

Item/ Service Name	Local Area Agreement Update
Update	25 February 2008
Item for SHSP to consider	<p>Background to the Devon Local Area Agreement</p> <p>The Government wants to use Local Area Agreements (LAAs) as vehicles for improving services and economic prosperity. LAAs are three year agreements with priorities agreed between all the main public sector services such as the PCT, Fire and Rescue, Police, local government and central government. Partners are brought together under the umbrella of the Devon Strategic Partnership (DSP) which agrees a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). The SCS is a long term strategy for the County based on public consultation. See Appendix 1 for general information about the LAA (DSP Briefing Note: Devon Local Area Agreement 2008-2011). The priorities for the new Devon wide SCS are set out in Appendix 2.</p> <p>The LAA is to be based on the priorities in the SCS and will include up to 35 targets drawn from the new national indicators set. There are 198 performance indicators in the new national set but only those indicators selected for the LAA will have targets attached for which the government would expect a quantified and specific level of improvement. Put simply the LAA selects the areas which are to be given priority and the government then measures performance against these. In addition to the “up to 35” targets there will also be 17 statutory education and early years targets.</p> <p>The County Council as the accountable body for the DSP and its partners (DSP Delivery Board and Partnership Board) have discretion to set additional targets for inclusion in the LAA. These carry no national mandatory reporting requirements other than those established locally.</p> <p>The Devon LAA 2008 to 2011 is being negotiated between the DSP and Central Government. The Government Office for the South West is representing Central Government and Devon County Council is the accountable body negotiating on behalf of the Devon Strategic Partnership.</p> <p>Priorities for the South Devon and Dartmoor Cluster (South Hams, Teignbridge and West Devon)</p> <p>4.1 Officers from the South Devon and Dartmoor cluster of district councils working together have identified high level priorities common to each authority and their respective local strategic partnerships which can be summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable housing • Economic development

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment protection • Community cohesion and vibrancy, particularly promoting activities and opportunities for children and young people. <p>The officers have also suggested some 24 national performance indicators which reflect these priorities. These are set out in Appendix 3 to this report.</p>
Action recommended	That SHSP support the priorities identified through their respective individual agencies and influence their organisation's contribution to the development of the LAA in other forums.

The members of the South Hams Strategic Partnership recognise that by working together they can achieve more for the benefit of the people of the South Hams

