



INFRASTRUCTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Committee Report

Public

Date of Meeting: 11 September 2008
Title: Economic Development and Enterprise - Carlisle Partnership
Priority Group and Cumbria Local Area Agreement
Report of: Carlisle Partnership Manager
Report reference: PPP 84/08

Summary:

This is the inaugural report in a series which will establish arrangements for the scrutiny of the activities of the Carlisle Partnership (CP) Economic Development and Enterprise (EDE) Group by Carlisle City Council.

The report presents a brief summary of the group's activities up to May 2008 when it was adjourned until after the formation of the Carlisle Renaissance (CR) Board and Team. A small working group has been active during the summer months, formulating proposals for a refreshed EDE group, which are included. A "Refreshed" EDE group has been reconvened by the CP Executive on 24 September 2008.

In addition the CP Manager will use these opportunities to report on the Economic theme of the Cumbria Local Area Agreement.

Questions for / input required from Overview and Scrutiny:

1. Will the procedure described in the report enable the Committee to discharge its functions regarding the EDE Group and the Local Area Agreement (LAA)?
2. Is the information provided in the report adequate, to enable the Committee to establish a baseline against which further reports from the Priority Group can be assessed?
3. Is the Cumbria LAA, a useful introduction for the further development of scrutiny in this area (but noting that the reporting mechanisms for 2008/2011 are still developmental)?

Contact Officer: Ned Kemp

Ext: 7030

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

Scrutiny

1. It is proposed to report the proceedings of the EDE Group of the CP, twice in each civic year (September and April), to Carlisle City Council's Infrastructure, Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The report will be presented by the Chair of the group (once elected) supported by the Carlisle Partnership Manager. It is intended that procedures for scrutiny of the group's activities will be the same as the arrangements for other CP groups.

Typically the reports are expected to contain:

- A. Brief summaries of significant discussions and decisions.
- B. Brief summaries of group supported activities.
- C. Progress reports on significant projects.
- D. Future Plans.
- E. Group membership, resource and administrative issues.

It is intended that the committee will develop (over time) lines of enquiry/interest which can then provide the focus for more detailed reporting in the future.

2. In addition the CP Manager will use these opportunities to report performance monitoring on the delivery of the Economic theme of the Cumbria LAA, to allow continuing scrutiny of the LAA in the Carlisle and thematic context. It is important to note that the reporting of the LAA performance will be dependant on the availability of data from the Cumbria Strategic Partnership (CSP).

Carlisle Partnership (CP) Economic Development and Enterprise (EDE) Group

3. Having successfully completed its work to produce an Economic Strategy for the City “Growing Carlisle” the EDE group resolved to adjourn pending clarification of its future role.

4. At the 14 May 2008 meeting, a small working group consisting of Trevor Hebdon, David Beatty and Ned Kemp was instructed to conduct discussions with the Carlisle Renaissance Board and other stakeholders to establish the initial terms of the relationship between the CR Board and the Carlisle Partnership. The group emphasised that responsibility for the delivery of the Economic Strategy rested with the CR Board and founding partners (City and County Councils and North West Development Agency).

5. The CP Executive considered the report of the working group at its meeting on 21 July 2008 and authorised the CP Executive Chairman to write to the CR Board with the following proposals:

“At its meeting on 21 July 2008 the Carlisle Partnership (CP) Executive discussed the relationship of the partnership with the Carlisle Renaissance (CR) Board.

Whilst acknowledging that at this early stage, it would be difficult to define the terms of the relationship in detail, it was recognised that a mechanism needed to be established now in order to avoid confusion during the developmental stage of the CR Board and Team.

Accordingly the CP Executive invites the Chairman of CR to its November meeting to discuss the following proposals:

Rationale

The principle underpinning the relationship between the CP and the CR Board will be to ensure that the CP Executive (and the CP Forum) adds value to the work of CR Board and that the two organisations are mutually supportive.

The CR Board will not be accountable to the CP Executive but will be influenced by it and vice versa. It is suggested that the relationship will become similar to that which the CP enjoys with Cumbria Primary Care Trust (i.e. one of inter-dependence).

It is envisaged that the Carlisle Partnership will continue to take overall responsibility for ownership of the Economic Strategy, so as to provide longer term and more widely based perspective and views on the economic health and direction of the City whilst recognising the primary role of the CR Board in the delivery of the strategy.

Representation

It is proposed that a private sector member of the CR Board should be nominated to the CP Executive to provide the essential link between the two and to strengthen the working relationship.

The representative, on behalf of the CR Board, will provide the CP Executive with progress reports on the delivery of the outcomes of the Action Plan (of the Economic Strategy) and in the first instance, will share the high level development of the Action Plan development with the CP Executive.

Additionally the Programme Director of CR will be nominated to a reconvened Economic Development and Enterprise (EDE) Priority Group of the CP when it meets in September to provide the vital linkage at a working level.

Development

It is envisaged that these initial arrangements can be reviewed at the request of either CP Executive or CR Board, as detailed working methodologies and practices evolve.

Adoption

The CP Executive proposes that, once agreed, the above will be recognised formally as a “Memorandum of Understanding” between the CP Executive and CP Board.”

The Future of the Economic Strategy and the Economic Development and Enterprise (EDE) group of the Carlisle Partnership (CP)

Ownership of the Economic Strategy (Growing Carlisle)

6. The Carlisle Partnership Executive have very clearly asserted the Partnerships' continuing ownership of the Economic Strategy and supported the proposal that the EDE group, as reconstituted, will have review of progress towards delivery of the Strategy's outcomes and the refresh of the Strategy itself as a primary function.

Delivery of the Economic Strategy

7. It appears that the CR Board and Team are likely to focus their efforts in the first instance on:

Developing a new City Centre Riverside Campus for the University of Cumbria
Maximising the potential of the Historic Quarter and its key assets
Delivering major new employment sites on the M6 corridor
Strengthening the mix of commercial activity in the City Centre

all elements of the "Place" theme.

8. It remains unclear exactly how much involvement the Renaissance Board and Team will have in the delivery of the "People" and "Connections" themes given their existing capacity and areas of expertise. It is proposed that the reconstituted EDE will have a coordinating role in the delivery of initiatives and projects in the "People" theme and will have oversight of the initial steps towards delivery of the Tourism aspirations of the Strategy.

9. Some activities are already underway and some imminent in both the People theme and in the area of Tourism which would benefit from the broadly based review mechanism available from the EDE group. Additionally these activities need to have a mechanism through which they can report, be recognised and supported. The EDE group and the Carlisle Partnership can fulfil both these roles.

Membership

10. In designing the initial membership of the reconstituted EDE group we have taken the above demands into account and;

Strategy Review: It is vital for continuity purposes that the valued links with the membership of the earlier group, which developed the economic strategy, have their connection with the strategy reinforced and refreshed (so as to retain their experience, expertise and goodwill to ensure the Strategy receives informed review and subsequent refresh)

People Theme Delivery Co-ordination: The template (attached) designed by David Beaty has been used to identify group members

Tourism: Proposed representation from City Based Groups and the wider area including Cumbria Tourism and Hadrian's Wall Heritage have been included.

Wider Stakeholder Forum: The success of the large stakeholder consultation events in early 2007, and the usefulness of similar more broadly based annual or twice annual reference events in other partnership groups has been noted. It is suggested that similar 6 monthly events be scheduled for a wider list of stakeholder to test the success of the Strategy and to pass on information regarding progress and plans.

EDE Group Membership by area of interest

<i>'Connections' theme</i>	TBD
Tourism	Carlisle Tourism Partnership Chair (TBD)
	Cumbria Tourism CEO
	Private Sector Representative
	Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd Representative
Heritage	Carlisle Cultural Group Chair
Business Support	Cumbria Chamber CEO
	City Council Business Development Officer
Employment Partnership	Chair (TBD)
	City Council Economic Regeneration Officer
City Centre Management Body (Steering Group meets 29 Sept)	Chair
	City Council Relevant Officer
Rural Rep	CPCA/CALC Nominee
Community Rep	TBD
Third Sector Rep	TBD
Educational/14-19 Rep	Up to 3 (to include University Rep)
Commercial Reps	Up to 4 LEAG Nominees (sector reps)
Cumbria Vision	CEO
Carlisle Renaissance	Programme Director
Carlisle City Council	Portfolio Holder Economic Development
	Head of Economic Development
Cumbria County Council	Head of Economic Development
Consultant	CRED (unremunerated unless specifically tasked)

Analysis	
Public Sector	7 (Plus 4 City Council Officers in supporting Roles)
Commercial	9
Comm & Vol	4
Political	1
Consultant	1
Total	22

Proposed Agenda for inaugural meeting on 24 September 2008, 08.30am at Carlisle Civic Centre

1.	Elect Chairman
2.	Terms of Reference
3.	Relationship with Carlisle Renaissance
4.	Ownership and work plan regarding Economic Strategy (review period, refresh period etc)
5.	'People' Theme work plan (receive report from 'People' theme development group Task and Finish already meeting)
6.	Tourism work plan (consider initial activities)
7.	Sub regional integration (Cumbria Vision)

Proposed Terms of Reference

- To fulfil the role of Economic sub group of the CP
- To be “Expert” Reviewers of the Economic Strategy on behalf of the CP
- To be a reference group for the CR Board
- To supports individual CR Board members in terms of their future lead roles in priority areas of the Economic Strategy
- To coordinate and provide leadership on the ‘People’ strand of the Economic Strategy and its Action Plan
- To exercise a key role in the Sub National Review of Economic Development and Regeneration and how that is determined across the sub region and manifest in Carlisle

Cumbria Local Area Agreement 2007 – Annual Report to March 2008 – Economic Development theme

11. Annex A is an edited version of the first annual performance report on the outcomes defined in the Cumbria LAA 2007. Broadly the report describes a good start to delivery on what are acknowledged to be medium term outcomes. Reports on environmental and cross-cutting outcomes have been included for completeness and are also broadly encouraging. The Commentary sections are probably most significant in light of the development of the LAA 2008-2011.

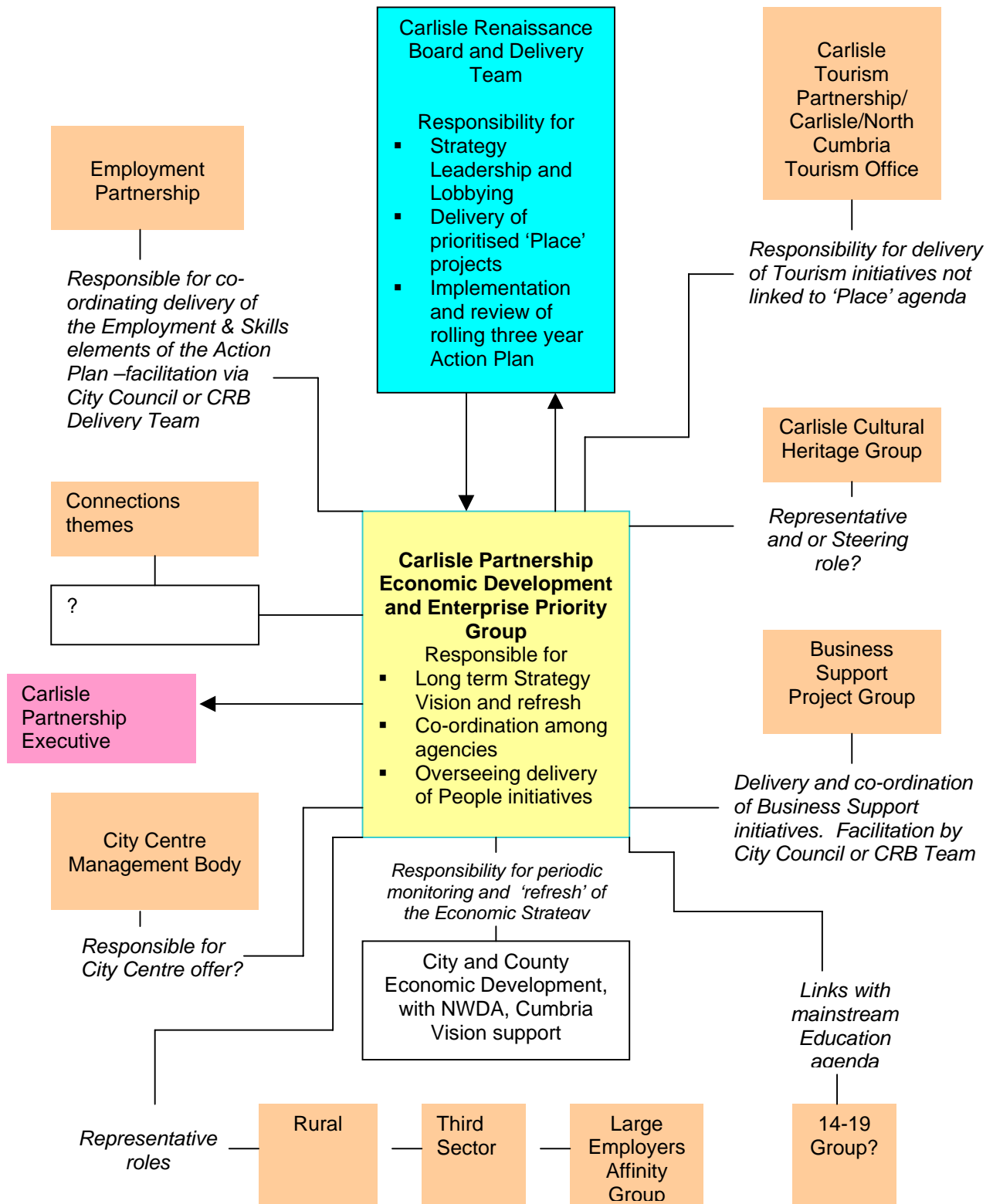
Cumbria Local Area Agreement 2008 – 2011

12. The 2008 LAA is now in force and future reports will be against its targets. The committee will be aware that significant changes in reporting requirements, numbers of indicators, frequency of data collection and inspection mechanisms are still at a developmental stage. The first performance report is expected in November 2008 but it seems likely that this will establish the form of report rather than be of particular relevance to progress towards targets.

IMPLICATIONS

- Staffing/Resources – Support staff for the partnership is now in place
- Financial – Any City Council financial commitments will be subject to normal process separate from these reports
- Legal – The City Council has always undertaken a coordination role within the EDE group which will continue. The Council has a legally defined relationship with the CR Board. The relationship of the CP to the CR board will remain one of mutual influence and support.
- Corporate – The interaction between the City Council, Carlisle partnership and Carlisle Renaissance will require careful scrutiny as plans are developed and projects are delivered to ensure that coherence is maintained. To this end the alignment of the Corporate Plan, Community Strategy and Economic Strategy will be critical. The CP EDE group is expected to provide leading insight in this area.
- Risk Management – The risks associated with delivery of the Economic Strategy priorities listed in “A Community Plan for Carlisle 2007.
- Equality and Diversity – A central consideration in all the EDE Groups activities. Any plans or projects will be submitted to the appropriate impact assessments.
- Environmental – A central consideration in all the EDE Groups activities. The group will be actively engaged with environmental issues via the CP executive and Convenors groups.
- Crime and Disorder – There are potential indirect relationships between many initiatives influenced or commissioned by the EDE Group and the Safer, Stronger Group activities. The group will be actively engaged with the SSC group particularly with regard to antisocial behaviour and disorder in the City Centre, via the CP executive and Convenors groups.
- Healthy City – It is expected that the EDE group will have an early influence on the implementation of Healthy City initiatives particularly in the spheres of Housing and transport.

PPP 84-08 Template for a re-formed EDE Group



- This represents a template on how the EDE Group could evolve
- Current membership and status of the operational and representative groups needs to be clarified
- The diagram is based on the assumption that each group would have delegate representation on the EDE group.
- Joint Local Authority responsibility for economic policy development under sub-national review shared by City & County.



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