



**Employment, Learning and Skills Policy
and Performance Board**

**Monday, 29 September 2008 at 6.30 p.m.
Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn**



Chief Executive

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Eddie Jones (Chairman)	Labour
Councillor Frank Fraser (Vice-Chairman)	Labour
Councillor Dave Austin	Liberal Democrat
Councillor Marjorie Bradshaw	Conservative
Councillor Susan Edge	Labour
Councillor David Findon	Conservative
Councillor Harry Howard	Labour
Councillor Stan Parker	Labour
Councillor Christopher Rowe	Liberal Democrat
Councillor John Stockton	Labour
Councillor Philip Worrall	Liberal Democrat

*Please contact Lynn Derbyshire on 0151 471 7389 or e-mail
lynn.derbyshire@halton.gov.uk for further information.
The next meeting of the Board is on Monday, 17 November 2008*

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Part I

Item No.	Page No.
1. MINUTES	
2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (INCLUDING PARTY WHIP DECLARATIONS)	
<p>Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached and, with personal and prejudicial interests (subject to certain exceptions in the Code of Conduct for Members), to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.</p>	
3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	1 - 3
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In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

REPORT TO: Employment Learning and Skills Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 29th September 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Corporate and Policy

SUBJECT: Public Question Time

WARD(s): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider any questions submitted by the Public in accordance with Standing Order 33(5).
- 1.2 Details of any questions received will be circulated at the meeting.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That any questions received be dealt with.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Standing Order 34(11) states that Public Questions shall be dealt with as follows:-
- (i) A total of 30 minutes will be allocated for members of the public who are residents of the Borough, to ask questions at meetings of the Policy and Performance Boards.
 - (ii) Members of the public can ask questions on any matter relating to the agenda.
 - (iii) Members of the public can ask questions. Written notice of questions must be submitted by 4.00 pm on the day prior to the meeting. At any meeting no person/organisation may submit more than one question.
 - (iv) One supplementary question (relating to the original question) may be asked by the questioner, which may or may not be answered at the meeting.
 - (v) The Chair or proper officer may reject a question if it:-
 - Is not about a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or which affects the Borough;
 - Is defamatory, frivolous, offensive, abusive or racist;
 - Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months; or
 - Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

- (vi) In the interests of natural justice, public questions cannot relate to a planning or licensing application or to any matter, which is not dealt with in the public part of a meeting.
- (vii) The Chairperson will ask for people to indicate that they wish to ask a question.
- (viii) **PLEASE NOTE** that the maximum amount of time each questioner will be allowed is 3 minutes.
- (ix) If you do not receive a response at the meeting, a Council Officer will ask for your name and address and make sure that you receive a written response.

Please bear in mind that public question time lasts for a maximum of 30 minutes. To help in making the most of this opportunity to speak:-

- Please keep questions as concise as possible.
- Please do not repeat or make statements on earlier questions as this reduces the time available for other issues to be raised.
- Please note that public question time is not intended for debate – issues raised will be responded to either at the meeting or in writing at a later date.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None

6.4 A Safer Halton

None

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO: Employment Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 29th September 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: Executive Board Minutes

WARD(s): Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Minutes relating to the Employment Learning and Skills Portfolio which have been considered by the Executive Board and Executive Board Sub since the last meeting are attached at Appendix 1 for information.
- 1.2 The Minutes are submitted to inform the Policy and Performance Board of decisions taken in their area.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Minutes be noted.

3.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

APPENDIX 1

Extract of Executive Board Minutes Relevant to the Employment, Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 20TH MARCH 2008-08-22

EXB 106 CAPITAL OF CULTURE - YOUTH CULTURAL FESTIVAL

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Health and Community providing an update on the development of the programme for the Youth Cultural Festival and requesting approval for the release of further monies to underwrite the proposed programme.

Following the Board's previous approval of an approach to Halton's involvement in Liverpool's Capital of Culture Celebrations, a major showcase event for Halton, the Youth Cultural Festival, was to be held on 12th and 13th July 2008 at the Stobart Stadium, Halton, with associated activity at The Brindley.

A revised outline programme was tabled for the Board's consideration showing committed expenditure (£73,300) and other budget requirements (£60,900) to deliver the programme. These figures included a contingency of 15%.

In September 2007, the Board had given agreement in principle to a further £60,000 of funding, subject to further detail and it being considered as part of the overall budgetary process. The £60,000 had been identified within 2007/08 budgets and no new monies were therefore required. Current sponsorship agreements were outlined for information. In addition, officers were continuing to attempt to attract sponsorship in order to reduce the overall budget required even further.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the revised outline programme for the Youth Cultural Festival, tabled at the meeting, be endorsed; and
- (2) approval be given for orders to be placed to a maximum value of £60,000.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 10TH APRIL 2008

ESB124 APPLICATION FOR TWINNING GRANT

The Board considered report of the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy outlining an application that had been made to the Twinning Grant Fund.

It was advised that the application had been received from Wade Deacon High School requesting support for a visit to No' 12 Middle School in Tong Ling. Eight pupils, four teachers, a head teacher and a Mandarin speaking School International Co-ordinator had visited the Tong Ling School during 23rd March to 1st April 2008 and examined the two rivers Yangtze and Mersey in the Music and English Department. They had visited sites of cultural, historical and geographical interest in Tong Ling and had taken two interactive wipe boards so that teachers from Wade Deacon could train colleagues in Tong Ling in the use of this technology. The visit was to provide a platform for the students to cement relationships with their pen pals and create friendships between each other.

The applicant had identified total costs of £20,260. Guidance given to applicants was that any grant awarded would not usually exceed £3,000: grants normally supported up to a maximum of 75% of the total cost of the project.

Members noted that Wade Deacon had been awarded a grant of £3,000 in May 2007 in order to visit Tong Ling No' 12 Middle School in June 2007. The maximum grant that a group could be awarded each year was £3,000, which was why the applicant had waited until the new financial year (2008/2009) to apply. The applicant was asking the Board to make a special exception on this occasion and award retrospectively.

RESOLVED: That £3,000 be awarded to the Wade Deacon High School.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 19TH JUNE 2008

EXB18 THE MERSEY GATEWAY REGENERATION STRATEGY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director Environment, which outlined the content and purpose of the Mersey Gateway Regeneration Strategy detailed as follows:

- the reason for commissioning the Strategy;
- how the Strategy would be used;
- the areas covered by the Strategy;
- outputs and outcomes;
- how the Strategy evolved;
- summary of the Strategy's proposals; and
- using the Strategy in Council policy documents.

Members were advised that there was a seminar for the Mersey Gateway on the 10th July 2008 and all Members were welcome to attend.

RESOLVED: That:

- (1) the Mersey Gateway Regeneration Strategy be agreed as a document that demonstrates the potential regeneration opportunities arising from the Mersey Gateway Scheme;
- (2) the Strategy is used to support the case for the Mersey Gateway Scheme;
- (3) the Strategy is used by the Council as Local Planning Authority to judge the potential regeneration benefits that may arise from the Mersey Gateway Scheme in consideration of planning applications made to it and in response to consultation from the Department of Transport; and
- (4) authority is given to the Strategic Director Environment, with the Executive Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transportation, Regeneration and Renewal, to make minor amendments as are necessary before publication.

EXB20 APPLICATION FOR TWINNING GRANT

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Corporate and Policy that provided details of an application being made to the Twinning Grant Fund.

It was reported in April 1996 Halton Borough Council set up a Grant Fund to assist in enabling all members of the community to access and gain benefit from the Council's International Links.

It was noted since 1996 a number of groups had accessed the fund to undertake exchange visits to various twinned towns. It was reported that various schools and groups had hosted teachers and pupils from Tongling City in China previously, and these links had resulted in a number of reciprocal visits from each town.

It was advised that participants in previous exchanges had found that the benefits of learning about another culture and language were immense. A wide range of activity in the Borough had been facilitated by the provision of grant aid and had given an opportunity to those who would not otherwise be able to participate.

It was reported that the application received from Widnes Football Development Forum requested support for a visit to Marzahn-Hellersdorf in Germany during 27th – 29th June 2008. They had been asked to attend a football competition hosted by Berlin Football team. They would take 22 people to

Marzahn-Hellersdorf.

The visit would provide an opportunity for players to represent Halton in the Twin Town. It was noted they would also expect to forge a partnership for future exchanges and a conditions of the grant was a return trip to take place in 2009.

The applicant had identified total costs of £4,775.60. This was broken down into Travel £2,925.60, Accommodation £1,250 and Insurance £600. Match funding declared £1,850. It was noted the team would be using club funds of £350, contributions from participants £1,000 and had been fundraising for the visit totalling £500. Therefore the Widnes Football Development Forum were requesting a grant of £1,850.

RESOLVED: That the following grant of £1,850 be awarded to Widnes Football Development Forum.

EXB21 SECRETARY OF STATE'S PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE DRAFT REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director - Environment, which outlined the Secretary of State's proposed changes to the draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and sought retrospective approval of Halton's response that had been submitted to the Government Office for the North West.

It was reported that due to the new status of Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) as part of the "development plan", as set out in the new Planning and Compulsory Act, 2004, the issues arising in the new RSS were of importance to Halton Borough Council in the production of the new Halton Borough Local Development Framework (LDF) and in decisions on planning applications.

It was advised the Secretary of State's response to the Draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) represented the latest, and an advanced stage, in the production of a new regional plan for the North West. The Secretary of State's Proposed Changes were issued for public consultation in March 2008 with the period for comments running until 23rd May 2008. The Secretary of State's Proposed Changes were issued in response to the publication of the Panel Report into Draft RSS (March 2007), which was itself issued subsequent to the Examination in Public (EiP) into the draft document that was held between 31st October 2006 and 15th February 2007. The EiP considered the content of the submitted draft RSS (January 2006).

It was further advised Halton had played a full and active role at all stages of RSS production and had had some notable successes in influencing re-drafting of the emerging document to reflect the Council's priorities. It was noted that this had occurred in co-ordination with the Merseyside Policy Unit

(MPU) who had also submitted comments regarding emerging RSS on behalf of the Merseyside authorities including Halton.

Detailed within the report was the 6 key areas that the RSS was broadly divided into as follows:-

- Spatial Development Principles and the Regional Spatial Framework;
- Working in the North West;
- Living in the North West
- Transport;
- Environment Minerals and Waste; and
- Sub Regional strategies.

It was advised that the RSS was expected to be adopted in mid 2008 once adopted, it would form part of the "Development Plan" and would be used in the making of decisions on planning applications.

It was noted that the next interim draft of the RSS was due October/November 2008 and would provide opportunities for stakeholders to make comments. The document would be taken to the UDP Working Party and would be considered before coming back to the Executive Board.

It was noted that the emerging RSS also had implications for the production of the Local Development Framework (LDF) and in particular for the Halton Core Strategy. As the key document within the LDF the Core Strategy was currently being produced and covered the period to 2026. Each of the recommendations detailed within the report would have to be considered within the Core Strategy and, where appropriate, changes would have to be made. This would need to be carried out to ensure that the Core Strategy remained in general conformity with the RSS as required by PPS 12.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the importance of the contents of the Regional Spatial Strategy was noted in relation to the development of the emerging Halton Local Development Framework; and
- (2) Halton's response to the Secretary of State's Proposed Changes, detailed at Appendix are endorsed.

REPORT TO: Employment, Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 29th September 2008.

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director of Environment

SUBJECT: Daresbury Science and Innovation Campus

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide members with a presentation on progress of the Daresbury Science and Innovation Campus.

2. RECOMMENDED: That

- 2.1 That Members comment on the presentation and progress of the Daresbury Science and Innovation Campus.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 At the previous meeting of this Board it was noted that there had been much speculation about the future of the Campus in the press. It resolved to request a presentation about progress to enable to consideration of progress.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Diversification of the local economy is a key part of the Halton Economic Development Strategy and key actions are contained within the Corporate Plan.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 No other implications.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES.

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton.

Science and technology is a key opportunity for Halton. The Campus together with the Heath Business and Technical Park and many local employers will provide many jobs in the future. The work underway in our specialist colleges is already preparing our young people to exploit these opportunities and as such a thriving Campus is essential for the future of young people in Halton.

6.2 Employment Learning and Skills in Halton

The opportunities of the Campus go hand in hand with issues of skills, employment and enterprise. Of particular concern is the need to improve the qualification levels of local people in order to gain employment at the Campus where jobs will be of both a technical and non technical nature.

6.3 A Healthy Halton.

No implications identified at this time.

6.4 A Safer Halton

No implications identified at this time

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The physical expansion of activity is essential in maximising the opportunities that exists. Plans are already announced for more development on site and a master plan is under development that will create scope for the creation of many local jobs.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 The presentation will cover issues of risk.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 As the campus continues to expand there will be increased opportunities for employment and there is scope to develop specific pathways for the priority groups as part of the sectoral working that is now being developed.

9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO: Employment, Learning & Skills PPB

DATE: 29nd September, 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: Performance Management Reports
Quarter 1 to 30th June 2008

WARDS: Boroughwide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider and raise any questions or points of clarification in respect of the 1st quarter performance management reports on progress against service plan objectives and performance targets, performance trends/comparisons, factors affecting the services etc. for:

- Economic Regeneration
- Culture & Leisure

2. RECOMMENDED: That the Policy and Performance Board

- 1) Receive the 1st quarter performance management reports;**
- 2) Consider the progress and performance information and raise any questions or points for clarification; and**
- 3) Highlight any areas of interest and/or concern where further information is to be reported at a future meeting of the Policy and Performance Board.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The departmental service plans provide a clear statement on what the services are planning to achieve and to show how they contribute to the Council's strategic priorities. The service plans are central to the Council's performance management arrangements and the Policy and Performance Board has a key role in monitoring performance and strengthening accountability.

3.2 The quarterly reports are on the Information Bulletin to reduce the amount of paperwork sent out with the agendas and to allow Members access to the reports as soon as they have become available.
It also provides Members with an opportunity to give advance notice of any questions, points or requests for further information that will be raised to ensure the appropriate Officers are available at the PPB meeting.

4. POLICY AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no policy implications associated with this report.

5. RISK ANALYSIS

5.1 Not applicable.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

6.1 Not applicable.

7. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTIONS 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
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QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Health & Community
SERVICE: Culture & Leisure
PERIOD: Quarter 1 to period end 30th June 2008

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Culture & Leisure Department first quarter period up to 30 June 2008. It describes key developments and progress against 'key' milestones and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained in Appendix 5.

It should be noted that this report is presented to a number of Policy and Performance Boards. Those objectives and indicators that are not directly relevant to this Board have been shaded grey.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

The Library Service has recently joined the North West Regional Stock Procurement Consortium to ensure that it achieves and maintains best value for money from the stock procurement contracts. Contracts are currently being tendered and the new contracts will begin in April 2009.

The Library Service is fully exploiting the latest DCSF (Department for Children, Schools and Families) initiatives to distribute free books to children and young people to encourage the habit of reading. The first set of 'Book Ahead' materials have been delivered to over 20 nurseries, with accompanying story-times, and library promotion and the "Boys for Books" materials have been delivered to the Pupil Referral Unit.

Norton Priory Museum Trust are developing proposals for a major Heritage Lottery bid to ensure the fabric of the ancient monument site can be protected, and the collections developed.

The Sports and Activity Alliance (SPAA) is now fully funded through Sport England.

The Brindley won the accolade of Best Performance Venue in the Mersey Partnership Tourism Awards.




3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

Culture and Leisure Services will have a key role to play in the Children and Young People’s Directorate’s (Big Lottery grant) development of Play Services.

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport have announced the termination of Regional Cultural Consortium.

A new national Sports Strategy has been published. A consequence will be a significant down-sizing of North-West Sport England, and will affect funding regimes.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES




Total	22		9		3		0
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Good progress generally towards objectives/milestones. Some concern is expressed around activities relating to drugs and alcohol where 2 “Other” milestones have been reported by exception (in italics). For further details, please refer to Appendix 1.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW




Nothing to report this quarter.

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	9		1		1		0
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2 “Key” performance indicators have been reported this quarter. Particular concern is shown in respect of domestic burglaries. For further details, please refer to Appendix 2.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	27		0		0		0
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No "Other" indicators have been reported by exception this quarter.

7.0 PROGRESS AGAINST LPSA TARGETS

For further details, please refer to Appendix 3.

8.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2008-09 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.

Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.







9.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS



During 2007/08 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

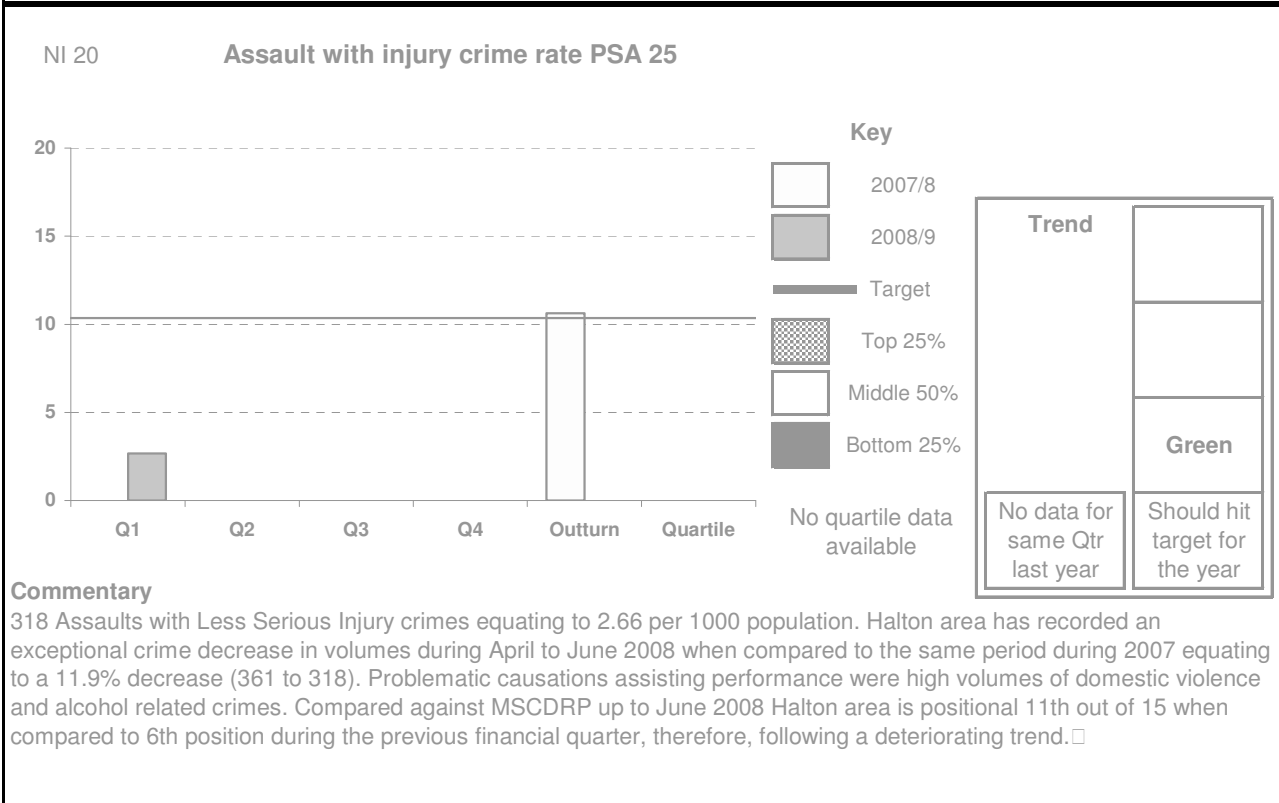
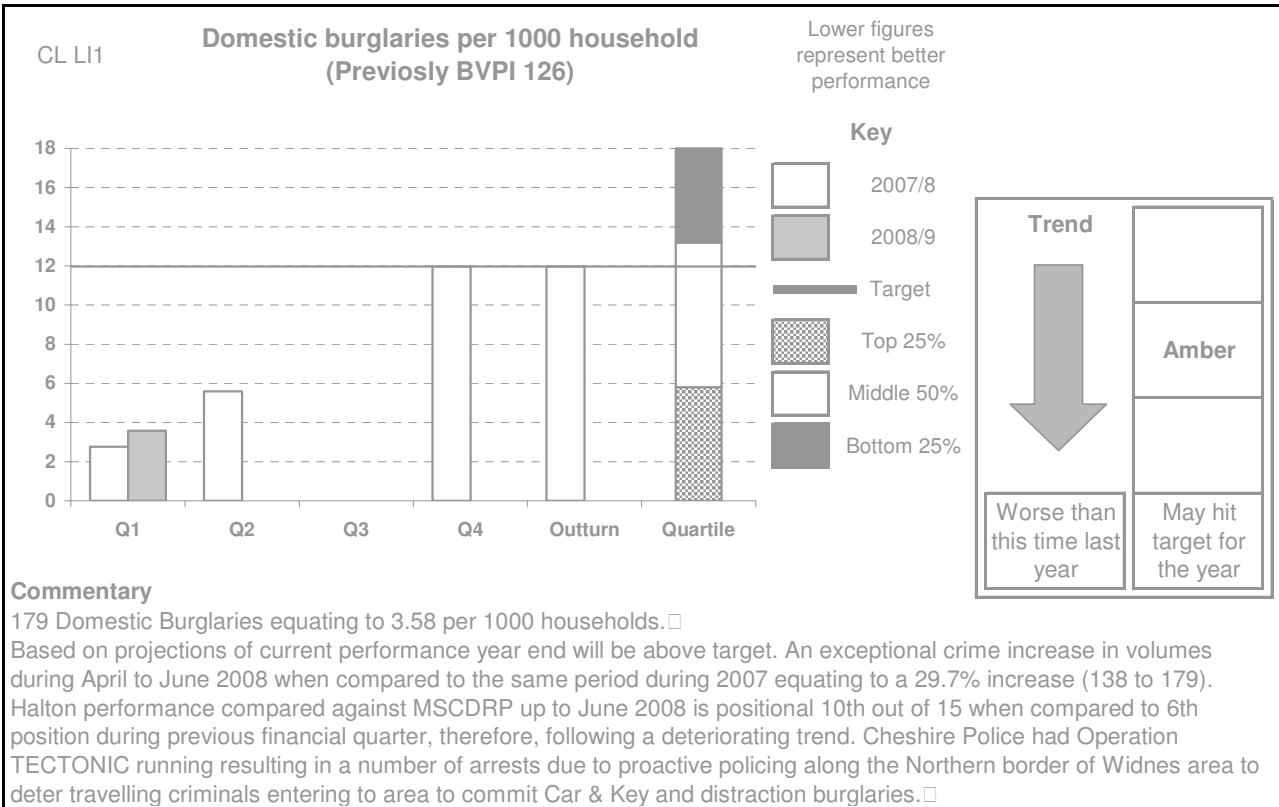
10.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 1- Progress against Objectives/ Milestones
Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
Appendix 3- Progress against LPSA Targets
Appendix 4- Financial Statement
Appendix 5- Explanation of traffic light symbols

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2008/09 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
CL 1	Increase participation in sport and physical activity, thereby encouraging better lifestyles.	Ensure the Council's Leisure Centres maintain service delivery at nationally recognised standards by applying and achieving the Quest quality standards. Oct 2008		Results announced in August. Early feedback suggests very favourable scores.
		Increase number of new participants through SPAA delivery plan i.e sports participation (Jan08-Dec08). Jan 2009		SPAA delivery plan now operative.
		Increase number of members in local sports clubs 125 by improving school to club links (Jan08-Dec08). Jan 2009		School to Club links developing well.
CL 2	Increase the use of libraries, thereby encouraging literacy skills and quality of life opportunities.	Develop plans for £1.3million upgrade of Halton Lea Library. Community Engagement Plan, Business Plan, Capital Plan to be submitted to Big Lottery, April 2008; work to commence on site Sept 2008. Consultation complete.		Three plans, Business, Capital and Community Engagement submitted to Big Lottery on 14 th April 2008. Plans agreed August 08. Building work tendered and contractor appointed, work to commence on site Sept 08. Initial consultation complete, further ongoing consultation to be undertaken. Refurbishment to be complete by May 2009, project ongoing until Oct 2010

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2008/09 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Hold 2 promotional campaigns to increase library membership (Sept08-Feb09). Feb 2009		Launch of National Year of Reading at Halton Stobart Stadium Dr Who Family Event organised and delivered with the support of the Voices Young Volunteers at Widnes Library
CL 3	Develop the arts product in Halton which will in turn improve quality of life, self-esteem and encourage new skills.	Produce Public Arts Strategy for Halton to provide a structure for future investment into Public Art. Sep 2008		Draft strategy in place.
		Produce Arts Strategy for Halton which recognises cultures contribution to quality of life, health and economic regeneration. Sep 2008		Draft strategy in place.
CL 4	Increase use and satisfaction with parks and open spaces, promoting healthy lifestyles and providing diversionary activities for young people.	Obtain Green Flag for 8 sites in the Borough. Sep 2008		10 Green Flags achieved.
CL 5	Make Halton a safer and better place to live in by active programmes of community safety and activities to modify drug and alcohol abuse.	<i>Improve the number of new referrals that undertake a screening for hepatitis C. March 2009.</i>		<i>The NTA quarterly report containing this data will not be published until mid/ late August.</i>
		Maintain or improve the sanction detection target for domestic abuse. March 2009.		Figures for Q1 are currently slightly under target - but numbers will increase as data is backfilled in the coming months

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2008/09 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Reduce the number of repeat victims of domestic abuse from the 07/08 baseline. March 2009.		This figure is on target for Q1, with police recording 30 repeat victims in the three-month period. Numbers must not exceed 30 per quarter if the end of year target is to be met
		<i>Reduce longest waiting time for alcohol treatment from 16 to 12 weeks. March 2009.</i>		<i>Quarter 1 reported 16 weeks – same as quarter 4 last year</i>



Key Indicators not reported this quarter:

CL LI4 & 5 – Satisfaction with Library Users, Satisfaction with Sport & Leisure, are subject to survey. The next survey will be in 2009/10.

NI 17 – Perception of anti-social behaviour, subject annual survey (Sense of Place Survey)

NI 8 – Participation in sport each week, subject to survey January 2009.

NI 30 & 33 – Re-offending rate, Arson incidents, data is currently not available.

LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 07/08	Perform 08/09 Q1	Traffic light	Commentary
3	The percentage of adults in Halton participating in at least 30 minutes moderate intensity sport and active recreation (including recreational walking) on 3 or more days a week, as measured by Sport England's Active People survey	19.62 (Nov 2006)	24.62 (Nov 2009)	N/a	N/a	N/a	The data collection period has been amended and the outturn for this target is now not expected until Jan 2010.
5	Reducing the harm caused by drug misuse:						
	1. The number of individuals in Halton who are in contact with structured drug treatment services.	604 (2004/5)	790 (2008/9)	864	N/a	N/a	Data not available
	2. The percentage of individuals in Halton starting treatment who are retained in treatment for over 12 weeks.	80% (2004/5)	88% (2008/9)	86%	N/a	N/a	Data not available.

Financial Statement To Be Inserted**Cultural & Leisure Services****Revenue Budget as at 30th June 2008**

	Annual Revised Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure					
Employees	4,128	1,019	1,032	(13)	1,047
Grounds Maintenance	2,727	0	0	0	0
Premises Support	794	0	0	0	0
Other Premises	674	250	248	2	444
Book Fund	261	52	49	3	51
Hired & Contracted	656	73	62	11	147
Promotions	151	38	39	(1)	68
Other Supplies & Serv.	1,602	322	322	0	920
Transport	56	14	12	2	12
Leisure Mgt. Contract	1,340	224	224	0	224
Grants	616	206	206	0	206
Other Agency	119	0	0	0	18
Asset Charges	1,751	0	0	0	0
Support Services	1,774	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	16,649	2,198	2,194	4	3,137
Income					
Sales	-121	-30	-55	25	-55
Fees & Charges	-509	-122	-155	33	-155
Rents	-18	-13	-15	2	-15
Support Recharges	-1,044	0	0	0	0
Grant Funding	-430	0	0	0	0
Reimbursements	-2,178	-413	-414	1	-414
Total Income	-4,300	-578	-639	61	-639
Net Expenditure	12,349	1,620	1,555	65	2,498

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms revenue spending to the end of quarter 1 is below the budget profile.

The employees budget includes a savings target of £189,000 in relation to savings to be achieved through vacant posts. This actual saving for the first quarter is £13,000 below this target, which equates to a £52,000 shortfall for the full year. Careful monitoring of this budget will be needed to ascertain whether these savings can be achieved, and remedial action taken on other budget headings if the target cannot be met.

Whilst the "Other Premises Costs" budget heading is currently showing expenditure to budget, expenditure on energy costs will need careful monitoring. Expenditure on gas and electricity costs is anticipated to be higher in the later stages of the year, and remedial

action may be needed to ensure a balanced budget is achieved. It should be noted that expenditure on utility costs were £40,000 above budget in the previous financial year.

The overachievement of sales and fees and charges income is primarily related to the Brindley Arts Centre. Income is significantly above target for the first quarter, although it cannot be assumed that a similar trend will continue for the remainder of the year.

At this stage it is anticipated that overall revenue spending will be in line with the Departmental budget by the end of the financial year.

Cultural & Leisure Services
Capital Projects as at 30th June 2008

	2008/09 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
<u>Show Pitches</u>	27	7	0	27
<u>Improvements To Pavilions/Changing Facilities</u>	30	8	0	30
<u>Skate Park</u>	100	25	0	100
<u>Halton Lea Library Refurbishment</u>	1,470	367	89	1,381
<u>Multi Use Games Areas</u>	100	25	0	100
<u>Electronic Access Bollards - Parks</u>	72	18	0	72
<u>Lewis Carrol HLB</u>	50	13	0	50
<u>Runcorn Town Hall Park</u>	495	124	6	489
<u>Improvements To Allotments</u>	65	16	1	64
	2,409	603	96	2,313

Cultural & Leisure Services

LSP, External or Grant Funded Items as at 30th June 2008




	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (overspend) £'000	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
<u>Priority 1: Healthy Halton</u>					
Sports Partnership	60	15	11	4	11
Health & Physical Activity	39	10	9	1	9
Enhanced Sports	75	19	1	18	1
Sub Total	174	44	21	23	21
<u>Priority 3: Children & Young People</u>					
Vikings In The Community	50	12	-13	25	-13
Sub Total	50	12	-13	25	-13
<u>Priority 4: Employment Learning & Skills</u>					
Citizen's Advice Bureau	68	17	0	17	0
Sub Total	68	17	0	17	0
<u>Priority 5: Safer Halton</u>					
Youth Splash	171	43	15	28	15
Blue Lamp	485	121	0	121	0
Alcohol Harm Reduction	42	10	-9	19	-9
Domestic Violence	100	25	2	23	2
Increased Drug Treatment	26	7	7	0	7
Prolific & Persistent Offenders	37	9	0	9	0
Positive Futures	25	6	6	0	6
Sub Total	886	221	21	200	21
<u>Total Expenditure</u>	1,178	294	29	265	29

Comments on the above figures:

Regular monitoring reports are sent to the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)

in respect of all LSP projects and any areas of concern are dealt with throughout the year by the LSP support team and individual project managers. Some variances against the budget to date are expected, as the LSP have deliberately over-programmed in order to ensure that the full allocation of Neighbourhood Renewal Fund grant is spent during the year.

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved</u>.</p>
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, due to a lack of information or a key milestone date being missed, <u>whether the objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.</p>
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the objective will not be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</p>

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Environment
SERVICE: Economic Regeneration
PERIOD: Quarter 1 to period end 30th June 2008

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Economic Regeneration Department first quarter period up to 30 June 2008. It describes key developments and progress against 'key' milestones and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained in Appendix 6.

It should be noted that this report is presented to a number of Policy and Performance Boards. Those objectives and indicators that are not directly relevant to this Board have been shaded grey.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Pion Economics have completed the Halton Economic Review 2008, a comprehensive study detailing the current and modelling the future performance of the local economy. Evidence provided by the Halton Economic Review 2008 will be utilised to develop the Borough's next Economic Development Strategy.

Further progress has been made with respect to the Halton Science Initiative. The Website www.wheresciencesucceeds.com is being completely overhauled to provide a comprehensive information resource for businesses in the science, technology and advanced manufacturing sectors.

Since 2000, the Council has delivered a series of small ICT projects helping local businesses to exploit ICT ranging from simple websites to more extensive back office integration activity. With changes in funding streams, it is no longer viable to continue this activity so the latest project 'ICT Investment for Growth' will be the last and will close December 31 2008. Meetings have taken place with the Council's Accountants and External Funding Teams to ensure a balanced financial outturn at the conclusion of the project. Of a team of three, one member of the ICT Investment for Growth Team has already retired in July 2008 and another has secured employment with another local authority.

Delivery of the BID's programmes at Astmoor and Halebank Industrial Estates continues to gather pace. A private security company has been appointed to provide security services. Every business on the estates will be visited to be enrolled for the key holding and alarm response services. Businesses have also been provided with the DNA forensic property marking equipment, SmartWater. The mobile security patrols covering Astmoor Industrial Estate commenced on 1st May to provide a visible deterrent to criminals.

The new Widnes Waterfront Business Steering group continues to develop. In June it considered a draft action plan for the area based on the findings of a survey conducted last year. There will be a further meeting of the Group in August to endorse the plan and to elect a Chair from a resident business.

Successful delivery of H208 youth event with over 10,000 attending.

Funding of £40k for the present academic year has been secured from Riverside College to deliver additional PCDL (personal community development learning) in Halton. Further funding is under discussion for August 2008 onwards.

A very successful Adult Learners' Awards ceremony took place on 16 May, with 144 individuals nominated for a variety of awards. Over 200 people attended the ceremony, including representatives from LSC, ELS PPB, JCP and other elected members.

Work began on developing an SSP website 'learninghalton' – which will be a one stop site for all learning and advice/guidance available in the borough. The site is being funded by LSC, but overall management will be through the Adult Learning & Skills Development Division. A launch of the site will take place in autumn 2008.

Halton has taken the lead in a local authority consortium across Merseyside seeking funding from the LSC for Skills for Life through the Train to Gain programme. The consortium has secured a contract and will shortly be holding pre contract negotiations. Additionally, Halton is part of a Skills for Employability consortium (Wirral taking the lead).

Work has commenced in developing a Science Skills Group, to mirror that of the Skills Group established around Logistics. The new post of Skills Strategy Officer has recently been advertised and this post will take the lead on all such sector skills groups in future.

The Adult Learning and Skills Division has been part of a national Skills for Life Quality Improvement Programme. Part of this includes the assessment of candidate's literacy and numeracy skills during the recruitment process. If candidates cannot demonstrate level 2 skills, conditions of employment will include enrolment onto and achievement of a level 2 qualification. Halton's involvement in the programme was

highlighted as good practice at a North West event run by LSC in Q1.

The results of the first part time childcare course delivered by the department have now been received with all 20 participants passing (14 gained a distinction and 6 gained a merit). Participants are being tracked and a number have progressed into the college whilst others have entered directly into employment.

An employment outreach pilot has commenced in the Castlefields Health Centre. 8 local residents have been engaged of which 2 have started work.

The new business start up room at the Heath Business and Technical Park is starting to show promising signs of use with 5 new businesses presently resident.

The Enterprising Halton Programme continues to support entrepreneurship with 16 new start-ups during Q1, 2 of which registered for VAT. The programme has supported the creation of the first social enterprise in the borough with Windmill Hill Telematics Centre becoming a Community Interest Company. The social enterprise coach is working with several other third sector organisations that we expect to convert to social enterprises, one in particular, Sports 4 All, which is led by a local disability group, is expected to come on stream soon.

3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

As a consequence of the global economic climate both investment enquiries and conversion have experienced a dramatic decline in the current reporting period. The total number of property/sites enquiries fell from 79 in the first quarter of last year to 59 this year. The biggest decline was enquiries from start up businesses which fell from 19 in the first quarter last year to just 5 this year. The slow down in the UK economy will impact upon the economy of Halton in terms of fewer investment projects, reduced commercial letting and a marked reduction in new business formation. Dependent upon the extent of the global slow down jobs may be lost locally, particularly in the manufacturing sector.

The Economic Development Officer (Development) continuing secondment to the Mersey Gateway Team, for two days each week, to develop a relocation strategy for companies displaced by the new bridge, continues to impact upon the Business Development Teams capacity to meet its performance targets in terms of investment enquiries and conversions.

Following the success of last years Continental Market in Widnes Town Centre a further market is planned for October 2008. The Town Centre Manager is also bringing forward proposals, with other departments of the Council, for a regular street market in Runcorn Old Town.

There is a lack of clarity about how to apply for ERDF funding to support Tourism initiatives in the borough. The Mersey Partnership is able to accommodate ERDF funding for projects in the former Objective1 area under the phasing in arrangements but this is not available to Halton. Clarification is being sought from the NWDA about how these activities can be funded in Halton (either through the general North West ERDF allocation or other resources).

Work is underway with other Merseyside Local Authorities to explore ways in which local small and medium sized businesses can be supported when tendering/bidding for contracts within the public sector. This will build on the Employment Learning and Skills PPB Scrutiny Panel work programme last year that considered the Council's procurement policy and its role in developing local employment opportunities.

Meeting with Destination Performance UK City 4 group (towns that are roughly the same size and history). Halton is seeking to engage further with these towns to try and identify common activities with a view to benchmarking like authorities in future.

Expressions of interest for the annual Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities grant were submitted at the end of Q1. Full proposals will be submitted in Q2 with successful projects commencing September 2008. Last year, 17 individual projects received funding but this created a huge administrative strain. The panel to consider applications will consist of HBC, Riverside College and an ELS PPB member.

An expression of interest has been submitted to LSC for a share of the £200k Greater Merseyside Family Learning Impact Fund. If successful, additional teaching staff will need to be recruited.

The successful Skills for Life Train to Gain contract will require additional staffing to be recruited. Job descriptions/person specs are currently being written and it is hoped these will be advertised some time in Q2.

Planned building works at the Acorn Centre are expected during Q2 as part of the Castlefields Children's Centre Campus model. The work should happen during the summer break so that classes are not affected. The works will enable a further teaching room to be established in the centre.

The outcomes of the job evaluation in relation to adult learning tutors are still to be determined. Discussions are taking place with personnel and the unions.

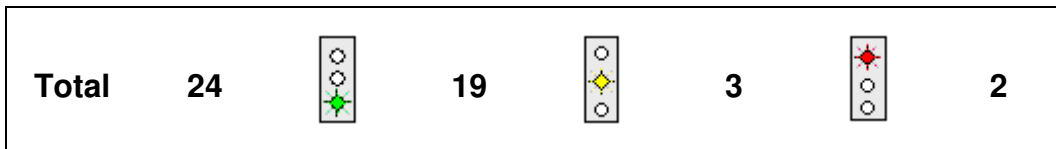
The LSC will be moving to a shadow structure to reflect the proposed new Skills Funding Agency. It is unknown as yet, where adult

safeguarded budgets will sit with the new agency, or what priorities the agency will have in terms of non accredited learning.

New Family Learning Guidance from the LSC was issued during Q1; there are changes to some family learning provision and this will impact on how the Family Learning Curriculum (and staff) will be timetabled. It will also impact on crèche regulations as courses are now expected to last longer than 2 hours (the maximum crèche time currently allowed).

The government has recently issued its proposals for reform of the employment related services in England. Numerous proposals are contained including increased compulsion and more use of the private and voluntary sector. The paper is presently being reviewed and a report on its contents will be produced.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

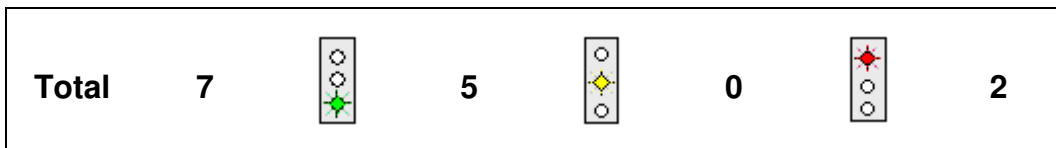


Generally good progress towards objectives/milestones. A number of “non-key” milestones have been reported by exception this quarter (shown in italics). For further details, please refer to Appendix 1.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW




Over the coming months the Town Centre Management function will be the subject of a wholesale strategic review as part of the Urban Renewal PPB Scrutiny Process.

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



2 indicators, the number of inward investment enquiries and contribution to number of jobs created, are not expected to meet their targets this year. For further details, please refer to Appendix 2.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	20		0		0		2
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2 “Other” indicators have been reported by exception this quarter, inward investment enquiry conversion rate and contribution to number of jobs safeguarded, are not expected to meet their targets this year. For further details, please refer to Appendix 3.

7.0 PROGRESS AGAINST LPSA TARGETS

Good progress is being made towards the 2 LPSA targets for the service. For further details, please refer to Appendix 4.

8.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2008-09 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.






Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated ‘High’ risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

9.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS

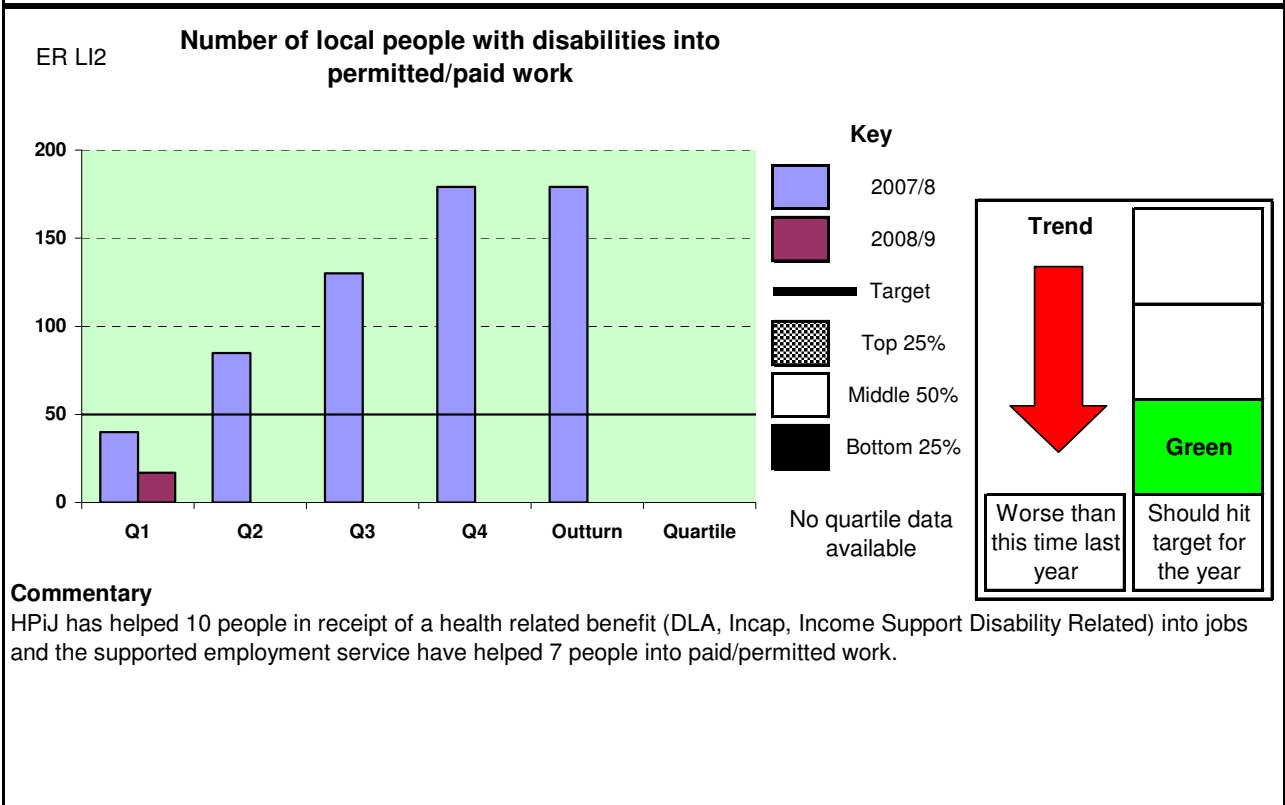
During 2007/08 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

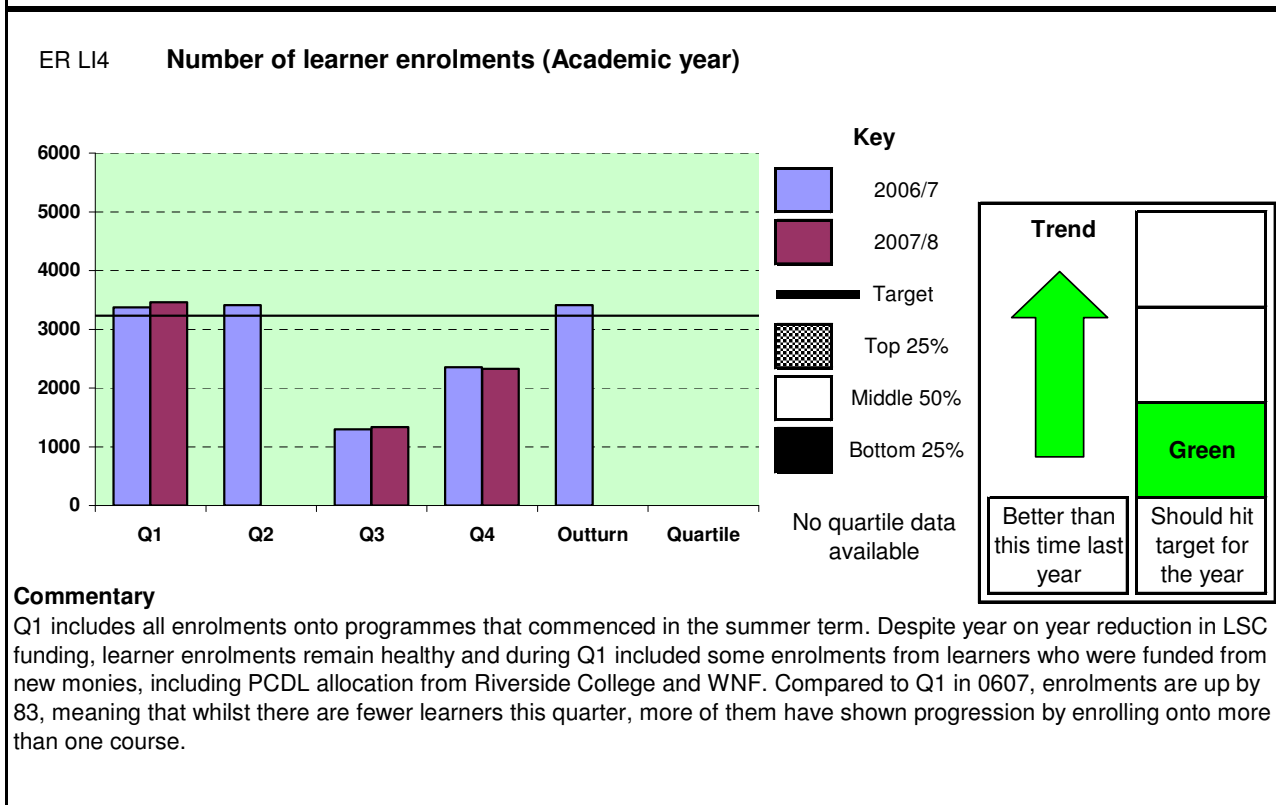
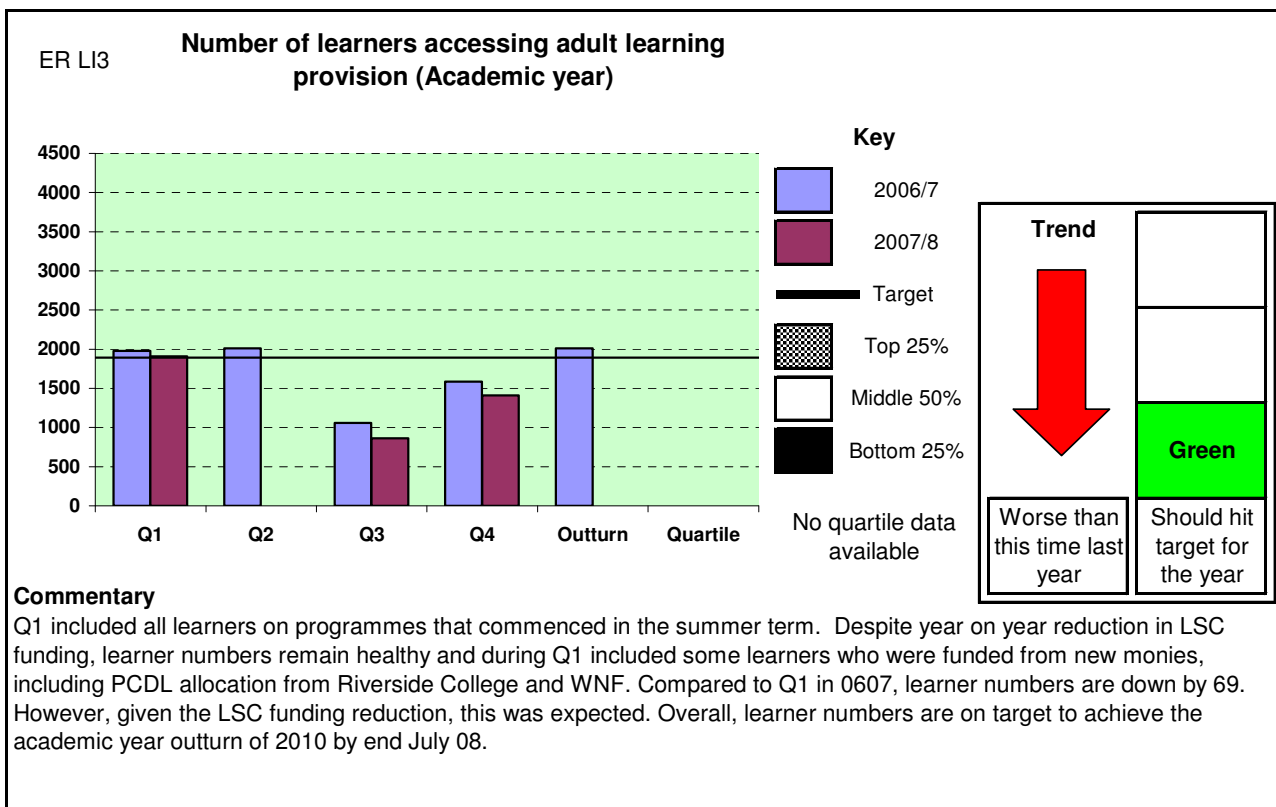
10.0 APPENDICES

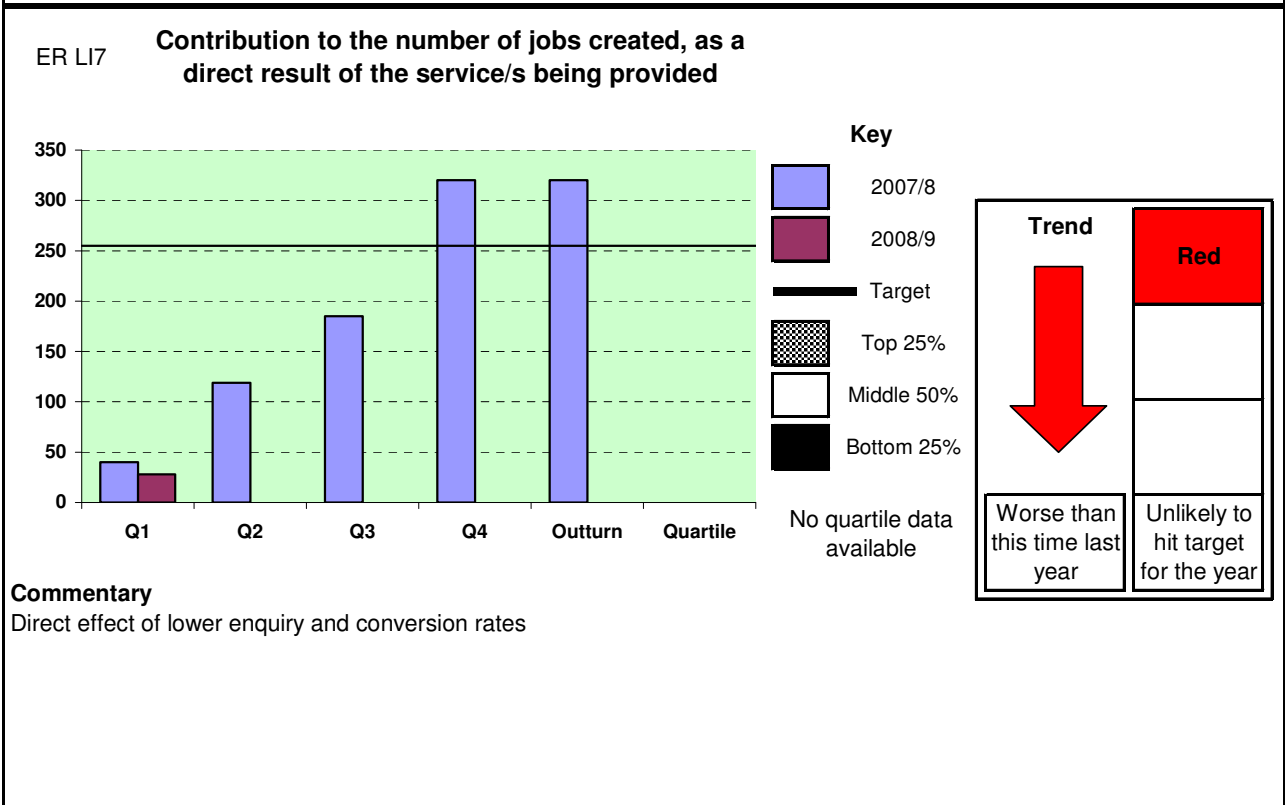
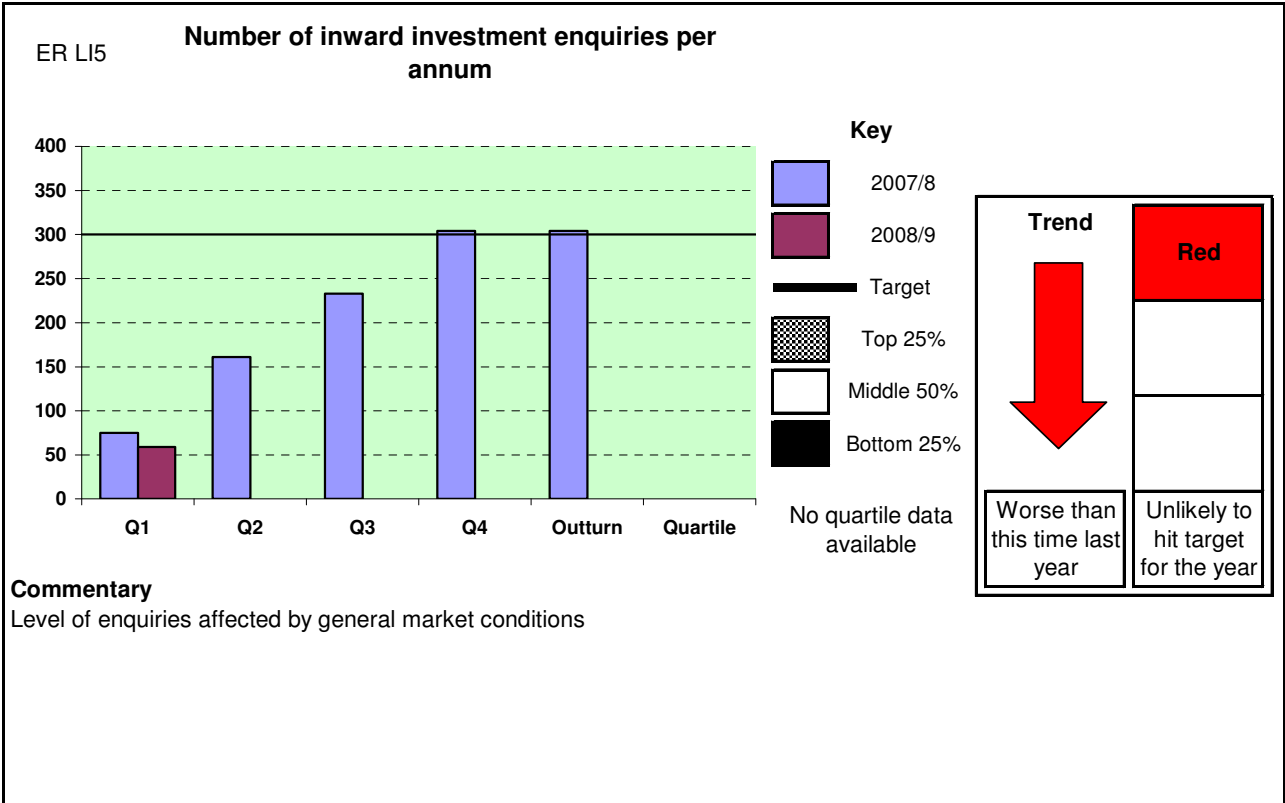
Appendix 1- Progress against Objectives/ Milestones
 Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
 Appendix 3- Progress against Other Performance Indicators
 Appendix 4- Progress against LPSA Targets
 Appendix 5- Financial Statement
 Appendix 6- Explanation of traffic light symbols

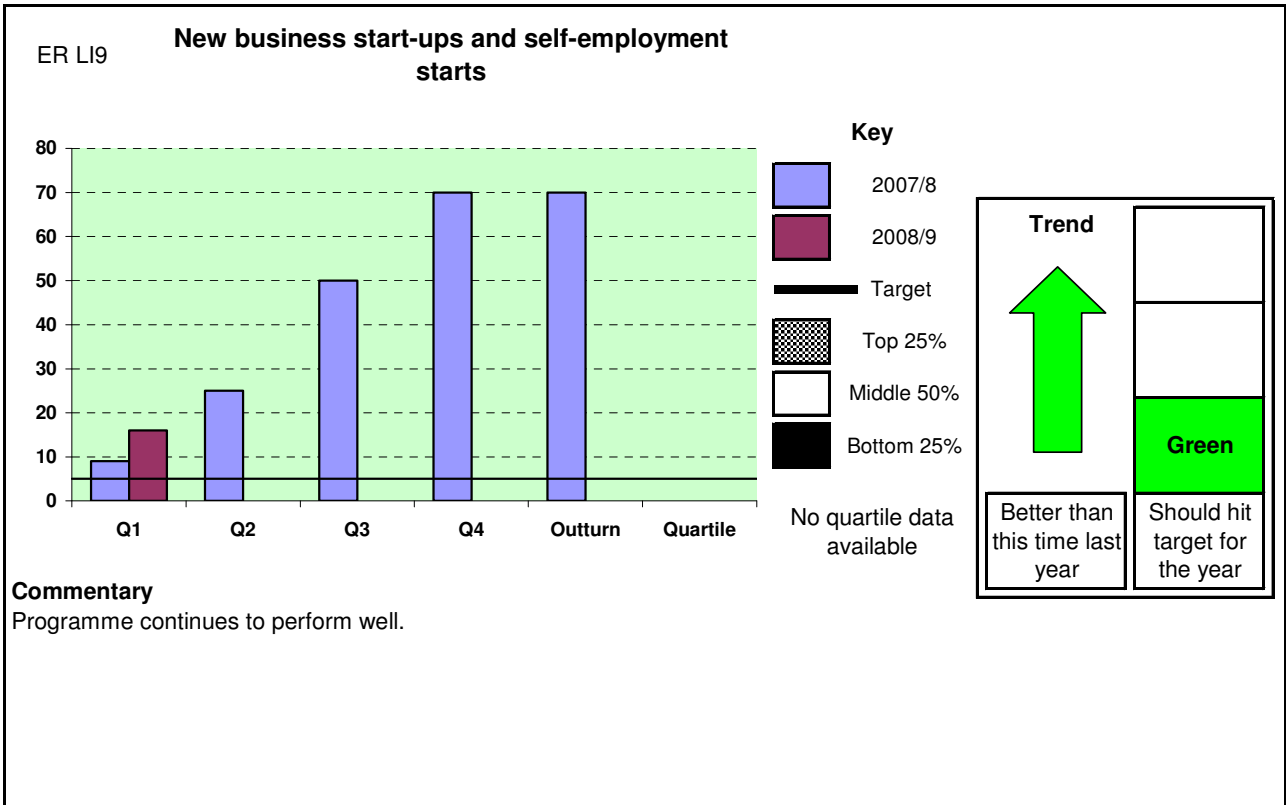
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2008/09 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
ER 1	To foster a culture of enterprise and entrepreneurship, particularly amongst the low skilled, making Halton an ideal place to start and grow economic activity	Secure continuation of Enterprise coaches, Jun 2008		Enterprise Coach service fully operational in priority neighbourhoods.
ER 2	To develop a culture where learning is valued and raise skill levels throughout the adult population and in the local workforce	Completed sector skills plan for Science with first provision commencing, Mar 2009		The first working group meeting has taken place. Initial meeting took place with the Regional Manager for the National Skills Academy (NW) for Process Industries to establish what already exists in terms of science skills plans. .
		<i>Recruitment of dedicated apprenticeship officer post, Jul 2008</i>		Delayed pending reorganisation of E&E division. Recommend new target of November 2008.
ER 3	To promote and increase employability of local people, to identify and remove any barriers to employment to get more people into work	<i>Complete reconfiguration of E&E division to embed outreach, Jul 2008</i>		Delays as a consequence of JE. Recommend new target of November 2008
		<i>Launch pre-recruitment partnership, Jul 2008</i>		It has not been possible to finalise the partnership due to delays in finalising JCP prime contracts for employment. Recommend new target of November 2008



Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2008/09 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Complete Employment strategy for disabled and carers with launch of disability employment network, Sep 2008		Draft Report ready for circulation. However, recent government proposals will lead to major change in this work area and as such further work now required. Recommend new target of December 2008.
ER 4	To develop a strong, diverse, competitive and sustainable knowledge based economy	Commence delivery of logistics campaign, Sep 2008		A marketing and PR campaign for the logistics sector has been developed and was reported to PPB on June 18 2008
ER 5	To create and sustain a thriving business environment	Complete Business Improvement District phase 1 actions (CCTV, security, signage), Mar 2009		All actions associated with the implementation of Phase 1 of the BID programme have either been completed or are ongoing.
ER 6	To revitalise the town centres to create dynamic, well designed high quality commercial areas	<i>Launch a weekly Runcorn street market, Sep 2008</i>		Delays in agreeing issues around street closure with the emergency services have delayed this project.











Ref ¹	Description	Actual 2007/8	Target 08/09	Quarter 1	Progress	Commentary
Service Delivery						
ER LI6	Inward investment enquiry conversion rate (%)	13.5	11.5	6.8		Credit crunch is affecting businesses ability to acquire finance.
ER LI8	Contribution to the number of jobs safeguarded, as a direct result of the service/s being provided	443	400	56		This tends to be a more reactive service to staff reductions/closures. It is anticipated numbers will rise over coming months.

LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 07/08	Perform 08/09 Q1	Traffic light	Commentary
10	Number of adults gaining a national Skills for Life qualification at level 1, 2 or 3 in literacy, numeracy or ESOL	19 04/05	116 measured in academic year ending 31/08/08	226	41		Total to date 297
12	Increase the number of people who have been claiming an incapacity benefit into sustained employment of at least 16 hours per week for 13 consecutive weeks or more	18 for year ending 31/03/06	179 3 year cumulative to 31/03/09	72	18		Achieved 06/07 = 38 07/08 = 74 Need to achieve 67 this year.

Revenue Budget as at 30th June 2008

	Annual Revised Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (Overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure					
Employees	1,525	346	334	12	336
Premises Support	2	0	0	0	0
Office	72	21	21	0	21
Accommodation					
Marketing	47	5	5	0	8
Programme					
Promotions	47	8	8	0	15
Development	21	1	1	0	1
Projects					
Supplies & Services	170	28	28	0	37
Halton People into Jobs	125	4	4	0	4
Mersey	75	75	75	0	75
Partnership					
Transport	34	9	6	3	6
Central Support	286	0	0	0	0
Services					
Departmental	26	0	0	0	0
Support Services					
Agency	0	0	0	0	0
Asset Charges	7	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	2,437	497	482	15	503
Income					
Sales	0	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	-15	0	-8	8	-8
Reimbursements	-304	-13	-13	0	-13
Government grants	-341	-135	-144	9	-144
Employment Service	-256	0	0	0	0
Recharges to Capital	-17	0	0	0	0
Total Income	-933	-148	-165	17	-165
Net Expenditure	1,504	349	317	32	338

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms revenue spending to the end of quarter 1 is slightly under budget.

With regards to expenditure the staffing underspend relates to savings against costs for the Supported Employment Team, external funding is being used to fund eligible salary costs.

At this stage, it is anticipated that overall revenue spending will be within departmental budget by year-end.

Local Strategic Partnership Schemes as at 30th June 2008

	Annual Revised Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (Overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Employment Outreach	55	14	0	14	0
Halton People into Jobs	80	20	6	14	6
Adult Learners Celebration	82	20	0	20	0
Rail Maintenance	143	36	7	28	7
Halton ILM					
Castlefields	94	23	0	23	0
Employment Project Enterprise	152	38	29	9	29
Development					
Supported Employment	35	9	11	(2)	11
Skills for Life	26	6	17	(10)	17
Halton YMCA	82	21	0	21	0
Halton Inspiring Women	10	2	0	2	0
CES Contribution	14	3	0	3	0
Pre-level 2 Provision	35	9	0	9	0
Childcare	32	8	0	8	0
HPiJ Pre-recruitment Partnership	200	50	0	50	0
Total Expenditure	1,040	259	70	189	70

External or Grant Funded Schemes as at 30th June 2008

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (Overspend) £'000	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
ERDF ICT Investment for Growth	46	23	15	8	15
Total Expenditure	46	23	15	8	15




Comments on the above figures:

It is anticipated that spending will be in line with budget by the end of quarter two.

Capital Projects as at 30th June 2008

	2008-09 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
HBC Projects Information Touch Screen Kiosks	50	0	0	0
Total Capital	50	0	0	0

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved</u>.</p>
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, due to a lack of information or a key milestone date being missed, <u>whether the objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.</p>
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the objective will not be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</p>

REPORT TO: Employment, Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 29th September 2008.

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director of Environment

SUBJECT: Barriers to Work

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide a briefing on the recent employment focused research undertaken in the neighbourhood management areas.

2. RECOMMENDED: That

- 2.1 That the Board considers the research findings and refers them onto the Barriers to Work topic group for detailed consideration.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 As part of the development of the City Employment Strategy, focus has been placed on wards where worklessness is higher than 25% of the working population. Within the development of the Local Area Agreement focus has been placed on Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) where worklessness is higher than 25%. As one would expect, there is a good degree of correlation between the two though the LSOAs do pick up concentrations of worklessness outside the wards. There is also a clear correlation between these areas and the neighbourhood management areas. To help understand why worklessness is so high in these areas, research was commissioned through the Merseyside Information Service. (The results of which are detailed in appendix 1).
- 3.2 The results now require analysis to understand them in some depth with appropriate recommendations being developed as to how local services can be amended.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Worklessness agenda is a key priority within the Corporate Plan and the Local Area Agreement.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 No other implications.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES.

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton.

This research work compliments the recent research into NEET (not in education employment or training) within the borough. Many of the barriers will be the same and it will give a context within which young people are growing up within our most deprived areas.

6.2 Employment Learning and Skills in Halton

This work enables a consideration of how effective local employment actions really are. These areas have been receiving support for many years now with little tangible effect and as such the status quo position is not tenable. It is critical that lessons are learnt from this research and local programmes amended to become more effective.

6.3 A Healthy Halton.

Poor health and disability are clearly identified by the focus groups as a barrier to work. Developing a response to help people gain employment will be a key outcome of the analysis stage.

6.4 A Safer Halton

No implications identified at this time

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

No implications identified at this time

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 This research work provides an opportunity to improve. The biggest risk is not taking hold of this opportunity as this is likely to mean that embedded worklessness will remain in our most deprived localities.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 At its heart, this research is about equality. It raises issues including carers, age, offenders, low skills, disability and male/female. It should be possible to use the research to develop much more effective programmes for a range of groups.

9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.

Appendix 1

Halton Neighbourhood Management Employment Focus Groups Summary

Introduction

Mott MacDonald MIS were commissioned by Halton Borough Council to undertake an exploratory study to find out why unemployment persists in certain areas of Halton, despite various Government Initiatives to reduce unemployment in those areas.

Methodology

Eight focus groups were carried out with unemployed residents across Halton to gather qualitative data on their knowledge and experiences of the New Deal Programme, where they go for support in finding work, their perceived barriers to working and factors that would encourage them to work.

Finding work

Participants discussed where they have gone to get help in finding work. They mentioned:

- Halton People Into Jobs
- Job Centre
- Action for Employment (A for E)
- Crosby training
- Employment Agencies
- Connexions
- Youth Centres
- Counsellors
- Lighthouse Foundation
- Shaw Trust
- Link Up

Attitudes to working

Most of the participants maintained that they would like to work. The benefits of working they described included:

- Pride
- Motivation
- Sense of worth
- Financial benefits
- The social aspect

Self employment

Overall, most participants did not feel that being self employed was an option for them, due to the record keeping and accounting involved, start up costs and the lack of security.

Type of Work

Participants hoped to get the following types of work:

- Legal administration, clerical/Office work/reception
- Retail
- Plastering
- Parks and garden work
- Hospital porter work
- NVQ Assessors
- Work with O2
- Paramedic
- Hairdressing
- Holiday rep.
- Work with young offenders/probation
- Agricultural/ranger/parks and gardens
- Work with children/Nursery nurse
- Tiling
- Pub landlady
- Sales and marketing
- Computer engineering
- Security
- IT
- Railways repair
- Training
- Engineering Customer service
- Building/Construction
- Factory work
- Jobs dealing with people
- Warehousing and production
- HGV/Truck/lorry driving
- Homeless people/Drug and alcohol problems/Care work

Barriers to Working

Participants discussed reasons why they are prevented from working and finding work.

- **Low minimum wage**

Participants also maintained that they could not afford to work, because, with the cost of living, they would be worse off financially if they worked than if they stayed on benefits. They claimed there is no financial incentive for working.

- **Lack of Support**

Some felt that they did not receive any support in finding work.

- **Lack of Jobs in Local Area**

The group complained that there is a lack of work locally, within a reasonable travelling distance from their homes. They explained that there is a Job Centre rule that they should be able to travel one and a half hours each way to work and back but they thought this was unrealistic, especially if they have to pay for childcare.

- **Cost of Travel**

They further commented that the cost of travelling to and from work and work placements is a barrier to working. They argued that they are limited to searching for jobs in certain areas due to the cost of travel. It was explained that on some work placements, travel expenses can be refunded if they are paid and claimed back but that it is difficult to pay in the first place.

- **Public Transport**

Furthermore, in relation to travel, the participants maintained that there is inadequate public transport in their area and this has an effect on what jobs they can get to, what time they can reasonably get there and how long they have to travel for.

- **Lack of Driving Licence**

Participants felt that not being able to drive was a barrier to working because it is more difficult to get to work and also, many jobs require you to have a driving license.

- **Lack of Experience**

Participants felt that their lack of experience was impeding their search for a job. They maintained that placements are supposed to address this issue but they are so often provided in the wrong field of work that they do not succeed in affording participants with valuable experience after all.

- **Health issues/disability**

Due to health considerations, some participants could not perform certain jobs.

- **Fear of interviews/lack of confidence**

Some participants felt that they lacked the confidence to find a new job after being made redundant and others lacked the confidence or grew nervous at interviews.

- **Age**

Participants in a number of groups felt that their age was a barrier.

- **Childcare/family commitments**

Finding jobs that fit around children was seen as difficult by participants. They complained that it is not easy to find childcare that provides care in the evenings or weekends. Furthermore, some felt that it is difficult to leave their children with a childcare provider as their children's behaviour changes if they are put in childcare and they have guilt associated with leaving their child and not spending enough time with them.

- **Criminal record**

Some participants felt that their criminal record is a barrier to finding work. They felt there should be more support for people with criminal records.

- **Stigma of a YMCA address.**

Participants in the Runcorn YMCA group felt strongly that they were stigmatised for living at the YMCA. They argued that employers do not want to interview them or offer them a job when they see they are living at the YMCA.

- **Lack of relevant jobs**

Participants complained that there is a lack of jobs in the area they would like to work in or are trained in. One participant had been on a course with the Social Enterprise Social Partnership, to train to be a community worker, working with people with drug and alcohol issues. He commended this course, however, there are reportedly no jobs in that area. The Job Centre has since advised him that he needs to widen his search to encompass further types of jobs but he has been trained in a particular field and wants to work in that field.

- **Illiteracy**

Participants did not feel there was enough support for people with literacy problems.

- **Lack of feedback**

It was also explained that it is very frustrating when the effort had been put in to apply for a job and employers do not even have the courtesy to reply to their application.

- **Lack of financial support**

Some participants felt that there is a lack of financial support or funding for interview clothes and licences and training required for certain jobs. One participant, in the Central Widnes Over 35 group, commented on the lack of financial support for buying interview clothes. She maintained that most of her clothes were casual and that it would not be possible to attend an interview in such clothing.

- **Lack of information about help that is available.**

Participants were not clear about what help they could access and how to access this help.

- **Lack of joined up thinking**

One participant had come off incapacity benefit and went onto job seekers allowance and was left without money for a period because the two departments did not correlate the information. He felt that if he had known that he could not simply transfer from one benefit to another he would not have come off incapacity benefit.

- **Immigrants**

Participants also complained that there are fewer jobs in their local area because there are many immigrants who are willing to work for less money who take their jobs.

Encouragement to work

Participants discussed what would encourage them to find work.

- **More qualifications**

Participants felt that it was important for them to be able to gain more qualifications, in order to get better jobs.

- **More training/skills**

Several participants were of the opinion that improving their skills or retraining would help them to get back into the workplace.

- **Voluntary work in the relevant field**

Participants felt that there should be more voluntary work organised, in the fields that people want to work in, to give them experience. They advocated help with training, and experience, to achieve the type of job they wanted to do rather than just any job.

- **More jobs in local area**

Participants stressed the need for having a job that is in an area that is accessible for them via public transport or walking, due to cost of travel.

- **Transport**

Many felt that they would need their own transport to get a job, as public transport is not always available at shift times.

- **More support and empathy**

Participants felt that staff at the Job Centre and other employment organisations should be more friendly and understanding of their plight.

- **More support for people on incapacity benefit**

Participants felt that there should be more support for those on incapacity benefit, as often they are just left alone and they should still be encouraged and assisted to find work.

- **Support to find jobs in relevant area**

Participants argued that they would like help to find jobs in the specific area they are interested in, not having to apply for any job. One participant commended Halton People into Jobs for searching for a job he would actually like.

- **More financial support**

They also advocated more practical financial help by way of milk tokens, food tokens, free bus/rail pass/travel expenses.

- **Support when you sign off**

The participants advocated financial assistance when they sign off benefits as there may be a month period before they get paid from a new job.

- **Funding for self employment**

Funding for self employment would be useful for some participants.

- **Childcare**

Participants highlighted that with the 3 hour travelling distance that is expected of them, they will have to pay an extra 3 hours childcare, when they are not earning in those hours.

- **More flexible working patterns**

Participants called for more family friendly jobs.

- **Affordable wage/financial incentive to work**

Participants felt that in order to be better off working, the minimum wage needs to be increased or better paid jobs made available.

- **Support from local businesses**

Participants felt that local businesses should be more committed to training and providing experience. They felt that local businesses could be more supportive by offering paid training, placements and work trials and also being more relaxed on the experience they require.

- **Apprenticeships**

Participants advocated more apprenticeship schemes, regardless of age as many consider that they are too old for a traditional apprentice scheme but would still like to learn a trade.

- **More support and jobs specifically for older people**

Participants felt that older people may need more support to find jobs and some may need jobs with lighter duties because they may not be as fit as younger people and may have health issues.

- **Confidence building**

Participants in a number of groups advocated more help in building their confidence and interview techniques, in terms of returning to the workplace and taking part in interviews.

- **Access to the same information for everyone**

Participants felt that all job seekers should have access to the same information, such as placements, training, grants, other financial support, access to schemes etc. There was some confusion in some groups about what help was available and to whom.

- **Joined up/partnership thinking in relation to social initiatives**

Participants argued that areas are being regenerated, with new housing being built and community facilities, but the people living in them still have no jobs. They called for a more joined up way of looking at regeneration, where all social issues are addressed, health, housing, unemployment etc, with more jobs and more affordable housing.

Group Comments

The following section is just a sample of the comments that people made during the sessions.

- Positive aspects of the service -

Regular meetings are good
Providing benefits advice before you come off
More informal meetings
Being encouraged/getting training in something you want to do
The HPiJ Charter course (motivation and skills)
Paid job placements
JCP job points easy to use
Work trails
Help with barriers e.g. disabilities
Some people like websites

- Not so good

Being trained where there are no jobs afterwards
Not being trained in what I want to do
Trained but then placed in an unrelated field
Trained but no work experience
Directing people to agency work

Leaving people to fill in forms but literacy problems
More training for some staff on CV preparation
Have to use the phone in JCP
Left on your own
Long waiting times to see someone
Staff do not have enough time to help
Staff are simply processing claims
Some just promote certain courses
They do not listen to what you want to do
Push people to apply for jobs not in the correct field
Need more empathy
Lack of privacy when talking to an advisor
Job quality
Minimum wage
It all depends on how good the advisor is
No cash incentive to take work placement so can be worse off after travel and food costs
Placements 9 out of 10 do not get a job
Lack of support on certain courses – just left to get on with it
Connexions – lack of clarity who they help

REPORT TO: Employment, Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 29th September 2008.

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director of Environment

SUBJECT: Enterprise Update

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide a briefing on progress of enterprise action plan.

2. RECOMMENDED: That

2.1 That progress on the action plan be noted and that Policy and Performance Board identifies any further actions that it considers appropriate.

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The last report to this Policy and Performance Board set out the core offer that had been established in Halton (see appendix 1). Performance statistics are now available for the first full year of operation (2007-08).

- 400 new enquiries
- 70 new businesses
- 42 Female
- 28 Male
- 20 new businesses from priority ward residents
- 13 business owners self declared they had a disability
- 3 business owners self declared they were from a BME community
- 18 of the new businesses have employed an additional 34 people
- 62.5% of the businesses are still trading after 12 months
- 7 new business registered for VAT

3.2 April 2008 – July 2008 (4 months)

- handled 113 new business enquiries
- supported 21 new business start-ups (16 male / 5 female)
- 11 new businesses from priority wards/LSOA's
- 2 business owners self declared they had a disability
- 9 of the new businesses have employed an additional 25 staff
- 74% of the businesses are still trading after 12 months

- new business registered for VAT

3.3 Looking to the future, an additional £630,000 of Working Neighbourhoods Funding has been secured to expand the enterprise programme and the Private Sector Enterprise Board is finalising the programme for this additional resource. At present it is looking at three distinct elements -

- Ready Steady Go - Expansion of the number of business starts
- Enterprise Academy - Best practice and support programme including business mentors and advice of how to win public sector contracts.
- Next Generation – Support to primary schools and expansion of secondary school activity.

3.4 Additional resources are to be bid for through European funding sources. The NWDA is presently developing its own regional business start up programme to commence April 2009 and there is a clear need to ensure the local and regional programmes compliment each other.

3.5 As part of the final reports from the previous enterprise topic group to the PPB, a number of recommendations for improvements to the service was developed and put into an action plan. Appendix Two details the action plan and provides an update on progress

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Enterprise agenda is a key priority within the Corporate Plan. The additional resources will enable an expansion of activity.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 No other implications.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES.

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton.

One of the proposals with the additional resources is an expansion of activity in primary schools. Another proposal is the attachment of businesses to schools to be an enterprise ambassador.

6.2 Employment Learning and Skills in Halton

Enterprise development is a core activity for ELS. The first full year of activity delivered higher than expected results. The additional proposals will enable this momentum to be built upon.

6.3 A Healthy Halton.

No implications identified at this time.

6.4 A Safer Halton

No implications identified at this time

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The creation of new businesses has a direct effect on demand for new business space. The work of Urban Renewal is essential in regard to the provision of smaller units such as being built at the Widnes Waterfront.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 The biggest risk is attached to maximising the impact of the additional funding. The Private Sector Enterprise Board are finalising the details of the expanded programme and is very focused on ensuring this happens.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 As a direct result of result of examining the provision that was available in Halton, the silver entrepreneurs, womens start up adviser and social enterprise specialist has been brought on board. The outreach brokers have been specifically targeted at the most deprived wards to boost businesses in those locations.










9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.

Appendix 1 – The core offer

- The 'Enterprising Halton' brand.
- A radio promotional campaign including a weekly 1 hour radio slot on KCR to promote entrepreneurship
- Relationships with local papers have been developed and local enterprise related stories are now being included.
- Regular enterprise awareness raising events for priority groups are being delivered
- An Enterprise Champion has been identified.
- Enterprise Enquiry Service (enterprise information, support & signposting) has been established that can field all start up enquiries
- An Enterprise Charter (enterprise training programme) has been developed so that people who are thinking about starting a business can understand more about what it involves and can make an informed decision as to whether it is the right thing for them to do.
- Enterprise Broker & Outreach Service (business start up advice & guidance within the community): self-employed start up advisers are employed on a sessional basis to promote start-ups and self-employment.
- Enterprising Halton Business Start up Grant. This is £250 and to access it an individual must have a fully worked up and approved business plan. As such, the grant is used as a carrot to make sure people have put sound planning into their venture.
- New start-ups are given Federation of Small Businesses and also Halton Chamber membership for one year.
- The Enterprise Academy has been launched. This provides specialist seminars for new businesses on issues that are important such as how to make sales and how to get the best from networking
- A new start up Centre has been opened in partnership with SOG at The Heath. This provides hot desk space for new businesses that are looking for a business address and networking opportunities. The Council Enterprise Development Officer is base at the Heath and is available to businesses for advice and guidance.
- The Enterprising Halton Challenge annual competition to encourage starting a business.

Enterprise

Action	Progress	Commentary
There is a need to ensure more aftercare takes place post start up		Outreach brokers now provide this as to the local NWDA providers.
Need to promote and support social enterprise more, including development of a possible social enterprise accountancy initiative.		The Merseyside Social Enterprise Network (SEN) – has launched a new network in Halton attended by 22 third sector organisations. Also, there is now a specialist social enterprise advisor.
Business people should be encouraged to become mentors, included those recently retired.		Being considered by the Private Sector Enterprise Board as part of the expanded programme
Need to make sure that new internet style businesses are supported		Still no additional provision in place at this time. Possibly could be achieved through the expanded programme.
The topic group supports the concept of high street presence and becoming more proactive		Still viewed as potentially an important tool but cost prohibitive at this time.
The enterprise game is viewed as an important tool for developing both enterprise awareness and basic skills in Halton and its development is strongly supported.		Game launched Maritime version developed Primary version developed
The development of enterprise charter to promote self-employment to both employed and unemployed should be progressed quickly.		Launched
NRF funding should be sought to initiate the implementation of the Enterprise Development Strategy.		WNF secured Further bids to be made
Given this new and expanding area of work it is considered that a dedicated enterprise development officer to lead this work should be appointed.		Recently resigned so will have to advertised.

REPORT TO: Employment Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 29th September 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Corporate and Policy

SUBJECT: Local Area Agreement and Community Strategy Progress 2007/2008

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To advise on progress towards targets set in the Community Strategy and 2007 Local Area Agreement.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the Policy and Performance Board:

- (1) receives the progress report; and**
- (2) identifies any areas of concern where further information should be requested for a future meeting of the Board.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Council and its partners adopted a revised Community Strategy in April 2006. The Strategy contained targets for its key objectives for the period 2006 to 2011. These targets were subsequently incorporated into the 2007 Local Area Agreement.

3.2 Appendix 1 to this report summarises progress in 2007/8 and indicates the likelihood of achieving the Local Area Agreement and Community Strategy targets as they relate to the interests of this Policy and Performance Board. It presents an opportunity to reflect on progress made by the council and its partnerships. Where targets appear unlikely to be achieved, the board may, if it has not already done so, wish to request further information on the steps being taken to address under-performance. It may be appropriate to do this jointly with partners or the relevant specialist strategic partnership (SSP).

4.0 FUTURE REPORTING

4.1 Members are aware that the 2007 Local Area Agreement has now been replaced by a revised Agreement signed by Ministers in June 2008. The LAA 2008 incorporates just 32 indicators plus 16 statutory Children and Early Years indicators. Targets for these 48 indicators were agreed with Government and will be the basis for performance monitoring of Halton. It was chosen not to include additional local indicators in the LAA on the grounds that our Community Strategy already sets out our priorities and

targets for Halton, and we will continue to monitor progress in delivering the Community Strategy locally.

- 4.2 For 2008/09 onwards, we will therefore be reporting progress on both the new Local Area Agreement and the Community Strategy. This will form the basis for the area assessment by the Audit Commission as part of the new comprehensive area assessment.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The delivery of the Community Strategy is the central plank of our Policy Framework.

6.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Achievement of our Community Strategy targets has direct implications for our Comprehensive Area Assessment. Further consideration of any areas of under-performance may give rise to other implications for the Council.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL’S PRIORITIES

- 7.1 This report deals directly with progress on delivering one of our five priorities.

8.0 RISK ANALYSIS

The key risk is failure to improve the quality of life for residents in Halton in accordance with the objectives of our Community Strategy. This risk can be mitigated by regular reporting of performance and reviewing the action being taken where under-performance occurs.

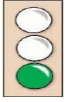


9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

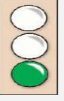
One of the guiding principles of the Community Strategy is to reduce inequalities in Halton.

10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972


Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Community Strategy 2006 – 2011)	
) 2 nd Floor	Rob MacKenzie
Local Area Agreement 2007) Municipal Building	0151 471 7416
)	
Local Area Agreement 2008)	

Performance Summary – Employment Learning & Skills

Total		12		0		3
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 <p>Green Target likely to be achieved / exceeded</p>	Measure	Page
	Overall benefits claim rate - Appleton	2
	Overall benefits claim rate - Castlefields	3
	Overall benefits claim rate – Halton Lea	4
	Overall benefits claim rate - Kingsway	5
	Overall benefits claim rate - Grange	6
	Overall benefits claim rate - Riverside	7
	Overall benefits claim rate – Windmill Hill	8
	Overall benefit claimant rate	9
	Adults qualified to level 3	10
	Adults qualified to level 2	11
	Adults gaining Skills for Life 1 or 2 or ESOL SfL at Entry level 1 to 3	15
	IB claimants sustaining 16hrs+ employment for 13 weeks+	16

 <p>Amber Uncertain whether target will be hit or exceeded</p>	Measure	Page

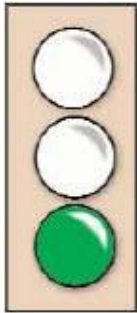
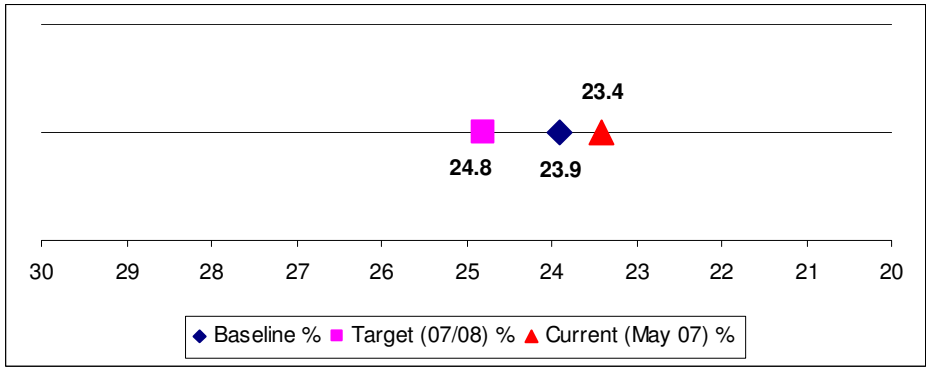
 <p>Red Target unlikely to be achieved</p>	Measure	Page
	Number of adults with no qualifications	12
	Self employment rate	13
	Number of VAT registrations	14

Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Within that NRF district a reduction by 2007-8 of at least 1.6 percentage point in the overall benefits claim rate for those living in the Local Authority wards
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Baseline Data	Appleton 23.9% Stats DWP website (dated 5/05)
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Performance Information – May 07

Progress	Outputs								
	<p><u>Overall benefits claim rate - Appleton</u></p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Data for Overall benefits claim rate - Appleton</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Value (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Baseline %</td> <td>23.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Target (07/08) %</td> <td>24.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current (May 07) %</td> <td>23.4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>◆ Baseline % ■ Target (07/08) % ▲ Current (May 07) %</p>	Category	Value (%)	Baseline %	23.9	Target (07/08) %	24.8	Current (May 07) %	23.4
Category	Value (%)								
Baseline %	23.9								
Target (07/08) %	24.8								
Current (May 07) %	23.4								

Supporting Information / Commentary

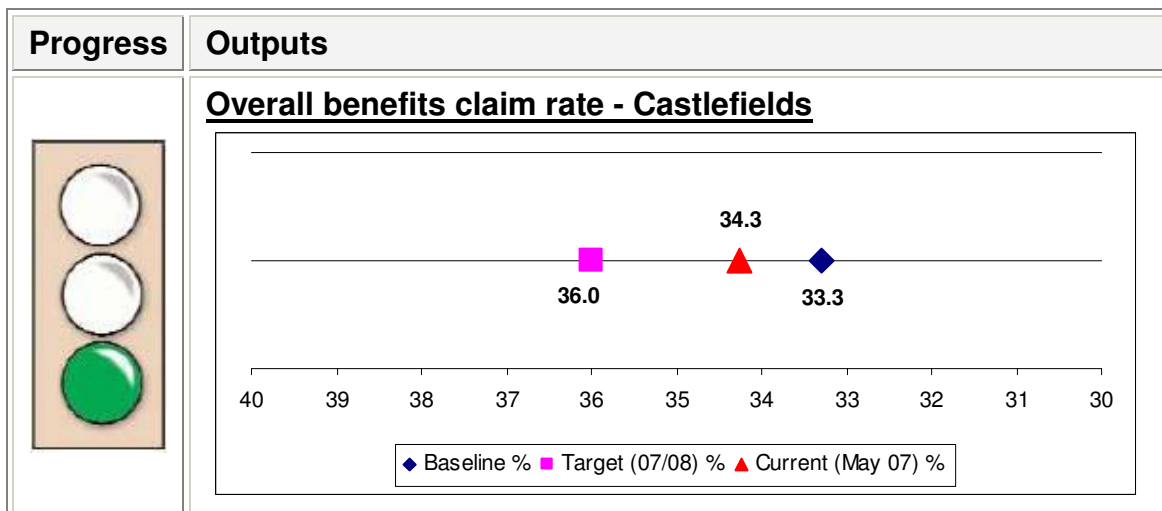
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Within that NRF district a reduction by 2007-8 of at least 1.6 percentage point in the overall benefits claim rate for those living in the Local Authority wards
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Baseline Data	Castlefields 33.3% Stats DWP website (dated 5/05)
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Performance Information – May 07



Supporting Information / Commentary

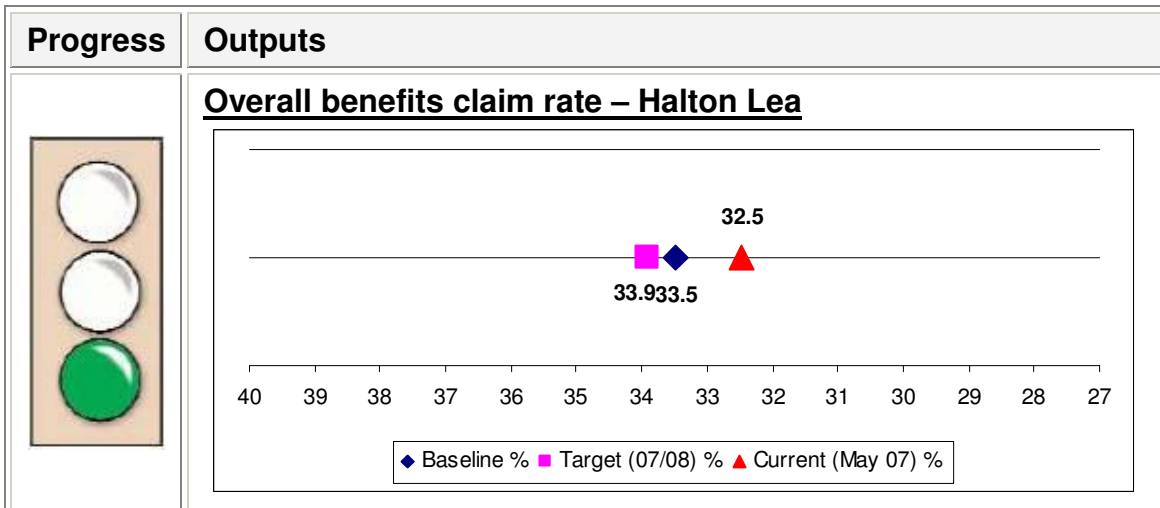
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Within that NRF district a reduction by 2007-8 of at least 1.6 percentage point in the overall benefits claim rate for those living in the Local Authority wards
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Baseline Data	Halton Lea 33.5% Stats DWP website (dated 5/05)
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Performance Information – May 07



Supporting Information / Commentary

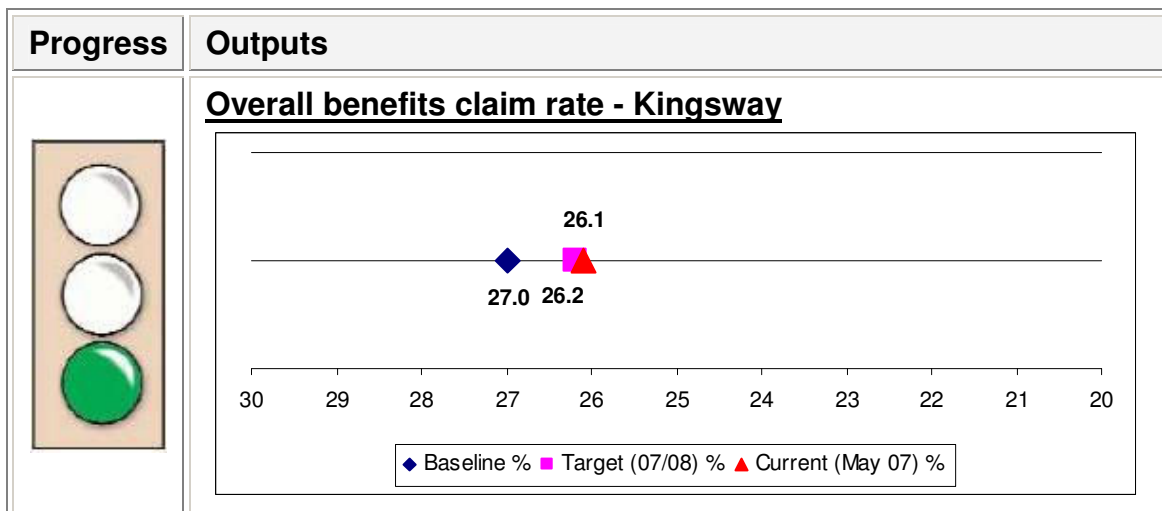
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Within that NRF district a reduction by 2007-8 of at least 1.6 percentage point in the overall benefits claim rate for those living in the Local Authority wards
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Baseline Data	Kingsway 27.0% Stats DWP website (dated 5/05)
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Performance Information – May 07



Supporting Information / Commentary

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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Within that NRF district a reduction by 2007-8 of at least 1.6 percentage point in the overall benefits claim rate for those living in the Local Authority wards
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Baseline Data	Grange 26.1%) Stats DWP website (dated 5/05)
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Performance Information – May 07



Supporting Information / Commentary

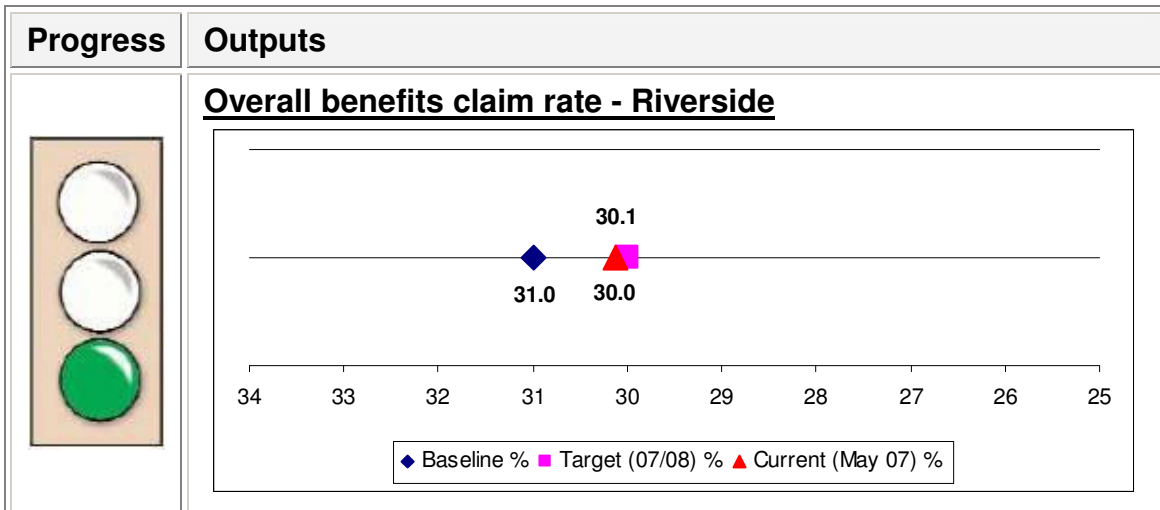
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Within that NRF district a reduction by 2007-8 of at least 1.6 percentage point in the overall benefits claim rate for those living in the Local Authority wards
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Baseline Data	Riverside 31.0% Stats DWP website (dated 5/05)
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Performance Information – May 07



Supporting Information / Commentary

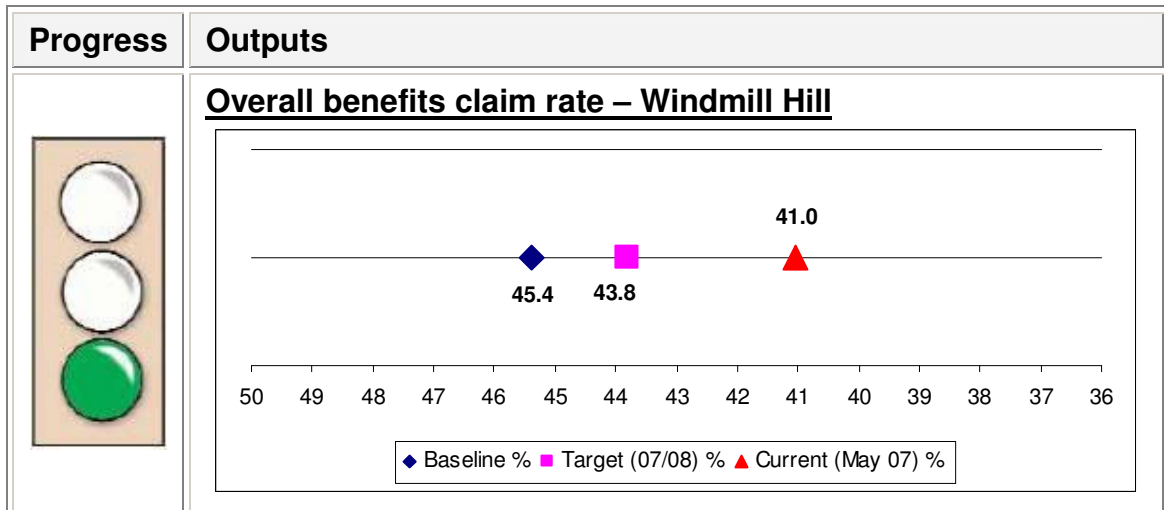
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Within that NRF district a reduction by 2007-8 of at least 1.6 percentage point in the overall benefits claim rate for those living in the Local Authority wards
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Baseline Data	Windmill Hill 45.4 Stats DWP website (dated 5/05)
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Performance Information – May 07



Supporting Information / Commentary

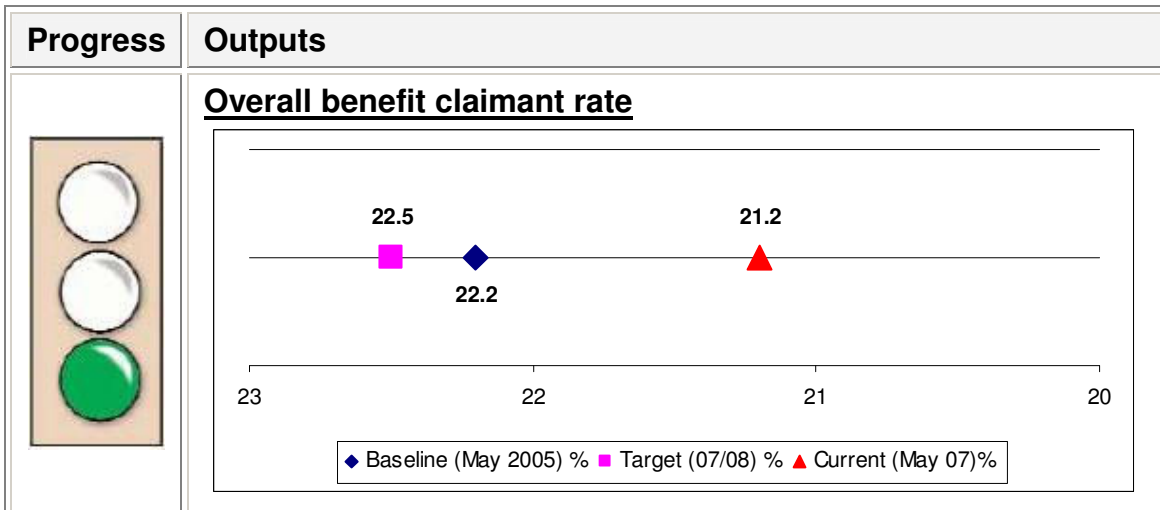
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Within that NRF district a reduction by 2007-8 of at least 1.6 percentage point in the overall benefits claim rate for those living in the Local Authority wards
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Baseline Data	22.2% (16,430) Stats DWP website (dated 5/05)
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Performance Information – May 07



Supporting Information / Commentary

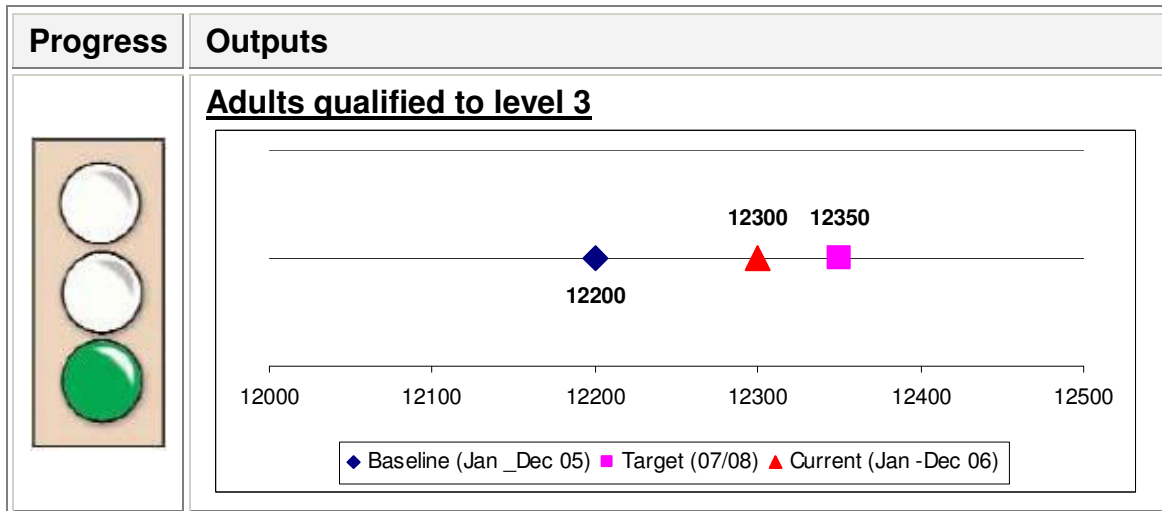
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Increase number of adults qualified to Level 3 by 5%
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Baseline Data	12,200 (Jan-Dec 05)
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Performance Information – Jan – Dec 06



Supporting Information / Commentary

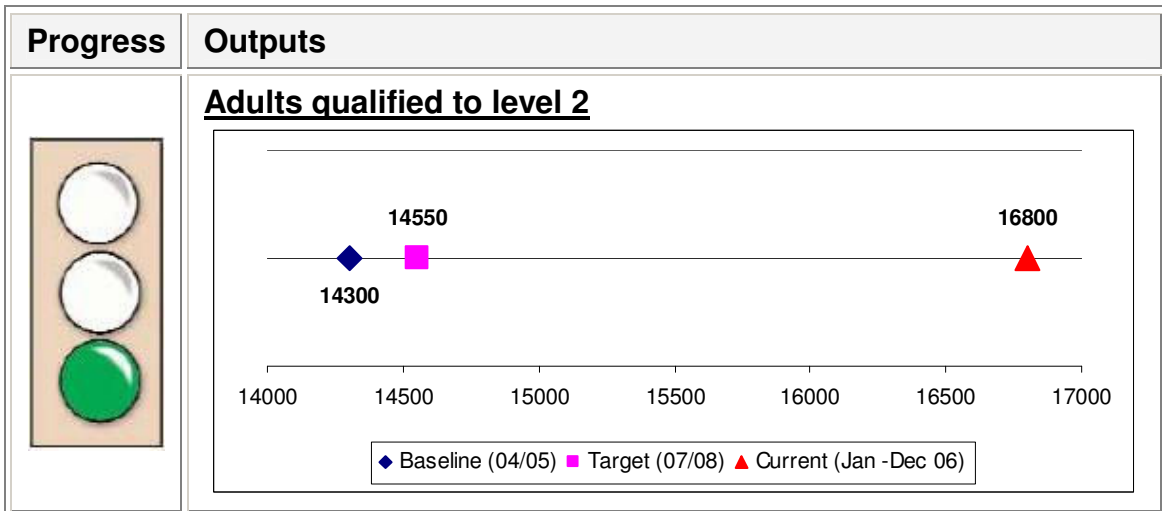
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Increase number of adults qualified to Level 2 by 6%
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Baseline Data	14,300 (04-05)
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Performance Information – Jan – Dec 06



Supporting Information / Commentary

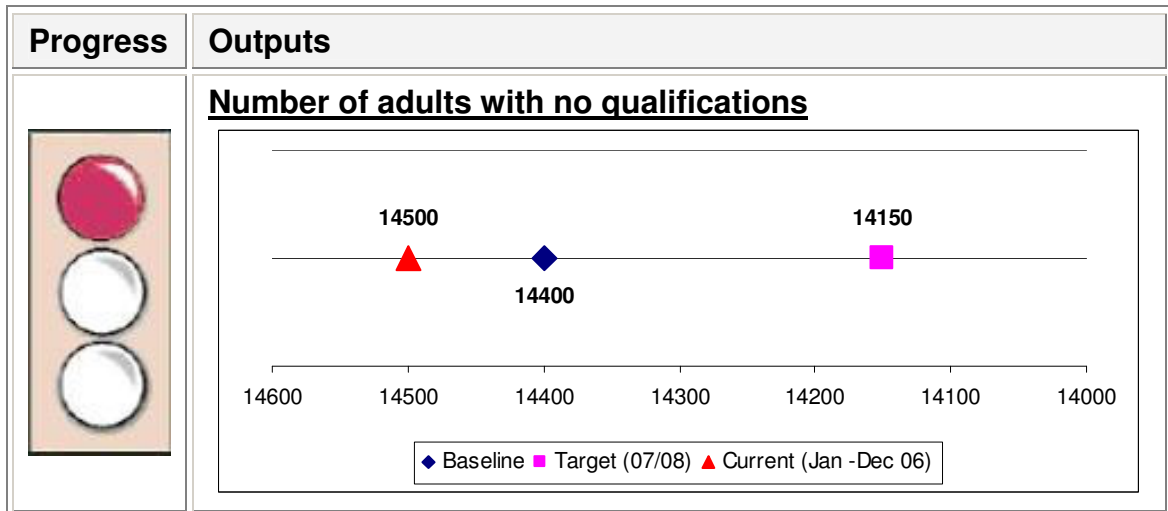
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Reduce number of adults with no qualifications by 6%
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Baseline Data	14,400
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Performance Information – Jan – Dec 06



Supporting Information / Commentary

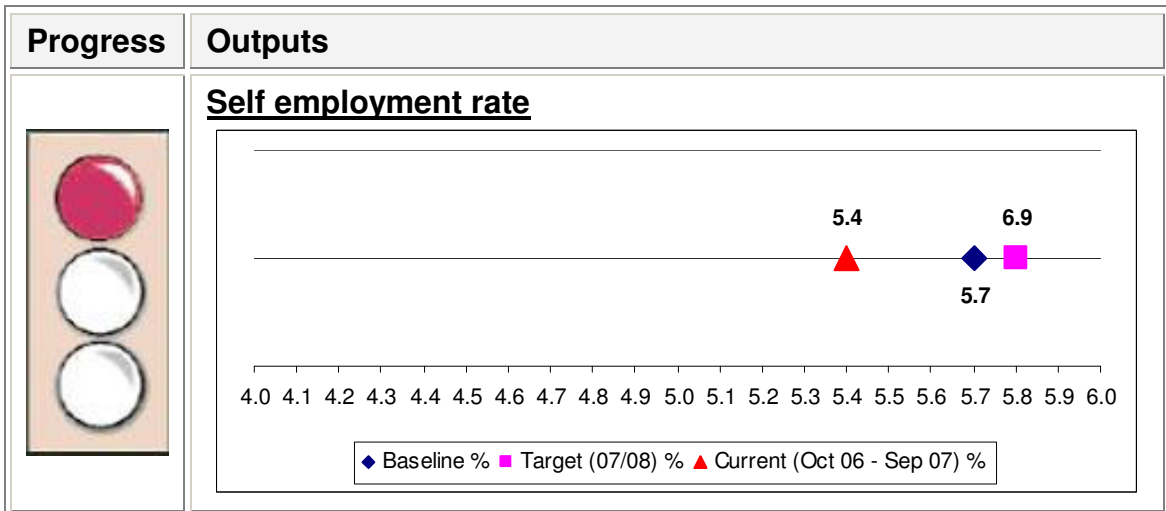
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Increase rate of self-employment by 9%
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Baseline Data	5.7%
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Performance Information – Oct 06 – Jan 07



Supporting Information / Commentary

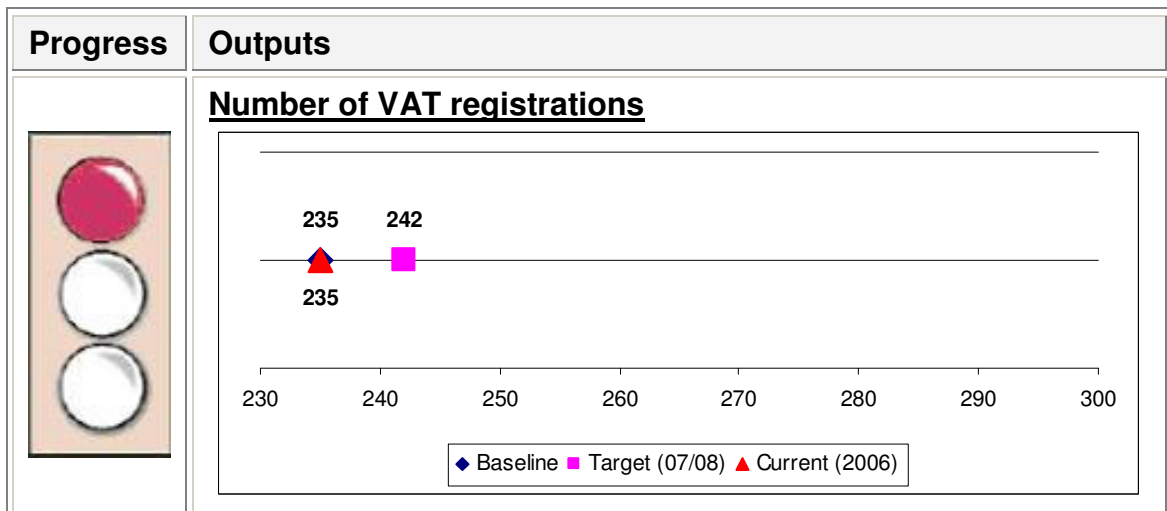
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	NOMIS
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Improvement Target	Increase number of VAT registrations by 9%
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Baseline Data	235 p.a
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Performance Information – 2006



Supporting Information / Commentary

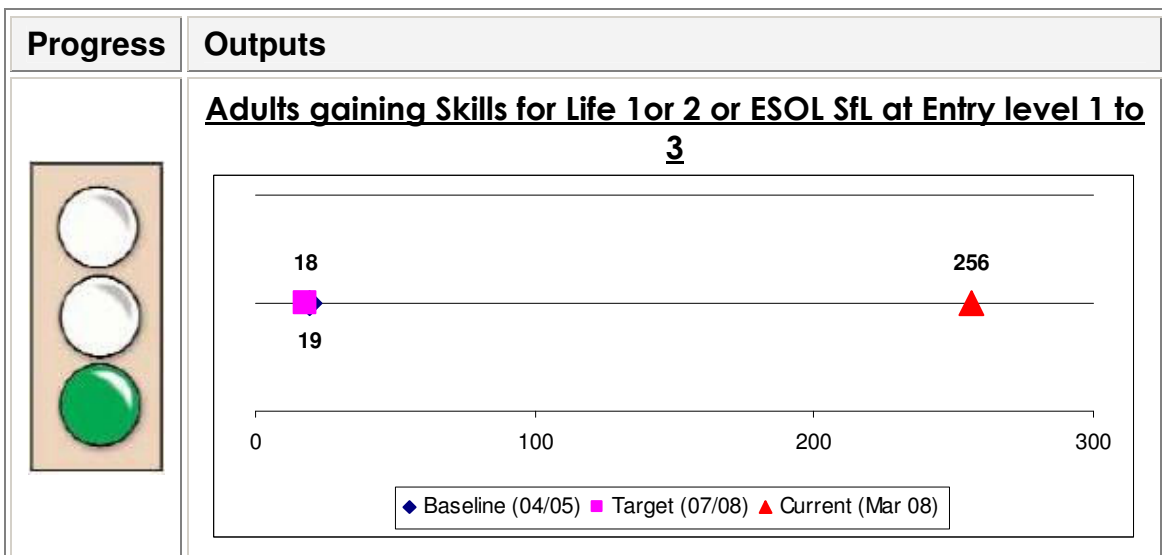
VAT is measured a year in arrears therefore current data is for 2006 whereas the target is for 2007.

Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	
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Improvement Target	Adults gaining Skills for Life 1 or 2 or ESOL SfL at Entry level 1 to 3
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Baseline Data	19 (04/05)
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Performance Information: Mar 08



Supporting Information / Commentary

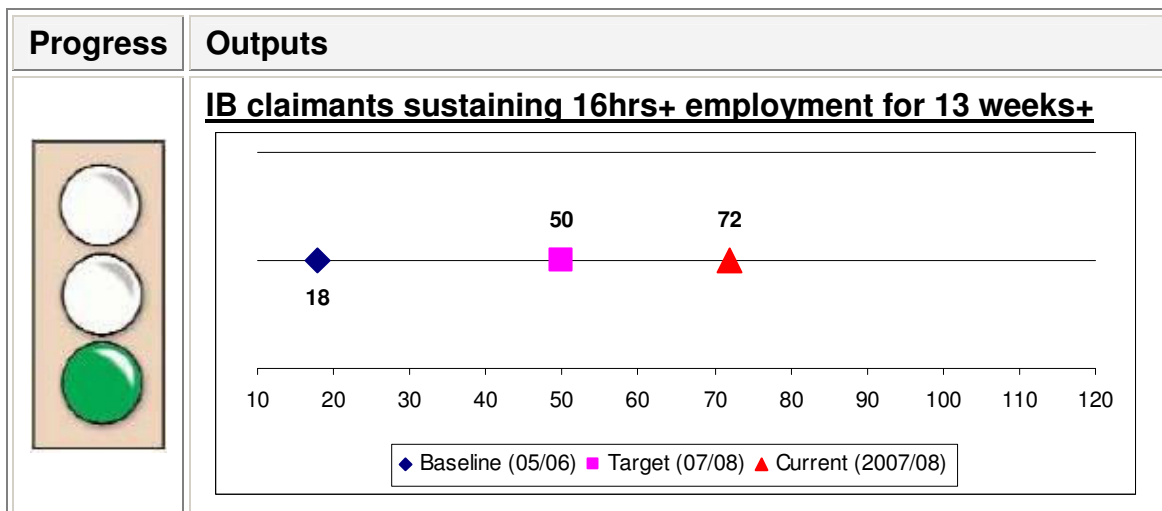
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Priority Area	Employment Learning & Skills	Data Source	HBC
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Improvement Target	IB recipients sustaining 16 hrs+ employment for 13 weeks+
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Baseline Data	18 (05/06)
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Performance Information – 2007/08



Supporting Information / Commentary

Performance at 31/3/08 is a total of 110 (2006/7 = 38; 2007/8 = 72). This leaves a target of 69 to achieve by 31/3/2009 and we are on target