Notes of the West Northamptonshire Local Area Partnership (LAP) Q&A – 26 June 2023

The meeting was held on Zoom with 75 participants.

Danny Moody, Chief Executive of Northants CALC chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone. Danny introduced Julie Curtis, Assistant Director of Place Development for West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) and Alan Burns, Town and Parish Council Liaison, WNC. Danny and Julie presented to the group (see presentations for detail) and Danny then asked for questions from the audience. A summary of the questions asked, and the answers given follows:

Deanshanger Parish Council	
There is no GP practice, no services, no transport, how will the LAPs link to the villages?	Rurality is a priority and an issue. How can we make changes in the community? Key thing is people uniting to help make changes, have to be realistic what the community can do, have to be more resilient. Investment in VCSE is important.
Boddington Parish Council	
Climate anxiety is an issue. Has anyone got this on their radar?	Yes, the strategy is developing and we have been talking to children and young people and a high percentage of them are worried about climate change and their future.
Kingsthorpe Parish Council	
NN4 and NN5 LAP have high crime rates. Worried that NN5 doesn't have large facilities for youth provision, don't want to be disadvantaged.	There are different conversations to be had in all LAPs, the themes are emerging but its early days.
Northampton Town Council	
We should have a place on the LAP boards as we are the grass roots, not relegated as an add on or to conversations. Would like formal sub-group arrangements	Two way communication is key and we need to think about how we manage the relationship
Roade Parish Council	
What is the timeline for events for activities?	This is not developed yet and the strategy will be refreshed each year. We have a set of principles and metrics as a starting point.
Sibbertoft Parish Council	
What power do the LAPs have when working with the Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) and parish councils for service provision?	LAPs are not a committee of anything. They consider local knowledge, people and communities and the LAPS need to illustrate issues to get prioritised to Health and Wellbeing Boards and onto Integrated Care Partnerships.

Silverstone Parish Council How are the priorities agreed for the LAPs? They are based on LAP profiles driven by Insights data, ONS 2021 census data and police data. Feels like there is a lot of information coming down to councils rather than including councils. This is our first interaction tonight, the LAP managers are not in place yet, should be starting July/August Wootton Parish Council

Concerns around funding and budget to carry out aspirations. Where will the funds come from?

Driven by strategy, but need to use existing resources a different way. How can we break down boundaries between organisations? For example, there is a multi agency sub group for school exclusions to try to prevent children getting to the exclusion stage.

Moulton Parish Council

Was invited to DSN1 LAP and it was a privilege to see agencies working together. Always happy to help other parishes.

It would save time, but there may be specific things each LAP needs to get much closer to.

Should there be a single point of contact for parishes?

Questions and comments in the chat function of Zoom:

East Hunsbury Parish Council

Connectivity seems to be an issue across WN - are public transport companies involved in any of the groups and how much pressure can be put on them to provide reasonably services to communities?

Helmdon Parish Council

I have heard nothing that will assist Rural areas.

Ashton Parish Council

Lack of facilities to host these things in rural areas is mainly the problem.

Flore Parish Council

It all sounds wonderful but having worked in General Practice for 30 years in the rural areas of Northamptonshire, I am aware that funding and resources tend to get sucked into the towns such as Daventry, Northampton and there is little left for rural areas. Also these initiatives start and then disappear.

Harpole Parish Council

You say you can't provide extra GPs, but with all the housing development there are more needed as doctors surgeries are stretched. S106 provisions provide funding. What happens with this?

Helmdon Parish Council

I understand that the Bus Service is being discussed July 2023 I also understand that the Budget is £100,000 short it looks like villages won't be getting a bus service anytime soon

Roade Parish Council

There are opportunities for Parish Councils to work together within LAP areas where they can choose a priority that particularly impacts their residents and get included in the working groups. This is particularly pertinent where different parishes share GP surgeries, VCSE organisations and other services. There are great examples like Moulton PC which is the NCALC parish council of the year and they link with local parish councils and all the other services within that part of the LAP area.

Alan Burns - WNC

JSNA - Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. This is produced by Public Health to articulate the key health needs in an area

Silverstone Parish Council

Thanks Julie. All really interesting. Some key points from me:

- We need to get the conversation moving. If local is key, it needs to feel more bottom up and locally led
- I respect the deep need for strategy, but it would be good to understand what actions and measurable outcomes are being developed for the short/medium term
- Would love to do more of these.

Cold Higham Parish Council

Thanks so much! A great initiative - Julie can I have some of your energy?? Just a comment if I can - I understand the resource side but it seems to me that it's all around working smarter, avoiding duplication, working better together, changing practice etc

Output

Description:

At 8.30pm, Danny thanked all attendees and suggested that the meeting be extended to respond to the final questions. Of the 75 attendees, 48 remained til the end of the meeting at 8.45pm.

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