

West Cheshire Together

Working in partnership for local people

Report title	Partnership Risk Management
Description	This document outlines to the approach and timescales for developing a risk management process for the LSP Steering Group and the Thematic Partnerships.
Document purpose	To advise the LSP Steering Group on the approach being taken to develop a risk management framework.
Circulation list	CW&C LSP,
Decision/Action required	LSP Steering Group is requested to: Note and comment upon the approach to developing a framework to manage risks alongside performance within the LSP.
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Target audience	CW&C LSP Steering Group
Cross reference	

Report narrative

1. Approach

- 1.1 The terms of reference of the Performance Management Group have been amended to incorporate risk, and this group will now be known as the Performance and Risk Management Group. This group has representatives from key partner organisations, and will include in its remit the Partnership's risk management policy and processes, and the content of Partnership risk registers. At its meeting on 2nd February 2010 the group supported the approach outlined in this paper.
- 1.2 Risk Managers from the key partner organisations are currently developing a draft Policy and Strategy which will be brought to the LSP Steering Group for approval in April 2010.

- 1.3 The proposed framework will be considered by the Thematic Leads on 1st March with a view to considering the practicalities of the process and how it will operate in their Thematic Partnership.
 - 1.4 A risk manager will be nominated by each Thematic Partnership, to support the development of a Thematic risk register and on-going management of the risks. Measures will be introduced to facilitate the delegation of risks to, and escalation of risks from, relevant partner organisations.
 - 1.5 The Policy and Strategy will be reviewed in the light of the Thematic Partnerships' experience of producing their initial risk registers and, if necessary, amended to reflect their comments.
 - 1.6 Each Thematic Partnership may identify risks which should be escalated to the LSP Steering Group level. This will either be due to the high potential impact of an individual risk on the Partnership's strategic objectives, or of the cumulative impact of a risk if it is relevant to a number of Thematic Partnerships. These risks will come together to form the draft Risk Register for the LSP Steering Group.
 - 1.7 The draft Policy and Strategy document and the draft LSP Steering Group Risk Register will be brought to the April meeting of the LSP Steering Group, for consideration and input.
- 2. Conclusion**
- 2.1 It is important that the LSP as a whole has a clear framework for managing its risks, and that ensures that the LSP Steering Group is alerted to those risks which may affect the objectives of the whole partnership and how they are being managed.
 - 2.2 Whilst it is important to get this framework in place as soon as possible, the framework must also be workable alongside partners' existing corporate risk management policies and processes, and should not place an intolerable additional burden on the workings either of the Thematic Partnerships or of the partner organisations who will take ownership of the risks identified by the Partnerships. This framework will therefore be developed in conjunction with the Thematic Partnerships.
 - 2.3 A draft risk register will be produced for the April 2010 meeting. Even if the LSP Steering Group are in a position to sign off this risk register at that time, it should be recognised that risk management is an ongoing an iterative process, which will be returned to throughout the year.