



Haverhill Area Working Party 24 March 2011

ONE Haverhill: Update

1. Introduction

- 1.1 On 11 November 2010, the Working Party noted a proposal to create a ONE Haverhill Board in the town, rationalising existing partnership structures (Report B283 refers). Since that time, all parties affected by the changes to the existing Haverhill Partnership structure have been involved in the development and detail of the new ONE Haverhill Board which will hold its first meeting on 15 March 2011.

2. Current Situation

- 2.1 Recruitment to the 19 places on the Board is underway with some transitional arrangements necessary to accommodate forthcoming elections and self nominations to the dedicated voluntary and community places. Exploration of potential budgets to pool/align is also ongoing and to date positive discussions have been held in regard to Suffolk County Council Locality budgets and Quality of Life budgets (highways). A financial mapping exercise is also planned which aims to look at the totality of public spend in the town with a view to 'bending' and 're-engineering' how this is spent and how new monies can be influenced and levered in.
- 2.2 Meetings will initially be held on a monthly basis to galvanise momentum with 'priority' topics being the focus for each meeting. For example, the first meeting will focus on aspirations. This is an area that affects individuals, families, organisations and places and one that requires a collaborative approach to tackle it effectively.
- 2.3 ONE Haverhill provides us with a real opportunity to influence others and be a single, coherent voice for the town. It has a strong democratic core (officers cannot vote) and an inclusive approach to working in partnership.
- 2.4 *'Borough Members acknowledged that the Council's recent capital investment in Haverhill was likely to decline in future years, and therefore the role and functions of the Working Party were likely to evolve in another direction'*. (Haverhill Area Working Party Minute 30: 11 November 2010 refers). ONE Haverhill has three dedicated places for St Edmundsbury Borough Councillors and in time will have a number of task and finish groups/forums which will require input from Members who have local knowledge, experience and influence in their communities.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Working Party recommends to Cabinet that:-

- (1) three Members be nominated to sit on the ONE Haverhill Board following the forthcoming Borough Council elections in May 2011, as detailed in Section 2.4 of Report B524; and
- (2) it reviews how the Haverhill Area Working Party and ONE Haverhill might work together in the future.

For further information, please contact:-

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