

## **Future arrangements for Local Area Agreements**

- **Introduction**

In February 2007 government published 'Future arrangements for Local Area Agreements' which outlined its proposals originally set out in the White Paper last year.

Detailed statutory and operational guidance for LAAs is expected alongside the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007, now delayed until the autumn.

It was anticipated that all areas would have a new style LAA by April 2008 but this will slip to June 2008 due to the delayed spending review.

- **The Guidance**

- LAAs will be the only place where targets to be delivered either by local government on its own, or with partners are agreed.
- LAA targets will be drawn from a new national indicator set of 200 indicators that is in development.
- LAAs will consist of a base set of pre-existing statutory educational and early years targets (currently 18), up to 35 improvement targets (drawn from the new national indicator set) and an unspecified number of locally agreed targets.
- The four thematic blocks remain the same – with the exception of Economic Development which becomes Economic Development and Environment (also including cultural issues)
- LAAs are no longer about specific funding for specific targets. There will be a new un-ring fenced area based LAA grant. It is assumed that all area based funding will come through this route in future. The detail of this will be outlined in the Spending Review.
- LAA will be subject to an annual review which will be informed by the Comprehensive Area Assessment.

- **In Oxfordshire**

### ***Principles***

Our next LAA will be informed by the priorities identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy. It will act as the delivery plan for that strategy.

Our LAA will reflect our priorities for the area and not government's. We therefore need clear proposals to present to GOSE in the autumn.

The application process and project management of targets in the new LAA will be more stringent to avoid potential problems with ongoing performance monitoring.

Additional staff resource will be required in the LAA Central Team to manage the development process.

**Process**

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| June-Sept | Block groups analyse existing government targets and identify likely indicators in the 200 national set. Analyse evidence and emerging priorities in the Oxfordshire 2020 and outline potential targets for LAA2. This will include carrying over existing targets in our LAA. |
| Sept      | PSB consider blocks analysis of priorities and agree focus   |
| Oct       | National indicator set, statutory and operational guidance published.<br>Discussion with GOSE about our priorities for LAA2<br>PSB agree targets for development   |
| Oct-Dec   | Detailed plans for targets developed and submitted   |
| Dec       | PSB agree targets for negotiation<br>Draft LAA2 submitted to GOSE  |
| Jan-Feb   | Negotiate targets with government  |
| Mar       | Final draft  |

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