



Haringey Council

Report for:	Muswell Hill Area Forum & Committee	Item Number:	
Title:	Muswell Hill Area Action Plan – Update and Next Steps		
Report Authorised by:	Joan Hancox, Head of Neighbourhood Services		
Lead Officer:	Zoe Swanson, Senior Project Manager		
Ward(s) affected: Muswell Hill, Fortis Green, Alexandra and Highgate	Report for Key/Non Key Decisions:		

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 To acknowledge the steps taken to date, and recommended next steps, to progress the development of a Muswell Hill Area Action Plan.

2. Cabinet Member introduction

2.1 As part of the Council's new governance arrangements seven Area Committees have been established under the Council's constitution. These Committees meet quarterly and their terms of reference include a commitment to develop an area plan which will set out priorities for the year.

2.2 The Council sees the following as the principal reasons for their use:

- To offer informed choices to a range of local residents and traders
- To target resources at evidenced need
- To initiative two-way information sharing and joint local priority setting
- To strengthen collective responsibility (Ward Members, Liaison, Cabinet)
- For transparency of expenditure
- To improve attendance through stronger public stakes
- To improve the resolution of local problems
- To improve the delivery of priority local services



3. Recommendations

3.1 Committee Councillors to agree the priority issues raised at the October workshop and intended next steps below:

No.	Activity	Timing
1.	Initiate negotiation with services and partners for targeted and measurable activity for inclusion in the final plan	Ongoing from January 2012 – March 2012
2.	Draft plan circulated to Forum attendees and Committee Members at 12 January meeting	Feedback to Chair for response and action by 26 January 2012
3.	Draft plan circulated widely to residents and stakeholders week commencing 20 February –	Feedback to Chair for response and action by 9 March 2012
4.	Identify key leads for each activity (for quarterly monitoring updates)	Ongoing
5.	Final draft to be circulated with papers for the Area Committee early March for any final comments	Mid March 2012
6.	Final action plan for sign off at Committee in March 2012	29 March 2012

4. Other options considered

N/A

5. Background information

5.1 In order to initiate the development of an Area Action Plan, Muswell Hill Area Forum & Committee Councillors held a bespoke workshop on 26 October 2011. This workshop was attended by approximately 28 individuals; residents, traders and service providers, with the aim of identifying key issues to be addressed by an agreed action plan. Participants worked in groups to identify issues, aided by area profile data. The following issues were raised as priorities:

1. Improving childcare (access & affordability)



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2. Achieving Environmental Improvements and Local Involvement
3. Supporting Visible Enforcement
4. Supporting Local Businesses and employment
5. Youth Opportunities
6. Development of community hubs
7. Reducing Crime & ASB
8. Improving Transport / Connectivity
9. Increasing Access to Affordable Housing
10. Ensuring Appropriate Management of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO)

5.2. Since the workshop, the Committee Chair has agreed a list of key issues that the action plan will address with potential short, medium and long-term activity. The recommended next step is to negotiate with the relevant Council and partner services, and further consult with residents, to agree targeted and measurable activity for inclusion in a final plan. This plan will be signed off by the Area Forum & Committee on 29 March 2012.

6. Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications

6.1 There is no specific budget allocation to implement any Area Action plans developed and thus any actions would need to be funded from existing resources being re-prioritised or targeted as necessary. If this is not possible actions could only be pursued once a Cabinet decision to provide funding is made.

7. Head of Legal Services and legal implications

7.1 The Head of Legal Services has been consulted in the preparation of this report and confirms that the Council's protocol covering Area Committees sets out the responsibility of each Area Committee to develop its 3 year area action plan. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

8. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

8.1 The development process for the plan will continue to ensure the views of a wide range of stakeholders are sought and listened to. Discussion at the October workshop was based on robust area profile data, which included information on health inequalities, population profile and Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) findings. Addressing the issues and priorities identified at the Workshop would help to tackle some of the existing inequalities and disadvantage in the area.

9. Head of Procurement Comments

N/A

10. Policy Implication

N/A



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11. Use of Appendices

11.1 Appendix A – Draft Area Plan Working Document

12. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985