

South Derbyshire Local Strategic Partnership

Report to the LSP Board

Date of meeting: 24th September 2008

Agenda item: 12

DERBYSHIRE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2008-2011

Purpose of the Report

To update the LSP Board of progress on the development of the new Derbyshire Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2008-2011 and to inform partners about proposed next steps.

Approval of Derbyshire Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2008-2011

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (CLG) formally approved the LAA and designated Derbyshire's 35 improvement targets on 30 June 2008. Whilst the two local targets contained within the Derbyshire LAA are not designated targets, the statutory duty to have regard to these targets still applies.

The formal approval of the LAA has two key effects.

1. Targets that have been designated by the Secretary of State may not be altered without the agreement of all partners signed up to the target and the Secretary of State;
2. The "duty to have regard" to targets now applies to all statutory 'partner authorities' where they have signed up and are named against the designated and non designated (local) targets in the LAA.

Next steps

Duty to have regard to LAA targets

In order to fulfil the requirement to 'have regard' statutory partner authorities are expected to be able to demonstrate how they are effectively planning for the implementation of their contribution to the achievement of those targets to which they have signed up.

Delivery planning

The focus now moves to delivery of the LAA and how partners will use it to make a difference to public services and the quality of life for people in Derbyshire. Each of the six thematic partnerships are currently working on the ongoing development of plans and strategies to help deliver the LAA.

Annual review and refresh of the LAA

The next step in the new LAA framework is the annual review which will take place in winter 2008. The annual review will lead to the development and approval, by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government of a refreshed LAA by the end of March 2009. The refreshed LAA will then take effect from 1 April 2009.

Communication

Communication with partners and the public has a central role to play in ensuring the success of the Derbyshire LAA. To facilitate increased awareness, understanding, information giving, feedback, discussion and decision-making amongst partner organisations and local communities, existing channels of communication will be used and new ones developed where necessary.

Throughout autumn and winter all 42 community forums in Derbyshire will be informed about the LAA priorities for Derbyshire and data gathered will be used to help identify how these differ for residents across the county. Participants will also have the opportunity to identify local issues within these broader priorities and to consider possible local activity to help support delivery. These events will also enable local people to identify if there are emerging priorities which in turn will inform the LAA refresh to be completed by March 2009.

Recommendations

1. That partners note formal approval of the Derbyshire LAA 2008 - 2011.
2. That partners note the next step approach as set out above.
3. That partner agencies continue to communicate issues relating to the Derbyshire LAA within their own organisations.

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