



<u>Committee and Date</u> Implementation Executive 8 th April 2008
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<u>Item</u> 10

<u>Paper</u> E

Graham Biggs

Responsible Officer

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Local Area Agreement – Latest working draft

Summary

A new Local Area Agreement (LAA) is being developed. This report provides the latest information and issues.

Recommendations

That:

a) The Implementation Executive endorses the latest draft of the LAA notes the indicators which both Government Office and ourselves agree upon and notes areas for further discussion (Table A) and

b) Supports the officer recommendation not to proceed further with the indicators listed in Table B and informs Government Office accordingly.

REPORT

1. Current Status

Since the publication of the technical detail behind approximately 75% of the new National Indicators (NI's) in February 2008 LAA lead officers and partners have made good progress in developing a more detailed working draft LAA. Further meetings have taken place with Government Office to establish those areas where there is broad agreement, or where with the benefit of some further work or discussion a decision can be made as to whether or not certain indicators should be included in the final draft. These indicators are set out in the Table A attached. Issues are identified in the Comments column.

We are still not happy that the choice of national indicators available in all our priority themes are appropriate to a sparsely populated rural county. This is particularly so in relation to Economic Prosperity outcomes where the risk of deploying less satisfactory indicators must be balanced against the need to reflect, in some way, the Regional Economic priorities. There is benefit in exploring these in more detail with AWM and the LSC. A Risk Assessment Workshop will be held on 18th April 2008 and this will assist in finalising the LAA targets and assessing the degree of risk involved.

2. Problematic Indicators

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Government Office policy leads have identified a series of indicators which are listed in Table B attached. Whilst the outcome may be one which is important nationally these:

- May not accord with local priorities for the partnership, based on our evidence
- May be areas where there are very small numbers and consequent high risk
- Are where the opportunity to make a real difference over the lifetime of a 3 year agreement is limited

Lead Officers are of the view that Government Office should be informed at this stage that these will not be progressed in Shropshire's LAA. Members are asked to endorse this approach to enable lead officers and partners to focus on a more realistic set of outcomes.

The Final Draft LAA will be presented to the Implementation Executive at it's meeting on 21st May 2008.

Graham Biggs, Project Executive - Partnership and Places

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Human Rights Act Appraisal

Environmental Appraisal

Risk Management Appraisal

Community / Consultations Appraisal

Member Champion

Contact: Barbara Stafford-Cairns on (01743) 252019

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Local Member

Appendices