



**Devon Local Area Agreement
Annual Performance Self-
Assessment
2006/2007**

Version 3.0

**Submission
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1. Introduction

This Performance Report details performance against the outcomes and associated indicators under each of the four blocks for year two of the Devon Local Area Agreement (LAA). A supporting detailed performance document has been developed to provide more detailed performance information including all outcomes, indicators, baselines, targets, achievement, and performance commentary. This report has been prepared according to government guidance.

2. Performance Methodology

The outcomes in each of the blocks are supported by indicators, targets and delivery plans for reaching those targets. Reporting against progress is undertaken regularly and appropriately to each outcome through a combination of sources.




This report summarises performance against each block, outcome and indicator in the LAA for 2006/2007. Performance is illustrated by the following symbols:

	On or Above Target
	Within 5% tolerance
	>5% Below Target

Where performance is below target on an individual indicator, an improvement plan has been developed and signed off by the relevant block lead. The improvement plan explains the reason for being off target, the remedial actions proposed and a timescale for when performance is expected to be back on track.

3. Overall Performance & Self-Assessment

Out of 87 indicators, 47 are on or above target (this compares with 31 at mid-year stage), three are within 5% tolerance (this compares with six at mid-year stage) and 22 are below target (this compares with 21 at mid-year stage). There are 15 indicators which are designated as 'other' (this compares with 33 at mid-year stage) – see section 3.1 below for the gap analysis.

BLOCK	Indicators (post 2007/2008 Refresh)				other
Children & Young People (4 outcomes)	19	10	2	7	0
Safer & Stronger Communities (9 outcomes)	27	15	1	10	1
Healthier Communities & Older People (6 outcomes)	26	18	0	5	3
Economy & Enterprise (2 outcomes)	15	4	0	0	11
TOTAL:	87	47	3	22	15

3.1 Gap Analysis

There are various reasons for indicators designated as 'other' – these are detailed in the table below.

Block	External Factors	Baseline collected in 2006/2007	Data Unavailable	TOTAL
Children & Young People	0	0	0	0
Safer & Stronger Communities	0	0	1	1
Healthier Communities & Older People	0	3	0	3
Economy & Enterprise	11	0	0	11
TOTAL	7	3	1	15

3.2 Overall Performance Summary

Devon has built a more rigorous and challenging performance management process during 2006/2007. This is demonstrated by the overall improvement in performance highlighted in this report (a shift from 31 to 47 indicators that are on or above target out of 87 indicators overall). The performance report also demonstrates that, since the mid-year review, Devon has reduced the number of indicators with no data by two thirds. Furthermore, seven out of the eleven

remaining instances of no data are dependent on external organisations. It is recognised that this improvement in both performance and reporting needs to continue through 2007/2008 and beyond.




Over 2006/2007 Devon has reviewed its partnership delivery structures in the light of experience during the LAA process. This has resulted in a 'fit for purpose', streamlined and effective governance structure which aligns the sustainable community strategy and LAA processes and reflects best practice suggestions within the 2006 Local Government White Paper. The Devon Strategic Partnership Delivery Board is responsible for the delivery of the LAA in Devon and at their first meeting in March 2007 they agreed a robust mechanism for monitoring, reviewing and managing performance across the whole LAA.

4. Children & Young People

4.1 Block Performance

Out of 19 indicators, 10 are on or above target (this compares with seven for mid-year stage), two are within tolerance (this compares with one for mid-year stage), seven are below target (this compares with six for mid-year stage) and there are no 'other' indicators (this compares with five for mid-year stage).

Performance against each of the four outcomes in the Children and Young People's block is detailed below:

Outcome	Indicators				other
CYP1: Devon's children and young people have better physical and mental health	5	4	0	1	0
CYP2: Life chances of Devon's most vulnerable children, young people & their families are improved	7	3	1	3	0
CYP3: Devon's families have safe and secure housing	5	1	1	3	0
CYP4: High aspirations and ambitions for young people	2	2	0	0	0
TOTAL:	19	10	2	7	0

4.2 Block Summary

The Joint Area Review report changed some of the priorities for action in this area. Good progress has been made in several areas with particularly good outcomes for the healthy schools area where the leader of the national evaluation described the work in Devon as the 'best system in the country.'

The continuing improvement in GCSE outcomes will be developed further by targeted efforts. This will relate to narrowing the gap for the least achieving 20%. Devon also has a national reputation for developing the 'Hear by Right' standard for youth participation which will be rolled out across the Children's Trust partners.

The Annual Performance Assessment and Review of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) identified joint priorities for the future and the development of the new CYPP (2008 – 2011) which will align with the LAA and Sustainable Communities Plan. The Children's Trust has agreed the programme management approach and is undergoing a needs analysis to agree future priorities.

Future indicators need to be more focused on outcomes for children and young people rather than processes. The combination of focusing on outcomes and the priorities presented by the JAR has meant that attendance on courses (as per CYP3(iv)) are now very low priorities.




CYP1(vii) still requires an improvement plan and is unlikely to be on track by 9/07 due to lack of capacity. The spending freeze in Children and Young People Services and the issues raised by Job Evaluation and the time taken to address them increase the risk of not meeting targets in some areas. CYP3 contains targets which will be affected by the ODPM decision not to permit pooling.

5. Safer Communities

5.1 Block Performance

Out of 19 indicators, 10 are on or above target (this compares with 11 for mid-year stage), one is within tolerance (this compares with four for mid-year stage), eight are below target (this compares with 7 for mid-year stage) and there are no 'other' indicators (this compares with none at mid-year stage).

Performance against each of the five outcomes in the block is detailed below:

Outcome	Indicators				other
SSC1: Tackle those offenders responsible for volume crimes	11	5	0	6	0
SSC2: Domestic violence and abuse reduced	2	1	0	1	0
SSC3: Alcohol and drug related crime and disorder reduced	6	4	1	1	0
SSC4: Anti-social behaviour reduced	0	0	0	0	0
SSC5: Prejudice and hate related crime tackled	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	19	10	1	8	0

5.2 Block Summary

The structural arrangements for Safer Devon Partnership (SDP) have benefited from a detailed diagnostic analysis provided by GOSW. The 16 recommendations from the report have been accepted in principle by SDP, which has acknowledged the need for fundamental reform of the way it conducts business to make it more fit for purpose within the LAA framework. The most critical elements of the changes being pursued are: a) the development of a core delivery hub charged with responsibility for delivering safer communities outcomes; b) more streamlined governance arrangement and membership for SDP to improve performance and financial management. A task and finish group is now working up the detail for implementing the required changes and will report back to SDP on 17th July, aiming to have new structures and the embryonic hub in place by October.

Current performance against the LAA outcomes has generally held steady over the year, against the backdrop of reforming our structures and gaps in the necessary officer infrastructure for delivery. Within the Safer Communities block the most successful aspect of overall performance has been in relation to the Domestic Violence target to improve levels of reporting. On current trends, which are based on sustained good practice, the target for a 10% increase from the baseline year will be significantly over-achieved. This indicates the sound basis of partnership work on domestic abuse work within Devon that has enabled victims to have more confidence in reporting to the Police safe in the knowledge that action will be taken and support services provided.

Currently there are two major risk elements in the targets which may lead to the safer block not meeting its outcomes:

1) Overall PSA 15% crime reduction target. Measured against the 10 PSA Comparator crimes we are shown to be off-course against 5 of the elements. However, the biggest difficulty relates to criminal damage as this category accounts for over a third of the total PSA crimes. SDP has received a detailed analysis of the criminal damage profile within Devon which pinpointed two significant hotspot times - i) after school period; ii) Night time economy related. Both these issues have been subject to locality profiles with resultant actions plans agreed to tackle the issue. School related work is showing signs of success so far, but the night time economy issues are proving more intractable. The rise in this aspect of crime is part of a national trend which is at risk of undermining achievement of the overall PSA.




2) The domestic violence brought to justice target is slightly behind its target for this phase of the LAA. Remedial action led by the two Basic Command Unit (BCU) Commanders is now being taken to bring this back on track. Achievement of this target is closely aligned to the successful roll-out of the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferencing (MARAC) which has taken longer than anticipated to implement across the whole county.

6. Stronger Communities

6.1 Block Performance

Out of eight indicators, five are on or above target (this compares with three for mid-year stage), none are within tolerance (this compares with one for mid-year stage), two are below target (this compares with two for mid-year stage) and there is one 'other' indicator (this compares with two for mid-year stage).

Performance against each of the six outcomes in the block is detailed below:

Outcome	Indicators				other
SSC6: Develop the capacity of the Voluntary and Community Sector	3	2	0	1	0

SSC7: Positive and constructive working relationships between statutory, voluntary and community sectors	1	1	0	0	0
SSC8: More people volunteering and engaged with their local communities	3	2	0	0	1
SSC9: Public Spaces are more attractive, safer and cleaner	1	0	0	1	0
SSC10: The Stronger Communities plan will be fully owned by all partners, who will demonstrate a shared understanding of the vision and aims	0	0	0	0	0
SSC11: Rural Communities in Devon will have increased capacity to shape their own future and those at risk of social inclusion will be better supported (DEFRA RSCP programme)	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	8	5	0	2	1

6.2 Block Summary

There is now a governance structure in place for the Stronger Communities block. A Strong, Inclusive Communities group has been formed, which comprises officers from key public sector bodies and representation from a range of voluntary sector partners. Work is progressing well to develop proposals for the LAA 2008-11 in conjunction with the new Sustainable Community Strategy. Close links have been established with the county's Social Inclusion Partnership – Common Ground, and there is cross representation.

Outcomes SSC6 and SSC7 have suffered from the difficulties in identifying appropriate measures of Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) infrastructure capacity and Compact development. The indicators selected were not ideal to measure progress, and have been abandoned from 2007. Work to develop the capacity of Devon's voluntary sector infrastructure is progressing well, apart from the fact that partners have not yet joined together to agree a longer term investment strategy to meet core infrastructure costs. The Compact for Devon is gradually becoming embedded in the culture of key organisations, most of whom have formally signed up to it.

SSC8 has three indicators concerning volunteering and is linked to the County Council's LPSA2 target. A contract has now been awarded which will enable the building of a database to record the number of new volunteers within Devon since April 2005. This will show the impact of increased investment in the county's volunteer centres. The County Council's employee volunteering scheme is now working well, with a significant increase in activity during the second half of the year.




SSC10 was an interim measure, referring to the need to establish improved governance arrangements. This has now been achieved.

7. Healthier Communities

7.1 Block Performance

Out of 16 indicators, 12 are above target (this compares with five for mid-year stage), three are below target (this compares with six for mid-year stage) and there is one 'other' indicator (this compares with six for mid-year stage).

Performance against each of the six outcomes in the block is detailed below:

Outcome	Indicators				other
HCOP1: The physical and mental health of Devon's adult population is improved through physical activity	4	3	0	1	0
HCOP2: The health of Devon's adult population is improved through healthy eating	0	0	0	0	0
HCOP3: The mental health and emotional wellbeing of Devon's adult population is improved	0	0	0	0	0
HCOP7: Provide information to support sensible drinking amongst Devon's adult population	3	2	0	0	1

HCOP8: Provide alcohol education, information and services to Children and Young People	7	5	0	2	0
HCOP9: Reducing the number of people who smoke in Devon	2	2	0	0	0
TOTAL:	16	12	0	3	1

7.2 Block Summary

The second half of the year saw consolidation against a number of the targets. Progress was made in the following areas;

- Increased participation in the Walking for Health Schemes (HCOP 1 iii)
- Increased involvement of employers in the development of active travel plans (HCOP 1 iv)
- Delivery of a sensible drinking campaign (HCOP 7)
- Achievement of the 4 week quitter smoking cessation target (HCOP9 i)

It is worth noting that from the October position achieving the smoking quitter target is a major success and reflects the considerable partnership working that went into increasing the service provision. Whilst a number of challenges exist in relation to the objectives relating the delivery of alcohol education, services and information to children and young people there are areas where significant improvements have been made. Firstly, the training programme which was delayed due to a recruitment freeze only ran in the last four months of the year following the appointment of the Hidden Harm Trainer but delivered over 50% of the full year target and the action plan for next year identifies 500 places for training. Secondly whilst HCOP8 (ii) was not achieved the combined target for services at tier 2 and 3 was exceeded due to the investment to appropriate and accessible tier 2 services. The Young Persons Substance Misuse Plan will set out the key actions to address the shortfall in performance against some of the targets.




Governance of the Healthier Communities block remained with the Devon Primary Care Trust Directorate of Public Health. Within the new directorate structure Local Area Agreements (LAAs) have been embedded as a core function. The management of the block has been strengthened by the establishment of a multi agency group of the key leads for the relevant objectives. Work was initiated in early spring to identify key priorities for the next phase of LAAs including the establishment of a Health and Wellbeing Partnership to take over the governance responsibilities for the block.

8. Older People

8.1 Block Performance

Out of 10 indicators, seven are on or above target (this compares with 3 for mid-year stage), two are below target (this compares with none at mid-year stage) and there are two 'other' indicators (this compares with seven for mid-year stage).

Performance against each of the three outcomes in the block is detailed below:

Outcome	Indicators				other
HCOP4: Older people will be empowered to make a positive contribution to their community	2	0	0	0	2
HCOP5: Older people will have easier access to the services and facilities to enjoy a good quality of life	3	3	0	0	0
HCOP6: Older people will be able to live in their own homes and be informed, active, healthy and safe	5	3	0	2	0
TOTAL:	10	7	0	2	2

8.2 Block Summary

Work has continued over 2006/07 to embed the LAA within the Older Persons Strategic Partnership. An LAA sub-group has been formed, with lead officers identified against each of the seven dimensions of independence. In addition, an officer within the Adult & Community Service Directorate Strategic Planning and Commissioning unit has been identified to co-ordinate the work of this group and drive forward the delivery plan; alongside planning for the new three year LAA.

Under the Linkage Plus pilot, significant progress has been made on the engagement of older people in decision making. Peter Fletcher Associates have been appointed to lead on a complex piece of work to develop a Senior Council for

Devon. A series of listening events are taking place across the county, culminating in an Older Persons Conference on 1st October 2007 which will launch the new Senior Council for Devon.

There has been good progress across the Older Persons block; including within HCOP6 (iv) even though the targets have not been met in full. The new, jointly commissioned, Home Improvement Agency (HIA) service achieves a level of innovation in commissioning and delivery of a suite of services aimed at helping people manage their home environment in order to remain living independently at home, that is not yet seen elsewhere in Britain. A multi-agency Service Monitoring and Development Board (SMDB) is in place, operating under an agreed protocol, to performance manage this service. However, given the new commissioning approach, there was no body of evidence upon which to base our challenging targets. An improvement plan is in place, managed by the SMDB, to mitigate risks identified in the HIA risk log, and it is hoped that a new approach to managing performance within the LAA can be agreed with GOSW for 2007/08.




Ongoing work will continue over 2007/08 to jointly plan for the new LAA. A Joint Strategic Review of services has commenced in partnership with the Devon Primary Care Trust will identify priorities for the next five years within community based health and social care services. A series of public consultation events are being held over June and July which will inform the review; alongside a population needs assessment and a strategic review of current service performance benchmarked against national best practice.

9. Economy & Enterprise

9.1 Block Performance

Out of 15 indicators, four are on or above target (this compares with two for mid-year stage) and there are 11 'other' indicators (this compares with 13 for mid-year stage).

Performance against each of the two outcomes in the block is detailed below:

Outcome	Indicators				other
E&E-A: Improving Skills	5	3	0	0	2
E&E-C: Raised Productivity through Environment as an Economic Driver	10	1	0	0	9
TOTAL:	15	4	0	0	11

9.2 Block Summary

The block has continued to develop well, with some notable highlights in terms of direct delivery and the continuing broadening and deepening of partnership structures, evidence base, research, development and piloting.

Outcome A – Improving Skills

The Productive Skills for Devon group continued to develop a better understanding of skills issues against a background of successful delivery of the LPSA targets. A successful employers evening event was with over 70 attendees. A further £278,000 investment of pooled funds from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) has added significantly to the project delivery momentum. Key risks include:

- A.1 GCSE - pressures on schools
- A.2 NVQ Level 2- employers not engaging, down turn in economy
- A.3 Apprenticeships - as above plus more attractive options opening up
- A.4 Torrington - numerous, lack of job opportunities to provide incentives to develop skills. Data is only available up to 3rd quarter of 05/06 from the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

Having projects active on the ground is helping to make situation better, even if macro, external factors do knock back progress in future. GOSW have been asked to assist in addressing lack of data from ONS.

Notable successes and achievements for this outcome include:

- Partnership group well established and Working Well
- Event for employers 14th June had over 70+ attendees with good feedback
- Projects on the ground and delivering
- Targets on track and exceeding in some cases
- LSC pooled £278,000 for delivery of projects

Outcome C – Raised Productivity through Environment as an Economic Driver

The Envision business resource efficiency programme started delivery in the non Objective 2 area of Devon (Exeter, Teignbridge, Mid Devon, East Devon) with investment from the DCC Local Authority Business Growth Initiative (LABGI) fund. First quarter businesses supported targets were met and second quarter targets will also be met. South West Regional Development Agency (SWRDA) Business Resource Efficiency & Waste Programme (BREW) funding has now been secured with additional activity to commence in July. The target milestones will be revised forward to take account of delayed funding, as an improvement plan.

A key risk to this outcome is the possibility that businesses do not take up the scheme. This is being managed through marketing programme, promotion of case studies showing financial benefits. Notable successes for this outcome include

- Staff recruited, project started. First quarter businesses recruited on target. Additional BREW funding secured via SW RDA.

The additional locally agreed outcomes in the Block (B. Inclusion C.2, 3, 4 Environment as an Economic Driver and D. Infrastructure) are all developing well. The Devon Pound programme is providing micro credit services to householders and small businesses in priority communities, the Devon Rural Strategy has been produced and is being used to guide discussions on EU rural fund delivery priorities, and SWRDA are coordinating the Devon Economic Partnership's Infrastructure Task Group that is developing a consultancy brief to develop a Devon workspace strategy.

The outcomes from these developments will be taken forward into the negotiations for the next LAA Economy, Environment and Culture theme. The Devon Economic Partnership has a LAA Task group that includes leads on the new elements of the theme. The Devon Economic Partnership is working well and has contributed to the economy chapter of the Devon Sustainable Community Strategy, with a more detailed Devon Economic Strategy in development.