



**Corporate Services Policy and  
Performance Board**

**Tuesday, 10 February 2009 6.30 p.m.  
Council Box, Halton Stadium**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David WR'.

**Chief Executive**

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

<b>Councillor Robert Gilligan (Chairman)</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Alan Lowe (Vice- Chairman)</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor John Bradshaw</b>	<b>Conservative</b>
<b>Councillor Peter Browne</b>	<b>Conservative</b>
<b>Councillor Ellen Cargill</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Mark Dennett</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Susan Edge</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Diane Inch</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
<b>Councillor Paul Nolan</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Ulfar Norddahl</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
<b>Councillor Kevan Wainwright</b>	<b>Labour</b>

*Please contact Caroline Halpin on 0151 471 7394 or e-mail  
caroline.halpin@halton.gov.uk for further information.  
The next meeting of the Board is on Tuesday, 24 February 2009*

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH  
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Part I**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
<b>1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (INCLUDING PARTY WHIP DECLARATIONS)</b>	
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached and, with personal and prejudicial interests (subject to certain exceptions in the Code of Conduct for Members), to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.	
<b>2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b>	<b>1 - 3</b>
<b>3. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>4 - 11</b>

***In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.***

**REPORT TO:** Employment Learning and Skills Policy & Performance Board

**DATE:** 10 February 2009

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director, Corporate and Policy

**SUBJECT:** Public Question Time

**WARD(s):** Borough-wide

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider any questions submitted by the Public in accordance with Standing Order 34(9).
- 1.2 Details of any questions received will be circulated at the meeting.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDED: That any questions received be dealt with.**

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Standing Order 34(9) states that Public Questions shall be dealt with as follows:-

- (i) A total of 30 minutes will be allocated for dealing with questions from members of the public who are residents of the Borough, to ask questions at meetings of the Policy and Performance Boards.
- (ii) Members of the public can ask questions on any matter relating to the agenda.
- (iii) Members of the public can ask questions. Written notice of questions must be given by 4.00 pm on the working day prior to the date of the meeting to the Committee Services Manager. At any one meeting no person/organisation may submit more than one question.
- (iv) One supplementary question (relating to the original question) may be asked by the questioner, which may or may not be answered at the meeting.
- (v) The Chair or proper officer may reject a question if it:-
  - Is not about a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or which affects the Borough;
  - Is defamatory, frivolous, offensive, abusive or racist;
  - Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months; or

- Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.
- (vi) In the interests of natural justice, public questions cannot relate to a planning or licensing application or to any matter which is not dealt with in the public part of a meeting.
- (vii) The Chairperson will ask for people to indicate that they wish to ask a question.
- (viii) **PLEASE NOTE** that the maximum amount of time each questioner will be allowed is 3 minutes.
- (ix) If you do not receive a response at the meeting, a Council Officer will ask for your name and address and make sure that you receive a written response.

Please bear in mind that public question time lasts for a maximum of 30 minutes. To help in making the most of this opportunity to speak:-

- Please keep your questions as concise as possible.
- Please do not repeat or make statements on earlier questions as this reduces the time available for other issues to be raised.
- Please note public question time is not intended for debate – issues raised will be responded to either at the meeting or in writing at a later date.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

#### **5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

None.

#### **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children and Young People in Halton** - none.

6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton** - none.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton** – none.

6.4 **A Safer Halton** – none.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal** – none.

**7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

7.1 None.

**8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

**REPORT TO:** Corporate Services Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 10 February 2009

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director Corporate and Policy

**SUBJECT:** Neighbourhood Management

**WARDS:** Appleton, Castlefields, Halton Lea, Kingsway, Riverside, Windmill Hill.

### 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

A presentation will be made at the meeting covering the following points;

- 1.1 The use of neighbourhood management funding to date.
- 1.2 Case studies that show the early contribution neighbourhood management is making in the three pilot neighbourhoods with regard to closing the gap and reducing deprivation.
- 1.3 An outline how the business case for neighbourhood management from March 2010 beyond is to be explored.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- (1) **the presentation be received; and**
- (2) **further reports are brought to the Board regarding the development of the business case for neighbourhood management in Halton.**

### 3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Since 2006 Halton has received government funding to develop neighbourhood management in those areas of the Borough that fell within the 3% most deprived under the 2004 Index of Multiple Deprivation. Since April 2008 this has been part of Halton's Area Based Grant allocation, and continues until March 2010.
- 3.2 The table below sets-out the funding profile over the four years;

Year	Amount
2006/7	412,800
2007/8	516,000
2008/9	412,800
2009/10	258,000
Total	1,599,600

- 3.3 Guidance issued by the Government on the use of the funding suggested that that the majority of funding would be used to on the employment of a neighbourhood management team with the relatively small proportion remaining to be used to fund a local 'community chest' for small grants to local community groups.
- 3.4 In Halton we have only employed a small team of staff (5) as against the case in Warrington (8) and St Helens (7) who have used in the region of 80% of their budget on staffing costs. Instead, we have spent around 55% of our funding on staffing costs with the rest being used to 'buy-in' services from partners by way of Service Level Agreements, a small portfolio of larger interventions as well as our own version of the community chest – the neighbourhood Quick Response Fund.
- 3.5 A more detailed breakdown will be included in the presentation.
- 3.6 Work is being focused in three pilot neighbourhoods, each of which fell within the above category; Central Widnes, Hallwood Park & Palace Fields and Castlefields & Windmill Hill.
- 3.7 Neighbourhood management is designed to help close the gap between our most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of the Borough, with regards to health, education, employment and crime

#### **4.0 CURRENT POSITION**

- 4.1 At its meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008, the Council's Executive board resolved that;
- (1) the Halton Neighbourhood Management Partnership be asked to develop a detailed business case for Neighbourhood; Management after 2010, and Corporate Services PPB review this.
  - (2) the Council supports the continuation of present Neighbourhood Management arrangements at least until March 2010; and
  - (3) the Council will retain and fund Area Forums under any future arrangements.
- 4.2 The Halton Neighbourhood Management Board is to consider a draft project brief on the development of a business case for neighbourhood management at it meeting on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2009.
- 4.3 A copy of the draft Project Brief is annexed to this report.

#### **5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Neighbourhood Management is intended to help the Council and its partners to deliver the objectives in the Community Strategy and Corporate Plan in relation to closing the gap between the quality of life in the most disadvantaged areas and that in the rest of Halton.

**6.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 None

**7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

**7.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

None

**7.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

None

**7.3 A Healthy Halton**

None

**7.4 A Safer Halton**

None

**7.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

Neighbourhood Management aims to support the delivery of objectives under all of the Council's key priority areas.

**8.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

8.1 There are no risks associated with this presentation. More generally the risks with neighbourhood management relate to failure to deliver the desired improvements in all five priority areas, and failure to ensure sustainability after external funding ends in 2010.. These are being addressed through the preparation and monitoring of a development plan

**9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

9.1 Neighbourhood Management aims to reduce geographical inequalities with the Borough.

**10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

<b>Document</b>	<b>Place of Inspection</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal	Municipal Building Widnes	Rob MacKenzie 0151 471 7416
Halton LAA		



**PROJECT BRIEF**

<b>Project Name:</b>	Development of Neighbourhood management in Halton from April 2010.		
<b>Project Description:</b>	To build the business case for the continuing development of neighbourhood management in Halton beyond the end of external funding in March 2010.		
<b>Project Number:</b>		<b>Document / Issue No.:</b>	
<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	Rob MacKenzie	<b>Project Manager:</b>	Nick Mannion

**Distribution:** This document has been distributed to

Name	Title	Date of Issue
Nick Mannion	Director of Neighbourhood Management	
Rob Mackenzie	Operational Director, Policy & Performance	
Cllr John Swain	Chair, Halton Neighbourhood Management Partnership	
David Parr	Chief Executive, HBC	
Dwayne Johnson	Strategic Director, Health & Community	
Gerald Meehan	Strategic Director, Children & Young People	
Dick Tregea	Strategic Director, Environment	
Ian Leivesley	Strategic Director, Corporate & Policy	
Jo Lappin/Jane McCusker	Government Office in the North West	

## **SECTION 1 – WHY IS THE PROJECT TAKING PLACE?**

### **Project Background**

Since April 2006, Halton has received external grant funding (currently through Area-based Grant) to facilitate the development of neighbourhood management pilots in the most deprived parts of the Borough. The Halton Neighbourhood Management Partnership was established in early 2007 to provide strategic direction, overview and leadership of the process.

External funding is currently due to end in March 2010. At its meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008 the Borough Council's Executive Board resolved to continue to support the development of neighbourhood management until 2010 and that;

***The Halton Neighbourhood Management Partnership develop a detailed business case for Neighbourhood Management after 2010 and the Corporate Services Policy and Performance Board review this.***

The project plan sets-out how this objective will be successfully delivered.

### **Project Aims:**

#### ***Detail the Business Aims for the project***

- Assess the progress in the development of the neighbourhood management partnerships in the three pilot areas to date and their impact on services and key outcomes.

**PROJECT BRIEF**

- Complete an option appraisal (inc. costs) for the continuation of the development of NM beyond March 2010 in both the current areas and how this work can be integrated with other area-based working in Halton.
- Identify potential sources of support for NM after NM both directly and 'in kind'.
- Suggest ways in which NM can be integrated in service development.

***Show the links to the Strategic Objectives / Best Value Performance Plan***

- Demonstrate how NM is consistent & equitable, offers value for money and affordable links with the 'Effective Use of Resources' strategic imperative.
- Also need to show how NM is contributing towards the Sustainable Communities Strategy and Halton's LAA.

**Business Case: (An evaluation of the likely costs versus the expected benefits)*****Outline the budget and / or resources available.***

- Officer time – whilst there is staffing resources available within the core NM team, input will be required across all HBC's Directorates and from key service providers.

***Provide an evaluation of the value of the expected benefits (NB Where feasible these benefits should be expressed in financial terms, however this may not always be the case)***

The primary aim of NM is not necessarily to reduce or increase public spending in deprived neighbourhoods, but to help ensure that the maximum benefit and impact is obtained by the most effective and efficient use of public resources; both financial and physical.

- Clarity on the objectives and contribution NM can make.
- Improved co-operation and sharing of resources & intelligence by partners.
- Greater degree and depth of engagement with local communities by HBC and others.
- Better locality arrangement between NM and other area-based service delivery vehicles such as CYPANs and patch-based services.

***How will achievement of the benefits be measured and who will be responsible for the measurement of benefits***

- Improved resident satisfaction and progress towards 'closing the gap' on key indicators between the NMAs and the rest of Halton.
- Better shared use of resources within the Council and with partners to achieve better outcomes from within existing resources

**PROJECT BRIEF**

- More efficient services through improving the design to meet user needs as a result of user engagement - higher satisfaction levels for similar inputs.

Analysis of key baseline indicators and agreed performance management indicators.

**Project Scope:**

***Detail specific area which are included in the project and – if appropriate – highlight those areas not covered by this project***

The three neighbourhood management areas ('NMAs');

- Central Widnes
- Hallwood Park & Palace Fields
- Castlefields & Windmill Hill.

The project will also examine the case for keeping to the current number of NMAs and their boundaries again increasing/reducing the number of NMAs and the areas which they include.

**Project Priority:**

***What is the priority of this project relative to other work (project and business as usual)***

High

**SECTION 2 – WHAT WILL THE PROJECT DELIVER?****Project Deliverables:**

***Project plan and key outputs (end products) of the project:***

- Acceptance of the case for allocating the financial resources to enable the continuation of the development of NM in Halton beyond March 2010 by HBC, HSP and key partners.
- Confirmation of the structure and model of neighbourhood management partnership to be adopted.
- Agreement on the number and extent of the areas to benefit from NM beyond 2010,

**Quality Criteria:**

***Detail the criteria with which individual deliverables must comply***

- Must meet applicable value for money and equality principles and be affordable and

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sustainable.

***Describe how compliance with the specified quality criteria will be measured***

- Scrutiny and endorsement of Corporate & Policy PPB
- Approval by Chief Officers Management Team and Executive Board
- Approval by the Halton Strategic Partnership.
- Monitored by the Halton Neighbourhood Management Partnership

**Other related work:**

***Detail here any other projects with which this project overlaps or needs to interface***

Alignment with other locality working in Halton to ensure optimum synergy and efficiencies.

***Refer to any other existing work / policies which need to be considered whilst undertaking the project***

- Sustainable Community Strategy
- Halton Local Area Agreement
- Community Engagement Strategy

**Constraints:**

***Does the project have to be completed by a certain time?***

- Target date for adoption by Exec Board; September 2009.

***Is this an externally or internally imposed deadline?***

- Internal

***Are there any other constraints with which the project must comply?***

**Assumptions:**

***What assumptions are you making?***

- None

**PROJECT BRIEF**

***When / how will these assumptions be tested and confirmed?***

**Known Risks:**

***Detail any risks of which you are aware***

- Failure to produce an effective and affordable case for consideration by the deadline.
- Failure to deliver would have an adverse effect on chances of meeting a range of internal and external objectives, targets and performance standards.
- Abandonment of NM would have significant negative impact on image and reputation of HBC amongst partners and in the communities of the current NMAs.
- Current and future investment by external partners in the NMAs would be jeopardised.

**SECTION 3 - PROJECT ORGANISATION**

***Give details of the Project Board members and their respective roles. As a minimum there must be a Project Sponsor and Project Manager.***

Rob MacKenzie, Operational Director, Policy & Performance will Chair the Board. Project Manager will be Nick Mannion, Director of Neighbourhood Management and the members of the Board will be drawn from key individuals identified on the PID distribution list.

**Sign off:**

Role:	Name:	Signature:	Date:
Project Manager	Nick Mannion		
Project Sponsor	Rob MacKenzie		