



Meeting: Well-being Partnership Board

Date: 8th December 2009

Report Title: Community and Voluntary Sector representation on the Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP) and Theme Boards

Report of: Mary Connolly, Partnership Manager

Purpose

To remind the board of the model agreed by the HSP for community and voluntary sector engagement with the partnership including representation on the HSP and its sub-structures.

Summary

The report sets out the arrangements for community and voluntary sector representatives across the partnership.

Financial Implications

There are no specific financial implications. HAVCO currently receive Area Based Grant to support the running costs of Haringey Community Link Forum (HCLF).

Recommendations

To note the report.

That the Well-being Partnership Board observes the conditions set out within the HSP and HCLF agreement regarding community and voluntary sector engagement across the HSP structures.

To note that the HCLF election process for community and voluntary sector representatives (from 2010-12) is currently underway, and this provides the opportunity to regularise the representation.

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Introduction

This report reminds the Well-being partnership of the agreement adopted by the HSP for community and voluntary sector engagement across the partnership. It was specifically prompted by a recent meeting called by the Haringey Community Link Forum (HCLF) with the chair and vice chair of the Well-being board. At the meeting the HCLF expressed their concerns that the agreement regarding community and voluntary sector representation was not being adhered to.

It should be noted that the current HCLF representatives took up their seats across the HSP structure including the Well-being partnership board from April 2008 following a formal election and induction process. Representatives hold their seats for a period of two years. A new election will commence at the beginning of the New Year, and the board should take this opportunity to regularise voluntary and community sector engagement in accordance with the HSP and HCLF agreement. Newly elected representatives will take up their seats from June 2010.

Background

In July 2007, the Haringey Strategic Partnership agreed a new model for voluntary and community sector engagement with the partnership. The model introduced a new system whereby voluntary and community sector representatives on the main HSP Board and its sub structures are elected through a new forum called Haringey Community Link Forum (HCLF).

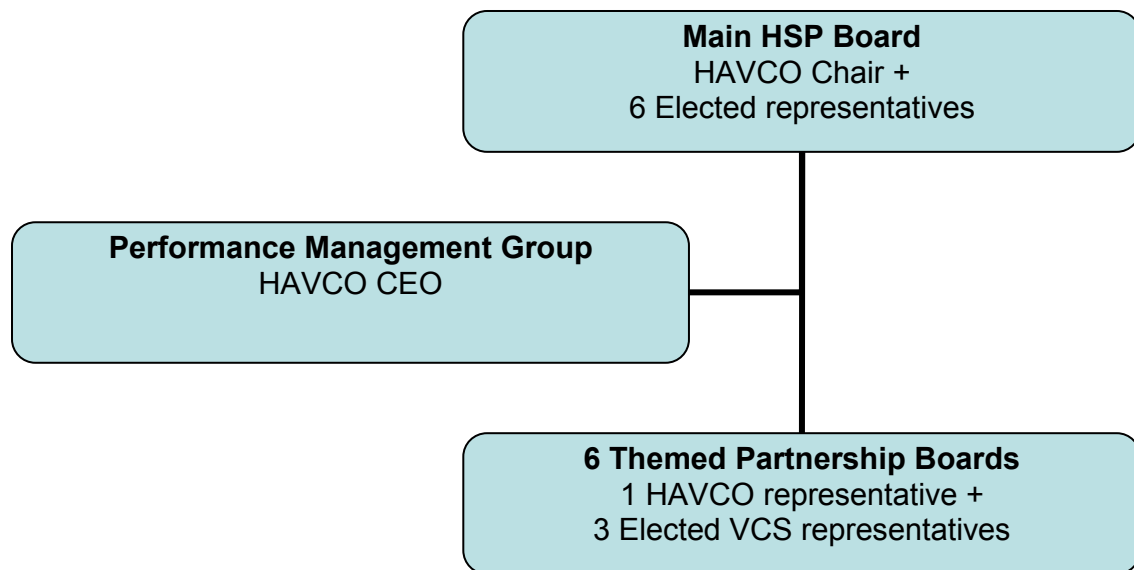
The model standardised the number of places available for community and voluntary sector representation on the HSP and its sub-structures with 24 elected places and 8 standing places for HAVCO representatives. The non elected standing places are in recognition of HAVCO's role as the organisation representing the interests of the voluntary and community sector, in the same way that the Chamber of Commerce or Small Business Federation represents the business sector.

The introduction of the new system for securing voluntary and community sector representatives provided for replacing *all* existing mechanisms (some of which varied by theme board) and thereby ensuring greater consistency and accountability both to the partnership and the voluntary and community sector as a whole. With the creation of the HCLF, it was envisaged that, through time, it would become the 'forum of forums' for the voluntary and community sector.

Community and Voluntary Sector representation on the HSP and sub-structures

Haringey Community Link Forum Agreement provides for 32 places to represent the community and voluntary sector across the partnership. These

are distributed as illustrated below.



The establishment of the HCLF together with the election of the VCS representatives created for the first time legitimacy to community engagement in the partnership. All voluntary and community representatives represent the HCLF and *not* individual or specialist interest areas such as disability, faith etc. The reason for this is to avoid competing demands from the sector for a 'voice' at the table.

The HCLF Agreement also provides for the co-option of strategic, voluntary and community organisations with specialist skills or knowledge to the partnership boards, in addition to the elected representatives. For example, where a board considers there is a specific specialist need and/or a deficit in representation is identified the board may wish to co-opt additional members. Such co-option must however, be agreed with the HCLF and the HSP or Theme Board. Such co-optees must also become members of the Forum. This is also reflected in the HSP terms of reference.

In addition to providing a mechanism for the community and voluntary sector representation, the role of the HCLF is to provide a formal gateway to communicate with a wide range of organisations on policy and service issues, through regular structured meetings, seminars and events. The HCLF is supported by HAVCO.
