

## Review of the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy

**Attendance at review meeting:** Malcolm Spalding, Vera Gajic, Eleanor Hobart

### **NRS ISSUE: 9 "RELATIVELY FEW RESIDENTS ARE EMPLOYED BY LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICES"**

**Date of Review**

20/04/04

#### **Special Achievements**

- Raising the Potential project (providing training in health and social care with progression into work placements in PCT) was very successful in targeting local residents in the north of the borough and finding work placements. In total 70 students placed in health care setting in the community. 90% of students on the course modules, 'Care Skills' and 'Certificate in Care Practice' had ESOL needs.
- Take up of Working Family Tax Credits (WFTC) increased across the borough according to Inland Revenue figures by 1600 – causal factors for increase and impact on employment levels of residents on local public sector not identified.
- Secondment of JCP staff to EYDCP/ Sure Start to facilitate take up of WFTC and provide advice on employment & training successful with 84 local residents advised and 22 beneficiaries newly employed or assisted to remain in employment.

#### **Barriers**

- Identifying and accessing sustainable funding for projects that have been successful and facilitated positive outcomes on the ground is a big barrier to sustaining and building on what works.
- Barriers to participation such as childcare need to be addressed.

#### **Possible Solutions**

- Support and assistance in accessing funding.
- Lobby PCT to support Raising the Potential and similar projects.
- Extend qualifications provided to NVQ level 2.
- Establish Brokerage for Health & Social Care employment.
- Increase access to childcare provision so that lone parents can access such training and employment opportunities.

#### **Action for Improvement**

- Establish baseline information on numbers of local resident directly employed by the Council.
- Establish feasibility of assessing the degree to which large contractors for the Council employ locally e.g. SITA.
- Gauge the extent to which the PCT employs locally and if possible ascertain current numbers of local residents employed by the PCT.
- Research the degree to which the local public sector target recruitment at local residents in high unemployment areas in the borough. e.g. SITA
- Implement improved monitoring systems to capture progression of beneficiaries in training and employment projects on to employment in the public sector.

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**Attendance at review meeting:** Malcolm Spalding, Vera Gajic, Eleanor Hobart  
**NRS ISSUE: 10 " THERE IS NO JOB CENTRE IN NORTH KENSINGTON"**  
**Special Achievements**

**Date of Review**  
**20/04/04**

- Better communication with Job Centre Plus

### Barriers

- JCP have ultimate decision-making authority to place Job Centres where they see fit.
- JCP are not represented on Kensington and Chelsea Partnership.

### Action for Improvement

- Articulate the case for JCP to sit on the Kensington & Chelsea Partnership.

### Possible Solutions

- Facilitate and encourage the funding of North Kensington Opportunities Centre (NKOC) through JCP on a sub-contractor basis.

**Attendance at review meeting:** Malcolm Spalding, Vera Gajic, Eleanor Hobart  
**NRS ISSUE: 11 " THERE IS A LACK OF AFFORDABLE BUSINESS AND OFFICE SPACE"**  
**Special Achievements**

**Date of Review**  
**20/04/04**

Baseline completed – 39 units supplied – 20% tenant occupancy to-date with 30% in pipeline.

### Barriers

- Development of two other sites delayed due to time intensive nature of Baseline site development and market downturn in renting of office space.

### Action for Improvement

- Improve presentation of entrance.
- Increase marketing to business sector
- Market to social enterprises.

### Possible Solutions

- Identify funding streams to support development of other sites.