



## Greater London South East County Scout Council



### Beckenham District Consultation Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Question – What was the consultation process as we did not get the information or have any consultation process?

- The details of the questionnaire were sent out to all the groups.

Question – How was it sent out, email. Not everyone has access to email.

- It came out through email from Dean Milton and also was in the A20 Newsletter. DC's were also made aware.

Question – Who at HQ has sponsored the project to change the boundaries?

- The regional team on behalf of HQ.

Question – Where are the extra people going to be found to fill the gaps in the District Team?

- Where the Districts combine people from other Districts could fill the gaps. Not all gaps will be filled.

- We are thin on volunteers but there will be a bigger pool of people when combine.

Question – How many Groups will be in the cluster groups?

- No decision has been made yet but a manageable number around 5 or 6

- Need to look at different ideas.

Question – Why this timescale?

- April was decided upon as it is the start of the new financial year.

- Not too worried if it goes past April.

- The County Team do not want to drag the process out too much.

- It will be reviewed regularly.

Question – Why did you not come with the preferred structure?

- Because we want you to have an input as we do not know what the best structure will be. If we came with structure that is not consultation.



Greater London South East County Scout Council

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Registered Charity No. 1015476

Question – Why change things if they are working alright?

- As stated at the beginning it is about ensuring we deliver Scouting at the grass roots. Some groups need additional support to ensure growth and avoid groups closing.
- That we present as a borough to the future funders and partners.
- We are meeting the needs scout groups and group scout leaders.

Question – What will happen to the Explorers?

- There will be no change. They will continue either as district units or smaller units attached to groups.

Question – What will happen to the monies held by District?

- No policy initially. There will be 5 columns in the accounts to cover the Districts as they attend.
- In time the Borough will make the policy.

Question – What is the cost of the change and who will pick this up?

- Any funds will come from HQ or County if they are unreasonable costs.
- Reasonable costs will be covered by the Districts.
- Worried about the costs and the District Funds disappearing.
- Funds are held to support Scouts and that will continue.
- Costs to be identified as part of the change management process.

Question – What will happen to the volunteers on the executives?

- They will be encouraged to continue to support scouting either at group level as often there is positions on these executives or even the main district executive that is borough wide.

Question – Are we losing District Badges?

- Yes a different badge will be issued.
- Design will be down to boroughs.
- If the cost is large then County/HQ will be looked at to cover the cost.

Question – Concern about District Events continuing to take place taking place due to the size of the new Districts and travelling distance?

- Clusters are the way forward. However new roles would include Programme Support which will strengthen clusters.
- Different way of facilitating district events across the borough

Question – Structures- What will happen with GSL and section leaders meetings with potential of over 80 people attending and nothing would get done. What about them travelling across borough to the meetings?

- Responsibility will be broken down to cover the clusters in the borough
- Programme team will feed down information
- At times there will be larger meetings to get people together but that will be down to the New DC and their team.

Question – Where are these support people coming from. It looks a large number?

- Opportunities from where a number of adults will be displaced. There are more people than roles. No one will be forced into a role.
- Regular reviews will be undertaken.

Question – Where are we going to create these additional volunteers from?

- People will be given the opportunity to choice where they want to be.

Question – How far across the Country have this been rolled out or is it?

- Scotland has done something similar and is likely to be rolled out else where.
- It is being considered in counties north of the Thames.

Question – Where are all these new posts going to be filled from? We do not have enough people to fill these posts? We do not have enough people at the moment.

- 1 to 1s will show new roles.
- a search party will be formed as part of recruitment process.
- It is not about losing anyone.
- There are people that will want to move and accept new opportunities and others will want to go back and support groups and frontline scouting.

Question – Will the clusters be geographical. If they are then why not stay the same?

- No decision has been made yet about the make up of clusters but they will not necessary follow districts as these are not always divided well.

Question – Who will have say regarding clusters?

- Not decided yet.
- GSL's, Borough Commissioners maybe.

Question – It will be a large geographical area and people will not want to travel from one side of the borough to the other. I.e. from Beckenham to the other districts like Bromley and the others.

- People will be in clusters and a few times a year they will meet centrally. At present people travel for training.

Question – When will we know what has been decided and do we have an input then?

- Consultations are happening across the county and following the county conference a decision and way forward will be agreed.

- DC , chairs and members of the district team will be invited to attend the conference and have input along with one to one sessions that will be held.

Jeff handed out a proposal for the future structure.