

# **Comprehensive Area Assessment**

**March 2009**

**Policy & Performance**

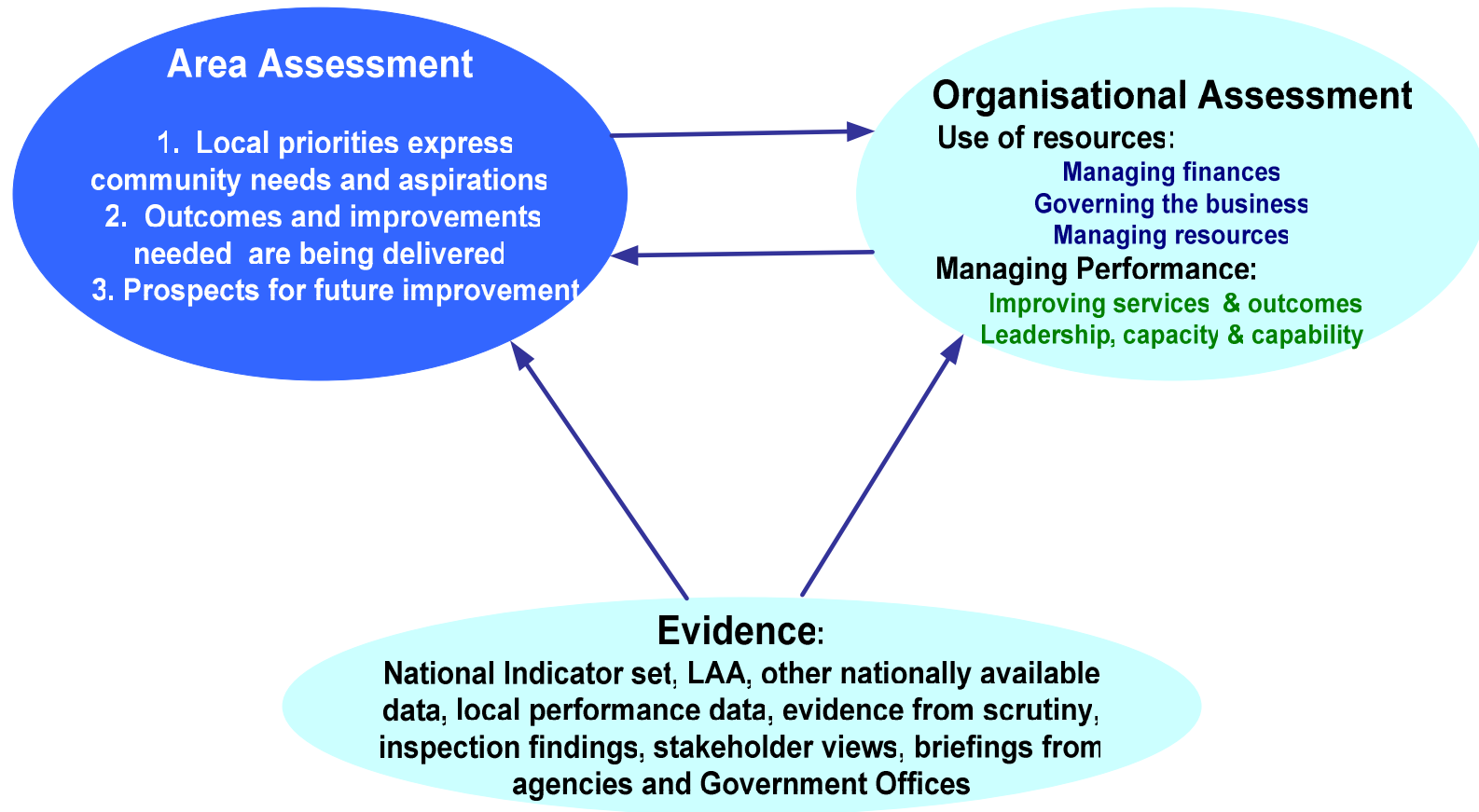
# Comprehensive Area Assessment

An independent assessment of how well people are being served by local public services

Two elements which will inform each other:

- **Area assessment** – will provide a view on the short, medium and long term prospects for better outcomes for local people
- **Organisational assessment** – will assess the performance and value for money provided by individual public bodies serving the area

# The Comprehensive Area Assessment



# Area Assessment

Will consider the following for Haringey:

1. How well do local priorities express community needs and aspirations?
2. How well are the outcomes and improvements needed being delivered?
3. What are the prospects for future improvements?

# **(Q1). How well do local priorities express community needs and aspirations?**

## Key themes:

- how well councils and partners know and engage their communities and understand the needs of marginalised groups
- have communities been involved in identifying priorities
- have communities been involved in assessing whether priorities are delivered
- are partners effective in co-ordinating community engagement and communicating its impact on their decisions

## (Q2) How well are the outcomes and improvements needed being delivered?

Inspectors will be looking for answers to:

- How safe is the area?
- How healthy and well supported are people?
- How well is adult social care meeting people's needs and choices?
- How well kept is the area?
- How environmentally sustainable is the area?
- How strong is the local economy?
- How strong and cohesive are local economies?
- How well is housing need met?
- How well are families supported?
- How good is the well being of children and young people?

## (Q3). What are the prospects for future improvements

Inspectorates will look for answers to:

- Do local partners have the capacity and capability to deliver their ambitions, strategies and plans?
- Are local partners taking adequate action to manage, mitigate or address any risks?
- Are local partners engaged in any exceptional innovative practice?
- How well improvement planning is being implemented –are key objectives and milestones being achieved and do local partners have robust plans for improving?

# Reporting the Area Assessment

- Area Assessment is not scored – narrative report published annually
- First report to be published November 2009



to indicate significant concerns about future improvement. There will be a challenge procedure for red flags



to highlight exceptional performance or improvement

Non-awarding of green flags will not be able to be challenged.



## Underpinning themes

- Sustainability – building a strong, healthy and just society
- Understanding and tackling inequality, disadvantage and discrimination – will include reducing child poverty
- People whose circumstances make them vulnerable (are their needs being met now and in the future)
- Value for money – use of resources in achieving outcomes for the area

# Organisational Assessment

|                      | Theme                  | Key lines of enquiry  |
|----------------------|------------------------|---|
| Use of resources     | Managing finances      | How effectively does the organisation manage its finances to deliver value for money?   |
|                      | Governing the business | How well does the organisation govern itself and commission services that provide value for money and deliver better outcomes for local people?   |
|                      | Managing resources     | How well does the organisation manage its people, natural resources and physical assets, to meet current and future needs and deliver value for money?  |
| Managing performance | Managing performance   | How well is the organisation delivering its priority services, outcomes and improvements that are important to local people?<br>Does the organisation have the leadership, capacity and capability it needs to deliver future improvements? |

# Scoring the Organisational Assessment

- Organisational Assessment Performance Management score will be agreed jointly by Audit Commission, Ofsted & Care Quality Commission (CQC)
- Ofsted and CQC will also publish more detailed finding separately
- There will be no use of rules to govern how an Ofsted or CQC grade will impact on the overall managing performance score
- Organisational Assessment will be scored for 1 – 4 where:
  - 1 – performs poorly
  - 2 – performs adequately
  - 3 – performs well
  - 4 - performs excellently

# Inspections

- CAA not a once-a-year activity – unlike CPA
- information will be gathered and reviewed throughout the year (quarterly)
- reports published in late November
- linked graded assessments of children's services and of adult social care published at the same time

# Timelines

Not 'once a year activity' – evidence will be gathered and updated throughout the year with quarterly updates

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Up to mid September | Joint inspectorate gathering latest available information including educational attainment                |
| Late September      | Joint inspectorate drafts reports, including red and green flags  |
| October             | Key issues discussed with local partners. Joint inspectorate undertake final quality assurance            |
| October/November    | Draft report shared with partners.<br>Ten days to challenge area assessment and organisational assessment |
| November            | Resolve any challenges through formal process   |
| Late November       | Publish reports   |

# Preparing for the CAA in Haringey

- HSP's Performance Management Group (PMG) has set up a **multi-agency group** to lead on the Area Assessment
- Prepare **area assessment self evaluation**
- **CAA web page** on council website – will be updated regularly

# For more information

Visit our web page at:

[http://www.haringey.gov.uk/index/community  
and\\_leisure/hsp/comprehensive\\_area\\_as  
sessment\\_caa .htm](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/index/community_and_leisure/hsp/comprehensive_area_assessment_caa.htm)

(You can get there quickly by typing CAA into the search facility on the council website.)

# For more information

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