

APPENDIX 2

Refresh of the Sustainable Community Strategy 2008/18 and the Local Area Agreement 2008/11

Purpose of Report

1. To make Thematic Partnerships, LSP Co-ordinators and other key NYSP partners aware of the proposed timetable for development of the refreshed Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement (see timetable enclosed).
2. To seek the assistance of Thematic Partnerships, LSP Co-ordinators and others in providing input into the refresh as outlined in the process timetable.
3. To outline the governance framework for agreeing and signing off development of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement.

Background

4. During 2010, a period of development work will be undertaken to simultaneously refresh both the Sustainable Community Strategy 2008/18 and Local Area Agreement 2008/11. This will ensure that their key themes and targets continue to reflect the priorities of North Yorkshire's communities.
5. Partners, brought together under the umbrella of the North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership (NYSP) will agree priorities to be contained within the new Sustainable Community Strategy. This strategy will set out the overarching strategic direction and long-term, sustainable vision for the economic, social and environmental well-being of North Yorkshire. It will be based on input/feedback from local people about the sort of place they want the area to be and on the evidence of key partners. The Local Area Agreement (LAA) is based on the priorities in this Strategy and translates these priorities into targets to secure the improvements that local people want to see over the lifespan of the agreement. As such, the LAA is the delivery mechanism for the SCS.
6. The enclosed timetable highlights the anticipated key stages in this development process during 2010/11 for those leading on the development of both documents and also for NYSP partners and other stakeholders.

Development of Refreshed Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)

7. The current SCS 2008/18 takes as its priorities the following ten overarching themes:
 - Access to services and public transport
 - Affordable housing
 - Alcohol
 - Children and young people
 - Community cohesion
 - Community safety
 - Economy and enterprise
 - Environment
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Older people

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8. In tackling each of these priorities effectively, the SCS also recognises that NYSP partners need to:

- Enable equality in access to services
- Look at the bigger picture
- Recognise the value of the local Third Sector in the shaping and development of vibrant communities
- Invest now for a better future.

9. In developing the above key priorities and themes, analysis and consultation were undertaken including drawing on the seven district-level community strategies and six countywide thematic plans; drawing on the evidence base for the NYSP (developed within NYCC); and consultation with partners including at the 2007 Wider Partnership conference.

10. Input is now being sought from Thematic Partnerships, LSP Co-ordinators and those developing/refreshing other countywide plans on the following points:

- a) Do the ten priorities still accurately reflect the current and medium-term needs of local communities?
- b) Are there other key themes and priorities which need to be identified within the SCS?
- c) Are there any overarching themes/issues within the ten currently listed which are no longer a key priority for our communities?

11. It is important that responses are supported by evidence where this is available. For example, do the ten overarching priorities still reflect the priorities drawn out from evidence bases such as the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessments and other thematic plans, as well as the evidence presented by the district-level community strategies? It is also important to point out that the SCS priorities/themes need to be kept to a manageable amount so as not to become too unwieldy (see also LAA below).

12. We will be collating input on the SCS's key themes and priorities between January and the end of March 2010. Details of where to send your input to the SCS refresh can be found below. If you wish to discuss this request further in the meantime please contact **Diane Parsons** at the details given below.

Development of Refreshed Local Area Agreement (LAA)

13. Having considered the overarching strategic priorities that will be included within the SCS we would also ask that in relation to the LAA Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) and Thematic Partnerships consider the following:

- Identify performance indicators (ideally from the national Indicator set (NIS)) which will enable progress and delivery of key priorities to be monitored appropriately. If there is no suitable national indicator a local performance indicator may be proposed but it must be clearly defined and the monitoring arrangements must be specified. The number of

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indicators should be kept to a minimum, ensuring priorities are appropriately monitored, but so not to become too unwieldy.

- Identify the partners (lead and supporting) who will be named against each indicator in the LAA Outcomes Framework who will have a duty to cooperate and to have regard to the relevant targets.
- Identify a lead officer to act for each indicator and lead on negotiating the target for improvement.

14. Thematic Partnerships will have responsibility for the delivery, monitoring and detailed scrutiny of the performance of indicators; therefore, it is important that there is full partner agreement to the indicators being proposed.

15. Input on the above points is required by the end of March 2010. Details are provided below regarding where to send your input into the LAA refresh. If you wish to discuss any aspects of choosing or setting targets in the meantime then please contact **Kevin Brown** at the details given below.

Governance Arrangements

16. Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) are non-statutory, multi-agency partnerships, which match local authority boundaries. LSPs bring together at a local level the different parts of the public, private, community and voluntary sectors. This enables different initiatives and services to support one another so they can work together more effectively.

17. Within North Yorkshire there are seven district LSPs and six county-wide Thematic Partnerships. These come together as the NYSP.

18. Local partners (members of the NYSP) have committed themselves to the delivery of targets contained within the LAA and are under a new duty to cooperate in doing so (Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007).

19. Progress against the targets in the LAA is monitored quarterly by the six thematic partnerships and by the NYSP Executive. The Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber (GOYH) also receives a progress report at six monthly intervals.

20. The details of the governance arrangements for the LAA are contained in a Memorandum of Understanding between the County Council and its partners.

21. Although developed through the NYSP, regulations require that the preparation and submission of a final LAA have to be approved either by full Council or the Executive before being formally signed off by ministers. Within North Yorkshire this requires that formal adoption of the LAA is approved by the County Council Executive. The SCS will be formally approved by the full County Council.

Submitting your contributions to the SCS and LAA refresh:

Input can be provided to the individuals listed below or, alternatively, if you wish to combine your input on both the SCS and LAA, please do send both contributions simultaneously to Diane Parsons and Kevin Brown.

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SCS refresh key contact / queries:

Diane Parsons: Policy and Partnerships Unit – NYCC
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LAA refresh key contact / queries:

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