

Local Area Agreement 2008-2011

08 April 2010

Priority: A Growing Economy

Lead Contact: Andrew Lightfoot

RAG Status: Amber

Summary Statement:

Designated LAA Indicators

There are 2 designated targets within the Growing Economy Theme of the LAA. These are detailed in the PI table below including the baseline, annual target, actual performance to date, performance status and improvement. In addition, graphs are included in this performance report to demonstrate the actual performance (continuous green line) against the target (dotted blue line) for each indicator.

End of Year 2 reviews

LAA14 Provide coordinated support to unlock the economic potential of Devon 's most disadvantaged communities

STATUS: AMBER

Achievements:

- Development of a Strategic Infrastructure Framework (SIF) for the Teignbridge towns of Teignmouth and Dawlish is actively under discussion, with results due to be realised during 2010/11
- Pilot town centre Key Performance Indicator benchmarking exercise has been carried out in 5 towns, developing 12 Key Performance Indicators for each location.

Outcomes for local people:

- Benchmarking work has provided local community groups and town centre partnerships with a better understanding of the problems/opportunities faced by the town
- The benchmarking exercise also included small scale funding to help local people carry out the research and to provide a small fund to deliver initiatives on the ground to address problems identified.

Value for money:

- SIF approach is designed to join up public sector services to provide a co-ordinated Value For Money approach to the regeneration of a local area.
- Benchmarking for town centres was a pilot exercise to explore the value of using local volunteers to carry out research into the health of town centres as opposed to commissioning consultants/buying in the service. As such it is designed to offer vfm, whilst enabling funding which would normally be used to gather data, to be used to tackle problems on the ground.

LAA15b Work towards the economic inclusion and social integration of vulnerable populations

STATUS:AMBER

Achievements:

- Devon School for Social Entrepreneurs : The latest branch of the national School for Social Entrepreneurs (SSE) opened in Devon in mid 2009 following the hard work of a coalition of organisations, led by the Dartington Hall Trust. Work over the first 6 months focused on raising its profile and recruiting the first cohort of students. It was officially launched in January 2010 and has 19 students on the first course.
- Community Asset Transfer: Detailed negotiations have been undertaken regarding the terms of the transfer of 3 buildings from Devon County Council to community control in Winkleigh, Mortenhampstead, and St David's in Exeter. The latter 2 schemes have secured significant funding from the Community Builders Fund and the terms of all three transfers are broadly agreed. Much has been learned from this pilot.
- Social Enterprise Development Voucher Scheme: Following an identification of need, a scheme has been developed and is now running for enabling access to subsidised business support for social enterprises across the County. The scheme was launched in January 2010 by Devon County Council in partnership with Co-active. There have already been 18 enquiries, and 5 outline applications, leading to two voucher approvals for Ilfracombe Museum and Asburton Co-operative Transport.

Outcomes for local people:

- The SSE provides support to pioneering individuals who are acting entrepreneurially for social benefit and positive change, rather than for personal profit. The SSE is helping to inspire and develop new and aspiring social entrepreneurs across the County and provide them with the tools for making their ideas become a successful reality. The 19 recruits (all based in Devon) are benefiting individually & collectively, with the wider community set to benefit from the social enterprises they are developing /

enhancing as a result.

- All three community asset transfer schemes are expected to result in significant social & also economic benefit for the communities which they serve through the creation/enhancement of community hubs. They each have detailed business plans and an assessment of the social value has been made using an innovative tool developed by Devon County Council. The facilities will deliver improved access to services, training opportunities, community meeting space, volunteering opportunities, informal drop in etc. Participation in the transfer scheme has also helped to enable and empower the 3 community enterprises themselves and assisted them to become more robust and sustainable.
- The business support voucher scheme is enabling access to professional advice and support to help the growth of Devon's social enterprises. The scheme offers a holistic package of support as well as small scale funding. By their very nature, expansion of social enterprises leads to social, economic and environmental benefits for local communities.

Value for money:

- The full cost of putting an individual through the SSE is £10,000 of which £3000 is usually sought from the individual with the remainder awarded as a bursary, made possible from the funding secured. The rigorous recruitment process has led to the enrolment of a high calibre of students who must be working on their social business ideas for a minimum of 3 days a week with a view to going full time. With the benefits the enterprises have potential to deliver for communities, the investment is excellent value for money.
- The asset transfers are enabling a win-win solution for communities and the local authority regarding the future use of surplus assets. The business case has been rigorously assessed, including through the use of the social value tool, and shows that the value of proceeding with the schemes outweighs the value of the capital receipt that would be realised by their sale and reinvestment elsewhere.
- The voucher scheme is promoting the take up of business advice leading to business growth amongst social enterprises in the County. The scheme requires that the enterprise must at least match the investment, and the financial impact is being measured.

LAA17 Develop and harness skills to achieve a competitive economy

STATUS: GREEN

Achievements:

Reward grant of £2.13m achieved from Local Public Service Agreement 2 (LPSA2) programme;

Funds being reinvested in an agreed programme of work covering:

- - research into skills needs, worklessness and skills gaps across the sub region;
- - support for Employment and Skills Boards and Workforce Development Groups;
- - Backing Young Devon projects, including links to the Future Jobs Fund and apprenticeships;
- - Transforming Devon's Skills through outreach work targeting employability skills for hard to reach groups;
- - Growing Productive Skills for Devon, especially women entrepreneurs;
- - Creating New Skills4Devon, related to economic growth areas and social entrepreneurs.

Outcomes for local people:

Individuals in the various target groups are being helped improve their skills at all different levels and access employment in many parts of the county, as outlined above. This work is all the more important as the economic climate has reduced employer spend on training and employment opportunities have reduced. Going forward, the c25% reduction in budgets for Further Education Colleges providing adult responsive training will create additional challenges.

Value for money:

Particularly through making stronger connections between employers, training providers and public agencies and with a better evidence base, resources are being better targeted.

LAA18 Encourage the full adoption and exploitation of information and communication technology (ICT) to improve productivity, social inclusion and environmental performance

STATUS: GREEN

Achievements:

Exploration of models and options to develop flexible working facilitated through good ICT connectivity has been very useful in contributing to our understanding of the issues and needs and how to apply this to other projects that might have a significant business and community benefit. Much work has been done to secure additional funding and in developing an Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) application a number of partners have been brought together and an alignment of activity, including across border - Somerset.

Outcomes for local people:

Business surveys have encouraged local people and businesses to consider their ICT requirements and needs and the constraints on the growth of their businesses / communities across Devon.

Value for money: Taking an evidence based approach and developing a targeted intervention means that our investment in this priority is maximising opportunities and represents greater value for money.

LAA19 Develop an innovation strategy and delivery network across Devon to achieve an economic uplift

and increased GVA**STATUS: GREEN****Achievements:**

Funding for the energy / business clusters pilot project on Dartmoor; kicking off the Atlant-KIS(Knowledge & Information Sharing) project with the Devon and Cornwall Business Council and running a very successful business collaboration event between the renewable energy and marine sectors.

Outcomes for local people:

General support for the knowledge based sector and improving levels of productivity across Devon as part of this.

Value for money:

Pooling resources and expertise e.g. working with Global Action Plan and Devon and Cornwall Business Council

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**STATUS: AMBER****Achievements:**

- 99% of Devon maintained schools have a School Travel Plan (most recent 24 Plans awaiting final sign-off for standards).
- From 2010 school census data there was an overall increase in cycling, walking and car share. Car use dropped slightly.
- Sustainable School Travel is actively promoted within the Devon Sustainable Schools Programme.
- Number of bus and light rail trips above target. More people using public transport services than anticipated

Outcomes for local people:

- Many schools now have parents and children involved in active travel to school, using improved facilities for walking and cycling.
- More rural schools are being supported with promotion of car sharing.
- Less congestion outside many schools.
- Local bus and light rail services proving popular and more people making use of them

Value for money:

- A new analysis and Geographic Information System plot of travel patterns for each school produced for DCC at no charge by a local company.
- More effective use of resources to provide public transport services.

LAA21 Deliver major infrastructure improvement schemes which form part of the Regional Transport Strategy**STATUS: GREEN**

Projects affected by Department for Transport (DfT) review of projects. The Regional Funding Allocation (RFA) funding position beyond the review period (Beyond 10/11) is uncertain. Firm DfT budgets from 2011/12 onwards will only be known after the government has carried out a comprehensive spending review which could be later this year.

Achievements:

1. South Devon Link Road - awaiting response from DfT following Public Enquiry
2. East of Exeter - programme entry achieved. Tenders sought,
3. Exeter Planning Urban Area - preparation of Mode Shift Benefit (MSB) Business case, Land purchase, Planning
4. High Quality Public Transport - public consultation, modelling, preparation of MSB Business Case

Outcomes for local people:

Major Scheme Bids, when implemented will allow the planned developments in and around Exeter to take place and will support the local people and economy.

LAA22 Ensure that Devon has an appropriate range of employment space**STATUS: AMBER****Achievements:**

Section 106 agreement successfully completed for Science Park. Detailed planning application can now go ahead and this achievement has meant Devon County Council has been able to draw down Rural Development Agency funding to ensure that this

key strategic development remains on track.

Outcomes for local people:

The development of flexible workspace at Cullompton Library with new facilities for Adult and Community learning will benefit local people in two ways; firstly by combining these facilities each is financially viable and can happen. Secondly the facility will support local businesses and the overall economic wellbeing of the town.

Value for money:

Work has been undertaken in an inclusive manner with districts and other partners and the findings from the managed workspace study have been shared with partners. Adopting this approach has meant that separate studies and activities have not been commissioned by these organisations and therefore greater value for money can be demonstrated.

LAA24 Reduce the gap in benefit claims rates and employment rates between priority communities and the average for Devon

STATUS: RED

Achievements:

- 4 events held to ensure practitioners who work with young people are familiar with offers under the young persons guarantee.
- 112 jobs filled from the Devon Future Jobs Fund (FJF) plus 218 from national bids, a total of 330 young people into work through FJF.
- 2 Employment support workers appointed by the Mental Health Employment Sub-group of Devon. Job Centre Plus have a mental Health Partnership Manager to support this work .
- Profiled and attributed 30 jobs entries to partners to achieve target.
- Introduced the presumption of employment for all 18-30yr olds & ensure that all funding requests include expected steps towards work.
- Started the "making work pay" project giving benefit assessments to encourage people with a learning disability and their family to consider work and see that it pays to work. 16 referrals to date, with a target of 150.
- Job Centre Plus secondee appointed.

Outcomes for local people:

330 jobs created & filled and a new service for those with learning difficulties & their families now available. Raised awareness of & promoted the services provided by Job Centre Plus to partners.

Value for money:

- Income maximisation through employment results in an increased contribution to local economy, plus there is a wide effect and savings on many other areas of the LAA e.g. Housing.
- Savings on offending + drugs users costs when they move into employment.
- Where work is a part of therapy for those with learning difficulties this results in savings.
- The "Total place" programme work is all about reducing inefficiencies e.g "Proof of estrangement" project.

LAA25 Increase the productivity of the land based sector in Devon and improve conditions for farming and food sector businesses

STATUS: GREEN

Achievements:

- The Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) development worker has more than doubled the expected output until April 2010 due to her expertise in the field and pro-active approach to marketing the RDPE to Devon farmers. This has been undertaken with local partners through the Farming and Food Board, the SW Rural Development Agency and Business Link.
- The Environment Agency has successfully trialled a "sub-soiler" with farmers in East Devon, one of the high-risk compacted soils areas indicated on the Soils Vulnerability map in Year 1. The sub-soiler breaks up compacted soil.

Outcomes for local people:

- The Devon RDPE development worker has helped secure over £1 million funding investment into Devon farms.
- Feedback on the sub-soiler project indicates that farmers appreciate having access to this piece of kit to help them retain their soil and avoid muddy flood runoff.

Value for money:

- The RDPE worker has provided support and constructive criticism and advice to farmers applying to the RDPE, thereby ensuring that their time in planning for their project or investment and preparing the application has been well placed and spent effectively.
- Making the sub-soiler available to farmers clearly reduces their own outlay on equipment. Through funding pressures in the Environment Agency we cannot sustain the trial.

Key to Performance Status:

Performance Indicators:

No Data

Well Below
TargetBelow
Target

On Target

Above
TargetWell
Above
Target**Key to change on same period in previous year:**

Improved Performance



Worse Performance



Unchanged

Key to +/- Column:

+

Higher figures are better

-

Lower figures are better

OFF

Direction cannot be determined.

Performance Indicators

Code	Title	+/-	Instance	Annual Target	Status	Improvement	Actual to Date	Officer Notes
NI 164	Proportion of population qualified to at least Level 3 or higher (LAA17)	+	2006	Baseline for LAA	No Target	↑	50.9%	
		+	2007	No target set	No Target	↑	54.3%	(2007) Data from DCSF derived from the Annual Population Survey for 2007. The percentage is based on 219,000 of the population qualified to at least level 3 (2007 95% confidence interval 2.8%) (KB)
		+	2008	No target	No Target	↓	53.2%	(2008) Top quartile performance. (KB)
		+	2009	51.9%	Data not due		n/a	(2009) Hub expected publication date 30/7/2010 (SR)
		+	2010	52.9%	Data not due	n/a	n/a	(2010) 2009 and 2010 data will not be due until October 2010 (SR) (SR)
		+	2011	54.9%	Data not due	n/a	n/a	
NI 146	Adults with learning disabilities in employment	+	FY 2008-09	LAA baseline	No Target	n/a	3.6%	
		+	FY 2009-10	4.10%	Well Above Target	↑	5.95%	(March) Amended end of year figures 11 May 2010 (TP) (TP)
		+	FY 2010-11	4.7%	Data not entered	n/a		

Programme Links:

Project: LAA14 Programme to coordinate support to unlock economic potential of Devon's most disadvan

Project: LAA15b Programme to work towards economic inclusion & social integration of vulnerable popu

Project: LAA17 Programme to develop and harness skills to achieve a competitive economy

Project: LAA18 Programme to encourage adoption & exploitation of information & ICT

Project: LAA19 Programme to develop an innovation strategy & delivery network to achieve economic up

Project: LAA20 Programme to manage demand for sustainable travel by all transport modes

Project: LAA21 Programme to deliver major infrastructure improvement schemes

Project: LAA22 Programme to ensure that Devon has an appropriate range of employment space

Project: LAA24 Programme to reduce gap in benefit claims rates & employment rates

Project: LAA25 Programme to increase productivity of land based sector & improve farming & food sect

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