

## North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership

12 March 2009

### Comprehensive Area Assessment – Liaison with Audit Commission Lead Inspector

#### Purpose of report

1. To propose arrangements for liaison between the NYSP and the Audit Commission's Comprehensive Area Assessment Lead Inspector.

#### Background

2. From 1 April 2009 the performance of local public services will be judged under a new framework called Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). This will involve organisational assessments of the public bodies in the area and an area assessment of how well public services are delivering improved outcomes for the people who live and work in the area. It will be carried out jointly by the Audit Commission, Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission, and Her Majesty's Inspectorates of Police, Probation and Prisons. The assessment will be coordinated by the Audit Commission which has appointed a CAA Lead for each area. For the sub region of North Yorkshire and the City of York the CAA Lead is Michael Newbury.
3. The final framework for CAA was published on 10 February 2009. Detailed guidance for inspectors will follow later in March but the CAA Leads in each part of the country are now in the process of agreeing the arrangements for liaison with local partnerships. These are being tailored according to local circumstances and initial discussions with the Michael Newbury have led to a proposal about how he could liaise with the NYSP as the framework comes into operation and leading to the first judgements under CAA in November 2009. The proposed arrangements are along similar lines to those being agreed in other areas.

#### Proposed Liaison Arrangements with the NYSP

4. While the CAA Lead, together with the other inspectorates and external auditors will be liaising with individual organisations and sharing their emerging judgements as part of an ongoing dialogue, it is also important that the CAA Lead has an opportunity to share his emerging views with the NYSP. It is proposed that there should be three strands to this.
5. First, that the CAA Lead should meet with the NYSP Executive as part of their regular cycle of meetings and if necessary at a special meeting. Second, that he should meet with the Leaders of the eight North Yorkshire

councils together with the chairs of the key authorities that make up the NYSP, including for example the Police Authority, the Fire Authority, NHS North Yorkshire and York, and the National Parks Authorities. And third, that he should meet with the Partnership at its September meeting to share the joint inspectorates' emerging judgements.

#### Recommendation

6. The Partnership is recommended to agree the proposed arrangements for the Comprehensive Area Assessment Lead to liaise with the NYSP and for him to share the joint inspectorates' emerging judgements.

John Marsden  
Chair of the NYSP Executive

6 March 2009

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