Harrow Strategic Partnership Board

Thursday 27 January 2005

Refresh of the Community Strategy

Purpose of Report

This report informs the Harrow Strategic Partnership (HSP) Board of the development of the structure and content of the 2005 refresh of the Community Strategy 2004, including the HSP 12 priorities. The report also updates the Board on the development of the HSP Management and Reference Groups.

The Board is requested to note:

1. The structure of the refreshed community strategy, including the work on the HSP 12 priorities

2. The timetable for the development of the refreshed community strategy

3. The development of the HSP Management Groups.

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Refresh of the Community Strategy

Background Information

The document represents an action plan for delivery of the themes of the Community Strategy 2004.

The HSP Board has established 12 priority areas for action, based on its consideration of the Harrow Vitality Profiles that it wishes to see reflected in the refreshed Community Strategy. These priority areas are as follows:

1. Anti Social Behaviour
2. Burglary
3. Business & Economy
4. Circulatory Disease
5. Exclusions
6. Fear of Crime
7. Housing Condition
8. Housing Need (including the appropriate type of housing)
9. Low Birth Weight
10. Low Incomes:
    a) Poverty and Older People
    b) Low Incomes and Children
11. Public Transport
12. Street Scene

These priority areas are underpinned by the following principles:

- Targeting Neighbourhoods
- Sustainable Development
- Sustainable Communities
- Community Cohesion
- Social Inclusion
- Access to Sport & Leisure

The HSP Executive has agreed that action plans for projects within the 12 priority areas be developed and that these action plans will form an integral part of the HSP's refreshed Community Strategy.

The HSP Management and Reference Groups will have an integral role in the development, delivery and monitoring of the refreshed Community Strategy. At the last meeting of the HSP Executive held on 9 December 2004, some of the HSP Management and Reference Groups were still to be established.

The HSP Board on 4 October 2004 requested a report to the next Board meeting on 27 January 2004 on the progress on the refreshed Community Strategy, including the 12 priority areas, as well as an update on the formation of the HSP Management Groups.

Development of 2005 Refresh of the Community Strategy, taking into account the 12 priority areas

The HSP Executive at its 9 December 2004 meeting agreed to the establishment of an Editorial Board for comprising the Chair, Cllr Marie-Louise Nolan and Barbara Field to oversee development and drafting of the refresh of the Community Strategy.

Following agreement at the 9 December 2004 meeting of the HSP Executive, Cllr Nolan and met on 6 January 2005 with the Chairs of the HSP Management Groups newly established or being established. The purpose of the meeting was to emphasis the need for Management Groups to undertake the following:

1. Monitoring of the relevant chapter in the Community Strategy 2004 to facilitate the reporting of progress to the HSP Summit of 18 May 2005, via the annual report of the HSP Board.

2. Developing where applicable, the 12 priority areas identified by the HSP Executive and identifying as appropriate additional priorities.

On 10 January 2005, Management Group chairs were sent a detailed briefing on the production of the refreshed Community Strategy including:
- Timescales
- Development of themes and outlines of how the 12 priority areas would be developed.
- A template for 'Monitoring of the 2004 Community Strategy' identifying what has been achieved against the future plans specified in the 2004 Community Strategy
- A template for 'Action plans' identifying projects, methods of working etc that will address the 12 priority areas for partnership working, plus areas for partnership working that have been identified at the local level.

The themes (based on the eight chapters of the 2004 Community Strategy) and outlines are presented in a separate report.

The timescale for development of the refreshed Community Strategy is outlined below:

Key Date	Action	Responsibility
12 noon 18 January 2005	Draft chapter outline and themes of 2005 'refresh' of the Community Strategy to be forwarded to Policy and Partnerships Service (PPS)	Management Group Chairs
24 January 2005	Above to be forwarded to HSP Board	Democratic Services

27 January 2005	Draft outline and themes of 2005 'refresh' of the Community Strategy to HSP Board presented to HSP Board for endorsement	Paul Najserek
24 February 2005	Monitoring of 2004 Community Strategy sent to PPS	Management Group Chairs
23 March 2005	Chapters of the refreshed Community Strategy sent to PPS	Management Group Chairs
30 March 2005 – 6 April 2005	Reference Group consideration of chapters	Reference Groups
13 April 2005 – 20 April 2005	HSP Editorial Board consideration of chapters	HSP Editorial Board
27 April 2005	Draft refreshed community strategy (including monitoring and action plan templates) sent out to HSP Summit delegates	PPS
18 May 2005	HSP Summit	
8 June 2005	Written comments on the draft refreshed community strategy received from HSP Summit delegates	HSP Members
8 June – 15 June 2005	PPS completes final draft, taking into account written comments and comments received at the Summit.	PPS
15 June – 22 June	Editorial Board consideration of final draft	HSP Editorial Board
Late June	HSP Executive approval of final draft	HSP Executive
Late June – early July	HSP Board to work out of session to provide comments on draft	HSP Board

Management Group Chairs have been asked to urgently consider ways in which work may need to be progressed between meetings of their Management Groups in a way that will enable suitable progress on such a sizeable body of work within the given timescale.

HSP Summit

The morning of the HSP Summit will be used to gain HSP Board member approval of the projects identified in the Management Group action plans. The afternoon will be used to consult with Partners on what has been proposed and gain feedback to incorporate into the final draft of the strategy. Partners will also be able to provide comment on the draft in the three weeks following the Summit.

Relationship to Local Public Service Agreements

Local Public Service Agreements are currently beginning a second-generation phase. The second-generation agreements will give local authorities greater freedom to focus on what matters most in their area. Central Government wants to see local communities deciding the priorities for improvement locally through strengthened local partnerships, so that authorities can target what is of greatest importance for improvement at the local level. The development of the refresh of the Community Strategy will form the basis of much of the outcomes sought by the London Borough of Harrow in the second-generation Local Public Service Agreement.

Current Status of HSP Management and Reference Groups

In November 2004, HSP Management Group Chairs were forwarded an initiation document outlining the suggested development of the Groups. This document:
- Outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Harrow Strategic Partnership Management Groups (including specific responsibilities of the Chair)
- Explained the role of the Policy and Partnership Service in relation to coordination of, an participation on, the Management Groups; and
- Outlined a suggested agenda for the first meeting (for newly established Management Groups).

At the last meeting of the HSP Executive on 9 December 2004, it was agreed that the Greener Harrow Management Group would form part of the Regenerating Harrow Management Group. It would also agreed that Cllr Nolan would 'buddy' and offer support to the Management Group.

All Chairs of the Management Groups have committed to working to the timetable outlined above. Management and Reference Groups are listed below together with a brief indicator of their current status:

- **Safer Harrow Management Group** (chaired by Bob Carr, Borough Commander): is holding its next meeting on 9 January. An agenda for this meeting has been developed.

- **Regenerating Harrow Management Group** (now incorporating Greener Harrow Management Group) (chaired by Anna Robinson, Director of Strategy, Urban Living, Harrow Council): These groups have now been amalgamated to serve as one management group. No meetings of this group have been scheduled to date.

- **Healthy Harrow Management Group** (chaired by Andrew Morgan, Chief Executive of the Harrow PCT): No meetings of this group have been scheduled to date.

- **Children and Young People Management Group** (chaired by Paul Clark, Director of Children's Services): Met on 16 December 2004 to discuss function and role. A follow up meeting of a sub group has been scheduled for 26 January 2005 to further discuss role and function.

- **Learning for All Management Group** (chaired by Javed Khan, Director of Learning and Community Development, Harrow Council): No meetings of this group have been scheduled to date.

- **ICT Management Group** (chaired by Nick Bell, Executive Director of Business Connections, Harrow Council is working with Manoj Badale from Agilisys to establish this Management Group): will hold its next meeting on 13 January 2005. An agenda has been agreed with the Chair.

- **Older Persons Reference Group** (chaired by Cllr Anne Groves): The Partnership With Older People Steering Group has now taken on the role of the OPRG. Its next meeting is on 18 January.

- **Community Cohesion Reference Group** (chaired by Julia Mayo, Harrow Association of Voluntary Service): is holding it's next meeting on 19 January 2005. An agenda has already been agreed with the Chair.

Paul Najsarek, Director of Organisational Performance
January 2005