

**Meeting:** Haringey Strategic Partnership

**Date:** 27 April 2009

**Report Title:** Thematic Board Updates

**Report of:** Mary Connolly, Partnerships Manager, Haringey Council

### **Summary**

This report provides a summary of the work streams, activities and recent decisions undertaken by each of the Thematic Partnership Boards.

### **Recommendations**

To note the updates from each Thematic Partnership and for Board members to comment as appropriate.

### **Financial/Legal Comments**

N/A.

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## **Better Places Partnership Board**

The Better Places Partnership met on 14 April 2009.

The Partnership agreed to make some structural adjustments to improve its focus on delivery and ability to act as a partnership body with accountability for delivering the Greenest Borough Strategy. It was agreed that a partner organisation would be identified to lead on each of the seven priorities identified in the Greenest Borough Strategy, in partnership with the Haringey Council lead. Better Places Partnership Meetings will be used to provide quarterly updates on progress and activity against each theme, particularly focusing on two priorities at each meeting, as well as looking at overarching strategic issues, communications items, and performance.

This shift in working will be reinforced by the introduction of an Area Based Grant Innovations Funding Pot within the BPP ABG allocation, which will be used to fund innovative projects which contribute to delivery of the seven Greenest Borough Strategy priorities, and led by lead partner organisations.

The Partnership also discussed the Better Haringey Outdoor Advertising Campaign and how better outcomes could be realised through a partnership approach to this.

The Partnership reviewed its performance during the Fourth Quarter, noting that targets have been met on four of the eight Local Area Agreement targets on which the partnership leads. Data is outstanding on three indicators, and this is being pursued. The recycling target has failed to meet its targets, and the partnership noted the explanations for this and the recycling action plan in place in to address the under-performance. The partnership's ABG funded projects have all delivered the agreed outputs to time and on budget for 2008/9, and the BPP funding allocation for 2009/10 is now confirmed.

### **Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board**

The Board has met once since the HSP meeting in February. The main item on the agenda was a briefing paper on the development of a Children's Trust. A considerable time was devoted to discussion on the proposed Terms of Reference, Membership and sub groups. In principal it was decided to move towards a Trust but it was agreed that further thought should be given to the Membership and structure of the future Trust.

The Board also received an update on the Haringey Play Strategy from the Chair of the Early Childhood Forum and a representative of Haringey Play Association. This was followed by a discussion on the work to progress the National Indicator, (NI) 113, on reducing the prevalence of Chlamydia.

A progress report was given on the development of the new Children and Young People's Plan, which should be published in September 2009. The Board was informed that a consultation questionnaire about the Plan was now publicly available on the Council's website.

The Board received a presentation on the Community Engagement Framework and a short report on monitoring of areas that currently fall outside the Local Area Agreement performance framework.

### **Enterprise Partnership Board**

The Board approved a Commissioning Prospectus that will determine the use of its £3M Area Based Grant allocation over the next two years.

The prospectus was published on the Haringey Council website on 10 March with applications invited until 3 April. A total of eighty-six applications were received and an appraisal panel, made up of Enterprise Board members, will meet on 30 April to agree funding recommendations to the full Board.

As part of the LAA Refresh the Board agreed that following the Government's decision to 'freeze' certain economic targets, the current target of a 4.7 percentage point reduction should remain in place to enable more time to build a stronger case for a reduction in the target. In relation to the Incapacity Benefit (IB) Stretch Target it was agreed that a revised target should be submitted to support one hundred and twenty long-term IB claimants into sustained employment and sixty people on Statutory Sick Pay to retain their current employment.

The Board received its Third Quarter performance report and agreed to discuss in more detail approaches to supporting Incapacity Benefit claimants into employment at its next meeting.

Updates on the three main Worklessness programmes: Haringey Guarantee, Families into Work and the North London Pledge. An update was also given on business and enterprise activities including the Wood Green Film Festival, an Olympic procurement event and the Haringey Business Pack.

The Board received an update on the work being undertaken to create a Haringey Business Board that will contribute to the town centre approach to business support and economic development.

### **Integrated Housing Board**

The Board is leading on the development of the new Haringey Housing Strategy 2009-19. The strategy is the partnership document that sets out our approach to housing over the next ten years. At its meeting on 23 March 2009 the Board considered progress to date in producing the strategy.

The Board received a report setting out the findings of the Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) in respect to the Homelessness Strategy. The EIA recommended that dedicated systems were established to collect data and to ensure that information was used to inform future service provision.

A presentation was given on Fuel Poverty and the proposed development of an Affordable Warmth Strategy. An overview was provided of the causes of Fuel Poverty, how this was classified and the impact it had upon people's health. A further report would be received in May updating the Board on progress and the final draft would be submitted for approval in September.

A report was received setting out proposals for expanding the Registered Providers Partnership (RPP) to include Registered Providers (RPs) in the Borough. In order to deliver the level of new Affordable Housing required in the Borough, particularly in the current economic climate, the existing RPP needed to be expanded. It was envisaged that expansion of the RPP would also result in a greater number of RPs signing up to the Council's nominations agreement.

Members of the Board representing Housing Associations expressed their support for the proposals. There would be further opportunities for Members of the Board to influence how the partnership arrangements would function in practice.

## **Safer Communities Executive Board**

The Safer Communities Executive Board met on 16 March 2009. The standard items included the Comprehensive Area Assessment and the Draft Housing Strategy.

There was a substantial discussion around the Preventing Violent Extremism programme. The Board agreed the proposed approach and actions but stressed that Haringey was not considered to be under any particular threat from extremist groups and that it was essential to avoid victimising any individual ethnic groups in the Borough. Progress with this new programme will be closely monitored.

Since the Third Quarter performance report had been received performance has further improved with notable successes in some of the most challenging areas. Overall serious acquisitive crime now stands at an 8% reduction against a 5.5% police target year to date and compared with last year. Of particular significance is the robbery achievement of a 25% reduction year to date against a police target of 1% reduction. There has also been a significant improvement in 'theft from motor vehicles' which is now exactly on target at 6% reduction. This has coincided with a concerted effort to use innovative approaches beyond policing and is a success story for the added value of partnership work. Residential burglary remains a challenge and is currently showing a standstill but not reaching its target.

Haringey was in the upper half for performance on serious violence and had improved significantly in reducing youth violence by a 16% reduction against a target of 5%. Gun and knife crimes continue to show exceptional performance with knife crime showing a 20% reduction year to date and gun crime a 26% reduction. Currently, performance overall compared favourably with neighbouring Boroughs such as Camden and Islington.

The Board noted that the LAA Refresh had been completed and outstanding targets addressed. Discussions continue with Government in relation to repeat victims for domestic violence but a solution is in sight.

The main discussion topic was community engagement, following on from consideration of the new corporate framework; the appointment of a Crime and Justice Co-ordinator and the duty to engage. In addition, the Board had NI 21 (perceptions of how the Council and Police are dealing with crime and disorder locally) as one of its LAA improvement targets. This area of work will be afforded greater priority across all Safer Communities programmes in the coming year. It was agreed that higher quality consultation and understanding of behaviour will be required as well as the adoption of best practice and alternative approaches.

## **Well-Being Strategic Partnership Board**

The Board received a report and presentation setting out the role of the new Community Engagement Framework (CEF) and how it was being developed. Engagement and empowerment were particularly relevant to the Well-Being

agenda and effective engagement with communities could offer real health benefits and help address health inequalities and this should be a primary driver for the CEF.

A presentation was also given on the forthcoming Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). In terms of the specific implications for the Well-Being Strategic Partnership Board, the NHS World Class Commissioning framework would be aligned to the CAA and that the NHS would be assessed against this. The respective Ofsted and Care Quality Commission inspections of Adult Learning and Adult Social Care would also be considered within the CAA.

The implications of the Deprivations of Liberty Safeguards, which formed part of the Mental Capacity Act 2007 and will come into force in April 2009, were discussed. These measures were intended to prevent arbitrary decisions being made that would deprive vulnerable people in hospital and care homes of their liberty. Under the new partnership arrangements Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts would be able to carry out any of their functions on each others behalf.

An update was provided on the HariActive programme, which contributed to four of the LAA National Indicators within the Board's responsibility. It was noted that proxies were now being formed to measure targets that had an annual indicator.

The Board received a report that provided an update on progress in relation to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). The first phase of the JSNA had been published in August 2008 and four underpinning needs assessments were currently being undertaken. A Steering Group had been established to guide the JSNA.

A verbal update in relation to the Area Based Grant and it was suggested that additional ways of engaging small organisations should be considered. There was agreement that the Board should develop a commissioning model to provide clarity and consistency.

The Board received updates from partners on the current economic outlook for their respective organisations.

## **Appendices**

None.