Health Scrutiny Support Programme – 2007

Session Three – Understanding LAA health related targets and how to scrutinise their progress

Summary of points raised during the discussion

Some people have had LAAs in place for three years; there were a number of pilot authorities.

Health plays a strong role in the LAA and the regional Directors of Public Health have been involved in putting them together.

The LAAs reflect the DoH national concerns such as falls, smoking, teenage pregnancy, obesity and inpatient bed day figures.

LAA targets have to be reviewed yearly and reviewed in a more thorough way periodically.

There will be a new statutory partnership for health and well-being which will begin with a strategic assessment of the health and social care needs of the local area.

Both local and national targets should come to scrutiny.

Local Public Service Boards will be made up of senior people from each of the agencies represented. It will be limited to the public sector.

Questions for scrutiny to ask

Who is performance managing the LAA targets?

What are the strategic priorities of the OSC? Can they cross refer with the LAA?

Areas that could be scrutinised

The strategic health needs of the community

The strategic health and social care needs assessment

The priorities of the Director of Public Health

The Director of Public Health

The role of DPHs is changing. It is now a joint post between the PCT and the County Council which is intended as a bridge between health and well-being services.

It would be helpful for the OSC to have the job description of the DPH and also to have an understanding of the resources at that person's disposal.

The DPH should report regularly to the OSC on the core public health business.