

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

REPORT TO: Halton Strategic Partnership Board

DATE: 9 February 2005

REPORTING OFFICER: Local Authority Chief Executive

SUBJECT: Specialist Strategic Partnership action plans
2005/06

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the Halton Strategic Partnership Board with the updated Specialist Strategic Partnership action plans for approval.

2. RECOMMENDATION: That the Board:

- approve the action plans and proposed Neighbourhood Renewal Fund allocations
- endorse the production of a protocol between the Board and the Specialist Strategic Partnerships

3. BACKGROUND

The table below summarises the proposed allocations and overprogramming for Neighbourhood Renewal Fund in 2005/06. The attached funding summary provides more detail on how the allocation to each Specialist Strategic Partnership will be spent.

	Allocation	Overprogramming
Health	£1,367,000	£175,000
Urban renewal	£1,367,000	£0
Life chances and employment	£1,367,000	£-593
Wealth and equality	£549,903	£0
Safe and attractive neighbourhoods	£1,367,000	£1,000
Area Forums	£300,000	£0
Central partnership activity	£405,000	£0
		£175,407
Total allocation	£6,898,310	
Available resources	-£6,720,760	
Total overprogramming	£177,550	

The overprogramming represents 2.6% of the total allocation. In 2003/04, the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund allocation was not

exceeded despite 13.8% overprogramming. In 2004/05, 12.5% overprogramming has been allowed to ensure there is no underspend. By April 2005 many of the projects will be up and running and so the likelihood of underspend is much reduced. Nevertheless, 2.6% should be easily accommodated.

The Specialist Strategic Partnerships will be responsible for regular and careful monitoring of expenditure and progress will be reported to the Halton Strategic Partnership Board. The position will be reviewed in October 2005 and any necessary adjustments made then.

Following approval of the action plans by the Halton Strategic Partnership Board, responsibility for managing Neighbourhood Renewal Fund resources (up to the control totals shown above) will be delegated to the Specialist Strategic Partnerships from 1 April 2005. A process for ensuring the necessary audit trail and proper use of resources will be agreed between the Halton Partnership Team and the Specialist Strategic Partnerships.

The first part of this process will be a formal letter from the Chair of the Board to the Specialist Strategic Partnership Chairs stating their approved Neighbourhood Renewal Fund allocation and setting out their responsibilities for reporting expenditure to the Board and managing any overprogramming within their control total – this will make clear that the Specialist Strategic Partnerships, not the Board will be responsible for finding additional funding should they overspend.

The second stage will be agreement of a protocol between the Board and Specialist Strategic Partnerships setting out in more detail the roles and responsibilities of the different bodies and how they will work together to develop and deliver Halton's Community Strategy.

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

Funding summary

Draft protocol