

Reporting Period: Quarter 1, Period 1 April 2012 – 30 June 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 first 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 Investment Enquiries

In April/May 2012 the Business Improvement and Growth (BIG) Team handled 28 investment enquiries which resulted in 2 conversions.

2.1.2 Business Improvement District AGM's

Both Astmoor and Halebank Business Improvement District (BID) programmes held formal AGM's in Quarter 1 at which the Executive Committees, made up of representatives of the business community, stood down and were re-elected, accounts for the previous year were approved and a budget set for the forthcoming year.

Key priorities for 2012\13 include the upgrade of the CCTV system at Halebank, the expansion of the range of training courses provided to businesses and the roll out of an enhanced business support programme. A key element of the forthcoming work programme of the BID manager will be the preparatory work culminating in a re-ballot for a further five years of the BID programme in December 2012.

2.2 Raising Skill Levels and Reducing Unemployment (WR)

2.2.1 Tesco Recruitment

The Tesco recruitment project was completed with 98 local unemployed people offered employment contracts following the pre-employment training with the Division. The project evaluation has now been completed and shared with Halton Employment Partnership colleagues.

2.2.2 Apprenticeship Scheme & Adult Learner Awards

Interviews for 11 HBC Apprenticeships took place during the quarter with five Landscape Apprentices and six Waste Management Apprentices being created for previously unemployed Halton residents.

The 9th Adult Learners Awards ceremony took place at the Stobart Stadium on Sat 12 May 2012 with over 100 people in attendance.

2.2.3 **Merseylink Consortia Event**

The Merseylink consortia (one of the bidders bidding to build the new Mersey Gateway) held a 'bootcamp' event at the Catalyst Museum as part of their preparation to develop their required employment and skills plan. The event was attended by members of the Halton Employment Partnership (HEP).

2.2.4 **Science, Technology & Advanced Manufacturing Research Report**

The Science, Technology & Advanced Manufacturing (STAM) research report was presented to over a hundred North West STAM employers at an event organised by Cogent (Sector Skills Council) held at Daresbury Science & Innovation Campus (DSIC). A number of businesses have since requested a copy of the research. The report will also be part of the LMI bank that is being developed by Liverpool City Region (LCR) Employment & Skills Board.

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**

The Stadium has hosted 6 Super League matches since March 1st with average attendances of over 4,500; in addition the Stadium has also hosted 12 Academy/Junior games. Since the introduction of the artificial pitch over 5,000 evening/week-end users have accessed the Stadium facilities, these are all new users that would not have used the Stadium had the artificial pitch not been installed.

The Stadium has also hosted a number of high profile community events, the 2 "stand out" events being the now annual event "The Children of Halton Sing", over 1,400 Pupils attended the event and performed to an audience of over 3,000 who viewed the event from the South Stand. The other main event was the Halton Haven Twilight Walk which saw over 500 walkers meet at the Stadium and walk to Runcorn Town Hall and back raising over £30,000 for the Haven.

2.3.2 **Everton Ladies Football Club**

Everton Ladies football team have also played 2 games here against Bristol and Liverpool. Following the playing of the Everton V's Liverpool game the Stadium has been in negotiations with Liverpool Ladies FC that will result in them signing a 3 year deal to play all their Premier and Reserve League games here.

For the first time a closer link has been formed between Liverpool Ladies and Liverpool FC, this link will ensure that Liverpool Ladies will be able to attract the best players and will be competing for all the top honours next year.

The reserves fixtures will start in September 2012 with the Premier League fixtures starting in March 2013, in addition to increasing revenue at the Stadium this partnership will further strengthen the stadium's position and raise its profile both locally and nationally.

2.3.3 **Stadium Fitness**

Stadium Fitness Gym has extended the junior gym sessions (11-16 year olds) from Saturday only to every week day 3.30pm-5pm. This has resulted in an increase in the amount of income from casual members. Stadium Fitness has also introduced a direct debit schemes for parents/guardians to pay direct debit for the juniors (£15 per month). In June a National table tennis club for young people was held that was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Halton and a number of regional celebrities and spectators.

The Vikings have also moved a temporary superstore into the reception area at Stadium Fitness.

Following an active Marketing campaign since the last quarter a significant increase in every type of memberships has been noted in the below table, bar the Halton Leisure Card. This could be because the price to buy the cards and the amount to use the gym increased by £2 and 50p per session, respectively.

Type of membership	January 2012	April 2012
FULL	620	691
CASUAL ADULT	1550	1676
CASUAL JUNIOR	360	460
HALTON LEISURE CARD	283	83

2.3.4 Arts Strategy

A new Arts Strategy for Halton is being developed. This will replace the previous Strategy published in 2008. It will respond to local changes as well as recognising the National changes in arts policy that have taken place since 2008. The strategy will cover all art forms including visual, performing, media and literary. A draft strategy is currently open for public consultation.

2.3.5 Libraries

The new Runcorn Library opened at the start of May with the conversion of the old market hall having been completed. The library was featured on radio Mersey side and has received a very positive reception from the public. The building conversion was delivered on budget and now offers an accessible modern building dedicated areas for children, teenagers, IT as well as all the meeting spaces and services you would expect from an up to date library.

Halton Lea and Widnes Libraries have launched a joint venture with a private company to stock and lend out the latest range of films and DVD's. This is a pilot venture that will benefit library users who will have the choice of a comprehensive range of DVD's and also the library service who will share in the income derived from this service.

2.2.6 The Brindley

The Brindley has launched a new web site. It aims to be easier to use and provide more information than before. Information, booking and payment on line are becoming standard for all services. Last year, the Brindley saw its online ticket sales rise to 35% of all sales, helping the Arts Centre achieve its highest ever income figures. With the new website in place a rise in online sales to 50% is anticipated within the next two years.

3.0 Emerging Issues

3.1 Supporting Growth and Investment (WR)

3.1.1 The Growth Hub for Liverpool City Region

A number of new initiatives which will impact upon business support both nationally and across the Liverpool City Region (LCR) have either been announced or have begun to take shape in quarter 1 2012\13. The Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LCRLEP) was formally constituted in March 2012, following the merger of the LEP and The Mersey Partnership (TMP). The LCRLEP are responsible for economic regeneration across the five Merseyside local authorities. It is, therefore, critical that the BIG Team forge a strong working relationship with colleagues at LCRLEP.

The Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LCR LEP) has begun to explore the creation of a 'Growth Hub' for the city region. A Growth Hub is a virtual business support platform that encompasses a number of local authority areas, and brings together a range of business support providers under a common marketing brand. Whilst the LCR Growth Hub is still very much in its formative stages it is conceivable that it will advocate a degree of uniformity with respect to business support services across the LCR.

3.2 Raising Skill Levels and Reducing Unemployment (WR)

3.2.1 Adult learning funding

Changes to adult learning funding for the next academic year will mean additional accredited provision will be needed in order to draw down what would have been the equivalent funding from Skills Funding Agency. This will require some tutors delivering qualification-bearing courses, which will be a new way of working for some of them. The nature of the current Adult Learning Tutor contract doesn't give the flexibility that the service will need going forward and a full review will be needed during this transition year.

3.2.2 Merseylink Themed Focus Groups

Merseylink want to hold 4 themed focus groups in Quarter 2. These relate to Adults & Employment, the Youth Agenda, SME procurement and Community Initiatives. HEP will co-ordinate these events on behalf of Merseylink. Additionally, it is expected that the other two bidding consortia will require similar meetings. Employment & Skills Delivery Plans are due for submission on 23 August 2012.

3.2.3 HIPJ Accommodation

Work got underway to create new accommodation for HPIJ at Moore Lane business centre. This will mean there will be dedicated Widnes and Runcorn teams and reduce the need for staff to work across venues. The accommodation at Moor Lane is to be completed by mid-July 2012.

3.2.4 National Careers Service Scrutiny

Targets for the National Careers Service will be scrutinised by Greater Merseyside Connexions in quarter 2. This is as a result of two of the four members of staff going on sick leave. The contract is currently being reviewed.

3.2.5 Matrix Accreditation Submission Progress

Submission for Matrix accreditation will take place in December; however, the evidence gathering process will commence in quarter 2.

3.2.6 Work Programme Delivery

Delivery of the Work Programme will include the completion of Performance Improvement Plans to be submitted in quarter 2 to Ingeus and A4E to address underperformance against targets set for the quarter.

3.3 Enhancing Residents' Quality of Life (CP)

3.3.1 Playing Pitch Strategy

In progress is the production of a new Playing Pitch Strategy for outdoor sports pitches. This strategy examines the current provision of playing pitches in the public, educational, voluntary and private sectors and measures this supply against current and future predicted demand. A draft will be available from the end of July. This strategy will inform local planning decisions on playing field sites. It will also be used by Sport England who have a statutory consultation role in these planning decisions.

3.3.2 Abolition of National Library Standards

Following the election of The Coalition Government all National Library Standards were abolished. These standards had established minimum levels of service and performance targets across the country. In view of this work has started to develop local standards and priorities for the service. These will help form a libraries strategy that can guide the work of the service in the future. An important part of this process will be to consult the public on their aspirations and priorities. This consultation will start shortly and will feed into the strategy document.

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 will be undertaken and progress reported against the application of the risk treatment measures in Quarters 2 and 4.

5.0 Progress against high priority equality actions


- 5.1 There have been no high priority equality actions identified in the quarter.

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	Q1 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

Development & Investment Services leading on an RGF bid for £9.6 million for the Enterprise Zone at Daresbury Supporting 12 bids to Big Lottery Fund's Reaching Communities programme, average bid circa £250k. The team is working with Departmental Management Team groups for each Directorate to establish key funding priorities for this financial year.

Whilst inward investment enquires remain depressed across the economy the Business Development Team (BDT) continue to provide a comprehensive commercial property finding service to local businesses wishing to expand and grow and companies wishing to move into the area.

Recent Astmoor and Halebank Business Improvement District's (BID) AGMs agreed a programme of work for Year 5 of the current programme. Initiatives include an upgrade of the CCTV system at Halebank, greater roll out of the training programme and enhanced business support provision.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q1	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
DIS LI 01	Occupancy of HBC Industrial Units	72%	85%	32%		
SCS ELS01	Increase the number of active enterprises within the Borough	2660 (2011)	2675	2011 figure is the latest available data reported for 2011/12.		
SCS ELS02	Increase the proportion of business diversity in the following sectors: Knowledge Economy, Superport, Low carbon/green, Visitor Economy	25.94%	24%	2011 figure is the latest available data reported for 2011/12.		



Supporting Commentary

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

Some of the SCS measures area awaiting published information from external sources and therefore no performance commentary is currently available. Further comments are expected to be provided for Quarter 2 reporting in line with the SCS reporting.

Raising Skills Levels & Reducing Unemployment (WR)

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q1 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









The Work Programme: Contractual arrangements prevent Work Programme data being published until October 2012.

Ingeus - There have been numerous issues which have impacted upon delivery for Ingeus, but mainly around IT, training and volume of customers. A performance improvement plan will be implemented during quarter 2.

A4e - A performance improvement plan will be implemented during quarter 2.

Delivery of the Work Programme continued with monthly meetings with Prime Contractors to review performance. In addition weekly caseload reviews were completed with advisors to monitor performance on an individual basis.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q1	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
SCS ELS03	Increase the number of people classed as self-employed	5.7% (Sept to Oct 2011)	6.5%	Latest data is the 6.1% for period April 2011 - March 2012. This showed growth on previous reported data.		
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%	5.7%		
SCS ELS08	Reduce the percentage of the working age population claiming out of work benefits	18.9% (August 2011)	18%	18.8% (November 2011)		
ELS LI03	Number of starts on DWP Work Programme	Due to contractual arrangements this performance is not for publication until October 2012				

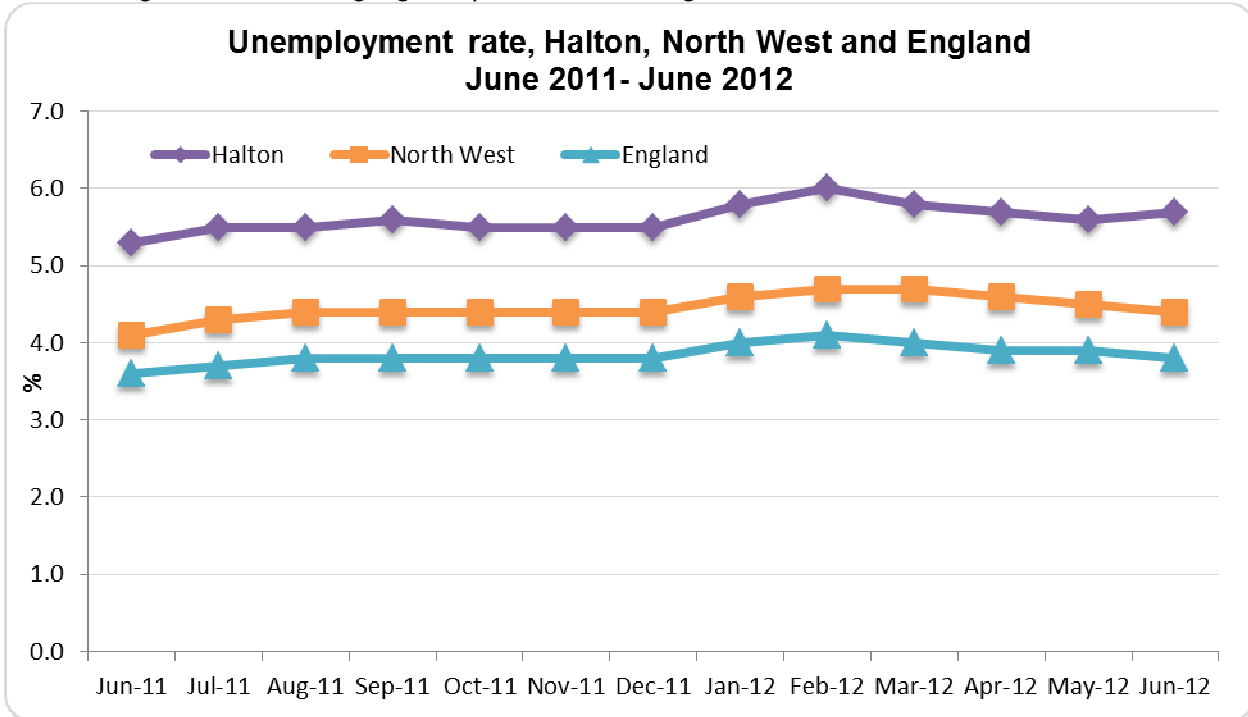
Supporting Commentary

For SCS measures- latest available external data is provided, updated in July 2012. These show growth over previous periods ELS 3, a reducing % of people with no qualifications ELS 04 , and increases noted in the number of people with a NVQ level 4 qualification or above ELS 05. Further comments will be provided for Quarter 2 reporting in line with the SCS reporting.

As with the comments above in relation to the Work Programme, contractual arrangements prevent Work Programme data being published until October 2012.

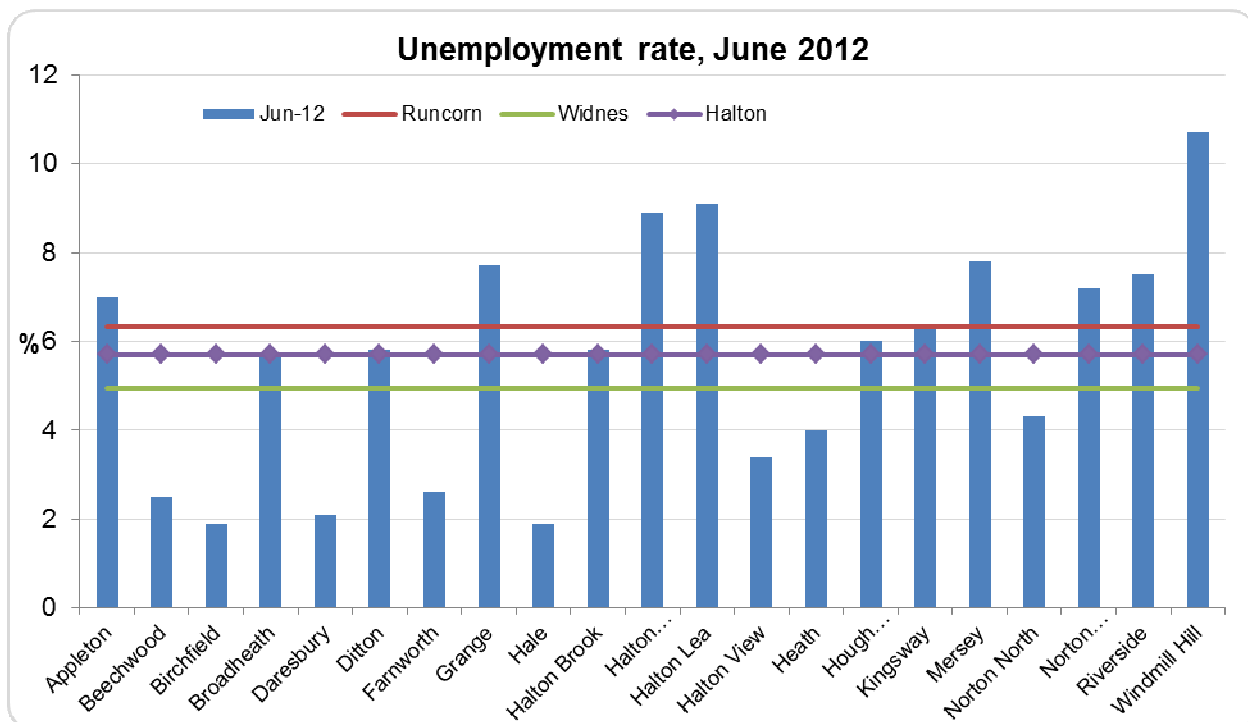
The Job Seekers Allowance count has reduced monthly during Q1 which demonstrates positive progress towards the overall target, as shown graphically below. There has also been a slight decrease in the number of people claiming a range of out of work benefits.

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









Halton's unemployment rate has slightly increased in June 2012 (5.7%) from the figure at May (5.6%) but remains below the peak in February 2012 (6%). 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.

By Ward :Percentage of the Working Age Population Claiming out of Work benefits at June 2012



Enhancing Residents' Quality of Life (CP)

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q1 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

A revised Sports Strategy will help shape priorities and strengthen the local delivery of sport across Halton. The strategy identifies 6 key themes:

- Increase Participation and Widening Access
- Club Development
- Coach Education and Volunteering
- Sporting Excellence
- Finance and Funding For Sport
- Sports Facilities

The strategy has been subject to public consultation and has also been considered by The Health and The Employment Learning, Skills and Community PPB's. The Sports Strategy will be monitored by Halton Sports Partnership which is comprised of key stakeholders from the voluntary sports sector and through updates to The Employment Learning, Skills and Community PPB. The Sports Strategy 2012-2015 will be presented to the Executive Board 12.07.12 for adoption.

Olympic Torch Relay

The 2012 torch relay came to Halton on a very rainy 31.05.12; this did not dampen the enthusiasm of the community who lined the route in their 1,000s.

In addition to the many school/community events the Council coordinated a Cultural festival at the Brindley; Arts and Crafts at Runcorn Library and a Sports Festival at Ted Gleave Sports Ground. Further event details available. We had a number of local torchbearers, who since carrying the torch have assisted local schools, college and community groups with events.

Halton Sports Fair ran from 28 May – 8 June over 150 sport and physical activity sessions where advertised to showcase the large number of excellent opportunities taking place locally. Many of the sessions were delivered free by voluntary sports clubs.

Lucy Martin, a Sporting Excellence grant recipient, has been selected for the GB 2012 Road cycling team. She has been writing a blog for the local paper and in other social media, she regularly acknowledges the support she has received from the Council.

CIPFA PLUS Survey

Preparations are underway for the survey to take place in the autumn

Reader Development

Author visit – Children's author Andrew Newbound delivered his Word Wizard Literacy Olympics reaching 200 children. Ditton Library celebrated 50 years in April with 2 days of activities.

Young Volunteers (MyVoice Project) have planned and supported events (Vintage Tea Party, Olympic Torch, book launch) as well as creating book reviews for YouTube and taking part in the training to help support the Summer Reading Challenge





Informal Learning Opportunities

76 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. Computer Club for the Over 60's established at Halton Lea Library.

Stock Procurement Efficiencies

Library Management System software is being developed to enable electronic invoicing. 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	Q1	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	17,765		N/A
<u>CE LI 6a</u>	Number of visits to libraries (annual total).	New Measure	599,00	153,561		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 - 55,000 registered users, current figure of 17,765 active users having using the service in the last 12 months. Based on current figures it is expected that the annual target will be achieved for the number of visits to libraries.

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 (WR)

Revenue Budget as at 30th June 2012

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget to Date £'000	Expenditure to Date £'000	Variance to Date (overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	4,569	1,184	1,218	(34)
Premises	0	0	0	0
Repairs & Maintenance	2,639	604	613	(9)
Energy & Water Costs	670	163	126	37
NNDR	933	821	780	41
Rents	760	374	382	(8)
Marketing Programme	37	11	10	1
Promotions	33	6	6	0
Supplies & Services	1,262	312	281	31
Agency Related Expenditure	103	14	14	0
Revenue Contribution to / from Reserves	-45	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	10,961	3,489	3,430	59
Sales	-3	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	-371	-12	-12	0
Rent - Markets	-806	-216	-193	(23)
Rent - Industrial Estates	-625	-183	-130	(53)
Rent - Commercial	-1,119	-277	-190	(87)
Transfer to / from Reserves	-374	-135	-135	0
Government Grant - Income	-947	-170	-170	0
Reimbursements & Other Income	-162	-136	-136	0
Recharges to Capital	-750	0	0	0
Schools SLA Income	-757	-30	-30	0
Total Income	-5,914	-1,159	-996	(163)
NET OPERATIONAL BUDGET	5,047	2,330	2,434	(104)
Premises Support Costs	1,770	432	432	0
Transport Support Costs	46	8	8	0
Central Support Service Costs	1,809	468	468	0
Asset Rental Support Costs	3,456	6	6	0
Repairs & Maint. Rech. Income	-2,393	-598	-598	0
Accommodation Rech. Income	-3,344	-836	-836	0
Central Supp. Service Rech. Income	-1,759	-434	-434	0
Total Recharges	-415	-954	-954	0
Net Expenditure	4,632	1,376	1,480	(104)

Comments on the above figures:

The Employee budget is currently over budget as the lack of staff turnover so far this year means that the staff turnover target is not being achieved.

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.

Market rental income is currently below budget due to a number of vacant stalls.

Industrial estate rental income is currently below budget mainly as a result of a large number of vacant units. Steps are being taken to promote these units and budgets will be monitored closely throughout the year.

The current economic climate has resulted in a decrease in the demand for land and property rental and as a result commercial rental income is below budget. Action is being taken to promote this area and budgets will be monitored closely throughout the year.

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 (CP)

Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2012

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual to Date £'000	Variance To Date (overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	11,448	2,804	2,944	(140)
Other Premises	1,197	422	381	41
Supplies & Services	1,595	292	196	96
Book Fund	245	29	23	6
Promotional	265	58	48	10
Other Hired Services	925	121	116	5
Food Provisions	861	167	153	14
School Meals Food	1,656	125	96	29
Transport	43	24	25	(1)
Other Agency Costs	121	42	32	10
Waste Disposal Contracts	5,187	501	488	13
Leisure Management Contract	1,484	245	252	(7)
Grants To Voluntary Organisations	103	28	27	1
Grant To Norton Priory	222	111	111	0
Rolling Projects	286	72	72	0
Capital Financing	59	3	3	0
Total Expenditure	25,697	5,044	4,967	77
<u>Income</u>				
Sales Income	-1,949	-488	-471	(17)
School Meals Sales	-2,173	-416	-444	28
Fees & Charges Income	-2,393	-690	-623	(67)
Rents Income	-178	-105	-90	(15)
Government Grant Income	-31	-8	-10	2
Reimbursements & Other Income	-640	-108	-118	10
Schools SLA Income	-2,037	-58	-63	5
Internal Fees Income	-123	-28	-4	(24)
School Meals Other Income	-369	-74	-78	4
Meals On Wheels	-193	-48	-49	1
Catering Fees	-226	-48	-11	(37)
Capital Salaries	-101	-25	-26	1
Transfers From Reserves	-298	-20	-20	0
Total Income	-10,711	-2,116	-2,007	(109)
Net Operational Expenditure	14,986	2,928	2,960	(32)
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Support	1,381	264	264	0
Transport Recharges	2,205	551	552	(1)
Departmental Support Services	9	0	0	0
Central Support Services	2,757	729	729	0
Asset Charges	2,459	0	0	0
HBC Support Costs Income	-307	-69	-67	(2)
Net Total Recharges	8,504	1,475	1,478	(3)
Net Departmental Total	23,490	4,403	4,438	(35)

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms the Net Operational budget is £ 35,000 over budget profile at the end of the first quarter of the financial year.

Staffing related expenditure is over budget profile by £140,000, primarily due to the premium pay savings target which account for 50% of the total staff savings target of £570,000. There has also been over £86,000 of costs incurred on agency staff, which means Open Spaces is over budget profile by £ 31,000 to date for absences due to illness and Waste Management is £ 22,000 over budget profile at this stage of the financial year.

Expenditure on Supplies and Services is currently £ 96,000 under budget profile. The main contributing factors are extremely low need for repairs and a significant reduction in the level of advertising across the division. The costs incurred in respect of utility charges are also less than anticipated at budget setting time and landscaping work is currently lower than average although this is expected to increase during quarter 2.

Food provisions for Commercial Catering and the Stadium are lower than budget profile 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 £29,000 under budget profile and this budget is expected to be underspent at year end as it continues to benefit from renegotiated contract prices. Income is benefitting from the recent price increase of school meals, although the uptake of meals has fallen slightly. Income received in respect of school breaks continue to over achieve against target due to new snacks being provided.

Fees & Charges income is currently under budget profile. Trade Waste income has suffered again despite a smaller increase in price this year. However expenditure on waste disposal contracts is also under budget profile. Estimates have been provided for Waste disposal contracts which are paid in arrears due to invoices received late from contractors. The above portrays that position as best possible though careful monitoring will be undertaken on this line. Income received in relation to events at the Stadium and other bookings are also currently lower than usual, and sponsorship income from Widnes Vikings has been problematic. This may increase in the coming months due to a revised plan being arranged.




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 June 2012

	2012/13 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
Stadium Minor Works	30	8	8	22
Stadium Disabled Facilities	50	0	0	50
Children's Playground Equipment	96	24	1	95
Landfill Tax Scheme Hale Park	340	85	13	327
Playground Arley Drive	72	18	2	70
Playground The Glen	5	1	1	4
Crow Wood Park	12	3	0	12
Open Spaces Scheme	150	38	0	150
Runcorn Cemetery Extension	71	18	30	41
Installation of 5 Multi Use Games Areas	29	7	0	29
Development of Facilities at RTH Park	73	18	72	1
Playground Runcorn Hill Park	6	1	1	5
Litter Bins	28	7	0	28
Castlefields Recycling Scheme	30	8	0	30
Total Spending	992	236	128	864




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