

# HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM LOCAL AGENDA 21 FORUM

## ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2005

During the year, the Forum has continued to meet regularly and has been actively promoting sustainability in the Borough. In particular, we have strengthened links with partner organisations and attracted grant funding to put our plans and aspirations into practice. This year, the issues and activities have included the following:

### **Biodiversity**

The Forum was the lead community partner in developing the Council's Biodiversity Strategy, endorsed by the Environment & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel in February 2004, and has continued to raise awareness of wildlife in the Borough by means of our Photographic Competition *'Look Around You'* and ongoing planning of the West Brompton Wildlife Garden in collaboration with Network Rail. We will be responsible for implementing the site management plan during the coming year(s) in partnership with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) and local residents/businesses. Much work is required, but the Forum has recently secured Green Grant funding to help with this project.

### **Transport & Air Quality**

*Good Going Week* (formerly *In Town Without My Car Day*): The Forum was involved with Council officers in planning this event in September. Despite the disappointment of securing only a low profile location in Loris Road, the event consolidated relationships with a number of local organisations in agreement with the promotion of sustainable transport. It is hoped that a much more adventurous event can be launched in 2005.

*West London Green Festival*: Our Transport & Air Quality representative, John Griffiths, with other members of the Forum and our partners, organised the second such festival at Furnival Gardens in June 2004, which was highly successful. This generated widespread publicity for local cycling, sustainable energy, fair trade, etc., and the event will be repeated on June 19<sup>th</sup> 2005 at Parson's Green.

### **Waste Management/Recycling**

The Forum was actively involved in the design, co-funding and distribution of the local *Recycling Guide* to promote recycled goods, waste reduction, composting, and recycling. In addition, the Forum has encouraged extension of the SmartSack kerbside collection scheme across the Borough, especially for improved facilities for recycling and waste reduction in housing estates and mansion blocks. The domestic recycling rates have improved from 8% in 2003 to over 20%, but we continue to press for further improvements via our meetings and by our input as a co-optee on the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel.

### **Fair Trade**

This year, the Forum has been particularly active in raising awareness of the links between local actions and worldwide equity in trade and development. In order to enable our Borough to reach FairTrade Borough status, our WDM representative, Mary Corral, set up a FairTrade steering group in collaboration with Councillor Andrew Jones, Friends of the Earth, etc. This group has successfully surveyed businesses and organisations in the Borough to establish the extent of FairTrade products sold and/or used. An attractive publicity and information leaflet about the FairTrade Borough has also been published with the aid of funding from the Forum. We are now close to reaching the criteria for a FairTrade Borough status as established by the FairTrade Foundation. This is also being promoted London-wide by the London mayor, Ken Livingstone.

During the year, our members also participated in *Fairtrade Fortnight* and *One World Week* activities, including a visit by Ghanaian farmers and a meeting with the Development Minister, Hillary Benn MP. FairTrade was also a chosen project for the Children's Parliament, organised by the Urban Studies Centre.

### **Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs)**

Last October, the Forum participated in the West London event, organised by London 21: 'Taking it on: developing UK sustainable development strategy together'. This event sought to assess how Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) address Sustainable Development issues and helped to develop the national strategy, to be published in 2005.

### **Green/Community Map**

The Forum has discussed the concept of Green Maps and agreed to support this project following the USC's pilot programme with St Pauls Primary School. A Green Grant of £500 has now been awarded and an outline workplan established. Pilot projects in Fulham and Shepherds Bush will map local facilities. Using the Forum's Council-hosted website and other facilities, a map can be displayed at public events, seeking further public input.

### **Health and Disability Issues**

This year, our focus has been on the promotion and consolidation of the activities mentioned above. However, the Forum continues to take an interest in welfare issues promoting quality of life for Borough residents with and without disabilities. Over the coming year, we would like to explore how we can be involved in health and welfare issues more fully, such as consolidating relationships with organisations such as HAFAD and the Healthy Living Centre.

### **LA21 Web Site and Publicity**

The Forum's website at [www.hfla21.org.uk](http://www.hfla21.org.uk) is directly linked to the Council's central website and has links with other related organisations. It aims to promote sustainability in the Borough as well as provide relevant information. This year, we have recruited a web page designer to redesign the website and this will be launched soon.

Our Photographic Competition 'Look Around You' and participation in publications, such as the *Recycling Guide* and *FairTrade Borough* leaflet, continues to maintain a profile for the organisation. In addition, an advert for the Forum was also placed in the healthcare magazine distributed to all hospitals and GP surgeries in the area.

Local Agenda 21 priorities continue to be developed by partnerships with local voluntary organisations and individuals, Hammersmith & Fulham Council, our presence at Borough festivals, and by the Hammersmith Information Centre, to whom we are most grateful.

Matt Dunckley, *Chair*  
April 2005

David Wardrop, *Hon Secretary*