

Cheshire Local Public Service Agreement Update

Introduction

The second generation LPSA covers the period April 2005 to March 2008. Although a formal agreement between Cheshire County Council and the Government, the development of the LPSA was undertaken by the Cheshire Partnership's Strategy and Monitoring Group. The Strategy and Monitoring Group also agreed the allocation of pump priming grant (£2.0m) across the targets and developed a financial model for the allocation of performance reward grant (£17.1m).

All of the LPSA targets have been included in the Cheshire Local Area Agreement (LAA) and as such progress will be monitored during the final year of the LPSA (2007/08) by the Cheshire-wide thematic partnerships. To date this role has been undertaken by the LPSA lead officers group and regular reports have been made to the County Council's Executive. This report summarises current progress and highlights issues of concern with regards to a number of LPSA targets.

Progress Summary

The LPSA contains eleven targets and 23 indicators. Of the 23 indicators, 16 are currently green (i.e. expected to fully achieve the stretch target), three of the indicators are categorised as amber (i.e. expected to reach 60% of the stretch target – the trigger point for payment of performance reward grant), but the remaining four indicators are red and currently off target. There remains a fine line on the majority of indicators between success and failure. Appendix 1 sets out performance in more detail.

Based on current performance LPSA2 will generate reward grant to all partners of £9.8m, i.e. 57% of the £17.1m maximum performance reward grant. Listed below are the seven indicators identified as either amber or red, together with a short explanation of performance.

Target 1 - Tackling anti social behaviour

The latest survey results from September 2006 show that the figure for indicator 1 (percentage of people worried about anti social behaviour in Crewe and Nantwich) has remained unchanged from the baseline performance (51%). Therefore, this indicator has been categorised by the lead officer as **AMBER**.

Target 3 - Employment opportunities for people with disabilities

This target has two indicators. Indicator 1 measures the extent to which day care clients are helped into supported employment, work experience, training or voluntary work and is progressing well. The second indicator measures the number of disabled people who have been claiming an incapacity benefit and are helped by

Cheshire County Council to gain paid employment, the aim being to deliver 70 actual job placements (from a baseline of 0). Based on current low performance this indicator is predicted as **RED**.

Target 4 - Delivering services for children and young people

The first years results were received in September 2006 and show good progress against indicators 3 and 4 (those children in IMD areas) but a slower than expected increase in performance against the Cheshire average. Therefore indicators 1 and 2 are shown as **AMBER**.

Target 5 - Improving the quality of life of older people

This work builds on the ambitious Innovation Forum target and therefore achievement of the LPSA2 stretch is very demanding. Initiatives are underway to support the target but, based on current performance, the target will fall well short of the stretch target and is therefore reflected in the Table as **RED**. **The lead officer for this target will be present at this meeting to explain in more detail progress and also options concerning the pump priming grant allocated to support delivery.**

Target 6 - Reducing the fear of crime

Two of the three indicators are showing good progress. However, indicator 2 (the Cheshire wide survey) has shown an upward trend in its first return completed in September 2006. This has lead to this indicator being classified as **RED**.

Target 8 - Reducing death and injuries on Cheshire roads

The preliminary figures for 2006 have shown an increase over the first nine months above the average trend that this target is measured against. Therefore, although this target is measured solely against deaths and injuries in 2008, current data leaves little option but to classify as a **RED** indicator. Whilst this is an obvious concern, beyond LPSA2 a number of schemes are being put in place to continue to build upon existing partnership working between Cheshire Fire, Cheshire County Council and Cheshire Police with the aim to reverse this trend.

Recommendations:

That the Communities of Cheshire Partnership:

- (i) **consider what immediate steps might be taken over the next twelve months to ensure that maximum performance is achieved given that, for many targets, the tolerance range between success and failure is narrow; and**
- (ii) **request that the relevant Cheshire-wide thematic partnerships consider this issue as a matter of urgency and report back on any steps towards remedial action to the next meeting of the CCP.**

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SECOND GENERATION LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT (LPSA2)

Target	Maximum PRG (£)	Lead Partner	Current Position
1 – Tackling anti social behaviour	1,424,000	Police	Indicator 1 = Amber
			Indicator 2 = Green
2 – Building positive parenting	1,424,000	Cheshire CC	Indicator 1 = Green
			Indicator 2 = Green
3 – Employment opportunities for people with disabilities	810,000	Cheshire CC	Indicator 1 = Green
			Indicator 2 = Red
4 – Delivering services for children and young people	1,424,000	Cheshire CC	Indicator 1 = Amber
			Indicator 2 = Amber
			Indicator 3 = Green
			Indicator 4 = Green
5 – Improving the quality of life of older people	2,136,000	Cheshire CC	Indicator 1 = Red
6 – Reducing the fear of crime	1,424,000	Police	Indicator 1 = Green
			Indicator 2 = Red
			Indicator 3 = Green
7 – Increasing safety from domestic abuse	1,424,000	Cheshire CC	Indicator 1 = Green
			Indicator 2 = Green
			Indicator 3 = Green
8 – Reducing death and injuries on Cheshire roads	2,136,000	Fire (Equal split incl. Police and Cheshire CC)	Indicator 1 = Red
9 – Improving street environment	1,424,000	Cheshire CC / District Councils	Indicator 1 = Green
			Indicator 2 = Green
10 – Community energy	1,424,000	Cheshire CC	Indicator 1 = Green
11- Improving housing standards in Cheshire	2,037,000	District Councils	Indicator 1 = Green
			Indicator 2 = Green