

Haringey Strategic Partnership – 20 June 2006

Subject: Proposed external review of the Partnership

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To set out the benefits of an external review of the Haringey Strategic Partnership.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The Government Office for London (GoL) and the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit (NRU) are increasingly emphasizing the need for evidence of effective partnership working. In order to assess the current effectiveness of the partnership it is essential to conduct a review, as part of the self-assessment process, to highlight the current strengths and weaknesses.
- 2.2 A short focused review of the Haringey Strategic Partnership is being proposed in order to assess the robustness of the Partnership and its ability to effectively direct the development of the Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement.
- 2.3 In the context of the government's consultation on LSPs and Haringey's involvement on the third round of Local Area Agreements, it would seem an appropriate time to determine whether the Partnerships structure, governance, accountability and capacity are sufficient for a strengthened role of the HSP within the Government's modernisation Agenda.
- 2.4 It is proposed the research and review are conducted by an external private consultancy with high levels of experience with Local Strategic Partnerships.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 To agree to the commissioning of an external review of the Haringey Strategic Partnership.

4. Background Information

- 4.1 The proposed focus of the review would be the role for LSP's outlined in the government recent consultation paper of the future of LSP's.
- 4.2 It is proposed that the review would include an assessment of the HSP's current arrangements, interviews with HSP partners to assess the impact of the HSP, interviews with the thematic chairs to measure the integration and linkages between the HSP and its theme boards, views

from external observers such as GOL, to gain an external view of the HSP and the comparison of the Haringey Strategic Partnership with other LSPs.

- 4.3 The review of the HSP would be designed to cover much of the framework of the national evaluation of LSPs so that it would allow for comparison with the overall position elsewhere. The framework includes assessing:
- The strategic capacity of the HSP
 - Accountability of partners to the HSP, and the accountability of the HSP to partners.
 - Effectiveness of performance management
 - Organisational capacity
 - Extent of engagement with partners and stakeholders
 - Relationship with neighbourhood or area partnerships
- 4.4 The outcome of the review will specifically set out where there is a case for change (and the nature of that change) and will give the HSP a framework for moving forward.

5. Funding

- 5.1 The costs of funding the review would be met from the NRF top slice for managing the HSP and would not exceed £12,000.

6. Conclusions

- 6.1 An external review of the Haringey Strategic Partnership would provide the Partnership with a detailed snapshot of where it is now and the direction it needs to take in order to deliver its increasing role in the light of the development of the new Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement.

Report of: David Hennings, Assistant Chief Executive, Haringey Council
Report Author: Natalie Errington, Policy and Partnerships Officer (HSP),
Haringey Council