

LEGI Questions and Proposed Responses

| Question | Response |
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| 1 Are the suggested indicators for the LEGI the right ones – are there others to consider? What can be, or is already, measured at the local level that can be used in this way? | Increasing the profile of enterprise should be linked with raising aspirations and releasing peoples' potential. Other local indicators could be:- increase the number of social enterprises; reduce differences in ease of access to finance between disadvantaged areas and other areas; increase take up of business support |
| 2 In areas without Local Area Agreements, what is the best way to ensure that the LEGI is integrated with and generates leverage from other programmes? | Through the LSP |
| 3 What is the best way of involving local partners in developing local LEGI proposals? How could the Local Strategic Partnerships ensure sufficient business involvement in the development of local proposals for enterprise development and growth? | The LSP provides the best mechanism to ensure local partners are involved, they can use their economic theme groups to ensure businesses and business support agencies are engaged. |
| 4 How can the LEGI best co-ordinate and consolidate evidence and lessons learnt from the resources used? | As LEGI is relatively long term there should be opportunity to publish best practice. This should be done proactively around key themes. There should also be regular opportunities for conferences/seminars as the initiative progresses. |
| 5 How can we ensure the LEGI creates the right balance between indicators, actions and targets? | The primary focus should be upon outcomes linked to indicators, actions and targets that flow from these and are relevant and specific. |
| 6 What is the best way to ensure that the LEGI is integrated with and generates leverage from other related programmes? | Focus upon LSP's should enhance cross programme activity |
| 7 How detailed should local targets be, and to what extent should they include timed, output measures? | The focus should be on outcomes rather than the outputs. Timed measures should be limited and restricted to a few key indicators |
| 8 How long should funding be available for? How can we ensure that support is time-limited in an effective way that allows local authorities the ability to plan beyond the life of the LEGI? | Funding should be available for a minimum of 5 years and be based upon a realistic timescale to allow programmes to be delivered. |
| 9 What is the critical mass of funding required to make a difference to enterprise in deprived areas? Bear in mind that the greater the level of funding to individual authorities, the less areas can be supported. | Whilst there does need to be a critical mass of funding, is there a need to be prescriptive? Levels of funding should be linked to need – if you ask for programmes starting at £10 million you'll get bids for £10 million! |
| 10 Is application guidance necessary and if so, what sort of issues should it cover? | There needs to be sufficient guidance to allow a sensible assessment of bids to be made but these should be firmly linked to need so that a 'beauty parade' is avoided. |
| 11 What elements should form the basis of a fair selection criterion at the regional level? | Selection should be strongly based upon need and deliverability against the 3 key outcomes, sustainability, value for money and leverage. |
| 12 What are the common aspects of funding of this sort that create unnecessary bureaucratic burdens that the LEGI should try to avoid? | There needs to be flexibility within budgets to allow programmes to be managed effectively otherwise it can be very time consuming gaining agreement to variations to agreed plans, impacting upon ability to spend budgets |