

**REPORT TO:** Employment, Learning & Skills Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 7 July 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>	<b>People with long-term condition supported to be independent and in control of their condition</b>	Data unavailable
<b>NI 173</b>	<b>People falling out of work and on to incapacity benefits</b>	Data unavailable

## LAA Outcome Measures - Progress as at March 2009

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.

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

**Employment, Learning & Skills**



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The following indicators are not included within this performance report:



NI	Descriptor	Reason
173	People falling out of work and on to incapacity benefits	Deleted from LAA 2009

### **Performance Overview**

Ref	Descriptor	2008 – 09 Target	2011 Target
153	Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods		
163	Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher.		
171	VAT Registration rate	N/A	

## EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING AND SKILLS

### NI 153 Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
31.5 %	30.5 %	<b>30.6%</b> (Aug 08)		28.5 %	

#### Supporting information / commentary

##### Progress using latest MI available to DWP

JSA Halton April 2008 = 2493 - March 09 = 4501 an increase of 81%.  
Jobs notified to JCP August 08 = 527 – Feb 09 = 269 a reduction of 49%.  
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.

### NI 163 Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher


Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
60.1% (2006)	64%	<b>60.4%</b> (2007)		67.5%	

#### Supporting information / commentary

The targets were based on expected provision as purchased through the LSC, mainly train to gain and FE. It is difficult at this time to estimate the likely effect of the recession on levels of attainment. It will be more possible to assess this when the real 08 stats come through

## EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING AND SKILLS

### NI 171 VAT registration rate

Baseline 2007 – 08	2008 - 09			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
42.3%	42.3%	Not available	N/A	42.8%	

#### Supporting information / commentary

This is a completely new indicator and target. Information will be produced annually in arrears. As such it is not possible to identify progress for 08-09. The baseline 42.3% is actually an average of the 2005-2007. (The 2007 figure in itself was suspect as a change in treasury rules produced a one off boost in the business start up data for that year). Given the recession it was agreed with GONW that only a small increase in start up rate was likely but this is to be reviewed in 2010 when more data is available. As such, it is projected as an amber due to the uncertainty of the recession and the impact of the 2007 figures on the projections)