



Brighton & Hove

Community Empowerment in Brighton & Hove: Successes and Barriers

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1. Context

Key policy drivers

- Community Engagement Framework
- LSP priority
- Duty to Involve
- Comprehensive Area Assessment
- Community Empowerment Champion

Key policy drivers cont'd

- Community Empowerment White Paper
- New council governance arrangements
- Improved services and customer satisfaction
- Reducing Inequality Review
- End of Neighbourhood Renewal

2. Barriers to Success

- Silo mentality rather than network culture
- Capacity & culture change needs resources and time
- National policy (improve quickly *and* involve communities)
- Maintain consistency through 4 year election cycle
- Accept risk-taking (minority Tory administration)
- Councillors as community leaders new concept

3. Factors for Success

- **Consistent messages from across government**
- **Time & resources to deliver new initiatives**
- **Demonstrate effectiveness of empowerment**
- **National political lead across parties**
- **Councillor and officer development**
- **Flesh on the bones of the duty to involve.**
- **Implement with sufficient time and resources**



4. Examples of community empowerment in Brighton and Hove:

- Community University Partnership and local communities
- Local partnerships - VCS representation and involvement
- Council forums: older people, youth & racial harassment
- Neighbourhood engagement (forums, plans & action)
- Service forums (CYPT, residents, school clusters)



4. Examples of community empowerment in Brighton and Hove cont'd:

- Grants diversity (identity, interest, small & large)
- Community development commissioning city-wide
- Participation support (housing, environment & safety)
- Training, advice & networks

5. Where Next?

- Report on community engagement across the city
- Strategic and co-ordinated approach
- Excellent examples but good practice not shared
- Mainstream