

Notes from a meeting with London Councils, the Barka Foundation
and Hammersmith and Fulham
18th July 2007, London Councils office, Southwark

Attendees

Nigel Minto, head of housing, London Councils
Ian McKenzie, Housing policy manager, London Councils
Tomas Sadowska, President, The Barka Foundation
Ewa Sadowska, Project Coordinator, The Barka foundation
James Morris, Alcohol Coordinator, Hammersmith and Fulham

-The group introduced themselves
-N.M gave a summary on the role of London Councils and his and Ian's roles
-N.M highlighted that the three main roles of London Councils were to:
1) lobby central government
2) Carry out research
3) Provide pan –London services

T.S- explained about the Barka foundation, including details on it's history, development, objectives and current ambitions. T.S answered questions about Barka

J.M- gave a summary of the issues Hammersmith and Fulham faces with A8 street populations, how they came across Barka and gave a summary of the 6 month Barka pilot project.

After a discussion and some further questions, N.M proposed to the group that there were 5 main issues that were relevant to those present:

- 1) The widening out of services/the project to other boroughs
- 2) The prevention agenda (i.e. ensuring the preparedness of A8s before coming to the UK)
- 3) Reconnection and the development of local partnerships in Poland
- 4) The European agenda/the case for lobbying
- 5) Issues for those not reconnected to their home countries

The group agreed that these were key issues. N.M proposed that the next stage was for N.M and I.M to discuss the issue raised and come back with some further ideas on developing this. Additionally it was proposed that a meeting with other London councils be arranged to discuss the issues and potential development of the project. This was agreed, although J.M highlighted that the pilot had to be monitored and evaluated carefully before it was developed but agreed that a meeting with other councils should take place and would organise this.