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## Cheshire LAA 2008 – 11: Current Progress and Next Steps

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### Background

As partners are aware, work has been progressing well on the development of a short-term (nine month) Local Area Agreement for Cheshire and that a draft long list of Indicators, influenced and endorsed by the Communities of Cheshire Partnership and Cheshire Governance Board, was submitted to Government Office for the North West at the end of January. To date this work has been set in the context of the Government's Implementation Guidance for Local Authorities affected by LGR which stated that for split County unitaries:

- “a single LAA is negotiated with the County covering the existing geographical area for one year
- from 2009-10, each new unitary will have a separate two-year LAA”.

However, throughout this process a number of concerns have been expressed by partners about potential wasted effort, lack of capacity to engage in two separate but overlapping processes, lack of influence over corporate planning processes, difficulties associated with short-term performance management and the inability to set stretch targets (and therefore draw down reward grant) as a result of a nine-month initial agreement. In addition, national delays in the publication of key contextual documents and processes for the LAA have added to the uncertainty.

As a result and at the request of both the Communities of Cheshire Partnership and Governance Board, the County Council as the Accountable Body for the LAA have continued to lobby the Government for a different approach. Throughout these discussions it has been made clear that the one thing that is non-negotiable is that there MUST be a new style LAA in place across Cheshire by 30 June 2008. However, over the past month GONW have indicated that they would accept a more flexible approach to the overall timescale of the agreement to help the County Council and its partners manage the LGR transition period; ensuring that current work is not wasted, yet providing a firm foundation on which the new unitary authorities can build when they are ready to do so.

### Current Position

Following individual discussions with partners through the Cheshire Partnerships Framework, the work undertaken to date on the new-style LAA has been modified in order to develop a “severable” transitional LAA, which would include disaggregated targets where appropriate, for East and West Cheshire for at least 2008/9 and set a longer-term direction of travel for 2009-11 for the new unitaries and their partners. This will require an important balance to be struck between planning for a longer-

term horizon whilst ensuring the two new local authorities and their partners are not hidebound by inappropriate targets set by their predecessors.

In practical terms this has resulted in a quick review of the long list of indicators submitted to GONW at the end of January to ensure that more relevant indicators previously omitted because they did not lend themselves to a shorter term agreement because of target setting or performance management issues are now included. This should now mean that the LAA indicator list more accurately reflects the issues and priorities for Cheshire and its communities rather than being determined or influenced by the LAA 'process'.

A revised list of LAA indicators was submitted to GONW on 12 March for onward submission to the Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG) and the 'home' departments (see Appendix A). At the time of writing, a formal response from the Government on this long list is still awaited though initial feedback from GONW has been positive.

Work is now continuing to establish / finalise baselines for each of the indicators from which both 'designated' (centrally reported) and 'non designated' (locally reported) targets for 2008/09 can be negotiated and set. As previously stated, every effort will be made to differentiate the targets on an east/west/locality basis to reflect local priorities and the need for different solutions in different parts of the county where this is relevant and practicable.

Under this revised approach as part of the sign-off process, it will be necessary to agree with the Government a "severance process" by which the two new authorities and their partners could take their elements of the LAA forward independently when they were ready to do so. This might be by a certain date, or at a time when certain conditions were in place, e.g. new LSPs, Sustainable Community Strategies and/or mechanisms for community engagement. This severance process will allow the two new unitaries and their partners an opportunity to review the priorities and targets set out in the LAA and to renegotiate them with Government for 2009 and beyond if required, once their Members, LSPs and communities had been engaged and their Sustainable Community Strategies were in place.

## **Recommendation**

As a pragmatic response to managing the LGR transition within Cheshire, and to simplify the process for partners simultaneously working on 3 year LAAs in Halton and Warrington, it is recommended that the Partnership:

- (i) fully supports the revised approach of a severable, transitional LAA for 2008-11;
- (ii) endorses the list of 35 'areas for improvement' drawn from the new National Indicator Set, supplemented by local indicators where necessary, as submitted to GONW on 12 March 2008; and
- (iii) delegates the development of appropriate baselines and targets against each of the indicators to the respective Cheshire-wide thematic partnerships.

## CHESHIRE LAA 2008/09: SUGGESTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (as at 12 March 2008)

	REF	DESCRIPTION	DATA SOURCE	REPORTING ORGANISATION	REPORTING INTERVAL
1	NI 4	% of people who feel they can influence decisions in the locality (PSA 21)		Place Survey	Annual
2	<b>NI 8</b>	<b>Adult participation in sport and active recreation (DCMS DSO)</b>	<b>Active People Survey</b>	<b>Sport England / DCMS</b>	<b>Annual</b>
3	NI 18	Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision (PSA 23)		National Offender Management Service / Probation	Quarterly
4	NI 20	Assault with injury crime rate (PSA 25)		BCU / CDRP	Monthly
5	NI 21	Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police (PSA 23)		Place Survey	Bi-annual
6	NI 30	Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders (HO DSO)		tbc	tbc
7	NI 32	Repeat incidents of domestic violence (PSA 23)		BCU / CDRP	Quarterly
8	NI 33	Arson incidents (HO DSO)		Fire & Rescue Authority	Annual (FY)
9	NI 47	People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents (DfT DSO)		Local Authorities	Annual
10	<b>NI 56</b>	<b>Obesity in primary school age children in Year 6 (DCSF DSO)</b>	<b>Primary Care Trust</b>	<b>NHS Information Centre</b>	<b>Annual</b>
11	NI 110	Young people's participation in positive activities (PSA 14)		Local Authorities via CCIS	Monthly
12	NI 111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17 (PSA 14)		Youth Offending Team	Quarterly
13	<b>NI 112</b>	<b>Under 18 conception rate (PSA 14)</b>	<b>ONS conception statistics</b>	<b>ONS / DCSF</b>	<b>Annual</b>
14	NI 115	Substance misuse by young people (PSA 14)		Ofsted (Tell Us survey)	Annual

15	NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) (PSA 14)	Client Caseload Information System (CCIS)	DCSF based on aggregate of data received from local authorities / Connexions providers	Monthly
16	NI 120	All-age all cause mortality rate (PSA 18)	ONS	National Centre for Health Outcomes Development	Annual
17	NI 121	Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75 (DH DSO)	ONS	National Centre for Health Outcomes Development	Annual
18	NI 123	Stopping smoking (PSA 18)	Information Centre for Health and Social Care	Information Centre for Health and Social Care	Quarterly
19	NI 125	Achieving independence for older people through rehabilitation/intermediate care (DH DSO)	Social Care Keystats Collection (KS1)	Information Centre for Health and Social Care (derived from information supplied by LAs)	Annual
20	NI 130	Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support (Direct Payments and Individual Budgets – adults all ages)	Referrals, Assessment and Packages of Care Data (RAP), Personal Social Services Expenditure and Unit Costs, ONS	Information Centre for Health and Social Care (derived from information supplied by LAs)	Annual
21	NI 135	Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information (DH DSO)	Referrals, Assessment and Packages of Care Data (RAP)	Information Centre for Health and Social Care (based on information supplied by LAs)	Annual
22	NI 137	Healthy life expectancy at age 65 (PSA 17)		Place Survey	Bi-annual
23	NI 141	Percentage of vulnerable people achieving independent living (CLG DSO)	Local Authorities	CLG	Quarterly
24	NI 142	Percentage of vulnerable people who are supported to maintain independent living (CLG DSO)	Local Authorities	CLG	Quarterly
25	NI 153	Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods (DWP DSO)	Benefit data from Work and Pensions	Jobcentre Plus	Quarterly
26	NI 154	Net additional homes provided (PSA 20)	Housing Flows Reconciliation return	Local Authorities	Annual
27	NI 155	Number of affordable homes delivered (gross) (PSA 20)	Housing Corporation / Local Authorities (HSSA & P2)	CLG	Annual

28	<b>NI 156</b>	<b>Number of households living in temporary accommodation (PSA 20)</b>	<b>P1E data</b>	<b>CLG</b>	<b>Quarterly</b>
29	<b>NI 163</b>	<b>Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2 or higher (PSA 2)</b>	<b>ONS Annual Population Survey</b>	<b>DIUS</b>	<b>Annual (CY)</b>
30	<b>NI 164</b>	<b>Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 3 or higher (PSA 2)</b>	<b>ONS Annual Population Survey</b>	<b>DIUS</b>	<b>Annual (CY)</b>
31	<b>NI 168</b>	<b>Principal roads where maintenance should be considered (DfT DSO)</b>	<b>Local Authorities</b>	<b>Local Authorities</b>	<b>Annual</b>
32	<b>NI 169</b>	<b>Non-principal classified roads where maintenance should be considered (DfT DSO)</b>	<b>Local Authorities</b>	<b>Local Authorities</b>	<b>Annual</b>
33	<b>NI 171</b>	<b>New business registration rate (BERR DSO)</b>	<b>BERR</b>	<b>ONS</b>	<b>Annual (CY)</b>
34	<b>NI 186</b>	<b>Per capita reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the LA area (PSA 27)</b>	<b>Defra</b>	<b>Defra</b>	<b>Annual</b>
35	<b>NI 191</b>	<b>Residual household waste per household (Defra DSO)</b>	<b>WasteDataFlow</b>	<b>Local Authorities</b>	<b>Annual</b>

\*\* Indicators in bold reflect receipt of final technical definitions.

#### **SUGGESTED NON-DESIGNATED INDICATORS WITH PROXY MEASURES FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

NI 56	Obesity in primary school age children in Year 6 (DCSF DSO)
NI 111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17 (PSA 14)
NI 112	Under 18 conception rate (PSA 14)
NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) (PSA 14)

#### **SUGGESTED NON-DESIGNATED INDICATORS WITH PROXY MEASURES FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

NI 134	The number of emergency bed days per head of weighted population (DH DSO)
NI 136	People supported to live independently through social services (all adults) (PSA 18)

#### SUGGESTED NON-DESIGNATED (LOCAL) INDICATORS

THEME	ISSUE	PROPOSED INDICATOR
Safer & Stronger Communities	Third Sector Development	
	Alcohol – community safety impact	Brief interventions
	Anti-social Behaviour	Criminal damage
	Civil Protection	NI 37 Awareness of civil protection arrangements in the local area (CO DSO)
Adult Health & Well-being	Mental Health	Number of organisations adopting Mental Health Employment Charter
Local Economy	Tourism	STEAM data on tourism annual volume and value
	Worklessness and skills	New social enterprises demonstrating growth after 12 months
	Worklessness and skills	Business Start-up rates
Environmental Sustainability	Waste	NI 192 Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting (DEFRA DSO)

## STATUTORY INDICATORS FOR ATTAINMENT AND EARLY YEARS

1	NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy
2	NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold)
3	NI 74	Achievement at level 5 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 3 (Threshold)
4	NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths (Threshold)
5	NI 83	Achievement at level 5 or above in Science at Key Stage 3
6	NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate
7	NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest
8	NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
9	NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
10	NI 95	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3
11	NI 96	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3
12	NI 97	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4
13	NI 98	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4
14	NI 99	Children in care reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2
15	NI 100	Children in care reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2
16	NI 101	Children in care achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and Maths)