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Sent via email

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Dear Joanna and Keith,

**LAA GOVERNMENT OFFICE SOUTH EAST HIGHLIGHT REPORT ON
OXFORDSHIRE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT (LAA)**

Annual review April 2006 – March 2007

As you will be aware CLG required each LAA to undergo a formal end of year assessment. This was not scored but focused on outcomes where there was a risk of delivery not being achieved, assessing the degree of risk and outlining actions agreed to mitigate these risks.

The report attached was based on the partnership self assessment, discussion at the Public Service Board, the annual review meeting that I conducted in June along with the APA that my colleague David Pettit conducted on the Children and Young People services around the same period .

The key messages are:

Partners in Oxfordshire are to be congratulated – there is much excellent work in progress in Oxfordshire. Of note is the strengthening of partnership arrangements and the leadership by two of the districts on two key targets. This has included the establishment of new partnership arrangement for the delivery of affordable housing in the County . Looking to the future, this will provide a good foundation to ensure that partners on the PSB robustly challenge each other on performance to move from target monitoring to effective performance management. Future partnership working to deliver agreed outcomes for Oxfordshire under the new style LAAs will also undoubtedly need to build on this if we are to progress further robust decision making on allocation of resources between partners based on mutual trust.

Good progress is being made across most outcomes and there is a clear self-assessment system in place. However, there are a small number of outcomes where we have

concerns as to their achievement by the end of the agreement. These are smoking cessation, young people and enterprise, crime, and teenage pregnancy. These have also been highlighted as of concern by your partners and in the main action put in place to address these. As highlighted in the report, I would like to draw you and your partners attention to the need for clear plans to be developed that involve a wider range of partners to address the risks associated with one key enterprise outcome along with the major crime outcome. There is also a need to ensure - for some areas - that strong, cross-agency performance management arrangements are in place to support action being taken for those indicators where action is required across a range of partners to achieve results. It would be helpful if the Public Service Board could review those areas of risk identified in the report.

As we start to discuss what outcomes need to be included within the new LAA, it is probable that the key issues around underperformance in smoking cessation, young people and enterprise, comparator crime especially wounding, criminal damage and violence against the person, and teenage pregnancy will all need to be considered for inclusion.

I am also copying this to Paul James, your Partnership Manager at Oxfordshire County Council, for onward communication to other partners as appropriate.

I very much look forward to working with you and your partners over the coming year as you all continue to deliver on the outcomes in your current LAA and we develop the new style LAA for Oxfordshire.

Yours sincerely,



Di Morrish
Locality Manager - Oxfordshire