

**READING REVIEW & REFRESH 2008/09
INDICATORS TO BE CONSIDERED AND ISSUES FOR SELF- ASSESSMENT**

Indicators

The Reading LAA was signed off without qualification. In terms of indicators etc. that might be reconsidered as part of the refresh. These are:

- NI 16: There is concern within the Home Office about their performance on acquisitive crime. The current package of an existing reward target (which is not completed until 31 March 2010) combined with a series of indicators, and a focus on, offender management gives confidence that there will be an effective improvement in performance. The effectiveness of this offender-based approach can be examined at the first refresh
- NI 154/NI 155: There is already a commitment to review this in light of the emerging RSS but there is significant local concern around the down turn in the economy which will impact upon performance. We will resist reopening negotiations on its inclusion as the area is a New Growth Point and is in receipt of significant levels of additional funding to support this programme.
- NI 17: This was subject to serious discussion during the initial discussions and we will seek to come back to this issue based upon Reading's comparative performance against the wider region and other unitaries.
- NI 117: This is a current reward target which will still have 1 year to run after the conclusion of the current negotiations. However, performance is not on track to deliver the required improvement and a discussion is needed to decide whether to include it as part of the overall package of 35 indicators.

Local Indicators

There are 29 local indicators of which 10 are from the National Indicator Set.

We do not anticipate much change – although they may well take the opportunity to include some indicators where baseline information has not been previously available.

Targets

Designated Target	Issue	Action to be taken	Timescale
NI 4 % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality	Target setting reliant on place survey data	Targets to be agreed	Place survey data from LAs available by 30 January and validated data available from AC by 16 February 2009
NI 9 Use of public libraries	Target setting reliant on Active People's Survey results	Targets to be agreed	November 08
NI 18 Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision	Baseline & targets to be set	Targets tba when 2007/08 baseline data available	November 08
NI 20 Assault with injury crime rate	Proper baseline not available during negotiations	Review targets for years 2 and 3 in light of proper baseline info.	Concerns over availability of baseline data to enable negotiation at refresh
NI 21 Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime issues by the local council and police	Target setting reliant on place survey data - No targets for years 2 and 3	Targets to be agreed	Place survey data from LAs available by 30 January and validated data available from AC by 16 February

			2009
NI 30 Re-offending rate of prolific and other priority offenders	No proper baseline info available	Confirm baseline and agree targets Anticipate PNC data being released in September.	HO still in discussions with CLG re the process for years 2 and three negotiations Current HO plan is for Y2 (09/10) targets to be negotiated in April/May 09 and yr 3 (10/11) in April/May 10 Therefore targets are not cumulative. To be re set based on new cohort each year
NI 39 Rate of hospital admission per 100,000 for alcohol related harm	Agreement gained based on review at refresh	Review targets based on 07/08 data	ASAP
NI 40 Number of drug users recorded as being in effective treatment	Baseline updated	Baseline updated Aug 08 to: 646, yr1 672, 4%, yr2 679, yr3: 686	Can be updated immediately
NI 42 Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem	Target setting reliant on place survey data - then actual targets for years 2 and 3 need to be set	Targets to be agreed	Place survey data from LAs available by 30 January and validated data available from AC by 16 February 2009
NI 50 Emotional health of children	Baseline and Target needs to be based on TellUs Survey	Target TBA once TellUs Survey results are known	Tellus survey results due Autumn 2008
NI 111 First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 - 17	Baseline to be set in year 1	Agree baseline and targets	Baseline data should be available by Dec 2008
NI 116 Proportion of children in poverty	Indicative baseline for 1 st year	Agree target in light of confirmed baseline	ASAP
NI 125 Achieving independence for older people through rehabilitation/intermediate care	Agreement gained based on review at refresh	Review targets based on current performance	Data will not be available until end of 2009 for the 08/09 year so review to be deferred until 09/10 refresh
NI 143 Offenders under probation supervision living in settled and suitable accommodation at the end of their order or licence	Agreement gained based on review at refresh	Review targets in light of 1 st year performance and baseline	August 08
NI 150 Adults in contact with secondary mental health services in employment	Initial targets based on local proxy. Formal measure in place when baseline	Revised target to be agreed once formal baseline is known. 2008-09 data	November 08

	data available	available in 2009	
NI 154 Net additional homes provided	The impact of the prevailing housing market conditions on the delivery of LAA targets - agreement gained based on review at refresh	GOSE to meet localities and other partners during the refresh period to establish the impact of housing market conditions on delivery and to discuss how to prepare positively for the return of the market. Review in light of emerging RSS	GOs to discuss negotiating brief with CLG during September / October 08
NI 155 Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)	The impact of the prevailing housing market conditions on the delivery of LAA targets - agreement gained based on review at refresh	GOSE to meet localities and other partners during the refresh period to establish the impact of housing market conditions on delivery and to discuss how to prepare positively for the return of the market. Review in light of emerging RSS	GOs to discuss negotiating brief with CLG during September / October 08
NI 165 Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 4 or higher	Agreement gained based on review at refresh	Agree targets for years 2 and 3 in light of new data	ASAP
NI 171 New business registration rate	No baseline data available	Agree baseline and targets	Baseline due Oct/Nov 2008, target to be negotiated between Nov 08 and mid-Feb 09.
Whilst specific timescales are not available at present a meeting is scheduled for mid October which will identify appropriate timescales for all indicators - particularly those that can be concluded in advance of the formal refresh and review process.			
Delivery			
Named partners			
All partners have signed up to delivery of their respective targets and working is going on to further embed this within business and action planning. Little beyond the normal organisations associated with delivery but this is an area that the LSP is keen to look at in more detail but it is not clear what further progress has been made to date (this issue will be picked up as part of the Annual Review). No particular issues to flag at this moment but some concern has been expressed previously about the engagement of the PCT so GOSE will continue to monitor the situation.			
Skills and capacity			
The partnership has very recently restructured itself to enable it to become more strategic in nature. As a part of this process a "person specification" was drawn up for all members of the LSP that identified the necessary skills and attributes required. This has not yet been put to the test as the new partnership has not yet met. In addition, it is clear that some of the delivery partnerships are very mature and the skill requirements will centre on making certain that they are joining up effectively and able to gain and use information from the front line. Other partnerships have only been established relatively recently and,			

as such, will take time to bed in and may require much greater support. Given the current political position there is also a need to enable elected members have the necessary skills and training to fully understand their roles and responsibilities to ensure that there is effective accountability of the LSP and its decision making. The partnership has acknowledged the need to look in more detail at how the Area Based Grant is being used but the partnership as a whole will probably need to develop further skills in order to take full advantage of the opportunities that the greater flexibility may offer.

Key questions will be the extent to which the new partnership is achieving the desired outcomes and whether it does have the skills necessary. How is good practice between partnerships being shared and what further support is needed? How can the RIEP assist them?

Collaboration and cross boundary working

It is not clear the extent to which data is shared effectively between partners and, as such, this will be a key line of enquiry at the Annual Review. There appears to be little challenge within the LSP to help drive improvement. This might take place within the sub-groups but does not appear to be replicated at the higher level. Once again, it is anticipated that the new structure will support developments in this area – but progress in this direction will need to be picked up as part of the Annual Review.

The 6 Berkshire authorities were encouraged to think about greater cross border collaboration during the initial negotiations but did not necessarily take this as far as it could have gone. However, progress has been made with the establishment of the Berkshire Economic Strategy Board which has responsibility for the development and implementation of a Berkshire economic strategy (where the authorities see the most cross border working taking place). Whilst this will pick up on some of the more strategic issues (skills, strategic transport) it will not pick up on the more detailed issues and this is an area for further exploration with all of the authorities to maximise the opportunities that this might present in terms of delivery.

Communications

The LSP has just introduced a new structure/management arrangements following a full scale review of existing arrangements as a result delivery planning has not been fully integrated within the structure so it is too early for GOSE to comment formally.

Key lines of enquiry for the review will include What arrangements are in place to ensure key people in the system own delivery messages? The extent to which feedback is obtained from frontline staff and users acted upon? The extent to which best practice is identified and effectively communicated among partners?

Duty to involve

Reading has recently consulted extensively on its new Sustainable Community Strategy which is seen as a key part of meeting the Duty to Involve. However, it is not yet clear the extent to which the action plans that are being developed will meet the needs that the communities have identified. This work will be further supported by the Neighbourhood Action Groups which are being rolled out across the area which enables local residents to identify key crime and disorder priorities for the police and partners to address.

Key lines of enquiry will include: To what extent have action plans been influenced by the outcome of the consultation exercise on the Sustainable Community Strategy? In particular, how will they seek to tackle the different needs of the different areas and communities of interest and achieve the ambition of a “Fairer Reading for All”? How will your activities around Neighbourhood Action groups (NAGs) support this work?

Delivery planning

The partnership has had serious difficulties over the last year with ensuring an effective, robust performance monitoring and management system is in place. As a result, it has been difficult for them to accurately look at the picture across the whole LAA as a partnership. These issues are being resolved but what is not clear is the extent to which it will lead to an improvement in the performance management rather than monitoring.

Historically, there has been a real lack of challenge and serious questioning when performance has not been as expected. The hope is that this will change significantly when the new LSP structure is fully up and running. It is likely that this will be the case but much rests on the successful implementation. There is a Performance Management group which has been set up on the back of the Council's own internal group and this will need to ensure strong links with the LSP if it is to be fully effective. It is understood that Action Plans have been developed for activities as part of the day to day business of partner organisations. It is not clear if these will fully pick up and exploit the opportunities presented by the LAA and, as such, this will be a key line of enquiry at the review. There is little transparency of decision making around use of pooled funding at present as the LSP is only now beginning to look at this area of activity. Progress on this area of work will be a key line of enquiry at the review meeting.

Innovation and good practice

It is too early to identify best practice for all individual indicators. In terms of wider best practice the pro-active engagement with and from the voluntary sector in promoting how the sector might help to deliver the statutory partner's key objectives.

FORUM 42

Reading is one of 5 LA's who have selected NI 42 as a performance indicator - 3 London boroughs, Reading and Nottingham. The 3 London boroughs have approached the Home Office about what type of support will/can be offered in delivering the drugs perception indicator. GOSE's safer team are working with the Home Office to facilitate a forum to look at various interventions available, and sharing good practice - Reading are interested in sitting on this group and have nominated Suzanne Westhead (chair of the Drug and Alcohol delivery group) to represent them. Together, a bid will be submitted to support this active learning based approach.