

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Friday 22nd February 2008

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS TWO

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Local Area Agreements (LAA) are about improving local services and increasing economic prosperity for local people. Agreed between local partnerships and central government, LAAs allow local areas to define the priorities for their area and to direct funding to support those priorities
- 1.2 LAA were timetabled in 'phases', North Yorkshire was in phase 3 and agreed our Local Area Agreement in 2006, and have run with the current agreement for one year, March 2007- March 2008. The current Local Area Agreement contains 156 indicators, each with associated targets over three years. 19 of these are classed as 'stretch' targets, which have an additional reward funding if the 'stretch target' is achieved.
- 1.3 The Government has announced that there will be a new round of Local Area Agreements, which will run from 2008-11 for all Local Authorities. This will enable the LAA to align with the timescale for the national Comprehensive Spending Review. The new Local Area Agreements (LAA2) will commence in June 2008.

2.0 National Performance Monitoring

- 2.1 The Government has been committed to streamlining local performance management, and has released a new 'National Indicator Set' (NIS). This set contains 198 indicators that each Local Authority will be expected to report on. This set replaces all other performance frameworks, including Best Value Performance Indicators and the Performance Assessment Framework.
- 2.2 All of the national indicators in LAA2 are based on the new National Indicator Set.

3.0 Local Area Agreements 2

- 3.1 Every local authority area, through the Strategic Partnership, namely the North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership (NYSP), has to develop their Sustainable Community Strategy. This should highlight the priorities for the local area over 2008-11. The indicators agreed in the North Yorkshire LAA2 must align to the identified priorities and will provide the performance management for this Strategy.

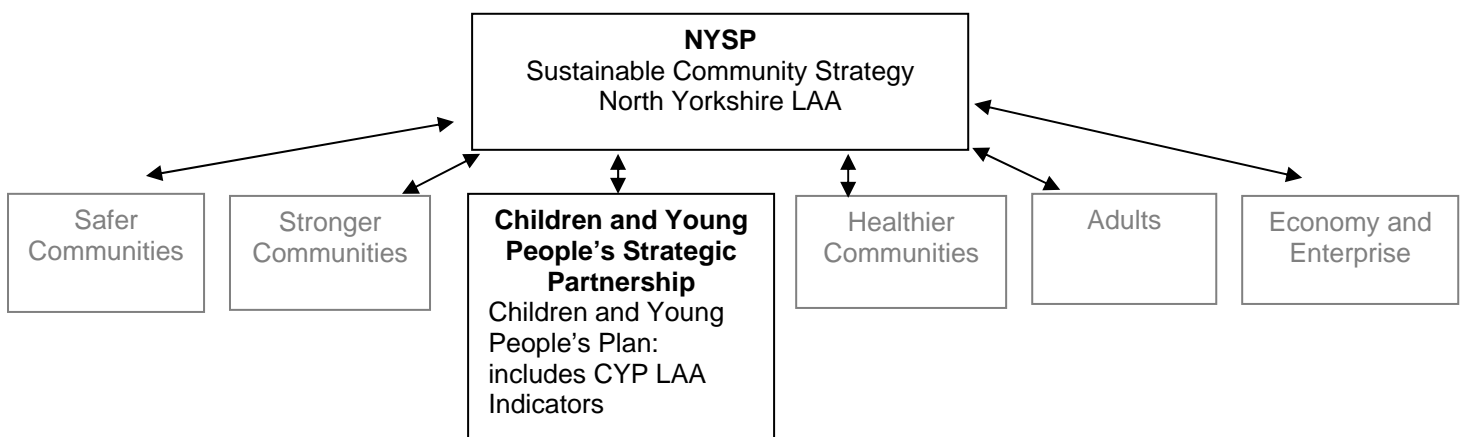
- 3.2 The NYSP has to identify 'up to 35' indicators from the National Indicator Set to be submitted for LAA2. In addition there are 16 Statutory Indicators for educational attainment. Local areas are also expected to identify local priorities outside of the National Indicator Set, but in line with the Sustainable Community Strategy for inclusion in LAA2.
- 3.4 Over the past month each Thematic Partnership has identified the National and Local Indicators proposed for submission in LAA. For Children and Young People, these have been derived from the priorities in the current Children and Young People's Plan.
- 3.5 The NYSP has collated these and a draft submission has been sent to Government Officer with 35 national indicators, 27 local indicators and the 16 statutory indicators. The new LAA2 will have a total of 78 Indicators to report on, a reduction by half from the current LAA.
- 3.5 Of the 78 indicators in the draft proposal, there are 10 National Indicators, 16 statutory education attainment indicators, and 4 local indicators that relate to Children and Young People (See Annex A). Each of these indicators will have targets set over three years. The national and statutory targets will be reported on to the Government.

4.0 Timetable

- 4.1 The draft proposal for North Yorkshire's LAA2 has been submitted to Government Office, and is now subject to negotiation. This period will last until May. The LAA2 for North Yorkshire is anticipated to be signed off and launched in June 2008.

5.0 Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

- 5.1 The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership sits within the NYSP structure, and will be responsible for the delivery of the LAA2 indicators which relate to Children and Young People. The mechanism for this is the Children and Young People's Plan.



- 5.2 To ensure all of our planning and reporting frameworks are aligned, a new Children and Young People's Plan is being developed to run from 2008-11. The new plan will identify all of the priorities for Children and Young People in North Yorkshire, included those already identified through the LAA2 process.
- 5.3 The Children and Young People's Plan 2008-11(CYPP) is being developed to run parallel to the LAA2 process, and the draft plan is anticipated to be completed in May, with official sign up during the summer.
- 5.4 The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership will deliver, monitor and manage the Children and Young People's section of the LAA2, through the implementation and monitoring of the CYPP.

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 That the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are kept informed of Local Area Agreement² and Children and Young People's Plan 2008-11 developments

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ANNEX A– DRAFT LAA2 INDICATORS: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Note: The Indicators support the priorities of the North Yorkshire Sustainable Community Strategy (2008 -18), which are:

1) Access to Services; 2) Affordable Housing; 3) Alcohol; 4) Children and Young People; 5) Community Cohesion; 6) Economy and Enterprise; 7) Older People; 8) Health and Wellbeing; 9) Environment.

NIS or Local Indicator	Designated, Local or Statutory	Brief Description
SAFER COMMUNITIES		
NI 19	D	Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders.
NI 45	D	Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, employment or training.
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE		
Be Healthy		
NI 56	D	Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6.
NI 57	D	Children and young people's participation in high quality sport.
L 58	L	% of schools achieving Healthy Schools Status.
Stay Safe		
NI 60	D	Care assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 days of their commencement.
L61	L	Number of children living in kinship care as an alternative to being looked after.
L62	L	Number looked after of children placed out of North Yorkshire
Enjoy and Achieve		
NI 72	S	Achievement in early years.
NI 73	S	Level 4 or above in English & Maths at KS2
NI 74	S	Level 5 or above in English & Maths at KS3
NI 75	S	5 or more A-C at GCSE (or equivalent) including English & Maths
NI 83	S	Level 5 or above in Science at KS3
NI 87	S	Secondary School persistent absence.

NIS or Local Indicator	Designated, Local or Statutory	Brief Description
NI 92	S	Narrowing the gap in the Early Years Foundation Profile
NI 93	S	Progression by 2 levels in English between KS1 &KS2
NI 94	S	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between KS1 &KS2
NI 95	S	Progression by 2 levels in English between KS2 &KS3
NI 96	S	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between KS2 &KS3
NI 97	S	Progression by 2 levels in English between KS3 &KS4
NI 98	S	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between KS3 &KS4
NI 99	S	Children in care reaching Level 4 in English at KS2
NI 100	S	Children in care reaching Level 4 in Maths at KS2
NI 101	S	Children in care achieving 5 A-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at KS4 (including Maths & English)
Make a Positive Contribution		
NI 110	L	Young people's participation in positive activities.
NI 112	D	Under 18 conception rate.
NI 115	D	Substance misuse by young people
Achieve Economic Well Being		
NI 81	D	Reducing the inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by age 19.
NI 90	D	Take up of 14 – 19 learning diplomas.
NI 117	D	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment.

What's New about the New Local Area Agreements (LAAs)?

The Local Area Agreements being negotiated now, under the Local Government Involvement in Health Act 2007, are different in a number of ways from the first phase of the LAAs. Here's a summary of the main differences¹

	Old LAAs 2005-2008	New LAAs from Spring 2008
Legal status	No legal requirement to negotiate an LAA	Statutory: all (upper tier) council must prepare an LAA with partners
Two-tier arrangements	County Council negotiated and led LAA	County Council the 'responsible authority' to lead partnership, district councils are important partners
Timescale	Three year agreement: Commenced in three groups, 2005-6, 2006-7, 2007-8	Three year agreement: all councils/ areas on same timetable: 2008-11
Scope	Three, later four, blocks: safer and stronger communities, children and young people, healthier communities and older people, economic development and enterprise	No requirement for blocks: local flexibility based on sustainable community strategy and other local priorities
Local and national targets	Some mandatory targets, choice of others	National Indicator Set, including 16 education and early years targets, up to 35 other target to be negotiated according to the needs of the area. Named partners should also negotiate and support local targets
Finance	Previously ring fenced funds merged into funding tied to blocks; later into LAA grant; also pump priming grant	No specific LAA grant; all partners should gear mainstream funding towards LAA objectives
Reward funding	Financial reward tied to achievements on specific agreed 'stretch targets'	Formula to pay reward funding according to performance across the range of targets
Partnership arrangements	Voluntary cooperation in a LSP, some statutory requirements on specific services to engage with thematic partnerships	Statutory 'duty to cooperate' on named agencies to negotiate LAA, sign up to specific local and national targets, implement and respond to council scrutiny
Performance management	Local performance management reported to Government Office	Local performance management, new council scrutiny powers, external assessment by CAA

¹ Taken from the LGA Booklet 'A Councillors Guide to the new local area agreements', 2007