

SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENTS: GUIDANCE TO COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS

WHAT ARE WE ASKING CPPS TO DO IN THEIR SOAs?

A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF PLACE

Each new SOA should:

- Demonstrate a clear and evidence-based understanding of place and communities including the inequalities facing different areas and population groups. This could, for example, draw from work such as a strategic assessment or needs analysis with detailed evidence and data referenced or annexed where appropriate. The emphasis should be on drawing strategic conclusions from the evidence and providing assurance that the analysis is robust;
- Outline how local communities and the business and third sectors have been involved in developing and influencing that understanding; and
- Show a clear and robust link and strong line of sight between that understanding and the priorities, outcomes, and performance commitments (i.e. indicators and targets) set out in the new SOA.

PLAN AND DELIVER FOR OUTCOMES

Each new SOA should:

- Set out clear and agreed priorities, rooted in the CPP's understanding of place, for improving local outcomes;
- Show how each local outcome relates to one or more of the National Outcomes;
- Show what will be different for communities in 10 years **and** what will be done, especially what will be changed or done differently in line with the agenda for public service reform, to secure those improved outcomes on a rolling 3 year basis;
- Be clear about both the long term outcomes to be achieved over the next decade, and the contributory outcomes, indicators and targets by which progress towards these will be demonstrated over the short (1 year) and medium (3 years) terms; and
- Show how the total resource available to the CPP and partners has been considered and deployed in support of the agreed outcomes, especially in ways which promote prevention, early intervention and the reduction of inequalities.

POLICY PRIORITIES

New SOAs should continue to be developed and delivered within the context of the National Performance Framework. However, the National Group has agreed that all CPPs should have a common and sharp focus on some key priorities where the aim should be to achieve transformational, not incremental, performance improvement. These key priorities are:

- Economic recovery and growth;

- Employment;
- Early years;
- Safer and stronger communities, and reducing offending;
- Health inequalities and physical activity; and
- Outcomes for older people.

As part of planning and delivering for outcomes, new SOAs should therefore have a clear strategic focus on these priorities and in particular on how, for each priority, local inequalities of outcome will be reduced. This should be followed through in the CPP's focus on partnership working, service integration and prevention and in terms of where it focuses its energy and efforts, especially on performance improvement.

PREVENTION

Each new SOA should:

- Set out the CPP's understanding of what partners are collectively doing and spending on prevention across all services including, but not only, particular detail in relation to the six policy priorities and considering the following key questions:
 - Are we as a partnership clear about what activities will improve outcomes and reduce future demand in our communities?
 - Are we evidencing success in improving outcomes and reducing future need?
 - Are we controlling costs and releasing savings?
- Describe how the CPP intends to make a decisive shift to prevention. This could include, for example, structures and activities aimed at driving a shift in resources and culture such as joint strategic commissioning plans or support for managers and frontline staff to work collaboratively with service users and across organisations in developing and delivering preventative approaches; and
- Describe how the partnership intends to evidence progress in improving outcomes, reducing future need, controlling costs and releasing savings.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Each new SOA should demonstrate that:

- Activity on community engagement is properly planned, resourced and integrated across partners;
- The quality and impact of community engagement is measured and reported on;
- Building the capacity of communities to engage and deliver for themselves is properly planned, resourced and integrated across partners; and
- Workforce development within and across partners ensures that key staff have the skills and knowledge required to engage effectively with communities.