



YEARS OF
SUCCESS

A decade that made a difference

Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, 25 November 2009

Introduction

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Welcome to this souvenir brochure of Kensington Regeneration's '10 Years of Success' event. Throughout the last decade Kensington Regeneration, working with local people and other agencies, has been delivering an area based, holistic regeneration programme. Community engagement has been a key part of this and the Partnership has recognised the role of local people and organisations in its successful annual awards event

These have acknowledged the local community heroes who have made a real difference to life in Kensington over the previous 12 months.

This year, the decision was taken to mark Kensington Regeneration's final year with an extra special event honouring the individuals and organisations who have helped to create change for the better in the area over the lifetime of the programme.

Chief Executive Lynn Spencer explained: "The community awards have been one of the highlights of our calendar for some years now so it seemed very appropriate to celebrate the end of the programme in this way.

Over the last decade many people in Kensington have devoted a huge amount of time and effort to helping others and improving life in their communities.

The 10 Years of Success event was designed as a great way of

appreciating and saying thank you for their efforts."

To make the awards particularly memorable, a unique venue was chosen, Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral.

In addition, the trophies were commissioned from acclaimed sculptor Stephen Broadbent and BBC TV North West Tonight presenter Gordon Burns was engaged to act as host for the event.

However, the most special feature of the evening was the achievements of the award winners themselves.

The majority of categories recognised excellence around the key themes of the Partnership's programme including education and training, employment and enterprise, neighbourhood management and community safety.

There were also honours for the outstanding partner agency, regeneration worker and Kensington Regeneration Board Member.

In addition, a 'champion of champions' award paid tribute to the most remarkable individual achievement of the programme.

You can read about all the winners' stories in this commemorative brochure. They show how determined individuals and organisations have been to make a difference in the area, and demonstrate all that's best about community spirit in Kensington.

Over the past 10 years Kensington Regeneration has delivered many improvements in the area. Here are just a few of the highlights of the programme.

Highlights

A place to learn, work and do business

Kensington Regeneration's work with local schools has been one of the outstanding successes.

A key feature of the programme has been to improve the facilities available to local people. For example, the Partnership helped to secure Kensington's own secondary school, the multi-award-winning Academy of St Francis of Assisi, a £21 million high-tech school in Newsham Park.

This has had a really positive impact on attainment levels - the number of students achieving five or more A* to C grades at GCSE level is now 25 per cent higher than in 2002.

The Partnership also supported the rebuilding of Kensington Infant and Junior School and the creation of the new Field of Dreams Nursery at St Sebastian's Primary School.



One of the main aims of the Partnership's work with schools has been to give children access to new learning opportunities and experiences.

The Music for Life project has been an outstanding example of this, forging a unique link between the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and the area's five local primary schools.

Funding from Kensington Regeneration has also helped to provide additional equipment and

resources for schools, and to enhance family learning opportunities in the area.

The success of these and other projects is reflected in the achievements of the schools in the area. For example, all the primaries have recently recorded their best-ever SATs results in one or more subjects and the Academy topped a

25 per cent more Kensington students now gain five A* to C grades at GCSE level than in 2002.

Government league table as the fastest-improving school in the country at GCSE level.

Attendance levels in local schools and post-16 staying-on rates are now better than the Liverpool average.

As well as working with schools Kensington Regeneration has also been successful in helping older residents to acquire new skills.

A key base for this work is Kensington Community Learning Centre (KCLC), which was recognised as one of the best centres of its type in the country in the 2008 UK Online Centres Awards.

Another acclaimed Kensington Regeneration project has been its bursary scheme which provides financial support to local residents



on full-time degree courses, in return for their involvement in community projects in the area.

Working with other funding partners Kensington Regeneration made a major contribution to building a family centre – the Life Bank – which offers quality, affordable childcare and support for families with young children.

Kensington Regeneration has also worked hard to improve the employability of local people through initiatives to provide residents with job and training advice, work placements and support to access specific sectors of the jobs market.

Employers have been encouraged to take on Kensington residents via recruitment subsidies.

Thanks to the work of JET Eastern Link and initiatives like the Transitional Employment programme and Jobs Boost, the Partnership had helped 1,497 residents to find work by March this year.

A better, smarter place to live

Kensington Regeneration has helped to bring forward three major new housing developments in the area



with the help of two Housing Focus and Issues Groups - one for Edge Hill and one for Holt Road.

In total the three schemes will eventually create around 400 high-quality new homes in the area. They include a 126-property Bellway Homes site at Tunnel Road. At this development, the Partnership ensured that homes were offered at affordable prices to local people and residents affected by housing clearance in Kensington were given a priority purchasing period.

The other schemes are at Lomond Road/Grampian Road and at Gilead Street where developers Lovell are creating 175 homes including for rent, shared ownership and outright sale.

Kensington Regeneration has also been responsible for a wide range of housing and environmental improvement works in all the area's five neighbourhoods, including the conservation areas of Kensington Fields and Edge Hill.

The Partnership has also helped to fund a programme of improvements to shops with more

than 80 being upgraded with new frontages and signs, new lighting and other improvements to the building facades.

Work is now under way on one of the most important physical development projects of the whole programme.

This is the new Beech Street complex at the former ice rink and bingo hall site.

This ambitious scheme will include shops and offices as well as 50 apartments. The complex will also have a new fire station with community facilities to replace the area's ageing Low Hill premises.

Kensington residents have obtained more than 4,000 accredited qualifications over the past decade.

Highlights



Over the past decade Kensington Regeneration working with the community has also spearheaded local efforts to tackle litter, fly-tipping, grotspots, vandalism and graffiti.

Kensington's team of Community Wardens have been at the forefront of implementing this part of the programme. As well as providing information and advice to residents on their street patrols, they are always on the lookout for problems of vandalism and graffiti which they then report to the relevant agencies.

The Partnership helped to create the Kensington Clean Team as an important new resource for the area. The team has operated across Kensington, cleaning up grotspots, removing fly-tipped rubbish and maintaining open spaces.

To support the work of the Clean Team Kensington Regeneration has funded a number of community clean-ups and also community skips which are placed in various

locations around the area's five neighbourhoods once a month. The Partnership has also worked closely with Liverpool City Council on measures to tackle the problem of rats, and made funding available, via an environmental grant scheme, to help community groups implement small-scale 'green' improvements at local level.

Community and quality of life

Community involvement has been at the heart of the work of Kensington Regeneration over the past ten years.

The structure of the organisation has ensured that local people have been able to play a key role in its work. They have had the opportunity to comment on its progress on an ongoing basis.

Local community groups and voluntary organisations have received extensive support for their own initiatives and events. This has included operational support, provided by a team of community development workers, and financial support in the form of small grants from the Community Investment Fund. In the last financial year, grants totalling £111,000 were given to 56 local groups.

In recent years, Kensington Regeneration has also funded the posts of outreach workers to provide support to the area's growing number of BME residents.

This aspect of the Partnership's work has resulted in some major successes including an annual festival of diversity, One World Week, which rapidly developed into One World Month, offering a huge range of events and activities.

Kensington Regeneration and its partners have invested £96 million in improving the area.



Kensington Regeneration has funded a range of measures aimed at making Kensington a safer place in which to live and work.

In the early years of the programme this involved improving the local security infrastructure with the installation of a network of 29 CCTV cameras across the area and the development of an extensive alleygating scheme.

The Partnership funded Kensington's own Police Team who have done an excellent job in tackling crime and improving community safety in the area.

In the most recent financial year, more than 2,000 people in Kensington benefited from HEAT's advice.



The success of the Kensington Police Team has been widely praised by local people and has also attracted the attention of the judges of major regional and national awards schemes.

To support the efforts of the Police Team Kensington Regeneration also fund a range of other community safety initiatives in the area including the Community Wardens, Nacro's Youth Inclusion Project and the Kensington Crime Alert project which works to prevent crime against businesses, shops and health facilities.

The Partnership has been involved in a range of initiatives aimed at improving the health of local residents.

One such project was the building of the £2 million Kensington Community Sports Centre which has given residents of all ages local access to state-of-the-art sports facilities.

Linked to this exciting new facility, the Partnership funded a youth sport outreach worker post to promote the healthy lifestyle message across the area and encourage more people to use the Sports Centre, Birchfield Park and other local facilities.

The work of HEAT – the Health Energy Advice Team – has been another Kensington Regeneration success story. This project addresses the health needs of local people, focusing in particular on housing and benefits issues and helping vulnerable residents to access energy-related home improvements.



Crime in Kensington is down 44 per cent on 2002 with vehicle-related thefts down by 92 per cent.



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**LIVERPOOL VISION
THE CAPITAL,
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LIVERPOOL L3 9PP
T: +44(0)151 600 2900
E: INFO@LIVERPOOLVISION.CO.UK**



Employment & Enterprise Champion

sponsored by Liverpool Vision

Winner: Dream High



In this category the judges were looking for an individual or organisation that has made a real difference to the business community, helped residents to find jobs or overcome serious barriers to finding work or starting a business.

Dream High is a support organisation that helps east Liverpool residents to achieve their dream of running their own business or to improve the success of existing businesses.

It was established four years ago with the aim of boosting the economy of the area, increasing prosperity and improving the confidence of local people.

It is based on the American Sirolli model of enterprise development, operating with a facilitator who assists clients through the first steps towards creating a new business venture, and a panel of 80 volunteers with a wide range of skills and expertise who clients can call on to provide specialist advice and support as required.

The judges were impressed with Dream High's track record. To date the organisation has provided support to 140 individuals, 67 of whom live or work in the Kensington Regeneration area.

As a result of this help 31 new business have started trading and 54 jobs have been created - figures that are increasing all the time.

The new enterprises include catering companies, a dog grooming service, a hairdressing salon, a security firm, fashion designers and artists.

The award nominations highlighted the importance of Dream High's grassroots approach, pointing out that 'there are no big marketing campaigns - information about the project is spread by word of mouth'.

It added that much of Dream High's success is due to the diversity of skills on the panel and the involvement of local residents who 'know what the area needs'.

Overall the initiative was summed up as a 'community-led project that has made a huge difference in Kensington and the surrounding area' with special praise for the panel members who 'go to meetings because they want to help other people - they care about Kensington'.

Highly Commended

Jet Eastern Link

The judges were impressed with the achievements of Jet Eastern Link which have helped hundreds of Kensington residents to access job and training opportunities since 2001. Nominations praised the service for its 'high level of support, enthusiasm and encouragement' and also JET staff for being 'committed to making a difference'.

Liz Scahill-Connor

Liz Scahill-Connor, Manager of the Field of Dreams Nursery, was also highly commended in this category. The judges recognised that, as well as striving to create a first-class environment for young children, Liz had worked closely with Kensington Regeneration to provide local residents with employment and training opportunities in the childcare sector.





Liverpool JET service works in the heart of the neighbourhood to offer a range of services to businesses and residents. Through our partnership with KNDC we have been successful in supporting local people into training and employment. KNDC and Liverpool JET service have been at the forefront of promoting education and training for the past 10 years and are happy to celebrate the achievements of this partnership.

There are local JET offices across Liverpool, based in neighbourhoods that have traditionally suffered from disadvantage and high levels of unemployment. Staff located at the JET offices can help with information, advice and guidance for local people, to help them into appropriate training and job opportunities across the city and beyond.

There are also members of the JET Business Team based within these offices to help local businesses tap into the pool of local labour, and to access products, services and funding from the JET Service and our partners. The People Pool is the branch of the JET Service based in the city centre, dedicated to supporting employers in the city centre and beyond. These staff have specialist knowledge of the local labour market and of the employment sectors operating in their area. They offer advice to businesses on recruitment, training and retention issues.

The Liverpool JET Service is funded by Government and European funding and is therefore able to offer its services free of charge. This funding includes Working Neighbourhoods Fund, European Social Fund and European Regional Development Fund.

Jobs, Education & Training

Education and Training Champions

sponsored by Liverpool City Council

Joint winners: Charles Daniels and Dennis Hardiman



Charles Daniels

In this category the judges were looking for an inspiring individual or organisation that has helped residents to raise their levels of attainment, gain qualifications, increase their confidence and become more employable.

In the light of the success of Kensington Regeneration's work with schools over the past decade, it is appropriate that the judges decided to honour two local primary school headteachers as the joint winners of the Education and Training Champion Award.

Dennis Hardiman has helped St Sebastian's Primary to achieve three outstanding Ofsted reports in a row, a feat matched by only 20 schools in the country.

Amongst many other achievements, his school also has a remarkable track record in teaching Spanish, which resulted in St Sebastian's being named the best Spanish-speaking school in the country in 2008.

As the nomination pointed out, Dennis has also ensured that his school is fully integrated into the local community thanks to the Field of Dreams Nursery, adult learning



Dennis Hardiman

courses and facilities for local residents to get involved in arts and crafts, drama and sport.

The nomination summed Dennis up as 'a determined and ambitious' headteacher who wants his school to be 'excellent' in every way. It also paid tribute to the time and effort he puts into the job, saying it deserves a 'superhuman' rating.

Charles Daniels has been honoured for revitalising Sacred Heart Primary which he joined in 2004 when it was facing 'severely challenging circumstances, the threat of closure and plummeting morale'.

The nomination said that Charles has helped to breathe new life into the school by appointing new staff with specialist skills, supporting the governing body, developing a wide range of extra-curricular activities and creating new facilities including a children's gym.

As a result of these measures, Sacred Heart received a good to outstanding Ofsted report this year. According to the award nomination, the inspectors regarded the school as 'a shining example of partnership working, community engagement and effective school leadership'.

Highly Commended

George Allen and Paula Murawski

The judges were impressed with the achievements of George Allen and Paula Murawski who are part of Kensington Regeneration's education, training and enterprise team. The nomination praised them for going above and beyond the call of duty and for their 'many hours of painstaking work doing their best for the Kensington community'.

Kensington Community Learning Centre

Kensington Community Learning Centre was recognised for offering 'help, advice, support, guidance and high-quality training in a warm, friendly atmosphere'. Nominations from service users praised the centre for offering a great learning environment and the staff for being 'caring, helpful and very knowledgeable'.





*“Working in partnership to reduce
crime and disorder,
anti-social behaviour,
environmental damage,
drugs, alcohol and substance
misuse, and the fear of crime.”*

**For further information on
community safety issues visit:**

www.liverpool.gov.uk/citysafe

Community Safety Champion

sponsored by Community Services, Liverpool City Council

Winner: Sgt Simon Joyce



In this category the judges were looking for an individual or organisation that has helped to make Kensington a safer place, reduce crime rates and make the area somewhere people really want to live.

The judges named Sgt Simon Joyce as Community Safety Champion in recognition of his outstanding leadership and his contribution to the achievement of the Kensington Police Team over the lifetime of the Partnership.

Summing this up, a nomination said that 'the area has seen significant successes in both crime and anti-social behaviour reduction, balanced against a significant increase in levels of customer satisfaction'.

In terms of Sgt Joyce's personal contribution, a nomination described him as 'the driving force that has delivered consistently excellent results'.

It added that 'Simon has remained the familiar face and pillar of support for the community. He goes above and beyond what is expected of his role on a daily basis and has managed to build a confidence and collective

community spirit between the police and local residents that is seen nowhere else on Merseyside'.

The nomination also pointed out that Simon could have retired two years ago, after completing 30 years with Merseyside Police. Instead, as a mark of his commitment and dedication to the role, he was adamant that he wanted to remain as Sergeant until the end of the Kensington Regeneration programme in 2010.

The judges noted that the crime statistics for Kensington show just how successful Sgt Joyce and his team have been. All crime has been reduced by 44 per cent since 2002. In terms of specific offences, violent crime has been reduced by 58 per cent since its highest level, robbery by 74 per cent, burglaries by 43 per cent and theft of and from vehicles by 92 per cent.

In addition, the judges were very impressed by comments in nominations from local residents. One described Sgt Joyce as 'one of the finest ambassadors for the Kensington area'. Another said, quite simply, that 'the community love him to bits'.

Highly Commended

Community Safety Task Group

The judges praised the work of the Community Safety Task Group which has successfully brought together the local community, councillors and agencies working in the area to address this key issue.

A nomination described the group as 'a model of best practice' whose well-attended meetings have shown 'the true value of partnership working'.

Pat Doyle

Local resident Pat Doyle, who chairs the Community Safety Task Group, was also highly commended by the judges and was honoured for his tireless work over the past four years. According to the nomination Pat plays a 'vital role' as an 'excellent chairperson', and his passion for the group and the safety of the area 'have been a catalyst for positive change'.





NHS Liverpool Community Health is proud to be working alongside Kensington Regeneration to improve the health of local people.

A key part of our work in the area is Kensington Park Practice which has been open since April 2005 and is one of the city's highest performing primary care centres. Situated on Jubilee Drive, the practice offers GP and Community Health Services and sees approximately 4,500 patients.

Another important service we provide in the area is the Kensington District Nursing Team. The team are based at Edge Hill Health Centre and actively care for approximately 350 patients at any one time.

Our District Nurses provide care to patients in their own homes for those who cannot access other services. They provide a full assessment and that includes advice, support and signposting to other services in the local area.

Liverpool PCT has also funded the extremely successful 'Healthy Homes Initiative' in Kensington. Since November 2008, trained professionals have been visiting homes within the area to carry out property assessments, assist residents with accessing healthcare and offer support on issues such as smoking and obesity.

We are proud to have been part of the regeneration of Kensington and look forward to working with local people to further improve the health of the community.

Community Engagement and Health Champion

sponsored by NHS Liverpool Community Health

Winner: Siddi Majubah



In this category the judges were looking for a supportive individual or organisation that has created new community health facilities or services in Kensington or encouraged residents to get involved in improving their area.

In a category that attracted a wide range of entries the judges have honoured Siddi Majubah for his contribution to many aspects of life in Kensington.

According to the nomination, since arriving in the area in 2003, Siddi has ‘worked tirelessly to break down cultural barriers’ between young people from a variety of backgrounds.

His work to raise awareness of African culture is judged to have been an ‘out and out success’ and he has received widespread praise for refusing to let any racial abuse stop this aspect of his work.

Siddi has also organised a number of international football tournaments in the area, with teams of local residents representing their various countries of origin.

One nomination made the point that Siddi’s ‘ability to engage with BME members in a fun way has encouraged wide participation in football’.

Following on from these events, Siddi raised funds to take a team of local lads to Africa to play football in Gambia. Without his involvement, these young players would never have made the trip nor had the opportunity to experience Gambian culture at first hand.

Summing up, a nomination said that Siddi ‘deserved to be recognised’ for providing ‘life-changing experiences for local young people’ and for organising events that ‘attracted hundreds of participants and spectators’.

As a result of his efforts, the football skills and fitness levels of the young people have improved. In addition, by breaking down racial barriers, Siddi has helped to create a safer, healthier Kensington.

He is a worthy winner of the Community Engagement and Health Champion Award.

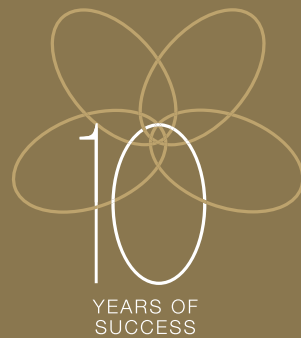
Highly Commended

Healing Space.

Healing Space is a project that provides alternative therapies to residents in the Kensington Regeneration area. The judges were impressed with the friendly and supportive service provided by staff, and the contribution that the project has made to raising awareness of health issues and the importance of developing healthier lifestyles.

Tony Mallon

During his time at Edge Hill Youth Club, Tony Mallon has worked tirelessly to raise funds to provide new facilities and services or improve existing ones. A nomination pointed out that, thanks to his enthusiasm and dedication, the doors of the club are always open both to young people and the wider community, offering a range of activities and opportunities to suit all tastes.





www.bellway.co.uk

Kensington Renewal Area & Bellway Homes

Bellway Homes Ltd. (North West Division) is based in Hunts Cross, Liverpool & currently employs a staff of 85 and provides employment for a wide range of local sub-contractors & suppliers.

We were officially appointed preferred developer for the Wavertree Zone of the Liverpool Housing Market in December 2005 & since that time we have worked very hard with Liverpool City Council to support the renewal process by leading with planning applications in Edge Hill & Picton.

We have also been successful in bringing forward new-build housing developments in Spekeland Road, Tunnel Road & Lomond Road to assist the relocation process. On these developments local residents were offered a priority reservation period & the benefit of ART loans via New Heartlands.

At our Joshua Place development (Tunnel Road) resident affordability was further assisted by gap funding from Kensington (KNDC) enabling residents from the CPO area to remain in owner occupation thus helping to stabilise the local community.

A Masterplanning process to ensure good design & community engagement for Edge Hill was established when the outline planning permissions were granted & the first Design Working Group was established in March 2008 to oversee the process.

The Design Working Group met over many months in the Job Bank & through the dedicated work of the Team, which included representatives from KNDC, Liverpool City Council, Local Councillors, CABE (Commission for Architecture & the Built Environment), Bellway Homes & other partners, ensured the Masterplan truly reflected community aspirations for the regeneration & revitalisation of this once thriving area. The Edge Hill Masterplan was approved in September 2008.

A reserved matters planning application for the first phase of 164 dwellings, comprising mostly houses with gardens & private car parking was approved in September 2009 & Bellway will start on site later this year with the first 54 units, most of which are now allocated to residents from the phase three CPO Area.

The current economic downturn has been hard on all sectors of the economy with housebuilding being one of the first sectors to feel the impact.

Whilst the economic climate has been challenging & some tough decisions have had to be made both regionally & nationally we have kept going with the help of our partners in Liverpool & now see some early signs of a return in customer confidence.

Bellway are delighted to be able to sponsor these awards which genuinely reflect the very real difference that every single person & organisation can make to the goal of delivering truly sustainable communities.

Bellway

Homes and Streets Champion

sponsored by Bellway Homes Ltd

Winner: Community Wardens



In this category the judges were looking for a committed individual or organisation that has supported residents who live in neighbourhoods where significant change is taking place.

The judges decided to honour Kensington's Community Wardens with the Homes and Streets Champion Award after receiving a number of enthusiastic nominations from local people.

According to one nomination, the Wardens 'make a massive difference to Kensington - not only are they a reassuring presence on the streets, they also look after vulnerable residents and are very popular in the community'.

This nomination also praised the team for 'involving themselves with community events and meetings' and 'always being on hand to offer advice and assistance to members of the community'.

It also highlighted the way the Wardens work effectively with the Clean Team on environmental matters, and the Police on community safety issues.

Another nomination said the Community Wardens are 'one of the strongest projects in the area, with a

dedicated team with a valued reputation on the streets' and described the team as being the best wardens in the city.

A further aspect of the team's role was also mentioned in this nomination - the way they help local schools with outings and also ensure that pupils arrive at school and go home safely.

The writer of yet another nomination described her relationship with the Community Wardens as 'an amazing and successful partnership'.

She said she had always received '100 per cent support from the team' and when she needed help with delivering leaflets the Wardens got involved at the weekend - and in the pouring rain - without complaint.

According to this nomination, the key to the Wardens' success is the way they have integrated themselves into the local community - they are involved in all the local projects and as a result children in Kensington know them all by name.

Thanks to their 'consistent dedication to their roles' the Community Wardens, managed by Community 7, have succeeded in making a really positive difference to life in the Kensington Regeneration area.

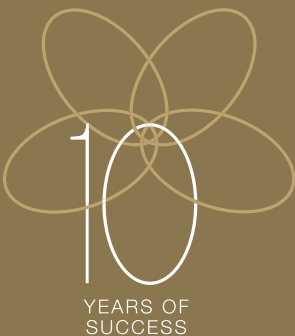
Highly Commended

Janet Kelly

Janet Kelly, Chair of the Holt Road Housing Focus and Issue Group, was highly commended by the judges. The nominations described her as 'dependable and knowledgeable' and 'an excellent community representative' who 'has massively contributed to the improvement of her area' by 'holding agencies responsible for the services they should provide in her neighbourhood'.

Norma Lee & Norma Williams

The 'two Normas' - Norma Lee and Norma Williams - of the Edge Hill Housing Focus and Issue Group were also highly commended. A nomination described them as 'true leaders' whose commitment, bravery, dedication and perseverance has helped to keep communities together and to ensure that residents have had access to affordable new homes.





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A CREATIVE APPROACH

Inner City Solutions is a specialist regeneration consultancy. We have the skills, experience and knowledge to devise creative strategies and workable projects that secure tangible, long-term benefits for sustainable communities. We understand that what we do is as much about people as places and always adopt an inclusive approach. We're also panel consultants to RDAs and the Homes and Communities Agency. Public, voluntary and private sector projects are undertaken in three key areas:

- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES
- PHYSICAL REGENERATION



INNER CITY SOLUTIONS
REGENERATION WORKS

Neighbourhood Management and Development Champion

sponsored by Inner City Solutions

Winner: Clean Team



In this category the judges were looking for a dedicated individual or organisation that has made a significant contribution to delivering new facilities or services that meet the needs of local people.

The Clean Team have been honoured by the judges for providing an invaluable service of clearing up environmental blight throughout the Kensington area.

According to the nominations, the service has ‘made a major contribution to neighbourhood management and development within Kensington’.

The team are ‘highly regarded by both residents and agencies alike’, not only for cleaning up grotspots, but also for their proactive work in developing and implementing small environmental improvement projects.

Examples of such projects include the St Sebastian’s Community Garden, Gannock Street Pocket Park and the Holt Road Triangle.

Nominations also singled out Clean Team Manager Michael Bowles for special praise.

He has worked tirelessly to ensure

the team has provided job opportunities for local people, and to obtain funding to ensure that the service can continue beyond the lifetime of Kensington Regeneration.

Summing up the Clean Team’s achievements one nomination said ‘the importance of their role in keeping Kensington clean and tidy should not be underestimated’.

It added that ‘they have carried out this role to a very high standard and have provided an effective and personable service’.

Statistics show just how successful the service has been. In just one 12-month period members of the Clean Team cut grass equivalent to the size of 30 football pitches, picked up litter which would have covered a further 248 pitches and removed enough rubbish to fill 821 large skips.

In addition, they removed 1,882 dumped tyres, 736 pieces of furniture, 48 gas bottles, 95 fridges, 34 cookers and 43 washing machines! Taken together with their work on maintaining open spaces, it’s clear that the Clean Team have played a vital role in making Kensington a cleaner, safer place for residents.

Highly Commended

Neighbourhood Management Task Group

The judges were impressed with the Neighbourhood Services Task Group’s multi-agency partnership approach which has resulted in long-standing problems being addressed. A nomination said that the group is a vital interface between residents and agencies, allowing environmental issues to be raised and - more importantly - dealt with.

Peter Yoh

Peter was also highly commended in this category. He was Community 7’s Neighbourhood Management Manager for a number of years. According to a nomination, Peter really believed in what he was doing in the area. He was praised for his work on developing the Community Wardens and Clean Team projects and for ‘giving people the sort of services that they wanted’.





Design Innovation, Professionalism and Partnership

Manchester based developer CTP Ltd is delighted to be working with Kensington Regeneration and Liverpool City Council to deliver Kensington Neighbourhood Centre.

Construction recently commenced on this prestigious Mixed-use Development on the site of the former Silver Blades Ice Rink, at the junction of Prescott Road and Beech Street.

The Neighbourhood Centre will act as a focal point and signify a new era for Kensington. The centre will bring together new retail premises, affordable housing, the refurbishment of the historic early Victorian Grade II Listed Villas, a new urban park together with a ground breaking Community Fire Station for Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority.

National retailer Iceland has acquired the 675 sq m anchor store at the corner of Prescott Road and Beech Street and will be open for trade in November 2010. There is a further 1,175 sq m of new retail accommodation, which can welcome up to 6 new retailers. The aim is to bring new national regional and local occupiers to Kensington and marketing of the units has recently commenced.

Riverside Housing Association has committed to provide 28 affordable apartments, 4 of which will be provided within the refurbished Grade II Listed Villas. A new community fire station for Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority is being delivered as part of the project. This is a ground breaking element to the development and will deliver a highly important community function.

When completed in August 2010, the development will also provide visitor car parking and a new public realm including the provision of free to use adult exercise equipment.

This development has been delivered through partnership between Kensington Regeneration, Liverpool City Council and CTP, supported by end users such as Iceland, Riverside and Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority. It will make a clear statement of the fundamental changes that have occurred in Kensington over the last 10 years and will be a major catalyst to further development.

For more information about Kensington Neighbourhood Centre and CTP Ltd, please contact Guy Illingworth or Andrew Kingsley on 0161 236 3223.

Resident Champion

sponsored by CTP Ltd

Winner: Bernie Hunt



Bernie Hunt, back row centre

In this category the judges' aim was to recognise a Kensington resident who has been a true ambassador for the area and a real friend to his or her neighbours by being generous with their time and expertise.

The large and varied selection of entries for the Resident Champion Award provided yet more evidence of the fantastic community spirit that exists in Kensington.

It also meant the judges had a very difficult job before eventually deciding to honour Kensington Fields resident Bernie Hunt in this important category.

Of the many people who took the time and trouble to nominate Bernie, one saluted him for his 'endless work' for the local community, which began well before the start of the Kensington Regeneration programme in the area.

The same nomination summed him up as a good neighbour, a mine of local information, a friend to the numerous students who live in the area and 'a really good person who will support anyone in need'.

Quite simply, the writer says he is

'the kind of neighbour every street should have'.

Other nominations focused on different aspects of his good work in the area, for example being at the forefront of efforts to obtain conservation area status for Kensington Fields, raising funds for local projects, helping to get the Hall Lane football pitch upgraded and even finding time to help local children with things like cycle repairs.

Remarkably, he manages to do all this community work while working shifts full-time and also helping to care for his autistic nephew.

Amongst many tributes in the nominations, Bernie is described as being 'a good resident all his life' and praised for his 'unstinting commitment' to the area and for going 'out of his way to help people who come to him for help'.

The general feeling of residents in the area was captured in a nomination that characterised Bernie as 'a kind and generous person who never expects a pat on the back' and went on to hail him as 'our hero of the decade'.

Highly Commended

Cath Pendleton

Cath Pendleton has been honoured as highly commended in this category for being an unsung hero of the local community, and for spending 'her entire life putting others before herself'. A nomination praised her work with children, the Friends of Botanic Park and the Community Safety Task Group amongst other roles and summed her up as an 'all round caring person'.

John Ryan

Fairfield resident John Ryan was also highly commended in this category. John is a well known local taxi driver and helps neighbours with any problems they may have. Add to this the excellent support he provides to his disabled wife Joan and it's clear why a nomination saluted him as being "so generous and always there to help local people".





**Kensington has come a long way in the last ten years.
Just think where it will be in the next.**

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Agency Champion

Presented by Mrs Gee Walker, Anthony Walker Foundation

Winner: H.E.A.T.



In this category the judges were looking to honour an agency that has worked in partnership with Kensington Regeneration, complemented its work and supported local people.

HEAT - the Health Energy Advice Team - has been honoured as the Agency Champion after judges agreed with a nomination that described the project as a 'model voluntary sector partner' in terms of the regeneration of Kensington.

HEAT is an independent advice agency that promotes social inclusion in a wide-ranging way. Its services include the Winter Survival Project which helps residents who are suffering the effects of social and economic exclusion to access benefits and other entitlements.

It also manages the Kensington Community Assistance Project, which supports residents affected by the Housing Market Renewal clearance programme in the area, and KATE (Kensington Access to Training and Employment) which helps people who face significant barriers in terms of accessing job and training opportunities.

Other projects run under the HEAT 'umbrella' include Kensington

Family Support Group, which helps the families of drug users and the Kensington Domestic Abuse Service.

In the last financial year, more than 2,000 Kensington residents benefited from these services.

Against this background, it's hardly surprising that a number of nominations made a point of praising HEAT for providing help to the most vulnerable members of the local community.

One of them said that the key to the project's success had been its 'open, flexible and creative approach' and its ability to develop effective working relationships and partnership arrangements with other agencies working in the area.

However, it was a nomination from a service user that best illustrates how HEAT makes a difference. The resident said that he could not live his life without all the help and advice he has received from the project.

He added that 'staff always put me at ease, and even though I sometimes think I may be a burden to them, they always treat me with respect and a smile'.

Highly Commended

Carol Thorpe

Carol Thorpe of Liverpool City Council was highly commended in the Agency Champion category. Described as an 'excellent colleague', the nomination praised her for being 'dedicated and trusted by residents' and always being 'very supportive'. It added that residents find her very approachable and that she always takes their concerns seriously.

Edge Hill Credit Union

Edge Hill Credit Union was also highly commended by the judges for providing a range of community financial services to local residents. A nomination praised the Credit Union for its inclusive approach, for being cheaper than conventional banks, for creating a number of jobs and for its work in local schools helping youngsters to learn about money matters.



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advertising • design • marketing

telephone 0151 707 2220

email hello@kadm.co.uk

website www.kadm.co.uk

A different perspective

We are very proud and privileged to have worked with the Kensington Regeneration team, the board, the community and all the partners and stakeholders.

The team at Kaleidoscope.

Regeneration Worker Champion

sponsored by Kaleidoscope ADM

Winner: Maria Curran



The aim of this award was to recognise a paid worker in any sector who has made a lasting difference to Kensington and the lives of local people, and contributed to making the area a place where people want to live.

The judges decided to honour Maria Curran with this award after receiving a large number of nominations highlighting the valuable role she has played in the regeneration of the area.

According to one nomination, Maria is 'highly regarded' by her Kensington Regeneration colleagues, by staff in other agencies and by members of the community.

She is seen as very professional, but at the same time she is a 'community orientated person who has empathy with community issues'.

This nomination also made the point that because of Maria's expertise, her services are always much in demand. However, despite this pressure 'she is always very cheerful and positive in the manner with which she deals with all issues'.

Summing up her contribution, the nomination said that 'Maria's local

knowledge is vast and her commitment to improving conditions within the local area is extraordinary'.

This view was backed up by another nomination from a local resident which described Maria as being 'very good at her job' and praised her for 'always being there to help our residents - nothing is ever too much trouble'.

Further examples of Maria's achievements highlighted in other nominations include her work with local schools, learning centres and cultural organisations. She is also regarded as having done a great deal to help Kensington's BME communities.

Another nomination pointed out that 'she really cares about her colleagues and is usually the one who organises a leaving party or gift for members of organisations she works with'.

The final word goes to a member of the Kensington Police Team who also nominated Maria. He described her approach as 'a perfect example of how to engage and motivate people' and praised her for 'nearly always having a smile on her face' and being 'a friend to everyone'.

Highly Commended

Cathy Williams

Cathy Williams was highly commended for successfully co-ordinating Kensington Regeneration's extensive physical development programme in the area. Nominations praised her for offering 'sound and consistent advice' and developing projects that represented good value for money and had the best interests of the community at their heart.

Martin Pinder

Martin Pinder was honoured in this category for showing a remarkable level of commitment to improving the lives of the local BME community. Praising him for his highly dedicated approach one nomination said that 'Martin's working day seems to be endless and he is constantly looking for opportunities to support the local community.





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Board Member Champion

sponsored by Kensington Regeneration

Winner: Pat Dermott



The aim of this award was to honour a past or present Kensington Regeneration Board Member who has consistently put the interests of the area first, listening and responding to the needs of local people.

Bearing in mind the remarkable contribution that so many Board Members have made to the work of Kensington Regeneration over the past decade, this category was perhaps the most difficult for the judges to assess.

In the end, they decided to honour Pat Dermott, one of the most popular figures associated with the Partnership.

One nomination praised her for her dedication and for making the regeneration of the area ‘part of her life’. It went on to point out that she has never missed a Board meeting and that she ‘gives 110 per cent of her commitment to the good name of Kensington Regeneration’.

Another nomination described Pat as a ‘well respected member of the local community’ who has ‘a very caring nature’. The writer added that she is ‘a very good talker and

listener’ who is ‘able to get her point across effectively in a way that does not offend anybody’.

Yet another nomination highlighted Pat’s tenacious approach to getting things done, saying ‘she is like a dog with a bone - she will not give up without a fight’. The writer put this down to her having been born and bred in Fairfield!

As well as her contribution to the work of the Partnership at Board level, all the nominations also referred to Pat’s commitment to her local neighbourhood and the wider regeneration of the area.

This has included her work with the Fairfield Area Residents Association, where she regularly ‘fights the corner’ of vulnerable local people, and working with volunteers to clear overgrown land to create the award-winning St Sebastian’s Community Garden.

The judges also wanted to record that many nominations also highlighted the important role that Harry Dermott has played over the years in support of his wife’s work with Kensington Regeneration.

Highly Commended

Enid Bristow

Enid Bristow, another very popular member of the Kensington Regeneration Board, was highly commended in this category. One nomination highlighted her infectious sense of humour and described her as ‘one of a kind ‘ and ‘loved by so many’. It added that ‘her empathy and her desire to create a better future for all is what makes her so special’.

Tom McGuire

Tom McGuire of Community Seven was recognised by the judges for being accessible to local people and ensuring that his organisation’s staff team are responsive and caring. One nomination also described him as a ‘true ambassador for the Partnership’ and pointed out that he is ‘very fair minded and highly committed to equality and diversity’.





Community Seven has worked alongside Kensington Regeneration as the housing delivery vehicle throughout the programme. We have worked with partners to facilitate the building of new properties to enable those residents in clearance areas to move into new, modern homes.

This work is still ongoing and will continue into the future. We have invested in our own properties in the area to ensure that the quality of accommodation and the choice available to residents in Kensington includes a social rented sector that adds value to the community. Community Seven has taken a flexible approach to housing in Kensington to ensure that the right solution could be found to suit some challenging situations.

The focus on anti-social behaviour from Community Seven and a close working relationship with Merseyside Police has seen action being taken to reinforce the message that behaviour which blights the lives of residents will not be tolerated. By working with all residents and not just our tenants this has resulted in legal action being taken against some serial offenders.

As well as providing housing we have also hosted the award winning Community Warden team. The visible presence of the wardens on the street has helped to reassure residents that the Partnership is working to improve their



quality of life well beyond office hours. The team have engaged with residents in many ways including getting involved with schools and youth projects to help to educate young people about anti-social behaviour. The wardens have also provided reassurance to the most vulnerable residents through their programme of door-knocking and support.

Another team that Community Seven has supported in the New Deal area is the Clean Team which has worked to turn the environment and open spaces from grot spots to pieces of open land which enhance the public realm. The team has offered training and employment opportunities for local people.



Grand Champion

sponsored by Riverside

Joint winners: Norma Lee and Norma Williams



Norma Lee



Norma Williams

In this ‘champion of champions’ category the judges were looking to recognise the most outstanding individual contribution to the work of Kensington Regeneration over the past decade.

After considering a number of high-quality nominations, the judges decided that the Kensington Regeneration Grand Champion Award should go to Norma Lee and Norma Williams for their outstanding work across the programme and particularly in Edge Hill.

With feelings running high when compulsory purchase orders were announced, the Edge Hill residents involved were understandably concerned about what would happen to them, where they would end up, how they would be able to afford a new home and who their new neighbours would be.

The role of the Housing Focus and Issue Group - led by the ‘two Normas’ - was to articulate these feelings and to make sure that everyone involved - the council planners, the developers and the consultants - knew about residents’ concerns and what mattered most to them when the new Tunnel Road housing scheme was being planned.

For example, residents emphasised that they did not want off-the-shelf developer houses but sustainable homes with low-energy features. Their financial concerns were also addressed by Kensington Regeneration, who worked with Liverpool City Council and Bellway to ensure that the homes were offered at affordable prices to local people. Special loans were also arranged for people who could not access conventional mortgages, along with upfront disturbance payments all of which was overseen by the two Normas.

Furthermore, when properties were released for sale, local residents affected by housing clearance were given a priority purchasing period. And to keep communities together, advisors worked hard to marry up plots with people, to ensure that long-term friends and neighbours were able to maintain their close ties and relationships.

Norma Lee and Norma Williams have played a vital role in making the Tunnel Road scheme such a success.

As one nomination pointed out, they are ‘true leaders’ and have consistently stood up for their community.

Highly Commended

Kensington Community Police Team

By reducing crime and improving community safety in Kensington, the Kensington Police Team have made a huge contribution to the regeneration of the area and improved the quality of life of every single local resident.

Task Groups

Kensington Regeneration’s thematic Task Groups were also highly commended in this category. These groups have helped to set the agenda for the Partnership’s work around key themes by bringing local people and agencies working in the area together and will continue after Kensington Regeneration’s programme ends. The local knowledge of residents has been critical in planning new facilities, services and initiatives.





Kensington Regeneration would like to thank all the staff and board members, past and present, who have contributed to the programme, partner agencies and local people.

The event has been sponsored by:



