

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Local Public Service Agreement

2002-2005



LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL AND THE GOVERNMENT

Introduction

- 1. Halton Borough Council and the Government have made this Local Public Service Agreement (Local PSA) with the intention of further improving the services to local people that Halton Borough Council provides. This agreement covers the period 1st April, 2002 to 31st March, 2005.
- 2. The agreement records the present intentions of the Council and the Government. It is entered into by both in good faith, but it is expressly recognised that neither can fetter the future discretion of the Council or of Ministers and Parliament. The agreement is therefore not intended to create legal relations. Subject to that, the following points are agreed.

The Intentions of Halton Borough Council

3. Halton Borough Council will use its best endeavours to achieve more demanding performance targets than those it would be expected to achieve in the absence of this Local Public Service Agreement. These enhanced targets are specified in Schedule 1 to this agreement.

The Intentions of the Government

- 4. The intentions of the Government set out in this agreement are subject to the outcome of any statutory consultations and any necessary approval of the Treasury and Parliament.
- 5. The Government will implement the changes to statutory and administrative requirements set out in Schedule 2 to this agreement, subject to confirmation of the legal and operational feasibility of the changes described and to Parliamentary approval of any necessary legislation. The Government will also undertake the discussions with the Council described in Schedule 2.
- 6. It is recognised by Halton Borough Council that, on further investigation, it may be necessary to modify the detail of the changes set out in Schedule 2 in ways that seek so far as possible, to give substantially the same extent of benefit to the Council. It is recognised by the Government that, if a change set out in Schedule 2 proves infeasible, it will use its best endeavours to provide an alternative that corresponds as closely as possible and has, so far as possible, substantially the same effect.
- 7. The Government will pay Halton Borough Council a grant of £870,800 in 2002/03 in support of the expenditures described in Schedule 3 to this agreement. The conditions attached to this "pump-priming" grant are also set out in Schedule 3.

8. The Government will pay a performance reward grant to Halton Borough Council, as set out in Schedule 4 to this agreement, if it achieves all the enhanced targets ("performance target with Local PSA") specified in Schedule 1. Schedule 4 also sets out the grant it intends to pay if the Council secures a substantial improvement in performance that falls short of the target. The Schedule also stipulates the intended timing of payments of the grant. Halton Borough Council undertakes to provide audited information confirming the extent of improvement in their performance relative to the Local PSA performance targets set out in Schedule 1, as a precondition for the determination and payment of the performance reward grant.

Date of Agreement: 1st April, 2002

For Halton Borough Council	For Her Majesty's Government	
Councillor Tony McDermott Leader of the Council	[name] MP Minister of State, Department for Transport Local Government and the Regions	
Mike Cuff Chief Executive	[name] MP Chief Secretary to Her Majesty's Treasury	
The above ministers sign on behalf of	f their colleagues listed below:	
[name] MP, Secretary of State for [tit	tle]	
etc		

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED TARGETS

Summary table

Target	Heading	National Target Number (or "Local Target")
1	Provide high quality pre-admission and rehabilitation care for older people to help them live as independently as possible by reducing preventable hospitalisation	7
2	Reduce the number of households living in Council ownership that does not meet the decency standards by 1/3 by 2004	27
3	Increase the amount of Brownfield land reclaimed and/or redeveloped in Halton.	
4	Reduce school truancies so that attendance in Halton secondary schools is increased by 92.5% by 2004.	5
5	Increase the proportion of 16 and 17 year olds in Education & Training.	
6	Increase the number of people engaged in Basic Skills Learning / Family Learning.	
7	Help additional unemployed people into jobs and accelerate the rate at which Halton reaches the regional average	6
8	Increase the active usage of the library service	
9	Increase Key Stage 3 attainment at level 6+ in English and Maths.	
10	Provide children with disabilities with increased choice (of access) to a range of short term breaks	
11	Increase the percentage of household waste recycled or composted	22
12	Reduce the rate of reconviction of all young offenders	21
13	Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured by 10%	26
14	Reduce the number of Hotspot locations within the Borough caused by youth nuisance	
15	Achieve E Government 2005 Electronic Service delivery target	30
16	Ensure continuous improvement in the efficiency, economy and effectiveness of Council Services.	31

SCHEDULE 1: TARGETS

TARGET 1

National Target - To provide high quality pre-admission and rehabilitation care for older people to help them live as independently as possible by reducing preventable hospitalisation.

Indicator by which performance will be measured

- 1. Use of screening tool for those aged 75+
- 2. Pre-planned admission
- 3. Post-emergency care assessments
- 4. Maximum wait

Baseline performance

	<u>2001/2</u>
Use of screening tool	0%
Pre-planned admission	0%
Post-emergency care assessments	14 days
Maximum wait	49 days

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

Use of screening tool	20%
Pre-planned admission	0%
Post-emergency care assessments	14 days
Maximum wait	45 days

Performance with Local PSA

Use of screening tool	70%
Pre-planned admission	70%
Post-emergency care assessments	7 day
Maximum wait	20 days

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Use of screening tool	50%
Pre-planned admission	70%
Post-emergency care assessments	7 days
Maximum wait	25 days

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

	<u>2002/3</u>
Use of screening tool	20%
Pre-planned admission	30%
Post-emergency care assessments	11 day
Maximum wait	35 days

Key Executive Director contact & details

Ged Taylor, Executive Director, Social Care, Housing & Health Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 7QF

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3501

E-mail address: ged.taylor@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

John Webb Operational Director - Adult Services

Tel. 0151-424 2061 Extn. 3504

E-mail address: john.webb@halton-borough.gov.uk

National Target - Reduce the number of households living in council housing that does not meet the decency homes standard by 1/3 by 2004.

Indicator by which performance will be measured

The number of households living in council housing that do not meet the decency standard.

Baseline performance

According to the comprehensive stock condition survey carried out in 2000/01 Halton has approximately 1865 dwellings that fail the decency standard.

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

1500 dwellings in council ownership being below the decency standard in December 2004.

Performance with Local PSA

1245 dwellings in council ownership being below the decency standard in December 2004.

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Reduction of 255 dwellings in council ownership being below the decency standard.

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

A key element in achieving this target will be in being given the freedom to invest the proceeds from 100% of the capital receipts from the sale of council housing, without penalising the HRA revenue settlement. This freedom would generate approximately 1.2m per annum on top of the normal MRA allocations which would be committed to meeting this target.

Key Executive Director contact & details

Ged Taylor, Executive Director, Social Care, Housing & Health Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 7QF Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3501

E-mail address: <u>ged.taylor@halton-borough</u>.gov.uk **Key specialist service negotiator/contact**

Peter Layland - Operational Director

Tel. 0151-424 2061 Extn. 3503

 $E\text{-}mail\ address:\ peter.layland@halton-borough.gov.uk}$

National Target - Increase the amount of Brownfield land reclaimed and redeveloped in Halton.

Indicator by which performance will be measured

The number of acres of Brownfield land reclaimed and/or redeveloped in Halton.

Baseline performance

The Council is committed to reclaiming 10 acres of Brownfield land each year to 2004.

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

Reclaim 10 acres of Brownfield land each year to 2004 (30 acres in total).

Performance with Local PSA

Reclaim 45 acres of Brownfield land by 2004.

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Reclaim an extra 15 acres of Brownfield land by 2004.

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

The Environment Agency must accept the alternative technologies Halton are proposing to use to reclaim Brownfield land. Existing regulations are very obstructive to the reclamation of Halton's chemical legacy.

Recognition by Government and relevant agencies of the high cost of reclaiming seriously contaminated land a willingness to fund remediation above the recognised national norms.

Key Executive Director contact & details

Dick Tregea, Executive Director, Environment & Development Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 7QF

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3001

E-mail address: <u>dick.tregea@halton-borough.gov.uk</u>

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Mike Curtis Project Development Manager Extn. 467

E-mail address: <u>mike.curtis@halton-borough.gov.uk</u>

National Target - Reduce school truancies so that attendance in Halton's secondary schools is increased to 92.5% by 2004.

Indicator by which performance will be measured

School attendance figures based on monthly spreadsheets returned by schools.

Baseline performance

School attendance in Halton's secondary schools is 91% in 2001/02.

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

School attendance in secondary schools increased to 92% by 2003/04.

Performance with Local PSA

School attendance in secondary schools increased to 92.5% by 2003/04.

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

0.5% increase in secondary school attendance.

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

Key Executive Director contact & details

Graham Talbot, Executive Director, Education & Social Inclusion Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 7QF

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3701

E-mail address: graham.talbot@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Maggie Mooney

Operational Director -Student Services and Life Long Learning Extn. 3704

E-mail address: maggie.mooney@halton-borough.gov.uk

National Target - Increase the proportion of 16 and 17 year olds in Education & Training

Indicator by which performance will be measured

The percentage of 16 and 17 year olds in education and training.

Baseline performance

The percentage of 16 and 17 year olds in education and training is 85%.

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

Increase the percentage of 16 and 17 year olds in education and training to 90% by 2004.

Performance with Local PSA

Increase the percentage of 16 and 17 year olds in education and training to 91% by 2004

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Increase by 1% the percentage of 16 and 17 year olds in education and training.

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

March 2002 - 87.5% September 2002 - 89% March 2003 - 90% September 2004 - 91%

Key Executive Director contact & details

Graham Talbot, Executive Director, Education & Social Inclusion Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 7QF

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3701

E-mail address: graham.talbot@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Maggie Mooney - Operational Director - Student Services & Life Long Learning, Extn. 3704 E-mail address: maggie.mooney@halton-borough.gov.uk

Local Target - Increase the numbers engaged in Basic skills learning / Family Learning

Indicator by which performance will be measured

The number of people engaged in Basic Skills and Family Learning.

Baseline performance

In 2000/01 the number of people engaged in Basic Skills and Family Learning is 550.

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

Increase the numbers engaged in Basic Skills and Family Learning to 600 by 2004.

Performance with Local PSA

Increase the numbers engaged in basic Skills and Family Learning to 660 by 2004.

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

10% increase in the numbers engaged in Basic Skills and Family Learning

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Key Executive Director contact & details

Graham Talbot, Executive Director, Education & Social Inclusion Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 7QF

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3701

E-mail address: graham.talbot@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Maggie Mooney

Operational Director (Student Services and Life Long Learning) Extn 3704

E-mail address: maggie.mooney@halton-borough.gov.uk

National Target - Helping additional unemployed people into jobs and accelerating the rate by which Halton reaches the regional average.

Indicator by which performance will be measured

Local and regional employment statistics

Baseline performance

The current difference between the regional average and the local average is 1.2% (November 2001)

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

Reduce the difference between the regional average and local average to 0.5%.

Performance with Local PSA

Reduce the difference between the regional average and local average to 0.4%.

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

A reduction of 0.1% in the gap between the regional and Halton local unemployment.

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

- Flexibility to extend Halton People into Jobs support beyond existing SRB boundaries.
- Flexibility to extend Action Team support beyond their existing boundaries.
- Flexibility to extend support, for example New Deal, to individuals who are not in receipt of JSA.
- Flexibility to engage with specific target groups who represent a large proportion of Halton unemployed. For example, young people.
- Flexibility for the partner agencies to assist any and every unemployed person who seeks help irrespective of their existing benefit status.
- Freedom from Data Protection restrictions on the sharing of information between relevant agencies to enable key groups to be identified and targeted effectively.
- To review and amend the tapering of benefits to reduce the "poverty trap" and increase the attraction of returning to relatively low paid employment.

The above freedoms and flexibilities will allow the extension of existing employment support provision to groups previously excluded by virtue of either their benefit status or postcode.

The freedoms will also bring a number of agencies together and thereby support partnerships working and enhanced existing job support programmes.

Key Executive Director contact & details

Dick Tregea,
Executive Director,
Environment & Development Directorate,
Municipal Building,
Widnes WA8 7QF
Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3001
E-mail address: dick.tregea@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

As above.

Local Target - To increase active usage of the library service.

Indicator by which performance will be measured

The number of active users of the Library Service

Baseline performance

2000/01 - 23.1% of the population active library members

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

30% active membership of the library service.

Performance with Local PSA

35% active membership of the library service.

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

5% increase in the active membership of the library service

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

Key Executive Director contact & details

Graham Talbot, Executive Director, Education & Social Inclusion Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 70F

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3701

E-mail address: graham.talbot@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Paula Reilly-Cooper Library Services Manager Extn. 4096

E-mail address: Paula.reillycooper@halton-borough.gov.uk

Local Target - Increase Key Stage 3 attainment at level 6+ in English and Maths.

Indicator by which performance will be measured

The percentage of pupils attaining Key Stage 3 level 6+ in English and Maths.

Baseline performance

Current levels of attainment of level 6+ for English is 27.2% Current levels of attainment of level 6+ for Maths is 35.4%

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

34% of pupils attaining Key Stage 3 Level 6+ in English 38.5% of pupils attaining Key Stage 3 Level 6+ in Maths

Performance with Local PSA

35% of pupils attaining Key Stage 3 Level 6+ in English 40% of pupils attaining Key Stage 3 Level 6+ in Maths

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Increase in 1% of pupils attaining Key Stage 3 Level 6+ in English Increase in 1.5% of pupils attaining Key Stage 3 Level 6+ in Maths

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

Key Executive Director contact & details

Graham Talbot, Executive Director, Education & Social Inclusion Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 7QF

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3701

E-mail address: graham.talbot@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Vytas Krivinskas Operational Director - Quality Support and Advisory Services Extn. 3703

E-mail address: vytas.krivinskas@halton-borough.gov.uk

Local Target - To provide children with disabilities with increased choice (of access) to a range of short term breaks.

Indicator by which performance will be measured

The range of short term breaks available to children with disabilities. The number of children with disabilities who access short term breaks.

Baseline performance

The number of short term break schemes currently available is 10. The number of children with disabilities that currently access short term breaks is 60.

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

Number of schemes provided - 10 Number of children with disabilities accessing short term breaks - 60

Performance with Local PSA

Increase the number of schemes available to 15 Increase the number of children accessing schemes to 90

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Increase of 5 schemes (50%)
Increase of 30 children (50%) accessing schemes

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

Key Executive Director contact & details

Ged Taylor, Executive Director, Social Care, Housing & Health Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 7QF

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3501

E-mail address: ged.taylor@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Carol Iddon - Acting Operational Director (Children's Services) Extn. 3505

E-mail address: <u>carol.iddon@halton-borough</u>.gov.uk

TARGET 11

National Target - Increase % of household waste recycled or composted

Indicator by which performance will be measured

BVPI 82a Total tonnage of household waste arising % recycled BVPI 82b Total tonnage of household waste arising % composted

Baseline performance

In 2000/01, 10% of household waste was recycled or composted.

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

To recycle or compost 17% of household waste by 2004/05

Performance with Local PSA

To recycle or compost 22% of household waste by 2004/05

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

5% increase in household waste recycled or composted

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

Key Executive Director contact & details

Len Naughalty,
Head of Service - Waste Management,
Neighbourhood Services Directorate,
Lowerhouse Lane,
Widnes
Tel. 0151, 424, 2061, over 5024

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 5024

E-mail address: <u>len.naughalty@halton-borough.gov.uk</u>

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Andy Horrocks, Waste Strategy Manager, Neighbourhood Services Directorate, Lowerhouse Lane, Widnes

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 5067

E-mail address: <u>andy.horrocks@halton-borough.gov.uk</u>

National Target - Reduce the rate of reconviction of young offenders

Indicator by which performance will be measured

The rate of reconviction of young offenders.

Baseline performance

Baseline figures based on a cohort of young offenders currently being tracked over three years so that the re-offending rate across the YOT area (the districts of Halton and Warrington) is currently 13.6%. Of the cohort currently being tracked 48% are from Halton.

29.7% are first time offenders

24.1% receive a community penalty

40.8% receive a Final Warning

9.1% receive a custodial sentence

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

Achievement of 5% as per national target

Performance with Local PSA

6% reduction in reconviction of young offenders

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

1% reduction in reconviction of young offenders

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

There a number of obstacles which inhibit progress in improving current performance.

- The Youth Offending Team is bound by statutory National Standards of intervention which have to be implemented rigidly.
- There is a Government view that high custody rates equate to a failure of effectiveness of Youth Offending Teams and continued Youth Justice Board funding is dependent upon reducing the rates of custody.
- The funding streams of Youth Offending Teams are extremely complex from central and local governments and partner agencies.

Performance of the Youth Offending Teams against this stretch target would therefore be supported by:

- Freedom to move funds from different funding streams to address changing priorities without prejudice to existing targets and desired outcomes (including Youth Justice Board, Home Office, Local Authorities (Education, Social Services), Probation Service particularly).
- Clear guidance from Government in relation to prioritising access to ETE (25 hours full time definition), housing, drugs and alcohol (Young Persons Substance Misuse plans).

Key Executive Director contact & details

John Tradewell Council Solicitor Municipal Building Kingsway Widnes WA8 7QF Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 1130

E-mail address: john.tradewell@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Rhona Bradley Head of Youth Offending Team Tel. 01925 445006

E-mail address: rhona.bradley@halton-borough.gov.uk

National Target - Reduction in the number killed and seriously injured (KSIs) in road accidents in the Borough of Halton.

Indicator by which performance will be measured

Number of killed and seriously injured in road collisions within the Borough

Baseline performance

National targets based on 94-98 figures. NB Single year figures are unreliable. Trends can only be established over longer period, hence 5 year base. 94-98 Base:157 killed and seriously injured

Based on 5-year average.

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

126 killed and seriously injured (by 2004)

Performance with Local PSA

113 killed and seriously injured (by 2004)

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

10% reduction in number killed and seriously injured

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

Use of non-standard signs on the highway for road safety purposes. Requested that power to authorise such signs be delegated to the professional staff of the highway authority

Key Executive Director contact & details

Dick Tregea, Executive Director, Environment & Development Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 7QF

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3001

E-mail address: dick.tregea@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Philip Cornthwaite Divisional Manager (Transportation) Extn. 3005

E-mail address: philip.cornthwaite@halton-borough.gov.uk

Local Target - Reduce the number of 'Hotspot' locations within the Borough caused by youth nuisance

Indicator by which performance will be measured

Recorded information from the police in relation to youth nuisance complaints.

Baseline performance

To be clarified during negotiation

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

By 2005 reduction in the number of identified 'hotspots' by 5%.

Performance with Local PSA

By 2005 - 10% reduction in the number of identified 'hotspots'.

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Additional 5% reduction in the number of identified 'hotspots'

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA (Summer 2003)

Freedoms & Flexibilities

Key Executive Director contact & details

Graham Talbot, Executive Director, Education & Social Inclusion Directorate, Municipal Building, Widnes WA8 7QF Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 3701

E-mail address: graham.talbot@halton-borough.gov.uk

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Graham Talbot,
Executive Director,
Education & Social Inclusion Directorate, Extn. 3701
E-mail address: graham.talbot@halton-borough.gov.uk

National Target - Achieve E-government 2005 electronic service delivery target by 2005

Indicator by which performance will be measured

BVPI 157 and through the validation of the Council's electronic delivery of services against the nationally recognised SOCITM schedule.

Baseline performance

Existing electronic service delivery (ESD) is estimated at 35%. This will be confirmed in April 2002 through BVPI157.

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

100% delivery of all services capable of being delivered electronically by 2005.

Performance with Local PSA

100% delivery of all services capable of being delivered electronically by March 2005.

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Realisation of the benefits of electronic service delivery to the general public nine months ahead of Government target:

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

Freedoms & Flexibilities

- Introducing a nationally agreed standard for electronic authentication.
- Addressing Data Protection issues that may impair joined up government.

Key Executive Director contact & details

Alan Hill, Executive Director, Resources & Corporate Services Directorate Municipal Building Widnes WA8 7QF

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 2001

E-mail address: <u>alan.hill@halton-borough.gov.uk</u>

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Ray Dart Operational Director Exchequer and Customer Services, Resources & Corporate Services Directorate,

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 2024

E-mail address: <u>ray.dart@halton-borough.gov.uk</u>

National Target - Ensuring continuous improvement in the efficiency, economy and effectiveness of Council Services

Indicator by which performance will be measured

Halton Borough Council will devise a measure of cost effectiveness based on a basket of indicators, which it will seek to agree with the DTLR (Department of Trade, Regions and Local Government) as soon as practicable.

The change in 'cost-effectiveness' year on year is defined as:

Change in Cost Effectiveness = $\frac{\text{Change in Performance}}{\text{Change in Cost}}$

The performance of the Authority is expressed as an index number derived from the basket of performance indicators.

The cost of the Authority is expressed as an index number derived from the running cost of the Authority.

Baseline performance

The base position for the Authority will not be decided until the 'basket' of indicators has been set.

Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31st March 2005)

Performance expected without Local PSA

Halton Borough Council agrees in principal that an increase in cost effectiveness of 2.0% per year should be achievable without a PSA in place and that the target with PSA should be set even higher. However, an agreement on the target is dependent on consideration of the specification of the measure of cost effectiveness that is eventually adopted, as outlined above.

Performance with Local PSA

Halton Borough Council agrees in principal that an increase in cost effectiveness of 2.0% per year should be achievable without a PSA in place and that the target with PSA should be set even higher. However, an agreement on the target is dependent on consideration of the specification of the measure of cost effectiveness that is eventually adopted, as outlined above.

Enhancement in performance with Local PSA

2% per year

Interim enhancement in performance with Local PSA

2% per year

Freedoms & Flexibilities

Key Executive Director contact & details

Alan Hill, Executive Director, Resources & Corporate Services Directorate Municipal Building Widnes WA8 7QF

Tel. 0151-424 2061 extn. 2001

Key specialist service negotiator/contact

Richard Gibson Financial Accountant Extn. 2248

E-mail address: richard.gibson@haltonn-borough.gov.uk

SCHEDULE 2: FREEDOMS & FLEXIBILITIES

The Government intends to make the changes specified below in various statutory and administrative requirements, as they relate to Halton Borough Council.

The legal and practical feasibility of some of the changes had not been established at the time that this agreement was concluded. If the precise changes specified prove infeasible, the Government will use its best endeavours to achieve substantially the same effects by other means.

In respect of Target 2 Reduce the number of households living in council housing that do not meet the decency homes standard by 2004.

Freedom to invest the proceeds from 100% of the capital receipts from the sale of council housing, without penalising the HRA revenue settlement.

In respect of Target 3 Increase the amount of Brownfield land reclaimed and redeveloped in Halton.

The Environment Agency to accept the alternative technologies Halton are proposing to use the reclaim Brownfield land. Existing regulations are very obstructive to the reclamation of Halton's chemical legacy.

Recognition by Government and relevant agencies of the high cost of reclaiming seriously contaminated land and a willingness to fund remediation above the recognised national norms.

In respect of Target 7 - Helping additional unemployed people into jobs and accelerating the rate by which Halton meets the regional average.

Freedoms & Flexibilities

- Flexibility to extend Halton People into Jobs support beyond existing SRB boundaries.
- Flexibility to extend Action Team support beyond their existing boundaries.
- Flexibility to extend support, for example New Deal, to individuals who are not in receipt of JSA.
- Flexibility to engage with specific target groups who represent a large proportion of Halton unemployed. For example, young people.
- Flexibility for the partner agencies to assist any and every unemployed person who seeks help irrespective of their existing benefit status.
- Freedom from Data Protection restrictions on the sharing of information between relevant agencies to enable key groups to be identified and targeted effectively.
- To review and amend the tapering of benefits to reduce the "poverty trap" and increase the attraction of returning to relatively low paid employment.

The above freedoms and flexibilities will allow the extension of existing employment support provision to groups previously excluded by virtue of either their benefit status or postcode.

The freedoms will also bring a number of agencies together and thereby support partnerships working and enhanced existing job support programmes.

In respect of Target 12 - Reduce the rates of reconviction of young offenders.

Freedom to move funds from different Funding streams to address changing priorities without prejudice to existing targets and desired outcomes including Youth Justice Board, Home Office, Local Authorities (Education, Social Services) Probation Services particularly.

Clear guidance from the Government in relation to prioritising access to the ETE (25 hours full time definition), housing, drugs and alcohol (Young Persons Substance Misuse Plans).

In respect of Target 13 - Reduction in the number killed and seriously injured (KSIs) in road accidents in the Borough of Halton.

Request the power to authorise the use of non-standard signs on the highway for road safety purposes be delegated to the professional staff of the highway authority.

In respect of Target 15 - Achieve E Government 2005 electronic service delivery target.

The Government to agree a national authentication guidelines, including digital signatures.

The Government to review and rationalise the Data Protection legislation to enable local authorities to pool its various information resources together and develop integrated Council services and cross service customer views.

Unsupported Credit Approvals

The Government will permit the Council scope for an additional £1.9m of borrowing during the period of this Local PSA. The borrowing will be unsupported by any additional grant or subsidy.

The Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions will therefore issue an "Unsupported Credit Approval" (UCA) (a Supplementary Credit Approval that attracts no additional revenue support) of £1.9m to Halton Borough Council. This UCA will be usable at any time during the Local PSA in respect of any of the projects listed below, subject to the maximum amount mentioned against each project.

TARGET	PURPOSE	AMOUNT OF UCA SOUGHT (£)
3	To finance reclamation of Brownfield sites for redevelopment	£1,000,000
4	To purchase electronic registration systems for secondary schools	£200,000
6	To invest in enhancement of Basic Skills and Family Learning facilities	£500,000
14	To invest in the enhancement of facilities for young people	£200,000
	TOTAL VALUE OF UCA'S REQUESTED	£1,900,000

SCHEDULE 3: PUMP PRIMING GRANT IN SUPPORT OF INVEST TO SAVE OR INVEST TO IMPROVE PROJECTS

To assist in achieving the targets set out in this Agreement, the Government will make a pump priming grant of £870,800 to Halton Borough Council as a contribution towards expenditure of an "invest to save" or "invest to improve" nature. This grant will be paid no later than the financial year following that in which this agreement was concluded.

The grant is intended to contribute to the costs of the projects detailed below in Table 1, to the extent shown in the final column. It must be spent, during the period of this Local PSA, in accordance with this Schedule, or as otherwise agreed with the Government as likely to assist in achieving the enhanced performance specified in Schedule 1. Conditions protecting the proper use of public funds will apply.

Target	Project	Planned	Grant
raiget	Troject	Council	Contribution
		Expenditure	(£)
		(£)	
1	Provide high quality pre-admission and rehabilitation care	(2)	£120,000
1	for older people to help them live as independently as possible by reducing preventable hospitalisation		2120,000
2	Reduce the number of households living in Council ownership that does not meet the decency standards by 1/3 by 2004.		
3	Increase the amount of Brownfield land reclaimed and/or redeveloped in Halton		£46,000
4	Reduce school truancies so that attendance in Halton secondary schools is increased to 92.5% by 2005		£100,000
5	Increase the proportion of 16 and 17 year olds in Education & Training		£50,000
6	Increase the number of people engaged in Basic Skills Learning / Family Learning		£75,000
7	Help additional unemployed people into jobs and accelerate the rate at which Halton reaches the regional average		£45,000
8	Increase the active usage of the library service		£100,000
9	Increase Key Stage 3 attainment at Level 6+ in English and Maths.		£85,000
10	Provide children with disabilities with increased choice of (of access) to a range of short term breaks.		£50,000
11	Increase the percentage of household waste recycled or composted		£70,000
12	Reduce the rate of reconviction of all young offenders		£60,000
13	Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured by 10%		£105,000
14	Reduce the number of Hotspot locations within the Borough caused by youth nuisance		£70,000
15	Achieve E Government 2005 Electronic Service delivery target		£250,000
16	Ensure continuous improvement in the efficiency, economy and effectiveness of Council Services		
		TOTAL	£1,226,000

SCHEDULE 4: PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT

The provisions of this Schedule are subject to any additional provisions on the performance reward grant elsewhere in the Agreement.

The total potential grant

The total potential grant is equivalent to 2.5% of the authority's net budget requirement for 2001/02. It is divided equally among the targets. Where a target has sub-targets, the amount for the target is sub-divided equally among the sub-targets. The relevant net budget requirement was £123,150,920.

The reward for achievement on a target

The proportion of the potential grant attributed to a target or sub-target that is payable is the same as the proportion of the 'enhancement in performance with the Local PSA' specified in Schedule 1 that the authority achieves, subject to a maximum proportion of 100% and a minimum of 60%. If the authority achieves less than 60% of that enhancement in performance, nothing is included in the grant in relation to that target or sub-target.

Payment of the grant

Main grant

The grant will be paid in two equal instalments in the financial year following that in which the end date of the Local PSA falls, and the next financial year, subject to the qualification below relating to interim payments on account.

Interim payment on account

Where the authority and the Government have agreed an interim level of performance in relation to a target (or sub-target), as specified in Schedule 1, and the authority achieves it, the Government intends to pay one-fifth of the grant attributed to that target (or sub-target) in the financial year before the first year in which payment of the main grant would be due. This is treated as a 'payment on account'. The definitive calculation of the grant will be made as described above. The balance of the grant entitlement will be paid in equal instalments in the two subsequent financial years. If the definitive calculation yields a smaller grant entitlement than the 'payment on account', the excess payment will be recovered.

Half of each instalment of the grant will be paid as a capital grant, and half as a revenue grant.