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Sent: 22 February 2005 17:14
Attach: 8 MSP Funding Programme 2004-05.doc; 3 MSP minutes 30.11.04.doc; 5 Opportunities for Collaboration over use and provision of property.doc; 6 Statement of Community Involvement in Planning.doc; 7 MSP Priorities - Workshop Outcomes and Next Steps.doc; 1 Agenda 1.3.5.doc
Subject: MSP Board meeting 1st March 2005 - Agenda

Dear MSP Board member, please find attached the agenda and papers for the meeting of the Mendip Strategic Partnership Board to be held on Tuesday 1st March in the Small Hall at **Glastonbury Town Hall**, commencing at 3pm.

The following documents should accompany this message:

- 1 **Agenda**
- 3 Minutes of the meeting of 30th November 2004
- 5 Opportunities for Collaboration over Use and Provision of Property
- 6 Statement of Community Involvement in Planning
- 7 MSP Priorities –Workshop Outcomes and Next Steps
- 8 MSP Funding Programme 2004-05

Regards

Sara

Sara Skirton
 Community Planning and Consultation Officer
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Mendip Strategic Partnership
Board Meeting 1st March 2005
3pm in the Small Hall, Glastonbury Town Hall

Agenda

Links are in red

1. Apologies

Welcome to New Voluntary Sector Representatives

2. Public Participation

3. Minutes of the meeting of 30th November 2004

4. Children's and Adults Services Review

Presentation from David Taylor, Corporate Director for Children's Services, Somerset County Council

5. Opportunities for Collaboration over the Use and Provision of Property

Report from Andy Hall, Asset Manager, Somerset County Council

6. Statement of Community Involvement in Planning

Report from Simon Eames, Senior Policy Officer, Mendip District Council

7. MSP Priorities – Workshop Outcomes and Next Steps

The Board is asked to note the outcomes of the workshop and consider how they can be taken forward as actions

8. MSP Funding Programme 2004/05

The Board is asked to approve proposals by the Budget and Finance Sub Group to allocate the remaining Second Homes monies for 2004/05

9. Shepton 21

Verbal update for information

10. Glastonbury SRB

Verbal update for information

11. Budget Report

Verbal update for information

12. Dates of future meetings

7 June, 6 September and 29 November 2005, all commencing at 3pm in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council

13. Any Other Business



Mendip Strategic Partnership

Minutes of the meeting of the Mendip Strategic Partnership held on Tuesday, 30 November 2004 at 3 pm in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council.

PRESENT:

Penny Baker	Association of Chambers of Commerce
Cathy Bakewell	Somerset County Council
Ron Ballantine	Chairman
Karen Deverell	Mendip YMCA
Richard Dixon	Friends of the Earth
Jacqueline Hele Kergozou	Mendip Housing Limited
Zena Pollard	Shepton 21
Tony Shepherd	Mendip Community Support
Harvey Siggs	Councillor of Mendip District Council
Jon Stratford	Avon and Somerset Constabulary
Ian Wallace	Young Somerset

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Stuart Brown	Business Manager, Mendip District Council
Sue Harrison	Committee Officer, MDC
Caroline Peat	Committee Officer, MDC
Sara Skirton	Community Planning and Consultation Officer, MDC
Maria Clarke	Somerset County Council
Roger Kershaw	Somerset County Council

ALSO PRESENT:

Henry Museneni	SCC Visitor from Zambia
Peter Banks	Beacon Hill Society

1. Apologies

Ian Bennett, Stephen Fowler, Kate Jeffreys, Elizabeth John, Elaine Pugsley

2. Public Participation

Peter Banks, secretary of the Beacon Hill Society, informed the MSP of a problem at Beacon Hill, private land owned by the Woodland Trust. Young motorcyclists frequent the woods causing a nuisance in the area. They are young lads entertaining themselves at Beacon Hill, because they have no alternative facilities for pursuing activities. Inspector Jon Stratford suggested that he would give details to the local Beat Manager to address the problem and try to find an alternative venue, rather than tackling it from the law enforcement position. Peter Banks requested whether the MSP could look at suitable alternative facilities.

During the discussion which followed Members of the MSP felt that maybe the MSP could look at this issue in the future and discuss it within agreed priorities. Alternative venues were discussed – western Zoyland airfield or Bath & West or other Showgrounds, but a scramble track would require a 2 mile radius for noise and would need to be within motorcycle pushing distance of Shepton Mallet.

3. Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting 28 September 2004 were accepted as a correct record.

It was noted that the Voluntary Sector meeting has been put back to 17 December 2004.

4. Violent Crime

Inspector Jon Stratford from the Avon and Somerset Constabulary presented a briefing on violent crime. There has been a 30% increase in violent crime but some of this may be due to improved recording. There is a known causal link between the supply of alcohol and violence, including domestic violence. Late night pubs and clubs are the main driver. The change in the licensing laws is a wonderful opportunity to effect some changes. A video was shown to demonstrate the difference between the ordinary daytime street scenes across this area and the violence at night, where every Friday and Saturday night in every town there are some assaults.

Strategies to counteract this problem include good dispersal policies, a bottle ban, better CCTV and Pubwatch. The response must focus on the supply of alcohol with a “polluter pays” approach. Licensees need to be partners or stakeholders in this and be made more responsible for what happens outside their premises. Risk premises will be identified and their licensing hours reduced while the supply of alcohol to people who become violent, those on the ‘register of risk persons’, will be controlled.

During the discussion that followed Inspector Jon Stratford confirmed that some of the people who become violent are underage but that they are mainly young adults. He also confirmed that minor sanctions exist but that the Police aim to develop more and work on gathering hard sharp evidence.

5. Action Planning – Identifying priorities

The Task Group met on 16 November to discuss priorities for the MSP. The Government required community strategies with action plans against which progress can be measured. The priorities suggested for action as appropriate areas for the MSP to focus on and add value to as a partnership, in the short term are:

- Investing in Children and Young people
- Diversifying the Rural Economy
- Strengthening the Voluntary and Community Sector
- Tackling Climate Change locally
- Affordable, Decent Housing

During the discussion that followed the priority regarding housing was clarified as being housing for all including key workers. There are similarities to link these priorities with the Somerset Strategic Partnership Vision and Community strategy. There is a strong intention to link with and support all partners, including local parishes with Parish Plans.

The MSP agreed to the recommendations of the Task Group. Agreed priorities will be taken back to Partnership organisations to ensure that they are incorporated into budget setting and business planning cycles. A workshop in the New Year will be planned within a week or two as a first step towards developing the priorities into actions.

6. MSP Funding Programme 2004/05

The Budget and Finance Sub Group reported that there is still some £20,000 to commit during 2004/05. Roger Kershaw of Somerset County Council reported that other partnerships have already committed their funds.

During the discussion that followed the following suggestions were raised for spending the rest of the funds:

- County wide issues consistent with other Local Strategic Plans
- To kick-start community initiatives
- Set money with the agreed priorities
- Resource MSP workshops perhaps employing someone to run the workshops
- Access issues or activities for young people, perhaps young teens

The creation of a list of funding opportunities from all sources was discussed in order for the MSP to offer funding for areas that were not covered elsewhere. There was some reluctance regarding the funding of smaller, non-strategic projects with reassurance that, in the current tranche of grants, overall relatively little money has been allocated to such projects. Applications from closed clubs were rejected to ensure access and community use.

The proposed expenditure of up to £12000 for the additional funding programme put forward by the BFSG from its meeting on 2 November for village and parish projects was agreed. The BFSG will meet again and discuss committing the remaining funds.

7. Shepton 21

Zena Pollard reported regarding the application by Tesco for redevelopment on the town centre site, including work on Shepton Mallet High Street. The plans incorporate 90,000 square feet of shopping involving major stores. This was a major opportunity for Shepton Mallet to regenerate the centre and the only likely investment available, so it is important to consider it carefully.

Stoke St Michael and Doultling Parish Plans are nearly completed.

8. Glastonbury Single Regeneration Board

The Chairman Ron Ballantine reported on the Glastonbury SRB project which is coming to an end in December 2005 and on how the projects will be carried forward. The regeneration projects initiated could be continued but ongoing funds will need to be found. The aim should be for a regeneration plan for Glastonbury town with opportunities for links with the Morlands site and Street.

The exit strategy is important as is the end of project report. There is evidence that this type of project will not continue across the County and perhaps the MSP should give positive support. There will be briefing papers and a presentation on the project in due course, so that links between the Glastonbury SRB project and the MSP can be maintained.

9. Voluntary Sector Conference

A reminder was given of the new date of the Conference, now on 17 December. Although 500 invitations have been sent to the community and voluntary sector the response has been poor and the conference may not be viable. Concern was expressed about balloting for Voluntary Sector representatives from a small pool of people. Nominations have to be in by Friday as prior notice is required of those willing to stand.

It was noted that Somerset has above the average number of volunteers but does not appear to have the necessary infrastructure to engage with them. Many volunteers in organisations work as well, hence a weekday for the conference is difficult for some attendees. The conference may be postponed to the New Year.

10. Budget Report

Members noted the report.

There will be more expenditure required on the website. It was clarified that individual's e-mail addresses on the website will only be published for those Members who are prepared for their details to be made public.

11. Dates of future meetings

The workshop is planned for early February, provisionally Tuesday 8 February 2005.

MSP meetings for 2005 were set as 1 March, 7 June, 6 September and 29 November.

12. Any Other Business

Broadband

The SSP had led discussions with BT regarding the introduction of Broadband across Somerset. Awareness of the potential of Broadband for small businesses needs raising, involving key discussions with BT. Most Local Strategic Partnerships have already supported this. The 2004/05 bid from the MSP grant funding was for £20,000 with repeat bids for the next 2 years, giving rise to a commitment for 1 to 3 years. No Members of the MSP were against financial support in principle.

The meeting closed at approximately 4.50 pm.

The Mendip Strategic Partnership

Agenda Item: 5

FROM: Andy Hall, Asset Manager, Somerset County Council Date: 1st March 2005

SUBJECT: **Opportunities for Collaboration over the Use and Provision of Property**

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report explains work that the County Council is doing to determine future property needs for delivering services and how a joint approach to property use and provision can benefit partners.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Mendip Strategic Partnership members are asked to collaborate with the County Council over a county-wide property strategy which maximises opportunities for joint service provision.

3. SCC CORPORATE ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

- 3.1 Somerset County Council have started production of a corporate property AMP. Its objectives are to: -
- Review and challenge property requirements over the next 10 years
 - Determine property which meets future needs, drawing on the aspirations of different services and partners. Creative, cross service solutions will be sought, and where possible an area-based approach will be used.
 - Provide goals for reducing property stock, and occupancy costs including maintenance
- 3.2 For this area of the county, the partners who could benefit from in this process are those represented in this partnership. The County Council is keen to use opportunities to share resources where practicable and so jointly improve access, reduce occupancy costs and improve services. Specifically, in rural areas, the Council wishes to develop partnering arrangements and innovations in the use of one-stop shops and joint service

ventures including working with health partners. The impacts of changing demographic patterns and in particular the long-term issues of caring for a growing and ageing population will be addressed. The Council also wishes to link economic development, housing and joint service ventures as part of this AMP.

3.3 Collaborative work on this AMP should contribute to a number of the aims of the Community Strategy for Mendip, for example: -

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Environment | - implement measures to respond to climate change pressures |
| A place to live | - to ensure the residents of Mendip have access to advice, care and support to enable them to live independently and safely. |
| A job to do | - to exploit opportunities for live/work employment, based on home working. |
| Ways to learn | - provide broad access to high quality learning opportunities, through a coherent system of provision that meets the needs of the whole Mendip community. |
| Getting around | - to promote accessibility to everyday facilities for all, especially those without a car. |
| Sense of community | -to improve access to information, advice, services, goods and activities to reduce social isolation.

- to encourage a strong community leadership role by public agencies to support community capacity building. |

3.4 Somerset County Council's Property Services presently work with District Councils to a certain extent, for example over joint service provision in single premises and town centre regeneration projects. We wish to explore further opportunities for collaboration with LSP partners in order to deliver mutual objectives. Further information about the AMP project, which will be completed in 2006, can be made available.

Contact Details

achall@somerset.gov.uk or (01823) 355220

Mendip Strategic Partnership

Agenda Item:6

From: Simon Eames
Mendip District Council

Date: 1st March 2005

Subject: Statement Of Community Involvement in Planning

BACKGROUND

The Mendip Local Development Framework (LDF) will be a key mechanism for delivering the Mendip Community Strategy through planning decisions. The effective involvement of the MSP in developing the LDF is therefore crucial.

The MSP Board of 13th July 2004 resolved to support a draft work programme for preparing the new Local Development Documents that will make up the LDF. This programme included the choice of Priority Documents for production over the next three years. The new Development Plans System came into force on 28th September 2004. Mendip District Council submitted its work programme to the Secretary of State immediately after the system came into force.

At the time of writing this report the Secretary of State has still to allow the Council to bring the programme into effect. As soon as the programme is brought into effect, it will be published on the Council's web-site.

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

One of the first documents to be prepared in accordance with the work programme is the "Statement of Community Involvement" (SCI). The SCI will not set planning policy, rather it will set out:

- how the Council will involve the community in preparing Local Development Documents; and
- the standards to be met in consulting the community on major planning applications.

The Council will prepare a first draft of the Statement of Community Involvement between March and May. However the views of the MSP Board on how it would like the MSP to be involved in the preparation of Local Development Documents would be appreciated at this early stage, so these views can be taken into account in developing the draft SCI. A refined draft of the Statement of Community Involvement will be distributed to MSP Board Members mid August for comment by the end of September. A report can be brought to the MSP Board of 6th September to help facilitate the Board's consideration of the draft SCI.

It is important to note that the Statement of Community Involvement will also set out how the constituent organisations that make up the MSP Board will have the opportunity to be directly involved in the preparation of Local Development Documents. For example, the

Local Education Authority will be consulted for advice on the requirements for new or expanded schools (taking account of, and looking beyond, the School Organisation Plan) and for advice on the implications of potential housing developments upon the capacity of existing and proposed education provision. Town and Parish Councils, for example, will be invited to participate directly at key stages in the process.

A representative of the MSP Board, Richard Dixon, contributed to the work of a Member Working Group in developing the LDF work programme. This “start and finish” Working Group has completed its work. The direct involvement of a representative of the MSP Board proved to be a worthwhile step in helping to ensure that the LDF work programme provides for the linkages to be made to the community planning process. On the basis of this experience, Councillor Elizabeth John would like to extend an invitation to the MSP Board to nominate a Board Member to join an LDF Advisory Group to assist her in developing the LDF itself. The LDF Advisory Group has no decision making powers, rather its purpose is to help inform the Portfolio Member’s recommendations to the Cabinet and Full Council.

To assist the Board in considering how it might like to be involved in the preparation of Local Development Documents, the process for producing “Development Plan Documents” is shown as Figure 1. “Development Plan Documents” are the formal documents that have the greatest bearing on future planning decisions. Table 1 below gives examples of how the Board could be involved at each of the three consultation stages shown in Figure 1.

Key Stage (see Figure 1 on page 3)	Suggested MSP Board Involvement
Early Stakeholder & Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participation through workshops • direct representation on the LDF Advisory Group
Consultation on Preferred Options Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comments on consultation material • direct representation on the LDF Advisory Group
Consultation on Submission Development Plan Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • formal representations on Submission DPD • direct representation on the LDF Advisory Group

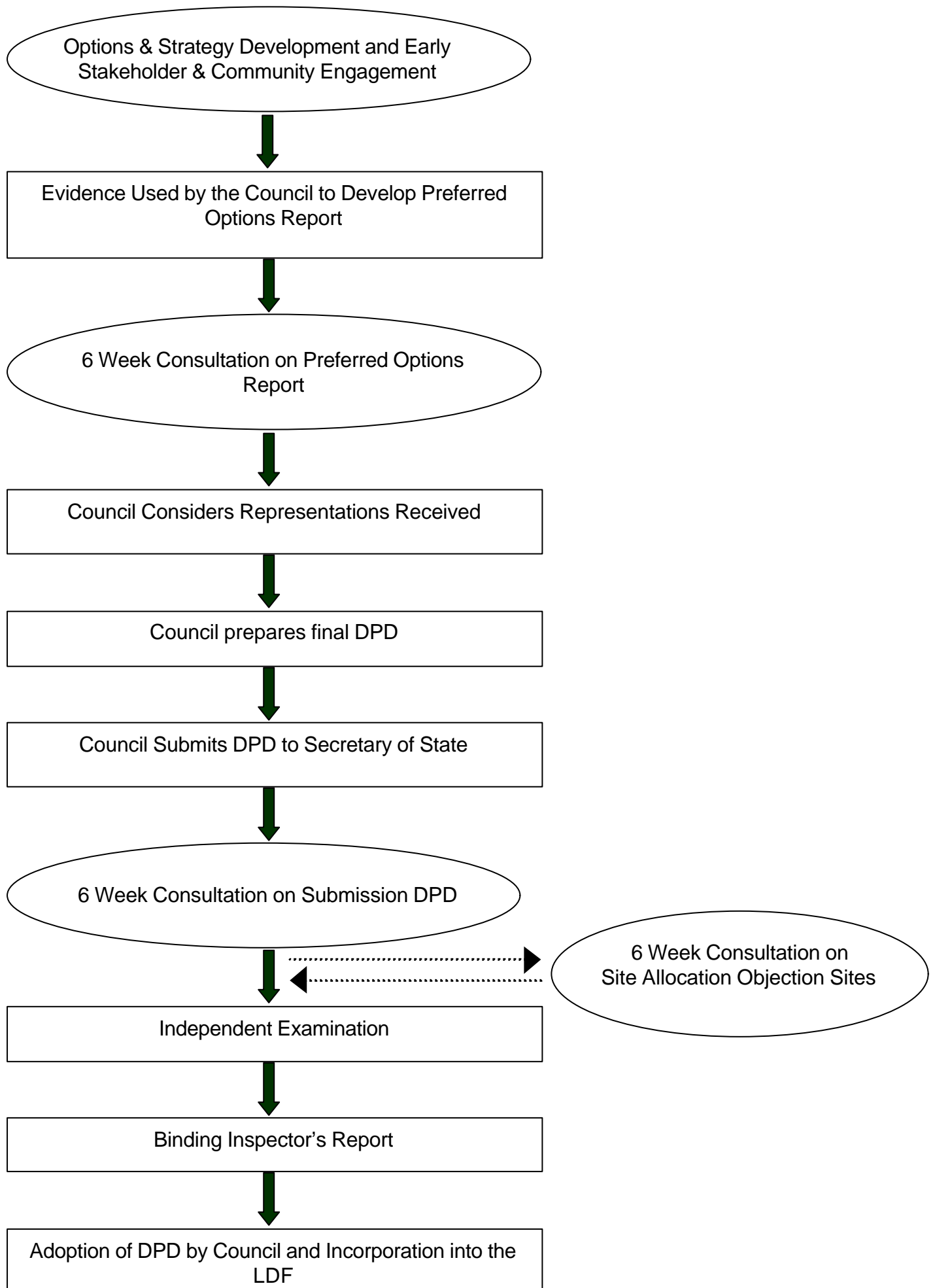
RECOMMENDATION

The Mendip Strategic Partnership Board is recommended to:

- 1. nominate a Board Member to represent the MSP on the Mendip Local Development Framework Advisory Group**
- 2. consider how it wishes to be involved during the production of Local Development Documents**

Contact Officer: Simon Eames
 Telephone No: (01749) 341314

Figure 1 Development Plan Document (DPD) Preparation Process



The Mendip Strategic Partnership

Agenda Item: 7

FROM: Community Planning and Consultation Officer Date: 1st March 2005

SUBJECT: **MSP Priorities – Workshop Outcomes and Next Steps**

1. SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION

1.1 At its last Board meeting the MSP agreed five priority areas to concentrate on for the next four years:

- Investing in Children and Young People
- Regenerating the Rural Economy
- Strengthening the Voluntary and Community Sector
- Tackling Climate Change locally
- Affordable, Decent Housing for all

1.2 MSP Board members, MSP Task Group members and a number of other colleagues were invited to a workshop which was held on 8th February. The workshop had the objectives of identifying:

- what the critical issues are for each of the five MSP agreed priorities for the next 3-4 years;
- achievable, yet truly strategic, multi-agency actions for each priority;
- any partners, bodies and organisations not currently directly involved with the MSP that we need to link with and work with to achieve these actions.

2. THE WORKSHOP

2.1 The workshop was well attended and stimulated some good discussions. Overall, feedback from the event has been positive but there is a recognition that only so much can be achieved in one morning. A number of critical issues were identified for each priority and some clear strategic actions have emerged but further work is needed in some cases to identify strategic actions and engage with the partners that can help deliver them.

2.2 Set out in the tables appended to this report are the key issues and actions that were identified for each priority. Something that has become apparent is that each priority is starting from a different point. For example, a group already exists, and can hopefully be expanded, to take forward the “Decent Affordable Housing for All” priority and Mendip Community Support is working to address many of the issues identified under “Strengthening the Voluntary and Community Sector”. Whilst both of these priorities will need additional focus and input, they have a clear starting point.

2.3 The other three priorities are likely to need some further investigation and negotiation to take them forward, for example around the following:

- turning issues into strategic actions;
- feasibility of setting up groups to take forward identified priorities and issues, where none already exists;
- linking with and building on existing groups, where they do exist;
- determining the current situation – where we are now, what research is needed;
- how to draw in other partners;
- Partners’ levels of involvement in the priorities e.g. who will lead, deliver, advise and co-ordinate

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The MSP Board is asked to note the information arising from the workshop on 8th February and agree a way forward for progressing each of the priorities.

Contact Officer: Sara Skirton 01749 341340
skirtons@mendip.gov.uk

MSP Workshop 8th February 2005 – Issues and Potential Actions for each Priority

Affordable, Decent Housing for All

The table below sets out a number of strategic actions for this priority which were identified via the MSP workshop on 8th February. The intention is to begin to address Action 1 by expanding Mendip District Council's existing Corporate Housing Team into a multi agency sub group of the MSP Board. This will be the group that will develop and implement the strategic actions for this priority. Issues of social support, which may not be explicit in the list of actions below, will also be explored by this group and through Mendip District Council's Decent Homes Strategy.

	Strategic Actions	Potential Partners
1	Investigate the opportunities created by working together in partnership (e.g. Local Area Agreements and Local Public Service Agreements)	Mendip District Council Somerset County Council Primary Care Trust Police Voluntary Agencies Registered Social Landlords Town and Parish Councils Private sector landlords Countryside Agency
2	Develop a sound understanding of the housing markets and housing needs and develop monitoring systems	Mendip District Council, Somerset County Council, Mendip Primary Care Trust Town and Parish Councils Registered Social Landlords Voluntary Agencies Business
3	Articulate Mendip's interests at County and Regional level (Regional Housing Strategy, Regional Economic Strategy and Regional Spatial Strategy)	Mendip District Council Somerset County Council MSP Board
4	Investigate the full range opportunities to secure resources to deliver sufficient affordable housing in Mendip	Mendip District Council with potential partners identified for Action 1.
5	Engage with young and elderly people in the planning and housing processes.	Mendip District Council, Children's planning group, Somerset Children's Fund, Local Education Authority, ODPM
6	Facilitate the delivery of sustainable homes in terms of their construction and design	Centre for Sustainable Energy Somerset County Council Mendip District Council Somerset Trust for Sustainable Development
7	Raise local people's awareness of the need for adequate numbers of homes to be accommodated in the district	District Councils, Somerset County Council Parish and Town Councils, Local Fora

Regenerating the Rural Economy

The main issues identified for regenerating the rural economy were:

- the need to look at urban and village economies holistically as they depend on each other
- Diversification for land use – how can it be achieved
- Local facilities and flexible working
- Creating and encouraging local quality produce (not just food produce)
- The current fragmented approach to tourism
- Ensuring planning policies that support business development in rural areas

It was acknowledged that further discussion is needed with partners before the feasibility of the potential actions for this priority can be determined.

Potential Strategic Actions	Potential Partners
Develop a proactive business advice service on issues around diversification	Mendip District Council, Mendip Association of Chambers of Commerce
Explore with neighbouring LSPs if there is potential for collaborative working on economic issues	Mendip District Council, Somerset County Council
Explore the potential for more flexible working to reduce commuter travel and provide greater opportunities for using village facilities	Mendip Association of Chambers of Commerce, Mendip District Council, Somerset County Council, Federation of Small Businesses, All employers in Mendip
Engage with private businesses – Improve dialogue between MSP and businesses	Mendip District Council, Mendip Economy Forum
Test feasibility of a pilot project to market, brand and endorse the quality of local produce	Mendip Association of Chambers of Commerce, Mendip District Council
Draw connections, market, support and develop sustainable tourism	Mendip District Council, Sustrans, South West Regional Development Agency, SW Tourism
Develop a business supportive culture within key agencies	Mendip District Council, GOSW, Somerset County Council

Investing in Children and Young People

The table below sets out the key issues identified by those taking part in the workshop sessions on this priority and includes potential actions and other partners who need to be drawn in who were not present at the workshop.

Issues	Strategic Actions	Other partners not at workshop
CHILDRENS SERVICES		
Children's Services - what is planned?	Create a Young Peoples Services Forum	Connexions
Children's Services Main organisations forming this service are involved with YP when there is a problem	Children's services need voluntary sector input LSP needs Children's Service input	
Children's Services Continual restructuring How does it all link up Develop single strategy Rural Isolation Rural Services No county wide service for young people 5 to 13	Develop a strategy group for services to young people in Mendip Identify a link person for key strategy areas who will act as link person	
PROFESSIONAL ISSUES		
Partnership working work together only at times of crisis. Preventative work v targeted work		
Lack of room/time/ support for innovative work Prevention v problem young people issues Who are the disadvantaged?		
ACTIVE YOUNG PEOPLE		
Enabling Young People to become more active in their communities	Develop multi agency training SYP to run a young peoples 'Fayre' letting people know what is going on	Schools
Community cohesion Young people in rural areas	After school clubs particularly in rural areas Develop a young peoples web site with opportunities for activities, volunteering	
	Develop a card which could access young people to transport and services. Distribute (owned) by Parish Councils We need policy and philosophy for work with 5	

Issues	Strategic Actions	Other partners not at workshop
	to 13 year olds	
SOCIAL ISSUES		
Tackle social exclusion Informal education services 16+ not through colleges Better access to services (Mental Health) Health and well being	Bring education organizations together address problem of college 'drop outs'	Social Services
demonizing young people Young people only engage with authority figures on their terms and when there is a problem.		
Involve young people in planning and evaluation	Identify criteria for 'disadvantage'	
		Children's services
OTHER ISSUES		
	Need feed back to LSP about Somerset LSP and sub groups and other groups e.g. Crime and Disorder Partnership SLP to review commercial strategic policies to encourage community investment	We may need to set up a number of working groups with wider membership to advise and support the LSP
	Need a communication strategy	
	Children's Fund to make a presentation at next LSP on the underlying philosophy of their projects.	
		Connexions
Key Summary Issues		
Children's Services Who What when	Voluntary sector input?	
	Need conference to inform. Data base who does what.	
	Coordination of agency work,	
Rural isolation	Need alternative to urban model we currently use	
Lack of Community Cohesion	Develop Community Development strategies	
	Involve young people	

Issues	Strategic Actions	Other partners not at workshop
Needs of 5 to 13 year olds is currently no uniform response		
	Young Peoples service card	

Strengthening the Voluntary and Community Sector

The key issues identified from the workshop included:

- Funding – consistent, long term
- Resources – people, need to backfill funding to release key people for strategic work – size of group
- Career opportunities – training, support
- Communication – maximising joint strengths
- Build on voluntary agencies' ability to respond
- How to engage small groups using skills, expertise available in the community and private sector
- Recognise diverse nature of vol. sector and build on it rather than change it and its value
- Legal and management issues for setting up voluntary and community groups e.g. employment law, bureaucratic issues
- Lack of publicity for volunteering opportunities
- Access to groups
- Relationship between paid and voluntary staff (particularly in statutory agencies)
- Recognition of voluntary role by Statutory Authority

Strategic Actions	Potential Partners
Simplify the funding application process by developing the local compact, including how to access longer term, consistent funding	Mendip Community Support National volunteer organisations including Citizens Advice Bureau, Age Concern, Barnardos
Strengthen the support network for voluntary groups	
Strengthen the Voluntary and Community Sector involvement in the Somerset Strategic Partnership	Mendip District Council, Mendip Primary Care Trust, Somerset Youth Volunteering Network, Somerset County Adults Team
Market the voluntary agencies and their strengths to statutory agencies and generally – build up faith and trust	
Attract specialist skills and expertise from the private sector	

Tackling Climate Change Locally

The key issues identified in relation to this priority were:

- Species and habitats / Biodiversity
- Landscape
- Economic impact of climate change
- Type of fuel used domestically – education and awareness of energy use in the home
- Transport - emissions
- Food links – logistics, supermarkets
- Industry
- Agriculture
- Methane
- Weather – rainfall patterns, more frequent extreme weather events
- Sea level
- Relevance to local people – how climate change is viewed, education around the issues
- Recycling – economics, reduce, re-use
- Scientific uncertainties
- Long timescale

The table below lists the potential actions and partners that could help deliver them as identified at the workshop. Further work is needed to clarify which of these actions are key strategic actions that the MSP can take forward.

Potential Actions	Potential Partners
Identifying and measuring economic, social and environmental impacts to obtain better info/data on climate change effect on Mendip	
Identify and co-ordinate funding	
Awareness raising	
LPS offer support to Parish Councils for wildlife and habitats	
Individual in their own home	
Potential for social enterprise	
Holistic approach –Mapping key players	
Support for landscape scale conservation – Parrett Catchment Project	
Mainstreaming of local production - LSP partners purchasing	
New build std (?) – lifecycle assessment	Somerset Trust for Sustainable Development
Making the solutions easy – fit in with Lifestyles, relevant and attractive	
Strategic multi-agency approach	
What other groups are doing? Information sharing	

Potential Actions	Potential Partners
Education – e.g. nappies	
SME recycling, small business recycling service. Environmental help for businesses	
recycling – lead by example	Primary Care Trust, Mendip Housing Limited, Mendip District Council
Advice for business e.g. waste service	
'carrots' for people and businesses	
Research – monitoring sea level, flood relief schemes, water management, causes of flooding, Parrett Catchment Project	Environment Agency
	Wessex Water
Domestic water management	Water companies, drainage board
Energy efficiency – SCC own buildings	
Behaviour – software (?) Potential for partnership working on energy. Schools, climate change strategy, sustainable energy strategy	
Mendip Biodiversity Action plan – Partnership, woodland strategy	
Business – incentives – Green Apple award	
Partnership working on energy efficiency and economic development	

The Mendip Strategic Partnership

Agenda Item: 8

FROM: Budget and Finance Sub Group Date: 1st March 2005

SUBJECT: **MSP Funding Programme 2004/05**

1. SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION

1.1 At the Board meeting on 30th November 2004 the MSP agreed a programme of funding for village and parish projects that brought the total committed to £ 80,860

1.2 The Board noted that further information had been requested with regard to one of the projects and that a number of additional, unsolicited requests had been received since the closing date. There had also been a request to reconsider the application for funding for the Somerset Broadband Project, in the light of the strategic nature of this project.

1.3 It was agreed that the Budget and Finance Sub Group (BFSG) should meet in early 2005 to consider how best to allocate the remaining £40,000 (approx) which was available for the MSP to commit in the financial year 2004/05.

2. BUDGET AND FINANCE SUB GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The BFSG met on 10th January 2005 and agreed to recommend the following:

- In the interests of fairness, new applications, received after the closing date of 31st August 2004, would not be considered for funding in 2004/05.
- That an award of £20,000 be made to the Somerset Broadband Project, subject to MSP involvement in the project to ensure value for money for Mendip communities, with particular reference to strengthening the voluntary and community sector
- That an award of £5,000 be offered to Meare and Westhay Parish Council for their project to provide a children's play area, conditional on the project receiving the required match funding
- That the remaining £15,000 would be allocated to researching the MSP's identified priorities, by reference to gap analysis work and community needs.

3. MONIES CLAIMED TO DATE

3.1 All applicants who have been offered an award in 2004 were notified that that the offer was valid in the first instance until 28th February and that if no contact had been made by that date, the MSP had the right to withdraw that offer.

The MSP Board has been advised by Somerset County Council that the funds need to be committed, but not necessarily spent, by 31st March 2005.

3.2 The attached table shows the status of each of the awards made, in terms of whether the money has been claimed to date. At the time of writing £48,460 has been claimed. All non-claimants to date have been contacted and responses have been received from all but one.

4. SECOND HOMES MONIES FOR 2005/06

4.1 The BFSG has not yet been informed of whether the MSP will be allocated second homes monies for 2005/06 and if so, what the amount is likely to be.

4.2 The process of allocating funds in 2004/05 has been fairly resource-intensive and there has been some discussion around supporting strategic projects versus small scale projects. As the MSP Board now has five clear shorter term priorities, Board members may consider it appropriate to direct any future funds primarily towards addressing these priorities.

5. RECOMMENDATION

The MSP Board is asked to:

- agree the additional funding proposals put forward by the BFSG at 2 above
- note the attached table detailing all the projects awarded funding, or recommended to be awarded funding) for 2004/05
- consider how it might wish to use any second homes monies allocated to it in 2005/06.

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MSP Funding Programme 2004/05
Details of Project Funds Claimed / Not Claimed as at 21 February 2005

Organisation	Project	MSP Board Award	Amount claimed
Stoke St Michael Community Playing Field	To install playing equipment and safety	1,000	1,000
Somerset Child-Safe Partnership	To provide child protection advice to those involved in children and young peoples' sport and group activities	1,500	1,500
Whitstone School and NCH	To continue to employ through NCH a Counsellor for school students (11-16)	2,000	2,000
Life Education Centres (Somerset)	To extend availability of Life Education Centres to schools in Mendip	2,000	2,000
Trudoxhill Village Hall	Refurbishment and disabled facilities	2,000	2,000
Mid Somerset CAB	County Court Project to tackle homelessness and debt	3,000	3,000
Victim Support Somerset	To instigate and improve the quality of Victim Support's volunteer infrastructure	3,000	3,000
Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)	Mendip Bat and Dormouse Project Phase 1	4,000	4,000
Centre for Sustainable Energy - Warming Mendip project	Warming Mendip project	5,000	5,000
Inaura the Inclusion Charity	To develop a full Social Inclusion Network	5,000	5,000
Mendip Community Support	For a Volunteer Recruitment Agency for Mendip	9,960	9,960
Somerset County Council	To develop the Somerset Strategic Partnership Vision	10,000	10,000
	Total claimed:	48,460	

Projects awarded funds but not yet claimed as at 21 February 2005

Organisation	Project	MSP Award	Notes	Status
Mendip Primary Care Trust	To address unmet health, social and welfare needs in rural communities	3,000	request to send money in new financial year	checked with BFSG 1.10.05
Mendip Care and Repair	To recycle stair lifts and make them available to those on low incomes (part of lottery bid)	1,000	request to hold money over to new financial year	check acceptable to MSP 1.3.05
Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)	Mendip Farm Plastic Recycling Project	5,000	Email stating may need to revise project	email if not heard by 26.2.04
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	To provide two Police Community Support Officers for Frome	10,000	sent revised agreement Dec 04 Contacted 11.2.05 and told invoice imminent	Awaiting invoice
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	To provide a Police Community Support Officer for Glastonbury	5,000	As above	As above
Batcombe Parish Council	Improvements to Playing Field and Play Area	2,000	email re revised scope rec 8.1.05 letter sent 11.1.05 confirming no change to offer.	Contact 26.02 if not heard
Wanstrow Village Hall	Pump prime larger project to extend existing hall and improve facilities	2,000	Letter sent 11.2.05	Response awaited
Somerset Biodiversity Steering Group / SERC	To review Biodiversity management within Mendip	4,400	Contacted 21.2.05 to say invoice imminent	Awaiting invoice
Meare and Westhay Parish Council	Pre teen children's play area	5,000	Awaiting ratification by MSP Board 1.3.05	send agreement etc after ratification by MSP Board 1.3.05
Somerset County Council	Somerset Broadband Project	20,000	Awaiting ratification by MSP Board 1.3.05	send agreement etc after ratification by MSP Board
MSP	To research identified priorities and community needs	15,000		
	Total to be claimed	72,400		
	Total committed	120,860		