

EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL POLICY BOARD

Minutes of the Meeting held on

Friday 1st September 2006

Nottingham Voluntary Action Centre, Mansfield Road, Nottingham

<u>Members Present:</u>	<u>Secretariat:</u>	<u>Apologies</u>	<u>Advisers</u>
John Freeman – Chair Cllr David Sprason – Vice Chair Cllr Ian Fleetwood Cllr Lucy Care Cllr Robin Brown – Sub Cllr Michael Storey Jennie Gardiner Tina Glover	Yvette Dearden Alison Hepworth Val Fraser	Cllr Eion Watts Cllr Dave Wilcox Cllr Geoff Stevens Cllr Graham Ridge Cllr Marion Brighton OBE Cllr Frank Lucas Rev Andrew Vaughan	David Walker – Regional Public Health Group Abby Johnson Brennan – emda Lisa Maltagliati – EMEO Marie-Laure Huke – GOEM Nailesh Ramaiya - LGEM

1.	Welcome	ACTION
1.1	John Freeman welcomed new members to the Regional Policy Board. He thanked Cllr Eion Watts for his valuable contribution to the work of the Policy Board as Vice Chair and welcomed Cllr David Sprason as the new Vice Chair.	
2.	Apologies	
2.1	The Policy Board noted all apologies.	
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting	
3.1	The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 th May 2006 were agreed as a true record.	
4.	Matters Arising not covered elsewhere	
4.1	John Freeman welcomed David Walker as a new adviser, replacing Judy Jones.	
4.2	Cathy Jones confirmed that the Regional Cultural Strategy was launched in July 2006.	
4.3	The Board was reminded that an affordable warmth champion was still	

4.4	<p>being sought.</p> <p>YD confirmed that the success stories included in the LGEM document 'Working Towards Healthier Communities through Investment for Health' would be included on the EMRA website.</p>	
5. Review of Policy Board		
5.1	John Freeman introduced the report and outlined the proposed way forward.	
5.2	<p>Policy Board discussed the proposed way forward, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better engagement with other regional and sub-regional bodies and the need to ensure sub-regional bodies inform Policy Board of their policy needs; • The need to make links between the sub-regional areas; • The need to understand the mechanisms through which information flows between the regional, sub regional and local organisations; and • The advantage of other organisations being aware of the day to day business of the Policy Board and its work programme. 	
5.3	Policy Board agreed that at its next meeting it would discuss and agree the Board's revised terms of reference and structure.	
6. Policy Shortfall Workshop		
6.1	Yvette Dearden highlighted the key outcomes from the previous Board meeting and the proposed set of priority actions for the Board to take forward.	
6.2	<p>The Board discussed the priority actions and agreed that the study into inequalities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address the key solutions of inequalities in more detail; • Draw upon and utilise the information currently available in the region, for example that held by local authorities. • Have a European dimension. 	
7. European Issues		
7.1	Members noted the progress in relation to the development of the ERDF Operations Programme for the region; discussed the potential opportunities of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) and North Sea Commission (NSC) membership; and noted the progress in relation to the regional health bid.	

7.2	Policy Board agreed to hold a seminar in early 2007; to explore the idea of holding it directly after a full Regional Assembly meeting; and to invite EMRA members and key regional stakeholders to attend.	YD
8.	Tackling Absences from Work due to Mental Health	
8.1	David Walker presented this report to the Board. The Board discussed and noted the contents of the report, recognising in particular the important role that preventative measures play.	
8.2	DW agreed to provide Policy Board with further details of the Big Lottery Fund bid, including potential funding streams, at its next meeting.	DW
9.	Environmental Infrastructure	
9.1	AH presented the findings of two projects - the East Midlands Soil and Environmental Resource Review and Green Infrastructure – Public Benefit Mapping Project.	
9.2	Policy Board noted the key findings of both project reports. It recognised the importance of the projects in raising awareness of the wide ranging benefits of environmental infrastructure across the region.	
10.	Securing the Regions' Futures	
10.1	The Board noted the contents of the report and agreed to receive a report on the proposed approach to updating the IRS Framework at its next meeting.	
10.2	Cllr Sprason thanked YD for her role in securing the funding.	
11.	Project Work Update	
11.1	The Board noted the progress to date on the projects and initiatives outlined in the report.	
12.	European Dimension	
12.1	Lisa Maltagliati presented a briefing note highlighting the European dimension of the items on the meeting agenda. The Board agreed to receive information, when appropriate, to provide the European dimension of reports at future meetings.	
13.	Any Other Business	
	There was no other business	

12.	Date of Next Meeting	
12.1	The next meeting of the Policy Board will be held at 10am on Friday 8 th December 2006 at the NVAC, Mansfield Road, Nottingham.	
13.	It was agreed that the agenda for the next meeting would include the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of Regional Policy Board, including revised Terms of Reference and Board structure• IRS Framework update – timetable and approach• Policy Board work programme, incorporating the individual work programmes of its Groups	