

Digital Birmingham Executive Board Meeting, 8 December 2010

Action Notes

Present	Apologies
<p>Cllr Paul Tilsley – BCC (Chair) Adrian Middleton – AWM Andrew Sheehan – BCC Barry Clewer – BACOP Brian Mitchell – Virgin Media Chris Cope – UK Broadband Ltd Chris Lane – Centro Chris Price – Digital Birmingham Clive Hill – Metropolitan College Colin Winstone – UK Broadband Ltd Daniel Fisher – Fazeley Studios David Harte – Birmingham City University Fahri Zihni – Aston University Fay Goodman – Chamber of Commerce Fraser Sommerville – Atkins Glyn Evans – BCC Hugo Russell – iCentrum Ian Binks – BT (Chair) Judith Mackay – Projects in Motion Keith Vinning – Fujitsu Ken Lawrence – Bham Strategic Partnership Lara Ratnajara – Business Link West Midlands Mustafa Shevket - Metropolitan College Nicola Bryant – Digital Birmingham Peter Shearer – Aston University Phil Wells – AWM Raj Mack – Digital Birmingham Ritchie Brett – South Birmingham PCT Surita Solanki – Digital Birmingham Tim Manson – Marketing Birmingham</p>	<p>Alun Thorne - Bham Post & Mail Andrew Hartshorn - Chamber of Commerce Brendan O'Brien – BANF David Burden - Daden Ltd David Cusack - Family Housing David Hardman - BSPA David Taylor - University Hospital Birmingham David Thomas - Virgin Media Debbie Goode – Learning & Skills Council Fiona Cohn - Birmingham City Council Frank Mills - Coventry University Enterprises Ltd Keith Budden - Be Birmingham Keith Wilson - CISCO Khembe Clarke – Redstone Mahendra Chauhan BCC – City Partnership Marc Reeves - Independent Mark Mynard – Service Birmingham Martin Read – BBC Mike Swain – Specialist Computer Holdings Neil Serougi – Solihull PCT Padma Reddy - University of Birmingham Paul Knight - Business Link West Midlands Peter Rayson – BCU Prashant Singh - Ulfah Arts Rich Gwyther - Microsoft Richard Haynes - Deloitte Rob Benson – BEN PCT Sam German – BEN PCT Satpal Hira - Birmingham City Council Selena Cooper - Vodafone Tim Sewell – Family Housing Association Trevor Potten – BCU</p>
<p>Notes: Surita Solanki</p>	

Introductions, matters arising, and actions from last meeting:

The Deputy Leader welcomed Daniel Fisher, Fazeley Studios and Fraser Sommerville, Atkins Global, to the Executive Board. Both members have taken over from Kate Manion and Arpinder Banshi respectively.

The Deputy Leader also expressed thanks to Birmingham Metropolitan College, Matthew Boulton Campus, for hosting this meeting.

Minutes from previous meetings were confirmed. Action points from the last meeting have all been met.

The Future of the Digital Birmingham Partnership - Raj Mack & Chris Price, Digital Birmingham

The Digital Birmingham team has made the case for continuation of the partnership, which is in principle supported by the Council and the Board. It is now the time to look in more detail at the options going forward.

CP fed back from his interviews with the Executive Board members:

- There is still a need for digital and needs to continue
- It holds great value and partners agree the need for it to continue
- Partners were able to identify areas of development
- Brokerage and synergies were identified by DB.

However:

- There are key messages we need to take forward about the City
- There is no funding: Assistance will be required from the partnerships in the guise of funding, bids etc
- Changes need to be made, a clearer DB delivery agenda – Focussing on the City rather than the wide agenda.
- We need to enable a mechanism for young people, as well as older adults, to contribute into this group.

The Deputy Leader informed the Board that conversations were being held about the future of Digital Birmingham and reiterated that the Digital Birmingham and its Partnership was valuable. There is a general agreement to restructure the Board to a management type board to monitor business and development opportunities. This Board would meet 4 times a year or a joint session every six months.

The draft of the Digital Agenda which was e-mailed to all Board members was discussed, this included proposals for Digital Birmingham's future programme:

- Employment & employability
- Clean and safe City
- Protect vulnerable people

RM asked for feedback on the above areas. What projects/activities are our partners doing or want to do on these areas? How can the DB provide support, add value and help develop these proposals together?

A table that set out the potential projects/ activities that the DB team could do in addressing the

above priority areas was shared. Comments/ issues are requested from the Board to support the team to develop a programme of work that can be supported by the Partnership.

GE would like to move towards a strategic plan – a policy and delivery mechanism for each of the areas. For the employment and employability strand he proposed the formation of a delivery consortium, which could be owned by this group. The consortium could develop opportunities for:

- Digital Districts
- Making the whole City wimax
- Looking at how we pull in graduates and entrepreneurs
- General skills issues

GE believes that this group could be procured quite quickly. RGF could be a possible route of funding.

Andrew Sheehan, Telecare Development Manager – BCC, provided the Board with an update of telecare equipment available to vulnerable adults and cost saving scenarios.

- Keep Well and Warm is an initiative which identifies when a persons property becomes cold using sensors. Many vulnerable adults are currently sleeping in conditions below average; there have been over 3000 deaths alone in the West Midlands. Once the sensor has become active, NHS Direct are connected to this home and key personnel notified.
- His team are currently working with the learning disabilities team to reduce night care and sleep-in services. For example, with the use of bed sensors, where the service user is able to remain in their own property, an alert is triggered to the mobile phone of the staff member on call if there hasn't been movement for a long space of time or if a person hasn't returned to their bed. Substituting a sleep in service with Telecare equipment makes a saving of £213k per person per annum.
- BCC Telecare equipment is monitored by NHS direct – no other authority has this service – calls can be triaged to prevent unnecessary emergency calls outs

CW asked whether GP Consortiums are signed up and aware of the equipment available. Bham City is part of the West Midlands Telecare Group where it can be difficult to get GPs signed up – they need to be made more aware of systems available to encourage them to signpost patients i.e. dementia sufferers, where they would be able to offer falls monitoring equipment and pill dispensers.

BM mentioned the 'Just Checking' system whereby the activity of a service user can be monitored by obtaining a username. The only issue is that there is not 100% connectivity.

BCC do not charge for this telecare equipment, they were awarded a technical grant of £1.5 million to purchase the kits.

BC highly recommends telecare. He expressed discontent to the Board at losing libraries across Birmingham. Many Older adults visit their local libraries to use the free connect, therefore losing this connectivity could have an adverse effect. He also mentioned schools should be made more accessible for older adults to use. The Deputy Leader explained that the reduction of libraries is going to be minimal.

Andrew Sheehan's presentation is available to view at www.digitalbirmingham.co.uk

Chris Lane, Assistant Director ICT – Centro, provided an update on various projects Centro are working on at present:

- Ticketing – a mechanism that reads smartcards has been installed on virtually all WM

buses.

- Information – Centro have appointed a partner to work with them on a mobile planning app, similar to the Sat Nav.
- Efficiencies of Services – Ring and Ride services: a tablet PC is to be issued to all services to control the routing on services.

The information given prompted a discussion about smartcards and the efficiency of them. Tim Manson, Phil Wells and Chris Lane to discuss opportunities and standardisation process in another setting – perhaps feedback can be given at a future Exec Board meeting.

DB Action: Terms of reference to be developed at Ops level and discuss in March's meeting.

Board Action: Comments from the Board welcomed on initial thoughts on the priority areas put forward by the DB team.

Open Data/ Open Minds – Dave Harte, Birmingham City University

DB invited Dave Harte to give a presentation on the subject of open data.

The idea behind open data is that information held by the Government should be freely available to use and re-mix by the public. The Government is committed to making much more public data openly available.

The plan is to use existing data and share, not to create extra data. Data can be shared on spend trends, performance, education, weather, the list is endless. www.data.gov.uk holds over 4600 datasets from Government departments, public sector and local authorities.

He talked through examples of how datasets have and can be used; he gave an example from the treasury to see where his tax and national insurance was spent by the Government and smart metering, to quantify his energy usage.

RM expressed that open data was regarded highly on Neelie Kroes', Vice President of the European Commission, agenda.

GE recognised the opportunities of open data for creating new services and applications but reflected that abstracting personal data or other sensitive data could be cost inhibitive.

This presentation is available to view at www.digitalbirmingham.co.uk

Digital Birmingham update – Raj Mack, Digital Birmingham

The December Headline report was tabled and RM updated the Board on the items:

- **Regional Growth Fund Bid** - Digital Birmingham has entered an initial expression of interest in a bid to secure funding from the newly established Regional Growth Fund (RGF) to support the creation of a Digital District.
- **ICF Top 7** - Having been successful in seeing Birmingham recognised as one of the Smart 21 top 'Intelligent Communities' by global thinktank, the Intelligent Community Forum, preparations are now underway for our stage two submission in our bid to become one of the top 7 cities
- **Web 2.0** - At the end of November we delivered the last of our four successful Web 2.0 events. The final event delivered in partnership with the Chamber 'How to make money

out of Social Media' - targeting SMEs, was a sell out event. Alongside these events Birmingham City University, are providing targeted advice and producing case studies for individual businesses.

- **DEHEM Smart Metering** - A short film has been produced that shows the impact on participants lives as cycle 2 of the project comes to a conclusion. It also demonstrates the new gas meter prototype, which will be rolled out to 10 Birmingham homes in the New Year as part of cycle 3.

Hello Digital – Looking back, looking forward - Nicola Bryant, Digital Birmingham

NB delivered a presentation to feedback on Birmingham's Digital Week and the Next Gen 10 Conference.

Hello Digital's future, digital drivers and opportunities for Hello Digital 2011 are currently being discussed.

Overall the week of events proved successful with good attendance and feedback. A report will be made available to the Board outlining the key deliverables and achievements of Digital Week. This will be e-mailed to the Board shortly.

The Deputy Leader and Board expressed their gratitude to Digital Birmingham for organising a triumphant week of events.

This presentation is available to view at www.digitalbirmingham.co.uk

AOB

Phil Wells and Adrian Middleton of Advantage West Midlands tendered their resignations from the Digital Birmingham Partnership. Thanks for support were expressed by the Deputy Leader, Glyn Evans and Raj Mack.

We wish Phil all the best with BDUK.

Adrian Middleton will, in some capacity, still be assisting DB on project work.

Fahri Zinhi requested feedback regarding the Britains Superfast Broadband Future Strategy which was launched on 6 December 2010 by Jeremy Hunt – What are the implications of this strategy and what does this mean for Birmingham?

Actions:

1. **Develop Terms of Reference at Ops Board level and discuss in March's meeting**
2. **Chris Lane and the DB team to get together and share thoughts on the Smart Card and its opportunities – perhaps feedback at a future meeting**
3. **Comments from the Board welcomed on initial thoughts on the priority areas put forward by the DB team.**
4. **Explore opportunities of creating a young people Digital Technology Development Board.**

Next Meeting: Wednesday 16 March 2011 15.30 – 17.30

Venue: TBC