

7 September 2010

Local Area Agreement Update

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Councillor A. Harris – Leisure, Culture and Environment
Councillor Z. Ali – Communities and Partnerships

Executive Summary:

This report informs the Panel on the current position of Walsall's Local Area Agreement (LAA) along with an overview of performance in relation to the 25 priority and 5 locally agreed indicators which form the LAA.

Appendix 1 sets out performance against those LAA targets of relevance to the Community Services Panel for the period of Quarter 1 2010/11. Within the table ratings have been provided based on the latest position against agreed targets, with additional comments giving background to the listed ratings. Appendix 2 provides members with an overview of performance for the remaining LAA targets.

Members of the panel are requested to note the abolition of the Comprehensive Area Assessment and the postponement of the Place Survey, resulting in 4 LAA indicators relevant to this panel being classed as 'undeliverable'.

Reason for scrutiny:

Last year the Director of Walsall Partnership presented the Local Strategic Partnership's Business Plan to assist in identifying items for inclusion within the Panel's work programme. As a consequence members felt that it would be appropriate if they were to receive an 'update' report on performance against targets included in Walsall's Local Area Agreement.

Recommendations:

Members of the panel are recommended to:

1. Note the abolition of the Comprehensive Area Assessment.
2. Note the postponement of the Place survey, resulting in 4 of this panel's targets being classed as 'undeliverable'

3. Note the performance against those LAA targets of relevance to the Community Services Panel for the period of Quarter 1 2010/11. As set out in Appendix 1.

Background papers:

None

Resource and legal considerations:

N/A

Citizen impact:

The Local Area Agreement is made up of a suite of measures which aim to deliver the outcomes that are of greatest importance to the communities of Walsall, as outlined in our Sustainable Communities Strategy.

Environmental impact:

N/A

Performance management:

By providing an update on current performance of Walsall's Local Area Agreement it is intended that this report will have a positive effect in improving the services that the Council and its partners provide to our communities.

Equality Implications:

N/A

Consultation:

A partnership approach has been used in preparing this paper, which involves liaising with relevant performance leads to ensure the data provided is accurate.

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1. Current Position of Walsall's Local Area Agreement

Following the establishment of the Coalition Government a number of significant changes have been made which are now beginning to impact on the delivery of Local Area Agreements. As members will be aware the Comprehensive Area Assessment (acting as the over-arching framework for a single area) has now been abolished, in line with this Government's commitment to reducing the burden which the collection of data imposes on Local Partnerships. Consequently uncertainty exists over the future of some of Walsall's 25 priority performance targets as a review of the National Indicator Set is being conducted.

To date written confirmation has been received stating that the impending Place Survey has been postponed, with the Government signalling their intent to shift power away from Whitehall and back to Local Authorities and the communities they serve. In relation to the Community Services Scrutiny Panel this directly impacts on the following 4 designated priority LAA indicators:

- NI 001 - % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area (*Place Survey*)
- NI 004 - % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality (*Place Survey*)
- NI 005 - Overall/general satisfaction with local area (*Place Survey*)
- NI 017 - Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (*Place Survey*)

In addition to these indicators uncertainty exists over the future of NI 007 (Environment for a thriving third sector). The issue relating to this particular indicator are doubts around whether the centrally funded and administered local survey of third sector organisations would continue to exist, in light of the postponement of other survey based indicators within the National Indicator Set.

This now leaves the following indicators for the panel to consider including within their work programme:

- NI 007 - Environment for a thriving third sector (*future of NI unclear*)
- NI 008 - Adult Participation in Sport
- NI 016 - Serious acquisitive crime rate
- NI 017 - Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (*Local Target*)
- NI 019 - Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders

- NI 020 - Assault with injury crime rate
- NI 030 - Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders

2. Latest Outturn data

The current position (appendix 1) highlights that there are 4 Green, 1 Amber and 1 Red rated targets relevant to this panel. The comments below reflect the current position in relation to the Red rated targets.

The adult participation in sport indicator (NI 008) is currently rated as Red due to the results of the Active People 2/3 Survey (October 2008 – October 2009) being below the agreed yearly target. As with all Local Area Agreement indicators a Target Action Plan (TAP) has been created, setting out existing and proposed activity aimed at achieving the 2010/11 target. Through this Target Action Plan an ongoing audit of provision has been established aiming to identify any particular gaps, whilst also informing any future commissioning. Recently published interim figures from a 24 month rolling period (April 2008 – April 2010) indicates that Walsall's current performance is 17.8%, however following discussions with the responsible service area it is believed that the final outturn figure for 2009/10 will potentially be higher (anticipated released in winter 2010) due to issues with the methodology used in calculating this particular figure.

Appendix 1

Measure Ref	Indicator description	2010/11 Actual Achieved	2010/11 Target	2010/11 RAG Rating	Comments
NI001	% of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area (PSA 21)	N/A	75.10%	N/A	Written confirmation has been received stating that the Place Survey has been cancelled for this autumn. This means Local Authorities/Partnerships are no longer required to report against this particular National Indicator.
NI004	% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality (PSA 21) (place survey)	N/A	25.6% (2010)	N/A	Written confirmation has been received stating that the Place Survey has been cancelled for this autumn. This means Local Authorities/Partnerships are no longer required to report against this particular National Indicator.
NI005	Overall/general satisfaction with local area (GLG DSO) (place survey)	N/A	74.4% (2010)	N/A	Written confirmation has been received stating that the Place Survey has been cancelled for this autumn. This means Local Authorities/Partnerships are no longer required to report against this particular National Indicator.
NI007	Environment for a thriving third sector	16.8% (2008/09 Actual Data)	22.4% (indicative)	A	This indicator is dependent on the results of the Third Sector Organisations Survey in October 2010. Survey based indicators are typically regarded as high risk due to a number of external variables. A plan of action is being drawn up prior to the survey being conducted – a review of this Target Action Plan has been requested by the Stronger Partnership.
NI008	Adult participation in sport (DCMS DSO)	16.8% (2008/09 Actual Data)	20.10%	R	Based on data released December 2009 from the Active People 3 (AP3) survey; the NI 8 score is confirmed as 16.8% for 2009 against the 2008/9 LAA target of 18.1%. This score includes results from a total of 1,000 respondents and is a combination of the Active People 2 (Oct 07 – Oct 08) and Active People 3 survey results, an annual sample of 500 respondents combined. As our improvement strategies progress their success will be reflected in an improved out-turn. Whilst this indicator continues to rag RED; there is a strong belief that Walsall will see improved outcomes.
NI016	Serious acquisitive crime rate (PSA 23)	4.1	19.03	G	This indicator consistently hits its designated target throughout the lifetime of the LAA.
NI017 - Local Target	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (PSA 23) (place survey)	N/A	29.8% (2010)	N/A	Written confirmation has been received stating that the Place Survey has been cancelled for this autumn. This means Local Authorities/Partnerships are no longer required to report against this particular National Indicator.

NI019	Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders (PSA 23)	0.67	104.00	G	This indicator consistently hits its designated target throughout the lifetime of the LAA.
NI020	Assault with injury crime rate (PSA 25)	2.15	Baseline – 8%	G	This indicator consistently hits its designated target throughout the lifetime of the LAA.
NI030	Re-offending Rate of Prolific Priority Offenders	Awaiting Outturn Data	The target will be arrived at by applying the common ratio W to performance ceiling % target identified after the cohort has been reviewed.	G	This indicator consistently hits its designated target throughout the lifetime of the LAA.

NI's – Highlighted in Blue indicate targets which have been postponed

Appendix 2

Measure Ref	Indicator description	2010/11 Actual Achieved	2010/11 Target	2010/11 RAG Rating	Comments
Prosperity					
Education & Skills					
NI117	16-18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET) (PSA 14)	8	8.70%	G	Current performance is on target, a programme of activities is being delivered through Working Neighbourhoods Funding. Between Nov 2009 - Jan 2010 8.1% of 16-18 year olds (833) were not in employment, education or training (NEET). T
NI163	Working age population qualified to at least level 2 or higher	60.1% (2008/09 Actual)	+ 7% on baseline	G	NI 163 measures the proportion of working age pop (19 years to RA) qualified to at least level 2 or higher. Based on 2006 baseline of 55.3%, LAA targets are as follows; 57.3% (2008/9), 59.3% (2009/10) and 62.3% (2010/11). The most recent data received is 60.1% which relates to the period of 2008/09. It is anticipated that the release of the 2009/10 outturn data will be in December 2010.
NI110	Young people's participation in positive activities (PSA 14)	N/A	78.50%	N/A	Written confirmation has been received stating that the Place Survey has been cancelled for this autumn. This means Local Authorities/Partnerships are no longer required to report against this particular National Indicator.
Enterprise					
	Levels of Support to new and existing business	191 (2009/10 Actual)	110	G	This indicator has benefited from the Enterprise programme which is being funded through Working Neighbourhoods Fund.
NI172	% of small businesses in an area showing employment growth (BERR DSO)	14.11% (2009/10 Actual)	11.02%	G	The 14.11% outturn indicates that the LAA target looks achievable if this level of performance can be sustained.
Worklessness					
NI116	Proportion of children in poverty (PSA 9)	N/A	5.5 pcp	R	This target has been revised as part of the LAA refresh and is now expressed as a gap with the regional figure. The target now takes account of the effects of the recession, however it still remains challenging.
NI152	Working age people on out of work benefits (PSA 8)	4.3% pcp (November 2009)	4.1 pcp	R	The next update for this indicator will be based on a four quarter rolling average for the period up to February 2010.

Measure Ref	Indicator description	2010/11 Actual Achieved	2010/11 Target	2010/11 RAG Rating	Comments
Places					
Improving Housing					
NI135	Carers receiving needs assessment or review and specific carer's service, or advice and information	11.47%	27.50%	G	This indicator has consistently achieved its designated target throughout the lifetime of the LAA.
NI136	People supported to live independently through social services (adults all ages)	2168	3000	G	This indicator has consistently achieved its designated target throughout the lifetime of the LAA.
NI186a	Per Capita % reduction in CO2 emissions in the LA area	Awaiting Outturn Data	75 Tonnes of CO2 Reduction	R	The baseline for this particular NI came from the 2005 Calendar Year data which showed an increase in CO2 emissions (as opposed to a reduction), this equated to 7.18 total tonnage for 2004 Calendar Year which then increased to 7.40 in the following year (2005). However, since this data was posted onto the 'Hub' all data has been removed, pending confirmation of the 2005-2007 trends. The current rating of Red reflects the original documented increase in emissions from 2004-2005. Future ratings will be based on the publication of the 2006-2007 trends when available.
NI191	Residual household waste per head (DEFRA DSO)	125.35	697kgs	G	This indicator has consistently achieved its designated target throughout the lifetime of the LAA.
Enhancing the Quality of Life & Environment					
NI154	Net additional homes provided (PSA 20)	Awaiting Outturn Data	574 net	G	There has been no data released for quarter 1 due to an issue relating to the previous housing return data. Having undertaken a review of all completed figures Walsall requires 969 additional homes in the current year to achieve its overall target.
NI141	Number of vulnerable people achieving independent living (CLG DSO)(PSA 16)	89.36%	81%	G	This indicator has consistently achieved its designated target throughout the lifetime of the LAA.
NI187	Tackling fuel poverty - people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating (DEFRA DSO)	Awaiting Outturn Data	2.40%	G	This is an annual survey which will be carried out by the Energy Saving Trust in January 2011. The results of which will be available for Q4 2010/11. The window for submission of the out turn for this indicator should open on 1st February, closing on 31st March 2010.
NI188	Adapting to climate change (PSA 27)	Level 2 (2009/10 Actual)	Level 3	G	This is a self evaluation indicator based on Local Authorities reporting the level of preparedness they have reached against the levels of performance.

Measure Ref	Indicator description	2010/11 Actual Achieved	2010/11 Target	2010/11 RAG Rating	Comments
People					
Being Healthy					
NI112	Under 18 conception rate (PSA 14) (Local Target)	55.1 (2008 Actual)	30.20	R	Statistically this target has been rated Red for the lifetime of the LAA.
NI120	All age all cause mortality rate	M 1017 F 629	Total 1127	R	Statistically this target has been rated Red for the lifetime of the LAA.
NI198	Children travelling to school – mode of transport	28.5 (2009/10 Actual)	28.40%	G	The latest data has been released by DfT - derived from the January 2010 School Census. This data shows an improvement on the previous year's outturn and puts Walsall on course to meet it's LAA Target. This is deemed good progress due to the number of school closures in the borough (resulting in longer journeys for pupils to attend school).
NI056d	Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6 - Percentage of children in Year 6 with height and weight recorded who are obese	21.93%	18.80%	R	Confirmed data is not expected until December 2010 when the National Child Measurement Programme is released. A local indication of performance will be obtained during September/October 2010