

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

Cabinet

Report of the Chair of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

1.1 To brief Cabinet on the recent activity of the LSP

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors sit on North Lincolnshire LSP.

2.2 The LSP is a “pseudo” statutory requirement for all Local Authorities. It’s a group of key bodies in the area that meet to share resources and strategies for the benefit of the area as a whole.

2.3 North Lincolnshire LSP has been co-ordinating the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA), the LSP is at the heart of the new inspection regime. The focus of the CAA is; how partner organisations come together to improve the outcomes for people in the area.

2.4 The Audit Commission lead on the CAA. They have been working with the LSP to develop the Area Assessment element of the CAA. In May, a desktop exercise was carried out to produce an “emerging picture”. It has formed the basis for discussions for gathering evidence to support the areas highlighted.

2.5 The first draft of the CAA report will be presented to the LSP meeting on 8 October and the final assessment will be published on the 10 December.

2.6 The LSP has also been performance managing the Local Area Agreement (LAA). The first year outturn report for 2008/09 showed that of the 35 indicators, 13 met their year one targets, nine did not and nine were setting baselines in this year (new national indicators). Five do not currently have year-end data (data collection dates vary).

2.7 Incomplete population of the Performance Management System (PMS) by some partners and service areas is hindering the performance management function of the LSP.

2.8 Theme leads and partner organisations have been asked to ensure that any indicator, flagged as at risk, which links or influences an LAA target is subject to a performance improvement process. The relevant organisation to decide what that process is and report back by 31 December 2009.

2.9 A recent elected member briefing on the LSP highlighted areas for improvement in relation to representation and communication between the LSP and Elected Members.

2.10 Elected member representation exists in the LSP at all levels. The Leader sits on the LSP board, and cabinet members sit on the majority of the theme boards (Cllr Foster – Safer Neighbourhoods, Cllr Carlisle and Cllr O Sullivan – Well-being and health Improvement, Cllr Regan – Environment and Sustainability Partnership, Cllr Gosling – Children and Young people.

Vacancies exist on both the Community Resilience board and the Economic Development Board. Overview and Scrutiny receive performance papers from LSP meetings and Neighbourhood Action Teams are also chaired and attended by Elected Members.

2.11 The communications from the LSP have been weak. The LSP have established a communications sub group to focus on this issue. The LSP now sends performance papers to Overview and Scrutiny, all meeting agendas and subsequent board papers are available to all on the LSP website nlspartnership.org

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 It is vital that all organisations that form the LSP populate the councils performance management system. This enables the LSP to actively monitor performance against the LAA.

3.2 The council undertake a performance improvement exercise for all at risk indicators that contribute to the LAA.

3.3 Communications between the LSP and elected members needs to be improved. The introduction of this LSP briefing to Cabinet is one solution to this issue but more effective on going communications with all elected members must be introduced, including the publication of an LSP newsletter.

3.4 The vacancies on the Community Resilience board and the Economic Development board are offered to Cabinet members.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 Adopting the council's Performance Management System enables the LSP to monitor progress towards the Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement. Failure to monitor this progress will impact the area assessment and the use of resources assessments.

4.2 The council already carries out extensive performance improvement exercises. The LSP board has requested all partner organisations to do this. And report back by December 2009.

4.3 The Chief Executive is responsible for ensuring the council as a partner organisation is playing its part in LSP recommendations.

4.4 Filling the vacancies on both the Community Resilience and Economic development board by cabinet members; will ensure that all cabinet members have a legitimate role to play on the LSP.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

5.1 There are no direct resource implications.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

6.1 Failure to effectively performance manage the Community Strategy and LAA could result in financial penalty and higher scrutiny by inspectorates.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

7.1 The outcomes of the elected member briefing on 9 September are included above.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Cabinet note the progress of the CAA.

8.2 Cabinet support the endorsement of the council's performance management system.

8.3 Cabinet nominates members for the Community Resilience and Economic Development Boards.

8.4 Cabinet approve the briefing paper and monthly newsletter for elected members and wider audiences

Chief Executive

Pittwood House
Ashby Road
SCUNTHORPE
North Lincolnshire
DN16 1AB
Author: Matt Cridge
Date: 21/09/2009

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report