

DRAFT
Middlesbrough Local Area Agreement

PART 1

INTRODUCTION

Foreword

1. Context

To include:

- Lift from Strategic Plan putting Middlesbrough in context – include positive as well as areas to address
- Middlesbrough's role in the sub region

2. Partnership Working and the Middlesbrough Community Strategy

To include:

- Summary of the LSP - how it is structured
- Outline of the Community Strategy

3. Our approach to the Local Area Agreement

In developing the LAA we have used the existing, well-developed partnership and supporting infrastructure. In practical terms this means that the:

- **Community Strategy Themes** - identified in the Middlesbrough Community Strategy have been used to structure the agreement;
- **Strategic Priorities** - identified within the Community Strategy as the main challenges facing the town, these have been used as the working platform for the agreement
- **Thematic Action Groups** have been involved in developing the content of each community strategy theme
- **Performance management** - arrangements developed for the Partnership and the Community Strategy will be used to monitor and measure performance against the agreement;
- **Action plans** that are being developed by the thematic groups and other key strategic developments have formed the basis for the agreement;

Whilst we are totally committed to delivering all of the strategic priorities in the Community Strategy, as the development of the agreement has progressed we have decided that the process should be used to add value, rather than simply repeat or duplicate, existing activities and commitments. Our intention is to use the Local Area Agreement to focus activities and resources on the key issues facing local people so that partners can continue to make a demonstrable difference in raising aspirations and optimism for the residents of Middlesbrough. It is thought that this can be achieved by identifying those priorities that provide opportunities to transform how things are done and what we are able to achieve.

Our approach - The process

Our approach consisted of a programme of participative events that included:

- Presentations to and discussions with Council and LSP Board Members and senior council officers at each stage in the development of the Agreement
- A workshop, facilitated by a Neighbourhood Renewal Advisor with the purpose of ensuring that the voluntary and community sector were enabled to be fully involved in the development of the LAA and for partners to determine the focus and priority outcomes of the Middlesbrough LAA
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4. Priority Outcomes in the Local Area Agreement

The table below sets out each against each Community Strategy theme and strategic priority the priority outcomes that Middlesbrough wishes to address through its Local Area Agreement

<p>Supporting Children and Learning</p>	<p>Be Healthy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reducing health inequalities across neighbourhoods ▪ Tackling childhood obesity ▪ Improving mental health ▪ Reducing teenage pregnancies ▪ Reducing alcohol and drug misuse ▪ Improve services and opportunities for children with disabilities <p>Stay Safe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tackling hidden harm ▪ Reducing youth offending ▪ Better information sharing ▪ Reducing bullying ▪ Safeguarding children ▪ Reducing accidental injuries ▪ Tackling the impact of domestic violence <p>Enjoy and Achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investing in early years ▪ Tackling school absences and exclusions ▪ Improving educational attainment ▪ Raising aspirations and enhancing employability <p>Make a Positive Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing a strong and equal voice ▪ Creating positive images through the media ▪ Encouraging contributions to local community
<p>Promoting Healthier Communities for all and effective social care for adults</p>	<p>Help promote health, well-being, independence, inclusion and choice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the mental health and well-being of people with mental illnesses ▪ Reduce the levels of deliberate self harm and suicide ▪ Improve the quality of life for carers by increasing the number of carers in receipt of services ▪ Improve access to primary health care for people with disabilities ▪ Improve the levels of employment for people with disabilities (physical, learning and mental health) ▪ Maximise the independence of older people ▪ Improve the health of older people

	<p>Ensure that, when people fall ill, they get good quality care and are made better faster</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce hospital admissions and stays ▪ Supporting people with long term conditions <p>Ensure that we close the gap between levels of health of Middlesbrough residents and the national average, as well as the gap between priority neighbourhoods and the Middlesbrough average</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve life expectancy and reduce health inequalities within the local area, by narrowing the gap in all-age, all-cause mortality ▪ Improve the health of the population and reduce health inequalities ▪ Reduce premature mortality rates and reduce inequalities in premature mortality rates between wards/ neighbourhoods with a particular focus on reducing the risk factors for heart disease, stroke and related diseases (CVD) (smoking, diet and physical activity) ▪ Reduce premature mortality rates from heart disease and stroke and related diseases so that the absolute gap between the national rate and the rate for the district is reduced by [x]% by 2010 [x to be agreed as part of the contribution to the reduction in the gap between the Spearhead Group and the England average (national PSA target) ▪ Reduce the gap in premature mortality rates between the most deprived 20% of wards/ neighbourhoods and the least deprived 20% of wards/ neighbourhoods with a particular focus on reducing the gap in smoking prevalence in those areas ▪ Reduce the mortality rate from cancer in people aged under 75 years per 100,000 (directly age standardised) population <p>Jointly commission health and social care services with voluntary and independent sector providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Produce a joint commissioning strategy
<p>Creating Safer and Stronger Communities</p>	<p>To reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, including domestic violence, domestic burglary, vehicle crime, robbery, and hate crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce crime ▪ Narrow the gap between the worst performing wards/ neighbourhoods and other areas across the district in terms of overall crime ▪ Reduce incidents of assault ▪ Reduce incidents of criminal damage <p>To reassure the public by reducing the fear of crime and</p>

	<p>anti-social behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime ▪ Build Respect in communities and reduce anti-social behaviour ▪ Reduce arson <p>To reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs and alcohol, including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering into treatment through the criminal justice system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs <p>To promote Community Cohesion and increase voluntary and community engagement, especially amongst those at risk of social exclusion as a means of promoting community safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Crossing cutting theme - being led by VCS
<p>Transforming Our Local Environment</p>	<p>Improve the standard of cleanliness throughout the town, with a focus on key areas of the town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the quality of the local environment with a particular focus on reducing levels of litter and detritus ▪ Improve the quality of local environment by reducing the gap in aspects of liveability between the worst wards and Middlesbrough with a particular focus on reducing levels of litter and detritus <p>Develop a high quality network of public realm, open space and parks to serve the needs of the community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cleaner, greener and safer public spaces ▪ Quality surroundings ▪ Increased access to and enjoyment of green spaces and the countryside <p>Contribute to the fear of crime in public spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The overall responsibility for reducing fear of crime lies within the Creating Safer and Stronger Communities theme <p>Increase the amount of household waste which is recycled</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the amount of household waste which is recycled ▪ Reduce the amount of household waste entering the waste stream <p>Improve air quality</p> <p>Increase species and habitat biodiversity</p> <p>Reduce the causes and adverse effects of climate change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tackling climate change through reduced greenhouse gas emissions <p>Involve all sections of the community in transforming the local</p>

	environment
Meeting Local Transport Needs More Effectively	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote economic growth and regeneration by providing accessibility improvements to underpin economic development and social inclusion ▪ Reduce the number of accidents and casualties by making our streets safer and more attractive and therefore encouraging healthier lifestyles ▪ Reduce the number of journeys made by car and thereby arresting the growth in problems borough about by traffic congestion relating to air quality and the environment ▪ Encourage investment to deliver public transport improvements to reverse declining patronage, create modal shift, improve safety and ensure reliable journey times.
Promoting the Economic Vitality of Middlesbrough Economic Vitality	<p>Establish an environment that encourages and supports economic vitality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote the successful physical regeneration of Middlesbrough <p>Provide business support that encourages more businesses to set up, locate and grow here</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increasing innovation - Increase total entrepreneurial activity among the population in deprived areas (LEGI) ▪ Increasing Competition - Support sustainable growth and reduce the unnecessary failure of locally owned businesses in deprived areas (LEGI) <p>Ensure local people have the skills and can access jobs and opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase employment ▪ Within each NRF district, for those living in the wards identified by DWP as having the worst labour market position (as at February 2004), significantly improve their overall employment rate and reduce the difference between their employment rate and the overall employment rate for England ▪ Increasing Investment - Attract appropriate investment and franchising into deprived areas, making use of local labour resources (LEGI) <p>Change attitudes by promoting Middlesbrough's success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve attitudes in Middlesbrough <p>Play a strong role in the sub/region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Middlesbrough plays its full role at the heart of the city-region
Housing	<p>Rejuvenation and renewal of the housing stock</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tackle areas of housing market failure.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consult and engage with communities and partner organisations <p>Ensuring that the right mix and range of new housing developments provides choice, quality and affordability, whilst meeting residents' aspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Secure affordable housing on new developments as appropriate ▪ Promote quality and choice in both the social housing and private housing sectors <p>Improve and maintain existing housing in both the social and private sectors, increasing choice and creating sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the condition of the stock in the private sector ▪ Improve the condition of housing stock in the social sector - <i>As part of an overall housing strategy for the district ensure that all social housing is made decent by 2010</i> <p>Address specific community and social housing needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prevent, tackle and reduce homelessness ▪ Meet the housing needs of those that are vulnerable, disabled or with special needs, including those of the B & ME community
Culture	<p>Major cultural projects and flagships that act as economic drivers by contributing to the quality of the town's image and environment</p> <p>Cultural activities which contribute to the quality of life, and well-being of individuals and communities</p>

5. The Focus for the LAA

Middlesbrough Partnership has set out a strong and ambitious vision for the future of Middlesbrough. The ambition is built on a good understanding of the current context of Middlesbrough and reflects the needs and aspirations of local people. The views of local people, including those of specific groups such as the black and minority ethnic community and young people have influenced the ambition.

The overarching ambition for Middlesbrough is set out in the Middlesbrough Community Strategy 2005. The Mayor's "Raising Hope" and "Reduction" agendas support the ambition. Middlesbrough Community Strategy sets out how the Local Strategic Partners will achieve the ambition for Middlesbrough through the Community Strategy themes and strategic priorities.

The Local Area Agreement is an ideal opportunity to build on the many achievements of Middlesbrough Partnership and make real progress against Middlesbrough Community Strategy themes and strategic priorities. Whilst recognising that the LAA must build on the priorities set out with the Community Strategy it has become apparent that in order to bring about real step change improvement in the issues that effect people's everyday lives the LAA must have a clear focus.

The focus of the LAA is based on raising aspirations and optimism, this can be broadly described as:

- Making Middlesbrough a better place to live - a healthier, greener place with successful physical regeneration
- Celebrating the changing image of Middlesbrough - young people want to be here, the community owns the changes and businesses want to move here
- Ensuring there is a future for young people - young people will have the improved skills, opportunities, aspirations
- Strengthening communities - inclusion and independence is encouraged, the friendly feel of Middlesbrough is celebrated, crime and anti-social behaviour will be tackled and there will be more working together.

The set of priorities and outcomes in section four, above, are considered to be fundamental to the quality of life of local people. In particular they reflect the partnership's focus on those activities that contribute in some way to raising aspirations and optimism. In doing so we need to recognise that it may take time to see the benefits.

Tees Valley City Region perspective

Middlesbrough's contribution to the City Region - to be added

Respect Agenda

Middlesbrough adopts a holistic, problem solving interventionist approach to anti-social behaviour, creatively using the full range of education, prevention, enforcement and rehabilitation tools to bring about community respite and cohesion. Middlesbrough wasted no time in recognising the value of the Respect Agenda in this context. Middlesbrough is committed to delivering on the whole of the Government's Respect Action Plan as we believe it will raise the profile and add cohesion to a variety of activities that are already in place and included in our Local Area Agreement.

6. Performance Management

Measuring Performance

Middlesbrough Partnership will need strong performance management arrangements to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of the LAA.

Officers from Middlesbrough Council and the Middlesbrough Partnership team are exploring how the current LSP performance management framework can be developed to ensure the successful performance management of the LAA. It is intended to present a report to the November Board meeting the proposals for the performance management arrangement.

Governance Arrangements for LAA

It is intended to prepare a report for the November Board meeting outlining the proposals for the governance arrangements for the LAA.

Pooling Resources

Partners in Middlesbrough have a good track record of taking opportunity to use resources more flexibly where freedom to do so has been provided. This experience provides the confidence to approach the opportunities offered by the LAA to pool resources with a positive attitude and we expect to make good progress in the development and use of pooled budgets across partnership boundaries during the period of the LAA.

In practical terms the flexibility to use many budgets differently is restricted by outstanding commitments, whilst these cannot be ignored in the short term these commitments are consistent with the priorities of the LAA.

It is our intention to use the first year of the LAA to explore developing a commissioning approach to allocating pooled resources using the LAA outcomes framework as its foundation.

Local Public Service Agreement 2

Middlesbrough Council has negotiated its second Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) with the Department of Communities and Local Government. The targets agreed are focused on:

- Education, skills and training
- Promoting independence of vulnerable people
- Improving the public realm

The LPSA 2 is fully integrated with the LAA and will support the overall direction of the agreement.

Regional Dimension

From a regional perspective we are working with other councils in the North East to take advantage of the opportunity to work in a focused way with partners and with Government to address the particular challenges of the region.

The North East offers fertile ground for LAA development, with one of the most challenging socio-economic climates in terms of employment, education and health. But there is also an exceptionally strong framework in place as shown by CPA outcomes, to address these problems through the LAA process.

We are committed to working collaboratively over the coming year to demonstrate the distinctive regional challenges, particularly around health, education attainment and economic development. We intend to share and spread the successful partnership practice that addresses these challenges and confirm which flexibilities and freedoms are needed to strengthen our approach.

7. Enabling Measures

Experience of two Local Public Service Agreements and lessons learnt from earlier Local Area Agreement authorities has provided a realistic expectation of what is likely to be initially achieved through the negotiation of enabling measures. As a consequence the enabling measures requested through the local area agreement are small in number and focused on key issues for the agreement as a whole or individual themes.

A summary of enabling measures requested to support the LAA are set out below:

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Business cases for enabling measures need to be submitted to GONE by the end of September

8. Statement of Voluntary Sector Involvement

This section is being led by Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency - their initial draft for consultation is attached at appendix 1 to this document.

PART 2

The Community Strategy Themes

The next sections of the agreement outlines the current state of development of each of the Community Strategy themes as follows:

- Supporting Children and Learning
- Promoting Healthier Communities for All and Effective Social Care for Adults
- Creating Safer and Stronger Communities
- Transforming our Local Environment
- Meeting Local Transport Needs More Effectively
- Promoting the Economic Vitality of Middlesbrough

Each of the themes in the Local Area Agreement has been structured along the same lines in order to provide some consistency of approach and enable key information to be accessed easily. Each theme is structured around the following components:

- Context
- Strategic Priorities
- What the LAA is focused on
- Priority Outcomes
- Indicators and Targets

Include a diagram how the LAA will be the "what" in terms of how Middlesbrough knows its achieving the community strategy themes and complementary strategies.