

**THE KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
MEETING OF THE SHADOW LSP STEERING GROUP 22nd JANUARY 2002**

“RENEWING YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD”

DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL STRATEGY

REPORT BY THE TOWN CLERK AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1 INTRODUCTION

£811,000 from the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund has been allocated to Kensington and Chelsea in 2002/03. Conditional on its release by the Government Office for London is that a neighbourhood renewal strategy has been approved by the Local Strategic Partnership.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy will comprise three elements:

- Part 1 Strategic Framework
- Part 2 Area Profiles
- Part 3 Action Plan for the Priority Areas

2. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Attached to this report are draft Strategic Objectives and a Framework for Action towards achieving the long term vision that ‘within 10 to 20 years no-one should be seriously disadvantaged by where they live.’ The steering group is asked to consider the proposed strategic objectives, to suggest any omissions and to agree them as the basis for public consultation.

These ‘cross-cutting’ objectives are intended to complement but not replicate the priorities of the Community Strategy and the objectives of local partnerships (e.g. Early Years Development and Childcare) and specific services

The proposed objectives are to:

1. Promote achievement of equality of access to services provided by all authorities, departments, agencies and organisations within the LSP;
2. Promote rights of all residents, but especially those in social housing, to the safe, secure and peaceful enjoyment of their home;
3. Seek to engage young people more closely with their communities;
4. Reduce the gap in satisfaction ratings with borough-wide services between the priority areas and the rest of borough;
5. Maximise benefits to the borough and local communities from major development opportunities;
6. Promote initiatives at a local level between statutory and voluntary agencies (including social landlords) to improve the delivery of services;

7. Promote the transfer of knowledge and skills between different service providers, partners in regeneration and residents' organisations.

AREA PROFILES

Work is progressing on the three area profiles covering:

- North Kensington and Notting Hill
- Kensington and Earl's Court
- South Kensington and Chelsea

These are drawing on published information, the consultation events in the autumn, and the views of ward councillors. From the consultation events in February, a series of action points for each area will emerge, which will be presented to the Partnership in March.

ACTION PLAN FOR THE PRIORITY AREAS

The Strategy requires a definition of the Priority Areas of Kensington and Chelsea for the purposes of the Action Plan and allocation of the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund. Consultation to date suggests it would be a mistake to be over prescriptive or exclusive.

The *Action Plan* will focus on activities, both planned and projected, to be undertaken within **Golborne** and **St Charles** wards. However, it will place this in the context of initiatives in the contiguous wards of North Kensington. Maps and tables are attached which attempt to bring coherence to the numerous initiatives in North Kensington to be supported in part by regeneration funding in 2002/03. Also attached is a colour map showing ward boundaries and the concentrations of social housing.

It is also proposed that one objective of the Action Plan should be to assess in 2002/03 the needs and priorities of the area in and around the **Worlds End** and the resources which that neighbourhood can draw upon.

In terms of the *Neighbourhood Renewal Fund* it is anticipated that the bulk of money will be used within **St Charles** and **Golborne** wards. However, it is proposed that a proportion, say 12% of the year 2 budget, equivalent to £97,000, should be set aside for a limited extension of selected initiatives taking place in those two wards to parts of one or more of the other six wards falling within the 30% most deprived in England, that is **Avondale, Colville, Kelfield, Earls Court, South Stanley and Church**. Initiative managers would have to demonstrate that the extension or replication of the initiative would be targeted at households with needs at least equal to those in Golborne and St Charles.

Neighbourhood Renewal Funding (NRF)

The Steering Group will recall that the Council approved the NRF spending programme for the current year in April 2001 following consultation with key stakeholders. Regular progress meetings are being held to ensure that the projects in receipt of funding spend the resources that have been allocated to them.

The total funding available for year 1 is £540k and the Government Office for London (GOL) were informed in November that the likely spend would be £440k. GOL had

previously indicated that, following a decision to double the funds available for 2001/02, it would be acceptable to carry forward some of the allocation to next year.

The LSP needs to give its approval to the use of NRF funding in 2002/03 and 2003/04; it is only available for the next two years. When considering the allocation of NRF funding for the current year the Council did approve an indicative three year programme based on funding the following types of projects that contribute directly to the achievement of the Borough aims:

- Economic development
- Community safety
- Building better communities

The inter agency working group responsible for managing the NRF programme is reviewing the proposed spending for the next two years and will submit recommendations to the March meeting of the LSP Steering Group on this matter

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Steering Group is asked to:

1. Agree the proposed strategic objectives as the basis for consultation
2. Decide on whether a proportion of NRF funding for the next year should be earmarked for initiatives outside of the Golborne and St Charles wards
3. Add any new initiatives to the current illustrative list of action points.

Contact officer	Colin Richardson, Head of Economic Development and Strategic Partnerships, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.
Telephone	020 7361 3336
E-mail	colin.richardson@rbkc.gov.uk