



**Health Select Committee
16th December 2008**

**Report from the Director of
Policy & Regeneration**

For Action

Wards Affected: ALL

Brent Local Involvement Network

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report presents to members of the Health Select Committee details of the permanent Brent Link host, Hestia Housing and Support.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Health Select Committee should note the contents of the report and question officers from Hestia on their plans for the Brent Link and how they feel the Link and Health Select Committee could work together in the future.
- 2.2 Health Select Committee should receive an update on the work of the Link in April 2009.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Brent Council has appointed Hestia Housing and Support as the permanent Brent Link host following a competitive procurement process. Hestia has been awarded a contract that runs until 31st March 2011.
- 3.2 Hestia has produced a paper for the Health Select Committee setting out the role of the Link, the role of the Link host and plans that they have in the immediate future to work with the members of the Brent Link. Hestia's report is an appendix to this paper.
- 3.3 Hestia has already:
- Rented office space in Harlesden so that they have a local presence
 - Began recruiting a Link co-ordinator, development officer and administrator

- Set up a meeting of the Link stakeholder group, which will take place on 11th December 2008.

3.4 The Health Select Committee has already considered a report on ways that it can work with the Link. Among the ideas explored in that paper were:

- The Link can refer matters of concern to Health Select Committee
- The Link must prepare an annual report by the 30th June each year, which can be considered by Health Select Committee.
- The Link and the Health Select Committee will need to consider each other's work programmes to try and avoid duplication and where possible, ensure the work of both groups compliments each other.

3.5 In the immediate future, the Link will want to get itself established and up and running. Hestia's appointment as permanent Link host is a welcome development in this regard. The Health Select Committee should ask for a report back on the work of the Link in April 2009. By this time a public stakeholder event should have taken place and the Link should have finalised governance arrangements, crucial if it is to begin operating effectively.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 None

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 None

6.0 Diversity Implications

6.1 None

7.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)

7.1 None

Background Papers

Contact Officers

Phil Newby
Director of Policy and Regeneration
Phil.newby@brent.gov.uk
020 8937 1032

Andrew Davies
Policy and Performance Officer
Andrew.davies@brent.gov.uk
020 8937 1609