

Harrow Strategic Partnership Board

Annual General Meeting – 26th May 2009

Report of Harrow Chief Executives

1. Introduction

The new Partnership governance arrangements established a new group comprising the Chief Executives of the main public service organisations in Harrow plus the Chief Executives of Harrow Association for Voluntary Service and Harrow in Business. The role of the Harrow Chief Executives is operationally to manage the delivery of the priorities and targets of the Partnership as set out in the Sustainable Community Plan and Local Area Agreement. It does this through coordinating and monitoring the work of the five Thematic Management Groups.

2. This Harrow Chief Executives (HCE) group is responsible for:

- taking forward the place shaping agenda;
- preparing for the introduction of the Comprehensive Area Assessment and ensuring that the partnership is working effectively;
- identifying opportunities for joint working to promote the Partnership's aims and objectives;
- tackling the big issues facing Harrow by proposing alignment of partner activity to address the issues identified;
- developing an overview of what is working in Harrow and why, and how other work streams and projects could benefit from their example;
- developing a joint planning framework;
- holding management groups to account for the delivery of the Sustainable Community Plan and the Local Area Agreement and providing support, challenge and direction as necessary;
- monitoring and providing support and direction as necessary for the area risk assessment; and
- identifying communication opportunities for the Partnership to increase its public profile.

3. The Group is accountable to the Partnership Board for delivery of the priorities and targets of the Harrow Partnership. Members of the Harrow Chief Executives are also accountable to their own organisations.

4. The HCE has met four times since its inception. This report sets out the issues that the group has discussed.

5. Recommendation

That the Board notes the themes discussed by the HCE Group.

6. The HCE has met on four occasions. The themes running through their agendas have included:

- Preparation for the Comprehensive Area Assessment and, as a contribution to ensuring that the Audit Commission CAA lead for Harrow is fully informed of partnership activity, Annette Furley has been invited to attend meetings whenever she is available. At the meeting in March, Annette gave a presentation on the how she will approach Harrow's CAA and helped develop a timetable for the submission of documents including the self evaluation that the Summit has been asked to consider.
- Performance on the LAA. Quarterly performance information on an exception basis has been presented to the Group on the old LAA including forecasts of the amount of reward grant funding that may be earned. This information is also contained in the HSP Annual Report. The first year outturn for the new LAA will be presented to the next meeting on 1st June.
- JAG. The opportunities available through joining together the analysis capacity of the public sector partners to provide better and more integrated data as well as bespoke analyses have been regularly discussed at the Group including accommodation and equipment for a dedicated secure room at the Civic Centre.
- Recession. The Group has supported the formation of a cross-organisational group to identify and implement measures to lessen the impact of the recession on Harrow residents and businesses. The Group receives reports on progress.
- Sustainable Community Strategy. The Group oversaw the latter stages of the process of refreshing the Strategy. From amongst the ambitions that the Strategy contains, the Group has identified 5 issues for particular attention in 2009/2010 including:
 - the recession
 - environmental sustainability
 - community cohesion
 - Public Health: a Partnership Approach and
 - Public Sector Transformation – working very much more closely together
- Issues relating to the voluntary and community sector including progress with the response to the Scrutiny Review and the outcome of complaints made under the Compact.

7. Further reports proposing Partnership action as well as providing details of HCE meetings will be submitted to each Board meeting.