



Local Area Agreements

Information Briefing Paper

About Local Area Agreements

Local Area Agreements (LAAs) set out the priorities for a local area agreed between central government and a local area (the Local Authority and Local Strategic Partnership) and other key partners at the local level.

LAAs simplify some central funding, help join up public services more effectively and allow greater flexibility for local solutions to local circumstances.

Through these means, LAAs are helping to devolve decision making, move away from a 'Whitehall knows best' philosophy and reduce bureaucracy.

About the Indicators

Priorities for the area are monitored through a series of indicators.

Some of the indicators are statutory, and depend on a range of factors; they are more often than not in London linked to educational achievement.

The remainders of the indicators are chosen by the Local Authority.

Very few of the indicators refer to employment and small businesses or the economic activity of local businesses, and the contribution they make to the community.

Indicators which Relate to Small Businesses Include:

NI 171 New business registration rate

NI 172 Percentage of small businesses in an area showing employment growth

NI 174 Skills gaps in the current workforce reported by employers

NI 182 Satisfaction of businesses with local authority regulatory services

NI 183 Impact of local authority regulatory services on the fair trading environment

For further information, please go to:

Local Priorities Website

<http://www.localpriorities.communities.gov.uk/default.aspx>

Full list of indicators

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/735143.pdf>