

In LAA LAA land

The Local Area Agreement is here, but what does it mean for the voluntary and community sector in the city? Below the Network presents its own guide to the new arrangements and ways of looking at the city's priorities.

The LAA is currently in preparation and will take effect from next April. The Network is supporting voluntary and community groups in engaging in the preparation of these plans, and contributing to other aspects of the Agreement such as the **Statement of Community and Voluntary sector Involvement**. The Network is also working to ensure the LAA brings increased opportunities for our sector to provide public services and work in greater partnership with statutory authorities across a range of service areas.

Children and young people > This agenda is being driven by the Children, Young People and their Families strategic partnership and is closely tied to the new Integrated Children's Services programme. The voluntary sector has excellent representation on this group, which has put forward priorities for their LAA block under the following themes: **being healthy; staying safe; enjoy and achieve; make a positive contribution; and achieve economic well-being**. For more information contact **Aneela Asim**, who sits on the group as a BME rep. **T: 0115 979 1234**.

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Safer stronger communities > A pilot LAA block since last April, the Network's Manager, Chair and 2 member organisations sit on the group - which is chaired by the City Council's Head of Neighbourhood Services. The SSC agreement was signed off earlier this year, but an updated plan is being prepared for April 2006. The Community Empowerment Task Group sits within this block. For more SSC information see the website or contact **Clare Ollerenshaw** on **0115 934 8416**.

Community Empowerment task group (CETG): This sub-group is charged with delivering on the community empowerment and engagement strands of the SSC agreement. Its targets include improving on the proportion of people who feel they can influence local decision making - including within BME and disadvantaged communities, levels of volunteering within the community and the growth of the sector. A delivery plan for these targets should be agreed and available by early November. For more information see our website: <http://digbig.com/4exjy>

Nottingham's LAA Governance Board

comprises the OCPN Board and a co-opted member from Greater Nottingham Partnership (GNP). They oversee the development and management of the LAA.

Underpinning this, the LAA project group meet regularly to progress local negotiation. The project group is chaired by **Adrienne Roberts** (Deputy Chief Exec of the City Council and LAA Lead Negotiator). The group includes all Block Leads, key officers with particular skills and three voluntary sector members, each with distinct roles:

- > **Parul Jani** (NBP) has an equalities brief;
- > **Jo Dean** (Community Network), is joint lead on the Safer and Stronger blocks; and
- > **Jane Sterck** (NCVS) attends as a 'critical friend'.

Healthier communities and older people

> Director of Public Health at the city's PCT **Chris Packham** is the block lead for healthier communities. **Andy Millward** of Social Services is his equivalent for older people. The draft LAA submission contains targets related to cardiovascular disease, cancer rates, child obesity, adult mental health, avoidable injuries to young and older people and reducing the health and social inequalities of BME elders. The Network's **Parul Jani** sits on this group. **T: 0115 979 1234**

Economic development and enterprise

> The nature of this block demands a slightly different approach, applying the LAA to the county rather than just the city. Driven by the Greater Nottingham Partnership, this block reflects existing priorities elsewhere, such as the OCPNs designs on improving employability. For more information on GNPs plans for this block see: <http://digbig.com/4exjw>