

Meeting: Safer Communities Executive Board

Date: 3 June 2010

Report Title: Haringey Reducing Re-offending Programme 2010/2011

Report of: Michael Buraimoh – Reducing Re-offending Officer

Summary

On the 18 of February 2010, the Reducing Re-offending Officer made a presentation to the board on HARRP (the Haringey Reducing Re-offending Programme). This report summarises the strategic work carried out so far as well as the planned delivery of the programme.

Although the initial funding is for the first year of delivery, the programme is expected to last a minimum of two years for its achievements to be measurable (based on the working definition of re-offending).

Summary of key Activities to date:

- Reducing Re-offending Action Plan developed and presented to SCEB in February 2010
 - The Action Plan was well received and members' suggestion of engagement with Children and Young People's Services carried out accordingly.
- A Reducing Re-offending conference organised and held in March 2010
 - The conference brought together key partners in delivering the reducing re-offending plan but also highlighted the absence of mental and physical health agencies, with the engagement of these agencies now being actively carried out.
- Key partnerships developed and the Haringey Reducing Re-offending Network (HARREN) created by April 2010
 - Thirty organisations have committed to membership of HARREN
 - A Service Level Agreement has been written to facilitate the partnership working of HARREN.
 - An online Forum for managing the network has also been set up and will go live in June 2010.
- Recruitment of Reducing Re-offending Case Worker initiated in March 2010
 - Delays in recruitment have been experienced owing to HR processes. However the Reducing Re-offending Officer will be taking on some test cases as a contingency arrangement.

- Tenders written and submitted to the Economic Regeneration Team for the delivery of HANSRE (the Haringey Network of Socially Responsible Employers) and the Social Enterprise Scheme

Planned Future Activities:

- Completed recruitment of the Reducing Re-offending Case Worker by July 2010
- Training of 5 mentors from among reformed offenders, by September 2010.
- Delivery of HANSRE – with 30 employers signed up and committed to the recruitment of ex-offenders by December 2010
- Recruitment and engagement of 20 clients on the programme by November 2010

Recommendations:

- That Board members note the progress to date and the expected outcomes
- That Board members note and support the proposed activity over the coming year with a view to reducing re-offending of non-statutory offenders (see attached Action Plan)

Financial/Legal Comments:

Funding has been allocated from the Safer Communities Area Based Grant to cover the salary cost of the Reducing Re-offending Officer. An operating budget has been allocated from the BCU fund, which also covers salary for a Case Worker.

Due to funding restrictions, only thirty ex-offenders will be engaged in the first year. Depending on adequate funding in the future, the programme is expected to extend to various areas including developing projects that will focus on reducing recidivism among ex-offenders on remand, offenders serving community sentences, women offenders, specific Prolific and Priority Offenders.

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Background

1. Introduction: In 2008 the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) and Community Safety Team (CST) commissioned research into re-offending and resettlement. The key recommendation of this work was to establish a project management post to work with a multi-disciplinary officer group to produce and

co-ordinate a comprehensive reducing adult re-offending action plan (for offenders serving sentences of less than twelve months).

In April 2010 reducing re-offending, due to its becoming a national priority, became the statutory responsibility of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships or Community Safety Partnerships.

Statistically:

- 67% of people released from prison go on to re-offend within two years.
- In March 2010 the National Audit Office put the national cost of re-offending at £10 billion a year.
- Some 50,000 people are sent to prison for less than six months each year and this group of offenders make up more than 60% of offenders.

2. The Haringey Reducing Re-offending Programme (HARRP)

General Objective: To significantly reduce the risk of re-offending among non-statutory adult offenders through a case management partnership effort to deliver coordinated resettlement services.

3. Scope: The London Borough Offender Profile Report reveals that adult Haringey residents who are non-statutory offenders/ex-offenders sentenced to either custodial (particularly in Pentonville and Holloway prisons) or community sentences make up over 60% of re-offenders in Haringey. The Reducing Re-offending Programme will only target this group, as despite being the majority of repeat offenders, no agency has the statutory obligation to supervise or coordinate efforts to effectively resettle them following their prison terms. HARRP will work with these offenders during and after imprisonment. It will also provide access to services for offenders' families.

4. Summary of expected Outcomes

- 70% of beneficiaries do not re-offend within at least two years of engagement on HARRP.
- Clear lines of accountability and infrastructure for managing offenders sentenced to less than 12 months
- Sustainable partnership is developed with statutory and voluntary organisations
- Sustainable and active network of socially responsible employers in Haringey
- A sustainable resource for managing offenders sentenced to less than 12 months
- Improved community involvement in offender resettlement through HARRP

5. Risks and mitigating action

Risk	Impact (H/M/L)	Probability (H/M/L)	Mitigation Summary	Plan
There is a risk that the recruitment process (of case workers) will be slow which would lead to delays in the	H	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Reducing Re-offending Officer will cover in as much as 	

project.			is possible to ensure project kicks off as planned.
There is a risk of inadequate funding leading to inability to fully implement action plan, especially with the social enterprise project.	H	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The private sector will be engaged to achieve funding where feasible. However the Social Enterprise Project might become a future project
There is a risk of a lack of commitment from key partners which could lead to problems with establishing an effective multi-agency approach and sharing information as well as co-funding.	M	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good practice from other partnership approaches within Haringey and from Tower Hamlets will be implemented where appropriate
There is a risk that future funding to deliver the action plan may not be available – a risk of discontinuity	H	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An evidence base demonstrating the argument for investment will be developed