



**WESTERN INVESTING FOR HEALTH PARTNERSHIP
28TH MEETING OF PARTNERSHIP BOARD**



10.00am, Thursday 5th March 2009
Strabane District Council Offices

Chair:	<i>Dominic Burke</i>	<i>WHSSB</i>
Secretariat:	<i>Ailish O'Neill</i>	<i>Western Investing for Health</i>
Present:	<i>Jeff Barr Barny Heywood Deirdre McNamee Phillip O'Doherty Josephine Hasson Eamon O'Kane Tony Doherty John Moore Linda Watson Noel Crawford Brendan Adams Paddy McElDowney David Davis Fiona Murphy Paddy Cosgrove Tommy McLaughlin</i>	<i>Koram Centre WGEH University of Ulster Derry City Council WELB Derry Healthy Cities Bogside & Brandywell Health Forum DARD CAW/Nelson Drive Action Group Limavady Borough Council NIHE Easilift Community Transport Strabane & District Community Net. Omagh Womens Aid Strabane District Council Fermanagh District Council (Rep)</i>
In Attendance:	<i>Jarleth McNulty Brendan Bonner Séamus Mullen Colette Brolly Siobhan Sweeney Julie McGinty</i>	<i>Chair, Strabane District Council Western Investing for Health Western Investing for Health Western Health Action Zone Western Health Action Zone Western Health Action Zone</i>
Apologies:	<i>John McGarvey Dr Bill McConnell Supt. Paul Douglas Caroline Ferguson Terry Morrison Paul McNaught Monica Coyle Joni Millar</i>	<i>WHSCT WHSSB PSNI Fermanagh New Horizons NIFRS DSD Omagh Forum for Rural Associations Western Investing for Health</i>

AGENDA ITEM NO.	SUBJECT	CORE POINTS FROM DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.0	Conflict of Interest	<p><i>The Chair started the meeting by reminding the Partnership of the Conflict of Interest Policy:</i></p> <p><i>A conflict of interest policy has been adopted by the IFH Partnership to cover all business at full Partnership and sub-group meetings. This is to ensure that no Partnership member or Co-optee can influence decisions in any way that may be to his or her advantage, and acts as a protection to members against any allegation that they may have used their position to their own advantage. A copy of this policy is in your Partnership Handbook.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Where a member is aware of a direct conflict of interest, they should remove themselves from the room and take no further part in any discussions.</i> <i>• Where a member is aware of an indirect personal interest, the member should then take no further part in any discussion.</i> <p><i>Where specific interest in your respective sectors of work are apparent, you should identify this and other Partnership members or Co-optees should weigh their comments in the light of their declared interest.</i></p>	
2.0	Welcome	<p><i>The Chair welcomed everyone to the 28h meeting of the Western Investing for Health Partnership. He particularly welcomed Linda Watson, from CAW/Nelson Drive Action Group as a new C & V sector representative from the Derry City Council area.</i></p> <p><i>The Chair continued by acknowledging his own retirement and thanking Jeff Barr for his support and joint leadership in taking the Partnership forward over the past three years, in advance of his stepping down on 31st March 2009.</i></p>	

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		<p><u>Welcome by Strabane District Council</u></p> <p><i>Paddy Cosgrove formally welcomed the Partnership and outlined some of the work that Strabane District Council have been taking forward in terms of health improvement and supporting the Investing for Health Strategy, for example, the Home Accident Prevention Scheme in conjunction with the HAZ, the Highway to Health initiative, the implementation of IFH objectives into the Council's Strategic Plan and the Health at Work Initiative with Derry Healthy Cities.</i></p> <p><i>In respect of both Chairs standing down, Paddy acknowledged Dominic and Jeff's work in taking on the model of IFH and thanked them for their continued commitment.</i></p>	
3.0	Apologies	<i>Brendan Bonner noted the above apologies and acknowledged Caroline Ferguson's recent Bereavement of her father. Dominic asked that the Partnership's condolences are passed to Caroline at this sad time.</i>	Brendan Bonner
4.0	Minutes of Last Meeting	<i>Everyone present agreed that the minutes taken were a true reflection of the meeting that took place on 4th December 2008.</i>	
5.0	Matters Arising	<p><u>Migrant Workers Initiative</u> <i>Julie McGinty updated the group on this initiative, changing it from amber to green as the project is well underway.</i></p> <p><u>Integrated Play Extension</u> <i>Julie informed the group that tenders have been awarded for both areas and work will be starting within next few weeks.</i></p>	

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		<p><u>Field to Fork</u> <i>Brendan told the group that a presentation was given to the Regional Obesity Group and meetings have been held with Safefood to discuss the potential to run the project out in an all island approach.</i></p>	
6.0	Membership Issues	<p><u>6.1 - Co-Chair from the Statutory Sector</u></p> <p><i>Dominic reminded the group that he will be standing down from the Partnership with effect from the 1st April. A letter has been written to the Chief Executive of the new Public Health Agency, Eddie Rooney, asking him to give strategic direction in terms of who will take on the leadership role from 1st April. In the short-term however an interim co-chair will have to be appointed from the Statutory sector.</i></p> <p><i>Following discussion, Noel Crawford nominated Paddy Cosgrove to take on the role as co-chair and this nomination was seconded by both David Davis and Barny Heywood.</i></p> <p><u>6.2 – Membership Changes</u></p> <p><i>Jeff Barr confirmed that Dr Bill McConnell will also be retiring from 31st March and will no longer be a Partnership representative. Also as a result of RPA, Frances Robson from the WHSSC has had to resign her Partnership role. A letter has been sent to the Chief Executive of the new PCC and asked for a nomination to replace Frances’s role. Given the transition period it is unlikely to have a nomination in the short-term.</i></p> <p><i>Jeff acknowledged Frances’s participation and thanked her for her contribution to the Partnership.</i></p> <p><i>Clionagh Boyle has also changed posts and has taken up a new position so has also had to resign from the IFH Partnership. As such Linda Watson has now been nominated as a full Partnership member to</i></p>	

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		<p><i>represent the C & V Sector.</i></p> <p><i>Trevor Ferguson from NIFRS has returned from long-term sick leave but is unable to take up his place on the Partnership at the minute. In the interim the NIFRS interest will be served by Terry Morrison or Eamon Gallagher.</i></p> <p><u><i>6.3 – Attendance</i></u> <i>Discussion took place on the monitoring and reporting of non-attendance at meetings and the best way forward. The Terms of Reference states that if a member misses 3 consecutive meetings then they will be held accountable for their absence but as the Partnership only meets 4 times a year in essence that would equate to 9 months in which a considerable amount of work within the Partnership would be completed.</i></p> <p><i>After discussion it was recommended that should a member miss 2 Partnership meetings then they will be contacted by the Co-Chairs to discuss the issue of non-attendance, identify any barriers that are in place or any support that is required. It was also agreed that when a rep is sent, there should be consistency in who this rep is. Although the Terms of Reference states that a rep can only attend two consecutive meetings, following discussion it was agreed that this could be changed so that a named representative can attend whenever necessary, providing the representative is of a senior level.</i></p> <p><i>In respect of the annual residential, it was agreed that representatives could not attend as this event is primarily for Partnership Members and every effort should be made for attendance.</i></p>	<p><i>Brendan Bonner</i></p>
7.0	2008/09 funding	<p><i>Brendan gave an update on the current funding situation in relation to IFH projects, which have all now turned green. IFH staff are working</i></p>	

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		<p><i>with the Finance Department to identify any savings before the end of March.</i></p> <p><i>Changes to the following budgets were highlighted – Communication Strategy and Webpage, Media Awards, Partnership Training and Development, Child Poverty Project, Health Promoting Homes, Active Families Publicity, Ward Zones, Rural Link to Health Pilot and the Home Safety Officers.</i></p>	
8.0	RPA	<p><i>Dominic informed the Partnership that Health & Social Care has significantly moved in relation to RPA. He confirmed that the following are now in place:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Health & Social Care Board – Chief Executive Designate John Compton & Chair - Dr Ian Clements</i> <i>• Public Health Agency – Chief Executive Designate Eddie Rooney & Chair Mary McMahon</i> <i>• Business Services Organisation - Chief Executive Designate David Bingham & Chair Mr. Alexander Coleman</i> <i>• Patient & Client Council – Chief Executive Designate Maeve Hully & Chair John Keanie</i> <p><i>In addition a number of Senior Directors have also been appointed - Ed McLean has been confirmed as Director of Operations, this includes a key leadership role on future partnership working and Carolyn Harper is the new DPH. The role of Chief Nurse / Allied Health Professionals is due to be interviewed this week.</i></p> <p><i>In respect of LCG's there will be 1 LCG instead of 2, which should be in place by the end of March and will have the same footprint as the WHSCT.</i></p>	

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		<p><i>Josephine Hasson told the group that the Education & Library Services are going through a shadow split, with separate organisations being established. A lot of services are being amalgamated but the process is very slow.</i></p>	
9.0	<p><i>Future for Partnership Working & Community Planning</i></p>	<p><i>Dominic informed the group that the Minister has identified a key role for Local Authorities in terms of the future for Partnership working and its link to Community Planning. The Minister formally invited the 26 District Councils in NI to submit letters of interest for hosting potential pilots for future partnership working and community planning. In total 10 Local Authorities in the West submitted an interest and this was further redefined through work with SOLACE.</i></p> <p><i>Brendan told the group that Eddie Rooney is meeting with SOLACE on Friday 6th March so a decision will be announced then, although indications are that only 3 submissions had been selected and there needs to be confirmation whether the one in the West will include Limavady. The Minister wants pilots to take on 1 or 2 themes that will make an impact on community planning. Eddie Rooney is planning to meet with the 5 District Councils in the 3rd week of March to move this forward.</i></p> <p><i>In response to a query around community and voluntary sector involvement, Brendan confirmed that although leadership will come from the Council, all stakeholders will be involved. Barny Heywood reiterated this by telling the group that it will be a completely inclusive process that will provide the opportunity to cement relationships.</i></p>	
10.0	<p><i>Fuel Poverty & Health & Wellbeing</i></p>	<p><i>Dominic informed the group that fuel poverty has been an issue that has been discussed by many agencies and organisations - the Health Action Zone have been leading on a number of initiatives to address fuel poverty in both family and older people and within the current year</i></p>	

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		<p><i>£42,000 has been allocated to fuel poverty initiatives with a further potential investment in 2009/10, depending on the decisions of the various subgroups.</i></p> <p><i>The Partnership also commissioned a Health Impact Assessment into the Air Quality Strategy for Strabane District Council to see if it had any impact on the health & wellbeing of the population.</i></p> <p><i>Dominic proceeded to welcome Professor Christine Liddell from the University of Ulster, who has been actively involved in a number of initiatives linked to fuel poverty and has undertaken the HIA on the Strabane District Council Strategy.</i></p> <p><i>Christine gave a presentation to the group on the health impacts of tackling fuel poverty, which included human lives, human health and human mental wellbeing. Physical health impacts could include respiratory disease, hypothermia, stroke, arthritis etc. Although the benefits of tackling fuel poverty include improved mental health, there is also financial gain and quality of life improvement.</i></p> <p><i>In response to a query on correlation to the current financial climate, Christine told the group that one of the biggest drives of fuel poverty is income so it is essential to get homes energy efficient.</i></p> <p><i>In response to a query around evidence to link with smoking rates, Christine replied that before monitoring the evidence of fuel poverty, the effect of smoking on respiratory disease is taken out of the equation.</i></p> <p><i>When asked if there is any evidence to show that children have poorer education attainment, Christine replied that this is still being monitored and the evidence so far is unconvincing.</i></p> <p><i>When asked if there is evidence to link fuel poverty and social cohesion,</i></p>	

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		<i>Christine replied that for social cohesion, whole communities needs be tackled at the same time so as to gauge the effects.</i>	
11.0	2009 Residential	<p><i>Dominic proceeded to remind the Partnership that the 2008 residential was organised primarily by the Partnership members. As a result it was agreed the same group would sit down and review the process and opportunities for 2009.</i></p> <p><i>Tony Doherty continued by informing the group that 3 quotes have been sought for the 2009 residential and Lusty beg is coming in at the cheapest and is also offering team building activities. Unfortunately though the original dates of 5th/6th November were unavailable so Tony asked for agreement to move the residential to 29th/30th October. Those present approved this and Ailish agreed to inform those not present of the change of date.</i></p> <p><i>Dominic agreed to seek confirmation from Eddie Rooney on 6th March that this can go ahead as he will approve all finance from 1st April.</i></p> <p><i>In a query whether Genevieve McWilliams will still sit on the residential subgroup as Phillip has now returned, Phillip agreed to seek clarity with Genevieve, as he would still like her continued involvement.</i></p>	<p>Ailish O'Neill</p> <p>Dominic Burke</p> <p>Phillip O'Doherty</p>
12.0	2009 -11 Funding	<p><i>Dominic reminded the group that the Minister has already decided that the Investing for Health Partnerships will stay as they are pending the review of IFH and allow for transition for new organisations and new structures for partnership working.</i></p> <p><i>Dominic agreed to highlight this information with Eddie Rooney so that he has a clear understanding of what IFH is about. Eddie is keen to meet with the new co-chairs of IFH in the near future also.</i></p>	<p>Dominic Burke</p>

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		<p><i>Brendan proceeded to take the group through the plans for the next two years and in particular highlighting new initiatives that require approval or enhanced investment.</i></p> <p><i>Discussion took place around the Neighbourhood Renewal pilot. Tony recommended that a couple of Partnership members meet in advance of the planned workshop on 23rd April. Tony also recommended that IFH provide assistance so that DSD are not considered the main organisers.</i></p> <p><i>The following initiatives were approved by the group:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• RPA Pilot with the Council</i> <i>• Neighbourhood Renewal Pilot</i> <i>• Active Families – Outreach Enhancement</i> <i>• Additional allotment investment</i> <p><i>As a side issue, Jeff sought clarity on the Koram Centre still holding the Best Practice Award of £5,000. It was agreed that the money would stay with the Koram Centre in the interim until an appropriate personal development project is found.</i></p>	<i>Brendan Bonner</i>
13.0	2009 Media Awards	<p><i>Seamus Mullen told the group that one of the most successful initiatives run on an annual basis is the Public Health Media Students Award. This year all entries came from the North West Regional College. Discussion took place between the judging panel about why only one college applied and it came to light that it falls at the wrong time of year for Universities.</i></p> <p><i>Seamus also told the group that the radio category has been consistently poor since the awards started and it has been recommended that this is dropped to make way for a new category</i></p>	

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		<p>Northern Ireland, with a budget of around £800,000.</p> <p>The project has been discussed with Eddie Rooney and IFH are now waiting for approval from the Public Health Agency to go ahead with it.</p>	
15.0	Update on Webpage Activity	<p>Brendan informed the meeting that the website www.westerifh.org has been enhanced and appears to be extremely well used. He also commended the work that Ailish does on the website.</p>	
16.0	Update on Newsletter	<p>Brendan reminded the meeting that the monthly newsletter has been redesigned to make it more attractive and again acknowledged Ailish's input.</p> <p>Those present agreed that they are happy with the new structure of the newsletter.</p>	
17.0	Any Other Business	<p><u>World Health Organisation</u> Eamon O'Kane told the meeting that Derry City Council have applied for formal designation under WHO and over the next few months will be working collectively to develop a bid for the North West for the Healthy Cities initiative. Eamon will keep the Partnership updated on progress.</p> <p><u>Closure of Residential Homes</u> David Davis asked for those present to agree to send a letter to the Minister expression concern over the closure of residential homes.</p> <p>Following discussion it was agreed that IFH would not be sending a letter as it puts both IFH and its members in an inappropriate position.</p> <p>Dominic reiterated this, given that he is both the Chair for the</p>	Eamon O'Kane

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		<p><i>Partnership and also the Chief Executive of the WHSSB, it would be inappropriate to be involved in such a letter - it has been the WHSSB role over the last 15 years to develop domiciliary care and improve primary care to support people in their own home and keep them from residential care. The WHSCT are dealing with the issue of preparing people to leave residential care and the Minister will be making his decisions on a case-to-case basis.</i></p> <p><i>Both Chairs accepted David's opinion but IFH will not be taking this forward.</i></p>	
18.0	Presentation to Co-Chairs	<p><i>In acknowledging their contribution to the Partnership, a presentation was made by the Chairman of Strabane District Council, Jarleth McNulty, to Dominic and Jeff, on behalf of all the partner organisations for their continued support and role as co-chairs over the last three years.</i></p>	
18.0	Date of Next Meetings	<p><i>Thursday 4th June 2009 at 10am in the DSD Offices, L'Derry.</i></p> <p><i>Dominic finished by thanking all those present, and particularly Strabane District Council for hosting the meeting.</i></p>	

