

**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE
CONSTITUENT BODIES OF THE
CHESHIRE PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORK**

GOVERNANCE BOARD

Principal Functions: Leadership and Overall Accountability

- (1) Provide a strategic focus and vision for the delivery of joined-up public services in Cheshire, particularly in relation to the 'shared priorities'.
- (2) Take overall collective accountability for delivering the vision for the communities of Cheshire.
- (3) Receive reports from the Communities of Cheshire Partnership and determine any matter brought for resolution.
- (4) In conjunction with the Communities of Cheshire Partnership:
 - a) Monitor the performance of the District Local Strategic Partnerships and the Cheshire-wide Thematic Partnerships and resolve issues referred by the Communities of Cheshire Partnership to ensure agreed outcomes are achieved;
 - b) Identify and support opportunities to re-align public sector activity and spending to better meet community needs and priorities and deploy resources when appropriate;
 - c) Consider the potential for using the legal powers vested in local authorities to promote economic, social and environmental well-being in furthering the aims of the Cheshire Partnerships Framework;
 - d) Monitor progress on the second generation Local Public Service Agreement, and any subsequent LPSAs, to ensure optimum rewards for the communities of Cheshire;
 - e) Lead the development of, sign off and then monitor progress of the Cheshire-wide Local Area Agreement; and
 - f) Influence and lobby in the interests of the communities of Cheshire.
- (4) Protect and promote the interests of member authorities and organisations of the Cheshire Partnerships Framework.
- (5) Promote a high standard of public administration throughout Cheshire.

COMMUNITIES OF CHESHIRE PARTNERSHIP

Principal Functions: Leadership, Influence, Management, Co-ordination, Overview and Monitoring

- (1) Audit local needs, issues and priorities to inform an overall vision for the communities of Cheshire which reflects diversity and local variations across the county.
- (2) Build consensus within and across the Cheshire Partnerships Framework on priorities, desired outcomes and key measures of success to improve quality of life in communities across Cheshire and inform negotiating frameworks such as the Cheshire Local Area Agreement, taking account of local, sub-regional, regional and national imperatives, and from this develop and deliver the Cheshire Sustainable Community Strategy as a 'federated' document reflecting community needs and aspirations.
- (3) Support the relationships needed for effective partner participation and partnership working within and across the Cheshire Partnerships Framework by sharing information and knowledge, co-ordinating people and groups and making appropriate links to avoid duplication whilst ensuring that all matters are dealt with appropriately.
- (4) Co-ordinate local and Cheshire-wide action in relation to cross-cutting issues across the public, private, community and voluntary sectors.
- (5) Ensure that the vision, priorities and work programmes of the District Local Strategic Partnerships and the Cheshire-wide Thematic Partnerships are aligned, inter-connected and complementary to each other and to the wider vision and Strategy for the communities of Cheshire.
- (6) Receive annual progress reports and more frequent 'exception reports' from the District Local Strategic Partnerships and the Cheshire-wide Thematic Partnerships in relation to the delivery of their respective plans and strategies and the delivery of Local Public Service Agreement and Local Area Agreement targets, where appropriate, and consider, agree and take any action necessary to assist with the delivery of the vision, the achievement of outcomes and the realisation of benefits to the communities of Cheshire.
- (7) Submit annual progress reports and more frequent 'exception reports' to the Governance Board on the performance and progress of the District Local Strategic Partnerships and the Cheshire-wide Thematic Partnerships towards the achievement of outcomes and delivery of benefits to the communities of Cheshire.
- (8) Advise the Governance Board on individual or cross-agency issues that it needs to resolve so that agreed outcomes are achieved and benefits are delivered to the communities of Cheshire.

- (9) Ensure that the outcomes and achievements of the constituent bodies of the Cheshire Partnerships Framework are communicated to the communities of Cheshire.

CHESHIRE-WIDE THEMATIC PARTNERSHIPS

Principal Function: Commissioning and Delivery

Separate “Thematic Partnerships” will be developed in relation to each of the following themes:

- Safer and Stronger Communities
- Children and Young People
- Healthier Communities and Older People
- Economic Development and Enterprise
- The Environment

It is acknowledged that the Cheshire-wide Thematic Partnerships will have their own detailed terms of reference according to historical needs and wider circumstances. However, it is suggested that each Partnership incorporate the following ‘core’ terms of reference to support their role within the broader Cheshire Partnerships Framework. Any existing terms of reference should not conflict with the Core Terms of Reference. Where such conflict is considered to exist, the matter should be referred to the Communities of Cheshire Partnership for further consideration.

Core Terms of Reference

- (1) Develop and deliver appropriate thematic action plans to support and contribute to the overall vision for the communities of Cheshire, which reflects diversity and local variations across the county
- (2) Monitor and manage the overall performance of the Thematic Partnership and its associated projects, through the application of programme/ project management principles.
- (3) Provide annual progress reports and, when necessary, “exception reports” to the Communities of Cheshire Partnership.
- (4) Identify to the Communities of Cheshire Partnership, as necessary, cross-cutting issues in relation to the core theme for further consideration and co-ordination by the Communities of Cheshire Partnership.
- (5) Commission, as necessary, service delivery and action from the District-based Thematic Partnerships to address local needs and priorities.
- (6) Deliver the appropriate ‘block’ of the Cheshire-wide Local Area Agreement as agreed by and in consultation with the Communities of Cheshire Partnership and the Governance Board.
- (7) Deliver related second generation Local Public Service Agreement targets to ensure optimum rewards for the communities of Cheshire.

- (8) Commission thematic research and consultation to seek community views on priorities, encourage involvement in identifying solutions and underpin the development and delivery of the thematic action plans.

DISTRICT LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Principal Functions: Local Management, Co-ordination and Community Engagement / Empowerment

- (1) Establish appropriate mechanisms to ensure the participation and representation of local communities in the production and delivery of the Community Plan / Strategy for the district.
- (2) In consultation with the local community, determine a vision for the district, agree the values and principles that underpin the vision and set objectives to deliver the vision.
- (3) Produce and deliver a Community Plan / Strategy incorporating, where appropriate, a Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy for the district that reflects community need and aspirations.
- (4) Ensure all processes underpinning the development and delivery of the Community Plan / Strategy for the district are transparent and open to scrutiny.
- (5) Manage and maintain an appropriate structure to deliver the work of the District Local Strategic Partnership and the Cheshire-wide Thematic Partnerships, where appropriate.
- (6) Establish a performance management framework for the District Local Strategic Partnership and delivery of the Community Plan / Strategy for the district.
- (7) Contribute to and support the Cheshire Partnerships Framework.
- (8) Support the relationships needed for effective partner participation and partnership working within and across the Cheshire Partnerships Framework by sharing information and knowledge, and making appropriate links to avoid duplication whilst ensuring that all matters are dealt with appropriately.
- (9) Provide annual progress reports and “exception reports”, when necessary, to the Communities of Cheshire Partnership on the local delivery of the priorities.
- (10) Work through the Communities of Cheshire Partnership to ensure inclusion and alignment, as far as possible, of local priorities and actions with other Cheshire-wide key plans and strategies, particularly the Cheshire Sustainable Community Strategy.
- (11) Contribute to the successful negotiation and delivery of a Cheshire Local Area Agreement and any further Local Public Service Agreements at Cheshire-wide or local level.