

Hampshire Action Teams Briefing Note:

This is a short summary of what Hampshire Action Teams (HATs) are and how we hope they will work with other local partners in a way which adds value rather than duplicates things that are already happening - that is our intention.

What are HATs?

HATs is an acronym for Hampshire Action Teams and is a new way of working for Hampshire County Council focused on supporting its Councillors to add value at a local level.

We have been undertaking a review of our democratic structures and processes and have found several areas for improvement which we are now working on. Perhaps the biggest gap in the way we have been working has been the lack of coherent support of the local role of Members, which was an area which was supposed to have grown with the changes to Cabinet style decision making.

HATs are an attempt to put that right by taking a flexible approach to local working which recognises that a 'one size fits all' approach will not work as our communities are so diverse. We were very concerned that whatever we did should enhance the Councillors' community representation role by helping them to engage effectively with communities and also that whatever system we put in place should:

- Be focused on action rather than just talking
- Add value at local level rather than duplicating what others were doing
- Prioritise activity on the basis of evidence (both community perceptions and hard data)

For this reason we are experimenting with some different approaches by starting with the District boundaries as building blocks. We have established 7 HAT areas with the potential for some to operate in clusters on a continuous basis and others to group together when appropriate. Each HAT will have as its core the County Councillors in that geographic area and will invite other people to work with them on a issues basis.

What will HATs do?

Please see attached the Terms of Reference which show that the focus will be on Hampshire County Council service areas and any areas where no-one else is taking a lead.

Whilst there will be some consistent activities across each HAT, like relating in a more coherent way to the LSPs and CDRPs and recommending local priorities in relation to some County Services, the intention is that each will also develop its own focus and programme of activities.

In order to find out what these priorities should be, each HAT, once it has finished its Induction (which is starting in October), will be looking at the information we already hold about their local area as well as undertaking a

listening process with local people and representative groups. We anticipate that the Listening process will happen in January 2007 for each HAT centred around a Listening meeting and priorities will be set based on what it learns to be the priorities and opportunities in that area.

In order to achieve all the above it was obvious not only that they needed effective officer support but also that they needed to be well linked into and aware of work other local partners are doing to avoid duplication. To assist with this we have appointed four HAT Coordinators who will work with these groups and will need to develop effective local networks.

Where are HATs?

We are starting with the following HATs and each has a chairman and Coordinator (the Coordinators are working with more than one HAT):

HAT	Chairman	Coordinator
Basingstoke	Cllr John Maxwell	Cheryl Bosworth
East Hants	Cllr Sam James	Kate Fryatt
Eastleigh	Cllr Colin Davidovitz	Kate Fryatt
Fareham & Gosport	Cllr Ray Ellis	Margaret St George
Hart & Rushmoor	Cllr Eric Neal	Cheryl Bosworth
Havant	Cllr Ted Gale (Vice Chairman)	Margaret St George
New Forest	Cllr Nigel Clarke	Sian Campbell
Test Valley	Cllr Roy Perry	Kate Fryatt
Winchester	Cllr Freddie Allgood (Vice Chairman)	Sian Campbell

The East Hants, Winchester and Havant HATs are experimenting with merging together on some issues and so have their main Chairman from East Hants and a Vice Chairman for the other two mini-HATs. They are likely to operate separately much of the time.

Contact details of the Hat Coordinators are as follows:

Kate Fryatt : kate.fryatt@hants.gov.uk

Cheryl Bosworth : Cheryl.bosworth@hants.gov.uk

Sian Campbell : sian.campbell@hants.gov.uk

Margaret St George : Margaret.stgeorge@hants.gov.uk

The Team Manager is Share D'All, her contact details are:

Democratic Review Implementation Manager

Room 148

Elizabeth II Court

The Castle

Winchester

SO23 8UJ

Tel: 01962 846634

Email: share.d-all@hants.gov.uk