



Promoting excellence in
Public services in the East Midlands

East Midlands Solace Branch Meeting Notes 15 March 2007 at 13.10 The Belfry

	ACTION
<p>1. Members present: Simon Bovey (Chair), Duncan Kerr (Honorary Secretary), Robert Moreland, Alan Mellor, Allen Graham, David Oliver, Sue Smith, Janet Doran, Lyn Martin-Benninson, Lynn Aisbett, Sandra Whiles, Christine Fisher</p> <p>2. Apologies: John Latham, Paul Crowson, Alan Franks, Ruby Bhattal, David Cook, Lee Adams</p>	
<p>3. Officer changes: Duncan reported that he wanted to step down from being Honorary Secretary and Robert Moreland had agreed to act as Branch Secretary for the remainder of 2006/07. This was accepted.</p> <p>4. Future Branch Programme/Activity: We discussed and agreed the general principle of organising two or three events each year on specific themes rather than general Branch meetings.</p> <p>The first event to be held will be a day conference on 'An End to Targets... there is another way', on 12 June at the De Vere Belton Woods Hotel, Grantham. The conference will be looking at lean systems approaches and how they can be used to implement improvement initiatives quickly and effectively. We considered and agreed a draft agenda. Michael Frater will be facilitating the conference and guest speakers include Professor John Seddon and Max Wide (BT).</p>	DK
<p>We discussed and agreed the next two events which would look at:</p> <p>1. Understanding the impact of City Regions (Multi Area Agreements and Comprehensive Area Assessments) – to held in October/November. Christine Fisher agreed to help plan this event.</p>	CF
<p>2. Strategic Business Risks – how prepared are we for challenges</p>	

<p>of Climate Change/major emergencies? To be held in Jan/Feb 2008.</p> <p>We also discussed the potential for collecting and analysing the key issues for our councils arising from our Direction of Travel reports. Agreed each Chief Executive to identify the top 3 or 4 issues from their reports, these will then be summarised in a report for the Branch. Councils would then be able to use the intelligence to work with other councils facing the same issues.</p>	<p>TBC</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p>5. Annual General Meeting - We agreed to hold the Branch Annual General Meeting on 12 June during the lunch break of the Conference. We discussed Branch fees and agreed to recommend to the AGM to use the Events programme above as a means to raise Branch funds rather than raise individual member fees.</p>	<p>RM</p>
<p>4. Proposal for an East Midlands SOLACE Branch annual award for 'Outstanding Contribution to Public Service' – we discussed a proposal to introduce an annual award. If the award was introduced members felt that it should recognise team as well as individual contributions and successful examples of changes in organisational behaviour (3rd tier managers and below) as well as service delivery improvements. We should continue to look at getting one of SOLACE's gold members (e.g. BT) to sponsor it. Agreed to do further work and a revised paper to be considered at a future meeting.</p>	