

OXFORDSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD 18 FEBRUARY 2009

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT “REFRESH”

Introduction

1. Having agreed our Local Area Agreement with government in June 2008 there were a number of indicators for which it was not possible to agree baselines or three year targets. These outstanding issues are being addressed through the refresh process.
2. Indicators for consideration at the refresh fall into four categories;
 - Indicators that were agreed last June with caveats - such as a lack of available trend data at the time,
 - Place survey based indicators,
 - New national indicators without an agreed definition or a lack of baseline information.
 - World Class Economy indicators where we reserved the right to look again at our economically sensitive indicators in light of the economic downturn.

Additionally the ‘national standards process’ will set annual targets for the mandatory educational achievement indicators.

3. Negotiations between our target leads and Government Office leads are now underway.
4. A list of indicators in the refresh and their current status is at **Annex A**.

Progress to date

5. Some targets requiring only minor adjustment have already been resolved - subject to PSB approval.
6. GOSE has placed responsibility for proving the negative impact of the economic slowdown on targets with us. Target leads are preparing their evidence to present to GOSE:
 - NI 152 people off out of work benefits;
 - NI 117 Not in education, employment or training. We already know that we probably cannot meet this target. NI 154 Net additional homes and
 - NI 155 Number of affordable homes delivered

We will have to assess whether we can set realistic targets for these indicators given current circumstances and may need to consider whether designation of these targets for reward grant is desirable.

7. Negotiation on targets based on Place Survey indicators will begin later in February when verified data is back from the Audit Commission and we have analysed the information.

8. NI 185 CO2 reduction: baseline information will not be available within the refresh timescale, but local data suggests that the targets already set are no longer realistic. We are discussing the position with GOSE.
9. NI 81 Inequality gap at level 3 at 19: Analysis of the current cohort suggests that the inequality gap is much larger than previous forecasts, which makes the target unachievable. We are seeking to renegotiate.
10. NI 32 Repeat incidents of domestic violence - the national indicator definition has not officially been confirmed yet so target negotiation cannot begin. There is concern locally that we should not rush into agreeing targets until we have fully analysed the baseline data for the new indicator.

Timescales

19 th February	Steering Group consider progress and identify gaps
2 nd March	Draft refreshed LAA to GOSE
2 nd – 10 th March	Thematic Partnerships agree refreshed targets
w/c 23 rd March	Additional PSB meeting (to be scheduled) to agree refresh. Delegate Steering Group responsibility for final negotiations
26 th March	Steering Group agree targets
26 th March	Final deadline for refreshed LAA
27 th March – 1 April	GOSE submit adopted LAA to central government

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Note the progress of the refresh discussions

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Indicator	Current status (dated)
NI 70 Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people	050209 Data available next week GOSE willing to reset targets. Sarah and Nikki in touch.
NI 81 Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	Renegotiating target as Y1 figures show targets were inappropriate
NI 110 Young people's participation in positive activities	Target negotiated
NI 111 First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17	Target negotiated
NI 117 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)	Data in preparation for discussion with GOSE
NI 152 Working age people on out of work benefits	Awaiting target negotiation brief. Data in preparation for discussion with GOSE
NI 163 Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher	Change to baseline but does not affect our baseline or targets.
NI 164 Working age population qualified to at least Level 3 or higher	Amendment to baseline means adjustment to targets - agreed
NI 20 Assault with injury crime rate	Negotiations will start later in February. Issue around inclusion of domestic abuse in figures.
NI 21 Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police	Place survey indicator - negotiations start later in February
NI 32 Repeat incidents of domestic violence	Awaiting target definition, do not wish to start negotiations until definition understood
NI 40 Drug users in effective treatment	Revised targets agreed due to change in baseline
NI 141 Number of vulnerable people achieving independent living	Clarification of data collection received
NI 154 Net additional homes provided	
NI 155 Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)	Preparing data to present to GOSE to discuss renegotiation
NI 8 Adult participation in sport	Confirmation of baseline data required

Indicator	Current status (dated)
NI 120 All-age all cause mortality rate	Discussions ongoing
NI 135 Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information	Agreed not to renegotiate the target levels
NI 175 Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling	Discussions ongoing
NI 185 CO2 reduction from Local Authority operations	Baseline data not available until April. Current targets do not appear realistic
NI 5 Overall/general satisfaction with local area	Place survey indicator - negotiations start later in February
NI 6 Participation in regular volunteering	Place survey indicator - negotiations start later in February
NI 140 Fair Treatment by local Services	Place survey indicator - negotiations start later in February
NI 179 Value for money – total net value of on-going cash-releasing value for money gains that have impacted since the start of the 2008-9 financial year	Discussions around baseline are ongoing
Mandatory education indicators	Set through the national standards process