

Sheffield City Partnership Board (SCPB)
“working together to build a Sheffield that works for everyone”

Notes Minutes of the meeting held on: Friday 7th January 2022
The Council Chamber, Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield S1 2HH

Present:

Neill Birchenall, Director, ASK4 (Vice Chair)
 Andy Buck, Chair, Voluntary Action Sheffield
 Sandi Carman, Assistant Chief Executive, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS FT
 Maddy Desforges, Chief Executive, NAVCA
 John Edwards, Interim Chief Executive, Department for Education
 Cllr Julie Grocutt, Deputy Leader, Sheffield City Council
 Andrew Hartley, Executive Director - Commercial & Operations, The Sheffield College
 Lou Harrison-Walker, Interim Executive Director, Sheffield Chamber of Commerce & Industry
 Chief Superintendent Shelley Hemsley, South Yorkshire Police
 Brian Hughes, Deputy Accountable Officer, Sheffield CCG
 Cllr Douglas Johnson, Exec Member for Climate Change, Environment & Transport, SCC
 Kate Josephs, Chief Executive, Sheffield City Council
 Alexis Krachai, Managing Director of Counter Context, SCCI
 Martin McKervey, Director of AESSEAL plc
 Halima Mohamed, African Women’s Health Group
 Helen Sims, Chief Executive, Voluntary Action Sheffield
 Sharon Thorpe, Service Leader for S.Y. jobcentres and Makerfield Service Centre, DWP
 Sarah Want, Director – Partnership & Regional Engagement, The University of Sheffield

In Attendance:

Laura White, Strategy & Partnerships Manager
 Jo Wright-Coe, Head of Business Strategy & Change, SCC
 Cat Arnold, Policy & Performance Officer, SCC (Item 4)
 Lucy Darragh, Graduate Trainee, SCC (Item 4)
 James Henderson, Director of Policy, Performance & Communications, SCC (Item 5)
 Gemma Mortensen, Co-creator, New Constellations (Item 6)
 Catherine Pritchard, Policy & Improvement Officer, SCC
 Kay Kirk (notes)

	Agenda Item	Action
1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p> <p>Apologies were received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lord David Blunkett, Chair • Paul Bragger, Station Manager, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue • Michelle Buttery, Chief Executive & Solicitor to the Police & Crime Commissioner • Angela Foulkes, Chief Executive & Principal, Sheffield College • Cllr Terry Fox, Leader, Sheffield City Council • Debbie Matthews, Chief Executive, Manor & Castle Development Trust 	

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2.	<p>Minutes and Matters Arising</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting. Matters arising are covered on the agenda.</p> <p>Wider Board Representation: Faith representation – the new Dean has been installed (Reverend Canon Abigail Thompson). We have reached out to her, and discussions are ongoing about her joining the Board. We also need to consider how we can bring in other faith representatives and other opportunities to broaden and diversify the membership of the Board – this is an open discussion and invitation. The Race Equality Commission is due to report, and it will likely include recommendations/comment on diversity of leadership in the city. We need to find the right people and make the effort to find them.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lou Harrison-Walker to approach the Sheffield Sustainability Network to discuss recruiting a green/sustainability sector member to the Board. • To add a dedicated item to the next agenda and to think about inviting some REC Commissioners to contribute to the discussion. • Laura to work with Lou Harrison-Walker on a recruitment process to enact change (including the skills and representation we want) and bring back a proposal to the next meeting for agreement. 	<p>LHW</p> <p>LW</p> <p>LW/ LHW</p>
3.	<p>Partnership Updates & Hot Topics Laura White, Partnerships Manager</p> <p>A briefing paper was circulated to Board members ahead of the meeting. The City Strategy and New Constellations are on the agenda for discussion today.</p> <p>Sheffield City Council Corporate Plan: The administration has published its One Year Plan to set out the Corporate Executive’s priorities for the year. We now need a longer-term Corporate Plan. It is important that the document is not insular and that it speaks to a wider sense of vision and outcomes. We are working at quite a pace to get the plan in place. It will be an operational document and owned by the 8k staff that the Council employs. We are engaging staff and partners in the work and development of the plan. The Council is going through huge changes and governance work is still ongoing. Moving towards implementing the committee system from May it is important to have an ambitious 3 – 5-year plan. Timescales are short and Laura will be reaching out to partners re engagement and to keep members updated. We will return to this item at a future meeting.</p>	
4.	<p>Tackling Poverty Action Plan <u>Cat Arnold, Policy & Performance Officer, Sheffield City Council</u></p> <p>Cat gave the Board an update on poverty and the financial cliff edge as well as the development of the tackling poverty action plan and how this could be owned and delivered at a citywide level.</p> <p>Context: before the pandemic 35.5% of children in Sheffield were in poverty. Demands on food banks increased four-fold during the initial part of the pandemic. The number of people on Universal Credit has doubled. Rent arrears and debt has increased substantially.</p>	

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	<p>In March 2020 Cabinet approved the Tackling Poverty Framework and agreed to develop an action plan (this is a complex task). Cat shared her first stab at capturing actions according to theme (recognising that some actions are SCC focussed).</p> <p>The financial cliff edge has started to have an impact and SCPB has endorsed a 9-point action plan. A Poverty Summit was held on 15th October 2020.</p> <p>Next steps: to continue to develop the action plan, to focus on some SCC specific actions and to explore ways to harness the expertise of those with experience in poverty.</p> <p><u>Discussion/Comments</u></p> <p>There is a lot of isolation in communities – women and families that don't know how to get help from social and hardship funds. SCC is working on a 'one route in' approach, with advice, to act as a gateway – however there is some work to do.</p> <p>There is no mention of the city's advice services in navigating the system. Capacity of advice services in the coming year may be at its lowest for many years due to cuts in funding. Debt support has reduced dramatically in the city and help to claim support will be reduced also – this is a major issue. CAB will provide an update once it has received more information about funding. The relationship with DWP is key.</p> <p>SCC and elements of services could do better. We need to look at how to improve the holistic approach to hardship and accessibility. We need to think about how this fits with the city vision for the strategic plan. The last 18 months has compacted and accelerated poverty in the city. Early interventions are required as part of the city vision.</p> <p>We need to engage with the wealth creators in the city to explore how the business community can play a bigger role in solving the underlying issues of poverty (to create the right economy with the right jobs). The way out of poverty has to be through work and income maximisation. Is there learning we could take from the Leeds Poverty Truth Commission?</p> <p>Advice is a very specific thing regulated by law – however there is more we can all do to signpost people to get the help they need. SCC does work closely with trusted assessors, employers and DWP.</p> <p>A Local Skills Improvement Plan is to be written shortly and will be used to make an ask of Government. A skills accelerator interactive workshop will be run by SCCI on 18th January.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens Advice to provide an update on support funding when available. • To follow up help to claim advice with DWP. • A briefing note about the local skills improvement plan to be sent to Board members. • Details and invitation to the skills accelerator interactive workshop to be forwarded to Board members. 	<p>HS/AB LW</p> <p>AK</p> <p>AK</p>

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5.	<p>City Strategy – update <u>James Henderson, Director of Policy, Performance & Communications, Sheffield City Council and Laura White, Partnerships Manager</u></p> <p>Sheffield is facing unprecedented challenges but also a real sense of momentum to rise to these challenges. There are multiple valuable conversations happening across the city, including the New Constellations work, but we don't currently have a coherent plan for bringing these together and maximise the impact of our collective assets and ambition. In November, we agreed that we need to come together as partners to develop a 'city strategy' or 'vision' which will both enable us, and empower others, to address this. The vision/strategy needs to capture a common sense of purpose and a shared sense of where we want to get to and to lay the groundwork for us to collectively deliver on that vision.</p> <p>We are proposing to start work immediately, gathering evidence and working on this together (but focussing on getting the process right) aiming for a public launch of a shared City Vision and Action Plan in Autumn 2022. In the meantime, focus will remain on what we already know are priorities, taking stock of what we are currently doing and keeping up the momentum with a clear to-do list.</p> <p>Next steps: we will commission an economic review and a community engagement exercise, gather interested partners together for a scoping workshop (reporting back in March) and bring a to-do list back to the March meeting.</p> <p><u>Discussion/Comments</u></p> <p>We welcome consistent engagement. We need a vision and plan fit for the 21st century. Rather than visions we require objectives and outcomes (begin with the end in mind). A vision without clear objectives won't take us any further forward or make an impact. Delivering against the action is the hardest thing. We could look at a new way of measuring the impact of the Inclusive Economy Framework. It is important to take forward the work of the SIPHER Project as part of this also.</p> <p>Building relationships is time well invested. Each organisation will have insight in how to gather information and we need to share this with each other.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ask colleagues across the city how they can help to resource this work (particularly the anchor institutions). 	LW
6.	<p>New Constellations: update and next steps <u>Gemma Mortensen, Co-creator, New Constellations</u></p> <p>Gemma shared some audio with the Board – voices of some of the crew. 30 people are involved across the city. The process is the journey with members taking part in reflective exercises to help them think about the past, present and future. The file played today is the first of 3 recordings which will be edited together.</p> <p>The journey started in December thinking about the past and present. We are now starting to talk about the future – to hear about values and guidelines towards a better future (an ambitious horizon, engagement of key institutions and a 3-year vision). A further meeting will take place next week and working groups have been set up. A group is looking at public engagement to tell the story and another of the working groups is focusing on economics.</p>	

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	<p><u>Discussion/Comments</u> This work has provided a spark –it is our responsibility to take it forward and self-organise. There is a risk we could create a silo in the city so we need to be careful about how we help to embed the energy into other conversations, including the city strategy. This is potentially transformative work and could be globally significant. We encourage everyone to support this work. To change the city, we need to change the story tellers.</p> <p>At the last meeting of the crew the diversity of voices in the room was unique. We need to think about how we link this work into the city strategy and review of partnerships.</p> <p>VAS has already taken the work of the crew and turned it into action – involving different people in projects.</p> <p><u>Agreed</u> The Board thanked Gemma and her team and welcomed an interim update before the March meeting.</p>	LW
7.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>	
	<p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>Friday 11th March 2022, 10.30 am – 12.30 pm: Joining details to be confirmed.</p> <p>Please send any apologies for this meeting by contacting Kay Kirk via email kay.kirk@sheffield.gov.uk</p>	