

Meeting Notes for Public Services Board

6 September 2016

Lewis House, Bath and North East Somerset Council

Attendees:

Name	Representing
Cllr Tim Warren	Bath and North East Somerset Council (Chair)
Ashley Ayre	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Ian Orpen	BaNES CCG
Tracey Cox	BaNES CCG
Celia Mead	Bath Bridge (Business representative)
Bernie Morley	University of Bath
Neil Sammells	Bath Spa University

In Attendance:

Name	Representing
David Trethewey	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Helen Edelstyn	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Peter Dawson	Bath and North East Somerset Council
John Wilkinson	Bath and North East Somerset Council

Apologies:

Name	Representing
Victor Da Cunha	Curo Group
Steven Fuller	The House (business representative)
Neil Liddington	Avon Fire and Rescue
Rosie Phillips	DHI Bath

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Ashley Ayre was welcomed to the Board. Apologies were noted.

2. Minutes

The minutes and actions of the 28 June 2016 meeting were agreed, subject to the following amendment:

- Point 6, first paragraph, should read 'world-class' and not 'world-call'.

3. WoE Devolution update

David Trethewey provided a summary of progress on the West of England devolution deal; this included an update on the public consultation, which overall had been in favour of the deal. HMG are now working with Council to draft and agree the legal order that will establish the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) on the 1 April 2017.

Ian Orpen asked whether HMG had shifted its position on regional Mayors following the recent Times article; Ministers have not responded directly to the article, however officials have suggested that the article is speculation and HMGs position remains the same.

Peter Dawson provided an overview of the transport elements of the devolution deal:

- The MCA will become the WoE Transport Authority with responsibility for developing a Joint Transport Strategy
- A devolved and consolidated transport budget that will enable longer term planning and investment
- The MCA will become the Highways Agenda for a Key Network of Roads across the devolution area
- Powers to franchise bus services including an ability to introduce smart and integrated ticketing
- Increased funding for road maintenance

4. Student retention

A summary of student retention in B&NES was provided. Only 14% of university students remained in B&NES 6 months after completing their studies (2012 data); this is comparatively very low. Student retention rates between the 2 universities differ; more Bath Spa students are from the B&NES area, and are therefore more likely to stay. A key reason for low student retention rates is thought to be a lack of local graduate entry level jobs.

The meeting acknowledged the need to keep 'talent' in order to protect and grow the local economy. Initiatives are already underway to encourage student retention both within the universities and within business growth initiatives such as the Bath Quays development.

The meeting agreed the need to collaborate to promote the local student offer to business especially small and medium sized enterprises. John Wilkinson to explore - with both Universities – how we better support student retention.

5. Your Care Your Way

A summary of progress on the Your Care Your Way commission was provided by Tracey Cox:

- Virgin Care are the 'preferred bidder'
- There has been a thorough assessment process to reach the position of preferred bidder with over 50 expert assessors involved including local 'community champions'
- Next steps: 25 October confirmation of preferred bidder, 10 November final proposal to Governing bodies (CCG Board and Council Cabinet)

Ian Orpen noted that Virgin Care's bid was very strong and had instilled a sense of confidence especially around a local and engaged approach to service transformation.

6. AOB, forward plan and next meeting

1 November 2016, 10.00-12.00, Lewis House (Room 3.2), Bath, BA1 1JG; agenda items to include an update on CCG and Council budgets, and a crime and community safety update from the Police.