

## Cabinet

22 September 2011



### Overview and Scrutiny Management Board Review Working Group – Area Action Partnerships

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## Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

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### Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present, for Cabinet consideration, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board working group review of Durham County Council's Area Action Partnerships.

### Background

- 2 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board established a cross-party Working Group to undertake a review of the County Council's Area Action Partnerships examining practices and processes to establish:-
  - The difference that they have made,
  - Areas for further improvement,
  - The potential for further refinements in light of a changing policy and partner environment.
- 3 The Scope of the Review was framed within a series of Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOEs) covering Governance Arrangements; Resources; Community Involvement and Engagement; Impact and Performance Management.
- 4 The summary review report (attached) presents the key findings in relation to these topics and identifies a number of conclusions and recommendations that aim to improve AAPs and provide an evidence base to ensure that they remain "Fit for purpose, Fit for the Future." A copy of the full report can be found in the Cabinet office, Members Resource Centre and the office of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

### Recommendations

- 5 Cabinet is asked to note the recommendations in the summary of the Overview and Scrutiny working group report and to formulate a response within the six month period identified in the report for systematic review of the recommendations.

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Finance –**

Each AAP has brought in a significant amount of matched funding against both Area Budgets and Neighbourhood Budgets. AAPs have already been subject to reductions in line with the first year of the MTFP (2011/12)

### **Staffing -**

Staff team recognised as key in the delivery of AAPs.

### **Risk - None**

**Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty –** An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken in respect of the Review report and Section 8 of the report details the Equality and Diversity issues identified .

### **Accommodation - None**

### **Crime and Disorder - None**

### **Human Rights - None**

**Consultation –** Section 6 of the report details the steps undertaken as part of the evidence gathering process for the Review to consult with key stakeholders.

### **Procurement - None**

### **Disability Issues**

The EqIA will consider Disability issues.

### **Legal Implications - None**