

Agenda item No: 10

EAST MIDLANDS IMPROVEMENT AND EFFICIENCY PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING: 3rd February 2009

Report of the Director

Neighbourhood and Community Wardens

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To provide early warning that the RIEPs nationally are to take responsibility for the delivery of support for deprived neighbourhoods, including neighbourhood wardens and other schemes.

2. Background

- 2.1 At the meeting on 15th January 09 the EM IEP Officer Steering Group considered the attached report and noted the transference of the responsibility for delivering support to deprived neighbourhoods including wardens and other neighbourhood schemes to the RIEPS. This will result in an allocation of CLG funding of £87,330 for the October 2009 – March 2010 period and £122,445 for the financial year 2010/11.
- 2.2 The Steering Group agreed that there will need to be discussions with the two previous providers of training and resources services to EM local authorities (Goodwin Trust and Accord Housing Association) to understand the level of take up in East Midlands. It will also be important to understand the service on offer from these two providers to facilitate consultation with East Midlands Councils and the Sub Regional Partnerships, on the most appropriate use of this funding.
- 2.3 An EM IEP proposal has to be developed for the CLG by the end of February, with GOEM involvement.
- 2.4 The CLG communications referenced to as appendices can be viewed on the following link: http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/about_us.htm#Board

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Board note the contents of the CLG communication
- 3.2 The Board agree the approach to be followed in discussions with the CLG and GOEM on this matter

3.3 Subject to recommendation 3.2, the process of engagement on the issue of support arrangements for deprived neighbourhoods, and development of proposals to utilise the resources on offer from CLG, be agreed by the Board.

Chris Allison
Director EM IEP

**EAST MIDLANDS IMPROVEMENT AND EFFICIENCY PARTNERSHIP
OFFICER STEERING GROUP MEETING: 15th JANUARY 2009**

Report of the Director

Neighbourhood and Community Centre Wardens

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To provide early warning that the RIEPs nationally are to take responsibility for the delivery of support for deprived neighbourhoods, including wardens and other schemes.

2. Background

- 2.1 The National Improvement and Efficiency Strategy, published in January 2008, stated that “resources for wardens and neighbourhood activity will come together through RIEPs from April 2009”.

- 2.2 The **attached** guidance from Communities and Local Government establishes the process of discussion to achieve the objectives set out in the National Improvement and Efficiency Strategy. The process requires the RIEPs in conjunction with government Office, to produce proposals for their regions, and submit responses to the CLG by the end of February 2009.

- 2.3 It will be noted that the Neighbourhood Training Resource Centres (RCs) funded by CLG until 31st September 2009 will fall under the guidance of the RIEPs, subject to further consultation.

- 2.4 The East Midlands does not have a Neighbourhood Training Resource Centre. The service to the East Midlands Neighbourhood Wardens is currently provided by two other regions i.e. the West Midlands and Yorkshire and Humberside.

3. Funding

- 3.1 Transference of the responsibility for delivering support to deprived neighbourhoods including wardens and other neighbourhood schemes, results in an allocation of CLG funding for the October 2009 – March 2010 period and the complete financial year 2010/11.

- 3.2 Funding that was previously provided to the Neighbourhood Training Resource Centres also gets rolled up in the funding to be devolved to the RIEPS. The table in the Appendix summarises the funding formula and proposals for all RIEPs. The East Midlands’ share of resources is proposed to be:

- £87,330 for October 2009 to March 2010

- £122,445 for the 2010/11 financial year.

The funding is ring fenced

4. Next Steps

4.1 Initially there will need to be discussions (January 2009) with the GOEM and the two providers of training and resources services (Goodwin Trust and Accord Housing Association) to understand the level of take up by East Midlands Councils. It will also be important to understand the service on offer from these two providers in order that consultation with East Midlands Councils and the Sub Regional Partnerships can begin.

4.2 A proposal will need to be developed by EMIEP and submitted to CLG by the end of February, on how the devolved funds will be used and what services will be commissioned. The criteria for assessing RIEP proposals are concerned with improving economic performance in deprived areas and creating sustainable places where people want to live, work and where businesses want to invest.

4.3 The proposal should be based on evidence of local support needs in deprived neighbourhoods and:

- enables communities and local authority partnerships to access the forms of delivery support they need to deliver LAA improvement targets in deprived neighbourhoods;
- targets support at communities (e.g. local volunteers and community groups) as well as front line staff and local partnerships;
- provides delivery support for neighbourhood based schemes such as neighbourhood management, wardens and similar approaches;
- links to other related forms of support in the region, e.g. community empowerment, cohesion and tackling worklessness;
- sets out a joined up approach between local partners (including LSPs), with a focus on tackling the needs of deprived areas;
- sets out a clear delivery plan with key milestones

4.4 The proposed timetable allows for the EMIEP submission to be summarised in the 2008/09 Annual Report. The latter has to be submitted to the LGA/CLG by the 31 March 2009.

5. Recommendations

5.1 The Steering Group note the contents of the CLG communication.

- 5.2 A view be formed as to the approach to be followed in discussions with the CLG and GOEM on this matter.
- 5.3 Subject to recommendation 5.2 outcomes, the process of engagement on the issue of support arrangements for deprived neighbourhoods, as set out in the report, be approved.
- 5.4 The proposal to utilise the resources on offer from CLG be considered at the Member/Officer seminar on the 26th February.

Chris Allison

Director

East Midlands Improvement & Efficiency Partnership

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