

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting22nd May 2008

1. Title of Item/Report

Draft Local Area Agreement 2008-11

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that outlined progress made in negotiating the borough's new Local Area Agreement.

In October 2007 Cabinet agreed a Sustainable Community Strategy for the borough to cover 2008-2021. The strategy set out the Councils vision and priorities for the borough and was based on extensive consultation. The strategy sat at the top of the Councils planning hierarchy and defined five core priority themes and three supporting themes.

It was explained that the Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2008-11 formed a delivery plan for the first three years of the Sustainable Community Strategy. The LAA consisted of two parts – a range of designated measures which had three year improvement targets that were agreed with the secretary of state and “local measures “ where an area wished to include additional measures to reflect priorities but these were not subject to ministerial sign off. The designated measures had to be selected from the new National Indicator Set of 198 measures. In addition there were 16 mandatory measures from the Department for Children, Schools and Families relating to educational attainment.

Members were advised that throughout the development of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement there had been extensive consultation and engagement with thematic and area partnerships as well as local people and councillors.

Members were provided with the list of measures and provisional targets for the designated measures section. It was explained that the measures had been selected from the 198 National Indicators as the measures that most closely reflected the Councils Sustainable Community Strategy. There was good spread across priority themes and across the public sector agencies responsible for delivering the agreement.

It was explained that the Council had the option to include additional

measures within the agreement. These were known as “local measures” and are not subject to ministerial target signoff and did not have to be drawn from the National Indicator Set. It was proposed to include a small number of measures in the local section of the LAA at this stage with targets to be set as part of the usual performance management cycle by the end of June. Members were provided with a copy of the local measures.

It was explained that the Tees Valley had been leading the way in developing a Multi Area Agreement focusing on improving the economic prosperity of the city region. One element of the agreement was a performance framework which in some cases drew on the National Indicator Set. In order to ensure there was read across between the Stockton LAA and the MAA the Council would be ensuring that MAA indicators which were also local priorities would be included in the LAA’s designated measures and where an MAA indicator was of lower priority in Stockton it was included in the local measures section.

It was noted that the measures would be incorporated into the council’s overarching corporate basket and reported to Cabinet and Executive Scrutiny at an appropriate frequency. As the agreement covered all public sector agencies in the borough it would also be reported to Stockton Renaissance twice a year.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The good progress made in negotiating the new Local Area Agreement be noted.
2. The draft Local Area Agreement be agreed and authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to agree any further amendments arising from final negotiations with government.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The Local Area Agreement requires approval by the Councils Cabinet under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not Applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not later than Midnight on Monday 2 June 2008

Proper Officer
27 May 2008