



In the Know

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This is the fourth edition of our new quarterly electronic newsletter. Its purpose is simple, to keep you in the know about what is going on in the Government Office for the West Midlands and our sponsor Departments in Whitehall. We hope that you find it both informative and clear.

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Sub National Review

In July Government announced the conclusions of an important review, carried out as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007, into economic development and regeneration in regions and sub-regions.

The Government wants to ensure that all localities and regions have the opportunity for economic growth and that local authorities have more powers and stronger incentives to improve local prosperity. We need to ensure that people in deprived areas can benefit from and contribute to economic growth, with support from regional and central government agencies.

The Government will also encourage greater working across sub-regions and cities. Cities are the engine of our regional economies and need to focus on making the most effective decisions that respond to real economic geography.

The Government intends to reform the regional tier so that the Regional Development Agencies have executive responsibility for developing a single, integrated regional strategy, working closely with local authorities and other partners. They will also have a role in promoting economic growth, subject to scrutiny by local authorities and simplified and strengthened performance management by central government. Regional Assemblies in their current form will not continue in the longer term.

The Sub National Review also seeks to improve the way the public sector engages with business in economic development and regeneration activity, for example, through simplified access to business support and new delivery vehicles such as City Development Companies.

The Sub National Review sets out for the first time a clear statement of an enhanced local authority role in leading economic development, supported by a strong package of devolution and incentives. The Government intends to consult on the possible creation of a focused statutory economic development duty. It will also consider options for supplementary business rates.

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Sub National Review continued

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For the first time MPs will be given a formal role in RDA scrutiny through a select or standing committee model.

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Reformed Local Area Agreements are expected to include a clear focus on economic development and neighbourhood renewal and at the sub-regional level the development of Multi Area Agreements (MAAs) will be encouraged. The first wave of MAAs will be negotiated alongside LAAs from this autumn. In the longer term the Government is interested in exploring the potential for allowing groups of local authorities to establish statutory sub-regional authorities.

There will also be changes at regional level to strengthen the accountability of the RDAs to democratically elected local authorities. Local Authorities will be given a clear role in the development of regional strategies and in the scrutiny of RDA performance. For the first time MPs will be given a formal role in RDA scrutiny through a select or standing committee model.

Taken together the measures in the SNR and other initiatives announced this summer represent a very significant programme of change for the region and signal the government's further intention to democratic reform. The appointment of Regional Ministers is designed to ensure that all regions are encouraged to make the best of the opportunities on offer to raise their game. The West Midlands Minister, Liam Byrne, has already set out his expectations very clearly and will be visiting all parts of the region over the autumn to press home the messages of the Sub National Review.

Regional Policy Team

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European Structural Funds 2007 to 2013

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This framework informs the delivery of the programme so that it adds value to regional employment and skills priorities and complements other funding streams.

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New European Programmes Update

Since the summer a number of developments have taken place on the new European Social Fund (ESF) and the ERDF Regional Competitiveness and Employment Programmes (RCE) for 2007 to 2013.

On 25th May the Operational Programming document for the ERDF RCE programme was submitted to the European Commission and is also available on our website for partners to view. Formal negotiations with the European Commission are being held in September with the aim of agreeing a final version and it is anticipated that the programme will be approved in late autumn.

The Department for Work and Pensions submitted the proposal for the 2007-2013 England ESF programme to the European Commission on 5 March 2007 and following examination it was formally adopted on 9th August. A national launch event is taking place in October to celebrate this achievement. The Regional Skills Partnership has also completed a regional ESF framework for 2007-2013 on the basis of the programme proposal. This framework informs the delivery of the programme so that it adds value to regional employment and skills priorities and complements other funding streams.

Developments for the management of the ERDF programme continue with national negotiations taking place on transfer arrangements looking at finance, HR and processes to be put in place. RDAs are taking on the strategic management and delivery of the ERDF programme for 2007-13 with the Government Offices continuing to manage the existing Objective 2 and 3 programmes that run until the end of 2008.

New developments on both programmes will be reported in future editions of this newsletter. In the meantime you are able to download and view the full OP documents on our website at www.gos.gov.uk/gowm/EuroFund/?a=42496. Additional information on the ESF programme is also available on the '2007-2013' section of the main ESF website www.esf.gov.uk and also on the Regional Skills and Partnership website www.wmskillspartnership.org.uk.

European Funding Team

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Proposed Changes to the Regional Spatial Strategy

“
The Proposed Changes provide a basis for the much needed regeneration of the Black Country. This is essential to improve economic performance in the West Midlands region.
”

Phase I - The Black Country

Following the article in the March issue of 'In the Know' the Proposed Changes to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the West Midlands (RSS) were published for consultation on 10 September.

Publishing the Proposed Changes, Baroness Andrews, Lords Minister for Planning said:

“The Proposed Changes provide a basis for the much needed regeneration of the Black Country. This is essential to improve economic performance in the West Midlands region. The proposed policies will promote the development of attractive environments for people to live and work in.”

Publication was delayed by the need to ensure that the policies were not likely to result in impacts on European Nature Conservation sites. This work highlighted how development activity in the heart of the West Midlands could potentially impact on sites a considerable distance away. The consultants were particularly concerned that the water abstraction and waste water relating to development in the Black Country could adversely affect important conservation sites in the Severn estuary. The Proposed Changes reflect the need to ensure there are no such impacts.

The Proposed Changes will guide the preparation of the

Joint Core Strategy by the four Black Country authorities. They encourage the development of policies which exploit opportunities to both mitigate for and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Regional Assembly will be developing regionally specific thinking on climate change as part of the Phase 2 revision to RSS.

The changes also define growth corridors which, together with the four major centres of Brierley Hill, Walsall, West Bromwich, and Wolverhampton will be the focus for regeneration activity in the Black Country over the next two decades.

The status of Brierley Hill is proposed to change, taking over the role as strategic town centre for the south Black Country from Dudley. This will ensure future retail growth is supported by the development of other town centre activities at Brierley Hill and encourage the enhancement of tourist attractions in Dudley.

The Proposed Changes are on the GOWM website <http://www.gos.gov.uk/gowm/> and consultation ends on 9 November. It is hoped to incorporate them in a revised RSS early in 2008.

Regional Spatial Strategy Team

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GOWM Ministerial visits



The Minister provided a strategic overview of the challenges and opportunities facing UK business and outlined the Government's priorities around employment legislation and business support.



From the beginning of June until the end of August we organised 27 visits to our region by Ministers

DCLG	- 4	HO	- 7
DFES	- 4	DfT	- 1
DCMS	- 3	DEFRA	- 5
DTI	- 2	CO	- 1

Here are some examples. Since these visits there have been changes in Government and department titles have changed. During this period the region received several ministerial visits relating to flood damage.

• **Ian Pearson MP**

Ian Pearson MP visited this region on 18th June and travelled to Red Hill C of E School in Worcester. The school had recently added some new features, tackled climate impacts and reduced its carbon footprint. Mr Pearson met with the Head Teacher, School Governor and Lead Architect for the structural improvements to the school.

• **The Rt Hon Margaret Hodge MBE MP – Minister of State for Industry and the regions**

The Minister attended the Birmingham Post Business Awards on 20th June at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. After a formal reception the Minister gave a speech and presented the

awards to winners. Key sponsors also provided presentations and they included Churchill Vintners, Aston University and Prodrive.

• **John Healey – Minister of State for Communities and Local Government**

After the severe summer flooding within the region the Minister visited Lichfield on 3rd July and saw at first hand how the District Council and its residents were coping. Initially Mr Healey met Nina Dawes, Chief Executive of Lichfield DC. Afterwards the Minister met emergency service providers, residents and affected businesses. The visit was very well received and members of the public were grateful to the Minister for taking time out to visit them.

• **The Rt Hon Margaret Hodge MBE MP – Minister of State for Industry and the Regions**

The Minister travelled to Birmingham on 9th July and attended a Council meeting of Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. This included a Sector Ambassador update for the creative sector. The Minister provided a strategic overview of the challenges and opportunities facing UK business and outlined the Government's priorities around employment legislation and business support.

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GOWM Ministerial visits continued



The Council discussed how legislation and regulation can be balanced with the need to maximise productivity and business competitiveness in the UK and abroad.



Discussions also took place around company regulations, national minimum wage and increasing holiday entitlements. The Council discussed how legislation and regulation can be balanced with the need to maximise productivity and business competitiveness in the UK and abroad.

- **Lord Hunt of Kings Heath – Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – Ministry of Justice**

Lord Hunt visited Rugby and Coventry on 12th July. The first appointment was at Rainsbrook Secure Training Centre where Lord Hunt met the Director, Custody Officers and young residents. The Minister then went on to Coventry Magistrates Court. Here Lord Hunt sat in on a court session, met staff and discussed management of legal aid means testing and how the new systems are working.

- **Liam Byrne – Minister of State – Home Office and Minister for the West Midlands Region**

The Minister visited the region on 16th July. His first meeting was with John Edwards, Chief Executive of Advantage West Midlands, afterwards he travelled to Ludlow and met Shropshire DC officials and visited the collapsed Burway Bridge and flooded areas. Mr Byrne then travelled to Cleobury Mortimer to visit the site of Newbridge Nursery which was also flood damaged.

- **Peter Housden – Permanent Secretary, Department for Communities and Local Government**

The Permanent Secretary visited the West Midlands on 10th August to visit Worcestershire and view flood damaged areas. Mr Housden met officials at Worcestershire County Council and then visited Sedgeberrow along with Wychavon District Council officials. Mr Housden then went on to a farm at Severn Stoke and finally Worcester Cricket Ground which was also badly affected in the floods and will take several months before it is ready for matches to be played.

- **Joe Montgomery – Director General – Communities and Local Government.**

The Director General held discussions with Trudi Elliot, Regional Director at GOWM, followed by a staff briefing and meetings with several local councils. The purpose was to discuss the key issues of the region, LAAs and efficiency. The Director General then went on to meet Nicola Yates, Chief Executive of North Shropshire District Council at Wem.

Continue →





GOWM Ministerial visits continued

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Discussions also took place around company regulations, national minimum wage and increasing holiday entitlements.

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- **Tom Harris – Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport**

Mr Harris visited Ludlow on 15th August and had a meeting with officials from South Shropshire District Council. Afterwards he went on to view the collapsed Burway Bridge and flooded areas of Ludlow.

- **Susan Schofield – Director General for Equalities (DCLG)**

The Director General visited this region on 24th August and met our Regional Director and other high ranking officials. She also met contacts from Community Cohesion, Preventing Extremism, Race, Equality and Diversity, Groundwork and Birmingham City Council.

Ministerial Business Team

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Business Support Simplification Programme (BSSP) Consultation Event 4 Sept 2007

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The aim of this programme is to reduce the number of publicly funded business support services from over 3,000 to no more than 100 by 2010.

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Following the announcement made by the Chancellor in the 2006 budget, the Government has developed a Business Support Simplification Programme. The aim of this programme is to reduce the number of publicly funded business support services from over 3,000 to no more than 100 by 2010. The intention is to alleviate the confusion that surrounds businesses in accessing a diverse array of schemes, via an equally bewildering range of access routes. Once the objectives are achieved it should ensure that publicly-funded business support:

- Is simple for business to understand and access;
- Ensures good value for money; and
- Has impact on economic and other public policy goals

A national consultation was undertaken seeking views on how the public sector should support business in the future. This meets the commitment to consult made in the budget 2006.

The consultation was aimed at:

- Business (including social enterprises) and their representatives;
- Local authorities and other public-sector organisations involved in business support (for example universities); and
- Private, public and third sector organisations that are contracted to provide publicly-funded support to business.

The Economy Team in the Government Office for the West

Midlands and Advantage West Midlands jointly held a consultation event on 4th September in order to better engage, primarily, the local authorities from this region. The event was held at the Government Office premises and was attended by 42 individuals from a cross section of local authorities from across the West Midlands.

The group of attendees received presentations from Trudi Elliott, Regional Director GOWM, Norman Price, Chair, Enterprise Board and Petar Stojic, Assistant Director from the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform. Each of the presenters further clarified the role of BSSP in the context of the Regional Economic Strategy (RES), Sub-National Review (SNR) and the national context. Advantage West Midlands put plans in place to consult all the other stakeholders separately through their Enterprise Board and ask them to respond similarly to the national consultation.

The presentations were followed by discussions in small groups on topics such as whether the proposed Business Support met the local business need, how the business link can be developed to meet the simplification agenda and finally how we could ensure there is no future proliferation. The feedback that was captured from this exercise will form part of the formal response to the BSSP consultation.

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Business Support Simplification Programme (BSSP) continued

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Government Office, following a popular demand, has decided to hold a further event during the early part of the New Year in order to discuss the outcome of the recent consultation exercise.

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The closing date for the response to the consultation document was 14 September for all the stakeholders. Government Office, following a popular demand, has decided to hold a further event during the early part of the New Year in order to discuss the outcome of the recent consultation exercise. A full copy of the document can be accessed via the following web link.
<http://www.dti.gov.uk/consultations/page40113.html>

Undoubtedly Business Support Simplification will feature in the LAA negotiations, BERR are currently considering how BSSP will be embedded in the Agreements.

The Economy Team

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Flooding – counting the cost and planning for recovery

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Agencies and Local Resilience Forums are conducting debriefs in order to share good practice and help improve future responses to emergencies in the region.

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For many of us, the summer was dominated by the impact of flooding. Many areas were affected by the floods following heavy rainfall on 15th June, but even greater disruption and damage was caused by heavy and sustained rain on 20th July. The region now holds the record for rainfall over 24 hours - 135mm at Pershore in Worcestershire.

Initially the main impact was to transport. In particular, the M5 was closed, on Friday night of the busiest travel weekend of the year, with hundreds of vehicles stranded overnight. Over the next few days the focus shifted from pluvial (heavy rain) to fluvial (river) flooding, as the flood waters cut off communities, damaged properties and crops, and threatened infrastructure. The region is still counting the cost. But latest estimates suggest that:

- 6,000 residential properties were flooded, the majority (3,400) in Worcestershire, but significant numbers in Warwickshire and Herefordshire
- Estimated cost to businesses - £200-300m
- Estimated cost to agriculture - £200-300m
- Estimated cost to education - £4m
- Significant costs to tourism, transport and other infrastructure

Current activity is centred on:

- a) Firming up the costs of repairing the damage caused, not least in relation to the various funding streams available for remedial action. Over £2.5m has already gone to Local Authorities

in the region for flood recovery, and an additional £1.85m for schools, but further support will be available through the Bellwin scheme for local authorities, and an application is being made to the EU Solidarity Fund. Advantage West Midlands is also running separate schemes for affected businesses.

- b) The recovery process is now well under way, with Local Authorities taking the lead, through Local Strategic Partnerships where appropriate, in addressing medium to long-term recovery issues.
- c) Addressing the lessons learned from the emergency response. Agencies and Local Resilience Forums are conducting debriefs in order to share good practice and help improve future responses to emergencies in the region. The Government Office will co-ordinate some of this activity, and feed it into a national review, led by Sir Michael Pitt.

The floods have had a major impact which will be felt for some time to come.





Winter Willow – Lessons learned

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The region will be working with partners over the coming months to address the issues identified.

”

The March edition of In the Know featured an article on the national Winter Willow exercise which tested preparedness for a possible flu pandemic. The Department of Health recently published the results of an evaluation of the exercise, which can be found at:

www.ukresilience.info/news/winter_willow_lessons.aspx

The evaluation identified strengths in response arrangements and communication channels, and also areas for further development. The region will be working with partners over the coming months to address the issues identified. For example, in both this exercise and in the floods, more work needs to be done about the sustainability of the response for prolonged incidents.

Regional Resilience Team

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Rain didn't stop play - 40,000 young people play through all weathers in Warwickshire!

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The programme offers a window of opportunity to build positive relationships offering guidance or signposting young people to those support services best suited to help them.
”



Working in areas of high impact across Warwickshire, Positive about Young People (PaYP) works closely with Partners to deliver their Holiday Activity Play Programme through a targeted approach ensuring positive contribution to the 5 outcomes of Every Child Matters.

Targeted Young People Support aims to ensure that the needs of vulnerable young people are identified early and met by agencies working together effectively in ways that are shaped by the views and experiences of young people. This is a key strategy when commissioning Partners to deliver activities like the summer play

programmes. Partners are commissioned ensuring there are a variety of activities attractive to a wide range of young people. Young people are given the opportunity to engage in activities such as arts and crafts, outdoor/street play, sports, music, dance, cookery as well as making use of local green spaces and wild areas.

This year Positive about Young People commissioned or funded 68 Partner activity play programmes countywide with early results indicating that they are well on target to achieve over **35,000** contacts with young people.

The Positive Operational Drop-in Strategy (PODS)/Snax 'N' Sports

Through the PODS programme Activity Workers 'hang out' and play with young people in shelters, buildings or in steel cabins equipped with play equipment. The programme offers a window of opportunity to build positive relationships offering guidance or signposting young people to those support services best suited to help them.

PaYP provide their Snax 'N' Sports holiday play programme from PODS locations ensuring that 'gaps' in provision are closed and young people benefit from at least one programme in their area. The aim is to promote better quality of life for young people in high impact areas through free fun activities and snacks. This year 247 sessions ran achieving 5,763 contacts with young people

(a 24% increase on last year) suggesting a huge vote of confidence from young people once again.

“Snax 'N' Sports is safe, we are not allowed out except at Snax 'N' Sports and PODS”

“Snax 'N' Sports is fun and interesting”

The 2007 Holiday Activity Play Programme will have achieved over **40,000** contacts with young people throughout the county proving to be a resounding success. A comment from a young person goes some way to acknowledge this:

“We want more things like this!”





Community Safety

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The dedication of local partners to work together has contributed to a sustained fall in crime in the last ten years and will be crucial to the successful delivery of the new strategy.

”

In July 2007, the Home Office launched a new Crime Strategy, “Cutting Crime: A New Partnership 2008-11”. The strategy marks the beginning of a new phase of tackling crime. Since 1997 we have seen overall crime fall dramatically, however, making further reductions will be challenging. “Cutting Crime: A New Partnership” recognises that new approaches are needed and sets out a road-map for finding new ways of working and innovative solutions in the fight against crime.

The dedication of local partners to work together has contributed to a sustained fall in crime in the last ten years and will be crucial to the successful delivery of the new strategy. Over recent years some excellent outcomes have been achieved for communities. In this region the Quinton Action Group, a multi-agency project managed by Staffordshire Police, has picked up the runner-up place in the annual Home Office Tilley Awards – awarded to projects that demonstrate excellence in applying problem-oriented principles to crime and disorder. The main interventions and mechanisms within the project were designed to reduce crime and disorder and make the area cleaner, greener and safer for business, young people and the community at large. Since the launch of the project in October the community safety team has seen the whole community brought closer together.

However, major challenges remain, not least because the community safety landscape has changed significantly since the Crime and Disorder Act was introduced in 1998. Working with

stakeholders, the Home Office carried out a formal review of the partnership provision of the Act.

The review identified what works well for partnerships and the suggested improvements were reflected in the Police and Justice Act 2006 and the subsequent regulations that came into force on 1 August 2007. The regulations outline the minimum statutory requirements for partnership working and are based around six “Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships” that underpin effective delivery. The hallmarks are:

- Empowered and effective leadership
- Intelligence-led business processes
- Effective and responsive delivery structures
- Engaged communities
- Visible and constructive accountability
- Appropriate knowledge and skills

Beyond these requirements, partnerships have the flexibility to deliver in their own way.

Continue →





Community Safety continued

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Since the launch of the project in October the community safety team have seen the whole community brought closer together.

”

Home Office Guidance on the hallmarks and the statutory requirements was published in mid September.

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships have until April 2008 to meet the new requirements. The Government Office is also developing a programme of dedicated events over the coming months. The programme will provide opportunities for partners to learn more about what the new requirements mean for them and practical opportunities to share best practice and develop their preparations together.

For further information please contact the Crime Team on 0121 352 5108.

Sustainable Communities Team

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Transport Priorities

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With departments poised to make key investment decisions before the end of the financial year - this is an opportunity that is not to be missed.

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The final months of 2007 are likely to see important developments in transport thinking for the West Midlands.

The region has argued long and hard for the Birmingham New Street Gateway proposal. The Government has already indicated that £128M will be made available for New Street work, but decisions are still awaited on the multi-purpose Gateway proposal. Liam Byrne, West Midlands regional minister, has convened two meetings of relevant local politicians, officers and Whitehall representatives to ensure that everything possible is being done to ensure that the final case that is submitted for Gateway covers all the questions that Departments legitimately have, but also that Whitehall responds quickly to the local partnership's final proposals.

The region is also now revisiting its list of key transport priorities that will support the emerging Regional Economic Strategy and Regional Spatial Strategy. The intention is for key regional players to present to Liam Byrne a short list of fundable key transport investments that best support the economic and housing growth planned for the region. This will be a difficult task: and the timeframe of the end of the calendar year is challenging. But, with Departments poised to make key investment decisions before the end of the financial year - this is an opportunity that is not to be missed. Led by the West Midlands Regional Assembly working with AWM, the Regional Transport Partnership, ourselves in the Government Office and a number of other senior bodies, there

is a confidence that this short list will be something that the region will be able to unite around to ensure that Government is persuaded about the importance of investing in transport infrastructure in the region. The first quarter of next year should then be the time when the West Midlands concludes how it will be going about making the case for this short list of projects.

Transport Team

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Local Area Agreements (LAAs)

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Local partnerships are in a much stronger position to shape the LAA if they are able to tell a coherent story about “place”, linking context with priorities.

”

Over the summer a number of areas across England, including Coventry and Shropshire in this region, tested out various aspects of the new style LAAs. The final report entitled “LAA Dry-run Negotiations” has just been published, together with Phase 1 guidance from Communities and Local Government (CLG).

Some of the key messages include:

- The LAA needs to accommodate both local vision and performance improvement;
- Local partnerships are in a much stronger position to shape the LAA if they are able to tell a coherent story about “place”, linking context with priorities;
- Having early opportunities to deliberate about priorities together increases the understanding between Government offices and local Partnerships of each others' perspective and allows testing out of ideas before negotiating positions become too fixed;
- A clear process and set of criteria for establishing priorities provides greater confidence in and ownership of the outcome;
- Cross-cutting priorities can provide the opportunity to make progress towards a range of objectives nationally and locally.

Over the next few months CLG will be publishing further documents to support the LAA negotiations.

The National Indicator Set will be part of the CSR07 announcements in mid/late October and Phase 2 of the LAA guidance is expected at around the same time. A consultation document on the technical definitions underpinning the National Indicator Set will be published in November as will a consultation document on the Comprehensive Area Assessment and the National Improvement and Efficiency Strategy.

Within the region we are asking our partnerships to produce a first outline draft of their LAA by the end of November to ensure that there is a common understanding between the GO and the partnership of likely priorities, which the GO will share with Whitehall colleagues. We will be asking for a second draft at the end of January 2008 and we are expecting to conclude the LAAs by the end of the financial year. The new LAAs will be signed off by Ministers in June 2008.

If you would like any more information on LAAs and the associated documents please see the CLG website (www.communities.gov.uk) or contact Leo Castledine on 0121 352 5032 or Amanda Kennett on 0121 352 5044.





Firefighters Get on their Bikes!

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Arson puts individuals at risk, not only those who set the fires, but members of the public and ultimately the firefighters who have to put these fires out.

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Firefighters in Cannock and Rugeley are getting on their bikes as part of a new initiative to address the growing problem of deliberate fires.

The firefighters are using mountain bikes to carry out additional risk reduction work within the community. This initiative will see firefighters patrolling areas where arson or the risk from arson is a problem, such as Hednesford Hills and Cannock Chase areas. They will be working closely with Staffordshire Police PCSOs on joint patrols to reduce these arson attacks and they will also be on hand to give fire and road safety advice to members of the public.

Ian Sloss, Area Commander for Cannock says “This initiative will be high profile and will see firefighters actively working in the communities of Cannock Chase to reduce the incidents of arson. Working alongside the Police and the Ranger Service we want to make Cannock Chase and Hednesford Hills a safer place for members of the public to visit and enjoy. Arson puts individuals at risk, not only those who set the fires, but members of the public and ultimately the firefighters who have to put these fires out. In addition to this firefighters will be on hand to give fire safety and road safety advice to members of the public.”

Only a small number of other fire and rescue services, including Hampshire and Merseyside, are using this “alternative” approach to address the changing needs of its communities.

For non emergency enquiries about Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service or to book a free Home Fire Risk Check contact: 0845 1 22 11 55 or log onto: www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk or www.firekills.gov.uk. In an emergency dial 999.





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Under the Data Protection Act your contact details are held for the purpose of distributing Government Office information, business and circulars. I am our nominated representative, John Houlihan. The information is held in a secure database and will only be made available to members of staff of the Government Offices for the Regions.

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Update Details

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Nominated for several national awards it can be found at: www.go-wm.gov.uk

