

THE HEREFORDSHIRE APPROACH TO LPSA2

Purpose

This paper sets out the Herefordshire approach to developing LPSA2, and is the basis for the initial submission due July 2004.

This paper proposes that Herefordshire takes a different approach to LPSA2, which meets but could also push the margins of current LPSA2 guidance in a novel way.

The approach

Herefordshire Plan

The basis for LPSA2 is the Community Strategy (Herefordshire Plan), supporting the Vision for Herefordshire in 2011 to:

- Create ***fair and thriving communities*** which will be inclusive for all allowing equal and full access to opportunities and services.
- Properly ***protect the environment*** and enhance it for all those who live and work in it and for those who visit it.
- Build a ***strong, competitive and innovative economy*** with a balanced mix of businesses, jobs and homes through which the local economy can flourish.

To achieve this vision, six Guiding Principles and ten Ambitions have been identified within the Herefordshire Plan, from an extensive community involvement exercise. These are:

1. Improve the health and well being of Herefordshire people.
2. Reduce crime and disorder and make Herefordshire safer.
3. Reduce poverty and isolation in Herefordshire.
4. Encourage communities to shape the future of Herefordshire.
5. Develop Herefordshire as an active, vibrant and enjoyable place to be.
6. Protect and enhance Herefordshire distinctive environment.
7. Develop an integrated transport system for Herefordshire.
8. Meet Herefordshire's accommodation needs.
9. Support business growth and create more and better paid work in Herefordshire.

10. Provide excellent education, training and learning opportunities in Herefordshire for all ages.

Linking the Herefordshire Plan to LPSA2

It is proposed that Herefordshire moves away from the traditional method of identifying a number of individual priorities with associated performance indicators and targets.

Instead, there is potential for Herefordshires LPSA2 to focus on an overarching structural issue that is crucial in achieving the Vision of the Herefordshire Plan. This could be an issue that has significant effects across the ten Ambitions in the Herefordshire Plan, and will worsen significantly unless considered in greater depth. It should also be a national issue, so its relevance and solutions can be tested in a novel way through a pilot approach and potentially an Explorer Partnership.

The Issue

The findings from local statistics, the Herefordshire Plan, supporting strategies, organisational plans and local research studies, such as the Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy, were pulled together. From this, one area clearly emerged as having a direct effect and impact on all of these. This is:

The predominance of older people in Herefordshire's demographic structure, particularly the growing number of older people which is increasing at higher than average rates, impacting on deprivation levels and pressures on services

The percentage of older people in Herefordshire is already high and is expected to grow at double the National rate. This is a faster growth rate than Herefordshire's total population projection. The result is a population in-balance, exacerbated with young people leaving the county to attend university and work.

Herefordshire is already working hard to address the retention of young people and encourage other young people into the county to take advantage of work and other opportunities. For example, current higher education studies and young peoples entrepreneurship programmes).

We also know that the growing numbers of older people is already causing greater demands on related services, and that the way we deliver these services will need to change in order to meet these demands and respond to the challenges. However, we also recognise that we cannot just halt the number of older people moving to and growing older in Herefordshire, and that we need to work together to turn this into an opportunity with wider benefits for everyone.

Why

Improving the quality of life for older people is an immediate issue for Herefordshire and will be of greater importance to England as a whole over the coming years. It brings together recently publicised anxieties around pension levels, sources of taxation, quality of social care, delays in hospitals, access to learning and links in the current consultation around standards of care in Health.

It also supports local developments, such as:

APPENDIX 1

- The recently agreed compact in health and social care to enable proper engagement of the voluntary sector in planning and commissioning decisions.
- The current Strategic Area Review of learning in Herefordshire; and
- The current development of an all sector Economic Development Strategy for Herefordshire.

This approach will genuinely challenge and test how support for the ageing population is being achieved in a sustainable way across Herefordshire, with significant differences in approaches and delivery models over the next fifteen years, making this an ideal approach to pilot through LPSA2.

This approach is also ideal for LPSA2, as the quality of life for an ageing population is dependant on a number of organisations and a wide range of services (such as workforce development, transport and community safety). It will provide a structured rationale for identifying those priority areas most relevant to supporting the quality of life for an ageing population in the future.

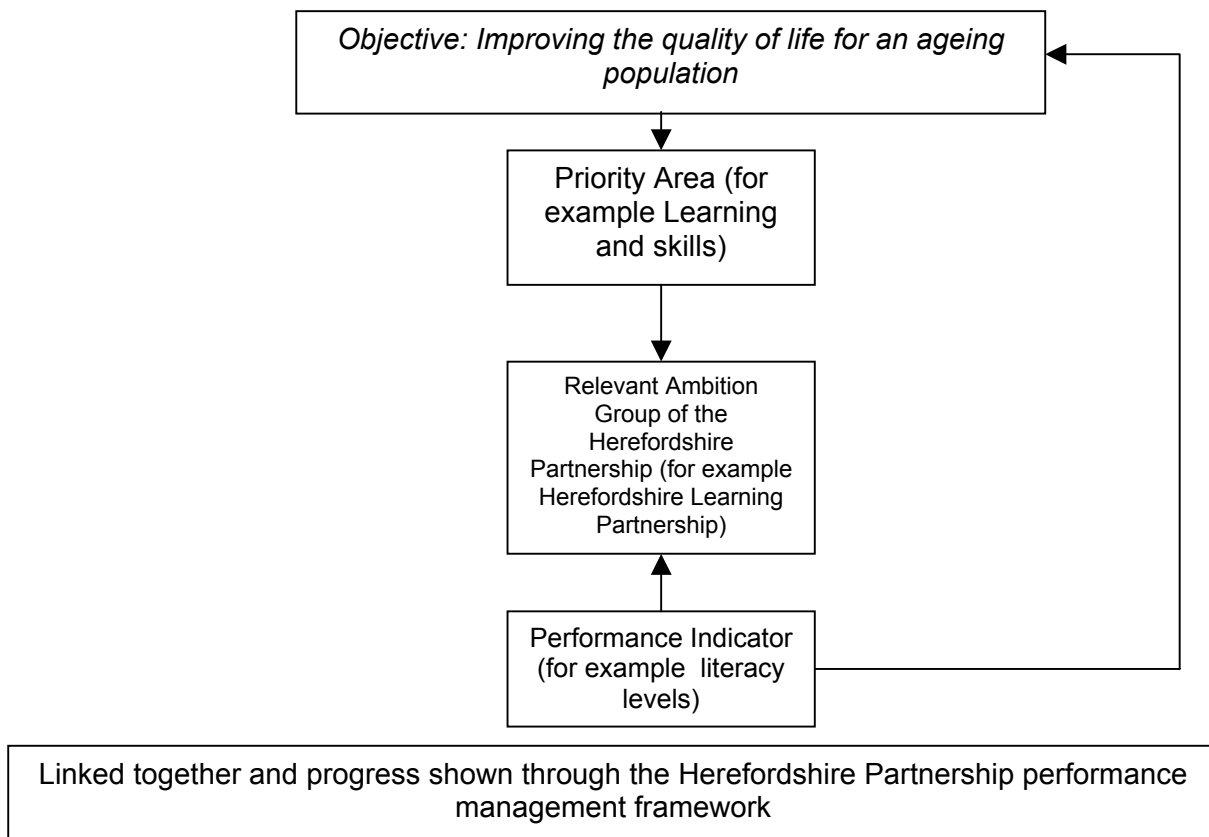
The approach

Herefordshire would like to base its LPSA2 submission on addressing those issues which directly impact on the quality of life for an ageing population.

The LPSA2 will be focused on priority areas which directly affect the quality of life for the ageing population, are not performing to their full potential (based on the State of Herefordshire report), and are supported by local Partners through the Herefordshire Partnership.

These priority areas will then provide the basis for identifying outcomes, associated indicators and targets all aimed at working towards the overall objective. It is expected that the focus of these areas and targets will be firmly linked into the Ambitions of the Herefordshire Plan and its Ambition Groups.

This is shown diagrammatically overleaf:



Priority areas

An initial analysis has been undertaken on indicators and targets from the State of Herefordshire report, to identify these priority areas. This analysis has highlighted eight initial areas that are relevant to the theme, and are either under performing or could perform better. These are:

1. **Health:** healthy population, LIFT scheme, older people as carers and independent living.
2. **Economic development:** business support, wage levels and quality of jobs.
3. **Quality and mix of housing.**
4. **Fear of crime.**
5. **Sense of community.**
6. **Transport:** design of highways, liveability and commercial passenger journeys.
7. **Learning and skills:** take up, outcomes, literacy and numeracy and confidence.
8. **Access to services:** getting services to people; and credit unions.

Who

As this issue is so inherent to life in Herefordshire, the causes, symptoms and proposed models will not be covered by just the local authority. It is proposed that we take a Herefordshire wide view, building on the Herefordshire Partnership and inclusive of other relevant public agencies, the community/voluntary sector and private sector. This will be crucial in the success of this approach.

It is proposed that the Herefordshire Partnership Ambition Groups take a central role in leading action within the priority area, and in setting and working jointly towards the indicators and targets.

Indicators and targets

Each Ambition in the Herefordshire Plan is backed by key indicators and targets and pulled together in the State of Herefordshire Report. It is proposed that key indicators relevant to the objective are identified within each Ambition and used as a tracking mechanism to show progress.

Given the nature of an ageing population, it will be difficult to re-evaluate services and show a significant change in a short timescale. If Herefordshire is going to use this approach to its full effect, there may also need to be changes to the model or performance indicators as we progress. We also wish to look at what the wider effects of this change could mean for Herefordshire, such as pensions and quality of life, as well as quantitative targets.

It is proposed:

- That part of Herefordshire's LPSA2 is undertaken on a longer timescale of at least six years (which is also the timescale of the current Herefordshire Plan) to 2011.
- That initial performance indicators are identified and formally reviewed with ODPM after 3 years; to be followed by further pump priming funding and revised performance indicators/stretching targets for the next three years. If the Government is not willing (or able) to accept a longer-term commitment to funding, then it needs to be understood at the scoping stage that for some of the targets outputs need to replace outcomes at the three-year point. There will, however, be a clear link between the output and longer-term outcomes.

For this to work there would need to be some assurances around freedoms and flexibilities available to the pilot.

Freedoms and flexibilities

The depth and innovation in this approach will be dependent on two aspects. Firstly, how services can be delivered in a joined up way and secondly the level of freedoms and flexibilities to allow the approach to be tested. The precise nature of these freedoms and flexibilities will need to be drawn out in conjunction with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) through the development stage.

LPSA2 – Supporting Statistics

Low Earnings

Herefordshire – average weekly earnings for adults in full time employment - £378.20.

West Midlands Region – average weekly earnings for adults in full time employment - £435.80.

England and Wales – average weekly earnings for adults in full time employment - £479.90

Herefordshire average wages are 21% below the England and Wales average.

Herefordshire average wages are the second lowest in England and Wales (parts of west Wales are lower).

Source: Office for National Statistics New Earnings Survey.

Date information pertains to: April 2003.

Aged Linked Deprivation

4,320 people aged over 60, about 10%, of the age group claims Income Support.

4,635 older people are in receipt of Attendance Allowance (13.80% of people in eligible age groups).

Source: Office for National Statistics.

Date information pertains to: August 2002.

Population of Older People

19% of the population of Herefordshire are aged 65 and over.

16% of the population of the West Midlands Region and England and Wales are aged 65 and over.

Source: 2001 census – Crown Copyright.

Date information pertains to: April 2001.

Trends in numbers of older people

The population aged 65 and over in Herefordshire is expected to grow by 27% between 2001 and 2011. Within this older age group, the number of 65–74 year olds is expected to grow by 24%, 75 – 84s by 21% and the very elderly, 85+ by 57%.

Source: Herefordshire Council Research Team.

APPENDIX 1

Over the same period, 2001–2011, the number of people aged 65 and over in England and Wales is expected to grow by 10%.

Source: Government Actuary's Department, 2000 based population projection.

Cost of Providing Services

Average gross hourly cost for home help/care in Herefordshire	£18.50
Average gross hourly cost for home help/care in England	£11.90

Source: Herefordshire Council, Business Case for Older People's Services.

Date information pertains to: 2001/2002.

Older Carers

3,735 (12% of the number of people aged 65 and over living in households) are carers.

Source: 2001 census – Crown Copyright.

Date information pertains to: April 2001.

Volunteer Rates

About 6,100 people aged 60 and over volunteer at some time during the year.

Source: "Valuing the Voluntary Sector." A research report on the social economy in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

Date information pertains to: 1998/1999.