

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Community Cohesion Delegated Powers Meeting
2.	Date:	26th June 2006
3.	Title:	Local Area Agreement (LAA) Pump Priming Grant
4.	Programme Area:	Chief Executive's Department

5. Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform the meeting of the recommended approach to the allocation and use of the Pump Priming Grant to support the stretch targets in the LAA.

6. Recommendations

That the meeting note the proposed allocation of Local Area Agreement Pump Priming Grant

7. Proposals and Details

As part of the Local Area Agreement there is a Pump Priming Grant allocated to support the achievement of the stretch targets. We have now received the Grant Determination Letter which confirms that we will receive £1,002,300.

Allocation and use of LAA Pump Priming Grant (PPG)

An initial issue to consider is that the target holders within the council and partner organisations have been preparing bids for pump priming grant on the basis of both capital and revenue expenditure. Unfortunately, the grant determination letter states:

'LAA Pump Priming Grant - PPG, where received, must be used specifically on the LAA stretch targets and must be used to pay for capital expenditure only. We expect to issue a capitalisation direction for part or all of each authority's reward element PPG later in the current financial year. We appreciate that this uncertainty could cause authorities some concern and we will, of course, clarify the position as soon as possible.'

We have let Government Office know informally that this was not the basis that we were operating on and will impact on our ability to achieve the stretch targets within the LAA.

The feedback we have now had appears to give us more flexibility and therefore the analysis that appears at Annexe A of the proposed allocation of Pump Priming Grant is based on both capital and revenue expenditure, An early decision on the allocation of PPG being needed to ensure that target holders can start programmes of work and employ temporary staff as soon as possible, to undertake the work required on stretch targets.

The bulk of the allocation against stretch targets is for new activity and at this stage £2,300 is unallocated and it is proposed to use this as a contingency to cover any minor alterations to targets when bids have been fully worked through.

Target holders will be required to supply quarterly reports on performance and spend against stretch targets and will maintain auditable records to support any pump priming grant expenditure.

The meeting are asked to note the proposed allocation of Local Area Agreement Pump Priming Grant.

8. Finance

The pump priming grant will amount to £1,002,300. This will be paid in the 2006/07 financial year and can be used at any time during the period of the LAA.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Failure to agree the allocation of pump priming grant will affect the council and partners ability to meet stretch targets.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The LAA is a key agreement which will represent the community and corporate strategic objectives and priorities. Performance against LAA targets is a fundamental indicator of the council and its partners' core performance, and continuous improvement. Any external assessments of council performance, particularly CPA, will be informed by how well the LAA targets are progressing, particularly the increased focus on value for money.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Background papers are the Local Area Agreement and the guidance form the ODPM.

Consultation has already taken place on the content, scope and key priorities of the LAA with stakeholders, partners and members of the public

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Annexe A Proposed Allocation of LAA Pump Priming Grant

Children and Young People

Stretch Target	Activity	Allocation	Allocated To
Skills For Life	Teaching and Learning Support	85,000	RMBC
NEETS	Targeted Initiative / Early Interventions	65,000	RMBC
Healthy Schools Status	Work In Schools	100,000	RMBC
		Total for block	250,000

Healthier Communities and Older People

Stretch Target	Activity	Allocation	Allocated To
COPD	Breathing Space	100,000	PCT
Direct Payments	Improving uptake	60,000	RMBC
Older People helped to live at home	Additional support to enable people to live at home	60,000	RMBC
Reviews of care packages	Focused work in support of the review process	60,000	RMBC
		Total for block	280,000

Safer and Stronger Communities

Stretch Target	Activity	Allocation	Allocated To
ASB	Arson Reduction	20,000	SYP/SYF
	Interventions/Youth Shelters	40,000	SYP
	ASB Team	60,000	RMBC
Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence Advocates	60,000	SYP
Fly Tipping and Graffiti	Publicity campaigns & sting operations, barriers, reward schemes and anti-graffiti painting	70,000	RMBC
Recycling	Recycling Campaigns/ Community Initiatives and infrastructure development	70,000	RMBC
		Total for block	320,000

Economic Development and Enterprise

Stretch Target	Activity	Allocation	Allocated To
Business Start ups	Support to Businesses/Research	75,000	RMBC/Chamber of Commerce
Incapacity Benefit	Funding for additional advisers to work directly with claimants in target areas	75,000	
		Total for block	150,000

Total Target Allocation 1,000,000

Rotherham PPG Allocation 1,002,300