



**North Somerset partnership
Sustainable Community Strategy/
Local Area Agreement Group Meeting
21 May 2009, 1.30pm-3.30pm**

Present:

Kay Wozniak (KW) Chair	Chief Superintendent Avon and Somerset Constabulary
Clive Bodley (CB)	Chief Executive, North Somerset Housing
Dr Max Kammerling (MK)	Director of Public Health, North Somerset PCT
Bob Snow (BS)	Chief Executive, Voluntary Action North Somerset

Apologies:

Dr Paul Phillips (PP)	Principal, Weston College
Graham Turner (GT)	Chief Executive Officer, North Somerset Council
Andy Hicklin (AH)	Environment Agency

In attendance:

Phil Suter (PS)	Audit Commission
James Foster (JF)	Strategic Policy Development Manager, North Somerset Council
Emma Short (ES)	Policy & Research Development Officer, North Somerset Council
Lorraine Bush (LB)	Policy & Partnership Development Officer, North Somerset Council
Valerie Kelly (VK)	Policy & Partnership Officer, North Somerset Council

Apologies:

Fiona Massey (FM)	Government Office South West
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Item		Action by	Deadline
1.	Welcome & apologies KW noted the apologies and welcomed Phil Suter from the Audit Commission to the meeting.		
2.	Minutes/Matters arising The previous minutes were agreed and all matters arising had been actioned.		
3.	LAA 2008-2011 – End Year (08/09) Report The End Year report had already been circulated. A summary was distributed at the meeting. A number of points were clarified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Performance Reward Grant (PRG) available from the 2007-2010 LAA is about £5.3m. Each indicator with a stretch target has award grant attached to it. There are 17 stretch targets in total. The Performance Reward Grant (PRG) available from the 2008-2011 LAA is about £1m. It is calculated on performance over a basket of indicators rather than for each individual indicator. Performance Reward Grant is only paid where at least 60% performance has been reached on the stretch targets and then on a sliding scale depending on the level of performance. 		

	<p>on a sliding scale depending on the level of performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2008/11 LAA has been running less than a year so not all year-end data is available. <p>The sub-group focused on the performance of the 17 stretch targets:</p> <p>NEET – Indicator is above target but this is a small cohort of young people, so it should be monitored closely.</p> <p>Healthy Schools – Indicator is just above target. Further support may be needed to target remaining schools, though this target looks set to be achieved.</p> <p>GCSE's – Indicator is slightly above target. No further opportunity to influence this indicator – this year's GCSE results will be the final submission.</p> <p>Absence (Primary) – This indicator is well below target and unlikely to change before the end of the LAA. This was an ambitious target for NS.</p> <p>Absence (Secondary) - This indicator is well below target and unlikely to change before the end of the LAA. This was an ambitious target for NS.</p> <p>Level 2 Skills – At the present time it is likely that this indicator will fail. When the target was set the LSC were unable to calculate data specific to NS. Area specific data is now available. The baseline is currently under re-negotiation with GOSW.</p> <p>Inactive Benefits – This indicator is below target, and currently not reaching the 60% threshold. After the start of the LAA the government introduced a new scheme for the client group, reducing numbers referred. Numbers are now picking up as negotiations have resulted in clients being referred equally to both schemes.</p> <p>Action –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional resources and support are recommended to bring this indicator up to 60% threshold. <p>4-week quitters (mental health services) – This indicator is well above target.</p> <p>4-week quitters (deprived area) – This indicator is well below target. One reason for this is that the postcode area for this indicator was changed, giving a possible error of about 200 people.</p> <p>Action –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This indicator is under discussion with GOSW. Auditors will review the indicator and results later this year. 		
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<p>Self directed care – This indicator is above target and likely to remain so.</p> <p>Slimming – This indicator is above target. However, there are delays in receipt of data as this is supplied by outside groups. The delay also means it is difficult to identify trends.</p> <p>Physical activity – This indicator is well above target. It is measured through a Sport England survey. The final results will be measured in the survey that will take place in October 09.</p> <p>Domestic violence (incidents) – This indicator is above target. Note: There may be a risk to achieving the final targets where funding streams end.</p> <p>Domestic violence (repeats) – This indicator is meeting its target. Note: There may be a risk to achieving the final targets where funding streams end.</p> <p>Criminal damage – This indicator fell below target in the last quarter. It has achieved the non-stretch target but is below the 60% threshold.</p> <p>Action –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further resource and support could enable this indicator to reach the 60% threshold. ES to find further information about prevention programmes and share with VANS, could tie in with volunteering targets. <p>Volunteering – This indicator is well below target. It is measured by the Place Survey and final results will come from the 2010 survey. In view of the time factor additional support is recommended to bring this indicator up to the 60% threshold.</p> <p>Action –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of what constitutes volunteering e.g. through VANS campaign and partner organisations. VANS meeting with NSEA to promote volunteering among small businesses. Promote volunteering opportunities for all age groups e.g. involved for 16-25 yr olds. • Check with Dave Ostry (NSC) whether there is an opportunity to define volunteering and to give examples on the next Place Survey to encourage people to answer. <p>Drug related deaths – No data available. There have been issues with counting methods. Currently using the old counting method alongside the new.</p> <p>During their discussions the sub-group agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All data should be verified and checked to ensure accuracy • Responsible officers should be asked to ensure that robust action plans are in place and to identify additional work that could be undertaken to improve performance, particularly for marginal indicators 	<p>ES/ BS</p> <p>All</p> <p>P&P Team</p> <p>ES</p> <p>ES</p>	
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<p>4.</p>	<p>Performance Reward Grant (PRG) – LAA 2007-2010</p> <p>ES circulated a report giving an overview of PRG, likely levels of reward grant to be achieved and options for disbursement of the funding. The main points to note are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To receive any PRG an indicator must achieve at least 60% of the stretch target. • PRG is payable on a sliding scale once the 60% threshold has been reached. • PRG is paid in two instalments – half in the year following the end of the delivery period and the second half the following year. • Payments are half capital and half revenue with no other restrictions on spend. • Achieving all our stretch targets would result in £5,308,435 PRG • The current rate of achievement would result in £3,101,661 (which is more than would be received by meeting only 60% performance on all indicators) <p>North Somerset was one of the third wave of authorities to agree an LAA and examples of how other authorities are allocating their PRG had been collated. A number of options for North Somerset had also been identified. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Splitting the PRG between the four LAA theme blocks • Splitting the PRG between the six SCS shared priorities • Allocating the PRG back to the 17 stretch targets • Using a bidding process to allocate funding <p>The sub-group generally felt that the bidding process would be the best way forward. This would enable the PRG to support areas where funding is most needed to enable delivery of the SCS priorities and aims. The sub-group could identify the main areas for improvement or particular risk under the shared priorities and the delivery partnerships would then bid for funding within these identified areas. The sub-group agreed it is important to ensure that all priority areas have an opportunity to receive funding.</p> <p>Action: The group asked that a more detailed process and timetable be drawn up for consideration at the next meeting so that a recommendation can be taken to the Board. JF asked Bob Snow to assist with this.</p>	<p>JF/ ES/ BS</p>	<p>Early July</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Comprehensive Area Assessment</p> <p>Phil Suter, Lead Officer for CAA from the Audit Commission spoke to the sub-group about CAA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAA framework has been brought in to help partnership working to deliver better outcomes. • It will concentrate on outcomes rather than processes • It will report to the public showing how effective local public services are • It will consider what the prospects for improvement are 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is not scored • The report will be a narrative with areas of concern or exceptional performance highlighted by red or green flags. • Red flags will be used only where performance is poor and the responsible organisation has no effective plan to address this • Green flags will be used where there are exceptional outcomes or innovative plans leading to exceptional outcomes • The first Reports should be available at the end of November and then annually. • Reports will be mainly web-based and it will be possible to 'drill-down' from top level reports to individual inspection reports. • CAA will gather information using current information and reporting processes • A liaison group has been established with key public agencies locally to share evidence and get feedback – JF is a member. • Key issues across the West of England partnership area are: transport, waste and strategic housing • Key issues across North Somerset are: sustaining improvement in the most deprived and vulnerable communities and plans to address growth in the older population • The key national issue to focus on is responding to the recession <p>The sub-group agreed JF would be the link between the liaison group and sub-group. He will contact sub-group members for information as required.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KW asked how delivery partnerships could be involved in the process. She asked that a briefing note be circulated to each delivery partnership chair to inform them about the liaison group, and their remit. • Phil Suter agreed to provide and electronic copy of his presentation VK to circulate. 	<p>LB</p> <p>PS/ VK</p>	<p>19June</p> <p>asap</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Structure and Governance</p> <p>Executive/delivery partnership update</p> <p>LB circulated a table outlining current membership of the sub-group and possible membership of the Executive. Formation of the Executive has been delayed whilst delivery partnerships develop and appoint a chair. The sub-group discussed membership of the Executive and the need to cover all the shared priorities as well as ensure each sector is appropriately represented.</p> <p>The Sub-group agreed to increase the size of the Executive to nine to enable cross sector and cross delivery partnership representation.</p> <p>Membership to be:</p> <p>Vice Chair of Board (as Chair)</p> <p>Chair H&WB delivery partnership</p> <p>Chair SS delivery partnership</p> <p>Chair TEE delivery partnership</p>		

	<p>Chair CTMB Voluntary sector rep Business sector representative Additional third sector rep Additional TEE/learning & skills rep</p> <p>Governance Handbook VK reminded sub-group members to review the draft governance handbook and provide any comments by 17 June. This will then be discussed with Kay and a final draft taken to the Board in July.</p>		
		All	17June
		VK/KW	25June
7.	<p>Recession Action Plan LB updated the sub-group on the further development of the recession action plan initiated at the last board meeting. It had been taken to NSC Corporate Management Team to consider how actions can be further supported. Updates from Board members leading on actions in the plan will be given at the next Board meeting.</p>		
8.	<p>AOB VK advised the sub-group that the Audit Commission had published a report – Working Better Together? Managing Local Strategic Partnerships. Recommendations from the Report are being analysed and a draft action plan will be circulated with the meeting notes.</p>		

Date of next meeting: 23 July, 2pm-4pm CSU Room, Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare