

Community Development Support to Local Action Teams

13 Local Action Teams are supported across the city through the Communities Team's Community Development Commissioning Programme (both LATs in their own right and also where neighbourhood forum acts as the LAT for an area). The number is 15 if you include Kemptown and Tarnar LATs supported by BHCC neighbourhood officer and some ad hoc support to St James Street LAT.

Additional LATs have been supported where they fall within a neighbourhood where a Community Development Worker is operating and this is requested e.g. chair of Clarendon LAT requesting support in widening representation of group.

Community Development Workers support LATs in the following ways:

- **Running of meetings** – date setting, attendance at meetings, securing running costs, AGM planning, administration, minutes posted on community website, financial planning, facilitation
- **Resident Committee** – building skills and capacity of management committee, recruiting new committee members (developing recruitment strategies), mentoring to members taking on new roles, training, developing sustainability plans to identify group needs and methods for more effective planning and working together
- **Representative meetings** - ensure that groups represent the needs of all residents, promote openness and accountability, mentoring to residents to inform and empower their input to meetings, build and support resident involvement, develop networks with other resident led organisations, strengthen resident attendance and input into the meetings especially from seldom-heard groups, individual and small group briefing sessions offered, training for residents, support resident engagement through attending meetings, debriefing residents, door knocking
- **Priority setting and action planning** - consulting on all projects and work within the LAT to prioritise local need and action, deliver evaluations with the group, support the implementation and refreshing of the action plans
- **Support to LAT projects** – fundraising, exploring options for projects e.g. youth shelter, consultations
- **Promotion** - promoting work of LAT and meetings dates through newsletters, raising profile of LAT to existing community groups, development of a report form to allow groups/residents who cant attend meetings to still input, summary of work achieved and disseminated amongst local networks

Issues:

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Participation in LATs is currently being made difficult due to 'expenses reclaim procedure' under CDRP. Several LATs have had their costs met by individuals themselves and have not yet been reimbursed.

The Police require 3 targets every 3 months which is quite a lot for LATs to take on, especially where the forums cover community-wide issues (not just community safety).

JAGs are starting to think about how LATs are managed and how to make this more uniform, including representation from key service providers. One of our community development partners was approached review how this could be done across LATs.