MAYOR'S MENTORING PROGRAMME

UPDATE REPORT

The Mayor's Mentoring Programme has achieved its target of pairing 1,000 boys with mentors, to deliver a 12 month mentoring relationships to black boys aged between 10- 16 who are at risk of offending, or of being not in education, employment or training (NEET). As the processes of recruiting, training and matching mentors and mentee's is now finished, the focus of the Programme's remaining 6 months will be on working to support and sustain as many as possible of the matched relationships through the remaining months of the programme.

December 2014

For further information please contact the GLA Education & Youth Team, Health and Communities Unit



Local Delivery Partner BANG FM, Brent, Gabriella Incalza, Project Manager

"They are good boys who simply need someone to expect something from them. Sometimes their teachers are missing their talents. They might have absent fathers. Our project Making Men gives us an opportunity to give them a chance they didn't have. I love doing it."

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1. Summary - Progress to date

The Mayor's Mentoring Programme is a three-year programme that provides mentoring support to 1,000 black boys aged 10 to 16 in the capital to help them make the right decisions for themselves and reach their full potential. The Mayor's Mentoring Programme works in partnership with community organisations (Local Delivery Partners) who have trained and matched mentors with eligible boys in eight London boroughs: Brent, Croydon, Hackney, Haringey, Lambeth, Southwark, Waltham Forest and Westminster.

2. Performance

2.1 Programme Outputs

As the programme moved into its final year, mentor training and matching has been completed for all those already engaged in the programme. No further mentors are being recruited; any further volunteers coming forward are signposted to Team London where they are likely to find similar volunteering opportunities. The mentoring programme achieved its original overall programme ambition of creating 1,000 mentoring relationships in April 2014.

2.2 Sustaining mentoring relationships

The programme's model has been based on the following targets in terms of LDPs' sustaining relationships:

- 80% of matches sustained to 6 months
- 70% of matches sustained to 9 months
- 60% of matches sustained to 12 months

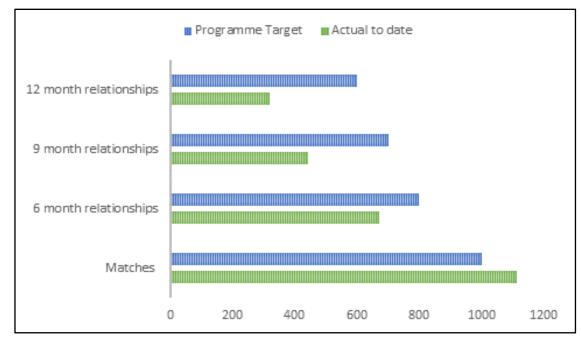


Figure 2. Cumulative programme outputs end of Q2 (to September 2014)

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At the end of Q2 (September 2014):

- 60% of matches had reached 6 months
- 40% of matches had reached 9 months
- 29% of matches had reached 12 months

Current delivery is well on the way to meeting the target for sustained relationships at six months. As the last matches were made in April 2014, these relationships only reached their 6 month milestone in October. These numbers will be reflected in the next quarter's (Q3) figures at which point we will have a clearer indication as to the extent to which the programme's 6 month (80%) target has been achieved.

3. Programme Management & Evaluation

3.1 Project sustainability

The Programme's Managing Agent holds regular networking events for delivery partners. Last month the LDPs revisited the issue of sustainability, both in terms of the outcomes achieved as well as the future mentoring delivery beyond the current programme. Each of the LDPs has been encouraged, and offered support through the Black Training and Enterprise Group, to develop a sustainability plan to:

- Continue mentoring activity, use mentors and/or refer mentors onto other mentoring projects or to Team London for further volunteering;
- Continue to involve young people in their project/activity once mentoring is completed/refer to other projects;
- Develop and/or retain organisational capacity to train/sustain mentors;
- Deliver future mentoring activity, including plans for funding.

3.2 Evaluation update

The evaluation is being conducted by the Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion (CESI) and will run to 2015, when a final report and impact assessment will be produced. Mentee's participating in the evaluation will need to have parental consent, CESI are working closely with LDP's to develop a number of mechanisms and incentives to engage mentee's in the evaluation process. CESI have now begun the collection of data and will be using a variety of different methods for this. The interim report, which examines project design and commissioning, as well as the delivery of the programme in its first year has been published on the website.

4. Celebration event

A celebration event is planned 10th February to recognise the mentors who have taken part in the programme. The event will be hosted at City Hall in the London Living Room. The overall objective of the event is to demonstrate the impact of the MMP to date and to generate enthusiasm amongst stakeholders about the programme as we move into the last phase of delivery.

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Local Delivery Partner, BANG FM, Brent

BANG FM in Harlesden, are one of the local organisations involved in delivering the Mayor's Mentoring Programme (MMP) in Brent.

Gabriella Incalza, is a BANG project manager helping to deliver the MMP "It's aimed at black boys between the ages of 10 and 16; they might be in trouble at school or been in contact with the police. We aim to bring them back into the community in a productive way. This year I have been finding them mentors. We have 80 now between the ages of 21 and 62," she says.

What are the criteria for recruiting the mentors? "They have to have achieved something," she says, "or be inspirational. We have one mentor who is twenty-one year old had a very tough background; one of his best friends was stabbed six years ago and subsequently died. And yet this young man is now doing really well at university studying physics. He will be an incredible role model to a young boy who could be about to get into trouble. He said on his application from – 'it's not where you've come from, it's where you're going that's important'. Then there's the 62-year-old musician who's toured the world as a member of various bands. Now he wants to give something back. He came from a local council estate and knows it is possible to make your dreams come true. There are also the inspirational mothers. "One of them has three daughters, so I wondered how she was going to handle a boy," says Gabriella, "she said she could see how aggressive girls can be to boys and she wanted to help them understand how to handle the girls."

And the criteria for selecting the mentees? "They might be in care, at risk of being excluded from school or already excluded, or already known to the justice system," she says with a wide smile. "We've already had some success with our young boys, one of them has been spotted by QPR and we are waiting to hear what happens next." How difficult is it getting the young men to turn up? "Not hard," she maintains, "they meet here at Bang and they like that. There might be a famous rapper passing through to be interviewed, that makes it an attractive place for them."

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For more information go to: www.wearebang.com

