

EXECUTIVE 20 NOVEMBER 2002

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE FINANCE MANAGER**

**DRAFT SOMERSET LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT**

(This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Executive)

**1 Purpose**

- 1.1 To inform the Executive of the content and scope of the draft Somerset Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) and to report on the implications for Taunton Deane Borough Council.

**2 Background Information**

- 2.1 The LPSA is an agreement between the Government and the Somerset County Council whereby the County Council undertakes to achieve more demanding stretched performance targets than those which would be normally expected in the absence of the LPSA. These targets cover a wide range of services, including education and social services, as well as those service areas which will require partnership working with the Somerset District Councils including Taunton Deane Borough Council. The Somerset LPSA covers the 3 year period from April 2003 to March 2006.
- 2.2 In exchange for entering into the LPSA the County Council will receive a “pump-priming” grant of £1.246m to meet some of the capital and revenue costs which will be incurred in meeting the LPSA targets. In addition, should all the improvements contained within the LPSA be met then the Government will pay the County Council a “Performance Reward” grant. This will be equivalent to 2.5% of the net budget requirement of the County and District Councils within Somerset.
- 2.3 This equates to a total Performance Reward grant of £10.94m. It is envisaged, at this stage, that part of this would be redistributed to those District Councils who have played a substantive part in meeting these targets. For Taunton Deane Borough Council this could amount to a total maximum grant of £274k. This would be paid in instalments over the two years following the end of the LPSA ie 2007 and 2008. However, as yet, no formula for the distribution of the Performance Reward grant has been established and is, at present, subject to consultation. In addition it must be emphasised that this grant would only be payable if all of the stretched targets are achieved.

**3 The Targets**

- 3.1 The twelve targets detailed within the LPSA are shown in Appendix 1. Those targets, which can be directly influenced through services provided by Taunton Deane Borough Council, are shown as shaded. Whilst it is difficult to pinpoint how the Borough Council’s programmes will help to meet the targets,

the following paragraphs briefly describe the work that we do in those specific areas.

- 3.2 LPSA Target 7, the reduction in repeat domestic violence is a target in our Crime and Disorder reduction strategy. This is tackled through the work of the Community Safety Officer, with both the District and County forums, for example through multi-agency training.
- 3.3 LPSA Target 8, the reduction of the number of deaths from road accidents is aided through our financial contributions towards joint funded small highway improvements and local safety schemes (2002/03 budget £30,000). These works are carried out in consultation with Somerset County Council and WS Atkins.
- 3.4 LPSA Target 10, relating to Waste Collection is already being actively pursued by the Council through the Somerset Waste Partnership. DEFRA and TDBC funding has been used to initiate the kerbside recycling scheme within the Borough.
- 3.5 LPSA Target 11, referring to reduction of deaths caused by fire is actively influenced by the Council through our programme for fire safety works and smoke alarm installations within the Council's Housing stock (2002/03 budget £30,000). In addition other improvements to the stock (ie re-wiring) may also, indirectly, contribute to the achievement of this target.
- 3.6 LPSA Target 12, relating to continual improvements in services through improved cost effectiveness is being considered at the moment by Officers with a view to preparing a basket of agreed County wide indicators.

#### 4 **Recommendation**

- 4.1 The Executive is recommended to note the contents of this report and to endorse this Council's participation in the draft Somerset LPSA.

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**Somerset Local Public Service Agreement 2003 to 2006** **Appendix 1**

	<b>Service</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Current Performance</b>	<b>2005/06 Target without LPSA</b>	<b>2005/06 Target with LPSA</b>
1	Education	To further improve the educational attainment of 11 yr olds in Numeracy and Literacy and achieve the challenging national targets	72/74%	Not yet agreed	86/87%
2	Education	To reduce the average number of days lost to fixed term exclusion within all school types	3.16 days	2.85 days	2.7 days
3	Education	To improve the educational performance of children looked after by the Local Authority	16%	18%	21%
4	Education	To improve the stability of children looked after by the Local Authority (percentage of children with 3 or more placements in the year)	15.9%	11%	9%
5	Social Services	Helping older people to continue to live in their own home - (a) reduction in residential care placements and (b) intensive homecare	(a) 570 (b) 8.6%	(a) 570 (b) 9.4%	(a) 374 (b) 10.1%
6	Social Services	To reduce the offending of young people who are usually resident in Somerset who receive a "substantive outcome" in all offending categories	35%	30%	28%
7	Social Services	To reduce the rate of repeat victimisation of domestic violence	708 victims	687 victims	666 victims
8	Highways	Reduction in the number of all deaths and serious injuries resulting from road accidents each year by 25% by 2005 (per 100,000 population)	60	50	47
9	Highways	Improve the condition of roads, through condition of (a) principal roads, (b) non principal classified roads and (c) user satisfaction survey	(a) 6.16% (b) 5.74% © -37.1%	(a) 3% (b) 5.3% © -21%	(a) 2.5% (b) 5.2% © -18%
10	Waste Collection	To achieve the 6 Somerset Authorities' statutory household recycling/composting targets (% of waste which is recycled or composted)	15.6%	36% (statutory)	38%
11	Fire & Rescue	To reduce the number of deaths and injuries as a result of fire in dwellings (per 100,000 of the population)	8.06	7.9	7.11
12	General	To ensure the continuous improvement in the economy efficiency and effectiveness of local services through overall improvements in cost effectiveness	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised

