



Strategic Monitoring Zones: London Councils Funding

What are Strategic Monitoring Zones (SMZs)?

Strategic Monitoring Zones (SMZs) are a mechanism by which individual boroughs will have a clearer picture of the benefits of London Councils commissioned services to their residents and of local impact. The aims and objectives of SMZs include:

- Monitoring actual levels of benefit accruing locally within a zone.
- Establishing where there are barriers to effective delivery and where possible addressing these.
- Considering the impact the services are having at a strategic level.

The 33 London boroughs are grouped in to one of ten SMZs (see the end of this briefing) and each zone consists of the following minimum membership, for each respective borough:

- Elected councillor representative of London Councils' Grants Committee.
- Lead borough officer for the voluntary and community sector.
- Director (or equivalent) of the local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS).
- A London Councils' representative.

SMZs consider the collated monitoring forms from the commissioned groups compared against the expected delivery patterns from original service specifications.

SMZ meetings take place twice a year normally around January/February and June/July and are hosted on a rotational basis by boroughs within each zone.

London Councils is developing a directory of commissioned services/organisations which will be publicly available, as well as being sent to local councils and SMZs. A more in-depth directory for each borough is also being developed. This information will help SMZs monitor 'borough benefit' as well as allow London Councils, councils and others to see the types of services delivered geographically across London and ensure that London Councils' funding is targeted at the people most in need.

Why SMZs?

Concern about 'borough benefit' was the main reason why the commissioning model (i.e. funding a 'package' of services) has been introduced. Many boroughs, particularly those in outer London, were concerned that they were not receiving benefit from the grants scheme relative to the funds they contribute.

London Councils is seeking to minimise the 'post-code lottery' in services it funds and to ensure that Londoners, regardless of where they live, have access to high quality services. London Councils has also said that they do not want any part of any package of commissioned services to fail and believe that SMZs can be an effective way to monitor

delivery and identify problems and issues for concern, as well as what is working well, (both locally and with London Councils funding) as soon as they arise.

What do organisations need to do?

In monitoring returns, funded organisations must describe the contact they have had with borough grants officers, networks/forums in the borough, CVSs and any other local second-tier organisations.

Organisations funded by London Councils will need to be in contact with the appropriate SMZ members for the boroughs they are funded to deliver services in.

As a minimum, organisations should contact SMZ members to let them know they are delivering services in their area/ to their residents, what the service is and contact details for the organisation.

The details of SMZ members should be available from your London Councils grants officer or the London Councils contact for a particular SMZ (see below).

Some organisations may wish to engage with SMZs in additional ways, which could include:

- Inviting SMZ members to appropriate events
- Asking SMZ members (such as CVSs and borough officers) to publicise services
- Joining appropriate local networks/forums
- Making presentations about your service/organisation at local events.

The type and level of engagement organisations will have at local level, and with SMZ members, will depend entirely on an organisation’s capacity, whether it is proportionate to the level of funding received for service delivery in that particular borough and whether it is appropriate for the organisation/service .

It is not expected that organisations must maintain ongoing dialogue with SMZ members.

SMZ groups

The 33 London boroughs are grouped into 10 strategic monitoring zones:

	Strategic Monitoring Zone		London Councils contact
South London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kingston • Richmond 	SL1	Katy Makepeace, Grants Manager Katy.makepeace@londoncouncils.gov.uk
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Croydon • Merton • Sutton 	SL2	John Bray, Grants Overview Manager John.bray@londoncouncils.gov.uk
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bexley • Bromley • Greenwich • Lewisham 	SL3	Chris Andrews, Grants Manager Chris.andrews@londoncouncils.gov.uk

	Strategic Monitoring Zone	London Councils contact
West London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ealing • Hounslow • Hillingdon 	WL1 Clare Kiely, Grants Manager Clare.kiely@londoncouncils.gov.uk
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harrow • Brent 	WL2 Katy Makepeace, Grants Manager Katy.makepeace@londoncouncils.gov.uk
Central London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camden • Islington • Westminster • Kensington & Chelsea • Hammersmith & Fulham 	CL1 Sasan Abtahi, Grants Manager Sasan.abtahi@londoncouncils.gov.uk
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southwark • Lambeth • Wandsworth 	CL2 Sasan Abtahi, Grants Manager Sasan.abtahi@londoncouncils.gov.uk
North London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barnet • Enfield • Haringey • Waltham Forest 	NL1 Chris Andrews, Grants Manager Chris.andrews@londoncouncils.gov.uk
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tower Hamlets • Hackney • City of London 	NL2 Clare Kiely, Grants Manager Clare.kiely@londoncouncils.gov.uk
East London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newham • Havering • Barking & Dagenham • Redbridge 	EL John Bray, Grants Overview Manager John.bray@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Troubleshooting

If you have any queries, issues or worries about SMZs, there are a number of people you can contact:

- Your London Councils grants officer
- London Councils contacts for SMZs
- CVSs
- Your London Councils funded second tier (e.g. adviceUK, WRC)
- Voluntary Sector Forum (contact Tim Brogden at London Voluntary Service Council on tim@lvsc.org.uk or 020 7700 8107)