



Meeting: Haringey Strategic Partnership

Date: 25 March 2010

Report Title: Governance Proposals for the HSP Board and Performance Management Group

Report of: Interim Deputy Chief Executive, Haringey Council

Purpose

1. To propose changes to the roles of the Board and Performance Management Group that will increase the effectiveness of the work of the Partnership.

Summary

2. 1. The HSP meeting of 21 January agreed the recommendations from the PMG development session in November to re-focus the work of the Partnership including strengthening its governance arrangements. The proposals are the Board becomes a Standing Leadership and is more actively involved in shaping new policies, critiquing the delivery of partner services and expands to include Area Assembly Chairs in its core membership. Proposals for the performance Management Group becomes the Executive Board, shaping and directing resources, championing innovative practice and commissioning evidence based strategies in delivering the vision for the Borough.

2.2 The revised terms of reference have been amended to reflect the proposals and are attached as appendix 1. The changes are highlighted in italics for ease of reading – see points 6, 7 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 21, 27, 28, 29, 32 and 33.

Legal/Financial Implications

3. Local strategic partnerships are non statutory bodies and as such Haringey Council will remain the accountable body for the partnership. There are no other direct legal or financial implications.

Recommendations

4. That the Board endorse the proposals and that they become effective from April 2020.

For more information contact:

Name: Mary Connolly
Title: HSP Manager
Tel: 020 8489 6939
Email address: Mary.connolly@haringey.gov.uk

Background

5.1 The Haringey Strategic Partnership was established in 2002 and last refreshed its Terms of Reference and Operating Arrangements in 2009. The Comprehensive Area Assessment produced by the Audit Commission in December 2009 identified a wide range of very positive achievements that the Partnership has brought about and there is much for the Partnership to be proud of and to celebrate.

5.2 Working in partnership at every level has become increasingly embedded in all the partner organisations and this will continue, regardless of how national policy in respect of, for example, Local Area Agreements, and Local Development Frameworks might change.

5.3 The last eighteen months has seen a severe economic downturn for the country which will have a dramatic impact on public sector spending over the next five years. Funding will be under severe pressure for all partners and there will be a requirement to deliver more for less across the board, working ever more creatively and efficiently together to deliver good outcomes for local people.

5.4 In November the Performance Management Group spent some time taking stock and reflecting on the way partnership business is done, focusing most on its own role and that of the Board. There were a number of conclusions which were developed further at its meeting in January and fed back and discussed at the Board meeting on 21st January. There is more to do and this report reflects the first stage of proposals.

5.5 The Partnership, in the way it works and how it is structured, needs to be more efficient. Over time layers of accountability have developed and that is often represented by the same reports going many times to different meetings within the Partnership. The visibility and accountability of the Partnership to local people is limited. Given the range and depth of services delivered through the Partnership, this needs to be addressed, so that it is more connected to local communities and more able to give them a voice. Perhaps most important of all, the increasing importance attached to “place” in government thinking means that the Partnership can seize the opportunity to be the champion for Haringey’s people and places above everything else, not allowing itself to be so distracted by the range of documents and strategies that are part of national frameworks.

Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 - Revised HSP Terms of Reference and Operating Arrangements