

OXFORDSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD – 2 SEPTEMBER 2009

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS TO THE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Background

1. The revised Governance arrangements give the thematic partnerships primary responsibility for driving delivery of the Local Area Agreement 2 targets, the Sustainable Community Strategy (Oxfordshire 2030) and the National Indicator Set.
2. This paper proposes developments to the current performance reporting arrangements to better reflect the amended governance framework.

Proposed approach

LAA reporting

3. To enable the PSB to support and challenge the Thematic Partnerships' delivery of their targets it is proposed that, from Quarter 2, Thematic Partnerships should report to the PSB on the actions they are taking to manage areas of identified poor performance (that is, those targets designated 'red' or 'amber'). To achieve this without placing too great a burden on partnerships, it is proposed that when a given target LAA target is 'red' or 'amber' for a second consecutive quarter, then a detailed 'report card' will be sent to the PSB from that partnership.

Other National Indicators

4. With ownership of all National Indicators now agreed, it is proposed that, from Quarter 2, the PSB will receive, from each Thematic Partnership, an overall percentage score of the managed National Indicators that are on target in that quarter. This report would take the form of a 'traffic light' summary, in which a partnership achieves 'green' status when more than 59% of that partnership's managed National Indicators are on target.

Oxfordshire 2030 targets

5. There is also an opportunity to further develop the Oxfordshire 2030 Delivery Plan. Thematic Partnerships are in a strong position to thoroughly review all of the measures that are set against individual pledges and strategic objectives in the Plan, with a view to identifying a series of targets that:
 - (a) Better describe what good performance against each strategic objective would look like

- (b) Enable much more effective in-year monitoring of work against those objectives; enabling us to demonstrate that what we are doing is working.
6. It is proposed that, to begin this work, the Policy Unit conduct workshops with each Thematic Partnerships to review current measures, and also to consider targets that would manage our performance more effectively. Once the 2030 targets have been revised and agreed it is proposed that each thematic partnership should report quarterly on progress against these targets. The reporting should take the same form as the (non LAA) NI reporting, so that rather reporting on all targets, they provide a traffic light summary of overall performance.

Support

7. Oxfordshire County Council's Policy Unit will provide support to Thematic Partnerships during this transition, as the partnerships assume responsibility for the performance management of Local Area Agreement 2008-2011, Oxfordshire 2030 and National Indicators. This support will include the identification of a liaison officer for each thematic partnership to support the development of performance management and to work with the partnerships to refresh Oxfordshire 2030 measures. The Local Area Agreement manager will provide targeted support on specific high risk targets and the Partnerships Unit will also offer support to embed and develop the wider governance arrangements.

Other matters to note for information

8. Performance managers from the member authorities have worked together to draft a Partnerships Data Sharing Protocol. The draft is now complete and will be circulated for comment/agreement in September.

Recommendation

9. The PSB is asked to agree these revisions to the performance reporting arrangements.

Tracy Luck

Head of Strategy

25 August 2009