

# Local Area Agreement Summary

## Contents

---

Welcome to Warwickshire	3
Introduction to Warwickshire's Local Area Agreement	4
Who are the partners	4
Main theme of the LAA	5
LAA vision	5
How will the LAA be used?	5 – 6
Introducing the six blocks of the LAA	7
Cross Cutting themes	7
Children and Young People	8
Safer Communities	9
Stronger Communities	10
Healthier Communities and Older People	11
Economic Development and Enterprise	12
Climate Change and Environment	13

## Further Information

---

This document presents a summary of the Warwickshire Local Area Agreement. For more information and to read the full version of the LAA please see: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/newlaasite](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/newlaasite)

### LAA Co-ordination

**Nick Gower-Johnson**

County Partnerships Manager  
Warwickshire County Council  
Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4RR  
Phone: 01926 412053  
Email: [nickgower-johnson@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:nickgower-johnson@warwickshire.gov.uk)

**Louise Richards**

Policy and Partnerships Co-ordinator  
Warwickshire County Council  
Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4RR  
Phone: 01926 412904  
Email: [louiserichards@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:louiserichards@warwickshire.gov.uk)

## **Welcome to Warwickshire**

---

Set in the heart of the country, Warwickshire is home to 533,900 people. Our residents are spread across our five district/borough areas of North Warwickshire, Nuneaton & Bedworth, Rugby, Warwick and Stratford, and although the focus of the population is within our main towns, a significant part of Warwickshire is rural.

Warwickshire's Local Area Agreement is designed to deal with Warwickshire as it is now and as it will develop over the next three years, but as Warwickshire changes so will future LAA's to cater for the changing population, environment and economy.

## Local Area Agreement – What is it all about?

A Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a contract between central government, local government and various partners who work with local people. This contract has been drawn up to deliver the priorities of local people, to improve their quality of life and make a real difference to their communities.

Being a contract between partners, the LAA is dependant on all partners working together to bring real benefits to the communities of Warwickshire.

### So does Warwickshire have one?

Yes! Central government requires us to have an LAA, and they have been phased in across the country over the last three years. Warwickshire was in the third and final round of local authorities that needed to have an LAA in place by April 2007.

### Partnership is key

Effective partnership working is central to tackling many of the challenges facing the county. The complex and wide range of issues which are tackled by the LAA cannot be looked after by just one agency or organisation working alone, they require the joint efforts of many different organisations who are all working closely together.

### And the partners are....

Warwickshire County Council	North Warwickshire Borough Council
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council	Rugby Borough Council
Warwick District Council	Stratford on Avon District Council
NHS Warwickshire	Learning and Skills Council
Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership	Warwickshire Race Equality Partnership
Coventry & Warwickshire Infrastructure Consortium	Warwickshire Probation Service
The Warwickshire Further Education Colleges	Warwickshire Police Authority
Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber	Warwickshire Association of Local Councils (on behalf of town and parish councils)
Coventry Diocese	The five district-based Local Strategic Partnerships
Warwickshire Rural Community Council	Greater Warwickshire Sports Partnership

### Real solutions to local problems

The LAA tackles issues which have the greatest impact on the quality of life of local people, and it responds to issues that the public have identified as being of real significance to them.

Many of the topics covered by the LAA are relevant to the whole county, but local solutions will be developed when tackling the issues concerned, as one size will not fit all.

## **The Big Picture**

---

There are 53 outcomes which will result from the LAA being put into practice, together they are all focused on the main theme of the LAA which is:

### **Narrowing the gap between the most disadvantaged people and communities and the rest of the county.**

The LAA is supported by three main aims:

- 1) Listening to Warwickshire
- 2) Narrowing the gap
- 3) Improving access to public services

These aims will be achieved and the theme upheld by improving services to the community through partnership working and focusing on those areas that are of real need and importance to the community.

## **The vision for our LAA**

The overarching vision of the LAA is to make a real and lasting difference to the well being of people living in Warwickshire.

## **Focus of our efforts**

There are several existing community strategies and public consultation results which identify the issues that local people regard as being most important to them, the LAA will be focused on responding to these issues.

## **Long-term improvement**

The development of the LAA will start off a longer-term continuous improvement that will bring benefits to the people of Warwickshire year on year.

## **The LAA will be used to**

- Narrow the gap in achievement, opportunity and quality of life experienced by identified groups and communities in the county
- Focus effort on people, families and communities that need more support and involvement, and improve their access to public services
- Help partners work more closely together to provide greater opportunities for citizens to influence decision making on the key issues that affect them
- Focus on the outcomes, which will help to sharpen our partnership relationships
- Have more flexible and effective use of funds
- Bring about more early intervention, prevention and support
- Use resources efficiently and sensibly and treat the environment responsibly

## How will we improve?

---

- By agreeing on the needs of priority groups and individuals, and having a shared commitment to narrowing the gap
- By being driven by equality and diversity considerations – tackling disadvantage and inequality of access for both rural and urban communities, and specific groups such as disabled children, the Black and Minority Ethnic community and emerging new communities
- By gathering and sharing knowledge of the priorities of local people and communities, by developing a common evidence base and sharing consultation and other information
- By sharing the responsibility for solving problems and issues

## Introducing the 6 blocks

---

The LAA is structured around six blocks

Children and Young People	Safer Communities
Stronger Communities	Healthier Communities and Older People
Economic Development and Enterprise	Climate Change and the Environment

Each block has a set of outcomes, these have been chosen because they meet the criteria of:

- Furthering the vision of Listening to Warwickshire, Narrowing the Gap and Improving Access to Services
- They can be best developed through partnership approaches
- There are resources in place to achieve delivery of the outcome

The outcomes reflect the key priorities that Warwickshire's residents have identified over recent years, and where the LAA can make a real difference through innovative partnership working.

### Cutting across

Although the LAA is structured around 6 blocks, the issues being tackled are connected across the agreement, so activity in one block may well contribute to the outcomes in other blocks.

6 cross cutting themes have been identified which will impact across the LAA, these are:

Transport and access to services	Reducing the impact of alcohol and substance misuse
Voluntary and community sector capacity	Culture, sport and active recreation
Equalities and cohesion	Sustainability

These themes will receive focused co-ordination during delivery of the LAA.

## **The 6 blocks and their outcomes**

---

### **Children and Young People**

#### **What does this section of the LAA want to achieve overall?**

To improve the lives of Warwickshire's children, young people and their families by delivering significant improvements in children and young people's quality of life and the life chances of those currently disadvantaged.

#### **How will it do this?**

The outcomes of this block are:

- Increase the number of School travel advisers
- Address teenage pregnancy – reduction in the under 18 conception rate
- Halt the increase in childhood obesity in under 11's by 2010
- Reduce the gap in infant mortality between Nuneaton & Bedworth and England
- Increase the number of schools with healthy school status
- Development of an Enhanced Support Services network for families
- Reduce the fear of crime experienced by young people
- Increase the number of core assessments recorded for children on the child protection register
- Reduce the numbers of Looked After Children in the county
- Develop the educational attainment of Warwickshire's young people
- Personalised/vocationally related curriculum
- Close attainment gap for disadvantaged groups
- Reduce the level of permanent and fixed term exclusions from Warwickshire's schools
- Reduce the percentage of 16 – 18 year olds not in education, employment or training
- Increased levels of direct payments of family support
- Increased access to local services for families
- Increase the participation of families in developing and evaluating services available

## **Safer Communities**

---

### **What does this section of the LAA want to achieve overall?**

To create safe communities through the reduction of crime and the promotion of safety. To develop the basis for strong stable communities by reassuring the public and fostering the conditions that develop respect.

### **How will it do this?**

The outcomes of this block are:

- Reduce overall crime
- Reduce the proportion of adult and young offenders and Prolific & Priority Offenders (PPO) who reoffend
- Reduce the incidence of domestic violence
- Reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime
- Reduce the incidence of hate crime
- Build respect in communities and reduce anti-social behaviour
- Reduce the harm caused by alcohol
- Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs
- Increase domestic fire safety – reducing arson

## **Stronger Communities**

---

### **What does this section of the LAA want to achieve overall?**

Creating strong and cohesive communities through the empowerment of people to have a greater say on how they are governed and services are provided. To create the environment where people of all backgrounds can access the services they require within an overall atmosphere of tolerance and diversity.

### **How will it do this?**

The outcomes of this block are:

- Empower local people to have a greater choice and influence over local decision making and a greater role in public service delivery.
- Vibrant communities where people are likely to access facilities, services and amenities locally and participate in community life through shared activities such as learning, sports, arts and volunteering.
- Create fair, tolerant and cohesive communities
- Meet local housing needs

## **Healthier Communities and Older People**

---

### **What does this section of the LAA want to achieve overall?**

To reduce health inequities throughout the county and promote healthier lifestyles for all with particular attention to the need for independence and choice amongst older people.

### **How will it do this?**

The outcomes of this block are:

- Improve health and reduce health inequities
- Supporting People – Service users who are supported to establish and maintain independent living
- Supporting People – Service users who have moved on in a planned way from temporary/supported accommodation
- Tackling poverty – increased claimant income for Council Tax and housing benefits
- Tackling Poverty – increase in welfare benefit uptake
- Enable Warwickshire residents to lead healthier lifestyles
- Provide emotional health support to people in the workplace
- Increase the dignity, independence choices and quality of life of older people

## **Economic Development and Enterprise**

---

### **What does this section of the LAA want to achieve overall?**

To ensure sustainable economic growth throughout Warwickshire whereby jobs are created and retained, and residents equipped with the appropriate skills and competencies to benefit from increased economic prosperity

### **How will it do this?**

The outcomes of this block are:

- Increase vitality and viability of Warwickshire's town centres and market towns
- Achieve the sustainable growth of Warwickshire's business base through increased entrepreneurialism and increased innovation
- More adults with the skills and qualifications needed to be an effective member of Warwickshire's workforce
- Reduce levels of worklessness amongst Warwickshire's residents by improving access to employment opportunities and support for the most economically disadvantaged.

## **Climate Change and Environment**

---

### **What does this section of the LAA want to achieve overall?**

An improved environment for Warwickshire, which respects biodiversity and the limits of the planet's natural resources, while preserving them for the benefit of future generations.

### **How will it do this?**

The outcomes of this block are:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Increase generation and use of renewable energy and the energy efficiency of buildings
- Reduce rate of increase in transport related carbon and greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the need for private car usage.
- Reduced waste to landfill and increase recycling
- Quality of the built environment – cleanliness, highways, abandoned vehicles, fly tipping
- Quality of the infrastructure
- Sustainable land use
- Improve the quality of all local parks, nature reserve peoples' neighbourhoods
- Halt the loss of biodiversity within the County
- Reduce flooding within the County