "Start to play" packs
4. Extra Steps and Beyond Club's day trips
5. Sudbury Amateur Boxing Club's essential repairs
6. Age Concern Suffolk's healthy eating menu's

COLIN SPENCE

Babergh representative on the West Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership Board

WEST SUFFOLK LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

TARGETS	CONTRIBUTION TO					
	FUNDING SECURED £000	BABERGH 1 YEAR DELIVERY PLAN	BABERGH 3-YEAR MEDIUM TERM PLAN	BABERGH CORPORATE OBJECTIVE	NATIONAL INDICATOR	LAA2 TARGET
<p>09/10 Target or Milestone</p> <p>Help to improve the fitness of young people aged between 16-22 by participating in Western Area Fit for the Future project. (targets to be set)</p> <p>Target low income groups in Great Cornard to improve knowledge of healthy eating and cooking skills (with WSLSP) (target to be set)</p>	80	Help people have healthier and more active lifestyles and contribute towards life expectancy	<p>Action 6 Outcome 11/12</p> <p>Action 10 Outcome 11/12</p>	A safer and healthier Babergh	NI8 NI110	NI8 NI110

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY (COMMUNITY SERVICES) COMMITTEE –
31 MARCH 2009**

REPORT ON BABERGH EAST LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This is the six monthly report presented to Members on the Babergh East Local Strategic Partnership.
- 1.2 After a general introduction to the partnership itself the report is split into two main sections. The first deals with the corporate issues covering governance, managing finances and risks. The second part concentrates on the targets the council set itself in relation to the partnership and how they contribute to the authority's plans and external indicators; and also the achievements of working with the partnership.

2. **THE BABERGH EAST LSP**

- 2.1 The Babergh East LSP was created in April 2002 in response to the Local Government Act 2000 which gave local authorities broad powers to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of their communities. Councils have a duty for promoting well being through community strategies and Government guidance was that these strategies be produced by broad-based partnerships which brought together a range of public, private, voluntary and community organisations called "Local Strategic Partnerships".
- 2.2 The Babergh East LSP covers 44 parishes in the district and the boundary line reflects the then PCT and police sector boundaries. Furthermore, the boundaries also took into account the area's alliance to other main centres. In the east residents looked more towards Ipswich and Colchester than they would to Bury St Edmunds.
- 2.3 Babergh's member representative is Penny Clarke and officer representatives are Mike Hammond and Tim Mutum.

3. **CORPORATE ARRANGEMENTS**

(a) **Governance**

- 3.1 The LSP is a formal "body" with its own constitution and terms of reference. Senior Members and officers attend the meetings and attendance is high. The Partnership has no formal legal standing but it reflects the Government guidance referred to above.

(b) **Managing Finances**

- 3.2 The LSP's priorities are taken into account through Babergh District Council's three-year medium term action plan and one-year delivery plan. Furthermore, the priorities are considered as part of Babergh's Service and Financial Planning process.

- 3.3 The next section of this report detailing achievements also sets out the financial performance and outputs achieved for the LSP.
- 3.4 The LSP's sole income to date has come from Performance Reward Grant allocated to it by the Suffolk Strategic Partnership. Government rewarded partnerships where set targets were achieved and exceeded. The LSP has made funding decisions either at Board level or through grant panels it has established. The latter have had considerable input from voluntary sector representatives. Release of funds have followed the principles of Babergh's internal procedures.
- 3.5 The partnership is innovative in that it uses the skills and knowledge of all parties to create new and innovative ways of delivering shared priorities rather than each partner acting in isolation (see 4.5 below).

(c) Risks

- 3.6 The LSP manages risk to avoid fraud etc. through all parties agreeing an 'Accountable Body' which has robust accounting, risk management processes and fraud prevention measures in place. In the Babergh East LSP's case this is done by Babergh District Council

4. TARGETS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Targets

- 4.1 These are attached. Members will see that not only do they support Babergh Objectives but also delivery of National Indicators and LAA2 targets.

Achievements

(a) Review of Strategic Partnerships

- 4.2 The Council's review of five strategic partnerships this time last year concluded that this was a properly constituted body with good attendance by key decision makers. The review addressed a number of options for the future of the LSP but concluded that the existing arrangements should continue in view of the work ongoing in Hadleigh and the pending local government review.

(b) Funding

- 4.3 Allocated £112,000 performance reward grant up to 2009 (PRGI). The LSP is currently considering allocation of a further £96,000 in a grant programme in partnership with the West Suffolk LSP.

(c) Community Chest Grants

- 4.4 The Board has run two highly successful small grants funds to help grass roots projects. One of the grants was to support the Shotley and Erwarnton Good Neighbour Scheme. This has subsequently been used as a case study in the Government's Empowerment White Paper and was also featured on the BBC1 television programme "The One Show". Other grants have funded laptops to enable people with stroke disabilities to gain IT skills, funding mopeds to support people who have difficulty accessing training and employment opportunities due to lack of transport and funding to support floodlights to a sports area in Brantham.

(d) Hadleigh

The Board has allocated £42,000 to a sub-group operating under the auspices of the Babergh Community Safety Partnership. This group has been asked to tackle a number of issues in Hadleigh that were identified by the Board utilising work undertaken through the Suffolk Development Agency, other data available and taking into account the priorities of the Suffolk Strategic Partnership. The projects/activities taking place as a result include the following:-

<u>Project Activity</u>	<u>Funding</u>
• Funding of customised mini-bus to provide a mobile base for detached youth work and other services to young people	£9,000 revenue £13,000 capital
• Range of positive activities for young people e.g. basketball project, paintball games, Be Active initiatives	£3,000 revenue
• Commission services for young people targeted at those not in education, employment or training (NEETS)	£2,500 revenue
• Targeted use of CCTV	£2,000 revenue
• Parenting support targeted at families whose children have been associated or are at risk of engaging in crime or anti-social behaviour	£4,500 revenue

The Board have asked for outputs and outcomes to be reported to a future meeting.

(e) Economic Situation

- 4.5 The Board has recently considered how it might contribute to tackling the current economic situation. A multi-agency group has looked at this in detail and appointed Babergh Communities Together to lead on a series of roadshows that will visit a number of selected locations in the Babergh East area. This will complement the work of other agencies and include targeting jobseekers (including new graduates), those facing possible redundancy, people coping with debt, small businesses in financial difficulty and older people experiencing fuel poverty. At its April meeting the Board will consider altering the themes already agreed for its grant programme for 2009 to support bids that include measures that help to improve the current economic situation.

PENNY CLARKE
Chairman – Babergh East LSP Board

BABERGH EAST LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

TARGETS	CONTRIBUTION TO					
	FUNDING SECURED £000	BABERGH 1 YEAR DELIVERY PLAN	BABERGH 3-YEAR MEDIUM TERM PLAN	BABERGH CORPORATE OBJECTIVE	NATIONAL INDICATOR	LAA2 TARGET
<p>09/10 Target or Milestone</p> <p>To meet needs identified by Babergh East LSP, deliver and support a range of activities in Hadleigh designed to engage with young people and parents eg. parenting support, helping young people into education, employment or training.</p>	42	Provide opportunities for young people to develop life skills	Action 4 Outcome 18/9	A strong and sustainable Babergh economy	NI91 NI110	NI91 NI110