

<b>REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE</b>		Report No. 12
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2008	
<b>Title of Report</b>	Update on the Local Area Agreement for Wiltshire	
<b>Portfolio</b>	Customers and Partners	
Link to Corporate Priorities	Customers – To put our Customers at the heart of everything we do.	
Key Decision	No	
Executive Workplan Ref	N/A	
Public Report	Yes	

<p><b>Summary of Report</b></p> <p>A Local Area Agreement (LAA) can be described as an agreement between government and local areas, which balances the priorities of central government, those of local government and their partners. It involves negotiating a joint commitment to deliver services within a framework of measurable and accountable outcomes.</p> <p>The LAA is based on a series of ambitions agreed through the Wiltshire Strategic Board and driven by the Sustainable Community Strategy, which sets out the vision for improving Wiltshire.</p> <p>This report presents the Executive with an update of the current progress of the LAA in 2008 and sets out how the Council is involved in this process.</p>
<p><b>Officer Recommendations</b></p> <p><b>That the Executive note the process underway to develop the Local Area Agreement in 2008.</b></p>

Other than those implications agreed with the relevant Officers and referred to below, there are no other implications associated with this report.				
Financial Implications	Legal Implications	Community & Environmental Implications	Human Resources Implications	Equality & Diversity Implications
None	None	Yes	None	Yes

<b>Contact Officer</b>	James Moody Partnership Development officer (01249) 706 458 jmoody@northwilts.gov.uk
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## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This report sets out a short overview of the current progress being made to developing the 2008 LAA for Wiltshire. Appendix 1 is a copy of a recent report to the Wiltshire Strategic Board setting out the approach to producing the LAA and will provide Members with more detailed information on the ambitions and timeframes involved.

## **2. Options and Options Appraisal**

- 2.1 Option 1: That the Executive note the process underway to develop the Local Area Agreement in 2008.
- 2.2 Option 2: Members propose alternative recommendation to that of option 1.

## **3. Background Information**

- 3.1 Wiltshire Strategic Board is currently leading the development of the 2008 Local Area Agreement. This year central government has set out its ambitions to see a more streamlined relationship between central and local government to ensure greater focus is placed on delivering against fewer numbers of targets.
- 3.2 The Local Area Agreement helps to set out how the Wiltshire Sustainable Community Strategy will be achieved by agreeing actions between partners to deliver real improvements for people and places in Wiltshire.
- 3.3 To achieve this it has been proposed that a Local Area Agreement for Wiltshire (LAW) is developed by partners that sets out how the Sustainable Community Strategy ambitions will be realised, the places and people that action will support and the measures in place to demonstrate progress, including time scales.
- 3.4 Within the LAW will be the formal Local Area Agreement (LAA) with central government showing 16 statutory education and early year targets and up to 35 targets from the 198 national indicator set issued by government this year. These targets must be agreed and reported to government and cannot be amended without approval, whereas the wider LAW can be managed / amended by the Wiltshire Strategic Board as appropriate.
- 3.5 Further information on the current progress of the ambitions will be considered by the Wiltshire Strategic Board in March, with the final LAA with central government to be agreed and signed off by June 2008 with Government Office South West.

## **4. The Ambitions for Wiltshire**

- 4.1 The draft ambitions for Wiltshire are listed below. More detail of how these actions will be addressed through the LAW can be found in appendix 1.
- Build Strong Resilient Communities
  - Lives not services
  - Wiltshire exhibiting a positive and sustainable environment for economic growth
  - Reduce particular crimes, change behaviours and inform the public to bring about communities that are safe and feel safe.

- Environment, tackling climate change and a high quality natural environment that enriches the lives of people
- Work together to achieve the ambitions including new governance arrangements for the family of partnerships and the establishment of community area boards.

**5. The role of North Wiltshire District Council in supporting the LAA**

- 5.1 As a named partner the Council has a duty to be involved in the development of the Local Area Agreement and take on responsibility for the delivery of actions where appropriate.
- 5.2 This work has been led through the Councils involvement as a partner through the Wiltshire Strategic Board and officers have attended a range of meetings associated with the development of the ambitions and targets.
- 5.3 Ongoing involvement of the Council in the LAA process is being addressed through individual service plans in line with the Councils' Transitional Corporate plan 2008/09.

**6. Community & Environmental Implications**

- 6.1 There is a good opportunity for issues and priorities that affect North Wiltshire to be addressed through the ambitions and actions of the Local Area Agreement for Wiltshire.

**7. Equality and Diversity Implications**

- 7.1 The partnership nature of the LAA and its ability to deliver against joint priorities in the Community Strategy places issues associated with equality and diversity at its centre.

<b>Appendices:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Appendix 1: Local Area Agreement for Wiltshire and Our Local Area Agreement – Report to Wiltshire Strategic Board February 2008</b></li> </ul>
<b>Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Local Area Agreement for Wiltshire and Our Local Area Agreement – Report to Wiltshire Strategic Board February 2008</b></li> </ul>

**Previous Decisions Connected with this Report**

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Please list any previous reports or state None.</b></li> </ul>		