



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE SOUTH EAST

Representing Central Government in the South East

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www.go-se.gov.uk
9th April 2009

Dear Brad,

LAA REFRESH APPROVAL ON BEHALF OF SECRETARY OF STATE

Following your submission of Southampton's Local Area Agreement revision proposal, I am writing to confirm that the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has approved the proposal under section 112 of the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

Please find attached formal notice of approval of your LAA revision proposal (**Annex A**). I am also pleased to include a copy of the revised LAA (**Annex B**). This is confirmation of your agreed local improvement targets, and those targets that have been designated by the Secretary of State.

The LAA is the agreement between all those who have an interest in improving services and the quality of life for local people. Formal approval of the revision proposal now signals central government's commitment to the deal whilst also marking the formal end of the refresh process.

With this formal approval the "duty to have regard" to the targets as revised now applies both to your authority and to all partner authorities to whom the particular LAA targets relate. Details on what the duty means in practice is available in the statutory guidance: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/strongsafeproperous>.

With refresh behind us, we can bring more focus to delivery, using the LAA to continue

making a difference to public services and the quality of life in your area. The Secretary of State remains keen that your LAA priorities are actively communicated to citizens in an accessible way. More on this is also available through the statutory guidance.

Finally, I would like to add my personal thanks for the commitment and support demonstrated by you and your officials throughout the Southampton Local Strategic Partnership. I do acknowledge that refresh was not without its challenges, which were not made any easier by the added complexities of the late availability of data and negotiating briefs, plus of course the delay to the Place Survey. However, despite all that I'm delighted that we reached a good outcome both in Southampton and indeed across the country. I'd be grateful if you could pass on my thanks to your team and partners in Southampton.

Yours sincerely



GOSE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

ANNEX A

**Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007
Approval of Local Area Agreement Revision Proposal**

In exercise of the powers under section 112 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 ("the Act"), I approve the Local Area Agreement revision proposal submitted on 1st April 2009 by Southampton City Council.

The Southampton Local Area Agreement shall have effect subject to the changes set out in the revision proposal from 1st April 2009.

In exercise of the powers under section 109 of that Act I designate those local improvement targets as indicated in the attached copy of the Southampton Local Area Agreement.

Signed



on behalf of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Date: 9th April 2009