

**MINUTES OF THE HARINGEY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD (HSP)
THURSDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2009**

Present: Councillor Claire Kober (Chair), Margeret Allen, Tracey Baldwin, Councillor John Bevan, John Brown, Yolande Burgess, Eugenia Cronin, Dave Grant, Robert Edmonds, Lynne Featherstone, Michael Fox, Paul Head (Vice-Chair), Rachel Hughes, Derma Ioannou, Michael Jones, Maria Kane, Peter Lewis, Councillor Dr Ita O'Donovan, Pastor Nims Obunge, Martha Osamor, Councillor Lorna Reith, Faiza Rizvi, Michelle Stokes, Richard Sumray.

In Attendance: Xanthe Barker, Jackie Barry-Purssell, Mary Connolly, Karen Galey, Sharon Kemp, Susan Oti, Eve Pelekanos, Pamela Pemberton, Helena Pugh, Naeem Shiekh.

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
HSP117.	APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS Apologies for absence were received from the following: Councillor Nilgun Canver John Egbo Councillor Brian Haley	
HSP118.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST No declarations of interest were made.	
HSP119.	MINUTES RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2008 be confirmed as a correct record.	
HSP120.	URGENT BUSINESS There were no items of Urgent Business raised.	
HSP121.	PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE TO THE RECESSION The Board received a presentation in relation to the current economic climate and its impact upon the Borough and discussed how the Partnership could work together to respond to this. It was noted that the Partnership would need to consider how it would respond to the economic downturn in the short and long term. In response to a query the Chair advised that the Council had looked at options for establishing a Credit Union. It was noted that the process	

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attached to this was complicated and could take up to two years to complete. However, the possibility of joining an existing Credit Union, in partnership with a neighbouring Borough, was being explored and a feasibility study was being carried out to look at the issues attached to this.

The Board was advised that the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion had met with representatives from the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) to discuss how the change in economic climate was affecting their clients. They had been advised that a significant number of people were coming forward, from the west of the Borough and it was anticipated that this would increase as the impact of further job losses were felt.

There was agreement that a coordinated approach from the Partnership was essential in order to ensure that the resources available were used as effectively as possible. As a number of organisations represented at the HSP were large employers there was an opportunity for initiatives to be developed jointly.

This also presented an opportunity for the Partnership to consider how volunteering, apprenticeships and different skills sets could be developed amongst people who were out of work. This could be linked to citizenship by encouraging people who had recently become unemployed, who may possess a different skills sets, to work with people who had been unemployed on a long term basis.

It was suggested that a time limited 'Task and Finish' group should be established to focus on a small number of key initiatives on behalf of the HSP.

The Chair asked Board members supply the Council's Head of Economic Regeneration with information setting out the actions and initiatives they were taking to address the current economic climate. This information would be considered by the 'Task and Finish' group and the Partnership's response would be formulated.

It was noted that there were currently several Government initiatives aimed at 'kick starting' the economy particularly in relation to the construction industry. At present Homes for Haringey was using funding obtained as part of this to push forward the Decent Homes Programme. This meant that the number of apprenticeships that the organisation was able to offer had increased.

The Board was advised that CONEL and the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) were currently working together to extend flexibility around the Homes for Haringey Apprenticeship Scheme. Initiatives were also being formed to address the needs of people who had recently been made redundant. These included Education and Skills Clubs that were held in different locations around the Borough and Job Clubs.

It was noted that the Council and Homes for Haringey had recently

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	<p>organised a Job Fair to assist people living in Temporary Accommodation to find routes into employment and there was agreement that the Task and Finish Group should focus on establishing similar targeted initiatives.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. That the presentation be noted. ii. That a time limited Task and Finish Group should be established to form a small number of targeted initiatives on behalf of the HSP and that this would be coordinated by the Council's Economic Regeneration Team. iii. That Partners should advise the Council's Head of Economic Regeneration of the measures that they were taking to address the current economic downturn as soon as possible. 	<p>karen Galey</p> <p>All</p>
<p>HSP122.</p>	<p>THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET 2009/10</p> <p>The Board received a presentation from the Council's Chief Financial Officer that provided an overview of the Council's Budget for 2009/10.</p> <p>Following the presentation members of the Board were invited to put questions to the Council's Chief Financial Officer.</p> <p>The Board was advised that the Council Plan and Community Strategy largely determined how the budget priorities were set. The Business Planning process then drew on these and cases were built up around the priorities contained within them and considered by Councillors.</p> <p>It was noted that the importance of joint commissioning and that provision was being made for developing mechanisms to facilitate this.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the presentation be noted.</p>	
<p>HSP123.</p>	<p>ACTION PLAN IN RESPONSE TO THE JOINT AREA REVIEW OF SAFEGUARDING IN HARINGEY</p> <p>The Board received a report presenting the Action Plan that had been formed in response to the Joint Area Review (JAR) of the arrangements in place for Safeguarding children in Haringey.</p> <p>The JAR report, received from OFSTED in December 2008, made a number of recommendations for improving the Safeguarding of children in Haringey. Following the publication of this the Secretary of State had required the new Director of Children's Services to produce an Action Plan addressing the recommendations by the end of February 2009.</p> <p>The Board was advised that Partners had worked together to produce the Plan and that there had been significant level of enthusiasm and</p>	

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commitment in formulating the document. The Plan set out how the recommendations within the JAR report would be addressed and how Safeguarding would be improved over the next three years.

In addition to the document presented there were a number of monitoring and performance management documents beneath it. At present a piece of work was being carried out to rationalise the bodies with Safeguarding responsibilities; the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board was taking steps to become a Children's Trust Board and several other existing bodies were being merged or abolished. All of these measures were intended to ensure that Safeguarding in the Borough was as effective and transparent as possible and that the governance arrangements were robust.

It was noted that a narrative document would also be produced, which would provide an overview of what the Action Plan aimed to achieve over the next three years and its strategic priorities. A 'map' would also accompany the document setting out how the various documents were linked, key milestones and timeline for the three year period covered by the Plan.

Concern was raised by representatives from the Community and Voluntary Sector that there had been insufficient consultation with the sector during the formation of the Plan. This point was acknowledged, however, it was noted that there had been a very limited timescale in place to draw together the Plan. As a result it had not been possible to consult with the range of partners and organisations that were normally engaged with.

It was noted that following the death of Baby P it had become evident that staff had raised concerns around the handling of cases with senior officers and that these had not been addressed. In response to a query, as to how this, and the broader issue of attitude and cultural change were being addressed, the Board was advised that this was a key issue and that there were measures included within it that were aimed at improving and developing reflective practice and how staff were supported by senior officers.

The Plan also contained measures to raise awareness of Safeguarding issues amongst the public and to encourage people to come forward if they had issues of concern.

It was contended that for the Plan to be successful the narrative would need to specify what had to change and how it was intended to achieve this. It was suggested that there should be further detail included in relation to the roles of partners and the responsibilities assigned to them within the Plan.

There was agreement that it would be useful if Councillors and other responsible partners, who were not practitioners, met to discuss how they could assure themselves that Safeguarding was working effectively and that there were the proper mechanisms in place.

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	That the presentation be noted.	All to note
HSP125.	<p>PREPARING FOR HARINGEY'S COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT (CAA) -THE AREA ASSESSMENT</p> <p>The Board considered a report setting out the proposed governance arrangements for the preparation of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA).</p> <p>An overview of the proposed governance arrangements was provided and it was noted that the HSP Performance Management (PMG) would oversee the Area Assessment. A working group had been established consisting of members nominated by the PMG and Chaired by John Brown that had been tasked with compiling the Self Assessment and supporting evidence base.</p> <p>It was noted that the final document would be submitted to the HSP in June for approval. The Board was advised that the group would include a range of partners including representatives from the Community and Voluntary Sector.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the proposed governance arrangements, timetable for the Area Assessment and CAA Briefings, set out in the report be approved.</p>	Sharon Kemp/ Helena Pugh
HSP126.	<p>HARINGEY'S FIRST COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK</p> <p>The Board considered a report setting out progress on the development of a Community Engagement Framework (CEF). The HSP Performance Management Group (PMG) had established a multi agency sub group to lead on the delivery of the CEF.</p> <p>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 it to Voluntary Sector groups for feedback. A questionnaire would also be circulated seeking specific comments in relation to the vision, definition and principles of the CEF.</p> <p>During the second phase each of the Thematic Boards would also be provided with an opportunity to discuss and comment on the draft CEF. The third phase of the consultation process would take place in the Autumn and that this would focus primarily on the development of the Action Plan.</p> <p>The Board discussed progress to date and concern was raised that there was insufficient emphasis on Empowerment and how this would be achieved. Representatives from the Third Sector felt that this formed an essential part of the CEF and its success and should be highlighted in the document.</p> <p>The Board was advised that it had not been considered appropriate to</p>	

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	<p>carry out a cost analysis or allocate funding until the second phase of consultation had been completed. Once this had concluded work in relation to this would commence.</p> <p>It was noted that organisations often received requests for the same sets of information on a regular basis and it was suggested that there should be cross referencing with tools such as the Compact Tool Kit to ensure that duplication did not occur. The sub-group working on the document had recognised the need to present information in a way that made it accessible to people. To reflect this information had been presented in the form of a matrix rather than in a list.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the draft CEF consultation document be approved for public consultation in early March 2009.</p>	
<p>HSP127.</p>	<p>LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2ND AND 3RD QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT</p> <p>The Board received a report that provided a summary of performance against Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets during the second and third quarters of 2008/09.</p> <p>An overview was provided of the areas where targets were not being met and the measures being taken to mitigate this. Performance in relation to the Prevalence of Chlamydia was expected to improve during the forth quarter as a result of the increased action taken by partners to address this.</p> <p>The Board was advised that a number of suggestions arising from discussion at the previous meeting had been taken forward in relation to improving Chlamydia screening. These included two articles in Haringey People and new initiatives by CONEL and the PCT. It was agreed that a list of the specific actions taken as a result of the HSP's discussion should be circulated to the Board.</p> <p>The Board discussed the target around reducing the number of people receiving Incapacity Benefit and was advised that this had been a problematic target for all London Boroughs. As a result it had been proposed that this target should be removed from the LAA during the current Refresh and adopted as a Local Target.</p> <p>It was clarified that the Performance Reward Grant was tied to the successful meeting of targets. As the target in relation to Incapacity Benefit could not be achieved within the remaining timescale for 2008/09 future financial calculations had already been made on the basis that this would not be achieved.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>i. That performance during the second and third quarters be noted.</p>	<p>Eve Pelekanos</p>

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	<p>ii. That the remedial actions being taken to address areas of under performance be noted.</p>	
<p>HSP128.</p>	<p>LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT REFRESH</p> <p>The Board received a report that provided an overview of the process in relation to the Local Area Agreement Refresh for 2008/09. Following the JAR report the opportunity was being taken to include the following additional Safeguarding indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI 59 –Initial assessments for children’s social care (National Indicator) • NI 61 –Stability of looked after children adopted following an agency decision (Local Indicator) • NI 62 –Stability of placements of looked after children -number of moves (Local Indicator) • NI 67 –Child protection cases reviewed within the required timescales (Local Indicator) <p>It was noted that in order to accommodate the adoption of N1 59 as an LAA target N1 would become a Local Indicator rather than an LAA target.</p> <p>Concern was raised that there had been no discussion in relation to the removal of NI 127. The Board was advised that although the target was being removed from the LAA it would still remain as a Local Target and would continue to be monitored and reported on.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>i. That the report be noted.</p> <p>ii. That the recommendations from the PMG set out below be endorsed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The additional Safeguarding targets set out in the report be approved. b. The Stretch Target in relation to the number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit be converted to a Local Indicator. c. The removal of Local Target N1 127. <p>iii. That the timescales for completing the LAA Refresh be noted.</p> <p>iv. That the Leader of the Council, as Chair of the HSP, be authorised to agree any final revisions that may be required by GOL after the report has been approved by the Council’s Cabinet on 24 February 2009 and endorsed by the HSP.</p>	<p>Eve Pelekanos</p>
<p>HSP129.</p>	<p>AREA BASED GRANT: ALLOCATIONS TO THEME BOARDS 2009/10 - 2010/11</p> <p>The Board considered a report detailing the allocations to Thematic Boards for 2009/10 and 2010/11 and setting out the process for</p>	

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	<p>approving the programme of activity funded by the Area Based Grant (ABG) for the period.</p> <p>At present the Thematic Boards were in the process of planning activities funded by the ABG for the next two year period.</p> <p>It was noted that the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership Board would receive the most significant increase in its funding due to an increase in the number of Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) grants within the overall allocation. As supporting children and young people was a key priority for the Board it had been agreed that this additional funding should be passed directly to the Board.</p> <p>The Board was advised that the PMG would consider the proposed Activity Programmes from each of the Thematic Board at its meeting on 18 March.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. That the report be endorsed and the process and timescales for approving the 2009/10 programme be noted. ii. The authority be delegated to the PMG to approved the programme of activity funded as recommended by the Thematic Boards at its meeting in March. 	<p>Mary Connolly/ Sharon Kemp</p>
<p>HSP130.</p>	<p>HARINGEY HOUSING STRATEGY 2009-19 -UPDATE</p> <p>The Board received a report, for information, which provided an update on progress made in relation to new Housing Strategy 2009-19.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the be noted.</p>	<p>All to note</p>
<p>HSP131.</p>	<p>HARINGEY SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY: PROGRESS REPORT JUNE 2007 - DECEMBER 2008</p> <p>The Board received a report seeking approval of the final Haringey Community Strategy: Progress Report Summary.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Haringey Community Strategy: Progress Report Summary for the period June 2007 to December 2008 be approved and circulated with the April edition of Haringey People.</p>	<p>All to note</p>
<p>HSP132.</p>	<p>BRIEFING ON THE PROPOSED MERGER OF THE COLLEGE OF NORTH EAST LONDON (CONEL) AND ENFIELD COLLEGE</p> <p>The Board received a report that provided a briefing on progress in</p>	

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	<p>relation to the proposed merger of the College of North East London (CONEL) with Enfield College.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	All to note
HSP133.	<p>THEMATIC BOARD UPDATES</p> <p>The Board received a report that provided a summary of work streams and recent decisions undertaken by each of the Thematic Partnership Boards.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	All to note
HSP134.	<p>NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>No new items of Urgent Business were raised.</p>	
HSP135.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>No items of AOB were raised.</p>	
HSP136.	<p>DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS</p> <p>It was noted that the next meeting of the HSP was due to take place on 27 April 2009.</p>	All to note

COUNCILLOR CLAIRE KOBER

Chair

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.