

Employment, Learning, Skill & Community Priority Based Report

Reporting Period: Quarter 2, Period 1 July 2012 – 30 September 2012

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report provides an overview of issues and progress against key service objectives/milestones and performance targets, during the second quarter of 2012/13; for services areas within the remit of the Employment, Learning Skill & Community Policy & Performance Board.

The report has been structured using the below key priorities:

- Supporting Growth and Investment
- Raising Skill Levels and Reducing Unemployment
- Enhancing Residents' Quality of Life

1.2 The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within the Appendix 8. Please also note initials have been provided to indicate which Operational Director is responsible for commentary to aid members understanding, as shown in the key in the Appendix 8.

2.0 Key Developments

2.1 Supporting Growth and Investment (WR)

2.1.1 **Business Support Programme**

The pan-Merseyside European Regional Development Fund Business Support Programme has been approved by the Department for Communities and Local Government. Liverpool City Council is the 'Accountable Body' for the programme. Delivery across the City Region will be through 13 partner agencies. The Halton element will deliver an initial evaluation followed by either the provision of business mentor or a more specific intervention which meets the particular needs of individual businesses. The programme will, therefore, focus upon second stage growth and as such will seek to engage with established small to medium enterprises who have the ambition and capability to grow and expand. It is anticipated that the following outputs will be achieved:-

Businesses assisted to improve their performance	146
Number of businesses with improved performance	94
Jobs created	115
Jobs safeguarded	60

Commencement of the programme has been backdated to 16 July 2012. Project completion will be 30 June 2014. The realisation of the prescribed outputs within the project lifetime and within the resource constraints placed upon the project will, therefore, be a challenge.

The Borough Council has neither the human resources nor the skills sets to deliver one to one face to face business support. A part time Project Manager, experienced in the delivery of EU funded projects, and a Project Support Officer will, therefore, be appointed to manage the project. One to one business support will be delivered by external business support professionals who will be procured through the Matrix.

2.1.2 **Business Improvement and Growth Team (BIG)**

The BIG team have been working with INEOS ChlorVinyls for some time to help the company to find end users for a number of small vacant sites within their 400 acres estate in Runcorn. Unfortunately the sites were distributed across the complex and therefore difficult to market. INEOS now have in place a more structured programme to remove redundant plant from the

site which has created a single site of approximately 25 acres which could rise to as much as 50 acres over the next few years. The BIG team have brokered a partnership including the company, the local authority, UKTI and LCRLEP to find suitable end users for the site by 'internationalising' the opportunity. Locating the INEOS site would be attractive to companies wishing to take advantage of downstream products from INEOS or who have a large power requirement.

2.1.3 **Business Improvement District (BID)**

Consultation at Astmoor and Halebank Industrial areas to ascertain the business community's views about the current BID programme and to gather information for the BID2 Business Plan has been completed. Feedback was generally very positive and supportive of the programme. A programme is now in place to develop the full business plan which will form the basis of a formal vote in the New Year to secure a further five years for the programme.

2.2 **Raising Skill Levels and Reducing Unemployment (WR)**

2.2.1 **Skills Agency Funding changes**

Changes to Skills Agency Funding streams has meant that courses that were previously offered as non-accredited now have to be accredited. The Division successfully gained accredited centre approval from a range of awarding bodies (Ascentis, City & Guilds, ABC, British Computer Society, OCN and CACHE). Programmes commence in quarter three.

2.2.2 **Halton Employment Summit**

On 6 July 2012 the Halton Employment Summit brought together local employers and agencies to promote good practice in Halton, including the work of Halton Employment Partnership. Alastair Campbell and Stephen Timms MP were guest speakers.

2.2.3 **Work Programme**

Notices to improve were issued during quarter two in respect of Work Programme and Performance Improvement plans were submitted, describing how performance would be improved. Implementation of the improvement plans will be reviewed and assessed in quarter three to monitor targets and improvements. (Since then, performance has improved and targets have been met and we are currently on track to meet quarter 3 targets.

2.3 **Enhancing Residents' Quality of Life (CP)**

Key developments for the Community and Environment Department are summarised below for Leisure & Recreation Services and Arts and Culture, including the role of Libraries

2.3.1 **Stadium Events & Artificial Pitch Activities**

• **Matches/Pitch Activities**

Next season is a pivotal season for the Vikings as a decision will be made in March 2014 concerning the probable make-up of the Superleague for the next round of licences – 2015 – 2018.

• **Liverpool FC Ladies**

Liverpool FC Ladies have signed a one-year rolling contract to play both their first team and reserve team games here.

• **I – Pitch**

Since the introduction of the i-pitch earlier this year, it is estimated that over 200 individual teams and in excess of 15,000 people have used the i-pitch for competitive games or training. It is proving to be a real asset to the Stadium and enables far more community and commercial use of the playing surface.

For the first time the Stadium is to host the women's national finals which consists of six teams playing three games on the same day. Due to the very wet Summer this year it would not have been possible to host three games on one day, had we still had a grass pitch.

- **Events**

In times of austerity people are very careful how they spend any disposable income they may have. With this in mind it very reassuring that in the first six months of this financial the private bookings at the Stadium have been maintained or even shown a slight increase on the same period last year.

- **Bars**

Live entertainment takes every Saturday night, with a range of mid-week activities including: – quiz nights/poker/bingo/karaoke. Also, the Stadium was one of the first venues to sign up to the “Arc Angel initiative”, this initiative is working in partnership with Cheshire Police to help make safe and secure environments for people to meet and drink and to tackle underage drinking and drink related crime.

- **Marketing**

Marketing the facility and introducing new initiatives is critical in attracting and retaining customers, recent statistics show that:-

- The Stadium Facebook page now has 1395 likes (regular followers)
- The Stadium Website has had 75% new visitors in this period, the most significant groups from 18 % Widnes, 14% London and 10% Liverpool.

2.3.2 Stadium Fitness

Stadium Fitness Gym has seen a steady increase of all types of membership both pay-as-you-go and pay monthly. They have also introduced a family membership scheme that has seen a lot of interest.

In July, it was used as a base for the Children of Halton sing concert, which involved children from schools all over the borough. It also accommodated the walkers from the Twilight Walk raising money for Halton Haven.

In August Stadium Fitness visited O2 and Argos and offered fitness tests to the staff including blood pressure checks. As a direct result of these visits they have seen an increase in corporate memberships that deemed these commercial visits a success.

Also in August they played host to a Family Fun Day organised by the Sports Development Team. Over 500 people attended this event and the Stadium has seen an increase in people interested in attending the gym or classes.

2.3.3 Culture & Leisure Services

The Arts Council has awarded £275,000 to a regional project led by Halton Borough Council. The Touring Theatre Network comprises 16 theatres in the region it is Chaired and led by Halton. The successful bid enables theatre performances from professional companies that would normally be too expensive to stage, to be held at The Brindley

A new Sports Strategy for Halton has been completed and maps out how sport and physical activity will continue to be supported and developed over the next 3 years. The strategy has been consulted on widely and sets out the role and contribution physical activity can make in the promotion of health.

The Olympic and Paralympic games inspired many to try a new sport. Enquiries at local sports clubs increased and Halton's Join In weeks promoted 55 free sessions attracting over 800 participants.

2.3.4 Libraries

The newly located Runcorn Library has now been open half a year. The library has proven very popular with public usage some 50% higher than in the old library located at Egerton Street.

2.2.5 Norton Priory Museum Trust

Norton Priory Museum Trust has been successful in their submission of a Stage One bid to The National Heritage Lottery Fund. The project is valued at approximately £5M and is to rebuild the visitor centre, conserve the remains and undercroft and improve the gardens. They must now submit a stage two bid by July 2013 to secure the grant aid necessary.

3.0 Emerging Issues

3.1 Supporting Growth and Investment (WR)

3.1.1 Business Growth and Entrepreneurship Board

The Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership are seeking to establish a Business Growth and Entrepreneurship Board to foster and develop growth and entrepreneurship within the City Region. The BG&E Board will provide better coordination and integration of current provision and support, identify where the gaps are and facilitate growth. It is envisaged that the BG&E Board will be made up of approximately 10-12 individuals representing key groups, including Higher and Further Education, social economy, investment and banking, business networks, Local Authorities and many others. The creation of a credible BG&E Board will impact upon the delivery of business support and entrepreneurship services locally.

3.1.2 Support for Manufacturing in Liverpool City

The Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership are seeking to establish a Business Growth and Entrepreneurship Board to foster and develop growth and entrepreneurship within the City Region. The BG&E Board will provide better coordination and integration of current provision and support, identify where the gaps are and facilitate growth. It is envisaged that the BG&E Board will be made up of approximately 10-12 individuals representing key groups, including Higher and Further Education, social economy, investment and banking, business networks, Local Authorities and many others. The creation of a credible BG&E Board will impact upon the delivery of business support and entrepreneurship services locally.

3.2 Raising Skill Levels and Reducing Unemployment (WR)

3.2.1 Self-Assessment Report for Adult Learning and Skills

The annual self-assessment report for Adult Learning & Skills needs to be completed by the end of December 2012. It is four years since the service had a full Ofsted inspection and the chances of the next full Ofsted inspection are high. Inspection notice is now only two days and the service must ensure it is ready. The self-assessment would form the basis of the inspection.

3.2.2 National Careers Service

In order to be able to continue to deliver the National Careers Service, the division must obtain Matrix accreditation. During quarters one and two staff have been working towards the submission. The Matrix assessment will take place in early December 2012.

3.2.3 Adult Learning and Skills Tutor Contract

There is to be a full review of the current Adult Learning & Skills Tutor contract commencing quarter three. This is to identify efficiencies and greater flexibilities to meet the needs of the business. It is intended for new arrangements to be in place by September 2013.

3.3 Enhancing Residents' Quality of Life (CP)

3.3.1 Library Services

Public consultation on the library service is now complete and the results will be published shortly. This will inform a Library Strategy that will set out future priorities for the service. The coalition Government abolished National Library standards and it is therefore up to each local authority to determine the nature of the service provided.

3.3.2 Sport England Innovation Fund

The local authority in collaboration with DC Leisure, has submitted an expression of interest to Sport England Innovation Fund. If successful this would see a £450,000 refurbishment of the swimming pool changing rooms at Kingsway Leisure Centre.

4.0 Risk Control Measures

4.1 Risk control forms an integral part of the Council's Business Planning and performance monitoring arrangements. During the development of the 2012/13 Business Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all key service objectives with high risks included in the Directorate Risk Register.

4.2 As a result, monitoring of all relevant 'high' risks has been undertaken and progress reported against the application of the risk treatment measures. This is included in each of the quarterly monitoring reports by Department. No high risks were identified for areas falling within the remit of this PPB, where progress is uncertain or not met for each of the high risks.

5.0 Progress against high priority equality actions

5.1 The Council must have evidence that it reviews its services and policies to show that they comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which came into force in April 2011. The PSED also requires us to publish this information as it is available.




5.2 As a result of undertaking a Departmental Equality Impact Assessments no high priority actions were identified for the Directorate to quarter 2 2012 – 2013.

6.0 Performance Overview

6.1 The following information provides a synopsis of progress for both milestones and performance indicators across the key thematic priority areas.

Supporting Growth & Investment (WR)

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q2 Progress
EEP2	Support Halton's key strategic priorities through bid-writing for large scale bids by March 2013	
EEP2	Maintain a comprehensive database of all commercial by March 2013	
EEP2	Deliver the BID Year 5 action plan by March 2013	

Supporting Commentary

All milestones related to supporting growth and investment are progressing in line with expectations.

A work-plan for bid writing has been developed for 2012-13 through liaising with strategic directors to identify the priority bids for each Directorate. The team are working on three large-scale bids for Heritage Lottery Fund and ten bids averaging £250k each to Big Lottery Fund's Reaching Communities programme. The team has also led on the Regional Growth bid of £9.77m for the Sci-Tech Enterprise Zone.

The Business Improvement and Growth team continue to maintain a comprehensive database of all commercial property; that is development land, industrial and office space and retail units. A number of initiatives have been put in place over the past twelve months to improve the online provision of property searches. (WR)

All outputs associated with the BID Year 5 Action plan are on programme and on budget.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q2	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
DIS LI 01	Occupancy of HBC Industrial Units	72%	85%	72%		
SCS ELS01	Increase the number of active enterprises within the Borough	2660 (2011)	2675	2715		
SCS ELS02	Increase the proportion of business diversity in the following sectors: Knowledge Economy, Superport, Low carbon/green, Visitor Economy	25.94%	24%	26.34%		

Supporting Commentary

The downturn in the economy is hindering our ability to let properties with some companies terminating their leases.

Performance against the business development indicators is showing a positive trajectory with the latest available data indicating that targets have been met.

Raising Skills Levels & Reducing Unemployment (WR)

Key Milestones









Ref	Milestones	Q2 Progress
EEP3	Deliver Work Programme via sub contract arrangements to Prime Contractors A4E and Ingeus Delotte in line with the contract	
EEP3	Ensure that all monthly reviews of performance of the Work Programme contract are undertaken	

Supporting Commentary

Targets for both Ingeus and A4e job starts in quarter two were achieved successfully. Monthly reviews took place in the quarter and the next is expected to take place in October. Contract arrangements prevent the publication of further information at the point of writing this report.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q2	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
SCS ELS03	Increase the number of people classed as self-employed	5.7% (Sept 10 to Oct 11)	6.5%	6.4% (Jul 11 – Jun 12)		

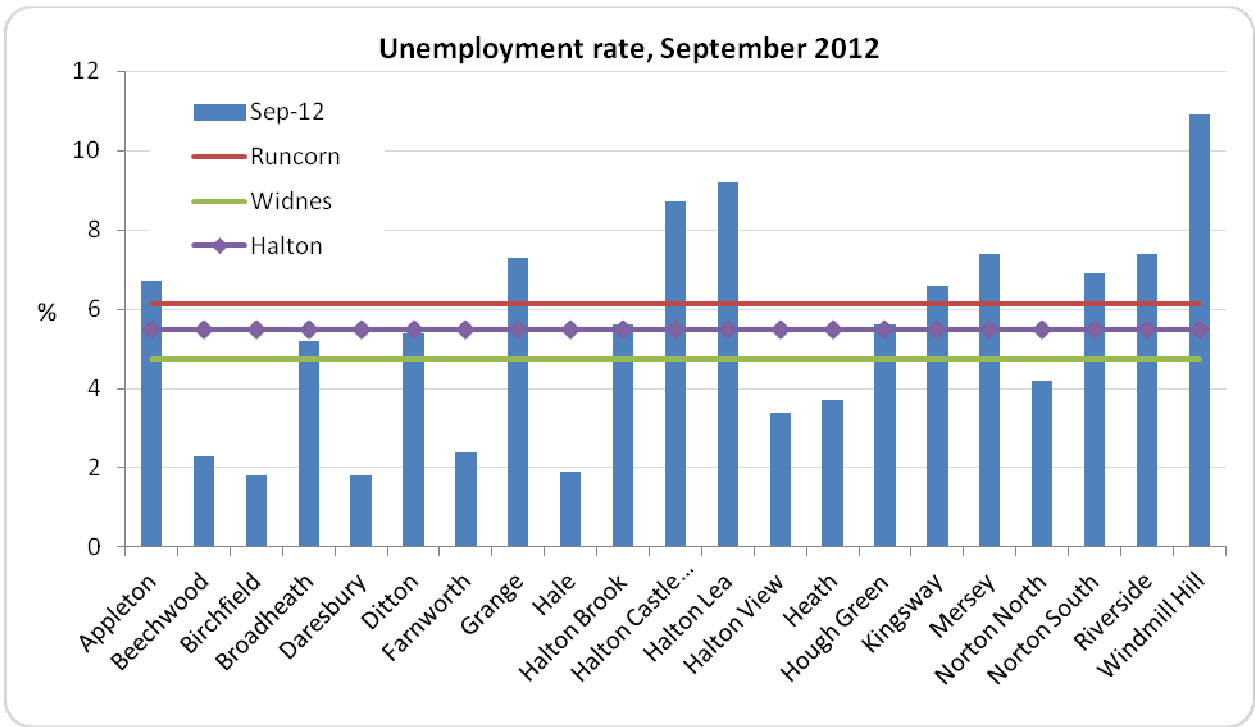
Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q2	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
SCS ELS04	Reduce the proportion of people with no qualifications	12.8% (2010 calendar year)	12%	11.5% (2011 calendar year)		
SCS ELS05 Revised NI165	Increase the percentage of people achieving NVQ Level 4 and above	21.3% (2010 calendar year)	23.5%	24% (2011 calendar year)		
SCS ELS07 NI152	Reduce the percentage of people registered unemployed and seeking employment	5.8%	5.2%	5.5% (Aug 12)		
SCS ELS08	Reduce the percentage of the working age population claiming out of work benefits	18.9% (Aug 11)	18%	18.23% (Aug 12)		
ELS LI03	Number of starts on DWP Work Programme	Contractual arrangements prevent publication of this information at the point of writing this report				

Supporting Commentary

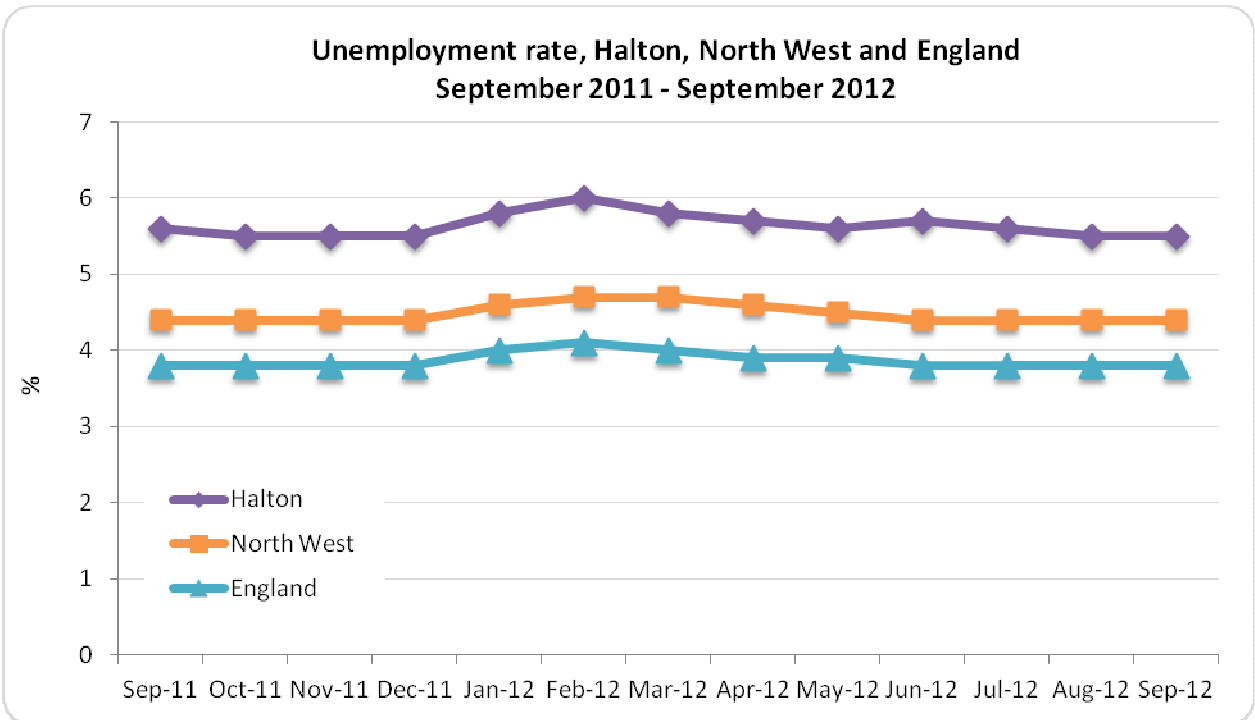
Self-employment has increased, although at June 2012 (latest available data) performance indicates it has yet to meet the target for the end of the year.

Both qualification indicators are showing positive improvements for the latest information available and have met the targets set. The Employment Learning and Skills division are continuing to deliver courses to further improve these outcome measures.

Further information around the unemployment rates is given overleaf with detailed breakdown by ward and in comparison with the North West and England averages.






Percentage of the Working Age Population Claiming Job Seeker's Allowance



Halton's unemployment rate has been gradually decreasing since the peak in February 2012. Halton remains higher than both the North West (4.4%) and England rate (3.8%) where the trend is a continued reduction from the peak in the spring.

Enhancing Residents' Quality of Life (CP)

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q2 Progress
CE1	Commence development of new Sports Strategy (2012-2014) by March 2013	
CE1	Use promotional events to increase participation and raise awareness associated with Sporting Excellence and 2012 Olympics by August 2012	
CE4	Undertake CIPFA PLUS survey (public library user survey for Adults) due to take place September 2012	
CE4	Deliver a programme of good quality Reader Development activities with at least 1 major event per quarter March 2013	
CE4	Deliver a programme of extended informal learning opportunities including support for digital inclusion through the Race Online and Go ON campaigns meeting identified local targets by March 2013	
CE4	Implement efficiencies in stock procurement processes through the introduction of electronic invoicing, supplier selection and direct delivery by March 2013	

Supporting Commentary

Sports Strategy Development

Halton's Sports Strategy 2012-15 was adopted in July 2012.

Awareness raising

Join in Local Sport:- This 2 week promotion campaign for local sports providers was undertaken. 55 free sessions, 20 swim for £1 sessions, 6 free junior swim and 1 main event held at Halton Stadium which 500 people attended.

Local Olympic and Paralympic sports makers and torch bearers promoted and assisting with local events. Press releases x 12 and 2 radio interviews.

2 new activities – chair exercise at Queen's Close and workplace Zumba at Halton Lea.

2012 Gold challenge (1-week of activity) delivered with Millbrow care-home inc intergenerational event at Kingsway Leisure centre, press cover received. 3 older adult activities sessions delivered.

Halton Sports Awards over 170 people attended to celebrate sporting achievements in Halton, regular press coverage in weekly news.

CIPFA PLUS Survey

Whilst preparations are underway the deadline of September has not been achieved. The survey is due to take place week beginning 29 October 2012.

Reader Development

The Summer Reading Challenge, a celebration of stories, fun and imagination with an Olympic theme, was delivered. The challenge encouraged children to read 6 or more books during the holidays and to collect incentives with medals and certificates for those completing the challenge. 581 children started the challenge and 247 completed it. The challenge was supported by Young Volunteers from the MyVoice Project.

MyVoice Project – Young people participated in sessions with authors Andrew Newbound and Tom Palmer.





Informal Learning Opportunities

86 one to one support sessions have been delivered covering how to get online, online basics, setting up e-mail accounts, social networking and safe internet use. A digital Job Hub has been launched at Halton Lea Library.

Stock Procurement Efficiencies

Library Management System software has been developed to enable electronic invoicing and will be tested shortly. Supplier selection for Adult and Children’s fiction introduced April 2012. Direct delivery is being investigated with current book supplier.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q2	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
<u>CE LI 6</u>	Number of active users of the library service during the last 12 months.	New Measure	22,500	17,372		N/A
<u>CE LI 6a</u>	Number of visits to libraries (annual total).	New Measure	599,000	301,154		N/A
<u>CE LI 7</u>	Percentage of the adult population (16+) participating in sport each week (Previously NI8).	24.5%	24.0%	23.4%		

Supporting Commentary

CELI 6, 6a – There is an increase from last quarter in registered users up from 55,000 to 57,826 but a reduction in the number of active users from 17,765 to 17,372 due to seasonal trends. Based on current visit figures the target will be achieved.

CE LI 7 – NI8 is reported as a 2 year cumulative rate. Interim results published on 22.6.2012 for the period April 10 to April 12 is 23.4% slightly down from the last reported period of October 09- October 11 of 24.5%. This would take account of the removal of the free swim for over 60’s. The next published results are available in Dec ’12 for the period Oct 10 - Oct 12.

7.0 Financial Statements

ECONOMY, ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

SUMMARY FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30th September 2012

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget to Date £'000	Expenditure to Date £'000	Variance to Date (overspend) £'000
Expenditure				
Employees	4,561	2,183	2,254	(71)
Repairs & Maintenance	2,484	1,265	1,295	(30)
Energy & Water Costs	679	376	330	46
NNDR	1,010	837	795	42
Rents	679	539	557	(18)
Marketing Programme	59	17	16	1
Promotions	33	20	20	0
Supplies & Services	1,186	565	517	48
Agency Related Expenditure	80	21	18	3
Revenue Contribution to / from Reserves	-45	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	10,726	5,823	5,802	21
Sales	-3	-1	0	(1)
Fees & Charges	-319	-243	-243	0
Rent - Markets	-806	-399	-364	(35)
Rent - Industrial Estates	-625	-287	-275	(12)
Rent - Commercial	-1,128	-656	-574	(82)
Transfer to / from Reserves	-765	-611	-611	0
Government Grant - Income	-374	-220	-220	0
Reimbursements & Other Income	-754	-69	-39	(30)
Recharges to Capital	-141	-46	-46	0
Schools SLA Income	-788	-105	-40	(65)
Total Income	-5,703	-2,637	-2,412	(225)
NET OPERATIONAL BUDGET	5,023	3,186	3,390	(204)
Premises Support Costs	1,790	1,041	1,041	0
Transport Support Costs	47	22	22	0
Central Support Service Costs	1,869	935	935	0
Asset Rental Support Costs	3,460	9	9	0
Repairs & Maint. Rech. Income	-2,393	-1,197	-1,197	0
Accommodation Rech. Income	-3,344	-1,672	-1,672	0
Central Supp. Service Rech. Income	-2,001	-1,243	-1,243	0
Total Recharges	-572	-2,105	-2,105	0
Net Expenditure	4,451	1,081	1,285	(204)

The expenditure for employees is above budget as staff savings targets are not being achieved. This is due to an insufficient level of staff turnover compared to staff vacancies across the Division and will be monitored closely throughout the financial year.

Energy and water costs are under budget as a result of improvements that are currently being implemented throughout the Council.

Business Rates are under budget due to the revaluation of various properties within the Council.

In order to ease budget pressures only necessary spending on supplies and services has occurred in year.

Rental Income (including Markets; Industrial Estates & Commercial) is currently showing a shortfall due to vacant units across all three areas. Work is being carried out to promote these units and there is a possibility that activity levels will change as the financial year progresses. Budgets will be monitored closely throughout the year to make sure the financial impact is limited and action taken to balance the Directorate budget at year-end

Schools SLA income will not be achieved due to a number of schools not signing up for the SLA.

In overall terms it is anticipated that net expenditure will be above the overall departmental budget by year-end, primarily as a result of the shortfalls in income outlined above. Steps will therefore need to be taken where possible to reduce expenditure to offset the shortfalls in income.

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 30 September 2012

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual to Date £'000	Variance To Date (overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	11,292	5,667	5,847	(180)
Other Premises	1,200	600	512	88
Supplies & Services	1,591	684	523	161
Book Fund	245	79	71	8
Promotional	265	130	126	4
Other Hired Services	925	356	346	10
Food Provisions	861	379	349	30
School Meals Food	1,656	472	433	39
Transport	43	22	34	(12)
Other Agency Costs	121	46	30	16
Waste Disposal Contracts	5,187	925	894	31
Leisure Management Contract	1,493	490	509	(19)
Grants To Voluntary Organisations	103	56	54	2
Grant To Norton Priory	222	111	112	(1)
Rolling Projects	286	81	81	0
Transfers To Reserves	10	0	0	0
Capital Financing	59	6	6	0
Total Spending	25,559	10,104	9,927	177
<u>Income</u>				
Sales Income	-1,949	-1,037	-997	(40)
School Meals Sales	-2,173	-692	-731	39
Fees & Charges Income	-2,393	-1,206	-1,069	(137)
Rents Income	-178	-116	-96	(20)
Government Grant Income	-31	-30	-34	4
Reimbursements & Other Income	-634	-144	-166	22
Schools SLA Income	-2,037	-136	-160	24
Internal Fees Income	-123	-61	-15	(46)
School Meals Other Income	-369	-155	-166	11
Meals On Wheels	-193	-97	-98	1
Catering Fees	-226	-113	-30	(83)
Capital Salaries	-101	-50	-44	(6)
Transfers From Reserves	-298	-17	-17	0
Total Income	-10,705	-3,854	-3,623	(231)
Net Controllable Expenditure	14,854	6,250	6,304	(54)

Recharges				
Premises Support	1,387	673	673	0
Transport Recharges	2,343	1,176	1,181	(5)
Departmental Support Services	9	0	0	0
Central Support Services	2,757	1,404	1,404	0
Asset Charges	2,459	0	0	0
HBC Support Costs Income	-307	-307	-307	0
Net Total Recharges	8,648	2,946	2,951	(5)
Net Departmental Total	23,502	9,196	9,255	(59)

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms the Net Operational budget is £ 59,000 over budget profile at the end of the second quarter of the financial year.

Staffing related expenditure is over budget profile by £180,000, primarily due to the premium pay savings target which account for 50% of the total staff savings target of £570,000. There is continued use of Agency staff in the Open Spaces and Waste Management Divisions with expenditure of over £193,000. Both Open Spaces and Waste Management are over budget profile to date by £61,000 and £77,000 respectively. It is hoped that the employment of apprentices can reduce this type of expenditure in the coming months.

Expenditure on Supplies and Services is currently £161,000 under budget profile. The main contributing factors are extremely low need for repairs, reduced need to replace dustbins and a low level of advertising across the department. Expenditure incurred on utilities and Rates is also lower than expected at this point in the year.

Food provisions continue to incur lower than anticipated expenditure due to lower sales and efficiencies with cost reduction. Internal Catering Fees Income is also under budget profile due to the continuing trend of reduced internal orders for catering across the council as a whole.

School Meals are performing well against budgets in respect of food costs and income. Food costs are £38,000 under budget profile and this budget is expected to be underspent at year end as it continues to benefit from renegotiated contract prices. Incomes continue to benefit from the recent price increase of school meals and school breaks are also expected to over achieve against target.

Fees & Charges income is still under achieving on its budget target across most divisions of the department. Income received from the Stadium continues to be less than budget due to the lower than expected level of bookings.

As reported in quarter 1, Trade Waste income has decreased despite a smaller increase in price this year. However expenditure on waste disposal contracts is also under budget to date. Invoices for Waste disposal contracts continue to be received late from contractors making estimates difficult to predict. Therefore this budget will continue to be monitored throughout the rest of the year. Income received in relation to events at the Stadium and other bookings are also currently lower than usual.




Rental income will be considerably reduced this current financial year due to Everton Football Club no longer using the Stadium. The annual effect of this will be in the region of £ 50,000.

Capital Projects as at 30 September 2012

	2012/13 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
Stadium Minor Works	30	15	18	12
Stadium Disabled Facilities	50	13	0	50
Children's Playground Equipment	96	48	25	71
Landfill Tax Scheme Hale Park	340	170	0	340
Playground Arley Drive	72	36	2	70
Playground The Glen	5	3	1	4
Crow Wood Park	12	6	0	12
Open Spaces Scheme	150	75	41	109
Runcorn Cemetery Extension	71	36	61	10
Installation of 5 Multi Use Games Areas	29	15	0	29
Runcorn TH Park	73	37	73	0
Playground Runcorn Hill Park	6	6	6	0
Litter Bins	28	14	12	16
Castle fields Recycling Scheme	30	15	0	30
Total Spending	992	487	239	753




8.0 Appendix – Explanation for use of symbols

Symbols are used in the following manner:

<u>Progress</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
Green 	Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the annual target <u>is on course to be achieved</u>.</i>
Amber 	Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> , whether the milestone/objective will be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> whether the annual target is on course to be achieved.</i>
Red 	Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain</u> that the objective will not be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the target <u>will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</i>

Direction of Travel Indicator

Where possible performance measures will also identify a direction of travel using the following convention

Green 	Indicates that performance is better as compared to the same period last year.
Amber 	Indicates that performance is the same as compared to the same period last year.
Red 	Indicates that performance is worse as compared to the same period last year.
N/A	Indicates that the measure cannot be compared to the same period last year.

Key for Operational Director Lead

WR – Wesley Rourke - Operational Director Economy, Enterprise & Property
 CP – Chris Patino - Operational Director Community and Environment