

## Local Area Agreement – Review and Refresh Update

---

### Introduction

1 At the last meeting of the Communities of Cheshire Partnership held on 7 November, partners were briefed on the process of review and refresh of the ‘transitional, severable’ Cheshire Local Area Agreement 2008/11. Partners will recall that the purpose of this annual process is to identify and address any issues around delivery, including risks and good practice, and to help assess and benchmark progress over the three year lifespan of the LAA. In addition, the review should provide an opportunity to revise, by exception, particular targets to reflect changes in local circumstances or national priorities. The purpose of this report is to update partners on this process to date.

### The Process

2 Towards the end of last year, Government Offices (GOs) conducted initial work with local partnerships and central departments to agree the scope of refresh and review for each place. Locally, the process began with the submission of mid-year performance information to Government Office for the North West (GONW) in November. This information has been compared with data from the Data Interchange Hub and has been used to inform review and refresh discussions.

3 Alongside this process, the current Cheshire thematic partnership co-ordinators have, through existing and emerging partnership structures and in conjunction with key partners, reviewed the content of the existing LAA to identify where ongoing developmental work is required. As part of this approach, thematic partnership co-ordinators and partners have identified whether current LAA designated indicators need to be **retained** (i.e. the indicator has sufficient baseline information available, 2009/10 disaggregated targets have been set and it remains locally, regionally and nationally significant); **reviewed** (i.e. baselines and/or disaggregated targets for 2009/10 need to be set or, where targets have been set, the indicator has some resonance locally but may need review in terms of focus); or **removed** (i.e. sufficient baseline data is not available to set meaningful targets for the new local authority areas and is unlikely to become available in the next 12 months). In the latter case, such indicators could become ‘non-designated’ targets or feature in a future iteration of the LAA. This information is detailed in Appendix A.

4 As a consequence of this exercise of the current 35 designated indicators, 19 are recommended for retention as they currently stand and 16 are recommended for review. Of the 16 recommended for review:

- Eight require the setting of disaggregated targets for year two though this information will be available within the timescale for the review / refresh:

- NI 4 % of people who feel they can influence decisions in the locality
  - NI 18 Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision
  - NI 21 Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local councils and police
  - NI 30 Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders
  - NI 112 Under age conception rate
  - NI 130 Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support (Direct Payments and Individual Budgets – adults all ages)
  - NI 153 Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods
  - NI 171 New business registration rate
- Four have disaggregated targets set for year two but need reviewing as a consequence of the impact of the economic climate or the availability of revised baseline information:
    - NI 20 Assault with injury crime
    - NI 125 Achieving independence for older people through rehabilitation/intermediate care
    - NI 154 Net additional homes provided
    - NI 191 Residual household waste per household
- Three are suggested for removal due to irresolvable issues concerning baseline data:
    - NI 110 Young people's participation in positive activities (Tell Us Survey)
    - NI 115 Substance misuse by young people (Tell Us Survey)
    - NI 137 Healthy life expectancy at age 65 (2001 Census)
- One is suggested for replacement due to changing local priorities:
    - NI 111 First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17 to be replaced by NI 45 Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, employment or training.

5 In addition, it is recommended that new indicators to replace those removed be included to reflect other priorities, i.e. outcomes for looked after children (to be determined) and prevention and early intervention (NI 68 Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment). Those recommended for change and / or replacement are all related to the Children and Young People thematic block and whilst consideration has been given to this by the Children's Trust, their adoption would need to be considered and agreed by the new local authority Directors of Children's Services.

## **Next Steps**

6 Imminent key milestones for the current process are set out below:

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>
2 March 2009:	Final or near final refreshed LAAs sent to GOs (at this point LAAs should be in final or near-final form though possibly not yet formally adopted)
9 March 2009:	GOs make recommendations to Ministers
Throughout March 2009:	Negotiations to be concluded on any outstanding issues
By 26 March 2009:	Formal adoption process completed according to the agreed scheme of delegation and <u>final</u> LAAs submitted to GOs Cross-Government consideration of refreshed LAAs
Friday 27 March 2009:	GOs to submit adopted LAAs to the Secretary of State
Early April 2009:	Secretary of State approval of revised LAAs

7 As highlighted above, a final or near final refreshed Cheshire LAA is to be sent to GONW by 2 March 2009. It is expected that this Agreement will contain fully disaggregated year two (i.e. 09/10) targets for both the Cheshire West and Chester and Cheshire East unitary authority areas to be taken forward by the new authorities and their partners. Whilst this work will continue in the short-term to be driven through existing partnership structures, it should be noted that endorsement of the refreshed / reviewed LAA will be obtained through any new partnership structures as they evolve within the timeframe of the review / refresh process, e.g. interim LSP Executive arrangements, Crime & Disorder Partnerships, Children's Trusts, etc.

8 In addition to partnership endorsement, the respective Cheshire West and Chester and Cheshire East elements of the refreshed / reviewed LAA will be considered and formally adopted by the new local authorities during March for final submission to GONW by 26 March, i.e.

- Cheshire West and Chester - Executive on 18 March
- Cheshire East - Cabinet on 24 March.

## **Recommendation**

That the Communities of Cheshire Partnership:

- (i) note the LAA Review and Refresh Process for 2008/09; and
- (ii) identify any issues related to the review and refresh or ongoing delivery of the Cheshire LAA to inform discussions with the new partnerships and councils and future iterations of the agreement.

### **Contact:**

Alison Armstrong

Tel: 01244 973336

Email: [alison.armstrong@cheshire.gov.uk](mailto:alison.armstrong@cheshire.gov.uk)

## CHESHIRE LAA 2008/09 REVIEW AND REFRESH - Countywide Designated Improvement Targets

The final column suggests a position for 09/10 of either retain, review or remove.

**Retain:** The targets have sufficient baseline information available and 2009/10 disaggregated targets set. They also remain locally, regionally and nationally recognised as significant.

**Review:** Baselines and/or disaggregated targets for 2009/10 need to be set. Where targets have been set, it continues to have resonance locally but may need review in terms of focus.

**Remove:** Sufficient baseline data is not available to set meaningful targets in the new Authorities and is unlikely to become available in the next 12 months. These could become 'non-designated' targets or as part of the refreshed LAA or feature in the next iteration of LAAs.

Designated Target	Disaggregated Targets Set for 09/10	Progress / Issues	Suggested Position for 2009/10
NI 4 % of people who feel they can influence decisions in the locality	N	Awaiting Place Survey results due mid / end January. Need to set disaggregated targets for year two. Suggest maintain Place Survey position and review again for year three to take into account new local authority local working arrangements.	Review
NI 8 Adult participation in sport and active recreation	Y	No outstanding issues though request to incorporate other culture-related NIs as non-designated indicators.	Retain
NI 18 Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision	N	Need to set disaggregated targets for year two. Awaiting new data from government which, together with some work on post-coding offender data, will allow for separate targets for East and West by March.	Retain
NI 20 Assault with injury crime	Y	This target is moving in a positive direction. Horizon scanning work indicates that the economic downturn is likely to be linked to increases in domestic abuse and acquisitive crime rather than in town centre violence.	Review

		Suggest that this indicator be reviewed alongside the Police and new CDRP Strategic Assessments	
NI 21 Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local councils and police	N	Awaiting Place Survey results due mid / end January. Need to set disaggregated targets for year two. High priority with public in 2008 Community Survey.	Review
NI 30 Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders	N	Need to set disaggregated targets for year two. Measuring this indicator remains problematic but meeting now arranged to resolve issue.	Review
NI 32 Repeat incidents of domestic violence	N	No outstanding issues though Delivery Plan needed.	Retain
NI 33 Arson incidents	Y	No outstanding issues. Reductions progressing. Needs to be embedded in new CDRP working	Retain
NI 47 People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	Y	No outstanding issues.	Retain
NI 56 Obesity in primary school age children in Year 6	Y	No outstanding issues. Remains a local and national priority. Baselines have been set and action is developing.	Retain
NI 110 Young people's participation in positive activities	N	Disaggregated Tell Us Survey data is not sufficiently robust to establish baseline or set year two targets. Suggest removal subject to agreement by Children's Trust.	Remove
NI 111 First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17	N	Need to set disaggregated targets for year two. Compared to others in the region our overall position is good and improving albeit there are pockets by geography and cohort which are higher. Consideration needs to be given to potential replacement with higher or more significant local issues, e.g. the YJB have suggested that offenders who are in education, employment or training and re offending rates are currently more significant issues than FTE.	Review
NI 112 Under age conception	N	Need to set disaggregated targets for year two.	Retain

rate		East and west Cheshire continue to have pockets of significant UA conceptions and on this basis should be retained. Likely that GONW would seek for this to be retained.	
NI 115 Substance misuse by young people	N	Disaggregated Tell Us Survey data is not sufficiently robust to establish baseline or set year two targets. Suggest removal subject to agreement by Children's Trust.	Remove
NI 117 16 to 18 olds who are not in education, employment and training (NEET)	Y	No outstanding issues. Compared to others in the region our overall position is good and improving albeit there are pockets by geography and cohort which are higher. Consideration may need to be given to other potentially higher or more significant local issues	Retain
NI 120 All-age all cause mortality rate	Y	Ongoing PCT re-organisation boundary issue.	Retain
NI 121 Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75	Y	Ongoing PCT re-organisation boundary issue.	Retain
NI 123 Stopping smoking	Y	Ongoing PCT re-organisation boundary issue.	Retain
NI 125 Achieving independence for older people through rehabilitation/intermediate care	Y	Year two targets set but need to be reviewed. There are active partnership work streams related to intermediate services. This is a completely new indicator with current baseline and targets based on a small scale national pilot. Business Support (Community Services) has developed reporting arrangements which will provide baseline data for the new local authorities (Cheshire East and West). Early indications are that the baseline for all Cheshire is around 70% rather than the 78% suggested from the national pilot. There are currently no indications of any significant differences East / West. Business Support colleagues are expected to be able to finalise a timetable for	Retain and Review

		completing the outstanding baseline work during the early part of January 2009. The current target of 1% improvement year on year will need to be reviewed once the local baselines are published.	
NI 130 Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support (Direct Payments and Individual Budgets – adults all ages)	N	Need to set disaggregated targets for year two. Remains a priority. There are significant work stream activities related to personal budgets / direct payments within the Social Care Redesign programme. Baselines and targets were originally agreed at the new local authority level. These need to be recalculated as a result of the change of definition for this indicator from April 2009. This work has started and Business Support colleagues are expected to be able to finalise a timetable for completing the recalculations during the early part of January 2009.	Review
NI 135 Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information	Y	No outstanding issues.	Retain
NI 137 Healthy life expectancy at age 65	N	Need to set baseline and disaggregated targets for year two. Ongoing issue in fulfilling this piece of work. Latest information is that Government expects the first formal results to be produced by the 2011 census. Therefore, suggest potential removal.	Review / Remove??
NI 141 Percentage of vulnerable people achieving independent living	Y	No outstanding issues.	Retain
NI 142 Percentage of vulnerable people who are supported to maintain	Y	No outstanding issues.	Retain

independent living			
NI 153 Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods	N	Need to set disaggregated targets for year two.	Review
NI 154 Net additional homes provided	Y	Disaggregated targets set but need to review in light of current economic position.	Review
NI 155 Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)	N	No outstanding issues though Delivery Plan needed.	Retain
NI 156 Number of households living in temporary accommodation	Y	No outstanding issues.	Retain
NI 163 Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to Level 2 or higher	Y	No outstanding issues.	Retain
NI 164 Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to Level 3 or higher (PSA 2)	Y	No outstanding issues.	Retain
NI 168 Principal roads where maintenance should be considered	Y	No outstanding issues.	
NI 169 Non-principal classified roads where maintenance should be considered	Y	No outstanding issues.	
NI 171 New business registration rate	N	Need to set baseline and disaggregated targets for year two. Still awaiting final target negotiating brief (TNB). a) ONS have just published the new Business Demography data series, which is to be used for setting baselines and targets for this indicator. This information has been	Review

		<p>analysed but those responsible for this indicator need to agree on whether the indicator should be a relative one (e.g. with the local authority figure given as a proportion of the UK or NW one) or an absolute one.</p> <p>b) GONW are checking whether the indicator has to be based on births, or whether it could be based on business stocks.</p> <p>c) The 2002-7 data series is volatile over time, even at national level. Consequently, need to check with GONW why this is and ensure that targets are based on longer rather than shorter-term past trends.</p> <p>d) Need to check with GONW whether it is possible to get trend data (as opposed to just the 2007 data) for the post-2009 Cheshire unitaries or the pre-2009 Cheshire districts. Without this information, we will be obliged to base CE/CWAC targets on trend data (for 2002-7) for Cheshire as a whole which may result in less realistic targets for each unitary.</p> <p>Additional Notes: Need to check ongoing relevance of this indicator for both CE and CWAC. CE outperforms the UK and NW on all enterprise measures. The authority has no gap to close and arguably, therefore, doesn't need to adopt 171 as a priority indicator. CWAC outperforms the UK and NW on both the "start-up" measures, but falls short of the UK on both "stock" measures. Therefore suggested that its enterprise indicator be based on stocks data.</p>	
NI 186 Per capita reduction	Y	No outstanding issues.	Retain

in CO2 emissions in the Local Authority area			
NI 191 Residual household waste per household	Y	Need to review year two disaggregated targets as original figures were based on rough estimates and contained an error. Agreed with GONW to adjust at refresh. New targets need to be agreed with new east / west local authority officers.	Review

## **Additional Comments:**

### **SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES**

#### **Introduction**

The LAA review and refresh process has been discussed at the Cheshire East CDRP meeting on 3 Dec and the Cheshire West CDRP initial meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> Dec. Both CDRPs have commissioned new strategic assessments of Crime and Disorder. The new processes have not allowed time for detailed consideration.

#### **New Strategic Assessments**

##### **West**

1. Fuel and metal thefts, as well as shoplifting are highlighted as growth crime areas, although scrap metal prices may have now peaked, reducing the incentive to steal metal
2. 'Rowdy, loutish or drunken behaviour' remains the largest component of reported ASB, although it is decreasing overall
3. Burglary dwelling in Cheshire West is down, but up substantially in key IMD wards in Blacon
4. Class A drug offences have increased

##### **East**

1. 'Rowdy, loutish or drunken behaviour' remains the largest component of reported ASB, representing 10% of all calls made to the Police in Cheshire East
2. Using costs of crime to society, rather than just volume, Cheshire East CDRP have prioritised violence with a focus on problematic locations such as town centres

#### **Conclusion**

The current LAA priorities are largely a reasonable match with the new CDRP Strategic Assessments. Mapping the existing NIs onto the partnership structure for the Cheshire East CDRP, for example, was straightforward. However, the following actions should be taken:

1. Ask the relevant area working/partnership/performance strands to review the position of NI4
2. Ask the two new CDRPs to undertake a review of NIs 18, 20, 21, 30, 32 and 33 and to respond to the suggested positions set out above, especially in light of specific emerging concerns about shoplifting, alcohol and drug related crime and disorder and burglary in higher deprivation wards
3. In light of the economic situation, ask the two new CDRPs to consider whether a relevant acquisitive crime indicator (perhaps a local one) should be added

### **CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

There has not been time for any detailed discussion at the thematic Partnership on the review arrangements, however set out below are some first thoughts that will be considered at their next meeting in January.

NI 111 - While progress is good, this is not the significant priority it was 12/18 months ago. The Youth Justice Board (regionally) are suggesting the focus of Cheshire in the LAA is either re-offending or access to employment, education or training, i.e. NI 45. Needs to be considered and agreed by the new LA Directors of Children's Services.

### **Additions to the CYP LAA**

New recommendations for 2009/10 should perhaps reflect other priorities.

- (1) In light of the continuing gap in terms of outcomes for looked after children then one or several should become part of the refreshed suite. Needs to be considered and agreed by the new LA Directors of Children's Services.
- (2) More collaborative approaches to prevention and early intervention could be reflected by the addition of NI 68 - Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment. Needs to be considered and agreed by the new LA Directors of Children's Services.

### **HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES**

Additional Local Indicator

NHS Western Cheshire - submitted a plan for NI39 (VSC26 of Vital Sign plans) based on the PCT footprint.

The following plans are directly age and sex standardised rates of hospital admissions for alcohol related harm per 100,000 population. The plans are based on a 1% year on year reduction in the rate of increase from an 11% baseline (2005/06: 1,401 to 2006/07: 1,562).

VSC26 and NI39 plans for NHS Western Cheshire:

2008/09: 1,890

2009/10: 2,050

2010/11: 2,204

East (CECPCT) – 2009.55 (08/09 target) – figures requested for 2009/10 and 2010/11.