

**BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS SCRUTINY COMMISSION**

22 March 2007

Report of: Chief Executive

**Title: Assessment of the Safer Bristol Partnership by
GOSW & Six monthly performance Report**

Ward: All

**Officer presenting report: Alison Comley Head of Community
Safety & Drugs Strategy**

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RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission scrutinises the assessment of the Safer Bristol Partnership as red/amber against a self assessment of amber/green, alongside the actions being taken by the partnership and notes the performance presentation on the work of the Safer Bristol Partnership in tackling crime and drug misuse in the city. .

Summary

As part of the annual assessment of the Bristol Partnership by GOSW, the crime theme was assessed as red/amber against a self assessment of amber/green. This paper outlines the rationale for the self assessment, GOSW's response and the actions being taken by the partnership to improve performance. The Commission also wished to receive a six monthly performance report on the work of the Safer Bristol Partnership which will be delivered as a short presentation.

The significant issues in the report are:

GOSW's assessment of the Safer Bristol Partnership's delivery of the crime theme did not correspond with the self assessment. Actions have been agreed to improve performance.

Policy

Bristol Crime and Drugs Strategy 2005- 2008

Consultation

Internal: None

External: Safer Bristol Partnership & Bristol Partnership

Context

The Bristol Partnership, of which Safer Bristol is a key delivery group, is annually assessed by the Government Office of the South West (GOSW). The overall assessment for the partnership for 2006 was Amber/Green with each theme of health, education, employment, housing, liveability and crime being separately assessed on a traffic light system. The categories used are red, red/amber, amber/green and green. The Safer Bristol Partnership self assessment for the crime theme was amber/green but this was assessed by GOSW as amber/red(see appendix A).

Assessment of performance is based on an analysis of the 10 British Crime Survey crime types which are:

- Theft of motor vehicle
- Theft from motor vehicle
- Vehicle interference
- Burglary
- Pedal cycle theft
- Theft from person
- Criminal damage
- Common assault
- Woundings
- Robbery

Performance

The self-assessment for 2005/06 was a harder test than the 2004/05. To achieve an Amber / green the performance across each of the individual 10 BCS crimes had to be downwards, whereas last year it only required a reduction in overall crime. Given the option, the Safer Bristol Partnership's self assessment for the crime theme would have been amber, since we were on target to reduce priority crimes, such as burglary and robbery but faced increased challenges around Criminal Damage & Violent Crime. We also saw an increase in vehicle crime in the last quarter of 2006, which impacted significantly on our overall targets. Given that we treat all crime types equally, we

assessed ourselves as amber/green based on victim impact. In the context of our mixed crime reduction picture, the areas in which we were delivering good reductions included robbery and burglary, which have a much higher impact on victims than vehicle crime. In addition The Quality of Life survey showed a statistically significant improvement in the fear of crime, which has now met the 2008 target. We also know that a high proportion of crime in Bristol is drug related and our Drugs Intervention Programme delivered 493 drug misusing offenders into treatment last year, thus impacting on their acquisitive crime offending behaviour.

Crime Volume

Crime Type	03/04 Baseline	04/05 Result	05/06 Result	06/07 Target	07/08 Target
BCS	46304	43816	42823	39355	37043
TOMV	4504	3756	3395	3115	2928
TFMV	10595	9041	9083	7765	6887
Vehicle Interference	1585	1303	1127	1069	1030
Burglary	5700	5252	4324	3953	3705
Pedal Cycle theft	1419	1862	2253	1727	1376
Theft from person	1195	885	845	1033	1159
Criminal Damage	11146	10811	11078	10918	10812
Common Assault	2674	3487	3346	2895	2594
Woundings (serious & other)	5413	5767	5909	5514	5251
Robbery	2073	1652	1531	1396	1306

% Change Year on Year

Crime Type	% Change 04/05	% Change 05/06	% Change required 06/07	% Change required 07/08	% Change Target 03/04 to 07/08
BCS	-5.4%	-2.3%	-8.1%	-5.9%	-20%
TOMV	-16.6%	-9.6%	-8.3%	-6.0%	-35%
TFMV	-14.7%	0.5%	-14.5%	-11.3%	-35%
Vehicle Interference	-17.8%	-13.5%	-5.2%	-3.6%	-35%
Burglary	-7.9%	-17.7%	-8.6%	-6.3%	-35%
Pedal Cycle theft	31.2%	21.0%	-23.3%	-20.3%	-3%
Theft from person	-25.9%	-4.5%	22.3%	12.2%	-3%
Criminal Damage	-3.0%	2.5%	-1.4%	-1.0%	-3%
Common Assault	30.4%	-4.0%	-13.5%	-10.4%	-3%
Woundings (serious & other)	6.5%	2.5%	-6.7%	-4.8%	-3%
Robbery	-20.3%	-7.3%	-8.8%	-6.4%	-37%

GOSW Assessment

Outlined in the table below is GOSW's Assessment of the crime theme highlighting issues to be addressed it also includes actions being undertaken by Safer Bristol Partnership to deal with these issues and improve performance.

Crime	
Self Assessed Traffic Light – Amber/green	GO Assessed Traffic Light – Amber/red
Strengths (to include progress towards targets)	Issues to be addressed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On target to reduce priority crimes such as burglary and robbery • The gap between NR and non-NR areas for theft of • Statistically significant reduction in fear of crime, as measured by the Quality of Life Survey, which has now met the 2008 target • Strong joining up of Safer Bristol Partnership and NR neighbourhoods, including a more strategic allocation of NRF crime funds that are tied in with NR, Neighbourhood Management and Neighbourhood Policing. Excellent joined-up working at delivery level • The partnership is committed to encouraging hate crime reporting and other offences that affect BME, LGB and other equalities group. This has 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There may need to be further discussion between GOSW and Safer Bristol Partnership on the detail of issues raised in the PMF. <p>Action by Safer Bristol Partnership:</p> <p>Issues were the comparisons being drawn against unrelated CDRP families rather than core cities. Discussions continuing with GOSW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A downturn in performance in the last quarter means as at end April 06, Bristol was well off target to achieve its PSA1 target by March 2008. A reduction of 10.3% on the 2003-04 baseline was expected but only a 7.8% reduction was recorded. On the basis of the most recent 12 months data, Bristol is ranked 4th worst nationally, which is the same position as in the

<p>lead to an increased reporting in hate crime reporting in NR and non-NR areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although there has been an increase in violent crime, the rate of increase has slowed from +18% in 2004/5 to +2% in 2005/6 • There have been strong reductions in the Basket of 10 BCS Crimes in the high crime neighbourhoods of St Pauls (-41%) and Barton Hill (-26.7), and crime levels there are reducing at a faster rate than the non- NR rate of -23.8 and the all-NR rate of -22.5%. • Strong 'Safer Parks' project joint funded by NRF and the Parks Dept. that is increasing the capacity of police to identify crimes committed in parks in NR areas, and is providing evidence-based solutions 	<p>baseline year of 2003-04.</p> <p>Action by Safer Bristol Partnership</p> <p><u>Performance</u></p> <p>Vehicle crime, particularly theft from motor vehicles pulled us off target during Q4 of 2005/06 which resulted in eroding our BCS reductions from 5.4% to 2.2% in only six weeks. An action plan was agreed by partners and is being implemented. During Q1 as a result of implementing the action plan a +17.8% increase in Theft from Motor Vehicles has been turned round to a 2.8% reduction YTD</p> <p><u>Ranking</u></p> <p>GOSW have been unable to verify where this came from, however, regardless of this Bristol still has high crime rates and is certainly within the top ten highest out of 343 partnerships in England and Wales.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No evidence has been provided to demonstrate that the Safer Bristol Partnership has regular access to and measure and use crime data at neighbourhood and equalities group levels. <p>Action by Safer Bristol Partnership</p> <p>Successful recruitment of an analyst located within the police analytical team means</p>
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that we can now address this issue.

- There must be a significant improvement in the ability of the Partnership to measure the floor target by neighbourhood and equalities groups.

Action by Safer Bristol Partnership

Successful recruitment of an analyst means that we can now deliver on this issue.

- There have been increases in vehicle crime and violent crime.

Action by Safer Bristol Partnership

The vehicle crime action plan has been developed as outlined in BP2 above.

Interestingly, GOSW has seen fit to raise the issue of an increase in violent crime, however, in 2005/06 we saw a 0% increase for the first time in over 6 years and we were on target as agreed by GOSW. However, since April 2006 we have experienced a sudden increase of 7% (98 crimes). This is attributed to the increased reporting of Domestic Violence +114 crimes. The underlying trend of street based violence is down. Further analysis is being conducted to understand the problem

	<p>through the Violent Crime Delivery Group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are further detailed issues be worked through around crime, and GOSW is committed to working with the safer Bristol partnership. <p>Action by Safer Bristol Partnership</p> <p>These issues refer to the tension created by government policy that requires strategies and actions to increase reporting on offences such as domestic violence and racially motivated crime and the same time as expecting a crime reduction. It is not something that we expect to resolve in the short to medium term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analytical capacity was flagged as an issue in 2005, and remains an issue in 2006. <p>Action by Safer Bristol Partnership</p> <p>We had a vacancy for a GIS analyst post for 18 months out of the last two years. Having gone through three recruiting cycles we asked the police to recruit an analyst on our behalf and they are now in place.</p>
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None considered

Risk Assessment
None required

Equalities Impact Assessment
None required

Legal and Resource Implications
None sought at this time

Appendices: Appendix A- LSP Annual Review Report 200

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
Background Papers

LSP 2006 Annual Review Report - Bristol

LSP Overall Assessment – 

Health	
Self Assessed Traffic Light – Amber/green	GO Assessed Traffic Light - Amber/green
Strengths (to include progress towards targets)	Issues to be addressed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good progress towards the floor targets • Fall in mortality from heart disease and stroke per 100,000 under 75 population from 105.5 in 1997-01 and 97.6 in 1993-03 to 90.7 in 2000-04 • State of the Neighbourhoods database shows a significant fall in heart disease in Knowle West (-39.8%), Barton Hill (-24.1%) and Hartcliffe & Withywood (-30.7%) • There is progress against the citywide target of reducing the number of households with a smoker. • The Health Delivery Group have a strong grasp of the need to focus on the most deprived neighbourhoods and groups, and the breakdown of figures by neighbourhood level is very strong, with good evidence that this is being used to target work • Data shows that there is a lower prevalence of smoking amongst BME groups than white groups • Bristol reduced teenage pregnancy by 8.4% in 2004, from the 1998 baseline. Data shows that reductions have been seen in some of the most deprived wards with the highest rates – 24%, 29% and 63% reductions in Lawrence Hill, Filwood and Southmead respectively in 2001-3 from a baseline of 1998-2000 • Although teenage pregnancy is not a Neighbourhood Renewal floor target for 2006-7, Bristol are continuing to focus on it, and use NRF to contribute to delivery. This is to be welcomed as it is a priority in the Community Strategy and for children's services • Strong progress on issues identified in the 2004/5 PMF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Health & Well-being delivery group will need to incorporate the mandatory LAA targets into its performance management systems • Further reductions in teenage pregnancy need to be made • Analysis is needed to understand what has caused the reductions in heart disease in the three priority areas, and how that can be transferred to other parts of the city.
Education	
Self Assessed Traffic Light – Amber/red	GO Assessed Traffic Light - Amber/red
Strengths (to include progress towards targets)	Issues to be addressed
<p>Please note – because of changes to the PMF timeframe, education results are judged on 2005 figures, so don't reflect the work in 2005-6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement in KS3 English of 6% points from 55 to 60% in 2005 and of 3% points science from 50 to 53%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2006, there is only 1 target, KS3 science, that is expected to be met. The 2005 GCSE results showed that the gap between Bristol and the rest of the country is widening, with Bristol having the worst GCSE results in England in 2005.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement of 1.5% points to 36.5% in GCSE 5 grades A*-C in 2005 • Improvement of 2.9% points in GCSE grades 5+A*-G in 2005 • The City Academy showed an 18% improvement in 5+A*-C GCSE in 2005 and the rate is now 51% up from 33% in 2004. This is compared to the Bristol average of 36.5% - and the Academy contributed significantly to the City-wide rise against this target. • State of the Neighbourhoods database shows that although a large gap exists between the NR areas and non-NR areas, there are some examples of where the gaps are beginning to be narrowed – for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in KS2 English and Maths in Barton Hill (+16.4% and +14.6%) and Southmead (+12.6% and +10.8%) - in KS3 English, Maths and Science St Pauls (+20.6%, +15.8% and +14.8%), Knowle West (+15.0%, +17.6% and +5.4%) and Southmead (+13.6%, +12.5% and +7.4%) - At 5x A*-C GCSE increase in Barton Hill of 15%, Easton & Lawrence Hill of 9.6%, Hillfields 9.4% and Knowle West 4.1% • NRF has funded some very strong work around data analysis and performance improvement work with children from BME communities, leading to significantly improved results. Excellent joint working with Supplementary Schools, and linking the City Academy supplementary schools programme to other primary and secondary schools, with impressive improvements at GCSE and KS2. • As a result of the NRF-funded work, the increase in achievement of 5xGCSE A* to C for BME groups between 2004 and 2005 was 5.8%, significantly higher than the 0.5% rise for White British students. Particular successes were shown for Caribbean (+10.4%) and African (+10.2%) students and a very impressive rise for Bangladeshi students of 37.3% so that in 2005 70.6% of Bangladeshi students achieved 5xGCSE A* to C, up from 33.3% in 2004. The only BME group not to see a rise was 'other mixed' • A similar pattern exists in 5xA*-G and 1x A*-G. BME pupils leaving with no passes reduced by 4.3% compared to 1.6% non BME • A specific strategy is in place for refugee and asylum seeking pupils, part-funded by NRF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While there are some neighbourhoods where the gap is being narrowed in terms of educational attainment, there are also neighbourhoods where the gap has widened. Despite some improvements, there is a very significant gap in attainment of children living in the most deprived areas, particularly Knowle West and Lawrence Hill, compared to children in the least deprived areas. • The report of Bristol's Joint Area Review stresses that "<i>the current capacity of the city council to improve outcomes for children and young people on its own is inadequate</i>"¹ but that "<i>The council and its partners together have adequate capacity to secure the improvements for children and young people that are required.</i>"² It is essential that all levels and members of the LSP recognise their responsibility and roles in improving children and young people's services, and the LSP provides all the support it can. • The self-assessment makes no mention of the impressive achievements of the City Academy, which were part funded through the LSP, and more work needs to be undertaken to transfer the lessons learnt to improve performance across the whole city. • More work is needed to improve Caribbean students' performance and that of Gypsy and Traveller children • A more consistent approach to support for children with English as an Additional Language is needed across the city
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¹ OFSTED Joint Area Review of Children & Young People's Services, April 2006, page 9, para. 33

² OFSTED Joint Area Review of Children & Young People's Services, April 2006, page 8, para. 34

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although targets are not being met for attendance, significant progress has been made this year, and there are clear signs of improvement. There is very strong leadership and an evidence-based strategy in place that should enable improvements to be seen in 2006-7 • A new tool to enable better analysis of attendance data has been developed, and in 2006-7 will be used to target improvement measures • DfES are working closely with Bristol, and are facilitating a wide range of support to improve results in all floor target areas 	
Employment	
Self Assessed Traffic Light - Amber/green	GO Assessed Traffic Light - Amber/green
Strengths (to include progress towards targets)	Issues to be addressed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good progress towards Job Seekers Allowance targets until Jan-March 06, when JSA claimants rose. This reflected the national picture, and the rise in Bristol was lower than the average increase across England, contributing to narrowing the gap. • The City-wide Integrated Employment & Enterprise Support Initiative, funded through NRF, is working to identify and fill gaps in support provision and will enable the gaps to be analysed and narrowed. • Although there is no longer an enterprise floor target, Bristol have continued to monitor progress and target efforts at the most deprived areas, linking enterprise to worklessness, in preparation for their LEGI bid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PMF highlights the ongoing issues around data at neighbourhood and priority group level that is impeding the LSP's ability to meet its floor target at those levels. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The potential unreliability of the Labour Force Survey, and the lack of data at below UA level - No analysis at national level by BME, lone parents, disabled and other equalities groups - Local estimates are prone to be insufficiently robust and/or inconsistent with national data sets where they exist, so can't be used for comparative purposes • GOSW has called a meeting of GOSW, Jobcentre plus, the Council's economic regeneration team and central DWP data analysts to discuss and attempt to resolve these issues
Crime	
Self Assessed Traffic Light – Amber/green	GO Assessed Traffic Light – Amber/red
Strengths (to include progress towards targets)	Issues to be addressed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On target to reduce priority crimes such as burglary and robbery • The gap between NR nad non-NR areas for theft of • Statistically significant reduction in fear of crime, as measured by the Quality of Life Survey, which has now met the 2008 target • Strong joining up of Safer Bristol Partnership and NR neighbourhoods, including a more strategic allocation of NRF crime funds that are tied in with NR, Neighbourhood Management and Neighbourhood Policing. Excellent joined- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There may need to be further discussion between GOSW and Safer Bristol Partnership on the detail of issues raised in the PMF. • A downturn in performance in the last quarter means as at end April 06, Bristol was well off target to achieve its PSA1 target by March 2008. A reduction of 10.3% on the 2003-04 baseline was expected but only a 7.8% reduction was recorded. On the basis of the most recent 12 months data, Bristol is ranked 4th worst nationally, which is the same position as in the baseline year of 2003-04. • No evidence has been provided to

<p>up working at delivery level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The partnership is committed to encouraging hate crime reporting and other offences that affect BME, LGB and other equalities group. This has led to an increased reporting in hate crime reporting in NR and non-NR areas. Although there has been an increase in violent crime, the rate of increase has slowed from +18% in 2004/5 to +2% in 2005/6 There have been strong reductions in the Basket of 10 BCS Crimes in the high crime neighbourhoods of St Pauls (-41%) and Barton Hill (-26.7), and crime levels there are reducing at a faster rate than the non- NR rate of -23.8 and the all-NR rate of -22.5%. Strong 'Safer Parks' project joint funded by NRF and the Parks Dept. that is increasing the capacity of police to identify crimes committed in parks in NR areas, and is providing evidence-based solutions 	<p>demonstrate that the Safer Bristol Partnership has regular access to and measure and use crime data at neighbourhood and equalities group levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There must be a significant improvement in the ability of the Partnership to measure the floor target by neighbourhood and equalities groups. There have been increases in vehicle crime and violent crime. There are further detailed issues be worked through around crime, and GOSW is committed to working with the safer Bristol partnership. Analytical capacity was flagged as an issue in 2005, and remains an issue in 2006.
Housing	
Self Assessed Traffic Light - Green	GO Assessed Traffic Light - Green
Strengths (to include progress towards targets)	Issues to be addressed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of 47% non-decent local authority housing in 2005 (30.9% of LA stock) from a baseline of 2001 (59%). This takes Bristol below the national average of 34.8%, the lowest percentage of the 8 core cities The Housing Strategy Executive also concentrate on other areas of work to narrow the housing gap between the most and least deprived communities, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decent Homes Standard for social housing in the RSL sector Specific Housing Action Plans for St Pauls and Barton Hill, that are well connected with local NR structures Housing/Accommodation Needs Assessments for BME communities and Gypsies & Travellers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
Liveability	
Self Assessed Traffic Light - Green	GO Assessed Traffic Light - Green
Strengths (to include progress towards targets)	Issues to be addressed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting all targets except energy efficiency of dwellings, which is off target by only 0.19% Although the self assessment included no information about performance at neighbourhood level or for BME groups, this is measured through the Quality of Life survey, and has been used to inform the NRF and Neighbourhood Management plans for 2006-8. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More analysis of data sources needed, including better analysis of equalities groups' perceptions

<p>There have been focused pieces of work on BME satisfaction with local environmental quality and on what makes people have a poor perception of environmental quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent joining up of Cleaner Safer Greener funding, NRF and Neighbourhood Management 	
<p>Qualitative aspects of LSP Performance (including review of partnership working/NRF spend)</p>	
<p>Self Assessed Traffic Light - Green</p>	<p>GO Assessed Traffic Light - Amber/green</p>
<p>Strengths</p>	<p>Issues to be addressed</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent work to produce a robust Community Strategy that includes 'narrowing the gap' as a key priority for the city, and lays strong foundations for developing the LAA. This involves priorities from all partner agencies. • Extensive work has been undertaken throughout the year to bring together the neighbourhood and LSP structures. The Joint Planning Process to decide use of NRF for 2006-8 was highly strategic, and was recently praised by the Audit Commission. Issues were raised about NRF not being spent as strategically as it could be up until 2006, and these were taken on board in allocating 2006-8 NRF. • Excellent work integrating NRF, Cleaner Safer Greener and Neighbourhood Element funding to provide joined-up solutions in the most deprived neighbourhoods • NRF spend for 2005-6 was 97.5%, and has been consistently very well managed. • Involvement of key members is monitored and analysed. Involvement of the VCS and neighbourhood groups is strong in places, • Important work is being undertaken by the LSP team to identify priorities and a consistent approach towards LSP engagement of neighbourhoods, the community and volunteers. This is a very positive step forward and should prove essential for the development of the LAA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important that the partnership ensures that sources of data at neighbourhood level and by all equalities groups are regularly maintained and that it is widely distributed and used to inform interventions. There are some areas, such as the use of education data around attainment of BME groups that are very strong, and these set a standard for other groups to achieve. • Further work is necessary to ensure that all partners are clear about their responsibilities for performance management at Delivery Group, Delivery Group Chairs and Management Group levels. • Progress in integrating the LSP, City Council and LAA performance management systems needs to be extended to other local initiatives, especially NRF and Neighbourhood Management. Strategic links are in place between some initiatives, and work is beginning, so strong progress should be seen by the end of 2006/7. • Although the LSP work to develop a neighbourhoods, community and volunteering plan is a positive step, there remain concerns regarding the future ownership of the 'Stronger' element of the SSCF and the LAA. Clear commitment to ensuring leadership across partners will be essential to LAA negotiations. • While the Regeneration Delivery Group has been given responsibility for performance management of the SSCF, and some targets (notably crime) are closely performance managed, there is a need to finalise data gathering and reporting responsibilities and arrangements for SSCF. • GOSW would encourage increased involvement of local Councillors in the Bristol Partnership Delivery Groups. • Work is in progress to develop neighbourhood-based targets that are aligned with the ambitious Community Strategy. It is important that these are owned by all stakeholders, if the city is to meet both city-wide and NR targets.

Improvement Planning	
Self Assessed Traffic Light - Green	GO Assessed Traffic Light - Green
Strengths	Issues to be addressed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong progress on the 2005 Improvement Plan, especially in terms of health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The multi-agency actions from the JAR Action plan need to be incorporated into the LSP improvement plan, so that the LSP members take ownership of the actions

LSP Summary

On the basis of the thematic assessment, Bristol has scored amber-green, but only a narrow margin. Not only are there major challenges achieving several floor targets, there are also significant problems in measuring them, especially by neighbourhoods and equalities groups

Performance management

- Progress has been made at embedding performance management across the LSP, and a flexible system adapted to the strengths, resources and agendas of the individual Delivery Groups has been developed. But while structures and working arrangements are in place and developing with use, data availability is incomplete across the theme areas. There is particular concern about how appropriate data at neighbourhood level is consistently maintained and effectively used. Although there is some very good practice, the LSP must continue to develop its capacity to make decisions based on sound evidence. It is important that the LSP and all its members make a commitment to supporting and maintaining systems for measuring progress at neighbourhood level.
- There still remains a need to improve evidence of impact of interventions on outcomes. While there is some excellent practice, such as the evaluations of the City Academy projects, some evaluations of NRF-funded projects do not demonstrate robust evidence of impact.
- Analytical capacity** remains an issue. The LSP need to undertake a serious examination into how to strengthen capacity in this area and especially in identifying impact of specific initiatives. This would enable the Partnership to be better able to ask and answer the question of: "what is the cause of changes in neighbourhoods?"

Floor Target Action Planning

- Government is strongly advocating the use of floor target action planning methodology to underpin improving progress towards floor targets and more broadly in relation to achieving LAA Outcomes. The Bristol Partnership has made several attempts to engage with this methodology over the last two years but has, in the opinion of GOSW, not yet fully tested it. Therefore we would like the Bristol Partnership, as part of its improvement plan, to agree to fully test out the FTAP methodology in at least one "theme" (we would suggest crime reduction or employment) so that the Partnership can develop an informed view about the contribution this methodology can make to improving performance.

Joint Area Review

- Improving education outcomes is one of the most pressing challenges for Bristol in 2006/7, and it is important that all levels of the LSP work together to find joint solutions in order to make the major improvements that are necessary.