

LAA - SIX MONTHLY REVIEW PERFORMANCE REPORT

Background

The first six-monthly review meeting between Government Office and SSOG takes place on 20th November 2006. Work is underway on preparing a self-assessment on progress in the first six-months which is to be submitted to Government Office (GOEM) by 10th November.

Purpose

1. This report seeks to achieve three things:
 - a. Clarify the purpose of the review and the Government's requirements.
 - b. Report on progress in carrying out the self-assessment report.
 - c. Ensure SSOG members are aware of their role within the remaining stages of the review.

The purpose of the review and the Government's requirements

2. A fuller note on the Government's requirements and a Gantt chart for the review process is attached as appendix 1. In general terms it is seen as an opportunity for local partners and Government to assess actual performance of the outcome measures within the LAA and progress in delivery of activities.
3. Round 2 LAAs (Leicestershire is one) are expected to carry out a full review but Government understands that the first six-monthly review will not give the complete picture that will be available for future reviews. However where there are gaps in information or delays in delivery there should be clear evidence of how and when any gaps or delays are to be addressed. A simple statement of "data not yet available" or "milestone delayed" will not suffice.
4. The Government requires a self assessment be completed by 10th November that as a minimum should contain:
 - a. All LAA outcomes, indicators, baselines, targets and milestones.
 - b. The most recent performance data for each target in the LAA
 - c. An assessment of the risks to the achievement of each outcome
 - d. A description of any, key differences the implementation of the LAA has made

The Self-assessment of LAA Performance April 1st –September 30th 2006

5. The Process. LAA block leads have been asked to complete two proformas that cover the information in 4 above. One is an indicator spreadsheet which will contain detail on the indicator, targets and actual performance. This will include one traffic light assessment for performance against the indicator and another for progress in delivery activity detailed in the LAA. The other is a summary document, one for each block that will report key highlights, exceptions and information on how risks will be managed (see appendix 2 for an example from the Economic Block).

6. Returns so far First drafts have been submitted and not surprisingly for the first six monthly report a number of gaps in information and inconsistencies in analysis exist across the blocks. This has meant that a report covering all the issues in 4 above has not been possible for SSOG.
7. Finalising the self-assessment. Key remaining tasks were clarified with block leads on 13th October. Block leads, central LAA performance leads and GOEM lead officers will be working together before the final deadline of 3rd November to fill gaps and iron out any inconsistencies in approach (see appendix 1).
8. SSOG Sign-off .A draft of the final report will be circulated to SSOG members on 8th November for final comments (required by 10th November). For the avoidance of doubt the lead SSOG members for each block are listed in appendix 3. It is important in the meantime that SSOG block partnership representatives liaise with their relevant block lead.

Preparation and Focus for the Review Meeting

9. The review meeting. This will largely focus on key risks and strategic issues identified through the self assessment. SSOG is representing Leicestershire Together and SSOG block partnership representatives will be expected to support the analysis in the self assessment and explain what action is proposed to address poor performance and any gaps in the performance reports. A draft agenda for the review meeting is attached as appendix 4. It will also be an opportunity to begin discussions on likely changes for the refresh process (guidance on the refresh is attached as appendix 5).
10. GOEM's role. Where it is agreed there is a risk to achieving an outcome GOEM will explore the issue with SSOG at the review meeting and seek to identify what support in can give to agreed improvement activity.
11. Preparation. In order that the review meeting is focused and productive it is vital that block leads, their GOEM counterparts and SSOG block partnership representatives discuss the self assessment in advance and seek to agree what should be discussed at the review. The intention is to ensure that the review meeting does not become embroiled in technical discussions around the analysis of performance within the self-assessment.

Recommendations

12. Note progress in completing the self-assessment and ensure final submission of a complete self-assessment, addressing all of the items in appendix 1 paragraph 6, by 3rd November.
13. Liaise with block leads and GOEM counterparts to identify what issues within the self-assessment should be discussed at the review meeting.
14. Ensure that a presentation is prepared and delivered to the review meeting for each block of the LAA covering the relevant sections of the self-assessment.

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NOTE ON THE REVISED GUIDANCE FOR THE LAA SIX MONTHLY REVIEW AND COMPLETION OF THE REVIEW

Summary

1. New guidance on LAA six monthly reviews has emerged from Government (circulated with the agenda). This does not change the review process significantly but clarifies what is required. The following note lists the key elements, highlights any changes in substance and emphasis and focuses on the job of completing the review.
2. The guidance does suggest there is an understanding that we are at an early stage in LAA delivery and how that might impact on the review. However there is a clear requirement to address all the main points of a full review.

Key Purpose of the Six monthly Review

3. The primary objectives of the six-monthly reviews are for the local partnership to:
 - a) assess latest progress towards the individual outcomes in its LAA;
 - b) assess whether it is on track to deliver the outcomes in the LAA and identify the primary risks to delivery;
 - c) agree any action needed to address the primary risks to delivery, including what support, engagement or intervention by local partners, the Government Offices, central Government or any other bodies is necessary to address these risks;
 - d) address gaps in outcomes, indicators, baselines, targets, milestones and data;
 - e) highlight good practice and any available evidence of what difference the introduction of the LAA has made;
 - f) benefit from constructive external challenge from the GO; and report to central government the information that it requires and any issues that the local partnership wants to raise with central government so as to inform central government's policy and activity.
4. There is a clear message that assessment of risk (and therefore the traffic light assessment should be in relation to:
 - a. Achievement of the final outcome not just milestones and delivery issues within the LAA.
 - b. Prioritised towards mandatory outcomes and indicators and priority local outcomes.
5. At this early stage however it is not always possible to measure the outcome against the LAA baseline. One option is for separate outcome and delivery traffic light assessments to be made. This will need to be clarified with GOEM.

Contents of Review Self Assessment

6. The self assessment must include:
 - a) All outcomes, indicators, baselines, targets and milestones in the LAA or where any of these have yet to be established a clear but brief explanation of why this is the case and how and by when they will be. For the avoidance of doubt this does not mean any detailed project planning that explains how each target will be met.
 - b) The most recent performance data for each target in the LAA, showing progress against the expected milestones or where any data is not yet available, a clear but brief explanation of why this is the case and how and by when it will be.
 - c) An assessment of the risks to the achievement of each outcome in the LAA and where there are risks that an outcome will not be met, a clear but brief explanation of what is being or will be done to address these risks and what residual risks then remain.
 - d) A description of what, if any, key differences the implementation of the LAA has made, including in terms of, for instance: better delivery, strengthened partnership working, innovation, improved local performance management, enhanced efficiency, improved central and local government relations or any specific transferable good practice.
7. All of these issues are covered in the templates LAA leads have received for the review. As anticipated there is a particular focus on demonstrating that where gaps in the performance framework exist e.g. baselines, indicators or actuals, it is expected that there is a clear statement of when they will be filled. Annex D of the full guidance anticipates reasons for gaps in information.

Performance Management Systems

8. There is greater emphasis on the degree to which GOEM will be assessing the effectiveness of the performance management processes around the LAA. A toolkit has been produced for them to do this.

Liaison with GOEM and Preparing for the Review Meeting

9. The importance of liaison with GOEM in advance of the overall review meeting on 20th November is emphasised in two ways:
10. To identify where other performance and inspection processes will help augment the LAA review. This may be particularly useful where there are still gaps in evidence.
11. To ensure the review meeting discussion is focused in the right way e.g. having any detailed technical discussions in advance of the review meeting

SSOG LAA Review Update APPENDIX 1
and focusing on the main achievements, the main areas of concern and how they could be addressed.

12. To ensure that any key refresh issues are at least flagged up with GOEM by the time of the review meeting.
13. The guidance suggests that there is scope to avoid reporting information already reported to other inspection bodies such as CSCI or the Audit Commissioning. This needs to be confirmed with GOEM.

Key Actions for LAA leads to 3rd November

14. Submit outstanding returns
15. Ensure that all gaps in the framework are identified and plans exist for filling those gaps with an assessment of completion.
16. Liaise with GOEM to ensure that the Review meeting focuses on priority areas for attention.
17. Agree a final version of their block submission.
18. Ensure SSOG representatives are briefed in advance of the review meeting.

Key actions for Central LAA Performance Management

19. Collate review submissions, identify gaps and contact block leads regarding any gaps by 16th October
20. Prepare an update report for SSOG on 19th October
21. Prepare a first draft of the consolidated review and circulate to block lead by 20th October.
22. Clarify the review requirements with GOEM and advise block leads of any changes to the local understanding of what is required (including changes to the reporting paperwork). Meeting with GOEM 13th October.
24. Ensure a submission to GOEM and the Leicestershire Together board by 10th November.
25. Review performance management arrangements against the IDeA toolkit and raise issues as necessary with SSOG and GOEM.

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LAA Six Monthly Review - Review Timetable

	21st Sept	29th Sept	6th Oct	13th Oct	20th Oct	27th Oct	3rd Nov	10th Nov	17th Nov	20th Nov
	Stage One			Stage Two			Stage Three			
Main reports and Meetings										
Block Leads meeting	21st Sept			13th Oct				10 th Nov		
Template out		26th Sept								
Enabling deadline		29th Sept								
First block report draft deadline			6th Oct							
Proofing feedback to blocks				13th Oct						
First draft combined report					20th Oct					
Final block report deadline							3rd Nov			
Review report deadline to GOEM								10th Nov		
Review Meeting GOEM										20th Nov
Block Meetings										
Economic/GOEM Meeting				13th Oct						
CYP/GOEM block meeting										
Healthier Communities/GOEM										
Older Peoples GOEM meeting				9th Oct						
SSC Review							1st Nov			
SSOG					19th Oct					20 th Nov
L Together Conference							30th Oct			
Leicestershire Together Board									16th Nov	

LAA Economic Block – DRAFT Summary Self-Assessment October 2006

1. Breakdown of Traffic Light Assessment

Outcomes	Green	11	Amber	1	Red	0
Delivery	Green	12	Amber	0	Red	0

2. Overall Commentary on Progress in LAA Delivery for the period

Significant progress is being made in achieving all the year one targets for the outcomes within the Economic Development and Enterprise Block. This is reflected by the fact that eleven of the twelve targets have been credited with a 'green' rating to demonstrate that performance is on track and within the tolerances. One target has been given an 'amber' rating because performance is below the tolerances but remedial activity planning is underway. The amber rated target is the employment related reward target. It has been given an amber rating because the project has only just started and included a lengthy recruitment process and securing of LSEP funding. The official launch of the Learn2Earn Project is on October 19th 2006.

3. Report on delivery of activities in receipt of pump priming funding for the reward targets (by exception)

Business Support Reward Target (4a) - The activities delivered relate to the provision of business support and advice in order to increase the number of businesses starting up in the County. The project is being delivered by Business Link Leicestershire and the pump priming funding has been utilised to establish two enterprise agencies, Ivanhoe Enterprises and Welland Enterprises, to deliver business support activities across the County. The agencies provide one to one support for new business start ups as well as tailored support packages to those wanting to start a business. In the first six months 354 businesses have been assisted and the target of 480 is on course to be achieved.

Employment Reward Target (2a) - The activities delivered relate to the provision of training and learning and employment advice for people in receipt of incapacity benefits to enable them to move into employment. The pump priming funding is being used to expand the County Council's Breaking the Barriers team which delivers the Learn2Earn project. The funding has ensured that there are sufficient community development workers to deliver the project in the most deprived areas in the County. The pump priming funding has also secured additional funding for the project over three years from the LSEP. The delivery of the project has recently started but the preparation work was undertaken over the first six months and involved the

recruitment of the development workers and the application to secure LSEP funding. It was fundamental that the foundations for this project were established within the first six months. The official launch of the Learn2Earn Project is on October 19th 2006.

4. Outcome Areas where the LAA has added value (maximum four examples, please give a brief explanation)

The LAA has added value to the following outcomes

Market Towns Outcome (1a, 1b, 1c) - The LAA has enabled improved partnership working with the district councils and also assisted in identifying the seventeen town and village centres in which to dedicate resources. The process has also helped secure funding to establish a baseline through the user satisfaction survey.

Employment Outcome (2a) - The LAA process has highlighted the lack of support available to people in receipt of incapacity benefit to enable them to access learning and employment opportunities. The LAA has helped secure pump priming and LSEP funding to ensure a team is in place to deliver a range of activities aimed at achieving this outcome and the stretch target. The LAA process has improved internal working between different County Council departments and in particular between the Adult Learning Service and the Breaking the Barriers team. It has also led to joint working with organisations such as Job Centre Plus. The LAA has identified 18 priority neighbourhoods and a number of Community Development Workers delivering this outcome are involved in neighbourhood management and engagement activities within these priority areas.

Employment Land Outcome (3a, 3b) - The LAA provides a framework to drive the employment land outcome. The process has enabled a strategic analysis and assessment of employment land and has brought the necessary partners together to tackle this important issue. The EDE block will include the mandatory housing outcome and the LAA process has provided the opportunity to align employment land and housing priorities and develop the foundations for the delivery of the potential New Growth Point.

Business Support Outcome (4a, 4b) - The LAA process has enabled greater district council and other partner involvement in identifying and addressing business support needs within the County. The pump priming funding has also enabled the establishment of two enterprise agencies to deliver a range of business support activities at a local level to increase the number of businesses starting up in the County.

5. Red and Amber Outcome Areas (for each one explain risks to achievement, why outcome performance is poor and actions to address risks and under performance).

No Red Outcomes

Employment Outcome (2a) -

Tourism Outcome (5a) -

6. Note any issues that should be discussed within the refresh process, including enabling measures (former freedoms and flexibilities)

Market Towns Outcome (1a, 1b, 1c) - Baseline for this target will be qualitative therefore need to consider other indicators to measure performance.

Employment and Skills Outcome (2a) - Enabling Measure - For adults who go into FT work under this scheme to be able to access an 'employment grant' for (maybe) one year, which would help them with all the expenses that working entails and to start to raise their standing of living from the point which is the norm for IB claimants. This would be an enormous inducement to participation in the Learn2earn programme, and that it would level the playing field between L2E and the Pathways to Employment project.

Employment and Skills Outcome (2b) - Initial targets proposed where based on participation. Due to LSC performance policy, targets are now based on achievement of both Level 2 and Skills for life therefore additional target may be required.

Employment Land (3a, 3b) - New Growth Points bid and housing proposals will have implications for the refresh. Also need to consider whether target 3b remains a key indicator or the outcome focus should be on the release of employment land.

Business Support Outcome (4c) - Consider whether this outcome should be included within the LAA as there is no added value.

Tourism Outcome (5a, 5b) - Targets 5a are dependant on a number of national and international factors and the LAA process is adding very little value to this outcome. There is potential to link this outcome with the Market Towns Outcome.

7. Detail any outstanding baseline and/or indicator development (include a date for when this will be achieved).

Market Towns Outcome (1a, 1b, 1c) - Baselines and indicators currently being established November 2006

Business Support Outcome (4b) - Baseline to be established by April 2007

Employment Land Outcome (3a, 3b) - Baselines and indicators to be established by April 2007

SSOG LEAD MEMBERS FOR THE LAA BLOCKS

Safer	- Mike Goodwin
Economic	– Kishor Tailor
Stronger	– Neil Lambert
Cleaner and greener	– Bryan Hayes
Healthier	– Catherine Griffiths
Older People	– Mick Connell
Children and Young People	– Gareth Williams

**LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT SIX-MONTHLY REVIEW MEETING – 20TH
NOVEMBER 2006, 11AM - 2PM**

Draft Agenda

11 – 12.00 Meeting of SSOG

12.0pm – 2.00pm Formal Review Meeting Chaired by Jan Sensier GOEM

1. Presentation by John Sinnott – Overview of the first Six Months of the Leicestershire LAA
2. Presentation of self assessments by Block Lead members of SSOG
3. Discussion around key achievements, exceptions and improvement planning
4. Conclusion and Next steps

THE 2006-2007 LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT REFRESH PROCESS

Background

1. The refresh process is an opportunity for central and local government to respond to changing circumstances and ensure that the LAA remains fit for purpose.
2. The refresh will be developed through discussions within and between blocks and ultimately negotiated by Leicestershire Together and GOEM. Central government wish to keep the process “light touch” and ministers will only need to approve new pooled funding and outcomes. It was the view of the LAA leads group in its meeting of 22nd September that local changes proposed through the refresh would be minimal.

Drivers of Change for the Refresh

3. Mandatory indicators that were introduced in the latest LAA guidance must be included where applicable to Leicestershire (see appendix 1 for a list of applicable indicators).
4. New outcome areas that are locally driven but were not able to be included in the LAA before sign-off or new areas that have emerged through the review process.
5. Funding streams that have become available for pooling locally or nationally since LAA sign-off (see appendix 2 for a national list).
6. Local or nationally driven enabling measures. Guidance on new nationally driven enabling measures is expected in October. The original deadline for local enabling measures has passed however Government has recognised that during the review and refresh the need for new measures may be identified. Therefore a later deadline of 5th January has been set for submission of business cases for new enabling measures where they arise out of the review and refresh discussions.
7. Reflection on delivery through the six-monthly performance review. The experience of delivering and performance managing the LAA over the last six-months may have identified the need for changes.

Refresh Timetable

8. The Review process by focusing attention on performance, will undoubtedly lead naturally to the identification of areas where local partners may wish to make a change. The key times for this will be in the LAA block meetings with GOEM leads during October/early November and the review meeting on 20th November.
9. The deadline for final submission of refresh proposals from GOEM to central Government is 19th January so tighter deadlines within the region can be

expected. In the absence of further guidance on timetables it is suggested that ideas be firmed up by 3rd November.

Key Actions for Block Leads

10. Review the drivers for change above and relevant attached appendices and consider issues for discussion within the refresh process for each LAA block – **Block Leads to co-ordinate**
11. Discuss possible refresh issues with Government Office in bilateral block meetings and in the final review meetings. - **Block Leads and SSOG**
12. Forward refresh issues to John Wright by 3rd November for inclusion in reports to SSOG and Leicestershire Together - **Block Leads**
13. Work with Block partners, GOEM and LCC Chief Executives to prepare changes to LAA subsequent to November review submission in time for the 5th January 2007 deadline.

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Mandatory Outcomes and Indicators – clarification for Government Offices prior to submission of round 3 draft LAAs

This note confirms details for the mandatory outcomes and indicators in round 3 and refreshed LAAs for GO LAA leads to assist with the checking first full draft LAAs. The majority of outcomes and indicators confirm what the LAA guidance already sets out but, following feedback from GOs and local areas, changes have been necessary to some outcomes and indicators. These are highlighted in red.

Confirmed changes will also be published alongside the LAA guidance on the DCLG website and RCU LAA Resource Centre. Areas for needing further clarification are highlighted here and will be subject to further advice from the DCLG LAA team.

Mandatory Outcomes and Indicators in the LAA

1. Outcome

Improve Health and reduce health inequalities

Indicator

Spearhead Areas

- Reduce health inequalities between the local authority area and the England population by narrowing the gap in all-age, all-cause mortality.

All Other Areas (optional for Spearhead Areas)

- Reduce health inequalities within the local area, by narrowing the gap in all-age, all-cause mortality.

2. Outcome

Reduce crime

Indicator

- Reduction in overall British Crime Survey comparator recorded crime. Targets must be those as agreed between crime and drugs partnerships and GOs to support delivery of Home Office PSA1. A County level target will need to reflect the targets of the crime and drugs partnerships, and any aggregation will need to be agreed with the GO.
- Reduce the proportion of adult and young offenders and prolific and other priority offenders who re-offend. **[Note: issue with data for adult offenders to be resolved by DCLG and Home Office. This will be subject to further advice.]**

3. Outcome

Reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime

Indicator

- Indicators to be agreed in negotiations

4. Outcome

Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs

Indicator

- Reduce public perceptions of local drug dealing and drug use as a problem

5. Outcome

Build respect in communities and reduce anti-social behaviour

Indicators *The following indicators should draw on the data in the Local Government User Satisfaction Survey*

- Increase the percentage of people who feel informed about what is being done to tackle anti-social behaviour in their local area
- Increased percentage of people who feel that parents in their local area are made to take responsibility for the behaviour of their children
- Increased percentage of people who feel that people in their area treat them with respect and consideration
- Reduce people's perception of ASB (using the seven issues stated in the survey)

6. Outcome

Empower local people to have a greater choice and influence over local decision making and a greater role in public service delivery

Indicators

- Percentage of residents who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area
- Percentage of people who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds **can** get on well together
- An increase in the number of people recorded as or reporting that they have engaged in formal volunteering on an average of at least two hours per week over the past year

Mandatory Outcomes and Indicators linked to specific funding streams

Connexions

1. Outcome

Achieve Economic Well-being

Indicator

- Percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training

Home Fire Risk Check and Fire Prevention Grant

1. Outcome

Increase domestic fire safety and reduce arson

Indicator

- Indicators at neighbourhood and priority group level to be agreed in negotiation

Waste Performance and Efficiency Grant

1. Outcome

Reduce waste to landfill and increase recycling

Indicators

- Reduction in the percentage of municipal waste landfilled
- Increase in the percentage of municipal waste recycled

School Travel Advisors

1. Outcome

Be Healthy

Indicator

- The percentage annual increase in the number of schools with an approved school travel plan (STP) required to achieve 100 percent STP coverage by March 2010. This should be profiled against the current number of schools with an approved STP in place and the appropriate delivery point on a trajectory which would achieve 100 percent coverage by 2010.

Teenage Pregnancy Grant

2. Outcome

Be Healthy

Indicator

- Reduction in the under 18 conception rate

Details for Supporting People and New Growth Points funding will be subject to separate advice.

DCLG LAA DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION TEAM
27 September 2006

LOCAL AUTHORITY AGREEMENTS

NEED FOR INTERIM MANDATORY INDICATOR TO REPLACE MODAL SHARE IN TRAVEL TO SCHOOL

As the funding that DfT/DfES pays to local authorities (LAs) to enable them to employ school travel advisers who work with schools to help them develop and implement school travel plans is automatically pooled under LAA arrangements, there is a mandatory indicator in LAAs: modal share in travel to school. DfT's and DfES' expectation is that standardised usual mode of travel to school data collected via the School Census from January 2007 should be used to set targets related to this but there is a problem, in that this data will not be available to LAs until early Summer 2007, whereas final versions of LAAs have to be submitted by early February 2007.

DfT and DfES, having considered a range of options, have therefore agreed with DCLG that for the purposes of Round 3 and Round 1&2 Refreshes (2007) LAAs, the mandatory indicator on mode of travel to school may be replaced by the following interim mandatory indicator:

“The percentage annual increase in the number of schools with an approved school travel plan (STP) required to achieve 100 percent STP coverage by March 2010. This should be profiled against the current number of schools with an approved STP in place and the appropriate delivery point on a trajectory which would achieve 100 percent coverage by 2010.”

LAs should already have this information in their revised School Travel Plan Strategies.

When setting their LAA indicator, LAs will want to note that each LA's annual STA funding allocation is made on the basis that the LA will support 15 percent of their schools in developing STPs each year from 2006/07 onwards, and provide continued support to those that have already developed a STP. Approximately 40 percent of schools had an approved STP at the end of March 2006.

As part of the 2008/9 LAA refresh process, LAs should agree revised mandatory indicators in line with the current guidance. By that time LAs will have access to usual mode of travel data collected for School Census 06/07 purposes, which will be available in early Summer 2007.

DfT /DfES 26 September 2006

Extract from ODPM Press Release 31 March 2006 Re Pooled Grants

The 26 funding streams confirmed for automatic pooling are:

- Children's Services Grant
- Kerbcraft
- Key Stage 3 – Behaviour and Attendance
- Key Stage 3 – Central Coordination
- Neighbourhood Renewal Fund
- Neighbourhood Road Safety Initiative
- Neighbourhood Support Fund
- Positive Activities for Young People
- Primary Strategy Central Coordination
- School Travel Advisers
- School Development Grant (Local Authority retained element only)
- Anti-Social Behaviour Grant
- Building Safer Communities
- Drugs Strategy Partnership Support Grant
- Tackling Violent Crime Programme
- Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder
- Neighbourhood Element
- Cleaner, Safer, Greener Element (liveability funding)
- ASB Action Area (an element is retained centrally)
- Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund
- Anti-Social Behaviour Trailblazer (an element is retained centrally)
- Home Fire Risk Check Initiative
- Rural Social and Community Programme
- Waste Performance and Efficiency Grant
- Local Enterprise Growth Initiative(LEGI)
- New Growth Points Grant