



Service Plan 2007/08 (Stage 1)

Service Plan for: Partnership Support Team

Directorate: City Strategy

Service Plan Holder: Peter Johnson/Roger Ransom

Workplans: Head of LSP and Partnerships

Director: Bill Woolley

EMAP : Leader of the Council

1. Service description & objectives

Partnership work is core to how the Council needs to work to deliver its corporate priorities and is the way we do much of our business.

The Partnership Support Team leads on the development of city leadership at a strategic level and focuses on the Vision and Community Strategy. This activity is delivered through support to York's Local Strategic Partnership, Without Walls and through involvement of a wide range of partners and residents. Without Walls links together a wide network of delivery partnerships and key organisations in the city, including:

- Safer York Partnership
- Healthy City Board
- Economic Development Board
- Inclusive York Forum
- YorOK Board
- Lifelong Learning Partnership
- York Environment Partnership (to be established)
- [York@Large](#)

In all the Council is involved in over 250 partnerships and working groups. Specific support and development is provided to the Without Walls Partnership, Executive Delivery Board and Inclusive York Forum. The work of the team is key to the delivery of the corporate improvement priority to 'Improve the way the council and its partners work together to deliver better services for the people who live in York'.

The service objectives are:-

- To assist in managing the council's relations with external partners throughout the public, private, voluntary and community sectors;
- To support effective partnership working across the council and between organisations to better deliver the citywide improvement objectives;
- To monitor, review and report back progress towards achieving the targets set out in the Community Strategy 'York – a city making history', as set out in the LAA outcomes framework;
- To support and promote York as an inclusive city by:
 - Making most effective use of the (Chief Executive's) voluntary sector funding budget in line with agreed criteria to build voluntary sector infrastructure, reduce poverty and exclusion
 - Supporting and developing Inclusive York Forum and other partnerships as appropriate including linking to the citywide Community Strategy and LAA

2. Significant drivers for change and improvement

Driver	Affect on service delivery
Government White Paper published in October 2006 and the Lyons review, which is pending	These policy agendas emphasise the importance of 'place shaping' and incorporate the Government vision of "revitalised local authorities, working with their partners, to reshape public services around the citizens and communities that use them".
Government consultation on the future of	The findings of this consultation puts LSPs, with a new 'duty

Local Strategic Partnerships	to cooperate' on all partners, at the heart of efforts to deliver the Sustainable Communities agenda through sustainable community strategies.
Comprehensive Spending Review 07	In light of the policy commitments above, we must assume that the LAA is likely to become the conduit for all area based government funding in the future and that the importance of the LSP / LAA will grow with time. A decision will be made in CSR07 whether to continue with a third generation of performance reward targets (Previously named LPSA targets).
Production of a strategic review of economic development "Future York" to report in the Spring of 2007.	Consider the findings of this Review and incorporate within the work of the City Strategy Department and the ongoing Local Strategic Plan process. Consider the most effective ways of incorporating "Future York" findings into cross-council workings.
Increasing importance of regional/sub-regional agendas and of York's role within the Leeds City Region.	To continue to ensure that the Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement are set within the context of regional plans and strategies,
Government focus on increasing public service delivery by the voluntary and community sector (the 'third sector')	Need to further build Compact principles and good practice into Council and others' partnership working with the VCS in the city and consider how to support and increase effective service delivery by the sector in light of restricted resources.

3. Priority improvement for 2007/08 & beyond

Performance improvement	Reason why improvement is required
To broaden out membership of the Without Walls Partnership and wider involvement mechanisms.	In order to develop and deliver the LAA and Community Strategy in an open and transparent manner. Corporate improvement Priority
To review the Community Strategy and establish a Sustainable Community Strategy.	To update the Community Strategy in light of the newly developed LAA and to ensure integration with the Local Development Framework. Corporate Improvement Priority
To continue implementation of the York (voluntary sector) Compact throughout the Council and its partners; and effective use of the Chief Executive's Voluntary Sector Funding scheme for 07/08 and beyond;	To improve the way in which the council and its partners work together to deliver better services for the people who live in York Corporate Improvement Priority
To continue providing support to partnerships and initiatives which contribute towards 'York – the inclusive city' (e.g. supporting and developing Inclusive York Forum, developing the citywide anti-poverty strategy, York Cares, York Advice Service Partnership, Credit Union (initiative level);	To 'narrow the gap' between the most and least disadvantaged and/or deprived neighbourhoods and groups of people in the city in line with the Local Area Agreement and corporate improvement priorities
Working closely with the Partnerships and Grants Accountant in Resources to	This work offers a real opportunity for the Council to attract additional funding, either through pooling

continue the work suspended following the departure of the previous Partnership and Improvement Officer.

Examples being

- a partnership database
- the partnership training programme

resources with partners or attracting grant income from other bodies.

4. New or changed actions for 2007/08 and beyond

Action	Service plan outcome	New? / Change?	Links to note	Comments
<p>Independent "Future York" strategic review currently being undertaken. This is to consider the strengths and weaknesses of the Economic Development Strategy in place and, if appropriate, suggest new high level alternatives. Review inaugurated in response to recently announced major job losses in the York economy.</p>	<p>More relevant economic development and Local Strategic Partnership performance and outcomes in the round.</p>	<p>New Findings of Review expected Spring 2007</p>	<p>The business/skills development community local and regional</p>	<p>This work will have major significance for the LSP and Corporate Priorities</p>
<p>Recently published White Paper "Strong & Prosperous Communities" – covering local authority services in the round as well as governance issues.</p>	<p>LAAs to become statutory, with a duty for local authorities and partners to work together to agree priorities and to deliver on targets for improvement. LAAs to become the core vehicle for prioritisation and performance management for local authorities.</p>	<p>New Published late October 2006</p>	<p>Citywide implications</p>	<p>(as above)</p>
<p>Review existing arrangements for commissioning services and ensure that these processes are compact compliant, in line with the local area agreement.</p>	<p>Best use made of limited resources in line with citywide priorities.</p>	<p>New</p>	<p>Community Strategy/ LAA</p>	