



**Activities:** Islington is one of the first local areas to make a firm commitment to central government to reduce its carbon emissions across the whole borough. Islington is setting up a Climate Change Partnership of key public, private and voluntary sector organisations that are either major carbon emitters or represent emissions from their sector. The Partnership will establish our collective carbon emissions, share plans to reduce energy use and agree a way forward to meet a challenging reduction target.

### Islington case study

Round 2 (2005–06)

**Aims** To reduce carbon emissions across the whole of Islington

**Council lead Member**  
Cllr Lucy Watt  
**Executive Member for the Environment**

The Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) have been commissioned to carry out a carbon baseline study in order to set a realistic and achievable carbon reduction target. Members will provide data on energy usage from their own organisations that will inform the carbon baseline study.

CSE are also conducting carbon assessments of the largest organisations, including the council itself, to measure and quantify the extent of their ability to influence reductions in emissions. For the council, this builds on prior work under the Carbon Trust's Local Authority Carbon Management Programme.

Approximately 30 Islington organisations are already represented on the Climate Change Partnership, which will be officially launched in February 2007.



### Kingston case study

Round 2 (2005–06)

**Aims** To deliver outcomes that are most important locally through innovation and enhanced community engagement

**Council Lead Member**  
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Kingston's 2004–07 Community Plan concerned moving to a 'sustainable Kingston' and this commitment informed the overarching themes of Kingston's LAA, one of which is quality of life: enhancing people's local environment and increasing opportunities for enjoyment and fulfilment (in a way that is sustainable to future generations).

Prior to the production of the Community Plan a borough-wide consultation exercise was undertaken by MORI to establish local residents' priorities. This was updated by further local consultation prior to the drafting of the Local Area Agreement, with the Local Strategic Partnership strapline of 'Making a difference together'.

As a result of Kingston's commitment to community engagement, a number of outcomes are now included in the LAA that will contribute towards making Kingston a sustainable borough:

- reduced fuel poverty and increased energy efficiency in homes
- supporting people with health related problems into work
- reduced business waste and increased recycling and energy efficiency on industrial estates
- enhancement of the local environment through the conservation of biodiversity and the natural environment
- supporting local SME and third sector organisations to procure from public sector organisations
- improved community transport options leading to greater social inclusion
- a more sustainable environment in Kingston's town centre

# Q & A

## What are Local Area Agreements (LAAs)?

LAAs set out the priorities for a local area over a three-year period and will be the Delivery Plan for the Sustainable Community Strategy. They will form the central delivery contract between central Government and local government and other key partners.

The LAA will set out around 35 priorities for improvement for an area and local partners and the local authority will be placed under a duty to work towards the targets they agree.

## What does the White Paper mean for London?

On 26 October 2006, the DCLG published a white paper entitled *Strong and Prosperous Communities – The Local Government White Paper*. London Boroughs will be responsible for the preparation of Sustainable Community Strategies and LAAs in consultation with their local partners.

It will be essential for local authorities in London to have regard to the Mayor's statutory strategies and relevant targets when preparing their Sustainable Community Strategies and LAAs and when agreeing targets in individual LAAs.

Different service providers need to work towards the same set of targets and there should be as much synergy as possible between the London Mayor's and London Boroughs' plans.

## How can LAAs help tackle climate change?

The White Paper gives local government new opportunities to drive local action on climate change mitigation and adaptation through:

- **Strong and visible leadership**
- **Leading by example through its own practices and the services it delivers**
- **Responding to calls for action and the priority local people place on tackling these issues**
- **Coordinating innovative partnerships which can deliver real changes**

## Where do I go for more information?

Visit the [www.lsx.org.uk](http://www.lsx.org.uk) site for tools and access to other partners.

## Join our Network

**If you are involved in producing or delivering your LAA, why not join our Learning Network!**

To join or find out more, visit [www.lsx.org.uk](http://www.lsx.org.uk) website or contact Nadene Townsend  
Email [n.townsend@lsx.org.uk](mailto:n.townsend@lsx.org.uk), tel 020 7324 3636

# A guide to creating cleaner, safer and healthier communities through your LAAs

*Local government leaders told us they wanted clear guidance so that they could set sustainability principles in Local Area Agreements*

Produced by a pan-London partnership to show how real life examples can be integrated into LAAs



London Sustainability Exchange



Taking **responsibility** for the regional and global impacts of city life

For example

- How can you increase volunteering?
- How can you organise to improve recycling in your area?
- How can you organise energy and water efficiency in your area?

"The health of a community is a key indicator of its sustainability. By working together, boroughs, PCTs and NHS Trusts can ensure long-term social, economic and environmental wellbeing for all" **Dr Ian Basnett, London Health Commissioner, Director of Public Health, Tower Hamlets PCT & London Borough of Tower Hamlets**

"Havering is striving to embed sustainability into its LAA. As a key member of the London Centre of Excellence board and chair of the Havering Strategic partnership. I am aspiring to ensure that this good practice is disseminated throughout London." **Councillor Michael White, Leader of Havering Council**



"I am delighted to support the theme of One Planet Living. In London, we are living beyond our environmental limits and I hope this work inspires and supports London Boroughs to make their LAA sustainable and help deliver a move towards One Planet Living". **Ian Pearson, Minister of State, Climate Change and the Environment, Defra**



**Tower Hamlets case study**

Round 2 (2005-06)

Aims To help children and young people

**Council Lead Members**  
Cllr Lutfur Rahman, (Environment & Culture)  
Cllr Helal Abbas, (Children's Services)

**Contact Zoinul Abidin, Idea Store Manager Whitechapel**  
Tel: 020 7364 1742

A key aim of the Tower Hamlets LAA is to "help children and young people remain healthy in body and mind to ensure they achieve well at school, and are able to enjoy positive experiences in their communities." For health, the challenge is to halt the year on year rise in obesity and reduce the number of overweight and obese children.

Key partners in delivering the LAA are the nationally acclaimed Idea Stores in Whitechapel, Bow, Poplar (Crisp St) and Canary Wharf. Idea Stores aim to increase use of libraries and learning by bringing together traditional library services, adult learning provision and other community resources under one roof.

In March 2003, the Bow Idea Store consulted with young people to develop activities to meet their own needs. From this, the Idea Champions project was born, with young people aged 16 –19 working as part-time volunteers to plan and help deliver a learning programme for their peer group. This included music and film-making workshops and sexual health awareness for girls, plus a 10-week course in DJ mixing, lyric writing and MC skills.

A new health-focused scheme will now establish a resource of peer educators to promote healthy choices, building on the success of the Idea Champions project and linking to the health information service provided with local partners.

The second phase will offer a range of activities designed by young people for young people, mentoring and coaching support, eligibility for a Volunteer Award, and the opportunity to widen career opportunities via networking with partner organisations. Idea Champions themselves will gain invaluable experience through taking a key role in drawing up bids for additional funding.

As a **result** we get a prosperous, vibrant and healthy city

For example

- How can you ensure that workers are paid a living wage?
- How can you improve skills in your area?
- How can you ensure community support and affordable housing?

**Sustainable development is simply about achieving a better quality of life for Londoners, both now and in the future**

Developing **respect** and committing to inclusion and cooperation

For example

- How can you support reduction in unemployment rates among certain ethnic minority groups?
- How can you maximize citizens' satisfaction?

"I want to show that despite many difficulties, life in London can get better. Working with LAAs we can continue that progress and build a better city life for all of our residents." **Cllr Merrick Cockell, Chairman of London Councils**

"I have always given high priority to new developments in recycling and energy saving, commitments to further improvements in its safer neighbourhood programme, and in services to residents, I am delighted to see that this work can support that delivery." **Cllr Sean Brennan, Vice-Chair of London Councils**



**Joining up your priorities makes the most of your resources. Think sustainably.**



Managing **resources** to use them efficiently and fairly so as to protect the natural and built environment

For example

- How can low carbon be delivered through your LAA?
- How can you promote cleaner, safer travel?
- How can you promote sustainable procurement policies?

"Alone we can achieve nothing but together we can make London a place we can all be proud to call home and through giving the community a greater voice we can help achieve that." **Steve Bullock, Mayor of Lewisham**



results

resources