

ANNEX A

SUSTAINABLE HARINGEY LOCAL AGENDA 21 ACTION PLAN FIRST MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY

(NOVEMBER 2001)

Sustainable Haringey: Local Agenda 21 Action Plan

Introduction

1. This document is a summary of the results from the first monitoring exercise which has been carried out to find out what progress is being made to implement the Sustainable Haringey: Local Agenda 21 Action Plan. The Results document is available on request from the Planning Policy Group, Haringey Council, 639 High Road, Tottenham, N17 8BD. Tel: 020 8489 5562).

What is Sustainable Development and Local Agenda 21?

2. The term “sustainable development” has tended to be equated with “Quality of Life” and means “development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (Brundtland Report).
3. Local Agenda 21 (LA21) is a partnership effort between local authorities and the various sectors of the community, to set an agenda to progress sustainability. Therefore the Sustainable Haringey LA21 Action Plan is seen as a means for taking sustainability forward in Haringey and is intended to be a collaborative plan of action.
4. The Sustainable Haringey Local Agenda 21 Action Plan, was adopted by the Council in August 2000. It is to be reviewed after 3 years and this first monitoring report has been undertaken in order to assess progress being made so far.
5. The experience and information gleaned from the LA21 process is intended to feed into the Local Strategic Partnership and the new Community Strategy. The existing local LA21 partnerships are also to be expanded in the Community Strategy development process.
6. The action plan is divided into three themes of living, working and moving each with a set of initiatives for action.

Living initiatives are concerned with:

- ◆ Homes, housing and neighbourhoods
- ◆ Streetscene and cleanliness
- ◆ Healthy living and lifestyles
- ◆ Open space and nature

Working initiatives are concerned with:

- ◆ Making a Living – jobs and businesses
- ◆ Education and training
- ◆ Sustaining the local economy

Moving initiatives are concerned with:

- ◆ Land use and transport integration
- ◆ Retraining the use of private motor vehicles
- ◆ Encouraging public transport use, walking and cycling
- ◆ Reducing the environmental impact of motor vehicles

Monitoring the Performance Indicators

7. To assess progress on the Plan, approaches were made to a number of sources, sometimes several sources for the same indicator.
8. In addition to Haringey Council services, the following external partners, or their agents, are among those who provided updates:
 - BAPH (Biodiversity Action Partnership for Haringey),
 - British Trust for Conservation Volunteers
 - CESMB (Centre for Environment & Safety Management for Business), Middlesex University
 - EAGA (Energy Action grant Agency)
 - Enfield and Haringey Area Health Authority
 - HBDA (Haringey Business Development Agency)
 - HBSS (Haringey Business Support Services)
 - Newlon Housing Trust
 - North London Waste Authority
 - Ujima Housing Association
 - Wildlife Trust (Haringey Branch)
9. In addition, a questionnaire was sent to a total of 86 secondary or primary schools in the borough seeking information on topics in the Action Plan such as on the pupil's diets.

Summary of Findings

10. The monitoring exercise revealed that many of the indicators are not easily monitorable. However, whilst in many cases it is not possible to obtain the actual total numbers of incidents that the performance indicator calls for (e.g. the number of events held) it has still been possible to get some information for most of the initiatives. (Inter alia the process has revealed the importance of having performance indicators which are SMART i.e. specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and with a time-scale).
11. There would seem to be a number of initiatives in which some progress is being made and there may be opportunities for incidents of good practice to be implemented more widely, both in the community and within the Council.

12. For the purposes of this summary, the following examples give a flavour of the progress being made to implement the initiatives associated with the schedule of actions in the Action Plan. The initiative reference numbers refer to the numerical numbers given to them in the Results document, which should be referred to if details are required. The initiatives are divided into three groups, those which:

(a) Success on Performance Indicator Outcomes

- These are initiatives where progress on their implementation, as measured by the relevant performance indicator, is being made by the Council and/or one or more of its partners.

(b) Other Significant Incidents of Progress

- These are other initiatives where progress is being made but either the outcome is not yet secured or incidents of good practice are not being widely implemented.

(c) Progress is not being made or where the progress is unknown

- These are initiatives where the outcomes specified by the stated performance indicators are not being even partially achieved, where there has been little progress, or where the success is unknown (either because the indicators do not appear to be monitored or they are unmonitorable).

Successful Outcomes

13. These include:

- (L5) Supported housing target is being met
- (L6) Over 4000 properties have received grants for energy saving measures for their homes
- (L10) A range of developments have incorporated “design out crime”
- (L14) There has been a reduction in the number of racial, homophobic and domestic crime figures.
- (L34) There have been four successful partnership bids, involving improvements to parks and gardens
- (L35) Management plans have been prepared for 6 major sites of nature conservation importance
- (M13) Nine schools have safer route to schools

Other Incidents of Success:

14. These include:

- (L18) The HA21 (Haringey Agenda 21) Community Steering Group newsletter, Down to Earth, publicises events and good practice. Agencies such as the Energy Action Grant Agency have held events.
- (L44) The draft Haringey’s Bio-diversity Action Plan is nearing completion
- (W6) The Council’s Cleaning Division has achieved international accreditation for its environmental management system, ISO 14001
- (M21) Turnpike Lane bus station was improved in early 2001
- (M24) Haringey’s Air Quality Management Area was declared on 1st July 2001.

Progress is not being made or is unknown:

14. These include:
- (L3) Number of new housing units powered by solar energy (No system exists for monitoring)
 - (L7) No system exists within the Council to ensure compliance with environmental tendering specifications
 - (L16) No indicators have been developed to assess the level of participation of people with special needs
 - (W17) The integration of economic social and environmental policies is happening in some parts of the Council and in some of the partnerships but does not appear to be happening routinely throughout the Council
 - (M2) Data on trip length is 10 years old and numbers of existing/new dwellings in town centres is not monitored
 - (M4) The number of home delivery services available is not known
 - (M11) No targets have been set for other initiatives such as Green Travel Plans
 - (M19) There is no data available on progress on the provision of bus services to residential areas not currently served
 - (M22) There have been no walking buses developed to date despite Council officer endeavours due to lack of commitment from parents to be involved in their operation. (However any interest from parents wishing to operate a walking bus would receive the necessary training from the Council).

Conclusions/Next Steps:

15. The monitoring exercise has therefore shown that there are many examples where progress is being made. However the process has also highlighted some issues which need to be addressed to ensure that opportunities to progress Haringey's LA21 are maximised.
- (1) Some of the indicators need to be reviewed (e.g. because targets have already been met or because, in some cases, they are not easily monitorable or because there is not a clear link between the indicator and the schedule of action).
 - (2) There are unrelated pockets of good intentions occurring but there is a lack of a corporate structure to ensure mainstreaming of sustainability within the Council.
 - (3) More work is necessary to widen community involvement in LA21. Many of the initiatives and actions remain Council-only responsibilities.

16. At this stage there is therefore a need for:

- (a) Further work through the Local Strategic Partnership and the development of the Community Plan to widen awareness of LA21, and increase community involvement.
- (b) Within the Council, the adoption of a structure or mechanism to ensure that efforts being made or that could be made are taken advantage of so that opportunities are not missed and potential duplication of effort avoided. This would occur by mainstreaming LA21 and sustainable development as part of the Council's normal way of operating.
- (c) Improved SMART indicators (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and with a time-scale). The Council can take a lead role in the development of these indicators, but many will require the co-operation of partners.