<u>Minutes</u>

Corporate Services and Partnerships Policy Overview Committee Tuesday, 18 September 2012 Meeting held at Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW



	Members Present:					
	Councillors Richard Lewis (Chairman), Timothy Barker, Lindsay Bliss, East, Neil Fyfe and Richard Mills.					
	Apologies: Councillors Raymond Graham (Councillor Timothy Barker su Michael White.	ouncillors Raymond Graham (Councillor Timothy Barker substituting) and				
	Officers: Fiona Gibbs (Council's Stronger Communities Officer) and Khalid Ahmed (Democratic Services Manager).					
	Witness: Carole Jones (Chair of the Strong and Active Communities Partn	ership)				
13.	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 JULY 2012					
	Agreed as an accurate record.					
14.	EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC It was agreed that all items of business would be considered in public.					
15.	COMMUNITY COHESION WITHIN HILLINGDON					
	Members were provided with a presentation from the Council's Stronger Communities Officer who outlined her role and the remit of the Strong and Active Communities.					
	The Committee was informed that in her role as Stronger Communities Officer she provided:					
	 Strategic and policy lead on community cohesion and integration 					
	 Advice and guidance on community cohesion across the Council 					
	 Advice, guidance and support to external partners 					
	 A community engagement and community development role in relation to community cohesion and integration 					
	Reference was made to the activities which the Stronger Communities Officers was involved in, which included:					
	 Developing and Managing the Strong and Active Communities partnership and supporting partners in 					

delivering	he action plan	Action By:
 Supporting cohesion a Included E (ESOL), Ha West Dray programme Schools co Supporting developing Supporting developing Supporting verting Supporting Support log community Working in ordinate ap 	partners in the delivery of community and integration related projects which nglish for Speakers of other languages ayes Carnival, Junior Citizens, Hayes and ton and Yiewsley community engagement es, Peabody estate multi-agency partnership, mmunity cohesion partnership Hillingdon's Inter Faith Network in its activities Women in the Community Network in its activities the Hillingdon Traveller Forum cal Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) organisations partnership with the police to monitor and co- propriate response on matters relating to tensions and preventing violent extremism in	Action By:
Head Teacher of provided Member	air of Strong and Active Communities and Yeading School attended the meeting and 's with details of the work which had been many of the Borough's schools.	
	formed that it was important for community take place with schools because:	
 The sharin shared acr Schools ar community Young peo There was 	ple had an important role to play for the future the opportunity to engage not only young also parents and the wider community lity	
Choir which had t 120 children and	rovided with a short film on the Community been formed from 5 schools, which involved around 30 parents. This had been a hugely ve and resulted in the integration of many s.	
the Strong and Ad	as informed that 23 schools were involved in ctive Partnerships and discussion took place on more schools involved in this initiative.	
situated next to Y	ade to the Yeading Community House, eading School, which parents and residents nmunity groups used to build relationships	

16.	WORK PROGRAMME	
	 That officers be given the authority to invite relevant witnesses to the next meeting of the Committee to help with the review. 	
	 That the information provided be noted and the Chair of Strong and Active Communities be congratulated for the work which had been carried out in schools, in relation to community cohesion. 	Ahmed / Fiona Gibbs
	RESOLVED -	Khalid
	In addition for the meeting in November, Members asked that the Council's new Head of Corporate Communications be asked to provide the corporate perspective on what the Council could do to help individuals from all groups, access all Council services.	
	The Committee asked that at their next meeting, the review examined how residents of the Borough accessed Council services, particularly in relation to Adult Education, Libraries and Sports and Leisure facilities. Officers were asked to invite relevant witnesses.	
	Discussion took place on the scope of the review and Members agreed that this be amended to focus on how the Council could reach out to more individuals of all backgrounds, particularly those groups and sections of the community who were difficult to engage with. In addition how did Council services communicate its services to the community, beyond the promotion of its services. What steps were taken to break down barriers to engage with groups which would enable them to interact and integrate with the rest of the community?	
	Reference was also made to the work which the Women in the Community Network did in establishing a network of women from different community groups and representatives from the diverse communities in the Borough. This was an area which would be covered in the November witness session.	
	The Committee noted the excellent engagement which was taking place and the positive contribution the work with the schools had to community cohesion and integration within the Borough.	
	with others, form friendships and celebrate friendships. This scheme had proved very successful and provided an opportunity for people to engage in programmes that built confidence, explored cultures, shared values and encouraged healthy active lifestyles.	Action By:

	Noted.	
17.	CABINET FORWARD PLAN	
	Noted.	
	Meeting commenced at 7.30pm and closed at 9.30pm Next meeting: 16 October 2012 at 7.30pm	

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Khalid Ahmed on 01895 250833. These minutes are circulated to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.