

## **AGENDA ITEM NO. 13**

**REPORT TO:** Halton Strategic Partnership Board

**DATE:** 17 May 2006

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Chief Executive

**SUBJECT:** Local Public Service Agreement

**WARDS:** Boroughwide

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To update the Partnership Board on progress in negotiating the Public Service Agreement and to provide details of the arrangements to monitor progress against each target

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1. The final Local Public Service Agreement be noted and the arrangements for monitoring performance against individual targets be endorsed.

### **3.0 CURRENT POSITION**

- 3.1. The Local Public Service Agreement is an agreement between the Local Authority and Central Government in which the Council and its partners agree to set performance across 12 key targets. The Government makes available pump priming grant to be split amongst the targets towards progress and in return for achieving the stretch performance a reward grant is payable.
- 3.2. The Strategic Partnership has received a number of reports on the framework for developing the agreement and has previously agreed the areas for focus and themes for inclusion in the Agreement. The focus has been targets in the community strategy. Within the framework established, Lead Officers have been involved in detailed discussions with Government Departments to agree specific outcome measures and appropriate stretch performance that would justify the reward grant available.
- 3.3. The negotiations were concluded in mid April and a copy of the final agreement is attached.

#### **4.0 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS**

- 4.1. Now that the Agreement is in place arrangements have been made to distribute the Pump Priming Grant and this is available to Lead Officers to access with immediate effect. Lead Officers will need to record how the pump priming grant is spent as at the end of the Agreement 2009, the Government may seek claw back of any grant that the Council cannot demonstrate has been spent on activities that contribute to the performance of the target.
- 4.2. Progress will be monitored quarterly and regular reports will be submitted to the Partnership Board. Individual Lead Officers are in the process of developing an overall plan for achieving the target and this will include identifying key activities that will be put in place to contribute to the stretch performance, set milestones for each year and where possible, quarterly targets and assess what, if any, additional resources may be needed to achieve the stretch performance.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1. Approximately £850,000 of pump priming grant has been made available as part of the agreement and approximately £3.5m is available in reward grant if 100% of the stretch for all targets is achieved. Reward grant is still available for targets provided more than 60% of the stretch is achieved.

#### **6.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1. Achievement of the targets will ensure significant progress against key priorities in the Community Strategy.

**Name of Board:** HALTON PARTNERSHIP BOARD  
**Date of Meeting:** 17 May 2006  
**Report Title:** Local Public Service Agreement  
**Author:** Chief Executive

<b>STANDARD SECTIONS – CHECKLIST</b>		
All reports must be submitted together with the following checklist fully completed		
	Yes	No
<p><b>Resource Implications</b></p> <p>The financial, manpower and land (buying or selling) considerations should be clearly detailed including any corporate implications of following the recommended course of action.</p> <p><b>Social Inclusion Implications</b></p> <p>Any implications relating to social inclusion/anti poverty should be highlighted</p> <p><b>Sustainability Checklist</b></p> <p>Any implications that affect the sustainability themes of economy society and the community and the environment should be included,</p> <p><b>Best Value</b></p> <p>Any Best Value implications should be included.</p> <p><b>Legal Implications</b></p> <p>Any Legal implications should be included.</p> <p><b>Crime and Disorder Issues</b></p> <p>Any crime and disorder implications should be included.</p>		
<p><i>Please review these potential effects, within the context set out overleaf, to compose your summary assessment</i></p>		
<p><b>Summary assessment of Implications:</b> <i>This wording will appear in the Board report.</i></p>		