

# **The Kensington and Chelsea Partnership**

## **RENEWING OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS**

### **Action Plan**

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# RENEWING OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS: ACTION PLAN

## INTRODUCTION

This Action Plan is one of a set of four publications which together make up ***Renewing Our Neighbourhoods***, the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy for Kensington and Chelsea.

It has been developed on behalf of the Kensington and Chelsea Partnership (KCP) by the Neighbourhood Renewal Steering Group (NRSG). The NRSG has representatives from the range of public services and the voluntary sector operating in the borough.

### **The Purpose of the *Action Plan***

The NRSG considered it important that the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan should be something different and add value to what was already going on. There are numerous borough-wide statutory and service plans in existence - about 70 at the last count. There is also a history of over 30 years of locally-directed regeneration initiatives in North Kensington. In the steering group's view, the Action Plan needed to make a distinctive contribution.

This is not a traditional 'spending plan'. It is more ambitious than that. The Action Plan sets out to identify issues that really matter to the people living in the Borough's more deprived neighbourhoods; and then to challenge government departments, agencies, local service providers and voluntary organisations as to whether the resources at their disposal could be applied more appropriately and effectively to tackle these issues.

### **Structure of the *Action Plan***

The Action Plan is made up of three sections:

- Part 1 Skills and Knowledge
- Part 2 Golborne & St Charles: Neighbourhood Action Plan
- Part 3 The Neighbourhood Renewal Fund

Each part is organised under the same themes as used in the ***Community Strategy*** and the ***Area Profiles***, namely:

- Environment and transport
- Health and well-being
- Homes and housing
- Learning and leisure
- Safe communities
- Work and business

## **Part 1        Skills and Knowledge**

The Partnership recognises the importance of sharing skills and advancing knowledge amongst all those involved in Neighbourhood Renewal and the delivery of public services.

This part of the Plan is applicable borough-wide. Activities are shown under one of six neighbourhood renewal priorities and which, together, encourage community cohesion:

- Shared vision
- Co-ordinated planning
- Local participation
- Partnership working
- Organisational effectiveness
- Monitoring and evaluation

## **Part 2        Golborne & St Charles Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP)**

### Priority area

The initial task of selecting the priority area was straight forward: the wards of Golborne and St Charles were identified by independent analysis as amongst the 10% most deprived wards nationally, based on the 2000 Index of Multiple Deprivation. The ranking of these wards within the 10% was the trigger for Neighbourhood Renewal Funding coming to the Borough, albeit for a transitional period of three years only to March 2004.

### Key issues

The approach taken by the NRSG has been to try to identify *key local issues which, individually and cumulatively, compromise the quality of life of those who live and work in Golborne and St Charles wards, compared to most other parts of the borough.*

The starting point was the extensive research and consultation carried out, following the first Borough Conference in October 2001, to inform both the Community Strategy and the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy. The findings were analysed and are presented in the separately published **Area Profiles**.

This analysis provided the initial draft list of *issues* to be included in the NAP, debated and proposed by a sub group of the NRSG. This list of issues was then refined and actions developed through a second round of consultation with the five local regeneration partnerships, local businesses and the Regeneration Exchange of public sector managers. Two 'open events' were also held.

Some of the issues raised, although important locally, are a national or borough-wide issue. Where these are being tackled on the wider stage they have not been included in the NAP. An example is educational attainment, which is a priority across the borough as a whole, with actions targeted within

the Education Development Plan and the Community Strategy and at the level of individual schools.

Similarly, childcare, while an important issue locally, falls within the remit of Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) and the two Sure Start programmes covering Golborne & St Charles. It has therefore not been included as an issue for the NAP.

Another issue, health, is the major element of the Golborne United SRB while Dalgarno SRB also has a health improvement theme involving the voluntary and community sector delivering community based health care services. The SRB programmes have not been reproduced in the NAP. One local health issue - a concern with variations in the quality of and accessibility to local services - is beyond the scope of the SRB programmes and has therefore been included.

From this process and debate, 11 key issues have emerged for inclusion in the NAP:

### **The key issues**

1. Relatively low satisfaction with streetscape and street cleaning, particularly streets with markets and Ladbroke Grove;
2. Inadequate public transport links;
3. Poor condition of parks and public spaces, compared to other parts of the Borough;
4. Variations in the quality and accessibility of local health and care services;
5. Need to improve the quality of management, maintenance and repairs across social housing;
6. Some residents never use the leisure, recreation, library and arts services available in the area;
7. Youth provision is not being used by a cross-section of young people;
8. Residents want to feel safe on the streets and at home;
9. Relatively few residents are employed by local public services;
10. There is no job centre in North Kensington;
11. There is a lack of affordable business and office space.

### **Actions**

Each issue has one or more actions to help address it

Actions in the NAP arise from:

- statistical analysis
- consultation exercises
- discussions with service providers (including voluntary organisations), and
- identification of one-off opportunities.

Most of the actions represent a commitment from partners to focus or 'bend' their services to meet a local need. Some are funded by the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund.

Only actions that can be achieved or set in train by 2005 have been included. A few of the actions focus on lobbying agencies which are outside the Partnership but which are important service deliverers in the area - notably Transport for London.

### **Part 3        *The Neighbourhood Renewal Fund***

Kensington and Chelsea has been allocated £2.43 million over three years from the Government's Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF).

The third part of the Action Plan describes the initiatives receiving NRF support between April 2002 and March 2003, their targets and their contribution towards:

- addressing local issues
- meeting national neighbourhood renewal targets
- improving services
- developing partnership working

Full details of the application of the NRF can be found in the Partnership's annual Statement of Use (September 2002).

### **Related Activities**

The Kensington & Chelsea Partnership has been involved in the development of the Council's **Local Public Service Agreement** (LPSA) with the Government. The LPSA will comprise a set of stretch targets for improvements ranging from ones prescribed by Central Government on education, transport, crime and cost-effectiveness, to locally negotiated targets on the street scene and energy efficiency. The targets are still being developed and will be negotiated with Government this autumn.

Where appropriate, targets will be focused on Golborne and St Charles as a mechanism for the more effective delivery of mainstream services. Specifically, streetscape improvements, transport improvements and making libraries and leisure facilities more accessible have been included in the NAP.

Three major **reviews of regeneration** are underway which will help inform the first annual review of the neighbourhood renewal strategy in summer 2003:

- FUNK SRB, which finishes in March 2002, has commissioned an independent evaluation of the impact of its seven-year programme, Fighting Unemployment in North Kensington;
- Golborne United SRB partnership is conducting an evaluation of the first three years of its programme. This includes a survey of residents which will elicit some baseline data for use in monitoring the NAP;

- The Council is undertaking a Best Value review of economic development and regeneration.

### **Next Steps**

The Action Plan is intended to be a 'living' document. As the Plan becomes more widely known and discussed, the Partnership expects to expand the range of activities and actions which will help address the issues identified in Parts 1 and 2. Where appropriate, the NRSG will work with lead partners to develop baseline data, targets and quantifiable milestones for specific activities.

During the period of development of the Strategy and Action Plan, some partners have been undergoing major organisational changes. The Primary Care Trust was established in April 2002. Jobcentre Plus has changed its boundaries during the NR process and the borough has been reassigned from part of the central district, requiring new relationships to be developed. The Kensington and Chelsea Partnership is encouraging all partners and service providers to use the Action Plan to inform their planning and investment decisions and to identify further actions to help address the issues identified in both Part 1 and Part 2 of the plan.

The Partnership is currently undertaking a review of the membership of the Neighbourhood Steering Group to ensure that it continues to reflect a cross-section of community and partner interests. The review will be part of the Partnership's commitment to securing effective community involvement in neighbourhood renewal.

The first annual review of the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy will take place in summer 2003 to report in September.

The KCP will seek early discussions with GOL and the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit about the further allocation of NRF in Kensington and Chelsea, a transitional NRF area, beyond 2003/04, to help ensure that it can deliver its Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.

**Prepared by the Neighbourhood Renewal Steering Group, on behalf of the Kensington and Chelsea Partnership**

**September 2002**

## The Neighbourhood Renewal Steering Group

### NRSG Membership – Summer 2002

	Places
<b>The Voluntary and Community Sectors</b>	<b>[4]</b>
The Kensington and Chelsea Social Council - the local Council for Voluntary Service)	1
The Voluntary Organisations Forum. Representatives, from the KCP Steering Group, for: Children and Young People, Arts and Culture, Ethnic Minorities	3
<b>North Kensington Regeneration Partnerships</b>	<b>[4]</b>
Golborne United / Fighting Unemployment in North Kensington SRB Partnerships	1
Dalgarno SRB Partnership	1
Sure Start North West Kensington	1
Sure Start Golborne	1
<b>Public Sector Services</b>	<b>[8]</b>
RBKC Services – Community Safety, Economic Development, Education and Libraries, Housing, Planning and Conservation, Regeneration,	6
Kensington and Chelsea Primary Care Trust	1
London Central Employment Service	1
<b>Support and Administration</b>	<b>[3]</b>
RBKC – NRS, NRF	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>