

Partnership Enabler Card

Purpose of this card: The Priority Action Cards focus on the results that the partnership wants to achieve and how: through specific change programmes, projects or strategic pieces of work that will help improve outcomes related specifically to that priority.

Enablers are about how an organisation or partnership manages itself and its resources, in a way that aims to “enable” them to achieve improvements in several of their priority areas.

The Enabler Card offers a place to communicate key improvement plans that could make the Priority Action Card(s) too process focussed or too repetitive.

Key areas of focus for 2010-11

The Gloucestershire First Partnership welcomes the opportunity to develop a ‘Enabler Card’ in view of the significant strategic and structural changes to be embraced over the coming year. Accordingly, Improvement Activities can be broadly grouped as follows;

- Acting responsively:
 - leading the County economic recovery (servicing the Economic Taskforce)
 - identifying emerging opportunities
 - assessing impact of evolving agendas (low carbon, equalities etc)
- Being ‘Fit for Purpose’
 - How the Partnership does business
 - executive team restructure
 - partnership operational review
 - robust business/project planning practices
 - Know it is effective
 - performance management system development
 - communication plan, profile and investment marketing campaign
- Encouraging collaborative effort/joint working
 - improving relationships with key partners
 - exploring areas for joint activity – future joint commissioning
 - more efficient resource management
 - pioneering new methodologies and approaches

Where do we want to be in three years time? We want the Gloucestershire First Economic Partnership to have:

- Taken the County confidently into economic recovery
- Continued to be recognised as an exemplar economic partnership in the South West region and beyond
- Developed strong working relationships with key partners and other thematic partnerships e.g. Environment & Safer/Stronger
- Helped evolve the Local Economic Assessment to serve as an effective planning tool and important needs analysis baseline
- Participated actively in the Homes and Communities Agency sponsored ‘Single Conversation’ Local Investment Strategy process

What we will do this year

Improvement Activity	Planned Benefits	Key Resources	Dates	Lead	Partners
Partnership Restructure and Review – Implementation of recommendations	New structure in place Training undertaken, systems enhancement Development of Advisory Panels Introduction of more robust project planning requirements and project management systems use and techniques Sustainability Tool Economic Partnership Conference developed – nuclear debate/focus Refinement of central performance management system	GFirst Staff time	Review Sept 2010	David Owen Claire Edwards	All
Virtual Economic Development Team – Development Process		£140,000 total (external funding – tbc) plus staff time	Review April 2011	David Owen	All Districts/ GCC
Communications Plan – Developed and implemented	More effective communication of the impact of the partnership to partners and the wider community Increased profile Investment enquiries increased	GFirst Staff time	Complete June 2010	Chris Dee	All
Policy/Planning Process – Consultation/participation	Development of a clear protocol	Staff time	Oct 2010	Claire Edwards	All
Co-ordination of Local Economic Assessment Process and Refinement: – Functional Economic Area analysis Forecasting activity	Robust and comprehensive information available to inform economic and other decisions Broad partner input – clear process; Effective process for sharing intelligence Informed forecasting Identification of future commissioning opportunities Refreshed Workspace Strategy	GFirst staff time GCC Research Team/Planning	Complete Aug 2010 Sign off Dec 2010	Claire Edwards	All Districts and GCC (staff time and joint commissioning resource, in due course, as appropriate)

Performance Management Framework Refinement – Evaluation of impact of delivery against IES objectives – rural gap analysis methodology potential application	Effective reporting mechanism established for feeding into relevant Panels (ESAP) Process refinements Equality Impact Assessments Outcomes related to RIEP Virtual Economic Team development	GFirst staff time	Review Sept 2010	Claire Edwards	All
Joint Commissioning Opportunities and Business Planning	Collaborative work with Environment Partnership Opportunities to influence Outcome 17/18 within Safer/Stronger Partnership Preparation of Forward Plan 2011/12 Resource identification Commissioning process development	Staff time	Review April 2011	Claire Edwards David Owen	GFirst Senior Management Team
New National Framework – strategic positioning and strengthening the ‘voice’ of the Partnership	Relationship with SWRDA/ GCC and Districts Business links New agendas – environmental – EU funding opportunities Proactive relationships with: Regional Business Forum, Local Employment and Skills Board, HCA, Strategic Leader Board	GFirst staff time	Review Sept 2010	David Owen	All
External Funding Strategy – development of a funding strategy for the Economic Partnership	Increase in external funding secured for the County Networking opportunities Mechanism for understanding partner objectives, aspirations	GFirst – staff time	Review Sept 2010	Sue Stoner	All
Corporate Efficiency and Sustainability Issues – CAA linkages	Better connectivity of economic partnership to other partnerships Less demonstrable gaps between ‘urban and rural’	GFirst Staff time/ CSEB	Review April 2011	David Owen	CSEB
HCA ‘Single Conversation’ – Partnership engagement/Input	Robust economic base for HCA decision making and relationship developed Contribution to development process for Local Investment Strategy	GFirst Staff time	Review Sept 2010	Claire Edwards	GCC/Districts
Relationships with Key Partners ie. Business Link/GHURC/Civic Pride/SIDP/JCS/Thames, Severn Canal Restoration Programme	Ensure ‘joined up’ approach to partnership working	GFirst Staff time	Review Sept 2010	David Owen	GFirst Senior Management Team

How will we know what difference we have made?

Indicator	Baseline	Targets 2010/2011	Lead	Links
Quantitative and qualitative performance measures, illustrating the strategic nature of the range of activity reflected on the card, are identified where available and especially where consistent with LAA targets. Beyond this, the central Performance Management System (link), which sits behind the Plan, provides understanding of the broader effects of Partnership effort in this area. Key management information about the Partnership's achievements will be regularly reported directly to the Board, CSEB and principal funding partners whilst the system will be refined over the year with additional measures identified, where appropriate, in due course.				
Equality Assessments (Sept 10)	Baseline to be established Q1	Sept 2010	David Owen	
Local Economic Assessment (LEA)	Economy of Gloucestershire	Dec 2010	Claire Edwards	
Share Point Extranet System Development (performance management and effective communication across the Partnership)	New activity	Review April 2011	David Owen	
Partnership Restructure Milestones		Review Sept 2010		
External Funding Strategy Development		Sept 2010	Claire Edwards	

Resources:

Gloucestershire First staff time to monitor and implement various projects/initiatives is underpinned by an annual operational budget from GCC totalling £1.4m. Other significant sources of funding supporting activity featured in this card include:

RIEP bid – £140k total project costs for 3 years (RIEP contribution to be confirmed)

Note: funding streams may span more than one financial year

Key risks:

The Partnership's full risk register can be viewed at www.glosfirst.co.uk however headline issues, relating to the delivery of the range of Improvement Activity within this card, are considered to be as follows:

Unable to secure sufficient resource to deliver Partnership priorities – proposed activity may have to be moved to Plan 'Gap Analysis' and external funding strategy reviewed by Gloucestershire First Senior Management Team and Economic Strategy Advisory Panel

Local: JSCP process; Local Economic Assessment; Gloucestershire First – structure and performance; GSSCP – Outcome 17/18

Related Documents and References

Regional/National: Adaptation to new roles/responsibilities and ways of working arising from the Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Bill (LDEDC) including the Government response to 'Prosperous Places: Taking forward the Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration' (**Local Economic Assessment duty**), plus duties to promote democracy through equality impact assessments (**Performance Management Framework**)

Homes and Communities Agency 'Total Capital' pilots aiming to align area based capital spending (**Strategic Planning**)