

# LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS: OUTLINE PROPOSALS

## PROGRAMME AREA RESPONSIBILITY: POLICY AND FINANCE

CABINET

29TH SEPTEMBER, 2005

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### Wards Affected

Countywide

### Purpose

To secure consent from Cabinet to submit an outline Local Area Agreement (LAA) proposal by the 30th September 2005.

### Key Decision

This is not a Key Decision.

### Recommendation

**THAT Cabinet give consent for an outline Local Area Agreement proposal to be submitted to Government Office West Midlands (GOWM) by the 30th September 2005.**

### Reasons

On the 19th May 2005 Cabinet gave consent for interest to be registered with GOWM in obtaining an LAA. Herefordshire Council duly registered interest in being one of the second round LAAs. On 22nd June 2005 Herefordshire Council was advised that it had been successful, in securing an LAA, and that Herefordshire was to be one of thirteen areas to have a Single Pot LAA. We are now required to submit our outline LAA proposals to GOWM by the 30th September 2005.

### Considerations

1. In May 2005 the Office for the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) issued a series of LAA guidance notes, including LAA toolkit documentation, which set out the key headings to be addressed by LAA.
2. On the 21st July a meeting was held with GOWM officers to discuss the content of the outline LAA proposals that were expected as part of our outline LAA proposals.
3. Officers have been identified to co-ordinate the LAA activity, and to lead the work on the individual Service Blocks. In addition officers have been identified to cover individual crosscutting themes.
4. The LAA has to be jointly signed off by the Local Strategic Partnership and the Local Authority. The Herefordshire Partnership Board met on the 16th September 2005 and approved the draft outline proposals. They will be subject to further development in the next week, and the Board Chair and Vice-Chair will agree the final outline

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Further information on the subject of this report is available from  
Steve Martin, Corporate Policy and Research Manager on 01432 261877

submission. The Local Authority, in its role as Community Leader must also separately approve the outline submission.

5. The LAA work will continue to run in parallel with the re-launch of the Herefordshire Plan and provide further focus for the work of the Herefordshire Partnership.
6. The LAA will be negotiated over a six-month period, which will give many opportunities to comment on the LAA content.

## **Alternative Options**

We must make the outline submission by the 30th September 2005. Cabinet may wish to suggest alterations to the outline proposals.

## **Risk Management**

There will be continuing capacity issues, which will have to be addressed at peak times during the negotiations and, to a lesser extent, the implementation phase.

## **Consultees**

GOWM, AWM, Partners in the Herefordshire Partnership, Shropshire and Worcestershire County Councils

## **Background Papers**

Local Area Agreements outline proposals paper