

SELECTION OF TARGETS FOR THE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT (LAA)

1. The last meeting of the Partnership, on 30 October, received a report entitled 'Single Set of National Indicators', which presented the full list of 198 National Indicators, from which Local Strategic Partnerships can choose up to 35 for inclusion in their Local Area Agreements, and highlighted 38 of these as being of particular interest to this Partnership.
2. We gave initial consideration to prioritising five indicators, but agreed also to receive a further report on this issue after doing further research in volumes and baselines.
3. At the same meeting we agreed the topline priorities for our Community Safety Plan 2008 –2011, based on approximately 4,000 public responses to our consultation programme.
4. Since that meeting Stockton Renaissance has initiated a process of target selection ranging across all the thematic partnerships, requiring views to be fed in by 21 November, for circulation prior to a general meeting of managers drawn from across the thematic partnerships on 26 November.
5. In order to fit this timetable, a meeting of an ad hoc task group of this Partnership, with representatives from Police, Fire Brigade, Probation and Council, was held on 21 November and considered an earlier draft version of this report.
6. As discussed at the last meeting of the Partnership, there are a number of factors to be taken into account in selecting Indicators. The first and foremost of them is that they should **reflect our priorities** for the next three years – we must be striving to address the right things (and not, for example, selecting Indicators on the basis of their likely ease of achievement).
7. Other factors to take into account are that the chosen Indicators must be good **measures of achievement** (i.e. focussed on outcomes, and not just on counting throughputs or measuring processes), and that they must be **technically sound** (i.e. we must be able to measure them reliably, and there should ideally be adequate baseline data available over a period of three years or more).
8. The definitions of all the National Indicators were issued on 9 November but in many cases these still leave many important details to be confirmed at an unknown later date. In some cases a full or partial definition was previously available via the proposed new national Public Service Agreement (PSA) Delivery Agreement, particularly number 23 ('Make communities safer') and 25 ('Reduce the harm caused by Alcohol and Drugs').

9. Is that it is not yet clear how much discretion representatives of Government Office North East, with whom the LAA will be negotiated, will have to agree variations to National Indicators or to agree Local indicators in place of selections from the national 'menu'.
10. Attached as Appendix A is a further attempt to select the best Indicators from the point of view of this partnership
11. At our Partnership Meeting on 4 December an update will be given on the Renaissance support meeting held on 26 November, which took place after the agenda deadline for our Partnership Meeting.
12. Finally, it should be noted that we may yet end up in the position of being obliged to attempt to predict performance without adequate knowledge of the resources available, since the timetable for knowledge of the size of the new Area Based Grant, the fate of the BCU Fund etc. are so late.
13. It is RECOMMENDED that the Partnership endorses the following Indicators, as shown in bold in Appendix A:-
 - NI 17
 - NI 38 (our Local Indicator to reduce positive tests on arrest)
 - NI 42
 - NI 15 (amended for a broader range of offences)
 - Local Indicator on criminal damage rate
 - NI 111,
 - Plus NI5 and NI 52 as secondary options