

## Appendix 1

### County Council Medium Term Delivery Plan Response to Scrutiny Commission Comments

#### General

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
<p>There was general concern expressed in relation to a number of targets, given the Authority's recently agreed Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) which included efficiency savings in a number of areas in which the document included delivery targets. A view was expressed that these targets would need to be closely monitored against the MTFS and that it would be necessary to take into account the savings requirement to be achieved by other agencies</p>	<p>This will be achieved through the established performance monitoring arrangements with progress reports submitted for consideration and review by the Budget and Performance Monitoring Scrutiny Panel in line with the Performance monitoring cycle.</p>
<p>The contents page requires page numbers</p>	<p>Included in the Cabinet copy of the Plan</p>

#### A Prosperous, Innovative and Dynamic Economy

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
<p>Page 13 – in general</p> <p>A number of the targets contained in the document, such as those to improve the lives of vulnerable people appeared to be at odds with the recently agreed MTFS, which had included a cut in the Breaking the Barriers Team, which located employment opportunities for those with learning difficulties. It was highlighted that much of the document had been stress-tested within the context of the MTFS, particularly those that involved partners as part of the LAA, however some targets outside the remit of the LAA had not;</p>	<p>The delivery actions for improving the life chances for vulnerable people should be retained apart from the reference to the Learn2Earn project which has now ended.</p> <p>Cabinet copy of the MTDP includes the suggested deletion.</p>

<p>Page 13 – first bullet point in the ‘We will also’ section: Investment in regeneration schemes</p> <p>The Commission asked if the proposed actions are still achievable in the light of budget reductions.</p>	<p>It is anticipated that funding for economic development and regeneration will reduce in light of the public finance situation but the delivery of schemes at Loughborough Eastern Gateway and Birstall park and Ride, with the support of New Growth Point and other funding, remain on track. Birstall Park &amp; Ride is due to start on site in the summer with a spring 2011 opening. Loughborough eastern Gateway is working to a similar programme. Through the sub-regional economic development arrangements the County Council will continue to seek to maximise access to economic development and regeneration funding and commission activity against agreed priorities.</p>
<p>Page 13 – seventh bullet point in the ‘We will also’ section.</p> <p>The use of the Community Infrastructure Levy and Tax Incentive Fund (as referred to on page 13) as an avenue of exploration in regard to the support of infrastructure investments was questioned, given that the Fund had yet to receive full approval by the Government.</p>	<p>Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a flexible, new, hypothecated local levy which local authorities can choose to levy on most new developments in their area in order to secure funding for vital local and sub-regional infrastructure.</p> <p>The broad powers for CIL are contained with the Planning Act 2008, with the detailed legislative framework contained in the CIL Regulations 2010, which came into force on 6 April 10.</p> <p>CIL is viewed by Government as an important new feature of the local authority financial toolkit, providing significant, additional investment in infrastructure.</p> <p>Local authorities are to determine the rates of CIL that will operate in their area, which they will publish in a new legal document, the CIL 'charging schedule'. The charging schedule must be independently examined and approved before it can take effect, to ensure that it is evidence-based and</p>

	<p>appropriate for the local area.</p> <p>Government has published '<i>Community Infrastructure Levy: An overview</i>', which explains the key features of the charge, its rationale, purpose and how it will work in practice. The Government will also be publishing in the future guidance on specific aspects of establishing and running a CIL.</p> <p>The Tax Incentive Fund's status is less clear and it is suggested that reference to this ought to be deleted from the MTDP at this stage and reconsidered when the MDTP is reviewed.</p> <p>Cabinet copy of the MTDP includes the suggested deletion.</p>
<p>Page 13 – penultimate bullet point in the 'we will also' section: actions to raise economic prospects.</p> <p>The Commission asked if the proposed actions are still achievable in the light of budget reductions.</p>	<p>Action revised to make it clearer that participate fully in actions to raise economic prospects, and reduce deprivation in the County's priority neighbourhoods – is by supporting the multi access centre programme and neighborhood learning in deprived communities.</p> <p>Cabinet copy of the MTDP includes the suggested amendment.</p>

### **Climate Change and an Attractive Environment**

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
<p>Page 16 – first sentence of the preamble.</p> <p>Some members felt that the reference to climate as being scientifically definitive was too strong. It was felt that reference should be made to the fact that scientific evidence now 'appeared' to be overwhelming;</p>	<p>Cabinet copy of the MTDP includes the suggested amendment.</p>
<p>Page 16 – first paragraph.</p> <p>The evidence used to indicate that temperatures would increase by 2.2°C in winter and 2.5°C in summer should</p>	<p>The temperature increases are taken from the UK Climate Projections 09, <a href="http://ukclimateprojections.defra.gov.uk/">http://ukclimateprojections.defra.gov.uk/</a> UKCP09 is the working name for the</p>

<p>be cited.</p>	<p><i>UK climate projections.</i> Funded by Defra, and based on sound science and projections provided by the Met Office, UKCP09 has been purposefully designed to meet the needs of a wide range of people who will want to assess potential impacts of the projected future climate and explore adaptation options to address those impacts. UKCP09 was developed by incorporating the needs of users of climate projections, and also by making use of advances in climate science.</p>
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### **Waste Management**

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
<p>Page 19 – third bullet point in the ‘We will also’ section: reuse of suitable recycled items.</p> <p>The Commission asked if the proposed actions are still achievable in the light of budget reductions.</p>	<p>The proposed actions within the MTDP are fully funded within the current MTFS approved by the Council in February 2010</p>

### **Children and Young People**

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
<p>Page 24 – Key outcomes and improvements: delivery action on reducing bullying in schools.</p> <p>The target to reduce bullying should be strengthened, with a particular focus on ensuring a consistent approach to reducing racist attitudes and other forms of discrimination, as bullying was only one aspect of this wider issue</p>	<p>The delivery action in the Cabinet copy of the MTDP has been amended accordingly.</p>
<p>Page 25-26 – Key outcomes and improvements: delivery action on increasing the number of children taking part in positive activities</p> <p>The Commission asked if the proposed actions are still achievable in the light</p>	<p>Funding for Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) has been devolved to local partnerships who have commissioned activity, based on local needs analysis, from a range of providers. More young people have</p>

<p>of budget reductions.</p>	<p>engaged in positive activities with a greater focus on attracting those young people not previously engaged</p> <p>6,600 young people were engaged in 62 new projects, and 2,862 hours of new activity were provided. 58% of commissioned projects were from with the voluntary and community sector.</p> <p>There has been a high level of engagement by partners and good response to monitoring/data requests. A shared analysis of local needs is informing decisions about funding new positive activities, with a focus on reaching out to those not already engaged or at higher risk of poor outcomes.</p> <p>The process of shared planning at locality level has made it easier for partners to alignment resources from mainstream sources to complement new activity commissioned through PAYP funding</p> <p>The devolved funding for PAYP money is made available from the Area Based Grant (ABG) and is agreed annually. The allocation for 2010-11 has been agreed.</p> <p>Medium term budget reductions in the youth service could well have some implications for positive activity beyond the life time of the current targets. These changes will need to be carefully monitored to assess their impact and to ensure that replacement sources of positive activity are being provided through alternative ways including stimulating third sector activity.</p>
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**Voluntary and Community Sector and Volunteering**

Comment	Response
<p>Page 35 - The references to use of the voluntary and community sector to delivery a number of activities to empower communities was questioned given the Council's cut in financial contribution to Voluntary Action Leicestershire which had led to a reduction in hours of service for community hubs.</p>	<p>Extra interim funding has been provided to the hubs to support activity during the changeover to the new Countywide Infrastructure Organisation. The new organisation is now delivering support services and contributing to actions in the plan. There is therefore a need to review the extent to which this extra funding is required to deliver the outcomes sought.</p>
<p>Page 35– Key outcomes and improvements: delivery action on increasing the percentage of people participating in volunteering</p> <p>The Commission asked if the proposed actions are still achievable in the light of budget reductions.</p>	<p>Initial performance information shows that the new infrastructure service is starting to deliver increases in volunteer numbers. Assurance will be sought that any future reductions in funding do not impact on key tasks around volunteering participation.</p>