

REPORT TO: Corporate Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 04th January 2011

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director (Resources)

SUBJECT: Sustainable Community Strategy
2010 – 11 Mid-year progress report.

WARDS: Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide information on the progress in achieving targets contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDED THAT:

- i. The report is noted
- ii. The Board considers whether it requires any further information concerning the actions being taken to achieve the performance targets contained within Halton's Sustainable Community Strategy.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy is the central document for the Council and its partners, providing an evidenced based framework through which actions and shared performance targets can be developed and communicated. An updated Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton is presently at an advanced stage of preparation and will become live from April 2011.

3.2 The coalition government has set out its intention to create greater transparency. This is intended to include the publication of performance as well as financial transactions. It is the government's expectation that Whitehall departments, local authorities and other public bodies will be performance managed by the communities and citizens which they serve. To this end, the coalition has set out its performance measures in government departmental business plans. Many of these performance measures are already included in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

3.3 The current Sustainable Community Strategy included targets which were also in the Local Area Agreement (LAA). In October this year, the coalition government announced the ending of government performance management of local authorities through LAA's.

3.4 Nevertheless, we need to maintain some framework of performance management to:

- measure progress towards our own objectives for the improvement of the quality of life in Halton.
- meet the government's expectation that we will publish performance information.

3.5 Attached as Appendix 1 is a report on progress to the 2010 – 11 mid-year which includes a summary of all indicators within the existing Sustainable Community Strategy and additional information for those specific indicators and targets that fall within the remit of this Policy and Performance Board.

3.6 In considering this report Members should be aware that:-

- a) All of the measures within the National Indicator Set (NIS) are monitored through Quarterly Departmental Service Plan Monitoring Reports. The purpose of this report is to consolidate information on all measures and targets relevant to this PPB in order to provide a clear picture of progress.
- b) In some cases outturn data cannot be made available at the mid-year point. Additionally, all measures captured through the National Place Survey, which was due to be undertaken this year, have been deleted from the NIS by central government and therefore no further data will be made available in 2010/11. The future requirement for localised perception survey under the transparency agenda is presently subject to consideration.

4.0 CONCLUSION

4.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton, and the performance measures and targets contained within it will remain central to the delivery of community outcomes. It is therefore important that we monitor progress and that Members are satisfied that adequate plans are in place to ensure that the Council and its partners achieve the improvement targets that have been agreed.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton is central to our policy framework. It provides the primary vehicle through which the Council and its partners develop and communicate collaborative actions that will positively impact upon the communities of Halton.

6.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The publication by Local Authorities of performance information is central to the coalition government's transparency agenda. This is accompanied by a commitment to reduce top down performance management, with the existing National Indicator Data Set (NIS), replaced from April 2011 with a single comprehensive list of all data that Local Authorities are required to provide to Central Government.
- 6.2 Central Government target setting will be replaced by minimum standards in some areas e.g. the proposed new floor target that every school should achieve 35% of pupils with 5 good GCSEs including specified subjects.
- 6.3 Thus, it still remains to be seen whether the burdens placed on local government will be reduced or simply redefined.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

- 7.1 This report deals directly with the delivery of the relevant strategic priority of the Council.

8.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 8.1 The key risk is a failure to improve the quality of life for Halton's residents in accordance with the objectives of the Sustainable Community Strategy. This risk can be mitigated through the regular reporting and review of progress and the development of appropriate actions where under-performance may occur.

9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

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

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

Document	Sustainable Community Strategy 2006 – 11
Place of Inspection	2 nd Floor, Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes
Contact Officer	Rob MacKenzie (0151 471 7416)



The Sustainable Community

Strategy for Halton

2006 - 2011

Mid-year Progress Report

01st April 2010 – 30th Sept 2010

Resources Policy &







Performance Board

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This report provides a summary of progress in relation to the achievement of targets within Halton’s Sustainable Community Strategy 2006 - 2011.

It provides both a snapshot of performance for the period 01st April 2010 to 30th September 2010 and a projection of expected levels of performance to the year-end.








The following symbols have been used to illustrate current performance as against the 2011 target and as against performance for the same period last year.

	Target is likely to be achieved or exceeded.		Current performance is better than this time last year
	The achievement of the target is uncertain at this stage		Current performance is the same as this time last year
	Target is highly unlikely to be / will not be achieved.		Current performance is worse than this time last year































HEALTHY HALTON

NI	Descriptor	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target	Direction of travel
8	Adult participation in sport			
53	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6 – 8 weeks from birth			
120	All-age all-cause mortality			 (Male)  (Female)
123	16+ Smoking rate prevalence			
139	People > 65 who say that they receive the information, assistance and support needed to exercise choice and control to live independently	N/A	N/A (See comment)	N/A
142	Number of vulnerable people supported to maintain independent living			
150	Adults in contact with secondary mental health services in employment			



















Non Local Area Agreement Measures / Targets

121	Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75 (proxy for local indicator H1)			
122	Mortality from all cancers at ages under 75 (proxy for local indicator H2)			
124	Increase the number of people with a long term condition supported to be independent and in control of their condition		N/A	N/A

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

NI	Descriptor	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target	Direction of travel
72	Early years foundation stage attainment			
73	Proportion achieving level 4 at KS2 in both English and Maths			
75	Proportion achieving 5 A-C GCSE's including English and Maths			
87	Secondary school persistence absence rate			
92	Achievement Gap at Early Years Foundation Stage			
93	Proportion progressing by 2 levels at KS2 in English			
94	Proportion progressing by 2 levels at KS2 in Maths			
99	Proportion of children in care achieving level 4 at KS2 English			
100	Proportion of children in care achieving level 4 at KS2 Maths			
101	Proportion of children in care achieving 5 A – C GCSE's			

Non-statutory indicators

56	Obesity among primary school age children-Year 6			
63	Stability of placements of looked after children			
80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification at age 19		N/A	N/A
111	First time entrants to Youth Justice System			
112	Under 18 conception rate			
115	Substance misuse by young people		N/A	N/A
116	Proportion of children in poverty	N/A		N/A
117	16 – 18 Year olds not in education, training or employment			

Non Local Area Agreement Measures / Targets

NI	Descriptor	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target	Direction of travel
CYP1	Reduce the 13% gap in attainment of 5 A*-C GCSEs (including English and Maths) by 25% between those living in the worst 10% LSOA nationally and the Halton average in the three years to 2011			
48	Reduce the number of children and young people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents			
199	Increase the children and young people's satisfaction with parks and play areas		N/A	N/A










SAFER HALTON

5	Overall satisfaction with the area	n/a	n/a	n/a
7	Environment for a thriving third sector	n/a	n/a	n/a
16	Serious acquisitive crime rate			
17	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour	n/a	n/a	n/a
20	Assault with injury crime rate			
30	Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders			
32	Repeat incidents of domestic violence			
33	Arson incidents			
39	Alcohol related hospital admission rates			
40	Drug users in effective treatment			













Non Local Area Agreement Measures / Targets

NI	Descriptor	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target	Direction of travel
47	Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents			
SH1	Reduce the number of incidents of ASB in the worst 5 Lower Super Output Areas compared with the rest of the borough			












EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING & SKILLS & COMMUNITY

NI	Descriptor	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target	Direction of travel
153	Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods			
163	Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher.			
171	VAT Registration rate			

Non Local Area Agreement Measures / Targets

NI	Descriptor	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target	Direction of travel
ELS1	Reduce the proportion of adults with no qualifications			
ELS2	Increase the proportion of adults qualified to Level 3			
ELS3	Increase the rate of self-employment			
ELS4	Ensure unemployment in any Lower Super Output Area is less than 20% above the borough average			

URBAN RENEWAL

NI	Descriptor	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target	Direction of travel
5	Overall satisfaction with local area	n/a	n/a	n/a
154	Net additional homes provided			
175	Access to services and facilities by public transport walking and cycling			
186	Per Capita CO2 Emissions in LA area	N/A		
192	Household waste collected and recycled			

Non Local Area Agreement Measures / Targets

NI	Descriptor	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target	Direction of travel
UR1	Assist in maintaining the current baseline of 59,000 jobs in Halton			
UR2	To bring 10 hectares of derelict land back into beneficial use annually			
UR3	Facilitate the relocation of businesses affected by the construction of the Mersey Gateway Bridge (Business identified - 78)			

NI 5 Increase residents overall satisfaction with the area

Baseline (2007-08)	09 – 10 Actual	2011 Target	2010 – 11 Cumulative outturn data				Current Progress	Direction of Travel
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
70.4%	N/A	73.4%	Refer comment				n/a	n/a

Data Commentary

The baseline position for this indicator is the perception data that was captured as part of the 2008 National Place Survey. A further survey was planned for 2010 but was cancelled and so an update is not expected.

General Performance Commentary

As 2009 is the 'gap' year between the national Place surveys the Halton Strategic Partnership commissioned research from IPSOS-MORI to follow-up the key findings of the Place Survey in more detail.



Generally people are satisfied with Halton as a place to live including: people (neighbours, family and friends), parks, schools, shopping, health and transport, NMAs (local housing and shopping facilities) and have an affinity for the local area with a sense of community and a high proportion of longstanding residents.

The key areas residents felt needed to be improved were: – low level crime, ASB, drugs, lack of respect, job prospects, reduce pollution, influence in decision making (NMAs), clean streets and activities for teenagers.

Summary of key activities undertaken / planned during the year

The current format for the Cohesion, Engagement and Liveability Group disbanded in April 2010 and is in the process of the being reviewed.

NI 186 Per capital CO2 emissions in LA area

Baseline (Year)	09 – 10 Actual	2011 Target	2010 – 11 Cumulative outturn data				Current Progress	Direction of Travel
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
10.1 tonnes per capita (2007/8)	N / A figures from DEFRA annually	4%	N / A	N / A	-	-		

Data Commentary

The previous target has been reduced to 4% with agreement of Halton Borough Council's Executive Board, as the previous target was wholly unachievable.

General Performance Commentary

There have been a number of projects undertaken throughout the year which have had a positive impact on reducing carbon emissions.

Summary of key activities undertaken / planned during the year

Installation of voltage optimisation equipment is continuing, 8 sites now have equipment installed, saving in the region of 250 tonnes of CO2 in total pa. An additional 7 sites will be fitted within the next 12 months.

Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) installation programme now almost complete; as such nearly all sites have half hourly consumption data available to view through a web portal. This gives us tools to proactively monitor consumption trends, helping us identify abnormal levels of consumption.

New Sustainable Projects Officer has started working with information from the AMR web portals and is thus beginning to work with building managers to help educate and train personnel in terms of good energy management; help identify areas for improving energy efficiency.

Various refurbishment projects have been carried out this year where improved levels of energy efficiency have been built in, examples being Halton Lea Library refurbishment and window replacement programme at Rutland House.

Energy audits undertaken by the Carbon Trust have been completed. A number of energy saving suggestions have come from these, which are now being investigated further. Some of these will be carried out, funding permitting.

Planned activities over the next 12 months:

Installation of voltage optimisation equipment at a further 7 sites to take place, with further bids to be placed for an ongoing programme of installation.

A number of new projects to come on-line which have had energy efficiency measures built in, e.g. Municipal Building ground/first floor refurbishment project & new primary school at Upton All Saints.

An HBC Policy & Performance Board report recommending the way forward in term of energy management within buildings will go to Exec Board for approval. This outlines a series of recommendations on improving energy management to try and embed it into the decision making process within the Council, and ensure it is brought into the monthly reporting cycle by managers.