

PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

AGENDA

**Thursday 22nd September 2008 at 4.00pm in Committee Room 2, Shire Hall
Warwick**

Membership of Board

Council Leaders

Councillor Alan Farnell (Board), Warwickshire County Council
Councillor Michael Doody, Warwick District Council
Councillor Marcus Jones, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
Councillor Colin Hayfield, North Warwickshire Borough Council
Councillor Craig Humphrey, Rugby Borough Council
Councillor Les Topham, Stratford on Avon District Council

Voluntary & Community Sector

William Clemmey, Coventry and Warwickshire Infrastructure Consortium (CWIC)

Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce

Louise Bennett, Chief Executive

Warwickshire Police Authority

Ian Francis, Vice Chair of the Police Authority

Coventry and Warwickshire Learning & Skills Council

Kim Thorneywork-Chief Executive

Warwickshire Primary Care Trust

Bryan Stoten, Chair of Warwickshire PCT

Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils (WALC)

Councillor Vaughan Owen

A-PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a) To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2008 (attached)
- b) Matters arising from the minutes and not otherwise covered by the agenda
- c) Notification of Items under Any Other Business

B-SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS

3 Addressing the Impact of Climate Change

Presentation from the Climate Change and Environment Block.

4 Narrowing the Gap

- 4(i) Narrowing the Gaps in Warwickshire-Joint report of Strategic Directors (Performance and Development and Environment and Economy) (WCC)
- 4(ii) Child Poverty Strategy For Warwickshire-Joint Report of Strategic Directors (Children, Young People and Families, Adult Health and Community Services and Environment and Economy (WCC) recommended for referral by WCC Cabinet
- 4(iii) Health Inequalities- Report based on the findings of a recent Audit Commission review of Health Inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth- recommended for referral by WCC, NBBC and the PCT.
- 4(iv) LSP Narrowing the Gap Action Plans for North Warwickshire, Rugby and Warwick

5 Probation and Partner Contribution to reduce Re-offending

Report of the Chief and Chair of Warwickshire Probation Board

6 Hear by Right

Report from County Youth and Community Officer (WCC) recommended for referral by the WCC Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

7 Comprehensive Area Assessment Consultation

Report from the Chair of the Public Service Board.

C-BUSINESS PLANNING AND FINANCE

8 Area Based Grant Joint Scrutiny Panel

Report of the Chair of the Area Based Grant Joint Scrutiny Panel

9 Finance Report

9(i) 2008/09 Area Based Grant-Projected Outturn as at Quarter 1

Report of the Accountable Officer

9(ii) Safer and Stronger Communities Capital Grant-2008/09 Spending Proposals

Report of the Safer Block Lead and the LAA Accountable Officer

9(iii) LAA Reward Grant-Consultation Response

Report of the Accountable Officer

D-ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10 LAA Key Developments

Report from Nick Gower-Johnson, County Partnerships Manager-WCC. Includes Headline information from the LAA blocks on delivery plans, information regarding the development of the Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy and the Learning to Deliver Action Plan 2008-09.

E-CLOSE OF BUSINESS

11 Any Other Business

12 Future Meetings

Thursday 20th November 2008 – 2:00 p.m (Venue – tbc)

Objectives

The overriding aim of the Public Service Board is to join together to improve public services across Warwickshire and make a real difference to local communities, in particular by focusing on:

- (i) people, families and communities that require greater levels of support and interventions to bring them up to the county average
- (ii) priorities for improvement to services that are used by everybody to improve outcomes for all
- (iii) improving access to service provision within local communities and the accountability of service providers to local people
- (iv) sharpening our key partnership relationships by ensuring that there is strong focus on outcomes, together with clear responsibilities and accountabilities

Accessibility

It is envisaged that the Warwickshire Public Service Board will meet at least four times a year, however additional meetings may be arranged as necessary

PSB meetings are open to the public.

Paper for the meeting will be available 7 days before the meeting and minutes of the meeting will available 7 days after the meeting.

Papers for the meeting will be available on the LAA website (see below) and also through contacting:

Jean Hardwick
Principal Committee Administrator
Tel: 01926 412476
Email: jeanhardwick@warwickshire.gov.uk

Further Information

Visit the Warwickshire LAA website for further information about the LAA

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/newlaasite

Or alternatively contact

Nick Gower-Johnson
County Partnerships Manager
Tel: 01926 412053
Email: nickgower-johnson@warwickshire.gov.uk

Bill Basra
LAA Manager
Tel: 01926 412016
Email: billbasra@warwickshire.gov.uk

Minutes of a meeting of the Warwickshire Public Service Board held on 26 June 2008 at Shire Hall, Warwick.

Present:

Members of the Public Service Board

Council Leaders:

Alan Farnell - Warwickshire County Council (Chair of Board)
Michael Doody, North Warwickshire District Council
Colin Hayfield – North Warwickshire Borough Council
Les Topham – Stratford on Avon District Council

Warwickshire Association of Local Councils - Councillor Vaughan Owen

Learning and Skills Council (C&W) - Kim Thorneywork

CWIC - William Clemmey

Warwickshire Police Authority - Eric Wood (representing Ian Francis)

NHS Warwickshire (PCT) - Bryan Stoten

C&W Chamber of Commerce - Louise Bennett

Observers

Warwickshire County Council – Councillor Peter Fowler

Officers

District/Borough Council Chief Executives:

Chris Elliott – Warwick District Council
Christine Kerr – Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
Dave Nash (representing Paul Lankester) – Stratford on Avon District Council

Warwickshire Police – Lewis Benjamin and Adrian Pearson

Warwickshire PCT – Gillian Entwistle

Warwickshire Association of Local Councils – Alison Hodge

CWIC – Jacqui Aucott

GOWM – Sharon Shattock

County Council Jim Graham – Chief Executive
Bill Basra, LAA Manager
Eric Britton, Head of Communications and Media
David Carter, Strategic Director of Performance and
Development
Marion Davis, Strategic Director of Children, Young People
and Families.
Nick Gower-Johnson, County Partnership Officer.
Jean Hardwick, Principal Committee Administrator
Julie Sullivan, Corporate Community Safety Manager
Janet Purcell, Cabinet Business Manager
Virginia Rennie, Group Accountant
Oliver Winters, Head of Finance

The Chair welcomed Chief Inspector Adrian Pearson, Lewis Benjamin (Warwickshire Police) and Gillian Entwistle (WPCT) to the meeting.

1	Apologies	Action
	<p>Apologies for absence were received from Alison Hodge ((WALC), Councillor Marcus Jones (Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough), Jerry Hutchinson, (North Warwickshire Borough Council, Ian Francis, (Warwickshire Police Authority) Simon Warren (Rugby BC) and Paul Lancaster (Stratford on Avon District Council).</p>	
2	Minutes of meeting held on 12 March 2008	
	<p>Resolved</p> <p>That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2008 be agreed as a correct record subject to the deletion of resolution (a) from minute 8 – Serious Violent Crime – Police Commitment.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>In reply to a comment from William Clemmey, Councillor Michael Doody undertook to investigate why the LSP Newsletter had not included reference to the Warwick LSP grant.</p>	

<p>3.</p>	<p>Vision for Warwickshire. Jim Graham referred to the booklet circulated with the agenda papers entitled “What will life be like in Warwickshire in 2015?” which represented the County Council’s vision statement up to 2015. He invited comments on this document, which he said could be used as a launch for partners to work with the County Council as a collective body, with a shared longer-term aspirational vision.</p> <p>He highlighted the importance of the PSB being central to joint working particularly in relation to the –</p> <p>(1) Local Area Agreement (LAA) and Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). (2) anticipated announcement in the Queen’s Speech 1st August 2008 relating to Sub National Review (SNR), which potentially could mean working beyond Warwickshire boundaries.</p> <p>In these connections, he raised questions about how the Board, as a public body, would be seen to link the LAA targets with those of Coventry and Solihull and the relationship with the rest of the West Midlands together with the lack of co-terminosity.</p> <p>He said that there was need to consider how the Board worked together as body and how it welded into other organisation and the bigger geographical area. The main focus of CAA was to look across the totality of partnership working – which included a range of organisations and services to assess their effectiveness in tackling the challenges facing their communities. In this connection he suggested that the Board should start by looking at how the Regional Development Agency (RDA) might be effectively scrutinised and judged as part of the SNR. In conclusion, he said that Board members, as leaders, had the responsibility for shaping and delivering services for local communities and the citizens for whom they were responsible.</p> <p>During discussion support was expressed for the Board looking at the bigger picture and the need for guidance about this might be achieved.</p> <p>The Chair proposed that, following consideration of the next item the County Council and District/Borough Councils’ Chief Executive Officers should be asked to produce a joint response on the way forward to address the need for a long term vision for the county.</p>	<p>WCC/DC & BC CEs.</p>
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4.	<p>The Growth and Housing Agenda</p> <p>Chris Elliott, with the aid of a power-presentation (attached), explained that the purpose of the presentation was to –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) consider the implications for public services of the levels of growth and development anticipated in the sub-region over the next 20 years. (2) Identify funding the means of projecting the public service infrastructure demands of the anticipated growth (3) Consider ways in which partners might address the issue of affordable housing provision. <p>He highlighted for consideration–</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The housing and growth agenda - the scale of growth, implications for infrastructure, service and utilities provision, potential funding sources and how this might be achieved. • The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for 2006 – 2026 proposals for the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Sub-Region (additional requirements for residential housing, employment and retail and office space). • The possible eco town at Long Marston, overspill from Redditch and Tamworth and the Government’s review of RSS and suggesting the need for more homes. • The impact of the Housing and Growth Agenda on infrastructure and service provision. • Suggestions as to how this impact might be funded and addressed. <p>In conclusion, he asked the Board to –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Support the funding of the way to calculate some of the infrastructure provision; (2) Ask all partners to look at future service provision and report back. (3) Consider and support the ways to tackle affordable housing issues. <p>During discussion the following comments were noted –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The timescale for the development of a strategy was tight and the aim was for a preferred Strategy to be agreed by December. The need for this urgency was to influence the councils’ budget debates and to be fed into AWM. 	

	<p>(2) That there was need for more research into housing demand to ensure that there was no over-provision and to predict housing need. It was noted that post-war housing predictions for growth had always been too low.</p> <p>(3) That the housing strategy should not be based around the number of housing units but should reflect the “pattern of life” “life style” and social development in Warwickshire. Chris Elliot agreed with this comment and said that numbers had been quoted in order to stimulate discussion.</p> <p>(4) Jim Graham referred to the need for a close and united approach to facilitate development of a strategy in a managed way to enable early engagement with developers to protect future social housing provision. Christine Kerr referred to the valuable work undertaken by the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Sub-Regional Forum (CSWF) that had been effective so far in presenting a united front to the Government and Regional Assembly and suggested that consideration be given to consulting that body on this issue.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Chris Elliott for his presentation and referred to the comments made during discussion particularly relating to the need to look at “social development/life style” rather than housing numbers. He invited any additional comments or observations to be forwarded to Chris Elliot. He asked that comments made during discussion and those that might follow-on from the meeting be considered at the meeting of County, District and Borough Councils’ Chief Executive Officers and for a report on the outcomes of their discussions to be brought to a future meeting.</p> <p>The Board asked that the County, District and Borough Chief Executive Officers be asked to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) consider how the development of a Growth and Housing Strategy can be facilitated; (2) look in parallel at the work of the CSWF; (3) undertake this work in conjunction with that requested in minute 3 above. 	<p>WCC/DC & BC CEs./C. Elliott</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Serious Violent Crime Project</p>	
	<p>Adrian Pearson updated the Board on the Serious Violent Crime Project and said that a work plan had been drawn up and a reporting framework. He further reported-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • high levels of operational activity, with Warwick DC area being identified as a “hotspot”. • that arrangements were being made for a seminar to be 	

	held on 17 September 2008 on Violent Crime.	
6.	LAA Communications Framework	
	<p>Eric Britton presented the draft communication framework which he said was aimed at ensuring that the overall, internal and external, communication was undertaken in a co-ordinated and structure way and promoting, building awareness, understanding and engagement with the LAA and its partners. Each LAA block had been assigned a communications lead officer to be responsible for co-ordinating the communications' activities associated and relevant to that block. It had also been agreed, by the County Communications Group, that a '7th Block' was needed to co-ordinate and deliver the overarching communication requirements associated with the LAA. The communication work would be undertaken within existing resources and future proposals included promotional literature that would be sent out with council tax letters and, development of a specific website. The Communications Group would meet monthly and the Framework reviewed in 12 months.</p> <p>During discussion the following comments were noted –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) That the document should be commended subject to the deletion of the word “key” from the “list of key partners” and to include the voluntary sector. (2) That the LAA should be promoted by the publication of “good news” stories. (3) That the draft framework was welcomed as there had not been enough publicity/promotion of the LAA previously. The separation of the target audience was particular welcomed because there were many Members who did not know enough about the LAA and PSB. (4) It was suggested that each year the Block Leaders should be asked to identify one key element that can be effectively campaigned each year. <p>The Board agreed –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) That the Draft Communication Framework document should be supported subject to minor drafting amendment; (2) That the Block Leaders should be asked to identify a key topic from each block that can be effectively campaigned each year and detailed proposals be brought back to the next meeting. 	EB/Block Leaders

7.	Report of the LAA Manager	
	<p>The Board considered the report of the LAA Manager outlining the draft work programme.</p> <p>In reply to a question Bill Basra highlighted the key strategies listed in paragraph 3.5 of the report.</p> <p>The Board agreed the work programme as set out in the Appendix to the report.</p>	BB
8.	Q4 Finance Report	
(i)	2007/08 LAA Pooled Grant Outturn	
	<p>The Board considered the report outlining the LAA pooled grant outturn 2007/08. Oliver Winters highlighted the underspend of £192,339 which would be carried forward into 2008/09. Copies of Appendix A, that gave a detailed analysis, by partners, of the outturn position for the Themed Block, were circulated.</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Noted the 2007/08 LAA Pooled Grant underspend of £192,339.. (2) Approved the Themed Blocks proposed use of the underspend as outlined in Paragraph 3.3. (3) Supported the submission, by the Accountable Officer, of the End Year Statement of Grant Usage to GOWM on the basis of the information contained in this report and accompanying appendix. (4) Agreed to the cancellation of the 19 August 2008 and asked for the next meeting to be arranged for a date in September. 	OW/JH
(ii)	LPSA Reward Grant.	
	<p>Oliver Winters updated the Board on the present position with regard to the LPSA Reward Grant. He highlighted that –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) 50% of the Reward Grant would be received in 2009/10 and 50% in 2010/11, with half of the capital money being a capital grant and a half a revenue grant. (2) Assuming the current forecast was accurate the County Council would expect to receive £5,036m in 2009/10 and 2010/11 of which £2.518 would be revenue money. (3) The first £1.5m, plus accrued interest, of the revenue element of the Reward Grant to be received in 2009/10 would be used to repay the Virtual Bank loans for the pump-priming top-up and the £1m. allocation agreed by 	

	<p>Council on 18 March 2008.</p> <p>The Board noted the implications of the latest forecast of LPSA2 Reward Grant and the approach being undertaken to maximise the reward grant available.</p>	
(iii)	Safer an Stronger Communities Capital grant	
	<p>Oliver Winters presented the report which outlined the background to the 2007/08 LAA Pooled Grant and the changed position with regard to the 2008/09 grant, received by the County Council as part of the 2008/09 Local Government Settlement. He highlighted the definition of capital expenditure as set out in Appendix A to the report.</p> <p>In response to concerns expressed about capital grants allocations for the Safer and Stronger Block it was noted that this would be considered further outside the meeting.</p> <p>Christine Kerr expressed concern about the £6k deminimous level precluding payment of grants of £2k being paid to small organisations that would make a difference and be of great benefit. Oliver Winters suggested that this concern might be overcome by giving a grant to the District Council to distribute.</p> <p>The Board requested that that Safer and Stronger Themed Blocks consider how they would wish to use the £173,000 capital grant for Safer and Stronger Communities, in 2008/09, to deliver the outputs and outcomes of the new LAA , as set out in paragraph 3.1 of the report, and report back to the PSB, at it's meeting on 19th August 2008, with proposals.</p>	OW
9	Update on Key Developments	
	<p>The Board, having considered the report of the County Partnerships Manager, noted the -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) progress made on the joint scrutiny exercise in respect of Area Based Grant 2008-9 and joint scrutiny of partnership activity generally. (2) Project Plan for the development of the Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy (3) purposes of and resources available through the Learning to Deliver programme 2008-9 and agreed the nomination of a Programme Champion 	

	(4) Current position in relation to the finalisation of the new LAA, Delivery Planning for the new LAA and Communications issues	
10.	Any Other Business	
	<p>(a) GOWM Representative</p> <p>The Board noted that this was Sharon Shattock’s last meeting, because she was taking up another position, and thanked her for her contribution to, and attendance at, meetings.</p> <p>(b) Domestic Violence Website</p> <p>Lewis Benjamin reported that the Domestic Violence Website, set up by the Domestic Abuse Multi Agency Team, a joint police, district and borough council initiative, was now open and contained links to a range of information and help.</p>	NG-J
11.	Future Meeting Arrangements	
	The Board agreed to the cancellation of the 19 August 2008 meeting and asked that it be re-arranged for a date in September 2008.	

The meeting finished at 4:00 p.m.

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Chair

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008

Narrowing the Gaps in Warwickshire

Joint Report of Strategic Directors (Performance & Development and Environment & Economy), Warwickshire County Council

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Reviews the baseline data for the Narrowing the Gaps Indicator Set.
2. Acknowledges the range and extent of the gaps that exist amongst our communities, both geographically and otherwise.
3. Considers the proposal for identifying differential targets and either commission support on this basis or make recommendations for an alternative approach.
4. Considers the proposal for identifying priority localities and considers how such prioritisation might be applied to future narrowing the gaps activity.
5. Receives a further comprehensive report at its November meeting detailing a partnership approach to tackling the issues outlined in this paper.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At the May 2008 meeting of the Public Service Board (PSB), the Board reaffirmed its commitment to narrowing the gaps and outlined its partnership approach as we enter the new LAA period. Members of the Board will recall that 'Narrowing the Gaps' has been defined by the Board as:

'Reducing differences across the County in terms of achievement, opportunity and quality of life'.

- 1.2 Whilst it has been agreed by the Board that priority should be given to addressing the gaps that exist between some of the communities in Nuneaton & Bedworth and elsewhere in the County, the Board also wishes to ensure a focused but holistic approach which would:

- Address gaps/issues affecting geographical communities in all five areas of the county,
- Also address gaps/issues affecting communities of interest no matter where they may reside,
- Focus on complex issues that can only be addressed through a genuine partnership approach whereby agencies pool resources and effort in pursuit of the shared ambition of narrowing the gaps,
- Focus effort though through joint action in relevant local communities/with communities of interest.

- 1.3 In defining its approach to Narrowing the gaps, the Board agreed on the selection of an indicator set made up of 15 outcomes from the new LAA:

NI	Description
1	% of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together
4	% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality
15	Serious violent crime (including domestic violence)
16	Serious acquisitive crime
21	Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the council and police
75	5 + GCSEs A* - C or equivalent including Maths and English
116	Proportion of children in poverty
117	16-18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training
120	All age, all cause mortality
123	Smoking cessation
152	Working age population on out of work benefits
163	Working age population with Level 2 qualification or higher
166	Average earnings of employees in the area
175	Access to services and facilities by public transport walking & cycling
195	Improved street and environmental cleanliness

- 1.4 PSB went on to agree that the Warwickshire Observatory should support Block Leads to:

- Identify all relevant baseline information by county, district/borough and, where possible, locality,
- Measure the gap in respect of district/borough and, where possible, locality and also by reference to gender, age, those in receipt of out of work benefits, ethnicity and disability,
- Attribute differential targets for each of the indicators as above for consideration by each of the LSPs,
- Ensure that their delivery plans for the new LAA fully take into account arrangements for multi agency delivery as above.

- 1.5 In addition, it was agreed that steps are taken by partner agencies to agree those localities/priority neighbourhood areas which should be a focal point for Narrowing the gaps activity taking into account the Index of Multiple of Deprivation and other relevant data sources. This would build on the work of individual agencies with a view to developing and agreeing a proposal which applies across the breadth of public sector provision in the County.

- 1.6 This paper provides an evidence base for future narrowing the gaps activity, identifying the current extent of the gaps and suggesting methodologies for developing differential LAA targets and identifying priority localities in order to help reduce the gaps. It is intended to inform decision making and assist partners in the effective targeting of resources. It is likely that individual Blocks will wish to carry out more detailed analysis of data relating to their specific theme, but this paper should assist in providing the general context.

- 1.7 Specifically, this paper contains three broad sections, as agreed at the May meeting of PSB.
- An assessment of what gaps currently exist with respect to the basket of LAA indicators identified by PSB. These gaps are defined, where possible, in terms of geography, age, gender, economic status and disability.
 - A proposal for how differential targets might be set for each of these indicators.
 - A proposal for how priority localities might be identified for future LAA activity.
- 1.8 The County Council will be bringing forward to the PSB a report, setting out a proposed forward delivery strategy for Narrowing the Gaps for WCC and the rest of the Public Sector. The statistics in this current report clearly demonstrate the need for a "step change" in actions to deliver significant and sustainable improvements and raise standards for all in the County, while ensuring that the most dramatic improvements are seen in the most deprived communities.

2. The Basket of Indicators

- 2.1 An Appendix to this paper provides a full breakdown of all available baseline data for the basket of indicators identified by PSB, both in terms of geography and other forms of disaggregation. This section of the paper provides a summary of the key messages emerging from the analysis.
- 2.2 Two of the indicators in the basket (NI 21 – concerns about anti-social behaviour and NI 116 – child poverty) are new indicators with no baseline data and have been excluded from the analysis.
- 2.3 The analysis reinforces many of the messages identified in previous similar exercises. However, this new analysis has the benefit of utilising new data that is embedded within the Warwickshire LAA, provides a fresh evidence base for targeting narrowing the gaps activity and considers other forms of gap aside from simply geographic variations in need.

2.4 The key findings are:

- As in previous analyses, Nuneaton & Bedworth emerges as the District/Borough of greatest need in a geographical context. Of the 13 narrowing the gaps indicators for which there is District-level information, Nuneaton & Bedworth has the weakest performance in nine, and only performs comparatively well on one measure; access to services.
- However, this Borough-wide generalisation masks a significant 'gap' even within Nuneaton & Bedworth. The Locality-based analysis identifies that parts of Nuneaton are among the best performing neighbourhoods in the County across the narrowing the gaps indicators. The Weddington & St. Nicolas Locality actually displays the strongest performance of all Localities in four of the nine indicators measurable at that level.
- This emphasises the need for targeted support at the community level rather than a broad District or Borough level approach. Partners should be aware that the widest gaps can be experienced within a single town. A further example is The Rugby Town North Locality, which features both Brownsover North and Brownsover South; South has consistently featured in deprivation analysis in the

past, whereas Brownsover North performs well on almost all socio-economic indicators.

- The analysis also draws attention to other significant forms of gap, aside from geographical variations in performance. For example;
 - People within the 15 – 24 age band are 33 times more likely than those aged 65+ to suffer serious violent crime in Warwickshire,
 - Children entitled to receive free school meals are a third as likely to achieve five or more GCSEs at grades A* - C including Maths and English as those who are not entitled. Even more significantly, children who do not have 'looked after' status are six times more likely than those who are looked after to achieve this standard,
 - Males are four times as likely as females to be the victim of serious violent crime in Warwickshire,
 - Residents in minority groups (e.g. minority ethnic groups, unemployed and disabled) are all *more* likely to feel they can play a role in local decision-making than the general population,
 - The number of people who have stopped smoking four weeks after the end of their support programme is 3½ times greater in the white population than in minority ethnic groups,
 - Males in full-time employment earn on average 31% more than females in full-time employment.

- These represent just a sample of the types of gap that exist among non-geographically defined populations in Warwickshire. The Appendix document to this paper presents more details on these and others. These findings reinforce the need for partners to consider other non-spatial forms of narrowing the gaps, which can often be more substantial than the traditional District/Borough comparisons.

- The table below presents a summary of the narrowing the gaps indicators.

Indicator	Best performing District/Borough	Weakest performing District/Borough	Other notable gaps
GCSE attainment	Stratford-on-Avon	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Free School Meals
Child poverty	N/a	N/a	N/a
NEETs	Stratford-on-Avon	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Localities
Serious violent crime	Stratford-on-Avon	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Age, Gender
Serious acquisitive crime	Stratford-on-Avon	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Age, Localities
Concerns about ASB	N/a	N/a	N/a
Influence local decision making	Warwick	Stratford-on-Avon	Ethnicity
Different backgrounds get on	Warwick	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Localities
Mortality rates	Stratford-on-Avon	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Gender
Smoking cessation	Warwick	Rugby	Ethnicity
Benefit claimants	Stratford-on-Avon	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Localities
Level 2 qualifications	Warwick	North Warwickshire	None
Average earnings	Warwick	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Gender
Access to services	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Stratford-on-Avon	Locality
Street cleanliness	Stratford-on-Avon	Nuneaton & Bedworth	None

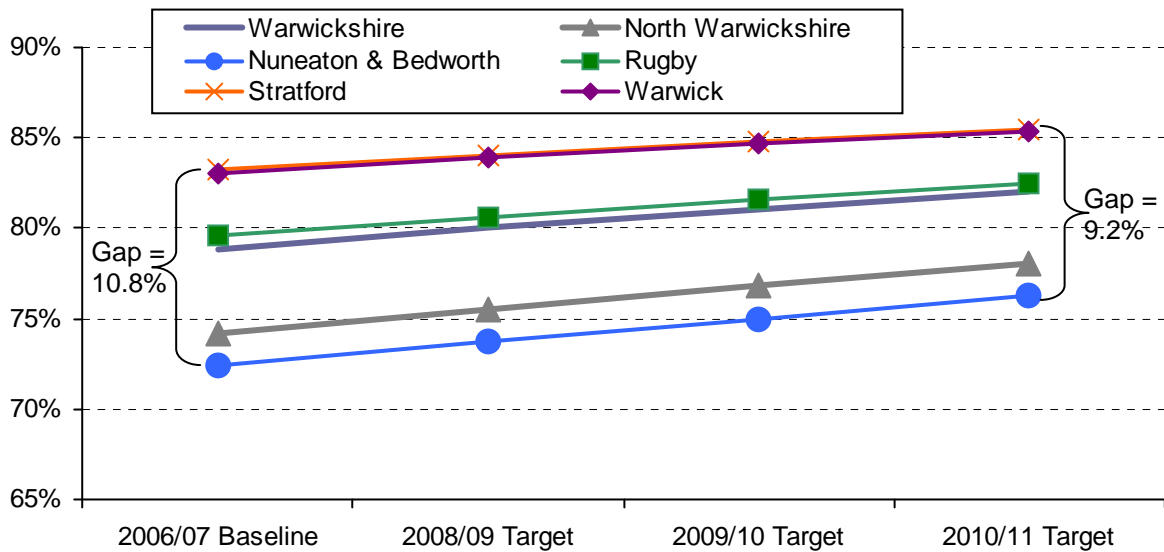
3. Setting Differential Targets

- 3.1 In order to achieve a sustained reduction in the extent of the gap, whether that be on a geographical basis or otherwise, it will be necessary to target those communities of greatest need for enhanced support. To achieve this, it may be helpful to set differential targets, with the aim of attaining improvement targets beyond the countywide aspiration in those prioritised communities.
- 3.2 It may be that Blocks have already identified and set differential targets for certain indicators in the LAA. Indeed, some of the targets in the published LAA make specific reference to priority communities. Others might not yet have tackled this area, and this section provides a suggestion for how this might be approached. The Board is asked to consider whether the proposed approach is helpful and, if so, the Warwickshire Observatory is offering support in working with Blocks to set targets on this basis.
- 3.3 The proposal is to set targets with the following three criteria in mind;
- Improvement for all – all communities should seek at least some improvement over the duration of the LAA, regardless of current performance
 - A reduction in ‘the gap’ – those communities in greatest need should set themselves more stretching rates of improvement than the overall County target. This does not necessarily mean that by the end of the LAA period all communities will be performing at the same standard; many of the themes covered by the LAA are long-term aspirations. A realistic short to medium term aim would be to reduce but not remove the gap.
 - Differentiated targets sum to the County target – when combined, the differential targets should aggregate to at least the Warwickshire LAA target. This means that the individual differentiated targets need to be weighted accordingly to account for different population bases; it is not a case of ensuring the basic average of the different communities is equal to the County figure.
- 3.4 To illustrate this approach, a worked example is provided below. National Indicator 1 (people from different backgrounds get on well together) is used. This example illustrates how differential targets can be applied at a District/Borough level; the same approach can be applied to any form of gap measurement (i.e. age, gender, ethnicity).

	2006/07 Baseline	2008/09 Target*	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target
Warwickshire	78.8%	80.0%	81.0%	82.0%
North Warwickshire	74.2%	75.5%	76.8%	78.1%
Nuneaton & Bedworth	72.4%	73.7%	75.0%	76.3%
Rugby	79.6%	80.6%	81.6%	82.5%
Stratford-on-Avon	83.2%	84.0%	84.8%	85.5%
Warwick	83.0%	83.9%	84.7%	85.4%

* the County targets are as published in the Warwickshire LAA; the District/Borough targets are differentiated to achieve the greatest improvement in the areas of greatest need. The District/Borough targets are weighted according to population size in order to meet the overall County figure.

3.5 To illustrate how the above targets meet the three criteria outlined above, the graph below presents the performance of each District/Borough should these targets be achieved.



3.6 The graph illustrates that, during the course of the LAA period, there has been an improvement in performance for all parts of the County. In addition, the gap between the best and worst performing parts of the County has been reduced from 10.8 percentage points to 9.2 percentage points. In index terms, where the County average is 100, the gap has reduced from 106:92 to 104:93. The suggested District/Borough targets also aggregate to achieve the County target as published in the LAA.

3.7 Although the gap has not been removed, the aforementioned example illustrates how realistic progress might be made during the course of the LAA. The achievements in the scenario should not be under-estimated; if the County target were to be met in 2010/11 it would mean a further 13,000 residents felt that their community is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together.

3.8 It should be emphasised that this approach is applicable to all forms of gap, not just geographically. It may be that, based on the analysis covered in section 2 of this report, Blocks wish to apply differential targets to other communities of need.

3.9 PSB is asked to consider whether the methodology outlined above offers a pragmatic approach to narrowing the gaps. If so, Blocks may like to consider how the approach can be applied to their own indicators with, if needed, the support of the Warwickshire Observatory.

4. Identifying Priority Communities

- 5.1 In order to help reduce the extent of the gap across different communities, both in terms of geography and other forms, it is necessary to identify those communities that would benefit from the greatest level of support. This section considers an approach to identifying these communities based on a number of criteria as agreed at the May 2008 meeting of PSB;
- the evidence presented in this report
 - the Index of Multiple Deprivation
 - existing priority communities
- 5.2 The other consideration for identifying priority communities is to enable individual LSPs to reduce the gap within their own District/Borough. As well as reducing the gap on a countywide basis, PSB noted at the May meeting that gaps and issues within Districts/Boroughs also need to be addressed.
- 5.3 A two stage approach is proposed. The primary means of identifying sub-District performance in the narrowing the gaps indicators has been at Locality level. For this reason, it is suggested that Localities are used initially to ascertain broad geographical areas of concern across the County. The second stage would be to utilise more detailed data (i.e. the Index of Multiple Deprivation) to identify smaller pockets of need both across the County and within individual Districts/Boroughs. This process would be carried out at both a countywide level and an individual LSP level, generating two sets of priority area; those that should be prioritised on a countywide basis and those that individual LSPs might want to focus on for localised narrowing the gaps activity.

5. Suggested Countywide Priority Localities

- 5.1 The table overleaf presents Locality-level information on the basket of narrowing the gaps indicators based on data taken from the analysis referred to in section three of this paper. Where possible, each Locality is ranked on a countywide basis, where 1 is strongest performance and 23 is weakest performance. Nine of the fifteen indicators are available at this scale.
- 5.2 In summary, the available evidence suggests that there are four Localities of particular concern, in a Countywide context. There is clearly a spectrum of need, and no distinct cut-off point for defining those areas of greatest need. However, the evidence suggests that these four Localities show a considerably greater level of need than others.
1. Abbey & Wem Brook
 2. Camp Hill & Galley Common
 3. Rugby Town North
 4. Arbury & Stockingford
- 5.3 These areas are probably not a surprise and reinforce the findings from previous analysis of 'the gap'. Of course, there will be pockets of significant need across almost all Localities and these should be picked up in the LSP-specific analysis. However, in terms of identifying broad geographical priorities it is proposed that the aforementioned list is an appropriate starting point.

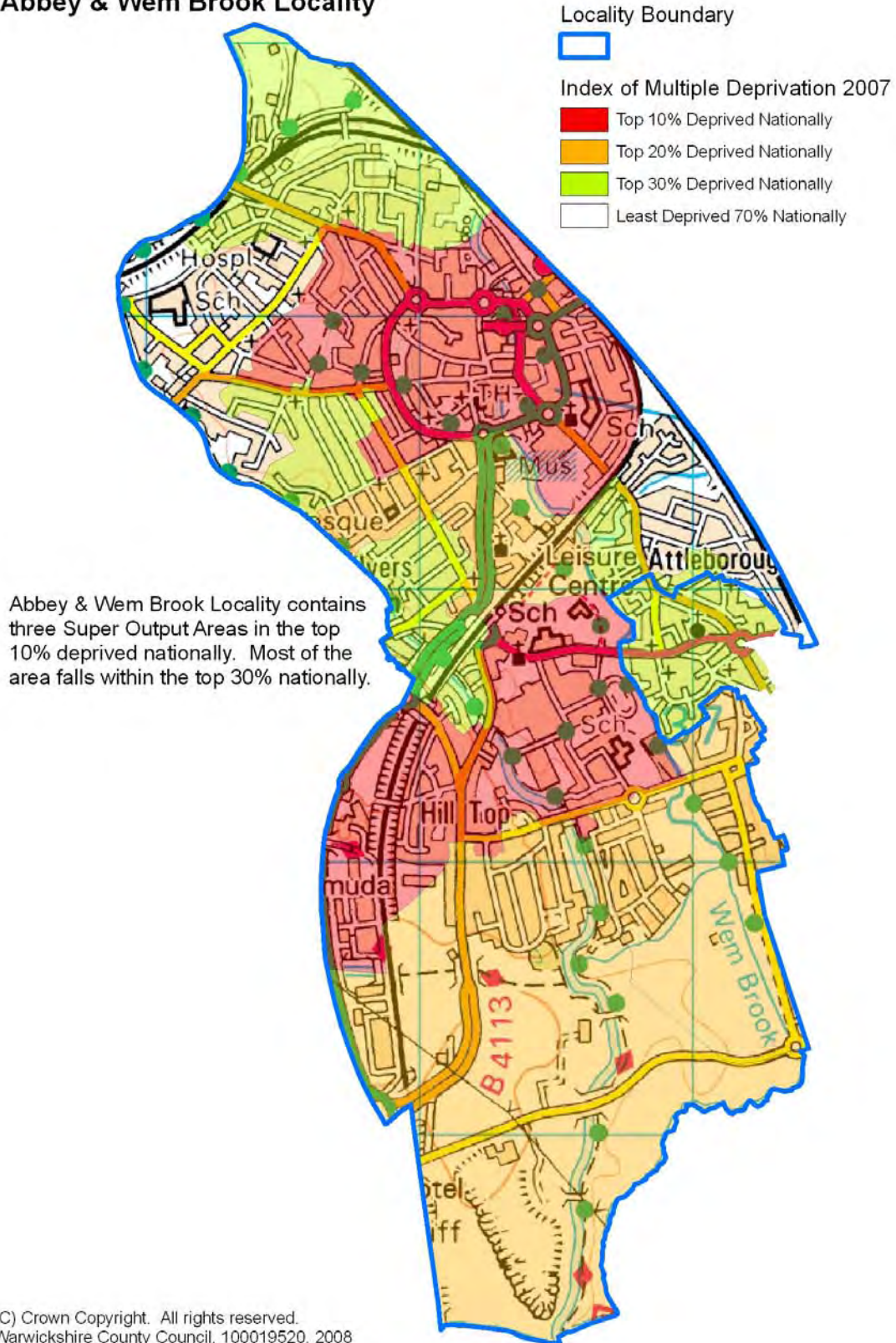
Localities	National Indicators								
	Different backgrounds get on	Influence local decision-making	Serious violent crime	Serious acquisitive crime	GCSE Attainment	NEETs	Smoking cessation	Benefit claimants	Access to services
	1	4	15	16	75	117	123	152	175
North Warwickshire East	17	14	14	12	20	22	21	12	13
North Warwickshire North	13	4	1	7	9	14	16	13	17
North Warwickshire South	14	5	7	18	17	11	9	16	21
North Warwickshire West	7	13	16	15	16	10	10	8	16
Abbey & Wem Brook	23	11	23	23	21	23	17	18	=1
Arbury & Stockingford	22	12	17	22	22	15	18	17	12
Bedworth North	16	17	12	16	20	16	13	20	=1
Bedworth South	21	8	22	19	18	18	14	19	=1
Camp Hill & Galley Common	18	20	13	21	23	21	19	23	=1
Weddington & St. Nicolas	15	19	15	4	1	1	1	21	=1
Whitstone & Bulkington	20	7	10	13	8	8	12	22	15
Rugby Rural	9	6	9	17	4	5	3	11	20
Rugby Town East	8	23	6	11	5	9	22	5	=1
Rugby Town North	19	21	20	20	15	20	23	15	=1
Rugby Town West	11	18	18	14	10	12	20	10	=1
Alcester, Studley & Henley	4	10	2	5	6	6	7	2	22
Southam, Wellesbourne & Kineton	3	16	8	3	11	3	11	3	19
Stratford-on-Avon & Shipston	12	22	11	2	3	7	8	6	18
Kenilworth	2	15	3	1	2	2	2	9	14
North Leamington	6	1	19	9	13	17	5	4	=1
South Leamington & Whitnash	10	2	21	10	14	19	15	1	=1
Warwick	5	9	5	6	12	13	6	14	=1
Warwick Rural	1	3	4	8	7	4	4	7	23

Note: each Locality is ranked on a countywide basis, where 1 is strongest performance and 23 is weakest performance.

- 5.4 It is helpful to use the Index of Multiple Deprivation to more accurately identify within these Localities where the most significant issues exist. The maps overleaf focus on these four Localities and present the more detailed, Super Output Area, deprivation data within these areas.

5.5 Across the nine indicators where it is possible to compare Localities, the Abbey & Wem Brook Locality ranks, on average, in 18th place out of 23 and has the weakest performance of all Localities in four of the indicators.

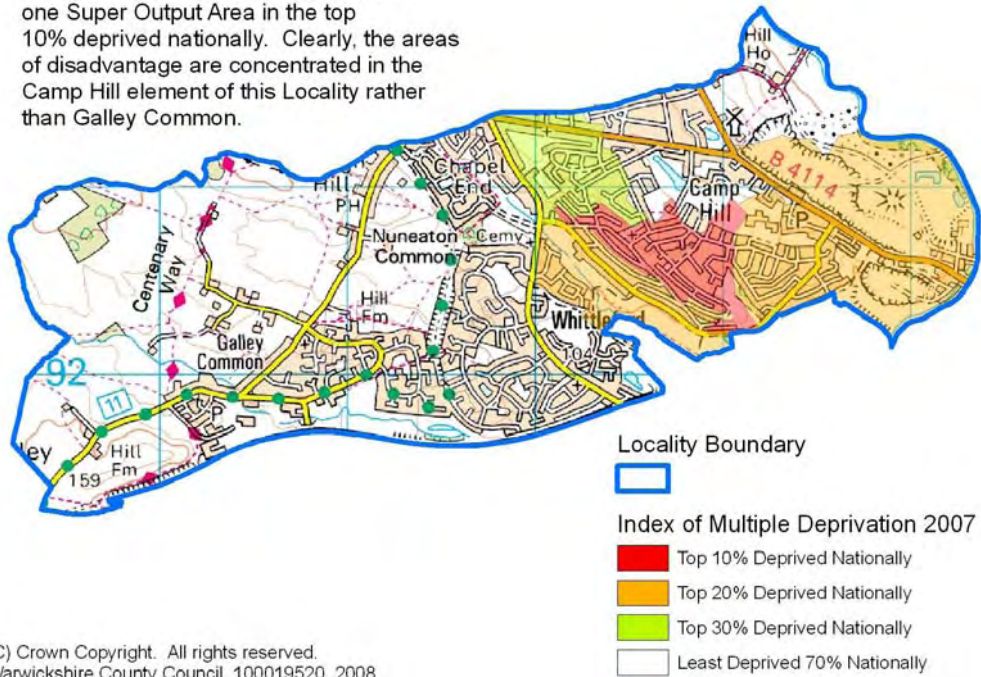
Abbey & Wem Brook Locality



- 5.6 Camp Hill & Galley Common has the lowest performance in two of the indicators. Clearly, Camp Hill has long been recognised as an area of need. It is likely that the Galley Common element dilutes the intensity of need across the Locality as a whole, as the map below illustrates that it is essentially the Camp Hill neighbourhood that features prominently in the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

Camp Hill & Galley Common Locality

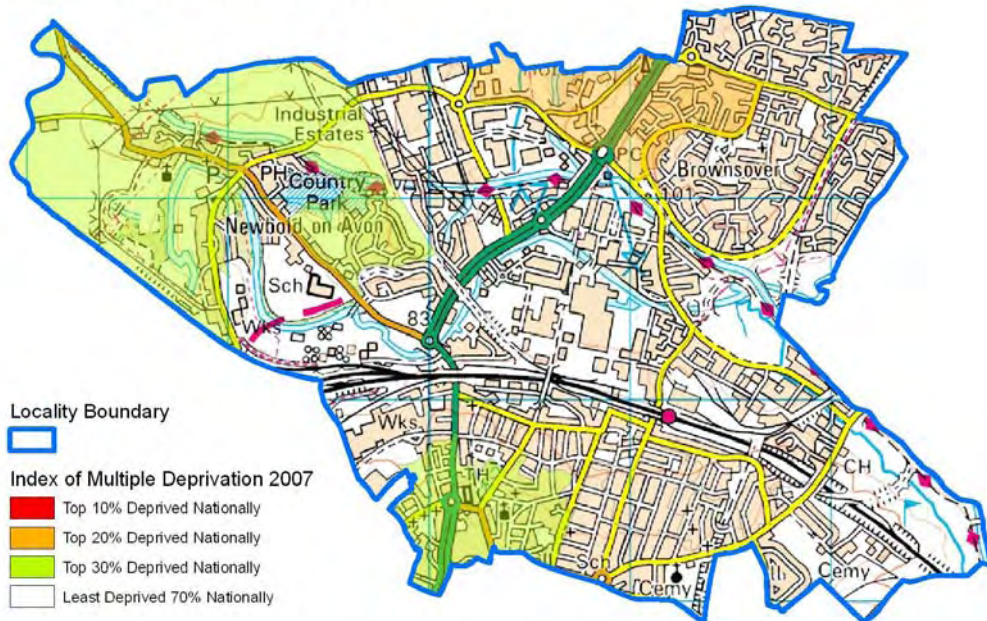
Abbey & Wem Brook Locality contains one Super Output Area in the top 10% deprived nationally. Clearly, the areas of disadvantage are concentrated in the Camp Hill element of this Locality rather than Galley Common.



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- 5.7 Rugby Town North has the third lowest overall ranking amongst Localities, and the Brownsover South neighbourhood in particular is recognised as an area of need.

Rugby Town North Locality

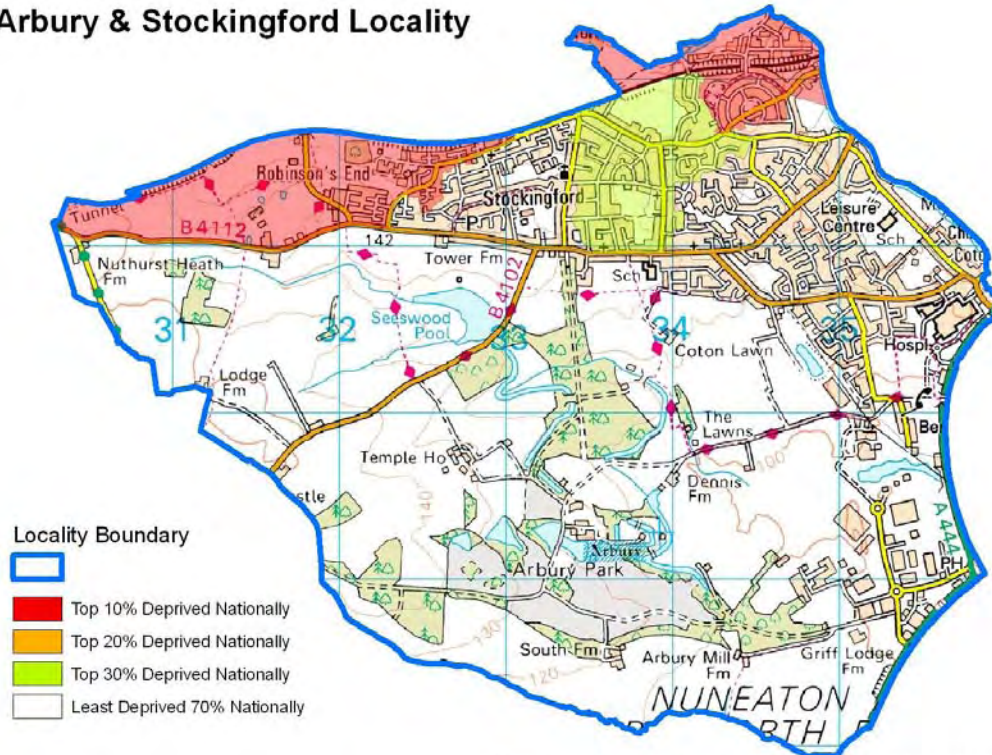


The Town North Locality contains no Super Output Areas in the top 10% deprived nationally, although part of Brownsover South does feature in the top 20%.

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- 5.8 The fourth Locality with relatively poor performance across most of the indicators is Arbury & Stockingford. Stockingford in particular has featured in deprivation analyses in the past, and it is likely that the more rural Arbury element of the Locality is diluting the degree of need across the area as a whole.

Arbury & Stockingford Locality



This Locality contains a relatively large rural area, and the disadvantaged neighbourhoods are concentrated in the north of the Locality.

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- 5.9 Partners are asked to consider whether these identified Localities should be considered as Countywide priorities. This would not be at the exclusion of local priorities within individual LSPs, and the next section of the paper proposes Localities that LSPs might want to consider as priorities for narrowing the gaps activity.

6. Suggested LSP Priority Localities

- 6.1 PSB acknowledged at the May meeting of the Board that there is a need to reduce the extent of 'the gap' both across the County as a whole but also within individual Districts/Boroughs. This section suggests potential priority Localities and neighbourhoods for each LSP, based on both the analysis of the basket of indicators and the latest Index of Multiple Deprivation. These should be considered in the context of any Countywide priorities that are agreed.
- 6.2 **North Warwickshire:** based on the analysis of the narrowing the gaps indicators, the East Locality clearly emerges as a likely candidate for prioritisation. It had the weakest performance in the Borough in six of the nine indicators measurable at Locality level. The IMD confirms that this part of North Warwickshire contains some of the areas of greatest need in the Borough, and in particular parts of central and south Atherstone and Mancetter emerge as potential priority areas. The remaining three Localities in the Borough appear relatively evenly matched in terms of the basket of indicators, and

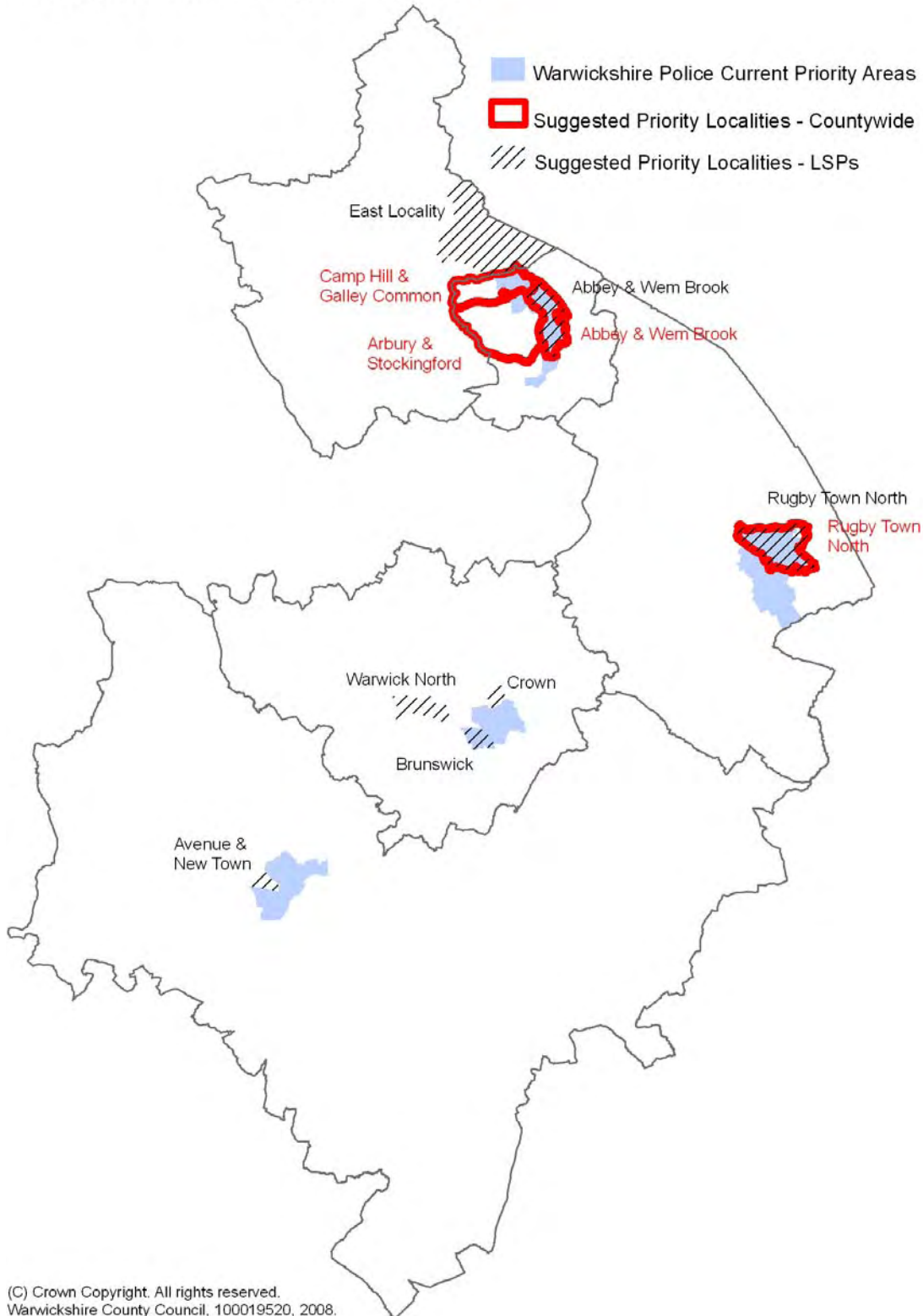
the LSP might want to adopt an approach to reduce the gap between the East Locality and the rest of the Borough.

- 6.3 **Nuneaton & Bedworth:** the previous section in this paper has already identified that parts of west Nuneaton should be considered for priority status on a Countywide basis. Clearly this applies within the local LSP setting as well, and the analysis has illustrated that ‘the gap’ between east and west Nuneaton can be as extreme as the gap between west Nuneaton and any other part of the County, including south Warwickshire. Based on analysis of the narrowing the gaps basket of indicators and previous work on the IMD it is proposed that, in a local context, the priority should be to reduce the gap between west Nuneaton (in particular Wem Brook, Camp Hill and Stockingford) and east Nuneaton.
- 6.4 **Rugby:** Rugby Town North has already been identified in the Countywide analysis as a potential priority area. More specifically, the greatest intensity of need is observed in the Brownsover South neighbourhood. This is an area of contrasts, as the Brownsover North neighbourhood performs well across most socio-economic indicators. Parts of Newbold and Overslade also appear in the most deprived parts of the County according to the IMD. Conversely, the Rural Rugby Locality performs well in many of the indicators. The proposal would be that the LSP focuses on reducing the gap between the most deprived parts of Rugby Town (Brownsover South and Newbold) and the rural element of the Borough.
- 6.5 **Stratford-on-Avon:** Stratford-on-Avon only has three (large) Localities so a comparison at this scale is not particularly helpful. All three perform well across almost all of the narrowing the gaps indicators and it is not clear at this level which part of the District might be prioritised. The IMD, operating at a much smaller geographical scale, offers more information and identifies that parts of west Stratford Town feature in the 25% most deprived neighbourhoods nationally. Specifically, the Maybird/Mount Pleasant area of the town emerges as a potential area for priority attention and the LSP might want to focus on reducing the gap between this neighbourhood and the majority of the remainder of the District.
- 6.6 **Warwick:** at Locality level there do not appear to be significant differences across Warwick District. Kenilworth and Warwick Rural perform particularly well across most of the narrowing the gaps indicators. However, these generalisations mask some significant need at neighbourhood level. In particular, there are three communities that feature prominently in the IMD; Crown, Brunswick and Packmores/West Woodloes. It is suggested that, in order to reduce the gap within Warwick District, the focus should be on reducing the difference between these three communities and Kenilworth and rural parts of the District.

7. Existing Priority Areas

- 7.1 A further phase of work that might be required is to ascertain what existing priority areas exist among agencies in Warwickshire and assess how closely they are aligned with the areas identified above. For example, Warwickshire Police has identified a number of Priority Areas. These are currently under review and it might be helpful to carry out this assessment in the context of the narrowing the gaps activity.
- 7.2 The map overleaf illustrates the current Police priority areas alongside the areas suggested for priority status within this paper.

Priority Areas: Existing & Suggested



7.3 It may be useful to collate existing priority areas across all of Warwickshire’s agencies to ascertain to what extent there is consistency and whether a single definition can be agreed for the purposes of narrowing the gaps activity.

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008

Narrowing the Gaps in Warwickshire

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This paper presents the statistical detail behind the main paper on Narrowing the Gaps, providing the full set of available data on the basket of LAA indicators identified by the Public Service Board (PSB).
- 1.2 For each of the fifteen indicators, the baseline figure for Warwickshire is provided along with comparative data at sub-regional, regional and national level wherever possible. The local dataset is then disaggregated in the following ways where possible.
 - Geographically (District/Borough and Locality)
 - Age Group
 - Gender
 - Ethnicity (this is often a crude white/non-white split due to data limitations)
 - Economic Status (e.g. whether in receipt of benefits or not)
 - Health (e.g. whether disabled or suffering from long term limiting illness)
- 1.3 In each case, the size of 'the gap' is presented in index form. For each indicator, the Warwickshire average is represented by an index of 100, with all other sub-groups calculated accordingly. For example, if a particular District/Borough has a rate twice that of the County average the index value for that District/Borough would be 200. If District A has an index value of 200 and District B has an index value of 50 then the gap would be represented as "District A has a rate four times that of District B".
- 1.4 The purpose of using index values is so that the extent of the gap is comparable across indicators. Instead of comparing percentages with rates and volumes, using index values means the variation in 'gap size' can be assessed consistently across all fifteen indicators.
- 1.5 The intention is for this appendix to provide Block theme groups with more detailed information to enable them to identify communities of greatest need, whether geographically or otherwise. It is likely that Blocks will have additional specialised data to supplement this.
- 1.6 This data could be updated annually to assess any trends that might be occurring. However, it should be stressed that many of the outcomes are long-term in nature and short term fluctuations may not be indicative of a real sustained change.
- 1.7 Some indicators in the basket do not yet have baseline data hence it has not been possible to carry out the analysis at this point. These indicators are:
 - NI 21 – Dealing with local concerns about ASB and crime by the local council and Police
 - NI 116 – Proportion of children in poverty

NI 1	% of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area
LAA Theme	Stronger Communities
Data Source	Public Satisfaction Surveys / The Place Survey

Notes

Residents are asked how strongly they believe that people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area. The figure is reported as the percentage that either definitely agree or tend to agree. Data for 2006/07 and 2007/08 is taken from the County Council's Public Satisfaction Survey. Future figures will be provided through the new Place Survey.

Baseline Data

In 2007/08 the Warwickshire figure was 78.8%; this is the baseline for the LAA. The figures for previous years are 77.1% (2006/07) and 85.0% (2005/06). In order to generate more robust figures at locality level it has been necessary to combine data from the five District/Borough surveys in 2006/07 with the County survey (there were no District surveys in 2007/08). This means that the figures presented below are not compared with the County Council survey figure (77.1%) but an amalgamated figure of 83.4%. The average figure for all Counties Council areas in 2006/07 was 80.7%.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

Four of the five District level figures do not differ significantly from the Warwickshire average. The exception is Nuneaton & Bedworth, which is ten percentage points below the County figure. It is notable that the two southern Districts are above the Warwickshire average while the three northern Boroughs are all below (albeit slightly in two cases).

	2006/07 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	83.4%	-
North Warwickshire	82.9%	99
Nuneaton & Bedworth	73.1%	88
Rugby	82.8%	99
Stratford-on-Avon	87.6%	105
Warwick	88.7%	106

Source: Best Value User Satisfaction Surveys 2006/07 (six combined)

Note: the figures presented here are not directly comparable with the LAA baseline

Measuring the Gap – Localities

At Locality level there is, not surprisingly, more significant variation. Five of the six localities with the lowest rates are in Nuneaton & Bedworth, while the six highest rates are all to be found in either Warwick or Stratford-on-Avon Districts. The proportion of residents in Abbey & Wembrook in Nuneaton that feel their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together is only two thirds of that in Warwick Rural.

Localities are colour coded in the table below to denote which District/Borough they are in. This may assist individual Districts/LSPs in identifying where local efforts should be focused.

	Localities	2006/07 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
1	Warwick Rural	92.1%	110
2	Kenilworth	91.2%	109
3	Southam, Wellesbourne & Kineton	90.4%	108
4	Alcester, Studley & Henley	89.7%	108
5	Warwick	88.4%	106
6	North Leamington	88.1%	106
7	North Warwickshire West	85.5%	103
8	Rugby Town East	85.5%	102
9	Rugby Rural	85.3%	102
10	South Leamington & Whitnash	84.8%	102
11	Rugby Town West	83.9%	101
12	Stratford-on-Avon & Shipston	83.7%	100
13	North Warwickshire North	83.1%	100
14	North Warwickshire South	82.5%	99
15	Weddington & St. Nicolas	79.7%	96
16	Bedworth North	77.7%	93
17	North Warwickshire East	76.0%	91
18	Camp Hill & Galley Common	75.7%	91
19	Rugby Town North	75.0%	90
20	Whitestone & Bulkington	74.6%	89
21	Bedworth South	74.4%	89
22	Arbury & Stockingford	68.9%	83
23	Abbey & Wem Brook	60.8%	73

Source: Best Value User Satisfaction Surveys 2006/07 (six combined)

Note: the figures presented here are not directly comparable with the LAA baseline

Looking within Districts, Nuneaton & Bedworth has a gap of almost 20 percentage points to close between Abbey & Wembrook and Weddington & St. Nicolas. This is the most significant gap; other Districts/Boroughs have a more achievable gap of around 7 – 9 percentage points to address.

Measuring the Gap – Gender, Age, Ethnicity, Economic Status and Disability

The available evidence suggests that there are no significant gaps that exist among other communities, at least at a County level. Of particular interest might be that the percentage of residents that feel people from different backgrounds get on well together is identical across both white and minority ethnic groups.

	2006/07 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	83.4%	
Male	82.0%	98
Female	84.7%	102
Aged 16 - 24	78.5%	94
Aged 25 - 34	78.4%	94
Aged 35 - 44	82.1%	98
Aged 45 - 54	79.6%	95
Aged 55 - 64	83.0%	100
Aged 65+	89.4%	107
White	83.4%	100
Non-white	83.4%	100
Unemployed / on benefits	81.0%	97
Employed	75.9%	91
Disabled / long term limiting illness	84.0%	101
Not disabled / no long term limiting illness	83.3%	100

Source: Best Value User Satisfaction Surveys 2006/07 (six combined)

Note: the figures presented here are not directly comparable with the LAA baseline

Younger age groups are less likely to feel that people from different backgrounds get on well together than those aged over 65.

NI 4	% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality
LAA Theme	Stronger Communities
Data Source	Public Satisfaction Surveys / The Place Survey

Notes

Residents are asked how strongly they believe that they can influence decisions in their locality. The figure is reported as the percentage that either definitely agree or tend to agree. Data for 2006/07 and 2007/08 is taken from the County Council's Public Satisfaction Survey. Future figures will be provided through the new Place Survey.

Baseline Data

In 2007/08 the Warwickshire figure was 32.3%; this is the baseline for the LAA. The figure for the previous year (the first time this question was asked) was 31.0%. In order to generate more robust figures at locality level it has been necessary to combine data from the five District/Borough surveys in 2006/07 with the County survey (there were no District surveys in 2007/08). This means that the figures presented below are not compared with the County Council survey figure (32.3%) but an amalgamated figure of 34.5%.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

The lowest figure for this measure is found in Stratford-on-Avon, although none of the Districts/Boroughs vary significantly from the County average and the characteristics of survey-based indicators mean that we shouldn't be surprised if the relative rankings of each District/Borough vary year-on-year. The available evidence suggests that there is not a significant geographical gap in this indicator at District/Borough level.

	2006/07 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	34.5%	-
North Warwickshire	35.0%	101
Nuneaton & Bedworth	34.0%	99
Rugby	33.5%	97
Stratford-on-Avon	32.3%	94
Warwick	37.3%	108

Source: Best Value User Satisfaction Surveys 2006/07 (six combined)

Note: the figures presented here are not directly comparable with the LAA baseline

Measuring the Gap – Localities

There is greater variation at Locality level. Three of Warwick District's five Localities were ranked highest in 2006/07, aside from this there is no distinct geographical pattern to the ranking of Localities. The gap between the highest and lowest figures is notable; the percentage of residents in Rugby Town East that feel they can influence decisions affecting their locality is only two thirds of that in North and South Leamington Localities.

	Localities	2006/07 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
1	North Leamington	40.9%	119
2	South Leamington & Whitnash	40.1%	116
3	Warwick Rural	38.3%	111
4	North Warwickshire North	38.1%	110
5	North Warwickshire South	37.9%	110
6	Rugby Rural	37.7%	109
7	Whitestone & Bulkington	37.0%	107
8	Bedworth South	36.9%	107
9	Warwick	35.7%	103
10	Alcester, Studley & Henley	35.5%	103
11	Abbey & Wem Brook	35.4%	103
12	Arbury & Stockingford	34.8%	101
13	North Warwickshire West	33.0%	96
14	North Warwickshire East	33.0%	96
15	Kenilworth	32.9%	95
16	Southam, Wellesbourne & Kineton	32.7%	95
17	Bedworth North	31.9%	93
18	Rugby Town West	31.7%	92
19	Weddington & St. Nicolas	31.6%	91
20	Camp Hill & Galley Common	31.0%	90
21	Rugby Town North	29.8%	87
22	Stratford-on-Avon & Shipston	28.9%	84
23	Rugby Town East	28.4%	82

Source: Best Value User Satisfaction Surveys 2006/07 (six combined)

Note: the figures presented here are not directly comparable with the LAA baseline

Looking within Districts, all five have a similarly sized gap between their best and worst performing Localities, often around seven to nine percentage points. This should provide individual LSPs with useful suggestions for priority areas.

Measuring the Gap – Gender, Age, Ethnicity, Economic Status and Disability

Older residents are more likely to feel that they can influence decision making in their local area, while those aged 25 – 34 are least likely. There is no significant gap in terms of gender. Non-white residents are notably more likely to feel they can influence decision making than white residents; a full 33% higher.

	2006/07 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	34.5%	-
Male	33.3%	97
Female	35.7%	103
Aged 16 - 24	33.9%	98
Aged 25 - 34	30.5%	88
Aged 35 - 44	32.1%	93
Aged 45 - 54	34.1%	99
Aged 55 - 64	34.3%	99
Aged 65+	38.2%	111
White	34.3%	99
Non-white	45.9%	133
Unemployed / on benefits	37.2%	108
Employed	31.9%	93
Disabled / long term limiting illness	36.9%	107
Not disabled / no long term limiting illness	33.5%	97

Source: Best Value User Satisfaction Surveys 2006/07 (six combined)

Note: the figures presented here are not directly comparable with the LAA baseline

Perhaps surprisingly, those respondents that are unemployed or on benefits are more likely than those in employment to feel they can influence decision making in their neighbourhood, likewise those with disabilities or long term illness.

In summary, the evidence suggests that those in minority groups (non-white, unemployed and disabled) are all more likely to feel they can play a role in local decision-making than the general population.

NI 15	Serious violent crime rate
LAA Theme	Safer Communities
Data Source	Warwickshire Police

Notes

This category includes homicide, attempted murder, wounding, grievous bodily harm, causing death by dangerous driving and causing death by aggravated vehicle taking and is represented as a rate per 1,000 population. Because of the relatively small numbers involved it is sometimes more useful to consider this indicator in terms of actual numbers / volume.

Baseline Data

In 2007/08 the Warwickshire figure was 0.50 serious violent crimes per 1,000 population, or 261 actual offences.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

The tables below illustrate the extent of the gap across Warwickshire's Districts/Boroughs and Localities during 2007/08.

	2007/08 Volume	2007/08 Rate per 1000 Pop.	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	261	0.50	-
North Warwickshire	25	0.40	80
Nuneaton & Bedworth	92	0.76	153
Rugby	47	0.52	104
Stratford-on-Avon	33	0.28	57
Warwick	64	0.48	96

Source: Warwickshire Police/Warwickshire Observatory

At District level, the highest rate is found in Nuneaton & Bedworth (0.76 per 1,000 population) which is 53% above the County average. The lowest rate is in Stratford-on-Avon District (0.28). The Nuneaton & Bedworth rate is almost three times the Stratford-on-Avon rate.

Measuring the Gap – Localities

At Locality level there is even greater variation, with rates ranging between 0.11 and 1.80 per 1,000 population. In other words, the rate in Abbey & Wembrook is sixteen times that in the North Warwickshire – North Locality. It is important to note that some of the urban-based Localities have their rates skewed by town centre violence, and the rate per 1,000 does not necessarily reflect the risk of someone resident in those areas being the victim of a serious violent crime. Nonetheless, the gap is real and sizeable.

	Localities	2007/08 Volume	2007/08 Rate per 1000 Pop.	Index (Warks. = 100)
1	Abbey & Wembrook	29	1.79	357
2	Bedworth South	21	1.21	242
3	South Leamington & Whitnash	28	1.01	201
4	Rugby Town North	18	0.87	173
5	North Leamington	22	0.79	159
6	Rugby Town West	19	0.67	135
7	Arbury and Stockingford	13	0.64	128
8	North Warwickshire - West	9	0.61	122
9	Weddington & St. Nicolas	8	0.48	97
10	North Warwickshire - East	7	0.48	95
11	Camp Hill & Galley Common	7	0.46	91
12	Bedworth North	8	0.43	87
13	Stratford & Shipston	18	0.42	85
14	Whitstone & Bulkington	7	0.41	82
15	Rugby Rural	10	0.37	74
16	Southam, Wellesbourne & Kineton	9	0.27	55
17	North Warwickshire - South	4	0.26	52
18	Rugby Town East	3	0.21	43
19	Warwick	6	0.21	43
20	Warwick Rural	5	0.21	42
21	Kenilworth	4	0.16	32
22	Alcester, Studley & Henley	6	0.15	30
23	North Warwickshire - North	2	0.11	22

Source: Warwickshire Police/Warwickshire Observatory

Even within Districts there are notable gaps. For example, in Warwick District, South Leamington & Whitnash Locality has a rate more than six times the size of that in Kenilworth. Typically, the Locality with the highest rate in any particular District will have a rate four or five times higher than the Locality with the lowest rate.

Measuring the Gap – Gender, Age, Ethnicity, Economic Status and Disability

Males are four times as likely as females to be the victim of recorded serious violent crime in Warwickshire.

Bigger gaps are apparent with regard to age, with the 15 to 24 age group three times more likely than the average for all age groups to be the victim of serious violent crime. Conversely, those aged over 65 are extremely unlikely to suffer this form of crime. People within the 15 – 24 age band are 33 times more likely than those aged 65+ to suffer serious violent crime in Warwickshire.

	2007/08 Volume	2007/08 Rate per 1000 Pop.	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	261	0.50	-
Male	186	0.80	160
Female	49	0.21	41
Aged 0 - 14	8	0.10	19
Aged 15 - 24	93	1.66	332
Aged 25 - 34	57	1.02	203
Aged 35 - 44	43	0.58	117
Aged 45 - 54	25	0.39	78
Aged 55 - 64	6	0.09	19
Aged 65+	4	0.05	10
White	209	0.51	102
Non-white	10	0.38	77
Unemployed / on benefits	n/a	n/a	n/a
Employed	n/a	n/a	n/a
Disabled / long term limiting illness	n/a	n/a	n/a
Not disabled / no long term limiting illness	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: Warwickshire Police/Warwickshire Observatory

Other forms of gap measurement, including those relating to economic status or health, are not available for this indicator.

NI 16	Serious acquisitive crime rate
LAA Theme	Safer Communities
Data Source	Warwickshire Police

Notes

This category includes domestic burglary, robbery, theft of a vehicle and theft from a vehicle and is represented as a rate per 1000 population.

Baseline Data

In 2007/08 the Warwickshire figure was 15.31 serious acquisitive crimes per 1,000 population, or 7,995 actual offences.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

The table below illustrates the extent of the gap across Warwickshire's Districts/Boroughs during 2007/08.

	2007/08 Volume	2007/08 Rate per 1000 Pop.	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	7,995	15.31	-
North Warwickshire	1,035	16.61	109
Nuneaton & Bedworth	2,478	20.53	134
Rugby	1,621	17.97	117
Stratford-on-Avon	1,243	10.71	70
Warwick	1,618	12.17	80

Source: Warwickshire Police/Warwickshire Observatory

At District level, the highest rate is found in Nuneaton & Bedworth (20.53 per 1,000 population) which is 34% above the County average. The lowest rate is in Stratford-on-Avon District (10.71). The Nuneaton & Bedworth rate is almost twice as high as the Stratford-on-Avon rate.

Measuring the Gap – Localities

At Locality level rates range between 7.13 and 31.98 per 1,000 population. As with serious violent crime, Abbey & Wembrook has the highest rate and is more than four times that in Kenilworth Locality. It is important to note that some of the urban-based Localities have their rates skewed by town centre offences, and the rate per 1,000 does not necessarily reflect the risk of someone resident in those areas being the victim of a serious acquisitive crime.

	Localities	2007/08 Volume	2007/08 Rate per 1000 Pop.	Index (Warks. = 100)
1	Abbey & Wembrook	515	31.98	209
2	Arbury and Stockingford	465	23.15	151
3	Camp Hill & Galley Common	336	22.07	144
4	Rugby Town North	452	21.90	143
5	Bedworth South	369	21.45	140
6	North Warwickshire - South	315	20.55	134
7	Rugby Rural	496	18.37	120
8	Bedworth North	337	18.36	120
9	North Warwickshire - West	247	16.90	110
10	Rugby Town West	471	16.82	110
11	Whitestone & Bulkington	275	16.25	106
12	North Warwickshire - East	226	15.53	101
13	Rugby Town East	203	14.61	95
14	South Leamington & Whitnash	388	14.05	92
15	North Leamington	386	14.04	92
16	Warwick Rural	310	13.02	85
17	North Warwickshire - North	230	12.96	85
18	Warwick	360	12.90	84
19	Alcester, Studley & Henley	486	12.15	79
20	Weddington & St. Nicolas	193	11.73	77
21	Southam, Wellesbourne & Kineton	347	10.62	69
22	Stratford & Shipston	408	9.68	63
23	Kenilworth	178	7.13	47

Source: Warwickshire Police/Warwickshire Observatory

Within Districts, the most notable gap is in Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough, where the rate for Abbey & Wembrook is almost three times the size of Weddington & St. Nicolas. This emphasises the point that ‘the gap’ should not simply be seen as a Nuneaton & Bedworth versus the rest of the County issue; parts of east Nuneaton are among the best performing Localities on this indicator.

Measuring the Gap – Gender, Age, Ethnicity, Economic Status and Disability

Males are almost twice as likely as females to be the victim of serious acquisitive crime in Warwickshire.

With regard to age, the 25 - 34 and 35 - 44 age groups face the greatest risk of being the victim of serious acquisitive crime. These age groups are four times more likely than the over 65 age group to suffer this form of crime.

	2007/08 Volume	2007/08 Rate per 1000 Pop.	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	261	0.50	-
Male	4,247	20.11	131
Female	2,295	10.62	69
Aged 0 - 14	39	0.52	3
Aged 15 - 24	1,084	21.49	140
Aged 25 - 34	1,273	25.24	165
Aged 35 - 44	1,688	25.51	167
Aged 45 - 54	1,203	20.81	136
Aged 55 - 64	786	13.77	90
Aged 65+	483	6.72	44
White	5,456	15.58	102
Non-white	285	12.76	83
Unemployed / on benefits	n/a	n/a	n/a
Employed	n/a	n/a	n/a
Disabled / long term limiting illness	n/a	n/a	n/a
Not disabled / no long term limiting illness	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: Warwickshire Police/Warwickshire Observatory

Other forms of gap measurement, including those relating to economic status or health, are not available for this indicator.

NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A* - C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths
LAA Theme	Children & Young People
Data Source	Schools / DCSF

Notes

The Government has set a national threshold target for 2011 for 53% to achieve 5 A*-C GCSE grades and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths by the end of Key Stage 4. This indicator relates to all maintained mainstream schools including Academies.

Baseline Data

In 2006/07 the Warwickshire figure was 47.8%. The West Midlands regional average was 43.3% while the national average was 46.7%.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

There is a distinct north/south difference with this indicator. The two northern Boroughs are almost ten percentage points below the County average, while the remaining three areas are all above the County average. Attainment levels in North Warwickshire and Nuneaton & Bedworth are only two thirds of that in Stratford-on-Avon District.

Only Stratford-on-Avon ranks in the top 10% of all 353 local authorities nationally. Rugby and Warwick are both in the upper half.

	2006/07 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	47.8%	-
North Warwickshire	38.3%	80
Nuneaton & Bedworth	38.5%	81
Rugby	53.3%	112
Stratford-on-Avon	58.4%	122
Warwick	48.9%	102

Source: Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF). GCSE and Equivalent Examination Results in England 2006/07 (Revised) Table 20.

Measuring the Gap – Localities

There are significant differences in attainment levels at Locality level. Five of the six lowest performing Localities are in Nuneaton & Bedworth, and the lowest performing eight are all in the north of the County. In contrast, the Locality with the highest level of performance (Weddington & St. Nicolas) also happens to be in Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough, emphasising the fact that the narrowing the gap issue cannot be simplified to ‘Nuneaton & Bedworth versus elsewhere in the County’; gaps can be as significant within a District/Borough as they are across the entire County.

	Localities	2006/07 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
1	Camp Hill & Galley Common	27.5%	58
2	Arbury & Stockingford	28.4%	59
3	Abbey & Wem Brook	29.4%	61
4	Bedworth North	31.4%	66
5	North Warwickshire - East	32.8%	69
6	Bedworth South	34.7%	73
7	North Warwickshire - South	39.6%	83
8	North Warwickshire - West	41.6%	87
9	Rugby Town North	42.0%	88
10	South Leamington & Whitnash	42.1%	88
11	North Leamington	45.9%	96
12	Warwick	46.7%	98
13	Southam, Wellesbourne & Kineton	47.2%	99
14	Rugby Town West	47.3%	99
15	North Warwickshire - North	51.4%	108
16	Whitestone & Bulkington	51.6%	108
17	Warwick Rural	55.3%	116
18	Alcester, Studley & Henley	56.8%	119
19	Rugby Town East	57.1%	119
20	Rugby Rural	58.0%	121
21	Stratford-on-Avon & Shipston	59.8%	125
22	Kenilworth	62.3%	130
23	Weddington & St. Nicolas	64.3%	134

Source: KIMS (WCC), Warwickshire Observatory

There are five Localities where, in 2006/07, less than one third of pupils obtained five or more GCSEs and grades A* – C including English and Maths.

Pupils in Weddington & St. Nicolas, Kenilworth and Stratford-on-Avon are more than twice as likely than those in west Nuneaton to achieve the NI75 standard.

Measuring the Gap – Gender, Ethnicity, Care Status and Free School Meal Eligibility

The gap in attainment levels between boys and girls has been well reported in the national media, and Warwickshire's results confirm this gap at a local level. However, there are far more striking gaps observed when the school age population is disaggregated in other ways. For example, children entitled to receive free school meals are a third as likely to achieve the NI 75 standard as those who are not entitled. Even more significantly, children who do not have 'looked after' status are six times more likely than those who are looked after to achieve five or more GCSEs at grades A* - C including Maths and English.

These forms of gap far exceed those observed on a geographical basis.

	2006/07 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	47.8%	-
Male	44.3%	93
Female	51.5%	108
Looked After Children	7.7%	16
Not Looked After Children	48.0%	100
Entitled to Free School Meals	18.1%	38
Not entitled to Free School Meals	50.5%	106

Source: KIMS (WCC)

NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)
LAA Theme	Children & Young People
Data Source	Connexions

Notes

Data are collected monthly. However, this indicator and NEET targets use an annual result which is based on three one month snapshots at the end of November, December and January each year. Data relates to young people who were aged 16-18 on the day of the count and is expressed as the percentage of that age group that is NEET. Young people are counted as either:

Education, employment or training (EET) if they are in:

- Education (Including gap year students who have an agreed deferred HE entry date)
- Government supported training;
- Employment;

Not in education, employment or training (NEET) if they are not engaged in one of the EET activities above, including those:

- Undertaking a personal development opportunity, voluntary work or activity agreement
- Seeking or waiting to start work or learning
- Not yet ready for work or learning
- Not available to the labour market (including those experiencing ill health, caring for a child, or out of the country)

Neither EET or NEET (and excluded from the calculation) if they are:

- currently residing in a custodial institution
- a refugee or asylum seeker who has not yet been granted citizenship

Baseline Data

The baseline figure for Warwickshire in 2007 (as presented in the LAA) is 5.8%. This compares to a West Midlands regional figure of 7.1% and a figure for England of 6.7%.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

	2007 NEETs	2007 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	1,076	5.8%	-
North Warwickshire	161	6.5%	112
Nuneaton & Bedworth	341	6.8%	117
Rugby	212	5.3%	91
Stratford-on-Avon	112	2.7%	47
Warwick	250	5.2%	89

Source: Connexions/Warwickshire Observatory

The NEETs rates in Nuneaton & Bedworth and North Warwickshire Boroughs are more than twice the rate in Stratford-on-Avon District.

Measuring the Gap – Localities

This indicator is an excellent example of the way ‘the gap’ can be sizeable and exist across a relatively small geographical area. The highest NEETs rate (11.5%) and the lowest (1.6%) are both found within the same town, Nuneaton. The rate in Abbey & Wembrook is seven times that found in Weddington & St. Nicolas and is twice the County average.

	Localities	2007 NEETs	2007 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
1	Abbey & Wembrook	76	11.5%	198
2	North Warwickshire - East	61	11.2%	194
3	Camp Hill & Galley Common	72	11.2%	192
4	Rugby Town North	85	9.3%	160
5	South Leamington & Whitnash	76	7.7%	133
6	Bedworth South	52	7.7%	133
7	North Leamington	73	7.6%	132
8	Bedworth North	50	7.2%	124
9	Arbury and Stockingford	55	6.2%	107
10	North Warwickshire - North	41	5.8%	100
11	Warwick	57	5.4%	93
12	Rugby Town West	74	5.2%	89
13	North Warwickshire - South	31	5.1%	87
14	North Warwickshire - West	28	4.5%	77
15	Rugby Town East	25	4.2%	73
16	Whitestone & Bulkington	23	3.3%	57
17	Stratford & Shipston	43	2.8%	49
18	Alcester, Studley & Henley	38	2.7%	47
19	Rugby Rural	28	2.6%	46
20	Warwick Rural	22	2.6%	44
21	Southam, Wellesbourne & Kineton	31	2.5%	44
22	Kenilworth	22	2.3%	39
23	Weddington & St. Nicolas	13	1.6%	28

Source: Connexions/Warwickshire Observatory (rates based on estimated denominators)

This emphasises the gap that can exist both across the County but also within a single District or Borough. Other notable gaps exist within Rugby Borough and Warwick Districts.

Measuring the Gap – Gender, Age, Ethnicity

There is no gap in terms of gender. Non-white 16-18 year olds are less likely to be NEETs than white 16-18 year olds, and there is some variation among age groups.

	2007 NEETs	2007 %	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	1,076	5.8%	-
Male	549	5.8%	99
Female	527	5.9%	101
White	1,019	5.9%	102
Non-white	57	4.8%	83
Aged 16	352	5.7%	98
Aged 17	423	6.8%	117
Aged 18	301	4.9%	84

Source: Connexions/Warwickshire Observatory (rates based on estimated denominators)

NI 120	All-age all cause mortality rate
LAA Theme	Healthier Communities and Older People
Data Source	National Centre for Health Outcomes Development

Notes

This indicator is the directly age standardised mortality rate per 100,000 population, from all causes at all ages (directly standardised to the European Standard Population). The indicator is reported and monitored as two separate mortality rates – one for males and one for females. Each of these rates is a single figure for all causes and all ages combined. Direct age-standardisation is a method which enables comparison of mortality rates between different years and across different geographical areas, while taking account of differences in population age structure.

Baseline Data

The baseline figure for Warwickshire for 2004-2006 (as presented in the LAA) is 719 for males and 517 for females. The figure for all persons is 607. Compared to the average for England & Wales, Warwickshire's figures for males and overall are below the national average while the figure for females is slightly greater.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

	2004-06 Females	Index (Warks. = 100)	2004-06 Males	Index (Warks. = 100)
England & Wales	734	102	514	99
West Midlands Region	771	107	529	102
Warwickshire	719	-	517	-
North Warwickshire	743	103	569	110
Nuneaton & Bedworth	833	116	590	114
Rugby	719	100	541	105
Stratford-on-Avon	668	93	490	95
Warwick	678	94	445	86

Source: National Centre for Health Outcomes Development

As with other indicators observed in this paper, the figures of greatest concern are in the north of the County, with North Warwickshire and Nuneaton & Bedworth both at least ten percentage points above the County average.

Measuring the Gap – Localities

This indicator is not currently available at Locality level.

Measuring the Gap – Gender

The only further disaggregation possible is a comparison of genders. It is well documented that life expectancies among males are less than those of females, and consequently the mortality rates are greater.

	2004-06	Index (Warks. = 100)
All Persons	607	-
Males	720	119
Females	517	85

Source: National Centre for Health Outcomes Development

NI 123	Stopping smoking
LAA Theme	Healthier Communities & Older People
Data Source	NHS Warwickshire

Notes

Comparable, comprehensive, good quality data on smoking prevalence are not currently available at local level. Such data will be available for forthcoming years through the Integrated Household Survey. Until these data become available, figures for the rate of self-reported 4-week smoking quitters per 100,000 population aged 16 or over are to be used. This indicator relates to clients receiving support through the NHS Stop Smoking Services. A client is counted as a self-reported 4-week quitter if they have been assessed 4 weeks after the designated quit date and declares that he/she has not smoked even a single puff on a cigarette in the past two weeks.

Baseline Data

Between 2004 and 2006 the average annual number of clients still quit after four weeks in Warwickshire was 2,981. In 2007/08 the figure was 3,309, which exceeds the targets set for each of the next three years. In terms of a rate per 100,000 residents aged 16 plus, the 2007/08 figure was 780 per 100,000.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

The two southern Districts have the lowest rates, while Rugby has the highest rate. Because we do not have reliable figures for the actual smoking rate in each District it is unclear whether the lower rates in the south mean either there are fewer smokers, hence fewer quitters or the success rate of the programme is greater in the north of the County. However, there is some evidence¹ to suggest that the prevalence of smoking is slightly greater in the north of the County. The success rate for quitting ranges between 44% in Stratford-on-Avon up to 51% in Rugby and Warwick. We would expect a slightly lower quit rate in northern Warwickshire as in high prevalence areas smokers find it more difficult to stop as they often smoke more, are more heavily dependent and have stronger social associations with cigarettes.

	2007/08 Number	2007/08 Rate per 100,000	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	3,309	780	-
North Warwickshire	447	880	113
Nuneaton & Bedworth	830	859	110
Rugby	784	1087	139
Stratford-on-Avon	602	634	81
Warwick	646	587	75

Source: NHS Warwickshire / Warwickshire Observatory

¹ "The Smoking Epidemic", Health Development Agency 2004

Measuring the Gap – Localities

At Locality level, the three Rugby Town localities feature in the highest four rates. Conversely, four of the Warwick District localities feature at the foot of the table. The highest rate, found in Rugby Town North, is almost four times the size of the lowest (Weddington & St. Nicolas).

The majority of the Nuneaton & Bedworth localities feature in the top half of the table; this is not necessarily a bad thing as the stop smoking service is keen to attract clients in the north of the county in order to and reduce health inequalities.

	Localities	2007/08 Number	2007/08 Rate per 100,000	Index (Warks. = 100)
1	Rugby Town North	264	1630	209
2	Rugby Town East	151	1349	173
3	North Warwickshire East	154	1306	167
4	Rugby Town West	258	1171	150
5	Camp Hill & Galley Common	134	1148	147
6	Arbury and Stockingford	180	1142	146
7	Abbey & Wembrook	127	989	127
8	North Warwickshire North	134	932	119
9	South Leamington & Whitnash	189	822	105
10	Bedworth South	112	810	104
11	Bedworth North	114	779	100
12	Whitestone & Bulkington	105	750	96
13	Southam, Wellesbourne & Kineton	191	731	94
14	North Warwickshire West	78	655	84
15	North Warwickshire South	81	647	83
16	Stratford & Shipston	218	621	80
17	Alcester, Studley & Henley	193	590	76
18	Warwick	133	584	75
19	North Leamington	129	560	72
20	Warwick Rural	100	512	66
21	Rugby Rural	111	504	65
22	Kenilworth	95	462	59
23	Weddington & St. Nicolas	58	435	56

Source: NHS Warwickshire / Warwickshire Observatory

Within Districts/Boroughs, the largest gap is found in Rugby, where the rates in the town are up to three times that in the rural Locality. In North Warwickshire, the rate in the east is twice that in the south.

Measuring the Gap – Gender, Age & Ethnicity

The available evidence suggests that the most notable, non-geographic, gap exists between the white and non-white population. The number of people still quit after four weeks per 100,000 is 3½ times greater in the white population. Again, as suggested earlier, this may be down to higher smoking rates among the white population, or a greater success rate, or a combination of both. Although there is no local data on this, national evidence suggests that in some of the minority ethnic groups the success rate of cessation programmes is lower.

	2007/08 Number	2007/08 Rate per 100,000	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	3,309	780	-
Male	1516	730	94
Female	1793	828	106
Aged 16 - 24	252	462	59
Aged 25 - 34	617	1002	129
Aged 35 - 44	827	1025	131
Aged 45 - 54	649	921	118
Aged 55 - 64	617	886	114
Aged 65+	348	397	51
White	3,255	818	105
Non-white	54	235	30

Source: NHS Warwickshire / Warwickshire Observatory

There is also some variation among age groups, with the 25 – 34 and 35 – 44 age bands displaying higher rates per 100,000.

NI 152	Percentage of working age population on out of work benefits
LAA Theme	Economic Development & Enterprise
Data Source	Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS)

Notes

Working age benefits include the main out-of-work client group categories (unemployed people on Jobseekers Allowance, Lone Parents on Income Support, Incapacity Benefits customers, and others on income-related benefits) and exclude the carer, disabled and bereaved client groups who are not subject to activation policies in the same way as other groups. The working age population is defined as the sum of females aged 16-59 plus males aged 16-64. Data are presented as a rolling average of four quarters to account for seasonal variation

Baseline Data

For the period July 2006 – June 2007, the Warwickshire claimant rate was 8.6%. The comparative rate for England & Wales was 11.9%.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough has the highest benefit claimant rate and has a rate twice that of Stratford-on-Avon District.

	2006/07 Volume	2006/07 % Working-age Pop.	Index (Warks. = 100)
England & Wales	3,989,800	11.88	138
West Midlands Region	436,200	13.30	155
Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire	68,100	10.72	125
Warwickshire	27,500	8.58	-
North Warwickshire	3,460	8.93	104
Nuneaton & Bedworth	9,180	12.36	144
Rugby	4,620	8.50	99
Stratford-on-Avon	4,240	6.22	72
Warwick	6,030	7.11	83

Source: Office for National Statistics/Warwickshire Observatory

Measuring the Gap – Localities

The seven Localities with the highest rates are all in Nuneaton & Bedworth. Conversely, six of the seven lowest rates are in the south of the County. The highest rate, in Camp Hill & Galley Common, is three times that found in South Leamington & Whitnash.

	Localities	2006/07 Volume	2006/07 % Working-age Pop.	Index (Warks. = 100)
1	Camp Hill & Galley Common	5,615	14.44	168
2	Whitstone & Bulkington	5,132	12.96	151
3	Weddington & St. Nicolas	5,143	12.81	149
4	Bedworth North	5,590	12.51	146
5	Bedworth South	5,140	12.17	142
6	Abbey & Wem Brook	4,665	11.70	136
7	Arbury & Stockingford	5,350	10.57	123
8	North Warwickshire - South	3,880	10.16	118
9	Rugby Town North	5,160	9.51	111
10	Warwick	6,745	9.49	110
11	North Warwickshire - North	4,050	9.15	106
12	North Warwickshire - East	3,060	8.62	100
13	Rugby Rural	5,545	8.62	100
14	Rugby Town West	5,630	8.62	100
15	Kenilworth	4,676	7.82	91
16	North Warwickshire - West	2,810	7.53	88
17	Warwick Rural	4,424	7.45	87
18	Stratford-on-Avon & Shipston	7,200	7.22	84
19	Rugby Town East	2,060	6.41	75
20	North Leamington	4,245	6.09	71
21	Southam, Wellesbourne & Kineton	4,657	5.92	69
22	Alcester, Studley & Henley	5,018	5.41	63
23	South Leamington & Whitnash	3,875	5.09	59

Source: Office for National Statistics/Warwickshire Observatory

Measuring the Gap – Gender, Age, Ethnicity, Economic Status and Disability

There is no gap in terms of gender, and rates for individual age groups do not, generally, vary significantly from the County average. The exception is the oldest age group (from 55 to retirement age), which is not surprising considering the nature of the dataset; as people get older they are more likely to claim Incapacity Benefit and other health related benefits.

	2006/07 Volume	2006/07 % Working-age Pop.	Index (Warks. = 100)
Warwickshire	27,500	8.58	-
Male	14,600	8.63	100
Female	12,900	8.51	99
Aged under 25	3,880	6.94	81
Aged 25 - 34	4,900	7.96	93
Aged 35 - 44	5,900	7.37	86
Aged 45 - 54	5,900	8.34	97
Aged 55 – 60/64	7,000	13.11	153
White	n/a	n/a	n/a
Non-white	n/a	n/a	n/a
Unemployed / on benefits	n/a	n/a	n/a
Employed	n/a	n/a	n/a
Disabled / long term limiting illness	n/a	n/a	n/a
Not disabled / no long term limiting illness	n/a	n/a	n/a

Figures based on ethnicity are not available for this indicator. Employment status and disability issues are pre-requisites for eligibility for some of the benefits contained in this indicator, so by definition 'the gap' needs to exist for the indicator to exist.

NI 163	Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2 or higher
LAA Theme	Economic Development & Enterprise
Data Source	Annual Population Survey (nomis)

Notes

This indicator measures the proportion of the population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least level 2 or higher. People are counted as being qualified to level 2 and above if they have achieved at least either 5 GCSEs grades A*-C (or equivalent, i.e., O levels, CSE Grade 1s), two A/S levels, or any equivalent or higher qualification in the Qualifications and Credit Framework. It is important to note that the data source for this indicator is survey-based and contains a margin of error. At County level, the 95% confidence interval is +/- 2.5%; at District level this can rise to +/- 8% in North Warwickshire (the smallest District/Borough). It is important to note that the Warwickshire LAA refers to the working age population rather than the strict NI163 definition of 19 – 59/64.

Baseline Data

The LAA baseline figure for Warwickshire is 73.2%. This can be updated to a figure of 71.0% for 2007. This exceeds both national and regional levels, and is also greater than the sub-regional rate of 66.4%.

The LAA also contains a target to reduce the gap between the north of the County (defined as North Warwickshire and Nuneaton & Bedworth) and the Warwickshire average. In 2007, this gap stood at eight percentage points.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

	2007 Number	2007 % of working-age pop.	Index (Warks = 100)
England & Wales	21,329,900	64.1%	90
West Midlands Region	1,994,100	61.1%	86
CSW Sub-region	421,700	66.4%	93
Warwickshire	227,400	71.0%	-
North Warwickshire	23,000	59.6%	84
Nuneaton & Bedworth	50,700	68.3%	96
Rugby	37,000	68.3%	96
Stratford-on-Avon	49,500	72.5%	102
Warwick	67,200	79.0%	111

Source: Annual Population Survey (nomis)

The lowest levels are in the three Northern Boroughs (hence the narrowing the gap target). However, only North Warwickshire is below the national average and the level of estimation generated with this survey data actually may mean that the gap is not as significant as suggested.

Measuring the Gap – Localities

This indicator is not currently available at Locality level.

Measuring the Gap – Gender, Age and Economic Activity

There are no significant gaps between genders and age groups. The most notable gap is between those who are economically active and those who are not.

	2007 Number	2007 % of working-age pop.	Index (Warks = 100)
Warwickshire	227,400	71.0%	-
Male	116,900	69.0	97
Female	110,600	73.3	103
Aged 16 - 19	17,300	65.0	92
Aged 20 - 24	25,100	76.1	107
Aged 25 - 29	20,400	69.2	97
Aged 30 - 39	58,300	77.7	109
Aged 40 - 49	56,700	73.1	103
Aged 50+	49,000	62.3	88
Economically Active	182,500	68.5	96
Not Economically Active	45,000	83.3	117

Source: Annual Population Survey (nomis)

NI 166	Median earnings of employees in the area
LAA Theme	Economic Development & Enterprise
Data Source	Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (nomis)

Notes

Several measures of earnings are available. The one used here, as the most appropriate indicator of average earnings, is median gross weekly pay of full-time employees on a workplace basis. This measure is available directly in the results of the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings. Note that the figures relating to this indicator represent the earnings of people who work in Warwickshire, not necessarily those who live in the County.

As estimates are based on survey data, they are subject to statistical margins of error. In many cases, these errors will be sizeable. Although the data are robust for large authorities, for smaller authorities apparent changes in earnings from one year to the next should be treated with caution. For a minority, even apparent changes over two years or more may not reflect real changes. Particular caution should be applied at district level.

Baseline Data

The Warwickshire figure for 2007 is £464.20; this is the figure used to generate the LAA baseline. The LAA actually quotes a target to reduce the gap between the Warwickshire average and the South east regional average. In 2007, the Warwickshire figure was 96.6% of the SE figure (£480.70).

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

	2007 Figure	Index (Warks = 100)	Index (South East = 100)
England & Wales	£460.00	99.1	95.7
West Midlands Region	£430.00	92.6	89.5
South East Region	£480.70	103.6	-
Warwickshire	£464.20	-	96.6
North Warwickshire	£451.70	97.3	94.0
Nuneaton & Bedworth	£397.10	85.5	82.6
Rugby	£448.90	96.7	93.4
Stratford-on-Avon	£478.80	103.1	99.6
Warwick	£489.00	105.3	101.7

Source: Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings (nomis)

As with most of the other indicators considered in this report, the lowest levels are observed in the three northern Boroughs. As a proportion of the South East figure the gap is greatest in Nuneaton & Bedworth, which is currently more than 17 percentage points below the SE average.

Measuring the Gap – Localities

This indicator is not currently available at Locality level.

Measuring the Gap – Age

The only other available breakdown on this indicator is by gender. In Warwickshire, males earn on average 31% more than females. In the South East region the difference is also 31%.

As a proportion of the SE figures, both males and females are around 7-8% below the SE averages.

	2007 Figure	Index (Warks = 100)	Index (South East = 100)
Warwickshire	£464.20	-	96.6
Male	£494.60	106.5	92.4
Female	£378.70	81.6	92.8
South East Region	£480.70	103.6	-
Male	£535.00	108.2	111.3
Female	£408.00	107.7	84.9

Source: Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings (nomis)

NI 175	Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling
LAA Theme	Economic Development & Enterprise
Data Source	Warwickshire County Council

Notes

This is a locally calculated indicator, using a methodology approved by GOWM. Each settlement in the County is graded for access to services according to the quality of the bus service serving that area (hence, in practice, this indicator does not fully represent the scope of NI 175 as that also includes cycling and walking access). There are five grades, detailed at the foot of this section of the report, ranging from Basic Access to Comprehensive Access. These grades are aggregated across the County to provide an overall assessment of the ease of access to key services.

Baseline Data

As there are five grades, the LAA contains five baseline figures and targets for each of these. The percentage of Warwickshire's population that has Basic Access to key services is 99.83%, while 78.27% has Comprehensive Access. As this is a locally generated indicator there are no regional or national comparisons available.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

	Basic		Daily		Limited		Good		Comp.	
	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index
Warwickshire	99.8	-	96.8	-	95.1	-	88.9	-	78.3	-
North Warwickshire	99.7	100	95.8	99	95.8	101	92.9	104	72.4	92
Nuneaton & Bedworth	100.0	100	99.7	103	99.7	105	99.7	112	93.6	119
Rugby	99.8	100	97.2	100	96.4	101	88.5	100	82.9	106
Stratford-on-Avon	100.0	100	92.6	96	86.8	91	71.2	80	50.9	65
Warwick	99.6	100	98.1	101	96.9	102	92.7	104	88.7	113

Source: Warwickshire County Council (Environment & Economy, Observatory)

Not surprisingly, the areas with the lowest percentages achieving Comprehensive Access are the most rural areas, namely North Warwickshire Borough and Stratford-on-Avon District. Conversely, the better levels of access are to be found in the most urban areas; Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough and Warwick District.

The percentage of residents with Comprehensive Access to key services (using bus services) in Nuneaton & Bedworth is almost twice as high as the percentage in Stratford-on-Avon District.

Measuring the Gap – Localities

The table presents figures for each of Warwickshire's Localities. They are sorted by the percentage that have Comprehensive Access. There is a certain degree of estimation involved, particularly with the urban-based Localities, as they are based on access grades that have been attributed to the entire settlement (e.g. Rugby) rather than individual neighbourhoods within them. Therefore, for example, all Rugby Town-based Localities are deemed to have the same level of access, although this may not be the case in reality.

Localities	Basic		Daily		Limited		Good		Comp.	
	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index
Abbey & Wem Brook	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
Bedworth North	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
Bedworth South	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
Camp Hill & Galley C'n	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
Weddington & St. Nic.	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
Rugby Town East	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
Rugby Town North	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
Rugby Town West	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
North Leamington	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
South Leam. & Whit.	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
Warwick	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	100.0	127
Arbury & Stockingford	100.0	100	99.6	103	99.6	105	99.6	112	98.4	125
North Warks - East	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	96.0	122
Kenilworth	99.0	99	99.0	102	99.0	104	94.7	107	94.7	121
Whitestone & Bulk.	100.0	100	100.0	103	100.0	105	100.0	112	92.5	118
North Warks - West	100.0	100	94.0	97	94.0	99	94.0	106	79.2	101
North Warks - North	99.1	99	96.7	100	96.7	102	96.7	109	74.2	95
Stratford & Shipston	100.0	100	94.9	98	93.3	98	78.0	88	58.1	74
Southam, Welles, K'ton	100.0	100	93.7	97	80.6	85	56.9	64	56.0	71
Rugby Rural	99.3	99	91.1	94	88.7	93	63.5	71	42.3	54
North Warks - South	100.0	100	92.4	95	92.4	97	80.5	91	41.1	52
Alcester, Stud, Henley	100.0	100	89.2	92	85.6	90	76.8	86	39.2	50
Warwick Rural	98.6	99	88.9	92	80.7	85	58.6	66	32.0	41

Source: Warwickshire County Council (Environment & Economy, Observatory)

As before, it is not surprising to note that the Localities towards the foot of the table are the most rural parts of our County. Those Localities based in our largest towns – Nuneaton, Bedworth, Rugby, Leamington Spa, Warwick – are all deemed to have full access.

As this indicator relates to places rather than individuals it is not possible to assess any further types of gap.

Access Grades

Basic Access = Daytime off-peak journey and return once a week to a service centre

Daily Access = Daytime off-peak journey and return on Mondays to Saturdays to a service centre

Limited Access = Morning and evening peak journey and return on Mondays to Saturdays to a service centre plus a minimum of two off-peak daytime journeys

Good Access = Morning and evening peak journey and return on Mondays to Saturdays to a service centre and a daytime off-peak journey every hour on Mondays to Saturdays to a main service centre

Comprehensive Access = Morning and evening peak journey and return on Mondays to Saturdays to a service centre and a daytime off-peak journey every hour on Mondays to Saturdays to a main service centre plus an evening and Sunday return journey service to a main service centre

NI 195	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting)
LAA Theme	Climate Change & Environment
Data Source	District/Borough Councils

Notes

This indicator was previously collected as BVPI 199 in 2007/08 and has remained unchanged. The indicator is reported as four parts, one for each element of environmental and street cleanliness: NI195 (a) Litter, (b) Detritus, (c) Graffiti, (d) Fly-posting. Data is collected and provided by Borough and District Councils, and the County figure is created by amalgamating the five district figures and calculating an unweighted average. Figures relate to the percentage of surveys that attain poor grades.

Baseline Data

The baseline year for this indicator is 2007/08. At the time of producing the baseline, there was no data available for Warwick District. This has now been rectified but for the purposes of consistency the published LAA baseline data has been used here.

Measuring the Gap – Districts/Boroughs

	Litter		Detritus		Graffiti		Fly-posting	
	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index
Warwickshire	13%	-	17%	-	3%	-	1%	-
North Warwickshire	11%	85	11%	65	2%	67	0%	0
Nuneaton & Bedworth	24%	185	17%	100	7%	233	2%	200
Rugby	13%	100	31%	182	3%	100	1%	100
Stratford-on-Avon	4%	31	10%	59	1%	33	0%	0
Warwick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: District/Borough Councils

As some of the figures are small, insignificant differences from the average can appear misleading when in index form (particularly for the graffiti and fly-posting elements of the indicator). However, what is apparent is that Stratford-on-Avon has the lowest rates for all four elements. Published 2006/07 data for Warwick District suggests that rates there are also below the County average, so there is some evidence to suggest some form of north/south split.

Measuring the Gap – Localities & Other

This indicator is not currently available at Locality level. As this indicator relates to places rather than people, the only disaggregation that could apply is geographical.

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008

Child Poverty Strategy for Warwickshire

**Report of Strategic Directors:
Children Young People and Families
Adult Health and Community Services
Environment & Economy**

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board:

- a) Note the recommendations made by the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee in respect of child poverty.
- b) Note the recommendation by Cabinet that the Board consider the issues raised in the report.
- c) Note the work of WCC and partners on the development of a Child Poverty Strategy and LAA Delivery Plan to deliver a reduction and eventual elimination of children living in poverty (N1 116)
- d) Consider the issues and support the LAA Delivery Plan.

1. Introduction & Context

- 1.1 On 3rd April 2008 Cabinet considered a report from the Chair of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee had held a single issue meeting on 5th December 2007 to consider the issue of Child Poverty. The report contained a number of recommendations (see Appendix One). Cabinet resolved to note the recommendations and asked specifically that the PSB consider the issues raised in the report.

2. The National Picture and Government Commitment to Child Poverty

- 2.1 Central Government is committed to reducing child poverty through the national Public Service Agreement (PSA9). The government has committed to halve child poverty by 2010 and eradicate it by 2020.
- 2.2 In March 2008 the government created the Child Poverty Unit to develop the strategy for the next decade.
- 2.3 The latest child poverty figures (2005/06) show that child poverty now stands at 2.8 million before housing costs (and 3.8 million measured after housing costs). This means that over a fifth (22 per cent) of children in the UK live in poverty.

- 2.4 Between 2004/05 and 2005/06 child poverty increased by 100,000 measured before housing costs and 200,000 measured after housing costs.
- 2.5 Despite the small rise since 2004/05, child poverty has fallen substantially under the present Government. Since 1996/97, child poverty has fallen by 600,000 before housing costs (and by 500,000 after housing costs).
- 2.6 To meet the (before housing cost) official target to halve child poverty based on relative low income from the 1998/99 position (3.4 million children), child poverty needs to fall by more than a million children (to 1.7 million) by 2010/11.
- 2.7 'Ending Child Poverty: Everybody's Business', published alongside Budget 2008, set out details of nine pilots, providing £125 million between 2008-2011 to enable local authorities, working with their partners, to develop innovative approaches to tackle the causes and consequences of child poverty and improve outcomes for children, young people and their families living in poverty. Warwickshire is submitting 3 partnership bids.
- 2.8 The Government acknowledges that it can not tackle child poverty alone. Indeed local authorities and their partners have a crucial role to play by leading local action to narrow the gap in outcomes between children in low income families and their peers, including helping parents into work and raising the skill and income levels of those in work, tackling material deprivation and working with local communities to create innovative approaches to tackling child poverty.
- 2.9 Local authorities can and do make significant contributions to the national child poverty targets. In the discussion paper, "*Local Government and Child Poverty: Making a Shared Commitment to a Shared Reality*", the LGA outlined how Local Authorities can contribute to the child poverty agenda:
- Integrating children's services;
 - Community leadership;
 - Whole family approaches;
 - Income maximisation;
 - Removing barriers to work;
 - Life skills; and
 - Participation and engagement of young people.
- 2.10 It is around these areas that Warwickshire's commitment to eradicating child poverty is shaped and will be taken forward.

A multi agency group has now been established to identify how the recommendations can be implemented and integrated into the LAA Delivery Plan.

3. Indicator NI 116 Proportion of Children in Poverty and LAA Delivery Plan:

3.1 NI 116 is the indicator, which relates to child poverty based on the proportion of dependent children living in households where income is below 60% of the national median.

However, there is currently no data available at a local level to be able to measure this indicator. As a result an interim measure, based on the proportion of children living in households where out of work benefits are received, has been established. (See Appendix 2 for Warwickshire figures.) This interim measure will form the base line and targets for improvement within the LAA Delivery Plan for NI 116.

The LAA Delivery Plan for the indicator NI 116 involves a number of activities based on partners working with, the DWP and with voluntary sector partners. These partners will deliver the key activities of the LAA Delivery plan and thus take forward the Child poverty Strategy for Warwickshire. The key themes and activities of the LAA Delivery plan are explained below:

3.2 Income Maximisation

This proposed project for a Financial Inclusion Partnership would centre on a number of initiatives:

- Financial Capability Awareness through money matters courses targeted at those most at risk of financial exclusion. These would be run in partnership with Surestart and children's centres.
- Development of financial education packs centred around key information about household budgeting, banking, savings and credit.
- Debt Management: promotion of services offered by CAB.
- Income Maximisation: ensuring those on low incomes are aware of their entitlements to welfare benefits, tax credits and grants.
- Access to financial services: Working in partnership with local Credit Unions, banks and other financial institutions to raise awareness of Credit Union savings accounts and loans and basic bank accounts.
- Training to front line workers to raise awareness of the financial difficulties faced by some groups of people, helping them to be more aware of the issues and able to sign post people to appropriate sources of help.

3.3 Whole Family Approaches and Integrating Children's Services

Disadvantage Subsidy Pathfinder-Extended Services

A pilot project to ensure that children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds are financially supported to take part in extended schools activities centring on two Extended Services Clusters: Hartshill and Leamington Whitnash will commence in September 2008.

Support For Families and Costs of Schooling:

Through the Area Schools and Community Officers consultation with parents and schools regarding costs of schooling: uniform costs and school trips are taking place. The findings from this consultation will inform recommendations and guidance to schools in regards of good practice in identifying and supporting families experiencing poverty.

A bid to support this work is being made to the DCSF Child Poverty Pilots that will enable it to be sustained over three years and rolled out across the county.

This piece of work will also consider the current range of provision from voluntary organisations that currently provide schools with support, to identify gaps and consider actions that will address the gaps through both charitable and public sector support.

Children's Centres

Close partnerships exist between Job Centre Plus and Children's Centres, with Job Centre plus advisors being available to all children's centres in Warwickshire. The Family and Community Division is bidding with Job Centre plus to the child poverty pilots to develop and strengthen work focused services in targeted children's centres. If successful it will mean that Job centre plus staff and children's centres will be able to work more closely and provide: work focused skills training, confidence building, basic skills and access to volunteering opportunities. Crèche facilities would also be made available whilst parents are training.

Support for Families to access work and childcare

Take up of Childcare element of Working Tax Credits .Job centre plus promotes the take up of this through its work to ensure families are supported to take up work opportunities and access childcare.

The Family Information Service and Job Centre plus work closely to ensure that parents returning to work have access to appropriate childcare information.

Support to Lessen Impact of Disability on Children and Young People

Children who live in a family with a disabled parent or who are themselves disabled are at a high risk of poverty. Initiatives to support these children centre on improved access to disability benefits, improved access to short breaks and improved support at transition to adult services.

3.4 Economic Development and Enterprise – Removing Barriers to Work

A cluster of recommendations has been converged into a sub-group of the Child Poverty Strategy Group. This new multi-agency group links strongly to the Economic Development and Enterprise block of the LAA and, with the specific agreement of WCC Corporate HR, is currently being led by the Environment and Economy Directorate. The focus is about Warwickshire County Council's role as employer- the largest by far in the county with over 18,000 members of staff. The sub group recognises that whilst many of them are doing really useful work with partners to set up support mechanisms to help other, largely private sector employers adopt good practice in recruitment, retention and training policies, we also need to look inwards at our own council's employment and skills agenda, especially in relation to supporting the hard-to-reach, vulnerable and most disaffected of Warwickshire's community.

The group is looking to develop an initial action plan to enable the council to commit to become an 'Employer of Choice', for both young people and adults and sign up to the Public sector Challenge – embracing principles set out under the Skills Pledge, the Local Employment Partnership (around jobs, recruitment and work placement) and apprenticeships and a range of quality work experience placements for young people.

The idea will be to plan for progression, be realistic and start with examples of (piecemeal) good practice, building on resources (training partners for instance) we already have 'in house'. This will be a multifaceted programme, closely linked with many other current and planned initiatives and strategies and will rely on very close partnership working across WCC Directorates and with external partners such as the LSC, Job Centre Plus and Connexions.

3.5 Partnership Working and Community Leadership: Local Strategic Partnerships

Local Strategic Partnerships are integral to the successful delivery of the LAA and Child Poverty Strategy, a number have developed local priorities regarding eradicating child poverty:

Rugby Borough and Warwick District are focusing on the development of strong children's centres to improve accessibility and develop parent friendly environments that will increase their self-esteem and self-confidence and ultimately their employment opportunities. In particular in Warwick anti poverty strategies focus on raising aspirations, managing debt, maximising income and reducing household costs.

Sustainable Community Strategies:

The Sustainable Community Strategies developed and delivered through Local Strategic Partnerships are an important delivery mechanism for eradicating child poverty.

Nuneaton and Bedworth through its Stronger Borough Theme is concentrating on developing a learning culture across all age groups. Priorities are focused on reducing the number of young people not in education, employment and training and work towards improving basic skills amongst adults.

A priority in Warwick District is reduction of poverty in its most deprived areas and is focusing on maximising income by helping to increase benefits take up and improving access to debt advice. In addition it is focusing on provision of lifelong learning and skills development.

3.6 Conclusion:

Child Poverty is a complex issue and therefore tackling it and eradicating it requires a partnership response that takes in to account the varied nature of Warwickshire. The success of a Child Poverty Strategy and the LAA Delivery Plan for eradication of child poverty in Warwickshire requires commitment from a range of partners. Child Poverty needs to be tackled at a district and borough level and where necessary at a ward and locality level to ensure that those experiencing poverty are reached both within the most deprived areas and within those pockets that exist amongst some of the more affluent areas of the county.

Consultation with and participation of service users will be integral to the success of the strategy and interventions. Therefore it will be imperative that the strategy reflects the views and needs of service users at a local level.

It is within this context and most importantly within the context of 'narrowing the gap' that the Child Poverty Strategy and the LAA delivery plan will take forward and in doing so will work closely with Local Strategic Partnerships in each area.

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Appendix 1

Recommendations From Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

A Where possible on receipt of the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007, Warwickshire Observatory undertake a detailed analysis at Super Output Area level, to give a clear picture of child poverty across the 5 district / borough areas in the County.

B The Strategic Director of Children, Young People and Families use the information obtained from recommendation A to undertake a mapping exercise of the services available within the areas identified as having significant proportions of child poverty. Services relating to youth homelessness should also be included in this exercise. This exercise will enable priority areas to be identified and support the Council and partners in taking decisions and choices regarding service provision to address child poverty. A report outlining the findings from this exercise should be presented to the Children, Young People and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

C Departments in conjunction with Corporate Human Resources consider how employees who have joined the County Council from being long-term unemployed can be fully supported to remain in sustainable employment.

D The Strategic Director of Adult, Health and Community Services initiate discussions with the District and Borough Councils, Colleges and the Learning and Skills Council to establish how basic financial training can be offered to those families experiencing financial difficulties.

E Cabinet explore with Corporate Human Resources and Legal Services whether there is a possibility of offering a guaranteed interview scheme to lone parents.

F The Resources, Performance and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee undertake a scrutiny review looking at the County Council's policies in relation to flexible working and ascertain how these can be improved, particularly for those with childcare responsibility.

G The Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families submits a report to the Children, Young People and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee outlining the hidden costs of education in Warwickshire – including a picture of uniform costs and school trips and also outlining the support options available to families to assist with these costs. This report should include details of the changes in school uniform rules and guidance introduced by the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

H Cabinet undertakes a mapping exercise of the Charities, Community and Voluntary Organisations across the County who provide schools with support in relation to the costs of schooling. This exercise be used to identify gaps in

such provision.

I Cabinet gives consideration to the long term sustainable funding of Children Centres in Warwickshire.

J Warwickshire County Council works with key partners to develop a Public Sector Apprenticeship Scheme, similar to that run by Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council. Cabinet be requested to nominate a lead officer to develop this project and allocate £30,000 to support the initial start up costs.

K Warwickshire County Council develop a consistent policy regarding work experience placements for young people.

L Warwickshire County Council encouraged key partners to develop work experience placement schemes.

M Warwickshire County Council works with local businesses to develop a work placement scheme for young people classified as NEET.

N The Strategic Director for Environment and Economy develop a scheme with local businesses that offers work placements for those attending opportunity centres and other skill based learning projects.

O Warwickshire County Council makes explicit its commitment to tackling child poverty in Warwickshire.

P Warwickshire County Council leads in developing a Warwickshire Child Poverty Strategy, with clear objectives, targets and milestones outlined in an action plan. The Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families be given the responsibility for developing this Strategy.

Q To ensure a consistent evaluation of how Council policies impact upon child poverty, it is recommended that the Agenda Management Sheet for Committee reports be amended to include a section to detail how the report impacts upon social inclusions and child poverty.

Appendix 2

Using the interim measure of children living in households in receipt of workless benefits the picture of child poverty in Warwickshire is as follows:

Children dependent on workless benefits (Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance, Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance, Pension Credits) (April 2007)

	Total Children dependent on Workless benefits	% Children dependent on Workless benefits
Warwickshire	12,750	13.3%
North Warwickshire	1,545	13.9%
Nuneaton & Bedworth	4,455	18.5%
Rugby	2,330	13.1%
Stratford-on-Avon	1,860	9.0%
Warwick	2,560	11.5%

Source: Department for Work & Pensions Information Directorate

Indices of Deprivation 2007 – Warwickshire Analysis

On the whole, Warwickshire is a typically affluent and prosperous area. However, a number of localised pockets of notable deprivation do exist within the County. The most extensive and commonly used analysis of deprivation and disadvantage is the English Indices of Deprivation 2007 (ID2007).

Based on findings from the ID2007¹, Warwickshire is ranked 123rd out of the 149 County Councils and Unitary Authorities in England, according to the rank of average score measure of deprivation, where a rank of 1 indicates the most deprived authority. This compares with a ranking of 120th on the same measure from the Indices of Deprivation 2004.

Out of the 34 County Councils, Warwickshire is now ranked 22nd compared with 20th on the 2004 Indices.

Whilst, at a County level, it appears that Warwickshire is not particularly deprived, there is considerable variation across the Districts and Boroughs, and at a more localised level various distinct pockets of severe deprivation exist within the County.

Nuneaton & Bedworth has the highest levels of deprivation in the County, indicated by the highest average Super-Output Area² (SOA) score. The Borough ranks as the 112th most deprived Local Authority District (out of the 354 Local Authorities in England). In comparison, Stratford-on-Avon District is the least deprived in Warwickshire with a national rank of 307th. More importantly, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough now falls within the top third most deprived local authorities in England and is ranked as being relatively more deprived on the 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation than the 2004 Index. In addition, there are now more SOAs of Nuneaton & Bedworth ranked within the top 10% most deprived SOAs nationally than in 2004, and the most deprived SOAs are now ranked as being more deprived relative to other areas of England.

¹ Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2007: Key Findings, Source: Warwickshire Observatory

² Super-Output Areas (SOAs) have a minimum population of 1,000 and a mean population of 1,500.

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index

An Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) – has been produced alongside the ID 2007. This covers only children aged 0–15 living in income deprived households – defined as either households claiming Income Support/Job Seekers Allowance/Incapacity Benefit/Pension Credits, or those not in receipt of these benefits but in receipt of Working Tax Credits/Child Tax Credits with an equivalised income below 60 per cent of the national median before housing costs. The IDACI score represents the proportion of children 0–15 living in such households as a proportion of all children 0–15.

Forty two Super-Output Areas (SOAs) in Warwickshire are ranked within the 30% most deprived SOAs in England experiencing income deprivation affecting children, compared to 41 in the 2004 IDACI. Of these 42 SOAs, 19 are in Nuneaton & Bedworth, ten in Warwick, seven in Rugby, four in North Warwickshire and two are in Stratford-on-Avon.

Three areas feature within the top 10% most deprived SOAs, compared to four on this measure in the Indices of Deprivation 2004, all of which are located in Nuneaton & Bedworth.

The top ranking area in Warwickshire is the Middlemarch and Swimming Pool locality in the Wem Brook ward located in Nuneaton & Bedworth, with 59% of children aged 0-15 living in income deprived households, followed by 58% in the area Bar Pool North & Crescents, and 57% in Camp Hill Village Centre.

Whilst the majority of the most income deprived households are in Nuneaton and Bedworth, Warwickshire has pockets of deprivation within the more affluent areas.

Appendix 3

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index

Table 1: Warwickshire Super-Output Areas (SOAs) in Top 30% most deprived SOAs nationally in terms of income deprivation affecting children

LOCALITY	WARD	LA NAME	IDACI score (Proportion of children living in income deprived households)	IDACI RANK	Most Deprived X% Nationally
Middlemarch & Swimming Pool	Wem Brook	Nuneaton & Bedworth	59%	1,353	4%
Bar Pool North & Crescents	Bar Pool	Nuneaton & Bedworth	58%	1,449	4%
Camp Hill Village Centre	Camp Hill	Nuneaton & Bedworth	57%	1,523	5%
Brunswick South East	Brunswick	Warwick	46%	3,731	11%
Kingswood Grove Farm & Rural	Kingswood	Nuneaton & Bedworth	43%	4,327	13%
Brownsover South Lake District North	Brownsover South	Rugby	43%	4,424	14%
Camp Hill South West & Brook	Camp Hill	Nuneaton & Bedworth	42%	4,728	15%
Camp Hill West & Quarry	Camp Hill	Nuneaton & Bedworth	41%	4,834	15%
Atherstone Central - Centre	Atherstone Central	North Warwickshire	41%	4,866	15%
Bede East	Bede	Nuneaton & Bedworth	41%	4,988	15%
Mancetter South and Ridge Lane	Atherstone South & Mancetter	North Warwickshire	40%	5,136	16%
Hill Top	Wem Brook	Nuneaton & Bedworth	38%	5,591	17%
Bede North	Bede	Nuneaton & Bedworth	37%	6,181	19%
Brunswick South & Cemetary	Brunswick	Warwick	36%	6,405	20%
Overslade North	Overslade	Rugby	36%	6,419	20%
Town Centre	Newbold	Rugby	36%	6,523	20%
Attleborough Central	Attleborough	Nuneaton & Bedworth	34%	6,922	21%
Packmores West & The Cape	Warwick West	Warwick	34%	6,936	21%
Lillington South	Crown	Warwick	34%	6,997	22%
Kingswood Stockingford Schools	Kingswood	Nuneaton & Bedworth	34%	7,081	22%
Keresley North and Newlands	Exhall	Nuneaton & Bedworth	34%	7,201	22%
Brunswick South West & Kingsway	Brunswick	Warwick	33%	7,361	23%
Lillington East	Crown	Warwick	33%	7,401	23%
Warwick West East	Warwick West	Warwick	33%	7,544	23%
Abbey Priory	Abbey	Nuneaton & Bedworth	32%	7,698	24%
Poplar Nicholas Chamberlain	Poplar	Nuneaton & Bedworth	31%	8,000	25%
Admirals East	Admirals	Rugby	31%	8,026	25%
Hurley	Hurley & Wood End	North Warwickshire	31%	8,184	25%
Wem Brook East	Wem Brook	Nuneaton & Bedworth	31%	8,270	25%
Overslade North West	Overslade	Rugby	30%	8,487	26%
Brunswick North West & Foundry	Brunswick	Warwick	30%	8,625	27%

LOCALITY	WARD	LA NAME	IDACI score	IDACI RANK	Most Deprived X% Nationally
Caldecott Rokeby	Caldecott	Rugby	29%	8,739	27%
Lillington West	Crown	Warwick	29%	8,786	27%
Attleborough South East	Attleborough	Nuneaton & Bedworth	29%	8,842	27%
Sydenham West	Willes	Warwick	29%	8,847	27%
Dordon Village	Dordon	North Warwickshire	29%	8,862	27%
Heath Sports	Heath	Nuneaton & Bedworth	28%	9,272	29%
Bar Pool West & Recreation Ground	Bar Pool	Nuneaton & Bedworth	28%	9,363	29%
Newbold on Avon	Newbold	Rugby	28%	9,373	29%
Riversley	Wem Brook	Nuneaton & Bedworth	28%	9,460	29%
Stratford Mount Pleasant East	Stratford Mount Pleasant	Stratford-on-Avon	27%	9,489	29%
Alcester North & Conway	Alcester	Stratford-on-Avon	27%	9,625	30%

N.B. A ranking of 1 represents the most deprived SOA nationally and a ranking of 32,482 represents the least deprived SOA nationally.

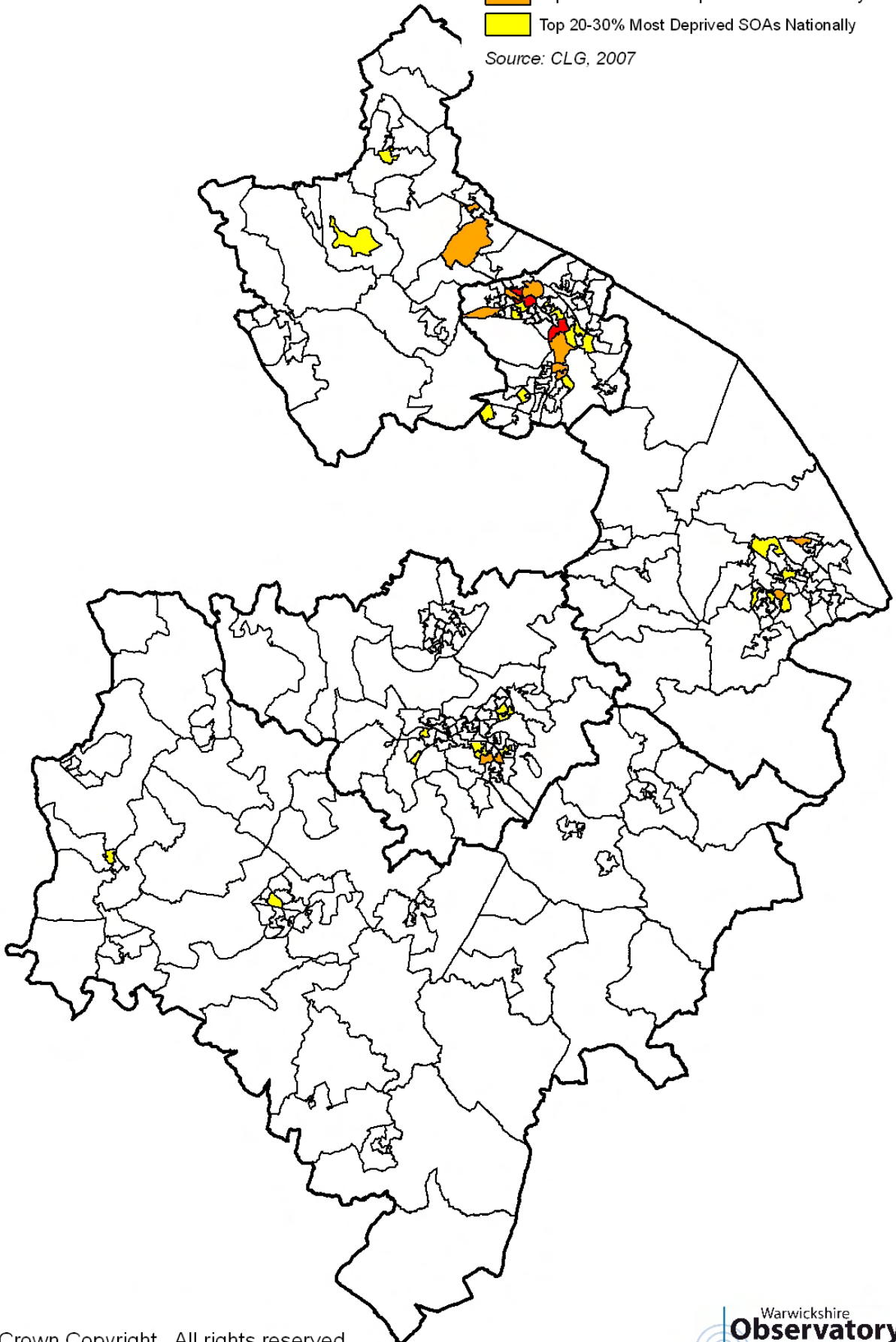
Source: CLG, 2007

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index 2007

National Ranks

- Top 10% Most Deprived SOAs Nationally
- Top 10-20% Most Deprived SOAs Nationally
- Top 20-30% Most Deprived SOAs Nationally

Source: CLG, 2007



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Appendix 4 Child Poverty Focus Across Warwickshire

A number of projects across Warwickshire aim to enhance the opportunities for young people to access employment , education and training:

- Wheels2Work - a programme run by connexions that lends mopeds to anyone aged between 16-65 having difficulty accessing employment or training for 6 months.
- On Your Bike – a joint project between Connexions and the Youth Offending Team, whereby unclaimed bikes are passed on by the police and repaired. Young people can obtain the bikes for a donation of £25 (where possible) and are used for journeys of less than 4 miles.
- Workwise- a Connexions project that was launched in February 2007 and will run until March 2009. The project aims to assist anyone 16-65 with access to interviews and employment in the form of part payment of travel costs for an interview or for the first two months after starting employment.
- Pride in Camphill project successfully engages with young people in a traditionally deprived area of the county.
- The Flare Project jointly run by Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service and Connexions offers young people who are disengaged and disaffected to take part in a learning experience that encourages them to develop a sense of pride and diligence in their approach to work and develop life skills. The aim of the project is to reengage young people and prevent them from falling into the NEET category.
- Opportunities Centres – the Environment & Economy Directorate manage 3 partnership based Opportunities Centres in the heart of some of our most deprived communities. The centres provide an alternative venue for disaffected young people who are in danger of dropping out of formal education . The aim is for them to re-engage in learning and to acquire new vocational skills to enhance future employment prospects. The centres deliver accredited and un-accredited training in construction and related trades as well as ICT: motorcycle maintenance and tuition. The latest to open is a new motor vehicle maintenance centre in Rugby.

Appendix 5 Effects of poverty on children and young people:

The effects of living in poverty can be far reaching upon children and last in to their adulthood when they themselves become parents, thus continuing the cycle of poverty. Some of the effects on children's educational attainment are listed below:³

- By age three, being in poverty makes a difference equivalent to nine months' development in school readiness.
- During their years at school, children in receipt of free school meals (a key indicator of poverty) do progressively worse on average at school than their peers.
- Children who do badly at primary school are less likely to improve at secondary school if they are poor.
- Children from poor families are more likely to have poor qualifications.
- Young people with parents in manual occupations are far less likely than others to go to university and only 1 in 6 of students at top universities come from lower socio-economic back-grounds.
- Children and families who would most benefit from high quality early childhood services are the least likely to access them.
- Among primary school children, the gap in attainment between children from poor backgrounds and their peers has narrowed only slightly .
- 32.7% of children entitled to free school meals got five or more GCSEs at grades A*-C, just half the level of those not entitled to free school meals 60.7%.⁴
- There has however been good progress made in achievement at 19, with more than 70 per cent of people aged 19 in 2006 qualified to at least Level 2 (5 A-C GCSE equivalent).⁵

It is well established that children from disadvantaged groups are more likely to have poorer health and die earlier than the rest of the population. The reasons for this are complex and multifarious but two strongly associated factors are poverty and inequality.⁶

³ Figures are from CPAG's recent publication, D Hirsch, Chicken and Egg: child poverty and educational inequalities, CPAG (2007).

⁴ Department for Education and Skills, National Curriculum Assessment, GCSE and Equivalent Attainment and Post-16 Attainment by Pupil characteristics, in England, 2005/06, November 2006 at www.dfes.gov.uk, table 8.

⁵ Opportunity for All, Department for Work and Pensions indicator 7 (children and young people). Data is for 2006.

⁶ Source: Child Poverty Toolkit: Policy Brief: Child Poverty and Health: Inclusion and Child Poverty Action Group.

- Infant deaths are 50 per cent more common among those from manual backgrounds than among those from non-manual backgrounds.
- Babies from manual backgrounds are more likely to have a low birth-weight than those from non-manual backgrounds – low birth-weight babies are at greater risk of mortality and morbidity during childhood.
- Studies have found a close association between mental disorder in children and economic disadvantage.
- Children from the lowest income groups are more likely to be obese than those from top income groups.
- Children from manual backgrounds are significantly more likely to die in accidents than other children.
- Research has found a very close association between teenage pregnancy and social and economic disadvantage.

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008.

**Reducing Health Inequalities in Warwickshire
- Audit Commission Report**

**Report of the Chief Executive Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council, the
Strategic Director Adults, Health and Community Services WCC and the
Interim Chief Executive, NHS Warwickshire**

Recommendations

That the:

1. Public Service Board notes the Audit Commission Summary Report.
2. Public Service Board accepts the leadership role for reducing health inequalities across the county as part of the Narrowing the Gaps agenda.
3. Public Service Board delegate authority to the Healthier Communities and Older People Partnership Board to lead the work across all the blocks on reducing health inequalities, recognising the wider determinants of health.
4. Healthier Communities and Older People Partnership Board be given the authority to review its membership to ensure that it has the correct representation and skills.
5. Healthier Communities and Older People Partnership Board be asked to produce a countywide "Health Inequalities Strategy" for the Public Service Board to ratify and own across the blocks.
6. Public Service Board sets a time scale for implementation of recommendations 4 & 5 and instructs the Healthier Communities & Older People Partnership Board to give early consideration to identifying the necessary resources to do so.
7. Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee is asked to scrutinise progress 12 months after the Health Inequalities Strategy is adopted.

1. Background

Narrowing the health gap between disadvantaged groups and the rest of the country is a top priority nationally with a national Public Service Agreement target which is:

By 2010, reduce inequalities in health outcomes by 10% as measured by infant mortality and life expectancy at birth.

- *Starting with children under one year, by 2010 to reduce by at least 10% the gap in mortality between routine and manual groups and the population as a whole.*
- *Starting with local authorities, by 2010 to reduce by at least 10% the gap between the fifth of areas with the lowest life expectancy at birth and the population as a whole.*

As a result of this the Audit Commission undertook the first phase of their audit of health inequalities in Nuneaton & Bedworth, which they chose due to the high levels of deprivation and therefore the spearhead status of Nuneaton & Bedworth. The audit entailed a high-level diagnostic that sought to identify the key risks associated with how the partner organisations are tackling health inequalities. The partners included Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council, Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire Primary Care Trust and George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust. (A copy of the summary report is attached for information) The full report is available from Carole Edkins caroleedkins@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report states:

“Partners have not identified a clear strategy for tackling health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth. The lack of a coordinated approach is likely to reduce the impact on addressing health inequalities that could otherwise be achieved if partners adopted a joint approach to strategic planning.

“There is a lack of a clear strategic vision, championed by leaders that would drive the delivery of services in addressing health inequalities. Accountability and responsibility for addressing health inequalities has not been clearly identified at either a political or management level.”

Following the receipt of the draft report a meeting took place with the partners and the Audit Commission to review and comment on the content of the report and the actions required. The partners agreed that, whilst recognising the special status of Nuneaton & Bedworth, the recommendation should be applied across Warwickshire and not be confined to Nuneaton and Bedworth. The final report has since been received.

2. Next steps

Taking account of the recommendations of the Audit Commission and broadening them out across Warwickshire the Public Service Board is asked to agree the recommendations at the head of this paper.

To ensure that the recommendations are implemented across the county and across the LAA blocks the Healthier Communities & Older People Partnership Board is the body that is best placed to take this work forward providing they are given the delegated authority to do so and they can review their membership to ensure they have the correct representation and skills.

The HCOP Partnership Board is asked to develop a countywide “Health Inequalities Strategy” for the Public Service Board to consider and adopt across the blocks recognising the wider determinants of health e.g. education, income, housing, environment, access to services etc. It should be acknowledged that there will need to be some dedicated resources to support the work required.

If Warwickshire is really to make a difference and reduce health inequalities then the members of the Public Service Board should ensure that there are short term targeted interventions in place whilst recognising the long term

nature of the solutions required. The Public Service Board should also encourage countywide organisations and others to shift resources if the need is identified to do so and that there will be a need for some to do things differently, if necessary, to halt the widening of the health inequality gap and then start to reduce it.

The Healthier Communities & Older People Partnership Board is asked to monitor and evaluate progress and report on a 6 monthly basis to the Public Service Board. The Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee is also asked to undertake a scrutiny exercise 12 months after the adoption of the strategy.

This report is a fore running to a fuller report on wider issues relating to Narrowing the Gaps which will come to the Public Service Board in November 2008.

3. Suggested actions to address the Audit Commission's specific recommendations.

Listed below are the eight specific recommendations from the Audit Commission report with suggested actions.

Recommendation	Action
<i>a collective analysis, understanding and agreement by partners of the contribution they can make, individually and in partnership, to tackling and reducing health inequalities;</i>	The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment will be available from end August. This together with other data including health equity elements of Health Needs Assessments will be used to agree priorities. Partners will consider the priorities and agree their individual and collective contribution to addressing these, taking account of the wider determinants of health e.g. education, income, housing, access to services etc.
<i>the identification of clear targets and outcomes for reducing health inequalities</i>	Using the above data HCOP PB will ensure that SMART targets will be agreed including baselines, outputs, outcomes, timescales and targeting, within the Strategy and its relevant delivery/action plan.
<i>a clear programme of actions and activities, which are evidence-based and appropriately targeted to those most in need, to be undertaken by partners that will contribute to the delivery of health inequality outcomes</i>	Action plans already exist both at a county and district level for individual determinants of health. These will be reviewed with partners to ensure that actions and activities are planned, co-ordinated and targeted to meet the priority needs in line with recommended action above. If gaps exist then additional activity will be identified and commissioned subject to funding availability.

	An audit of action plans for the wider determinants of health will also be undertaken to ensure that health inequalities are being addresses.
<i>effective performance management arrangements that include robust monitoring of performance against SMART targets and timescales, and evaluation of outcomes;</i>	Programmes of work will be monitored and evaluated against targets and timescales on a quarterly basis and reported to the Partnership Board at least 6 monthly. A mechanism for providing challenge and resolution to under performance will be developed.
<i>clear service and financial planning to ensure that services are aligned and resources are targeted to the delivery of identified outcomes;</i>	Recommendations will be made to countywide organisations and others about the need to have service and financial planning arrangements in place that will shift resources and/or to work differently to ensure that activity is targeted to those in most need.
<i>engagement with all sections of the community, particularly 'hard to reach' groups to ensure that health needs are identified and addressed; and</i>	Hard to reach groups will particularly need to be engaged to ensure take up of activity, some good examples of this already exist and lessons will be learnt and shared from those who do this well. How diversity issues will be addressed will be included in the Health Inequalities Strategy.
<i>effective ownership, leadership, responsibility and accountability for this strategic approach by both management and via scrutiny to ensure that focus and momentum is maintained.</i>	The Public Service Board will be asked to take on the leadership and accountability role. The county Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will also be asked to scrutinise progress. Each partner will be asked to name an accountable officer for health inequalities, and local authorities will also be asked to name an accountable politician and to clarify internal scrutiny responsibility.

The audit commission stated that implementing the recommendations above would ensure a more co-ordinated and focused approach and was more likely to maximise the impact of partners in addressing health inequalities.

CHRISTINE KERR
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Strategic Director of Adult,
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GILLIAN ENTWISTLE
Interim Chief Executive,
NHS Warwickshire

August 2008.

Health Inequalities

Warwickshire County Council

Audit 2008/09

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Summary report

Introduction

- 1 Health and wellbeing is a key national focus for improvement. Narrowing the health gap between disadvantaged groups and the rest of the country is a top priority. The single overarching target to reduce health inequalities is a national Public Sector Agreement (PSA) target. The target is based on Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action (2003).

By 2010, reduce inequalities in health outcomes by 10 per cent as measured by infant mortality and life expectancy at birth.

- 2 This target has since been underlined in subsequent policy documents, including two White Papers; Choosing Health (2004) and Strong and Prosperous Communities (2006). It is now one of the four top level priorities in the 2007/08 NHS Operating Framework.

Health inequalities are differences in health experience and health outcomes between different population groups. These groups are determined by socio-economic status, geographical area, age, disability, gender or ethnic group.

Health inequities are the differences in opportunity for different population groups that result in unequal life chances and unequal access to health services, nutritious food, adequate housing and so on. These can lead to health inequalities.

- 3 The latest national data shows that there has been a widening of these inequalities. Public sector organisations must therefore determine whether resources are appropriately targeted in relation to the health needs of different groups. Without this, people can experience inequality of provision, access and take-up of services.

- 4 There are many different partners involved in the health inequalities agenda. These often have competing priorities and all have many other demands on scarce resources. Across the country, early partnership action on Local Area Agreements has been initiated, but the pace of change is often limited by the capacity of individual organisations and staff to deliver and implement the changes. Universally, there is a need to establish a number of key arrangements, often including performance and risk management, as well as scrutiny and effective challenge.
- 5 Partners¹ in Warwickshire have included targets on health inequalities in their Local Area Agreement, signed off in March 2007.
- 6 The Audit Commission has developed a cross-cutting review methodology aimed at ensuring that audited bodies, and the partnerships in which they work, are taking action to:
 - understand their local health inequalities;
 - direct resources appropriately to narrow the health inequalities gap;
 - have arrangements in place to challenge and review their actions; and
 - know how well they are doing.

Background

- 7 Within Warwickshire, Nuneaton and Bedworth was identified by the Department of Health as a Spearhead area in 2004 because it was in the bottom fifth nationally on indicators for female life expectancy, cancer mortality rate in under 75s, and cardiovascular disease mortality rate in under 75s.
- 8 The latest Department of Health profile for Nuneaton and Bedworth shows that male and female life expectancy in Nuneaton and Bedworth has increased over the last decade, but both remain below the England average (by 13 and 18 months respectively). However, progress in addressing health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth is declining. In 2002-2004 progress on achieving Department of Health targets was on track for both male and females. In 2003-2005 it was on track for female only, and in 2004-2006 neither were on track. Within the borough, life expectancy for both men and women is significantly lower in the most deprived wards compared to the borough's more affluent wards.
- 9 Indicators that are significantly worse than the England average also include obesity, physical activity, diabetes, early deaths from heart disease and stroke, and GCSE results. Early deaths from cancer are closer to the England average. The proportions of working age people from Nuneaton and Bedworth in routine and manual occupations (these occupations generally experience poorer health than professional occupations) are higher than the England averages, across most ethnic groups.

¹ In the context of this report 'partners' includes Nuneaton and Bedworth Council, Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire PCT and George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust

- 10 Audit work on health inequalities has been included in the 2007/08 audit plans for Warwickshire PCT, Warwickshire County Council and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust. The focus of this audit is on Nuneaton and Bedworth, because of its Spearhead status. This report focuses specifically on how partners are addressing health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth rather than across the County as a whole, but tackles broader issues across the whole county which may have a differential impact on Nuneaton and Bedworth.
- 11 Warwickshire's Local Area Agreement (LAA) has targets which relate to reducing mortality between Nuneaton and Bedworth and the rest of England, and between Nuneaton and Bedworth and the rest of Warwickshire. The LAA also has a target for reducing deaths from circulatory disease in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Audit approach

- 12 The review was undertaken by applying the first phase of the Audit Commission's health inequalities audit. This is a high-level diagnostic that seeks to identify the key risks associated with how the partner organisations are tackling health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth.
- 13 The diagnostic is structured around six themes:
 - delivering strategic and operational objectives;
 - delivering in partnership;
 - using information and intelligence to drive decisions;
 - securing engagement from the workforce;
 - performance management; and
 - corporate responsibility.
- 14 The review sought to answer a series of questions under each of the themes. These questions are set out in Appendix 1 of this report. Evidence was gathered by reviewing key documents, supplemented by a limited number of interviews with key people in each of the partner organisations.

Main conclusions

- 15 There is a good level of partnership working at an operational level to address health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth. This has been recognised recently when the Council was awarded the National Municipal Journal Award for achievement in Health Inequalities. However, effective partnership working at an operational level takes place in spite of, rather than because of, any clear overall strategic framework.

- 16 Partnership arrangements have been developed with research/academic institutions and the voluntary sector and the Healthy Living Network is a positive example of cross sector engagement. However, uncertainty over future funding of the Healthy Living network casts doubts over the sustainability of this initiative.
- 17 The existing workforce is being used increasingly effectively to tackle the health inequalities agenda, although there is scope for developing a more structured and coordinated approach.
- 18 Partners are all adopting a proactive approach in relation to promoting healthier lifestyles amongst the workforce.

However:

- 19 Partners have not identified a clear strategy for tackling health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth. The lack of a coordinated approach is likely to reduce the impact on addressing health inequalities that could otherwise be achieved if partners adopted a joint approach to strategic planning.
- 20 There is a lack of a clear strategic vision, championed by leaders that would drive the delivery of services in addressing health inequalities. Accountability and responsibility for addressing health inequalities has not been clearly identified at either a political or management level.
- 21 Health inequality targets are not driving service and financial planning and it is difficult to identify a link between LAA targets and the commissioning plans, service plans and financial strategies of partners. There has been no substantial shift in the deployment of resources that would reflect a refocusing of priorities to address health inequalities.
- 22 Some targets within the LAA are countywide and could actually serve to increase rather than reduce health inequalities. It is possible that while overall targets are achieved health inequalities actually deteriorate if, for example, there is a greater response to health promotion initiatives in more affluent areas of the county.
- 23 There is a recognition by partners of the need to target actions according to need, but limited progress has been made on this to date. It is not clear that cross-cutting factors are fully understood and integrated into partnership planning.
- 24 Overview and scrutiny committees are not fully effective in challenging progress on tackling health inequalities. Responsibility for scrutiny of health inequality issues has not been clearly defined.
- 25 The extent of community engagement, including diverse and hard-to-reach groups, has been mixed. A number of the health inequality targets in the LAA are countywide and do not focus on communities or groups in greatest need. There is limited information or understanding of the specific issues facing diverse communities.

- 26 There is a wide range of information that describes the state of health and health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth which is shared between partners, although this is not used to systematically drive decisions. While work is being undertaken to analyse the impact of interventions on targeting and addressing health inequalities this is at an early stage of development and is not yet driving and coordinating the activities of partners.
- 27 Specialist public health skill and capacity is available to partners but is not adequately influencing service delivery.
- 28 Non-executive directors and councillors have the skills but lack the focus to adequately provide challenge in relation to plans to tackle health inequalities.
- 29 Performance management arrangements are not yet fully effective. Arrangements for targeting, coordinating and monitoring the actions of partners to achieve health inequality objectives are not robust.

Recommendations

Recommendation

R1 Develop a strategic approach to addressing health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth that is clearly defined, owned, agreed and understood by all partners. This should include:

- *a collective analysis, understanding and agreement by partners of the contribution they can make, individually and in partnership, to tackling and reducing health inequalities;*
- *the identification of clear targets and outcomes for reducing health inequalities;*
- *a clear programme of actions and activities, which are evidence-based and appropriately targeted to those most in need, to be undertaken by partners that will contribute to the delivery of health inequality outcomes;*
- *effective performance management arrangements that include robust monitoring of performance against SMART targets and timescales, and evaluation of outcomes;*
- *clear service and financial planning to ensure that services are aligned and resources are targeted to the delivery of identified outcomes;*
- *engagement with all sections of the community, particularly 'hard to reach' groups to ensure that health needs are identified and addressed; and*
- *effective ownership, leadership, responsibility and accountability for this strategic approach by both management and via scrutiny to ensure that focus and momentum is maintained.*

The expected benefit of this recommendation is as follows.

This will ensure that a more co-ordinated and focused approach is adopted which is more likely to maximise the impact of partners in addressing health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

This report will be presented to the Local Area Agreement Public Service Board at its meeting in September 2008. Partners have agreed to produce an action plan outlining how and when they will deliver these recommendations, and the associated costs, by October 2008.

Detailed report

Delivering strategic and operational objectives

- 30** Partners have not identified a clear strategy for tackling health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Targets are identified in the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for reducing health inequalities and promoting healthier lifestyles. Partners also have their own targets. For example, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council has its Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-2021 and Corporate Plan 2007-2021, both of which have priorities and targets that relate to reducing health inequalities. However, there is no coordinated framework which sets out how the actions of partners will be delivered to achieve LAA targets.
- 31** Partners are beginning to identify their own delivery actions, for example, the PCT through its local delivery plan and commissioning strategies, George Eliot Hospital (GEH) through its draft integrated business plan and the councils through their service planning arrangements. Additionally, the Director of Public Health identifies recommendations for addressing health inequalities in his annual report. However, the degree of coordination amongst partners is limited. The lack of a coordinated approach is likely to reduce the impact on addressing health inequalities that could otherwise be achieved if partners adopted a joint approach to strategic planning.
- 32** There is an absence of clear and focused leadership in addressing health inequalities. The Public Service Board (PSB) of the LAA comprises the political leaders of the main partner organisations but it has yet to develop a clear vision for tackling health inequalities other than the targets contained in the LAA. The key theme of the LAA is 'narrowing the gap' across all the LAA block areas, including health. However, this is still at a largely developmental stage in that partners are identifying the scale and nature of the gap before deciding how to address it.
- 33** The commitment that clearly exists amongst partners is not always translated into actions. For example, poor access to primary care in some parts of Nuneaton and Bedworth contrasts with good access in southern parts of the county. Despite a willingness on the part of the PCT to address this there has been limited progress to date. Capacity issues during the first year of the PCT have meant that the health inequalities agenda has largely been led by other partners within Warwickshire. The PCT is looking to take a more pro-active role this year in driving and shaping the agenda. GEH has had little input to the development or delivery of the LAA. This is a missed opportunity in terms of identifying and maximising the contribution that the hospital can make in addressing health inequalities with partners. There is therefore a lack of a clear strategic vision, championed by leaders that would drive the delivery of services in addressing health inequalities.

- 34 Public health expertise is becoming increasingly influential in developing strategies. For example, the PCTs local development plan (LDP) process was previously led by the commissioners but now all meetings include public health representatives who can influence health inequalities priorities.
- 35 Accountability and responsibility for addressing health inequalities has not been clearly identified at either a political or management level. This is the case both between and within partner organisations. This leads to a lack of ownership and the situation where it is not readily apparent who is responsible for driving forward the health inequalities agenda and who can be challenged and held to account. In the absence of such clear accountability it is easy for momentum in addressing health inequalities to be lost.
- 36 Health inequality targets are not driving service and financial planning and it is difficult to identify a link between LAA targets and the commissioning plans, service plans and financial strategies of partners. The result is that most of the service level initiatives aimed at addressing health inequalities are 'bottom up' and based on the local knowledge of service practitioners rather than being driven by an overarching strategic framework. This results in an approach that is ad hoc and piecemeal rather than planned and coordinated.
- 37 The LAA was signed off in April 2007, which was too late to have any significant impact on 2007/08 resourcing/business plans. Much energy at the moment is being focused on negotiating the new LAA for 2008/09 onwards. Lottery funding for the Healthy Living Network comes to an end in March 2008 and while the County Council has agreed to maintain funding until March 2009 the availability of funding after this date is uncertain. The future sustainability of the Healthy Living Network project is therefore unclear.
- 38 At the PCT a new approach to the prioritisation of LDP projects tests bids against their relevance and feasibility in terms of the PCT's corporate objectives. This helps to ensure that only appropriate developments get funded through the LDP process. The impact of new developments on health inequalities is specifically tested in this process.
- 39 There has been no substantial shift in the deployment of resources that would reflect a refocusing of priorities to address health inequalities. Services are starting to work more collaboratively, for example, district environmental health officers and county trading standards officers are working together to promote food standards and quality. GEH has a promotions caravan and works with health workers to carry out opportunistic health screenings in the community.
- 40 A corporate group has been established within the County Council to identify how services can make a greater contribution to health inequality issues. The Borough Council's Leisure Trust has a range of programmes that are designed to tackle ill health amongst vulnerable groups, eg with Walking for Health programmes, GP referrals, and drugs outreach. The Council was criticised in a 2007 Culture Inspection for not targeting leisure pricing schemes on vulnerable groups – in response the Council is looking at moving from universal to targeted discounts. However, partners acknowledge that overall there has been little shift in service or financial planning to reflect an increased prioritisation on health inequalities.

Delivering in partnership

- 41 There is a good level of partnership working at an operational level to address health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth. There is positive engagement and commitment amongst staff from all partner organisations in delivering local initiatives. Engagement also extends to include partners from other organisations, such as the voluntary sector. Initiatives delivered through the Healthy Living Network (HLN) are a good example of effective collaborative working. HLN is governed by a board which comprises statutory partners and is characterised by positive working relationships. However, effective partnership working at an operational level takes place in spite of, rather than because of, any clear overall strategic framework.
- 42 Partnership working via the Nuneaton and Bedworth Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) is effective. One of the priorities of the Nuneaton and Bedworth LSP is to address the health inequalities that exist within the district. The Borough's Health Housing and Partnership Theme Group (HIWEB) has been established to help focus the efforts of partners in achieving this. Partners include the PCT, GEH, Borough Council, County Council, Healthy Living Network, Council for Voluntary Services and Leisure Trust.
- 43 One of the LPSA2 targets is to reduce deaths from circulatory diseases in Nuneaton and Bedworth by 9 per cent over three years. A number of local initiatives have been delivered in partnership to help achieve this. These include a healthy lifestyle project which involves the use of a lifestyle consultant to improve physical activity and diet and working with coronary rehabilitation services and GPs to target those most at risk. There is also a weight busters programme, street health checks and visits to pubs and clubs which involve collaborative working amongst partners. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council was recently awarded the National Municipal Journal Award for Achievement in Health Inequalities in recognition of the range of initiative that are being delivered with partners to address health inequalities. However, HIWEB's strategic focus is not well developed. The partnership's Health Improvement Action Plan 2007-2010 (replacing its 2005-2008 action plan) is not particularly SMART², is not focused consistently on outcomes and does not link effectively to broader strategic objectives.
- 44 Engagement between the Borough Council and the PCT is improving. There is a considerable legacy of concern within the Council over the use of Spearhead funding. An early draft of the PCT commissioning strategy was strongly (but constructively) criticised by the Council for failing to focus on health inequality/prevention issues. The PCT addressed these criticisms in a subsequent draft of the commissioning strategy. The PCT will be informally sharing its draft LDP with the Council. The relationship between the Borough Council and PCT has therefore become more constructive.

² SMART - Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timebound

- 45 Some targets within the LAA are countywide, are not appropriately targeted at those in most need and could actually serve to increase rather than reduce health inequalities. For example, under the outcome of 'enabling Warwickshire residents to lead healthier lifestyles' there are countywide targets to eat more healthily, increase physical activity and reduce tobacco consumption. It is possible that there will be a greater response to the associated initiatives in less deprived districts than in Nuneaton and Bedworth. It could therefore be the case that while overall targets are achieved health inequalities actually deteriorate.
- 46 The LAA is considered by the PCT to be productive at District and Borough Council level but not at County level. There is concern that it is bureaucratic and process focused and that relationships are focused on acute services rather than public health and preventative strategies. Full knowledge and understanding of the respective roles and activities of partners is incomplete and this hinders effective partnership working.
- 47 There is a recognition by partners of the need to target actions according to need, but limited progress has been made on this to date. For example, the PCT is funding some work on GUM in the north of the county but the Borough Council sees no evidence of these resources being focused on the wards in Nuneaton and Bedworth which have the highest rates of teenage conceptions. It is not clear that cross-cutting factors are fully understood and integrated into partnership planning.
- 48 Overview and scrutiny committees are not fully effective in challenging progress on tackling health inequalities. The County Health Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committee, which comprises County and district councillors together with patient and public forum involvement representatives does provide challenge on health issues. For example, it recently challenged the PCTs local delivery plan process for having an insufficient focus on LAA targets, partnership working, joint commissioning and joint funding and requested that these issues be more fully addressed. However, responsibility for scrutiny of health inequality issues has not been clearly defined. For example, at the County Council, it is unclear which issues should come under the scrutiny of Health O&S, and which under Adult and Community Services O&S. This results in health inequalities not receiving a sufficiently clear and discrete scrutiny focus. This mirrors the lack of clearly defined responsibility at executive and directorate level. The result is that responsibility for leadership, delivery and challenge of health inequalities is not clearly defined.
- 49 The Borough Council's Social Inclusion Scrutiny Committee has the health remit. It has contributed well to critiquing the PCT's draft Commissioning Strategy. It is well chaired and has a reasonably strategic focus. However, it has had a limited role to date in challenging progress on tackling health inequalities. The recent corporate assessment of the Borough Council highlighted the need to develop the challenge role of Scrutiny.

- 50 There are examples where GEH works with partners to deliver initiatives, but these tend to be isolated initiatives rather than being part of a structured, focused and coordinated programme. One of the key issues the hospital is trying to address is the problem of late presentation of patients with symptoms. It has conducted a range of presentation evenings on specific illnesses such as heart attacks, lung cancer and diabetes with the aim of increasing local awareness of early symptoms. GEH also works with the County and Borough councils on delivery of the HIWEB programme, with County adult social care on facilitating better discharge and using their caravan with health workers to do opportunistic health screening. There has been some involvement by GEH in the Health Living Network (HLN) and in smoking cessation, but otherwise engagement has been limited.
- 51 Partnership arrangements have been developed with research/academic institutions and the voluntary sector. For example, the Applied Research Centre in Health and Lifestyle Interventions at Coventry University undertook an evaluation of the HLN in 2007. This assessed the health coordinator project and the extent to which the network had met and monitored lottery objectives as well as the wider objectives of the borough and county council and PCT. It concluded that the health coordinator project was providing good health education and advice to service users, and the HLN was achieving its objectives, particularly improving diet and fitness and also improving mental well being. However, it identified that more work was needed to achieve the objective of increasing the numbers of people accessing smoking cessation services. A research fellow from the University is working with the HLN on a childhood obesity project in Nuneaton and Bedworth to help set up systems to identify and deliver outcomes. The HLN comprises a number of voluntary sector partners and is a good example of cross sector engagement.
- 52 The extent of community engagement, including diverse and hard-to-reach groups, has been mixed. The HLN has been designed to take health services out into the community and target groups who have been traditionally hard to reach. Initiatives have included health workers proactively engaging with the community by visiting workplaces, pubs and clubs etc and making contact with people who would not normally access their services. The evaluation report compiled by Coventry University stated:

'...the health coordinator project has focused on taking services to where people are in the community rather than waiting for people to access organisations already established, it has been instrumental in reaching out to people who are not accessing services'

However, a number of the health inequality targets in the LAA are countywide and do not focus on communities or groups in greatest need. As such they do not assist partners in focusing resources and effort where they are likely to have the greatest impact.

Using information and intelligence to drive decisions

53 There is a wide range of information that describes the state of health and health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth which is shared between partners, although this is not used to systematically drive decisions. A number of reports are produced that highlight health inequalities. These include:

- the annual Quality of Life in Warwickshire report;
- the annual report of the Director of Public Health; and
- a report on indicators of health inequalities in Nuneaton and Bedworth that was produced by the PCT in 2007.

54 A report was recently produced for the Public Service Board on 'Narrowing the Gap in Warwickshire' which aims to quantify the 'gap' that exists amongst Warwickshire's communities across the six LAA blocks. This highlights that Nuneaton and Bedworth is the worst performer for most indicators. The report states that work is starting within the County Council to understand how effectively its activities and policies are impacting on the gap that exists between Nuneaton and Bedworth and other parts of the County. It states:

'This will firstly identify the geographical pattern of investment by the County Council over time, and could be an area of work repeated for other public sector agencies to provide a more comprehensive picture of investment...As a follow-on phase to the work it will be necessary to assess options for further and potentially different interventions to reduce the north-south divide.'

While work is being undertaken to analyse the impact of interventions on targeting and addressing health inequalities it is at an early stage of development and is not yet driving and coordinating the activities of partners.

55 Local information and intelligence is used to target activities at an operational level. The HLN mapped existing health provision at a neighbourhood level and conducted street consultation with local people to identify their needs and delivery preferences. A range of interventions and activities were then developed to meet these needs at a local level. Staff who are involved in operational delivery are aware of the range of information and data that is produced, but state that this simply tells them what they already know, namely that there are health inequality issues in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Health data has been used to target operational activities, for example, differential local targets have been set for some of the overall LAA targets, but data is not well used to monitor the impact and outcomes of activities.

- 56 The Warwickshire Observatory is a useful resource which can provide partners with potentially valuable information and intelligence. In addition to purely statistical data it also undertakes community consultation for both the County Council and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council via their peoples/citizens panels. It is therefore well placed to assist partners in analysing health needs and evaluating the impact of activities and interventions in addressing these, although it could be better utilised in this regard.
- 57 Public health data and intelligence does not directly inform commissioning strategies. The annual report of the Director of Public Health provides an analysis of health inequality issues and makes recommendations to help address them, but there is no formal linkage with the PCTs commissioning strategies.
- 58 Partner organisations have identified knowledge gaps and are working towards filling them. The 'Narrowing the Gap' report is an example of this. Additionally, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council has identified areas where it needs a better understanding of local needs. It has commissioned two surveys, one looking at obesity levels and the other exploring barriers to physical activity.
- 59 There is limited information and inconsistent understanding of the specific issues facing diverse communities. In some areas, such as Camp Hill, there is good local knowledge and understanding of needs, but this is not consistent across all communities. At an operational level steps have been taken to identify and engage with traditionally hard to reach groups. However, at a strategic level there is limited information or understanding of the needs of diverse groups. As a result partners do not have a clear picture of the particular requirements of specific groups and how activities can be targeted to address these. It is not clear whether particular groups are disproportionately affected by health inequality issues.
- 60 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 requires PCTs and local authorities to produce a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) of the health and wellbeing of its local community. Partners in Warwickshire have started to explore this process. JSNA has the potential to develop the health and social care response so that it more closely meets the wants and needs of local people. It will provide an opportunity to look ahead at least three to five years and support and direct the change that needs to happen in local service systems so that:
- services are shaped by local communities;
 - inequalities are reduced; and
 - social inclusion is increased.

This presents an opportunity for partners in Warwickshire to develop a clear strategic approach to addressing health inequalities based on an analysis of local need.

Securing engagement from the workforce

- 61 The existing workforce is being used increasingly effectively to tackle the health inequalities agenda, although there is scope for developing a more structured and coordinated approach. At the PCT work is underway to enhance the skills of the workforce to effectively tackle the health inequalities agenda with specific focus on health promotion and school nurses. At an operational level there is a good level of commitment and enthusiasm and staff from partner organisations and other agencies work well together. However, they would welcome a clearer strategic direction and there is considerable scope for partners to develop a more coordinated approach at the strategic level, for example by developing a greater linkage between LAA targets and local delivery plan, commissioning strategies and service plans. Such an approach would help to ensure that high level targets are more likely to be achieved.
- 62 Specialist public health skill and capacity is available to partners but is not adequately influencing service delivery. The annual report of the Director of Public Health (who is a joint appointment between the County Council and PCT) provides a comprehensive account of health inequalities throughout the County and identifies recommendations for addressing these. However, there is no structured process for ensuring that these recommendations influence the delivery plans of the councils or PCT. As a result, the public health resource available to partners is not being used to best effect.
- 63 Non-executive directors and councillors have the skills but lack the focus to adequately provide challenge in relation to plans to tackle health inequalities. The role that the Health Scrutiny Committee played in challenging the draft local delivery plan has been mentioned, and this challenge should result in the revised plan having a greater focus on LAA targets and partnership working. However, the lack of clearly defined accountability for leadership and scrutiny of health inequalities adversely impacts upon the level and quality of challenge provided.

Performance management

- 64 Performance management arrangements are not sufficiently robust to enable partners to effectively plan, target and monitor actions and evaluate outcomes.
- 65 There is high level commitment to addressing health inequalities although performance management arrangements are not yet fully effective. Partnership reporting mechanisms are in place at LAA, LSP and HIWEB levels, but the lack of LAA action plans, and weak action plans at HIWEB level, mean that arrangements for targeting, coordinating and monitoring the actions of partners to achieve health inequality objectives are not robust.

66 LAA performance reports are presented quarterly to the PSB. The second quarter report at November 2007 highlighted that 30 per cent of performance indicators for the Healthier Communities and Older People block were forecast to miss target. Reasons provided included:

- shortfall not statistically significant (mortality rates); and
- 'possibly due to slow return of monitoring data ...Agreed target likely to have been set too high' (tobacco consumption).

While these targets are nationally imposed and therefore do not reflect local circumstances this underlines a lack of SMARTness in monitoring their delivery.

67 Partners attempt to plan actions and initiatives based on an assessment of past and current performance and 'what works'. This is the case with many local initiatives that rely on the knowledge and experience of the staff involved. The success of initiatives is monitored, but this often relates to 'outputs', eg the number of participants, rather than 'outcomes', ie the impact that the initiative had on health inequalities.

68 The evaluation of the HLN undertaken by Coventry University included some qualitative assessment of impact by interviewing participants. It acknowledged the difficulties in establishing the impact of initiatives on addressing health inequalities and the complexities that exist around causality and the timescales involved. However, partners do not have a clear picture of the full impact of their actions and a more detailed evaluation could assist in the more effective targeting of resources.

69 Partners do learn from experience. For example, an evaluation of the health trainers initiative highlighted that this was not as effective as it might have been due largely to their central location in the Town centre. This has now been addressed by adopting an outreach approach that is likely to be more successful in engaging with local people.

70 Recent external assessments at the Borough and County Councils (eg corporate assessment at Borough Council and Supporting People inspection and IDeA Peer Review at County Council) have identified that performance management arrangements are improving.

71 The absence of SMART action plans and clear outcome measures do not assist partners in targeting resources to maximum effect and identifying the impact of actions on reducing health inequalities.

Corporate responsibility

- 72 Partners are all adopting a proactive approach in relation to promoting healthier lifestyles amongst the workforce. For example:
- the PCT recently launched an 'eight week challenge' with events such as lunchtime walks for staff and is committed to the Improving Working Lives standard;
 - Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council has taken some actions to promote healthy lifestyles, eg advice is available to staff on healthy diets. There are some specific outreach activities, eg a health screening bus has visited the depot to do assessments of manual staff, resulting in some GP referrals; and
 - Warwickshire County Council established the 'My Time' healthy workforce project. This includes arranging physical activities at lunchtimes, stress workshops and the availability of health checks for staff with occupational health nurses. A healthy eating policy has recently been produced which contains guidelines for school meals, residential homes, etc.

Partners are therefore leading by example and demonstrating a clear corporate commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles.

Appendix 1 – Key questions

Table 1

This diagnostic audit was based on the following questions
Delivering strategic and operational objectives
1. Is there a strategy for tackling the health inequalities agenda that is based on health need?
2. Is the leadership of this strategy clearly defined and operating effectively?
3. Is wider public health expertise influential in developing strategies?
4. Are strategic priorities being implemented with clear accountability and delivery mechanisms?
5. Are strategies and health inequalities commissioning plans reflected in financial plans and budgets?
6. How are resources being deployed to deliver strategies and objectives on health inequalities?
Delivering in partnership
7. Have appropriate partnerships been identified and are they engaged?
8. Are Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) and Local Area Agreements (LAAs) being used effectively to deliver change?
9. Do overview and scrutiny committees challenge progress on tackling health inequalities?
10. Are provider trusts engaged in the health inequalities agenda?
11. Have partnership arrangements been developed with research/academic institutions and the voluntary sector?
12. Are the public and communities of interest effectively engaged as partners? Does this engagement include local and diverse communities?
Using information and intelligence to drive decisions
13. Does a comprehensive health needs analysis exist which is shared with appropriate bodies and addresses health inequalities?
14. Is there effective and efficient use of data analyst skills and capacity in identifying health inequalities issues?
15. Does public health data and intelligence (including annual PH reports) inform commissioning strategies?

This diagnostic audit was based on the following questions
16. Have the partner organisations identified knowledge gaps and are they working towards filling them?
17. Does the organisation/partnership have a robust understanding of the issues facing diverse communities?
18. Does a wide range of stakeholder intelligence inform decision making?
Securing engagement from the workforce
19. Is the existing workforce being used effectively to tackle the health inequalities agenda?
20. Is specialist public health skill and capacity available to organisations to tackle the health inequalities agenda?
21. Do non-executive directors (NEDs) and councillors have the skills required to provide challenge in relation to plans to tackle health inequalities?
Performance management
22. Is there commitment at the highest level to effective performance management of health inequalities?
23. Is past and current performance used to plan future action to tackle health inequalities?
24. Is there an appropriate performance management framework in place which is regularly reviewed?
25. Is robust data available to support the performance management framework?
Corporate responsibility
26. Has a corporate responsibility policy/approach been developed?
27. Is there progress on taking action with corporate responsibility principles?
28. Have organisations begun to consider the financial implications of corporate responsibility?

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008.

Narrowing the Gap

Report of the Warwick Local Strategic Partnership

Recommendations

- That the PSB approve the Warwick LSP Spending Plan to work towards 'Narrowing the Gap' agenda across Warwickshire.
- That the PSB note the comments of the covering report.

1 Background

- 1.1. The Public Service Board (PSB) at its meeting on 13th March, 2008 agreed that £100,000 be allocated to the Warwick Partnership Executive Group (WPEG), the core group for the Warwick LSP, for 2008/09 in respect of the Narrowing the Gap bid, subject to approval, by the PSB, of a spending plan.
- 1.2. WPEG met on 8 May 2008 to consider the process for identifying suitable projects within the District. The Community Partnership Team (CPT) was allocated the task of coordinating the application process, collating bids and producing a draft spending plan.
- 1.3. The Draft Spending Plan would be presented to the WPEG in July. It was also agreed that all projects chosen:
 - Would need to start to make a difference within the first year
 - Should be highly visible and have high impact
 - Dovetail into and align with LAA blocks and the District's Sustainable Community Strategy
 - Would need to include a succession strategy
- 1.4. WPEG met to approve the draft spending plan on 25 July 2008 and consensus was reached on the projects shown in the Warwick LSP Spending Plan attached as **Appendix A**.

2 Performance Management

- 2.1. The Spending Plan will be monitored by the Community Partnership Team (CPT) on a quarterly basis and the CPT will in turn provide up-dates and exception reporting information to the LSP and PSB respectfully.

2.2. Agreements will be drawn up with the relevant agencies delivering the projects and these will be monitored by the CPT and reported on as per 2.1.

2.3. Each Project Leader will complete a monitoring form, initially on a monthly basis, to ensure progress is being made.

3. Long Term Strategy

3.1. The work of the Warwick LSP will continue to strive towards improving the Quality of Life for all within the District via its Sustainable Community Strategy and alongside the delivery of the Spending Plan, the work of the LSP will still remain focused on the long-term objective to understand the nature of the gap and its causes and to work towards a long term strategy of actions that narrow the gap.

4. Conclusion

4.1. As reported WPEG believe that the programme identified within **Appendix A** will provide the knowledge, skills, and desire to create sustainable communities within Warwick District's deprived communities.

4.2. The sharing of lessons learnt, best practice and information with other SOA's within Warwickshire, will allow WPEG to explore the opportunities of SMART working with those organisations and authorities.

4.3. The Warwick Partnership through the identified work programme will contribute to the following:

- Improving the general health and wellbeing of those vulnerable communities.
- Ensuring that resources for skills development, capacity building and community empowerment are made available and are in the medium and long term integrated into the core budgets and activities of all major programmes;
- Raising the knowledge, awareness and understanding of the agenda across all sections of the population, but especially those vulnerable areas which will benefit from training and learning programmes;
- Acting as champions to inspire and motivate others, both individuals and agencies to contribute through the professions and the community;
- Encouraging collaborative working to ensure shared values and capabilities;
- Ensuring our key areas of deprivation are provided with the dimensions for growth and to ensure that they move from being dependent on interventions and activities of agencies to being interdependent.

Councillor Sarah Boad (WCC) and Councillor Michael Doody (WDC)
Joint Chairs
Warwick Partnership Executive Group

APPENDIX A

**Warwick Local Strategic Partnership – Narrowing the Gap Spending Plan
September 2008**

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes
COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE OFFICER MATCH FUNDING	£33,059 over two years	Appointment of a 0.5 FTE Community Enterprise Officer for Warwick District. Match funding already secured from Advantage West Midlands for a two-year post for Brunswick / Old Town	Annual figures (no. people): Accessing Business Link training modules: 10 Attending events focused on enterprise creation: 50 Attending events designed to promote and improve understanding of social enterprise: 20 Young people accessing the project: 15 Women: 15 BME: 15	Warwick District Council; Ray Smith Business Development Co-ordinator and WDC Enterprise Team	Jan 2009 – Dec 2010	Risk that the additional post does not secure funding for Years 3 and 4; while WDC have confirmed that the Brunswick post will be funded for this period, additional external funding would have to be sought for the second post in Years 3 & 4	Warwickshire LAA Economic Development & Enterprise Theme. Integrated employment & skills support. NI152 Working age people on out of work benefits; NI166 Average earnings of employees in the area	Creation of an “enterprise culture” among targeted communities – in Leamington Brunswick and Lillington wards, also Warwick North and West wards. Take up of business training; increased awareness of social enterprise as a business model; creation of social enterprises within the targeted communities

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes
HYBRID ARTS – ACCESS TO TRAINING AND INCOME MAXIMISATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE	£30, 000	<p>The project targets excluded young people, some in danger of receiving ASBOs. It seeks to divert these youngsters away from offending due to boredom through creative musical activities and training.</p> <p>It will provide a daytime drop in and structured evening sessions. It will deliver structured and accredited training to young people with artists working in creative industries. Trainees will undertake NVQs in music, interactive media and enterprise development.</p>	<p>Short term aim – to give young people a safe, constructive environment in which to develop</p> <p>Medium term aim – to give young people the opportunity of progressing into enterprise activity, peer support and volunteering involving inter-generational community projects</p> <p>Specific targets: Numbers of young people attending over the course of the project 50 aged 11 – 16 yrs</p>	Stella Carr, Hybrid Arts	Oct 08 – Mar 09	<p>Continuation of funding – aiming to build up local charity relationships e.g. Higgs Charity where enterprise and young people is an area of specialism</p> <p>Link in with Early Intervention Teams as possible source of ongoing funding basing it on success of project</p>	<p>School leaver destinations</p> <p>Lack of qualifications</p> <p>NVQ4 or above</p> <p>Job seekers allowance claimants</p> <p>Dealing with concerns regarding anti social behaviour</p>	<p>People from different backgrounds getting on well together... breaking down territorial barriers and building respect</p> <p>Work towards Continuous Assessment Framework principles for the most extreme cases e.g. self harm</p> <p>Stronger links and collaboration with police and health</p> <p>Increased number of young people and adults volunteering</p> <p>Improved access to training, skills enhancement</p>

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes
		Participants will be drawn from a district wide area with the focus on the more deprived wards.	<p>10 aged 17 – 18 yrs 5 aged 19 – 25 yrs 5 aged 9 – 11 yrs</p> <p>15 young people to gain nationally recognised accredited unit in events management, financial literacy, marketing music or web design</p> <p>Engage 3 peer mentors and an additional 3 young people go on to set up their own activities.</p> <p>15 adults continue to remain involved in project</p>			<p>Other possible risks identified are – young people don't attend</p> <p>Parents don't engage in project</p> <p>Young people attend but don't obtain qualifications and don't progress</p> <p>Failure to buy in enough specialist</p>		<p>through technology and therefore increase in employment opportunities</p> <p>Mutually beneficial joint working arrangements with Community Enterprise Worker Programme</p>

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes
			<p>Audiences attending the community celebration events up to 160 people of all ages x 4 events per year</p>			<p>staff to deal with numbers attending</p>		

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes
SWIMMING LESSONS FOR ASIAN LADIES	£1902 per term Breakdown Lessons £688.00 per term Teachers £164.00 per term Transport £300.00 Management of project £750.00	Programme for 10 participants initially to be run by WDC but managed and developed by Brunswick Healthy Living centre as part of a new physical activity post	To re-establish a 'learn to swim' scheme for women from the BME community. To encourage regular physical activity in a sector of the community that has been identified as at greater risk of Type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular problems and obesity.	Mark Croston Cultural development and Strategy Manager WDC Brunswick Healthy Living Centre	Oct 2008 – April 2009	To address underlying issues for Type 2 Diabetes in this population	Reducing Health Inequalities (priority 1) Creating opportunities for everyone to enjoy and participate in sport the arts and cultural activities PSA target to halt the year on year increase in obesity by 2010 Half and hour of physical activity five times a week LAA target	This scheme is based on a successful project which ran in the district and enabled women from the BME community to access physical activity in a culturally sensitive way.
PARISH PLANNING AND RURAL ENABLING	£10, 275 for 1 – 3 years Funding would allow a full and comprehensive service	Provide support, advice and information to parishes across the district to assist in addressing local issues including the implementation of their action plans dealing with	3 housing needs surveys undertaken 3 parish plans commenced	WRCC Kay Wilson	Sept 08-aug 09	Main risk no continuation funding is secured. Additional risks are - Lack of volunteers willing to	Empowerment Helps to achieve NI 155, 141, 4	Parish plans allow communities to take the lead in determining what their needs and aspirations are and how they would

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes
	<p>for WDC for a period of 12 months which would allow Warwicks hire Rural Community Council further time to identify funding to keep the services going after this period</p>	<p>anything from highways to housing.</p> <p>Identifying housing need via parish planning and housing needs surveys and facilitate the provision of housing through Rural Exception Policy, identification of potential sites and aid in the identification of a Registered Social Landlord who can then bid for funding to develop the scheme</p>				<p>undertake parish plans; Lack of support for housing needs surveys from parish councils</p> <p>Inability to identify appropriate site where a need is identified.</p>		<p>like to see them delivered. This results in them feeling they are influencing decisions in their locality. Identification of local housing needs allows affordable development on exception sites which will contribute to the housing targets and provide opportunities for families to live together in the same village and build community cohesion.</p>

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes
HOUSING MEDIATION SERVICE	£13,400	<p>The project will provide a constructive conflict resolution service to those in dispute, including neighbours, parents and their teenagers, parents and schools and between colleagues at work.</p> <p>Referrals will be received for young people facing immediate or future homelessness because of family disputes. Through the provision of a trained, impartial, skilled mediator who understands the issues facing both the parents and the young people, the project will offer a</p>	<p>100 cases of young people between the ages of 13 – 25 and their families to access the service annually.</p> <p>BASELINES Over a pilot period of one year, 53 cases were received, 33 % had positive outcomes</p> <p>Of the people accessing help for parent /teenager disputes, 71% were female. Significantly, 67% of cases were from female single parent households, 11% male single parents and only 22% were dual parent households.</p>	<p>Alison Simmons, Warwick DC</p> <p>Judith Halliday, Mediation & Community Support Ltd</p>	Jan 2009 – Dec 2009	Continuation funding for future years as awareness of the service grows, which could significantly increase the number of referrals. The nature of some families may mean that longer term support is necessary. Both of the above points will overstretch the planned capacity of the project	<p>NI 1, 4, 6, 21, 50, 69, 71, 87, 110,141 155</p> <p>Access to services</p> <p>Cohesive Communities</p>	<p>Reduction in number of applications for temporary accommodation due to family breakdown in Warwick District. Of the families supported more than half will be single parent families .</p>

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes
		<p>process which helps all involved listen to and understand each others points of view, feelings and needs, giving them the opportunity to identify problems and work on them together, finding realistic and workable ways forward.</p> <p>The objectives of mediation in these cases are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce conflict within the family and improve mutual understanding and communication; • prevent homelessness by enabling young people to stay within the family home or return home where safe to do so; • allow time and 						

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes
		<p>planning for a more supported move out to the most appropriate accommodation for young people unable to remain at home;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> maintain or rebuild longer term support networks. 						
<p>TACKLING OBESITY</p> <p>A solution focused programme involving families with overweight and obese children and young people to help them gain knowledge and skills to</p>	£11,650	<p>Facilitated 9 week healthy lifestyle sessions involving the whole family.</p> <p>Toolbox of materials to be used on the programme £500.00</p> <p>Venue hire £900.00</p> <p>Food and refreshments £1,350.00</p> <p>Staff costs £7,400.00</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation £1,500.00</p>	<p>Long-term aim to encourage healthier lifestyle choices and reduce prevalence of obesity in the local population and cardiovascular risk. To help change attitudes to food and food choices in families.</p> <p>To address the underlying issues for Type 2 Diabetes in young people</p> <p>Total number of families benefiting in</p>	<p>Warks PCT Dr Gordana Djuric (Consultant in Public Health) Deb Saunders (Health Development Manager School Sports Partnership CSW Sport</p>	Feb 2009 – April 2009	<p>Long-term aim to encourage healthier lifestyle choices and reduce prevalence of obesity in the local population and cardiovascular risk. To address the underlying issues for Type 2 Diabetes in</p>	<p>Reducing Health Inequalities (priority 1)</p> <p>PSA target to halt the year on year increase in obesity by 2010</p> <p>Half and hour of physical activity five times a week LAA target</p> <p>5 a day [portions of</p>	<p>Reduction in overweight & obesity in children and young people</p> <p>Improved general health & emotional wellbeing.</p> <p>Successful families will be recruited and trained with the intention of peer mentoring future cohorts</p>

Project Priority Order	£	Process	Targets Set	Lead Org. & Person	Est. Start and finish	Associated Risks	Links to PSB 16 indicators and other key areas	Outcomes
embed healthy lifestyle habits and messages			the first instance - 15			young people.	fruit and veg] LAA target	and delivering further programmes

APPENDIX 2

WARWICK LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Narrowing the Gap Spending Plan – September 2008

Summary

Project	£
1. Community Enterprise Worker – match funding	33,059
2. Hybrid Arts – Access to training and income maximisation for young people	30,000
3. Swimming lessons for Asian ladies	1,902
4. Parish Planning and Rural Enabling	10,275
5. Housing Mediation Service	13,400
6. Tackling Obesity	11, 650
TOTAL	100,286

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008

Narrowing the Gaps Action Plan – Rugby Borough

Report of the Rugby Local Strategic Partnership

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Notes the report, which provides information about the development of a Narrowing the Gaps action plan by the Rugby Local Strategic Partnership
2. Approves the Rugby LSP Action Plan to work towards the 'Narrowing the Gap' agenda.

1 Introduction & Context

The Public Service Board (PSB) at its meeting on 12th March 2008 agreed that £100,000 be allocated to the Rugby LSP for 2008/09 in respect of the 'Narrowing the Gaps' agenda, subject to approval by the PSB, of an appropriate spending / action plan. This report provides a summary of the process undertaken to develop a Narrowing the Gaps Action Plan

2 Development of an action plan

Following the allocation of funding for the purposes of addressing the 'Narrowing the Gaps' agenda, the Rugby LSP began a process to develop a suitable action plan.

At its meeting on the 22nd April 08 the LSP board considered the issue of the Narrowing the Gaps funding and the criteria associated with it. It was agreed that the LSP theme group lead officers would be asked to contact their relevant theme group members and networks to begin to identify possible activities / projects to address the narrowing the gaps agenda.

At its meeting on the 30th June 08 the LSP board considered 16 initial project proposals that had been identified through the theme groups. From those 16 proposals the board identified 8 projects to be investigated / developed further. A sub group was also established to consider the selected projects further and make recommendations to the Board.

Following further consideration by the sub group the final action plan (appendix1) was approved by the LSP board at its meeting on 26th August 08. The action plan consists of four discrete but closely linked projects, namely:

Project	Purpose
<i>Fresh Start</i>	A reduction in those resettled as survivors of domestic and sexual violence returning to the cycle of abuse through practical and holistic support for the whole family
<i>Community Development</i>	The enhancement of Community Development in the priority neighbourhoods of the Borough.
<i>Evolution</i>	Diversionary activities and training/employment opportunities for young people at risk of offending
<i>Financial Inclusion</i>	Financial advice and guidance to reduce the debt spiral

Discussions have taken place with each of the project leads to ensure that where relevant and effective, close links will be made between the four projects and their associated activities.

3 Conclusion

The Rugby LSP board has agreed an action plan to contribute to the 'Narrowing the gaps' agenda in Rugby Borough.

Agenda Item No 4(iv)-a

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September, 2008

Narrowing the Gap

Report of the North Warwickshire Community Partnership

Recommendation:

1. That the PSB approve the North Warwickshire Community Partnership Narrowing the Gap Action Plan.
2. That the PSB note the comments of the covering report.

1. Background

- 1.1 Since May 2008 the Community Partnership has held a number of meetings through which to determine how best to distribute the £100,000 allocated to address the Narrowing the Gap agenda in North Warwickshire. At the Partnership meeting in July, responsibility for production of the Action Plan was delegated to the Vice-Chair of the Partnership.
- 1.2 The North Warwickshire Area Committee agreed at its meeting in July to allocate £50,000 to support Narrowing the Gap initiatives in North Warwickshire during 2008/09. A draft version of the Action Plan was supported by the Area Committee at a meeting on 3rd September. At this meeting the Area Committee agreed to allocate a further £10,891 to assist with a shortfall in funds.
- 1.3 The Action Plan was considered by North Warwickshire Borough Council Management Team on 2nd September. Approval for the Plan is to be sought through the Leaders Group meeting to be held on 22nd September. North Warwickshire Borough Council is also considering whether any further financial support can be found to support delivery of the Action Plan.
- 1.4 The Action Plan, agreed on behalf of the Partnership by the Chair and Vice-Chair, is attached as **Appendix A**. It will be endorsed by the Partnership at its meeting on 18 September.

2. Focus of the NWCP Action Plan

- 2.1 The North Warwickshire Community Partnership Action Plan includes three main elements:
- i. Tackling obesity and encouraging physical activity in Atherstone
 - ii. Raising educational attainment in Kingsbury and the surrounding area.
 - iii. Supporting key work around housing enablers and debt management across the borough.
- 2.2 The projects proposed under each of these headings will provide opportunities to increase community empowerment to enable local people to improve their quality of life by addressing issues such as debt, affordable housing, poor health and education. Some activity will be targeted in particular areas, selected on a needs and opportunities basis. This has been done to ensure the best use of the limited resources available.
- 2.3 Further information in respect of evidence and justification for selecting specific projects/locations and details relating to the projects such as costs, exit strategy and managed risks are contained within the Action Plan.

3. Performance Management

- 3.1 Delivery of the attached Action Plan is dependent on external funding applications, still to be decided. North Warwickshire Community Partnership is very keen to support fully all of the worthwhile projects included in the Action Plan. However, the Partnership has considered a number of options, should further funding not be forthcoming, and will report back to the PSB to advise on amendments to the Plan at the earliest opportunity.
- 3.2 Supplementary information has been collated in support of each of the projects contained within the Action Plan to enable effective monitoring of performance. This includes details on outputs and timescales for the delivery of such and a breakdown of costs.
- 3.3 Funding Agreements will be sent out to relevant agencies leading on successful projects. These will require quarterly and end of project reports to be provided to the Area Committee and NWCP Board who will monitor and evaluate each project against outcomes and milestones to ensure that value for money is achieved. These processes will be based on the paperwork previously used for the allocation of Warwickshire County Council's Well-Being Funding (as both the Area Committee and representatives of the Community Partnership are familiar with such).

- 3.4 In addition, through the Chairs/Lead Officers Group the Partnership will ensure that all of the Partnership Theme Groups are working together to deliver on these cross-cutting projects.

4 Summary

4.1 North Warwickshire Community Partnership welcomes the allocation of £100,000 to address the Narrowing the Gap agenda in North Warwickshire. In response it has prepared an Action Plan identifying projects totalling £184,495 which the Partnership would like to support, subject to the outcome of external funding bids.

4.2 Effective implementation of the Action Plan will help to:

- Improve general health and wellbeing of communities within a disadvantaged area.
- Ensure that resources for skills development, capacity building and community empowerment are made available.
- Provide opportunities to pilot new approaches to addressing key issues in North Warwickshire which, if successful, can be rolled out across the borough.
- Ensure collaborative working between different agencies and organisations.

Through delivery of the Action Plan and development of a new Sustainable Community Strategy for the borough, North Warwickshire Community Partnership will continue to investigate Narrowing the Gap issues and to support initiatives that narrow the gap.

David Clarke
Vice-Chair
North Warwickshire Community Partnership

Narrowing the Gap Action Plan 2008/09

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	LSP Priority 08/09	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
<p>1. Tackling obesity and encouraging physical activity in Atherstone</p> <p>Investing in the improvement of play facilities in the Atherstone area is identified as a priority in the North Warwickshire Play Strategy and Draft Green Space Strategy. Specifically, Area Forum East identified Royal Meadow Drive Recreation Ground as a priority; the lack of facilities/lighting at Royal Meadow Drive causes young people to congregate around nearby shops, especially in the winter, creating anti-social behaviour problems.</p> <p>North Warwickshire is significantly worse than the England average for children getting active, adults eating healthy meals and above average obese adults. North Warwickshire has the 2nd highest estimated number of obese adults out of the 5 boroughs and districts in the county. The borough has almost one third of boys who are either overweight or obese by year 6. The number of obese children significantly increases from reception and year 6.</p>							
<p>The Wellness Matters Project - a rolling 12 week healthy lifestyle programme in Atherstone targeting young people and adults to support them in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.</p> <p>The programme will include healthy eating, weight management, physical activity sessions and advice and guidance. It will include cooking sessions including looking at different ways of cooking healthy meals on a</p>	<p>Terry Leather (Health Improvement Manager, Warks PCT)/ Joanne Rooke (Community Development Officer – Health Improvement, NWBC)</p> <p><i>Health and Wellbeing Theme Group</i></p>	<p>NI 120 All age, all cause Mortality</p>	<p>Enable individuals to make healthier choices / promotion of healthy eating and physical activity.</p>	<p>£15,000</p>	<p>Sustainable sources of funding for ongoing work not secured – <i>suitable funding streams are being identified and applied for.</i></p> <p>Outcomes based on assumption that people participate in programmes – <i>promotion and</i></p>	<p>An existing Action for Wellbeing Project funded for three years will support the delivery of this project.</p> <p>Capacity building will be undertaken within local communities to enable them to continue the</p>	<p>Reduction in overweight and obese people.</p> <p>Increase in the percentage of people who are eating 5 portions of fruit and vegetables per day.</p> <p>Increase in the percentage of people engaged in the</p>

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	LSP Priority 08/09	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
<p>budget.</p> <p>The programme will also look at improving self esteem and confidence and increasing awareness and knowledge around maintaining a healthy lifestyle.</p>					<i>marketing included within scheme to help secure participation.</i>	<p>delivery of activities.</p> <p>Application to be made to funds, such as Warks PCT LDP process in 2009/10.</p>	<p>recommended levels of physical activity.</p>
<p>Royal Meadow Drive Play Area - purchase and installation of play area facilities at Royal Meadow Drive, Atherstone.</p> <p>Despite being a key site in Atherstone the recreation ground currently makes no provision for children or young people. Through this project play equipment suitable for a broad age from toddlers to teens would be installed, along with a multi-use games area and teen shelter.</p> <p>Atherstone is an area with the second highest level of identified child deprivation in North Warwickshire. Provision of these facilities will offer much needed play opportunities for those children and young people</p>	<p>Jaki Douglas (Partnership & Development Manager, NWBC)</p> <p><i>Children, Young People and their Families Theme Group</i></p>	<p>NI 21 dealing with local concerns about anti social behaviour and crime</p> <p>NI 175 access to services and facilities</p> <p>NI 4 % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality</p> <p>NI 1 % of people who believe people from different backgrounds</p>	<p>Reducing anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Continue to develop a better coordinated approach to the provision of services, activities and facilities that meet the needs of children, young people and their families.</p> <p>Encourage and assist children and young people to have a greater</p>	<p>£20,000</p> <p><i>(match: £75,000 secured, outcome awaited on funding bid of £50,000)</i></p>	<p>Inappropriate equipment purchased/sited in the wrong place – <i>consultation to identify local needs.</i></p> <p>Lack of lighting limiting use of play facilities after dark, reducing access to services and potential increase in ASB and criminal damage in and around the local area – <i>SSCF Capital Grant application has been submitted.</i></p> <p>Adverse reaction</p>	<p>Site owned & managed by NWBC & included in their routine grounds maintenance schedules, funded from their revenue budget. A sinking fund is being set up to pay for future replacement.</p> <p>The equipment will be inspected weekly & maintenance will be carried out as necessary. Additional visits will be</p>	<p>Accessible, safe facilities provided for young people</p> <p>ASB reduces in the local area</p> <p>Reduction in fear of crime</p> <p>Increase in number of people who feel people get on in the local community</p> <p>Increased participation in physical activity</p>

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	LSP Priority 08/09	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
		get on well together in their local area.	involvement in the life of their community, to reduce disaffection and promote active citizenship. Promote the benefits of physical activity and provide opportunities to increase participation in physical activity.		from public/lack of support from members - <i>Public consultation with local residents and members.</i> Failure to secure funding – <i>decreased level of play provision will be put on the site.</i>	made during the week to pick litter and maintain cleanliness. An external consultant will carry out an independent safety inspection on an annual basis. Youth workers and diversionary activity staff to provide activities at the location to reduce the opportunity of ASB and ensure the facility is utilised.	
Community Consultants Training – helping local people to have the skills and self confidence to influence local decision making processes. Delivery of a 10 week training course for 15-20 community	Fleur Fernando (Project Development Officer, WCC) Community Life	NI 4 % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality NI 1 % of	Actively promote opportunities to access and take part in voluntary and community activities and	£7,000 <i>(project is part funded through WCC)</i>	Outcomes based on assumption that people participate in programmes –	Trained practitioners work in partnership to run training in Atherstone. Trained	Increased Social Capital available in the community. Encourage participation by local people to

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	LSP Priority 08/09	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
members and one Master Class for 15-20 practitioners in Atherstone. Will cover key skills such as presentation skills, research methods, understanding the community and recruiting others.		people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area.	local opportunities. Engage with the development of Extended Services within North Warwickshire.			community consultants are expected to recruit community members to become actively involved in their local community, hence the project could become self-sustaining within the area of Atherstone.	reduce rural and community isolation, linking to local Area Forums. Increased number of active volunteers at a local level. Increase voluntary groups and community members confidence and expectations.

2. Raising Educational Attainment in Kingsbury and the surrounding area

North Warwickshire is now the worst performing district in the county on GCSE attainment. Kingsbury is one of the lowest 5% of wards across the county where 41% or less of pupils achieved 5+ A*-C GCSE (or equivalent) grades during the academic year 2005/06 (Warwickshire Observatory).

North Warwickshire is the only district in Warwickshire with no designated Local Nature Reserves.

<p>Educational Attainment – working with schools and other agencies within Kingsbury and the surrounding area to raise aspiration, motivation and attainment both of young people and their parents.</p> <p>Project will apply a whole family and community approach to raising educational attainment and widening life views in Kingsbury and the surrounding</p>	<p>Peter Thompson (Senior Schools and Communities Officer, WCC)</p> <p><i>Education and Lifelong Learning Theme Group</i></p>	<p>NI 75 5+ GCSEs A*-C or equivalent including Maths and English</p> <p>NI 117 16-18 year olds who are Not in Education, Employment or Training</p>	<p>Support the supply of learning and skills provision in the borough.</p> <p>Engage with the development of Extended Services.</p> <p>Actively</p>	<p>£75,000</p> <p><i>(Dare to Dream programme costs being met by WCC Extended</i></p>	<p>Outcomes based on assumption that people participate in programmes –</p> <p>Opportunities for voluntary work within the community not yet identified – <i>project will link with North Warks</i></p>	<p>Additional funding would influence the speed at which change can be made though work will continue to be undertaken should no further resources be available.</p>	<p>Increased number of active volunteers at a local level.</p> <p>Increased educational attainment by providing formal and informal learning opportunities leading to</p>
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Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	LSP Priority 08/09	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
<p>villages. It aims to build capacity within the community, to generate momentum and to begin to change mindsets.</p> <p>It will include the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dare to Dream • Notebooks for families • NEETS – peer mentoring for those most at risk • Community Service Project • Youth Motivation • Young Parents into work 		<p>NI 1 % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area</p>	<p>promote opportunities to access and take part in voluntary and community activities and local opportunities.</p> <p>Encourage and assist children and young people to have a greater involvement in the life of their community, to reduce disaffection and promote active citizenship.</p>	<p><i>Services. Possible contribution from Kingsbury School on Youth and Community elements tbc)</i></p>	<p><i>CVS and Volunteer Centre to ensure opportunities can be identified.</i></p> <p>Project not delivered within the timeframe set for NTG – Area Committee Funding can be used over a longer period.</p> <p>Schools decide not to participate in the initiative – Kingsbury School has been a key partner in the development of the proposal.</p>	<p>It is hoped that the outcome of this project will generate interest from the business community and help to lever in support from such.</p>	<p>accreditation/ qualification.</p> <p>Contribution to the reduction of NEETS in the borough.</p> <p>Increased confidence, aspiration and motivation amongst young people within the project area.</p>
<p>Local Nature Reserves Project – creation of informal learning opportunities for young people, particularly those who do not engage well with formal education, and the wider community through participation in conservation work and educational activities within local green space areas.</p>	<p>Zoe Davies (Community Development Officer – Environment, NWBC) <i>Environment Theme Group</i></p>	<p>NI 4 % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality</p> <p>NI 175 access to services and</p>	<p>Protect and enhance open space.</p> <p>Support the supply of learning and skills provision in the borough.</p>	<p>£7,000 <i>(application to Big</i></p>	<p>Outcomes based on assumption that people participate in programmes – <i>young people will be targeted through existing outreach work carried out by</i></p>	<p>Additional funding sought to enable the development of more sites across North Warwickshire. Establishment of the 'Friends</p>	<p>Local Nature Reserve established in the borough.</p> <p>Increase the number of active volunteers at a local level.</p>

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	LSP Priority 08/09	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
Development of Kingsbury Linear Park site as a Local Nature Reserve with an associated 'Friends of' group which will have the chance to decide on how their green space is developed and managed. Opportunities for volunteering will also be developed and young people will be able to work towards the John Muir environmental award scheme.		facilities. NI 117 16-18 year olds who are Not in Education, Employment or Training	Actively promote opportunities to access ad take part in voluntary and community activities and local opportunities	<i>Lottery Changing Spaces Programme to be submitted)</i>	<i>NWBC and Youth Service and links with Kingsbury School.</i> Site fails to be designated as a Local Nature Reserve -	of Kingsbury Linear Park' Group will help to support the future management of this site. NWBC commitment to Local Nature Reserves through Green Space Strategy.	Young people receiving accredited informal training.
Community Consultants Training – helping local people to have the skills and self confidence to influence local decision making processes. Delivery of a 10 week training course for 15-20 community members and one Master Class for 15-20 practitioners in Kingsbury. Will cover key skills such as presentation skills, research methods, understanding the community and recruiting others.	Fleur Fernando (Project Development Officer, WCC) Community Life	NI 4 % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality NI 1 % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area.	Actively promote opportunities to access ad take part in voluntary and community activities and local opportunities. Engage with the development of Extended Services within North Warwickshire.	£7,000 <i>(project is part funded through WCC)</i>	Outcomes based on assumption that people participate in programmes –	Trained practitioners work in partnership to run training in Kingsbury. Trained community consultants are expected to recruit community members to become actively involved in their local community, hence the	Increased Social Capital available in the community. Encourage participation by local people to reduce rural and community isolation, linking to local Area Forums. Increased number of active volunteers at a local level. Increase

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	LSP Priority 08/09	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
						project could become self-sustaining within the area of Kingsbury.	voluntary groups and community members confidence and expectations.
<p>3. Supporting key work around housing enablers and debt management across the borough In May 2006, the Rural Affordable Housing Commission reported on the chronic shortage of affordable housing in rural areas. Citizen Advice Bureau money advisers are currently dealing with £3.2 million of debt and are working at capacity. The need for independent money advice free at the point of delivery has never been greater.</p>							
<p>Money advice and CAB, Money Advise Worker to provide face-to-face debt advice to residents in North Warwickshire.</p> <p>Money advice will be tailored to client needs and will include dealing with financial capability issues, money management, benefits checks and an individual debt repayment plan.</p> <p>The project will address the following local trends: stricter recovery measures by creditors, increases in repossessions, more redundancies, higher levels of personal indebtedness, more bankruptcies, more pensioner clients, more users of high cost credit.</p>	<p>Carol Musgrave (Manager, North Warks CAB)</p> <p><i>Local Economy Theme Group</i></p>	<p>NI 116 proportion of children in poverty</p> <p>NI 152 working age population on out of work benefits</p>	<p>Provision of financial management advice to those in need</p>	<p>£36,495</p>	<p>Sustainable sources of funding for ongoing work not secured –</p> <p>Demand for debt advice not met – <i>clients will be prioritised on a needs basis.</i></p>	<p>Alternative funding sources are being sought to ensure continuation of this level of service in future years.</p>	<p>Additional debt counselling services.</p> <p>Improved physical and mental well-being for clients.</p> <p>Prevention of homelessness by early intervention in the debt spiral.</p> <p>Provision of guidance and support to vulnerable households.</p>

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	LSP Priority 08/09	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
<p>Rural Housing Enabler in North Warwickshire – continuation funding to support the work of the Rural Housing Enabler Project.</p> <p>The project works in partnership with local communities and others to facilitate the development of affordable homes to meet housing needs within rural communities.</p> <p>The aim of the project is to identify local need and potential sites for affordable housing by working closely with village communities, councils, housing associations and landowners.</p>	<p>Kay Wilson (Chief Officer, WRCC)</p> <p><i>Community Life (Housing) Theme Group</i></p>	<p>NI 4 % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality.</p>	<p>Develop a range of affordable housing options to meet housing need in the borough.</p> <p>Deliver position choices to address housing need and homelessness.</p>	<p>£17,000</p>	<p>Sustainable sources of funding for ongoing work not secured –</p> <p>Financial climate could restrict number of homes being built or acquisition of development sites -</p>	<p>Alternative funding sources are being sought to ensure continuation of this project in future years.</p>	<p>Housing needs surveys undertaken.</p> <p>Possible development sites identified.</p> <p>Increase community members confidence and expectations.</p>

Rugby Local Strategic Partnership

Rugby Local Strategic Partnership Narrowing the Gaps Action Plan 2008/09

The Rugby Local Strategic Partnership propose the following project for the allocation of £100,000 to address the Narrowing the Gaps agenda. The project comprises of 4 key areas of work:

1. The enhancement of Community Development in the priority neighbourhoods of the Borough
2. A reduction in the recurrence of domestic violence in the Borough
3. Diversionary activities and training/employment opportunities for young people at risk of offending
4. Financial advice and guidance to reduce the debt spiral

The four key areas of work will function together to ensure that those experiencing the greatest inequalities are able to access services and provision to enable them to raise their quality of life and participate fully in community life. Identifying areas of commonality has been key to the development of this project and it is anticipated that further areas for joint work will emerge as the project develops. This will provide added value to the work undertaken and ensure beneficiaries receive a holistic approach to the issues they face.

An underpinning theme of the project is to increase community empowerment through volunteering, increased civic participation and an increase in the number of people who feel they can influence decision making in their locality. Rugby currently ranks 5th out of the five Boroughs of Warwickshire with regard to this indicator.

Though the project has a Borough wide remit, work will be focussed around the Boroughs 'target neighbourhoods' of Brownsover, Benn, Newbold, New Bilton and Overslade to enable resources to be directed towards those experiencing the greatest inequalities.

The project has been endorsed by the LSP Board and its 6 theme groups. The theme groups will provide support to the projects, ensuring that by working together, their impact is maximised. The LSP Board will monitor and evaluate the project against outcomes to ensure that value for money is achieved.

Measurable outcomes will be recorded and reported through service user feedback, project statistics and statistics from partner organisations/ service providers within the Borough.

The project will be funded to run for one year from November 2008 to November 2009.

The following table shows the Narrowing the Gap indicators as agreed by the Warwickshire Public Service Board.

NI No	LAA Theme	Description
75	<i>Children & Young People</i>	<i>5 + GCSEs A* - C or equivalent including Maths</i>

		<i>and English</i>
116	<i>Children & Young People</i>	<i>Proportion of children in poverty</i>
117	<i>Children & Young People</i>	<i>16-18 year olds who are Not in Education Employment or Training</i>
15	<i>Safer</i>	<i>Serious Violent Crime (inc Domestic Violence)</i>
16	<i>Safer</i>	<i>Serious Acquisitive Crime</i>
21	<i>Safer</i>	<i>Dealing with local concerns about anti social behaviour and crime by the local council and the police</i>
4	<i>Stronger</i>	<i>% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality</i>
1	<i>Stronger</i>	<i>% of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area</i>
120	<i>HCOP</i>	<i>All age all cause mortality</i>
152	<i>Economic Development & Enterprise</i>	<i>Working age population on out of work benefits</i>
163	<i>Economic Development & Enterprise</i>	<i>Working age population with Level 2 qualification</i>
166	<i>Economic Development & Enterprise</i>	<i>Average earnings of employees in the area</i>
175	<i>Economic Development & Enterprise</i>	<i>Access to services and facilities by public transport walking & cycling</i>
195	<i>Climate Change & the Environment</i>	<i>Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter detritus and fly posting</i>

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
<p>Fresh Start</p> <p>Warwickshire Domestic Violence Support Services has evidenced the fact that women and their children having fled domestic violence and been resettled in the Rugby area do not have the skills knowledge and understanding to support sustainable tenancies having been in controlling and disempowering relationships, they feel a sense of isolation.</p> <p>A significant number of these women return to the perpetrator because there is not sufficient and targeted ongoing practical support for them and their children from a range of agencies working in partnership.</p> <p>Our statistics show that there is then a tendency for these families to return to the cycle of an incident of domestic violence being reported the perpetrator arrested and often charged.</p> <p>This project intends to utilise the expertise and resources of all partners to deliver a service that supports families resettling as survivors of domestic violence or sexual violence to sustain their tenancies and integrate themselves and their children into the community</p>	Teri Watts (WDVSS)	NI 116, 117, 15, 16, 21, 4, 1,152 and 163	£35,000	<p>Volunteer co-ordinator not recruited</p> <p>Volunteer Mentors not recruited</p> <p>Programme becomes over-subscribed</p>	<p>The project and evidence gained will form the basis of a bid to continue the project beyond the current funding.</p> <p>By working in a more cohesive way with the other partner organisations, and volunteer recruitment and training, it is hoped that elements of the project will continue without further funding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Co-ordinator recruited • 7 Volunteer Mentors recruited • 7 Volunteer Mentors fully trained to provide support • 20 families supported • Reduction in re-offending rates • Increase in the uptake of benefits • Meetings/drop in sessions delivered in a range of Community Venues • Referrals made to partner organisations and other service providers

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
<p>There is further evidence that the children of in these families are delayed in their social and academic development, the project will support reducing these gaps</p> <p>Current levels of ‘floating support’ are inadequate to support the needs of the victims of domestic abuse, which can in turn lead to them returning to violent partners.</p> <p>Provide a “starter pack” of essential items for clients moving into new tenancies (including furniture, linen and bedding, food pack and cleaning materials pack) to alleviate the problems associated with the wait for the Community Care Grant.</p> <p>Run a Fresh Start! Group for the identified survivors to decrease sense of isolation, enable women to feel supported in finding new school, registering with GP and facilitate input from other agencies such as, health visitors, healthy eating (Warwickshire , Public Health Department Warwickshire Primary Care Trust ROSA) This group will be facilitated by Warwickshire Domestic Violence Support Services through the project manager and trained</p>						

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
<p>volunteers.</p> <p>Instigate Common Assessment Framework on needs basis for children in families</p> <p>Provide a 'handyman service to support women and children moving into new tenancies to carry out tasks such as putting up curtain rails, clearing the garden decorating all of which necessary as evidence shows these practical aspects on being a survivor are the ones which the women cannot cope with</p> <p>Current funding does not enable any support to be given to male referrals, this project will enable support to be offered to male and female victims.</p>						
<p>Community Development</p> <p>This project aims to extend current Community Development provision (Overslade, New Bilton and Brownsover) to the remaining 2 targetted Neighbourhoods within the Borough (Benn and Newbold). Service providers from many disciplines currently view community development workers as a route into the hardest to reach</p>	Dan Green (WCC)	NI 175, 21, 4 and 1	£35,000	<p>Recruitment to a one year provision.</p> <p>Unable to recruit volunteers</p>	<p>Work with Warwickshire CAVA to establish a network of 'Community Anchors' to continue work beyond current funding.</p> <p>Work with</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit 10 key volunteers in the Benn ward. • Recruit 10 key volunteers in the Newbold ward • Improve attendance at the Rugby Town North Community

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
<p>communities in the Borough.</p> <p>The Community Development Officer will work imaginatively to encourage local people to get involved in community life. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging people to get involved in plans to improve the area • Encouraging and supporting people to volunteer in a range of local activities - sustaining, supporting and building on existing volunteer networks • Supporting the development of local initiatives • Helping groups to access funding • Helping individuals and groups access appropriate training • The CDO will be responsible for ensuring that local residents and community activists are empowered within decision-making structures. Liaison with Elected Members will be vital in this regard. • The Officer will encourage people to engage in health improvement activity which will in turn contribute towards reducing the gaps experienced in health inequalities. 					<p>partner agencies to develop a co-ordinated plan and funding package for Community Development in the Borough from September 2009 onwards.</p>	<p>Forum by 15%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a 'Locality Plan' for the Rugby Town North locality (ensuring citizen engagement in all stages of the planning process) • Assist in the development 4 additional Residents Groups • Broker closer working arrangements between partner organisations, elected members and the community • Establish mechanisms for residents to access 5 additional services (outreach work, drop in sessions etc.) • Deliver 3

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
						<p>Community events in each ward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide additional support to individuals referred by WDVSS Fresh Start project • Refer individuals to Financial Inclusion Project and Evolution as appropriate • Engage community with preventative care services, social care services and healthcare provide services specific to local needs. • Residents experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased Community cohesion - Reduced fear of crime - Reduced anti

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
						social behaviour - Reduced isolation
<p>Evolution</p> <p>This project focuses on young people at risk of social and educational disengagement and in particular, although not exclusively, young people at risk of offending, or who are prolific offenders, living on or near the Overslade Estate, New Bilton, Benn and Newbold.</p> <p>Critical components of the success of the project include:</p> <p>That it is completely voluntary for young people. That Peer Mentors known to the participants are part of the support team. That participants are involved in design, delivery and evaluation. Long standing relationships between the key worker and young people and their families. Work with the whole family where appropriate. Meaningful inter-agency working, particularly with the Youth Offending Service.</p>	Lita Thornhill (connexions)	116, 117, 15, 16, 21, 4, 1, 152, 163, 175	£20,000	Volunteer Mentors not recruited	The project and evidence gained will form the basis of a bid to continue the project beyond the current funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of 2 peer mentors • 25 NEETs referred to the project • Individual 'tailored' action plan developed for each young person referred to the scheme • 25 action plans followed and evaluated at exit stage • 50% of referrals progressing on to educational programmes or employment • Additional support provided to young people who's parents are coming out

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
						<p>of a domestic abuse situation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referral to regular volunteering opportunities through Community Development Worker network
<p>Financial Inclusion</p> <p>The Financial Inclusion Project will operate in community settings or from our town centre office. Identifying families at risk by working with partner agencies and then working with those families in raising financial awareness through early intervention activities, initiatives and toolkits. For example; changing attitudes and behaviour to money and debt, doing things differently, exploring why people get into debt, planning ahead, increasing knowledge and skills, motivation and confidence.</p> <p>We would also recruit volunteer mentors across Rugby Borough in partnership with WCAVA Volunteer Centre to support the staff member in the delivery of the Financial Inclusion project.</p>	Clare Montague (WCAVA)	NI 116, 117, 15, 4, 1, 152, 166	£10,000	Not able to recruit Volunteers.	Working closely with WVAVA volunteer centre on recruitment and good practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Volunteer mentors recruited to support staff member 10 awareness raising presentations to community 100 beneficiaries: Fewer families borrowing from traditional doorstep lenders Increase in families having some savings provision Increase in confidence around managing money and

Project Description	Lead Officer	NTG Indicator(s)	Costs	Risks	Exit Strategy	Outcomes
						feeling able to make the right financial choices and decisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in volunteer mentors

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22 September 2008

Report of the Chief and Chair of the Warwickshire Probation Board

Probation and Partner contribution to reducing re-offending

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Notes the probation contribution to crime reduction
2. Notes the contribution that partners make in the provision of accommodation, employment training and education, mental health services and alcohol treatment
3. Notes the needs identified in these areas, current partnership activity and gaps identified.
4. Notes the need to secure future funding to maintain or expand provision with particular reference to;
 - a) a doubling of existing accommodation provision. It is recommended that a County-wide working group of housing authorities and registered social landlords is established to explore possibilities.
 - b) to develop training places for offenders with public service employers.
 - c) to support development of Mental Health Services for offenders through increasing existing funding, year on year, above inflation, over the next five years.
 - d) to maintain funding in real terms for the existing alcohol treatment programme in future years, and explore the potential to expand community alcohol services for offenders.

1. Introduction

Each year, Warwickshire Probation Area

- supervises 1700 offenders given community sentences by the courts
- supervises 300 offenders released from prison under licence

Offenders are required to comply with the requirements of the courts and Parole Board. In the last year:

- 780 offenders undertook unpaid work in the community (61,000 hours worked, valued at £300,000)
- 159 offenders completed an accredited programme

There are 37 places in our hostels (Approved Premises) where offenders are required to live for a period on bail, on a community sentence or on licence following release from prison. The hostels have a night time curfew.

2. Re-offending

Nationally 60% of offenders who have served prison sentences of less than 12 months re-offend within one year. 38% of offenders who have served community sentences re-offend within one year of starting the order. Recent experimental statistics indicate that over a three month period 10.5% of the Warwickshire Probation caseload re-offended. The number of proven offences over the 3 month period was 238.

The majority of crimes are committed by people who have previously offended. So reducing reoffending - the Probation Service's primary aim - can make a big impact on reducing crime - one of the LAA partnership's primary objectives.

However the Probation Service cannot do this on its own. We try to change thinking and behaviour and we have a range of interventions. However national research shows that other key factors that have most impact on reducing reoffending are:

- education, training and employment – 54% of offenders have education, training or employment needs
- improved physical and mental health - 45% of offenders are identified as having problems with emotional well being
- stable accommodation – 37% of offenders have accommodation needs
- reducing drug dependency – 23% of offenders have drug misuse problems
- reducing alcohol abuse – 56% of offenders have alcohol misuse problems
- in many cases offenders have a combination of problems such as drug or alcohol misuse and mental health issues

(Data from Offender Assessment System October 2006 to September 2007)

National research demonstrates that meeting these needs will result in a reduction in re-offending. For example research suggests that addressing severe accommodation problems can make a 20% difference in reducing re-offending.

Offenders' access to many services is inadequate although in recent years there has been substantial improvement in access to drug treatment and access to education. Funding for alcohol treatment has been secured through LAA funding up to 2009 although demand is higher than the resources available. The Police, Probation and Health currently joint fund a Mentally Disordered Offenders scheme which provides access to community psychiatric nurses for people arrested in police cells. The scheme seeks to divert appropriate offenders to mental health treatment. The

community psychiatric nurses also provide services to people on community sentences and on release from prison. These services are currently under resourced. Through Supporting People there has been a small increase in accommodation for offenders including supported accommodation. However there is a continued need for additional accommodation and move on accommodation from the approved premises. If offenders have unstable, unsuitable or no accommodation, it can be extremely difficult to work on other problem areas such as alcohol, drugs or employment.

3. What we need from partners and our priorities

3.1 Access to accommodation and additional supported accommodation

Warwickshire Probation Area is represented on the Supporting People Commissioning Body and the Core Strategy Group. The current spend on offenders or people at risk of offending is approximately 3% of the overall Supporting People grant. It is likely that offenders are also beneficiaries of other SP supported services such as those provided for people with alcohol, drug or mental health problems.

Current provision for offenders includes 43 bed spaces in supported housing, plus 12 floating support places, in the south of the County. In addition there are five preferred tenancies provided by Warwick District Council (primarily for 'difficult to place' high risk offenders), and a new floating support service for 10 to 14 offenders in the north of the county. A new property in Rugby will provide an additional three bed spaces and offenders will also be able to access the new generic floating support service in place across the county. A review of SP provision for offenders is due to take place in the autumn 2008 as part of the overall strategic review of all SP services.

An ongoing problem for probation is obtaining suitable accommodation for offenders where the lack of it has been assessed as a contributory factor in their offending. Finding 'move-on' accommodation for high risk offenders following a period in probation managed approved premises is also a significant problem.

Probation assessment data from (Offender Assessment System October 2006 to September 07) indicates at least 253 offenders in Warwickshire with accommodation as a contributory factor towards their offending – 37% of the assessed caseload.

A doubling of existing provision would go some way towards meeting the identified need. It is suggested that a County-wide working group of housing authorities and Registered Social Landlords is established to explore possibilities. This would provide a similar but county wide approach to the existing forum in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

3.2 Access to training and job opportunities

Warwickshire Probation Area employs a small number of information, advice and guidance workers who are able to assess offender needs for education, training and employment. The IAG workers then 'signpost' offenders towards provision. The National Offender Management Service allocates £70k to purchase offender provision through the Offenders' Learning and Skills Service (OLASS) and this is

provided through a local partnership with Warwickshire College, and the county adult learning services. Our staff also work with other organisations, including JobCentre Plus, to place offenders into employment. Over the years Probation has been successful in obtaining European Social Funding to support this area of our work.

There is the potential for considerable further development in raising the educational standards of offenders and equipping them for employment. In order to do this Probation would require further assistance in ensuring that offenders can access mainstream educational provision. This might involve education providers increasing their direct contact with offenders whilst subject to probation supervision. There are significant opportunities to provide tuition to offenders as part of community payback (unpaid work) initiatives. Contacts established during the supervision period are more likely to be developed further post-supervision within mainstream education.

Probation assessment data from (Offender Assessment System October 2006 to September 07) indicates at least indicates 371 offenders in Warwickshire with a lack of employment, training, or education as a contributory factor towards their offending – 54% of the assessed caseload.

A possible means of increasing employability of offenders would be to develop training places for offenders with public service employers so that when job vacancies arise, ex-offenders would be in a stronger position to compete for them.

3.3 Improved access to mental health services with funding secured.

The Warwickshire Multi-Agency Mentally Disordered Offender Scheme has been in existence for several years. It is jointly funded scheme (police, probation, social services, health, and for the current year courts services) that acts as a court diversion scheme as well as providing assessment and treatment of mentally disordered offenders. The scheme is staffed by 2.5 (fte) community forensic psychiatric nurses. Such schemes are recognised nationally as being an important resource although their availability is limited.

Although the service has been operating in Warwickshire for several years there has been no significant increase in funding from partner agencies over this period. This is currently raising concerns about the future viability of the scheme. There is a real need for a specialist mental health service to work with offenders who through their behaviour present a risk of harm to themselves and others at a significant cost to local communities. This type of intervention can help assure that offenders receive the treatment they require. However, existing funding from current partner agencies will not be sufficient to maintain this service.

Within the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it is possible for courts to sentence offenders with mental health problems to a mental health treatment requirement. This provision is rarely used due to the limited availability of suitable treatment options.

Probation assessment data from (Offender Assessment System October 2006 to September 07) indicates at least 309 offenders in Warwickshire with emotional difficulties (an indicator of mental health needs) as a contributory factor towards their offending - 45% of the assessed caseload.

PSB support in development of Mental Health Services for offenders would be welcomed, in particular to increase existing funding year on year above inflation over the next five years.

3.4 Improved access to alcohol treatment services with funding secured.

Within the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 there is also a sentencing option of an alcohol treatment requirement. This can be used where alcohol has been assessed as a significant contributory factor to offending. Warwickshire is one of a minority of probation areas in the country where this option is available. At present £35,000 is provided through the LAA Safer Block to fund this intervention but this funding is not guaranteed for future years. The current provision is available to offenders who are assessed to require the intervention by both probation staff and the treatment provider – Swanswell Trust. The requirement involves an offender attending 12 treatment sessions within a six month period. There were 79 requirements made in 2007/08. The treatment is a non-clinical intervention. There is very limited availability of tier 3 and 4 services. In addition to the alcohol treatment requirement offender managers advise Offenders with identified needs to attend Community Alcohol Services. However, without a specialist offender referral scheme there is no guarantee of attendance.

Probation assessment data from (Offender Assessment System October 2006 to September 07) indicates at least 383 offenders in Warwickshire with alcohol problems as a contributory factor towards their offending – 56% of the assessed caseload.

The PSB is invited to maintain funding in real terms for the existing alcohol treatment programme in future years, and explore the potential to expand community alcohol services with specialist provision for offenders.

4. Conclusion

Probation works with offenders on Community Orders or Licence from prison to address their offending behaviour and attitudes and thinking that supports the behaviour. Research also shows that addressing accommodation, education, training and employment, mental health and substance misuse will have a significant impact on reducing re-offending and overall crime levels. Partners can make a valuable contribution towards crime reduction by working with Probation to provide these services. It is unlikely that giving offenders priority access to services would be the public's priority but reducing crime is, and if we can reduce reoffending by giving all offenders good services then we will make a significant contribution to crime reduction.

Liz Stafford Chief Officer of Probation, Robin Verso Chair of the Probation Board (5 September 2008)

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008

“Hear by Right”

**Report of the Lead Officer within Children Young People and Families for
Involving Children and Young People in Decisions**

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. and its member organisations adopt Hear by Right (or Warwickshire Award for Involvement for voluntary sector organisations) as the approved nationally recognised indicator to demonstrate young people’s involvement in decision making.
2. supports the proposal for establishing young people’s panels to work alongside new locality forums

1. Introduction and context

- 1.1 “Hear by Right” is a tried and tested standards framework for organisations across the statutory and Third sectors to assess and improve practice and policy on the active involvement of children and young people (11+ years old) in decision-making processes around services affecting them. It is recognised by the LGA and Government departments as an excellent tool to map and then plan the development of young people’s involvement in local decision making. A simple overview of Hear by Right, a young person’s version, is attached as an Appendix
- 1.2 "Participatory Budgeting: a draft national strategy – Giving more people a say in local spending" is a Government consultation paper (consultation ended 10th June) exploring how to give local people a real say in budget setting by 2012. The paper makes reference to the “Duty to Involve” coming into force in 2009 (Section 138, Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007) and there is specific reference to the role of Youth Services and the Youth Opportunity and Youth Capital Funds. In Warwickshire these are excellent examples of young people’s active involvement in decision making.
- 1.3 Linked to the above, new guidance on the Youth Opportunity and Youth Capital Funds has been published, replacing previous guidance issued in March 2006. It sets out the policy context and aims, strategic management

and monitoring arrangements for the funds, local authority funding allocations and includes monitoring templates. In respect to this discussion it also suggests that local authorities use the Hear by Right standards to review their young people engagement strategies.

- 1.4 “Aiming High for Young People: A 10 year strategy for Positive Activities” (March 2008) contains specific reference “that young people are actively shaping decisions on 25% of funds devoted to Positive Activities” by 2018.
- 1.5 The Children, Young People and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee established a cross-party working group to ‘scrutinise’ Youth Participation and the achievement of Hear by Right. Councillors Dill-Russell, King and Shilton were nominated to form the Working Group and have held several meetings with officers. The Working Group has been monitoring progress against the actions in the plan presented to the Committee in December 2006 and, more recently, the “Learning to Listen, Listening to Learn” Children’s Trust participation strategy. The realities of, and mechanisms for, involving children and young people have been central to those discussions.
- 1.6 In Warwickshire, the Children and Young People’s Plan contains a specific target, agreed by the Children and Young People’s Partnership, of achieving the Hear by Right *Established Standard* (i.e. the mid Standard) by 2010. The Children and Young People block of the Local Area Agreement (LAA) contains the same target though there is no target for other aspects of the LAA or for Warwickshire County Council itself.
- 1.7 This situation could be considered to be against the principles of a single Authority and its partners working towards a common goal – the full inclusion of the community and service users, including young people, in influencing decisions. The Working Group was of the view that Warwickshire County Council should lead by example and set out a clear commitment to achieving the Hear by Right Standard.
- 1.8 Hear by Right is considered too complex for small voluntary sector organisations resulting in the nationally acclaimed “Warwickshire Award for Involvement” (WAI) being developed initially by Children Fund, the Youth and Community Service and WCVYS. The Youth and Community Service currently facilitates WAI with a training programme and support provided through a designated part-time worker. The role of WAI has been clarified as the appropriate tool that would enable smaller voluntary sector providers to demonstrate good practice and their commitment to involving children and young people in decision making.
- 1.9 With the development of locality planning and community forums, the Scrutiny Working Group has suggested that there is a good opportunity to revise current mechanisms for involving young people via the establishment of young people’s panels to work alongside and with the proposed community forums. To progress such a model, it would be advantageous if the partners involved with the LAA worked towards the same nationally recognised standard to demonstrate their commitment to genuine involvement of young

people. Hear by Right is considered to be the appropriate tool for this. To progress this issue, the Working Group is of the view that the Public Service Board should be used as the mechanism to progress a partnership commitment to Hear by Right and to establishing youth locality forums.

2. Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Committee 8th July 2008

2.1 The following recommendations were unanimously agreed:

- That the Committee considers requesting that Cabinet adopt a target of Warwickshire County Council achieving Established Standard against “Hear by Right” by 2011.
- That the Committee supports a recommendation that the Public Service Board and its member organisations adopt Hear by Right (or Warwickshire Award for Involvement for voluntary sector organisations) as the approved nationally recognised indicator to demonstrate young people’s involvement in decision making.
- That the Committee supports the proposal for establishing young people’s panels to work alongside new locality forums and asks the Public Service Board to consider progressing this issue

3. Recommendations to the Board

3.1 The purpose of this report is to seek support from all LAA partners to assess their involvement of Children and Young People against a nationally recognised standard, develop their practice and to support a consistent county wide framework for the involvement of young people in general issues that may affect them.

3.2 The following recommendations are therefore presented for approval:

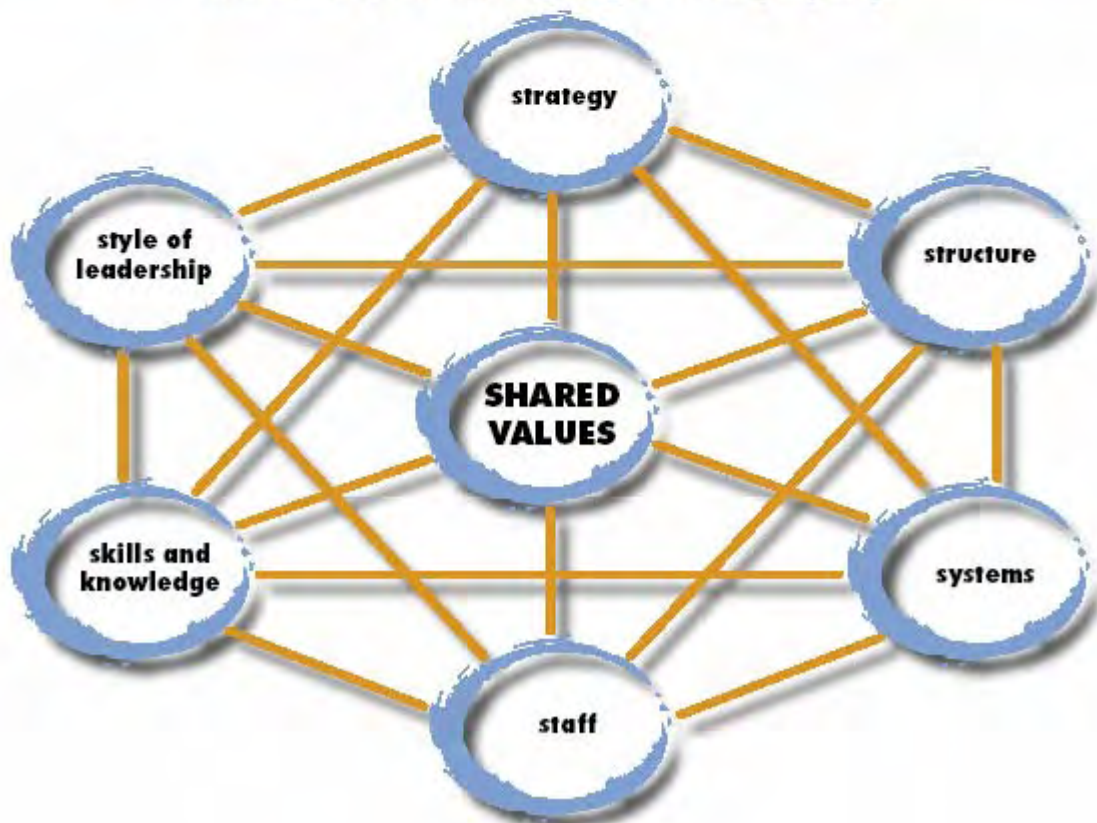
- That the Board: and its member organisations adopt Hear by Right (or Warwickshire Award for Involvement for voluntary sector organisations) as the approved nationally recognised indicator to demonstrate young people’s involvement in decision making.
- That the Board supports the proposal for establishing young people’s panels to work alongside new locality forums

Peter Hatcher
County Youth and Community Officer

Building the active involvement of children and young people



Is like building a house. Everything has to be done right and come together. It's no good having big fancy ideas and plans, but not having the skills to build soundly. And there's no point having the skills if there's no plan that's going to work properly.



We're here to stay. We have a right to take part in building our lives here and now and for the future. We are not pawns in an adult game. There are so many reasons why we need to be involved in decisions that are about us:

We are here – we're not invisible

We want to be involved – we've got loads to offer

We live here too – and we use lots of services like schools, health, parks and leisure, roads and transport ...

Loads of decisions affect us

We have a right to be involved and taken seriously

Everyone benefits from us having a say and getting involved:

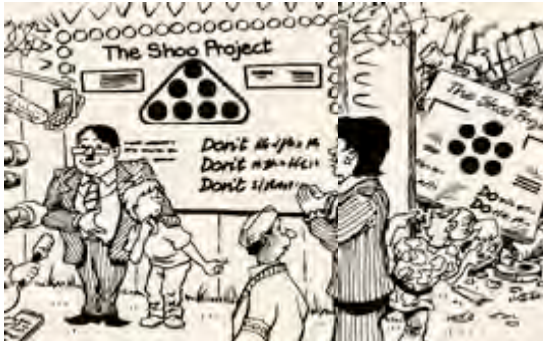
Children and young people

Organisations and services

The wider community

We are a big part of the present and we are 100 per cent of the future

And we have ways to make sure we are involved - properly. To do this right, here is what we think needs to happen. We think that there are **seven important building standards to help adults and children and young people work well together and do a good job developing our active involvement.**



➤ Shared values – WHAT EVERYONE BELIEVES

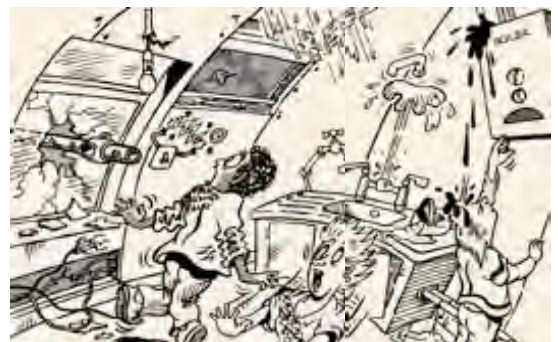
We expect that throughout the involvement of children and young people, there are clear shared values where everyone is respected and is treated equally, with honesty, openness and sharing of information.

➤ **Strategy – THE PLAN** We expect a strategy for the active involvement of children and young people that is simple, easy to understand, that works for the children and young people involved, is exciting and challenging and is young people friendly.



➤ **Structures –
THE SCAFFOLDING** We expect effective structures for hearing our ideas and helping us take part, which are useful, reliable and simple and include a wide range of children and young people.

➤ **Systems – THE MACHINERY** We expect strong and reliable systems to be in place (like transport and money) that make it possible for us to get involved easily and safely and which use technology in a friendly way.





➤ **Staff – THE WORKERS WHO BUILD** We expect all staff we meet to be good at their jobs and hard working, but also understanding, trusting and extremely friendly. They must also be fair and not patronising.

➤ **Skills and knowledge – THE WORKERS' SKILLS** We expect staff to have skills that are varied and useful, including teamwork and getting on with children and young people. We expect children and young people to have the chance to develop our skills as well.



➤ **Style of leadership – THE BOSS** We expect that there should be a simple, fair and friendly style of leadership. There should be not just one leader and everyone should be able to be involved in all decisions.

What next?

- Is your area, organisation or group serious about involving children and young people?
- How are they making sure they do it well? Are they using Hear by Right?
- You could write a letter, phone or e-mail the boss or key contact to find out what they are doing. Ask them how your ideas and views can be taken seriously.
- Use the Hear by Right map and plan for children and young people to get your views heard.
- curvesLet us know how you get on.

Hear by Right briefing for children and young people was created and written by Alex Renouf, Chris Griffin, Lee Hitchings and Natalee Riley, 2004; with thanks to Dorset Youth and Community Service and to Brick for illustrating the building site of active involvement.

You can contact us via the Active Involvement team at The National Youth Agency: Tel: 0116 242 7406. E-mail: activeinvolvement@nya.org.uk Website: www.nya.org.uk/activeinvolvement

Agenda Item No 7

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008

Comprehensive Area Assessment Joint Inspectorate Proposals for Consultation – Summer 2008

Report of the Chair of the Public Service Board

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Board:

- Approve the consultation response to the Joint Inspectorates subject to any additional comments made at the PSB meeting.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In late July the Joint Inspectorate issued its third consultation document on the proposed approach to the new Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) representing the joint approach proposed by the following inspectorates:
- Audit Commission
 - Commission for Social Care Inspection
 - Healthcare Commission
 - HM Inspectorate of Constabulary
 - HM Inspectorate of Probation
 - Ofsted
 - HM Inspectorate of Prisons
- 1.2 The proposals contained within the consultation document build on responses to the earlier consultation documents as well as the first round of CAA pilots, which took place in Hampshire, Thurrock, Tees Valley and Barking and Dagenham. In response to this, the updated proposals take a simpler approach combining the original proposals down to just two assessments.
- 1.3 This consultation paper sets out the Joint Inspectorate's proposals on the form the assessment will take and the issues they will cover. It explains how evidence will be gathered and how this information might be used to identify where inspection or support for improvement may be necessary.
- 1.4 The consultation closes on the 20th October 2008.
- 1.5 In light of the focus that the proposed CAA framework places upon partnership working, in particular the Local Area Agreement, it was felt a Warwickshire wide response should be submitted to the Inspectorates. Warwickshire County Council has collated the feedback to the consultation, which has informed the draft response attached at Appendix A. Responses have been limited from

partners and therefore the discussions today will be extremely important to ensure a collective view of the proposals is fed back to the Inspectorates.

- 1.6 A workshop is taking place on the 19th September to consider Warwickshire's preparedness for CAA to which representatives from Warwickshire's local authorities have been invited. Facilitated by the Improvement and Efficiency Partnership West Midlands (I&EP WM), the workshop will also consider what support is needed from the I&EP WM and how we can identify and mitigate against potential risks. An addendum will be tabled at the meeting updating the PSB of the outcomes from this meeting.

2.0 What is CAA?

- 2.1 CAA aims to provide the first holistic independent assessment of the prospects for local areas and the quality of life for people living there. It involves a forward-looking assessment of the prospects for the future achievement of shared priorities by Councils and other local partners. It plans to bring together the work of seven Inspectorates to provide an overview of how successfully the local organisations are working together to improve what matters in each place.
- 2.2 CAA is to be introduced in April 2009 with the first reports to be published in November 2009, replacing the following current assessment frameworks:
- Comprehensive Performance Assessment framework (CPA),
 - Children's Services Joint Area Reviews,
 - Annual Performance Assessments of Children's Services
 - Social Care star ratings for Adult Social Care
- 2.3 It is intended to be an innovative way of drawing together information to show how well residents are being served by their local services. It will give people a clear and impartial assessment of how successfully local organisations are working together to improve the quality of life in their areas.
- 2.4 The consultation recognises that what matters locally varies from place to place and CAA will take account of this and look at the issues that are most important to local communities. CAA is therefore very much focused on outcomes and how well local public bodies work with each other, the private and voluntary sectors, other organisations working locally, and their local communities.
- 2.5 The proposals envisage a streamlined framework involving two assessments:
- **The Area Assessment** – a qualitative assessment of the prospects for improvement, focusing primarily on the LAA. It will be reported as a narrative and flags will be used to draw attention to performance issues and innovative practice
 - **The Organisational Assessment** – for all councils and fire and rescue authorities this will be made up of a 'Use of Resources' judgement and a 'Managing Performance' judgement.

- 2.6 Alongside the consultation document, the Joint Inspectorates have also published a prototype CAA reporting tool. This exemplifies how the inspectorates propose to report CAA in a way that is increasingly accessible and of interest to the local community. It can be viewed at <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/caa/consultation.asp>.
- 2.7 CAA will be based on a more on-going relationship between inspectorates and localities. Mary Ann Bruce has been appointed as Warwickshire's Comprehensive Area Assessment Lead (CAAL), and the consultation document envisages that the CAAL will have a strong ongoing dialogue with the area, building a thorough understanding of the locality.
- 2.7 Whilst the drive behind CAA is to reduce the inspection burden and associated costs, the option for service specific inspection remains. The CAA process itself would typically trigger such inspections. Alternatively they could be triggered through other reporting mechanisms that highlight poor performance or risk.
- 2.8 A summary of the consultation produced by the LGA is attached at Appendix B.

3.0 The Consultation Process

- 3.1 As partnership working is at the heart of the drive towards CAA, a Warwickshire wide response to the consultation has been coordinated by the County Council to be endorsed by the Public Service Board.

Date	Warwickshire Activity
w/c 11 th August	Letter and executive summary of consultation sent to PSB members and PSB Advisory Forum inviting responses to the questions contained within the CAA Consultation document.
1 st Sept	Deadline for responses to be received by Warwickshire County Council for collation and generation of a report for consideration by the PSB.
PSB meeting (22 nd Sept)	PSB consider the joint response to CAA consultation
Before 21 st Oct	<i>Partners formally endorse the response (agreed by the PSB) through their own decision making bodies</i>
16 th Oct	WCC Cabinet to formally agree response to CAA consultation.
20 th Oct	Deadline for consultation responses to be received by Audit Commission.

Appendix A.

Q.1. Do you broadly agree with our proposals for the overall CAA framework?

We welcome the move to a more proportionate, outcome focused and area-based approach to assessment. However, the consultation lacks detail of how CAA will look and feel in practice therefore making it harder to respond to the consultation. It still comes across as very much work in progress.

Clarity around key areas remains ambiguous such as sustainability, the role of Peers, and engagement with the Political Leaders at the local level.

Close work between all inspectorates involved is vital if CAA is to deliver real benefits. We will be interested to see how the individual inspectorates will work more effectively together.

The aspiration to have a joined up inspection process has been weakened significantly since the last round of consultation. This seems to be most apparent with the continuation of Children and YOT inspections in a format which appear to have a separate life to CAA. We also understand that PCTs are subject to a new performance framework and we would question how this fits into the proposals outlined.

Furthermore, it is apparent that this piece of consultation has weakened some of the strong elements of the first piece of consultation which we saw as a move from silo based to cross cutting judgments, along with a dilution of issues surrounding accountability within partnerships.

Q.2. Are the area assessment and the organisational assessment, as the two key elements of the framework, clearly explained?

Yes.

Q.3. Is the link between these two assessment clear?

The strategic level of the two frameworks is clear although as already mentioned, the detail of how they will link together at a working level remains unclear. For example, it is unclear how performance differences between Organisations will be made clear at the area assessment level. The question of accountability remains open to wide interpretation in the two tier areas.

Although paragraph 84 states that the complexities of two tier areas will be taken into account, the text does not demonstrate how this will work in reality. Councils, rightly, provide the democratically-accountable leadership in partnerships, but they should not be held disproportionately responsible for other partners performance. The link between CAA and the LAA Annual Review is not clear.

It is not clear what happens when the approach widens to look at an area wider than the LAA. For example in the delivery of a sub-regional initiative, can we identify the influence that one local authority is having in the delivery of the sub regional priorities? In this case, can the performance (and organisational assessment) of

Local Authority X influence the Area Assessment covering Local Authority Y?

Q.4. Do you agree that the three questions and supporting issues (see Appendix 1) proposed for the area assessment are the right ones? If not, please suggest alternative questions and / or issues.

Yes. We welcome the move towards assessing the impact and outcomes as opposed to management and processes.

We welcome the move away from a generic set of requirements and the commitment to tailoring the area assessment to local priorities and local political decisions.

However, there will need to be an understanding of the differences and complexities in two tier areas. The absence of a requirement to produce one overall sustainable communities strategy in two tier authorities **is** an issue.

Questions of accountability remain and the consultation document makes little attempt to address these.

In measuring the outcomes of the LAA, CAA needs to be mindful in taking into account national drivers and be able to balance this against local drivers and ambitions.

Q.5. Do you agree that we should use the green and red flag approach for reporting the area assessment? If not, please suggest an alternative approach.

We recognise that an overall star rating or judgment for an area masks many areas of strength or weakness and welcome the flag approach to reporting. We hope that it will lead to a greater degree of sharing good practice across all public sector agencies.

Q.6. Do you agree that we should have one overall organisational effectiveness judgement, drawn from integrating the managing performance theme and the use of resources themes?

Yes. Performance and use of resources are inextricably linked and as such should be considered together.

Q.7. Do you agree with our proposals for the key questions and focus for the managing performance theme of the organisational assessment for:

a) Councils?

b) Fire and Rescue services?

a) We welcome the focus of the managing performance theme but would seek greater clarity on how the managing performance element will look and feel in reality. It is unclear how a 'score' will be reached for this element.

b) There is a concern that the inspection burden will not be reduced for Fire and Rescue as UoR continues alongside the new managing performance element. This will be increased further with the development of the Peer operation Service Delivery Assessment – being developed jointly by the Chief Fire Officers Association and Chief Fire and Rescue Advisors Unit.

Q.8. Which of the three options for scoring the organisational assessment should we adopt? If you disagree with all the options, please propose an alternative approach to scoring.

There must be higher levels of transparency as to how views are arrived at, the “scoring” systems still suggest that this will happen behind closed doors and has been a fundamental weakness of the CPA from the start.

We feel that a verbal qualitative judgement would be more meaningful than a score. However of the three options outlined, we would advocate the use of a rule based approach to scoring the organisational assessment.

Q.9. Do the proposals provide for an appropriate focus to be given to people in vulnerable circumstances?

Yes.

As already highlighted in Q.1, it is important that all additional inspection activity carried out to do with vulnerable groups, such as the safeguarding work of Ofsted, needs to be closely linked with the CAA to ensure they are not separate and unrelated pieces of work. It should not be simply a continuation of the current JAR and YOS inspection processes.

The appointment of a CAA lead will bring benefits including local knowledge to the CAA process. It is important that the differences facing each local community are appreciated and this is perhaps most noticeable in the work undertaken in areas to support those people in vulnerable circumstances.

Q.10. Do you agree that CAA should evolve over time?

Yes. All methods have to evolve, but its start point needs to be from a more informed position than these proposals suggest. We appreciate that a degree of evolution is essential to ensure that the CAA framework is fit for purpose but at the same time would welcome stability in the core methodology and aim of CAA.

Concerns have been raised as to whether timetabling changes will lead to an elongated transition from CPA/JAR to the CAA, which would get in the way of the need to inject pace and purpose into local partnership working.

Q.11. Do you broadly agree with the ways we are proposing to use the National Indicator Set within the CAA framework?

We welcome the incorporation of the National Indicator Set as a key evidence source rather than a separate narrative report. It is important that this is used effectively to support other evidence sources to provide a rounded picture.

However we are concerned that some of the NIs are still loosely defined at present and we still need to bottom out which indicators we as statutory or public bodies report on as it is not just the NIs.

Q.12. Do you support our proposals to report the assessments as set out in our draft reporting tools [prototype CAA reporting tool](#)? If not, please suggest alternative proposals for reporting.

The reporting tool appears thorough.

It is important for individual areas to work together to feed the results to local citizens through mechanisms such as resident newsletters, local press and websites and tailor the information where appropriate to specific groups.

The 'Comparison against other areas' section requires further work to be of even greater benefit to local residents, perhaps through a visual comparison against our statistical family, rather than simply links to other areas assessment results.

Q.13. Do you agree with our proposals for peer involvement? If you have other suggestions about this, please outline your ideas.

The inclusion of Peers in the CPA process gave a useful added dimension to the assessment process. However, it is vital that the Peers – both Member and Officers have the relevant expertise, knowledge and capacity to contribute to the process e.g. Peers with experience of interagency partnership working.

The time commitment of Peers needs to be realistic to get the most suitable people to take part. A panel working closely with the CAA lead would seem the most sensible approach. We feel that this is one area of CAA that will evolve and improve with time.

Q.14. Do you agree with our approach to self –evaluation?

This will mark a change in the way that local authorities have previously approached self-evaluation and self-assessment and the support of organisations including the IDeA and LGA to ensure that this is a robust approach and a useful exercise is welcomed.

This should be encouraged not only for CAA but to raise public sector organisations ability to realistically self assess, identify gaps in performance and aid improvement planning. It is important to ensure that this becomes part of the day job and not a onerous one off activity. Mutual support between public sector bodies will be vital to bring together the best approaches to self-evaluation.

Q.15. Do you agree with our approach to gather relevant information from sources such as Citizen's Advice Bureaux and Regional Business Forums? Are there any other sources we should consider?

We would also like to see greater interaction with locally based voluntary and community groups as well as user forums. The Place Survey will be vital and it is therefore important that in two tier areas, local authorities work together to ensure that it is a robust and valuable exercise.

We welcome the increased emphasis placed on overview and scrutiny reviews and would like to see further detail of how this will work in practice.

Comprehensive Area Assessment – LGA On the Day Briefing – 29 July 2008

Latest proposals for CAA go a long way to deliver White Paper ambition, but some concerns remain.

Summary of proposals

- The Inspectorates have today published their second joint consultation paper setting out proposals for CAA, which will be introduced with effect from April '09.
- CAA will assess those outcomes delivered by councils working alone or in partnership e.g. health and well-being, community safety, children's and older people's services, etc.
- CAA will replace CPA, Children's services JARs, APA of services for children and young people and social services star ratings. Performance frameworks for specific services (e.g. schools, colleges, police, probation and health and social care) will continue.
- CAA represents a fundamental change in the way councils and their partners are assessed. It involves a forward looking assessment of the prospects for the future achievement of shared priorities by the council and other local partners.
- The proposals envisage a streamlined framework involving two assessments
 - the area assessment - a qualitative assessment of prospects for improvement, focussing primarily on the LAA. It will be reported as a narrative and flags will be used to draw attention to performance issues and innovative practice;
 - a scored organisational assessment for all councils and FRsAs (alongside organisational assessments for other partners e.g. PCT health check).
- CAA will change the way inspectorates engage locally – moving from rolling programmes of on-site inspection to an on-going relationships with local areas.
- The Inspectorates will look for high quality local performance management data, take account of any locality self assessments and only undertake inspection activity where necessary – CAA will therefore be inherently proportionate.

LGA key messages

- As the best performing part of the public sector we welcome external challenge that helps us and our local partners to learn and improve. CAA offers a real opportunity to help councils deliver better outcomes with their local partners and to reduce the burden of regulation.
- The proposals address the white paper ambition for a more outcomes focussed and area based assessment, in particular through the forward looking area assessment.
- The proposals are ambitious and reflect what the sector has been calling for but time will tell whether the principles that underpin CAA can be turned into practice.
- This will require councils to seize the opportunity and become a confident, self determining sector that drives its own improvement through increased self-awareness, self-assessment and robust performance management.
- It will also require inspectorates to genuinely take a proportionate approach where there is evidence of robust performance management and have the skills and capacity to conduct credible assessments. It will require GOs to not duplicate the role of CAA lead in assessing performance and it will require government departments to send consistent messages to partners around the centrality of the new performance framework.
- Whether CAA will actually deliver a reduced burden in practice, allowing scarce resources to be re-directed towards delivering improved outcomes, remains to be seen. We are concerned about the potential scope of the managing performance assessment and are not yet convinced that the scope of the Use of Resources assessment has been significantly reduced. We are therefore keen to see what the trials teach us.

The remainder of this briefing provides a chapter by chapter summary of the consultation paper (along with initial LGA views) and some frequently asked questions.

briefing

Comprehensive Area Assessment: Joint Inspectorate proposals for consultation – Summer 2008.

As well as publishing their proposals for CAA the Inspectorates have also made a prototype reporting tool available. This exemplifies how the Inspectorates currently propose to report CAA and is an important aid to understanding how CAA could work. The consultation paper and prototype reporting tool are available on the Audit Commission website at <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/caa/consultation.asp>

In addition CLG have published an accompanying document “Roles and responsibilities in the local performance framework” which provides some context for the roles of GOs, Inspectorates, national improvement architecture and RIEPs, etc as they develop. This will be available on the CLG website at www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/frameworkrolesresponsibilities

Chapter 1 – How will CAA be undertaken?

- CAA is a joint inspectorate assessment, inspectorates will share information at national and local level, CAA leads (appointed by the Audit Commission) will help co-ordinate local assessments and local teams. CAA will be based on a more on-going relationship between inspectorates and localities (replacing the inspection “event”).
- Inspectorates will gather evidence from a range of sources – including the national indicator set – throughout the year. CAA will draw as far as possible on the information used by councils and partners to manage their own performance – taking full account of self assessments. The Inspectorates will only undertake additional work to fill evidence gaps where necessary. The evidence base will be updated throughout the year.

LGA view:

- We welcome the overall approach, the intention to rely on high quality local data – including local self assessments, which we feel should be the starting point and will help ensure inspection is proportionate.
- Much of the initial evidence gathering in the first phase will be “desk based”. Whilst this will help reduce the burden it is somewhat at odds with the idea of new style more on-going relationship with the Inspectorates. CAALs will have an important role in managing expectations.
- The evidence base on which Inspectorates will make their judgements should be open and available to councils and their partners. Evidence that informs inspectorate judgements must be transparent and open to challenge.
- Councils and partners should be able to contribute and comment on draft judgements – so that there are no surprises.
- We are keen to retain peer involvement in CAA and, with IDeA, will be exploring options for achieving this with the trial sites.

Chapter 2 – The Area Assessment

- The Area Assessment is a qualitative assessment focusing on the prospects for future improvement. It will take the LAA as its starting point but will not be constrained by it.
- The assessment will focus around three overarching headings
 - How well do local priorities express community needs and aspirations?
 - How well are the outcomes and improvements needed being delivered?
 - What are the prospects for future improvements? (this question will draw on the answers to the previous two questions. It reflects the main purpose of the area assessment).

The issues underpinning these headings are set out in an Appendix to the consultation paper.

- The Inspectorates will use “flags” to draw attention to performance issues. A red flag will indicate that significant concerns about outcomes, performance or future prospects are not being adequately addressed. A red flag would not be raised if the council and its partners are effectively tackling the issue. The Inspectorates will develop a formal procedure to allow challenge to the award of red flags. Green flags will indicate where others have something to learn from innovative or exceptional success in an area.

- There will be a clear link between the area assessment and organisational assessment to ensure that accountability is attributed properly.

LGA view

- We welcome the forward looking nature of the area assessment and agree that the main focus should be on the third question – which is the forward looking element;
- The area assessment should not question the political priorities set by localities and agreed with government through the LAA process. It should challenge whether these priorities are being delivered, but not whether they are the right ones.
- CAA should be a tool to drive improved partnership capacity and the area assessment should include the capacity of partnerships to deliver.
- We agree that the area assessment should not be scored and that it should be reported as a narrative. Red flags should only be raised where there are concerns about the delivery of LAA outcomes – not wider priorities.
- We are concerned about how quality assurance can be integrated in the Area Assessment – particularly around the raising of red flags. We have proposed that the opportunity be taken during the trials to test the involvement of peers to resolve flag disputes, with an emphasis on fairness rather than consistency.

Chapter 3 – the organisational assessment

- There will be a single, scored, organisational assessment for all councils and fire and rescue authorities. It will comprise two assessments:
 - Managing performance – a joint inspectorate judgement of the council assessing how well performance is managed.
 - Use of Resources – an Audit Commission assessment. The methodology for this assessment has already been published separately by the Audit Commission.
- The assessments will be reported in a single short report to be published at the same time as the area assessment.
- The managing performance assessment will focus on how well the council is delivering services, outcomes and sustainable improvement in local priorities. It replaces the proposed for a Direction of Travel assessment. For shire districts (and fire and rescue authorities) this will be an Audit Commission assessment.
- The Inspectorates are consulting on three scoring options, two of which involve bringing the two assessments together in a single score.

LGA view:

- The managing performance assessment is not outlined in detail. We are concerned that the scored nature of the assessment will require a set of KLOEs, which in turn will create a complex assessment process and an unacceptable additional burden.
- We are not convinced that a significant reduction in the scope of the Use of Resources assessment has been made.

Chapter 4 – Reporting CAA

- The Inspectorates will publish, annually a joint report of the area assessment for each area covered by an LAA as a concise summary with a longer more detailed report with links to underlying information. A prototype reporting tool is available on the Audit Commission's website.
- Red and Green flags will be used to draw attention to performance issues – links will be made to the appropriate organisational assessments to support accountability.
- The organisational assessment for councils and FRsAs will be published at the same time.
- Performance against the national indicator set will also be published.
- Reports will be published in November each year – to inform the LAA review and priority and budget setting - with a formal opportunity for the council and local partners to comment.

LGA view:

- We welcome the intention to report the area assessment as a narrative and not to score it. The narrative should carefully balance good and bad – to avoid CAA becoming a deficit model. The purpose of red flags is to identify issues requiring further action - the language used should be non judgemental.
- Whilst we understand the on-going nature of inspectorate engagement with localities envisaged by CAA we still think that the time allowed for discussion of the draft report

with councils and partners is too tight.

- Councils already inform and engage their citizens in a number of different ways. Given the potential value of CAA to local people, councils should consider how to link their own website to the eventual CAA reporting tools.

Chapter 5 – Inspection and Improvement planning

- Apart from two rolling programmes of inspection – for children in public care and safeguarding and for Youth offending teams other inspection activity will be triggered by the area and organisational assessments.
- The inspectorates are committed to working with GOs, RIEPs etc so that inspection planning is co-ordinated with wider improvement planning, with the aim of ensuring a coordinated and coherent approach to improvement planning.
See also CLG’s accompanying document “Roles and responsibilities in the local performance framework”

LGA views

- We welcome the desire for a coordinated approach to improvement planning (including triggered inspection). Councils are responsible for managing their own performance and improvement and for driving the performance of the LSP. They must be at the heart of the improvement planning process.

Timetable for the development and introduction of CAA

- Now to mid October – consultation on second joint consultation document setting out inspectorates’ detailed approach to the CAA plus trials in ten areas (Barking and Dagenham, Birmingham, Hampshire, Kirklees, North Tyneside, Nottinghamshire, Stockport, Thurrock, Torbay, and Westminster).
- October/November: analysis of responses and experience of trials.
- February ‘09: final CAA framework document to be published, plus analysis of responses to the July CAA consultation.
- February ‘09: final CPA annual performance assessments published.
- November ‘09: first set of CAA results to be published.

How can your council get involved in the development of CAA?

There is a real opportunity to influence the shape of CAA and we would encourage all councils to play a full and active part in its development by:

- Discussing the proposals widely in your area with members and partners – consider involving your CAA lead (they have been provided with a standard presentation and supporting material from the Audit Commission).
- Responding to the CAA consultation by 20 October – please send your comments to the LGA as well as to the Audit Commission, at info@lga.gov.uk
- Attending the LGA Conference on CAA, to be held on 10 September <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/events/events-list.do>
- Attending one of the joint Inspectorate regional workshops on CAA – more information will be available on the Audit Commission’s website shortly.
- Offering to commit resources to help develop the sector offer on area based self assessment. Contact Mandy James, CAA Programme Development Manager, IDeA mandy.james@idea.gov.uk
- Joining the IDeA Policy and Performance reference Group <http://www.communities.idea.gov.uk/welcome.do>

Further information: For further information on this briefing please contact Nick Easton on 0207 664 3278 email nick.easton@lga.gov.uk.

To keep up-to-date on the LGA’s work on CAA and the wider improvement agenda subscribe to the LGA’s monthly Improvement newsletter. Simply send an email to improvement@lga.gov.uk with 'subscribe' in the 'subject' field.

CAA – some common Questions and Answers

During our discussions with councils and the Inspectorate there have been a small number of questions that are raised on a regular basis. Whilst recognising that we are still in the development phase of CAA and that there can be no definitive answers at this stage, we have set out the questions and answers, below, in the hope that they may be helpful.

We understand that the Audit Commission intend to place some additional Questions/Answers on their website.

How will CAA strengthen local accountability?

CAA will provide a joint inspectorate assessment of outcomes for people in an area and a forward look at prospects for sustainable improvement. The accountability of individual organisations will be addressed through the link between the area assessment and the organisational assessment. It is proposed that this works in two ways

- a flag in the area assessment will be reported in more depth in the relevant organisational assessment and may impact on the organisational assessment scores;
- similarly concerns or positive indicators arising from the organisational assessment which very significantly impact on outcomes will be reported in the area assessment and may result in a flag.

How will CAA apply in two tier areas?

Organisational assessment: In two tier areas both county and district councils will be subject to an organisational assessment. This assessment will comprise a managing performance assessment and a Use of Resources assessment (undertaken by the Audit Commission). For single tier and county councils the managing performance assessment will be a joint inspectorate assessment. For shire districts (and fire and rescue authorities) it will be an Audit Commission assessment.

Area assessment: this assessment looks at the delivery of priority outcomes (in the LAA and county and district sustainable community strategies) taking the LAA area as its starting point but with a capacity to scale up to a wider (region or sub regional) area or focus in on a smaller (district or parish) area. Where a red flag is raised around a particular priority then it will identify why that is the case – and if it is attributable to a lack of action by either the county council, district council or a partner then being clear about it. Equally it will identify exceptional outcomes and attribute their achievement. The prototype reporting tool illustrates how this could be achieved.

National Indicator set: performance against the indicators in the national set will be published annually.

How will CAA reduce the burden of inspection?

CAA will attempt to do this in a number of ways.

- The council's organisational assessment will replace the CPA corporate assessment, children's services joint area review, annual performance assessment of services for children and young people and social services star ratings for adult social care – though other performance frameworks will continue to exist alongside CAA;
- the scope of the Use of Resources assessment has been, slightly, reduced but the Audit Commission has said that its approach will be risk based and that high performing organizations can expect to have less work undertaken on the assessment than poorly performing organizations;
- apart from a small number of rolling programmes, inspection activity will in future be triggered by the area or organisational assessment and
- the process of conducting CAA will be less burdensome. CAA will:

- pool existing publicly available data about the area from a wide range of sources;
- draw as far as possible on the performance management information used by the council and its partners to manage performance. It will take full account of self assessments – the more robust the self assessments the greater the reliance that will be placed upon it. Where the same evidence is relevant for both the area and the organisation assessment, it will only be collected once;
- the Inspectorates will develop a more on-going relationship with localities, replacing resource intensive inspection events and will only undertake additional work to fill evidence gaps where necessary;
- where the evidence identifies potential causes of concern then it may be necessary to gather further information – but this will be coordinated by the Audit Commission.

However it may not be possible to tell whether there is a real reduction in burden until CAA goes live since it will also depend on how the CAA lead role is defined; how other frameworks develop and align with CAA and the volume of triggered inspection.

How can I ensure my council (and partners) are ready for CAA?

There are a number of steps that can be taken

- The prime focus of the area assessment is around the delivery of outcomes and prospects for future delivery. In one sense then the best preparation for CAA is to ensure that the council and partners are on track to deliver the priorities in the LAA and sustainable community strategies;
- CAA represents a fundamental change in the way councils and their partners are assessed – moving away from solely focusing on the past performance of the council towards a forward looking assessment of the prospects for the future achievement of shared priorities by the council and other local partners. The council has an important role in ensuring that this ambition is properly understood at local level – with members and senior officers across local partnerships;
- CAA will place greater emphasis on the quality of local performance management data – it is important that there are effective performance management arrangements in place across the partnership and that it is delivering high quality data;
- The Inspectorates will take full account of council/partner's own assessment of performance – consider using the IDeALGA self assessment tool to undertake an honest self assessment across the partnership. Work with the national improvement bodies and the Regional Improvement and Efficiency partnership to put in place any necessary support;
- CAA will place importance on citizen and customer views – it will be important that you can demonstrate you have the mechanisms in place to understand community needs, priorities and service delivery expectations and how you are responding to them
- Develop a positive and constructive relationship with your CAA lead.

IDeALGA support offer will be launched at the LGA CAA Conference on 10 September.

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008

Area Based Grant Joint Scrutiny Panel

Report of the Chair of the Area Based Grant Joint Scrutiny Panel

Recommendation

The Public Service Board is recommended to endorse the recommendations of the Area Based Grant Joint Scrutiny Panel outlined on page 6 of this report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As part of the Council resolution agreeing the allocation of Area Based Grant (ABG) for 2008/09, the County Council requested that a joint scrutiny exercise be undertaken to review the 2008/09 allocations prior to the County Council beginning its budget deliberations for 2009/10.
- 1.2 The joint scrutiny exercise was carried out in July 2008. The membership of the Area Based Grant Joint Scrutiny Panel:

Cllr Chris Davis, Warwickshire County Council (Chair)
Cllr Sid Tooth, Warwickshire County Council
Cllr Bob Crowther, Warwick District Council
Ian Francis, Warwickshire Police Authority
Cllr Vaughan Owen, Warwickshire Association of Local Councils
Gillian Entwistle, Warwickshire Primary Care Trust

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 Whilst the Panel does not question the value of the work being undertaken or the commitment of officers to achieve and make improvements in services, the Panel is of the view that a number of changes could be made to the ABG allocation process in order to further support the work and commitment shown. In considering the evidence, the Panel identified three key issues that should be taken into consideration in future allocations of the ABG. These are the structure of allocations, the level of funding and the demonstrable impact of the allocations. The section below outlines each of these in turn.

Structure of Allocations

- 2.2 Whilst it was agreed that 2008/09 would be a transitional year, with funding allocated in line with historically ring-fenced grants, the Panel is of the view that this is not the most efficient or effective way of allocating the funding. In the discussions with Heads of Service it became apparent to the Panel that the previous structure of ring-fenced grants has created fragmentation and stifled innovation, as services have inevitably sought to spend grants in line with strictly defined grant regulations. Despite increased flexibility, there is still a strong adherence, both in practice and culture, to the former nature of the funding allocations. This needs to be addressed.
- 2.3 The Panel recognises that whilst ABG is not ring-fenced, Government departments are still to some extent attempting to direct how ABG is allocated and spent. This particularly appears to be the case with the Department for Children, Schools and Families, where targets have been set in relation to former funding streams and Services will continue to be measured against these targets. Therefore, the message that funding is no longer ring-fenced needs to be reinforced and Services encouraged to think innovatively about how they spend funding allocated to them. Inevitably, increased flexibility in allocating ABG, does not negate the statutory requirement to deliver services and to meet associated service standards. However, the Panel is of the view that statutory requirements could still be achieved through a less structured and more streamlined approach. The Panel recommends that the future allocations of ABG should be structured in larger themed pots, thereby enabling Services to have greater flexibility in determining how funds should be spent. For example, there are currently numerous streams of grant funding allocated to the Education Partnerships and School Development Division, within the Children, Young People and Families Directorate, which relate to school improvement. The Panel is of the view that a single themed pot for School Improvement would be more beneficial and allow the Division to use funding more holistically and flexibly. This approach was welcomed by several Heads of Service.
- 2.4 By developing larger thematic pots, a greater link will be possible between the LAA and the allocation of ABG. This will not be achievable if funding remains linked to historic allocations. Moreover, this approach will allow overarching issues to be more effectively targeted. For example, in considering the evidence submitted in the individual submission forms for each grant and in discussions with Heads of Service, it became apparent to the Panel that alcohol misuse has a significant impact upon a number of services and priority outcomes, including educational attainment, mental health and road accidents. However, under historic allocations alcohol misuse has not been given sufficient priority or sufficient resource to address the increasing problem effectively. In line with the recommendations made by Warwickshire County Council's Children, Young People and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Panel recommends that alcohol misuse should be given the same priority by Warwickshire County Council and Partners as drug misuse. Greater flexibility in the structure of allocations would enable easier prioritisation of overarching issues such as alcohol misuse, whereas under historic funding allocations this would not be the case.

2.5 The Panel suggests that the following themes could be considered for the allocation of ABG in 2009/10.

Theme	
School Improvement and Support	Children, Young People and Families
Empowering Children, Young People and Families by tackling disadvantage and providing focussed support	Children, Young People and Families
Supporting Independent Living	Adults, Health and Community Services
Social and Community Care	Adult, Health and Community Services
Safe and Sustainable Travel	Environment and Economy
Narrowing the Gap	Local Strategic Partnerships

2.6 In addition to funding becoming more thematic based, the Panel is of the view that in future allocations of ABG, a clear distinction will need to be made between elements of funding that should support countywide services and those elements that should target specific communities in order to narrow the gaps. The Panel recognises that this change will require a cultural change among all partners. To start this cultural change process, the Panel recommends that in 2009/10 services should be required to link more closely with Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP's), demonstrating more local consultation and a greater focus on local issues in order to receive ABG.

Level of funding

2.7 Whilst the Panel recognises the need for levels of funding made through ABG to be reviewed, the Panel does not feel in a position to make any direct recommendations regarding the appropriateness of current levels of funding or possible levels of future funding. The reasons for this are outlined below:

- It was difficult for the Panel to identify which services are statutory requirements and at what level such services should be provided. An example of this is the School Improvement Partners (SIPs), where the statutory requirement to provide SIPs is clear, but the provision of five days per year for every school appears to be guidance rather than a requirement.
- It was difficult to make any assessment of the appropriateness of current funding levels without ascertaining what proportion of total funding being directed at a particular outcome, ABG represents. Whilst information regarding additional funding through Warwickshire County Council's base budget was made available to the Panel, it was difficult for the Panel to identify the level of funding partners were spending in relation to each LAA block.
- Inevitably, all Heads of Service maintained that they were currently operating at the absolute minimum level of resources and the Panel is

of the view that Officers are best placed to assess the resources necessary to achieve targets.

2.8 Despite being unable to make direct recommendations regarding future levels of funding, the Panel is strongly of the view that decisions regarding future funding levels need to take the following issues into consideration:

- Future allocations should reflect where services currently in receipt of ABG are expected to become self-sustaining, for example the Extended Schools Programme, and should decrease in amount over time.
- Funding for some grant streams is expected to reduce in future years, for example the Road Safety Grant, and plans should already be in place to address this, for example through increasing efficiency.
- Funding for some grant streams is expected to increase in future years, for example the Mental Health Capacity Act funding is expected to increase by 27% in 2009/10.
- There are existing requirements upon all services to make efficiency savings on an annual basis.
- There are a number of grant streams that are currently funding lengthy contracts with external service providers, for example Connexions and the Rural Bus Subsidy. The level of funding for such contracts will need to be closely reviewed when contracts are due for expiry. In the example of the Rural Bus Subsidy, contracts with bus operators are due to expire at different points in time, therefore the level of funding will need to be reviewed on a rolling programme.
- Levels of funding should be linked to demonstrable impact on LAA targets and Narrowing the Gaps.
- The impact changing demographics will have upon services will need to be taken into consideration. For example, the ageing population will inevitably place pressure upon services relating to dementia and support for carers.

2.9 Additionally, the Panel recognises the need to address the sustainability of the “top-up” funding which has been allocated to the Local Strategic Partnerships (£800,000) for 2008/09 in support of the Narrowing the Gap agenda. The Panel is of the view that the sustainability of this funding could be achieved by top slicing all grant money by 5% in order to redirect this resource to the Local Strategic Partnerships in order to further progress the Narrowing the Gap agenda. The Panel acknowledges the dangers of top slicing and it was agreed that this could only be done with an evaluation of the levels of alternative funding in order to ensure that there are no situations resulting in current gaps widening or new gaps being created. The Panel recommends that the Public Service Board require Directorates to demonstrate the impact of a potential top slicing of 5% on the themed pots for the 2010/11 allocation. This would reinforce the move away from historic allocations and would inevitably require Services to prioritise and think more holistically and laterally about funding. This exercise should be carried out as part of the 2009/10 allocation process. The Panel recommends that LPSA2 Reward Grant could

be used to facilitate the transition over the next year to this new way of funding for 2010/11.

- 2.10 Redirecting funding towards the LSP's could also be achieved by requiring greater contributions from partners, identifying efficiency savings by working more closely with partners and identifying other efficiency savings in how services are delivered.

Demonstrable Impact

- 2.11 As the ABG for 2008/09 continues to be allocated in line with historically ring-fenced activities, it is currently difficult to directly link ABG with the priorities in the LAA. Therefore, in considering the impact of the 2008/09 ABG on LAA targets and other priorities, the Panel found it difficult to isolate the exact contribution made by ABG funding. This is attributable to two factors. Firstly, many of the grant streams appeared to have an accumulative effect, where numerous activities were contributing to the achievement of LAA targets or other priorities. For example, the majority of grant streams held within the Children, Young People and Families Directorate indirectly impact upon targets such as raising educational attainment but it is difficult to identify the impact which individual activities and services have on such targets. Secondly, in many cases ABG funding is not the only funding supporting an activity or service, making it difficult to identify the proportionate contribution made by the allocation of ABG. The Panel is of the view that future ABG allocations should be more closely linked to the achievement of LAA targets or other priorities. Whilst this can partly be achieved by allocations being structured into larger themed pots as outlined above, there is also a need to ensure more effective performance management relating to the allocation of ABG. The Panel recommends that future allocations of ABG should be linked to clearer measures of impact and outcomes, with services being required to develop actions plans specifically outlining how ABG will be spent, the associated outcomes and direct contributions to LAA targets and other performance indicators. Clearer measures of impact will be able to guide future decisions regarding allocations.

Future Scrutiny of the LAA

- 2.12 The Panel agreed that the scrutiny review of ABG had been a useful exercise and an excellent example of partnership working. In considering possible future scrutiny of the LAA the Panel thought that the following points should be taken into consideration:
- The need to shift the focus to addressing specific targets rather than taking a holistic view of the entire LAA.
 - Quarterly performance reports of the LAA should be used to identify potential issues for in-depth partnership scrutiny on specific targets
 - The need to engage Block Leaders of the LAA in the process of scrutiny, in order to get a clear picture across all partners.
 - It is preferable that a standing body, with pre-determined membership and meeting dates, be established in order to avoid difficulties

experienced in setting up a joint panel at short notice and to enable a body of expertise to be developed.

Recommendations

- A** In order to move away from historic funding patterns, future allocations of ABG should be structured in larger themed pots. The Panel suggests that this structure could include the following themed pots: School Improvement and Support, Empowering Children, Young People and Families by tackling disadvantage and providing focussed support, Supporting Independent Living, Social and Community Care, Safe and Sustainable Travel and Narrowing the Gap.
- B** The message that funding is no longer ring-fenced should be reinforced and services encouraged to think innovatively in how they spend their funding allocations.
- C** Future allocations of ABG need to include a clear distinction between funding that should support countywide services and funding that should target specific communities in order to narrow the gaps. To encourage a cultural change in order to achieve this balance, in 2009/10 Services should be required to link more closely with Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP's), demonstrating more local consultation and a greater focus on local issues in order to receive ABG.
- D** Decisions regarding future levels of funding need to take the following into account:
- The need for services to move towards self-sustaining funding
 - The expected decrease in some grant streams
 - The expected increase in some grant streams
 - Existing requirements upon all services to make efficiency savings on an annual basis
 - Contractual arrangements with external service providers
 - Demonstrable impact on LAA targets and Narrowing the Gaps
 - The impact changing demographics will have upon services
- E** As part of the 2009/10 allocation process the Public Service Board require Directorates to demonstrate the impact of a potential top slicing of 5% on the themed pots for the 2010/11 allocation
- F** A general exception should be made for 2009/10, to allow LPSA2 reward grant to be used to manage the transition towards the new way of funding proposed by the Panel's recommendations for 2010/11
- G** To ensure effective performance management, there should be clearer measures of impact and outcomes around the use of ABG. Included in this should be a requirement on Services to develop action plans specifically outlining how ABG will be spent and the associated

outcomes and demonstrable impact upon LAA targets or other priorities.

H The Panel identified alcohol misuse as a cross-cutting issue and agreed that alcohol misuse needed to be given the same priority as drugs

I Any future scrutiny of the LAA should be undertaken by a standing body and with pre-determined membership and meeting date, and should focus on specific priorities.

3. Background

3.1 From April 2008, the majority of local authority grant funding from central government will now be allocated on a three-year basis to allow for stability in planning and delivering of local services.

3.2 The Local Government White Paper outlined the new approach to local authority funding as being underpinned by three strands:

1. A non-ring-fenced General Grant for the provision of core services, calculated by a formula and distributed to local authorities according to need.
2. A non-ring-fenced Area Based Grant, allocated according to specific policy criteria, as opposed to a formulae.
3. Ring-fenced Specific Grant funding for exceptional cases where there is a recognised need to direct resources in a specific way.

3.3 Prior to the introduction of Area Based Grant, local authority grants were ring-fenced for specific purposes. However, local authorities are now free to allocate Area Based Grant as they see fit in order to support the delivery of local, regional and national priorities, including, although not exclusively, the achievement of LAA targets. In Warwickshire, the Area Based Grant includes the sum of those grants already pooled as part of the Warwickshire LAA Pooled Grant, other existing grants received by Directorates for specific purposes and a number of new grants to enable the County Council to meet new statutory requirements. The allocation of Area Based Grant to Warwickshire County Council for 2008/09 amounted to £22.151 million (including a late allocation of £88k).

Allocations of the ABG for 2008/09

3.4 In discussing the allocation of ABG, Cabinet agreed at its meeting on 21st February 2008, that 2008/09 should be viewed as a transitional year, with ongoing commitments in terms of staffing and contracts being met and these allocations only being confirmed for one year.

3.5 In March 2008 Warwickshire County Council approved the allocation of the Area Based Grant for 2008/09. This allocation was based on the principles discussed by the Public Service Board (PSB) at its meeting in November 2007. Essentially, these principles were to ensure that ongoing staffing and

contract commitments for partners were met and that any remaining ABG be allocated in line with historic spending, subject to demonstrating to the PSB that the spending will be contributing to the narrowing the gap agenda. Full allocations of ABG for 2008/09 are outlined below. The purpose for each grant is outlined in Appendix C.

- 3.6 It was agreed that £7.306m be allocated to Adult, Health and Community Services Directorate to meet the existing commitments outlined below:

Table 1.1

Grant	Allocation £000
Carers	1,674
Adult Social Care Workforce	1,078
Mental Capacity Act and Independent Mental Capacity Advocate Service	141
Mental Health	1,145
Preserved Rights	2,572
Supporting People Administration	323
Learning and Disability Fund	373
Total	7,306

- 3.7 It was agreed that £2.900m be allocated to Children, Young People and Families Directorate to meet the existing commitments outlined below:

Table 1.2

Grant	Allocation £000
Choice Advisors	25
Schools Improvement Partners (SIP)	252
Education Health Partnership	81
Extended School Start-Up Costs	446
Sustainable Travel General Duty	42
Schools Development Grant	748
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)	606
Children's Fund	125
14-19 Flexible Funding Pot	130
Teenage Pregnancy (Respect Yourself)	159
Children's Social Care workforce	119
Extended Rights to Free Transport	167
Total	2,900

- 3.8 It was agreed that £2.847 be allocated to the Environment and Economy Directorate to meet the existing commitments outlined below:

Table 1.3

Grant	Allocation £000
Detrunking	389
Road Safety Grant	1,415
Rural Bus Subsidy	1,043

Total	2,847
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3.9 It was agreed £5.686m be allocated to the PSB to deliver priorities of the new LAA, subject to the existing commitments of £5.260m being met, as outlined below:

Table 1.4

Grant	Committed £000	Uncommitted £000	Total £000
Connexions	4,220	-	4,220
Positive Activities for Young People	159	-	159
Primary National Strategy Central Coordination	268	5	273
Secondary National Strategy Central Coordination	253	-	253
Secondary National Strategy Behaviour and Attendance	125	1	126
Safer and Stronger Communities Fund	164	420	584
School Travel Advisors	71	-	71
Total	5,260	426	5,686

3.10 It was agreed that £0.493m be allocated to Directorates to meet the new mandatory requirements outlined below:

Table 1.5

Statutory Requirement	Allocation £000	Relevant Directorate
Local Involvement Networks	212	Performance and Development
Child Death Review Process	47	Children, Young People and Families
Care Matters White Paper	234	Children, Young People and Families
Total	493	

3.11 It was agreed that £0.945m be allocated to the services below, in addition to the funding allocated for existing commitments outlined in Table 1.2 and Table 1.3. This was in line with a previous decision made by Cabinet on 13th March 2008.

Table 1.6

Title	Allocation £000
Extended Schools	590
Road Safety Grant	355
Total	945

3.12 It was agreed that £1.886m be allocated as outlined below, subject to services demonstrating to the PSB how the spending contributes to Narrowing the Gap. This funding was also subject to the production of a satisfactory exit strategy.

Table 1.7

Title	Allocation £000	Relevant Directorate
Carers	294	Adult, Health and Community Services
Adults Social Care Workforce	144	Adult, Health and Community Services
Mental Capacity Act and Independent Mental Capacity Advocate Scheme	76	Adult, Health and Community Services
Mental Health	44	Adult, Health and Community Services
Choice Advisors	10	Children, Young People and Families
Education Health Partnership	24	Children, Young People and Families
Schools Intervention Grant	163	Children, Young People and Families
Schools Development Grant	265	Children, Young People and Families
Children's Fund	815	Children, Young People and Families
14-19 Flexible Funding Pot	23	Children, Young People and Families
Teenage Pregnancy (Respect Yourself)	28	Children, Young People and Families
Total	1,886	

3.13 It was agreed that an additional £1 million be allocated from the “virtual bank” in anticipation of the reward grant being received in relation to LPSA2 targets. These allocations are dependent upon a satisfactory exit strategy being produced prior to any funding being released.

- £400,000 was allocated to Nuneaton and Bedworth LSP in respect of their Narrowing the Gap bid
- £100,000 was allocated to each of North Warwickshire, Rugby, Warwick, and Stratford LSP's, subject to the resources being used to support the Narrowing the Gap agenda in their communities. This funding is dependent upon the PSB approving an action plan.
- £200,000 was allocated to the LAA Safer Communities Themed Block.

3.14 In addition to this, in June 2008 Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet considered a report that explained how the Council had received an additional amount of funding as a result of part of the former Young Persons Substance

Misuse Partnership Grant now being incorporated into the Area Based Grant. The Cabinet resolved that the £88,851 late allocation of Area Based Grant for Young Persons Substance Misuse be allocated to the Children, Young People and Families Directorate for 2008/09 only.

- 3.15 All the 2008/09 allocations of ABG and top-up funding, along with purposes of the allocated funding, is attached in Appendix C.
- 3.16 The County Council has received indicative allocations of the ABG for 2009/10 and 2010/11. Currently, it is estimated that £33,228,809 will be allocated for 2009/10 and £32,606,919 will be allocated for 2010/11. The major change from 2009/10 will be the inclusion of the Supporting People Grant, which will approximately £10m. A detailed breakdown of these indicative allocations is attached as Appendix B.

4. Objectives and Scope of the Review

- 4.1 The objectives of the Area Based Grant Scrutiny Review were to:
1. Give those in receipt of ABG in 2008/09 the opportunity to:
 - a. Make clear the purposes of the former funding stream.
 - b. Describe the citizen outcomes achieved through the current use of resources.
 - c. Describe the contribution of the work funded by the ABG to the new Local Area Agreement and other local priorities including Narrowing the Gap.
 - d. Outline the consequences for the LAA and other priorities of partial or complete disinvestment from the services currently funded.
 2. To consider the availability of resources other than the ABG to support / enhance the work (including resources from partners outside of the County Council).
 3. To consider identifying those elements of the ABG which on the one hand related to LAA outcomes / partnership activity and on the other hand those which related to core functions of the County Council which are single agency and bear no relationship to partnership / LAA activity.
 4. Establish a basis for future joint scrutiny of the LAA.
- 4.2 The scrutiny exercise focussed upon the £22,151m ABG allocated by Warwickshire County Council and the additional £1m funding allocated from the “virtual bank”. Therefore, elements of the ABG which were not allocated by the County Council were not included in the exercise, for example, specific ABG funding allocated to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council in relation to community cohesion.

- 4.3 To narrow the scope to the review, the Panel agreed to exclude 5 funding streams from the scrutiny exercise. Those elements excluded and the rationale for exclusions are outlined below.
- 4.4 Supporting People Administration (£322,635)**
The Supporting People Administration allocation contributes towards the cost of administering the Supporting People Programme. For 2008/09, whilst the administration grant is part of ABG, the funding for the Supporting People Programme itself is not. With a programme of over £10 million, funding the cost of administering the programme is required and could not run without it. The administration grant has therefore been excluded from the scrutiny exercise, and it is proposed that the PSB and County Council consider this funding alongside the funding for the Supporting People Programme itself, which becomes part of ABG in 2009/10.
- 4.5 Preserved Rights (£2,572,323)**
The allocation for preserved rights provides financial assistance in discharging the County Council's responsibilities for meeting the costs of residential care for people with preserved rights from before 2002/03. This allocation is used to fund the care of named people who were in residential care homes before April 2002. The grant is decreasing by approximately 4.5% per annum in line with the decline in the numbers of people with preserved rights. This is a mandatory liability that will remain with the County Council, albeit decreasing on an annual basis and has therefore been excluded from the scrutiny exercise.
- 4.6 Local Involvement Networks (£212,137)**
This ABG funding enables the County Council to deliver its mandatory responsibility to commission a public involvement in health scrutiny service. A three-year contract has been let to provide this service, in line with the funding included in the ABG. As this service must be delivered on an externally commissioned basis, the cost cannot be avoided and has therefore been excluded from the scrutiny exercise.
- 4.7 Detrunking (£389,105)**
This allocation is to provide support in recognition of the Authority's responsibilities for the routine maintenance of roads that were previously the responsibility of the Highways Agency. The roads for which this funding is provided are the A45 (£101,842) and the A423 (£287,263). This allocation has been excluded from the scrutiny exercise as it is a single agency allocation that has no link to the priorities of the LAA.
- 4.8 Child Death Review Processes (£47,010)**
From April 2008 all Local Children Safeguarding Boards are required to put in place mechanisms to review child deaths. This allocation provides the necessary funding. The County Council is joining a West Midlands authority consortium to provide this statutory review service. As with the Local Involvement Networks, this is a statutory externally commissioned service, the

costs of which cannot be avoided and has therefore been excluded from the scrutiny exercise.

4.9 Overall, the above exclusions amount to £3.543 million, leaving £19.659 million of allocations to be scrutinised. The full scope of the review is attached as Appendix A.

5. Method

5.1 The Panel undertook the review by holding three sessions of evidence gathering, where Heads of Service responsible for services in receipt of ABG in 2008/09 were required to attend to outline the funding received and answer the Panel's questions.

5.2 Prior to the meetings the Panel requested all relevant Heads of Service to complete a submission form for each grant, outlining the following information:

- Description and purpose of the funding stream (as per Government grant announcements)
- What the allocation is currently used for
- Whether the current use of resources reflects partnership activity or single agency activity
- Partner organisations directly involved in the delivery of the service
- Citizen outcomes achieved through the current use of the resources
- How the current use of resources is contributing to the LAA or other local priority
- How the current use of resources is contributing to Narrowing the Gap
- Resources other than ABG that are currently being used to support / enhance the work
- Other resources that could be used to support the work
- Suggested other ways of providing the service
- The minimum level of resource required to support the work to meet the LAA and other priorities
- Consequences of partial / complete disinvestment in the work currently funded (including any consequences for the LAA or other priority)

5.3 The completed submissions for each grant are available upon request.

Appendix A

Scope of the Area Based Grant Scrutiny Review

Review Topic	Joint Area Based Grant Scrutiny Review		
Panel Members	Cllr Tooth (WCC), Cllr Davis (WCC), Cllr Smith (NWBC), Cllr Crowther (WDC), Ian Francis (Police Authority) Vaughan Owen (WALC), Gillian Entwistle (PCT).		
Key Officer Contact	Virginia Rennie (WCC), Ian Davis (RBC), Richard Warne (NBBC), Simon Donaghy (NBBC), John Dubber (WDC), Ann Garner (PCT), Nick Gower-Johnson (WCC) and Bill Basra (WCC).		
Scrutiny Officer Support	Jane Pollard, Overview and Scrutiny Manager (WCC) and Michelle McHugh, Overview and Scrutiny Officer (WCC)		
Rationale	To clearly identify the outcomes achieved through the deployment of the Area Based Grant 2008/09, in order to feed into the budget setting round for 2009/10.		
Objectives of Review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To give those in receipt of ABG (by LAA Theme Group) in 2008/09 the opportunity to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make clear the purposes of the former funding stream ▪ Describe the citizen outcomes achieved through the current use of resources ▪ Describe the contribution of the work funded by the ABG to the new LAA and other local priorities including Narrowing the Gap ▪ Outline the consequences of the LAA and other priorities of partial or complete disinvestment from the services currently funded. 2. To consider the availability of resources other than ABG to support / enhance the work (including resources from partners outside the County Council) 3. To consider identifying those elements of the ABG which on the one hand relate to LAA outcomes /partnership activity and on the other hand those which relate to core functions of the County Council which are single agency and bear no relationship to partnership / LAA activity. 4. Establish a basis for future joint scrutiny of the LAA 		
Scope of the Topic	<p>Excluded – Elements of ABG outside of CC – for example Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Cohesion funding.</p> <p>Supporting People Administration, Preserved Rights, Local Involvement Networks, Detrunking and Child Death Review Processes.</p>		
Method	Three ½ day sessions – 2 blocks presenting at each session		
Specify Evidence Sources	Information about Area Based Grant Summary of LAA Blocks current funding Reports / Presentations from LAA Theme Groups		
Specify Witnesses	Strategic Directors and Heads of Service as appropriate		
Barriers/dangers/risks	Being unable to identify meeting dates during this period		
Start Date	July 2008	Projected Completion Date	September 2008

Appendix B
Indicative Area Based Grant Allocations 2008/09 to 2010/11 - as per
Government website

Government Department	Grant	2008-09 £	Variation %	2009-10 £	Variation %	2010-11 £
Communities and Local Government	Supporting People Administration	322,635	-7.9%	297,164	14.3%	254,712
	Supporting People	0		10,146,789	0.0%	10,146,789
	Sub-total	322,635		10,443,953		10,401,501
Department of Health	Adult Social Care Workforce	1,222,237	3.8%	1,269,254	3.7%	1,316,224
	Carers	1,967,697	8.0%	2,124,816	7.5%	2,283,250
	Child & Adolescent Mental Health	605,914	5.4%	638,914	5.2%	672,221
	Learning & Disability Development Fund	372,658	-0.1%	372,177	-0.2%	371,606
	Local Involvement Networks	212,137	0.5%	213,174	0.5%	214,184
	Mental Capacity Act & Independent Mental Capacity	217,020	27.1%	275,812	-3.3%	266,662
	Mental Health	1,188,574	5.1%	1,249,216	4.8%	1,309,524
	Preserved Rights	2,572,323	-4.6%	2,454,108	-4.4%	2,346,655
	Sub-total	8,358,560		8,597,471		8,780,326
Department of Transport	Detrunking	389,105	2.5%	398,832	2.5%	408,803
	Road Safety Grant	1,770,102	-7.8%	1,632,506	-3.7%	1,572,201
	Rural Bus Subsidy	1,043,192	2.6%	1,070,645	2.6%	1,098,097
	Sub-total	3,202,399		3,101,983		3,079,101
DCSF	School Development Grant	1,012,960	0.0%	1,012,960	0.0%	1,012,960
	Extended Schools Start-Up Grants				-	
	Primary National Strategy - Central Co-ordination	1,035,983	59.9%	1,656,143	58.9%	681,076
	Secondary National Strategy - Central Co-ordination	273,285	0.2%	273,733	0.0%	273,768
	Secondary National Strategy - Behaviour and Attendance	253,241	0.3%	253,992	0.1%	254,327
	School Improvement Partners	125,800	0.0%	125,800	0.0%	125,800
	School Improvement Partners	251,740	0.0%	251,740	0.0%	251,740
	Education Health Partnerships	104,859	0.0%	104,859	0.0%	104,859
	School Travel Advisers	71,000	0.0%	71,000	0.0%	71,000
	Choice Advisers	34,636	0.0%	34,636	0.0%	34,636
	School Intervention Grant	163,200	0.0%	163,200	0.0%	163,200
	14 - 19 Flexible Funding Pot	153,006	0.8%	154,207	0.7%	155,215
	Sustainable Travel - General Duty	41,924	0.0%	41,924	0.0%	41,924
	Extended Rights to Free Transport	167,122	64.7%	275,219	39.3%	383,316
	Connexions	4,220,230	-2.7%	4,105,983	-0.2%	4,098,631
	Children's Fund	940,453	0.0%	940,453	0.0%	940,453
	Positive Activities for Young People	159,231	71.8%	273,551	29.9%	355,208
	Teenage Pregnancy	187,000	0.0%	187,000	0.0%	187,000
	Children's Social Care Workforce	118,739	0.1%	118,860	0.2%	119,088
	Care Matters White Paper	233,534	36.7%	319,259	15.5%	368,845
Child Death Review Processes	47,010	2.9%	48,368	4.3%	50,430	
	Sub-total	9,594,953		10,412,887		9,673,476
Home Office	Stronger Safer Communities	583,664	0.0%	583,664	0.0%	583,664
	Young People Substance Misuse Partnership	88,851	0.0%	88,851	0.0%	88,851
	Sub-total	672,515		672,515		672,515
	Total	22,151,062		33,228,809		32,606,919

Appendix C

Committed ABG by Directorate 2008/09

Grant	Purpose of the Grant	Allocation £000
Adult, Health and Community Services		
Carers	To stimulate diversity and flexibility in the provision of breaks for carers or direct services to carers to support them in their caring role.	1,674
Adults social care workforce	To support the establishment of enhanced human resource management practice across the whole of the social care workforce, including ensuring appropriate levels of training and qualification in the whole of the social care workforce.	1,078
Mental Capacity Act and Independent Mental Capacity Advocate Service	The Mental Capacity Act 2005 became law on 1st April 2007. The grant is to: a) train staff across the Implementation Network to understand the implications of the Act and to act accordingly; b) commission an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) service, and c) increase the staff time needed for assessments of capacity and best interests decisions.	141
Mental Health	To provide mental health services for adults of working age. Spending proposals are discussed with the Mental Health National Service Framework Local Implementation Network & agreed by key statutory partnership agencies.	1,145
Preserved Rights	To provide financial assistance in discharging responsibilities for meeting the costs of residential care for people with preserved rights from prior to 2002/03.	2,572
Supporting People Administration	Contribution towards the costs of administering the Supporting People programme.	323
Learning and Disability Development Fund	To support implementation of the agenda set out in the learning disability white paper "Valuing People". Until 2007/08 this has been allocated to PCTs for local Learning Disability Partnership Boards to determine its allocation. This service has previously been commissioned from the County Council, hence the on-going commitments.	373
Total AHCS		7,306

Grant	Purpose of the Grant	Allocation £000
Environment and Economy		
Detrunking	To provide support in recognition of local authority's responsibilities for the routine maintenance of roads that were previously the responsibility of the Highways Agency.	389
Road Safety Grant	To replace the funding provided for safety cameras via the netting off funding arrangement for the National Safety Camera Programme.	1,415
Rural Bus Subsidy	Introduced in 1998/99. This revenue funding pays for new or enhanced rural bus services, their marketing and administration.	1,043
Total E&E		2,847

Appendix C

Committed ABG by Directorate 2008/09

Grant	Purpose of the Grant	Allocation £000
Children, Young People and Families		
Choice Advisors	To help families optimise their choices about school places using all the information to hand, including over-subscription criteria, local knowledge of what individual schools have to offer, information about schools in different local authority areas, with additional advice covering local authority school-admission regimes and individual schools' admission-criteria.	25
Schools Improvement Partners (SIP)	To provide financial assistance to an authority to support its management of the SIP function.	252
Education Health Partnership	To support the maintenance and development of local healthy schools programmes in meeting the requirements of the National Healthy Schools Programme.	81
Extended School Start-Up Costs	Intended to support schools, by providing access to a core set of extended services, in raising standards of pupil motivation, aspiration, achievement and behaviour and contributing to a wide range of other Government targets including childcare, children's services, community cohesion, neighbourhood renewal, adult learning, combating child poverty, health inequalities and crime reduction.	446
Sustainable Travel General Duty	To assist in fulfilling duties set out in Sustainable Schools Travel Strategy (SSTS).	42
Schools Development Grant	To support improvements in teaching and learning in schools, leading to higher standards of attainment for every learner.	748
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)	To enable authorities to carry forward their joint strategies with the NHS and other agencies to develop CAMHS under S.31 of the Local Government Act 2003 in accordance with local needs & priorities, as set out in local CAMHS Development Strategies.	606
Children's Fund	The programme aims to identify at an early stage children and young people at risk of social exclusion, and make sure they receive the help and support they need to achieve their potential.	125
14-19 Flexible Funding Pot	To promote co-ordination between school, colleges etc. to create greater options for pupils including non academic qualifications.	130
Teenage Pregnancy (the team is now known as Respect Yourself)	To support the implementation of local teenage pregnancy strategies & ensure that robust arrangements are in place for the co-ordination & delivery of agreed local action plan which underpin delivery of the 10 year National Pregnancy Strategy (launched in 1999). Includes allocation to fund teachers on a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE) certification programme.	159
Children's social care workforce	To support the establishment of enhanced human resource management practice across the whole of the social care workforce, including ensuring appropriate levels of training and qualification in the whole of the social care workforce. This will include staff working in the private and voluntary sectors.	119
Extended Rights to Free Transport	Local Authorities must provide transport where they consider it necessary to ensure that a child goes to school. Where this transport is needed it must be provided free of charge. The grant is to support the rights to this free transport that have recently been extended.	167
Total CYPF		2,900

Appendix C

Area Based Grant Allocated by the Public Service Board in 2007/08

Grant	Purpose of the Grant	2008/09		
		Committed £000	Uncommitted £000	Total £000
Connexions	To provide advice and support for young people to try and help them get where they would like to be. Connexions is a modern public service and young people are actively involved in its design and delivery. The service is managed locally by Connexions Partnerships that bring together all the key youth support services.	4,220	-	4,220
Positive Activities for Young People	To provide a programme of activities for young people aged 8-19, at risk of social exclusion or of being involved in community crime.	159	-	159
Primary National Strategy Central Coordination	To support central coordination costs in delivering the Primary National Strategy, including supporting the introduction of revised literacy and numeracy frameworks, greater focus on targeting underperforming schools and under attaining pupils and supporting personalisation.	268	5	273
Secondary National Strategy Central Coordination	To support central coordination costs in delivering the Secondary National Strategy, including greater focus on targeting underperforming schools and under attaining pupils and supporting personalisation.	253	-	253
Secondary National Strategy Behaviour and Attendance	To support the integration of behaviour and attendance into the Secondary National Strategy.	125	1	126
Safer and Stronger Communities Fund	To tackle crime, anti-social behaviour and drugs, empowering communities, and improving the condition of streets and public spaces; in particular for disadvantaged neighbourhoods where these issues often require more attention. Resources are also used to fund the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP's).	164	420	584
School Travel Advisors	To fund local authority based school travel advisers (STAs) helping schools carry out surveys and prepare and implement travel plans.	71	-	71
Total		5,260	426	5,686

Appendix C

New Mandatory Requirements for Utilising Uncommitted Resources

Title	Purpose of the Grant	Proposed Use £000	% of ABG Element	Planned Use of Uncommitted Resources
Local Involvement Networks	To commission a public involvement in health scrutiny service. This service was previously commissioned by the Health Authority.	212	100%	This is a mandatory service. Currently tenders are being sought to provide this service for three years, as the County Council is not permitted to undertake this function internally.
Child Death Review Processes	To provide support to enable authorities to meet the new duty, from April 2008, that all Local Children Safeguarding Boards (LCSB) put in place mechanisms to review child deaths.	47	100%	The authority is planning to join a West Midlands Authority Consortium to provide this statutory review service, with the aim to increase the effectiveness of the funds made available.
Care Matters White Paper	To support authorities to build capacity and make changes to implement the measures set out in the White Paper "Care Matters - Time for Change" published in June 2007.	234	100%	There are a number of mandatory responsibilities, these include annual £100 trust fund tops up for all Looked after Children, £2,000 bursary for all young people in care who go on to higher education, £500 a year for each child in care at risk of not reaching the expected standards of achievement to support their education and development needs and increase the availability of one-to-one tutoring.
Total		493		

Appendix C

Previous Decisions Utilising Uncommitted Area Based Grant

Title	Purpose of the Grant	Proposed Use £000	Planned Use of Uncommitted Resources
Extended School Start-Up Costs	Intended to support schools, by providing access to a core set of extended services, in raising standards of pupil motivation, aspiration, achievement and behaviour and contributing to a wide range of other Government targets including childcare, children's services, community cohesion, neighbourhood renewal, adult learning, combating child poverty, health inequalities and crime reduction.	590	Start up grants for Extended Schools would be made available to schools and other organisations for a three-year period. Other resources would be used to support the effective running of the service covering fixed office / running costs as well as information publications that the service requires to be effective. These costs are all currently met from this grant, without these additional resources the team would be unable to operate.
Road Safety Grant	To replace the funding provided for safety cameras via the netting off funding arrangement for the National Safety Camera Programme.	355	External School Education Driver Training (£101,000), Radio Campaigns (£111,000), PC & Equipment Maintenance (£55,000), Speedaware Campaign (£5,000), Vandalism & Maintenance (£83,000).
	Total	945	

County Council Services Proposals for Continuation of Existing Funding Levels

Title	Purpose of the Grant	Proposed Use £000	Planned Use of Uncommitted Resources
Carers	To stimulate diversity and flexibility in the provision of breaks for carers or direct services to carers to support them in their caring role.	294	Reshaping and extension of services to reduce the impact of caring on older carers (aged 50 plus) and carers of older people. The grant and the £56,000 increase will be used to provide: investment in earlier intervention and support to promote carers' wellbeing, minimise risk of carer breakdown and enable carers to continue caring for longer, comprehensive emergency carer support service – expansion of existing services to ensure that appropriate emergency back up is available to parent carers and carers of adults with learning disabilities and people with mental health needs, investment in support to enable carers to acquire skills and knowledge which will assist them in their caring responsibilities, equip them for returning to employment or support their leisure interests, the expansion of support for employed carers and carers who wish to return to work and awareness training targeting staff in LAA agencies to enhance awareness of carers perspective and contribute to improvement of carers' experience of using local services.
Adults social care workforce	To support the establishment of enhanced human resource management practice across the whole of the social care workforce, including ensuring appropriate levels of training and qualification in the whole of the social care workforce. This will include staff working in the private and voluntary sectors. The Human Resources Development Strategy (HRDS) grant should support workforce planning and the National Minimum Dataset.	144	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dementia, £60,000 - training £50,000 and IT equipment £10,000 • Older People Challenging Behaviour, £59,000 - project officer, training and equipment • Protection Of Vulnerable Adults , £25,000 – training of staff

Title	Purpose of the Grant	Proposed Use £000	Planned Use of Uncommitted Resources
Mental Health Act and Independent Mental Capacity Advocate Service	The Mental Health Capacity Act 2005 became law on 1st April 2007. DH made resources available to enable Councils with Social Services Responsibilities (CSSRs) to a) train staff across their Implementation Network to understand the implications of the Act and to act accordingly; b) commission an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) service, and C) increase the staff time needed for assessments of capacity and best interest decisions.	76	The Deprivation of Liberty Standards (DOLS) is coming into effect later this year. This will incur significant training, support and advice implications on all providers, both internally and externally, also social workers who assess needs. This impact will need to be resourced by the Adult Social Workers and by the new role will also impact on resources for training and introduction and recruitment to these roles.
Mental Health	To provide mental health services for adults of working age. Spending proposals are discussed with the Mental Health National Service Framework Local Implementation Network & agreed by key statutory partnership agencies.	44	Mental Health is faced with significant new legislation in the Capacity Act, DOLS, also MHW's and expanding advocacy. The Government has recognised these costs and has increased the grants in order to respond to the new requirements. All of the additional grant will be required and potentially more in the next few years.
Choice Advisors	To help families optimise their choices about school places using all the information to hand, including over-subscription criteria, local knowledge of what individual schools have to offer, information about schools in different local authority areas, with additional advice covering local authority school-admission regimes and individual schools' admission-criteria.	10	'The other resources are used to support the effective running of the service. This funding currently meets the office expenses and running costs of this service. These resources are also used to provide information and publications to enable the service to be effective. These costs are currently met from this grant and without this funding the post would be ineffective.

Title	Purpose of the Grant	Proposed Use £000	Planned Use of Uncommitted Resources
Education Health Partnership	To support the maintenance and development of local healthy schools programmes in meeting the requirements of the National Healthy Schools Programme.	24	'This is the source of funding for implementing the Healthy Schools programme. The money covers staff costs and running costs as well as information publications and training to schools that the service requires in order to be effective.
Schools Intervention Grant	To raise standards where a school has received a low OFSTED rating before the school requires special measures.	163	'Funds are used to support good practice / successful schools to aid the recovery of schools in or near special measures. The grant provides financial support to successful schools so that they can share their practice with less successful schools. For example, the money has been used to pay Etone school for their support to Hartshill School. A major priority for the priority is to reduce the number of schools in a category of concern through divisive interventions in schools. The number of schools in categories of concern has been raised by CPA inspectors as an area for improvement. The speed of any improvement will be slower without the funding to support interventions.
Schools Development Grant	Support improvements in teaching and learning in schools, leading to higher standards of attainment for every learner.	265	Additional resources would be used to support school improvement and aid achieving both the CYPP plan and the LAA Education Targets. This funding is currently used to support head teachers in small schools to improve key stage 2 performance; provide a training and development programme for teaching assistants and support staff in schools; summer schools for gifted and talented children and support for children with their transition from year 6 to 7.
Children's Fund	Launched in November 2000 as part of the government's commitment to tackle disadvantage among children and young people. The programme aims to identify at an early stage children and young people at risk of social exclusion, and make sure they receive the help and support they need to achieve their potential.	815	There are a number of commissioned services relating to 5 to 13 year olds. The contract for these services runs to 31/03/08. All of these commissioned services have been reviewed against an agreed set of criteria, including an assessment of value for money, government guidelines and a needs assessment for delivery of the Children and Young People's Plan. The recommendations as a result of this review are to continue to commission all except one. The contracts are for youth inclusion work which supports the early intervention programme for younger children, short breaks for disabled children, mental health support, domestic violence support and other services. If the decision was not to support this proposal all current providers in line with good practice would need to be given 3 months notice and this will need a budget allocation of £158,000.

Title	Purpose of the Grant	Proposed Use £000	Planned Use of Uncommitted Resources
14-19 Flexible Funding Pot	To promote co-ordination between school, colleges etc. to create greater options for pupils including non academic qualifications.	23	The Authority has a statutory requirement to ensure pupils can access diplomas across the County. This is a new curriculum and requires collaboration between schools to ensure this will be achieved. This funding will be used to support the 14-19 Partnerships in meeting this challenging statutory requirement.
Teenage Pregnancy (the team is now known as Respect Yourself)	To support the implementation of local teenage pregnancy strategies & ensure that robust arrangements are in place for the co-ordination & delivery of agreed local action plan which underpin delivery of the 10 year National Pregnancy Strategy (launched in 1999). Includes allocation to fund teachers on a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE) certification programme.	28	'The cost of this service exceeds the grant and the County Council funds the remaining costs from its own resources. The only costs allocated as committed are the salary costs of the team. Without this additional funding the team would not be effective in its work with young people. This funding currently meets the office expenses and running costs of this service. These resources are also used to provide information, publications and other resources to enable the service to work with young people.
	Total	1,886	

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22 September 2008

2008/09 Area Based Grant – Projected Outturn as at Quarter 1.

Report of the Accountable Officer

Recommendation

It is recommended that the PSB:

- Notes the 2008/09 Quarter 1 position and the projected 2008/09 Outturn and makes any comments as appropriate.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the PSB of the Quarter 1 position and the 2008/09 projected outturn for the use of Area Based Grant, based on the information known at the end of June 2008.
- 1.2 The report covers the 2008/09 Area Based Grant of £22.151 million plus the additional £1 million made available for 2008/09 only, that was allocated by the County Council on the 18 March 2008. The report does not include Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council's £49,412 Area Based Grant allocation made by the Department of Communities and Local Government for Cohesion.
- 1.3 The report has been compiled on the basis of the returns from each of the Themed Blocks in receipt of pooled grant, in consultation with partners.

2 Spending Compared With Estimates

- 2.1 At this stage, the 2008/09 projected outturn for Area Based Grant and the additional £1 million top-up allocation is an overspend of £2.076 million. This overspend represents 9% of total the total funds monitored. However, £1.9 million of this was known about prior to the start of the financial year and provision to meet this cost is included within the County Council's budget. Therefore, excluding this element, the budget is forecast to be fully spent by the end of the financial year.
- 2.2 At 30 June 2008 a total underspend of £0.291 million or 5% was reported in comparison to the funds allocated at the end of Quarter 1.

2.3 Table 1 shows a summary of the first quarter position and the projected year-end outturn for each of the Themed Blocks in receipt of funding.

Block	Position as at 30/06/08				Forecast Outturn			
	Grant £	Spend £	Variation £	Variation %	Grant £	Spend £	Variation £	Variation %
Childrens and Young People	2,572,430	2,336,183	(236,247)	-9.2%	10,289,718	10,289,718	0	0.0%
Healthier Communities and Older People	1,965,786	2,241,231	275,445	14.0%	7,863,144	9,939,651	2,076,507	26.4%
Environment and Climate Change	358,074	363,329	5,255	1.5%	1,432,297	1,432,297	0	0.0%
Safer Communities	638,441	433,833	(204,609)	-32.0%	2,553,766	2,553,766	0	0.0%
Stronger Communities	253,034	122,244	(130,790)	-51.7%	1,012,137	1,012,000	(137)	0.0%
Total	5,787,766	5,496,820	(290,946)	-5.0%	23,151,062	25,227,432	2,076,370	9.0%

2.4 The £2.076 million overspend forecast by the end of the year is entirely within the Healthier Communities and Older People Block and is mainly due to a £1.907 million overspend on Preserved Rights. The element of Area Based Grant relating to preserved rights has always been insufficient to meet the costs of the service and therefore there is existing provision to meet this overspend within the County Council's budget (see Appendix A)

2.5 There are two further anticipated overspends, both in the Healthier Communities and Older People Block, on the supporting people administration grant and the learning and disability development fund grant. These overspends will also be met from the County Council's budget (see Appendix A)

2.6 All other Blocks are forecasting expenditure to be on budget.

2.7 Of the additional £1 million made available for 2008/09 by the County Council £800,000 is to be allocated to the Local Strategic Partnerships. Of the £800,000 allocated to the 5 LSPs, for Narrowing the Gap, only the plans for Nuneaton and Bedworth and Stratford LSP have been approved to date. The remaining plans are elsewhere on today's agenda for PSB approval. The figures above assume all the £800,000 will be spent in 2008/09. However, it is expected some of this spend may be deferred until 2009/10. A more accurate forecast of the £800,000 allocation will be available for Quarter 2.

2.8 In terms of actual spending at 30 June 2008, variances were reported across all Blocks. The majority of these variances arose due spending patterns falling equally across each quarter and some delays due to the timing of the final approval of allocations.

2.9 No consequences to delivery of outcomes have been identified in the preparation of this report.

DAVID CLARKE
Strategic Director, Resources
Warwickshire County Council
And Accountable Officer of the Warwickshire LAA

Healthier Communities and Older People 2008/09 Budget Monitoring - Quarter 1

Appendix A

Background / Proposed use of Funding
- Supporting People Administration: This funding pays for the Administration that underpins the Supporting People Programme which provides housing related support to vulnerable and disadvantaged people in Warwickshire
- Adult Social Care Workforce: This funding supports the training, development, and modernisation of the adult social care workforce
- Carers: This funding provides support services to Carers (e.g. relatives, friends, neighbours) who provide unpaid support to service users
- Learning & Disability Development Fund: This fund supports the implementation of the Valuing People white paper (promoting advocacy, person centred support, modernisation of day services, etc)
Mental Capacity Act: This fund awareness raising and training and supports the operation of the Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy Service
Mental Health Act: Support the implementation of the Mental Health (Amendment) Act 2007
Preserved Rights: Funds the costs of the preserved rights of service users who were in residential accommodation in 1993 when Community Care was introduced

Funding Breakdown								
	Position as at 30/06/08				Forecast Outturn			
	Grant	Spend	Variation	Variation	Grant	Spend	Variation	Variation
	£	£	£	%	£	£	£	%
Supporting People Administration	80,659	82,243	1,584	2.0%	322,635	406,234	83,599	25.9%
Adult Social Care Workforce	305,559	213,029	(92,530)	-30.3%	1,222,237	1,222,237	0	0.0%
Carers	491,924	459,863	(32,061)	-6.5%	1,967,697	1,967,697	0	0.0%
Learning & Disability Development Fund	93,165	77,178	(15,987)	-17.2%	372,658	458,217	85,559	23.0%
Mental Capacity Act & Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy Service	54,255	35,098	(19,157)	-35.3%	217,020	217,020	0	0.0%
Mental Health	297,144	253,902	(43,242)	-14.6%	1,188,574	1,188,574	0	0.0%
Preserved Rights	643,081	1,119,918	476,837	74.1%	2,572,323	4,479,672	1,907,349	74.1%
Total	1,965,786	2,241,231	275,445	14.0%	7,863,144	9,939,651	2,076,507	26.4%

Reasons for Variations

Current Spending Variations as at 30/06/08

The position as at 30/06/08 shows variations because actual spending patterns are variable through the year but the profile they are compared to assumes they are evenly spent through the year.

Forecast Outturn Variations

Supporting People Administration: Forecast overspend due to need to pay for unanticipated audit/inspection fees and the need to employ temporary agency staff to cover sickness absence of the programme manager

Learning & Disability Development Fund: The grant has reduced in 2008/09 whilst need has increased, therefore the Directorate is spending significantly more than the grant and this is a funding pressure that the Directorate has to meet.

Preserved Rights: Preserved Rights grant has declined over the years at a faster rate than the need for the grant has declined. The overspend is a budget pressure funded by the Directorate.

Action Taken or Planned Action

Supporting People Administration: Consider setting up a reserve to fund future inspection costs (these costs do not occur every year).

Learning and Disability Development Fund: Spending is being reduced by not filling vacancies and reducing grants to carers and providers. Any overspend above the grant is a budget pressure that has to be met by the directorate.

Preserved Rights: The spending over the basic grant is funded by the directorate.

Consequences for the Delivery of Planned Outcomes

By spending at these levels services are expected to achieve planned outcomes.

**Children and Young People's Block
2008/09 Budget Monitoring - Quarter 1**

Appendix B

Background / Proposed use of Funding

WCC CYPF Directorate - The various elements of the CYPF Area Based Grant Allocation have many proposed uses. These include meeting existing commitments for established services as well as new services which have been required for new mandatory services. All the proposals for use of the various grant elements were reported in detail to Cabinet on 13th March.

Connexions - CSWP / Connexions delivers a comprehensive service across the sub-region of careers advice and guidance to young persons in line with the aims of the national Connexions framework and as agreed within the LAA.

Funding Breakdown

	Position as at 30/06/08				Forecast Outturn			
	Grant £'000	Spend £'000	Variation £'000	Variation %	Grant £'000	Spend £'000	Variation £'000	%
Child & Adolescent Mental Health	151,479	13,123	(138,356)	-91.3%	605,914	605,914	0	0.0%
School Development Grant	253,240	0	(253,240)	-100.0%	1,012,960	1,012,960	0	0.0%
Extended Schools Start-Up Grants	258,996	2,753	(256,242)	-98.9%	1,035,983	1,035,983	0	0.0%
Primary National Strategy - Central Co-ordination	68,321	0	(68,321)	-100.0%	273,285	273,285	0	0.0%
Secondary National Strategy - Central Co-ordination	63,310	0	(63,310)	-100.0%	253,241	253,241	0	0.0%
Attendance	31,450	6,544	(24,906)	-79.2%	125,800	125,800	0	0.0%
School Improvement Partners	62,935	29,685	(33,250)	-52.8%	251,740	251,740	0	0.0%
Education Health Partnerships	26,215	0	(26,215)	-100.0%	104,859	104,859	0	0.0%
School Travel Advisers	17,750	600	(17,150)	-96.6%	71,000	71,000	0	0.0%
Choice Advisers	8,659	0	(8,659)	-100.0%	34,636	34,636	0	0.0%
School Intervention Grant	40,800	0	(40,800)	-100.0%	163,200	163,200	0	0.0%
14 - 19 Flexible Funding Pot	38,252	50,054	11,803	30.9%	153,006	153,006	0	0.0%
Sustainable Travel - General Duty	10,481	35,030	24,549	234.2%	41,924	41,924	0	0.0%
Extended Rights to Free Transport	41,781	11,500	(30,281)	-72.5%	167,122	167,122	0	0.0%
Children's Fund	235,113	63,310	(171,803)	-73.1%	940,453	940,453	0	0.0%
Teenage Pregnancy	46,750	66,750	20,000	42.8%	187,000	187,000	0	0.0%
Children's Social Care Workforce	29,685	50,342	20,657	69.6%	118,739	118,739	0	0.0%
Care Matters White Paper	58,384	64,027	5,643	9.7%	233,534	233,534	0	0.0%
Child Death Review Processes	11,753	588,604	576,852	4908.3%	47,010	47,010	0	0.0%
Young People Substance Misuse Partnership	22,213	258,996	236,783	1066.0%	88,851	88,851	0	0.0%
Connexions	1,055,058	1,055,058	0	0.0%	4,220,230	4,220,230	0	0.0%
Positive Activities for Young People	39,808	39,808	0	0.0%	159,231	159,231	0	0.0%
Total	2,572,430	2,336,183	(236,247)	-9.2%	10,289,718	10,289,718	-	0.0%

Reasons for Variations

WCC CPYF Directorate - 'The forecast outturn shows all grant will be spent by the end of the financial year. Variances in the grant spent to date are due to the fact spending of funds is not always quarterly and the official allocation of the grant to managers was relatively late.

Themed Block/Partner Action

All grants are currently forecast to be spent by the end of the financial year, so no further action is required.

Consequences for the Delivery of the LAA Outcomes

The financial position does not currently have any consequences for delivery of the LAA targets

Analysis by Partner Organisation/Themed Block Outcome

	Position as at 30/06/08				Forecast Outturn			
	Grant £	Spend £	Variation £	Variation %	Grant £	Spend £	Variation £	Variation %
WCC CYPF Directorate	1,477,564	1,241,317	(236,247)	-16.0%	5,910,257	5,910,257	0	0.0%
Connexions	1,094,866	1,094,866	0	0.0%	4,379,461	4,379,461	0	0.0%
Total	2,572,430	2,336,183	(236,247)	-9.2%	10,289,718	10,289,718	0	0.0%

Environment and Climate Change 2008/09 Budget Monitoring, Quarter 1

Appendix C

Background / Proposed use of Funding

1. Detrunking - the grant is used to maintain the trunk roads that the Directorate now has responsibility for. Trunk roads being the A45 and A423 (formerly maintained by the highways Agency)
2. The Rural Bus Subsidy grant is used to provide financially supported local bus services in those rural communities identified as most in need of assistance.

Funding Breakdown

	Position as at 30/06/08				Forecast Outturn			
	Grant	Spend	Variation	Variation	Grant	Spend	Variation	
	£	£	£	%	£	£	£	%
Detrunking	97,276	97,276	(0)	0.0%	389,105	389,105	0	0.0%
Rural Bus Subsidy	260,798	266,053	5,255	2.0%	1,043,192	1,043,192	0	0.0%
Total	358,074	363,329	5,255	1.5%	1,432,297	1,432,297	-	0.0%

Safer Communities Block 2008/09 Budget Monitoring - Quarter 1

Background / Proposed use of Funding

Revenue funding totalling £2,553,766 has been allocated to the Safer Communities Block in 2008/09. This funding comes from three sources: (1) £583,664 from the Warwickshire Safer and Stronger Communities revenue allocation, (2) £200,000 from the Warwickshire County Council Virtual Bank as an advance of the LPSA2 reward grant and (3) £1,770,102 from the Warwickshire Road Safety Grant. On the 8th February 2008, the Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership (WSCP) agreed community safety priorities for 2008/09 and how funding should be allocated to address those priorities. The allocations agreed by WSCP were approved by the Public Service Board on the 20th February and by W.C.C. Cabinet on the 18th March.

Funding Stream Breakdown

	Position as at 30/06/08				Forecast Outturn			
	Grant £'000	Spend £'000	Variation £'000	Variation %	Grant £'000	Spend £'000	Variation £'000	%
Alcohol Treatment Referral	17,500.00	8,875.00	-8,625.00	-49.3%	70,000	70,000	0	0.0%
Alcohol & Drugs	30,758.81	26,384.00	-4,374.81	-14.2%	123,035	123,035	(0)	0.0%
Block Administrative Support	6,500.00	5,959.26	-540.74	-8.3%	26,000	26,000	0	0.0%
Violence Domestic Abuse	2,938.74	0.00	-2,938.74	-100.0%	11,755	11,755	0	0.0%
Road Safety Grant	442,525.50	288,193.00	-154,332.50	-34.9%	1,770,102	1,770,102	0	0.0%
Business Crime	13,000.00	29,730.00	16,730.00	128.7%	52,000	52,000	0	0.0%
Community Safety Analysts	15,750.00	10,568.00	-5,182.00	-32.9%	63,000	63,000	0	0.0%
Prolific and Priority Offenders Scheme	22,500.00	24,980.00	2,480.00	11.0%	90,000	90,000	0	0.0%
Nuneaton and Bedworth CDRP	20,002.74	10,875.00	-9,127.74	-45.6%	80,011	80,011	0	0.0%
North Warwickshire CDRP	13,914.95	10,000.00	-3,914.95	-28.1%	55,660	55,660	0	0.0%
Rugby CDRP	16,524.01	0.00	-16,524.01	-100.0%	66,096	66,096	(0)	0.0%
Stratford CDRP	16,524.01	9,518.47	-7,005.54	-42.4%	66,096	66,096	(0)	0.0%
Warwick CDRP	20,002.74	8,750.00	-11,252.74	-56.3%	80,011	80,011	0	0.0%
Total	638,441.50	433,832.73	-204,608.77	-32.0%	2,553,766	2,553,766	- 0	0.0%

Reasons for Variations

Following the confirmation of allocations by W.C.C. on the 18th March, partners were asked to submit plans detailing how they intended to use their allocations to address local and county targets. Using information supplied by partners, a county spending plan was formulated and approved by WSCP on the 3rd June. Partners were waiting for approval of the county spending plan before committing to a number of interventions. As a result, there was little or no spend in relation to some interventions during quarter 1.

Action Taken / Planned Action

A number of partners are reviewing their action plans in the light of quarter 1 performance data. However, no changes to the current spending plan are being requested at this stage.

General Comments

It is anticipated that all partners will have received their quarter 1 funding allocations before the end of August 2008. The remainder of the 2008/09 funding will be forwarded to partners on a monthly basis.

Analysis by Partner Organisation/Themed Block Outcome

	Position as at 30/06/08				Forecast Outturn			
	Grant £'000	Spend £'000	Variation £'000	Variation %	Grant £'000	Spend £'000	Variation £'000	%
Warwickshire County Council	£500,223.05	329,411.26	-170,811.79	-34.1%	2,000,892	2,000,892	(0)	0.0%
Warwickshire Police Authority	£51,250.00	65,278.00	14,028.00	27.4%	205,000	205,000	0	0.0%
Nuneaton and Bedworth CDRP	£20,002.74	10,875.00	-9,127.74	-45.6%	80,011	80,011	0	0.0%
North Warwickshire CDRP	£13,914.95	10,000.00	-3,914.95	-28.1%	55,660	55,660	0	0.0%
Rugby CDRP	£16,524.01	0.00	-16,524.01	-100.0%	66,096	66,096	(0)	0.0%
Stratford CDRP	£16,524.01	9,518.47	-7,005.54	-42.4%	66,096	66,096	(0)	0.0%
Warwick CDRP	£20,002.74	8,750.00	-11,252.74	-56.3%	80,011	80,011	0	0.0%
Total	638,441.50	433,832.73	-204,608.77	-32.0%	2,553,766	2,553,766	0	0.0%

Stronger Communities 2008/09 Budget Monitoring, Quarter 1

Background / Proposed use of Funding

WCC P&D

LINks funding provided by Department of Health for Warwickshire County Council to procure a Host Organisation to support and help the local community and represent organisations/agencies to set up a Local Involvement Network in Warwickshire

Statford LSP

Statford District Council are acting as the responsible body in administering the agreed spends over four projects as outlined below.

1. CVS Volunteer Gardening Project - the aim of this project is to reduce the fear of crime through environmental improvement of residential areas targeting vulnerable rented housing. The funding of £22,000 will be used for a vehicle, project manager and running costs.
2. CVS Parish Plan - Stratford CVS/VC will provide support, advice and information to parishes across Stratford District to assist in addressing local issues including their action plans. The funding of £20,000 to be used to build capacity within local parishes to participate in community led plans and influence their outcome, to be act recruitment and training of volunteers locally.
3. Act.com -A community led project to improve healthy eating in the target community of Alcester. The funding of £10,000 to be used for research, training and equipment to provide sessions in nutrition, managing food costs and weight.
4. Young people not in positive destinations (NEETS) will be run through Stratford College.
The funding for this project is £48,000 (details to follow).

Nuneaton LSP -

Narrowing the Gap Projects agreed by the Public Service Board 15.05.08.

Category	Organisation	Total
Health	Nuneaton & Bedworth Healthy Living Network	£59,600
Health	Warwickshire Primary Care Trust	£15,000
Health	Warwickshire County Council	£34,900
Employment and Skills	Warwickshire County Council	£20,000
Employment and Skills	Connexions	£18,500
Employment and Skills	Warwickshire County Council	£60,000
Crime and Disorder	Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council	£60,000
Crime and Disorder	Nuneaton and Bedworth Leisure Trust	£26,000
Crime and Disorder	Warwickshire Police	£20,000
Crime and Disorder	Warwickshire County Council	£10,000
Community Cohesion	Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council	£49,000
Public Relations	Pride in Camp Hill	£27,000
		£400,000

Funding Breakdown	Position as at 30/06/08				Forecast Outturn		
	Grant	Spend	Variation	Variation	Grant	Spend	Variation
	£	£	£	%	£	£	£
Local Involvement Networks	53,034	107,344	54,310	102.4%	212,137	212,000	(137)
Stratford-on-Avon LSP	25,000	0	(25,000)	-100.0%	100,000	100,000	0
Nuneaton and Bedworth LSP	100,000	14,900	(85,100)	-85.1%	400,000	400,000	0
Warwick LSP	25,000	0	(25,000)	-100.0%	100,000	100,000	0
Rugby LSP	25,000	0	(25,000)	-100.0%	100,000	100,000	0
North Warwickshire LSP	25,000	0	(25,000)	-100.0%	100,000	100,000	0
Total	253,034	122,244	(130,790)	-51.7%	1,012,137	1,012,000	(137)

Reasons for Variations

WCC P&D - Warwickshire Local Involvement Network received a one off payment of £79039 paid into a separate bank account held by HAP for LINKs r consultations, meetings and any other activities they agree to do. The rest of the budget of £120961 is paid to the HOST (HAP) in 12 month equal paym a one off payment on award of contract to provide support to the Warwickshire. £6048.05 of this is retained subject to them achieving Key Performance be paid at a 6 months and 12 months review.

Stratford LSP - The variation in Quarter one is due to the funding not being received until mid August.

Nuneaton LSP - Financial support will be paid quarterly in arrears to partner organisations on submission of an invoice and supporting performance info £41,000 had been paid by the end of July.

Action Taken / Planned Action

WCC P&D - No Action taken

Stratford LSP - Funding is now being released to the four groups in line with the instalments received. Copies of invoices have been requested as back being claimed.

Appendix E

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Agenda Item 9(ii)

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008

Safer and Stronger Communities Capital Grant – 2008/09 Spending Proposals

Report of the Safer Block Lead and the LAA Accountable Officer

Summary

In 2008/09, the Home Office is making available to Warwickshire County Council, a Safer and Stronger Communities capital grant of £173,421. In addition to this funding a £4,972 capital carry forward from 2007/08 is also available, giving total capital resources for 2008/09 of £178,393.

In 2007/08 this grant was part of the LAA Pooled Grant, with the use of the grant approved by the PSB on recommendation Warwickshire Safer Communities Partnership (WSCP).

For 2008/09 WSCP is seeking PSB support for their proposed use of this funding. If supported the proposal will then go forward to the County Council for final approval.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the PSB:

- (i) Support the proposed use of the 2008/09 Safer and Stronger Communities capital grant, as recommended by WSCP shown in Table 1.
- (ii) Supports the proposed use of any capital contingency, shown in Table 2, should resources become available.
- (iii) Seeks approval from the Warwickshire County Council for the grant to be used by WSCP for the purposes outlined in the report.

1 Background

- 1.1 In 2007/08 the LAA Pooled Grant included a capital element as part of the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund. The PSB allocated this resource to the Safer Block, with most of the funding going as a capital grant to the CDRPs.
- 1.2 For 2008/09 the position changed. As part of the 2008/09 Local Government Settlement the County Council has received a Safer and Stronger Communities Capital Grant of £173,000 for 2008/09 and an equivalent indicative amount for the following two years.

- 1.3 At its meeting on 26 June 2008 the PSB requested that that Safer and Stronger Themed Blocks consider how they would wish to use the £173,000 capital grant for Safer and Stronger Communities, in 2008/09, to deliver the outputs and outcomes of the new LAA and report back to the PSB, with proposals. These proposals would then be forwarded to the County Council, seeking approval for the use of the grant.
- 1.4 This report is the result of the request from the PSB in June. There are no proposals from the Stronger Block for 2008/09. Therefore the report focuses on the proposals from the Safer Block.

2 Purpose of the Allocation

- 2.1 There are no longer any formal grant conditions relating to this capital grant, rather the spending must comply with the accounting policies of the County Council and comply with the purpose for which the grant was approved by Parliament. Therefore any proposals to use the grant must be aimed at tackling crime, anti-social behaviour and drugs, empowering communities, and improving the condition of streets and public spaces; in particular for disadvantaged neighbourhoods where these issues often require more attention.

3 Process for Developing the Proposals

- 3.1 On the 3 June 2008, WSCP proposed that the capital under spend of £4,972 from 2007/08 should be retained within the Safer Communities Block in 2008/09, as a contingency. At the same meeting, WSCP requested that a sub group of the Community Safety Practitioner Group meet to agree capital spending proposals for 2008/09.
- 3.2 On the 17 June 2008, the Community Safety Practitioners Group agreed the following process for capital funding proposals:
- CDRPs should submit funding proposals, within mutually agreed limits, (based on a previously agreed allocation criteria) for the 2008/09 SSCF capital. These limits were Stratford £32,395 (19%), Warwick £39,215 (23%), Rugby £32,395 (19%), Nuneaton and Bedworth £39,215 (23%) and North Warwickshire £27,280 (16%).
 - That a minimum of £2,500 plus any capital funding not utilised within CDRP allocations should be added to the contingency.

4 Capital Proposals

- 4.1 On the 8 August 2008, WSCP considered 2008/09 capital funding proposals and agreed that the proposals totalling £176,439, shown in Table 1 below, should be recommended to the PSB. These proposals include using £10,000 of the contingency to fund the A-frame crime prevention trailers.
- 4.2 As a result of these proposals being supported £1,958 would remain unallocated in the contingency. If for any reason one or more of the above proposals cannot proceed, is funded from elsewhere, or costs less than originally anticipated, WSCP are seeking support from the PSB, that any capital under spend be utilised to fund the proposals in Table 2 below, in the priority order shown.

Table 1: 2008/09 Capital Spending Proposals		
Allocated to:	Capital Funding £	Proposal
Stratford CDRP	6,000	Overt decoy vehicle for police use CCTV (ANPR) camera
	26,000	
	32,000	
Warwick CDRP	13,000	Traffic management plan to address violent crime and ASB in Bedford Street and Tailstock Street, Leamington Spa CCTV (ANPR) Camera
	22,549	
	35,549	
Rugby CDRP	14,895	Youth Shelter – Wolston <i>(A bid is also being made to the Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF) for this funding. If the bid to the YOF is successful, this money will be available to fund the contingency projects)</i>
	7,500	
	10,000	
	32,395	
Nuneaton & Bedworth CDRP	39,215	Domestic Abuse Refuge (contribution to purchase of building) <i>(If the purchase of the building does not proceed Nuneaton and Bedworth CDRP will bring forward alternative proposals to WSCP for consideration)</i>
	39,215	
North Warwickshire CDRP	15,981	Lighting a multi- use games facility ASB Database
	11,299	
	27,280	
Warwickshire Police	10,000	2 'A' frame crime prevention trailers
	10,000	
Total	176,439	

Table 2: Priority Ranking of Contingency Allocations			
Priority	Capital Funding £	Allocated to:	Proposal
1	7,500	Warwickshire Police	'Smartwater' Vehicle
2	12,000	Serious Violent Crime Group	Head Cameras
3	7,792	WAYC	First Gear Pre-Learner Driving Courses

ANDY PARKER
Safer Block Lead

DAVE CLARKE
Accountable Officer

Agenda Item 9(iii)

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22 September 2008

LAA Reward Grant – Consultation Response

Report of the Accountable Officer

Recommendation

The PSB is recommended to:

- Note the broad framework of the new LAA performance reward grant framework, as outlined in Section 3.
- Request that the Accountable Officer submits a response to the consultation paper on behalf of the PSB on the basis of Appendix A.
- Ask Block Leads to ensure that the agreement of baselines and targets, as part of the 2009 refresh and the consequent delivery planning, reflect the wish to maximise Warwickshire's achievement of performance reward grant.

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 On 18 July the Government issued a consultation paper that set out their proposals for a new method of calculating Performance Reward Grant entitlement, payable against targets in new LAAs starting in 2008. The consultation will run until 26 September 2008.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to outline the Government's proposals, assess the potential impact in Warwickshire and to seek agreement to submitting a response to the Government on behalf of the PSB, on the lines set out in the report.

2 Background

- 2.1 In February the Government announced a new LAA reward scheme £340 million, payable in 2011/12 and 2012/13. This is separate from existing reward schemes under the LPSA agreements, which will continue to be paid in accordance with the agreements already in place.
- 2.2 Using the Government's methodology for sharing out the available funding between areas, this equates to approximately £3.2 million for Warwickshire. The reward grant will be paid as 72% revenue and 28% capital.
- 2.3 The key design principles behind the new scheme were announced as part of the guidance for the new LAA. These state that it should be
- Simple to operate.
 - Integral to the main LAA negotiations so that it does not require additional work to agree, calculate or monitor separate reward targets.
 - Capable of incentivising change across the board rather than incentivising interventions in relation to particular indicators, and

- Capable of incentivising a similar level of ambition and stretch in relation to targets as the previous scheme.

3 New LAA Performance Reward Grant

3.1 Building on these principles a number of components of the reward scheme have already been decided or are positive proposals from the Government in the consultation paper:

- Reward will be calculated based on **average** performance across the basket of 34 indicators in the Warwickshire LAA (i.e. excluding the 16 mandatory education indicators and the local indicators). This is different from the current LPSA reward grant which is calculated per indicator.
- A baseline and target for the end of the LAA period will be agreed for each indicator. The target levels which will attract reward grant will be confirmed at the first annual review of the LAA in 2009.
- The latest available audited data before targets are finalised will be used as the baseline. If, due to problems of data availability a baseline and target cannot be finalised at this time then the indicator will be excluded for the reward grant calculation. Any subsequent changes to indicators will also result in their exclusion from the reward grant calculation.
- The performance score on an individual target will show the proportion of distance travelled between the baseline and the target. A score of 100% means the target has been achieved or exceeded, a score of 0% means no improvement on the baseline has taken place.
- A minimum average performance of 60% (in terms of moving from the baseline towards the target) will need to be achieved before any reward grant will be paid.
- The maximum reward grant will only be payable if all the targets are achieved.
- The level of reward grant will be calculated in 2011, based on the audited measure of achievement in relation to the target.

4 Consultation Response

4.1 The consultation paper contains 8 questions relevant to Warwickshire. The questions are primarily seeking clarification that partnerships are happy with the proposals in Section 3 above. In the main, given the principles already agreed, there is nothing controversial in the proposals and it is recommended that the proposals are accepted in the PSBs response, as providing the simplest way of delivering on the Government's aims. A full list of the consultation questions and proposed response is attached at Appendix A.

5 Next Steps

5.1 Given that the consultation is unlikely to deliver significant changes to the Government's proposals, the key issue for the PSB is to maximise the reward grant achieved by Warwickshire. The 2009 refresh is the time when many of the issues will be clarified and therefore the PSB is recommended to ask Block Leads to ensure that the agreement of baselines and targets as part of the 2009 refresh and the consequent delivery planning reflect the wish to maximise Warwickshire's achievement of performance reward grant.

Dave Clarke

Strategic Director of Resources, Warwickshire County Council and
Accountable Officer of the Warwickshire LAA

Proposed Warwickshire Response to the Consultation

Question 1:

Do you agree that performance below baseline and above target should be disregarded when calculating the average level of performance across the LAA?

Proposed Response:

Warwickshire supports the proposal that performance below baseline and above target should be disregarded when calculating the average level of performance. We believe that without some limit or cap on performance (positive or negative) there is the potential for one indicator to significantly skew the overall calculation of average performance. Such skew does not sit comfortably with the key principle of reward grant to incentivise change across all the LAA indicators.

Question 2:

Do you agree that starting reward entitlement at 60% provides the best balance in terms of incentivising ambitious and consistent performance whilst providing a realistic level of challenge?

Proposed Response:

Warwickshire accepts that to meet the principle of incentivising performance across all targets requires a minimum level of performance to be achieved before any reward grant is paid.

We also support the impact of this; in that once the minimum average has been met the amount of additional reward grant received for performance above this minimum level is higher. We accept that if no minimum threshold were introduced then the additional reward grant for performance towards the higher end of the spectrum would not be sufficient to generate the incentivisation the government is seeking.

We have no strong opinion on whether 60% is the correct threshold, but accept there is merit in continuing with the same threshold used in the current LPSA reward grant scheme.

Question 3:

Do you agree it is not necessary (given the lower threshold of 60%) to require areas to achieve a proportion of targets in full before they are able to earn any reward?

Proposed Response:

Warwickshire supports the proposal not to require areas to achieve a proportion of targets in full before they are able to earn any reward. Any requirement to achieve a minimum number of targets in full would add increased complexity into the system and potentially result in an authority achieving 90% on all targets but getting no reward grant because a minimum number of targets had not been achieved in full. As well as not meeting the principle of simplicity it also does not promote the principle of rewarding average performance.

Question 4:

Do you agree with the proposal for determining the baseline for calculating entitlement to Performance Reward Grant?

Proposed Response:

We support the proposals in relation to determining the baseline. To agree that to work successfully the reward model requires a clear and unambiguous baseline for determining the starting point for improvement to be rewarded over the course of the LAA.

We also accept that the baseline and target must use data gathered in the same way over the same length of time. However, there is a caveat to this latter point. If the government changes the definition or required method of calculation of a National Indicator during the period of the LAA then individual authorities should not be penalised, in terms of the level of reward grant they would have received had the indicator not been changed.

Question 5:

Do you agree that for the purposes of determining reward grant entitlement the latest available performance data in the final year of the LAA should generally be used?

Proposed Response:

We support the proposal; however, we believe there is a need to clearly remove any ambiguity. We would suggest that at the time the baselines and targets are set as part of the 2009 annual refresh an agreed specification of the data source against which final performance will be measured is also agreed. This agreement should be along the lines of Figure 7 in the consultation paper.

Question 6:

Do you agree that the second instalment of PRG should be adjusted if a complete set of performance data is not available when claiming the first instalment in 2010/11?

Proposed Response:

Warwickshire supports this proposal but would welcome clarification of the indicators where this will apply being agreed as part of the 2009 refresh.

Report to the Warwickshire Public Service Board

22nd September 2008

LAA Key Developments

Report of the County Partnerships Manager

Recommendations:

1. It is recommended the Board makes such comments as it considers appropriate in relation to:
 - a) The Development of the Warwickshire SCS (paragraph 2)
 - b) Performance Management and Delivery Planning (paragraph 3)
 - c) Communications (paragraph 4)
 - d) The Work Programme (paragraph 6)
2. The Board authorises the Programme Champion to conclude the Improvement Support Plan in line with the outline contained in paragraph 5 of this report

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report seeks to update the Board on key LAA developments in respect of:
 - The development of the Warwickshire SCS
 - Performance Management & Delivery Planning
 - Communications
 - Learning to Deliver Action Plan
 - Work Programme (2008/09)

2 The Development of the Warwickshire SCS

- 2.1 At the May meeting of the Public Service Board it was agreed that it would focus on the key strategic issues facing the county in the foreseeable future (up to 2015) with a view to the development of Warwickshire-wide Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) by April 2009.

- 2.2 At the same meeting it was also agreed that the following topics would be examined and would help inform the development of the SCS:
- The Growth Agenda – visioning the impact of the Regional Spatial Strategy from the particular perspective of its impact on service demands
 - Narrowing the Gap and Raising Achievement as an ongoing driver for all of our partnership work.
 - Addressing expanding service delivery needs within the context of potentially diminishing public sector budgets
 - Changing Population and Demography of the county - developing a shared and balanced understanding across the public sector of the impact of migration and the ageing population on the economy, community cohesion and service delivery
 - Promoting Economic Growth and the Skills Agenda including the Regional Economic Strategy
 - Promoting Health and Addressing Health Inequalities including the essential interface with Educational Achievement
 - Embedding a vision for a Stronger and Safer County
 - Addressing the impact of Climate Change
- 2.3 Subsequent meetings of the Board and the Advisory Forum have emphasised the need for a multi agency approach and the need for the countywide SCS to complement and contribute to the five borough/district SCS'. In having such regard the partnerships have been aware of the County's vision through the document 'What will Warwickshire be like in 2015?' Other influences on the SCS will be:
- The LAA
 - Regional Spatial Strategy
 - Sub-National Review
 - Local Development Framework
 - Sub-Regional Issues
- 2.4 Attached as Appendix A is a Project Plan which outlines the approach that is proposed in the development of the SCS by April 2009. In summary the key proposals are:
- a) Visioning and Agreeing an Approach (**by end September 2008**)
 - b) Cross Reference with Local LSP's (**by end October 2008**)
 - c) Draft Strategy produced (**by end November 2008**)
 - d) Draft Strategy consultation (**December-January 2008**)
 - e) Approval of SCS (**February 2008**)

- f) SCS publication (**March 2008**)
- g) SCS Implementation (**April 2009 onwards**)

3 Performance Management & Delivery Planning

Performance Reporting

- 3.1 The implementation of the New LAA commenced on 1st July 2008. As a result, there has been no first quarter reporting of the New LAA.
- 3.2 Performance Management of the New LAA will commence in late September/early October with collation of mid year performance. Analysis will need to reflect and acknowledge the 'missed' quarter in 2008/09. In preparation for the next quarter a seminar will be held for all partners on 25th September 2008 (2.15-4.30: Shire Hall Warwick). Although the main purpose of the seminar will be to reinforce requirements it will also be an opportunity to discuss experiences and propose improvements where required.
- 3.3 In keeping with the intention expressed at the last Board meeting to focus on 'strategic' rather than operational issues it is intended that performance reports will be submitted in their entirety to Block Leaders. After detailed examination and analysis by that group, headline information will be submitted to the Board together with those areas of good practice and concern that have been identified by the Block Leaders. This will not preclude Members of the Board from an examination of the reports which will be available on the LAA website www.warwickshire.gov.uk/laa

Delivery Planning

- 3.4 Members of the Board will be aware that, upon approval of the New LAA, all blocks were requested to produce delivery plans between July and August. The delivery plans seeks to set out:
 - The activities that underpin the indicators
 - The extent to which the delivery of the indicator is supported by partnership activity
 - How blocks are tackling issues such as Narrowing the Gap and Cross Cutting Issues
 - Analysis of risk and activities to mitigate
 - Identification of resources to deliver and additional resources required
- 3.5 In addition to detailing 'how we will do what we have said that we will do' in the LAA; robust delivery plans are important from a performance management perspective as the inclusion of milestones and proxy measures assist in the assessment of accurate forecasting especially in those instances where data is not collated at regular intervals. The consideration of risk and resources also enables issues to be identified (and by implication) addressed promptly. Detailed assessment of resources enables partners to examine performance in light of expenditure and assess both the extent to which

resources require redirection and whether the sum total of partnership activity is adding value in terms of outcomes to the community.

3.6 The Delivery plans have been evaluated and feedback has been given to those involved in the process. In summary key issues to emerge are:

- A need in some instances for a clearer link between the activities proposed and the delivery of targets. Clarity is also required on milestones and proxy measures (where required)
- Greater attention required to narrowing the gap and the incorporation of cross cutting issues
- More detailed information on risk and the identification of resources

3.6 It is hoped that the issues that have been identified will be addressed during the refresh of the delivery plans in early 2009 in advance of the commencement of Year 2 of the LAA.

3.6 Full details of all delivery plans are available on the LAA website. Headline information on a block by block basis is attached as Appendix B to provide the Board with an overview.

4 Communications

4.1 In addition to improvements to the LAA website, the publication of the Annual Review and the development of an accessible version of the LAA; a seminar was convened in July for all partners to come together and discuss proposals for improving communications both within the partnership and to demonstrate the wider benefits of partnership working to the public. Key developments to emerge from that session and subsequent meetings was:

- The usefulness of a quarterly e-bulletin
- Each block to run two media campaigns per year
- Implementation of the Communications Framework
- Widening the LAA website to one that incorporates wider partnership activity

4.2 Block Leaders have expressed an interest in the co-ordination of communications and ensuring that progress is achieved in accordance with the framework in a manner that reflects the spirit of partnership working.

5 Learning to Deliver Action Plan 2008/09

5.1 At its meeting on 26th June 2008, the Board received information concerning the Learning to Deliver Programme (L2D) for 2008-9. The Board will recall that L2D is a development programme for Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) in the West Midlands that aims to provide practical support and activities to help improve the delivery of LAA outcomes.

5.2 In Warwickshire there are 6 LSPs – i.e. the Public Service Board and the 5 district based LSPs. In 2/3 tier areas, management of work relating to L2D rests with the LSP responsible for delivering the LAA (the PSB)

5.3 The individual components of the L2D programme are:

- The assignment of a Lead Local Improvement Adviser (Derrick Johnstone) with up to 12 days of support available.
- LAA Improvement Grant – in Warwickshire a total of £85,000 is available to support work help LSPs to improve their delivery of their Local Area Agreements outcomes. This is made up of £50,000 countywide and £7,000 for each of the district LSPs.
- An Improvement Support Plan must be produced to secure the resource
- The PSB must identify a Programme Champion whose role is to:
 - Provide Strategic Support to the development and delivery of the Programme
 - Ensure that PSB receives regular progress updates
 - Encourage the active participation of partner organisations in the L2D programme

5.4 The following position currently applies:

- Christine Kerr (Chief Executive of Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council and Chair of the Nuneaton and Bedworth LSP) has agreed to take on the role of Programme Champion for the PSB.
- Discussions have taken place with the Local Improvement Adviser and the District LSP Officers Group and it has been agreed that the Improvement Support Plan should be focused on supporting partnership activity in relation to community empowerment through National Indicator 4:

‘% people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality’.

- The Improvement Support Plan is currently being developed – in broad terms the Plan will focus on:
 - Work across the county to support and enhance the establishment and development of the Community Forums, likely to take the form of two externally facilitated workshops for each Forum addressing key local issues

- Priorities for community empowerment identified by each of the district LSPs
- Work with Town and Parish Councils to support the Parish Planning Process

5.4 It is anticipated that the Plan will be completed by the end of September 2008 and the Board is requested to authorise the Programme Champion to finalise this on its behalf.

6 Work Programme 2008/09

6.1 At the 26th June meeting of the Board it was agreed that a work programme would be established for the 2008/09 year. This is attached as Appendix C and reflects comments that were made at the meeting for the need to adopt a more strategic focus and remove some of the processes associated with LAA activity. In addition to the Board, dates have also been established for the Advisory Forum, Block Leads and every effort has been made to ensure that the dates are aligned to key LAA/partnership activity.

Development of a Warwickshire SCS (September 2008-March 2009)

Appendix A

Ref:	Key Deliverables and milestones	Lead	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
1.0	Agree Visioning Approach	NGJ								
1.1	WCC Cabinet	NGJ								
1.2	Broad agreement on Vision and Issues to be addressed through the Strategy	PSB Members								
2.0	Cross Reference Approach	NGJ								
2.1	Key Outcomes from LAA and LAA governance structures	BB								
2.2	Complete Analysis of District Based SCS/Community Plans + key partner strategies	NGJ & District LSP Officers								
3.1	To identify common priorities and ensure bottom up approach via localities	NGJ/Area Managers								
3.2	National and Sub-Regional considerations	NGJ / BB								
3.3	Consideration of emerging themes from countywide blocks	NGJ/BB								
3.0	Draft SCS to be prepared for consultation / engagement	NGJ, District LSP Officers								
3.1	Draft Strategy approved for circulation by PSB	NGJ								

Ref:	Key Deliverables and milestones	Lead	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
4.0	Consultation on Draft Strategy	NGJ, PSB Members District LSP Officers								
4.1	Consultation via Lisp's	District LSP Officers								
4.2	Individual Partner Endorsement	All Partners								
4.3	Locality Forums	Area Managers								
4.4	PSBAF	BB								
5.0	Finalise and Approval of SCS	NGJ								
5.1	PSB Approval	NGJ								
5.2	LSP approval	PSB Members								
5.3	Individual Partner endorsement	PSB Members District LSP Officers								
6.0	SCS Publication	Warwickshire Observatory								
7.0	SCS Implementation	All Partners								

HEADLINE DELIVERY PLANS

Children, Young People and Families

Overall Summary

A1	Block	Children, Young People and Families
A2	Vision for the Block	Every child and young person, including those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged, has the greatest possible opportunity to be the best they can be.
A3	Indicators focussed on Narrowing the Gap	As indicated above, Narrowing the Gap is fundamental to the ethos of all work carried out to support children, young people and families in Warwickshire. In addition to NI 75 - % GCSEs (incl. Maths and English), NI 116 Child Poverty and NI 117 – NEETS, which are identified as Narrowing the Gap priorities NI 50 – Emotional Health, NI 56 – Obesity, NI 69 – Bullying all have this as a focus
A4	Indicators incorporating cross cutting issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rurality: Young people have indicated transport is a key issue for them, particularly in rural areas. This is therefore key to NI 110 (participation in positive activities) and NI 116 (children in poverty). Rurality can also indirectly impact on educational attainment and outcomes. - Equalities: We have a statutory duty to consider equalities in all elements of work and target setting. In particular, equalities issues will come into NI I50 (emotional health of children), NI I69 (bullying), NI 116 (poverty) and NI 72 (personal, social and health education). - Culture sport and active recreation: This theme is incorporated particularly in NI I50 (emotional health), NI I56 (obesity) NI 110 (positive activities) and NI 111 (youth justice).
A5	Statement of Involvement	The Children Trust Board oversees the delivery of the CYP Block of the LAA. Representation on the Board includes partners from: County Council, District and Borough Councils, Police, Health, Schools, Connexions, Voluntary and Community Sectors, Learning and Skills Councils, Chamber of Commerce. This is supported by an Officers' Group with similar representation to ensure good

		<p>communication and co-ordination for planning and performance management through partner organisations.</p> <p>Local delivery is overseen by the Children's Trust Area CYP Partnership whose membership is made up of partners as above, whose role is to plan and performance manage the LAA at a local level.</p>
A6	Localised indicators	<p>NI 102 KS2 Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2</p> <p>NI 102 KS4 Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 4</p> <p>NI 112 Under 18 conception rate</p> <p>NI 79 Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19</p>

Key Activities for 2008/09

- Investment in Healthy Schools by PCT which will enable more resources to be given to ensure that the target is reached and exceeded by Dec 2009
- Development of partnership activity with wide range of agencies linking adult and children's sectors aimed at reducing child poverty by sharing information to ensure a greater take up of benefits, working together to establish more work-related opportunities eg. apprenticeships aimed at the most disadvantaged and developing a Warwickshire Employment partnership.
- These strands are interlinked with work to reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) and work in the Youth Justice arena to improve the health of young people entering the youth justice system.
- The challenge to halt the rise in obesity has resulted in an increase in partnership activity focused on Narrowing the Gap, in particular in Nuneaton and Bedworth with joint projects to increase breastfeeding, promote healthy school food and encourage increased uptake of free schools meals, and an emphasis on promoting physical activity which dovetails with the cross-cutting theme to promote leisure and cultural activities
- The Warwickshire Anti-Bullying Partnership's Strategic Plan for 2008/9 will focus on prejudice-driven bullying, fitting in with the LAA cross-cutting theme on equalities
- Provision of services to promote emotional well-being through schools are being aligned to ensure that young people are able to access help at an early stage to reduce the need to access specialist treatment at a later stage.

How have we identified local priorities and how are we working with local LSP's to deliver the LAA?

- Partnership event in January 2008 - 150 partners involved. Used the event to decide LAA priorities, and also local priorities for each district
- needs analysis using the Dartington-i model informs our joint commissioning
- analysis of data including benchmarking
- feedback from children, young people and parents eg. Through the Every Child Matters survey
- professional expertise and local area intelligence

Local activities include:

- Reduction of child poverty (Warwick),
- joint work to support vulnerable young people who are not attending school(Warwick),
- prevention of children entering the care system (Rugby),
- Implementation of the Play Strategy Action Plan (North Warks)
- Tackling obesity through local Sports Network actions (North Warks),

There is some variation of structure across the county but in the main the Children's Trust Area Partnerships are the block group for children and young people within the LSP and report to the main LSP board on their activity. Communication is maintained through the attendance at LSP meetings by Block chairs and sharing of plans etc which supports a co-ordinated and coherent approach.

Are there resources available to deliver the activities that underpin the achievement of the indicator? If not what is being done or is required to ensure that activity is adequately resourced?

- There is current uncertainty as to the level of resources that will be available post- March 2009 and this is very significant in assessing whether indicators will be achievable or not. It is highly likely that very hard decisions will have to be made on prioritising services which may have a negative impact on outcomes and performance indicators.
- Budget decisions made on the Area Based Grant as well as County Council and funding through partner agencies will all make a significant impact.

What are the key risks for this block?

- Impact of national economic climate on performance eg. child poverty will be affected if unemployment raises. This in turn may well have an impact on other indicators eg. education attainment targets.
- Commitment to partnerships – they require commitment of time, effort resources to build relationships which result in a willingness to contribute to the work of others for the benefit of the community which may not be in keeping with individual organisation’s top priorities. Resource reduction may lead to intolerable pressures being placed on partnerships as organisations retrench and make hard decisions about what their priorities are and what they are prepared to devote to partnership working.
- Uncertainty about measurement and changes at national level to outcome measures which are developing with experience eg. How to measure impact on bullying which is a complex, subject to high level debate and reliant on systems of recording which are not reliable.
- Delays in receiving benchmarking data eg the children running away from home data will not be available from DSCF until 2009
- Lack of consistency of funding will impact on programmes of work, ability to retain experienced staff, incomplete programmes of work, and wasted investment
- Confusion caused by increasing impetus to recognise success in terms of improving outcomes for children and young people while other performance management tools are still relying out an output-oriented framework.

Safer Communities

Overall Summary

A1	Block	Safer Communities Block
A2	Vision for the Block	“Protecting Our Communities Together”
A3	Indicators focussed on Narrowing the Gap	NI 15 - Serious Violent Crime NI 16 - Serious Acquisitive Crime NI 21 - Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and the police
A4	Indicators incorporating cross cutting issues	NI 21 - Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and the police NI 30 - To reduce the number of convictions of 100 identified prolific and persistent offenders NI 40 - Drug users in effective treatment

A5	Statement of Involvement	All relevant agencies have been involved in the development of the delivery plan – Police, Police Authority, all directorates of WCC, District and Borough Councils, CDRPs as the safer communities element of the LSPs, Probation, CPS, courts, voluntary and community organisations e.g. Neighbourhood Watch, CWIC, domestic abuse statutory and voluntary agencies.
A6	Localised indicators	ALL

Key Activities for 2008/09

- Implement countywide action plan to tackle violence
- Implement Domestic Abuse strategy and action plan
- Review and implement Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy
- Implement a range of measures through CDRPs to address acquisitive crime
- Implement a range of measures through the Warwickshire Business Crime Unit to address business crime
- Implement ASB strategy and action plan
- Review infrastructure, aims, objectives and resourcing of PPOs across the county and implement recommendations
- Deliver adult and young persons treatment services in order to achieve partnership targets for commencements in effective treatment
- Implement Road Safety strategy across the county

Most of the above activities are delivered in partnerships formed (from earlier partnership structures) to deliver the LAA.

As a result of the LAA, the Safer Communities Block partners have:

- Reviewed partnership working arrangements
- Established a process for the identification and agreement of priorities
- Identified and explored opportunities to narrow the gap
- Identified and explored opportunities for cross-cutting work
- Identified the contributions that can be made towards the achievement of mutually agreed LAA targets
- Agreed how LAA performance should be monitored

How have we identified local priorities and how are we working with local LSP's to deliver the LAA?

Each of the LSPs has their CDRP as the theme group for reducing crime and anti-social behaviour. Links are established through the CDRP and LSP into the LAA countywide targets.

Each CDRP has a Partnership Plan for the next 3 years. The countywide Community Safety Agreement is also a 3 year plan. CDRP Partnership Plans and the Community Safety Agreement are subject to a statutory annual strategic assessment which indicates the priorities for the forthcoming year.

All countywide interventions and CDRP interventions are reviewed on an annual basis, following the strategic assessment. Strategic assessment data, intervention performance data, resource availability and the findings of any internal or external reviews are all taken into account during this review process.

Are there resources available to deliver the activities that underpin the achievement of the indicator? If not what is being done or is required to ensure that activity is adequately resourced?

At the present time there are resources available to deliver the activities that underpin the achievement of the Safer Communities Block Indicators. However, these resources are only confirmed for 2008/09 and include £200k 'borrowed' from the virtual bank as an advance against LPSA2 reward funding.

A review of the Warwickshire Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPO) Scheme is currently taking place and the results of this review are due to be made available by the end of October.

A Value for Money Review of all interventions (except the PPO Scheme) that are funded through the Safer Communities Block has also been commissioned. The results of this review are due in early October.

The results of the above reviews will be considered during the budget setting process for 2009/10.

What are the key risks for this block?

- Decision making might be compromised. (Achieving a balance between the the needs of the local community and wider interests)
- Inability to meet National Indicators on Serious Violent Crime.
- The continuing perception of the public in relation to fear of crime (partly due to local and national media reporting).
- Potential changes in Government policy during the course of the LAA, without sufficient notice.
- Conflicting priorities (i.e. CDRP and LAA)

- The consequences of future funding uncertainty.

Stronger Communities

Overall Summary

A1	Block	Stronger Communities
A2	Vision for the Block	Creating strong stable and cohesive communities through the empowerment of people to have a greater say on how they are governed and services are provided. To create the environment where people of all backgrounds can access the services they require within an overall atmosphere of tolerance and diversity.
A3	Indicators focussed on Narrowing the Gap	NI1 Community Cohesion NI4 Community Empowerment NI6 Volunteering NI8 Sport and active recreation NI155 Affordable Housing
A4	Indicators incorporating cross cutting issues	NI1 Community Cohesion NI4 Community Empowerment NI6 Volunteering NI8 Sport and active recreation NI155 Affordable Housing
A5	Statement of Involvement	Lead officers for each target as follows have involved partners in the development of the plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI1 Community Cohesion – Arun Kang (WREP) • NI4 Community Empowerment – Dave Nash (SDC) • NI6 Volunteering – Sue Palanganda (N&B Volunteer Centre) • NI8 Sport and Active Recreation – Jane Waterhouse (CSW Sport) • NI155 Affordable Housing – Alison Simmons (WDC) <p>The Delivery Plan is drawn from a range of partnership strategies and Corporate plans each of which have their own involvement mechanisms.</p>
A6	Localised indicators	All

Key Activities for 2008/09

Indicator	Key Activities
NI1 Community Cohesion	Develop and Implement Gypsy & Traveller Strategy
	Develop and implement 'new and emerging communities' strategy
	Nuneaton & Bedworth Community Cohesion Plan
NI4 Community Empowerment	Establish 30 quarterly Community Forums; & agree a local partnership plan for each Forum area.
	Establish the Warwickshire LINK to develop public participation and scrutiny within health and social care services
	LEADER Programmes in North Warwickshire, Rugby & Warwick promoting development of rural communities
NI6 Volunteering	Agree common 'volunteer management' standards for all partner agencies
	Develop a co-ordinated approach to the recruitment and support of volunteer 'governance' roles including trustees of voluntary organisations, school governors etc.
	Increase & streamline the availability of grants for grass-roots community activity (Heart Of England Community Foundation, Local Authorities)
NI8 Sport and active recreation	Manage 'Community Investment Funding' for a range of projects in each District to increase sports participation amongst key target groups
	Development of Free Swimming Programme for Under 16s and Over 60s
NI155 Affordable Housing	Aim to lift Moratoriums to maximise affordable housing provision
	Lobby the Housing Corporation for more funding and more favourable grant rates
	Identify strategic sites on public land that could be taken forward to increase affordable housing provision

How have we identified local priorities and how are we working with local LSPs to deliver the LAA?

- Priorities have been identified through analysis of data, and within each agency's business planning processes.
- Local Actions and Performance Measures are being developed within each of the District-based LSPs.
- Some key local actions are included in the County-wide Delivery Plan
- Each LSP has nominated a lead officer for each target to link to the County-wide group.

Are there resources available to deliver the activities that underpin the achievement of the indicators? If not what is being done or is required to ensure that activity is adequately resourced?

- It should be noted that mainstream resources in direct support of the Stronger Communities indicators are limited; and delivery planning is constrained by this.
- Partners have had some success in drawing in external funding in support of Stronger Communities priorities – particularly around sport, volunteering and third sector support services; and further bids are planned – including funding to support work around gypsies and travellers.
- There are particular issues regarding the availability of resources in support of delivering the affordable housing target; and the achievability of this target in the light of changing economic circumstances. These will be explored as part of the end-of-year ‘refresh’ of the LAA.
- Achievement of the housing target requires partner agencies to consider releasing resources for affordable housing through making available surplus publicly owned land.

What are the key risks for this block?

- That partners are unable to deliver the ‘affordable housing’ target, due to a range of circumstances.
- That the lack of dedicated resources constrains the effectiveness of the partnership to commission services in support of the agreed targets
- That partnership interventions around empowerment, cohesion and volunteering have insufficient impact on public attitudes and behaviour to affect the achievement of the targets
- That changing economic circumstances leads to a greater feeling of disempowerment, and less cohesive communities

Healthier Communities and Older People

Overall Summary

A1	Block	Healthier Communities & Older People
A2	Vision for the Block	Everyone in Warwickshire has the support and information they need to live healthy lifestyles and to live independently at home while health inequalities across the county are reduced.
A3	Indicators focussed on Narrowing the Gap	NI120 All age all cause mortality. NI123 Smoking Cessation.
A4	Indicators incorporating cross cutting issues	NI120, NI123, NI124, NI125, NI139, NI135, NI141, reduce the no. of people who fall, improve diet, increase physical activity,

A5	Statement of Involvement	All partner agencies
A6	Localised indicators	Differential targets will be set where they can at district level and incorporated into district Health Improvement Action Plans which will be monitored by both the local LSP's and also the county Healthier Communities Delivery Group.

Key Activities for 2008/09

Additional resources have been allocated particularly in Nuneaton & Bedworth through the Narrowing the Gaps monies from the LSP for a range of health improvement initiatives for the current year. These include activities around teenage conceptions, smoking, weight management and health MOTs specifically targeted at men. This would not have happened without the LAA.

How have we identified local priorities and how are we working with local LSP's to deliver the LAA?

All five district LSP's have a local Health Improvement & Wellbeing partnership group known as HIWeb. All HIWeb's have action plans based on local need and priorities identified in the Community Sustainable Plan and the LAA. The work is targeted to narrow the gap using local and county wide data and information. Differential targets are being developed at district level for the LAA to measure progress.

Are there resources available to deliver the activities that underpin the achievement of the indicator? If not what is being done or is required to ensure that activity is adequately resourced?

For two of the indicators NI 135 Carers and NI 141 Supporting People are resourced to deliver outcomes, however the current funding is part of the Area Based Grant and therefore is not necessarily secure.

Resources will need to be found to enable the reducing falls targets to be met both for a Co-ordinator to be appointed and also to seek additional PCT funding to improve the falls services in the north of the county to bring them in line with the south.

For the majority of indicators they will be achieved by partners working together to maximise their resources the only dedicated resource for some of the lifestyle work is where the local HIWeb has bid against the LSP's "Narrowing the Gaps" allocation for the current year, particularly in Nuneaton & Bedworth. There is dedicated funding allocated through the PCT to Smoking Cessation but further resources from all partners is needed to ensure the narrowing the gaps agenda is met.

A Business Case is being finalised to bring together health improvement services in Nuneaton & Bedworth to include the Health Trainer Service, Wellness Matters services and some smoking cessation work to be delivered through a Social Enterprise Model/Voluntary Sector. To

enable this comprehensive programme the Healthy Living Network will require ongoing funding to continue to deliver activities to reducing health inequalities. Annual Funding of £100k is needed.

What are the key risks for this block?

- > All age all cause mortality target is particularly challenging. This was pointed out to Govt. Office.
- > Reducing health inequalities particularly in Nuneaton & Bedworth is challenging without a joined up strategic approach encompassing income maximisation, employment, educational attainment, training, housing and access to support for health improvement programmes.
- > Indicators that are based on surveys of perception are problematic in respect of their subjectivity. This is a particular issue for local indicator NI 139 which asks, through the Place Survey, which samples the whole local population and seeks their views of support for older people regardless of any first hand experience. There are additional problems with this indicator as the baseline will not be established until 2009 and so targets have yet to be set.

Economic Development and Enterprise

Overall Summary

A1	Block	Economic Development & Enterprise
A2	Vision for the Block	To ensure sustainable economic growth throughout Warwickshire whereby high value added businesses are encouraged and a range of jobs are created and retained with residents equipped with the appropriate skills and competencies to benefit from increased economic prosperity.
A3	Indicators focussed on Narrowing the Gap	All prioritise 'narrowing the gap' whether in terms of economic and social inequalities : NI152 (out of work benefits); NI163 (level 2 qualifications); NI171 (VAT registration rate) – the above include geographic targeting with Warwickshire (total) compared to priority wards where the gap is greatest for that specific indicator; plus NI175 (access to services by public transport) And also in terms of 'investing in success' : NI66 (average earnings) and NI 165 (level 4 qualifications) where aim is to narrow the gap between Warwickshire and the South East.

A4	Indicators incorporating cross cutting issues	If this means rural proofing; physical recreation and leisure; and culture possibility many of the EDE indicators are relevant.
A5	Statement of Involvement	<p>EDE Block Board and Officer Groups have been developing the case for priority indicators for some time. Indicator leads, in collaboration with GOWM and, where appropriate, their own Regional and National Depts, have agreed the actual targets. The final list of indicators was endorsed by the Theme Partnership at its meeting of 17th April and specific targets presented at a Workshop on 11th June 2008.</p> <p>Preparation of the draft delivery plan has been undertaken by Indicator Leads in collaboration with the Block Performance Lead. The EDE (wider) Theme Partnership has been given an opportunity to input comments before submission – as a draft – to the PSB. More discussion, input and development will result as an outcome of the next Theme Partnership meeting scheduled for September 23rd.</p>
A6	Localised indicators	NI152 (W'shire vs priority wards); NI163 (W'shire vs North Warwickshire & Nuneaton & Bedworth), NI 165 (W'shire vs South East); NI 166 (W'shire vs SE); NI 175 (W'shire vs Nuneaton & Bedworth)

Key Activities for 2008/09

- Bend and focus mainstream employment and skills support activity where possible on the 28 Priority Wards across the county to maximise our impact in those areas where it is most needed
- Improve the co-ordination, alignment and integration of employment, skills and enterprise provision across the county and develop a single "Warwickshire Offer" for individuals and employers
- Better understand the reasons and drivers behind people falling out of work or education and onto benefits, and look to develop pro-active and pre-emptive interventions
- Increase the uptake of Skills Pledges by employers across the county, making public commitments to support all of their employees to develop basic skills and work towards relevant and valuable qualifications to at least Level 2. Include a special focus on public sector organisations to commit to taking on the "Public Sector Skills Challenge"

- Promote self-employment as a real option for individuals, and improve alignment and integration with wider employment and skills provision
- Seek to provide programmes to support businesses struggling in the current economic climate, and dedicated enterprise, employment and skills support for those facing or at risk of redundancy
- Develop a sub-regional, co-ordinated approach to boosting Level 4 qualifications and maximising the impact it has on the strength and character of our economy
- Promote and support the uptake of management and leadership development programmes within local businesses
- Shout louder about our successes, developing and promoting a positive marketing campaign about Warwickshire's and the sub-regional economy and growth opportunities
- Expansion of Flexibus network across Warwickshire.
- Examine the feasibility of expanding a 'Community Links' type of service to other Districts/Boroughs

How have we identified local priorities and how are we working with local LSP's to deliver the LAA?

A series of workshops with District & Borough economic development portfolio holders and officers were undertaken to develop the EDE Block and ensure a two-way relationship between the LAA and local LSPs. A Partnership Group has been established which meets on a quarterly basis, and maintains this dialogue with elected members and officers.

The indicators with a clear "narrowing the gap" focus (NI's 152, 163, 171 and 175) will by definition have a series of local activities which will need to be delivered in partnership with local partners through LSP.

Are there resources available to deliver the activities that underpin the achievement of the indicator? If not what is being done or is required to ensure that activity is adequately resourced?

Mainstream resources and activity are available for worklessness (Jobcentre Plus), skills (LSC), enterprise (Business Link) and transport (WCC), which we will aim to bend and focus on LAA activities as far as possible. However, there is limited flexible funding, which can be specifically utilised to support the LAA and add value to existing activity. Some external funding (particularly European funding) is being sought to provide some additional resources, but this is likely to be geographically confined to certain areas of the county.

Additional funding to support flexible activity would be beneficial and increase our ability to meet and exceed our targets. If funding is available, then particular actions can be developed and costed.

What are the key risks for this block?

- Economic downturn – likely to lead to a tightening of the labour market and a rise in unemployment, which will significantly impact on our ability to meet the stretched targets for NI152. Worsening economic conditions will also potentially reduce the likelihood of individuals starting their own businesses, so may also have a knock on impact for indicator NI171.
- Failure to secure external funding (i.e. ESF & ERDF) – will reduce our ability to provide additional flexible resources to add value to mainstream activity and meet the stretched targets contained with the LAA
- Loss of provider resource – reductions in funding or levels of support by mainstream providers within Warwickshire (i.e. for employment, skills and enterprise activity) will impact on our ability to meet our targets
- Reduction of LAA Grant income for transport will significantly constrain our ability to meet the targets for NI175.

Climate Change and Environment

Key Summary

A1	Block	Climate Change & the Environment
A2	Vision for the Block	An improved environment for Warwickshire, which respects biodiversity and the limits of the planet’s natural resources, while preserving them for the benefit of future generations
A3	Indicators focussed on Narrowing the Gap	No specific indicators identified
A4	Indicators incorporating cross cutting issues	NI188, NI186, NI195,
A5	Statement of Involvement	WCC – all districts and boroughs, other partners as identified
A6	Localised indicators	NI185, NI187

Key Activities for 2008/09

NI186 – Per capita CO2 emissions in the LA area:

- The LAA will ensure a County wide response to this indicator, and also the extolling of best practice that will assist all organisations in reducing CO2.
- The LAA will ensure extolling best practice to communities, enabling and empowering communities.
- The LAA will look to move to “1 tonne challenge” if funding can be obtained that will assist in meeting the target.

NI188 – Adapting to Climate Change:

- The LAA will ensure that all Districts/Boroughs and the County move forward in a generic way to hit the necessary levels that are contained within the target.

NI191 – Residual Household Waste per Household:

- All activities would have taken place under the auspices of the Warwickshire Waste Partnership.

NI195 – Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting):

- The LAA will ensure sharing of best practice, and also to agree a common methodology in terms of monitoring.

NI197 – Improved Local Biodiversity, proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has been, or is being, implemented:

- The LAA will potentially provide funding essential to survey all necessary sites to hit the required targets.

How have we identified local priorities and how are we working with local LSP's to deliver the LAA?

- With reference to the previous LAA targets, the LSP held a series of workshops on the differentiation on targets to the local level.
- There was a strong correlation to local priorities (via consultation) to the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- Via the LAP, there are a number of groups working on local delivery on all Community Strategy themes.
- The new LAA has been brought to the LSP's attention, and there needs to be in depth discussion on the vision of the new LAA, and how the LSP can assist. Also, work in relation to the Narrowing the Gap Programme which contributes to local authority targets is being delivered.

Are there resources available to deliver the activities that underpin the achievement of the indicator? If not what is being done or is required to ensure that activity is adequately resourced?

NI186:

- Resources already identified by respective organisations.
- Potential requirements:
 - £5,000 Renewable Energy booklet
 - £100,000 “1 Tonne Challenge”

NI188:

- Resources already identified by respective organisations.
- Potential requirements:
 - DEFRA funding is being pursued by the Lead Officer

NI191:

- Resources already identified by respective organisations (PSA2).
- Potential requirements:
 - None identified.

NI195:

- Resources already identified by respective organisations.
- Potential requirements:
 - None identified.

NI197:

- Resources already identified by respective organisations.
- Potential requirements:
 - To ensure surveying of all sites in 2009/10. £246,500 would be required.

What are the key risks for this block?

- Obtaining the necessary funding
- In relation to NI191, the Government not pursuing the initiatives necessary to reduce CO2 emissions within their control
- All organisations not acting in a coherent manner
- Lack of partnership involvement

WARWICKSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD-WORK PROGRAMME 2008/09

Date of Meeting	Procedural Items	Substantive Items
26 th June 2008	--LAA Update --Finance Update --Work Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire Vision • Growth and Housing Agenda • Serious Violent Crime Project Update • LAA Communications Framework
September	--LAA Update --Performance and Finance Update --Work Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing the Impact of Climate Change • Hear by Right • Narrowing the Gap Update (incl. Child Poverty/Health Inequalities) • Probation • Housing and Growth • Results of ABG Scrutiny and Proposals for Joint Scrutiny • Identification of ABG Priorities/Allocation • Headline LAA Delivery Plans (Year 1) • CAA Consultation
November	--LAA Update --Performance and Finance Update --Risk Analysis --Work programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting Economic Growth and the Skills Agenda (Regional Economic Strategy) • Narrowing the Gap Update (P Galland) • LPSA 2 Reward/Delegated Capital • SCS Draft Consideration • Locality Profiles
January	--LAA Update --Work programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staying Healthy Strategy • Narrowing the Gap Update • Endorsement of SCS • Year 1 LAA refresh
February	--LAA Update --Performance and Finance Update --Work programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embedding a Vision for a Stronger and Safer County • Narrowing the gap Update • Budget decisions for LPSA 2/Delegated Capital
April	--LAA Update --Finance Update --Risk Analysis/Update --Work Programme (09/10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrowing the Gap Update • Outcomes of Budget process/ABG Financial Protocols • LAA Delivery Plans (Year 2)