

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

The Cabinet

Date of Committee

7th December 2006

Report Title

**Development of the Warwickshire
Local Area Agreement (LAA)**

Summary

This report submits an outline of the final draft of the LAA that will be submitted to Government Office on 8th December 2006 and informs of key developments since that last report to Cabinet on 12th October 2006.

**For further information
please contact:**

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**Would the recommended
decision be contrary to the
Budget and Policy
Framework? [please identify
relevant plan/budget provision]**

No

Background papers

Powerpoint Presentation to full Council on 18th July 2006
Papers for Member seminar on 30th November 2006
Cabinet Report and Appendices-7th September 2006
Cabinet Report 12th October 2006
Latest draft LAA (to be circulated on or about 23rd November 2006)

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members Councillor June Tandy
Councillor Jerry Roodhouse
- Cabinet Members Councillor Alan Farnell
Cllr Peter Fowler
Cllr Chris Saint
- Chief Executive Jim Graham, Chief Executive

- Legal Greta Needham
- Finance David Clarke and Chris Jukes
- Other Strategic Directors William Brown – Community Protection
 Marion Davis – Children Young People & Families
 John Deegan – Environment & Economy
 Graeme Betts Adult Health & Community Services
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Monica Fogarty.....

FINAL DECISION

Yes

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by the Cabinet
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

The Cabinet – 7th December 2006

**Development of the Warwickshire Local Area Agreement
(LAA)**

**Report of the Strategic Director for Performance and
Development**

Recommendations:

1. That Cabinet notes the current position in relation to the development of the Warwickshire LAA
2. That Cabinet endorses the latest draft LAA prior to submission to Government Office on 8th December 2006.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report describes work done since the last report to Cabinet on 12th October 2006 in anticipation of the near final draft of the LAA that will be submitted to Government Office on 8th December 2006.

2. Key Developments

- 2.1 On 12th October 2006, Cabinet received a report that focussed on key developments and the Draft LAA that was submitted on 29th September 2006 in accordance with Government Office guidelines.
- 2.2 The Draft LAA was received by Government Office and resulting comments from both partners and Government Office formed the basis of the Project Plan (attached as appendix 1) to ensure that the target date of 8th December was met in both quantitative and qualitative terms. The plan illustrates the work that has been required to meet the target date and has assisted in the co-ordination of the workstreams that are ongoing in order to ensure satisfactory completion of all work required by 8th December 2006.
- 2.3 Key elements of work that were identified in the plan and have been progressed since the last Cabinet meeting are:

- **Revision and refinement of vision, format and style**

Initial comments highlighted the need for the document to read holistically rather than an amalgamation of six blocks. In addition to the necessary

drafting revisions required-a visioning sub-group was convened to ensure that a 'golden thread' approach was adopted throughout the document with an underlying vision. The sub-group suggested-and it was subsequently endorsed- that 'Listening to Warwickshire and Narrowing the Gap' should underpin the document-with particular reference to access to services.

- **Refinement of Outcomes, Indicators, Baselines and Targets**

Government Office has been very clear that the final submission in December should contain fully populated tables in relation to outcomes, indicators, baselines and targets in relation to the block. To encourage accountability and transparency-partners suggested that Lead arrangements be firmed up at this stage along with the location of those outcomes that did not neatly fit into any one block. Localisation of outcomes is seen as crucial in order to address narrowing the gap issues and also to ensure that the Agreement is one that is right for Warwickshire.

- **Proofing the Document**

It was agreed that the LAA also required testing to ascertain its applicability to rural issues, equalities/cohesion and ensure sustainability. This work has been done in an inclusive manner using high level proofing documents where applicable.

- **Governance**

A Governance Task and Finish group met throughout September to December to ensure that appropriate governance arrangements are in place to progress the LAA. A further meeting of the Group is planned for 13th December 2006 after which final options for future arrangements will be endorsed by the LAA Steering Group on 21st December 2006.

In terms of the options that are being developed, the Task and Finish Group unanimously agreed that the most appropriate model should be based on the following:

- Streamlined LSP model
- The establishment of a County Level Strategic Board (Public Service Board)
- County level thematic partnerships based on the LAA blocks
- Five District LSP's with thematic partnerships based on the LAA blocks
- Linked with the emerging localities agenda

In addition to the development of the model there are a number of issues that are currently being clarified through discussion such as membership, roles and responsibilities, accountability and performance management, scrutiny, and rationalisation of existing partnerships.

- **Resources**

Considerable work was identified for this workstream to meet GOWM requirements of all blocks being fully populated with financial information detailing pooled and aligned funding over the next three years.

- **Performance Management**

A Performance Management Framework is being developed, in consultation with partners, for the LAA that seeks to address performance systems, monitoring and management through the following principles:

- Mutual acceptability across partnerships
- Accountability and Accessibility
- Build on existing arrangements including those recently established and agreed for LPSA2
- Be proportionate to the range of activities included within the LAA

3. Final Draft LAA

- 3.1 The final Draft of the LAA is the product of the work outlined and comments that have been received from a Member's Seminar held on 30th November and the LAA Steering and Servicing Groups that have also considered the Draft. Copies of the latest draft will be sent to all members in advance of the meeting for comment and consideration.

4. Future Developments

- 4.1 As mentioned, the final LAA submission will take place on 8th December. This will then be followed by a series of discussions and negotiations with Government Office before the LAA becomes operational on 1st April 2007.
- 4.2 In addition to the negotiation period, work will now be underway amongst partners to:
- Develop delivery plans that will underpin the outcomes contained within the LAA.
 - Ensuring that delivery arrangements are localised and respond to the needs of specific groups
 - Finalise governance arrangements for the LAA
 - Finalise financial and performance management arrangements and integrate these within the overall governance framework.
 - Prepare the ground work for the implementation phase of the LAA.

5. The White Paper

- 5.1 In planning for the future, recognition will need to be given to the recent Local Government White Paper which will have a major impact on the development

and implementation of Local Area Agreements in the future. Particular areas of relevance are:

- A duty on County Councils to design and deliver an LAA in consultation with others
- A corresponding duty on Boroughs and Districts to co-operate with County Councils
- Maximum of 35 targets with DFES minimum of 18
- Strengthened LSP's with a key role for Councillors in thematic partnerships
- Streamlined citizen involvement during the development of LAA's
- Rationalisation of Partnerships
- The encouragement of cross boundary co-operation through the development of Multi Area Agreements.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Members will note that considerable progress has been achieved since the last report in October. The draft that will be made available to members in advance of the Member Seminar represents the latest version of work to date and every effort will be made to ensure that comments made at Cabinet are reflected in the final submission for 8th December 2006; and the approach that is taken during preparations for the implementation phase of the LAA during January to March 2007.
- 6.2 During this period, further reports will be submitted to Cabinet about key developments. Update reports will also be sent to Area Committees during the January cycle of meetings.

DAVID CARTER
Strategic Director of Performance and Development
Shire Hall,
Warwick.
November, 2006

LAA Project Plan – (Oct – Dec 2006)

Ref	Task	Owner	October 2006			November 2006				December 2006				
			Fri 13 th	Fri 20 th	Fri 27 th	Fri 3 rd	Fri 10 th	Fri 17 th	Fri 24 th	Fri 1 st	Fri 8 th	Fri 15 th	Fri 22 nd	Fri 29 th
	Produce Draft LAA	NGJ/BB												
1	Revise and refine vision, format and style													
1.1	Revision and Improvement of Introductory text and vision for the LAA.	MF/MP/RC												
1.2	Reformatting of block tables to ensure consistent, accessible appearance.	NGJ/BB												
1.3	Incorporate outstanding comments from Addendum	NGJ/BB												
2	Refinement of Outcomes, Indicators, Baselines and Targets	NGJ/BB												
2.1	Refinement and complete population of outcomes, indicators, baselines and targets	Block Leaders												
2.2	Specify Lead Partner Arrangement and contributors to outcomes	Block Leaders												
2.3	Localise LAA Outcomes where appropriate	Block Leaders NGJ/Area Teams												
2.4	Location of outcomes (e.g affordable housing) within the LAA blocks	NGJ/Block Leaders												
3	Proofing the Document													
3.1	Ensuring Transport, Equalities, Access and Culture, Leisure and Sport are embedded within the LAA.	NGJ/BB												
	3.1.1 Progression of Transport and Access Issues through Sub-Group	NGJ/RN												
	3.1.2 Auditing Equalities Issues through WREP Sub-Group and Disabilities Forum	NGJ/BB												
	3.1.3 Progression of culture, leisure and sport within the LAA through Block Leaders	NGJ/BB/CJ/R W												
3.2	Ensuring that the final draft LAA is rural proof through WALC/WRCC	NGJ/BB/AC/A H												
3.3	Progress report to Servicing Group on 1, 2 and 3 above.	NGJ/BB												

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			Fri 13 th	Fri 20 th	Fri 27 th	Fri 3 rd	Fri 10 th	Fri 17 th	Fri 24 th	Fri 1 st	Fri 8 th	Fri 15 th	Fri 22 nd	Fri 29 th
4	Governance													
	Governance Options to be finalised for the delivery of the LAA	DC/SD												
4.1	4.1.1 Updated position for Draft LAA purposes	DC/SD												
	4.1.2 Final position paper to Steering Group	DC/SD												
	4.1.3 Servicing Group paper on LAA/LSP relationships	NGJ/BB												
	4.1.4 Review of Groups within blocks	Block Leaders												02/07
5	Resources													
5.1	Resources to be aligned/pooled with Outcomes	CJ												
6	Performance Management													
6.1	Performance Management Framework to be established	MF/BB/SL												
	6.1.1 Agreeing a methodology	MF/BB/SL												
	6.1.2 Assessment of Performance Plus capability	MF/BB/SL												
	6.1.3 Developing the framework and Liaising with Partners	MF/BB/SL												
	6.1.4 Finalising the framework	MF/BB/SL												
6.2	Progress reports to Servicing Group on Processes	NGJ/BB												
7	Communications and Consultation													
7.1	Consult Citizen's Panel at County and Borough/District level	NGJ/BMG												
7.2	Prepare an LAA Communications Strategy	NGJ/BB/EB												
7.3	Develop a Member Engagement Strategy	BB												
7.4	Maintain and Promote Website linkages	BB												
8	Project Planning and Management													
8.1	Preparation of Final LAA	NGJ/BB												
8.2	Project Planning GOWM/Partner negotiation and ensuring delivery mechanisms are established for 1 st April 2007.	NGJ/BB												

Overall Timeline for task	
Key tasks	
Sub Tasks	