

**Meeting:** Enterprise Partnership Board

**Date:** 17 November 2009

**Report Title:** Area Based Grant Update

**Report of:** Martin Tucker, Regeneration Manager

**Purpose:**

To update the Enterprise Board on progress with commissioning the Board's ABG allocation for 2009-2011 and to recommend further interventions and programmes of activity to fully commission the ABG allocation.

**Summary:**

- The Enterprise Board commissioned new programmes of activities and interventions to tackle worklessness and support business and enterprise to promote economic prosperity for all in the period 2009-2011 in April/May 2009. These interventions were agreed at the 5 May 2009 meeting.
- The full Haringey Guarantee tackling worklessness programme for 2009-2011 was agreed and contingency/reserve interventions were included in the report presented at the May 2009 meeting of the Board.
- The Business Support and Enterprise Programme had unallocated £60,000 of their total programme.
- A contingency fund of £250,000 was agreed to be allocated later in this year.
- The programmes have been delivering from June 2009 and contingency interventions and programmes have been developed for consideration and approval by the Board.
- Haringey Council submitted a partnership Future Jobs Fund (FJF) bid to DWP at the end of October 2009. If successful this will lead to 221 new jobs being created in the borough drawing down £1.44 million funding. The management of the Future Jobs Fund programme will be undertaken by the Programme Management section of the council's Employment & Skills Team and it is proposed to create a Future Jobs Fund Co-ordinator post – fixed term to March 2011 partially funded through ABG

**Legal/Financial Implications**

N/A

## Recommendations

1. To agree and approve contingency/reserve projects under the Haringey Guarantee programme
2. To agree and approve recommended interventions/options under the Business Support and Enterprise Programme
3. To agree and approve partial funding for a FJF Co-ordinator post to manage the FJF programme.

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## Haringey Guarantee

The main Haringey Guarantee programme was re-commissioned during Quarter 1 with delivery commencing in Quarter 2.

A few interventions have been delayed due to contractual/legal clarifications (now resolved) and concerns about partnership and delivery arrangements on two projects – Windsor Fellowship and 2XL. We have brought on contingency/reserve projects to mitigate any potential underperformance:

*Sporting Futures with Haringey Sports Development* delivering coaching and first aid qualifications, volunteering opportunities and employment outcomes (£25,000) - a minimum of 30 Level 1 skills, 30 Level 2 skills outputs and 12 First Aid and 12 Child Protection outputs in 2009/10

Increased training, qualifications and jobs under the SIA commission (£20,000) – 20 *SIA licences and jobs*

Increased work placements and employability skills training with *NLPC* £15,000 - 20 NOCN qualifications and placements

Under the Contingency Fund we have developed interventions around supporting local businesses including SMEs to develop and implement part-time and flexible working patterns to increase the number of employment opportunities for unemployed women including lone parents with *Women Like Us* (£49,000) working with the Haringey Guarantee Employer Zone - Production of 500 flexible and part time working resource packs for employers, 40 employers receive training and HR/recruitment support and 40 part time and flexible jobs generated in Haringey

Linked with *HEBP and JAD Consultancy* to access specific retail opportunities in central and west London (£20,000.) – 20 jobs

## **Business Support and Enterprise**

The Business Support and Enterprise programme has unallocated £60,000 of its main programme and has £130 000 of the Contingency fund to allocate.

Options included in the original ABG Commissioning Prospectus for funding include:

### **Town Centre Management**

We aim to maintain the economic vitality of our town centres by supporting a strong retail, cultural and leisure offer through proactive business engagement, marketing and promotion. We also aim to develop an exciting and accessible urban environment and maintain it to high standards of cleanliness and safety.

Currently interventions have been developed in Crouch End, Tottenham and Green Lanes but there is a gap in provision relating to Wood Green Town Centre. It is proposed to fund the position of a part time Business Development worker in Wood Green who will work with all key stakeholders in the Town Centre such as the Metropolitan Police, TFL, and particularly the businesses, to ensure that we maintain Wood Green as North London's only Metropolitan Town Centre. This will require an ABG allocation of £35 000 up to March 2011 which will deliver a robust and cohesive Business Forum, and provide a key, experienced link person in the Town Centre which we are currently missing.

We will continue to support our other major Town Centres in the borough, via a range of interventions, including supporting business networks, assisting initiatives around the night time economy and other retail offers, working with employers to understand their recruitment and skills needs, assisting with rates and VAT registration issues and helping with the production and maintenance of websites, newsletters and marketing and promotion in general. This will require a further ABG allocation of £50 000.

### **Social Enterprise**

We aim to develop a support mechanism for businesses wishing to start-up as social enterprises under a variety of business models, including; co-operatives, mutuals and social firms. This will help to deliver the objectives of the draft social enterprise strategy, assist organisations with access to finance and maximise the opportunities afforded through the personalisation agenda in social care. A sum of £50,000 is identified in the prospectus to capacity build in the sector with support for both new and existing enterprises. We are in discussions with the voluntary sector to explore using the remaining 30k ABG to support interventions linked to the business and enterprise agenda.

## **Haringey Credit Union**

A new initiative on developing and establishing a *Credit Union* in the borough which will facilitate low cost credit and savings for local residents has been brought forward as a response to the economic downturn. An allocation of up to £71,000 ABG up to March 2011 is recommended to fund the initial marketing, promotion and development of the membership base, with a primary focus on financial inclusion in the borough – addressing the significant personal debt problems being experienced by the borough's residents during the recession (Haringey CAB have reported a near 50% rise in personal debt management cases in 2009/10).

## **Future Jobs Fund**

Haringey Council submitted a partnership Future Jobs Fund (FJF) bid to DWP at the end of October 2009. If successful this will lead to 221 new jobs being created in the borough drawing down £1.44 million funding. This is a substantial new programme that will contribute to LAA stretch targets, the NI 153 outcome and targets included in both the Haringey Guarantee and North London Pledge programmes and will require professional co-ordination and management to ensure successful delivery.

The management of the Future Jobs Fund programme including liaising with partners, DWP, with council services and directorates including HR, reporting to DWP, the HSP and council structures will be undertaken by the Programme Management section of the council's Employment & Skills Team.

This will enable and facilitate consistency and synergy with the other interventions tackling worklessness undertaken and managed by this team including the Haringey Guarantee, Families into Work and the ULV North London Pledge programmes. Candidates for jobs created under the Future Jobs Fund will be prepared and supported for the jobs through these existing programmes and the jobs created will be eligible for reporting against these programmes.

A Future Jobs Fund Co-ordinator post – fixed term to March 2011 – will be created to co-ordinate and manage work related to the programme and to link and collaborate with the other programmes (all currently running to March 2011). This post will be funded through existing and upcoming resources from the Haringey Guarantee, Families into Work and North London Pledge programmes as it will contribute to the delivery of programme targets and be part of an integrated managed employment and skills service. Funded through LDA North London Pledge funding to the value of £30,000 (as it will deliver 26 weeks sustained job outcomes for this programme) with a contribution from the ABG Contingency Fund (as it will deliver 26 weeks sustained job outcomes for this programme and contribute to LAA targets) of £25,000.