

KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA PARTNERSHIP STEERING GROUP MEETING ON 17th JULY 2002

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF STRATEGY AND SERVICE IMPROVEMENT

REVIEW OF THE ACCREDITATION ACTION PLAN

This report proposes revisions to the Accreditation Action Plan (AAP) in light of current development plans for the Kensington and Chelsea Partnership Steering Group.

FOR DECISION

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Kensington and Chelsea Partnership Steering Group was accredited by the Government Office for London (GOL) in February 2002. The accreditation submission incorporated a self-assessment and action plan to address the Steering Group's perceived strengths and weaknesses. Progress against the action plan has been reported at previous Steering Group meetings.
- 1.2 In the light of progress made against the plan, and decisions made at the last Steering Group meeting about the development of the partnership, officers have taken the opportunity to update and rationalise the action plan.
- 1.3 This report summarises the key updates. Throughout the report, action items are identified by their corresponding reference numbers in the full AAP. A full schedule of amendments is attached as appendix A.

2 ACTION TO DEVELOP THE PARTNERSHIP

- 2.1 The Steering Group has agreed that the development of the partnership should be a major theme of the forthcoming away day. This event will enable the Steering Group to address a number of issues and actions identified in the AAP (see box A). These issues will be drawn to the attention of the facilitator, and he will be asked to consider how best to incorporate them in the planning for the away day.

Box A – Action to develop the partnership

- PCT and the Police to consider and advise what contribution they can make to drafting policy papers and servicing the Steering Group (5.1)
- Steering Group to consider accountability for delivering the Community Strategy (36.1)
- Steering Group to consider accountability for delivering the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy (36.2)
- Steering Group to consider relationships with and between Partnership Clusters and their future development (10.1 and 38.2)
- Officer Working Group to design a framework and timetable for co-ordinating consultation in Kensington and Chelsea and report back to the Steering Group (41.1)
- RBKC chief executive to undertake further consultation with local business on involvement of this sector (1.3 and 9.3)
- Officer Working Group to seek involvement of RSLs, LSC, Employment Service, LDA in the LSP (1.6, 9.6 and 13.1)
- Each formal Partnership within the partnership clusters to report to the Steering Group on its terms of reference (3.3 and 7.3)
- Each formal Partnership within the Partnership Clusters to report to the LSP Steering Group on arrangements for identifying, engaging with and supporting the participation of hard to reach and excluded groups in its work (8.1)
- Each formal Partnership within Partnership Clusters to report to the LSP Steering Group on its membership, including voluntary and community organisations, smaller community groups and local residents, especially from hard to reach groups (11.1)
- Each formal Partnership in Partnership Clusters to report to the LSP Steering Group on membership, including from black and ethnic minority communities (24.2)
- To seek to involve: businesses the partners have major contracts with; the 50 largest businesses in the Borough; members of the Chamber of Commerce; members of the Portobello Business Forum (27.1)
- Each formal Partnership within Partnership Clusters to report to the Steering Group on its progress in joint-working (32.1)

3 THE OFFICER WORKING GROUP

- 3.1 Two actions that were assigned to the Officer Working Group also bear on partnership development (see box B).

Box B – The Officer Working Group

- Officer Working Group to ensure that the cross-Council Business Contact Officer Group is broadened to a cross-agency Group (12.3 and 26.2)
- Officer Working Group to consider how to share meaningful information (35.1)

- 3.2 The Officer Working Group, which was established largely to take forward the development of the draft Community Strategy and Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy, was disbanded in March following the completion of the drafts of these documents. The issues of business involvement and information sharing will be addressed at the away day and these action points can be picked up there.

4 EQUALITIES ISSUES

- 4.1 The AAP contains three items relating to the issue of equality (see box C).

Box C – Equalities issues

- Steering Group to conduct an audit to establish if any of its members have a disability (4.3)
- Officer Working Group to commission a racial equality audit of LSP work to date to establish baseline and set performance management measures (22.1)
- The Partnership to work with GOL to identify and develop good practice on race equality within LSPs (22.2)

- 4.2 Steering Group membership has now stabilised, and the first action point can be followed through. Steering Group members are therefore invited to let officers know whether they consider themselves to have a disability. They can do this either at the meeting, or in confidence by writing to Shirley Fryer (contact details can be found at the end of this report).
- 4.3 In relation to the second point, May's AAP progress report noted that performance measures had not yet been developed. In order to make progress it is suggested that a specific activity should be used – the forthcoming Borough Conference – as a test bed for developing Performance Measures and an audit approach on race equality issues. Officers will seek advice from the Council's Community Relations section on how best to do this and, in line with the third action point, will also discuss with GOL.

5 OUTCOME MEASURES AND TARGETS

- 5.1 Two amendments are required in response to changes in the timing of projects relating to AAP items. Box D shows the targets affected, both of which were due by March 2002.

Box D – Outcome measures and targets

- Officers drafting Community Strategy and Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy (NRS) to include outcome measures (6.2)
- Officers drafting CS and NRS to cross-reference with public service agreement floor targets (33.1)

- 5.2 In relation to the first of the above targets, the Community Strategy (agreed by the Steering Group in March 2002) incorporates outcome measures. GOL has put back the requirement to produce NRS Action Plans to September 2002. The target date for this item should therefore be amended accordingly.

- 5.3 In relation to the second item, Government targets are being reviewed in the context of the Comprehensive Spending Review 2002. The results of the review are expected in July. Their relevance to the Community Strategy and NRS will be evaluated once the targets have been announced.

6 GOOD PRACTICE IN URBAN REGENERATION

- 6.1 The AAP contains one item relating to this area (see box E).

Box E – Good practice in urban regeneration

- RBKC Head of Economic Development to write up the experience of urban regeneration so far in Kensington & Chelsea as a handbook of good practice. (16.1 and 42.3)

- 6.2 The Council does not have the resources to undertake this in the short-term. The Royal Borough Review of Economic Development and Regeneration will review the Council's recent and current policies and practices in these areas. It is suggested that the need for and value of the proposed handbook should be revisited in light of the review's conclusions.

7 VOLUNTARY SECTOR REPORTS

- 7.1 Several items in the AAP relate to the reporting of Voluntary Sector and Community Empowerment Network (CEN) activity to the Steering Group (See box F).

Box F – Voluntary Sector Reports

- Working Groups on Funding and Consultation Sub-Compacts to report to the LSP Steering Group on progress (19.2)
- Social Councils Community Partnership Officer to make regular progress reports to Steering Group as well as to the Social Councils and VOF (21.2)
- Funding Sub-Compact Group to consider how to simplify monitoring requirements of funders and report back to LSP Steering Group (39.1)

- 7.2 The Steering Group has expressed a wish to move away from conventional, written reporting styles whenever possible. In order to take the first two actions forward it is suggested that officers prepare a paper later in the year exploring alternative ways of reporting between the different groups.

- 7.3 In relation to the third point, the draft Funding Code of Practice contains items on the co-ordination of monitoring requirements. This document will be circulated for consultation during July 2002.

8 ADDITION TO STEERING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 8.1 One item in the AAP has been omitted from the terms of reference in error (see box G).

Box G – Addition to the Steering Group Terms of Reference

- Steering Group to be clear that its decisions are based on sound evidence and to include this in its terms of reference (29.1)

- 8.2 Subject to Steering Group agreement, officers will amend the Terms of Reference to include this item under section 7. Transparency and Preparation of Papers.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Steering Group is **recommended** to agree that the actions identified in the AAP be carried forward as proposed above. The Steering Group will receive reports on progress with these actions.

FOR DECISION

Tony Redpath
Director of Strategy and Service Improvement

Background Papers used in the Preparation of this Report:

Kensington and Chelsea Partnership Accreditation Self-Assessment and Action Plan (January 2002)

Terms of Reference for the Kensington and Chelsea Partnership (May 2002)

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