

Report to : **Tameside Strategic Partnership (TSP) Board**

Date : 21<sup>st</sup> September 2007

Reporting Officer : **Steven Pleasant**  
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Subject : **LAA (Local Area Agreement) – Progress and Update Report**

Report Summary : The report provides the TSP Board with a progress report on the achievement of the LAA and an update on the future development of LAAs.

Recommendations : The report to be noted and action taken where appropriate.

Financial Implications : There are no direct financial implications as a result of the report.

Policy Implications : The priorities within the LAA are drawn from existing work of the TSP Board and Thematic Partnerships. The effectiveness of the LAA and the achievement of outcomes against these priorities impacts directly on all the themes of the Community Strategy.

Need for Decision : The TSP Board endorse the establishment of an LAA Monitoring Executive.

Links to Community Strategy : The LAA is an important element in the achievement of the Community Strategy and improving the quality of life in Tameside.

## **1.0 Background – Tameside’s LAA**

- 1.1 The LAA was signed on 29 March 2007 by the Chair of the TSP, the Chief Executive of TMBC and Ruth Kelly the Minister for Communities & Local Government. The agreement became live on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007 and runs for 3 years to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.
- 1.2 Further details and a copy of the agreement can be obtained from the LAA area of the TSP website, <http://www.tameside-strategic-partnership.org.uk/strategy/LAA-home.htm> .

## **2.0 Monitoring and achieving the LAA**

- 2.1 In order to achieve the targets set out in the LAA the organisations responsible for delivery will need to closely monitor performance and ensure effective actions are in place.
- 2.2 LAA Monitoring by GONW. The minimum requirement is to complete six monthly returns to GONW that inform subsequent formal review meetings; and an annual review of the whole Agreement to consider any target adjustments and new performance measures.
- 2.3 The annual review will normally take place in May of each year. The mid-year review will be in November. The first six monthly review of the Tameside LAA will also include a re-evaluation of the agreement as the move to ‘new model’ LAAs is implemented under the Local Government White Paper. See section 4 for further details.
- 2.4 Tameside LAA Performance Management Framework (PMF). The PMF supplements these mandatory requirements to ensure that timely action is taken to rectify any underperformance and maximise the use of resources across agencies, and learn from successful initiatives.
- 2.5 The TSP has an established performance management framework which has been central to the success of the TSP Board and Thematic Partnerships. Tameside’s LAA will draw on this, but with some additional elements to reflect the complexity and importance of the LAA.
- 2.6 The LAA Steering Group and Block Groups meet on a quarterly basis to review reports on performance and propose new actions where improvement is required. The Steering Group is responsible for approving the 6-monthly reports to GONW; re-negotiation of the LAA; and connecting activity in relation to the cross-cutting themes.
- 2.7 Performance against the whole LAA will be reported to the TSP Board by the LAA Steering Group. The Board will ensure that actions are co-ordinated across the LAA. The Board will also hold each Thematic Partnership to account on progress against their LAA performance measures through the Annual Reporting process. Performance against the LAA will be reported to each Thematic Partnership every 6 months by the relevant LAA block lead (theme lead for SSC). The Partnership Agreements for each Thematic Partnership were updated in Spring 2007 to include all LAA performance measures.
- 2.8 The establishment of an executive group to monitor the LAA on behalf of the TSP is proposed. The executive would be a sub-group of the TSP Board and would take a strategic overview of LAA performance and ensure appropriate action is taken to achieve outcomes, so complimenting the operational function of the Steering Group.




The group would be made up of Board Members from the organisations that lead on the LAA performance indicators, with the addition of New Charter housing as a key stakeholder in the delivery of the LAA.

### 3.0 Quarter 1 – 2007/08 – progress report

- 3.1 The LAA Steering Group met on 31<sup>st</sup> July to review performance reports for the first quarter of 2007/08.
- 3.2 Attached at the Appendix is the Quarter 1 – 2007/08 – LAA Performance Monitor.
- 3.3 The LAA includes 91 performance measures which track progress against the aims and outcomes of the agreement.
- 3.4 Not all of the 91 measures can be judged for direction of travel (improvement/decline) or likely target achievement. This can be for a number of reasons. For example, data is only collected annually, the baseline is not available as it is for a later period, the performance measure is underdevelopment or the target is yet to be agreed.

#### Summary of Performance at Quarter 1 – 2007/08

- 3.5 The table below summarises performance at Quarter 1 – 2007/08.

|                  | IMPROVEMENT   |     |            | TARGET     |     |          |                  |
|------------------|---|-----|------------|------------|-----|----------|------------------|
|                  |   | No. | %          | %          | No. |          |                  |
| <b>IMPROVING</b> |    | 27  | <b>79%</b> | <b>67%</b> | 26  | <b>G</b> | <b>ON TARGET</b> |
| <b>NO CHANGE</b> |   | 2   | <b>6%</b>  | <b>15%</b> | 6   | <b>A</b> | <b>MONITOR</b>   |
| <b>DECLINING</b> |  | 5   | <b>15%</b> | <b>18%</b> | 7   | <b>R</b> | <b>ACTION</b>    |

- 3.6 Performance at Quarter 1 – 2007/08 is very strong. 79% of measures show an improvement on the previous period or baseline. 67% of measures are on course to achieve the 2007/08 target. 15% need to be closely monitored and the remaining 18% require further action.
- 3.7 Those measures which are highlighted as not on course to achieve target and needing further actions are listed below. For further details see the data tables at Appendix B.

#### Safer & Stronger Communities

- SSC 1.4 – thefts from vehicles
- SSC 1.5b – violent crime robbery
- SSC 5.3 – abandoned vehicles

#### Children & Young People

- CYP 3.5 – teenage pregnancy

#### Healthier Communities & Older People

- None

#### Economic Development

- ED 1.1 – worklessness (borough-wide)
- ED 1.2 – worklessness (Ashton St. Peters)
- ED 1.3 – worklessness (Ashton St. Peters compared to England)

### 4.0 'New model' LAAs – 2008/09

- 4.1 The Local Government White Paper 'Strong and Prosperous Communities' set out proposals to make LAAs central to the relationship between Government and local areas. CLG have issued a discussion paper 'Developing the future arrangements for LAAs'. The document is not final guidance but provides further thoughts on how 'new model' LAAs will operate, in particular the relationship with the new performance framework.
- 4.2 LAAs will continue to be three-year agreements with priorities agreed between all the main public sector agencies working in the area and with central Government.
- 4.3 The key elements of the proposed 'new model' LAAs are detailed below.

#### Structure of 'new model' LAA agreements

- 18 statutory education/early years targets
- 35 targets from the new national indicator set (approx. 200) agreed with GONW
- # additional local targets (if required) which will have the same legal status as targets agreed with GONW but which will not need to be reported to Government.
- Duty on named partners to have regard to LAA targets
- Opportunity to agree changes to targets (between November and January) with the Secretary of State to take effect from the following April
- Spatial targets would be appropriate where neighbourhood renewal is a priority.

#### Performance monitoring

- Six monthly performance reviews replaced by one annual performance review.
- Annual reviews will inform CAA (Comprehensive Area Assessments), focusing on outcomes across the whole area and partnership not just the local authority

#### Funding

- Presumption that all funding should be mainstreamed and the delivery of targets should be supported by all resources in an area. Primarily funding should come from mainstream sources (e.g. RSG)
- An unringfenced LAA grant will bring together all other area based funding streams that cannot be mainstreamed to support the targets agreed with Govt in the LAA.
- Future of reward targets will be confirmed as part of the CSR in late 2007.

- 4.4 The details will become much clearer when the statutory guidance for 'new model' LAAs and the national indicator set are published later in 2007.

#### Timetable and transition to 'new model' LAAs – 2007/08

- 4.5 'New model' LAAs were proposed to go live from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 for all areas. The timetable has been moved back to June 2008 as it is closely linked to the new national performance framework and the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR07). The Government has confirmed that the CSR will not be completed until later in the year and as such this impacts on the timetable for agreeing 'new model' LAAs.
- 4.6 The Tameside LAA should not need to be fully re-negotiated. The priorities/outcomes agreed and signed off in March 2007 will continue. Work will be needed though to adjust the content of the agreement to bring it in line with the 'new model'. E.g. selecting measures from the new national indicators set. The LAAs overall aims and objectives will remain and continue to support achievement of the Community Strategy.
- 4.7 The mid-year review in 2007/08 looking back on performance in the previous six months will be widened to include a re-evaluation of the LAA agreement/priorities and planning for the transition to the 'new model'. This work will then continue through into the first half of 2008.