

NORTH YORKSHIRE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

EXECUTIVE

10 April 2008

DRAFT LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report provides information on the progress of the development of the new North Yorkshire Local Area Agreement (NYLAA2) leading to sign off by the Secretary of State by the end of June 2008.
- 1.2 The report recommends that the NYSP Executive approves the draft LAA as attached to this document at Appendix 1.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The duty to prepare a LAA applies to county and unitary councils, which must:

- Establish, before negotiations begin, a clear process and timetable is needed which is understood by all partners, so that they feel they have sufficient opportunity to influence the outcome.
- Have regard to their SCS when preparing the LAA.
- Consult and co-operate with each other relevant organisations and local residents, together with neighbouring local authorities where there are cross-boundary issues.
- Work through the LSP and its thematic partnerships to collectively agree a shared set of priorities.
- Work with partner authorities to determine which partners will be helping to deliver each target and how each target is drafted.
- Subject to an amendment to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations 2000/2853, formally approve the LAA or delegate approval to the Council's Executive prior to submitting it to the Secretary of State.
- Publish information about the LAA including the targets and relevant partners, and publish updated information whenever any modification is made to the LAA.

- 2.2 Local authorities and their partners should view the LAA as an opportunity to present to local citizens a clear statement of how the partners are going to tackle and measure progress against the identified targets.

3.0 North Yorkshire Local Area Agreement 1 (NYLAA1)

- 3.1 The first round of LAAs between the Government, local authorities and their partners were brought in three tranches over three years. North Yorkshire's current LAA was in the third tranche and runs from April 2007 to March 2010.
- 3.2 The 19 'stretch' targets included in the current agreement have a particular importance and their achievement in full will provide up to £16m reward grant at the end of the agreement (31 March 2010). These targets are to be carried forward into NYLAA2 (1 April 2008 to 31 March 2011) under the terms that currently apply. So if the targets are achieved in full the reward grant will be paid after 31 March 2010. The reward grant in respect of targets in the new agreement has yet to be determined.
- 3.3 Progress against the targets in the LAA is monitored quarterly by the six thematic partnerships and by the NYSP Executive. GOYH requires a progress report at six monthly intervals and accepted the report as submitted to the LAA Management Group/NYSP Steering Group on 13 December 2007 for the period 1 April 2007 to 30 September 2007.
- 3.4 NYLAA1 comprises over 100 principal indicators but many are sub-divided/dis-aggregated. So the total number of indicators is 156, each with targets.

4.0 North Yorkshire Local Area Agreement 2 (NYLAA2)

- 4.1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 has revamped the Local Area Agreement framework linked to the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR07), the new Public Service Agreements (PSAs) and the National Indicator Set (NIS) for local authorities and their partners.
- 4.2 All top tier and unitary authorities have to work with their partners to produce a new LAA under the new framework to run from April 2008 to March 2011 in line with the three years of CSR07.
- 4.3 The NYLAA2 is based on the priorities within the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and translates these into targets to secure improvements over the three years of the agreement.
- 4.4 The draft agreement contains 32 designated indicators, drawn from the NIS, 16 statutory education and early years indicators and 25 local non-designated indicators, 24 of which are carried forward from the current LAA. Local partners have committed themselves to delivering the targets set for these indicators and will be under the new duty to co-operate in doing so.

- 4.5 We are now negotiating targets with Government Office for the 32 designated indicators. We set our own targets for the local indicators.
- 4.6 The following timetable is the route that the draft LAA will take to meet ministerial sign off in June 2008.

April 2008:

Continuing negotiation of improvement targets based on departmental and GO discussions and LA/LSP consultations;

(28 April 2008) Submitted to Association of North Yorkshire Councils for approval.

May 2008:

Continuing negotiation of improvement targets based on departmental and GO discussions and LA/LSP consultations.

(21 May 2008) Submitted to North Yorkshire County Council for approval.

(30 May 2008) Final draft LAA including all targets submitted to GO.

June 2008:

GO Regional Directors make recommendations to central government; Ministerial Sign off.

- 4.7 Although the LAA is being developed through the NYSP, regulations require that the final draft LAA has to be approved by the County Council or that the power to approve be given to the County Council's Executive before being formally signed off by ministers. The draft LAA will be presented to the County Council for approval on Wednesday 21st May 2008 and should be signed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government by the end of June 2008.

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 The NYSP Executive is recommended to:

- (a) Approve the draft NYLAA2 as attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

6.0 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft North Yorkshire LAA2

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2 April 2008

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