

presentation title

IDeA Services

- cohesion support to the sector

Presenter Name

date 2005

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LGA Safer Communities, 13 March 2006

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**I&DeA**  
improvement and development agency



# Community Cohesion

## Definition of 'Community Cohesion'

- There is a **common vision** and sense of **belonging** for all communities
- The **diversity** of people's different backgrounds and circumstances is appreciated and **positively valued**
- Those from different backgrounds have similar **life opportunities**
- Strong and **positive relationships** are being developed between people from different backgrounds in the workplace, in schools and within neighbourhoods




## Fit with Our strategic objectives

Objective 1: To improve the quality of political and managerial leadership

Objective 2: To build the corporate capacity of local government to deliver improvement

Objective 3: To support the improvement of service delivery in priority areas



Objective 4: To strengthen the ability of local government to build sustainable communities

Objective 5: To maximise the impact and value to the sector of the resources we deploy



## Where 'Community Cohesion' fits in at the IDeA

### Strategic objective 4:

to strengthen the ability of local government to  
build sustainable communities

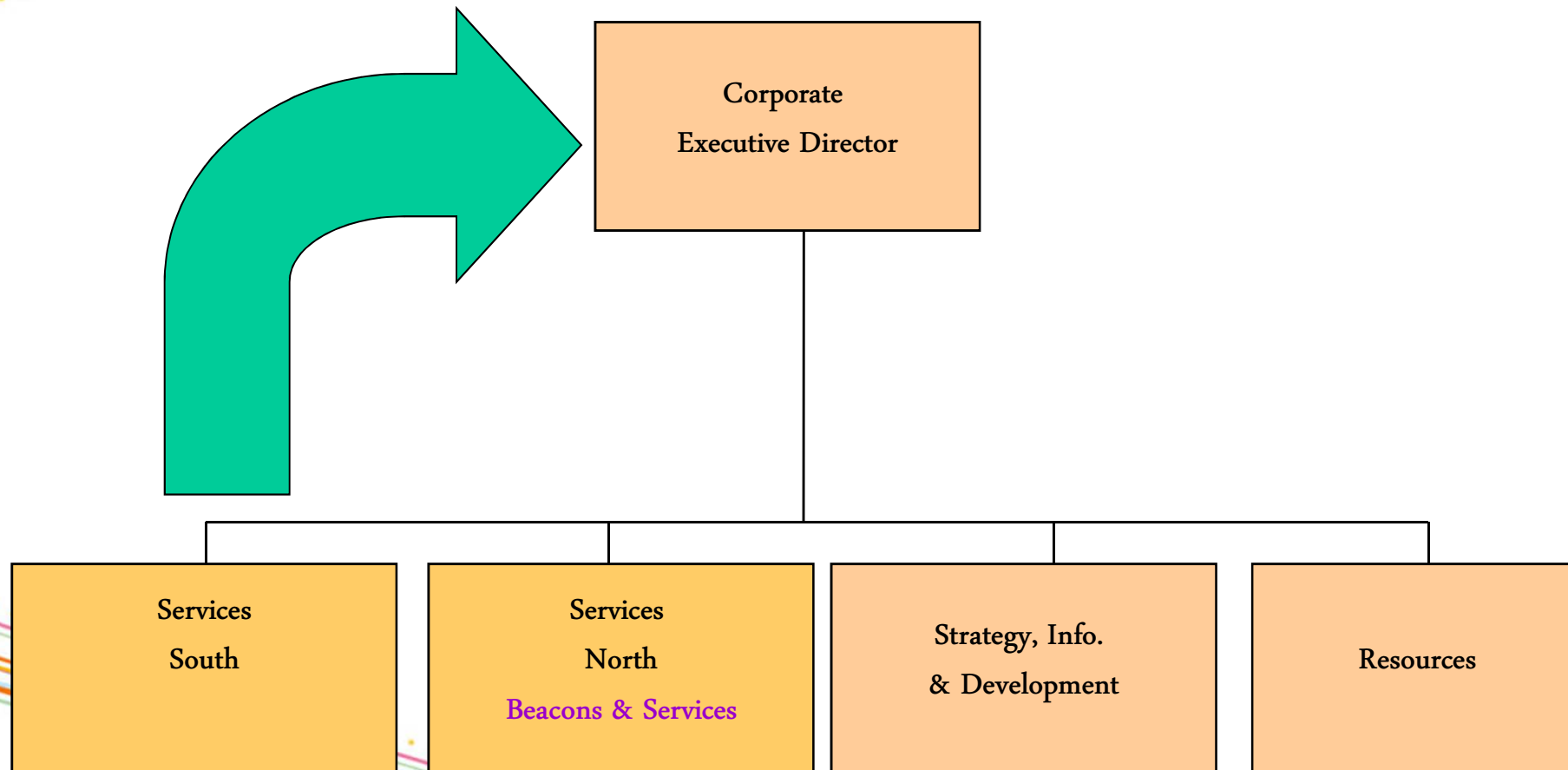
### Our DNA:

“helping councils build sustainable communities  
– because sustainable and cohesive communities  
lie at the heart of well-being, safety and quality  
of life”

### 2005-6 currently

- 2.5 full time Equivalent posts
- Activity spend = £79k to cover whole country
- RSG of **£15.9k** (hence has to be income generating)
- 'Sustainable Communities' currently under review

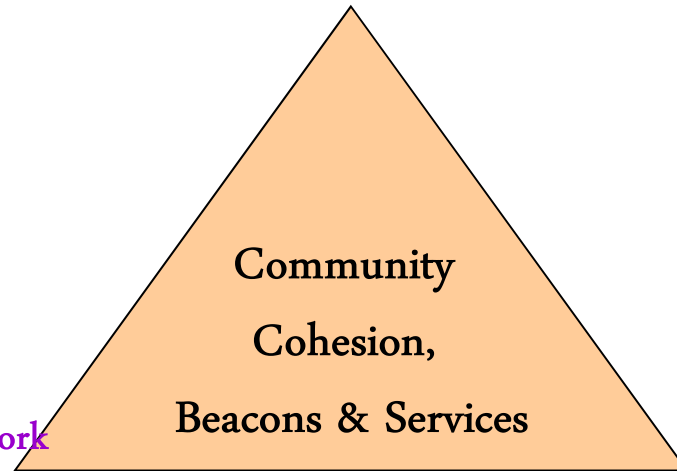
## Where it sits in our structure



Ruby Dixon, HOP

# What do we do

1. Generic information, advice and guidance, and promotion of CC –  
ideaknowledge etc



2. Tailored, bespoke work  
with councils

(as requested by clients)

Impact!

3. Policy Development &  
learning for the sector

LGA and others

National practitioner Guidance 2005

Updated Strategic Guidance 2006

Scrutiny and Cohesion (LGIU)



# Context for emergent policy

## A Combination of factors

- Disturbances in towns and cities during Spring and Summer of 2001 and independent inquiries (Derham Report)
- Policy Drivers (RRAA 2000, 'Well being', Anti-Terrorism legislation, RESPECT, Vibrant Local Leadership, Why Neighbourhoods Matter, Show Me How Matter Children and Young People's Act etc)

## Gaining prominence

- Beacons Community Cohesion theme (Round 4)
- Promoting Racial Equality (Rd 6), Getting Closer to Communities (Rd 6)
- CC Pathfinders (2003-5)
- CPA 2005 Community Cohesion integrated across the KLOE
- Cross cutting theme in Local Area Agreements
- HO faith Development fund
- London Bombings 2005
- *Institute of Community Cohesion (Set up by Ted Cattle)*

# Creating Cohesion in the UK?

## Why it's important - issues to consider

- Multi-cultural Britain!
- Demographic changes across age, race & ethnicity, socio-economic groups, sexual orientation, home and transient
- Intergenerational tensions – older adults vs young people
  - Community safety issues, fear of crime, anti-social behaviour etc
- Different concepts of race equality emerging
  - Asylum seekers and new arrivals
  - Disaffected white communities
- Communication and the media
- Social Inclusion (urban, rural and coastal contexts)
- 'Citizenship' – different ways to involve people than voting
- Managing and reconfiguring local provision and services
- Threat of ultra-right political groups (complacency)
- Community leadership – especially by elected members

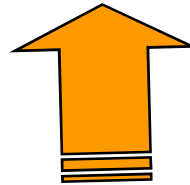
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# Working with members: politically, something for everyone?

## The View from the Left

- Focus on community values
- Common obstacles
- Social/group identity
- Press ganging?



## Cantle

Equal access to public  
services

## View from the Right

- Individual achievement
- Rights of the citizen
- Freedom
- Polarisation/NIMBYism

- Positive Duty under the RR(A) Act – duty to promote good race relations and good community relations
- Leadership - Role of elected members (Whole Council, Exec, Scrutiny, Ward)
  - West London Alliance, Plymouth, Boston, LB Hounslow, Burnley, Oldham Sunderland, Redcar & Cleveland, NE CC network , SE CC network, London CC network
- Community reassurance post 7<sup>th</sup> July London bombings



## Current/recent projects

### Tailored

- Plymouth - Corporate framework for Equalities and cohesion
- Boston – Review of CC and leadership workshops
- South Shropshire – Equalities and CC improvement
- Home Office – national study in community cohesion contingency planning and tension monitoring
- GOL and Pan-Stakeholder Group: Scoping and assessing community cohesion reassurance post 7/7 bombings
- HO CC Area Delivery plans

### Policy development & learning

- Updated CC National Strategic Guidance (launched Feb 14<sup>th</sup>)
- Young People and CC practical toolkit (Unison/BwD/IDeA)
- Toolkit for evaluating cohesion outcomes in fire modernisation (14<sup>th</sup> March)
- AC Local Area Profiles – BME and CC data pilots
- Cohesion assessment of Local Area Agreement Submissions (HO/ODPM)

# IDeA approaches to Community Cohesion

- CC Public visioning conference (Tameside, Hastings, Waltham Forest)
- Base-lining cohesion (Salford, Burnley)
- Strategic planning, restructure and engagement (Leicester, Blackburn, Burnley, LB Tower Hamlets, LB Waltham Forest, Boston BC)
- Community cohesion Blind spots (Blackburn with Darwen)
- Intensive benchmark review for voluntary, community and faith sector organisations (Blackfriars Settlement)
- Leadership programmes (Burnley, West London Alliance, Boston, Plymouth, Redcar and Cleveland, LB Hounslow, Sunderland)
- Large scale 'one day' events (Middlesbrough, Sunderland)
- Policy development and influencing
  - Updated national Guidance for CEX and Leaders – launched 14/2
  - Practitioner Guidance, launched 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2004
  - IDeA Knowledge CC Resource
  - Developing PI's with the Home Office
  - Councillor's Guide 2005/06 – Community Leadership Section
  - On-going work with HO and Gos (e.g. LAAs)