

TO: THE EXECUTIVE
16 FEBRUARY 2010

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT REFRESH 2009/10
Assistant Chief Executive

1 PURPOSE OF DECISION

- 1.1 In May 2008, the Executive adopted the Bracknell Forest Local Area Agreement (LAA) April 2008-March 2011. In March 2009, Executive adopted an updated version of the LAA which included new targets against those indicators where, in the original document, the performance indicators were missing technical definitions or baselines of performance.
- 1.2 This paper presents a progress report for the minor 2009/10 refresh of the LAA in advance of submission of an updated version to Government Office for the South East (GOSE) on 12 March 2010, as required by government.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 **That Executive agrees the updated targets for inclusion in the refreshed Local Area Agreement for submission to GOSE on 12 March 2010;**
- 2.2 **That Executive agrees to give delegated authority to the Chief Executive (in consultation with the Leader and Bracknell Forest Partnership board members) to finalise the agreement of any outstanding targets for the Local Area Agreement refresh.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Bracknell Forest Council has a duty to prepare a Local Area Agreement under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- 3.2 It was agreed by Council in 2008 that functions relating to Local Area Agreements, as set out in Part 5 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, be designated as Executive functions.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None. The recommendations meet the requirements set on local authorities by government.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 Aside from the statutory early years and education targets (that are negotiated separately and only included in the LAA for completeness) the Bracknell Forest LAA contains a total of 38 indicators each requiring a target – 35 designated and 3 local.
- 5.2 When the LAA was originally published in June 2008, a number of targets were missing due to the fact that some national indicators were awaiting technical definitions or performance baselines. The LAA Refresh for 2008/09 related only to

these areas of unfinished business, it did not change any of the content in terms of the indicators chosen for inclusion. By March 2009, all 38 indicators had targets against them.

- 5.3 Of the 38 LAA targets, ten need revisiting as part of the LAA refresh 2009/10. Three of these (net housing completions, affordable housing and businesses showing employment growth) will be renegotiated completely because the Government considers that these are amongst a number of targets most likely to be affected by the changing economic conditions. These targets are the only ones that can be revisited in full in the 2009/10 refresh.
- 5.4 Five of the remaining targets (assault with less serious injury crime rate, drug related offending rate, adults with learning disabilities in employment, social care clients receiving self-direct support and carbon emissions from local authority operations) simply require confirmation of provisional baselines or targets for intermediate years. One target (under 18 conception rate) requires a decision as to whether this target should be included in the final reward calculation or changed to a local target. The final target (people supported to live independently) is already locked down, but Bracknell Forest is keen to progress further discussions to resolve differences in the interpretation of the application of the percentage targets to the baseline. Progress against finalising the ten targets is set out in Appendix 1.
- 5.4 All targets must be agreed for the final LAA Submission to GOSE on 12 March 2010. At the time of writing (27 January 2010), only one of the nine targets is causing concern:
- NI 136 (people supported to live independently) – whilst this indicator falls outside the suite of 'not locked down' indicators, Bracknell Forest is keen to progress further discussions with GOSE to resolve differences in the interpretation of the application of the percentage targets to the baseline.
- 5.5 A verbal update on progress will be given at the meeting.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The LAA is a statutory requirement under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 Delivery plans for the LAA are built into the annual service planning and budget cycle.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment was undertaken for the LAA in 2008, and this remains valid.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 The BFP Board has developed a strategic risk register that it reviews every six months.

Other Officers

6.5 None.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

7.1 All consultation was carried out as part of the development of the LAA during 2008.

Method of Consultation

7.2 All consultation was carried out as part of the development of the LAA during 2008.

Representations Received

7.3 Representations were considered as part of the development of the LAA during 2008.

Background Papers

Appendix 1 - Local Area Agreement refreshed targets 2009/10

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