

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee	The Cabinet
Date of Committee	17th November 2005
Report Title	Update on progress in relation to the Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA2)
Summary	This report updates the Cabinet on recent work undertaken in relation to LPSA2 and confirms that it is intended for a final report to be considered by the Cabinet in December 2005. The report emphasises that discussions with Project Leaders, partner agencies, and central government departments are both ongoing and fast moving and the likely need for a verbal update at the meeting.
For further information please contact:	<p>Nick Gower Johnson County Partnerships Manager Tel: 01926 412053 nickgower-johnson@warwickshire.gov.uk</p> <p>Monica Fogarty Head of Policy Tel: 01926 412514 monicafogarty@warwickshire.gov.uk</p>
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? [please identify relevant plan/budget provision]	No
Background papers	Report to Cabinet dated 24 th February 2005

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Member(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Elected Members	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cabinet Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cllr Bob Stevens
Chief Executive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Graham, Chief Executive
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jane Pollard
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Clarke, County Treasurer
Other Chief Officers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Brown, County Fire Officer Marion Davis, Director of Social Care & Health John Deegan, Director of Planning, Transport & Economic Strategy Eric Wood County Education Officer
District Councils	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Bodies/Individuals	<input type="checkbox"/>

FINAL DECISION

No

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On 8 th December 2005
To Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
To Cabinet	<input type="checkbox"/>
To an O & S Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
To an Area Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further Consultation	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Cabinet – 17th November 2005

Update on Progress in relation to the Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA2)

Report of the County Solicitor and Assistant Chief Executive

Recommendation:

That Cabinet notes and endorses the progress that has been made in relation to the Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA2) and agrees that a final report should be made to its meeting to be held on 8th December 2005.

1. Introduction

1.1 This matter was last considered by Cabinet on 24th February 2005 when it was resolved:

“a) That Cabinet supports the LPSA2 programme (attached at Appendix A to the Report) as the basis for final discussions with the government and partners.

b) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Chief Executive to negotiate the Public Service Agreement, within these final discussions, to cover the period April 2005 to March 2008.”

1.2 The contents of the LPSA2 programme remain substantially as set out in the report then approved by Cabinet. However, due to a variety of factors (most notably a substantial period of delay within central government), the start date of the programme has been postponed to April 2006 and the agreement will extend until March 31st 2009. This experience was shared by a number of other authorities. The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) is keen to have finalised the detail of the agreement by the end of December 2005.

1.3 There are close links between this area of work, the development of Local Area Agreements (LAA's) and the proposals for the development of the Warwickshire Strategic Partnership. This is apparent from the ODPM Guidance on LAA's- July 2005 which makes clear:

- LPSA2 (when finalised) will be incorporated into the Local Area Agreement as 'the Reward Element of the LAA'

- The LAA must set out the priorities for the County as agreed between central government, the County Council and the Local Strategic Partnership (i.e. the Warwickshire Strategic Partnership) – particularly those priorities identified in Community Strategies (i.e. the Warwickshire Strategic Partnership Plan)
- Both LPSA2 and the LAA must be based on clear, mutually supportive and robust partnership arrangements between the County Council, the District Councils, LSP's and other key partners. These partnership arrangements should be rooted in a strong and effective Warwickshire Strategic Partnership

1.4 In broad terms, the current position concerning Warwickshire's LPSA2 is:

- ODPM has repeatedly confirmed that we have a substantial array of Projects that, in principle, should form the basis of an entirely appropriate agreement.
- Our LPSA2 is in the current batch of agreements being considered by ODPM and the relevant Government Departments
- Our LPSA2 must be finalised and signed off by the County Council, ODPM, and Government Departments by the end of December 2005.

2. Current Position regarding the thirteen LPSA2 Projects

2.1 On 24th February 2005, Cabinet supported the LPSA2 programme. This is made up of the following Projects:

- Reducing crime and of the fear of crime
- Reducing re-offending
- Improving streets for people
- Reducing arson
- Improving education experiences in the early years
- Children with disability
- Improving positive destinations of young people
- Improving the educational attainment of young people through music and dance
- Promoting healthier lifestyles
- Tackling poverty
- Improving the availability, choice and quality of care homes
- Modernising day services
- Reducing carbon emissions
- Improving the recycling of waste

2.2 Since February, the project leaders have carried out a considerable amount of work. Much of this has been concerned with further definition of the actions to be taken through the projects and, especially the outcomes (including stretch targets) to be achieved as a result of LPSA2. Eventually, in August we were able to convene a meeting with the lead ODPM contact. This was attended by each of the lead Project Officers. Subsequently further discussions have taken place

and, in general terms, good progress is being made with discussions involving central government.

- 2.3 This has been followed by substantial efforts made to negotiate and agree outcomes, targets and indicators with ODPM and the relevant Government Department. Regular weekly contact is being maintained with the lead ODPM Officer in order to ensure that the Government Department lead officers address outstanding issues as swiftly as possible. Each Project leader is fully aware of the work that must be done in order to finalise matters and of the requirement to achieve 'sign off' with the relevant central government department.
- 2.4 Additionally, discussions are taking place with project leaders concerning the requirements of each project for support for the Pump Priming and Performance Reward Grants. We are also working on the detailed arrangements that should apply for monitoring, evaluation and performance management.
- 2.5 At this stage, the most urgent issue to resolve is in relation to the allocation of the Pump Priming Grant. The amount available, taking into account the County Council's own agreed allocation of £500,000 to support LPSA2, is just less than £1.8m. Early indications are that this budget will be under considerable pressure. It will be necessary to put into place an appropriate process to moderate these requests and to decide upon the precise allocation to each individual Project.
- 2.6 The table attached has been prepared in order to summarise each of the Projects (Appendix A).

3. Other work required to complete LPSA2 by the end of December 2005.

- 3.1 In addition to achieving the 'signing-off' of the individual Projects other work required to be completed includes:
 - a) Considering the allocation of the Pump Priming Grant based on the analysis of a business case received from each Lead Officer
 - b) Considering the approach to the Performance Reward Grant and to produce a written document/set of documents with partners and Cabinet.
 - c) Ensuring that the arrangements for the allocation of the Performance Reward Grant are clear from the start of LPSA2 and set out unequivocally the specific entitlement of each Project and the conditions that should apply in the event of under-performance.
 - d) Developing internally and with partners the Performance Management Framework and arrangements for LPSA2 including the development of individual partnership agreements for each LPSA2 Project – dealing with the allocation of funding (both pump priming and performance reward) together with the reporting and monitoring arrangements that should apply throughout the duration of LPSA2

- e) Ensuring full congruence between LPSA2, the Warwickshire Strategic Partnership Plan, the County Council's Corporate Business Plan and the emerging Local Area Agreement both for the projects themselves and performance management arrangements (in relation to the links with the Warwickshire Strategic Partnership Plan, this has already been achieved).
- f) Agreeing the Officer and Member reporting arrangements with partners (in line with the Warwickshire Strategic Partnership)

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 Although there remains work to be done, the sense of direction, priorities and partnership involvement is quite firm. Government departments are currently considering the final details relating to our potential Programme and their final response will be forthcoming shortly.
- 4.2 The Cabinet is recommended to give its approval for the further work to firm up the Programme in order that LPSA2 can be in place for the period April 2006 to March 2009. It is intended that a final report will be made to Cabinet for consideration at the meeting to be held on 8th December 2005.

DAVID CARTER
Assistant Chief Executive and
County Solicitor

Shire Hall
Warwick

19th October 2005

Updated Appendix A

REVISED SCHEDULE OF LPSA2 PROJECTS

LPSA TARGET		OUTCOME	POSITION AS AT 09 11 05	COUNTY CONTACT
1	Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime	Reduced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violent Crimes Criminal Damage Crimes Vehicle Crimes Domestic Burglaries 	Advanced negotiations on targets and indicators – final agreement anticipated within a week	Andrew Lawrence 01926 414819 Kathy Robinson 01926 412920
2	Reducing Youth Crime	Reduced re-offending within a 12 month period by young offenders	Advanced negotiations on targets and indicators – final agreement anticipated within a week	
3	Improving Streets for People	Improved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of the built environment Reduced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road casualties Domestic Burglaries, Vehicle Crimes Community Disorder Incidents 	Discussions with DEFRA currently stalled but very effort being made via ODPM to bring matters to a conclusion	Don Foster 01926 412136
4	Reducing Arson	Reduced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliberate Small Fires Deliberate Vehicle Fires Deliberate Property Fires 	Advanced negotiations on targets and indicators with final agreement anticipated shortly	Balbir Singh 01926 753201 Vikkii Chamberlain 01926 753288
5	Improving education for children with disability and looked after children	Increased: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levels of independence and confidence Levels of satisfaction with services received Attainment at GCSE, Key Stage 3 Attendance and positive attitudes at school 	Ongoing negotiations with DfES representative who is very supportive of the innovative approaches outlined in the Project	Geoff King 01926 412117 Andrea Randall 01926 476865

6	Improving outcomes and positive destinations for young people currently not in education, employment or training	<p>Reduced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numbers who are not in education, employment or training at November following completion of Statutory Education in July (65 overall) 	Agreement reached with DfES on indicators, stretch targets and value for money. Final agreement will be reached by the end of November once current baseline figures are known	Nick Gower Johnson 01926 736376 or 412053
7	Improving attainment of young people through music and dance	<p>Improved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attainment at Level 4 Maths, English and Science of selected cohorts of young people in 20 + schools across Warwickshire 	Advanced and helpful negotiations with DfES regarding the value for money offered by the Project	Simon Grimshaw 01926 412617 Rex Pogson 01926 413794
8	Improving the health and well being of communities – healthy lifestyles	<p>Reduced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health inequalities by reducing deaths from circulatory diseases in the area of highest mortality – Nuneaton and Bedworth 	All aspects of the Project agreed with Dept of Health and ODPM	Carole Edkins 01926 493491
9	Tackling Poverty	<p>Increased:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numbers of claimants for Housing Tax and Council Tax benefits across Warwickshire Numbers advised and positive outcomes gained via the Warwick District Welfare Rights Project 	Ongoing negotiations with Dept for Work and pensions, the District / Borough Councils and VCS organisations likely to lead to satisfactory conclusion by the end of November 2005	Nick Gower Johnson 01926 736376
10	Improving early years access and provision	<p>Increased:</p> <p>% of children achieving “good” at foundation stage</p>	Ongoing discussions with DfES to be concluded by the end of November 2005	Elizabeth Featherstone 01926 412151

11	Improving the availability, choice and quality of care homes	<p>Reduced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gap between the percentage of older people aged 65 + surveyed, who report being satisfied with the home care commissioned by Warwickshire County Council and 'perfection' (= 100%) 	Ongoing discussions with Dept of Health to lead to satisfactory conclusion by the end of November 2005	Martin Jones 01926 412083
12	Modernising day services	<p>Increased:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levels of independence experienced by people with earning disabilities 	Ongoing discussions with Dept of Health to lead to satisfactory conclusion by the end of November 2005	Martin Jones 01926 412083
13	Carbon Management	<p>Reduced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon Emissions by 10,500 tonnes across the County Council Departments. 	Discussions with DEFRA currently stalled but very effort being made via ODPM to bring matters to a conclusion	Glenn Fleet 01926 412961
14	Improving the recycling of waste	<p>Increased:</p> <p>Recycling rates</p>	Discussions with DEFRA have been stalled but recent constructive response received	Roy Burton 01926 736324