

Links are in red

From: "Newsham, Pamela" <Pam.Newsham@mendip.gov.uk>
To: "Mendip LSP"

Sent: 04 March 2009 15:59
Attach: Agenda 10 03 09.doc; 11 MSP Funding.doc; 3 MSP Minutes 09 12 08.doc; 6 Migrant workers report.doc; 7 MSP and SCS Development.doc; 10 Monitoring five Priority Action Plans.doc; 10E Tackling Climate Change Locally Progress Update.doc; 10A Affordable Decent Housing Progress Update.doc; 10B Investing in Children Young People progress update 09.doc; 10C Regenerating the Mendip Economy Progress Update.doc; 10D Strengthening the VC Sector Progress Update.doc
Subject: Mendip Strategic Partnership Board Meeting - Tuesday 10th March

I attach an agenda and supporting documents for the MSP Board Meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, 10th March at 2.30pm in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council.

For ease of reference, the documents which you should find attached are as follows:-

Agenda

Agenda Item 3: Draft Minutes of the previous meeting
Agenda Item 6: Proposal to create a migrant workers' forum
Agenda Item 7: MSP and Sustainable Community Strategy Development
Agenda Item 10: Monitoring the five priorities' action plans plus the following appendices
10a: Affordable, decent housing for all
10b: Investing in children and young people
10c: Regenerating the Mendip economy
10d: Strengthening the voluntary and community sector
10e: Tackling climate change locally
Agenda Item 11: MSP funding programmes 2007/08 to 2009/10
(Individual end-of-financial-year reports have not been circulated with this agenda due simply to the amount of paper involved,
but I would be more than happy to provide copies upon request)

Whilst writing, can I remind you that parking at the Cannards Grave site is extremely limited. There are a few long-stay visitors' parking spaces available on a 'first come, first served' basis but parking anywhere other than in designated visitor bays could leave you liable to a £60 fine. Ample parking is available in the Commercial Road public pay-and-display car park which is about 5 minutes' walk away from the offices and I can provide a location map on request.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you all next week.

With kind regards.

Pam Newsham

Policy Assistant
Mendip District Council,
Council Offices, Cannards Grave Road, Shepton Mallet,
Somerset, BA4 5BT

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Mendip Strategic Partnership
Board Meeting 10th March 2009
2.30pm in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council

Agenda

1. **Apologies**
2. **Public Participation**
3. **Minutes of the meeting of 9th December 2008**
4. **Chairman's update** Verbal report from the Chair on recent events and meetings attended
5. **The impact of the economic downturn on local communities** Discussion led by Zena Pollard
6. **Proposal to Create a Migrant Workers' Forum** Report from Tracy Aarons, Mendip District Council
7. **MSP and Sustainable Community Strategy Development** Report for consideration, and to update
8. **Comprehensive Area Assessment** Briefing by Jan Stafford, Planning and Performance Group, Somerset County Council
9. **LAA Update** Verbal update by Jan Stafford
10. **Monitoring the Five Priorities Action Plans** To receive progress reports for priority action plans
11. **MSP Funding Programmes 2007/08 to 2009/10** Update
12. **Mendip District Council Community Partnerships** Update / feedback on MDC community partnerships
13. **Local Community Planning** Verbal updates for information on Shepton 21 and Vision for Frome
14. **Any Other Business**
15. **Dates of Meetings for 2009**
12 May 2009; 15 September 2009; 8 December 2009

All to commence at 2.30pm in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council.



Mendip Strategic Partnership

Minutes of the meeting of the Mendip Strategic Partnership held at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 9 December 2008 in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council.

PRESENT: Ian Bennett
Robin Bradbury
Maggy Daniell
Richard Dixon
Andrew Freeman
Michelle Hawkes
Henry Hobhouse
Sonia Pike
Zena Pollard
Tony Shepherd
Tony Shire
Harvey Siggs
Linda Tucker
Stan Wilson
Strode College
Somerset Association of Local Councils
East Mendip Community Partnership
Vice Chair
Somerset County Council
Somerset Primary Care Trust
Somerset County Council
Mendip CAB
Mendip Business Exchange
Mendip Community Support
Somerset County Council
Mendip District Council
Natural England
Mendip District Council

MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICERS PRESENT:

Simon Eames
Jo Milling
Pam Newsham
Sara Skirton
Team Leader – Planning Policy
Acting Team Leader – Community
Planning and Consultation
Policy Assistant
Acting Service Manager – Corporate
Support, Strategy and Research

Agenda Item Number	Details	Actioned by
1	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from Trevor Ashford, Penny Baker, Ron Ballantine, Stuart Brown, Alan Brunt, Chris Frost, Sarah Guscott, Lynne Hughes, Roger Kershaw, Jo Stevenson, Nikki Watson and Julie Yates.</p>	PN/LW
2	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Mrs Jacqueline Peverley spoke on the importance of the provision of community buildings in parallel with the development of new housing. A full transcript of Mrs Peverley's comments will be circulated with these minutes.</p> <p>Cllr Roy Mackenzie drew the Board's attention to proposals for the development of mental health services in Mendip and a consultation which is being carried out by the Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. In particular, he requested that a conscious effort is made to obtain the views of the community whose voices might not otherwise be heard.</p> <p>Further information on the consultation, together with details on how to respond, can be found by following this link.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of the Meeting on 16 September 2008</p> <p>The minutes were taken as a true record of proceedings. There were no matters arising which would not be dealt with elsewhere in the meeting.</p>	
4	<p>Avalon Marshes Visitor Destination Project</p> <p>Stephen Davis from Natural England gave a presentation outlining the Visitor Destination project. This is being developed with a range of partners at the former Willows Café on the peat moor site which is at the centre of the wetlands and Somerset Levels and Moors.</p> <p>Consultants have been appointed to advise on a variety of development options and their report is expected in March 2009. This will be followed by a period of public consultation and final implementation taking place between 2010-2012.</p> <p>The Chair invited Natural England to return to a later Board Meeting to</p>	

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	<p>update the Board on future developments as the project proceeds.</p> <p>A copy of the presentation will be circulated with these minutes.</p>	<p>PN/LW</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Chair's Update</p> <p>17th September attended Mendip Community Support AGM. Very good and positive reports from office holders and a number of trustees</p> <p>22nd September attended launch of new "Falls DVD" made locally for the PCT to provide information and support to those, mostly elderly, who can suffer falls for various reasons. Important to Somerset population</p> <p>6th October attended LAA Stronger & Healthier sub-group. Received updates on the delivery plans for achieving the new LAA targets under this heading and discussed the achievements of the Group towards the previous LAA</p> <p>8th October met with Dr Caroline Gamlin of the PCT, who is leading on the partnership working section of Pioneer Somerset, and is taking soundings from the LSP Chairs across Somerset</p> <p>14th October attended the opening of the new Frome Community Hospital on its new location on the showground site. Greatly improved in all aspects over the former Victorian building and with excellent additional diagnostic and assessment facilities</p> <p>24th October SSP Forum, mainly a round up sub-groups' achievements on the previous LAA targets and workshops on SSP effectiveness</p> <p>29th October Community Safety Partnership Executive meeting in Yeovil</p> <p>31st October chaired MSP Budget & Finance Sub-Group meeting</p> <p>4th November attended Somerset Strategic Partnership's Climate Change Conference. Light hearted introduction by</p>	

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	<p>Sir Ranulph Fiennes, followed by interesting insights from speakers from outside Somerset with implementation experience on environment issues, and some useful workshops</p> <p>18th November Met with Sara Skirton to discuss her well deserved change of role within the Council, and then with Jo Milling and Richard Dixon to discuss plans for continued support to the MSP</p> <p>Sara Skirton reported in more detail on the staff changes which had taken place in Corporate Support, Strategy and Research in relation to support for the MSP. The previous Service Manager, Sarah Guscott, has been seconded into an Improvement Lead role for a period of up to one year. Sara has therefore been seconded to the Service Manager role and Jo Milling has agreed to take on the team leader role for community planning and consultation and thus the lead officer role for the MSP. Lisa Weaver is a Modern Apprentice who is working alongside Pam Newsham in terms of a co-ordination role for the MSP.</p> <p>On behalf of the Board, the Chair extended his congratulations upon the promotions and his gratitude to MDC for its high level of support for the work of the MSP.</p>	
5	<p>Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy</p> <p>Anne Bulleid from Somerset County Council presented the draft Sustainable Community Strategy for Somerset. Although the document has the same title “Somerset – A Landscape for the Future”, it has been refreshed in the light of results of extensive consultation which has underpinned the work. This Sustainable Community Strategy sets out a long term vision for what Somerset will be like in 2026.</p> <p>Ian Bennett was interested to learn about the provision of university centres within Somerset. In addition to encouraging young people to come to study in Somerset or, indeed, return to the county after higher education, he wanted to emphasise the important role that employers can play in helping to improve the skills of their employees</p> <p>Discussion followed on the launch of Into Somerset Ltd, an inward investment company. This is a collaborative project between all five district/borough councils and the county council in Somerset as well as leading businesses and business support organisations such as Business Link and the Somerset Chamber of Commerce. Under</p>	

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	<p>guidance from the Economic Leaders' Group of the Somerset Strategic Partnership, proposals have been drawn up for the creation of an independent agency. The proposed agency would actively promote Somerset as a good location for key sector industries and having secured interest, would manage the enquiry through the various processes to bring it to fruition.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Anne for her presentation.</p> <p>A copy of Anne's presentation will be circulated with these minutes and a copy of the full document can be found on the Somerset Strategic Partnership website: http://www.somersetstrategicpartnership.org.uk/.</p>	<p>PN/LW</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Mendip District Council Corporate Plan</p> <p>In the absence of Sarah Guscott, Sara gave a verbal update on the Council's Corporate Plan. It has been underpinned by research carried out by Ipsos-MORI which provided statistically robust information about what the community thinks are important local services. It has also been informed by the LAA delivery targets as well as the Council's responsibility to support its communities.</p> <p>The new Corporate Plan has three goals:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable an environment where individuals and businesses can prosper; • Encourage and support communities and individuals to improve the quality of their life; • Enhance Mendip as a place to live. <p>Value for Money is no longer talked about as a separate priority but, instead, is understood to underpin everything the Council does. Wherever appropriate, the Council will seek to deliver services in partnership to ensure better outcomes for local people.</p> <p>It is hoped that the Corporate Plan will be approved by Full Council in February 2009 with publication before the end of this current financial year.</p>	

Agenda Item Number	Details	Actioned by
8	<p>The Mendip Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Development Framework Core Strategy</p> <p>Sara brought the Board up to date on the latest phase of the Time to Plan programme. The next step of the consultation is a joint exercise to inform the development of the Sustainable Community Strategy vision and objectives and also invites the public and stakeholders' views on issues and options for the Local Development Framework Core Strategy.</p> <p>The consultation period began on 4 December 2008 and runs until 29 January 2009.</p> <p>To support the consultation paper, a summary leaflet has been produced for each of the five towns and portraits of place have been produced for the district as a whole and for each town. These portraits bring together evidence and context to help identify the key issues for Mendip and to help support well-informed consultation.</p> <p>With regard to the Sustainable Community Strategy development, discussions will need to take place with partners to look at what specific action they need to take to address the priorities and achieve the emerging objectives, and how this will be resourced. The outcome of this process will be the Sustainable Community Strategy for Mendip.</p> <p>With regard to the Local Development Framework Core strategy, the views expressed through the consultation will assist the Council in refining the options suggested in the consultation paper and in identifying further options. These views will also assist the Council in appraising the alternative approaches in some detail. This appraisal is done through a process called "sustainability appraisal". This will help the council to identify its "preferred options" - the options which appear to offer the best means of addressing the issues people have raised. The Council will then consult again, this time on the preferred options, setting out the alternatives considered and the reasons for rejecting them. This "Preferred Options" consultation is expected to take place in autumn 2009. In the light of the views expressed at that stage, the Council will then decide whether it proceeds with those preferred options.</p> <p>Having developed the chosen options into detailed policies and proposals, the Council will need to invite representations on a draft Core Strategy and consider those representations before submitting the Core Strategy to the Secretary of State. He or she will then appoint a</p>	

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	<p>Planning Inspector to independently examine the final plan in early 2011.</p> <p>Councillor Wilson remarked that the consultation timescale is very tight and may prove difficult for residents in rural areas and for Parish Councils to make their views known. Simon reported that Parish Councils have been invited to a Parish Council forum dedicated to this consultation and there may be opportunity for a special meeting to be organised if necessary. He and Sara urged partners to notify their respective organisations about the consultation and encouraged them to feed in their comments, either in written form or on line.</p> <p>Tony Sheppard queried the existence of an executive summary which would be of help to community groups and wondered if any interested parties could attend the Parish forum meeting. Councillor Siggs could foresee no problem with opening up the Parish forum to a wider audience. Tony undertook to gauge interest among external community organisations to establish whether a small number would be interested in attending the parish forum or, indeed whether there might be sufficient interest to arrange a separate meeting.</p> <p>AGREED</p> <p>Board Members noted the report and will encourage their organisations, community groups they work with and other contacts to take part in the consultation, which will help shape the direction of the SCS and help inform the preparation of the Core Strategy.</p>	<p>TS</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>MSP Climate Change Action Plans</p> <p>The MSP's workshop on 8th July 2008 explored ways in which all MSP partners could contribute to action on climate change, both individually and collectively. The MSP has also part funded the Mendip Partnership for Energy, which is a 3 year project auditing energy use in buildings belonging to Mendip District Council, Somerset County Council (including fire stations), Primary Care Trust and Avon and Somerset Constabulary within Mendip District. The results of this project have informed the development of the Climate Change Action Plan. This sets out ways in which the adopted Climate Change Strategy can be put into practice.</p> <p>This project comes to an end in March 2009 and it is intended that a conference will be held to disseminate the results. All partners are</p>	

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	<p>encouraged to attend and Jo reported that MDC has recently made a commitment to reduce its energy usage by 10% in the next two years.</p> <p>AGREED</p> <p>The MSP adopted the Climate Change Action Plan. Board members will take the Action Plan back to their individual organisations and consider how they can best implement its recommendations in their own circumstances.</p>	
10	<p>Monitoring the Five Priorities Action Plans</p> <p>The Monitoring Group meeting scheduled for 25th November did not take place. Updates on progress on the five priority action plans have been received and have been circulated to the Board for information.</p>	
11	<p>MSP Funding 2008/09</p> <p>The Budget and Finance Sub Group (BFSG) of the MSP met on 31 October the notes of which had previously been circulated with the agenda. It recommended continuation funding totalling £26,348 relating to the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tackling climate change locally ○ Affordable decent housing ○ Strengthening the voluntary and community sector <p>It also recommended the sum of £3000 for support of a Somerset Biodiversity Officer, together with a maximum of £13,760 towards supporting an equalities and diversities project. A complete spending plan will be submitted to the SSP executive meeting to be held on 12 December.</p> <p>Since the Budget and Finance Sub Group meeting on 31 October, a proposal has been received to transfer unspent 2007/08 monies totalling £2,000 to support the Catherine Hill signage project in Frome. This was agreed.</p> <p>Zena Pollard was surprised to see that, despite repeated attempts by MDC, there had been no contact with the sponsors of the visual arts project and she agreed to take this up directly.</p>	<p>ZP</p>
12	<p>LAA Update</p> <p>In the absence of Roger Kershaw, Sara reported that she had attended a meeting last week at County Hall with LAA leads. Some of the delivery targets which had formed the LAA for Somerset were being revisited together with the base line data which informed them. Any</p>	

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	necessary revisions would be made in the New Year via GOSW.	
13	<p>Mendip District Council Community Partnerships</p> <p>Maggy Daniell updated the board on her recent attendance at East Mendip Community Partnership where discussion had taken place about the provision of affordable homes in the area.</p> <p>There were no Councillors present to speak about the activities of the West Mendip or Central Mendip Community Partnerships.</p>	
14	<p>Local Community Planning</p> <p>Zena Pollard reported that the CATEC report is now completely finished but the project cannot be commenced due to lack of funding. Shepton 21 continues to use its expertise in helping other community ventures in the town apply for funding for their own projects.</p> <p>With regard to vision for Frome, Maggy Daniell reported that she hopes the Community Strategic Plan will be adopted by Frome Town Council in January after which it will be brought to the MSP for adoption also.</p>	
15	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Sara reported that a workshop is to be held on the 12 December to launch a report on the needs and experiences of migrant workers within Mendip. This had followed an extensive period of research both qualitative and quantitative, carried out on behalf of the scrutiny committee. The full document will be made widely available after that date.</p> <p>Zena Pollard asked how the Sustainable Communities act might affect the MSP and MDC. Sara reported that a motion will come before Full Council on Monday 15th December that explores the potential for proposals, in consultation with other local authorities, partners, and community representative bodies. The act allows for Community groups to work with their local authorities to bring about action which could be supported by central government. If the Council decides to opt into the process it will need to set up a panel of representatives' from the community to consider such proposals.</p> <p>For information Sonia Pike reported that the CAB can provide statistics if required on how the "credit crunch" is affecting the local area. The office has seen an increase in numbers of people affected by unemployment, increasing debt levels and relationship breakdowns. The</p>	

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	impact on the District's vulnerable communities can be huge. Sonia also reported that the CAB will be moving into its new headquarters in Shepton Mallet in February.	
13	<p>Dates of Future Meetings</p> <p>The Board noted dates of future meetings as follows: 10 March 2009; 12 May 2009; 15 September 2009; 8 December 2009</p> <p>All to commence at 2.30pm in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council.</p>	

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.30pm.

DRAFT

The Mendip Strategic Partnership

Agenda Item: 6

FROM: Improvement Lead Officer, Mendip District Council Date: 3 March 2009

SUBJECT: Proposal to create a Migrant Workers Forum

1. SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Mendip District Council Scrutiny Task and Finish Group set up last summer to investigate the make up of migrant workers in the Mendip area and address whether their needs were being met by the council, reported in October 2008. Amongst the recommendations made was the proposal to hold a Migrant Workers conference and invite those agencies working with migrants to discuss the findings of the group.

1.2 This event was held on 12th December and took the form of a workshop day, involving speakers from the task and finish group, the Citizens Advice Bureau, Equalities South West and the Somerset Polish Association, as well as a series of workshops on teaching English, myths and perceptions, housing and data collation. The Scrutiny group welcomed twenty five representatives from a variety of agencies who inter-act with, or work to support, migrant workers, who spent the day listening to the data and discussing what action could be taken together to make the best use of the resources they had between them.

1.3 The day ended with resounding support from those present for the setting up of a migrant workers forum in the Mendip area that could co-ordinate a multi-agency approach to supporting migrant workers, with the Mendip Strategic Partnership being cited as the relevant body to initiate the creation of the forum.

2. MIGRANT NEEDS IN THE MENDIP AREA

2.1 The results of research carried out by the District Council showed that the needs of migrant workers extend beyond the services that Mendip District Council provides.

2.2 Over the last five years the number of migrant workers coming to Mendip has increased well beyond expectations. The report by the task and finish group outlined the benefits to the area of having migrant workers. They also noted the low pay received by migrants and the high level of employment amongst migrant groups. Migrant workers come to the UK for one reason, to work, they do not come to take advantage of the benefit system in the country and have a strong work ethic.

2.3 Many migrants have poor English language skills and this limits the jobs that they are able to take. It also limits their ability to understand how 'systems' in the UK work. As a consequence of this they need support and guidance from a number of different agencies. The language barriers mean that many agencies would benefit from volunteers with relevant language skills. Understandably these individuals are in demand and their goodwill and time is great stretched. The employment of language specialists is beyond the resource of many of the organisations in need.

2.4 The current economic climate has seen a shift in the public perception of migrant workers with concerns arising that migrant workers are taking jobs that could be filled by unemployed British people. In many cases this is not true, with migrants filling positions that British workers are still unwilling to fill, or they do not have the skills to fill. This perception is likely to have an effect on community cohesion and needs to be addressed locally to ensure that residents understand the benefits both economically and culturally of having a diverse community. Community cohesion is something the council is assessed on by central government. It is not something that it can address alone and would benefit from the broad contacts and resources that a migrant workers forum would bring together.

3. A MIGRANT WORKERS FORUM

3.1 The council cannot address the issues of migrant workers on its own. It lacks both the resources and the required breadth of services to do this. The most effective way of addressing matters is through the creation of a migrant workers forum, which would bring together those agencies involved with migrants to allow them to pool their skills and resources, to provide effective support in this area.

3.2 As the body that brings together all parts of the community to improve life in the Mendip area the Mendip Strategic Partnership is best placed to set up and run the forum.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 That Mendip Strategic Partnership supports the call for a Migrant Workers Forum in the area and begins working with the South West Regional Assembly, Mendip District Council and all other partners working with and for migrant workers to create an effective migrant workers forum in the Mendip area.

Contact: Tracy Aarons 01749 341448
Tracy.aarons@mendip.gov.uk

The Mendip Strategic Partnership

Agenda Item: 7

FROM: Acting Manager, Corporate Support, Strategy and Research,
Mendip District Council

Date: 3 March 2009

SUBJECT: MSP and Sustainable Community Strategy Development

1. SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- update Board members on the programme for developing a revised Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)
- propose that independent consultancy support is sought to help the MSP develop the SCS and review and refocus its role and purpose

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 During 2008 work began to review the Community Strategy for Mendip, to bring it up to date and ensure it:

- reflects the needs of and aspirations for the district, based on sound evidence
- makes appropriate links with the Local Development Framework Core Strategy
- takes account of and makes appropriate links with the wider context, including the Somerset Strategic Partnership's countywide Sustainable Community Strategy, the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA)

2.2 The starting point was to ask local people and other stakeholders about the 'big issues' for the district. This took place in the form of a programme of engagement called Time to Plan during the first half of 2008 and culminated in a multi-agency workshop in June 2008 to explore the issues raised.

2.3 The information gathered was examined, alongside profile data, and used to develop draft components of vision for Mendip and potential strategic objectives for delivering that vision.

2.4 The MSP agreed that these could go forward for public consultation and they were taken forward in a 'Time to Plan' consultation paper that sought views on issues and options for the LDF Core Strategy.

2.5 The consultation began in early December 2008 and ended on 13 February 2009. The responses are currently being analysed and it is hoped that they, along with findings from other consultations such as The Place Survey, will help the MSP firm up its vision and objectives.

2.6 An indicative timeline for the development of the revised Sustainable Community Strategy has been previously circulated and is attached as Appendix A as a reminder.

3. NEXT STEPS

3.1 The next steps in the process, as suggested by the indicative timeline, are for:

- the MSP to finalise and adopt a vision and objectives and identify priority outcomes for the district, taking into account the Time to Plan findings and other evidence
- MSP partners to consider how they can realistically contribute to the priority outcomes

3.2 When this is achieved and articulated, it will form the basis of the revised Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for Mendip.

3.3 Whilst this may sound straightforward on paper, in reality it will involve considerable work if we are to achieve, within the proposed timeframe, a SCS that all partners are able to delivering.

3.4 Arguably, the role of district LSPs is not as clear as it was when the first Community Strategy was produced. There are various and potentially competing demands on partner agencies, many coming from government (e.g. LAA and Comprehensive Area Assessment) which means that resources are tight and partners need to be sure that everything they do in partnership also helps them achieve their own objectives.

3.5 All this suggests that it is timely to revisit and refocus the role and function of the MSP and also the role of partners on it. It is therefore proposed that independent consultancy support is sought to help the MSP move through the next steps.

3.6 This is likely to involve discussions with MSP Board members and we envisage it culminating in a MSP workshop, facilitated by an independent consultant, to take place by early May 2009.

3.7 The costs for this work, yet to be determined, could be met in part from second homes monies previously earmarked for SCS development (£878), with the remainder coming from the MSP's own funds.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 Board members are asked to:

- consider and note the report
- agree that independent consultancy support should be sought to help the MSP agree a vision, objectives and priority outcomes, and in doing so, revisit and refocus its role
- agree that such support should include a facilitated workshop for MSP partners

Contact: Sara Skirton, Acting Manager, Corporate Support Strategy and Research, Mendip District Council sara.skirton@mendip.gov.uk

Sustainable Community Strategy Development Indicative Timeline

<u>When</u>	<u>Partnership Activity</u>	<u>Phase</u>
	Evaluate	Evidence Base <i>Facts and Stats</i> ➤ Profiles and trends, HSNAG
Feb -July 08	Run, evaluate, analyse	<i>Issues and Options</i> General Survey 06/07 Time to Plan first phase of community consultation ➤ Trends ➤ Partner data ➤ Technical Studies ↓ Portraits of Place ↓ Draft Components of Vision and Draft Strategic Objectives ↓ Time to Plan Issues and Options Consultation Paper ↓ Time to Plan second phase of community consultation Components of Vision and Strategic Objectives for SCS alongside Objectives, Issues and Options for LDF Core Strategy ↓ Vision and Strategic Objectives ↓ Priorities and Responsibilities ↓ Priority Groups Options for achieving objectives Equalities Impact Appraisal etc ↓ Outline Draft Strategy with Strategic Objectives ↓ Action Planning Detailed action plans ↓ Final SCS and Action Plans
July – Aug 08	Develop	
July– Oct 08 Dec 08	Prepare Publish	
Dec 08 – Jan 09	Consult, consider and verify	
Feb– March 09	Consolidate, refine, agree and adopt	
March – May 09	Identify	
	Set up / ID Develop, appraise, consult	
June 09	Consult	
June – Aug 09	Work up	
Sept/ Oct 09?	Sign off and publish	

Agenda item 10 (a)

MSP Five Priorities

Affordable Decent Housing for All - To monitor Mendip's Housing Strategy

Revised Action Plan March 2009

Status key O= on target, C= completed, D= delayed, R= reviewed

Objective	Action	Who	Start	Finish	Target /Output	Progress to Date	Comments/ Notes
Investigate the opportunities created by working together in partnership (e.g. Local Area Agreements and Local Public Service Agreements)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To influence the housing element of the new LAA through membership of the LAA Multi Agency Steering Group 	Mendip Strategic Housing Partnership(MSHP)/ All	June 07	April 08	Build on the opportunities presented by the LAA	NI's for housing chosen by SSHP (ex SSHOG)	NI 155, NI 154 and NI 187 approved for housing and in the top 34 chosen NI's for Somerset
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the other Somerset districts to develop, implement and monitor a countywide housing strategy 	As above	June 07	March 08	Joint Strategy May 2009 Joint Housing Service/Shared Services across the county	After a countywide Peer Challenge it was recognised that SSHOG needed a vision for housing to be the lead statement in the countywide Housing Strategy. Therefore work on the Strategy will be held until the vision is approved. End date for a	Work on a countywide housing service began with a Peer Challenge in Oct. 2008

Agenda item 10 (a)

Objective	Action	Who	Start	Finish	Target /Output	Progress to Date	Comments/ Notes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the Multi Agency Toolkit project 	M.A.T Steering Group	Completed	Sept 07	Toolkit launched	complete Strategy does not change.	New bid now in for a continuation programme for the toolkit
Develop and maintain a sound understanding of the housing markets and housing needs and develop monitoring systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute towards West of England Strategic Housing Markets Assessment 	West of England Partnership authorities, MDC, West Wilts DC, Somerset CC, Wiltshire CC	Ongoing	June 08	Overall, to develop a means of providing up to date information on housing markets and housing need Knowledge of Housing Needs and House Condition across Somerset	Needs Assessment base work completed but delays in final analysis	Final drafts now in. Consultation has had responses from MDC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with all Somerset local authorities to capture, analyse and interpret data relating to housing 	All Somerset local authorities	July 07	Aug 09		County has agreed that this type of survey will have an amended focus using the	Arrangements progressing between South Somerset, Taunton Deane and Mendip to

Agenda item 10 (a)

Objective	Action	Who	Start	Finish	Target /Output	Progress to Date	Comments/ Notes
	markets and housing conditions in Somerset					Building Research Establishment (BRE) to structure the long-term data in all future surveys County organising consultant to conduct preliminary work on a new needs assessment funded through the government grant of £8.400	work together on a Survey for those three districts
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain an understanding of gypsy and traveller accommodation needs 	All Somerset District councils	July 07	Dec 08	To provide more pitches and sites to accommodate the needs of gypsies and travellers in Mendip		As a county, working with Clive Miller to identify sites suitable for G and T's
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement the new 	The five housing		Dec. 2008		Implementing	Implementation

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Objective	Action	Who	Start	Finish	Target /Output	Progress to Date	Comments/ Notes
	<p>countywide IT system to manage the housing service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek resources to continue to develop Rural Enabler surveys 	<p>authorities in Somerset</p> <p>MDC/Somerset Community Council</p>	Completed	March 08	To ensure that the Rural Housing Enablers have funding for 2008/9	The County Council have funded the gap in finance for the RHE's (£70K and £10K for West Somerset)	<p>on target. Dual systems in place at the moment, applicants invited to re submit applications with up to date information</p>
Articulate Mendip's interests at County and Regional level (Regional Housing Strategy, Regional Economic Strategy and Regional Spatial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a system to enable MSHP to respond to key consultation documents Membership of the Somerset Strategic Housing Officer Group 	<p>MSHP, MDC</p> <p>MDC/PCT/Probation/ Somerset Partnership</p>	<p>Aug 07</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>completed</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	To continue to influence Regional and County policies and Strategies whilst being aware of our housing market area in the north of the region and making links to	Key role in SSHP (ex SSHOG)	Through Pioneer looking at the future of a housing service for Somerset

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Objective	Action	Who	Start	Finish	Target /Output	Progress to Date	Comments/ Notes
Strategy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Membership of the Commissioning Body for Supporting People ▪ Membership of the Somerset Strategic Planning Conference and South West Regional Assembly <p>Develop and improve links with the West of England Partnership and set up appropriate liaison</p>	<p>MDC</p> <p>MDC</p> <p>MDC - Membership of the Regional Housing Forum Membership of the Regional Homeless and Choice Based letting Group</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>integrate where appropriate</p>		<p>Continues</p> <p>Membership of Planning Conference retained through SSHP</p> <p>Conducting Housing Market Needs Assessment with the WoE</p> <p>Strategic Hsg. Manager, Mendip for SSHP</p>
Investigate the full range of opportunities to secure resources to deliver sufficient affordable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Utilise capital funding from MDC 	Mendip Strategic Housing Partnership	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ensuring that the resources and funding available are used efficiently to produce as much	Capital funding cut by £50,000 for 2008/9.	Some developers coming through RSLs to Mendip offering properties they cannot sell.

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Objective	Action	Who	Start	Finish	Target /Output	Progress to Date	Comments/ Notes
housing in Mendip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bid for capital and revenue funding from Supporting People for supported housing 	MDC	Aug 07	Annually	affordable housing as possible		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare the Mendip Local Development Framework Core Strategy 	MDC with the Mendip Strategic Housing Partnership	Ongoing	Jan 2010		Detailed timetable for the next 2 years	This is linking with the review of the Sustainable Community Strategy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement and Monitoring the Local Development Core Strategy 	MDC with the Mendip Strategic Housing Partnership	Jan 2011	Onwards			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review Supplementary Planning Document to provide housing through the planning systems 	MDC	Dec 2010	Aug 2011		Unlikely to produce an Interim Policy	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Efficiently use 	MDC's Preferred	Sept 07	Ongoing	Targets for new	On target to	

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Objective	Action	Who	Start	Finish	Target /Output	Progress to Date	Comments/ Notes
	<p>funding - Registered Social Landlords own and private funds and Housing Corporation Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with private sector landlords to bring forward affordable housing in the private sector 	<p>Development Partners, Housing Corporation</p> <p>MSHP</p>	Ongoing	Ongoing	affordable housing now set within NI154 within the LAA	meet or exceed 2008/9 target	
Ensure engagement of hard to reach groups in the planning and housing processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with agencies that work with children and young people to secure the delivery of consultation activity in the preparation of the Local Development Framework Continue to ensure 	<p>MDC/Somerset County Council/Somerset Children's Fund/Young Somerset</p> <p>MDC/Somerset PCT</p>	Ongoing	Ongoing	MSHP aware of	Progress towards a possible new site. Investigations taking place and arrangements moving forward to progress in this financial year	

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Objective	Action	Who	Start	Finish	Target /Output	Progress to Date	Comments/ Notes
	<p>communication through agencies working with hard to reach groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify mechanisms to ensure communication with hard to reach groups e.g. people with long term conditions 	<p>/Police/YMCA/CAB</p> <p>MSHP</p>	<p>Sept 07</p>	<p>March 08</p>	<p>agency consultation timetables to maximise opportunity for community engagement</p>		
<p>Facilitate the delivery of sustainable homes in terms of their construction and design</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote energy efficiency and resource efficiency in the design and siting of new development, through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Core Strategy ➤ Supplementary Planning Document ➤ MDC Development Control ▪ Work with partners 	<p>MDC</p> <p>Mendip Strategic Partnership/MDC/PDP</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>NI187</p>	<p>New joint post to address NI187 with Sedgemoor and West Somerset</p>	<p>Opted protocol for sustainable energy</p> <p>Scheme development standards currently being updated by the Housing Corporation</p> <p>Advice Plus funding secured and</p>

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Objective	Action	Who	Start	Finish	Target /Output	Progress to Date	Comments/ Notes
	to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Investigate and implement new measures to help make existing properties more energy efficient ➤ Review and renew present measures for achieving energy efficiency in existing properties 	MDC, Centre for Sustainable Energy, Utilities Companies					Centre for Sustainable Energy
Raise local people's awareness of the need for adequate numbers of all types of homes to be accommodated in the district – to remove potential barriers to affordable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Look for opportunities to raise awareness through partners' communications and events ▪ Local Development Framework community engagement process 	Mendip Strategic Housing Partnership MDC	Ongoing	Ongoing	Facilitate greater communication between all agencies involved in housing/ publicise what we are doing	Awareness raised at the Glastonbury Festival through surveys. Followed by a conference led by MHL and the Institute of Housing	

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Objective	Action	Who	Start	Finish	Target /Output	Progress to Date	Comments/ Notes
Give greater choice to more people under Choice Based Lettings Scheme by increasing the tenure types that can be included within a CBL system, and facilitate greater mobility within the county	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with Homefinder Somerset partners to investigate and implement increasing the tenure types that can be included within a CBL system 	Homefinder Somerset Partners	Jan 2009	Mar 2010	Increase the numbers of people who can access housing across the district via CBL Greater choice and accountability to applicants	Being implemented now	CBL implemented in all of Somerset by December 2008

Agenda Item 10 (b)

MSP Five Priorities

Investing in Children and Young People

Revised Action Plan

March 2009

- Establishment of Local Service Teams – this is complete. There are two LST's in Mendip. West Mendip covering Street, Glastonbury, Wells and surrounding villages; this Team is managed by Mark Holden and East Mendip LST managed by Shelagh Fleming covering Frome, Shepton Mallet and surrounding villages. Most staff are now appointed. The teams are fully functioning. (SFleming@somerset.gov.uk MHolden@somerset.gov.uk).
- The Mendip Area Children & Young People's Planning Group has been reformed with John Kirby as Chair. Chris Frost is the Partnerships link on the Area Children's Planning Group and will be the L.A. Partnership rep on MSP Group. (CFrost@somerset.gov.uk).
- Much of the present MSP plan has been completed. The MSP Mendip Participation Project funding will cease at the end of 08/09.

Agenda Item 10 (c)

Update to Mendip Strategic Partnership – 10th March 2009

Regenerating the Mendip Economy

Mendip Business Life website

In its first three months the website attracted 4,576 visits with the average person staying for 10 minutes. It has continued to attract positive commendations in the press and from local businesses, including being featured as a regional success on the InvestBritain website. MACOC has continued to work closely with MDC and Tickbox marketing to refine and update the site. News articles are updated regularly and the site now has almost 1400 businesses in the directory, having had less than 1,000 at the start.

Work has begun to identify opportunities for continuation funding with photographs of commercial premises being offered for a fee and Business Link as the first featured advertiser.

Shepton Mallet Digital Arts Festival

Development of the Shepton Mallet Digital Arts Festival is underway. The festival will be launched at an event in October 2009 at the prestigious Academy Theatre, Shepton Mallet. The Academy is home to Bristol Academy of Performing Arts, a leading musical theatre training school and being placed at the heart of Shepton Mallet's town centre, it is the perfect venue for celebrating art and technology.

The Festival will include a series of digital art competitions, including: A three minute film, music video, website and animation competition. The common theme throughout the competitions will be to reflect "the place I live". The competition judges will be leading practitioners of film, video, music, web and animation.

Agenda item 10 (d)

MENDIP COMMUNITY SUPPORT

MENDIP STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

FIVE PRIORITIES

STRENGTHENING THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR

REPORT –MARCH 2009

1. Simplify the funding application process
 - The County Council are planning to review the COMPACT. Our involvement is now finished.
2. Action taken to strengthen support for voluntary groups
 - It was an unknown factor of how many groups in Mendip were able to meet the NCVO quality thresholds. MCS surveyed groups to ascertain which groups within Mendip operated to basic core standards, i.e. Had a constitution, bank account, insurance, health and safety policies, equal opportunity policies, acceptable standards for managing volunteers and ensure that all appropriate staff has had CRB checks. This element of the project has now been completed and actions taken to bring the groups up to a basic standard.
 - As an infrastructure organisation MCS manages a database, which has been configured to meet the needs of the V & C sector, ensuring that the flow of information can be directed at the most appropriate groups and enable the statutory and other bodies and link in with those groups, which are best, suited to act as partners in any future project. The project has now been completed but the process of updating the database is an on going action which will be carried out by MCS.
 - As a result of support from the MSP, MCS is now part of an alliance between the other CVS organisations in Taunton Deane, South Somerset, and West Somerset, together with the Sedgemoor Volunteer Centre. As a result of a joint bid to Capacity Builders we were awarded funding as part of the Improving Reach Project. This will enable us all to undertake development work on some of the recommendations in the Policy Commission Report produced by Somerset County Council and support the statutory bodies in their quest to achieve the outcomes detailed in the LAA. The work plan has been approved and as the first step, MCS is now developing quality assurance procedures which could be adopted across the V & C sector, and investigating a common website which can be accessed by all in Mendip.
 - A further outcome of this joint working is that MCS has formed a partnership with the Volunteer Centre Sedgemoor and next Step Volunteer Bureau. This means that MCS can now provide a fully comprehensive service for the voluntary and community sector working in Mendip.
3. Strengthen the Voluntary and Community Sector involvement in the Somerset Strategic Partnership (SSP)
 - This is an on going activity.
4. Marketing the voluntary agencies and their strengths to statutory agencies and generally.
 - 550 editions of the Mendip Community Support Newsletter are circulated to voluntary and community organisations throughout the district three times a year. Circulation includes Mendip Strategic Partnership Partners, MDC Councillors and principal officers Principal

Agenda item 10 (d)

Somerset CC officers and Parish Councils. In addition copies were made available at Tourist Information Centres, Libraries, GP, and dental practices. The agreement between MCS and MSP has now been fulfilled.

- Annual Mendip wide forums have been held in March for the past three years. The next forum is being planned for 13th March 2009. The agreement between MCS and MSP to organise such an event has now been fulfilled.
 - Regular articles appear in local newspapers outlining success stories of various V & C Sector groups.
5. Supported Volunteering
- The closing date for the Coordinator to carry out this work has now passed and we anticipate being in the position to make an appointment within the next few weeks.
 - Research work to ascertain the volunteer needs of the voluntary and community organisations is on going. The Volunteer Centre Sedgemoor is using their facilities to market the opportunities.

Prepared by Tony Shepherd
(Mendip Community Support)
3rd November 2009

Agenda Item 10 (e)

MSP Priority; Tackling Climate Change Locally Progress Report March 2009

1. MSP Climate Change Strategy

The Climate Change Strategy has now been adopted by the MSP. It;

- Sets out actions for MSP as an organisation
- Identifies actions for all MSP partners.

The Action Plan seeks commitment of all partners to tackling climate change, identifying and implementing measures appropriate to their own circumstances.

2. Mendip Partnership for Energy

The project has now completed 61 energy audits for public buildings and has looked at opportunities to tackle energy efficiency collectively, with partners to the project supporting each other to take action.

A draft report outlining a range of measures that would improve energy efficiency in audited buildings has now been prepared by the consultants. Significant savings are identified that could be achieved by improving practice, raising staff awareness and making small changes to operating systems.

A series of workplace drop in sessions aimed at changing staff behaviour have been commissioned and are due to start in early March

Partners are asked to consider ways of acting on the findings of the report alongside consideration of the Climate Change Action Plan. Some actions are generic, relating to the behaviour of building occupants rather than the fabric of individual buildings, and will be relevant to all MSP partners.

A conference to disseminate the findings of the Mendip Partnership for Energy is planned for 24th April 2009.

3. Mendip Environment CIC

The local information pack and website are now available online at www.mendipenvironment.org.uk

Mendip environment is delivering workplace drop in session on behalf of the Mendip Partnership for Energy and is developing training materials to assist other voluntary groups wishing to give energy efficiency advice.

The Mendip Strategic Partnership

Agenda Item: 11

FROM: Team Leader – Community Planning, Mendip District Council Date: 3 March 2009

SUBJECT: MSP Funding Programmes 2007/08 to 2009/10

1. SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- summarise the review of the 2007/08 funding programme
- provide, for information, the details of the agreed 2008/09 funding programme
- provide details of the funding arrangements for 2009/10

2. REVIEW OF MSP FUNDING PROGRAMME 2007/08

2.1 A total of £2,878.26 second homes money remains to be claimed by March 2009.

2.2 At the last MSP Board meeting in December 2008, it was noted that no communication had been received from the Shepton Digital Arts Project regarding its original allocation of £2,000. It was therefore recommended that these unspent 2007/08 monies be transferred to support the Catherine Hill signage project in Frome. However, an assurance has since been received from the sponsor of the Digital Arts Project that they will be submitting an invoice for their allocated sum of £2,000 shortly. They will however need to do this before 31 March 2009.

2.3 The remaining unclaimed sum of £878.26 relates to costs associated with the development of the Sustainable Community Strategy. It is likely that this sum of money will be required to facilitate this process, for example workshop expenses. A request is therefore made to carry it over to the 2009/10 financial year for this purpose.

2.4 Table 1 below summarises, for 2007/08 monies:

- Which awards are yet to be claimed and information about when a claim is expected
- Which awards have already been claimed
- Which projects have produced final or progress reports
- When final or progress reports are due

2.5 Interim or final reports have been received from the following projects:

- Mendip Multi-Agency Toolkit - ongoing Support
- West Mendip Opportunities – plus
- Volunteering in the Community
- Shepton Digital Arts Project 2009
- Artworks East Mendip Arts trail and festival
- Mendip Partnership for Energy Yr 3
- Mendip Environment Community Interest Company (yr 2)
- Two Rural Frome Police Community Support Officers' Posts
- HSNAG 4th report
- SCS development
- Mendip YMCA / Routes Project
- Vision for Frome Project

2.6 These reports have been circulated to the Budget and Finance Sub-Group for information and are available for inspection upon request. Continued attempts will be made to obtain final reports from those organisations which have not already submitted them, as set down in para 7 of the MSP Funding Agreement.

	MSP Priority Applications	Project	MSP award	Claimed	To be claimed	Report
	Affordable Decent Housing for All	Mendip Multi-Agency Toolkit - ongoing Support	£5,298.00	5298	£0.00	Yes
	Investing in Children and Young People	Nesa Artworks	£0.00	0	£0.00	N/A
		Childsafe Partnership	£1,447.00	1447	£0.00	To be provided end of March
		Somerset County Council Smartrisk Project	£0.00	0	£0.00	N/A
		Mendip Participation Project phase 3	£17,853.00	17853	£0.00	To be provided end of March
		YMCA Routes project	£13,400.00	13400	£0.00	Yes
	Regenerating Mendip Economy	West Mendip Opportunities - plus	£4,000.00	4000	£0.00	Yes
		New Business Club	£2,800.00	2800	£0.00	No
		Shepton Digital Arts Project 2009	£2,000.00		£2,000.00	Interim
		Woodsbatch underpass	£0.00		£0.00	N/A
		Artworks East Mendip Arts trail and festival	£1,000.00	£1,000	£0.00	Interim
	Strengthening the Voluntary and Community Sector	Volunteering in the Community	£9,625.00	9,625	£0.00	Yes
	Tackling Climate Change Locally	Mendip Partnership for Energy Yr 3	£6,250.00	6,250	£0.00	Yes
		Mendip Environment Community Interest Company (yr 2)	£15,000.00	15,000	£0.00	Yes
	Other Applications					
	Avon and Somerset Police	Two Rural Frome Police Community Support Officer's Posts	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£0.00	Yes
	Frome MCTi	Vision for Frome	£5,000.00	5,000	£0.00	Yes
	Mendip CAB	Domestic Abuse Project	£10,000.00	10,000	£0.00	No
	HSNAG	HSNAG 4th report	£1,000.00	1,000	£0.00	Yes
	MSP	SCS development	£1,178.26	300	£878.26	Yes
		Totals	£100,851.26	97,973	£2,878.26	

3. MSP FUNDING PROGRAMME 2008/09

3.1 The agreed MSP Funding Programme for 2008/09 was endorsed by the Somerset Strategic Partnership in December 2008 and is shown in Table 1 below for information. Project leads have until 31 March 2010 to spend the awards.

Table 2 MSP Second Homes Monies Funding Programme 2008/2009

MSP Priority Applications	Project	MSP award
Affordable Decent Housing for All	Mendip Multi-Agency Toolkit - ongoing Support	£5,298.00
Strengthening the Voluntary and Community Sector	Volunteering in the Community	£11,050.00
Tackling climate change locally	Mendip Environment Community Interest Company (yr 3)	£10,000.00
Somerset Biodiversity & Local Wildlife Sites Partnership	Somerset Biodiversity Strategy Contribution towards Somerset Biodiversity Co-ordinator Post	£3,000.00
MSP	To address equalities and diversity issues in Mendip through a project designed to foster engagement with under-represented and hard to reach groups	£13,852.00
	Totals	£43,200.00

3.2 It is intended to carry out a scoping exercise surrounding the equalities and diversities project to be commissioned by the MSP and bring a proposal back to a BFSG or MSP Board meeting early in 2008/09.

4. MSP FUNDING PROGRAMME 2009/10

4.1 Somerset County Council has indicated that the district LSP second homes council tax funding arrangements for 2009/10 will be the same as for 2008/09 in that the county council will match the district council contribution.

4.2 At the time of writing we are awaiting confirmation of:

- the exact amount the district council will be contributing to the MSP, although it has been confirmed that a contribution similar to that of 2008/09 will be made
- the ceiling the county council will place on its match funding of the district contribution

4.3 It is however anticipated that the overall 'pot' available to the MSP will be comparable with that for 2008/09.

4.4 As in previous years, the MSP will need to agree a strategic approach to allocating the 2009/10 monies. The Budget and Finance Sub Group could consider this and make recommendations to the next MSP Board meeting.

5. MSP'S OWN FUNDS

5.1 The MSP currently has £14,876 of its own 'non-second homes council tax' monies.

6. RECOMMENDATION

6.1 Board members are asked to:

- note the report
- approve a carry over £878.26 of 2007/08 monies to the 2009/10 financial year to progress the Sustainable Community Strategy
- request the Budget and Finance Sub Group to consider and recommend an approach to the allocation of 2009/10 second homes council tax monies, once the exact sum available is clarified

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