

**MINUTES OF THE SAFER COMMUNITIES EXECUTIVE BOARD (HSP)**  
**MONDAY, 16 MARCH 2009**

**Present:** Dr Ita O'Donovan (Chair), Chris Barclay, Sue Brown, Sam Evans, Jennifer James, Claire Kowalska, Enid Ledgister, Mohamed Maigag, Marion Morris, Mary Pilgrim, Jeremy Walsh.

**In Attendance:** Xanthe Barker, Kate Dalzell, Helena Pugh, Robin Payne, Christine Piscina, Sean Sweeney, Elaine Cunnea.

**LC94. APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Apologies for absence were received from:

Lee Bojtor	-Jeremy Walsh substituted
John Brown	
Councillor Nilgun Canver	
Jean Croot	
Dave Grant	-Chris Barclay substituted
Peter Lewis	-Jennifer James substituted
Joanne McCartney	-Sam Evans substituted
Barbara Nicholls	
Pastor Nims Obunge	

**LC95. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

No items of Urgent Business were raised.

**LC96. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made.

**LC97. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2008 were confirmed a correct record.

**LC98. TERRORISM UPDATE**

The Board received a verbal update from the Police on the threat of terrorism in the Borough.

It was noted that the recent acts of terrorism in Northern Ireland meant that the threat of terrorism in the UK generally and London specifically had also increased and was classed as possible to likely.

**RESOLVED:**

That the update be noted.

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**LC99. COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT**

The Board received a presentation on the forthcoming Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA).

An overview was given of the scope of the CAA and it was noted that this was comprised of two key strands:

Area Assessment

This strand would consider how effectively local public services delivered local priorities, economic prospects, community safety and potential for future improvement.

Organisational Assessment

The second strand would consider the use of resources and performance management and how the Council delivered value for money through the combined use of resources and performance management.

It was noted that Partners would be inspected by their own inspection regimes and that these would liaise with the Audit Commission.

In assessing this four key themes would be considered:

- Management of finances
- Governing business
- Managing resources
- Managing performance

In terms of the Area Assessment the following would be areas of focus:

- How well do local priorities express community needs and aspirations?
- How well are the outcomes and improvements needed being delivered?
- What are the prospects for future improvements?

It was noted that the Local Authority would be required to produce and publish an Annual Summary, which would include an overview of key priorities, overall successes, challenges and future prospects. It was envisaged that these would form a tool for members of the public wanting to obtain an overview of the Borough.

In addition to this a system of red and green flags would be used to indicate areas where arrangements were considered inadequate to deliver improvement or where exceptional or innovative practice was demonstrated.

The Board was advised that the CAA would take a more holistic approach to assessing performance and would gather evidence over the course of a year rather than focussing on a limited period.

Members of the Board were invited to visit the Council's website, which contained CAA and would be updated regularly, where further information could be accessed.

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The Board was advised that the Voluntary and Community Sector was represented by the Chief Executive of HAVCO at the HSP Performance Management Group (PMG).

The Board was advised that there was no weighting or scoring attached to the Area Assessment. However, if there was a significant area that impacted on the delivery of services as a whole this may be reflected in the overall Assessment.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the presentation be noted.

#### **LC100. THIRD QUARTER PERFORMANCE AND END OF YEAR FINANCE REPORT (INCLUDING LAA REFRESH UPDATE)**

The Board received a report setting out performance during the Third Quarter against Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets within its responsibility; the current status of the LAA Refresh and expenditure against the Area Based Grant (ABG).

It was noted that there were two areas where performance continued to be challenging: residential burglary and theft from motor vehicles. However, the most recent data received showed that performance was improving in both areas.

Additional funding for 2009/10 had been secured for acquisitive crime and anti-social behaviour case work. The Partnership had allocated approximately £2M from the ABG for 2009/10 and a further £294.5K of from the Police BCU fund.

It was anticipated that full spend would be reached across the majority of the funding available for 2008/09. However, a carry forward of £185K was requested for 2009/10. and business cases had been submitted for this.

The Board was advised that the Stretch Target in relation to instances of repeat incidents of domestic violence continued to show as Red. This was due to a discrepancy in the calculation used in relation to baseline data. At present performance was being monitored against the number of instances of domestic violence rather than the number of victims. The business case put forward had proposed that this target would be measured on the number of victims and changes to the baseline data were being negotiated at present.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

#### **LC101. SAFER COMMUNITIES PRIORITY ACTIONS 2009/10**

The Board received a report setting out the proposed priority actions for the Partnership during 2009/10.

It was noted that priorities were drawn from the three-year Partnership Plan and the latest annual strategic needs assessment. At present individual action plans for each priority area were being finalised.

#### **RESOLVED:**

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That the report be noted.

**LC102. PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM**

The Board received a report setting out the approach that had been developed to address the Preventing Violent Extremism Agenda.

Although Haringey was not considered to be under a particular threat from extremist groups there was ongoing dialogue with colleagues from the Police to monitor this situation.

There had been instances of radical groups campaigning in the Borough and the Board was advised that work was being carried out to look at how the Local Authority and Police could work with communities to prevent the radicalisation of young people in Haringey. Similar work was already taking place in neighbouring Boroughs and it was important that Haringey kept a 'watching brief' on this situation.

The Board noted that it was important that individual ethnic groups did not feel victimised by this work. This point was recognised and the Board was advised that this was viewed as an opportunity to work with communities and the vast majority of people within those communities shared concerns over radicalisation of young people.

In response to a query it was confirmed that the Racial Equalities Council was involved in this work.

**RESOLVED:**

That the approach set out in the report be adopted.

**LC103. HARINGEY'S DRAFT HOUSING STRATEGY 2009-19**

The Board received a report that provided an overview of the new Haringey Housing Strategy 2009-10 and how this was being developed.

The Strategy was a Partnership document and its development was being led by the Integrated Housing Board. It would form the overarching strategy and the overall framework for a number of other strategies addressing Homelessness, Affordable Warmth, Private Sector Housing and Older People's Housing.

In developing the Strategy, a number of stakeholder forums had been consulted. In addition, each of the HSP Thematic Boards and Area Assemblies were also being asked to consider and comment on the Strategy, which is also available online.

It was suggested that the strategy should set out the Council's commitment to using locks and other safety devices that were of a high standard in its properties in order to provide an example of good practice to private landlords.

There was agreement that there should be further discussion outside the meeting to strengthen the commitment to Community Safety and Section 17.

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The Chair noted that housing needs in the Borough were extremely complex and suggested that, once completed members of the Board wishing to obtain a better understanding of the issues around this may find it useful to read the whole strategy document. In addition officers could also be contacted for further information.

### **RESOLVED:**

That progress in developing the new Housing Strategy be noted.

### **LC104. HARINGEYS FIRST COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

The Board received a report and presentation setting out the role of the new Community Engagement Framework (CEF) and how it was being developed.

It was noted that there were three key reasons for establishing a CEF:

- To reaffirm the HSPs commitment to community engagement
- To promote and share partnership understanding of principles and community engagement
- To identify and prioritise areas for development

There were several national and local drivers for forming the CEF including the Local Government and Involvement in Public Health Act and Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets.

The Board was advised that the HSP Performance Management Group (PMG) had established a multi agency sub group to lead on the delivery of the CEF.

The first phase of the consultation process had now concluded and the second phase was due to commence on 5 March. This would include publishing the consultation document on the Council's website and circulating this to Voluntary Sector groups for feedback. A questionnaire would also be circulated as part of this and comments in relation to the vision, definition and principles of the CEF were sought.

During the second phase each of the Thematic Boards would also be provided with an opportunity to discuss and comment on the draft CEF. It was noted that the third phase of the consultation process would take place in the autumn and would focus primarily on the development of the Action Plan.

The current phase of consultation closed on 21 April and members of the Board were asked to submit any comments to the Head of Corporate Policy by then.

The Community Police Consultative Group (CPCG) reported that they had not been included during the first round of consultations. It was explained that a working group had sought recommendations from each member on whom to consult and they had been overlooked. It was noted that the first phase of consultation had been a preliminary exercise and that there was still an opportunity for organisations not included within this phase to comment on the CEF. This would therefore, be rectified in due course.

It was suggested that some of the references to 'activities' currently set out in the document should be amended to refer to 'methodology' or 'approach' and that there

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should be a greater emphasis on listening and how the CEF would gauge the issues that people wanted to be engaged on.

It was noted that at present the document did not make reference to the Board's obligation under NI 21 to engage with the local community and that this should be picked up and addressed within the CEF.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

**LC105. DISCUSSION ITEM:**

The Board discussed the following topic:

*'Community engagement, increasing confidence and perceptions –how can all partners contribute to achieving National Indicator 21: How well the public believes we (primarily the Police and Local Authority) deal with crime and anti social behaviour in the area?'*

This item flowed on from the discussion on the CEF and it was noted that listening to the concerns raised by local people, prioritising these and demonstrating the outcomes of this work was important in engaging people effectively. It was suggested that local Neighbourhood Watch groups could be used as a mechanism to gauge this.

The Board was advised that a piece of work was currently underway with residents of Tottenham Green to devise an Action Plan to tackle fly tipping in the area. By engaging local people this initiative aimed to establish priorities that were relevant to the local community and to engender a sense of community expectations around what was acceptable.

There was agreement that alternative approaches should be considered and that examples could be taken from different communities both nationally and internationally. Better dialogue and understanding of behaviour would improve engagement.

It was suggested that more careful consideration needed to be given to the type and location of venues used to hold community meetings and consultation events as these often attracted a limited section of the community.

**RESOLVED:**

That the points raised during discussion should be considered and reflected within the approach taken to addressing NI 21.

**LC106. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

No new items of Urgent Business were raised.

**LC107. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

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The Chair advised that recent changes in legislation indicated that Community Safety Partnerships needed strong local political leadership one way of ensuring this would be that Partnerships were chaired by the appropriate Cabinet Member. This would allow the Borough Commander or Chief Executive of the Local Authority to be appointed as Vice-Chair.

With the first meeting on the new Municipal Year approaching this would need to be borne in mind when appointing the new Chair and Vice-Chair.

The relevant part of the legislation would be circulated with the minutes for information.

**LC108. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Board was asked to note the tentative dates set out below:

- 7 May 2009
- 10 September 2009
- 19 November 2009
- 4 February 2009

**Dr Ita O'Donovan**

**Chair**