

# Review of Partnerships Scope

## Review Title

**Partnerships: Are they Achieving?**

## Chairman

Joyce Bosnjak

## Vice Chair

Brian Wombwell  
Martin Wright

## Lead Officer

Matthew Garrard

## email

[Matthew.garrard@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:Matthew.garrard@nottsc.gov.uk)

## Start date

November 2009

## Completion date

tbc

## Reason for review

Are partnerships the best way to deliver improvements for our communities?

## Objectives

To examine whether partnerships are providing value for money and delivering improvements/outcomes -and if appropriate to consider alternative ways of working.

To develop a strategy/purpose for the County Council's involvement in partnerships:

- What value should be added by being in a partnership?
- Process for review/ challenge
- When should we not be in a partnership

To consider whether available funding is delivering outcomes

To improve Member involvement and accountability for partnerships and the achievement of local priorities.

## Risks and issues

### Risks

- Need to avoid alienating partners and recognise that the County Council does not own the partnerships
- Volume of partnerships - review will focus on the Nottinghamshire Partnership and LSPs. (The Children's and Young Peoples Partnership and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership as statutory requirements will be avoided.)

### Issues

- Are Communities Strategies/LAA/local priorities achievable without partnerships?
- Do partnerships provide value for money?
- Concern at lack of clarity in the purpose of County Council's involvement in partnerships
- Explore barriers to partnerships including appropriate representation and inconsistent attendance and involvement
- Lack of relevance to elected Members and concern at level of accountability and information available



Background information	List of partnerships/types (Nottinghamshire Improvement Plan suggested 300+) LSP peer reviews Minutes and strategy delivery plans from LSPs. Best practice examples – IDeA? Statutory requirements (Are these subject to change?) How does the funding flow? Cost of officer time at meetings	
Theme	Testing the guiding principles of the Nottinghamshire Community Strategy	
Witnesses	Officers and members of LSPs District Councils & Scrutiny Chairs Partners IDeA?	
Proposed visits	Options include attending partnership meetings in Nottinghamshire and good practice elsewhere	
Public Involvement	Access to local strategic partnerships and their accountability will be considered as part of the review. The public involvement in developing priorities and strategies may also be explored.	
Communications	Raise awareness of review with partners – in particular districts prior to any press release	

# How Scrutiny Works

## Scoping Scrutiny Reviews

### 1. Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The County Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) manage the programme of scrutiny work, identifying and prioritising issues for review.

### 2. Chair and vice-chair

The chair and vice-chair will meet with the lead officer to the review and other identified officers to draft a scope for the review using the scoping document template. This process provides the standing committee with an initial outline of the review and will include suggested witnesses and evidence.

### 3. Service departments

If the review includes consideration of County Council services then the draft scope will be sent to the service directors responsible for those services so that they are aware that the review is taking place. The service director will be invited to comment on the proposed scope of the review. In any review Members will want to ensure that the provision of services is fair. To enable the review to determine this, service directors will be asked to provide all relevant equality service diversity reviews (SDRs) which will be listed on the scope. If no SDRs are available this will also be recorded on the scope.

The draft scope will be shared with the Corporate Communications Team to look at how the review will be communicated with the public.

### 4. Standing Committee

At the first meeting of the review the standing committee Members will usually be provided with an introduction to issue, the draft scope and also a copy of all relevant service diversity reviews. Where no SDRs are available the standing committee should consider whether any SDRs should be completed and provided as part of the review.