



ITEM REF NUMBER:	9/ 2009	MEETING DATE:	22 April 2009
ITEM TITLE:	Migration Impacts Fund Bid		
REPORT AUTHORS:	Dan Gilby, Corporate Policy Officer, Southwark Council		

1. Summary

This report sets out the proposed Southwark Alliance bid to the Migration Impacts Fund.

It presents a number of proposed bids for the Southwark Alliance's consideration which have been developed by officers from across partner organisations.

2. Recommendations

The Board is asked to:

- 2.1 Discuss the proposed projects in Appendix 1 and the suggested prioritisation of them.
- 2.2 Highlight any potential projects that have not been included.
- 2.3 Give initial sign-off to the Southwark Alliance bid, with final sign-off to be made by the Chair of the Southwark Alliance before 1 May deadline.

3. Introduction

- 3.1 The Migration Impacts Fund is a £35m fund that has been made available to assist local areas in dealing with the short-term funding pressures that legal migration can have on local public services. The funding comes from an additional charge of £50 that will be added to existing visa fees for migrants as they enter the UK, and so the fund is for projects targeted at legal migration.
- 3.2 The fund was announced on 19 March and the closing date for bids is 1 May, leaving only a six week window in which to develop a package of bids.
- 3.3 London has been allocated £5.6m of this fund for 2009/10, with a similar amount likely to be available in 2010/11. The fund will be allocated by the Government Office for London (GOL) and all local service providers including local authorities, the police, PCTs and third sector organisations are eligible.
- 3.4 The £5.6m fund for London has not been pre-allocated to individual authorities, but based on a combination of level of need of other London Boroughs and level of interest

from other London Boroughs, we roughly estimate that Southwark's element of the fund would be approximately **£500,000**. The proposed bid consists of a number of specific projects, which although exceeding this figure collectively, will enable GOL to judge our bid on a project by project basis, and allocate funding for them individually if the whole package can not be funded.

- 3.5 GOL have encouraged LSPs to work together sub-regionally to develop bids and have said they will favour joint-bids. We are currently in conversation with other London Boroughs to identify opportunities for joining up bids.
- 3.6 All bids are required to be endorsed by the LSP.

4. The proposed projects

- 4.1 A total of nine projects have been developed by officers from across partner organisations. Collectively these bids total **£640,928** for 2009/10.
- 4.2 The projects all seek to encourage civic participation and improve the health and well-being of migrant communities. They provide support to new migrant communities and will also benefit the settled community in Southwark and reach across a range of services delivered by the different partners that make up the Southwark Alliance
- 4.3 The projects that have been developed are listed in the following table placed in a suggested order of priority. A process of prioritisation has been carried out as it is possible that not all projects will be successful. A scoring criteria related to that which GOL will use to assess bids has been used to allocate a score to each project and prioritise them accordingly. The scoring has been carried out based on the information we have received so far about each proposed project.

	Project title	2009/10
1.	Early intervention for migrant children at risk of NEET ¹	£93,468
2.	Tackling crime and ASB among A10 ² migrants	£95,835
3.	Democratic and civic participation towards Census 2011	£50,000
4.	Improving Private Rented Housing for migrant families	£105,000
5.	Health Signposting Service within A&E *	£65,000
6.	Sexual Health Support for unaccompanied minors	£65,000
7.	Specialist support for migrant prisoners on remand	£95,000
8.	Community Health Forum*	£31,625
9.	Specialist educational intervention for Franco-phone African pupils	£40,000
Total		£640,928

* Discussions are ongoing between Southwark PCT and Community Action Southwark regarding the opportunity to combine bids 5 and 8 into a single proposal.

¹ 16- to 18-year-olds not in education, employment or training

² A10 refers to the ten Accession states which have joined the EU since 2004 (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia)

5. The process

5.1 Final bids must be submitted to the Government Office for London by 5pm on Friday 1 May.

5.2 The bids will then be evaluated by Government Office for London during May and June. The following scoring criteria will be used by GOL:

Scoring Criteria	Weighting	Overall score
Extent to which the project directly targets pressures on services related to legal migration	X 2	
Extent to which the project targets one or more priority themes for London	X 2	
Extent to which the project has clear support from LSP and the buy-in of a number of agencies	X 2	
Extent to which the project adopts a cross borough / sub-regional approach and fits with other projects in the area.	X 2	
Extent to which the project offers opportunities to learn and share innovative practice	X 1	
Does the project have clear exit strategy?	X 1	
	TOTAL	

5.3 GOL will then submit their recommendations to the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) for ministerial approval.

5.4 Government Office for London will announce successful projects on 15 June and funding will be received by 24 June.

Appendix 1 - Southwark Alliance Migration Impacts Fund Bid

1	Early intervention with migrant children at risk of NEET³	£93,468
<p>Summary: The project will target children newly arrived from outside the UK who are aged 12-15 and whose school attendance is below 50% and are therefore at risk of becoming NEET at age 16. It will aim to reintegrate 40 children into full time education over a two term period and will focus specifically on girls from a Muslim background, and West African children, which together count for nearly 30% of the school population.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) The targeted pupils will benefit from improved motivation, self-discipline and ambition, as well as increased educational attainment.ii) The wider benefit will be reduced disruption for teachers when these pupils attend classes, while the preventative approach should reduce the numbers of newly arrived students ending up in care or correctional services at a later point, allowing resources to be redirected. <p>Exit Strategy: The project will come to a natural end after two terms, but would be repeated for a second year with another group of identified students. The best practice gained would then be integrated into the schools involved enabling them to tackle and lessen truancy at an early stage in future.</p>		

2	Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour among A10⁴ migrants	£95,835
<p>Summary: This project seeks to address the increasing number of A10 migrants who are exercising their right to work or look for work in the UK, but who are rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping in Southwark and becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour as a result. This will consist of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) a programme of advice and assistance to enable rough sleepers to enter employment through the Manna Society Day Centreii) assistance to enable those who wish to do so to return to their country of origin through the Thames Reach and Barka Foundation's reconnections projectiii) action to address anti-social behaviour and street population issues through the recruitment of migrant inclusion/enforcement officer <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Migrant workers will be assisted to gain employment, enabling them to then access suitable housing and avoid rough sleeping. Alternatively they will be assisted to return home.ii) The reduction in rough sleepers and resulting issues around anti-social behaviour will have a positive impact on local communities and businesses. <p>Exit Strategy: The Government and the Mayor for London have a target to eliminate rough sleeping by 2012. Our initiative contributes towards this objective.</p>		

³ 16- to 18-year-olds not in education, employment or training

⁴ A10 refers to the ten Accession states which have joined the EU since 2004 (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia)

3	Democratic and civic participation towards Census 2011	£50,000
<p>Summary: This project aims to ensure that new migrants arriving in Southwark are made aware of their key civic responsibilities, specifically around registering to vote and responding to the 2011 Census. A coordinator will be employed for two years to engage directly with migrant communities through a series of workshops and communication aimed at raising awareness of these duties and building trust in local public bodies.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The migrant communities will become more involved in their local community and feel a greater sense of belonging and citizenship by being part of civic life. ii) The wider benefit will be an increased response rate to the 2011 Census resulting in a more accurate count and more favourable future funding settlements for all public services in Southwark. Better engagement in civic life will also result in improved community cohesion. <p>Exit Strategy: The project will have a defined lifespan leading up to the next Census in 2011. The end of the project will see the handover of information to the Council and other partners to be used for lobbying after the completion of the Census.</p>		

4	Improving Private Rented Housing for migrant families	£105,000
<p>Summary: An enforcement officer and an advocacy worker will be employed to support families forced to living in houses of multiple occupation (HMOs), most of which are subject to overcrowding, disrepair, safety hazards and poor management. The enforcement officer will proactively seek out HMOs and take action against landlords, while the advice worker will work with existing enforcement staff to secure the necessary support that these families need, including liaising with the Home Office to reduce delays in determining their right to remain in the country.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Improvements to housing conditions for migrant families will see health and educational benefits, particularly for the children of these families. ii) The wider benefit will be an improvement to the housing stock in Southwark. <p>Exit Strategy: The enforcement officer will be employed for two years and will be tasked with a concerted effort to dramatically impact on this issue, removing the need for this level of enforcement in future. The advocacy worker will also be employed for two years and will transfer skills to the existing enforcement officers and put in place the means for them to access support for migrants once the funding has finished.</p>		

5	Health Signposting Service within A&E	£65,000
<p>Summary: This project aims to reduce inappropriate use of A&E services and support and signpost people in to the health system by extending the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) in Kings College Hospital, piloting a similar project in Guys and St Thomas's hospital. It will also involve Lay Health Workers⁵ who will do more outreach work into targeted migrant communities and link with the PALS service in A&E.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Helping migrants to access the right services at the right time is predicted to improve health outcomes. ii) The expected reduction in inappropriate use of A&E of 10-20% will save public sector agencies significant amounts of money which can be redirected to other essential services. <p>Exit Strategy: Further funding would be sought following the end of this funding, either from the Guys and St Thomas's Hospital Fund or the Southwark PCT workforce development fund.</p>		

6	Sexual Health Support for Unaccompanied Minors	£65,000
<p>Summary: This project will fund an experienced sexual health and advice worker to specifically work with looked after children (LAC) who are asylum seeking or refugee Unaccompanied Minors at risk of teenage pregnancy and poor sexual health. This will include carrying out needs assessments and referrals, providing mentoring and advocacy and learning materials and assisting these young people to access other mainstream services.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Improved physical and sexual health among unaccompanied minors. Increased understanding of teenage pregnancy issues in Southwark and cultural issues relating to new migrants and asylum seekers ii) Improved sexual health among the wider community of young people in Southwark. <p>Exit Strategy: A report will be produced to inform future strategy and depending on the outcomes of the project, further funding would be identified to continue delivery. In the case of discontinuation, the LAC nurse and other sexual health services would provide transitional services.</p>		

⁵ Lay Health Workers are overseas/refugee qualified health professionals undergoing conversion training to become qualified to work in the UK

7	Specialist support for migrant prisoners on remand	£95,000
<p>Summary: This project aims to address the resettlement needs of legal migrants (who identify themselves as having a Southwark connection) who become involved in the Criminal Justice System. It will involve work in Brixton, Holloway and Feltham prisons and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) A programme of identification, advice and assistance to enable legal migrants in custodial settings to be effectively resettled in to the community or to be returned to their country of origin ii) Development of information sharing protocols for previous conviction information, access to identification documents and employment related registration certificates. <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) An increase in the number of migrants who are assisted to repatriate immediately following their custodial sentence. There will also be an increase in the number of migrant offenders accessing education and accommodation. ii) The project will reduce the number of identified migrants reoffending in Southwark, thereby having a positive impact on crime and community safety. <p>Exit Strategy: The project would strengthen the links between prisons and existing offender and migrant services in Southwark and use the information learned from the individual offenders to look at the causes of their criminality and address those issues with relevant agencies.</p>		

8	Community Health Forum for new migrant communities	£31, 625
<p>Summary: Creation of a community forum where new migrant communities will be able to voice concerns about specific health and social care issues and establish links with identified service providers. This will target issues such as access to services, provision of culturally sensitive information, language support and reducing the stigma associated with specific health conditions (e.g. mental health, HIV and AIDS, cancer etc.) and will include a health promotion campaign.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Improved health for migrant communities and better understanding of the health system among these communities ii) Inappropriate use of health services is reduced enabling other appropriate users to access services more promptly and effectively. <p>Exit Strategy: The community forum should be in a position to advocate for themselves and will be able to operate independently and secure its own funding.</p>		

9	Specialist educational intervention for Franco-phone African pupils	£40,000
<p>Summary: The performance of Franco-phone children currently lags significantly behind that of comparable groups, which is thought to be due to this group (both parents and children) struggling to engage with the English education system. The project will translate existing school guidance material into French and other appropriate languages and develop an infrastructure of Franco-phone African voluntary sector education groups to offer better out of school support to children, with a focus on primary school children particularly.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The supported pupils should achieve improved educational attainment, while their parents will have improved understanding of the education system and greater ability to support their child’s learning. ii) The wider benefit will be the reduced pressure on individual class teachers and schools to deal with disengaged pupils. <p>Exit Strategy: Having been supported to build their capacity, the voluntary sector education groups will be expected to access their own funding. Productive and sustainable relationships will have been built up between schools and Franco-phone parents.</p>		