

West Cheshire Together

Working in partnership for local people

Report title	West Cheshire Sustainable Community Strategy Delivery Plan 2011-2014
Description	The West Cheshire Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) sets out the 15 year vision for improving the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Borough. Work is now required to develop a delivery plan to cover the period when the current Local Area Agreement (LAA) comes to an end on 31 st March 2010 in order to prepare for the next round of LAA, or whatever replaces it.
Document purpose	This report sets out the process by which a delivery plan to achieve the outcomes set out in the SCS can be developed. This involves working with the Thematic Partnerships and Area Partnership Boards over the coming months to identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the performance measures which need to be in place to support the outcomes we are aiming to achieve; - how our collective resources need to be aligned to achieve these outcomes; and - how the experiences and preferences of our customers need to shape the delivery of these outcomes.
Circulation list	West Cheshire Together.
Decision/Action required	Partners are asked to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Support the overall approach suggested for the development of an SCS delivery plan b. Support work with the Thematic Partnerships and Area Partnership Boards to identify the performance measures required to support the delivery of the outcomes we are aiming to achieve c. Support work with Thematic Partnerships and Area Partnership Boards to map and evaluate the alignment of resources to achieve these outcomes.
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Target audience	West Cheshire Together Network
Cross reference	Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act

1.0 Background

1.1 At its meeting on 25 February 2010, West Cheshire Together approved the Sustainable Community Strategy 'Together we Can Aim High' as the vision we will work together to achieve over the next 15 years. The Strategy was also adopted by Cheshire West and Chester Council on the same day.

1.2 Current government guidance is that whilst the SCS sets out the overarching vision statement for the future of the area, the 3 year local area agreement (LAA) is the delivery plan for this vision. The current LAA comes to an end on 31 March 2011. At present it is not clear whether the LAAs will continue: current intelligence suggests that if they do then the National Indicators are likely to be supported by more locally determined performance measures.

1.3 This report suggests a way forward which builds on the best of existing arrangements for performance managing the SCS but also responds to the need for locally determined and locally relevant performance measures.

2.0 The Process

2.1 Initial work with the Thematic Partnerships has identified the overarching delivery responsibilities for each of the 15 commitments set out in the SCS. This is presented in Appendix 1. The process suggested below builds on this starting point by asking each group to review the validity of current performance measures, both national indicators and local indicators, in the light of the outcomes we have committed to in the SCS, and also to consider what additional measures might be required. A process of mapping and evaluating the current alignment of resources which relate to these outcomes must then be undertaken.

2.2 A parallel exercise will need to be undertaken with the Area Partnership Boards to demonstrate and enhance the connectivity across the LSP structure.

2.3 Focusing initially on the Thematic Partnerships in the first instance, the main steps in this process are:

Step 1: August - October 2010

Each Thematic Partnership to complete a 'first cut' of the template set out at Appendix 2. It is suggested that a working group be set up to complete this task. Evidence of locally relevant performance indicators suggested by the Area Partnership Boards should be included.

The aim should be to achieve a basket of measures reflecting a balance of local priorities, national indicators against which we can benchmark our performance and challenging cross cutting measures.

Initial work will be presented to the LSP on 28 October 2010.

Step 2: November - December 2010

Further work to refine, confirm, and where applicable baseline performance measures will be undertaken, to include three year target setting.

Parallel work to map and evaluate resource alignment throughout the partnership framework is then suggested (draft template attached at Appendix 3). This is a challenging exercise and intended to capture a 'lite touch' approach to the Total Place concept. It will involve area based discussions through the Area Partnership Boards to facilitate an understanding of how our services are viewed through the eyes of our customers.

Step 3: January - March 2011

Draft SCS delivery plan developed and presented to key organisations for their comment, endorsement and support.

Further work developing a clearer understanding of resource alignment and rationalisation possibilities, particularly by piloting priority issues and priority areas.

Step 4: April 2011

Final Delivery Plan to be adopted by LSP.

3.0 Priority areas

3.1 Recognising that the SCS sets out a 15 year vision and the extent of the ambition set out, a smaller number of priority issues for the next few years are set out below. It is suggested that these priorities should provide the focus for action within the SCS Delivery Plan as it develops over the coming months.

- Support businesses in order to increase the number of people in jobs and the number of young people in education, training or employment
- Deliver our regeneration programmes in Chester, the Weaver Valley, Ellesmere Port and Rural Resurgence and provide a strong and sustainable cultural infrastructure as a catalyst for community revitalisation
- Increase the number of affordable homes and ensure that all homes meet the decent homes standard, particularly in Ellesmere Port
- Reduce health inequalities, particularly focusing on men living in the most deprived areas and older women
- Reduce drug and alcohol related problems, particularly in relation to crime, arson, anti-social behaviour and health inequalities
- Work with older people to raise awareness of their needs and aspirations.

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 The process set out above sets out a challenging task for West Cheshire Together to complete over the coming months in order to put into place a robust delivery framework for our SCS. This will be led by the LSP Performance and Risk Group, though support and involvement from right across the LSP will be required.

4.2 Partners are asked to:

- i. Support the overall approach suggested for the development of an SCS delivery plan;
- ii. Support work with the Thematic Partnerships and Area Partnership Boards to identify the performance measures required to support the delivery of the outcomes we are aiming to achieve; and
- iii. Support work with Thematic Partnerships and Area Partnership Boards to map and evaluate the alignment of resources to achieve these outcomes.

LSP Thematic Partnership Involvement in Sustainable Community Strategy Delivery

Appendix 1

The 15 Sustainable Community Strategy Commitments	Safer Communities	Stronger Communities	Health and Wellbeing	Business Enterprise and Culture	Childrens Trust	Environment and Sustainability
1. Recognising, celebrating and engaging with our diverse communities		LEAD ROLE	Contributing role	Contributing role	Contributing role	Contributing role
2. Building and developing the role of the third sector (i.e. voluntary, community, faith and other not for profit groups and organisations)		LEAD ROLE	Contributing role		Contributing role	Contributing role
3. Increasing confidence in the public services, enabling people feel safe in their communities	LEAD ROLE			Contributing role	Contributing role	
4. Working with our communities to address local issues particularly around crime and disorder	LEAD ROLE		Contributing role		Contributing role	
5. Engaging with and supporting our communities to take positive action on climate change and sustainable living.		Contributing role	Contributing role	Contributing role	Contributing role	LEAD ROLE
6. Developing and promoting appropriate and accessible ways to increase people's ability to influence decision-making		LEAD ROLE	Contributing role		Contributing role	Contributing role
7. Reducing health inequalities and encouraging people to live longer, healthier and active lives	Contributing role		LEAD ROLE	Contributing role	Contributing role	Contributing role
8. Aiming to eliminate the impact of poverty and deprivation within our communities	Contributing role		Contributing role	Contributing role	LEAD ROLE	Contributing role
9. Anticipating and supporting the needs and aspirations of our ageing population			LEAD ROLE	Contributing role		Contributing role
10. Improving access to good quality and affordable homes.			Contributing role		Contributing role	LEAD ROLE
11. Supporting the development of a sustainable and resilient economy, with thriving businesses				LEAD ROLE	Contributing role	Contributing role
12. Providing our workforce with access to locally relevant skills and training to achieve better paid employment	Contributing role		Contributing role	LEAD ROLE	Contributing role	Contributing role
13. Valuing and promoting West Cheshire's unique and diverse natural and built environments, and supporting the development of rich cultural opportunities			Contributing role	LEAD ROLE	Contributing role	Contributing role
14. Recognising and releasing the potential of young people to play a full and active part in the future of West Cheshire.	Contributing role			Contributing role	LEAD ROLE	
15. Adapting built and natural environments to be resilient to climate change.			Contributing role			LEAD ROLE

Performance Information Gathering Template for SCS Delivery Plan 2011-14

Thematic Partnership:

a. What outcomes do we want to achieve?	b. What indicators do we currently have in place?	c. How effectively do they measure the outcomes we want to achieve?	d. Which indicators do we want to retain?	e. Which additional indicators do we want to include?

Resource Information Gathering Template for SCS Delivery Plan 2011-14

Thematic Partnership:

a. What outcomes do we want to achieve?	b. What activities are in place which contribute to this outcome? What else needs to happen?	c. What performance indicators does this contribute to?	d. The funding source and its flexibility	e. Opportunities for rationalisation/efficiencies /innovation