



ACE[PPPC]/SK/JM

The Rt Hon John Healey MP  
Minister for Local Government  
Department for Communities & Local Government  
Eland House  
Bressenden Place  
London  
SW1E 5DU

7 January 2009

Dear Mr Healey

**Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) – Response to consultation of the revision of the third criteria**

Thank you for your letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> November 2008 informing local authorities of the Governments' intention to revise the WNF (third criteria) and inviting areas to participate and give their views on the proposals put forward in the consultation document.

Haringey has now had the opportunity to consider the details of the consultation document and is in favour of the proposals put forward and the revised methodology to be used.

Haringey supports the proposal to:

- Revise the third criterion using the updated benefits, employment and population data; and
- Extend the cut off point for eligibility from 40 to 50 LAs.

Under the revised methodology Haringey will continue to meet all three of the allocation criteria and will in principle not suffer any adverse affects as a result of these proposals.

May we also take this opportunity to highlight our concerns about the quality of the data used in the methodology. In particular Haringey would like to see:

- A boost to the Annual Population Survey sample size, particularly in London, in order for more robust data to be collected at the local level.
- Improvements made to the mid-year population estimates, particularly at the local level, which are used to calculate employment and benefit claim rates.

Please accept this letter as support of the proposed changes to be made and thank you for providing the opportunity to respond to this consultation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Kemp', written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.

Sharon Kemp  
Assistant Chief Executive  
[Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communications]