

Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Statutory Guidance 'Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities' (2008)

Executive Summary

Background

Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) have published statutory guidance on how the Local Government and Public Health Act (2007) is to be implemented by Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP), with specific regards to the new Local Area Agreements (LAA), the new Duty to Involve, and sustainable community strategies.

Whilst most of this guidance is applicable to upper-tier Local Strategic Partnership's (LSP) only, this executive summary identifies the relevant points of the new statutory guidance for the Chorley Partnership.

How the guidance affects District Local Strategic Partnerships

The majority of the guidance specifically relates to upper tier Local Strategic Partnership's (LSP). However the guidance sets out the following for **all** Local Strategic Partnership's (LSP).

- Local Strategic Partnership's are not statutory bodies and are not the final decision makers on plans – this responsibility ultimately rests with the Council.
- However, it is a statutory duty of a district council to prepare a Sustainable Community Strategy.
- Roles of the Local Strategic Partnership:
 - Local Strategic Partnership's (LSP) have a Leadership and Governing role through identifying the needs and aspirations of local communities or arbitrating between competing interests
 - Local Strategic Partnership's (LSP) should have an oversight of and co-ordinate community consultation going on in the borough – and where appropriate combine them
 - Produce a sustainable community strategy based on data and evidence from local population
 - Have oversight on the alignment and planning of resources where relevant to delivery of Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) (although each partner will remain individually accountable for its decisions taken in relation to its own funding streams)
 - Review and manage progress of the Local Area Agreement (LAA) at a local level
- Councils are expected to initiate and maintain momentum in the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and ensure appropriate representation across the sectors, as well as the involvement of local residents where appropriate.

Role of elected members in the Local Strategic Partnership

- New powers of scrutiny to O&S committees will mean that **for Local Area Agreement (LAA) purposes**, Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) can scrutinise of the actions of partner authorities in the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) (with the exception of police authorities and the chief officer of police).
- There must be embedded democratic accountability within the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) structure
- The Chair of the Board must be agreed by the Local Authority's Executive

New Guidance on Sustainable Community Strategies

- Typically 10-20 years, the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) should contribute to the sustainable development of the UK
- Sustainable Community Strategies must be consulted on widely in light of the new Duty to Involve principles
- Once prepared, the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) must be agreed at Full Council.

Local Development Frameworks

- Planning authorities are required to have regard to the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for that area, in two tiers areas, both district and county. The Local Development Framework (LDF) should be aligned as far as possible with the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for that area.
- Consultation for both the Local Development Framework (LDF) and Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) should be taken in conjunction wherever possible.