

Devon Strategic Partnership Delivery Board
1 May 2008

Agenda item 4: Devon Local Area Agreement 2008 - 2011

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Delivery Board agree:

- (i) the working draft Devon Local Area Agreement 2008-2011 attached to this report at appendix 1;
- (ii) that the sub-group overseeing the SCS/LAA be authorised, if necessary, to agree any further technical amendments to the draft Devon Local Area Agreement 2008-2011 resulting from ongoing negotiations with Government Office for the South West;
- (iii) that a short section relating to each District local authority/local strategic partnership area in Devon be included as part of the published Devon Local Area Agreement 2008-2011.

1. Introduction

The Devon Local Area Agreement 2008-2011 (LAA) is a means to an end: it will take forward the vision for Devon and is a step, over the next three years, towards implementing the Devon Sustainable Community Strategy priorities and ten year outcomes.

Devon County Council and the Devon Strategic Partnership are required to submit the LAA to Government Office for the South West by the end of May 2008 with Ministerial sign off by the end of June 2008.

The DSP Partnership Board received an update at its meeting on 16 April 2008 and will meet on 15 May 2008 to consider the draft LAA.

LAA negotiations with Government Office for the South West continue to be based on sound and professional working relationships and a broad agreement about how the “story” of Devon and the county’s priorities should be expressed as targets in the LAA.

2. National indicators for local authorities and local authority partnerships

The 198 national indicators are now the only indicators for which local authorities’ performance, alone or in partnership, will be reported to central government. All other sets of local authority indicators, including Best Value Performance Indicators and other Performance Assessment Framework indicators have been abolished. The final collection of BVPIs for 2007/8 will take place during 2008.

The Department for Communities and Local Government published the final detailed definitions for 185 of the 198 national indicators on 1 April 2008. The remaining 13 indicators will be delayed until 2008/09 and will be subject to further consultation in the summer before final definitions for them are released.

Progress against 20 of the 198 indicators will be measured through the “Place Survey”, a single survey to be administered by local authorities, focussing on people’s perceptions. The response rate from the national pilot of the Place Survey was lower than the previous “Best Value User Satisfaction Survey”. This may mean that the Place Survey is delayed until 2009.

CLG has established a reporting mechanism to ensure that data only needs to be collected once: the Data Interchange hub (“The Hub”) which will aim to reduce the burden of data collection and

ensure that local authorities have all the information they need to gauge their own performance against the national indicators.

3. The national indicators and Local Area Agreements: designated and local targets

Local Area Agreements are required to include **up to 35** targets drawn from the national indicator set. These will be “**designated**” targets which may not be altered with out the involvement of all partners signed up to the target and the agreement of the Secretary of State. The remaining targets in the LAA are “**local**” targets which carry the same legal weight and may only be amended with the agreement of relevant partner authorities but without the requirement for approval by the Secretary of State. Local targets will not be reported on to central government but will be taken into account as part of the Comprehensive Area Assessment.

4. Partner authorities

Under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 Devon County Council is the “responsible authority” with a duty to prepare the LAA. The Act identifies various bodies and persons as “partner authorities” (listed in appendix 2) who are under a duty to cooperate in helping to determine any target(s) in the draft LAA that relate to them. The LAA must specify for each target the lead/contributing partners. Devon County Council’s Chief Executive has written to each of the partner authorities to consult them on the LAA and seek confirmation, by 11 May 2008, as to which of the LAA priorities each such organisation or partnership will contribute to as a named delivery partner over the period 2008-2011.

The lead/contributing partners will not be confined to those named statutory “partner authorities” and many other statutory and non-statutory groups, organisations and partnerships have equally significant contributions to make to the delivery of the LAA.

5. The draft Devon Local Area Agreement 2008-2011

The draft LAA which is submitted to GOSW at the end of next month will be a document which is based on the template below issued by CLG in November 2007:

Priority	Indicator(s), including those from national indicator set (shown with a *)	Baseline	LAA Improvement Target, including those to be designated (shown with a *), and including education and early years targets			Partners who have signed-up to the target and any which are acting as lead partner/s (shown with a *)
			08/09	09/10	10/11	

The structure, presentation and logic of the draft LAA in appendix 1 could be improved if priorities which are related to one another were to be clustered together and each of those clusters were to be related to the seven long-term priorities and the three cross-cutting themes of the Sustainable Community Strategy:

Devon Sustainable Community Strategy Priorities

- (i) A World Class Environment
- (ii) Strong and Inclusive Communities
- (iii) A Growing Economy
- (iv) Homes and Housing
- (v) Inspiring Young People

- (vi) Health and Wellbeing and
- (vii) A Safer Devon

Devon Sustainable Community Strategy cross-cutting themes

- (i) Diversity and Equality
- (ii) Accessibility and Demographic Change.
- (iii) Climate Change, and our Impact on the Environment.

The draft LAA will be presented in that revised form to the Devon Strategic Partnership Board on 15 May 2008 and the annual meeting of the County Council on 22 May 2008.

The working draft LAA appended to this report (see appendix 1) includes baselines and targets which have been agreed with GOSW. Negotiations and discussions are ongoing and there will, as a consequence, be a need to continue to make additions and modifications to the details of the draft LAA during May.

16 statutory education and early years targets which have been set for the operational year 2008/09 and agreed through a separate process. They will be part of the LAA but will not be signed-off by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

Only half of the government's 198 national indicators are existing indicators or based on existing data sources. For those indicators the available data has been used to inform target setting. For some of the national indicators there are existing local data sources which are similar (but not identical) to the new national indicator, and which have been used to inform the target setting process. However, for the remaining indicators there is no information to inform target setting and therefore no baselines available to inform the negotiation of LAA targets. In such cases, the ongoing discussions and negotiations with GOSW will determine whether to set a target of a certain % over baseline, informed by the local data, and to confirm the baseline as part of the annual review of the LAA or to retain the indicator as "placeholder" in the LAA and set a target at the annual review stage.

Work is also on ongoing to identify local performance indicators and targets and these will, where available, be included in the draft LAA which is submitted to GOSW at the end of next month.

The LAA priorities are underpinned by detailed delivery plans, which set out the means by which the expected improvement in performance will be achieved including the allocation and management of the necessary resources. The County Council and Devon Strategic Partnership will need to put appropriate financial planning and risk management arrangements and processes in place as part of their performance management frameworks.

There will be an opportunity to update / refresh the LAA towards the end of 2008 as part of the first review of the LAA and this will include a focus on any changes to local priorities/targets; confirming/reviewing any designated LAA targets set against indicators for which there was no baseline at the time of negotiation; the robustness of plans for managing progress towards delivery of the new LAA targets; progress on initial milestones and the need for any additional capacity-building or improvement support.

The current position with the draft LAA and associated delivery plans is available on the Devon Strategic Partnership website at www.devonsp.org.uk/sustainablecommunitystrategy/outcomes/draftlaapriorities/index.html

6. District local authority/local strategic partnership sections in the LAA

Discussions have taken place with District local authorities/local strategic partnerships about the ways in which the LAA can contribute to meeting shared objectives for people and places: towns, villages and rural areas.

The Devon Strategic Partnership Conference on 28 March 2008 included consideration of how the LAA priorities relate to individual neighbourhoods and localities. Conference participants addressed the question: "Which of the Devon LAA 2008-2011 priorities are the most relevant to each district and how can you take advantage of them to meet local need?" The outcomes of those discussions are being used as a contribution towards a short (no more than four page) section for each District local authority/local strategic partnership area which will be included as part of the published LAA. Each section will be structured as follows:

1. Introductory statement about the characteristics of the area highlighting key challenges, issues and problems.
2. Identification of the LAA priorities which are particularly relevant to the whole area, specific towns, villages or neighbourhoods within it.
3. Description of some of the ways in which *partners will contribute* to those identified priorities in a way which enables them to take advantage of the LAA 2008-2011 to meet their objectives. An explanation of the differences that people will see.

Working draft Devon Local Area Agreement 2008-2011

Priority		Performance indicator(s)	Baseline/comments	Target	Lead Partners
LAA1	Reduce quantities of municipal waste arising and landfilled.	NI 193 "Percentage of municipal waste landfilled"	2006/07 – 52.0% (Source: GOSW)	2008/09: 47.7% 2009/10: 46% 2010/11: 45.9%	Devon Joint Waste & Recycling Committee
LAA2	Improve the quantity, quality (clean, green and safe) and accessibility of public spaces and green infrastructure.	Local indicator: Percentage increase in satisfaction with parks and open spaces			District local authorities
LAA3	Identification and prioritisation of, or improved understanding of the principal vulnerabilities in Devon to potential climate change impacts projected during the period covered by the Sustainable Community Strategy.	Local indicator(s)			Partnership to be developed
LAA4	Improve business productivity of the renewable energy sector in Devon.	Local indicator(s)	Baselines and targets being calculated from RE4D phase 1.	Subject to outcome of funding bid	Renewable Energy for Devon (RE4D) Partnership
LAA5	Reduce carbon dioxide emissions through carbon management in domestic, business and public sectors.	NI 186 "Per capita reduction in CO2 emissions in the LA area"	8.9 tonnes of CO2 per capita Source: www.defra.gov.uk/local-regionalco2emissions2005.xls	Awaiting revised forecasts of local CO2 emissions from DEFRA. Target for reduction in tonnes of CO2 per year being calculated from LAA4, LAA6 and LAA33.	
LAA6	Improve business resource efficiency:	Local indicator(s)	Participating partners		Envision partnership

	carbon, energy, water and waste		being confirmed. Subject to funding bids.		and Devon Economic Partnership
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LAA7	To be integrated with LAA 25 Improve soil management and farm business resources efficiency; reduce erosion, pollution run off and flooding.	Local indicator(s)	To be combined with LAA25.		Environment Agency EnVision & Environment Devon
LAA8	Targeted conservation and enhancement of Devon's biodiversity and geology.	NI 197 "Improved local biodiversity – proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented"	Methodology agreed with GOSW. Baseline being calculated.		Devon Biodiversity Partnership and Environment Devon
LAA9	Improve access to services and facilities through coordination of transport services and access to information technology, ensuring dignity and respect for all.	NI 175 "Access to services and facilities"	Being calculated based on update of Devon Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 indicator.		
LAA10	Promote independence	NI 125 "Achieving independence for older people through rehabilitation/intermediate care"	This new national indicator relies on data which will require piloting and is not likely to be available for reporting until October 2008. NI 134 will be used as a proxy baseline for 2008/09.		

		NI 130 "Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support per 100,000 population"	2007/08 – 147.4 per 100,000 population	Awaiting outcome of negotiation and discussion.	
		NI132 "Timeliness of social care assessment (all adults)"	2006/07 - 65.3%	Awaiting outcome of negotiation and discussion.	
LAA11	Improve support and services for carers and users	NI 134 "The number of emergency bed days per head of weighted population"	Baseline to be agreed. Discussion underway to resolve discrepancy between datasets.		
		NI 135 "Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information"	2006/07 – 29.1%	2008/09 – 33% 2009/10 – 35.5% 2010/11 – 38.9%	
LAA12	Increase participation in cultural activities	Local indicator			
LAA13	Maintain and increase levels of physical activity and sport	NI 8 "Adult participation in sport and active recreation"	22.1% (Source: Active People Survey 1) Additional local indicator being developed to focus on young people and local communities.	2008/09: 24.1% 2009/10: 25.1% 2010/11: 26.1%	Sport England, Active Devon Partnership
LAA14	Provide coordinated support to unlock	Local indicator(s)			Devon Economic

	the economic potential of Devon's most disadvantaged communities				Partnership
LAA15	Work towards the economic inclusion and social integration of vulnerable populations	Local indicator(s)			

LAA16	Promote active, empowered and influential communities.	NI 4 "% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality".	24.7% (Source: Devon County Council 2006 Best Value General Survey – question 26 (total % of respondents who definitely agreed and tended to agree))	Awaiting target setting guidance in forthcoming CLG "Place Survey Manual". Discussions are in hand to agree an interim target	
		NI 7 "Environment for a thriving third sector".	Awaiting results of Office for the Third Sector's survey to be conducted in Autumn 2008.	4.1% point increase (Source: Cabinet Office for the Third Sector " Briefing for Local Strategic Partnerships on NI 7: "Environment for a Thriving Third Sector" ")	
LAA17	Develop and harness skills to achieve a competitive economy.	NI 164 "Working age population qualified to at least level 3 or higher	47.7% (Source: Annual population survey Dec 2006)	2009 - 48.7% 2010 - 49.7% 2011 - 50.7%	DEP – Productive Skills 4 Devon Partnership
LAA18	Encourage the full adoption and exploitation of information and communication technology (ICT) to improve productivity, social inclusion and environmental performance.	Local indicator(s)	Toolkit available in May 2008 to calculate baseline and target		Devon Economic Partnership
LAA19	Develop an innovation strategy and delivery network across Devon to achieve an economic uplift and increased GVA.	Local indicator(s)			Devon Economic Partnership

LAA20	To manage demand for travel in a sustainable manner and ensure expeditious movement by all transport modes, through the adequate provision and maintenance of transport infrastructure.	Local indicator(s)			Devon County Council
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LAA21	Deliver major infrastructure improvement schemes which form part of the Regional Transport Strategy	Local indicator(s)			Devon County Council
LAA22	Ensure that Devon has an appropriate range of employment space.	Local indicator(s)		Awaiting publication of Devon Workplace Strategy on 29/4/8	Devon Economic Partnership - Infrastructure Task Group
LAA23	Increasing housing delivery, especially at strategically significant cities and towns and their associated new communities.	NI 154 "Net additional homes provided"	3,600 new dwellings were completed in Devon in 2007.		
LAA24	Reduce the gap in benefit claims rates and employments rates between priority communities and the average for Devon	NI 146 "Adults with learning disabilities in employment"	2005/06 – 6%. (Source: Proxy data for 2005/06 published by Cabinet Office Social Exclusion Unit (Annex C) to be used pending publication of data for 2008/09.)		Devon Worklessness Group
LAA25	Increase the productivity of the land based sector in Devon and improve conditions for farming and food sector businesses	Local indicator(s)			Devon Rural Network
LAA26	Increasing the delivery of affordable housing	NI 155 "Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)" Local indicator: delivery of affordable	2006/7 – 500		Devon Strategic Housing Group

		housing in rural areas			
LAA27	Improve housing options for the homeless and vulnerable clients.	Local indicator(s): households living in temporary accommodation			Devon Strategic Housing Group

LAA28	Ensure that the people of Devon feel and are safe from harm	NI 69 "Children who have experienced bullying".	This will not be the basis of a designated target and a local target will be set against this indicator.		
LAA29	Narrow the gap between the lowest attaining 20% of children 0-19 and the achievements of all young people in Devon.	NI 50 "Emotional health of children"	"This is a new indicator and a programme of development is ongoing to finalise the method of calculation" (National Indicators for Local Authorities and Local Authority Partnerships: Handbook of Definitions. Annex 2: Children and Young People)		
		NI 54 "Services for disabled children"	This indicator will be introduced in 2009/10. DCSF will carry out a survey and a baseline to be set for 2009/10.		
		NI 63 "Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement".	2006/07 - 68.4%		
		NI 112 "Under 18 conception rate"	2006 - 30.1% (Source: Teenage Pregnancy Unit – provisional data)		

		NI 117 "16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)"	2006/07 - 6.0%	2008-09 5.5% 2009-10 5.0% 2010-11 4.5%	
LAA30	Promote health and reduce health inequalities	NI 120 "All-age all cause mortality rate"	2006 (reported for 2006/07 period) 618.38 (male) 429.35 (female)	PCT/GOSW discussing.	
		NI 53 "Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 weeks from birth".	Baseline to be that used for Vital Signs target.		
		NI 56 "Obesity in primary school age children in Year 6"	Baseline to be that used for Vital Signs target.		
LAA31	Reduce the harm arising from people's use of the public highway, including deaths, injuries, distress, illegal and anti-social behaviour	Local indicator(s)			
LAA32	Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs	NI 20 "Assault with injury crime rate"	2007/08 - 5.8 assaults with less serious injury (including racially and religiously aggravated) offences per 1,000 population		Devon Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)

		NI 39 "Rate of hospital admissions per 100,000 for alcohol related harm"	Baseline awaited from Department of Health through Local Alcohol Profiles www.nwph.net/alcohol/lape (expected by early April 2008) which will include trend data. Methodology used to calculate the baseline is complex and it is not possible to calculate it locally.		
LAA33	Improve the energy performance of the housing stock and reduce fuel poverty	NI 187 "Tackling fuel poverty - % of people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating"	This new NI requires primary data gathering through a survey and a target for 2008/09 will be established in Autumn 2008.		Devon Affordable Warmth Partnership
LAA34	Reduce antisocial behaviour	NI 27 "Understanding of local concerns about anti social behaviour and crime by the local council and police"	Awaiting outcome of discussion with GOSW.	Awaiting target setting guidance in forthcoming CLG "Place Survey Manual". Devon and Cornwall Police three-year target is to be one of the 10 Forces nationally with the highest percentage of	

				people who agree "that the local police are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime that matter in this area" and a one-year milestone target to exceed 40% of people who when asked agree "that the local police are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime that matter in this area".	
LAA35	Reduce the social, emotional and cost impacts on victims and on wider society by tackling the causes, and ameliorating the effects, of prejudice and hate crime.	Local indicator(s)			
LAA36	Reduce the social, emotional and costs impacts on victims and the wider society by tackling domestic violence and abuse	NI 32 "Repeat incidents of domestic violence"	This indicator will be introduced within APACS in 2009/10 when complete coverage is achieved. Proxy baseline for 2007/8 to be set based on average for the four Devon MARACs by end of April 2008.	Devon and Cornwall Police three-year target is to be one of the 10 Forces nationally with the highest Total Crime Sanction Detection Rate and a one-year milestone target to exceed a 50% Sanction Detection Rate for Domestic	Against Domestic Violence and Abuse Partnership (ADVA)

				Abuse.	
LAA37	Tackle the most harmful offending behaviour	NI 16 "Serious acquisitive crime rate"	2007/08 - 8.6 crimes per 1,000 population	Devon and Cornwall Police three year target is to be one of the 10 Forces nationally with the lowest levels of serious acquisitive crime and the one-year milestone target is to achieve a reduction of at least 2% in serious acquisitive crime.	Devon and Cornwall Police

		NI 30 "Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders"	To be set by July 2008 based on full year's data for 2007/08 for the change in convictions for Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPOs) over a 12 month period.	Targets will be set by the Home Office in July 2008.	
LAA38	Reduce youth offending	NI111 "First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17"	To be set by end of April 2008 based on full year's data for 2007/08 for number of first time entrants to Youth Justice System aged 10-17.	5% reduction by 2010/11	Youth Offending Team

Appendix 2

The following list of bodies and persons, which are defined in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act as *partner authorities*:

- Arts Council
- The Broads Authority
- Chief Officer of Police
- District authorities
- English Heritage
- The Environment Agency
- Fire and rescue authorities
- Health and Safety Executive
- The Highways Agency
- Jobcentre Plus
- Joint Waste Authorities
- Joint Waste Disposal Authorities
- The Learning and Skills Council in England
- Local Probation Boards
- Metropolitan Passenger Transport Authorities
- Museums, Libraries and Archives Council
- National Park Authorities
- Natural England
- NHS Foundation Trusts
- NHS Health Trusts
- Police authorities
- Primary Care Trusts
- Probation Trusts and other providers of probation services
- Regional Development Agencies
- Sport England
- Transport for London
- Youth Offending Teams
- Any other organisations added by an order under section 104(7) of the Act

(Source: "Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities Statutory Guidance: Draft for Consultation", HM Government, November 2007)