

Subject:	Annual progress update on the 2008-11 Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2009/10		
Date of Meeting:	17 June 2010		
Report of:	Director of Strategy & Governance		
Contact Officer:	Name: Paula Black	Tel: 29-1740	
	E-mail: paula.black@brighton-hove.gov.uk		
Key Decision:	No		
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 The Local Area Agreement forms one strand of the city wide 'contract' which sets priorities for Brighton and Hove and assesses how well we are delivering for residents on these priority areas. After a broad and thorough consultation process in 2007 the LAA targets were agreed by the Strategic Partnership as the main performance priorities in Brighton & Hove for 2008/11. During this process public sector partners, in collaboration with the third sector, agreed to 35 indicators selected from the National Indicator Set. In addition, we elected to include several local targets which were felt to be a priority for the city. The current LAA was agreed for three years and is based on what were assessed to be priorities at the time of negotiation.
- 1.2 This report provides information on how well we are progressing at the end of the second year. It also enables reflection on whether the areas selected for inclusion continue to be priorities, if they are appropriate measures of our aspirations and those of our residents, and if they should shift in light of the agreed city-wide outcomes contained in the Sustainable Community Strategy once the current LAA comes to an end in 2011. In addition, the performance framework for managing the relationship between Central and Local Government is likely to change and a process has been agreed by the Public Service Board for beginning to prepare for whatever future requirements are put in place.
- 1.3 There are 3 elements to this report:
- Local Area Agreement (LAA) Summary Scorecard Report in **Appendix 1** provides performance information for the 2nd year of this LAA to the end of March 2010. Note that responsibility for some indicators is shared across partner organisations.
 - The Exception Report contained in **Appendix 2** provides the basis of the action plans for the next year for those indicators that were significantly off target (red) at the end of 2009/10.
 - The Exceptions Report contained in Appendix 2 provides information only on indicators that were significantly off target at the end of 2009/10. These are listed below.
 - The organisational health report for 2009/10 is shown as **Appendix 3**.

1.4 The LAA indicators are monitored closely by the Audit Commission/Joint Inspectorate and used to inform the annual Comprehensive Area Assessment findings for the city, and Use of Resources assessments for individual organisations. Indicators which are off target are listed below.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That Cabinet notes the good progress against the LAA outcomes in Appendices 1 & 2.

2.2 That Cabinet notes the actions outlined in the Exception Report in Appendix 2 to address areas not meeting the agreed targets.

2.3 That Cabinet agrees to ask Cabinet Members to review any areas of poor performance at future Cabinet Members Meetings and/or discusses with the relevant leading partnership progress on the action plans.

2.4 That Cabinet notes the targets for the Local Area Agreement were negotiated originally in 2007 and refreshed in 2009, and in particular that the target refresh was to address the impact of the economic recession on the achievements for employment outcomes.

2.5 That Cabinet notes that conversations are on-going with partners to review priorities for the city in light of future plans for commissioning to deliver outcomes agreed in the Sustainable Community Strategy, and as a result new priorities will be established which will set the agenda for the next city-wide performance framework which will act as the successor to the current LAA.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

3.1 Successful delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy's outcomes are monitored through our LAA and the Comprehensive Area Assessment. The Local Area Agreement contains indicators which are judged to be good measures of our local priorities. These priorities are agreed by all public sector partners and the third sector in the city. The family of partnerships, under the Local Strategic Partnership, are responsible for delivery and monitoring of activity which ensures we meet our targets. As such the LAA is a city-wide partnership performance agreement. It is also a statement of intent and aspiration.

3.2 However, the LAA forms only one selected strand of activity and priorities. Each organisation continues to monitor its own performance in key areas. Given Brighton and Hove City Council and partners' plans to move to a commissioning model of service delivery, and that the basis of this commissioning will be a robust evidence base for local needs and aspirations, the future shared performance agreement for the city will necessarily shift its focus.

3.3 Performance against LAA targets has been positive on the whole but areas of challenge remain. Work is planned for Summer/Autumn 2010 to begin to discuss current activity and align future activity with outcomes set in the Sustainable Community Strategy. Arising from these conversations with partners will emerge

revised priorities for any future performance agreement. This process was agreed by the Public Service Board on 20 April 2010.

- 3.4 The LAA is a 3 year plan (2008-2011). The agreement contains 35 National Indicators and 22 local indicators, selected because they highlight particular areas for improvement identified in our local needs assessments; including the Reducing Inequality Review and Joint Service Needs Assessments of children and adults as well as those emerging from an in-depth and wide ranging consultation process.
- 3.5 Appendices 1 and 2 track progress against key actions and milestones to provide TMT and elected members with a fuller picture of progress. TMT and Cabinet are invited to use this information to check progress and, where necessary, recommend additional action or reporting. Colours provide the direction of travel at the time of reporting:

□	GREEN	Performance is at or better than target
□	AMBER	Performance is off target and progress against delivery plan milestones unknown or uncertain
□	RED	Performance is significantly off target
□	GREY	No judgement possible (targets may be missing or it is the first year for an indicator and so sets the baseline against which future performance will be assessed)

- 3.6 The LAA is formed in the main from the National Indicator Set introduced in 2008. Some of the indicators are not refreshed annually. Where this is the case the latest available information is provided. In a few cases the national data sources are still unavailable, whilst in others there is a significant time lag, e.g. some of the economic and sustainability indicators.
- 3.7 The action plans that support the delivery of the Local Area Agreement outcomes sit in individual organisations' business plans. These plans are established in line with budget proposals and are monitored at Directorate Management Teams and in one to one appraisal meetings with lead officers. In addition, partner organisations and the family of partnerships monitor action against delivery.
- 3.8 There is a well established partnership performance management framework that regularly reviews progress in the thematic partnership meetings. The Partnership Data Group consists of analysts who share data, ensure data quality and provide information for performance and service improvement challenges. The Partnership Managers Group is made up of managers from the family of partnerships who own delivery and monitoring of key thematic priorities and LAA targets. They make strategic recommendations based on evidence of performance in their respective areas. The newly formed Performance Board internal to B&HCC will also play a role in bringing together officers from across the organisation to challenge poor performance and suggest activity to bring performance back on track.

- 3.9 We are continually working to improve the data quality used by B&HCC to make policy and resource allocation decisions. Some of this work is done by officers involved in delivering or reporting on service delivery and impact. Recently several internal groups have been established to refine Data Quality Standards and share best practice. In addition, the analysis and understanding of performance data as well as shared information more generally is being brought together in order to offer a robust evidence base for Intelligent Commissioning.
- 3.10 The Exceptions Report contained in Appendix 2 provides information only on indicators that were significantly off target at the end of 2009/10. These include:

Local indicators:

- L06(NI020) - assaults with less serious injury (proxy for alcohol related crime)
- L16 - take up/offer of talking therapies

National indicators:

- NI047 – road traffic accidents - number of people killed or seriously injured
- NI079 – achievement of level 2 qualification by the age of 19
- NI117 – 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET)
- NI130 – % of social care clients receiving Self Directed Support
- NI158 – % non-decent council homes
- NI175 – access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling
- NI186 – per capita reduction of CO₂ emissions in local authority area

Indicators within the organisational health report that are off target are:

- Invoices payment turnaround times (3 indicators)
- % staff and % of top earners declaring they are disabled
- % staff declaring they are from an ethnic minority
- Days lost due to sickness

4. CONSULTATION:

- 4.1 The Local Area Agreement 2008-2011 priorities were set in negotiation with the Local Strategic Partnership and the Government Office South East (GOSE).

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 Successful performance against agreed LAA improvement targets 2008-2011 will attract performance reward grant payable in 2011/12 and 2012/13. The details of potential grant entitlement subject to performance are awaited from central government but are expected to be substantially less than the levels previously seen.

Finance Officer consulted: Peter Francis

Date: 13/05/10

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The LAA targets have been developed in accordance with the statutory requirements set out in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. The framework requires authorities to keep the progress against targets under review.

Lawyer consulted:

Elizabeth Culbert

Date: 12/05/10

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The performance management framework aims to incorporate monitoring of progress against equalities and inclusion outcomes in the city.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 The performance management framework aims to incorporate monitoring of progress against sustainability outcomes in the city.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.5 The management of performance is important and contributes to avoiding the risk that the council's improvement priorities will not be delivered. Progress against performance indicators informs our risk and opportunity management assessments.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.6 Reducing crime and disorder is a central theme of the Corporate Plan and the Local Area Agreement and monitoring progress against these outcomes is a key element of the proposed new performance management framework.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Cabinet and The Management Team will continue to have a Performance Focus session each month, this is recognised as good practice and allows for both a quarterly overview of the organisation performance against the LAA and more spotlighted discussions on areas that require additional discussion. These discussions will feed into the service planning timetable and establishment of a new corporate plan in the future. This is an essential part of the council's performance management framework.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 The monitoring of the Local Area Agreement is part of the performance management framework. This framework is a corporately defined process; as such no alternative options are appropriate.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The report provides information on progress against the LAA priorities ensuring close monitoring for continuous improvement.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. LAA Summary Scorecard Report
2. The Exception Report
3. The Organisational Health Report

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None