

KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA PARTNERSHIP

4th July 2007

Community Strategy and LAA Development

This paper updates the Steering Group on the progress of the Community Strategy sub group towards refreshing the Community Strategy and developing a new Local Area Agreement.

FOR INFORMATION

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In March 2007, the Steering Group allocated the task of developing a new LAA and refreshing the Community Strategy to the Community Strategy sub group.

2. Community Strategy mid-term review

- 2.1 Government will not release conclusive guidance regarding requirements for new LAAs until after the Comprehensive Spending Review, due in autumn this year. As the existing Community Strategy underpins the LAA in Kensington and Chelsea, the sub group agreed that developing a new LAA should begin with focussing on updating the Community Strategy.
- 2.1 The sub group agreed that this process should start with undertaking a mid-term review of the existing Community Strategy. The current Community Strategy was published in November 2005 and a refreshed version of the strategy is due for publication in November 2008.
- 2.2 The mid-term review aims to take a snapshot of progress since publication of the existing strategy and update the aims and objectives within the strategy to ensure that they include any current issues and policy developments. Officers propose to publish an update to the aims and objectives within the existing strategy in November 2007.
- 2.3 Officers have also produced a Community Strategy Mid-term Review report showing progress against delivering the aims and objectives in the current Community Strategy. The Steering Group will have an opportunity to consider the results of this later in the meeting.

3. Taking suggestions forward

- 3.1 The sub group agreed that the mid-term review will then provide the basis for refreshing the Community Strategy and considering what might form part of the new LAA, subject to further guidance from government regarding LAAs.
- 3.2 The group also agreed that the mid-term review should not aim to make substantial changes to the existing strategy, but instead provide an opportunity to update current aims and objectives. Substantial changes to the strategy should form part of the full refresh process when partners will be asked to consider the overall goals and chapters within the existing strategy.
- 3.3 It is therefore important to make a distinction between which new issues and policy developments should be included as part of the mid-term review, and which might be carried forward for further development as part of the full refresh process. The sub group agreed criteria for refining any suggestions put forward. These are:
 - That the suggestion/idea is significantly new and does not currently appear in the aims and objectives of the existing strategy.
 - That the suggestion/idea is a partnership activity.
 - That the suggestion/idea represents current activity or policy objectives that are being undertaken now. If they are longer term objectives they should be rolled forward and picked up as part of the full refresh process.
 - That where significantly new aims and objectives are proposed, they are not a replacement of existing aims and objectives, thereby making those that appear in the current strategy redundant. If particular aims and objectives have been achieved then these should not be deleted during the review, but built on as part of the full refresh process.
- 3.4 After applying the criteria to some initial suggestions and ideas arising from local and national policy developments, the sub group have put forward the following list of areas that should be included as part of the mid-term review:
 - Synergies with the new Local Development Framework, including specific priorities identified in the North Kensington Area Action Plan
 - Sustainability and climate change issues such as carbon emissions and 'foot prints'
 - Community Cohesion issues and initiatives, including findings in the forthcoming report from the Commission on Integration and Cohesion

- The borough's new joint Public Health Strategy and the focus on tackling health inequalities
- The findings and recommendations of the Commission on Retail Conservation
- Capacity building and support for the 3rd sector, specifically concerning commissioning strategies and possible market growth
- Protection of vulnerable young people within domestic violence issues
- New recycling programme and retaining existing waste and recycling collection services.
- Trafficking of women and safeguarding issues which arise from this
- Young carers strategy and the role of extended kinship within families
- The potential offered by the prospect of supplementary business rates to improve economic success and engage businesses more actively in partnership work
- Car clubs and the differential charges for parking permits depending on engine size of vehicle

3.4 This list of suggestions is not exhaustive and will be shared with a wide range of partners and stakeholders for further suggestions.

4. Conclusion and next steps

4.1 The steering group are asked to note the contents of this paper and the progress made by the sub group.

4.2 The suggestions and ideas put forward as part of the mid-term review as listed above will be shared with wider partners and stakeholders for further comment through the following partnership forums:

RBKC Management Board – July 18
 Community Safety Partnership Board – July 19
 Joint Health Partnership Board – September 10
 Family and Children's Strategic Partnership – September 11

FOR INFORMATION

Contact Officer:
Rachel Smith
KCP Support Manager
RachelA.Smith@rbkc.gov.uk
020 7361 3671

