
Strong and prosperous communities

The Local Government White Paper
(26 October 2006)

OVERALL AIM

- To give local people & communities more influence & power to improve their lives

THE CHALLENGE

- To enable local partners to respond more flexibly to local needs
- To reduce the amount of top-down control from central government
- To enable citizens and communities to play their part

OUTCOMES

- Responsive services & empowered communities
- Effective, accountable & responsive local government
- Strong cities, strategic regions
- Local government as a strategic leader & place shaper
- A new performance framework
- Efficiency – transforming local services
- Community cohesion

THE OFFER

- A stronger role for local authorities to lead their communities, shape their areas and bring local public services together
- More space for local authorities and other local service providers to innovate and respond to local needs
- Stronger focus on top priorities

IN EXCHANGE FOR:

- More bottom-up accountability
- Stronger local authority leadership
- Better and more efficient services
- Tougher intervention when things go wrong

LEADERSHIP & PLACE SHAPING

- A new framework for strategic leadership in local areas (LSPs +)
 - Delivery of targets / cross cutting challenges
 - Involvement of elected Members (executive, scrutiny, portfolio holders, election of Chair)
 - Third sector representation
 - Strengthened / new statutory thematic partnerships – CDRPs, Children's Trusts, Health & Well-being

LEADERSHIP & PLACE SHAPING

- Local Area Agreements (delivery plan of SCS)
 - LA statutory duty to prepare in consultation with others
 - Duty to co-operate in agreeing and having regard to meeting relevant targets (LA and named partners)
 - Improved data sharing
 - Single set of improvement targets (approx. 35) tailored to local needs plus statutory attainment and childcare targets



LEADERSHIP & PLACE SHAPING

- Approx. 200 outcome based PIs
- Central 'delivery contract' between Central Govt and Local Govt and its partners
- More area-based funding through LAAs
- Retain four LAA themes but all LAA routed funding to go through 'single pot' and extension of fourth block to "Economic Development and the Environment" (including transport, culture and sport)
- Incentivisation – LPSA3



A KEY ROLE FOR LSPs

(Angela Smith MP, 31 January 2007)

Five Action Points:

- Building relationships
- Good governance
- Make the most of partners
- Revisit and refresh priorities
- Act now!!



THE TIMETABLE

January / February 2007

- Committee Stage of Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill

March 2007

- Sign off of Round 3 LAAs (incl Cheshire)
- Regional roadshows to share thinking on development of new LAA and partnership arrangements

April 2007

- Testing of options for new LAA and partnership arrangements



THE TIMETABLE

Summer 2007

- Publication of CSR 2007 including first version of national PIs and Local Govt efficiency targets
- Publication of "operational guidance" for the development and delivery of LAAs in 2008/09
- Negotiations begin to "revise" LAAs

Summer / Autumn 2007

- Consultation begins on "draft place-shaper guidance" including LSPs, SCS's and statutory elements of LAAs



THE TIMETABLE

Autumn 2007

- Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill receives Royal Assent

Autumn / Winter 2007

- Publication of final "place-shaper guidance" to inform negotiations of "revised" LAAs in 2008/09

March 2008

- Sign off of "revised" LAAs, following negotiations



IN FIVE YEARS TIME.....

- A new look for local government – more confident, more proactive, more innovative, more in tune with their communities
- A new relationship:
 - between central and local government
 - between local partners
 - between citizens and local government

