



Date: 11 March 2009

Item: 3

Review of Delivery Partnership Arrangements

What is this report about?

The report identifies the preferred partnership delivery model following discussion of the three models at a recent partnership event. It seeks the board's approval for the secretariat to develop model 3.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:-

- a) The board endorses the principles of the preferred model and tasks the secretariat with developing this model further.**
- b) That Delivery Partnerships are consulted on the preferred model and the changes required to implement.**
- c) That a more detailed report is received by the board containing the specific details of implementation including financial and staffing implications as well as a transition plan for implementation.**
- d) That the board agrees the implementation of the improvement plan at appendix B.**

1. Background

- 1.1 Following the One Barnsley Away Day the secretariat was charged with developing three possible partnership models. The principles of these three models were agreed by the Board on 28th January 2009.

- 1.2 The three models (Appendix A) were presented to representatives of the board and delivery partnerships on 3rd March 2009. Following the presentation representatives were asked to discuss and agree their preferred model. The session was split into two workshops. The first was the discussion of the models and the second the improvement plan for strengthening the wider partnership arrangements.

2. The Preferred Model

- 2.1. In order to ensure that the model chosen was fit for purpose the representatives were asked to judge the models against a list of success factors which had been identified as fundamental to partnership delivery. This list also included the agreed CAA improvement areas.
- 2.2. Prior to the smaller workshop discussions model 2 (Task & Finish Groups) was dismissed, however, it was recognized that this model did offer elements that could be integrated into the preferred model such as the task and finish groups that focused on LAA delivery.
- 2.3. Model 1 (Current Structure)- It was felt that current arrangements were not working effectively. There was concern that this was resource intensive to manage. Representatives expressed concern that there seemed to be a lot of duplication and it was often difficult to commit time to so many partnership meetings. In addition there were too many inconsistencies across the arrangements which added to the confusion about the role of the Delivery Partnerships.
- 2.4. Model 3 (Reduction From 9 to 5) was identified as the preferred model as it refines current structures, maintains the statutory partnerships, and builds on the strengths of the current model whilst recognizing that some groups could operate more successfully as themed groups that would feed into the stronger strategic groups.
- 2.5. Whilst model 3 was the preferred option it was recognized that its implementation would have to be sensitively managed. Its implementation would need to be incremental in order to avoid disrupting the delivery of the LAA. Therefore, it is proposed that a detailed transition plan be developed.
- 2.6. Model 3 also requires further refinement in terms of the configuration of the 5 Delivery Partnerships. Further consideration must be given to the following:

- Should the economy be combined with culture or incorporated into the sustainability partnership?
 - How would the Barnsley Brand be housed within this model?
 - The arrangements for “work and skills” be rationalized and report as a sub-group.
 - The neighbourhoods agenda and Place Shaping.
 - Clarity is required about the performance roles of the Board, the LAA Delivery Group and the Delivery Partnerships.
 - The future role of the LAA Delivery Group and the potential for this to become a technical group.
- 2.7. The discussion to date has not focused on resources. There is a need to understand the financial implications to support this model which also includes the staffing of these arrangements.

3. Improvement Plan

- 3.1 During the Delivery Partnership review a range of issues emerged that related to the wider partnership arrangements. The majority of these issues require attention irrespective of the model that is to be adopted. Appendix B identifies a range of activities that will strengthen the partnership arrangements. The implementation plans were discussed and with the inclusion of some minor changes were supported by those attending the event on 3rd March.

4. Implications

- 4.1 The review of the Delivery Partnerships is important to secure the effective delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement. Depending upon the model that is agreed a degree of disruption may take place whilst new arrangements bed in. In addition there may be resource implications that have to be considered.

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