1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES (CHAIR)
   The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 26TH JULY 2007 (CHAIR)
   RESOLVED:
   That the minutes of the meeting held on 26th July be confirmed as a correct record subject to corrections to the attendance details.

3. MATTERS ARISING (CHAIR)
   - Wellbeing pilot – in response to a question regarding Lambeth’s participation in Wellbeing pilot, PCT representatives advised that resources were being identified to support the pilot.

4. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY
Following on from the workshop sessions earlier in the day members were refreshed about what came out of the last meeting in September including tips for an effective partnership. Members were requested to highlight the critical issues for the partnership and the following were highlighted:

- Building effective communities/neighbourhoods
- Improving the quality of life
- Fear of crime
- Worklessness and skills development
- Increasing opportunities for young people
- Tackling poverty

It was suggested that the partnership could make pledges to prioritise and address these key issues and partners sought clarification on whether making pledges would commit them to providing resources and also whether there was a strong evidence base to support pledges and address some of these key issues.

Partners were concerned that some issues which were important to the partnership had not been flagged up such as active citizenship, mentoring, volunteering, climate change, sustainability. In addition there was no specific focus on social cohesion. Although there were mixed views on the causes of crime, partners felt that they had an obligation to prioritise crime as a key area of focus especially since the results of the residents survey showed that 2/3 of residents had flagged up crime as an overriding concern.

The partnership was encouraged to identify cross-cutting priorities and to be visionary in providing inspiration and leadership to address these priorities. Concerns were expressed over how pledges could be translated to action especially when some pledges would impact on so many areas/partners.

The data mapping on deprivation and crime pointed clearly towards certain communities in specific wards and a safer Lambeth would never be achieved if the partnership did not focus on rebuilding the community. Questions were raised about the outcome of previous NRF funded projects targeting deprived areas in particular wards as no outcomes on the formal assessment of the performance of these projects had been reported.

The performance of the partnership was poorly ranked and it was felt that although there was much discussions among partners, there were few positive deliverables/outcomes. The partnership was failing to bridge the gap between stakeholders and beneficiaries and was more likely to succeed by focussing on a smaller number of key priorities to build up confidence.

Officers advised that the draft strategy would be signed off in consultation with the Chair of the Lambeth First Executive and the
Chair of the SCS Project Board and partners felt that the draft should be circulated to all partners before the formal consultation period began to ensure full buy-in and support from all partners.

Although it was inevitable that some interests groups were very effective at lobbying to ensure that their interests were well documented, this did not mean that the partnership should bow to such pressure. Given the tight timescales and the need to make sure that the draft strategy truly reflected the shared aspirations of the partnership, it was felt that a SCS sub-team should be set up to fast track progress even if this mean that the start of the formal consultation was delayed for a week of two. A plea was also made for all partners to set time aside to review the draft with the Lambeth First Team.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That a single theme approach to Lambeth’s Sustainable Community Strategy be endorsed with worklessness as the single theme.

2. That the outcomes from the Sustainable Community Strategy workshops be noted and the issues highlighted above be recommend as main themes for the strategy subject to further input from all partners.

3. That all partners set aside some time to review the draft strategy with the Lambeth First Team.

4. That the draft strategy be circulated to all partners prior to it being signed off by the Chair of the Lambeth First Executive and the Chair of the SCS Project Board.

5. **DEVELOPMENT OF LAMBETH FIRST**

Officers reported that although progress was being made, there was still much to be done. Paragraph 8 was flagged up and partners raised a number of queries including:

- How much progress has been made in developing a comprehensive performance management framework?

- How would Lambeth First Executive sponsors be identified for themed partnerships? It wasn’t always obvious who was best placed to lead on a particular theme and this could be an onerous responsibility.

- Performance management was difficult to undertake with outdated PIs.

- Proper relationships with all partners needed to be cultivated and the themed groups should consider what support they feel is appropriate.
• There were capacity issues which lead to one person leading on a number of theme groups.

• A constitution was needed to provide some formality to the governance arrangements with formal structures for reporting between the Executive and the themed groups.

• It was crucial to ensure that the right interests were represented on the Executive and the lack of a presence from key interests such as housing was noted.

• There were reservations about agreeing the programme of partnership development activities without a full evaluation of the benefits of the previous development session held on 20th September 2007.

RESOLVED:

(1) That a full assessment of the benefits of the partnership development activities on 20th September be undertaken and that partners feedback their observations to the Lambeth First Team in consultation with Caroline Hewitt.

(2) That in the light of feedback from partners, that proposals for continuing the partnership development and timescales be considered and that the Executive delegate authority to Caroline Hewitt to sign off the Executive development programme on its behalf and that the draft programme be circulated to the Executive.

(3) That a report on governance arrangements be submitted to the next meeting.

6. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

Officers reported that NRF would cease with effect from 1 April 2008 and that in anticipation of this, critical projects were being reviewed now so that contracts could be extended and staff retained. It was suggested that it was more helpful to have a 3 year commissioning cycle for projects but this was not feasible for all partners. It was also suggested that the themed partnerships should be used to support delivery of the LAA.

Representatives from GOL stated that the national indicators had been reduced substantially and that the LAA needed to echo the SCS. Joint working with all partners was key to delivery and it was suggested that the focus should be on cross-cutting issues which would involve more partners. GOL was keen to work with Lambeth on a pilot and this was a good opportunity for the partnership to demonstrate the complexities of the borough.
There were concerns regarding how to achieve full buy-in from all partners and the implications of the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Bill. It was suggested that the officer recommendations be amended slightly to reflect the project governance role of the Lambeth First Board and that regular progress reports should be produced. It was felt that the themed groups should have the opportunity to comment on and influence priorities with the Executive sponsors leading on negotiating and getting support from their organisations. The need to support the themed groups was also stressed.

Officers advised that there would be various levels of involvement and urged partners to set aside time to input into the process and it was felt that a “virtual team” should be established to progress matters and ensure full engagement in and ownership of the process by partners. Officers agreed to approach partners outside of the meeting regarding the “virtual team.”

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Executive delegate project governance of the LAA process to the Lambeth First Board that oversees the Sustainable Community Strategy.

2. That the proposals on the selection of indicators be noted.

3. That authority be delegated to Ian Jackson to determine staff for whom contract extensions need to be offered beyond March 2008 to avoid disruption to crucial projects.

4. That a “virtual team” should be established to progress matters and ensure full engagement in and ownership of the process by partners and that officers approach partners regarding membership of the “virtual team.”

5. That regular progress reports be submitted to the Lambeth First Board.

7. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

In considering the report concerns were expressed about how to support students with learning difficulties as they were one of the most disadvantaged groups in respect of sustainable employment opportunities. The increasing demand on caring services was also flagged up in view of the ageing population. Councillor Paul McGlone, Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Enterprise suggested that the 1st paragraph on page 15 the draft strategy beginning “Government policy” be amended to read as follows:

“Government policy has acknowledged the significance of over 20

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1 Waterloo Quarter Business Alliance became fully operational in April 2006
2 Lambeth Business Premises Study March 2007, produced by DTZ
years of proactive town centre management. The development of business improvement districts, recognises the strength of local partnerships in key economic areas. Business-led town centre management will be supported in Waterloo, where South Bank Employers’ Group has been operating as a Voluntary BID for many years. The first formal BID was established in 2006 in Waterloo¹. The recent DTZ Lambeth Business Premises Study² recommended exploring the potential for BIDS in other parts of the borough including key employment areas. We will actively encourage local partnerships to consider BIDs and alternative business models for the future management of commercial areas.”

This amendment was supported by the Executive

RESOLVED:

That the paper tabled on the amendment to the Lambeth Economic Development Strategy 2007 – 2010 be endorsed.

8. REGENERATION DELIVERY PLAN & INVESTMENT BOARD

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Lambeth First Regeneration Delivery Plan (RDP) 2007/8 endorsed on 21 June 07 be noted.

(2) That the update from the inaugural Lambeth First Investment Board be noted.

(3) That the performance monitoring work to track progress and delivery of the RDP recommendations be noted.

CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 7.30pm

CHAIR
LAMBETH FIRST EXECUTIVE
24 JANUARY 2008

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