

## Response to Scrutiny Working Group Report on Neighbourhood Renewal Funds

Recommendation	Response / Comments	Date	Update: Oct 2009
<p><b>R1</b> That a Members seminar be organised on how Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets are identified and met.</p>	<p>A Seminar on the LAA will be organised in Jan / Feb 09. It is proposed to refresh the LAA at the end of year 1. This is because the Government delayed target setting on a number of the indicators and to allow an assessment of the targets set as it was the first year of measuring many of them. This process starts in November 2008, with the aim of concluding in the first quarter of 2009. A Members Seminar on the LAA as part of this process would allow Member input. Six month monitoring data will also be available – in December 08 - for a number of the indicators and this can also be considered at the seminar.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>A Members Seminar on Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) was held in March 2009, which included an update on the LAA. The scope of the LAA refresh was limited by central government – potential renegotiation of a number of indicators was postponed nationally until early 2010.</p>
<p><b>R2</b> That LAAs include targets for narrowing the gap with the average outcomes for KS2 and KS3; coronary heart disease; employment levels; take up of Incapacity Benefit and teenage conception rates.</p>	<p>The LAA indicators and targets were driven by the refresh of the Tower Hamlets Partnership Community Plan so that they reflected the key priorities for the borough. Only indicators from the new national indicator set could be included within the LAA. Our LAA includes targets on most of these measures as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there are 16 statutory educational attainment, 10 of which include aspects of KS2 and KS3</li> <li>• three indicators are included around employment rates: employment rates (NI 151), people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing wards</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

	<p>(NI 153)and people claiming out of work benefits (NI 152)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under 18 conception rate (NI 112) is included</li> <li>• Coronary Heart disease is not included. The LAA includes targets for the all age all cause mortality (NI 120) - which is seen as the best composite indicator of health – as well as obesity (NI 56) and smoking (NI 23).</li> <li>• There is one national indicator around incapacity (NI 173). This is not included in the LAA but – as part of the national indicator set – it will be monitored as one of the Council’s priority indicators.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>R3</b> That the Tower Hamlets Partnership ensures that the guiding principles of the Partnership Charter are adhered to; making sure that there is continuity in the way the Partnership functions. This should include better publicity through East End Life and also on the</p>	<p>The Partnership Charter is currently being updated as part of the Partnership refresh process. We are ensuring this is aligned with the Citizens Charter and will be launched as part of the Community Plan launch.</p> <p>The refreshed Partnership Charter will be on the Partnership website, as it is currently. All members will be asked to read, agree and sign up to the Partnership.</p>	<p>October 2008</p> <p>Completed</p>	<p>In November 2008 the Executive agreed for the Charter to go out to consultation with the participation framework on the premise that greater clarity and definition on engagement with third sector take place. Once the Third Sector work is complete the Partnership will consult on the charter as part of the new arrangements set out in the 3rd sector strategy. In</p>

<p>Partnership website. Furthermore all new and existing LAP members and Partners should be given a copy to refer to.</p>		<p>October 2009</p>	<p>doing so the Executive comments should also be taken on Board:</p> <p>Expected code of behaviour should be written into the Charter</p> <p>The Code of Conduct, declaration of interests should also be tightened up.</p>
<p><b>R4</b> That Tower Hamlets Partnership introduces a learning and development programme for Local Area Partnership (LAP) members which include a session on how funding decisions are made.</p>	<p>A Development and Training programme is currently being prepared for all Partnership members and will be implemented throughout the autumn and winter months.</p>	<p>September-March 2009</p>	<p>Programme was delayed slightly. Scheduled to be launched January 2010</p>
<p><b>R5</b> That a document detailing LAP roles and responsibilities is sent to all residents, along with an</p>	<p>This will be part of the new Terms of Reference for the Partnership Governance. These are currently in draft and after 30<sup>th</sup> July Cabinet they will be agreed and sent to all members of the Partnership.</p>	<p>November 2008 Completed</p>	<p>The new terms of reference is also available from the Partnership website  <a href="http://www.onetowerhamlets.net">www.onetowerhamlets.net</a></p>

invitation to attend LAP meetings.			and has been circulated to all LAP members and publicised through East End Life.
<b>R6</b> That the Tower Hamlets Partnership undertakes a corporate approach to project evaluation to improve value for money. This evaluation should include an analysis of project methods, scale, target group, value for money.	Full evaluations have been carried out for all NRF interventions. We will ensure that these are done corporately for the Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF), once activities have been commissioned. There will be a need to earmark a specific sum from the WNF to undertake this detailed evaluation work.	On-going	£50,000 has been allocated to carryout an evaluation of the WNF Programme.
<b>R7</b> That the Tower Hamlets Partnership carry out a review of all employment project client outcomes to identify which interventions were most effective.	Details of all output monitoring has been made available, along with independent evaluations undertaken in this area. These will be used to inform the process for commissioning of WNF interventions.	On-going	WNF projects will be evaluated in March 2001 which will identify the most effective interventions. Regular monitoring will be undertaken of all projects commission as part of WNF.

<p><b>R8</b> That CPAGs operate joint commissioning on worklessness projects in order to maximise the benefits to client outreach and improve value for money.</p>	<p>A commissioning framework has been agreed by Cabinet with regard to those interventions to be supported through the Working Neighbourhoods Fund.</p> <p>Key areas for intervention are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 The short term imperative to get 4000 people into sustainable employment; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family focused engagement</li> <li>• Pre-employment skills and support to access local jobs</li> </ul> </li>   <li>2 The long term goal to prevent our current large population of young people becoming the workless of the future through early intervention and prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accelerating improvement in education attainment</li> <li>• Early Intervention with young people at risk of worklessness</li> </ul> </li>   <li>3 Targeted work with excluded groups with a clear focus on moving people into employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for socially excluded groups to help them move into employment</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>An output tracking database has been developed and will go live on 1 November 2010, which will help track all beneficiaries of the WNF Programme, to ensure that the Programme objectives are being met.</p>
<p><b>R9</b> That the arrangements for outreach across the projects should be</p>	<p>A mapping exercise is being undertaken by Development and Renewal to facilitate a better assessment of the scale of the local third sector in Tower Hamlets, the services provided by it and the target beneficiaries. This will then</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Mapping exercise of third sector groups completed by Development &amp; Renewal.</p>

<p>reviewed. The review should address arrangements for specific outreach to intended beneficiaries and general outreach arrangements for engaging the broader community.</p>	<p>help to inform outreach arrangements for engaging the broader community, undertaken by the Participation Team in the Tower Hamlets Partnership.</p> <p>Furthermore a programme group of third sector agencies and lead officers to be chaired by Lead Member for Regeneration, Localisation and Community Partnerships is being set up.</p> <p>Outreach is ongoing. Two employment fayres will be taking place in autumn 2009 – organised by the Prosperous Community Delivery Group</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Third Sector Advisory board has been set up and meet regularly to oversee the implantation of third sector strategy and support for closer/effective partnership with the sector.</p>
<p><b>R10</b> That CPAGs identify project delivery methods when commissioning projects. This should ensure that suitable outreach to clients is scrutinised at the project commissioning stage.</p>	<p>The new Community Plan Delivery Groups are in the process of identifying LAA delivery plans for implementation and delivery of the 35 LAA targets.</p> <p>This will be closely linked into the Delivery Plans for the LAA targets – work will be developed to ensure that the Community Plan strategy is delivered through each of the delivery groups with quarterly reports to the Partnership Executive, as well as quarterly monitoring of the LAA targets by the Performance team.</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>LAA targets are regularly performance monitored by Cabinet Members and OSC.</p>
<p><b>R11</b> That the Tower Hamlets Partnership reviews the communication between LAPs, CPAGs and Partnership</p>	<p>A full review was carried out as part of the Partnership refresh. The new Partnership Board will ensure membership from both the Partnership Delivery Groups and the LAP Steering groups to bring greater levels of accountability and ensure local priorities are reflected at a strategic level on the Board.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Action has been completed as of partnership refresh.</p>

<p>Management Group (PMG) in order to ensure that local matters are reflected at PMG and that strategic matters are communicated effectively to LAPs.</p> <p><b>R12</b> That the Tower Hamlets Partnership develops a strategic commissioning framework for regeneration funds in future, to provide a more consistent framework for assessing value for money and to ensure specific interventions reinforce higher level strategic objectives.</p>	<p>LAP priorities will also have to be linked into the LAA targets to bring greater linkage between Delivery groups and LAP steering groups.</p> <p>A communications strategy will be developed to run alongside this work.</p> <p>This has already been completed through the WNF Strategy and commissioning document.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Action completed as part WNF Strategy</p>
<p><b>R13</b> That project appraisal documents provide a mainstreaming strategy which explains whether the project will a) change</p>	<p>Same as above.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>service practice b) seek alternative funding c) create a new mainstream service.</p>			
<p><b>R14</b> That employability and skills should remain a priority for the Tower Hamlets Partnership. The project appraisal should identify which client group is being targeted and outcomes should not be restricted to 'jobs held for 13 weeks' so that the progress made towards employment can be measured.</p>	<p>This has been addressed through the WNF strategy. WNF can only be commissioned against Employment and worklessness related activity. This will be closely aligned to the Employment Strategy and the LAA targets to ensure we meet our targets.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	
<p><b>R15</b> That funding is provided to the third sector in the Borough to ensure it is able to represent the views of the sector in strategic decisions and can</p>	<p>Subject to Cabinet approval, LAP Steering Groups will be able to commission localised activity up to the value of £300,000. This is being developed into the Participatory Budget Model to be rolled out in April 2008.</p>	<p>September 2008</p>	



<p>support local level community capacity building activity on the community chest model.</p>			
<p><b>R16</b> That the impact of Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) should be recognised and Tower Hamlets Partnership should use Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF) to pilot an expanded SNT service in at least two wards.</p>	<p>The Participatory Budget Model has a menu of options. One such option will be around improving SNTs.</p> <p>Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers are being trained, ready for roll out in the autumn 2009.</p> <p>Joint tasking meetings have been developed.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	
<p><b>R17</b> That the Tower Hamlets Partnership should examine the possibility of funding a similar Working Futures scheme to ease the poverty trap facing homeless families in the Borough.</p>	<p>The possibility of developing a similar scheme to that operating in the London Borough of Newham will be for consideration by the appropriate CPDG.</p> <p>Prosperous Community Delivery Group regularly review their approach to employment and the impact on poverty (see <a href="http://www.onetowerhamlets.gov.uk">www.onetowerhamlets.gov.uk</a>) for minutes.</p>	<p>On-going</p>	