

## The Changing Policy Agenda

<p><b>What is your request of the LSP Board?</b></p>	<p><b>The LSP Board is asked to:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Outline the key issues identified in their template covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Key changes in policy &amp; reduced public sector spending for your organisation or the sector you represent</li> <li>- Opportunities from said changes for your organisation or the sector you represent</li> <li>- Challenges from said changes for your organisation or the sector you represent</li> <li>- Opportunities and challenges for the LSP as a whole within this context</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Consider the presentation attached at Appendix 2 and give their views on the questions set out in the final slide.</li> </ol>
<p><b>What do you want from the Theme Delivery Partnerships?</b></p>	<p>To note the steer given by the LSP Board on the future of the LSP.</p>
<p><b>Background material</b></p>	<p>Appendix 1 – Financial Messages across the LSP Position Statement  Appendix 2 – Local Government Improvement &amp; Development Presentation: LSP’s A Time to Take Stock</p>

### 1. Background

At the 8<sup>th</sup> June Local Strategic Partnership Board meeting, a discussion took place on the implications of the current changing policy and financial position since the General Election in May. Since this meeting, national policy changes have continued to emerge and more is known about the situation. However the full picture is not expected to be known until after the Comprehensive Spending Review in October.

The purpose of this agenda item is to present the national picture - as identified through the newly established LSP working group, the local impact that this is having on each LSP member organisation or sector thus far, and how all of this impacts on the work of the LSP and its role in the future.

### 2. LSP Officer Working Group

An officer working group representing LSP public sector organisations has been established with the purpose of developing a collective picture of:

1. (a) Public sector budget cuts (b) their impact on each public sector agency and theme across the LSP (c) what stage plans for managing the cuts are at.
2. Making recommendations where (a) action could be taken to mitigate against the impact of cuts and (b) opportunities exist for joining up activity across the LSP.
3. Linking the findings of the group to the need to revisit the LSP's priorities through the refresh of the Sustainable Community Strategy.

The group recognised the value in exchanging information on policy changes and service cuts and agreed that the focus should be on understanding the impacts of these changes on particular localities and communities. It is important to understand if the activities of each organisation are proving to have a detrimental impact on any one community or group. Attached at Appendix 1 is a working draft position statement setting out Financial Messages across the LSP as far as we know them. This is being updated on a regular basis as new information emerges and the October Comprehensive Spending Review will be critical to this work.

### **3. Updates from LSP Board Members**

In advance of the meeting, LSP Board members were asked to consider the key changes that are affecting their organisation or the sectors they represent and if there are any challenges either for their organisation that they would like to highlight to the LSP at this stage, or opportunities and challenges that they see for the LSP as a whole.

#### **LSP Board Members are asked to:**

- Outline the key issues they identified in their template covering:
  - Key changes in policy & reduced public sector spending for your organisation or the sector you represent
  - Opportunities from said changes for your organisation or the sector you represent
  - Challenges from said changes for your organisation or the sector you represent
  - Opportunities and challenges for the LSP within this context

### **4. The Future Role of the LSP**

Given the changing context, there is a need to consider the role of the LSP and how fit for purpose it is. Attached at Appendix 2 is a presentation from the Local Government Improvement & Development Agency entitled Local Strategic Partnerships – A Time to Take Stock. The presentation contains a useful summary of the changing agenda and poses some questions for consideration by the LSP Board as to its future role.

#### **LSP Board Members are asked to:**

Consider the presentation attached at Appendix 2 and give their views on the questions set out in the final slide.