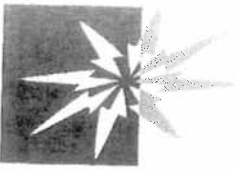


**Haringey** Council

|                       |   |              |  |
|-----------------------|---|--------------|--|
| Report for:           | Overview & Scrutiny Committee   | Item Number: |  |
| Title:                | Update on Review of Support to Small Businesses 2009/10                                     |              |  |
| Report Authorised by: | Marc Dorfman, Assistant Director PRE, Place & Sustainability<br><i>[Signature]</i> 25/11/12 |              |  |
| Lead Officer:         | Martin Tucker, Economic Development Officer   |              |  |
| Ward(s) affected: All | Report for Key/Non Key Decisions:<br>Non-Key  |              |  |

### 1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 In 2009/10 Overview and Scrutiny carried out a Review of Support to Small Businesses in Haringey.
- 1.2 This review looked at how Haringey and its partner agencies supported small businesses. Comparisons were made with other boroughs and the role of the Enterprise Partnership Board was examined.
- 1.3 The Panel were pleased to find evidence of a comprehensive range of support to small businesses, which included:
- financial support
  - support on availability of business premises
  - signposting to business information,
  - staff and training
  - procurement opportunities.
- 1.4 The review 's key recommendations were:
- That a further report be made to the Enterprise Board on the services available
  - That a Cabinet Member assume responsibility for small businesses.



## **Haringey Council**

1.5 In response to concerns by small business representatives' for more information of accessing funds and grants the Panel recommended that:

- From within existing resources a small sum of money be set aside to enable the Council to engage the services of an external provider to provide a business turnaround service.
- That consideration be given to commissioning a best value partner offering loan schemes to work with officers to introduce a scheme in Haringey.

1.6 The final report contained 15 recommendations which were incorporated into an action plan and this report provides an update on those recommendations.

1.7 The updates in the appended action plan take into account the significantly different current economic and political climate and the significant changes in the national policy agenda for business support.

## **2. Cabinet Member introduction**

2.1 This report updates the Action Plan produced in 2010 following the final report in March 2010. It also reflects the different economic situation and changed policy agenda. The Council's Economic Development service has continued to work with small businesses and traders and town centre partnerships particularly in Tottenham since the riots. Green lanes and Muswell Hill partnerships have also been supported with successful bids to the Outer London Fund and the Council will continue to work with and offer support to small businesses and their representative bodies.

## **3. Recommendations**

3.1 Members note the significant changes in the economy and the national policy agenda for business support and

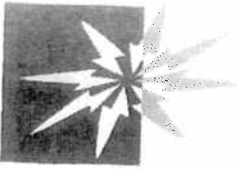
3.2 Members note the progress against the actions contained in the Recommendations Action Plan.

## **4. Background information**

4.1 Overview and Scrutiny carried out a review of support to small businesses in 2009/2010 publishing a final report with 15 recommendations in March 2010.

4.2 Since the scrutiny panel heard evidence, the national policy agenda for business support has significantly changed and Haringey and Waltham Forest Councils are examining opportunities for the development of a Shared Economic Development Service.

4.3 The Enterprise Partnership Board which previously oversaw Enterprise and Business initiatives has been wound up. A new Social Inclusion and Worklessness



## **Haringey Council**

Working Group chaired by the cabinet Member for Economic Development and Social Inclusion has replaced it and held its first meeting in December 2011.

4.4 The Council's Economic Development Service has continued to work with businesses and town centre and traders partnerships supporting 3 successful Outer London Fund bids (2 in Round 1 and 1 in Round 2) in Green Lanes and Muswell Hill. Further the service led on the support to businesses in Tottenham following the riots in August 2011.

4.5 Business Advice and Support is as follows:

### **Business Advice/Support**

Business Link is now a web only service providing business support in the borough. Borough Web site sign posts to Business Link and Council Services. Web site has focused on "Recovery" since August 2011. Update due in April 2012 to include additional advice and support from Enterprising Enfield (North London Enterprise Agency/procurements/supply chains), North London Chamber of Commerce (net working and training) and North London Business (Inward Investment and Strategy) and Community Finance Agencies and Business Angels (loans and business plans – North London Enterprise Fund; Hackney Business Ventures and Fair Finance – East London)

**Local Business and Investment** Haringey Business Board continues to support common small business concerns/advice both in town centres and employment estates. This is supported by North London Business.

### **Town Centres Businesses**

Business Partnerships in Tottenham, Wood Green, Green Lanes, Muswell Hill, Crouch End continue to provide advice and promote improvement projects in their areas

### **Procurement and Supply Chain Development**

"Compete For" system in place to advertise Council contracts and provide advice on bidding.

Shared Economic Development Service (SEDS) examining ULV/North London integrated system with an ERDF Bid for 2012-14 and opportunities for business/employment fairs.

### **Economic Development Lobbying/Strategy**

North London Strategic Alliance is:

- supporting the development of an Upper Lee Valley Economic and Green Plan linked to the Draft ULV Opportunity Planning Framework;
- a new "London Anglia Partnership" that would link North London Boroughs to those outside London and
- making funding bids to the new London Local Enterprise Partnership for "Growing Places" funds (£39m London wide)



**Haringey** Council

5. Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications  
N/A

6. Head of Legal Services and legal implications  
N/A

7. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments  
N/A

8. Head of Procurement Comments

9. Policy Implication

10. Use of Appendices

10.1.1. Recommendations Action Plan Update January 2012.

11. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985