

Harrow Strategic Partnership Board

Thursday 27 January 2005

Refresh of the Community Strategy – Updating the HSP priorities

Purpose of Report

This report supplements the Refresh of the Community Strategy Report. This report informs the Harrow Strategic Partnership (HSP) Board of proposals to update the HSP priorities in light of consideration of the priorities by some Management Group chairs.

The HSP Board is requested to:

1. Comment on the suggested changes to the 12 priority areas to be included in the Refresh of the Community Strategy.

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Refresh of the Community Strategy – Updating the HSP Priorities

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

This report has been developed with input from Management Group chairs to ensure the Harrow Strategic Partnership Board (HSP Board) is satisfied with the overall direction of the Refresh of the Community Strategy prior to the majority of the work involved in refreshing the Strategy being completed.

Priority Areas

The HSP Board has previously established 12 priority areas for action, based on its consideration of the Harrow Vitality Profiles that it is intended will be 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

As a consequence of the Safer Harrow, Healthy Harrow and ICT Management Groups consideration of the HSP priority areas these Management Groups have suggested the following changes should occur, based on further analysis of evidence and national imperatives:

- The replacement of burglary (priority 2) and fear of crime (priority 6) with property crime, and robbery and violence. These new priorities will be important contributors to reducing fear of crime.
- The inclusion of tuberculosis and sexual health as priority areas.

- Low birth weight will remain a priority area. However, further work will need to be completed to understand related factors such as teenage pregnancy, breastfeeding and antenatal care.
- The inclusion of development of information technology skills as a priority area.

Further development of the refreshed Community Strategy

Once approved by the HSP Board, Management Groups will actively work on the development of these priority areas to produce key initiatives and detailed targets that will be outlined in the final draft of the refreshed Community Strategy.

Interim arrangements, including the establishment of an editorial board with membership from the HSP Board, have been established to ensure that the Community Strategy is developed appropriately within the timeframe to allow the document to be consulted on at the HSP Summit on 18 May 2005.

Resources

The London Borough of Harrow is currently considering as part of its budget process a proposal for new investment in partnership working for 2005-06. This proposal, if successful, will assist in addressing the priority areas outlined in the refreshed Community Strategy. In the following financial year there is the possibility for significant increased funding for partnership working in the borough through the second-generation Local Public Service Agreement.

Paul Najsarek, Director of Organisational Performance
January 2005