



Report of the Total Place Project Group

1. Introduction and Background

The Commission has received several reports and presentations on the Total Place Initiative. The ten AGMA authorities and Warrington are one of thirteen pilots across the country.

The work and the learning from Total Place will be used to support the work of the Statutory City Region. The theme for the Greater Manchester Total Place pilot is early years, and members will know that this is also a theme in the City Region pilot agreed with government. In order not to duplicate effort, the same pilots work is being used to inform both the total Place and City Region work.

The Total Place final report is due at Treasury for 5 February 2010.

Originally the focus of the guidance from central government for the pilot was very much around improved outcomes for citizens.

More recently the guidance has focused on the efficiencies that can be delivered.

There is now clear guidance from the Treasury that the report must identify specific savings.

The high level count for Total Place identified £22.0 billion of public sector funding coming into the place. Of this over 80% was from three public sector bodies – Local Authorities (£7 billion), Health (£5 billion) and DWP (£6 billion).

The interim report sent to Treasury in September helped inform the Smarter Government paper published in December 2009. In this paper government laid out plans to recast the relationship between the centre and the frontline and commits to:

- 1.1. Less inspection
- 1.2. Less ring fencing – more pooling of budgets
- 1.3. More and easier data sharing

2. Report Findings

The report concludes that at best the high level count gave us the global figures and insight into the value of public expenditure controlled by Local Authorities, NHS and Department for Work and Pensions and the opportunities for targeting to the issues that matter locally.

Additional conclusions can be summarised as follows:

- 2.1. The Case for **Prevention** – it is important to continuing investing in prevention and through the City Region Cost Benefit Analysis work we can prove the savings that will be delivered down the line.
- 2.2. The citizen at the centre of service design - put the **customer** at the heart of service redesign.
- 2.3. Enabling **self reliance** - Enabling communities to support themselves – reducing the demand on the public sector by finding better ways to help households and communities become more self reliant.
- 2.4. **Pooled budgets** - looking at all the money coming into the locality as one pot and focusing on delivering outcomes rather than services.
- 2.5. **Reduce bureaucracy** - through a change in the way Whitehall interacts with localities – inspection, ring fencing etc – but also through a change in the way we work locally with **more joined up working** and locally pooled budgets.

The report identifies how the Statutory City Region Early Years pilots – which are based around improving outcomes for children and their parents – will help evidence the efficiencies and improvement delivered by a system based on broad outcomes of the Total Place workstream.

Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan are running Early Years pilots.

The report will also feature a section on evidence based research and the customer insight that informs our pilots.

The Cost Benefit Analysis workstream lead by Manchester City Council will form the back bone of the Case for Prevention and is articulated in detail in the final report.

The report will indicate that savings can potentially be identified from a number of different areas

- The report will touch on the efficiencies being considered by AGMA through combining back office functions
- The report will identify the impact of moving families up the chain from Chaotic and Barely Coping to Coping and Thriving.

For example there are 5000 Looked After Children in the region. If the cost for them is between £70,000 and £100,000 a year then keeping just 1% out of care could deliver over £3.5 million of savings. Keeping 5% out of care could deliver savings of nearly £20 million.

Additionally, research in Peterborough shows that the cost of a child in a chaotic family to the Local Authority alone, is seven times that of one in a barely coping family and the cost of a child in a barely coping family is ten times that of a coping family. Moving families up the ladder could deliver savings in the millions.

The report will also touch on efficiencies to be made by reducing bureaucracy. Total Place has identified that for every 'doer' there are two 'checkers'. Simplifying accountability, reporting and inspection regimes will also save money.

Finally the report will summarise that there is a compelling case for spending on prevention in Early Years and that doing so will deliver both improved outcomes, significant savings across the public sector and improved economic productivity for the region.

3. Recommendations

The commission is asked to note that:

- 3.1 the final report is due with Government on 5 February. A copy of the report will be made available to members.
- 3.2 this report is also being considered by the AGMA Executive on 29 January.