

Better Places Partnership

Terms of Reference

Purpose

Local residents, statutory, voluntary, community and commercial organisations all have a role to play in improving Haringey. The partnership will lead on delivering Better Places in the borough by:

- leading on delivery of a clean, safe and environmentally sustainable future for everyone living, working, visiting or studying in Haringey
- Setting out a strategic framework, including outcomes and objectives, through which shared priorities can be delivered in achieving this
- commissioning and performance managing activity delivering areas of the Local Area Agreement relevant to the Better Places Partnership, and the Greenest Borough Strategy

Rationale

The Better Places Partnership (BPP) is the environmental and place-shaping thematic body forming part of the Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP).

Together with the other five thematic partnerships of the Haringey Strategic Partnership, the Better Places Partnership will deliver the priorities set out in the Haringey Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) 2007 to 2016:

- People at the heart of change
- An environmentally sustainable future
- Economic vitality and prosperity shared by all
- Safer for all
- Healthier people with a better quality of life
- People and customer focused

The vehicle for delivering the Sustainable Community Strategy priorities will be the Local Area Agreement (LAA), which is operational for the three years 2008/09 to 2010/11. The Better Places Partnership Board will have specific responsibility for delivering targets contained in the LAA (as identified below). The Better Places Partnership will also be the lead partnership body delivering the Greenest Borough Strategy, which has been adopted by the HSP.

Better Places Partnership Aims

The aims of the Better Places Partnership are:

- to tackle climate change and secure a clean, safe and environmentally sustainable future for everyone living, working, visiting or studying in Haringey
- to deliver a quality built environment with good supporting infrastructure and services
- to contribute to the building of cohesive and empowered communities

Local Area Agreement Targets

Overarching targets

1. Percentage of people who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together
2. Percentage of people who feel that they can influence decisions in their locality (NI 4)
3. Participation in regular volunteering (NI 6)
4. Fair treatment by local services
5. Creating an environment for a thriving third sector (NI 7)
6. Tackling fuel poverty (NI 187)

Targets specific to the Better Places Partnership

7. Improved street and environmental cleanliness, with regard to litter, detritus, graffiti, and fly-posting (NI 195) and in relation to the three worst wards in the borough (stretch target)
8. Increase in the number of green flag parks and green pennants, and satisfaction with parks and open spaces.
9. Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling (NI 175)
10. Per capita reduction in carbon dioxide emissions in the LA area (NI 186)
11. Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting (NI 192)
12. Mode of transport usually used by children travelling to school (NI 198)

Operating principles

1. To develop strategic partnership activity for the borough, focused on the priorities for the BPP shown above
2. To lead on delivery of the outcomes and targets identified in the Greenest Borough Strategy.
3. To commission and performance manage projects to deliver areas of the LAA and Greenest Borough Strategy relevant to the partnership's aims and objectives
4. To oversee the performance management of strategic local targets for this theme, including the Local Area Agreement. To provide a strategic

review of progress around these targets and recommend improvements that will help ensure their achievement.

5. To advise the Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP) on progress around performance issues and any other relevant strategic partnership matters that may arise.
6. To work in partnership to shape the delivery of services with a customer focus.
7. To seek to engage the diverse communities that exist within Haringey in the course of its work, and to ensure that all partners have equal opportunity to express the views of their organisation or community.
8. To seek to maximise the resources of the whole partnership to meet its targets and objectives.

Operational Protocols

Membership

1. The membership of the BPP will be reviewed periodically and when ever the need may arise. Members can be co-opted for specific purposes and periods of time.
2. The Chair of the BPP will represent the BPP at the main Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP) board. The chair will be responsible, with the assistance of Officers, for feeding back to the BPP on the work of the HSP and leading on any BPP items to the HSP.
3. Members of the BPP should have the authority to take decisions on the use of resources and activity within their respective organisations and collectively possess the relevant expertise to deliver the Terms of Reference.
4. Members of the BPP will communicate to their respective organisations, the objectives and decisions made by the BPP and ensure that these are reflected in their business planning processes.
5. Members of or observers at the BPP should declare any conflict of interest in relation to the business of the BPP and that of the partners¹
6. The activity of any working groups sitting under the Better Places Partnership will be regularly shared at agreed meetings with the relevant members of the Community Link Forum and the views of these members and the Community Link Forum will be sought. The meetings will be seen as an opportunity for the Forum to influence activity within the bounds of the agreed priorities. The frequency of these meetings will be agreed directly with the relevant members of the Community Link Forum.
7. Three representatives from the Community Link Forum will sit on the BPP.
8. To help achieve the priorities of the BPP, the Chair and supporting officers will also take relevant business from the BPP, to wider stakeholders and organisations to promote and pursue the objectives of the BPP. There will be regular and timely report back to the main BPP from these meetings.

¹ This should be in line with the Council's own constitution

9. Members and supporting officers will work in the spirit of partnership and be the ambassadors of BPP and HSP in Haringey and contribute to the wider role of the LSP.

Meetings

1. The BPP will meet at least four times a year between April and March.
2. Sub-group and special meetings (including meetings with the relevant members of the Community Link Forum) will be organised on an on-going basis with timings and frequencies to be agreed.
3. There will be timely and regular feedback from any extra BPP meetings.
4. The agendas, papers and notes of the BPP meetings will be made available to members of the public via the Haringey website and when requested.

Decision Making

1. Wherever possible, decisions will be made on the basis of consensus. However, to make decisions, the agreement of the Chair or vice chair and the Director of the Urban Environment or his or her representative must be given.
2. Observers are not part of the partnerships decision making process.
3. To make decisions meetings must be quorate. A quorum will be 5 members, which must include the chair or vice chair, the Director of the Urban Environment or his or her representative.
4. Any conflicts between partners or members will be resolved through discussion and negotiation.