



To: NSP Board

From: NSP Executive

Date: September 2011

Title: Executive Report

At its last meeting on 6 September the NSP Executive considered progress made on the Performance Reward Grant (PRG) funded projects which began in April this year as well as the Community Investment Fund.

1. PRG Project Update

The NSP allocated £2,058,305 funding across seven projects submitted by the delivery partnerships.

The PRG projects agreed were:

- ARCH – Alcohol Outreach Service
- Business Development Centre
- Community Connect
- DARA – Domestic Violence Service
- Green Technology Centre of Excellence
- Neighbourhood Management
- Think Family

Progress

These projects will run over two or three years and a number of expected targets and outcomes have been agreed for monitoring the success of the projects.

All the projects received their first funding instalment at the beginning of April 2011. Updates on project progress as at the end of Quarter 1 have been received and a summary (see appendix) was considered by the Executive.

Whilst the Executive were pleased with the progress that had been made they asked that, in future, more detailed reporting was submitted. Future performance reports will therefore be sought from each project using a reporting template based on year end targets. Performance reports will be considered by delivery Boards on a quarterly basis and by the NSP Board on a six monthly basis.

2. Community Investment Fund

The Executive also considered that latest update on progress with developing the Community Investment Fund.

At the last meeting the Board agreed to allocate £300,000 to this fund. The aim of the fund was to:

‘Support the growth of strong resilient communities with effective social networks and active citizens taking responsibility for meeting local needs and their own wellbeing.’

In order to maximise the opportunities for this approach and for the fund to be most effective it was proposed that the majority of the fund be focused upon 4 geographical pilot areas.

These were:

- Pill
- Weston Central (building on the work of the Neighbourhood Management programme)
- Winscombe and Sandford – The Board added Banwell to this area
- Clevedon

Initial work in Pill has identified a number of opportunities but further consultation with Avon Local Council's Association over the principles of the use of the CIF has led to a different approach being suggested.

It is now proposed that all areas within North Somerset are invited to express an interest in working with relevant NSP partners to identify opportunities for different models of service delivery or asset transfer, with Town and Parish Councils acting as conduits. A first tranche of activity would be agreed based upon the ideas presented and the level of commitment demonstrated by the community for moving the project forward.

Proposals will be considered by the stronger working party.

A launch event for Town & Parish Councils and other representatives will be held at the beginning of October.

The Executive agreed the amended approach put forward for the Community Investment Fund.

Appendix

PROJECT	Q1 UPDATE – End June 2011
ARCH – Alcohol Outreach Service (£151,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Steering Group has been established with membership from NSC, NHS North Somerset, Addiction Recovery Agency and a GP and Terms of reference have been developed. • A service specification is being developed.
Business Development Centre (£300,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land for the Centre has been purchased and planning permission granted. • Tendering for construction of the building will begin in October 2011.
Community Connect Project (£200,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Development Worker post and four Community Agent posts have been filled. • Senior Community Link meetings are being held regularly • 8 Café style drop-ins are taking place monthly with additional monthly information and advice sessions being held. • The website has been launched: http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Social+care/Advice+and+support/communityconnect.htm • A signposting pack for volunteers is being developed • Community Development workers are linking with hospital community ward coordinators in Weston, Clevedon, Nailsea and rural areas.
Domestic Violence (£220,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Adviser) service has been re-tendered and commissioned from a new provider with the contract commencing on 1 July. Referrals are lower than expected due to one IDVA post being vacant through the quarter, the change in provider and sick leave. • DAIT (Domestic Abuse Investigation Team) officer recruited in May has received induction and further training. • Phoenix programme has been renamed 'My Kids and Me'. Marketing of programme has been successful and economies made through use of free venues and facilitators. 4 programmes are being run to meet the demand for courses across North Somerset
Green Technology Project (£307,805)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Advisory Board is being established. • A 'Green Curriculum' has been developed and sustainability units embedded into the first 6 weeks of cross college curriculum. • Real life working conditions for training purposes have been installed. • Solar PV and Solar Thermal equipment installed. • College electrical staff now trained in Solar PV and photovoltaic training for electricians implemented – 7 courses completed by July 11. • Awards in sustainability identified and 6 champions have completed a level 2 certificate (2 further champions to complete) • College accredited to run a number of L2 and L3 environmental technology courses from September 11. • College has achieved 'Hub' status in Environmental Technologies from the National Skills Academy for Environmental Technologies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talks are underway to identify pathways for learners to progress into higher education.
Neighbourhood Management (£349,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the neighbourhood police team to ensure officers respond to local needs and that residents have good information on crime issues locally. • Have developed a local enforcement campaign on parking in the town centre and working with Highways and Police to enforce this. • PACT meetings continuing • Pre-recruitment training for new jobs in Dolphin Square being delivered through Westonworks
Think Family (£130,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The approach has been introduced to key partners and embedded in the Children & Young People Services Transformation Programme. • Baseline data collection and a refreshed needs analysis to support the project is underway • The Think Family approach and remodelled services will form part of the design of new common pathways and assessment activity to fit with the Children's Single Point of Access • Further scoping work on the rationalisation of ICT and data systems to ensure they support the Think Family approach and allow a family-centred view is also underway