

CABINET - 30 MAY 2007

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT – USING MATERIAL RESOURCES MORE EFFICIENTLY

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR (POLICY)

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RECENT REFERENCES

None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to obtain Cabinet approval to sign up to the Local Area Agreement (LAA) – Using Material Resources More Efficiently.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Cabinet is recommended to

- (i) Endorse and authorise the Corporate Director (Policy) to sign up to the Local Area Agreement – Using Material Resources More Efficiently, as set out Appendix 1 of this report.
- (ii) require that specific actions are developed in divisional business plans to ensure delivery of the key aims in the corporate approach to material resources across Hampshire and that any budget implications are considered as part of the annual budget process.
- (iii) require that relevant outputs and outcomes are measured and reported back to the LAA lead on Priority G aims on an agreed frequency.

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LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT – USING MATERIAL RESOURCES MORE EFFICIENTLY

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR (POLICY)

DETAIL:

1 Background

- 1.1 The Local Area Agreement runs from April 2006 until 2009 and is between local authority partners in Hampshire and the Government with the aim of improving lives and conditions in Hampshire Communities. The Agreement focuses the attention of partners on 8 priority outcomes drawn from the Hampshire Community Strategy and the 11 District Community Strategies.
- 1.2 It is an opportunity to strengthen partnership working to deliver real improvement against these priorities. It is also an important means to work with the Government to achieve greater flexibility around funding and to remove barriers to delivery.

2. Using Material Resources more Efficiently

- 2.1 One of the key priority outcomes of the LAA, Priority G is to use material resources more efficiently. In particular it seeks to:
- (i) reduce construction waste by substitution of recovered material in new build development and major refurbishment; and
  - (ii) increase recycling in the non municipal sector.
- 2.2 The Council has a statutory role as a Waste Collection Authority and this is reinforced through its membership of the Project Integra partnership. The material resources approach, however, covers the whole range of Council services, and not just the statutory waste function.
- 2.3 We are in the position to use all our key services and duties to impact upon the whole range of materials, and so provide leadership amongst our community across the whole material resources agenda including planning, procurement, premises management, environmental services economic development etc.
- 2.4 This will meet a number of our Community Strategy priorities. However, by working in partnership with the rest of the public sector, on common issues, and through the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), it will provide the influence which will enable things to happen, which the City Council acting on its own could not achieve.
- 2.5 For example in terms of planning policy, discussion with the building and construction industry suggests that policies on sustainability need to be consistent across each council for developers to be able to apply them successfully.

### 3.0 Delivering the Local Area Agreement

- 3.1 Each District, and the County Council, has identified a corporate lead at officer level for material resources, and they are meeting on a regular basis to work together on this priority.
- 3.2 Bob Merrett – the Corporate Director (Policy) is taking an overview on how the Council is delivering on this particular priority across all of the Council. By working with the other Councils this arrangement should also provide the leadership, and coordination for the delivery of measurable outcomes, across the whole material resources agenda.

### 4. Implications for Winchester City Council

- 4.1 The key point about the material resources approach is that it requires all sectors to start to do things differently. In local government terms, material resources become a corporate issue requiring an integrated action across a range of services in all Councils;
- 4.2 Specifically the aims are to:
- (i) **Planning:** develop a planning policy in our Local Development Framework, which ensures that all new built development and major refurbishments are built to a common Hampshire wide sustainability specification/standard including the requirement to use recycled material in construction.
  - (ii) **Buildings:** use our major capital build programmes as examples of good practice for sustainable building, and the use of recycled materials.
  - (iii) **Landfill Waste:** deliver increased diversion of waste from landfill, whilst minimising cost to the environment and taxpayer, through the Partner Implementation Programmes within the Project Integra Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
  - (vi) **Recycling:** ensure recycling services are available at all major Council owned sites.
  - (v) **Procurement:** identify where the corporate procurement of large amounts of materials occurs and work to specify alternatives to increase the proportion of recycled material used.
  - (vi) **Community:** provide community leadership on this agenda, by influencing partners, contractors, service providers and commercial tenants, to deliver on this agenda.
- 4.3 Meetings will be held regularly to review progress on this issue, and the other LAA priorities. We need to be able to feed back information on actual outcomes that we have achieved, and to continue working with Hampshire County Council who are leading on this issue, so that they are able to report back to the LAA executive in time for their 6 monthly reporting cycle.
- 4.4 Clearly it will be important to communicate progress and outcomes to Officers, Members and the wider community and this will be done by implementing the above within the period of the LAA, i.e. by 2009 and reporting on progress every six months, through the LAA performance reporting process (via the LAA Executive and Board).

4.5 A series of task and finish meetings has been arranged to take forward each of the sub-themes with the relevant people in each organisation, where sharing best practice seems beneficial, which started with recycling at Council owned sites.

5. Conclusion

5.1 The White Paper on Local Government places increasing emphasis on Local Area Agreements as a way of delivering what our communities want.

5.2 The ambitions set out above have been developed jointly with the all the other Local Authorities in Hampshire. The City Council needs to develop an action plan which translates how these ambitions can be delivered in our area, and who should take a lead in delivering each of these.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

6. CORPORATE STRATEGY (RELEVANCE TO):

6.1 Safe Guarding our High Quality Environment for the Future, including making sustainable use of resources with special attention to reducing and recycling waster is a key priority within the Council's Corporate Strategy for 2006 -2009.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

7.1 Signing up to the LAA key priorities concerning material resources has no immediate financial implications and some of the aims are well in hand. However, it should form one of the key factors that the Council takes into consideration when undertaking its service delivery, planning, development, procurement activities and when developing future planning policies.

7.2 Staff time involved in participation will be covered within existing resources.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

APPENDICIES

1. Copy of the Draft LAA Agreement

Appendix 1

On headed paper

Sign Up Agreement

The Local Area Agreement is a 3 year agreement between partners in Hampshire and the Government to improve lives and conditions in Hampshire Communities. The Agreement focuses the attention of partners on 8 Priority outcomes drawn from the Hampshire Community Strategy and the 11 District Community Strategies.

The LAA runs from April 06 – March 09. The LAA is an opportunity to strengthen partnership working to deliver real improvement against these priorities. It is also an important means to work with the Government to achieve greater flexibility around funding and to remove barriers to delivery

**Agreement to participate in and achieve Priority 7**

**Use material resources more efficiently**

- Reduce construction waste by substitution of recovered material in new build development and major refurbishment
- Increase recycling in the non municipal sector

In respect of the above priority .....(insert name of organisation)..... formally agrees to deliver a corporate approach to the use of materials through the Local Area Agreement.

Signed.....

Position.....

Date .....

In respect of priority 8 'Use material resources more efficiently'

Specifically our ambitions are to;

- 1. develop a planning policy in our Local Development Framework, which ensures that all new built development and major refurbishments are built to a common Hampshire wide sustainability specification, including the requirement to use recycled material in construction.**
- 2. use our major capital build programmes as examples of good practice for sustainable building, and the use of recycled materials.**
- 3. deliver increased diversion of waste from landfill, whilst minimising cost to the environment and taxpayer, through the Partner Implementation Programmes within the Project Integra Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.**
- 4. Ensure recycling services are available at our major council owned sites.**
- 5. Identify where the corporate procurement of large amounts of materials occurs and work to specify alternatives to increase the proportion of recycled material used.**
- 6. Provide community leadership on this agenda, by influencing partners, contractors, service providers, and commercial tenants, to deliver on this agenda.**

And to monitor and ensure progress by

- 7. Identifying a senior corporate lead responsible for the delivery of the priority area for this target**
- 8. communicating progress and outcomes to staff, Members and wider community.**
- 9. implementing the above within the period of the LAA i.e. by 2009 and reporting on progress every six months, through the LAA performance reporting process.**

[www.hants.gov.uk/localareaagreement](http://www.hants.gov.uk/localareaagreement)