

**CONSULTATION RESPONSE FROM THE LANCASTER DISTRICT  
LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP 30<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2008**

**COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LANCASHIRE LOCAL  
CONSTITUTION AND HOW PROPOPOSALS WILL CUT ACROSS LDLSP  
STRUCTURES**

The LDLSP responded to the initial consultation which took place in October 2008, the key points of which are as follows;

- The LDLSP welcomes this review and sees the proposals made within it as a positive step forward in strengthening working relationships at a district level between the Lancashire Locals and the LDLSP. We also believe that the review will be beneficial in clarifying the role of Lancashire Locals in shaping communities and local government services.
- The stated commitment that Lancashire Locals wishes to work 'alongside' the LDLSP and 'complement' its work is particularly welcome to the LDLSP.
- With regard to Lancashire Locals developing stronger links with the LDLSP whilst still maintaining an 'arms length' status is a preferable one. The LDLSP has just restructured and both City and County Councillors have seats at all levels of the LDLSP structure. We therefore believe that it will be necessary to clarify how the relationship between the elected members that already sit on LDLSP bodies and those that sit on Lancashire Locals would work in practice. What would seem more appropriate would be for the Lancashire Locals to support those elected members who already have seats on LDLSP bodies both in terms of undertaking necessary discussion prior to meetings and thus equipping members with all known views before meetings and to assist with aligning funding where appropriate.
- Also, where there are shared interests, partners should pool resources and obtain maximum added value and success in delivering the aspirations of the district's Sustainable Community Strategy. This commitment and contribution from Lancashire Locals would be warmly received by the LDLSP and would very much reinforce your statement that the Lancashire Locals 'have the potential to support the LSP in delivering the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement'.

- We strongly agree that where there is cross-over between City and County Council services in the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy, then the two councils should indeed co-operate , but it must also be acknowledged that there is a risk of over complicating LDLSP decision making processes by introducing another body of elected members.
- The LDLSP also strongly agree that decisions regarding such a relationship should sit with City and County Councils to decide how they wish their elected members to work together and use resources to 'shape and influence those services that are relevant to addressing those issues and priorities as outlined in our Sustainable Community Strategy'.
- It is of course always possible to improve the way in which the LDLSP communicates with its partners and we would welcome an opportunity to discuss this further with Lancashire Locals.
- We also agree a 'one size fits all approach' is wholly inappropriate for a county such as Lancashire which has such a diverse and large community.

Tracey Jardine  
LSP Manager  
16<sup>th</sup> January 2009