

Dear colleague

At the last Derbyshire Partnership Forum in June, we briefly discussed the future of Local Area Agreement (LAA) priorities post March 2011.

To date, there have been no formal announcements from Whitehall about either LAAs or the performance framework for local government and its partners. However, it is clear that there will be less national reporting of Performance Indicators (PIs) to central government and perhaps no national imperative on areas to continue with Local Area Agreements (LAAs).

Whilst a reduced reporting framework and less national control over local priorities is to be welcomed, we need to make sure that we don't lose the positive aspects of partnership working which have greatly improved a number of services within the county resulting in better outcomes for local people.

I believe that this is a real opportunity to build upon the strong partnerships we have in place in Derbyshire and to develop a framework that works locally for us. To help gather the views of all the partner agencies, I have set out a few questions below. Your comments and suggestions are not limited to these and I would welcome your views on broader issues where you think they are relevant to the debate.

- ◆ Do you think the Derbyshire Partnership Forum should continue in its current form?
- ◆ If not, what changes would you propose?
- ◆ Do you think the six thematic board structure of the DPF should remain?
- ◆ If not, what changes would you propose?
- ◆ Should we continue to set high level partnership priorities?
- ◆ If so, what form should this take and should we develop targets against the priorities?

I would be extremely grateful if you could let me have your responses by Friday 29 October 2010. This will enable me to report back on your collective views at the Derbyshire Partnership Forum meeting on 10 December 2010. Please send your response to Wes Downes at [wesley.downes@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:wesley.downes@derbyshire.gov.uk) or on direct line 01629 538258.

With best wishes



Nick Hodgson  
Chief Executive  
Derbyshire County Council