

Haringey Strategic Partnership

March 27th 2006

Safer and Stronger Communities Fund Draft Agreement

1. Purpose

1.1 To seek HSP comments on the draft Safer and Stronger Communities Fund agreement due for submission to Government Office for London (GOL) March 2006.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The Safer and Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF) is drawn up by the Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP) to address both national and local priority outcomes for the borough. This is the second year of the Haringey SSCF, for the 2005-06 SSCF the key outcome addressed the crime reduction element funded through the Home Office and the Office of Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) grants. This year the SSCF covers all four elements: crime reduction, neighbourhood working, cleaner, safer and greener, and community empowerment
- 2.2 For 2006-07 Haringey has received two pots of new funding for the SSCF. These are the neighbourhood element and the cleaner, safer and greener element. In addition to this there is also core funding for the community empowerment element for which the Council will be the accountable body.
- 2.3 This report presents key issues relating to the four elements including the targets, milestones and funding streams to be pooled or aligned (see appendix 1). In addition it points out those areas where further work needs to be undertaken during the year to enhance the SSCF block for the LAA in 2007.
- 2.3.1 The development of the crime and cleaner, safer and greener elements have been overseen by the Safer Communities Executive Board (SCEB) and the Better Places Partnership (BPP) respectively.
- 2.3.2 For the community empowerment element further work needs to take place in 2006-07 in developing key milestones and targets through coherent framework.
- 2.3.3 Finally the neighbourhood element will focus on worklessness to enhance the neighbourhood roll out. In light of this decision by the Chair, further work needs to take place to develop this element by the end of June 2006. However, the Enterprise Partnership has already started the discussion on

this at its last meeting and a special meeting was convened specifically to discuss this.

- 2.3.4 The SSCF also includes a Statement of Community Engagement (see appendix 2) to show how the voluntary and community sector (VCS) were engaged in the development of the agreement.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That the HSP comment on the SSCF as a whole and in particular the four elements and the proposed freedoms and flexibilities to be sought (see appendix 1¹).
- 3.2 That the HSP agree the draft SSCF agreement subject to any comments.
- 3.3 That HSP comment on the draft statement of community engagement.
- 3.4 That the HSP note that a meeting to negotiate the SSCF with GOL will take place on the 29th of March with key partners.
- 3.5 That the HSP agrees that the final SSCF is signed off by the Chair and reported back to the next meeting of the HSP.
- 3.6 That the HSP consider the development of key targets particularly on neighbourhood working, community engagement and worklessness outcomes.

4 Background Information

- 4.1 The HSP has received a number of reports and presentations on the SSCF and or its component elements over the year.

5 Analysis

- 5.1 There are four elements to the SSCF this section looks at each of the element in turn.

5.2 Neighbourhood Element:

- 5.2.1 The Haringey Strategic Partnership received a presentation on the Neighbourhood Element presentation in January which set out options for wards and the focus of activity. The HSP agreed that final choice of ward(s) would be signed off by the Chair.
- 5.2.2 The Chair considered the options and evidence as well as Haringey's current performance and made the decision to focus this element on tackling worklessness in all three wards with Super Output Areas in the 3% most deprived (Bruce Grove, Noel Park and Northumberland Park). In light of this decision the Enterprise Partnership has been considering the development this element in the context of a discussion paper presented to the Enterprise Partnership. This paper considered the evidence and proposed that there was a need to have larger projects focusing efforts on narrower range of workless people. Those being considered are young people likely to join the pool of

¹ Please note that the column on underlying programmes and projects will be removed prior to submission of the SSCF to GOL. Its inclusion here is purely to inform the HSP and for internal performance management purposes.

- workless, those people on benefit who are users of existing services such as housing, social, health and or community and voluntary sector services
- 5.2.3 This proposal will be developed by June 2006 and will include key targets for three wards and identify other pots of funding which can either be pooled or aligned such as Association of Local Government's (GOL) NRF/European Social Fund (ESF) match funding, the Learning and Skills Council's ESF fund and other relevant programmes.
- 5.2.4 There is also the opportunity here to align this proposal with the Well-Being Partnership's discussions to focus its remaining NRF on the five most deprived Super Output Areas with an emphasis on anti-poverty.
- 5.2.5 In addition the cleaner, safer and greener grant, the community empowerment core funding and the Safer Neighbourhood Policing Teams will add value to the neighbourhood element.

5.3 Cleaner, Safer and Greener

- 5.3.1 Haringey has been allocated £970k for 2006/07 to deliver the key objectives of the, Cleaner, Safer and Greener element of the SSCF. The money is ring fenced to some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in the Borough.
- 5.3.2 The work programme for this element has been developed over several months in discussion with all the partners on the BPP and in parallel with its NRF programme for 2006/07. The Safer, Cleaner, Greener element of the Agreement was signed off at the partnership meeting in March 2006. It comprises a programme of enhanced, targeted mainstream services, along with special projects and investment aimed at achieving significant improvements to the overall cleanliness and quality of open spaces and the built environment within the 3% most deprived super output areas, as well as making these areas safer and more accessible for local people.

5.4 Community Engagement

- 5.4.1 There is an immense amount and variety of community engagement activity in the Borough, however, it is not clear if it all contributes to residents' perceptions of whether they can influence local decisions. For the purposes of the SSCF the key activities considered relevant were the roll out of the neighbourhood working and the Safer Neighbourhood Policing Teams, the community empowerment network (CEN) and the Haringey Association of Voluntary and Community Organisations (HAVCO). The only funding to be pooled is the core funding for community empowerment of about £169, 000. However, over the coming year there will be a need to produce a framework for this element and key indicators developed .
- 5.4.2 The core indicators suggested by Government for Community Engagement element of the SSCF are:
- Residents being able to influence public bodies' decision making;
 - Promotion of Community Cohesion and inclusion;
 - Increasing volunteering;

- Increasing Community & Voluntary Sector Activity;
- Increasing the procurement of Community & Voluntary Sector service delivery.

5.4.3 It is proposed that the core funding for the CEN should focus on a programme of activity linked to the first three indicators. That the activity should be strongly linked to the development of effective representation to the HSP and thematic partnerships and neighbourhood working particularly in the three chosen wards.

5.4.4 Ongoing activity which this contributes to varying degree to all of the community empowerment indicators is aligned to this element. This includes the community engagement aspects of the neighbourhood working and the Safer Neighbourhood Policing Teams. In addition aspects of HAVCO's work will align with particularly those aspects of its work which impacts on the last three of the five community engagement indicators.

5.5 Crime reduction element

5.5.1 This element refreshes the 2005-06 SSCF agreed with Government Office for London. The key targets for this element are ones already agreed with GOL for the period 2005-08.

5.5.2 The Safer Communities Partnership is planning a robust review of 2006/07 expenditure and planning ahead in order the mainstreaming more of its work and to find more creative delivery solutions. This process has already started in relation to the delivery of youth offending and children's services. There is also a consideration being given to the co-location and streamlining of some functions e.g. finance and Persistent and Prolific Offenders (PPOs). A co-ordinating group has been established which holds a pooled fund in order to allocate resources on an evidence basis throughout the year.

5.5.3 For 2006-07 the funds will focus on the outcomes and targets agreed in the SSCF and will be complemented by the NRF programme. The Pooled Treatment Budget (PTB), mainstream monies and the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) grant will be aligned with the SSCF. The funding will used to deliver the Drug and Alcohol Action Team's Adult Drug Treatment plan.

5.5.4 Again there is a strong link between this element and the neighbourhood element, particularly with the roll out of Safer Neighbourhood Policing Teams. Further work will take place in the early part of the year to bring synergy between the two.

5.6 Consultation

Three of thematic partnerships - the Better Place Partnership, Enterprise Partnership and Safer Communities Executive Board have been engaged with the development of the SSCF in line with the HSP's decision that these partnerships are tasked with developing the crime reduction and the cleaner, safer and greener elements.

5.7 In addition to the consultation work in the relevant thematic partnerships specific SSCF meetings have taken place with partners including the community and voluntary sectors since January.

5.8 The SSCF consultation and the ongoing community engagement work in the borough have informed the development of the statement of engagement (see appendix 2).

5.9 Freedoms and Flexibilities

5.9.1 As this is not officially the LAA this has not been a focus of the SSCF and the current guidance is unclear on the position of non LAA areas on this. Nevertheless it is envisaged that we will be asking for some freedoms and flexibilities which have identified in the development of the SSCF:

- flexibility to use money allocated to tackle drugs and the fear of drugs on tackling alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour.
- On the worklessness agenda there are a number of freedoms and flexibilities being sought by other LAA areas in the first two rounds which apply nationally particularly around benefits and hours allowed for volunteering or work experience.

5.10 Negotiations with GOL

5.10.1 A preliminary meeting with GOL took place in February and another in the middle of March where GOL has been supportive of Haringey's approach. The draft SSCF in attached (appendix 1) will be discussed with GOL on the meeting on the 29th.

6 Conclusions

6.1 The further development and performance management of the SSCF over the coming year by the HSP and the relevant thematic partnership is important to the development of the Local Area Agreement (LAA).