

Annual Report of the Redbridge Public and Voluntary Sectors' Partnership 2017-2018



The picture on the cover shows the Mayor of Redbridge, Cllr L Huggett, accepting the role of Compact Ambassador for 2017/18. She is flanked by the incoming Chair of the Redbridge Public and Voluntary Sectors' Partnership, Maria Thorn (NELFT) and the outgoing Chair, John Garlick (voluntary sector representative).

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1. Summary

This report summarises the work undertaken by the Public and Voluntary Sectors' Partnership (PaVSP) for the year 2017-18. The Partnership is made up of Members from the Council, elected representatives from the voluntary and community sector and nominees from Redbridge Clinical Commissioning Group, the Metropolitan Police Service, the North East London Foundation Trust and the Redbridge Fire Service. The partnership is funded by Redbridge Council, and RedbridgeCVS receive £8,000 to manage and deliver this work.

2. Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference of the Partnership, including its membership, are set out in the Council's Constitution.

3. Membership

Redbridge Council:

The Council selects its representatives annually, and this year its representatives were:-

Members: Cllr M Chaudhary, Cllr B Littlewood, Cllr B White, Cllr Bhamra

Substitutes: Cllr A Kissin, Cllr A Sachs, Cllr D Sharma

Voluntary Sector:

The Voluntary sector representatives are elected in a three year cycle. This was the third year in the cycle, with the following representatives representing the voluntary sector:-

Members: Jon Pushkin (Vice Chair), Nigel Turner, John Garlick, Bushra Tahir, Jon Abrams

Substitutes: Nicholas Hurst, Sudarshan Bhui MBE

North East London Foundation Trust:

Member: Maria Thorn (Chair)

Substitute: Bob Edwards

NHS Redbridge:

Member: Khalil Ali - Patient and Public Involvement, Redbridge CCG

Substitutes: Marie Price - Director of Corporate Services BHR CCGs

Metropolitan Police:

Member: Inspector Elise Gellatley

Substitute: None

Redbridge Fire Brigade:

Member: Narinder Dail

Substitute: Frazer Ferguson – Borough Commander

Administrative and Officer Support was provided during the year by Ross Diamond (RedbridgeCVS).

Guest speakers were: Cllr Linda Huggett (Mayor of Redbridge), Simon Parker (Corporate Director of Strategy, LBR), Adam Sargent (Head of Supply Chain, PS Procure LBR), Captain John Clifton (Salvation Army), Ian Tomkins (East London Health and Care Partnership), Liz Hannam (Manager of Work Redbridge) and Edith Galliers (Head of Policy, Equalities and Communities, LBR).

4. Activities in 2017/18

4.1. Meeting on 19th September 2017

The Partnership's annual "Away Day" was held on 19th September 2017 at the Vine Church, Ilford.

The Chiring of the Partnership is rotated each year between the public and voluntary sectors. This year it was the turn of the public sector to Chair the meetings. Maria Thorn (NELFT) was elected as Chair for 2017/18. Jon Pushkin was elected Vice Chair.

At the meeting Cllr Linda Huggett, Mayor of Redbridge, formally accepted the role of Compact Ambassador for 2017/18. In accepting this role the Mayor gave a speech in which she said that Redbridge is rightly proud of its strong history of partnership working and how this is more important than ever at this time of financial constraint. She noted that Redbridge's Compact document gives guidance on how partnership working with the voluntary sector can be undertaken, but also explains why it is important. Cllr Huggett also talked about the local charities she is supporting as Mayor this year. These are Haven House Hospice for children and St Francis Hospice. She concluded by noting the relevance of Redbridge's motto: "In Unity Progress."

Simon Parker, LBR's Corporate Director of Strategy gave a presentation, entitled, "Building A New Partnership." He said that the Council has to change to ensure it is

financially sustainable, but he believes that things can be done differently *and* better. He had done a lot of work with Councillors and Council staff in his first 12 months in post and now hoped to be able to more outward looking. He was currently working on 'refreshing' LBR's Strategies including a focus on how the borough might look in 2025, and working on a new Borough Plan, in partnership with the voluntary sector (via RedbridgeCVS), the NHS and the police. Simon noted the paradox of there being less funding available for LBR to spend on grants and support for the voluntary and community sector, at a time when there was more need than ever for the sector. He said that the voluntary and community sector provides vital advocacy, and early intervention services for local people and helps build strong communities. He is keen for LBR to support this – including by working with the sector to help co-produce services and solutions to problems. He asked how the voluntary sector wanted to be engaged, and how LBR could improve the way it worked with the sector. He also wanted voluntary organisations to think about ways they could work better in partnership, including through the use of digital tools.

A draft work plan for 2017/18 was discussed and agreed. There would be three meetings of the Partnership held during the year, with additional work being carried out as necessary.

- It was agreed that there would again be a standing item on the Fairness Commission recommendations and the progress being delivered. Cllr Littlewood would lead on this item.
- It was agreed that one meeting would have a focus on public sector commissioning and procurement.
- It was agreed that one meeting would include an item on the NHS Accountable Care System that was being developed across Redbridge, Havering and Barking & Dagenham.
- It was agreed that one meeting would include an item on community cohesion and the work being led by LBR on this.



Public and Voluntary Sectors' Partnership Away Day 2017

4.2. Meeting on 22nd November 2017

The meeting heard reports and held discussions on the following key items:-

- Cllr Bob Littlewood reported on those recommendations of the Fairness Commission that were not yet complete. He informed the meeting that:
 - The Outcomes Framework was being developed as part of the Borough Plan;
 - The Disability Charter was now out for consultation, and should be adopted by March 2018;
 - The Accessibility Standards requirement will be met by the opening of the One Stop Shop (along with other relevant initiatives) early in 2018;
 - The local housing shortfall is being met, in part, by the establishment of Redbridge Council's wholly-owned development company, DEVCO. This is currently being set up and will start looking to build housing and mixed use units soon;
 - The Economic Strategy – now called the Regeneration Strategy – will go to LBR Cabinet in December 2017;
 - The “place branding” work is underway as “Redbridge 2025” (aka the Borough Plan);
 - The Immigration Panel has completed its work, but further actions arising from this, including a voluntary sector network which is now being pulled together by RAMFEL, are underway.
- Adam Sargent, Head of Supply Chain, PS Procure (LBR) gave a presentation on LBR's approach to Commissioning and the Social Value Act. He explained the PS Procure is a unit of Waltham Forest Council which is now providing services for LBR. They are experienced in a wide range of 'spend categories' and they bring savings to LBR because they work across two councils. His key role is procurement, which is just one part of the commissioning cycle, but they do get involved in all stages to ensure best practice is used. Adam talked through the “commissioning cycle.” He said that formal procurement laws apply to tenders over £164k, whilst tenders below that threshold follow internal LBR regulations. He explained that price and quality thresholds are set for each service or product being commissioned – but said that they will not start to look at pricing unless they are satisfied with the quality of the offer. Adam confirmed that LBR does consider Social Value in all bids, regardless of size. He said that when LBR colleagues want to procure a product or service, PS Procure ensure that they receive a strong business case which must include Social Value considerations. In Waltham Forest they award the Social Value parts of a tender at 10% (forming part of the quality considerations). In Redbridge there isn't a set % agreed in the Standing Orders, but PS Procure requires at least 5%. Adam said that Social Value often involves commitments to creating/using apprenticeships but he gave a wide range of other appropriate Social Value commitments that they would welcome. These include environmental benefits, such as reducing pollution

and saving energy or social benefits such as involving volunteers or providing work opportunities for disadvantaged people.



The Mayor of Redbridge, Cllr L Huggett meeting representatives of the voluntary sector at the Redbridge Community Day, August 2018

4.3. Meeting on 17th January 2018

The meeting heard reports and held discussions on the following key items:-

- Captain John Clifton of the Salvation Army gave a presentation on the Salvation Army's response to homelessness locally. This included their annual Winter Shelter, and their "Recycles" social enterprise. He also outlined the details of "Project Malachi" which will be a local housing scheme for rough sleepers, including those with no recourse to public funds because of their immigration status (and which will include work with RAMFEL). LBR had recently agreed to allow the site of the former funeral directors building on Chadwick Road to be used at a 'peppercorn' rent for 5 years. This will be a temporary hostel built from prefabricated units which will be put onto the site and then removed after 5 years for use elsewhere. There will be beds for 40 people in self-contained units each with a bed, shower, toilet and cooking facilities.

- Ian Tomkins of the East London Health and Care Partnership (ELHCP) attended to give the meeting an update of the work of the ELHCP. This had originally been established to develop the East London Sustainable Transformation Plan (STP) which wanted to express how the local NHS structures and their partners (local councils, the voluntary and private sectors etc.,) could deliver the NHS “5 Year Forward View”. Ian informed the meeting that the ELHCP now covers 8 boroughs and a wide range of organisations. They aim to help meet the huge local challenges facing East London, including:
 - A growing – and ageing – population
 - A shortage of appropriate staff (for health and social care)
 - Expensive housing (exacerbating problems with recruiting and retaining the necessary workforce).

Ian noted that NHS funds are increasing, but not quickly enough to keep pace with increasing needs – and Social Care funding is actually decreasing. He said that the 8 borough ELHCP includes a range of Councils and NHS structures with different cultures and styles of working. The ELHCP is still building partnerships and is also exploring sub-regional Accountable Care Systems to find solutions that meet geographical patterns. Some issues can best be addressed at the East London scale, whereas others need to be resolved more locally. ELHCP aims to work on those areas that can best be addressed at the East London scale.



Redbridge Community Day, August 2018

4.4. Meeting on 7th March 2018

The meeting heard reports and held discussions on the following key items:-

- Liz Hannam, Manager of Work Redbridge, gave a presentation about this Council service that helps Redbridge residents over 16 who are looking for work, training, volunteering, apprenticeships or self-employment support. Liz explained the range of support available: The Virtual Hub – (www.redbridge.gov.uk/workredbridge); the weekly Job Club at the Salvation Army; the new “Case Loaded Support” for referred clients; the Preparing for Work programme, which is designed to prepare residents for claiming Universal Credit; the Progress to Work programme, which is designed for residents with a disability and provides intensive support on a 1:1 basis; and the Start Up Support programme, which offers support to talk through business ideas and support with developing business plans etc.
- Edith Galliers, Head of Policy Equalities and Communities at LBR, gave a presentation on LBR’s current work regarding Community Cohesion. She said there are currently three strands to this work: the new Community Network; the recruitment of a new Community Engagement Coordinator; and the “Innovating Redbridge” work that was currently underway. Edith said that the Community Network is a new forum for strategic conversations about how to strengthen and support Redbridge’s diverse communities. It will provide a constructive space to talk about challenging and important community-related issues such as hate crime and give an opportunity for attendees to network with other community leaders, to share best practice and swap ideas. A key part of the meeting will be to prepare community responses to an emergency incident within the borough or in neighbouring boroughs. It is expected to meet 3 times a year, and to circulate 3 email bulletins a year – though more meetings and communications may be necessary if there are emergency events that need addressing.



The Mayor of Redbridge, Cllr L Huggett meeting representatives of the voluntary sector at the Community Day, August 2018