

Meeting: Enterprise Partnership Board

Date: 5 March 2008

Title:London Development Agency Area Programme Upper LeaValley 2008-2010: North London Pledge

Introduction

This paper reports on progress for a programme tackling Worklessness across the Upper Lea Valley from 2008 until March 2010.

The programme, known as the North London Pledge, sets out to link work on tackling Worklessness across the three Boroughs, learn from current practise and build on good practice.

The programme will focus on residents of each of the three Boroughs priority wards and neighbourhoods and will have equalities targets agreed with the London Development Agency (LDA) of:

- 70% of all beneficiaries will be women
- 51% will come from BAME communities and
- 9% will be disabled.

Programme Delivery

The North London Pledge will be delivered through the Haringey Guarantee, Waltham Forest Worknet and Enfield Jobsnet programmes and with delivery partners already approved and/or working on current programmes.

The programme will link with and complement mainstream provision and other employment and skills interventions in the sub-region particularly the Employ ULV interventions – ConWeb, Stansted and Lone Parents – and the Business and Enterprise programme currently in development.

Linking the different areas of work will be through an **ULV Employment Partnerships** involving employers and will report into the new ULV Infrastructure.

Engagement (outreach) will be through clear **Points of Access** in the three Boroughs building on the East London City Strategy and Haringey Guarantee approaches. Standardised **inductions/assessments** will determine where beneficiaries enter the scheme across the ULV and clear action plans/pathways into employment will be followed. **Skills development** will be included to support those furthest from the labour market focusing on employability skills, basic skills etc.

The scheme will link with the Pathways to Work roll –out and will concentrate on long term IB claimants across the ULV. An **ULV Condition Management** Programme will build on the Haringey Guarantee pilot and work will link to the work of the PCTs and GPs across the sub-region.

An **ULV In-work Support** package will be developed to support and sustain new job entrants. This will include support for both individuals and businesses including workforce development, Train2 Gain provision and ongoing work on in-work benefits – making work pay.

The North London Pledge will be an integrated employment and skills programme bringing together co-ordinated resident engagement through clear points of access in the 3 boroughs of Enfield, Haringey and Waltham Forest, quality inductions/assessments linked to clear pathways into employment including pre-employment skills training including Basic Skills, skills development, work trials and placements, a condition management programme, job brokerage and post-employment in- work support.

Haringey Council will be the accountable body for this programme and will undertake programme management, administration and financial probity roles including liaising with the LDA on behalf of the 3 boroughs and compiling and returning quarterly finance claims and all monitoring information required by the LDA.

It is envisaged that **Urban Futures** – who have a wealth of experience in monitoring regeneration programmes – **will be commissioned to undertake the monitoring** of the North London Pledge. This will also ensure better synergy with the Employ ULV programme in 2008-2009.

The North London Pledge will link with and complement other mainstream provision – bringing **Train2 Gain** providers into the programme enhancing the employer engagement offer and contributing to ongoing in-work support. It will also deliver ongoing one-to-one supported IAG provision "in-employment."

The North London Pledge aims to identify and prepare individuals for suitable sustainable job opportunities both within and without the ULV.

Furthermore, the proposed provision would involve closer working between Jobcentre Plus (JCP) and the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) hence taking forward one of the recommendations from the Leitch Review around a more integrated skills and employment service, as outlined in the aforementioned background.

The model will be delivered in 8 work areas:

- Points of Access Standardised Entry to Programme
- Quality Assurance, Monitoring and Evaluation
- Skills Brokerage & Pre Employment Programme
- Work Tasters & Placements
- Sourcing Employment Advice & Brokerage
- In-work Support/Post-Employment Mentoring
- Specialist Health Strand: ULV Condition Management Programme
- Employer Engagement ULV Employment Partnership

Funding and Outputs

The LDA at its Corporate Investment Panel on 14 February 2008 agreed a funding package of £1.51 million up to March 2010.

Outputs to be achieved across the ULV are:

Employment Support	500	(sustained jobs 300)
Basic Skills	300	
Skills Other (Employability)	200	
Level 2 Skills	75	

The programme will have a priority focus on LAA target groups – long-term JSA and IB claimants.

Next Steps

The 3 boroughs are meeting in late February to plan delivery with Haringey's Employment & Skills Team drafting a delivery plan, processes and protocols.