



JOINT HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE BOARD

Subject: Local Area Agreement

Date of Meeting: 28th September 2006

Report of: Rachel Flowers, Assistant Director of Public Health, Milton Keynes Primary Care Trust, Jane Reed Performance Manager, Milton Keynes Council

1. Purpose

1.1 To inform the Joint Health and Social Care Board of the development and progress to date around the Local Area Agreement- specifically the Healthier Communities and Older Peoples block.

2. Recommendations

2.1. That JHSC note

- the draft Local Area Agreement (attached Appendix A) will be the basis of negotiation for the final agreement with the Government.
- That detailed targets are developed as part of the negotiation process with the Government to deliver the priorities for Milton Keynes (Healthier Communities and Older People block draft attached Appendix B).

2.2. That a report is requested for the September meeting of the JHCB so that all members have the opportunity to discuss the process more fully.

3. Local Area Agreement

3.1 Introduction and Background

3.1.1 The LAA is a 3-year agreement between Government, the local authority and its partners and commences April 2007. It focuses on a set of outcomes that are agreed by all as key priorities for the area. These outcomes include a significant number of actions that the government has deemed mandatory for all LAAs. The agreement is reviewed annually.

3.1.2 The basic LAA frame work was developed in the form of four blocks

- Children and Young People

- Safer and Stronger Communities
- Healthier Communities and Older People
- Economic Wellbeing

3.1.3 To support the development of Milton Keynes Local Area Agreement a project team was set up within Milton Keynes Council and leads were identified for each block

- Sally Mottram, Ian Revell and Jill Wilkinson -Children and Young People
- John Liversedge and Brian Sandham, supported by Richard Solly -Safer and Stronger Communities-
- Kate Page and Nick Hicks, supported by Rachel Flowers and Jane Reed- Healthier Communities and Older Peoples
- Colin Fox and John Cove-Economic Wellbeing

3.1.4 The Government requires us to include a number mandatory targets and existing LPSA targets in addition to any locally derived targets. Councils that do not have a LPSA in place can negotiate stretch targets that would lead the receipt of a pump-priming grant and reward money if the targets are achieved. As Milton Keynes has already negotiated a LPSA agreement there is no additional funding involved.

3.1.5 The MK LAA has been developed after extensive consultation. It is designed as a practical document for the delivery of outcomes but in the governments prescribed format. It is based on:

Outcome - The broad intent of what is going to be achieved.

Objective - The specific outcome that supports the broad intent

Measure - The datum (current position) and anticipated improvement in the objective.

Enabling Measures - Requests to change government regulation that currently inhibits the delivery of better services and are specific to Milton Keynes.

The myriad of supporting projects that deliver the LAA outcomes are found in partners' individual business plans

3.1.6 The draft attached at Appendix A is the proposal from Milton Keynes to Government, to be submitted 29th September 2006. It represents the overall architecture of the agreement and will form the basis of negotiation. It is likely that there will be changes to the agreement as the targets are fully developed and the enabling measures are negotiated with the Government before the LAA is signed in February 2007 and implemented in April 2007.

3.1.7 The Milton Keynes Local Area Agreement is one of the means by which the Community Strategy is delivered. The agreement brings together partners' resources to target the collective priorities. The roles and responsibilities of the Council and the LSP are as follows:

3.1.8 The overarching principle to the MK LAA is 'Closing the Gap'. The principle was agreed with the objective that to improve the performance of the whole district we should target intervention on activities that reduce inequalities for the less advantaged citizens of Milton Keynes.

3.1.9 Outcomes and actions are therefore designed to address MK's most significant causes of social exclusion. The majority of outcomes target the neighbourhoods identified through the Social Inclusion and Health Inequalities (SIHI) prioritisation work. Where the outcomes are not specifically targeting these neighbourhoods they are targeting communities of interest such as older people who are experiencing particular difficulties.

4 Joint Plans /Pooled Budgets

4.1 The LAA does not provide additional money but does facilitate greater flexibility as to how funding provided by government to the different partners can be allocated. The alignment and joining up of plans and the pooling of budgets may enable outcomes to be delivered more effectively. It is most likely to improve the idiosyncrasies that the actions of partners have on each other's priorities.

4.2 In the longer term it is anticipated that Government will be more prescriptive in their requirement for the pooling of budgets. However, there are a number of 2007 budgets that are required to be pooled. These are listed below.

	DESCRIPTION OF POOLED BUDGET	2007
1	Anti social behaviour grant Building safer communities	£296,196
2	Drug Strategy Partnership Support Grant	£68,660
3	Waste performance and Efficiency Grant	£174,731
4	Travel to School Initiative (School Modal Shift Grant)	£29,000
	Total of Pooled Budgets	£568,587

5 Enabling Measures

5.1 Perhaps the most exciting opportunity provided by the LAA is the opportunity to try and change Government Regulation (not primary legislation) that may unintentionally obstruct our local ability to deliver improved outcomes. It must be recognised that the success of other partnerships in achieving change has not been overwhelming. The enabling measures for MK (each of which are supported by a business case) are part of each Block in the LAA and are summarised in section 6 of the LAA. It is important to demonstrate that removing regulations will remove blockages to service improvement.

6 Consultation

6.1 Much of the consultation has focused on understanding the purpose of the LAA, particularly as Milton Keynes has been successful in securing additional monies through LPSA2 and there is no additional direct funding attached to the LAA. There has been a new stakeholder group developed for the Healthier Communities and Older People block that in time will support the development of work around Well-being..

7 Timetable

- 7.1 The attached LAA is a draft to be submitted to the Government Office on 29th September for negotiation and refinement which includes detailed discussions on targets. This ongoing drafting will continue through to January when final recommendations will be made to Ministers on 10th February.
- 7.2 The final agreements must be cleared by Ministers, the Leader and the chair of the LSP.
- 7.3 By definition, LAAs are agreements and all sides therefore need to be happy before they are concluded