



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT BRIEFING

JULY 2007

Welcome to the July briefing on the Nottinghamshire LAA. The briefing is designed to update you on the progress and latest activities around the LAA and keep you informed about forthcoming meetings. Please note that the partnership website now has a contact list of respective block partners as well as diary of 2007 meetings and events, which can be viewed at www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk

If you have any queries about anything contained in the briefing, contact Susan Lewis-Roberts or Mark Williams on (0115) 9773211/9772825 or via e-mail at: susan.lewis.roberts@nottscc.gov.uk or mark.williams@nottscc.gov.uk

LAA Year End Review

The draft year end review document was submitted to Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM) at the end of May.

Throughout June, GOEM have been meeting with the leads of each of the four LAA blocks. During these meetings, the draft year end document has been examined in further detail to establish that both reported data and supporting commentary are correct; and that the risks to achieving future targets have been identified and properly assessed.

The final report was sent to GOEM at the end of June. GOEM and the LAA Strategic Partnership Board met on 5th July to discuss the findings and conclusions of the Year End Report.

The report to GOEM also included the Statement of Grant Usage i.e. a financial statement on how the LAA "pooled" grant had been spent over the past financial year.

Future LAA Priorities

As a result of last year's Government White Paper, a new approach is being taken to Local Area Agreements. The current agreement has over a hundred measures. From next year the newly negotiated Agreement will have a maximum of 35 targets; plus 18 mandatory government targets relating to children and young people.

In order to be able to present a strong local view of the County's priorities in these negotiations, the partnership is holding a series of meetings to agree a set of outcomes to be achieved through the new LAA. The LAA Management

Group held a workshop on 8th June to agree a unifying theme and priorities for the new LAA. Information used at this event included the results of the MORI survey of customer satisfaction, information on social needs as well as both the county and district community strategies.

Ideas were also generated at the summit meeting of the Nottinghamshire Partnership, which was held on 14th June. This was attended by representatives of partner organisations and ideas were developed in response to the question “What do we want Nottinghamshire to be famous for?”

A third consultative meeting was held on 29th June, with Councillors and Chief Executives from the County and District Councils. This meeting achieved a strong level of agreement on what the LAA should aim to achieve.

The results of all of these considerations will be pulled together for the Strategic Partnership Board. The Board will decide on a focussed set of partnership priorities, to form the basis of the negotiations with the Government Office in the autumn.

LAA Pooled Funding

The LAA Pooled Funding Budget for the 2007/08 financial year has been confirmed at £37m. This is a £5m increase on the 2006/07 pooled budget.

LAA Communications Strategy

The LAA Secretariat has produced a draft strategy for improving communications between both LAA partner organisations, block partnerships and district Local Strategic Partnerships. It also highlighted the importance of communications with councillors.

Paul Randle of Rushcliffe District Council is currently working with both the Secretariat and the Local Authorities Communications Group on this issue. The Local Authorities Communications Group is due to meet in July to help further develop this draft document into an effective communications strategy.

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