

West Cheshire Together

Working in Partnership for local people

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| Report title | Local Area Agreement Designated and Non-Designated (Local) Performance Indicators |
| Description | |
| Document purpose | The purpose of this report is to highlight changes, agreed by the relevant Thematic Groups, to the suite of designated and non-designated Local Area Agreement (LAA) performance indicators for 2010/11. |
| Circulation list | |
| Decision/Action required | Partners are asked to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorse the changes agreed by the Thematic Groups. 2. To recommend to the Local Strategic Partnership that these changes are adopted for the LAA for 2010/11. |
| Author | Alison Armstrong/ Ian Kirby |
| Contact details | Alison.armstrong@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk ; ian.kirby@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk |
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Local Area Agreement Designated and Non-Designated (Local) Performance Indicators

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to highlight changes, agreed by the relevant Thematic Groups, to the suite of designated and non-designated Local Area Agreement (LAA) performance indicators for 2010/11.

2.0 Recommendations

The Group is asked:

- 2.1 To endorse the changes agreed by the Thematic Groups.
- 2.2 To recommend to the Local Strategic Partnership that these changes are adopted for the LAA for 2010/11.

3.0 Designated Indicators – Target Changes

- 3.1 Cheshire West and Chester Council (CW&C) has taken up the opportunity provided by Government to renegotiate three of its LAA targets that have, in the Council and Partners' opinion, been impacted upon by the economic downturn. Please note that at the time of writing a formal response to the amended target proposals had not yet been received from Government Office North West.
- 3.2 NI 153: Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods.

CW&C submitted a proposed 2010/11 target to maintain a gap between its performance and that of the North West region of 2.6%. This target was set using a tool developed by Government Office London and the Council believes it remains challenging for a number of reasons, including:

- A deteriorating trend in the number of job vacancies available within the Borough
- The short to medium-term economic forecast, highlighting the challenges the Council faces in providing new employment opportunities, particularly in the 15 lower level super output areas

- 3.3 NI 154: Net additional homes provided.

Proposed target changes from 1,217 to 704 for 2009/10 and 1,317 to 674 for 2010/11 reflect the impact of depressed housing market conditions brought about by the recession. A desk based assessment has been undertaken of all sites that are either under construction or have a planning permission but have not yet started. Extremely tough economic conditions have meant that sites have simply not come

forward and where sites have been under construction, the rate of housing completions has slowed.

3.4 NI 171: New business registration rate.

The short-term economic forecast for 2009-12, published by the North West Development Agency, suggests that recovery from the current economic downturn will be slow and, following GONW's recommended approach to revising the baseline and targets for this indicator, the Council is proposing that targets for 2009/10 and 2010/11 are changed to 105% and 108.5% respectively.

4.0 Non-Designated Indicator Adoption – Safer & Stronger Communities Group (SSCG)

4.1 Following a recommendation from its 'Stronger Group' the SSCG, at its meeting of 25 March, agreed to adopt two new non-designated national indicators to support the achievement of stronger communities throughout the Borough.

4.2 NI 6: Percentage of people participating in regular volunteering.

A high level of volunteering is one sign of a strong, active community with volunteers supporting a range of activities undertaken by the Third Sector and within public services. The Stronger Group will take forward a delivery plan to increase volunteering opportunities.

4.3 NI35: Building resilience to violent extremism.

This indicator supports the 'prevent' work stream of the 'CONTEST' strategy which is aimed at stopping people becoming or supporting violent extremists. NI 35 is a self-assessment which measures our effectiveness at understanding our communities and delivering 'prevents' activities and actions.

4.4 The Stronger Group also recommended the inclusion of NI 1, percentage of people who believe that people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area, as a non-designated indicator. However, this was not agreed by SSCG as some partners expressed concerns that this indicator measured perception and not actual community cohesion.

5.0 Non-Designated Indicator Changes – Children's Trust Board

5.1 At its meeting of the 11 March, the Children's Trust Board agreed to drop the following six local indicators relating to looked after children:

- Local 39 - Looked After Children - Obesity in primary school age children in Year 6
- Local 40 - Looked After Children - Young People's participation in positive activities
- Local 41 - Looked After Children - First-time entrants to the youth justice system (10-17 year olds)
- Local 42 - Looked After Children - Under 18 conception rate
- Local 43 - Looked After Children - Substance misuse by young people
- Local 44 - Looked After Children - in Education, employment and training (EET)

Baselining against the six indicators was identified as a key task as part of the development of the Virtual School, which was delayed due to the restructure of Children's services, and although some information has been captured, the collection of these indicators is offering no evidence of positive change to outcomes for looked after children. A Head of the Virtual School has now been appointed and the Board will be working closely with the appointee to develop more effective measures of performance in this area which will, in turn, contribute to the development of a new Children's Plan by April 2011.

6.0 Non-Designated Indicator Adoption – Environment Thematic Group

- 6.1 The Thematic Leads Group had, at its meeting of 1 March 2010, already agreed to adopt NI 188, adapting to climate change, as a non-designated indicator for 2010/11 within the Environment Thematic Group.

Further Details

Ian Kirby
Senior Manager - Performance

01244 976959

ian.kirby@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk