

## HARROW STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Abolition of Local Area Agreements

14<sup>th</sup> December 2010

### Introduction

On the 13<sup>th</sup> October Communities and Local Government gave notice under section 109 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 that all designations of local improvement targets in Local Area Agreements (LAA's) from the 13<sup>th</sup> October will be revoked.

This means that the Partnership is now able to amend or drop any targets without Government's prior approval and where we choose to keep any of the targets, Government will no longer monitor our performance.

We are also no longer required to prepare a new agreement from April 2011.

As part of our original agreement with Government, the 2008 – 2011 Local Area Agreement for Harrow was worth approximately £1.2 million in reward grant if the targets were achieved. We have been informed that no payments for Performance Reward Grant against the 2008-11 LAA targets will be made.

### Proposed Action

During the development of the current LAA there was a particular emphasis on choosing outcomes that were not only priorities for improvement for the borough but also areas that would benefit from a partnership approach.

Now that the statutory obligation has been lifted this now gives us the opportunity to review the direction of the Partnership and the way we monitor this. However, our current understanding is that all remaining National Indicators are required to be reported up to the end of this financial year. This means that we are still required to report on those indicators within the Local Area Agreement until the end of March 2011.

In light of a number of fundamental policy changes and agency reforms it was reported to the Partnership Board in October that a review of the Partnership will take place at the beginning of 2011. The purpose of the review will be to review the direction and priorities of the partnership and ensure the structure of the HSP is fit for purpose.

It was also reported that the Harrow Chief Executives will hold an extended meeting to review the known implications of the Comprehensive Spending Review and how this affects the future direction of the Partnership. The extended HCE meeting will be held towards the end of January to be able to capture the outcomes of the various White Paper's recently published and those yet to be released.

An outcome of the fundamental review will be reflection on what the new priorities and structure of the Partnership will be and the development of an action plan/agreement that will help monitor the achievement of the priorities.

**What are you asking the Partnership Board to do**

To continue monitoring and reporting against the current Local Area Agreement targets, where information is available to do so.

To support and inform the fundamental review of the Partnership early 2011.