

Committee:	Tenants and Leaseholders Forum
Date:	January 9 2008
Subject:	Addressing Tenants Worklessness -funding proposal
Responsible Officer:	Graham Jones - Director Planning Development & Enterprise
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Camilla Bath - Housing
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	

Section 1 – Summary

Harrow Council's proposed funding application to London Development Agency in the current European Social Fund round addressing worklessness issues of tenants in council and Residential Social Landlords property

FOR INFORMATION

Section 2 – Report

The Recent Hills Report has shown one in four households in areas of socially rented housing have no adults working. Recent research in Rayners Lane Estate conducted by Harrow College found this figure to be closer to one in three households. West London Working research established 1 in 4 of economically inactive people have health problems.

Additional research has shown that targeted intensive support has the most success in moving individuals into work.

The Harrow programme will be targeted to areas of greatest need and would train and provide a personal advice programme to workless adults in Harrow. Advisors would be attached to a children's centre and they will develop strong relationships with communities experiencing the higher levels of worklessness including the Somali community, women, disabled groups, lone parents and BME residents.

The programme would aim to provide outreach, coaching and mentoring with initial Information, Advice and Guidance, encouraging individuals to develop the skills and address barriers to work.

Support will link into other programmes to access support people such as childcare, ESOL, debt advice and other CAB services. It will also link to existing LSC provision and Job Centre Plus.

Support will taper off once a family has been in work for a few months

The project recognises that moving parents into paid employment is the major means of moving children out of poverty. This project will also seek to dovetail with and add value to other initiatives in this field

Section 3 – Further Information

The submission date for this proposal is January 14 2008, the successful applicants will be notified in April 2008.

Should this application be successful we would be seeking assistance from members of this forum to disseminate information to support the programme and to encourage potential beneficiaries to participate.

London Development Agency is a co financing organisation. We would not have to seek match funding for this programme.

The workstreams are under 1.1a and 1.1b of the prospectus

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Victoria Isaacs, Economic Development Officer
tel 0208 736 6538

www.lda.gov.uk Tenders and funding