



Agenda Item

Haringey Strategic Partnership - 22 May 2007

Subject: HSP Review – Changes to thematic board arrangements – 2007/8

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To consider changes to the HSP Thematic Board arrangements for 2007/8

2. Summary

- 2.1 The HSP Review was approved and endorsed at the March 22 HSP. One of the central features of the HSP review was the structure and role of thematic boards reporting to the Partnership. This has been considered by the new Performance Management Group as a matter of high priority in order to plan for the Partnership's new municipal year, (April 2007 – March 2008).

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the HSP agree to the establishment of an additional thematic partnership board for Housing for the 2007/8 year, building on the current thematic structure.
- 3.2 That the new Housing Partnership Board is established initially for one year, to be reviewed thereafter with a view to incorporating it in future years within the Well Being board.
- 3.3 That in the light of the need to deliver on the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement, the thematic partnership boards' reports to the HSP include updates on how their work, and the activities within their themes are contributing to meeting the mandatory targets and outcomes.

4. Report

- 4.1 Following the recent HSP Review, the Performance Management Group has met twice. The Group recognises that the Partnership needs to re-orientate itself to take advantage of the new national and local opportunities as they arise, and to meet the considerable challenges locally which cut across all services and partners.

- 4.2 The PMG agreed that the thematic partnerships were central to the success of the HSP, and that the review was useful in identifying the need to examine the current thematic board arrangements.
- 4.3 Linked to this is the pivotal role of housing in Haringey. The PMG recognised that Housing is now at the top of national government's agenda and therefore concluded that the HSP should engage actively with housing partners.
- 4.4 In order to do this effectively the PMG discussed possible ways to achieve this and concluded that the most appropriate means to ensure Housing was accorded the focus required is to establish a separate thematic board.
- 4.5 Mindful of the national timetable for changes to Local Area Agreements and the upcoming Comprehensive Spending Review, the PMG suggests to the Partnership that an evolutionary approach is advisable at this stage and that therefore the proposed Housing Thematic Board should be established for one year initially, with a further proviso that housing may be included within the Well Being board in the future.
- 4.6 The PMG also discussed the importance of performance management and how this was being driven at thematic board level. Because of the vital importance of meeting the LAA outcomes and agreed targets the PMG is of the view that thematic partnership boards must add value to the HSP by focusing their efforts on the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement, in particular the achievement of mandatory targets. The PMG is proposing that thematic board update reports to the HSP include updates on how their work, and the activities within their themes are contributing to these.

Report of:

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