

Meeting: Haringey Strategic Partnership

Date: 21 January 2010

Report Title: Local Area Agreement 2008/09-2010/11 – Annual Review &

Refresh

Report of: Wayne Longshaw Interim Assistant Chief Executive PPP&C

# **Purpose**

To inform the Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP) on the process and timescales for completing the Local Area Agreement (LAA) review and refresh.

## **Summary**

- Haringey's LAA is subject to annual review. The review process focuses on delivery;
  however, it also provides an opportunity to refresh certain targets:
- The deadline for local authority adoption of the refreshed LAA is 12th March 2010.
  Ministerial approval of refreshed LAAs is expected on 31st March 2010.
- For government purposes, the 'refresh' is concerned with designated indicators (the 35 improvement indicators).
- Appendix 1 lists the designated national indicators and local targets within Haringey's LAA to be refreshed.

## Recommendations

- That the HSP note the timescales for completing the review and refresh.
- That the HSP agree the renegotiation of 'frozen targets'; deferred targets and resolution to all outstanding targets within the LAA as set out in appendix 1.

#### **Chief Financial Officer comments**

The annual refresh of the LAA is a requirement set out in CLG documents. It does not in itself create any financial implications for the authority or Partnership however; if the renegotiation of some of the key indicators set out is unsuccessful this may impact on any eventual performance reward grant.

# **Legal Comment**

There are no specific legal implications beyond those identified in the body of the report.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Haringey's Local Area Agreement (LAA) is subject to annual review. The annual review process focuses on delivery; considering what more needs to be done to achieve agreed priorities. It will address risks identified by CAA and any outstanding issues from the last review. There is no prescribed format to the reviews as government want local areas to take the lead highlighting their specific issues.
- 1.2 The review also provides an opportunity to refresh certain targets, including:
  - Renegotiation of the economic 'frozen targets' exempt by government from the 'reward lockdown' earlier this year. Revised Target Negotiation Briefs (TNB) are to be published for these indicators;
  - Deferred targets from last year; which government has informed already sit outside the reward process. Local areas can set targets for the remaining period without negotiation with government office;
  - Technical revisions to targets where data was confirmed post ministerial approval in April 2009 i.e. place survey indicators;
  - NI 112 Teenage conception rate local areas given the option to remove this target from the reward calculation.
- 1.3 The 2007/08-2009/10 LAA stretch targets come to an end in March 2010. Some continue to be represented in the LAA for 2010/11 as they are also designated indicators; however the partnership needs to agree if the remaining stretch targets are to be included as local targets for 2010/11 where it is deemed important to continue to performance manage improvement in these priority areas.
- 1.4 The refreshed LAA will be presented to council Cabinet on 23rd February 2010. The deadline for local authority adoption off of the refreshed LAA is 12th March 2010. Ministerial approval of refreshed LAAs is expected on 31st March 2010.
- 1.5 Appendix 1 lists Haringey's targets to be refreshed.

# 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 For government purposes, the 'refresh' is concerned with the 35 designated indicators.
- 2.2 Haringey's 2008/9-2010/11 LAA was initially signed off by council's Cabinet / Full Council and by Ministers in July 2008. The LAA underwent it's year one refresh and was signed off by council's Cabinet on 24th February 2009 and by Ministers in April 2009.
- 2.3 The LAA is the only vehicle for agreeing targets between local government, their delivery partners and central government. It incorporates a duty for named partners to cooperate, a duty to engage and inform residents and an enhanced role of scrutiny.
- 2.4 The LAA cuts across all Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) outcomes. The LAA is the main delivery plan for the Sustainable Community Strategy and the outcomes and improvement targets directly relate to achieving the ambitions and priorities within it.
- 2.5 As set out in LAA Operational Guidance, revisions to the LAA need to be approved in accordance with local arrangements put in place by the responsible authority. On 23rd February 2009 Full Council approved that LAA functions should be exercised by the council's Cabinet.

# 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The indicative Performance Reward Grant (PRG) available to Haringey is £1.977m.
- 3.2 Reward will be calculated based upon average performance across the up to 35 designated improvement targets.
- 3.3 PRG is calculated as 72% revenue and 28% capital; and is a non ring fenced grant paid to local authority in two instalments.
- 3.4 The year 1 refresh 'locked down' targets for PRG purposes, with the exception of the 'frozen' economic targets and the deferred targets which will not be included when calculating reward entitlement. If a target is discounted from the reward calculation there is no impact upon the overall maximum reward available to the area.
- 3.5 The attainment targets are not included within PRG calculations.