



LAA facts

Everything you need to know about Newcastle's Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement (SCS/LAA)

What's it all about?

Newcastle's Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) will outline a long-term vision for the city, and the Local Area Agreement (LAA) will set out Newcastle Partnership partners' shared priorities for the next three years. The SCS and LAA combined will form the next Newcastle Plan. Partners will decide together what priorities to include to achieve better outcomes for Newcastle's people.

Where do I fit in?

People from four sectors have to be involved in all Newcastle Partnership decision-making, and that includes the SCS/LAA. You might not think of yourself as part of a sector, but if you look at the chart below, you may see that you fit into more than one, and you'll see what the SCS/LAA could mean for you.

Can I really influence things?

Yes – it's very important that you do! Partners will be able to influence the final document, and will be asked to say what their organisations are doing to meet the outcomes set out in it. So, you can influence things in one of two ways:

- by helping to develop priorities to achieve our shared outcomes
- by exploring how your organisation can help deliver these outcomes.

Where you fit in

Who you are	What the SCS/LAA could mean for you
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I work in a voluntary organisation • I am a volunteer in a charitable organisation • I am a paid worker in a community group • I work in an organisation set up to support voluntary groups • I represent the voluntary sector on the Newcastle Partnership 	<p>You are part of the voluntary sector and the SCS/LAA will allow you to influence¹ and even help deliver some of the outcomes local people want</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am a volunteer for a community group • I am a Newcastle resident, interested in what happens where I live • I work in an organisation set up to support community networks • I represent the community sector on the Newcastle Partnership 	<p>You are part of the community sector and you will be able to influence what goes in the SCS/LAA through the Community Empowerment Network²</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I own a Newcastle-based business • I am a member of North East Chamber of Commerce • I participate in Newcastle Business Forum activities • I work in an organisation set up to support businesses • I represent the private sector on the Newcastle Partnership 	<p>You are part of the private sector and the SCS/LAA is a chance for you to get more involved in your community and build the city's prosperity through economic growth and enterprise</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am employed by a statutory, government-funded agency like the Primary Care Trust, city council, Job Centre Plus or the police • I am a public sector member of the Newcastle Partnership 	<p>You are part of the public sector and the SCS/LAA is a great chance for you to achieve closer relationships with your partners, by working on shared targets, sharing resources and minimising bureaucracy</p>

¹ Via the Regen Forum, Newcastle Council for Voluntary Services. Call 0191 232 7445

² Newcastle Community Empowerment Network supports community representatives on the Newcastle Partnership. Call 0191 211 3588 for further details.

What will I have to do?

The SCS/LAA sub-group will work with all the Newcastle Partnership partners through its theme groups, sub-groups and board, so look out for any emails about SCS/LAA, and try to come to any meetings you are invited to. If you are part of the voluntary or community sector, you will be able to have your say at a SCS/LAA event.

Where does this fit with other plans?

The SCS/LAA will be the next Newcastle Plan, which is due to be updated in 2007. It will build on existing plans, such as:

- the council's regeneration strategy
- the recent public health report
- the Safe Newcastle strategy
- the Children and Young People's Plan.

Will there be more money for Newcastle?

The SCS/LAA itself will not bring extra money to the city, though we can use regeneration funding that we already have, such as Neighbourhood Renewal Funding. The idea is for partners to work more closely on shared outcomes, using their resources more effectively. And one of the themes for Newcastle will be a stronger economy.

Getting in touch

If you feel you don't fit into any of the categories we've mentioned above, but you still want to be involved in the SCS/LAA, look at our website on www.newcastleplan.org.uk, or call one of the project managers:

Philip Hunter (277 7802) and Linda Scott (277 7807) or

Newcastle Partnership lead: Kehri Ellis (277 7050) or
Newcastle City Council lead: Paul Rubinstein (211 5681).