

Government Office:	
Local Authority:	London Borough of Haringey
Date:	

Haringey Strategic Partnership

Safer and Stronger Communities 2006-2007

Six-monthly Review April – September 2006

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 year the SSCF focuses on four key elements: crime reduction, neighbourhood working, cleaner safer and greener agenda and community empowerment. The key outcomes for the SSCF link into our Community and Neighbourhood Renewal Strategies and they also provide the basis of delivery of the LAA from 2007. The SSCF is performance managed through the HSP and the relevant thematic partnerships.

This document provides a review of progress made by the HSP against the overall outcomes and spend set within the SSCF. Narrative is provided under the four key elements, with the thematic partnerships assessment of achievement against the agreed outcomes and targets over the last 6 months. It highlights concerns and the necessary action to be taken to address areas of under-performance and it compares spend against profile. It also provides an update of the outcomes and targets table for your information (see annex 1) and spend to date plus the profile of spend for the remaining year (see annex 2).

Overall progress

Green	There are no serious risks to delivery of any outcomes and targets set out in the SSCF and where risks exist there are plans and actions in place that will address them.
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The HSP's assessment of progress made during the last six months against overall outcomes and spend for the SSCF is green.

Positive progress has been achieved against the majority of outcomes and targets set within the agreement. Where risks have been identified by the thematic partnerships, the necessary plans have been drawn together with actions in place to address these risks within a clearly defined timescale. Please refer to Annex 1

The partnership is on course to achieve full spend at the end of this year, having exceeded our spend profile for periods 1-6 (April – September)

GOL may need to be reminded that the partnership sought and was granted approval to focus the Neighbourhood Element of funding for £412800 to support a Tackling Worklessness programme in 3 priority wards. This approval was granted on the basis that our partnership had already made sufficient inroads into establishing neighbourhood management structures within the borough and that we the partnership needed to focus on more priority issues at hand where performance was more questionable. The worklessness programme has been established and agreed by the Enterprise Partnership Board. Six key interventions have been commissioned along with an embedded evaluation. This programme commenced delivery in September 2006. The interventions are profiled to achieve full spend in this financial year and first claims have been processed in October, although not currently showing as actual spend.

It is also worth highlighting that concerns have been raised in respect of a small commissioning programme undertaken by the Haringey Community Empowerment Network (HarCEN).

The HSP agreed funding of £169k to the HarCEN for 2006/2007. This funding is administered and monitored by the Corporate Voluntary Sector Team (CVST). Prior to this arrangement the funding from GOL was administered by the Scarman Trust. It was expected that over this years funding period the CVST would endeavour to evaluate how effective HarCEN had been in promoting and developing community engagement in order to be clear how the HSP should support this activity in the future. Funding to the value of £23k has not been released as HarCEN used this funding to distribute to 3rd parties without the permission of the Council. To the end of October HarCEN will have received £76k which takes into account the £23k currently withheld. However community representation is a key component of HSP membership so should there be any balance remaining from the funding this will be required to support the establishment of a new structure/organisation to undertake this vital role. To further this the Council has commissioned an independent consultant who is an expert in the field of CEN's to provide the Council with an option paper on the best way forward.

Reporting against SSCF outcomes under the four elements:

Community Empowerment

Assessment made by the thematic partnership is amber

Amber	There are risks to the delivery of some of the outcomes and targets set out in the LAA but there are plans and actions in place that are likely to address these.
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The HSP agreed funding of £169k to the Haringey's Community Empowerment Network (HarCEN) for 2006/2007. The funding is administered and monitored to HarCEN by the Corporate Voluntary Sector Team (CVST). The CVST has undertaken an evaluation of HarCEN to assess their effectiveness in promoting and developing community engagement on behalf of the partnership as per the SSCF agreement.

This evaluation has thrown up considerable concerns across both the voluntary and community sector and statutory agencies on the way HarCEN has undertaken their role in community engagement. The evidence of these concerns indicate an agency that is failing to meet the standard required in order to be accountable, effective and influential at the required level.

Crime reduction

Assessment made by the thematic partnership is green

Green	There are no serious risks to delivery of any outcomes and targets set out in the SSCF and where risks exist there are plans and actions in place that will address them.
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Haringey's Safer Communities Executive Board (SCEB) leads for the strategic partnership on the crime reduction agenda. This partnership is well-established and robust. The delivery of work through multi-agency sub-groups is working well and these include a performance management group. There has been ongoing commitment and engagement from a variety of partners over time.

All of the British Crime Survey comparator crimes show a fall in the performance year to date (April – September 2006). Significant decreases were seen in common assault (20.5%), criminal damage (20.4%) and theft of motor vehicle

(20.0%). Falls of over 15% were also seen in wounding, personal robbery and bicycle theft. All crime types are currently set to hit target and are performing better than in the same period in performance year 2005/06, with the exception of bicycle theft. The numbers of bicycle thefts are small and the relatively high numbers of offences in August 2006 are likely to have led to the target being set to miss at the current time. Since its peak in August 2006, figures have returned to recent levels.

In spite of a fall this performance year to date, the number of theft from person offences, although lower than in the previous year, is still high when compared to the most similar Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP). Also the number of theft from motor vehicle offences is significantly higher than both the most similar CDRP average and the Metropolitan Police average, however, the figures are lower in the performance year to date than in the same period a year earlier.

The Drug Action and Alcohol Team (DAAT) and drugs squad continue to work together on the targeting of class A street dealers. The DAAT is currently undertaking a drugs market mapping exercise which will inform how we tackle availability issues next year. A crack house protocol has been developed across the partnership and the Alcohol Strategy Group is implementing its action plan

Neighbourhood working

Assessment made by the thematic partnership for this element is green

Green	There are no serious risks to delivery of any outcomes and targets set out in the SSCF and where risks exist there are plans and actions in place that will address them.
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The Council's Neighbourhood Management Service has been successfully embedded as a key service of the Council, and the structures and processes it has established are utilised not only by Council services but also other partners on the HSP, particularly the Police and the Primary Care Trust. Particularly, important have been the Area Assemblies that are held quarterly for seven areas across the Borough and provide opportunity for residents to engage with local councillors and local service providers to effect change. Decision making on small budgets are also devolved to local residents via these Area Assemblies.

As a result of the successes already achieved in neighbourhood management it was agreed to use the Neighbourhood Element of SSCF funding to support a Tackling Worklessness programme in 3 priority wards – Bruce

Grove, Noel Park, and Northumberland Park. The programme focuses on the core populations identified in Haringey's strategic approach and endeavours to fill gaps in current provision, link up related interventions and binds disparate interventions into a co-ordinated programme.

Six interventions (and an embedded evaluation) have been commissioned focusing on core populations affected by worklessness.

It links interventions aimed at

- young people improving their employability, vocational skills and easing the transition from school to college and from school to work;
- users of council services who need/want advice and support to further their education, upskill and/or get into employment;
- users of health services who want to access employment opportunities;
- volunteering/work placements to gain experience and skills in order to access sustainable employment;
- job opportunities in Wood Green town centre;
- local neighbourhood level employment and training initiatives.

Linking the interventions is the "Haringey Guarantee" which all partners sign up to. The Guarantee involves:

- a quality service for all beneficiaries;
- an entitlement to services from partners including information, advice and guidance, priority interviews for college programmes and places;
- partner commitments to offer real work experience/placements and volunteering opportunities; and
- guaranteed interviews for programme beneficiaries applying for employment opportunities with partners.

The interventions deliver:

- extending the local school's vocational offer at Key Stage 4
- pilot employment & job brokerage advisors to school leavers and college students (under 25s) adding value and an enhanced offer to 60 College of North East London students
- Employment advisors based in North Tottenham Customer Service Centre and the Central Library in Wood Green running advice sessions and providing support to people who wish to gain work
- Information, advice and guidance and support services to patients using local GP surgeries to improve the employment prospects of and reduce numbers in receipt of incapacity benefit
- a co-ordinated volunteering work experience/ work placement intervention for 150 local residents

- the development of local actions and priorities linking into the main elements of the programme on worklessness impacting on the 3 neighbourhoods

The programme has been established and agreed by the Enterprise Partnership Board; Interventions have been commissioned and all commenced delivery in September 2006.

Cleaner safer greener agenda

Assessment made by thematic partnership for this element is green.

Green	There are no serious risks to delivery of any outcomes and targets set out in the SSCF and where risks exist there are plans and actions in place that will address them.
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The Better Places Partnership (BPP) leads for the strategic partnership on the cleaner, safer, and greener agenda. Along side the statutory partners, voluntary and community sector engagement on the partnership continues to be developed.

The SSCF programme of investment is well underway and starting to deliver real improvements for residents in some of the most deprived parts of Haringey. Projects funded through the SSCF are closely aligned to the NRF programme in order to maximise impact and successfully deliver the national outcome – cleaner, safer and greener. The programme comprises a wide range of environmental projects which together tackle community safety and grime issues, both in the natural and built environment, in the most deprived parts of the borough. Stronger enforcement, enhanced street cleaning and clear ups, investment in improving smaller open green spaces and extended recycling facilities on estates are all part of a wider programme aimed at driving up resident's satisfaction with their neighbourhoods and increasing performance against a range of floor targets in this block of the SSCF.

The significant majority of projects are performing strongly with the additional investment now starting to deliver visible improvements to the overall quality of the environment. A small number of projects have required longer to prepare for implementation and the impact is therefore not yet showing in the performance data, for example, increased recycling participation. However, roll-out of these facilities will take place during November and further improvement in the percentage of household waste that is recycled in Haringey is then expected.

There is clear evidence of improvement in performance against a range of national and local performance indicators. The borough has now met its target of 7 green flag parks and performance against the removal of abandoned vehicles within 24 hours is now at 90%. Local residents' surveys carried out during the summer show resident satisfaction with

street cleaning at 62 percent and with the waste collection service 69 percent. Satisfaction with parks is now 59 percent. Performance against the floor target to reduce the number of adults and children killed or seriously injured is also on target.