



haringey strategic partnership

for children & young people

AGENDA ITEM 5

MEETING

**Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board
12 June 2006**

TITLE : Haringey's Local Area Agreement

SUMMARY

- 1.1 Local Area Agreements (LAA) have been introduced to make local strategic partnerships more effective by providing the facility for partners to pool resources to achieve specific targets. LAAs also provide financial incentives if local strategic partnerships set and achieve more challenging targets than those set by central Government (known as 'stretch targets'). The LAA represents opportunities for maximising the outcomes from our combined investment in services for children and young people.
- 1.2 The primary objective of the LAA, as stated by Government, is 'to deliver sustainable communities through better outcomes for local people'. Each Local Strategic Partnership is required to agree targets based on local evidence and priorities. Haringey's LAA will be informed by the new Community Strategy.
- 1.3 There are four priority areas (known as 'blocks') for LAAs, one of which is children and young people. Sharon Shoemith is the lead officer for the Council for the Children and Young People Block. Other partners are encouraged to identify LAA champions.
- 1.4 The Children and Young People Block of the LAA focuses on the five outcomes of the Every Child Matters framework. Some of the LAA outcomes are crosscutting and will need to be addressed across the HSP.
- 1.5 An LAA Partnership Group has been established with overall responsibility for developing the LAA in Haringey. This Group had its first meeting on 25th May 2006. Several members of the CYPSP attend this group.
- 1.6 The timescale for the development of the agreement is tight. The first deadline for an initial submission is 30th June. A first full draft must be submitted by September 30th 2006. The deadline for the final draft is 26 January 2007.

- 1.7 The CYPSP needs to agree how to take forward the development of the draft Children and Young People Block given the very tight timescale.
- 1.8 A summary of the LAA guidance for Round 3 areas is attached as an appendix to this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the CYPSP agree the proposed process for the development of the Children and Young People Block of the LAA (page 4)
- 2.2 That the CYPSP consider setting up a project/performance group to develop a draft Children and Young People LAA for the next CYPSP meeting.
- 2.3 That CYPSP partners engage in development of the LAA specifically on the Children and Young People block, in particular the Outcomes Framework, Reward Element and any Enabling Measures (see appendix for a description of these).
- 2.4 That the CYPSP note the mandatory outcomes and targets (page 3)

LEAD OFFICER

Further information on the development of Haringey's Local Area Agreement and the policy context can be obtained from Nilam Popat, Principal Policy Officer, Policy and Partnerships, Haringey Council, 020 8489 2613, nilam.popat@haringey.gov.uk

3. Introduction

- 3.1 A Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a three year agreement that sets out the priorities for a local area agreed between central government, represented by the Government Office, and a local area, represented by local authorities and Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) and other key partners at local level. The primary objective of an LAA is to deliver better outcomes for local people.
- 3.2 The priorities addressed are grouped into four broad areas:
 1. children and young people
 2. safer and stronger communities
 3. healthier communities and older people
 4. economic development and enterprise.
- 3.3 LAAs serve to:
 - improve central and government relations
 - enhance efficiency
 - strengthen partnership working
 - enable enhanced leadership by local authorities

3.4 LAAs are outcome-based projects that aim for a better co-ordinated and more effective service to communities, enabling local authorities and their partners to better reflect local priorities and address local needs. Government Offices play a key role by leading the discussions on behalf of central government.

4. Mandatory outcomes framework

4.1 The key requirement is that partners provide a baseline figure for 2006-2007 and three year targets for each of the mandatory outcomes and indicators (see table below) for 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.

4.2 In addition, partners and Lead Officers will need to decide whether they wish to include any optional outcomes and indicators. In addition to these four mandatory indicators, there are over 60 optional indicators for consideration by the CYPSP.

Table 1 Mandatory Outcomes for Children And Young People

Mandatory Outcomes	Mandatory Indicators for Haringey
Be Healthy	Modal share in travel to school Reduction in the under 18 conception rate
Enjoy and Achieve Raise standards in English, maths, and science in secondary education to that, by 2008, in all schools located in the districts in receipt of NRF, at least 50% of pupils achieve level five or above in each of English, maths and science	By 2008 all schools located in Local Authority districts in receipt of NRF to ensure that at least 50% of pupils achieve level five or above in each of English, maths and science
Achieve economic well-being	Percentage of 16 – 18 year olds not in education, employment of training

5. The Reward Element

5.1 Areas should propose a number of top priorities for improvement locally, where they intend to deliver ‘stretched’ performance’ over three years in return for Pump Priming and Performance Reward Grant. Proposals need to be evidence based, include robust baseline data, represent value for money and be endorsed by the LSP. There are no mandatory items for the reward element.

5.2 Areas have the freedom to choose the number of stretched targets they wish to negotiate for their LAA reward element; however it is likely that we will be looking at 12 stretch targets. All bar one indicator in the outcomes framework can be negotiated as stretched targets.

- 5.3 There is a mandatory template that must be completed for each of the targets which attract a reward element i.e. stretch targets. The proposal is to have 14 stretch targets across the HSP with a view to eliminating any that are unlikely to be achieved.

6. Timescales / Process

GOL has set a number of deadlines which present very tight timescales for the development of the LAA. **The GOL deadlines are in bold letters.** The approximate key dates are:

Date	Action
12 June	Proposals for developing the Children and Young People Block of the LAA agreed and Project /Performance Team established by CYPSP
20 th June	HSP meeting: LAA report discussed
30th June	Initial priorities for the HSP (from the new community strategy) submitted to GOL
20 June -19 th July	Project/ Performance Team meets and develops draft containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes using existing evidence and start consultation • Enhanced outcomes/ reward element • Refine outcomes following consultation and start investigating freedoms and flexibilities, funding
19 July	Draft circulated to CYPSP partners for comments to be returned by 4 th August
4 – 30 August	2 nd draft developed
30 Aug	2nd draft to CYPSP for final approval
11 Sept	2 nd draft CYP LAA discussed and signed off at CYPSP
30 Sept 2006	First full draft of LAA submission to GOL
Sept – December 2006	Consultation on LAA CYPSP/HSP/Other Theme Boards/Partners
30 November 2006	Substantive draft of LAA submitted to GOL
December 2006 – February 2007	Take full draft through reporting and decision making structures (HSP, Thematic Partnerships)
6th Feb 2007	Final draft of the LAA submitted to GOL

Appendix 1 - Summary of Round 3 LAA Guidance (March 2006)

LAA Core Elements

There are a number of core elements to a Local Area Agreement. These are summarised here but full guidance for Round 3 can be found at :

<http://odpm.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1164930>

1. Mandatory Outcomes Framework

Each block of the LAA has both mandatory and optional outcomes¹ with key indicators that are detailed in the outcomes framework. The mandatory outcomes and indicators must be included in the LAA. In addition outcomes and indicators will need to be included where there is a local decision to pool specific funding streams.

The mandatory outcomes framework is divided into four blocks: children and young people, healthier communities and older people, safer stronger communities and economic development.

All mandatory and optional outcomes and indicators are eligible for reward element. It should be noted that the indicators **can and should be applied to specific groups** (especially socially excluded and disadvantaged groups) where evidence suggests that they may be suffering particularly poor outcomes.

Key Issues
Partners need to provide baselines and three year targets for each of the mandatory indicators.
Partners need to consider the evidence which enables the translation of the mandatory outcomes and indicators to the borough's needs.
Partners need to consider which optional outcomes and indicators if any will be included.

2. Reward Element

Areas should propose a number of top priorities for improvement locally, where they intend to deliver '**stretched**' performance over three years in return for Pump Priming and Performance Reward Grant. Proposals need to be evidence based, include robust baseline data, represent value for money and be endorsed by the LSP. There are no mandatory items for the reward element.

Areas have the freedom to choose the number of stretched targets they wish to negotiate for their LAA reward element; however it is likely that we will be

looking at 12 stretch targets. All but one indicator in the outcomes framework can be negotiated as stretched targets.

Key Issues

A mandatory template for each of the stretch target has to be completed. This will be the most resource intensive and time consuming task for the LAA. A template is included in the guidance (page 83).
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3. Enabling Measures

Enabling measures were formally known as 'freedoms and flexibilities' and are used to enable the achievement of better outcomes. There are a number of enabling measures that areas will automatically benefit from as a result of having an LAA. These are:

- Ability to pool funds from government within blocks (or across blocks for single pot areas)
- Where areas deliver agreed outcomes more efficiently they can invest any savings in delivering the outcomes of the LAA.
- Reduction in the monitoring and reporting requirements for pooled funding streams, including removal of grant claims forms.
- Freedom to vire or combine some mainstream funding between organisations to meet shared LAA outcomes.
- Streamlined payment mechanisms, including removing the need to submit claims form.

Where there are specific barriers to the delivery of outcomes, additional LAA enabling measures may be requested. Areas should discuss the need for these with the Government Office as part of the development of their LAA outcomes. GOL will advise whether the requested action is already permissible or the objective can be achieved through other means. Where the request is pursued, **a business case must be submitted** detailing the request. The requests will be considered on a case by case basis.

Key Issues

The enabling measures required should on the whole arise from discussions around the development of the outcomes framework and the reward element. A template is included in the guidance (page 62).
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4. A list of funding streams to be pooled or aligned

- A number of funding streams will be automatically pooled centrally.
- In addition local areas can choose any or all funding streams (from a limited list) for pooled in some cases subject to specific conditions.
- Finally partners can choose to align funding streams (listed in the guidance)

Key Issues

Partners need to consider points 2 and 3 above and decide if any extra funding streams need to be pooled or aligned to deliver the outcomes in the LAA.

5. Statement of Community Involvement

The LAA must include a statement of the involvement of the VCS and local people in the design and delivery of the agreement. This should state how local people and the VCS have been informed, consulted and given the opportunity to participate in the process and the delivery of the outcomes.

Key Issues
Partners to note we are proposing to piggy back on the consultation process for the Community Strategy (which will consult extensively with local people) and use the outcomes to inform the priorities of the LAA.
Partners to note that the VCS are represented on the LAA partnership group which will support the HSP in the development of the LAA.
A two page statement of community involvement will provide a summary of consultation work described above.

Other Information:

6. Timeline / Work plan

Date	Submissions	HSP Meetings
April –June Preparatory Work		
30 June	Initial Submission	20 June
June – September Develop first full draft		
30 September	First Full Draft Submission	
September – December GOL will consult with central departments and continue to work with areas to refine the agreement.		
30 November	A Revised Submission	16 October
GOL will continue to consult Departments and local areas before making a final recommendation to ministers.		
26 January	Final Draft	20 December

Key Issues
As the timescale is extremely tight all thematic partnerships are requested to put the LAA as a standing item on the agenda. The LAA will also be standing item on the HSP agenda. In addition a LAA Partnership Group will support the HSP in developing the LAA.

7. Choosing a Theme

The LAA can have one or more cross cutting themes that will guide the general direction of the LAA.

The themes of other Borough's LAAs include:

- Greenwich – The major theme of childcare and support for vulnerable and disadvantaged families.

- Kirklees – Eight or so themes including reducing poverty
- Brent – Settled homes and supporting children who experience the greatest barriers to learning.
- Lewisham – Narrowing the gap and building stronger communities
- Hammersmith and Fulham- Child Poverty including Sure Start, smoking cessation for parents and getting lone parents into jobs.

Some boroughs have used their theme/s to inform the selection of the enabling measures and stretch targets.