

Northern Devon Futures Board

Thursday 23 June 2022 at 2.00 pm (Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams)

Agenda

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies for Absence
2. Notes of last meeting held on 25 April 2022 (attached).
3. Conflicts of Interests
4. **Northern Devon Cultural Strategy.** Alison Mills, Manager of Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon to report. Paper (attached).
5. **Update on the NDF Thematic Sub Groups.** Updates to be provided by Theme Leads:
 - a. Place and Community (Housing) – Dominie Dunbrook (NDC)
 - b. Economy, Innovation and Skills – Chris Fuller (TDC)
 - c. Children and Young People – Nicola Allen (Petroc)
 - d. Climate Emergency (Environment)– Janet Williams (TDC)
 - e. Health and Wellbeing (One Northern Devon) – John Womersley and Andrea Beacham (OND)
6. **UK Shared Prosperity Fund.** Steve Hearse, Chief Executive (TDC) and Jon Triggs, Director of Resource (NDC) to report.
 - a. Communities and Place (Paper attached).
 - b. Supporting Local Business (Paper attached).
 - c. People and Skills (Paper attached).
7. **Date of Next Meeting**
8. **AoB** – to be notified to the Head of the Secretariat (Bill Blythe) in advance of the meeting

data could be captured in other areas too. If the Safer Streets fund application was unsuccessful, then it could be picked up under E5 intervention.

Jon Triggs advised that Councillors would be keen to include safer streets intervention within the Shared Prosperity Fund investment plan if the application was unsuccessful.

Sean Mackney advised that Petroc as an employer was considering how it could facilitate volunteering to give something back to the community. This could assist with meeting the interventions in relation to green culture, health, culture and volunteering.

Dominie Dunbrook advised that DeVA now had an online platform where individuals could be matched to volunteering opportunities available.

The Board agreed the following:

- (a) that the online survey be circulated to all members of the Board to prioritise their top 3 interventions for each theme by the end of Monday 27 June 2022;
- (b) that the draft reports regarding the investment plans be circulated to members of the Board prior to consideration by North Devon Council and Torridge District Councils.

Action: Secretariat to circulate the questionnaire and Ken Miles and Steve Hearse to circulate the SPF reports

7) Date of Next Meeting

The Board agreed that the next meeting would be held in October 2022 (date to be agreed).

8) Any other business

There was no other business.

Meeting ended at 3.39 p.m.

6) UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The Board considered the 3 documents that had been produced for each theme of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund: Communities and Place; Supporting Local Business; and People and Skills (circulated previously).

Jon Triggs set out the context of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. He advised that the Government had announced that the fund would replace European funding and that £2.6bn funding available. North Devon Council had been allocated £1.2m and Torridge had been allocated £1m over a 3 year period. 15% of the fund would be allocated in 2022/23, 27% in 2023/24 and 58% in 2024/25. Local Authorities could use 4% of the fund for administrative costs. The Lead Authorities would receive an additional £20,000 to put the plans together. There was a minimum requirement to spend some of the fund on capital: 10% in 2022/23, 13% in 2023/24 and 20% in 2024/25. The remainder of the fund can be spent on revenue or capital. At the last meeting of the Board on 25 April 2022, it had been agreed that the board was the stakeholder body for the purposes of the fund and that the thematic groups consider the interventions and measures for inclusion within the fund investment plan. It was important that the benefits were achieved across Northern Devon. Each Local Authority was required to submit an investment plan on the portal between 1 July to 1 August 2022. The plan would contain high level interventions rather than the specific projects. The investment plans would be presented to each Local Authority's Council meetings in July 2022. The thematic sub groups had fed into the 3 documents that had been circulated previously. Each document contained references to the "E" numbers to link to the fund and detailed interventions and projects coming forward by both Councils and stakeholders. Any areas that were not captured as part of the Shared Prosperity Fund would be picked up by the thematic sub groups. Members of the Board were requested to prioritise their top 3 interventions for each theme and a poll would be circulated to all members of the Board for completion.

Dominie Dunbrook, Chris Fuller and Nicola Allen reported on the outcomes of the sub groups which had fed into the 3 thematic documents which had been produced.

In response to questions, Jon Triggs advised that the 4% allocated for administration could be used as part of the allocation and would be awarded to the District Councils to determine how to use and there may be benefits of pooling this part of the fund. Resources could be pooled together to seek match funding for interventions.

Toby Davies advise that an application had been made to the Safer Streets funds. There was a perception that people didn't feel safe. If the application was unsuccessful, then he would be keen to include community safety within the Shared Prosperity Fund and would liaise with Dominie Dunbrook on this issue.

Dominie Dunbrook advised that Andy Wills had attended the first meeting of the sub group and discussed the outcomes of the recent safer streets survey and how this

In response to a question, Sean Mackney advised that the sub group would take back the issue of the need to link with businesses in terms of curriculum from primary age upwards and in relation to careers advice. He advised that schools had a duty to make links to businesses (under Gatsby benchmark). It was important that they engaged with businesses so that young people were aware of roles within each sector.

Chris Fuller advised that the Biosphere had engaged with schools in the Bideford area in relation to the roles within the maritime sector. All schools were committed to embedding this within the curriculum.

Nicola Allen advised that she had links with careers and Enterprise Company and regularly attended meetings. She would be attending a conference next week where updates would be provided by career leads.

Louise Higgins suggested that the NHS should have links with schools regarding careers within the NHS. It was important that the membership of the group included representatives in relation to preventative work around children and young people and mental health.

Sean Mackney advised that as from September 2022, colleges had a duty to address the skills needs within the area and were required to provide evidence of engagement with employers across each subject area.

Action: Secretariat to facilitate a stronger link between employers on the Employment Innovation and Skills Action Group and the educational institutions on the Children and Young People Action Group.

d. Climate Emergency (Environment)

Steve Hearse advised that the sub group had not yet met.

Bill Blythe advised that the group would be up and running shortly.

Action: Head of Secretariat to ensure the Action Group is formed in the next 2 months

e. Health and Wellbeing (One Northern Devon)

Nicola Allen advised that Andrea Beacham was currently on annual leave, however an update would be emailed to the Board.

Sean Mackney advised that the Health Inequalities event with stakeholders was the next stage which would be held shortly and the outcomes would be fed back into the group.

September 2022 would set its terms of reference and elect a Chair, which would then be shared with the Board.

In response to questions, Sean Mackney advised that the terms of reference for each sub group would be presented to the Board for approval.

Dominie Dunbrook advised that the group would produce an action plan which would provide a mandate for the group to deliver. The housing summit had been held and the short, medium and long term actions would be included within the action plan. The inclusion of key performance indicators for each sub group was a good idea.

Steve Hearse advised that the terms of reference for this sub group would take account of the Devon wide housing task force and ensure that there was no duplication. There were clear links from this Board to the housing task force.

Sean Mackney advised the Board would have an overview of the actions plans once they were in place for each sub group and would be used to measure success. It would also be helpful to calculate the costs of each sub group (i.e. officers time) and measure the impact on the sub groups on the deliverables.

b. Economy, Innovation and Skills

Chris Fuller advised that the Employment and Skills and Innovation Boards had been combined into the economy, Innovation and Skills sub group. Peter Morrish had been appointed as Chair and Mike Matthews had been appointed Vice-Chair of the sub group. The group felt that the membership of the group was very public sector heavy in terms of members, and it was therefore agreed to review the membership as part of the review of its terms of reference which would include appropriate representatives being appointed from the pharmaceutical, cultural and marine sectors. At the first meeting, the group considered the Shared Prosperity Fund and also received an update on the Appledore Clean Maritime Innovation Centre project.

Bill Blythe advised that the Chair or Vice-Chair could be put forward to the LEP as the Northern Devon representative on the Skills Advisory board and that he would speak with them both regarding the appointment as the representative to the LEP.

c. Children and Young People

Nicola Allen advised that the first meeting of the sub-group had been held on 15 June 2022. Representatives from the Northern Devon Academic Board had attended to provide an introduction. The group had agreed that further representatives were required from early years, primary, secondary and further education and that 2 representatives were required for each age group for North Devon and Torridge. The terms of reference and appointment of a Chair would be considered at the next meeting of the group. The group was expected to evolve over time with different services joining the group as and when appropriate.

Alison Mills advised that the strategy would be launched in partnership with stakeholders. The strategy outlined a clear way ahead for Barnstaple in terms of funding, however other areas needed further work to bring in place, partnerships and levelling up. There was a need to ensure that employment comes forward as a plan of action.

Chris Fuller advised that bids were being pursued for both Barnstaple and Bideford as part of the Cultural Development Fund and that both bids were an important part of the strategy.

Alison Mills advised that there were aspirations in the longer term to bring a regional representative to Northern Devon. The priority was on the 3 towns, however all had significant differences in terms of culture. She worked closely with community museums, where a lot of work was carried out by individuals who were active within the community. There was a need to pull in funding opportunities to help improve the quality of rural culture and tie in with the current Arts Council plan. Wellbeing and opportunities for mental health had been referenced throughout the draft strategy. A priority of the Community Development Fund was to support young people, skills and develop creative opportunities. Discussions would take place with partners regarding increasing participation in activities.

Sean Mackney advised that Petroc would be starting a new learning programme in September for creative professionals and that over 50 students had enrolled onto the course. He stated that he welcomed reference to young creatives being included within the strategy and that reference should be made to Petroc within the strategy. Alison Mills advised that she would have discussions with Sean regarding this.

The Board noted the latest iteration of the draft Northern Devon Cultural strategy and welcomed the increase in focus and output measures within the document and looked forward to working in partnership in delivering the outputs.

5) Update on the NDF Thematic Sub Groups

The Board received updates provided by the Leads for each NDF Thematic Sub Groups:

a. Place and Community (Housing)

Dominie Dunbrook advised the Board that the first meeting of the group had been held on 10 June 2022. The main subject of discussions was the Shared Prosperity Fund. As there had not been a former group, the membership and brief for the group had been pulled together. Membership of the group consisted of representatives from: Exmoor National Park Authority, Biosphere, North Devon Homes, Police (Andy Wills), NHS and One Northern Devon, Homes England, Devon Association of Local Councils, CVSs for both North Devon and Torridge (NDVS and TTVS), DCC Economy and Highways and Sunrise Diversity. The next meeting of the Group in

2) Notes of last meeting held on 25 April 2022

The Board considered and noted the notes of the last meeting held on 25 April 2022 (circulated previously).

There were no matters arising.

3) Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were announced.

4) Northern Devon Cultural Strategy

The Board considered the draft Northern Devon Culture Strategy (circulated previously).

Alison Mills advised that following the last meeting of the Board held on 25 April 2022, no specific comments had been received in relation to the draft strategy. Since the last meeting the goals and themes within the strategy had been agreed with all stakeholders and a shortened final draft version of the strategy had been produced. The draft strategy would be presented to North Devon Council for approval on 4 July 2022 in order to meet the funding deadline for the Cultural Development fund. The strategy would also enable the Council to apply for other funding opportunities.

She outlined the main changes that had been made to the strategy following feedback which included:

- Inclusion of case studies
- Reordering of the strategy and refocussing of “people and communities” throughout the strategy
- Changes to the wording within the vision and themes
- Enhancement of the heritage section within the strategy
- Changed actions to suggested actions so as not to prejudge the decisions of the Partnership Board as the actions would need to be delivered in partnership
- Wellbeing being included at the beginning of the strategy as it was essential to the purpose of the strategy
- Recommendations for the towns of Barnstaple, Bideford and Ilfracombe
- Goals – amended to include emphasis for young people and cultural careers, reduction of the carbon footprint of partners, increased targets for events held in deprived areas and increase in participation at events

Northern Devon Futures Board

Notes of a meeting of the Northern Devon Futures Board held virtually on Thursday
23 June 2022 at 2.00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Nicola Allen, Petroc
Andrea Beacham, One Northern Devon
Bill Blythe, Petroc
Stuart Brocklehurst, Applegate
Phillip Butterworth, Arts Council England
Toby Davies, Devon and Cornwall Police Constabulary
Dominie Dunbrook, North Devon Council
Alan Dykes, TDK Lambda
Stuart Elford, Devon and Plymouth Chamber of Commerce
Chris Fuller, Torridge District Council
Steve Hearse, Torridge District Council
Louise Higgins, Interim Locality Manager CCG and DCC
Councillor Ken James, Torridge District Council
Tim Jones, SW Business Council and North Devon Plus
Sean Mackney, Petroc (Chair)
Alison Mills, NDC
David Ralph, Heart of SW and LEP
Jon Triggs, NDC
Councillor David Worden, Leader of NDC
Jon Walter, Torridge District Council

1) Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from the following:

Dr John Womersley, One Northern Devon
Selaine Saxby MP
David Hoare, Selaine Saxby MP Office
Andy Cotton, Tarka Trust
Alison Hernandez, Police and Crime Commissioner
Phil Norrey, Devon County Council
Fran Hughes, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Mike Mathews, Lineal
Ken Miles, NDC
Sarah-Jayne Mackenzie-Shapland NDC
Janet Williams, Torridge District Council
Councillor Rufus Gilbert, Economy and Skills DCC