

Wiltshire Coordinating Group

Tuesday 3 March 2009

Kennet Room, Divisional Police Headquarters
Hampton Park West
Melksham SN12 6QQ

10am – 12 noon

A G E N D A

1	Welcome and Apologies	
2	Minutes of the last meeting To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2009 as an accurate record and to consider any matters arising	
3	LAA Refresh Report for discussion (attached)	
4	Thematic Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updates on work done with regard to LPSA Performance Reward Grant - translating the priorities into plain English and identifying the issues for particular community areas• Local Agreement for Wiltshire (LAW) hotspots update	
5	Wiltshire Assembly <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To discuss the meeting on 26 March 2009• To receive an update from George Bright and WCG members on the economic downturn	
6	New Equalities Framework This item is brought forward from the previous meeting. The November 2008 Bulletin is attached	
7	Area Profiles To receive an update	
8	Any other matters raised by or arising from Partnerships To include discussion on relationships with Area Boards	
9	Date and venue of next meeting To agree future dates and venues.	

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT ANNUAL REFRESH & REVIEW 2008/09

Executive Summary

The Local Area Agreement (LAA) was agreed in June 2008 with Government and included provision to “refresh” some of the targets later in the year when more information became available. This report describes Government’s 2008/09 “Review and Refresh” process for LAAs and provides information about those LAA targets being refreshed.

Government’s deadline for submission of the refreshed LAA is 2 March 2009. Negotiations are likely to continue up to that date and approval will be sought from County Council to delegate authority to the Leader of the Council to make any necessary changes to the refreshed LAA before it is submitted to the Government Office South West (GOSW). This is a similar arrangement to that used for the LAA in June 2008.

Proposal

That the Implementation Executive approve the latest position on the refreshed LAA targets and to recommend to County Council to also approve the latest position and to delegate authority to the Leader to finalise the refreshed Local Area Agreement.

Reason for Proposal

To keep members informed about progress in negotiating a “refreshed” LAA and to seek delegated authority for the Leader of the Council to agree the final version of the refreshed LAA targets for submission of the refreshed LAA by the Government deadline of 2 March 2009.

Sharon Britton

Service Director, Performance & Risk

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT ANNUAL REFRESH & REVIEW 2008/09

Purpose of Report

1. The Local Area Agreement (LAA) was agreed with Government in June 2008 and included provision to refresh some of the targets later in the year when more information became available. This report describes the Government's 2008/09 "Review and Refresh" process for LAAs and provides information about those LAA targets being refreshed.
2. The Government's deadline for submission of the refreshed LAA is 2 March 2009. Negotiations are likely to continue up to that date and approval is sought from Council for the Leader of the Council to have delegated authority to make any necessary changes to the refreshed LAA before it is submitted to Government Office South West (GOSW). This is a similar arrangement to that used for the LAA agreement in June 2008.

Background

3. The LAA is an agreement signed with central Government that sets three year targets for local Government and the work it does with its partners. Wiltshire has 28 indicators within its LAA.
4. When the LAA was signed in June 2008, targets could not be agreed for all the indicators because not all the necessary information was available at that time – for example, some targets required data being collected from the Place (satisfaction) Survey to be run in autumn 2008. Some targets were set provisionally because of the economic situation or because other baseline data was estimated and would be firmed up during the year. Targets for these indicators are being refreshed are summarised at Annex A.
5. The Government's LAA regime plans to review and refresh LAAs each year. In future years, this will focus on reviewing the contribution LAAs are making, and considering where changed circumstances might lead to revised (refreshed) targets. This first review and refresh is different for two reasons:
 - i. LAAs have only been in place since June so the review is minimal – it has used our monitoring reports to Cabinet (December 2008).
 - ii. The refresh includes more indicators this year because of "unfinished business" due to the unavailability of information when LAAs were agreed in June. Some targets required data from the national Place (satisfaction) Survey that was planned for the autumn. Others relied on data that would be updated during the year. A few were identified as susceptible to the changing economic situation and so highlighted by us for inclusion in the refresh.
6. The aim was that all outstanding targets will be resolved ready for year two of the LAA from 1 April 2009. This determines the Government's deadline for submission of 2 March 2009.

Main Considerations for the Implementation Executive

Indicators Needing Refresh

7. Of the 28 indicators in the LAA, 15 were identified for refresh. Details of these are outlined in Annex A. These include three targets to be based on 2008/09 surveys, four that had estimated baselines, four potentially affected by the economic downturn, and four new indicators, one of which had no agreed definition in June.
8. Discussions have been held between Wiltshire organisations and GOSW representatives to agree the refreshed targets. On 29 January 2009, two of the 15 refreshed targets have been agreed.

The Impact of the Economic Downturn on the LAA

9. The pace of the economic downturn accelerated after the LAA was signed in June 2008. At that time several indicators were already noted as having the potential to be affected by the national economic climate. In November 2008 Government guidance was issued that suggests we will need robust local evidence to support proposed changed to agreed targets because of the economic situation. The work on the credit crunch will help support our negotiation with Government.
10. Wiltshire's LAA was developed in a considered, inclusive and well evidenced manner. This has meant that it has not been knocked off course by the economic downturn – what was important when the LAA was signed in summer 2008 remains important for Wiltshire in spring 2009. The refresh of targets has been an opportunity to reflect the new economic climate without the need to radically overhaul the LAA.
11. Further Government guidance was received on 30 January 2009 that may have implications for the refresh. We are seeking clarification on this from the GOSW.

Environmental Impact of the Proposal

12. The LAA reflects Wiltshire's ambitions to 'Tackle climate change and promote a high quality, natural environment that enriches the lives of people'. There is no specific impact on the environment from this proposal.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

13. The LAA sits within the LAW which identifies the "people and places' that are intended to benefit from particular action. There is no specific impact on equalities from this proposal.

Risk Assessment

14. A risk register is maintained by the County Council. New risks, if any, identified during the review and refresh process will be added to this register.

Financial Implications

15. The 2008-2011 LAA regime does not include any additional or pooled funding. The LAA actions are resourced from partners' mainstream resources. There are no financial implications arising from this report.
16. However, the Government has consulted on Performance Reward Grant that it intends to bring in from 2009. The key points to note of the proposed scheme were
 - i. The total amount of the Reward Grant available is considerably lower than previous reward grant regimes (approximate maximum for Wiltshire is £3.5m).
 - ii. Reward entitlement starts when 60% of improvement is achieved (in line with previous reward schemes) but a new sliding scale means that grant does not reflect the extent of improvement.

The publication of the final scheme is awaited. When negotiating refreshed targets, we have been mindful of the approach of the draft reward scheme and will look carefully at the final scheme when available.

Legal Implications

17. The County Council is currently the accountable body for the LAA. It has a statutory duty to lead and manage the performance framework for the LAA and manage the annual review/refresh.

Options Considered

18. The annual Review and Refresh is conducted under national guidance and no other options were considered.

Conclusion

19. The LAA has been reviewed and is being refreshed. The refresh process gives us the opportunity to update targets for new information and to consider the impact of the economic situation. Negotiations on these targets continue, and as the Government's timescale is tight, Council is asked to delegate authority to the Leader to agree the final changes to refreshed LAA targets.

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Background Papers

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report: None

Annex: LAA indicators and targets to be refreshed.

Annex A
Indicators In The Local Area Agreement (LAA)

	NI No.	NI Title	Target Agreed in Jun 08?	Does target need review?	Reasons why indicator needed review and update on negotiation
1	4	% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality	N	Y	This is a new indicator. Place Survey ¹ results are needed to set the target (due February 2009).
2	7	Environment for a thriving third sector	N	Y	This is a new indicator. Results from the 2008 Third Sector Survey ² are required to set the target. The Third Sector Survey results and a letter to the Chief Executive which include the target for our area was distributed by GOSW on 29 Jan 09. It gave a minimum point at which to start the negotiations – a 3.8 percentage point increase which will result in a target score (indicative) of 22%. This will be considered at further negotiations with Wiltshire and GOSW.
3	17	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour	N	Y	This is a new indicator Place Survey results are needed to set the target (due February 2009) This is an APACS ³ indicator also.
4	20	Assault with injury crime rate	Y	Y	The target is a 5% cumulative decrease over 3 years. However, the baseline on which the target was set was provisional so the target is included in the refresh.

¹ Place Survey is a new survey carried out by local authorities. The survey asked local people for their perceptions about the area in which they live. The results of the survey provide data for 20 of the new National Indicators, 3 of which are included in Wiltshire's LAA.

² The National Survey of Third Sector Organisations involved over 100,000 third sector organisations across the country being sent a survey in September 2008. The survey asked about local and national funding relationships, advice and support services and the state of relations with local government.

³ APACS - The Assessments of Policing and Community Safety (APACS) framework was introduced in April 2008 and applies to all police forces in England and Wales. It covers key services delivered by the police working on their own or in partnership, complementing (but not substituting) performance arrangements being developed by other partners.

	NI No.	NI Title	Target Agreed in Jun 08?	Does target need review?	Reasons why indicator needed review and update on negotiation
5	32	Repeat incidents of domestic violence. 2009/2010	N	Y	The definition of the indicator was still being developed in June 2008. Final guidance was received from GOSW on 26 Jan 09. Wiltshire will be meeting with GOSW on Tue 3 Feb 09 to begin the negotiations of the target.
6	39	Rate of Hospital Admissions per 100,000 for Alcohol Related Harm	Y	Y	The baseline was changed by government in January 2009. However, Wiltshire feels it is likely that it can still meet a revised lower target. It is currently on track to met current target.
7	55	Obesity in primary school age children in Reception (PCT indicator)	Y	Y	The target is to reduce the current trend of 0.5% rise in obesity. The baseline on which the target was set was provisional. If the updated baseline has worsened then the target may be unrealistic. However, the national guidance for refresh has not yet been published, although, based on discussions with GOSW and the national Target Negotiating Brief for the indicator, it seems unlikely that Wiltshire will meet the criteria for areas whose targets will be re-negotiated.
8	110	Young people's participation in positive activities	N	Y	<p>Targets have been agreed with GOSW – these are new targets⁴.</p> <p>Baseline 74.1 09/10 Target 78.1 10/11 Target 82.1</p> <p>The CYPTB Executive will consider approve the refreshed target at their meeting on 11 Feb 09.</p>

⁴ The target is calculated as follows; the proportion of young people in school year 10 responding 'yes' to the question "In the last 4 weeks, have you participated in any group activity led by an adult outside school lessons (such as sports, arts or a youth group)?" based on the analysis of the weighted TellUs survey data.

	NI No.	NI Title	Target Agreed in Jun 08?	Does target need review?	Reasons why indicator needed review and update on negotiation
9	117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).	Y	Y	The economic downturn may have affected our ability to achieve this target.
10	125	Achieving independence for older people through rehabilitation/intermediate care	N	Y	This indicator was noted as needing review once a baseline was established.
11	130	Social care clients receiving Self Directed Support per 100,000 population	Y	N	Government Office has imposed a target of 30% for 2010/11.
12	136	People supported to live independently through social services (all ages) – needs and age weighted	y	y	The baseline has changed nationally. Refreshed targets have been agreed with GOSW 09/10 Target 3,500 (previously 3,000) 10/11 Target 4,000 (previously 3,500)
13	152	Working age people on out of work benefits	Y	Y	The economic downturn may have affected our ability to achieve this target.
14	154	Net additional homes provided	Y	Y	The economic downturn may have affected our ability to achieve this target.
15	155	Number of affordable homes delivered (gross).	Y	Y	The economic downturn may have affected our ability to achieve this target.

Wiltshire Assembly: Combating the Credit Crunch Project Status Report 5 25th February 2009

Progress since last Report

All survey activities envisaged in the project brief have been implemented – since the last report we have had a very valuable series of focus groups in Chippenham, Salisbury and Trowbridge with accountants, solicitors, property agents and insolvency practitioners; the only planned activity remaining is the 'major employers' event planned for 4th March. I have attended also a West Wiltshire Credit Crunch Clinic and the Amesbury Community Area Board. Survey returns have been received from most of the WPSB, some Community Area Partnerships and WCC Service Directors. The second report from GWE Business West has been received which provides some detailed analysis of the unemployment that has occurred in the county. The Wiltshire Residents' survey has been completed with a 42% response rate of 2,088 returns and analysed by Phil Morgan's team.

Recent Findings

1. Job Losses - The January JSA Claimant figures for Wiltshire stand at 5,250 (2,890 in June 2008). This is a rate of 1.9% (SW 2.5%, GB 3.4%). As expected there was a significant increase in the month of 671 claimants (Dec 451, Nov 480), partly explained by seasonal factors but also job loss announcements being implemented. At present it is expected that JSA claimants will rise to approximately 7,000 by June 2009. Since my last report the only significant business announcement has been of a week's shutdown at Cooper Tyres, Melksham.
2. Unemployment Analysis – the headlines are that Wiltshire is demonstrating some resilience to date and the impact has not been as severe as other areas; the major volume of job losses has been in Trowbridge, Salisbury and Chippenham; the highest rates of job loss have been in areas of out-commuting affected by the early job losses in the financial services sector e.g. Wootton Bassett, Tidworth, Tisbury, Mere, Pewsey; males have been more adversely affected than females; the middle-aged have been more affected than young and older age groups; the volume and proportion of the long term unemployed has reduced, which is good; construction, transport and management jobs have been worst affected but the greatest volume of job losses are in unskilled posts.
3. Business Climate – the business forums had different tones with a greater degree of pessimism in West Wiltshire. Salisbury's concerns were about the potential length of the downturn, whilst in Chippenham there were signs of some increase in business activity. All of the insolvency practitioners commented that most of their business was outside of Wiltshire. Many practical suggestions were made about actions to assist business.
4. Community Safety Issues – data on crime has now been received from the Police Service. They show that most crime has reduced in Wiltshire in recent times. The only relevant increase is in shoplifting in Chippenham and Trowbridge. Burglary has reduced. Reported domestic violence has reduced, although voluntary sector agencies are suggesting an increase now in reported relationship difficulties.
5. Debt and housing – debt problems are the biggest sector of CABx work; there are large increases in personal bankruptcies and individual voluntary arrangement cases nationally; there is no evidence yet of increases in house repossession cases, landlord evictions or homelessness.
6. The 'street scene' in market towns has come to the fore as an issue for collaborative working.
7. Residents Survey – this indicated considerable fear of the impacts of the credit crunch and a loss of security; it showed strong support for the Council and the Assembly to take action; it illustrated the way in which residents had reduced spending themselves. A very useful set of insights.
8. Media – there is a major concern about the way in which the national media has reported this issue with the strong belief that it has exacerbated and accelerated the strength and speed of the downturn. Many are making a case for strong local action with the local media to address this problem.

George Bright

**November
2008**

Wiltshire Equalities Framework Bulletin

Membership of Task & Finish Group

Community First/Youth
Action Wiltshire

Gypsy and Traveler
Community
Representative

Race Equality Action
Group (REAG)

Salisbury District Council
West Wiltshire CAB

West Wiltshire Interfaith
Group

Wiltshire and Swindon
Community Foundation

Wiltshire and Swindon
Men's Sexual Health

Wiltshire and Swindon
Users Network

Wiltshire Centre for
Independent Living
WCIL

Wiltshire County Council

Wiltshire Fire and
Rescue Service

Wiltshire PCT

Wiltshire Police, County
Division

Wiltshire Race Equality
Council WREC

What is this all about?

The Equalities and Human Rights Commission, Wiltshire County Council and Salisbury District Council are funding a project to develop a cohesive framework to represent the six strands of equalities (race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation and faith) which will seek to influence policy

and strategy and deliver services appropriate to the need across the County of Wiltshire.

REGENworks have been appointed to work on the project which is due to be completed in April 2009.

So where are we now?

The first stage of this project has been to convene a steering group (known as the Task and Finish Group) to create a cohesive framework for Wiltshire by April 2009. This group has met twice and is currently working across Wiltshire to develop a new way for public services to respond to the needs of groups with an interest in equalities.

The project has identified 7 'outcomes':

- **Forming the Task &**

Finish Group

- **Community and stakeholder consultation**
- **Measuring engagement in the project**
- **Present needs analysis.**
- **An options report**
- **Presentation of options for discussion at workshops in February and March 09**
- **Support in continuing the work beyond this project**

**Produced by REGENworks
for the Task & Finish Group**



What are we asking now?

- What does the framework need to do?
- What are your priority issues?
- What works now and what doesn't?
- Anything else?

A framework for what ?

The purpose of the framework is to:

- establish a set of common principles to guide future policy and service delivery across public and voluntary sectors and to influence business and employment practices
- make recommendations on key priorities for action
- promote and encourage the sharing of knowledge, skills and experience around equalities issues
- set out an efficient and transparent infrastructure for ensuring that the framework is adopted and embedded in future policy and delivery processes
- establish arrangements for ongoing monitoring and review

Who are these people contacting us?

REGENworks is a consultancy based in Bath and they have been appointed to help deliver this project. They work directly to the Task & Finish Group, carrying out the consultation, developing the

ideas for options and reporting to the group at a minimum of once a month.

Anna, Martha and Marion are all working on the project and can be reached

by:

Email: info@regenworks.co.uk

Phone: 01225 465 467

Web: www.regenworks.co.uk

www.equalitiesframeworkwiltshire.org.uk

In order to hear your views and feed them into this process, over the next 2-3 months we will be asking as many people and groups as possible what changes need to happen to make Wiltshire lead the way in

equalities. We have made a start in identifying who needs to be consulted and if you would like to be involved you can find out more about this project by visiting the web address above or contacting

REGENworks.

Wiltshire Co-ordinating Group (WCG)

Minutes of a meeting held at Divisional Police Headquarters, Hampton Park West, Melksham on Tuesday 3 March 2009

Present:

Jim Smith (Children & Young People's Trust Board)	George Bright ('Credit Crunch' Project Leader)
Peter Fanshawe, (C&YP Trust Board)	Gary Mantle (Environment Alliance),
Julian Kirby (Community Safety Partnership)	Ann Cornelius(Housing Partnership)
Tim Mason, (Community Safety Partnership)	Nicole Smith(Housing Partnership)
Nicola Cretney, (Health & Wellbeing PB)	Margaret West (Stronger, Resilient Communities)
Caroline Lewis (WSEP)	David Maynard (WCC)
Len Turner, (WFCAP)	Niki Lewis, (WCC)
John Wraw, (Observer)	Annie Child (WCC)
	Stella Milsom (GOSW)

Linda Watts (WCC) was present to take a note of the meeting.

Apologies were received from: Keith Robinson, (WCG Chairman), Sue Redmond (Community Safety Partnership/Health & Wellbeing PB), Sharon Britton, (WCC), Alan Feist (Environment Alliance/Transport Partnership), Laurie Bell (WCC), Philippa Read, (Infrastructure Consortium), Maggie Rae, (Health & Wellbeing PB), Steve Lawton (WFCAP).

Julian Kirby chaired this WCG meeting in the absence of Keith Robinson.

Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2009 were agreed.

Matters Arising

Tim Mason advised that he had met with Laurie Bell on 2 March to discuss branding for the Wiltshire family of partnerships and also the possible production of as DVD.

A discussion on the Axis of Influence document was deferred to the next WCG meeting.

LAA Refresh

Annie Child introduced the circulated report. Six of the LAA indicators are still subject to discussion – WCG was informed that this position is on a par with the situation in other areas. Annie Child advised that in relation to specific economic indicators, the final targets can be agreed next year. This flexibility reflects the current economic situation. Annie Child also outlined changes to the LPSA Reward arrangements.

Gary Mantle requested information about the future of the CO² reduction target. Stella Milsom advised that there will be opportunities to add to the indicator set, but that the work has not yet been completed on this target. The target will not be eligible for reward if it is included in an LAA next year. Gary Mantle expressed concern and frustration in relation to his perceptions about the lack of progress on this issue. Niki Lewis advised that this is a staffing growth area for the new Wiltshire Council.

The process for the review of targets in the context of the economic downturn was clarified by Annie Child and Stella Milsom. Stella requested that observations on related targets and trends are reported to the Government Office. It was clarified that the deadline of 2 March relates to the first draft of the LAA Refresh. Negotiations on the LAA refresh will not cease until 27 March.

ACTION: Annie Child and WCG members

Thematic Partnerships

Linda Watts restated the three questions that were to be addressed by Thematic Partnerships in time for this WCG meeting:

1. How will we explain our parts of the Local Agreement for Wiltshire in a way that will connect with local people?
2. How will we show hotspots/priorities that evidence has identified as a 'need' or 'problem' for particular community areas?
3. How do we engage with local people and make advice and support available?

Caroline Lewis reported that in relation to the Economic Partnership, there are a number of action plans that are being refreshed. The Partnership is looking to make action planning more user friendly - some written material may be made available for the Assembly.

With regard to "hotspots", some targets already identify priority areas. Discussions are taking place as to whether data can be made available at community area level. It will be clarified as to what information can be provided to the Area Boards. The Partnership is also examining how there can be a better dialogue with the Boards in the context where the role of the Chambers of Commerce is to be developed.

Nicola Cretney reported on behalf of the Health & Wellbeing Partnership. The Board has not yet met. Action plans are in place and opportunities will be taken such as the Health & Wellbeing Awards, to promote media messages. It is intended to strengthen local links and to work with voluntary sector representatives to take that communication forward.

Mini community area profiles are being developed and a list of the content of the profiles is currently being shaped - this should be ready by April. Community managers are attending local meetings.

Nicole Smith reported that the Housing Group have recently met for the first time. Action plans are being reviewed in order to make sure they are robust. There is a need to collect substantially more information and to ensure that the action plans are

focussed. There is a current review of information that can be produced at Area Board level such as information on Rough Sleepers.

With regard to the Children & Young People's Trust Board, Peter Fanshawe and Jim Smith made reference to the young people's version of the CYPP. A leaflet is being prepared for the Children's Workforce. Also, an article for the media is being prepared. Some information at a local level is available – such as information on hotspots. Local collaborative partnerships are proposed and consultation is currently taking place. There is a local strategic development grouping that is seeking to identify needs and 'gaps'. Young people's influence groups are being developed in community areas. WCG members proposed that the Children & Young People's Boards act as a conduit for all issues affecting young people. In relation to environmental issues, Gary Mantle will discuss this point with Peter Fanshawe and Jim Smith.

ACTION: Peter Fanshawe, Jim Smith and Gary Mantle

Julian Kirby outlined the position with regard to the Community Safety Partnership's structures. These structures will be formalised from 1 April. The focus of the work will be on defined hotspots.

Tim Mason referred to the community safety plan. There are current discussions as to how to target work on hotspots. A simply planned document will be available for the public. A strategic assessment has been completed. Linkage with other partnerships structures is being developed.

Gary Mantle reported that the Environmental Alliance has not yet considered the three points, as the first meeting of the Alliance has not yet taken place.

In relation to Resilient Communities, Niki Lewis reported that place survey results have just been received. The Resilient Communities action plan builds on local engagement. The last of the 12 pilot area boards is now taking place. New leaflets on area boards are now available.

A national survey of the Third Sector is being completed – interestingly, 690 returns were made from Wiltshire organisations. Niki reported that a voluntary sector support unit is to be established within the new Council.

Relationship between Partnerships and Area Boards

Annie Child commented that she has discussed the relationships between the Area Boards and the Thematic Partnerships with Steve Milton. Community area support staff are being briefed. Niki Lewis advised that we need to work further on how we articulate the relationship. One purpose of the Area Boards is that there is one place where "people do business".

Tim Mason requested that coordination of consultation with communities is put in place, as there is a danger that at community level, people are feeling overwhelmed. We all have a statutory duty to consult.

George Bright observed that area profiles are critical to successful debates at the Area Boards. He has attended some of the Boards and noted that factual information sparks a relevant quality of discussion.

Tim Mason raised the issue of effective working with “hard to reach” groups. Niki Lewis commented that a range of people in differing sectors have skills and contacts – they should be drawn upon as a resource in making contact with hard to reach groups. Also, a further series of workshops for frontline staff is to take place that will focus on support to service users and engagement with the Area Boards. John Wraw emphasised though, that consultation does not happen solely at the Area Boards or Partnerships – we need to be continually looking at new ways of engaging through varying “gateways”.

Margaret West suggested that a discussion is needed at the Wiltshire Infrastructure Consortium. People are more interested in what makes a difference to them ‘on the ground’. Len Turner suggested that a key issue is to consult selectively on a rolling plan, rather than on a fixed plan – rather than waiting for a whole plan refresh. We tend to focus on the “wants” of communities rather than the “needs” of communities. It is a challenge as to how we capture and recognise valuable work and experience, such as the work of the Churches in engaging with gypsies and travellers.

Julian Kirby advocated that elected Members on the Area Boards must be informed of these issues in order to counter potential hidden discrimination.

Niki Lewis reported that it is now envisaged that there will be eighteen area boards. The findings of the pilot boards will be available in six weeks’ time, and a Handbook is being produced. Short easy to read guides will be produced also.

Wiltshire Assembly

David Maynard outlined the arrangements for the Assembly. In addition to the focus on the economic downturn, the Sustainable Communities Act will be promoted. Branding of the family of partnerships should be ready to circulate at the Assembly. LPSA reward grant will also be discussed. Information on the LPSA reward grant process is to be re-circulated at the request of WCG.

George Bright made reference to his circulated progress update on the project that he has been taking forward. In the responses to a survey completed by 2088 people, it is apparent that a relatively larger proportion of people perceive Wiltshire as being in a less positive position in terms of responding to the recession. But the data analysis indicates that Wiltshire is in fact in a relatively strong position although the “commuter” areas are experiencing more impacts at this stage. The analysis and proposals need to be constructed in such a way as to enable easy communication.

Gary Mantle outlined issues that have been aired at the Environmental Alliance in relation to longer term macro issues including energy shortages. A proposal to increase resilience in this context will be provided by Gary to George Bright. Ann Cornelius expressed interest in taking forward a pilot proposal to be run on some of the estates managed by the Westlea Housing Association.

In the context of the economic downturn, Tim Mason raised the prospect of unemployment for young people rising this autumn. He emphasised the need to make preparation to anticipate this trend.

ACTION: David Maynard and George Bright

New Equalities Framework

Niki Lewis referred to the REGENwork consultancy that has been commissioned to carry out work in Wiltshire, with a focus on how we ensure an integrated approach to equalities work. The draft equalities framework has now been published. The framework is more holistic, with a focus on a human rights approach to equalities. It will be circulated to WCG when it is available.

ACTION: Niki Lewis

Area Profiles

Niki Lewis gave an overview of the development of area profiles. A possible structure for strategic assessments for Wiltshire was circulated. Julian Kirby advocated that a consistent model of assessment, coordinated and resourced efficiently, is vital. Gary Mantle requested advice on how to resource an environmental assessment.

A draft outcomes framework for resilient communities was also circulated. David Maynard emphasised that a more consistent understanding of resilient communities is essential, and that the outcomes framework will be an expression of this understanding. Generally, the framework was welcomed by WCG.

ACTION: Niki Lewis and David Maynard

Date of next meeting

WCG will next meet on 28 April 2009 at Kennet Room, Divisional Police HQ, Hampton Park West, Melksham, starting at 10.00 a.m.

Briefing Note for the Wiltshire Co-ordinating Group

23rd January 2009

Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) 2008 – Performance Reward Grant

1. This note summarises:
 - a. The performance Reward grant expected from the LPSA
 - b. The amount planned to be reinvested in the target areas earning the grant
 - c. The balance that will be available for other initiatives
2. The note describes how the grant might be used.

Background

3. Wiltshire agreed an LPSA with government that ended in March 2008. The government will pay Wiltshire County Council Performance Reward Grant (PRG) for achieving 'stretch' performance in the targets areas.
4. There are two conditions that relate to PRG:
 - Timing - government will pay **half the PRG due at the end of 2008/09 and the balance in 2009/10.**
 - This grant must be spent **50% on capital and 50% on revenue** expenditure.
5. WiSB and the County Council agreed to share PRG received with the target area and the relevant partnership (not necessarily a particular organisation):
 - For 100% achievement, up to £250,000 (spread over 2 years, half revenue, half capital) is available to go back to the target area. The 'target area' will identify what will be achieved with the money to justify the allocation.
 - Achievement between 60% and 99% 'of the stretch' will earn the appropriate proportion of the £250,000. No PRG is received for achievement below 60%.

Performance Reward Grant to be claimed

6. We now have results for most targets and a table giving the details is attached. The PRG to be claimed is expected to total almost £5.4m, and this will be received over two years (£2.7m at in March 2009 and the same in 2009/10). Of this, £1.5m is expected to be reinvested in the target areas (£0.77m a year), leaving a balance of ££3.8m (£1.9m a year) to be allocated.

Process to allocate grant

7. The minutes of the WiSB meeting on 17th March 2008 state:
 - *How will the LPSA performance reward grant (PRG) be distributed? The accountable body for this money is the County Council. It had been agreed that a proportion of PRG would go back to the areas achieving the reward grant (up to £250,000 for 100% of the stretch) and that WiSB would be asked to make recommendations to the County Council on priorities for the use of the balance. The new governance arrangements give the opportunity for advice on this from the Assembly, the Strategy Group and the Accountable Bodies Group, as well as the Thematic Delivery Partnerships.*
8. The grant is payable to the County Council and it is that body that will allocate the grant. A recommendation will be made to the Assembly and thence to the Council.
9. This presents a unique opportunity for us to put additional resources into our Local Agreement for Wiltshire (LAW) – and if we apply the resources at a local level we can build local support and commitment to the LAW. Subject to the

conditions attached to the grant set out in paragraph 4, the suggested approach is that:

- a. The amounts identified for reinvestment in the target areas should be allocated, accordingly, on receipt of a short proposal by the relevant partnership to the Wiltshire Public Service Board, describing the proposal and its intended effect (including its impact on the LAW)
- b. A proposal is made to the Assembly in March that the balance is made available for any initiatives arising from George Bright's report, and bids from the new Area Boards to fund initiatives in the local community which will command local support and contribute to the achievement of the LAW. This is 'one-off' money that will only be available in 2009/10 and 2010/11

This will need to be properly managed but we should minimise the costs of administration to maximise what goes out to areas.

It would be helpful to consider how we could encourage bids from all 20 community areas, with a reasonable spread across the LAW ambitions – some thoughts for consideration:

- a. Would Thematic Delivery Partnerships identify where the 'hotspots' are for the different priorities/targets in the LAW/LAA, and translate these into plain-English? This information could then be given to Area Boards to help them in developing bids.
- b. Would Thematic Delivery Partnerships be willing to identify people to work with the Area Board to develop the bids and work with projects?
- c. Would WCG be willing to take a first look at the spread of bids to feed comments to the Wiltshire Public Service Board?

For consideration

Report by: Sharon Britton

Note following the meeting:

At the Wiltshire Coordinating Group (WCG) meeting, Thematic Delivery Partnerships agreed to consider the following and report back to the next Coordinating Group meeting in March:

1. How will we explain our parts of the Local Agreement for Wiltshire in a way that will connect with local people?
2. How will we show hotspots/priorities that evidence has identified as a 'need' or 'problem' for particular community areas?
3. How do we engage with local people and make advice and support available?

The advice from WCG was that the process of approval should ensure that initiatives were likely to make a measurable impact in the local area.

4.

Performance Reward Grant to be claimed (50% capital, 50% revenue)	Total PRG to be claimed		50% payable at end 2008/09 and 2009/10	
	total	Reinvest in target	total	Reinvest in target
Target 1: Improve the health and well-being of people in Wiltshire (LPSA Lead: Maggie Rae) [TDP: Health and Wellbeing Board]	232,572	66,666	116,286	33,333
Target 2: Support to prevent hospital admission as a result of a fall (LPSA Lead: Maddy Ferrari) [TDP: Health and Wellbeing Board]	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Target 3: Improve the safety of victims of domestic violence and their children (LPSA Lead: Lynn Gaskin/Hayley Mortimer) [TDP: Community Safety Partnership]	566,895	162,500	283,448	81,250
Target 4: Reduce accidental fires and arson – fires and injuries (LPSA Lead: Alan Harper) [TDP: Community Safety Partnership]	436,073	125,000	218,036	62,500
Target 5: Improve the basic skills of adult learners (LPSA Lead: Sue Watkins/Grant Pearson) [TDP: Wiltshire Strategic Economic Partnership]	610,502	175,000	305,251	87,500
Target 6: Improve school attendance - primary and secondary schools (LPSA Lead: Maxine Gibson) [TDP: Children and Young People's Trust Board]	244,201	70,000	122,100	35,000
Target 7: Reduce the amount of household waste generated (LPSA Lead: Simon Smith/Catherine Dixon) [TDP: Environmental Alliance]	872,146	250,000	436,073	125,000
Target 8: Reduce homelessness among vulnerable young people (LPSA Lead: Sue Nash) [TDP: Housing Partnership]	723,484	207,386	361,742	103,693
Target 9: Management of street scene – litter etc and survey (LPSA Lead: Tracy Carter) [TDP: Community Safety Partnership]	697,717	200,000	348,859	100,000
Target 10: Anti-social behaviour – alcohol related reoffending and survey 'has ASB reduced, got worse, same' (LPSA Lead: Lynn Gaskin) [TDP: Community Safety Partnership]	872,146	250,000	436,073	125,000
Target 11: Improve the educational attainment of looked after children (LPSA Lead: Maxine Gibson) [TDP: Children and Young People's Trust Board]	139,543	40,000	69,772	20,000
Sub total	5,395,279	1,546,552	2,697,640	773,276
	balance	3,848,727	balance	1,924,364
We are awaiting results for Target 12: Reduce % young people aged 16-18 not in Education, Employment or Training (LPSA Lead: Merfyn Williams) [TDP: Wiltshire Strategic Economic Partnership/CYPTB]	Full PRG available: 872,146	Unlikely to achieve - results due Feb 09		

50% payable at end of 2008/09 and 2009/10 (to be used: half capital, half revenue)