

**MINUTES OF THE ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD (HSP)
WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2008**

Present: Councillor Kaushika Amin (Vice-Chair), Leo Atkins, Linda Banton, Yolande Burgess, John Egbo, Denise Gandy, Gary Ince, Shamila Mitre, Martha Osamor, Isobel Rawlinson, Walter Steel.

In Attendance: Xanthe Barker, Marc Dorfman, Ambrose Quashie, Martin Tucker.

LC70. APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from the following:

Dr Ita O'Donovan (Chair)
Juneed Asad
Manoj Ambasna
Rod Cullen
Councillor Pat Egan
Paul Head -Shamila Mitre substituted.
Naeem Sheikh

LC71. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2008 be confirmed as a correct record of the meeting.

LC72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

LC73. URGENT BUSINESS

No items of Urgent Business were received.

LC74. MAIN DISCUSSION ITEM -LAA REFRESH

The Board received a report setting out the process for the Local Area Agreement (LAA) Refresh. The report also sought approval to renegotiate certain LAA targets within the Boards responsibility.

It was proposed that the following targets should be renegotiated:

NI 153 – Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods

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It was proposed that this target should be revised down from a 4.7 percentage point reduction to a 3.9 percentage point increase as it was envisaged that the number of people who are claimant count unemployed in the UK will increase to 2M by 2010.

The Board was advised that it was forecast the UK would suffer a worse recession than other western countries and that other Authorities had indicated that they would attempt to reduce their employment related LAA targets.

It was noted that the recently published Government White Paper on reforms to the Benefit system aimed to encourage people to work wherever possible and included a number of new initiatives to achieve this. In response to a query as to how this would affect the number of people claiming Benefits, the Board was advised that the measures proposed would also mean that there was additional funding available to support those most in need.

NI 171 –New business registration rate

At present there was no data available to measure this. This would be available for the next quarter and would be reported on then.

It was noted that the London Development Agency's (LDA) targets were not aligned to those contained within the LAA. It was requested that the LDA make a presentation to the Board at a future meeting setting out how the links between its targets and those contained within the LAA.

The Board was advised that the LDA was looking at ways to address this and that and that it was currently undergoing a review of its targets with a view to achieving a more outcome based focus. This would help ensure that its targets were better aligned to the LAA targets.

It was noted that the LDA was holding an open meeting on its Investment Strategy for North London at the Bernie Grant Centre on 17 December 2008. Members of the Board were urged to attend this meeting as it would provide an opportunity to comment on the proposed approach and priorities. As part of the LDA's restructure the post occupied by the current Board member representing the LDA would no longer exist.

The Chair requested that a presentation from the LDA should be arranged for a future meeting and that officers should contact the LDA to determine who its new representative and link officer would be.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the timetable for completing the LAA refresh process be noted.
- ii. That the proposed revised targets for submission for GOL be approved.
- iii. That the LDA should be contacted to arrange a presentation on the links between its targets and those contained within the LAA.
- iv. That officers should contact the LDA to determine who the Boards new representative and link officer would be.

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LC75. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT UPDATE

The Board received a report providing an overview of work in relation to the Local Area Agreement (LAA) since the last meeting.

Performance Management Highlight Report –Second Quarter 2008/09

An overview was provided of performance against LAA National Indicators (NIs) and Stretch Targets within the Boards responsibility during the last Quarter.

It was suggested that an overview of local and national performance should be included in order to provide a context in which to assess performance. This would provide a clearer picture of how the Partnership was performing not only to the Board but to the wider HSP and members of the public.

The Board discussed how more support might be offered to Social Firms in order to improve the opportunities available to people with health problems to return to work. The Board was advised that this was being taken forward in the development of a forthcoming Social Enterprise Strategy.

There was agreement that consideration should be given to creating a newsletter to promote the work and initiatives in place to address Worklessness in the Borough.

Enterprise Board Risk Register

Each of the HSP Thematic Boards had been required to produce a Risk Register following the adoption of the HSP Risk Management Strategy in July 2008.

The Register identified key risks and remedial actions associated with the delivery of LAA targets. In addition to this it also addressed generic risks such as membership, data and information management and non-delivery of outcomes.

It was agreed that NI 153 should be monitored on a quarterly basis, rather than every six months, as set out in the report.

Working Neighbourhoods Fund Consultation

The Board was advised of revisions proposed by the Government in relation to the criteria governing the allocation of Working Neighbourhoods Funding (WNF) for 2009-11.

It was noted that the proposed revisions would result in an increase of £86,300 for Haringey over 2009-11 based on the figures included within the consultation document.

The Board was advised that the HSP would be submitting a response to the consultation that closed on 9 January 2009.

RESOLVED:

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- i. That performance against LAA targets during the 2nd Quarter be noted.
- ii. That future performance reports should provide a more comprehensive context in which to assess performance.
- iii. That, subject to the amendment set out above, the Risk Register be endorsed:
- iv. That the revisions to the WNF allocation criteria set out in the consultation paper be noted and supported in the HSP's response.

LC76. AREA BASED GRANT REVIEW

The Board received a report setting out the findings of the Area Based Grant (ABG) Review and its recommendations.

Following the Review it was proposed that the ABG should be allocated to the Thematic Boards on a two year basis in order to provide stability and this would commence in April 2009. Individual Thematic Boards were responsible for commissioning and the delivery of partnership priorities, LAA outcomes and targets within their remit and therefore the Board would need to determine how it would take this forward.

There was agreement that a sub group should be formed to look at how the Board would commission programmes in more detail and that a narrative should be formed setting out the rationale for the allocation of funding. Once the sub group had agreed a draft commissioning document this would be circulated to Board members for comment.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the letter from the Chair of the HSP regarding the ABG Review be noted.
- ii. That a sub group should be created to form a draft commissioning document setting out a programme of activity and intentions relating to LAA outcomes.
- iii. That, once a draft document had been formed, it should be circulated to Board members for comment.

LC77. ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL) PROVISION IN HARINGEY

RESOLVED:

That this item should be deferred until the next meeting.

LC78. TACKLING WORKLESSNESS UPDATE

The Board received an update on the three key Tackling Worklessness programmes in the Borough:

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- The Haringey Guarantee
- Families into Work
- North London Pledge

It was noted that in addition to the programmes listed above a number of initiatives focussing on the development of apprenticeships were currently being undertaken.

Concern was raised that private sector businesses, in particular smaller businesses, often had a negative perception of apprenticeships and were unwilling to become involved with what was perceived as the bureaucratic process attached to offering an apprenticeship. This point was acknowledged, however, it was noted that for larger organisations and public sector bodies, there were apprenticeship models that could be used effectively.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the developments and progress in relation to each of the programmes be noted.

LC79. BUSINESS AND ENTERPRISE UPDATE

The Board received a report that provided an update on Business and Enterprise activities funded from the Area Based Grant.

In response to a query as to what action was being taken to improve the opportunities in the west of the Borough, the Board was advised that there were several schemes specifically targeted in this area, including partnerships in Wood Green and Green Crouch End. In addition work was also being carried out with the Neighbourhoods Team to see how links could be made with existing schemes in these areas.

In terms of the opportunities offered by the Olympics the Board was advised that the Cabinet Member for Business and Enterprise was meeting with John Armit to discuss how the Borough could benefit from the Olympics. However, it was unlikely that there would be a significant amount of funding available as the five Olympic Boroughs would be the main beneficiaries.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the report be noted.
- ii. That the outcome of discussion between the Cabinet Member for Business and Enterprise and John Armit be reported to the Board.

LC80. IMPACT OF THE CREDIT CRUNCH ON THE HARINGEY LABOUR MARKET

The Board received a presentation on the impact of the Credit Crunch on Haringey's labour market.

RESOLVED:

That the presentation be noted and circulated with the minutes for information.

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LC81. NO ONE WRITTEN OFF: REFORMING WELFARE TO REWARD RESPONSIBILITY

The Board received, for information, the Borough's formal response to the Green Paper on Welfare Reform.

The Chair noted that the Board had seen this in draft form and commented on it and there was agreement that the final response set out reflected the comments made.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

LC82. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

No items of Urgent Business were raised.

LC83. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Board was informed that the Mayor of London was about to publish an Economic Recovery Plan.

LC84. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board was asked to note the date of the next meeting was 16 March 2009.

Dr Ita O'Donovan

Chair