

TEES VALLEY LIVING

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE GROUP MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 19 JANUARY 2007 AT 10.00 A.M. AT ENDEAVOUR HOUSE, THORNABY

Present:	Sharon Lonergan	Stockton BC (Vice Chair)
	Mark Dutton	Hartlepool BC
	Janine Turner	Middlesbrough BC
	Angela Lockwood	Endeavour Housing
	Stephen Bray	Accent North East
	Alan Glew	Darlington BC
	Clare Butterfield	Redcar and Cleveland BC
	Maggie Begg	Housing Corporation
	Judy Mackley	Housing Corporation
	Marsha Jobling	Home Group
	Susan Douglass	Guinness Group
	Colin Wilson	Housing Hartlepool
	Anna Gibson	Coast & Country
	Jim Johnstone	TVL Director
	Mike Mealing	TVL Strategy Manager
	Jennine Robson	TVL Programme Monitoring Officer
	Irene Sams	Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit

		ACTION
280/07	Apologies Apologies were received from Bernard Williams and Alison Thain.	
281/07	Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th October 2006 These were agreed	
282/07	Matters Arising 276/06 – JJ advised that the Heritage and Design Study is not yet signed off and therefore a Heritage sub group has not yet been formed.	
283/07	Housing Market Database and Analysis Tool – presentation by Hometrack JJ introduced his report and Rupert Mackay from Hometrack provided a live demonstration of the functionality of the 'RealDemand2' system. Following a discussion RM stated: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The cost of a licence for one LA is £8000 p.a. which includes access to information for the bordering LAs	

- The cost of a licence for RSLs is £9950 p.a. and gives access to ten LA areas.
- There is a 10% discount for each licence for a joint purchase.
- The cost is kept at this level because the primary reason for the system is for the use of the companies in their own group.
- The licences are usually for one year but a 'buy in' period is negotiable.
- Training is included in the licence fee

MM suggested that the Research Group take this further and that it would be appropriate for a more in depth presentation to be made to the Group. He continued that it needs to be established the extent of the overlap in data and whether the HMAs could be updated using this information without the need of employing consultants.

Resolved

The Tees Valley Living Research Group is to assess and report back on the value of the product in the light of data collection currently being carried out within the scope of the Tees Valley Housing Market Renewal initiative.

MM

284/07 Updating the North East Regional Housing Strategy

JJ referred to his report. All discussed and agreed that a working group should be formed to consider the consultation document and to provide a report back to the Executive Group thereby facilitating a coordinated TVL response.

Nominations from the LAs were: SBC – Jane Edmonds: DBC – Alan Glew: R & C – Richard Kay: MBC – To be confirmed: HBC – To be confirmed. It was agreed that the draft response should be forwarded to the following RSL representatives prior to presentation to the Executive Group – Angela Lockwood, Martin Jefferson and Zoe Hawthorn.

MM
MD
JT

Resolved

A working group is set up to consider the consultation draft of the Regional Housing Strategy 2007. The group to advise the Executive Group on an appropriate submission to the North East Assembly.

MM
MM

285/07 Tees Valley House Builders Forum

JJ introduced his report and all discussed and agreed that a Tees Valley House Builders Forum would be of benefit. MB suggested that it might be best to ask the House Builders for their suggested agenda items to ensure a positive response to the invitation. JJ stated that he has a meeting arranged with three of the major TV builders to do just that.

Resolved

Agreed that a Tees Valley House Builders Forum be established and that it should meet no more than 3 times per annum.

JJ

286/07 Joint Procurement – Progress

MM referred to report and stated that SB requires nominations for the Joint Procurement Working Group. He suggested that consideration should be given as to the representation of the group.

SB stated he sees the terms of reference for the Group as:

- Establish current baseline
- Establish attitudes and preferences
- Make recommendations

It was stated that the LAs have a Tees Valley Procurement Group in place. JT stated that this covers all areas and operates by one LA going through the procurement process in accordance with their standing orders and the other LAs follow on the assurance that this is the case.

Resolved

Nominations for membership of the Joint Procurement Working Group to be forwarded to Stephen Bray by 2nd February 2007.

LAs

287/07 Securing an improved level of service from the Utility Companies

JJ referred to his report and stated that from the information provided by group members indicated that the worst problems appear to be with gas suppliers and he has therefore focussed on this. Despite having spoken to numerous individuals he feels that he has not yet reached the correct person to have a meaningful discussion with. It was agreed that it is too early to contact OFGEM. All discussed the best approach to facilitate an early resolution.

Resolved

Progress noted

288/07 Visit of Baroness Andrews to Tees Valley Living 22.2.07 (verbal report)

JJ advised that Baroness Andrews, a 2nd tier minister, under Yvette Cooper, in DCLG is to visit Tees Valley Living on 22 February 2007. The visit is being arranged through GONE and it is anticipated that it will last two hours, although this has not

yet been confirmed.

All discussed the best format for the visit. It was agreed that she should see where TVLs' strengths are to ensure that she takes back the message that TVL are doing everything right. It was agreed that this would be best done as a presentation and not by visiting various sites or photo calls. However it was suggested that she could perhaps be met and driven past sites on the way to TVL.

Resolved

Visit of Baroness Andrews noted

289/07 Northern Places Fund (verbal report)

JJ explained to the Group that the Northern Places Fund is a potentially new stream of funding, currently being considered under the auspices of The Northern Way. It is possible that there could be £50m pa available over a 5 year period. It could go on stream in April 2008 depending upon the consultants findings in exploration of the idea. The main criteria are that it must be an area of deprivation and be for mixed-use housing.

JJ stated that all 5 LAs have submitted outline ideas on locations and broad components and from these those from HBC and MBC are being looked at more closely.

The five LAs stated the basis of their submissions:

DBC – Stock not meeting decent homes standards north of town centre

HBC – Phase 2 of HMR – Key gateways to the town centre from the south and north west.

MBC – Gateway into town centre – Gresham, Newport and Canon Park

R & C – The South Bank Master Plan

SBC – Gateway into town centre via Parkfield and wider North Shore development.

290/07 Any Other Business

MM advised that Diana Pearce, GONE, is arranging ½ day sessions with organisations dealing with homelessness. Fay MacKenzie at the TVJSU is organising this for TV with CRISES and Urban Village and has provided a list of those invited. It is scheduled for the afternoon of 2nd March 2007 at the Baptist Tabernacle, Stockton on Tees

Resolved

List of invited representatives to be circulated with minutes

MM

MB advised that an announcement regarding the new organisation Peoples England is imminent.

291/07 Date of Next Meeting

Friday 16 February 2007 at 10.00 a.m. at Endeavour House,
Teesdale.