

## Devon Strategic Partnership Delivery Board

7<sup>th</sup> September 2007

### Sustainable Community Strategy & 2008-2011 Devon LAA Project Progress Report

#### Recommendations:

(i) That Delivery Board notes the progress made on the Sustainable Community Strategy/LAA Project outlined in section 3;

(ii) That Delivery Board agrees the activities planned over the next two months outlined in section 4, particularly those questions marked with an asterisk;

(iii) That Delivery Board considers the implications of the project issues and risks outlined in section 5.

#### 1. Introduction

Delivery Board approved the project definition document (PDD) for the Sustainable Community Strategy/LAA Project at their meeting on 1 June 2007. The PDD included a requirement to report on progress to the Delivery Board on a monthly basis. This paper sets out the progress made since the last report submitted to the Delivery Board meeting on 2 August 2007 and activities planned up until the next Delivery Board meeting on 4 October 2007.

#### 2. Project Status

The project is currently on schedule and within budget. See section 5 on project issues, risks and comments for further detail.

#### 3. Activities This Month

Time Period Covered: 25 July 2007 – 31 August 2007

##### **3.1 Stages 1-3: Evaluation, Evidence Base and Visioning**

These stages are now complete – see the Devon Strategic Partnership website ([www.devonsp.org.uk](http://www.devonsp.org.uk)) for further details.

##### **3.2 Stage 4: Prioritisation**

See separate paper.

##### **3.3 Stage 5: Outcomes and Action Planning Stage**

As agreed at the last Delivery Board meeting this work has been divided into work packages – progress over the last month with regard to these packages is outlined below:

Work Package	Progress
Outcomes for Devon	The following theme workshops have been held: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Economy and Environment/4<sup>th</sup> Theme (3<sup>rd</sup> August 2007)</li> <li>▪ Safer Communities (22<sup>nd</sup> August 2007)</li> </ul>
LAA Single Pot	The finance team at DCC have met to progress work in this area

	<p>and will report back to Delivery Board on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2007. They have committed to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gain an understanding of the commitments that currently exist in terms of LAA funding: (a) For staff - the number of staff involved, their grade, spinal column point, FTE and date that employment contract expires; and (b) Other Items - the nature of the contract and the date that this expires.</li> <li>▪ Gain an understanding of the funding streams that will be incorporated into the LAA next year e.g. Connexions.</li> </ul>
Negotiation framework	<p>Nicola Bulbeck, Sara Cretney and Lynn McEleron (Teignbridge DC) attended the Feasibility Feedback session run by GOSW on 9 August 2007. Notes from the event and presentation slides are attached as Appendix A to this report. The event was fairly disappointing as it focussed on the process that was adopted and the questions that were raised. A guidance note is being produced in September 2007 summarising the feasibility study - Devon fed back to GOSW that what would be more helpful would be practical examples and case studies addressing the questions rather than the questions themselves – fingers crossed!</p>
National Indicator Set	<p>Government's starting point for negotiation on the content of Devon's LAA will be to focus on those 35 indicators within the national indicator set of ~200 where Devon's performance is poorest in comparison with the rest of the country. Devon Strategic Partnership has agreed in the past that this should not be the starting point for Devon and that Devon wishes to strongly advocate locally determined outcomes and targets based on locally determined priorities (through the Sustainable Community Strategy).</p> <p>Work will begin on this work package over the next period in order to gain an understanding of current performance (at Devon and District level).</p>

### 3.4 LAA Website

New pages have been added to the Devon Strategic Partnership website: <http://www.devonsp.org.uk/> which give further details about the Sustainable Community Strategy/LAA Project including:

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Government Guidance about the new LAAs](#)
- [Project Documentation](#)
- [Project Timetable](#)
- [Public Consultation](#)

★Please use the website to disseminate information about the project to your organisations. Feedback, including suggestions for content, is welcomed to [laa@devon.gov.uk](mailto:laa@devon.gov.uk)★

### 3.5 Communication

Latest edition of 'INput', the Devon Strategic Partnership electronic newsletter was published on 17 August 2007.

★ All Delivery Board members are on the circulation list, if you would like INput to be circulated more widely within your organisation, please let Caroline Rae know ★

### 3.6 Resourcing

See separate paper concerning Resource Hub and Programme Manager roles.

## 4. Activities Planned for the Next Two Months

Time period covered: 29 August 2007 – 2 November 2007.

### 4.1 Stage 5 – Outcomes and Action Planning

Work Package	Progress
Outcomes for Devon	<p>The following theme workshops are planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Economy and Environment/4<sup>th</sup> Theme (19<sup>th</sup> September 2007)</li> <li>▪ Safer Communities (3<sup>rd</sup> October 2007)</li> <li>▪ Stronger/Inclusive Communities (26<sup>th</sup> September 2007)</li> </ul> <p>The LAA Co-ordinator's Group which consists of the current block leads have allocated a whole day workshop on 5<sup>th</sup> October to discuss and plan the process for agreeing and negotiating the LAA outcomes for 2008-2011.</p> <p>In addition, the Devon Strategic Partnership Conference planned for 9<sup>th</sup> October 2007 will consider the Sustainable Community Strategy priorities and possible related outcomes.</p>
LAA Single Pot	LAA Finance team to report back to Delivery Board on 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2007
Negotiation framework	<p>Team Devon event with GOSW planned for 20<sup>th</sup> September to build working relationships with regard to the upcoming negotiation process ★ <b>Delivery Board members to attend if possible</b> ★</p> <p>★ <b>Delivery Board to consider whether to establish a task and finish group to consider how Devon wishes to manage the negotiation process within the Devon Strategic Partnership, in particular negotiation team members</b> ★</p>
National Indicator Set	<p>DCC performance team to gain an understanding of current performance (Devon and District level) – this will involve liaison with other partners.</p> <p>Performance team to compare the national indicator set with Devon Strategic Partnership's Sustainable Community Strategy priorities.</p> <p>★ <b>Has GOSW got any further information about the 200 National Indicator Set</b> ★</p>
Partnership Protocol	★ <b>Delivery Board to note that LAA Co-ordinator's Group have added an extra work package to the Outcomes and Action Planning stage - Partnership Protocol</b> ★

	<p>This work will involve development of a partnership protocol for the Devon Strategic Partnership covering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Statutory Compliance</li> <li>2. Information Sharing and exchanges of good practice</li> <li>3. Benefit/Risk Sharing</li> </ol> <p>This will incorporate the recent advice and guidance from the local government ombudsman on local partnership and citizen redress: <a href="http://www.lgo.org.uk/pdf/partnerships-sr.pdf">http://www.lgo.org.uk/pdf/partnerships-sr.pdf</a></p>
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#### **4.2 Draft Sustainable Community Strategy**

The Sustainable Community Strategy will be published at the end of October 2007. The text will be approved by Delivery Board and Partnership Board. The format of the Sustainable Community Strategy will include:

- Foreword written by DSP Chair
- Introduction & Context (e.g. what is a Sustainable Community Strategy? What does it mean for Devon? What happens next? DSP's role)
- What does Devon look like? (e.g. general statistics and those relating to the priorities)
- How were the priorities decided? (e.g. include background and process for decisions.)
- Priorities for Devon
- Next steps (Sequential narrative outlining process for agreeing 2008-2011 LAA)

### **5. Project Comments, Issues and Risks**

#### **5.1 Comments**

Roland Pyle (DCC) has taken over from Sara Cretney as the Devon LAA Development Officer.

#### **5.2 Issues**

Preliminary discussions have been held with GOSW and Exeter City Council. Taking on the view previously expressed by Delivery Board, it is intended that Devon proceeds with a Devon-wide LAA which can accommodate within that an embryonic LAA for Exeter. Should Exeter get unitary status, they will be able to use that work as the basis for their LAA from 2009 onwards.

#### **5.3 Risks**

See updated risk register attached at Appendix B. **★Delivery Board to consider any amendments and further risks to be added★**