

ONE Haverhill Partnership Board Meeting
MINUTES
24th November 2022 10:00am

Present:

Board Members		
Andy Hunter	AH	Chair and Headteacher, Samuel Ward Academy
Councillor Bruce Davidson	BD	Mayor, Haverhill Town Council
Councillor David Smith	DS	Haverhill Town Council
Councillor John Burns	CllrJB	Haverhill Town Council
Councillor Margaret Marks	CllrMM	West Suffolk Council
Lizzi Cocker	LC	West Suffolk Council, Families & Communities Team
Henry Wilson	HW	REACH Haverhill
In Attendance		
Ian Gallin	IG	Chief Executive, West Suffolk Council
Joanne Albini	JA	West Suffolk Citizens Advice
Inspector, Ben Hollands	BH	Police, Sudbury & Haverhill Locality Commander
Andrew Bell	AB	Centre Manager, Epicentre
Vicky Bright	VB	Haverhill Town Council, minute taker

Item		ACTION
1.	<p><u>Welcome, Declaration of Interest, Apologies</u> Andy Hunter welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were received from: Warren Smyth, Chief Executive Abbeycroft Leisure Andrew Smith, Havebury Housing Partnership Helen Cullup, Community Action Suffolk David Ruddy, Vice Chair & West Suffolk College Colin Poole, Haverhill Town Council, Clerk Cllr. Roach, Suffolk County Council Jacqui Singleton, Work Related Learning Coordinator, Samuel Ward Academy J Eaton, Families and Communities, West Suffolk Council Alex Till, CEO MENTA</p> <p>0 members of the public were present</p> <p>Declarations of interest: None.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Previous Minutes & Matters Arising from the meeting held 9th June 2022:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Councillor John Burns asked for a correction to Item 8. Para 2 to read <i>“Cllr Burns said that he currently funds/technically maintains the ONE Haverhill Partnership website and suggested that any updates could be made by him if someone would provide the material. Press releases and the like could be undertaken by West Suffolk communications, as this service had been offered previously, subject to capacity.”</i> b) The Chair advised that the financial overview had not changed – there were no funds. c) No further matters arising. <p>Previous minutes were approved.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Public Speaking:</u> None.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Future Direction of ONE Haverhill Partnership</u></p> <p>The Chair gave an overview of the two distinctive functions of the OHP and its future direction (Appendix 1);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) OHP utilises partner resources to enable the delivery of ground-level projects to benefit Haverhill residents (the problem with this currently is there are no projects due to a lack of funding available). b) OHP provides a forum for partner insight into the wants and needs of our community, which allows OHP partners to create a more granular picture of the town, to better support the work of people/groups who voice the needs of the town. <p>The meeting agreed with the functions and future direction proposed.</p>	

<p>5.</p>	<p>Funding Ian Gallin, CEO, West Suffolk Council talked through the two funding streams below;</p> <p>a. UK Shared Prosperity Fund This is European Funding following Brexit; the Government has assigned Local Authorities as the delivery system. This year's round of funding has yet to be received from Government, although the deadline to spend is 1st April 2023, there is call to extend this deadline.</p> <p>The allocation for West Suffolk is £1.9 million, loaded towards the drop off of European funding in 2024/2025; 22/23 = £275,000 23/24 = £471,000 24/25 = £1.2 million</p> <p>There is a framework for interventions to align the spending to its objectives. WSC has already broadly allocated the funding, and this has been submitted to the Levelling Up Communities Committee and Cabinet, due to the tight deadline for spending the funding, see Appendix 2. Cabinet have decided and the Government have been informed and are happy; feedback to Government is required on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>Most of the funding is to be allocated to existing relationships, as there is no time for a separate bidding process to be set up, so the Year 1 2022/23 funding has already been spent theoretically. There is a split of Revenue & Capital, but there is some flexibility. WSC had to recognise where European funding is being removed from and include this within their allocations, so the main chunk of the fund has gone on the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills & Training/Enterprise • Delivery of growth hubs <p>With allocation being made to the following specifically; the opportunities that are available are identified in the objectives briefing attached in Appendix 3. Match funding needs to be considered and WSC are looking at capacity building and Town Council bids, this can include bids from the OHP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements to Town Centres & High Streets – The Board discussed that this should include improved disability access. • Support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities – The Board discussed that this should include driving outreach activities and making links. • Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues; to bring people together – this will be added to the Community Chest Fund for groups to bid! • Capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups • Investment in open markets and improvements to town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wrap around support for small businesses. • Funding for the development and promotion (to both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally • Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at the local level • Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment • People & Skills 	
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The Year 3 UKSPF allocation has not been broadly identified due to the extended length of time until Year 3 and it being the other side of elections!

b. Rural England Prosperity Fund

This is a successor to the LEADER - Rural Development Program. This funding is available to West Suffolk (not including Bury St Edmunds). There is £753,00 available over 2 years, it is all capital. There is a list of Government interventions to follow when spending the funding, see **Appendix 4**.

WSC have allocated the following;

- Green Spaces and Car Parking and Supporting areas; allocated £50,000 to Clare Town Council for Year 1
- Green Site Infrastructure Improvements; allocated £60,000 for Year 1 and £140,000 for Year 2 to Newmarket, Mildenhall, Haverhill and Brandon.
- Waste & Street Scene improvements – More bins!
- Business grants, this will be alongside the 2 annual rounds of the Community Grants Program, which relies on a bidding process – Year 1 £40,000 and Year 2 £190,000.

The 4 areas officers are looking at are;

- Future of Provincial House
- High Street Pedestrianisation (Budget allocation being sat on!)
- Future of Health Provision (right place to allocate a Health Hub, potentially a combined services Hub)
- Deliver redevelopment of Jubilee Place (Master Plan commitments)

Concerns raised;

- More business support needed.
- Funding lost due to Covid, this is a worry and people need to take action!
- Non-Town Centres need investment too!
- Disabled element – Changing Places agenda.

Opportunities for OHP;

- 2023/24 Community Chest next round (April 2023)
- Year 3 UKSPF – Improvements to Town Centres & High Streets (E1)
- Year 1 & Year 2 REPF

Need to ask ‘What do we want for our Town Centre?’ A project with the OHP consulting with residents is to be looked at. Trying to tie in an Arts & Culture Offer in Haverhill is also being looked at, OHP will be engaged with on consultations.

<p>6.</p>	<p><u>Reports from Task Groups</u></p> <p>a) DRUG & ALCOHOL / CRIME & ASB It was clarified that Drug & Alcohol is a sub-group under the Crime & ASB Task Group.</p> <p>Looking at previous years there is a correlation between crimes and drug/alcohol related individuals, with 14 people being referred to Turning Point in the first year. Have been looking at how the service deteriorated before it was moved to Ipswich, with no worker in Haverhill, but the pandemic meant this study got dropped. Previously the concerns over having to travel to Bury St Edmunds being an obstacle, were met with non-negotiable resistance from Turning Point, but we are now working together to try and resolve this.</p> <p>29 of 120 people referring to Turning Point were offered a place, with 75% not making it through; 50% of these were self-referrals. It was suggested that there is a need for a Community Engagement Officer working in Haverhill.</p> <p>A feasibility study; working with partners such as, Police, Town Council etc. is being looked at to identify data as to why referrals are not being completed and why there are such low numbers of people being successful after completing the program. The approximate cost for the study is £5,000, REACH are to run a Pilot through January-March 2023, then possibly looking at applying for funding 23/24. It was suggested to throw this wider, i.e. schools would be helpful!</p> <p>Jo from CAB advised that within their Mental Health & Illness Support Advice Team they have now been given funding from the Suffolk Community Foundation for a specialist to help 16-25 year olds.</p> <p>It was discussed that this should be taken to the Commissioning Board to raise the inadequate provision. It was advised that this had been attempted with not much response, so it was taken to Turning Point, to collect the relevant data to then go back to the Commissioning Board. It was suggested that this needs to be addressed at the WSC Alliance Board and that Drug & Alcohol, Mental Health, Housing etc. all need to be linked together as a joined-up service to improve the provision and support available.</p> <p>It was proposed that the short-term action is to undertake the Feasibility Study and then pursue the Commissioning Board/Alliance for improvements to provision and joint services, as a long term action plan.</p> <p>It was agreed that there is a need to address and propose solutions before the next bidding process, as a route into the long-term action plan;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Feasibility Study • Ian Gallin to look at who to take this to. <p>b) HEALTH Cllr. Marks raised her concern about a lack of Care in the Community; with bed blocking, ambulances being misused, A&E being misused etc. due to demand and service provision being mismatched!</p> <p>SCC is funding a coordinator to bring a Community Catalyst project to Suffolk, where individuals in a community will become a Carer Plus in their community. They will be self-employed with support from the SCC Coordinator. The focus will be on those</p>	
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showing a need for a requirement for help. The Carer will be able to build a one-to-one relationship with their clients, they will have extra time to address all the clients needs, providing a Holistic and continuous service. They will be able to work with private and funded clients. It will also offer local employments benefits and improve loneliness and isolation within communities.

It was agreed to invite the Coordinator, Veronica Breeze, to a future meeting, to help get the word out, in principle OHP agree to support this initiative.

c) SKILLS & ENTERPRISE

No report

d) VOLUNTEERING GROUP.

No report

e) HANDS ACROSS HAVERHILL PROPOSAL

The Chair proposed this project as a new Task Group, see **Appendix 5**.

It is hoped it will look at addressing communication and isolation across generations within our community. With the following aims;

- To build community
- To reduce social isolation
- To increase levels of literacy
- To reduce anti-social behaviour
- To increase wellbeing

It needs someone to coordinate; the Chair can offer help with strategic direction and introductions etc. It was suggested that this could form part of Suzanne's duties?

It was suggested that as well as schools, perhaps Emergency Cadets, Scouts & Guides could be involved.

It was stressed that confirmation that Care Homes need this be ascertained first, the Chair advised he is led to believe that there is a need and more projects like this would like to be seen but agreed the need to clarify and confirm.

It was also agreed that a representative from the UEA and Scouts/Guides/Cadets should be on the Task Group.

Ian Gallin felt this was a good match for the OHP as the concept fits well with its directives. He is going to look to existing models and the funding element.

It was agreed to add The Task Group to the next Board Agenda with an update.

REACH

Henry Wilson gave a report on the REACH program and how the cost of living is impacting on families in Haverhill. The team has noticed that they are busier and are now seeing more clients than ever, mainly single parents being the highest demographic, with 47% of their clients being families. They are also seeing more families in financial hardship who own their own properties and have mortgages, rather than Social Housing or Renting, who do not qualify for support.

	<p>January-March is expected to be the worst peak, and although they are in a reasonable position currently, with food banks doing well (thanks to the fantastic generosity of people), they are now looking to push the message out further to prepare for this expected difficult period.</p> <p>The Chair suggested they liaise with Suzanne for support and to look at pushing the message to the schools. Henry advised there is an App available that tells people what items they are currently looking for.</p> <p>SCC are continuing free school meals until March 2023, but it would be good to see the criteria improved and expanded.</p> <p>CITIZENS ADVICE</p> <p>Joanne Albin advised that they are also seeing more people struggling and the service is very busy. They are trying to recruit more volunteers, they currently have 72 volunteers, but need more! It was suggested by the Chair that information and a description of what is entailed be sent through the schools, to try and attract more volunteers.</p> <p>The WSC Holiday Activities and Food Programme for those not eligible for free school meals is a vital scheme, funded by the Department of Education.</p>	<p>IG CP</p>
7.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Lizzi Cocker asked that members circulate the Public Health & Housing & Suffolk MIND Questionnaire (Newmarket, Haverhill & Brandon) and get the word out.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>TBA</p>	
	<p>The Chair thanked everyone for the attendance.</p> <p>Meeting closed 11:58pm</p>	

Appendix 1

One Haverhill Partnership

One Haverhill is an independent strategic partnership of public and private sector organisations working in and around Haverhill, sharing our capacity and expertise for the good of the town. We have two distinct functions. Firstly, we deliver change on an asset based local delivery model. Secondly, we share insights into views and needs of the diverse communities we represent to provide a broad and inclusive picture of our town to external organisations, providers and commissioning groups.



Appendix 2

[CAB.WS.22.059 Appendix A - UK Shared Prosperity Fund implementation.pdf \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#)

Appendix 3

UK Shared Prosperity Fund Briefing, One Haverhill Partnership, November 2022

- The UK shared prosperity funding has been brought in to fill the vacuum that will be created by the withdrawal of European funding
- The time of greatest impact from the removal of European funds is in March 2023 when they will stop funding all community, skills, and economic development projects, both capital and revenue
- Government changes in funding conduit organisations have seen funds be directed to Local Authority Areas, requiring them to prioritise the allocation of funds
- The UKSPF has been delayed by the government changes
- We now have an opportunity to focus on what is happening in West Suffolk, and in particular Haverhill, and specifically to ask:
 - What are the priority areas?
 - How are they to be funded and sustained?

Funding can be applied for to deliver the following objectives:

1. Communities and place

E1: Funding for improvements to town centres and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs.

E2: Funding for new, or improvements to existing, community and neighbourhood infrastructure projects including those that increase communities' resilience to natural hazards, such as flooding. This could cover capital spend and running costs.

E3: Creation of and improvements to local green spaces, community gardens, watercourses and embankments, along with incorporating natural features into wider public spaces.

E4: Enhanced support for existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer.

E5: Design and management of the built and landscaped environment to 'design out crime'.

E6: Support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities.

E7: Support for active travel enhancements in the local area.

E8: Funding for the development and promotion of wider campaigns which encourage people to visit and explore the local area.

E9: Funding for impactful volunteering and/or social action projects to develop social and human capital in local places.

E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues; to bring people together.

E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups.

E12: Investment in community engagement schemes to support community involvement in decision making in local regeneration.

E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency, and combat fuel poverty and climate change.

E14: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies.

E15: Investment and support for digital infrastructure for local community facilities.

2. Supporting local business

E16: Investment in open markets and improvements to town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wrap around support for small businesses.

E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally.

E18: Supporting Made Smarter Adoption: Providing tailored expert advice, matched grants and leadership training to enable manufacturing SMEs to adopt industrial digital technology solutions including artificial intelligence; robotics and autonomous systems; additive manufacturing; industrial internet of things; virtual reality; data analytics. The support is proven to leverage high levels of private investment into technologies that drive growth, productivity, efficiency and resilience in manufacturing.

E19: Increasing investment in research and development at the local level. Investment to support the diffusion of innovation knowledge and activities. Support the commercialisation of ideas, encouraging collaboration and accelerating the path to market so that more ideas translate into industrial and commercial practices.

E20: Research and development grants supporting the development of innovative products and services.

E21: Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at the local level.

E22: Investing in enterprise infrastructure and employment/innovation site development projects. This can help to unlock site development projects which will support growth in places.

E23: Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems, and supporting businesses at all stages of their development to start, sustain, grow and innovate, including through local networks.

E24: Funding for new and improvements to existing training hubs, business support offers, 'incubators' and 'accelerators' for local enterprise (including social enterprise) which can support entrepreneurs and start-ups through the early stages of development and growth by offering a combination of services including account management, advice, resources, training, coaching, mentorship and access to workspace.

E25: Grants to help places bid for and host international business events and conferences that support wider local growth sectors.

E26: Support for growing the local social economy, including community businesses, cooperatives and social enterprises.

E27: Funding to develop angel investor networks nationwide.

E28: Export Grants to support businesses to grow their overseas trading, supporting local employment.

E29: Supporting decarbonisation and improving the natural environment whilst growing the local economy. Taking a whole systems approach to invest in infrastructure to deliver effective decarbonisation across energy, buildings and transport and beyond, in line with our legally binding climate target. Maximising existing or emerging local strengths in low carbon technologies, goods and services to take advantage of the growing global opportunity.

E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment.

E31: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies.

E32: Investment in resilience infrastructure and nature-based solutions that protect local businesses and community areas from natural hazards including flooding and coastal erosion.

3. People and skills

E33: Employment support for economically inactive people: Intensive and wrap-around one-to-one support to move people closer towards mainstream provision and employment, supplemented by additional and/or specialist life and basic skills (digital, English, maths* and ESOL) support where there are local provision gaps.

E34: Courses including basic skills (digital, English, maths (via Multiply) and ESOL), and life skills and career skills** provision for people who are unable to access training through the adult education budget or wrap around support detailed above. Supplemented by financial support for learners to enrol onto courses and complete qualifications.

E35: Activities such as enrichment and volunteering to improve opportunities and promote wellbeing.

E36: Intervention to increase levels of digital inclusion, with a focus on essential digital skills, communicating the benefits of getting (safely) online, and in-community support to provide users with the confidence and trust to stay online.

E37: Tailored support to help people in employment, who are not supported by mainstream provision to address barriers to accessing education and training courses. This includes supporting the retention of groups who are likely to leave the labour market early.

E38: Support for local areas to fund local skills needs. This includes technical and vocational qualifications and courses up to level 2 and training for vocational licences relevant to local area needs and high-value qualifications where there is a need for additional skills capacity that is not being met through other provision.

E39: Green skills courses targeted around ensuring we have the skilled workforce to achieve the government's net zero and wider environmental ambitions.

E40: Retraining support for those in high carbon sectors.

E41: Funding to support local digital skills.

Appendix 4

[CAB.WS.22.059 Appendix B - Rural England Prosperity Fund - indicative allocations.pdf](#)
westsuffolk.gov.uk

Appendix 5

Hands Across Haverhill

Building community across the generations

Aims of the project

- To build community
- To reduce social isolation
- To increase levels of literacy
- To reduce anti-social behaviour
- To increase wellbeing

Outline of the project

To bring together young and older people in a variety of ways designed to bring mutual benefit

Activities might include but not be limited to

- Visits from younger children (primary phase) to care homes and old people's homes to share music and drama performances
- Visits from older children (secondary phase or older primary phase) to care homes to read with the elderly people
- Mentoring partnerships to provide opportunities for older people to support older children in making good choices regarding their futures – values etc.
- Closer links between school phases and schools and the elderly to support the service aspect of Duke of Edinburgh Award
- A project to provide social events to potentially isolated elderly people in schools, supported by young people

Next steps

- Set up a Task Group
- Seek partners
- Construct action plan