

# **MEETING** Haringey Strategic Partnership – 8 April 2008

Title: Local Area Agreement 2008/09-2010/11

#### 1. Purpose:

1.1 To update the HSP on progress achieved so far in the development of the 2008/09 Local Area Agreement (LAA).

### 2. Summary:

- 2.1 Haringey's Strategic Partnership, through its Performance Management Group (PMG), has negotiated thirty-five Improvement Indicators and twenty-four Local Indicators (including current stretch targets), along side the sixteen mandatory education and Early Years' targets.
- 2.2 The story of place provides the context in narrative form for the Local Area Agreement. It makes the links with the Sustainable Community Strategy outcomes, choice of priorities and national indicators and with our wider plans and strategies.
- 3. Recommendation:
- 3.1 To note the contents of this report.
- 3.2 To endorse Haringey's Local Area Agreement 2008/09 to 2010/11, encompassing the thirty-five Improvement Indicators and sixteen statutory educational attainment and Early Years' indicators, subject to final ministerial sign off in June 2008 (see Appendix A).

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# 4. Background

4.1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 require Local Strategic Partnerships to have in place new Local Area Agreements by June 2008. These are to include up to thirty-five improvement targets negotiated with Government and unlimited Local Indicators as targets for these are not negotiated with central Government, and there is no formal reporting requirement.

## 5. Haringey's Local Area Agreement

- Haringey's Local Area Agreement encompasses: A Haringey Story of Place; Improvement Indicators; An Equalities Impact Assessment and information about the Haringey Strategic Partnership. See Appendix A. Ministerial sign off is expected in June 2008.
- 5.2 Haringey's Story of Place explains in narrative form, Haringey's own unique story and our future strategic direction. It outlines Haringey's Sustainable Community Strategy outcome areas, our choice of priorities and National Indicators and makes the links to our wider plans and strategies. A separate evidence base document details a wide range of information and data to illustrate and support 'our story' and choice of Indicators.
- 5.3 Haringey's Strategic Partnership has negotiated thirty-five improvement indicators and twenty-four local indicators, along side the sixteen mandatory education and Early Years' indicators. Thematic Boards considered and agreed their final selections based on local priorities and the recommendations of GoL and the various Government departments.
- 5.4 Business cases have been developed for the thirty-five improvement indicators and are in the process of being developed for the local indicators. The business cases support the evidence base for Haringey's selection of indicators and will support identification of key activities in the action planning stages for each of the indicators.
- The indicators are aligned to Thematic Boards and have identified lead agencies with a named senior officer as required by statute. Many of the indicators are cross cutting and delivery will impact across thematic areas. In these instances the indicators will be reported to and monitored by more than one thematic board. See Appendix B.
- 5.6 A new robust performance management framework for the Partnership has been developed, which will enable consistent effective monitoring of outcomes; project activity, funding and value for money. It has been agreed that the Performance Management Group, the HSP and its Thematic Boards, will receive quarterly performance reports showing: progress against the thirty-five improvement indicators and sixteen mandatory targets; high level project highlight reports; financial performance including spend against area based grant; and comments and action planning for areas not meeting targets.
- 5.7 The Partnership is now starting to consider setting targets for the indicators selected. We have been advised that Home Office and Department for Children Schools and Families targets are likely to be prescriptive. This aside, it is envisaged that three year cumulative targets will be set, with interim yearly targets in place set so that performance trajectories can be assessed and monitored. For perception indicators where we currently have no baseline data, a confidence interval will be set. When the baseline is established at the end of the first year, the target will be the baseline plus a suitable percentage increase or decrease over the remaining two years. It is not envisaged that a national template will be set for target setting, however, locally target setting is likely to be based on trend analysis; key expectations of key public service delivery agents and discussions between LAA leads and the Government Office for London (GOL).
- 5.8 Government announced a new round of stretch reward on 4 February, with the total value to be at least £340 million. It also announced that the most deprived areas, which face the greatest challenges, will benefit from an additional £50 million reward. Split across the partnerships £340 million nationally is equivalent to an average of £2.2 million for each Local Area and the intention is to link reward payments to improvement across all of the up

to thirty-five targets agreed in the LAA negotiations, rather than specific indicators. Further information is awaited from GOL on how the funding will operate.

5.9 The duty to involve is intended to give local people, the third sector and the business sector and opportunity to have their say and get involved in the issues that affect their local area, influencing local decision making. Although the duty does not come into effect until April 2009, LAAs should be developed with this duty in mind. The LAA provides the Partnership with the opportunity to present to local communities a clear statement of how the partnership is tackling key priorities together. The duty to publish information about the LAA places a duty on the partnership to ensure that the LAA is publicly available, communicated actively in an accessible way throughout its life, including information on the progress of delivering targets. At the HSP on 11 February it was agreed that information on the LAA should be presented to residents via Local Area Assemblies and other established networks. A communications plan is being developed to support this.

#### 6. Area Based Grant

- 6.1 The Area Based Grant (ABG) is a non-ring fenced grant made up from previously specific grants, the majority of which are already received by departments. Whilst local areas have discretion on how to utilise this funding, guidance suggests it should be used to deliver the national indicator set and local priorities identified within the Sustainable Community Strategy and LAA.
- 6.2 The allocation of ABG to Theme Boards was agreed by the HSP in February 2008 for 2008/09, subject to review in September 2008. Thematic Chairs, Lead Members and lead officers agreed the detail of the funding within their area in consultation with partners and these were approved by the HSP Performance Management Group meeting on 4 March 2008. See Appendix C.
- 6.3 The programme management team has informed existing project managers, funded through NRF and SSCF, of their approved allocation for 2008/09 as part of a closure programme for NRF and SSCF. A comprehensive performance review will be undertaken within six months with a view to adopting a new commissioning process across the whole partnership.
- Responsibility is devolved to thematic areas to ensure the necessary Service Level Agreements and contracts are in place for all future LAA funded activity.

## 7. Thematic workshops

7.1 As agreed by the HSP in February 2008, half day workshops have been facilitated for each of the theme Boards during March. The workshops focused on the new national requirements, re-affirming roles and responsibilities, high level action planning and management of cross cutting indicators. The workshops proved successful and a report will be written up by the facilitators.

#### 8. Conclusion

8.1 The LAA provides a key lever to bring about a more robust approach to local partnership working, providing the opportunity for partners to work together to deliver positive outcomes for local people.

# Next steps

Activity	By When
Development of thematic board action plans	April 2008
Boroughs notified of DCSF statutory targets	April 2008
Negotiation on targets between partnership and GOL	April to June 2008
Final Ministerial sign off of Local Area Agreement	June 2008