

**Meeting:** HSP Standing Leadership Conference

**Date:** 21 October 2010

**Report Title:** Thematic Board Updates

**Report of:** Mary Connolly, Partnerships Manager, Haringey Council

#### **Summary**

This report provides updates from the last cycle of Theme Board meetings. The updates provide an overview of the work streams, activities and decisions taken by each Board.

#### **Recommendations**

To note the updates from each of the Boards and to comment as appropriate.

#### **Financial/Legal Comments**

N/A.

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### **Better Places Partnership Board**

The Better Places Partnership met on 20 July 2010. The meeting centred on a discussion about the working of the Board, considering both its achievements and progress in achieving its objectives, and ways that it could improve its effectiveness. A presentation was given to provide context for this discussion, summarising the role of the HSP, the objectives of the Better Places Partnership, and data from the recent Annual Residents Survey 2010.

Board members agreed that the partnership should have a strategic role. They felt that it provides a valuable forum for coordinating the work of partners, facilitating communication, networking, and the sharing of learning and best practice between organisations. Partners suggested there are opportunities to strengthen the Board's effectiveness by sharing resources, working more closely with residents and community groups, registered

housing providers, and other theme boards, and by giving greater consideration to the quality of the built environment. It was agreed that the Board could be strengthened by putting an annual work programme in place, and by increasing the follow-up work of members between meetings, possibly using sub-groups. They identified a number of topics for discussion at forthcoming meetings, and agreed to structure meetings around these, together with standing items about LAA targets, ABG projects, the Greenest Borough Strategy action plan and Sustainable Transport Review actions.

The Board endorsed the establishment of the Sustainable Transport Commission. This panel of experts residents and Members will make recommendations to the Cabinet on its approach to sustainable transport. The Board stressed the health aspects of this work, and the importance of effectively targeting messages about sustainable transport to cater to variations in behaviours across the borough.

The Board received reports about the progress of Area Based Grant funded projects and performance against its Local Area Agreement Targets. They also welcomed a report about Overview and Scrutiny reviews and agreed to share suggestions about areas that could benefit from review.

The next meeting of the Board will be 28 October 2010.

### **Children's Trust**

The Children's Trust has met twice, in June and September. At both meetings the Trust has heard a presentation from one of the partner organisations on an aspect of their work. In June the Police gave a presentation on the child risk assessment matrix. In September NHS Haringey gave an account of the role of GPs in safeguarding.

In June the Trust discussed the LSCB's annual report and work programme and the revised Safeguarding Action Plan for Haringey. The revised action plan has been updated to take account of the Ofsted visit in January and the recommendations of their follow up inspection report.

The June meeting of the Trust also discussed the current work to promote the participation of children and young people and considered proposals for the greater involvement of young people in the Children's Trust. This was a follow up to the IDEA led workshop held earlier in the year when members of the Trust identified the involvement of young people as the area where least progress had been made.

A six month update on progress with the Children and Young People's Plan was presented, identifying which milestones had already been achieved and which were still in progress.

In September the Trust received a report on a revised Infant Mortality Strategy 2010-2012. This updates the previous strategy including recommendations from the Department of Health Infant Mortality National Support Team made after their visit to Haringey in January 2010. The infant mortality rate in

Haringey is falling but it is still above the national and London rates. The action plan identifies priority actions designed to further reduce infant mortality in the borough.

In both June and September the performance report on the LAA targets that fall within the Trust's remit was discussed. The target on teenage conceptions is still at red. However for the first time the data is beginning to show a decrease in the conception rate. There is a draft action plan and a Teenage Pregnancy Prevention and Support Strategy is under development. Some of the education targets were also red, and are being updated as provisional results are received. Current indications are that Key Stage 2 and GCSE results have been improving.

At the June meeting, the terms of reference were reviewed. The Borough Commander was elected as the vice chair and the Director of Children and Young People's Services was elected as the Trust's HSP representative. Under the terms of reference the chair of the Children's Trust is the Council's lead member for children and young people .

The next meeting of the Trust is in November.

### **Enterprise Partnership Board**

The Enterprise Board last met on 29 July 2010 and the following key items were discussed:

- Cllr Antonia Mallett was appointed as Chair for 2010/11, and the appointment of Vice Chair was deferred until the next meeting. John Egbo, from the Community Link Forum, was appointed as the Board's representative to the Standing Leadership Conference for 2010/11. The Board also approved its Terms of Reference and membership for 2010/11.
- The Board discussed and approved proposals to make £860k savings to its ABG allocation in light of the spending cuts announced in the Emergency Budget on 22 June 2010. In order to consider the results of the Comprehensive Spending Review, due to be published on 20 October, the Board decided to reschedule its meeting until November.
- The Board noted the initial Work and Skills Plan that was submitted to Government in April 2010 and also noted that there was no longer a requirement to produce a full Work and Skills Plan by April 2011.
- The Board considered its latest performance scorecard covering quarter 1 2010/11 and approved proposals to fully review its Risk Register in time for the next meeting.
- The Board received an update on the three main worklessness programmes: Haringey Guarantee, Families into Work and the North London Pledge. An update was also given on business and enterprise activities in the borough.
- The Board was informed that there would be an overview and scrutiny review into the Haringey Guarantee in 2010/11.
- The next meeting of the Board is still to be determined but is likely to be in November.

### **Integrated Housing Board**

At its last meeting in June the board confirmed membership and agreed that Sanctuary Housing Association should be co-opted to the board and that Cllr John Bevan be confirmed as the Chair.

The Board received three presentations on the Draft Allocations Policy, the Rough Sleepers & Move-on Strategies and the Borough Investment Plan. The first presentation detailed the new housing Allocations Policy. The Board were advised that the new approach would involve a move away from a complicated priority system based on points to one of banding. If approved by Cabinet, the new Allocations policy would be subject to a period of public consultation before being implemented in the new year. The second presentation was to seek board approval for two sub-strategies of the Homelessness Strategy 2008-11. The Rough Sleepers Strategy that seeks to ensure that Haringey reduces and sustains the number of people sleeping rough in the borough to as close to zero as possible by 2012 and the Move-on Strategy which will help to ensure that people in short term supported housing that are ready to move-on are able to do so. Both strategies were approved by the Board.

The Board also received a verbal update with respect to consultation on the Draft Borough Investment Plan (BIP). It was noted that the Investment Plan was a product of the Single Conversation process with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and outlined the future priorities for the development of new affordable housing, regeneration, sustainability and estate renewal (including continuation of the Decent Homes programme).

The next meeting of the Board is in October.

### **Safer Communities Executive Board**

Current performance is extremely favourable and Haringey is outperforming other boroughs. This is considered to be due to better use of data and shared intelligence alongside highly targeted interventions around vulnerable locations and individuals. Overall recorded crime was down by 7% (12,055 against 12,862) between April and September this year compared with last year. All areas of acquisitive crime: residential burglary, robbery and vehicle crime have shown reductions, falling 13% collectively from 3,713 to 3,223. There are 3 particular performance highlights in areas that were previously proving to be a challenge: Violent crime has fallen by 49 offences from 229 to 180 (21.4%). There were 48% more new clients in drug treatment in Q1 this year compared with last year (117 versus 70); and there were only 55 new young entrants in the criminal justice system in Haringey compared with 84 in Q1 last year. A key success factor has been the continued use of trained youth offending staff working in custody suites as part of the 'triage' programme. In addition, the Anti-social Behaviour Action Team is also performing above the national average. It must be stressed, however, that reductions in funding and staff and potential increases in service demand could have a significant impact on this area of work.

A great deal of work and consultation has been undertaken in relation to anticipated reductions and a possible nil allocation on the Area based

Grant. Board members have been briefed about the potential impact. The Safer and Stronger Communities Service which acts as a co-ordinating and delivery vehicle for partnership work relies heavily on external funding and may need to radically alter its working practices. As things stand, the economic situation and decisions around support to local authorities and their partners will impact severely on the ability to maintain case work levels, prevention programmes and community safety specialist staff.

Since the last meeting in June, the Drug and Alcohol needs' assessment and the crime strategic assessment have been the key pieces of work. These will be analysed at the forthcoming boards and will act as drivers in priority setting and resource allocation.

The next SCEB meeting is on 4th November and will focus on: half year performance outturns; the impact of reductions to the ABG, strategic assessment and key priorities; changes to the landscape and likely policy developments by agency/priority. Feedback will be given on: Integrated Offender Management; the Alcohol Strategy Action Plan; Street Drinking Research Project; Migrant Sex Workers project; Haringey Officers Tasking (HOT) Group; Responses to Scrutiny Review on Victims.

### **Well-Being Strategic Partnership Board**

The Board received a report on the financial situation facing the Local Authority, NHS Haringey and other Public Sector organisations. Over the next 3 years there will be significant challenges to the funding of the public sector in Haringey and there will be a need to fundamentally re-evaluate all aspects of the way in which the statutory and third sector organisations work. The financial implications will become clearer once the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) is announced.

The Board received a report that provided a briefing on the White Paper published on 12 July 2010 entitled 'Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS'. The White Paper proposes that a new outcome focussed framework should be established for health and social care to replace existing targets. There was agreement that the Board had a key role to play in providing leadership around the issues arising from the White Paper, moving forward and retaining the good aspects of partnership working. A further report will be submitted to the partnership board meeting in January 2011 by which point the CSR would have been announced.

The Board received a tabled report that provided an update on the Safeguarding Adults Implementation Plan (SAIP). It was noted that a new Safeguarding Panel, had been established, which was Chaired by Councillor Gina Adamou and attended by Councillor Joanna Christophides and Councillor David Winskill.

The Board received a report that provided an overview of performance against Local Area Agreement (LAA), National and Local Performance Indicators (PIs) within the Boards responsibility during the first quarter of 2010/11. It was noted that despite the turbulent political and financial backdrop overall performance during the first quarter of 2010/11 had been

good. NI 39 continues to be challenging, alcohol related hospital admission rates had risen across London and Haringey was particularly affected due to the number of dependent drinkers resident in the Borough.

The Board received a report presenting the well-being risk register as at 30 June 2010. Due to the political climate and the pace with which new policies and legislation were being implemented, unknown areas of risk, such as the CSR and two White Papers, could not be measured at present. There was agreement that the magnitude of these changes meant that the risk register would need to be redrafted to reflect the significant political, financial and organisational change at present and moving forward.

The board received a briefing on the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) refresh and setting 2011/12 theme board priorities. The HSP agreed that the thematic partnerships should confirm their priorities for 2011/12 and undertake scenario planning based on reduced Area Based Grant (ABG) funding and / or mainstream reductions across partner agencies. This work needs to begin now to best inform commissioning options immediately following the CSR. A “light-touch” refresh of the SCS will be undertaken from January 2011, informed by the 2011/12 priority setting and incorporating national and local policy developments.

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