

DEP LAA task group, Thurs 24th Jan 2-4pm Cardinal Newman Centre, Exeter

Attendees:

Tim Jones, Ian Hutchcroft, Phil Collins, Carl Budden, Lynne Del Greco, Andrew Lightfoot, Simon Timms, Tony Skeel, Joan Farley, Karen Chapman, Ellen Vernon, Paul Sadler, Tim Beavon, Bruce Thompson, Roland Pyle, John Baker, Jen Brogan, Nigel Harrison, Richard Ball, Annette Dentith, Pete Chamberlain, Ian Morris, Mary Ridgway

Apologies:

Martin Weiler, Keith Williams, David Incoll, Amanda Ratsey, Janet McCarthy, Jane Gill, Pauline Warner, Neil Roberts

1. Introduction from Tim Jones

2. Update

- Catch up with where we are from Ian
- RP - Since 2nd Nov, at the National level CLG published on 20th Nov guidance on operational process for negotiating the LAA. Since 2nd Dec? CLG also undertaken consultation on tech definitions on each of 198 indicators...council responded.
- RP – GOSW Devon level theme leads and Devon leads met 15th Nov last year...emerging thoughts on priorities general agreement emerging priorities covering housing, transport, social inclusion, children young people, sustainability...several overlaps between Devon context and national...from meeting
- A3 sheet maps priorities to SCS, considered by DCC EXEC, DSP delivery and partnership boards, district boards and LSP's those priorities vary on specificity, consistency. There is more work to do according to plans/strategies produced.
- Devon has been able to create space and time to refine priorities, choosing supporting indicators, this has not been adopted by other LAA areas, they have been led by NIS, starting from what's measurable, Devon chose a difficult and complex route but by June Devon will have developed an agreement that's more Devon focussed. More partnership shared priorities..
- GOSW have recently said that Devon has a rating of Good – 1-4 3 being good, and 'A' rating to resolve issues. End point of all this is in June, core LAA will be a list of priorities with indicators, baseline and targets, for us minimum, Devon make it more than that, the more we include in agreement. Three key areas to consider are:
 1. To have a page/section for district/partnership LSP area.
 2. DSP partnership board, LAA to include hooks for investment in rural/urban areas
 3. Recognise implications of RSS, new communities, invest transport/infrastructure
- The county as a whole is at various stages of the LAA. The 4th theme is more advanced, CYP, Health/wellbeing further behind, waiting for emerging CYP plan.
- Further work needs to be done, testing priorities against criteria, develop and reconcile long list of priorities, recognise iterative process and complex. Next key date DSP Delivery board **6th Feb**,
- TJ highlighted that the DSP had a good debate about how important it is for the LAA to be Devon's document, short list of measures to judge indicators, consistently strong evidence

base. Debate about issue of using money better, how will it work in ambiguous areas... what funding alignment really means, duty to co-operate? Not a conclusive discussion.

- I Morris – interim response to CLG SNR – full consultation doc due in Feb around delegation of RDA funding to local level. List down or up to 35 indicators.
- R ball – getting to details ... is 6th Feb date to work to? RPyle responded that end of feb/mar congealing of priorities and that it is really in the leads hands
- Simon Timms – how is 4th theme linking with other strands? Devon LAA's co-ordinators group, strong aspiration to cross cut, address complex issues. Started with SCS, then LAA outcome headings, trick now to cut across and look at themes. No-one else really doing draft templates. CYP etc. starting now.
- Bruce – as transport/access is a cross cutting embedded theme will there be separate priorities too? Ian hutchcroft responded that it will be a cross cutter but also a specific priority
- Imorris – GOSW is communicating amongst themes, linkages are being made.
- 3 SCS cross cutters being used
- Devon Economic Strategy – delivery plan can't be run as separate process, joining up. DEP setting up a monitoring group for DES, report to the meetings.
- Any conflict e.g. economic development, improved transportation and climate change.
- DEP had debate with Environment Devon, no easy answer. Very open debate
- Paul Sadler – EU projects, capital grants. Came unstuck a bit with UK funding laws, LAA being described as only game in town, simplifying. Still subject to procurement rules? Capital spend? no answer at this stage, lot of work in progress on this, e.g. state aid, genuine match
- No new public sector money, how do we lever money out of private sector

3. Draft list of 4th theme outcomes and templates

There has been lots of work done on paperwork. 19 templates sent out. Culture missing. A Lead person is taking on challenge of outcome. Devon far ahead in terms of preparation. No-one adequately got to stage of identifying resource. Amount of money to buy a certain amount of improvement.

- Tony Skeel asked will some disappear from LAA, or not reach the elevated status of the LAA? Doesn't mean they won't happen elsewhere. Surprised we have got to this stage, so far from where we were in autumn. Huge amount of work that has been done. Not a competition, all important, but some may fit criteria better.
- There is no clear indication of how 3 yr process will run; there may be the opportunity to add/remove outcomes. RP - CLG have indicated that there will be an annual refreshment of the LAA and this would be the opportunity to add/remove
- **Action: Detailed comments on outcomes should be directed to outcome leads**
- DEP LAA group setting the outcomes.
- MR – how broad or how specific the outcomes should be? There are clusters around subject's e.g. environmental ones. So broader with 5 or 6 specific deliverables
- 1 day workshop with GOSW Fri 25th, looking for clarity of the point of broadness and specific. Outcomes went to EEC scrutiny group earlier in week. Outcome leads are going to be invited to go and see EEC scrutiny group (3 members of the directorate) in 5, 2hr meetings in March – idea is it will be friendly and open discussion.
- Elected members have an important role to play
- DCC accountable body
- Could there be a district link with the meetings in March planned. A rep from the clusters.

- 25th Feb meeting EEC Scrutiny committee, given option to take stock and examine stages being reached with work being done.
- Time to add new outcomes is nearly over
- Add extra boxes to outcomes templates to get lots of info, identify sources of resource etc.
- Needs to be a timeline, a specific cut off date for work, helps everyone to priorities work
- 2 new outcomes around Agriculture request from RDA around accessing Rural Funding and Maritime, put together by Jim Masters, Devon Maritime Forum around Integrated Coastal Zone Management
- There is a concern about rationalising work that has already been done by partners.
- Is it for the group to prioritising one over the other?
- Need to 'chunk' outcomes in to logical area. What about chunking under SCS themes.
- 3 broad outcomes at a previous meeting around : increasing business productivity, decreasing inequalities between communities and individuals; and creating a low carbon Devon
- possibly add adapting to climate change
- There was an outcome around green infrastructure, this has now disappeared? There is a gap around this and recreation
- Should housing just be around rural affordable housing?
- MR maybe more appropriate to be a multi area agreement in some instances
- Can outcomes be listed under the following headings? NIS, LAA Local indicators, Developed elsewhere

Date of next meeting Thurs 20th March 2-4pm. Committee Room (TBC), County Hall, Exeter