

# **Working Neighbourhood Fund for Thanet**

**Chris Wells, Cabinet Member – Children’s Services  
Paul Carter, Leader**

Kent County Council Cabinet (for information)  
14<sup>th</sup> July 2008



## **Aims**

**New phase of targeting most deprived areas**

**CLG’s vision of renewed focus on  
worklessness – with step change in outcomes**

**Partnership working to tackle work readiness**



## Funding Implications

**£1.5bn nationally**

**Distinct element of Area Based Grant**

**Funding directed to Thanet District Council**

**£4.058m over 3 years (2008-2011)**

**Eligible for WNF Reward in 2010-2011**



## Key Objectives of the Strategy

**Improve Thanet's overall economic performance by:**

- \* Reducing levels of worklessness and benefit dependency
- \* Decreasing proportion of children in households without work
- \* Adding value to mainstream programmes/ funding i.e. additional elements



## Area of Focus

### Delivery to be focused on the following groups:

Those of school leaving age and NEETS ( not in Education, Employment or Training)

Those in school but at risk of not achieving

Those on out of work benefits – Priority Groups with Jobcentre Plus

Those within employment but have no qualifications or low skills



## Performance Measures – KA2 Indicators

### Economic Success

NI 152 – Reduction in working age people on out of work benefits (*Jobcentre Plus*)

NI 163 – Proportion of population 19+ qualified to at least Level 2 (*LSC*)

### Learning for All

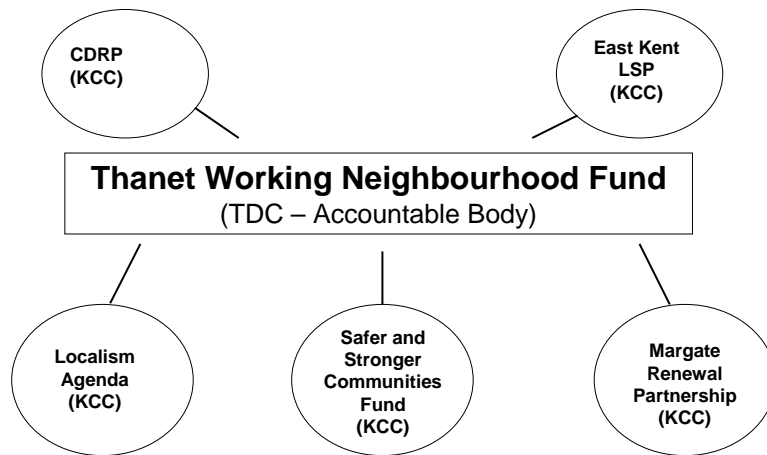
NI 177 – Reduce level of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEETS) (*KCC*)

NI 161 – Adult learners achieving a Level 1 qualification in Literacy (*KCC*)

Also several DCSF targets e.g. GCSE/GNVQs and Looked After Children



## The Growing Partnership Family



## Capacity & expertise within KCC to deliver

**Innovative approaches to reducing NEETs**

**Realistic progression routes in the locality**

**Provide inspirational activities for learners at risk of not achieving in school**

**Up-skilling those in employment with recognised qualifications**



## What we could deliver

Expansion of the Kent apprenticeship programme (16+) - 400 apprenticeship placements for Thanet's young people over 3 years

Pre-apprenticeship programme for young people (16+) with no qualifications

Employment and skills 'match' service for employees and employers

Work placement mentoring and 'fighting fund' e.g. equipment, transport costs

Short courses, incremental learning opportunities, skills framework



## How would we deliver?

**Core team of specialists could work with learners and employers directly at point of delivery.**

**This could include:**

- **Careers guidance advisers**
- **Skills brokers**
- **Work place mentors**
- **Skills tutors and work-place assessors**
- **Financial and health advisers**



## **Next Steps**

**Strategy to improve work readiness in  
Thanet to be presented to TDC  
Cabinet on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2008**