

**Meeting:** Haringey Strategic Partnership

**Date:** 26 February 2009

**Report Title:** Area Based Grant Theme Board Allocations  
2009/10 -2010/11

**Report of:** Sharon Kemp Assistant Chief Executive PPP&C

### **Purpose**

This report informs on the agreed Area Based Grant (ABG) allocations to theme boards for 2009/10 and 2010/11 and sets out the process for approving the programme of activity to be funded by ABG for the given period.

### **Summary**

- The HSP Performance Management Group agreed on 3rd December 2008 the provisional allocations of Area Based Grant to theme boards for 2009/10 and 2010/11. The Council's Cabinet approved the proposed theme board allocations on 26th January 2009.
- The ABG came into effect in April 2008, with councils receiving notification of their indicative three year allocation in December 2007. A number of changes have been made to the ABG since this initial notification and this report details the current position for 2008/09 and compares the 2008/09 allocation with the 2009/10 and 2010 allocation.
- Theme Boards are currently in the process of planning the programme of activities to be funded by ABG for the next two years. This report sets out the process for approving the ABG programme to be delivered from 1st April 2009 as recommended by theme boards.

### **Chief Financial Officer Comments**

The Chief Financial Officer has been consulted over the contents of this report and supports the proposals to passport increases to the priority areas. Ensuring stability over two years is in line with government guidance for the Area Based Grant.

### **Legal Comments**

There are no specific legal implications beyond those identified in the body of the report.

### **Recommendations**

- It is recommended that the Haringey Strategic Partnership endorse the contents of this report, noting the process and timescales for approving the 2009/10 programme.
- It is recommended that the Haringey Strategic Partnership delegate authority to the PMG to approve the programme of activity to be funded as recommended by

theme boards, at its meeting in March 2009.

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Area Based Grant (ABG) came into effect in April 2008, with councils receiving notice of their indicative three year allocations in December 2007 (2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11). A number of changes have been made to the ABG since this initial notification and this report details the current position for 2008/09.
- 1.2 In February 2008 The HSP approved the 2008/09 ABG allocations to theme boards, and in March 2008 the PMG approved, on behalf of the HSP, the 2008/09 programme activity to be funded.
- 1.3 Two year theme board allocations for 2009/10 and 2010/11 were approved by the PMG in December 2008 and the council's Cabinet in January 2009. This report compares the 2008/09 allocation with the 2009/10 and 2010 allocation and sets out the process for approving the programme of activity to be funded by ABG for 2009/10 and 2010/11

## 2. Background information

- 2.1 The Area Based Grant (ABG) is a non-ring fenced revenue grant made up of former specific grants from seven Government Departments. The majority of these grants were already received by council services. It is paid to local authorities to use 'as they see fit' to support the delivery of local, regional and national priorities in their areas, including the achievement of Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets. The ABG was allocated to local areas on a three year basis to maximise stability and certainty across the partnership.
- 2.2 The three year allocations, published in December 2007, were indicative and ABG remains subject to change to allow further inclusion of grants and revision to existing grants. From 2011/12, the Government intends to pay the ABG as a single sum without the breakdown of the grants pooled.

## 3. The current position

- 3.1 The 2008/09 Haringey ABG allocation reported to the HSP in February 2008 was £21.8m. Since then an additional £0.432m has been awarded which brings the current total 2008/09 ABG to £22.279m. Local authorities were issued with revised determination letters informing them of additions to their allocation. The ABG is allocated across the HSP's thematic boards to deliver against the 2008/09-2010/11 LAA targets and key local priorities.
- 3.2 The table below shows the existing 2008/09 allocations to thematic boards.

ABG 2008/09 allocations per theme board:	
Theme Board	Amount

Better Places Partnership	1.944
Children & Young People Strategic Partnership	9.910
Enterprise Partnership	1.200
Integrated Housing Board	.223
Safer Communities Executive Board	2.066
Neighbourhoods and Capacity	1.793
Well Being	5.143
<b>Total</b>	<b>22.279</b>

#### 4. Allocating the Area Based Grant for 2009/10 and 2010/11

4.1 The ABG in 2009/10 is worth approximately £24.049m, an increase of £1.77m (8%) on 2008/09. In 2010/11, the Supporting People Grant (£18.666m) will be included within the ABG, totalling approximately £42.590m.

4.2 The table below shows the theme board allocations for the next two years.

<b>ABG 2009/10 and 2010/11 allocations</b>			
	<b>2008/09 allocation (£m)</b>	<b>2009/10 allocation (£m)</b>	<b>2010/11 allocation (£m)</b>
Better Places Partnership	1.944	2.019	2.019
Children & Young People's Partnership	9.910	11.149	11.149
Enterprise Partnership	1.200	1.556	1.431
Integrated Housing Board	.223	.223	.223
Safer Communities Executive Board	2.066	2.166	2.166
Neighbourhoods and Capacity	1.793	1.793	1.793
Well Being Partnership Board	5.143	5.143	5.143
Supporting People		0	18.666
<b>Total</b>	<b>22.279</b>	<b>24.049</b>	<b>42.590</b>

4.3 The allocation to theme boards passport through the majority of identified increases received within the authorities overall ABG allocation, as specified by the various government departments. This will enable theme boards to achieve their priority outcomes whilst ensuring that no area sees a reduction, based on the 2008/09 allocations. In addition awarding two year allocations provides financial stability and certainty to thematic boards and providers alike, subject to conditions, and is in line with government guidance for the Area Based Grant.

The Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership receives the most significant increase to its overall allocation resulting from increases to a number of the DCSF grants within the overall ABG allocation. Support for Children and Young People remains a key priority for the partnership and this is reflected in the decision to passport all DCSF grant increases to this area.

The Enterprise Partnership Board receives the increase to its allocation from the Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF). The main remit for WNF is tackling worklessness. Locally, levels of worklessness remain a concern and this will

continue to be a priority for the partnership considering the current economic conditions.

## **5. Area Based Grant programme for 2009/10 and 2010/11**

- 5.1 Theme Board lead officers have been informed of their allocations for 2009/10 and 2010/11 and have been asked to consider and plan, in consultation with lead members and partners, the programme of activities to be funded for the next two years.
- 5.2 The 2009/10 and 2010/11 programmes are being developed around theme board priority areas; local, regional and national priorities; and the key priority outcomes of the Haringey Strategic Partnership as detailed within the Local Area Agreement and the Sustainable Community Strategy. Additional funding is to be specifically targeted at key areas of risk and theme boards are asked to set in place contingency plans to mitigate against risk should they arise.
- 5.3 Proposed programmes are to be discussed and agreed at the relevant HSP theme board or through its nominated sub structures, and seek to have partner endorsement prior to recommendation for approval to the HSP's Performance Management Group in March 2009.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The allocations passport through increases to achieve priority outcomes whilst ensuring that no area sees a reduction. Awarding two year allocations provides financial stability and certainty to thematic boards and providers alike, subject to conditions, and is in line with government guidance for the ABG.

## **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 The ABG is a non-ring fenced revenue grant paid to local authorities to use 'as they see fit' to support the delivery of local, regional and national priorities. In previous years, the HSP had responsibility to make sure the NRF and the LAA Grant was used to deliver key partnership activity. Continuing with this policy, the council agreed to share the information on the ABG expenditure for 2008/09 with partners.

## **8. List the proposed routing for the report through the formal decision making process**

- 8.1 It is proposed that the ABG allocations for theme boards and the programme of projects to be delivered is taken through the following decision making process:
  - 3rd December: Report to PMG - theme board allocations
  - 26th January 2009: Report to CABINET - theme allocations to be reported as part of the wider financial planning report
  - 26th February 2009: Report to the HSP - thematic board allocations
  - 18th March 2009: Report to PMG – proposed programme of activities
  - Theme board allocations and proposed programme of activities to be reported to thematic boards during cycle 3 and 4.