

TEES VALLEY LIVING

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE GROUP MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER AT 10.00 A.M. AT ENDEAVOUR HOUSE, THORNABY

Present:	Bernard Williams	Erimus Housing
	Angela Lockwood	Endeavour Housing
	Iain Sim	Coast & Country Housing
	Roger Till	Tees Valley Housing Group
	Jim Rafferty	Home Group
	Alan Glew	Darlington BC
	Michael Quinn	Middlesbrough BC
	Derek Gouldburn	Hartlepool BC
	Sharon Thomas	Stockton BC
	(previously Sharon Lonergan)	
	Susan Douglass	Guinness Northern Counties
	Yvonne Clark	Government Office North East
	Steve Turner	Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit
	Jim Johnson	TVL Director
	Jennine Robson	TVL Programme Monitoring Officer

335/07 Apologies

Apologies were received from Mark Dutton, Steven Bray, Irene Sams, Mike Mealing, Janine Turner, John Lowther, Martine Hawthorne, Naz Parkar (Guinness Northern Counties).

336/07 Notes of Meeting 6th July 2007

These were agreed.

337/07 Matters Arising

321/07 In relation to the skills agenda, JR provided an update on the latest schedule for presentations at future TVL Executive meetings:

John Allinson and Kevin Reid from Homegroup have volunteered to present an item on the 'Respect Agenda' at the next meeting on 16th November.

Janine Turner has volunteered to present an item on 'Loans for Improvement' at the meeting to be held on 14th March.

ACTION

Sharon Thomas will present an item on 'Equity Loans Package' on 18th January.

BW asked the group if there were any volunteers for the 'Shared Ownership' skills topic. Northern Counties offered to explore the possibility of presenting an item on this topic and will confirm with TVL. JR will follow this up.

Resolved

SD to confirm with JR if Northern Counties able to present an item on Shared Ownership.

JR

332/07 Hometrack

JJ confirmed that the order had not yet been placed. JSU and TVL are seeking further details from Hometrack on the scope of the licence and terms and conditions attached to the licence.

JJ/JR

327/07 Eldonian Project Presentation

JJ noted some disappointment in the presentation from the Eldonian project in Liverpool. JJ explained that the presentation was not to the usual standard and felt that this was because the main point of contact had sent apologies and another colleague who was less closely involved with the project had presented the item on their behalf.

Role of TVL Executive

As Chair of the TVL Executive group, BW took the opportunity to engage members in a brief discussion to explore the future role of the Executive group. BW noted that the Executive group had naturally evolved and was increasingly getting involved in broader strategic housing issues over and above housing market renewal.

It was recognised by all that the Executive group is an important resource as it brings together a range of organisations and in doing so is a good sounding board and source of expertise.

BW noted that it is important to review the role of the Executive group and to agree a work programme (in liaison with Heads of Housing) that is in keeping with the changing world around it. For example, it is necessary to understand how the Executive group fits within the Tees Valley Unlimited structure and to take on board the changes in Government policy.

It was agreed that an important step will be for the TVL Board and TV Unlimited Board to clarify the role of TVL and the implications for the Executive and supporting organisations. This topic will be raised at the next TVL Board meeting.

Resolved

BW / JJ to follow this up at next TVL Board meeting.

338/07 Sub-regional Housing Strategy Assessment Process

JJ provided a verbal update on the assessment process. Four representatives from the sub-region will be attending the assessment panel. JJ will attend on behalf of TVL with three other individuals from the local authority housing strategy teams. The group are preparing responses to 12 standard questions which the Regional Housing Team has presented to each sub-region and a further set of questions relating specifically to the Tees Valley.

JJ

Housing Corporation Strategic Sites

IS voiced some concern over the apparent omission of Greater Eston the Housing Corporation's list of strategic sites in the Tees Valley. Only Central Middlesbrough and Central Hartlepool have been included in the final version of the Regional Housing Strategy. The general consensus was that Greater Eston is also a strategic site and it was unclear as to why the Housing Corporation had not included this. JJ volunteered to follow this up via the Directors of Regeneration and Heads of Housing.

Resolved

JJ to liaise with Directors of Regeneration and Heads of Housing to explore this further.

JJ

339/07 HMR Business Plan 2008-11

JJ provided an overview of the requirements of the Business Plan and process for completion. It was agreed that the Business Plan must highlight how Tees Valley is aligning with latest Government policy for example, the Housing Green Paper, involvement in the Sub-national Review of Economic Development and Regeneration and potential role of the Tees Valley in the new Growth point agenda.

It was suggested that the progress to date section should include a punchy narrative section which is followed by

supporting evidence (data).

Resolved

TVL to ensure the wider economic context is set out in the opening section to the Business Plan.

JJ

340/07 Tees Valley Housing Corporation Protocol

AG provided an outline of the rationale and benefits of a sub-regional protocol and the process in place to develop and complete the protocol. The five local authorities have been working together to identify the broad structure of the protocol and to ensure the initial ideas meet the necessary requirements of the Housing Corporation. AG extended the invitation to these meetings to RSL partners. The first step will be to circulate initial thoughts to RSLs and encourage feedback. The proposed date of the next meeting will be confirmed.

Resolved

AG to liaise with colleagues and to arrange for invitation and details to be forward to RSL partners.

AG

341/07 Housing Market Vitality Index and Community Vitality Index

ST provided a verbal update on progress to date. ST referred back to a report to the Executive meeting back in May which presented the initial results of the VVI 2007. ST noted some reservations to the set of indicators used in the VVI 2007. As follow up to this, the VVI has now been renamed to the Housing Vitality Index to reflect its focus on housing related indicators. JSU are getting closer to finalising the Housing VVI model. The results of the BRE study are now available and the individual local authorities are considering the findings. The TVL Research Group will meet on 18th September to discuss this further.

In the interim, a second index, the Community VVI has been developed which includes a broader set of indicators (both housing and non-housing related). For example, it uses housing, education, crime, health, employment data.

JJ noted that the Community VVI provides a better measure of the vitality and sustainability of the neighbourhood and the key factors which influence whether or not people move in to an area. By contrast,

the Housing VVI was originally intended to provide a measure of housing market vitality. The TVL Research Group will further explore the role of house price as an indicator and how useful this actually is.

Resolved

ST to continue to develop both models in liaison with TVL and the Research Group.

ST/JJ

342/07 Any Other Business

Joint Procurement

JR provided an update. SB attended the meeting of the Tees Valley Joint Procurement group on 6th July. This group is essentially a meeting of the Heads of Procurement (or otherwise titled) from the five local authorities. JR advised that the group are more than willing for TVL and partners to use their 'engine' as a means by which to progress potential areas of joint procurement. However, this requires the support of Heads of Housing and Regeneration in each local authority and their willingness to provide the necessary resources.

It was agreed that this subject can only be progressed further through the Heads of Housing and that it would be appropriate to ask the Heads of Housing to include this item on the agenda of a future meeting.

Resolved

JR to make contact with the Heads of Housing and to ask for inclusion of this topic on their agenda.

JR

343/07 Date & Time of Next Meeting

10.00 a.m. Friday 16th November at Endeavour House Teesdale.