

Cabinet Committee on Performance Improvement

Part 1 - Item No.8b

Electoral Division affected:
All

Lancashire Local Area Agreement - Stretch Targets

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

The Committee received a report at the November meeting which provided a detailed review of the LAA stretch targets including current performance levels, a forecast of the LAA outturn and an estimate of Reward Grant based on the forecast. This report updates the Committee on changes to the half year position. A more detailed report including estimated PRG will be presented as part of the end of year review of the LAA.

Recommendation

The report is presented for information.

Background

As the Committee is aware, negotiations are underway to agree the 35 targets for the new LAA to commence in June 2008. The current LAA continues to 31 March 2009 and the performance management of the targets in the Agreement is continuing during the negotiations although perhaps with a lighter touch as the focus changes to the new LAA. However within the current LAA are 12 stretch targets which represent key priorities and will deliver significant improvement to the people of Lancashire. These targets also have the potential for Performance Reward Grant if they are achieved. Consequently it is important that these targets continue to be subject to close monitoring and that appropriate support or intervention be provided by partners where needed. Regular reports are presented to the Committee on the progress of those targets for which the County Council is the lead partner and reports have been presented to Lancashire Leader and Chief Exec meetings about the support they can offer to delivery of the targets for which District Councils lead

The half year review report to the Committee contained a detailed review of the stretch targets including current performance levels, a forecast of the LAA outturn and an estimate of Reward Grant based on the forecast. The following section updates the Committee on changes to the half year position. A more detailed report including estimated PRG will be prepared as part of the end of year review of the LAA.

Performance at Quarter 3 2007/08

Target	Update
1a. % of sites surveyed which are below Grade B for litter and detritus (BVPI 199a)	Annual measure. No change from half year review. Report subsequently presented to Lancashire Chief Execs stressing the importance of early access to 2007/08 data to identify level of performance needed in final year.
1b. Incidence of criminal damage and arson, as measured by the British Crime Survey Comparator Crime index for PSA1 purposes.	On target at Q3 Actual = 17781 Target = 18705
2. Number of deaths and injuries (excluding precautionary hospital admissions) arising from accidental fires in dwellings.	On target at Q3 Actual = 61 Target = 91 Forecast year end outcome = 87 against the target of 129 (including stretch). The Service's extensive Community Fire Safety Education programme, particularly in relation to Home Fire Safety Checks, continues to be a significant contributory factor to the current level of performance.
3. Number of drivers and passengers of powered two-wheel vehicles killed, seriously injured or slightly injured on the roads in Lancashire	Not achieving target in Q3 Actual = 426 Target = 390 Remedial action plan requested.
4. conception rate among females aged 15 to 17 as measured by conceptions per 1,000 young women	Data for 2006 is expected Mid February 2008. Performance data for 2005 was below target
5. % of Lancashire's 16 to 18 year old young people not in education, employment or training	The measurable period for LAA purposes is November to January each year. Data for 2007/08 period expected imminently.
6. % Lancashire schools (secondary, primary and special) with National Healthy School Status	Stretch target already exceeded
7a. The number of people who have set a quit date and who are still not smoking at 4 weeks	Data for this measure is received outside of the usual data collection period The most recent data of 5491 for Q2 is on track to achieving target.

<p>7b. %age of retailers who refuse to sell tobacco to underage young people as measured by test purchases</p>	<p>On target Actual = 93% Target = 89% Both the number of test purchases and compliance levels are above target. Compliance levels have increased 6% since 2006-07. This may be explained by the high level of awareness activity, conducted by a number of agencies, following recent changes in legislation, smoke-free premises and raising the minimum age for sales to 18.</p>
<p>7c. % of tobacco sales at vending machines refused to underage young people as measured by test purchases</p>	<p>On target Actual = 83% Target = 63% The majority of activity was purposely postponed to quarters 3 and 4 as the legal age for buying tobacco products was raised from 16 to 18 in October 2007; this followed the banning of smoking in public places from 1 July 2007. As most vending machines are in pubs / restaurants it was considered these two measures may well impact on compliance levels. However the target is conditional upon a specific number of test purchases taking place. 30 test purchases have been achieved this quarter and 20 so far in quarter 4 which is below target although work is in hand to achieve the full year target.</p>
<p>7d. % of retailers who refuse to sell alcohol to underage young people as measured by test purchases</p>	<p>On target Actual = 90% Target = 78% Performance is above target, both for numbers of test purchases and compliance levels. 160 test purchases have been achieved this quarter. Compliance levels have remained static at 90%. However this is in comparison to the North West which indicated compliance at 84.7%</p>
<p>8a. Carbon savings in Lancashire</p>	<p>Annual measure</p>

<p>(expressed as tonnes of carbon), due to the installation of domestic insulation measures and small scale renewables</p>	<p>The latest complete set of data for 2006/07 reported an overall saving of 61,772 tonnes which was significantly below the annual target of 76,284 tonnes and left some 167,080 tonnes to be achieved in the remaining 2 years. The baseline on which the stretch target is based was considered, by the LAA Energy Efficiency group, to be unrealistic as it was based on a different collection methodology than that currently used. This was raised with GONW who in turn indicated that CLG will not review baselines. Despite this colleagues from the LAA energy Efficiency Group are now working to achieve as much of the stretch target as possible. This has been reported to Lancashire District Chief Execs</p>
<p>8b. number of private sector vacant dwellings brought back into use</p>	<p>Annual measure The latest complete set of data for 2006/07 showed 304 dwellings brought back into use, significantly below the annual target of 435 leaving 753 dwellings to be achieved in the remaining 2 years. Activity against this target led by the LAA Empty Homes Group is expected to increase over the coming months and it is envisaged that annual performance will improve.</p>
<p>9. new awards of attendance allowance, disability allowance, pension credit, housing benefit, council tax benefit and carer's allowance made to people aged over 65 as a result of help provided by Lancashire County Council and District Councils</p>	<p>Q3 performance is 1623 awards which is a significant improvement on the same period last year. The service manager is reviewing performance and targets in March and the result of the review will be reported to the Committee in March.</p>
<p>10. completed frameworks for apprentices in public sector organisations in Lancashire</p>	<p>Annual measure. No change from half year review</p>
<p>11. Number of Lancashire people in receipt of an incapacity benefit or</p>	<p>On target at Q3 Actual = 299</p>

Lone Parent Benefit helped by the County Council, working in partnership, into sustained employment	Target 100
12a. number of new businesses established	Outputs against Enterprise starts is rising, though does show as being slightly behind profile. This is because we have yet to receive any data from A4e, the new contracted provider for Business Starts in the North-West, but with whom we have agreement that their starts figures for Lancashire will be included. Activity to meet the gap which this contract has created is also now taking place and beginning to yield results
12b. businesses sustained for minimum of 12 months	Annual measure – no change

Recommendations

The progress report is presented for information.

Alternative options to be considered

N/A

Implications:

N/A

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Directorate/Ext
The Lancashire Local Area Agreement 2006-09	March 2006	Steve Blackburn, Policy Unit, (01772) 533544, Office of the Chief Executive
The Lancashire Local Area Agreement 2006-09 (refresh)	June 2007	