

Camden Community Empowerment Network (CCEN)
DRAFT proposal for Community Strategy actions delivery plan

CCEN responsibilities identified within Community Strategy themes

CCEN are named against five 'action' areas that fall in to three of the Community Strategy themes. These are well matched to CCEN knowledge and Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) activity, therefore it makes sense to stick with them. However the cross cutting nature of most VCS activity means that the work we carry out may highlight issues or opportunity relevant to other action areas. Presumably we can flag this up via LBC policy team should it arise

The core of CCEN work would be related to the stronger sub theme and volunteering / self help actions (where we are identified in bold). However the work carried out here will overlap with CCEN contribution to other actions eg. volunteering as a pathway to employment, self help impacts on social cohesion etc

Purpose of CCEN contribution to Community Strategy monitoring

- Develop VCS evidence and contribution to Community Strategy goals (including that not funded by LBC)
- Capture community activity that impacts on and cuts across strategy themes, particularly in relation to building social capital and social cohesion (including unfunded volunteering / self help)
- Identify and evidence barriers to achieving strategy goals and opportunities for improvement
- Strengthen partnership working
- Contribute to reporting on Community Strategy themes
- Highlight and embed principles of the Compact

Resources available to CCEN

Within the Voluntary and Community Sector there are a number of resources that can be mobilised to increase knowledge and provide evidence:

- Database of 1600 community groups (developed 2006) which can be mapped against Community Strategy themes. The database information can be developed for different monitoring purposes
- VCS infrastructure, specialist / thematic networks and forums, some of which are connected to thematic strategic partnerships in Camden. CCEN already works closely with infrastructure organisations, networks and forums accessing specialised advice, case studies and other intelligence about the sector
- CCEN can work closely with the Change Up programme, and gather evidence through Change Up initiatives eg. volunteering, community assets, research into VCS

Community Strategy actions	CCEN activity	Output
	Map VCS database against Community Strategy themes / develop knowledge of VCS activity in relation to CS actions	
Increase opportunities for people to get into and stay in the job market, including older people, carers, parents returning to work and those facing other barriers to employment, such as disability or ill health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify relevant initiatives from mapping • Data collection and case studies • CCEN focus group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of activity and routes for skills development and employment in target groups • Barriers, gaps, opportunities identified • Partnership and cross-cutting models
Increase volunteering in Camden to above national average, foster community self help and increase opportunities for intergenerational mixing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop detailed picture of volunteering and self help from mapping • Data & evidence from key volunteering initiatives • Case studies on self help • CCEN working group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of type, level and location of volunteers / self help groups • Examples of sustained volunteering and progression • Potential for increased volunteering and barriers identified • Examples of self help relationships with and impacts on CS themes, particularly social cohesion / capital
Set up new social cohesion advisory forum to promote more integrated and harmonious communities in the borough		
Improve access to public and community spaces and buildings to facilitate greater interaction between diverse communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collate information from Change Up initiative & track developments • Data & case studies from tenant groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline information • Barriers, gaps and opportunity identified
Make sure that Camden's diverse communities play a part in making our neighbourhoods safer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps of relevant VCS activity in Kings X area and Camden Town • Map networks, collaborative working and self help actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good practice models & opportunity for partnership and collaboration • Key issues for different communities

PLEASE NOTE: this is not a detailed plan. More a general proposal for LB Camden. The detail in terms of projects / resources that CCEN members have suggested is now included in the original tables discussed at last meeting. These are being developed into the more detailed CCEN work plan