



HarCEN January Update Better Places Partnership

1. Consultation - Community Transport Review

HarCEN will be working to deliver a review of opportunities for Community Transport over the next quarter in partnership with the Mobility Forum.

2. BPP Representation

HarCEN has confirmed its commitment to support the representation of the voluntary and community sector on the partnership. Interim representation has been confirmed following the BPP briefing meeting on 10 January 2005. The process has been agreed to be through a wider BPP Community Engagement Forum (see below).

3. BPP Community Engagement Forum (BPPCEF)

HarCEN will be working with existing known groups and smaller more marginalised groups to widen the participation of residents and interested local organisations in the BPPCEF. The first meeting of this Forum is planned for February 2006. A steering group drawn from the Forum will need to be confirmed.

HarCEN has committed to provide secretariat support and initial start-up funding of up to £5,000 for this quarter.

4. Area Assembly based Small Project Funding 2006

The funding programme for small projects at area level has been organised to include up to seven projects that focus on three themes that fall within the remit of the BPP:

1. Sport, Leisure, Art and Culture Facilities and Opportunities
2. Environment and green issues
3. Housing and Transport/ Mobility

Up to £2,500 is available for local projects in line with existing small grants Community Chest funding operated by HarCEN (managed by Scarman Trust) in 2005



What is HarCEN?

HarCEN is the Haringey Community Empowerment Network. CENs work with local community, voluntary, faith groups and active residents. We are a company limited by guarantee with charitable aims.

HarCEN, like other CENs around the country, has been set up with the support of central government to help community and voluntary sector groups, and residents, to participate in delivering Neighbourhood Renewal in Haringey. We do this in various ways: members elect representatives to sit on the Haringey Local Strategic Partnership (HSP) - this is the partnership group made up of the council, police, health service and other statutory bodies as well as the local voluntary and community groups, youth and interfaith representatives and other key partners. The HSP works to provide joined-up sustainable services that meet the needs of the communities in Haringey.

What is the need for HarCEN?

As an independent network HarCEN has the ability to be a 'critical friend'. We are well placed to be able to challenge services delivery where it may exclude marginalised groups and individuals as well as encourage greater participation of residents and groups to continue to take a greater responsibility for building and contributing to the community in which they live, work, worship and play. HarCEN also works with the related sub groups of the HSP that deal with particular issues (e.g. health, crime, housing), or neighbourhood areas.

We look to contribute to aspects around the delivery of the objectives of Neighbourhood Renewal (through grassroots monitoring and evaluation). CENs also ensure effective communication with local people and groups about Neighbourhood Renewal issues in their areas and facilitate consultation and discussion through a variety of means, and so support their members sitting on LSPs.

The progress so far.....

An important element of HarCEN's role is making active connection with small, marginalised groups and individuals, particularly those based in the most deprived areas and estates, who have not had much say in the past about decisions that affect their lives. This is a constant process as populations are always changing. In 2003 HarCEN commissioned local opportunities for discussion around three of Haringey's major specific themes of Safer Communities, Health & Social Care and provision of Services for Children & Young People. In addition HarCEN launched six general issue forum groups: Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) issues; Forum for Women; issues around Carers; an Interfaith Forum; Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender issues (GLBT); specific Refugee & Asylum Seeker issues. For 2005/06 HarCEN has extended the BME Forum to include partnership activities over Black History Month and will also support and develop a Better Places Community Engagement Forum

Who Gets Involved with HarCEN?

HarCEN membership is open to voluntary and community organisations, faith groups and local residents. HarCEN has completed elections for representation on HSP Executive and is working with the Themed Partnership Boards to confirm and support representation at this level as well as the themed subgroups. Please contact us for information.

Whatever reasons for becoming involved, HarCEN has many opportunities for the local voice to be heard and views to be listened to. We focus on partnership to become part of a stronger community that works together, representing joined-up solutions for change.

For more information on HarCEN, upcoming activities and events, details for any of the Theme Groups or Forum Activities please contact the Administrator Beulah Messies on 020 8885 6575 (email info@harcen.org.uk) or see our website www.harcen.org.uk

REPORT FROM MOBILITY FORUM IN HARINGEY

Presented by Pamela Moffatt, Chair Mobility Forum

At a recent meeting of The Haringey Older People's Forum on Life and Leisure, lack of a COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SYSTEM featured strongly. Groups of eight to ten people met to discuss what they wanted firstly as leisure activities and secondly what constraints there were in accessing these.

There were requests for access to, and safe usage of parks and gardens with facilities needed by older people as well as access to various activities in the way of transport.

Out of 12 separate groups 11 mentioned lack of transport as being a problem.

There is certainly a need for a community transport system in Haringey and the Mobility Forum is working towards fulfilling this need. Nowadays there is emphasis on combining areas for running community transport systems and Transport for London is seeing a role for them in the proposed modernised Community Transport sector in London.

Community Transport will be discussed at the Mobility Forum Annual General Meeting, to be held at Northumberland Park School, N17 0PG on 11 Feb 06, 11am-3pm. If you would like to attend, please contact Salome Simoes, Streetscene on 8489 1161 or salome.simoes@haringey.gov.uk
