

**REPORT TO:** Children & Young People Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 01<sup>st</sup> June 2009

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director Corporate and Policy

**SUBJECT:** Local Area Agreement Refresh and 2008-09 Performance Report

**WARDS:** Borough-wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To report on progress towards meeting Local Area Agreement targets at the end of the first year of the Agreement.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION THAT:**

- i. The report is noted.
- ii. The Board considers whether it requires any further information on the actions being taken to deliver the LAA targets.

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 The revised Local Area Agreement (LAA) was signed off by the Secretary of State in June 2008. The purpose of the LAA is to agree a set of targets for Halton with government and local partners. Named partners have a duty to co-operate in striving to achieve these targets. There were 34 indicators in the LAA, together with statutory education and early years targets. The agreement covers the period April 2008 to March 2011.

3.2 The Agreement was "refreshed" in March 2009. The indicators and targets were reviewed with Government Office. There were a number of gaps and estimates in the original agreement, and the principle changes were to fill these gaps using information that had become available between June 2008 and March 2009 such as the results of the Places Survey. A summary of the changes is attached as appendix 1. It is not expected that there will be many further changes, except in one area. The economic downturn will inevitably have an impact on the likelihood of achieving some targets relating to the economy and housebuilding, and the government has identified a list of indicators for which targets will be reviewed before the end of March 2010, by which time the impact of the downturn will be clearer.

3.3 A report on progress over the first year of the Agreement is attached at Appendix 2, covering those indicators which fall within the responsibilities of this particular Policy and Performance Board. This is based on the targets in the refreshed agreement.

3.4 In reading the report members should bear in mind that:

1. All the national indicators are built into the quarterly service plan monitoring reports. The intention of this report is pick out the LAA indicators from the different service plans so that it is possible to see a clearer picture of progress overall.
2. Certain indicators are only reported some time after year end, so in those cases no progress report is yet available. There are also some survey based indicators for which no further data will be available until the survey is repeated in 2010.

#### **4.0 CONCLUSION**

4.1 The Local Area Agreement reflects the priorities in our community strategy for improving the quality of life in Halton. It is the main mechanism by which government will performance manage local areas. It is therefore important that we monitor progress, and that members are satisfied that adequate plans are in place to ensure that the improvement targets are achieved.

#### **5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The Local Area Agreement acts as a delivery plan for the sustainable community strategy and as such is central to our policy framework.

#### **6.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Achievement of our Local Area Agreement 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 and its partners.

#### **7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

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

#### **8.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

8.1 The key risk is failure to improve the quality of life for residents of 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**

9.1 One of the guiding principles of the LAA is to reduce inequalities in Halton.

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

10.1 Document:

Local Area Agreement 2008. Place of inspection 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Municipal Building.  
Contact officer – Rob MacKenzie (0151 471 7416)

## CHANGES TO HALTON'S LAA OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK – March 09

Ref	Description	Reason for Change
NI 5	Overall satisfaction with the area	Targets now agreed, provisional data became available early 2009 following Places Survey.
NI 7	Environment for a thriving third sector	Targets now agreed, data became available early 2009 following survey conducted by Office of the Third Sector.
NI 8	Adult participation in sport	Had used local data, now have national data which became available early 2009 following Sports Participation survey.
NI 16	Serious acquisitive crime rate	Minor typing error corrected.
NI 17	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour	Small changes to targets as provisional Places Survey data now being used instead of local data.
NI 20	Assault with injury crime rate	Presentation style was changed by GONW, and more up to date data was made available.
NI 30	Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders.	Presentation style changed.
NI 32	Repeat incidents of domestic violence	Small changes to targets as national definitions now being used instead of local data.
NI 33	<i>Arson Incidents</i>	<i>No change.</i>
NI 39	Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates – Rate per 100 000 admissions	Baseline updated which impacted on targets.
NI 40	Drug users in effective treatment	Baseline updated which impacted on targets.
NI 53	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth	Baseline has been changed, but targets remain the same as previously agree.
NI 56	<i>Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6</i>	<i>No Change.</i>
NI 63	<i>Stability of placements of looked after children</i>	<i>No Change.</i>
NI 80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	Baseline has been changed, but targets remain the same as previously agree.
NI 111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17	Small changes to targets as baseline supplied has been revised by GONW.

**APPENDIX 1**

Ref	Description	Reason for Change
NI 112	Under 18 conception rate	Updated baseline, targets remain the same.
NI 115	Substance misuse by young people	Survey data now available and being used.
NI 116	<i>Proportion of children in poverty (To be reviewed in 2010)</i>	<i>No change.</i>
NI 117	16-18 year old not in education, training or employment WNF Reward Indicator (To be reviewed in 2010)	National data now available and being used.
NI 120	<i>All-age all cause mortality</i>	<i>No change.</i>
NI 123	<i>16+ current smoking rate prevalence</i>	<i>No change.</i>
NI 139	People over 65 who say that they receive the information, assistance and support needed to exercise choice and control to live independently.	Places survey data now available and being used.
NI 142	<i>Number of vulnerable people supported to maintain independent living</i>	<i>No change.</i>
NI 150 C4	Adults in contact with secondary mental health services in employment	This indicator has been deferred and used as a placeholder due to lack of relevant data available. Will be reviewed in the next refresh.
NI 153	Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods WNF Reward Indicator (To be reviewed in 2010)	Minor typing error corrected.
NI 154	<i>Net additional homes provided (To be reviewed in 2010)</i>	<i>No change.</i>
NI 163	Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher WNF Reward Indicator	Baseline has changed and targets reviewed, taking into account the economic climate.
NI 171	VAT registration rate (To be reviewed in 2010)	National data now available and being used.
NI 175	<i>Access to services and facilities by public transport walking and cycling</i>	<i>No change.</i>
NI 186	<i>Per capita CO2 emissions in LA area</i>	<i>No change.</i>
NI 192	<i>Household waste recycled and composted</i>	<i>No change.</i>

**APPENDIX 1**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT TWO INDICATORS HAVE BEEN DELETED FROM HALTON'S LAA. THESE ARE:-**

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>NI 124</b>	People with long-term condition supported to be independent and in control of their condition	Data unavailable
<b>NI 173</b>	People falling out of work and on to incapacity benefits	Data unavailable

**Halton Local Area Agreement Annual  
Progress Report  
2008 - 09**

**Children & Young People**

This report provides a summary of progress in relation to the achievement of targets for Halton Local Area Agreement.

It provides both a snapshot of performance at 2008 – 09 year-end and a projection of expected levels of performance to the period 2011.

The following traffic light convention has been adopted to illustrate both current and projected performance in relation to each of those measures and targets within the LAA.

***Traffic light convention 2008 / 09***



2008 – 09 target has been achieved or exceeded.



2008 – 09 target has not been achieved

***Traffic light convention for 2011 projection***



2011 target is likely to be achieved or exceeded.



The achievement of the 2011 target is questionable



2011 target is highly unlikely to be / will not be achieved.

The following indicators are not included within this performance report:

NI	Descriptor	Reason
95	Proportion progressing by 2 levels in KS3 English	Data presently unavailable
96	Proportion progressing by 2 levels in KS3 Maths	Data presently unavailable





## Performance Overview

### CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Ref	Description	08/ 09 Target	2011 Target
72	Early years foundation stage attainment		
73	Proportion achieving level 4 at KS2 in both English and Maths		
74	Proportion achieving level 5 at KS3 in both English and maths		N/A
75	Proportion achieving 5 A-C GCSE's including English and Maths		
83	Proportion achieving level 5 at KS3 in Science		N/A
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		
95	Proportion progressing by 2 levels at KS3 in English	N/A	N/A
96	Proportion progressing by 2 levels at KS3 in Maths	N/A	N/A
97	Proportion progressing by 2 levels at KS4 in English		
98	Proportion progressing by 2 levels at KS4 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		
53	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6 – 8 weeks from birth		
56	Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6		
63	Stability of placements of looked after children		
80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification at age 19		
111	First time entrants to Youth Justice System		
112	Under 18 conception rate		
115	Substance misuse by young people	N/A	
116	Proportion of children in poverty		
117	16 – 18 Year olds not in education, training or employment		

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE



### NI 72 Early Years Foundation Stage Attainment

Baseline 2007 – 08 <sup>1</sup>	2008 - 09			2011 (July 2010 target)	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
43.9%	44.8%	45.4% (2007/08 school year)		52%	

#### Supporting information / commentary

Steady progress has been made and the target exceeded. In order to achieve the 2011 target an increase of 6.6% is required by July 2010 as this is when progress towards this target will be measured – i.e. against the 2010 EYFSP results. This represents an increased trajectory compared to previous gains in the same time scale. However, a detailed and focused action plan has been produced to address the Early Years Outcome Duty targets and through closer alignment across EYFS and continued support of National Strategy advisers every effort will be made to ensure success.

### NI 73 Proportion achieving L4+ at KS2 in both English and Maths

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
71.7%	N/A	76% (2007/08 school year)		77%	

#### Supporting information / commentary


Compared to the percentage of pupils attaining level 4+ in both English and maths in 2007 (71.8%) excellent progress has been made in KS2 attainment in both English and maths in 2008 resulting in 76% of pupils attaining a level 4+ in English and maths combined – an overall increase of 4.2%.

As a result of this rapid progress and current trajectory it is expected that the 2011 target of 77% will be achieved.

In 2008, the number of schools attaining below floor targets decreased compared to previous years following intensive support for target schools. Success has been recognised by the DCSF, but has resulted in a 50% reduction in the amount funding for this targeted support.

<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise stated baseline figures, relate to the 2007 – 08 financial year.



**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE****NI 74 Proportion achieving L5+ at KS3 in both English & Maths**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
62%	N/A	63.6%		N/A	N/A

**Supporting information / commentary**

From 2009, KS3 assessment will no longer rely on testing and this indicator has been removed from the National Indicator Set and LAA.



**NI 75 Proportion achieving 5 A\*-C GCSE including English and Maths**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
41.1%	44%	<b>49.2%</b> (2007/08 school year)		49%	

**Supporting information / commentary**

% achieving 5 A\*-C including English and Maths increased by 8.5%, from 40.7% to 49.2%, which means there has been a major rise of 15.9% over the last two years. This moves Halton in line with the national average and exceeds the 2011 target for the end of the LAA period. Positive engagement by schools with the Secondary National Strategy and the effective, targeted and bespoke support from Local Authority School Improvement Professionals challenging and encouraging practice and management within the schools is making a real difference to the outcomes for young people in our schools.


**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE****NI 80 Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
33.5% (2006/07)	38.9%	33.0%		42.22% (PSA) 54%	

**Supporting information / commentary**

Although the 2008 - 09 target for this measure has not been achieved future performance will be positively influenced as a result of improved level 2 performance beginning to impact and also the implementation of new administrative arrangements for post 16 educational provision.



**NI 83 Proportion achieving L5+ at KS3 in Science**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
68%	74%	68.4		N/A	N/A

**Supporting information / commentary**

From 2009, KS3 assessment will no longer rely on testing and this indicator has been removed from the National Indicator Set and LAA.

**NI 87 Secondary School persistent absence rate**



Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
7.2% (2006/07 school year)	9% (half days missed)	6.4% (2007/08 school year)		5%	

**Supporting information / commentary**

Persistent absence continues to reduce in Halton Secondary Schools and we are on trajectory to hit the 2011 national target for LA's of 5% PA.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

### NI 92 Achievement Gap at Early Years Foundation Stage

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011 target (July 2010)	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
33.8% (LA % gap between median and bottom 20%)	31.7%	30.5% (2007/08 school year)		27.66%	

#### Supporting information / commentary



The early years are crucial to chances of later success – children who achieve well in the early years are much more likely to be successful in future education and in later life. A focus on narrowing the gaps between the lowest achieving and the rest is the best way to ensure that all children regardless of background are able to reach their potential and that those at risk of poor outcomes are given as much help and support as possible.

Whilst the gap has decreased caution is required in interpreting this data as the median point score for all children decreased to 87 from 90 in the previous year. This has affected the results. The average score of the lowest 20% did increase from 59.6 to 60.5. Further focussed work is required to narrow this gap further whilst at the same time also improving results for all children.

Given the trajectory from 2008 attainment (30.5%) and the 2011 target of 27.66% that will be measured against the EYFSP data in July 2010, there is a required reduction in the attainment gap of 2.84%. The details of actions to be taken to address this gap are outlined in the Early Years Outcome Duty action plan.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

### NI 93 Proportion progressing by two levels at KS2 in English

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
63.1%	N/A	85.0%		89%	

#### Supporting information / commentary



Excellent progress has been made on this target and this reflects the continued improvement in Primary Schools. For pupils not achieving expected levels at the end of KS2 it is nevertheless important that they also make 2 levels progress where possible.

In addition to universal support for schools to support acceleration of progress in English, targeted programmes of support have included a Raising Boys Attainment project and also the embedding of the use of writing assessment criteria and skills, including the Ros Wilson 'Big Write' programme.

To ensure that progress towards English targets are met for 2009 / 10 a programme of 1 to 1 support has been introduced to targeted schools to support intensive tuition in English in years 5 and 6 for pupils not making expected progress.

Because of the substantial gains made against this target between 2007 and 2008, there is a risk that the 2011 target may not be met because a possible 'plateauing' would impact upon sustainability of this increase – the focus will however ensure that high standards attained in 2008 are sustained.

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE****NI 94 Proportion progressing by two levels at KS2 in Maths**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
61.4%	N/A	81.0%		87%	

**Supporting information / commentary**

Excellent progress has been made on this target and this reflects the continued improvement in Primary Schools. For pupils not achieving expected levels at the end of KS2 it is nevertheless important that they also make 2 levels progress where possible.

To ensure that progress towards maths targets are met for 2009 / 10 a programme of 1 to 1 support has been introduced to targeted schools to support intensive tuition in maths in years 5 and 6 for pupils not making expected progress. This will also support the addressing of issues relating to the progress of girls in maths.

Because of the substantial gains made against this target between 2007 and 2008, there is a risk that the 2011 target may not be met because a possible 'plateauing' would impact upon sustainability of this increase – the focus will however ensure that high standards attained in 2008 are sustained.

**NI 95 Proportion progressing by two levels at KS3 in English**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
18% (267 out of 1479)	N/A	-	-	N/A	N/A

**Supporting information / commentary**

Data Unavailable. From 2009, KS3 assessment will no longer rely on testing and this indicator has been removed from the National Indicator Set and LAA.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE



### NI 96 Proportion progressing by two levels at KS3 in Maths

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
51% (755 out of 1491)	N/A	-	-	N/A	N/A

#### Supporting information / commentary

Data Unavailable. From 2009, KS3 assessment will no longer rely on testing and this indicator has been removed from the National Indicator Set and LAA.

### NI 97 Proportion progressing by two levels at KS4 in English



Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
59% (KS3 to KS4 – 885 out of 1505)	N/A	62%		73%	

#### Supporting information / commentary

Progress has been made from the 07/08 baseline. However if the current rate of improvement continues (+3%) It is unlikely we will meet the target of 73%. Targeted interventions via the SIP process are aimed at reversing the trend and improving performance in this area.





**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE****NI 98 Proportion progressing by two levels at KS4 in Maths**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
26% (395 out of 1525)	N/A	24%		32%	

**Supporting information / commentary**

This indicator reflects the number of pupils at the end of KS4 making 2 levels progress in Maths between KS3 and KS4, as a percentage of the number of pupils at the end of KS4. This indicator has declined from the baseline and is not on target for 2011. Targeted interventions via the SIP process are aimed at reversing the trend and improving performance in this area.



**NI 99 Proportion of CiC achieving Level 4 at KS2 in English**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
100% (6 out of 6)	50%	<b>50%</b>		37.5%	

**Supporting information / commentary**

There were only 4 children in the KS2 cohort, 2 of whom attained level 4 at English.



**NI 100 Proportion of CiC achieving Level 4 at KS2 in Maths**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
83% (5 out of 6)	50%	<b>25%</b>		37.5%	

**Supporting information / commentary**

There were only 4 children in the KS2 cohort of whom 1 achieved Level 4 Maths.



**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE****NI 101 Proportion of CiC achieving 5 A\*-C GCSE**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
12.5% (1 out of 8)	18.75%	<b>18%</b>		25%	

**Supporting information / commentary**

There were 17 young people in the cohort, 9 boys and 8 girls. Of this group 8 young people had a statement of SEN, with a further 3 being at School Action and 2 being at School Action Plus on the SEN Code of Practice. 18% of the cohort achieved at least 5 A\* - C GCSEs including English and Maths. This was broadly in line with expectations for the cohort and 2 young people achieved higher results than expected.

**NI 53 Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6 – 8 weeks from birth**



Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
12.1% (Q.2 2008)	18% (indicative, will be refreshed 09/10)	<b>14%</b>		23% (indicative, will be refreshed 09/10)	

**Supporting information / commentary**

Performance is lower than target. This is a result of lower uptake of breastfeeding and drop off in breastfeeding from in first few days and weeks following birth. 3 breastfeeding support groups in place with a resource pack outlining support developed. 25 premises undergoing assessment for Baby welcome award being delivered through local parents managed by the King's Cross project. Health visitors are providing more intensive support in first few weeks. Maternity support workers are now providing support to breastfeeding mothers up to 6 weeks. Get Closer campaign is being rolled out to Runcorn. Early Years premises award rolled out in Halton. Nutritional training for people in early years took place in January 09. Advanced training for midwives and health visitors planned but not yet taken place.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE



### NI 56 Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
22.4%	21.3%	21.4		21.3%	

#### Supporting information / commentary

There has been a significant improvement in performance, however the target has just been missed. We are well on course to achieve the 2011 projection. Substantial resource has been identified within the Commissioning Strategic Plan for childhood obesity. The PCT is currently tendering for services to enable us to meet this target.

### NI 63 Stability of placements of looked after children



Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
69%	73%	<b>65.22%</b>		81.5%	

#### Supporting information / commentary

Placement stability has not remained static for the last two quarters and continues to be an area of focus. A wide range of resources and services can impact on this issue - access to health services, education provision, support services, finance, advice and guidance - and the CiC Partnership Board continues to work with all agencies to ensure that access to appropriate services is possible for children and their carers.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE



### NI 80 Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
33.5% (2006/07)	38.9%	<b>33.0%</b>		42.22% (PSA) 54%	

#### Supporting information / commentary

Although the 2008-09 target for this measure has not been achieved future performance will be positively influenced as a result of improved level 2 performance beginning to impact, and also the implementation of new administrative arrangements for post 16 educational provision.

### NI 111 First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
1960 (rate per 100,000) (249)	1875 (rate per 100,000) (239)	<b>196</b>		1836 (rate per 100,000) (234)	

#### Supporting information / commentary



The target for 2011 will be achieved by maintaining the actual figures from 2008/09. The adoption of early intervention projects such as YISP, Operation Stay Safe, alongside Cheshire Constabulary's commitment to restorative justice have all impacted on the positive figures to date.

In addition, the Constabulary are no longer subject to targets which encouraged the criminalisation of young people inappropriately. The FTE target is also monitored through the Cheshire Criminal Justice Board Performance Improvement Meetings which are held bi-monthly at Cheshire Police HQ, thereby ensuring all partners in the Criminal Justice System are focussing on the need to restrict First Time Entrants.

Gareth Jones, Head of Service at the YOT is also a member of the Cheshire Criminal Justice Board as well as local strategic partnerships i.e. Children's Trust, Safer Halton Partnership etc. and he continues to monitor the FTE target.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

### NI 112 Under 18 conception rate

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
3.6% (2006 baseline, change from 1998)	-27% (change from 1998)	<b>49.1%</b>		-55% (change from 1998)	

#### Supporting information / commentary

Halton's conception rate for under 18s continues to be an issue. Since the baseline was established in 1998 we have seen a fluctuating picture in the nos. of conceptions reported and there has been no sustainable reduction over time. In fact the recent increase puts Halton as the 7th worst performing local authority area in the country. In February 2009, ONS released data which covered the calendar year for 2007. This showed that since 1998 rates have increased in Halton by 49.1%, rates have increased from 2006 (48.8 per 1000, 125 actual) to 2007 (70.3 per 1000, 179 actual).

In order to reach our target by 2010 we need to see a reduction of 125 conceptions. In light of this, a number of areas have been progressed. These include:

Halton will be using Strategic Health Authority contraception funding to improve access to services

Increase support to parents through greater investment in the Teenage pregnancy support team

Development of a Teenage Pregnancy strategic group across the PCT footprint

Further development of the condom distribution scheme across the Borough Identified links between alcohol and teenage pregnancy and use information to commission services

Development of Teenage drop in clinics and a dedicated young persons outreach service

Use of the 'your welcome criteria' quality standards across service delivery  
Implementation of consultation feedback


Development of evaluation tools across services

Completion of the PCT sexual health audit

Commitment to increase investment by improved commissioning in light of sexual health review

Development of peer 2 peer programme in college

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE****NI 115 Substance misuse by young people**

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
12.6%	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	Refer comment	9.8%	



**Supporting information / commentary**

From April 2009 a new target within the LAA set by GO NW we will only receive data on an annual basis. We will be measured locally on how many young people report as using a substance within the "tell Us "survey undertaken within secondary schools. Performance this quarter has been extremely positive with 32 young people accessing our specialist treatment service. In addition there has been a wealth of activity undertaken including the development of an mobile outreach service. This service will target our "hotspot" areas across Halton where young people gather on Friday & Saturdays.

The service is to be co-ordinated by Young Addaction but actual delivery off the mobile will be multi agency, this will ensure young people within our vulnerable communities will receive the appropriate advice, information and support to meet their needs. Finally Halton's Young people Substance Misuse Treatment Plan was signed off by the National Treatment Agency and GO NW the LA received positive endorsement from the National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse of the plan and was commended for its high quality.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

### NI 116 Proportion of children in poverty

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
27%	26%	<b>Refer Comment</b>		24.2%	

#### Supporting information / commentary

The measurement of this indicator is under review by GONW.

The current measures use benefit claim rates and as such this important NI is intrinsically linked to NI153.

#### Progress using latest MI available to DWP

This indicator is under JSA Halton April 2008 = 2493 - March 09 = 4501 an increase of 81%.

Employment rate 70.4% Dec 07 – 70.0% March 08.

Working Age People not working:

May 2008 =16,002 = 21.2% working age population (this figure has increased substantially)



Latest Job Outcome Target figures for DWP at September 08 = 1978 some 83.9% of 08/09 profile target.

Given the economic downturn the likelihood of achieving this NI target over 3 years is substantially reduced.

The ELS SSP will continue to maximise partnership resources including the WNF to support priority group working age customers from deprived wards into sustainable employment and therefore the effect upon dependent children.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

### NI 117 16-18 year old not in education, training or employment

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
11.5%	9.9%	<b>13.2%</b> (2008)		7.7%	

#### Supporting information / commentary

Halton has had a long-standing difficulty in keeping young people in EET (Education, Employment and Training), with the % of young people in NEET being among the highest in the country. Despite efforts to address this issue, progress has been limited/marginal. Information from the Halton Economic Development and Tourism Review (2008) states that the distribution of high and low unemployment is broadly the same in 2008 as it was in 1998, showing little change in deprivation levels. There is also a high correlation between NEET and adult unemployment geographical concentrations showing a high risk of an intergenerational legacy, which poses issues with cultural change and entrenched views on employment and educational attainment that are hard to break.

Incentive based re-engagement initiatives are supporting young people into EET e.g. Activity Agreement Pilot – a national pilot that is being delivered across Merseyside (including Halton). Dedicated targeted support (e.g. work with teenage parents) can make an impact alongside universal youth support services but this is resource intensive. There is an issue of progression routes from foundation to level 1 to higher level courses for NEET young people and this is being addressed through the 14 to 19 Partnership. There is a high proportion of young people motivated by employment based opportunities in Halton and these are limited in the current economic climate. NEET characteristics can help identify young people who are at risk of becoming NEET. In particular attainment levels at all key stages, attendance, and school action/school action plus and we are working with schools to ensure more effective preventative measures are in place for those young people at risk of becoming NEET when they leave school.

There is currently a NEET Strategy and Annual Action plan in place to address the issue of NEET and this is being driven by a multi-agency NEET Strategy Group.