

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



End of year statement of grant use with audit opinion

The Safer and Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF) is managed 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 also provide the basis of delivery for the LAA from 1st April 2007. The SSCF is performance managed through the HSP and the relevant thematic partnerships

This report sets out the end of year Statement of Grant use for 2006/07 in accordance with the grant conditions detailed within the SSCF Grant Determination. It also sets out the audit opinion of the Chief Internal Auditor providing the necessary assurances that the statement of grant use, in all material respects, fairly presents the eligible expenditure for the period 1st April 06 – 31st March 2007.

Statement of grant use 2006/07

Amount of grant received and allocation of resources

Haringey received in total £2,093,423 grant funding for 2006/07, comprising of the following funding streams and amounts pooled in accordance with the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund Agreement signed on 12th April 2006.

Safer and Stronger Community Fund	Funding_Streams	Amount of Grant
SSCF Resource	Community Empowerment Network, Neighbourhood Element, ASB Co-ordinator & Drugs Partnership Support Grant	£1,002,562
SSCF Capital	Building Safer Communities & Cleaner Safer Greener Element	£1,090,863
Total		£2,093,425

The Partnership allocated these resources through its thematic partnerships to enable the delivery of the outcomes set out within Haringey's SSCF Agreement. In order to maximise opportunities, SSCF resources have been closely aligned with Neighbourhood Renewal Funding, mainstream budgets of key partners and other external funding streams to achieve and deliver real change and improvements for residents across the four elements.

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 during 2006/07. 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.

From 1st April 2007 the SSCF funding streams are being pooled within Haringey's Local Area Agreement (LAA) and as such the Neighbourhood Element for 2007/08 will revert to focusing on neighbourhood management in order to comply with financial regulations set out within the LAA Guidance.

Expenditure of grant allocation for the period 2006/07

Full expenditure has been achieved across the funding streams pooled within the SSCF, with the exception of the Community Empowerment Fund.

Community Empowerment Network

Haringey's allocation of Community Empowerment Network funding for 2006/07 was £168,739 (Resource). The Partnership formally requested in February 07 and as part of the Outturn submission in March 07, to carry forward the sum of £44,500 of the Community Empowerment Fund allocation into 2007/08. This figure represents 2% of the overall SSCF allocation for 2006/07 and is within the permitted 5% carry forward as per delegation. This request was approved by GOL. GOL were first alerted to the potential risk for a need to carry forward funds in this element as part of the 1st six month review submitted in November 06.

Following an evaluation report and internal audit investigation, the HSP agreed to withdraw funding from HarCEN, which was upheld by an HSP appeal panel. The evaluation and investigation raised significant concerns from the voluntary and community sector and statutory agencies on the manner in which HarCEN undertook the community engagement role and its integrity when administering public funds.

The funding carried forward into 2007/08 will be used to establish a replacement CEN within the borough and will support the setting up cost and provide independent professional expertise to help move the task progressively forward over the next 6 months. It is expected that the new arrangements will be established by September 2007.

The Neighbourhood Element

Haringey's allocation of Neighbourhood Element funding for 2006/07 was £412,800 (Resource).

The worklessness programme, funded through the Neighbourhood Element during 2006/07, underwent a thorough commissioning process during quarters one and two

of 2006/07 as agreed by the HSP's Enterprise Partnership. Deliver of the programme was scheduled for September onwards. As a result spend was not profiled for the first two quarters of 2006/07, with all planned expenditure profiled for quarters three and four. Despite this, all spend for this stream was achieved in full.

Cleaner Safer Greener Element (Capital)

Haringey' allocation of Cleaner Safer Greener Element for 2006/07 was £970,000 (Capital). Capital spend, funded through the Cleaner Safer Greener Element, was heavily loaded to the final quarter due to the nature of the programme. Again despite the majority of spend occurring in quarter four as planned, full spend was achieved for this stream.

Building Safer Communities (Capital) and Home Office Grant

Haringey's allocation of Building Safer Communities Fund for 2006/07 was £120,863 (Capital). Haringey's allocation of Home Office Grants, including the ASB Co-ordinator and the Drugs Partnership Support Grant, for 2006/07 was £421,023 (Resource). Full spend was achieved as programmed during the year against all aspects of both the revenue and capital grants.

The table below shows both the profiled and actual spend across streams for the period 2006/07.

Description of Grant	Allocation	Period 1-6 Forecast	Period 1-6 Actual	Period 7-9 forecast	Period 7-9 Actual	Period 10-12 Forecast	Period 10-12 Actual	Total Spend	Variance
Community Empowerment	168,739	56,283	56,333	12,367	34,208	100,000	33,698	124,239	44,500
Neighbourhood Element	412,800	0	0	161,338	101,892	251,462	310,908	412,800	0
Home Office Grants	421,023	232,000	232,000	57,000	82,140	132,000	106,883	421,023	0
Building Safer Communities	120,863	77,000	77,000	30,000	34,265	13,863	9,598	120,863	0
Cleaner Greener Safer	970,000	79,237	79,237	222,691	98,520	668,072	762,243	970,000	0
Total	2,093,425	444,520	444,570	483,396	351,025	1,165,397	1,253,330	2,048,925	44,500

Activities funded through the SSCF streams

The below table list the activities funded to deliver against SSCF outcomes:

Safer Communities	£541,886
Building Safer Communities Capital	£120,863
Project Title	Allocation
Video Sentries 1	20,000
Cylon Surveillance	8,840
Police Motorcycle	25,000
Green Routes 1	12,500
Designing Out Crime - Campbell Estate	7,300
Designing Out Crime - Ashdown Court Estate	24,400
Video Sentries 2 - Wood Green	19,994
Police work with Sony Centre	1,670
HAGA Office Furniture	447
Police Radio Systems	712
Building Safer Communities Grant Total	120,863
Home Office Grant Resource	£421,023
Safer Communities Policy Officer	40,292
CST Support	32,918
ASB Funding	17,718
Victim Support	39,000
Proactive /Reactive activities to address PSA targets	110,000
Youth Offending Service Drugs Worker	20,000
DAAT Co-ordinator	40,823
Communities and Availability Officer	44,303
ASB Officers	72,000
Publication of Crime Results	3,969
Home Office Grant Total	421,023
Safer communities Total	541,886
Cleaner Safer Greener	£970,000
Project Title	Allocation
Road Safety Package	111,439
Improving smaller green open spaces	196,000
Groundwork	69,173
Enhanced programme of energy/fuel efficiency improvements in private sector homes	174,245
Automated public conveniences	125,000
Investment in sustainable energy	164,207
Care and repair front gardens	39,000
Area based road safety campaigns	90,936
Cleaner Safer Greener Total	970,000
Neighbourhood Element	£412,800
Project Title	Allocation
Northumberland Park School	100,000
Neighbourhood Co-ordination Post Funding	33,400
Moving Forward – Positive Employment	42,858
Work Placements HAVCO	46,846
Working for Health TPCT	83,886
Haringey at Work	80,000
Evaluation	25,810
Neighbourhood Element Total	412,800
Community Empowerment Network	£168,739
Payment to HarCEN	124,239
CEN Total	124,239
SSCF Totals	2048,925

Audit opinion

In order to give an opinion into the usage of the Safer and Stronger Community Fund (SSCF) 2006/07, Internal Audit undertook a review of the following activities funded to deliver against SSCF outcomes:

Safer Communities	£541,886
Building Safer Communities	£120,863
Project Title	Allocation
Police Motorcycle	£25,000
Green Routes 1	£12,500
Home Office Grant Resource	£421,023
Project Title	Allocation
Victim Support	£39,000
Proactive/Reactive activities to address PSA targets	£110,000
Cleaner Safer Greener	£970,000
Project Title	Allocation
Road Safety Package	£111,439
Area based road safety campaigns	£90,936
Automated public conveniences	£125,000
Neighbourhood Element	£412,000
Project Title	Allocation
Northumberland Park School	£100,000
Neighbourhood Co-ordination Post Funding	£33,400
Working for Health TPCT	£83,886

During the course of the audit, a number of control weaknesses were identified and these are now being addressed by management. However, the identified control weaknesses do not impact on the overall opinion.

It is the opinion of Internal Audit that, based upon the review of the sample of projects, the statement of grant use, in all material respects, fairly presents the eligible expenditure for the period 1st April 2006 - 31st March 2007.

Agreed action plans are in place in order to manage the risks appropriately for those projects continuing into 2007/08.

This opinion is prepared on the basis of the limitations set out below.

The matters raised in this opinion are only those that were identified during the review are not necessarily a comprehensive statement of all the weaknesses that exist or all the improvements that might be made. The responsibility for a sound system of internal controls and the prevention of fraud and other irregularities rest with management and the work undertaken in the forming of the opinion expressed in this report should not be relied upon to identify all strengths and weaknesses in internal control, nor relied upon to identify all circumstances of fraud or irregularity.

The opinion expressed has been reasonably gained from the documentation provided to Internal Audit at the time of the review.

Signed: Anne Woods

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Date: 14/5/07

Recommendations

The audit opinion identifies several key areas for improvement. In order to ensure the partnership meets the standards required by internal audit, the following is proposed:

- Each thematic partnership receives a report outlining what will be required to ensure a clear and transparent audit trail for the LAA.
- The thematic boards that are delivering against outcomes through the SSCF develop an improvement plan to address the control issues identified through internal audit. This will also apply to Neighbourhood Management Service which will be delivering on the Neighbourhood Element for 2007/08.

These proposals should establish the necessary actions to be taken by thematic partnerships and the council as the accountable body to ensure the appropriate systems are in place for evidencing spend against the actual delivery of outputs and project activity within the SSCF Agreement.

This will place the partnership in good stead and ensure sound auditing accountability for the LAA, which the SSCF has been subsumed into as of 1st April 2007.