

**South West Observatory
Operational & Research Group**

Draft Minutes of the meeting held on **Thursday 14 October 2010** at Western Power in Taunton

Attendance:

Vinita Nawathe (Chair)	SWO Core Unit
Rose Bird	GOSW
Hollie Bryant	West of England LIN
Andy Dunne	SWO Core Unit
Alistair Gordon	Environment Agency
Anne Gray	Dorset County Council
Sarah Hardwick	SWO Core Unit
Patrick Hartop	Plymouth City Council
Lou Maddocks (Minutes)	SWO Core Unit
Allison McCaig	Economy Module/SWRDA
Karen McDonald	Gloucestershire County Council
Ben Neild	SLIM
Mark Painter	Devon LIN
Ray Perrins	SWO Core Unit

Apologies: Jo Beer (Torbay), Jules Channer (Culture), Janine Gamon (Somerset)
PHO, SWC Planning, Wiltshire Council

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
1	Welcome and Apologies	
2	<p>Minutes from Previous Meeting Patrick Hartop pointed out that he did attend the last ORG meeting in July. LM to amend minutes of last ORG meeting.</p> <p>The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.</p>	Action: LM
3	<p>Matters arising from Action Matrix</p> <p><i>Lack of co-ordination/information about data tools across the SWO network -</i> Data Visualisation event to be held at the end of November.</p> <p><i>Incorporating additional sub-regional questions to the Visitor Survey (produced by South West Tourism) -</i> There had been no interest in this other than from Wiltshire, who have dealt with South West Tourism (SWT) direct on this. Anne Gray asked what would be happening to the Volume and Value data/reports once SWT closed. SH will follow up with SWT.</p> <p><i>'Total Place' initiative -</i> South West Councils (SWC) will be doing an update of progress across the sub-regions in the autumn. SH informed the group that she had also been sending out updates from Local Government Leadership on the initiative.</p> <p><i>Coordination of Local Profiles –</i> SH informed the group that a directory of profiles was now available on the SWO website: http://www.swo.org.uk/resources/local-profiles/</p>	Action: SH

	<p><i>Changing nature of our work/restricted resources –</i> AG pointed out that this had been covered in RIG. RB offered to circulate the sheets produced from the RIG workshop to the group.</p> <p><i>Dimensions of Equality Data –</i> SINe have been unable to progress but have 2 analysts starting in November so are hopeful that they will be working on it in the near future.</p> <p><i>Offering a ‘customer insight/behavioural change event –</i> This event will be held in Wiltshire in the new year. AG suggested that he may have a speaker from their ‘flood defence management team’ who could present at the event. VN asked for ideas of what people would like to achieve from the event.</p>	<p>Action: RB</p> <p>Action: All</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Future ORGs</p> <p>This ORG meeting was scheduled to be shorter than normal. VN expressed concerns regarding valuable use of network members’ time and asked what people wanted to achieve from ORG. SH pointed out that she doesn’t receive many agenda items. VN informed the group that SWO would be taking over RIG from now on. A discussion took place on whether to combine RIG/ORG. AG suggested that a merge was a good idea unless there was anything specific to discuss which would warrant a separate meeting. AG also suggested that some topics could be shared via COP’s or web-facility. BN suggested that if there was a piece of research or work he wanted to share it was best done with the wider RIG audience, but that ORG had its value for operational issues.</p> <p>VN felt that the meetings should be interactive and wondered whether a LIN & Module could present at each RIG. MP questioned whether it was necessary for LINs to present at each meeting – there would need to be something specific to report on. VN pointed out that not all LINs would be expected to present at all meetings. After some discussion, and building on ideas expressed at the morning RIG meeting, it was agreed that future RIG/ORG meetings should follow a specific ‘theme’ and that modules and LINs with appropriate interest or expertise would be encouraged to present. The topic of ‘The Economy’, including an update on the outcomes from the CSR was chosen for the next meeting. AM offered to present the Economy Module/RDA work on ‘Rebalancing the economy’. RB added that she would be happy to introduce a session if still in post. KM also agreed to take a slot.</p> <p>VN thanked everyone for the constructive input and it was agreed that ORG meetings in the afternoon should stay ‘operational’, would include planning content for the next RIG/ORG and would only be as long as they needed to be – i.e. potentially quite short. The morning RIG would concentrate on sharing information and best practice with the wider research and intelligence community.</p>	<p>Action AM, RB, KM</p> <p>Action all</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Local Profiles interactive webpage</p> <p>SH demonstrated the EA’s ‘Interactive Local Area Profiles’ map to the group. AG asked if the group could check that the links were directing users to the correct places.</p> <p>It was agreed that AD put an ‘Interactive Local Area Profiles’ map on the SWO homepage but that it should show West of England Partnership (missing from AG’s map) to reflect the current LIN make up.</p>	<p>Action: AD</p>

