

Public Document Pack



Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

Wednesday, 19 March 2008 6.30 p.m.
Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David WR'.

Chief Executive

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Ron Hignett (Chairman)	Labour
Councillor Keith Morley (Vice-Chairman)	Labour
Councillor Peter Blackmore	Liberal Democrat
Councillor John Bradshaw	Conservative
Councillor Ellen Cargill	Labour
Councillor Dave Leadbetter	Labour
Councillor Peter Murray	Conservative
Councillor Paul Nolan	Labour
Councillor Christopher Rowe	Liberal Democrat
Councillor Tim Sly	Liberal Democrat
Councillor Dave Thompson	Labour

Please contact Caroline Halpin on 0151 471 7394 or e-mail caroline.halpin@halton.gov.uk for further information.

The next meeting of the Board is on Wednesday, 18 June 2008

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Part I

Item No.	Page No.
1. MINUTES	
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS (INCLUDING PARTY WHIP DECLARATIONS)	
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached and (subject to certain exceptions in the Code of Conduct for Members) to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.	
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In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

REPORT TO: Urban Renewal Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 19 March 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Corporate and Policy

SUBJECT: Public Question Time

WARD(s): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider any questions submitted by the Public in accordance with Standing Order 33(5).

1.2 Details of any questions received will be circulated at the meeting.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That any questions received be dealt with.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Standing Order 34(11) states that Public Questions shall be dealt with as follows:-

- (i) A total of 30 minutes will be allocated for members of the public who are residents of the Borough, to ask questions at meetings of the Policy and Performance Boards.
- (ii) Members of the public can ask questions on any matter relating to the agenda.
- (iii) Members of the public can ask questions. Written notice of questions must be submitted by 4.00 pm on the day prior to the meeting. At any meeting no person/organisation may submit more than one question.
- (iv) One supplementary question (relating to the original question) may be asked by the questioner, which may or may not be answered at the meeting.
- (v) The Chair or proper officer may reject a question if it:-
 - Is not about a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or which affects the Borough;
 - Is defamatory, frivolous, offensive, abusive or racist;
 - Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months; or
 - Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

- (vi) In the interests of natural justice, public questions cannot relate to a planning or licensing application or to any matter, which is not dealt with in the public part of a meeting.
- (vii) The Chairperson will ask for people to indicate that they wish to ask a question.
- (viii) **PLEASE NOTE** that the maximum amount of time each questioner will be allowed is 3 minutes.
- (ix) If you do not receive a response at the meeting, a Council Officer will ask for your name and address and make sure that you receive a written response.

Please bear in mind that public question time lasts for a maximum of 30 minutes. To help in making the most of this opportunity to speak:-

- Please keep questions as concise as possible.
- Please do not repeat or make statements on earlier questions as this reduces the time available for other issues to be raised.
- Please note that public question time is not intended for debate – issues raised will be responded to either at the meeting or in writing at a later date.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None

6.4 A Safer Halton

None

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO: Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board
DATE: 19 March 2008
REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive
SUBJECT: Executive Board Minutes
WARD(s): Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Minutes relating to the Urban Renewal Portfolio which have been considered by the Executive Board, Executive Board Sub and 3MG Executive Sub Board are attached at Appendix 1 for information.
- 1.2 The Minutes are submitted to inform the Policy and Performance Board of decisions taken in their area.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Minutes be noted.

3.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 None.

4.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

5.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None

5.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

5.3 A Healthy Halton

None

5.4 A Safer Halton

None

5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 None.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

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

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

APPENDIX 1

Extract of Executive Board, Executive Board Sub Committee and Executive (Transmodal Implementation) Sub Board Minutes Relevant to the Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2008

EXB80 NORTH WEST DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (NWDA) CORPORATE PLAN 2008

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy advising of the consultation being undertaken by the North West Development Agency (NWDA) of regional partners on its draft Corporate Plan.

It was noted that the NWDA was required by Government to produce a new Corporate Plan to cover the period 2008/09-2010/11. The report outlined implications of the Plan together with suggested comments to form part of the consultation response, which had to be returned by 1st February 2008.

RESOLVED: That the proposed response to the consultation be approved.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2008

EXB86 TRANSPORT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME 2008/09

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director - Environment advising of the announcement of the three year Local Transport Settlement (2008/09 - 2010/11) that was made on 27th November 2007; and seeking approval to the Transport Implementation Programme for 2008/09 being included in the Council's 2008/09 Capital Programme.

It was noted that the December 2006 Local Transport Capital Expenditure Settlement Letter provided indicative allocations for the Integrated Transport Block for the period 2008/09 - 2010/11, which were enhanced by reward funding of 25% due to the quality of Halton's delivery report for the first Local Transport Plan (LTP) and its second LTP. However, the Highways Capital Maintenance allocations were not provided for this period as they were to be subject to the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review and a reassessment of the formula on which allocations were made.

The November 2007 Settlement letter confirmed the LTP Integrated Transport Capital Block allocations for the period 2008/09 - 2010/11 as being unchanged from that previously indicated in the December 2006 letter, and

these were outlined for Members' consideration.

As the allocation of the Highways Capital Maintenance block was based on a new formula, there had been a reduction of £959,000 to Halton over three years to that previously indicated as the Provisional Planning Guideline to be used in the preparation of LTP2. However, Halton had also been allocated substantial additional funding from the Primary Route Network (PRN) Bridge Strengthening and Maintenance allocation, totalling £14.28m over the three years, which was over 12% of the total available, off-setting the reduction outlined above.

Further information was provided in respect of the PRN Bridge Strengthening and Maintenance Capital Allocation; the Road Safety Grant; and the Detrunked Roads Maintenance Grant 2008/09 - 2010/11. Schemes proposed to be implemented in 2008/09 were outlined in Appendix A to the report.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the 2008/09 - 2010/11 Local Transport Settlement be noted; and
- (2) the Transport Implementation Programme for 2008/09 in the sum of £8,237,000 (shown in Appendix A to the report) be recommended to Council for inclusion in the Council's 2008/09 Capital programme.

EXB95 FIREWORKS FESTIVAL 2008

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Environment setting out the views of the Safer Halton Policy and Performance Board (PPB) and the Urban Renewal PPB regarding proposals to relocate Halton's Fireworks Festival.

It was noted that the PPBs had considered the history of the Fireworks Festival in Halton, together with issues relating to safety and welfare of the public attending the event. Key issues debated included the importance of maintaining a large public display for safety reasons, the fact that the display was a major event with people travelling into the Borough, and the fact that the present location enabled people to see the display from numerous locations on both sides of the River. In view of this, both PPBs resolved that:

“The comments made by the Board that the Fireworks Festival remain at its current location and that work be undertaken to find alternatives to resolve the crowd control, health and safety and car parking issues, along with trying to attract sponsors to offset the additional costs, be referred to the Executive Board.”

In view of this, a request for £20,000 was to be considered as part of the

budget process for 2008/09 to cover the costs relating to more police, security staff, car park attendants and stewards to assist in the safety and welfare of visitors. In addition, continued efforts would be made to attract sponsorship, although this could not be guaranteed.

The Board noted and congratulated the two PPBs on the work carried out in this respect.

RESOLVED: That, further to the considerations of the Safer Halton and Urban Renewal PPBs, the Fireworks Festival remain in the current location.

EXB96 CASTLEFIELDS VILLAGE SQUARE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy, and the Strategic Director – Environment, advising of a change in English Partnership's (EP's) funding position, seeking approval for the Council to utilise part of the capital receipts from the disposal of Council-owned land at Castlefields to support the development of the proposed Castlefields Village Square.

It was noted that EP, who was leading on the project, had been working with CDS Housing (CDS) and their agents to develop scheme proposals for the Village Square. EP was to provide funding to CDS for the demolition of the existing centre, enabling works, public realms works and abnormal costs, to ensure the scheme was deliverable. The costs associated with this were £3.9m.

These costs had been known for some time and EP had stated its intention to bid for additional internal resources to support the scheme. However, EP's position had now changed and it was no longer in a position to bid for additional funding. Consequently, EP had now proposed that it provide gap funding for the Canal Quarter Project if Halton agree to re-cycle part of its future land receipts from Castlefields to support the Village Square.

This EP decision had left a funding gap, which it was proposed was filled by utilising a proportion of the receipts secured from the sale of Lakeside and Canalside as outlined within the report. It was estimated that the net receipts would exceed the public realm and enhancement works. The Board was advised that the Lakeside and Canalside sites were subject to clawback by EP. This was subject to negotiation but was not expected to exceed the balance of any receipts.

RESOLVED: That:

- (1) the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy be authorised to commence marketing and sale of the housing sites in the Council's ownership as shown in Appendix 1 of the report;

- (2) the Council be recommended to include up to a maximum of £3.9m within the Council's capital programme to be invested in the delivery of the Castlefields programme, including the Village Square project, funded from future land receipts;
- (3) authority be given to the Strategic Director – Environment, in consultation with the Strategic Director - Corporate and Policy, and the Operational Director and Monitoring Officer (Legal, Organisational Development and Human Resources), to enter into a development agreement and ancillary agreements with CDS Housing and English Partnerships in relation to the development of the Castlefields Village Square; and
- (4) authority be given to the Strategic Director – Environment, in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transportation, Regeneration and Renewal, to take such other actions as may be necessary to implement the development of the Castlefields Village Square and the Castlefields Masterplan.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2008

WIDNES WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT ZONE LINEAR PARK RAILWAY TRACKS

The Sub-Committee was advised that one of the projects in the previously agreed Widnes Waterfront Masterplan was the creation of a Linear Park on a disused rail siding which ran west to east across the EDZ from Earle Road to Tanhouse Lane.

The Linear Park would be created as part of the wider landscaping scheme being implemented throughout the Widnes Waterfront and would include a combined footpath to show its cycleway. An application for planning permission had been agreed.

Negotiations had been on-going with Network Rail for four years regarding acquisition of the site by Halton Borough Council. This had finally been agreed and was now with solicitors. In addition, it was noted that £665,000 funding for this project had been secured from the North West Development Agency (350k), ERDF (204k) and Neighbourhood Renewal Funds (111k). There were claw back provisions in place from all of these funding bodies should there be any income generated from the site.

It was noted that the Council would take possession of the site with a considerable amount of old rail in situ. Property Services had estimated that the scrap value of the rail tracks was between £12,000 and £15,000 with the

purchaser paying the Council's legal costs and their own removal costs.

Widnes Regeneration Limited had previously disposed of some redundant level crossing gates (from the former Blue Circle Cement Plant fronting onto the east side of Tanhouse Lane) to the Llangollen Railway Society, a charitable organisation which was restoring the former Llangollen Railway. Whilst the proposed Linear Park Scheme incorporated a short length of track in recognition of the Heritage Site, the remainder of the rail was surplus to requirements.

It was therefore proposed that rather than merely disposing of the rail for scrap, it should be offered to the Llangollen Railway Society for reuse. All funding bodies for the scheme had agreed that if the rail tracks and level crossing gates were donated to the Llangollen Railway Society, they would waive their rights to claw back of the scrap value.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) approval be granted to waive Part 7.9 of Standing Orders relating to Finance and Part 5 of the Procurement Standing Orders in relation to the disposal of the railway tracks, level crossing gates and ancillary equipment and materials at the proposed Widnes Waterfront Linear Park; and
- (2) approval be granted to Llangollen Railway Society to remove the railway tracks and level crossing gates for use at the Llangollen Railway and Museum.

ESC72 PURCHASE OF PASSENGER TRANSPORT VEHICLE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

The Sub-Committee was advised that two tenders had been received based on an open list system for the supply of new passenger transport vehicle communications equipment.

Both tenders were evaluated using a pre-determined assessment criteria (which was included with the tender documents based on price and quality criteria). In addition, both suppliers were then required to give a formal 30 minute presentation on their proposals to a Panel of Halton Borough Council's Officers drawn from the IT Business Management Team and Transport Co-Ordination Team. This represented the remaining 5% of the assessment scoring criteria.

It was reported that good references had been obtained on IKI Group Limited from other organisations (including local authorities) who were currently using the system and a site visit was organised to view the system in operation successfully at Lancashire County Council. Funding had been

identified in the Halton Local Transport Plan during 2007/08 of £70,000 towards the purchase and installation costs of the new proposed passenger transport vehicle communication equipment.

RESOLVED: That the award of the Contract for the supply of a new passenger transport vehicle communications equipment system to the IKI Group Limited for £61,375 be noted.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY 2008

ESC75 ENHANCEMENT OF VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGNS SYSTEM

The Sub-Committee had previously approved a report for the provision of Variable Message Signs (VMS) on the approaches to the Silver Jubilee Bridge, to provide information on traffic conditions and proposed works. Six signs had now been installed and were operational with a further two signs due to be installed within the next few weeks.

The signs were currently controlled by a computer in Rutland House and arrangements had been made for the signs to be set outside of office hours by staff within the 24/7 team at the Contact Centre. However, on Thursday 18th January 2007, the Silver Jubilee Bridge was closed due to a high-sided vehicle being blown over in the high winds. Following the incident, a review of procedures was carried out and following discussions with other bridge operators (mainly in Scotland) and the Police, thresholds for the staged closure of the Bridge, initially to high sided vehicles and ultimately a total closure where being drafted to produce agreed protocol with Cheshire Police.

During the development of the protocols it was felt that the best way forward was to automate the system so that the messages to warn of high winds and closure of the bridge to high-sided vehicles were displayed automatically when pre determined wind speeds were reached. It was reported that following discussions with Cheshire Police it was now likely that the Council would arrange for a message to be displayed that warns drivers of high sided vehicles to avoid the bridge during high winds and to find an alternative route.

It was always envisaged when the system was proposed that there would be some automation, to allow the signs to be activated by the system when pre determined scenarios occur. To facilitate this automation there was a need to install some additional equipment and software, which linked the different systems together, this software was called a Common Database.

A number of options were available to provide this common database,

however, as most of the current systems had been supplied by Siemens' Traffic Controls, a price had been obtained from them for the supply, installation and commissioning of a Comet UTMC common database for £59,326.00. This price included linking to the anemometer and training for the relevant staff.

Arising from the discussion Members enquired if the signs could be used to display alternative messages e.g Don't Drink and Drive etc. The Sub Committee was advised that the boards could only be used to display certain messages, however this request would be looked into.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Procurement Standing Orders 3.1 – 3.7 be waived to obtain equipment that is the same as neighbouring authorities to allow future joint use;
- (2) the quote from Siemens Traffic Controls for the supply, installation and commissioning of Comet UTMC database software for £59,326 be accepted; and
- (3) the authority agrees to pursue joint working with the Merseyside Authorities, Warrington BC and Highways Agency for joint use of each other's variable message signs, using reciprocal arrangements.

ESC76 PROCUREMENT OF ADDITIONAL SECURITY SERVICES AND CCTV EQUIPMENT ON HALEBANK INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

The Sub-Committee considered a report which sought approval to waive Standing Orders for the Procurement of additional CCTV security equipment and security services for the benefit of businesses located at Halebank Industrial Estate. In 2005, 6 private security companies were invited to submit quotations to install a CCTV security system and provide a monitoring and response service for businesses located at Halebank Industrial Estate. Druants Security were subsequently awarded the contract, effective between 13th October 2005 and 12th October 2010.

On 7th December 2007, businesses on Halebank Industrial Estate voted in favour of creating a Business Improvement District (BID). The Bid Business Plan required procurement of additional CCTV equipment to enhance the existing system by improving the functionality and coverage of the system and increase detection rates.

The Sub Committee was advised that if the purchase of additional security equipment was to be subject to Financial Standing Orders. This could result in a different company installing the new equipment. In this event Druants would be under no obligation to:

- permit this additional equipment to be connected and integrated into the existing system;
- monitor the additional cameras from their monitoring room; and
- maintain the additional cameras.

It could also result in a second security company operating within Halebank Industrial Estate for the key holding and alarm/incident response services with Druants continuing to provide the services under the existing contract. From an operational point of view, two security companies operating on Halebank Industrial Estate was likely to be both difficult to manage and could lead to confusion.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Operational Director – Economic Regeneration be authorised to award the contract for the additional CCTV security equipment on Halebank Industrial Estate to Druants in the sum of £25,295.21 and that in light of the exceptional circumstances and in accordance with Standing Order 1.6 Procurement Standing Order 4.1 be waived on this occasion in view in the impracticality and problems associated with having two contractors providing similar and complementary services on the estate; and
- (2) the Operational Director – Economic Regeneration be authorised to award the contract for providing additional security services to businesses located on Halebank Industrial Estate to Druants at a rate of £1.09/day per company for key holding and £0.34/day per company for an alarm/incident response service and that in the light of the exceptional circumstances and in accordance with Standing Order 1.6 Procurement Standing Order 4.1 be waived on this occasion in view of the impracticality and problems associated with having two contractors providing similar and complementary services on the estate.

REPORT TO: Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 19 March 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: Performance Management Reports
Quarter 3 to 31st December 2007

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider and raise any questions or points of clarification in respect of the 3rd quarter performance management reports on progress against service plan objectives and performance targets, performance trends/comparisons, factors affecting the services etc. for:

- Highways, Transportation & Logistics
- Environmental & Regulatory Services
- Health & Partnerships
- Culture & Leisure
- Economic Regeneration
- Major Projects

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the Policy and Performance Board

- 1) Receive the 3rd quarter performance management reports;**
- 2) Consider the progress and performance information and raise any questions or points for clarification; and**
- 3) Highlight any areas of interest and/or concern where further information is to be reported at a future meeting of the Policy and Performance Board.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The departmental service plans provide a clear statement on what the services are planning to achieve and to show how they contribute to the Council's strategic priorities. The service plans are central to the Council's performance management arrangements and the Policy and Performance Board has a key role in monitoring performance and strengthening accountability.

- 3.2 The quarterly reports are on the Information Bulletin to reduce the amount of paperwork sent out with the agendas and to allow Members access to the reports as soon as they have become available. It also provides Members with an opportunity to give advance notice of any questions, points or requests for further information that will be raised to ensure the appropriate Officers are available at the PPB meeting.

4.0 POLICY AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no policy implications associated with this report.

5.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 6.1 Not applicable.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTIONS 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

- 7.1 There are no background documents under the meaning of the Act.

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Environment
SERVICE: Economic Regeneration
PERIOD: Quarter 3 to period-end 31 December 2007.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Economic Regeneration Department third quarter period up to 31 December 2007. It describes key developments and progress against key objectives and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained in Appendix 5.

It should be noted that this report is presented to a number of Policy and Performance Boards. Those objectives and indicators that are not directly relevant to this Board have been shaded grey.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Jobcentre Plus has advised the Council is the best performing 'In Work Support' contract provider in the country and has therefore extended the one year contract that was due to end on 31.3.2008 for a further period of two years until 30.6.2010.

The Enterprising Halton Business Start-up programme has already handled over 240 new start-up enquiries against a target of 150 for the year and has already achieved the full year target of 50 new start-ups.

Following the withdrawal of outreach secondees by JCP, HPiJ has commenced a rolling programme of outreach for the 7 priority wards. This involves mass leafleting areas to raise the profile and job surgeries following on.

The Adult Learning & Skills Development (ALSD) Division has been successful in obtaining 2 lots of 5 days of consultancy from the Quality Improvement Agency as part of the Skills for Life Improvement Programme. The 2 programmes will help the service to develop a whole organisational approach to skills for life and also to further embed skills for life.

The final assessment stage of the Family Science Big Lottery application took place in November. A final decision on the £250k application will be known in Q4.

The Business (skills) Perceptions Survey has commenced. By the end of February 250 companies are scheduled to be interviewed. The results will feed into the ELS PPB Skills Topic Group work.

Fisher Associates has completed a skills assessment of the logistics sector in support of the 3MG development in Halton. The report formed the basis of the December 3MG skills meeting during which a first skills/employment proposal for the sector was produced. This will be worked up into detail and presented to local companies at a later date. The results will also feed into the ELS PPB Skills Topic Group work.

The PCDL (Personal Community Development Learning) Partnership was established in October 2007. This is a requirement of LSC funding and seeks to bring all such provision closer together.

Following ballots on two of the boroughs industrial estates, it was announced on December 7th that businesses on Astmoor Industrial Estate in Runcorn and the Halebank Estate in Widnes had voted in favour of creating Business Improvement Districts (BID's) in their respective areas. Formal BID plans will be rolled out for both estates from April 1 2008 and will be in place for five years. Halton is the first local authority in the UK to successfully administer two ballots in separate areas at the same time. The work programmes will be funded via a levy that will be charged on top of the resident business or landlord's existing business rates bill. The funds will be 'ring fenced' enabling it to be used for the purpose of financing further improvements, such as enhanced crime prevention and security measures, general environmental uplifts of the estates, improved signage etc. The funds will be managed a Board made up of business representatives and an Estate Manager, who will be employed by the Council, but paid for via the BID levy.

The creation of a formal Single Investment Agency for the Liverpool City Region, led by The Mersey Partnership, has been ratified. The Merseyside Authorities have agreed to a three-year funding package for the new agency together with a series of working' protocols' which govern the mechanism by which inward investment and company expansion projects are managed across the sub-region.

Planning is now well underway for the Youth Capital of Culture event which will be staged on the 12 and 13 July 2008. The event, which is being co-ordinated by a cross directorate steering group that comprises officers and elected members, will incorporate a wide range of cultural activities, focused on young people, including music, drama, art, dance etc. The main venues will be the Halton Stobart Stadium and the Brindley.

Preparatory work is now underway to update the Economic Development and Tourism Strategy for the Borough that will be published during 2008/09.

With the external funding for the Halton eBusiness team coming to an end in December 2008, the project is now moving into a closedown phase. This will ensure -

- All project targets are met
- All administrative and financial tasks are complete
- Project files etc are archived to meet foreseeable future audit requirements

3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

Initial discussions have taken place with Halton PCT around Skills for Life support, both for staff working in frontline services and also for those young people and adults using PCT services. A proposal is to be prepared for the PCT.

The Government has announced a £30million investment into Family Learning provision though there are little details at this time.

The academic term for spring is very short and this means that in Q4, normal 11 week courses have been reduced to 9 weeks and that marketing of programmes had to take place before the New Year. It is likely that enrolments therefore will be much lower in Q4 as a result of the tight timescales.

As LSC award new European Social Fund contracts, various new providers may be operating in the borough. It will be important that all new provision is mapped so that any potential confusion and duplication is minimised.

The Continental Market, held in Widnes town centre between 18 and 20 October 2007, resulted in a significant increase in footfall and a very favourable response from visitors that attended. Discussions are underway to host another market in 2008/09. Progress has also been made with respect to the launch of a weekly (Tuesday) Street Market in Runcorn Old Town.

Two European funded Inter Regional (Interreg) projects are being developed with partners in Europe:-

Project 1 - RegioSusChem

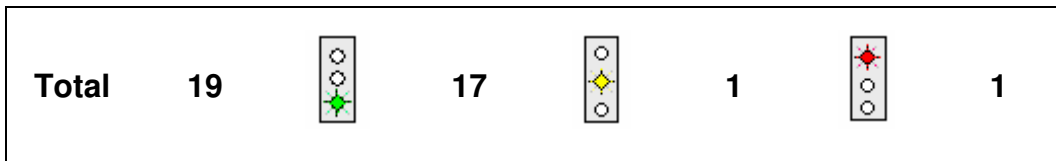
This project is being led by the European Chemical Regions Network (ECRN), which Halton Borough Council (HBC) is a member of. The project will aim to develop regional strategies for strengthening research and innovation in European chemicals regions. HBC will be representing North West UK as a partner in the project.

Project 2 - MITKE - Managing the Industrial Territory in the Knowledge Area

This project is being led by SPRI, a subsidiary organisation of the Regional Development Agency of the Basque Country. It's aim is to design and test new models of managing business areas and industrial parks facing the challenge of the knowledge economy alongside the need to sustain and retain resident businesses - specifically SME's.

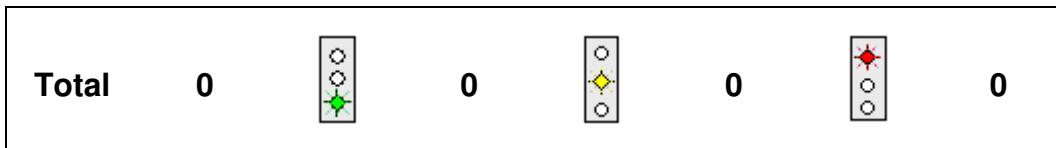
Decisions on both projects will be announced in June 2008 and both will run for 3 years if approved.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES



Generally good progress towards achieving objectives/milestones. For further details refer to Appendix 1.

4.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

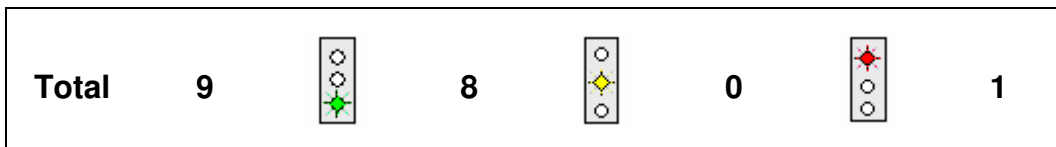


There are no "Other" objectives/milestones for this service.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW




The Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board is presently reviewing town centre management within Halton. The topic group has already visited other town centres and is presently collecting evidence with a view to a final report in March.

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Good progress is being made against the targets for "Key" performance indicators. For further details please refer to Appendix 2.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	4		4		0		0
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No "Other" indicators have been reported by exception this quarter.

7.0 PROGRESS AGAINST LPSA TARGETS

There is good progress towards LPSA targets. For further details please refer to Appendix 3.

8.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2007-08 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.

Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

9.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS





During 2006/07 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.








There are no High priority actions for this service, therefore, there is no progress to report.


10.0 APPENDICES

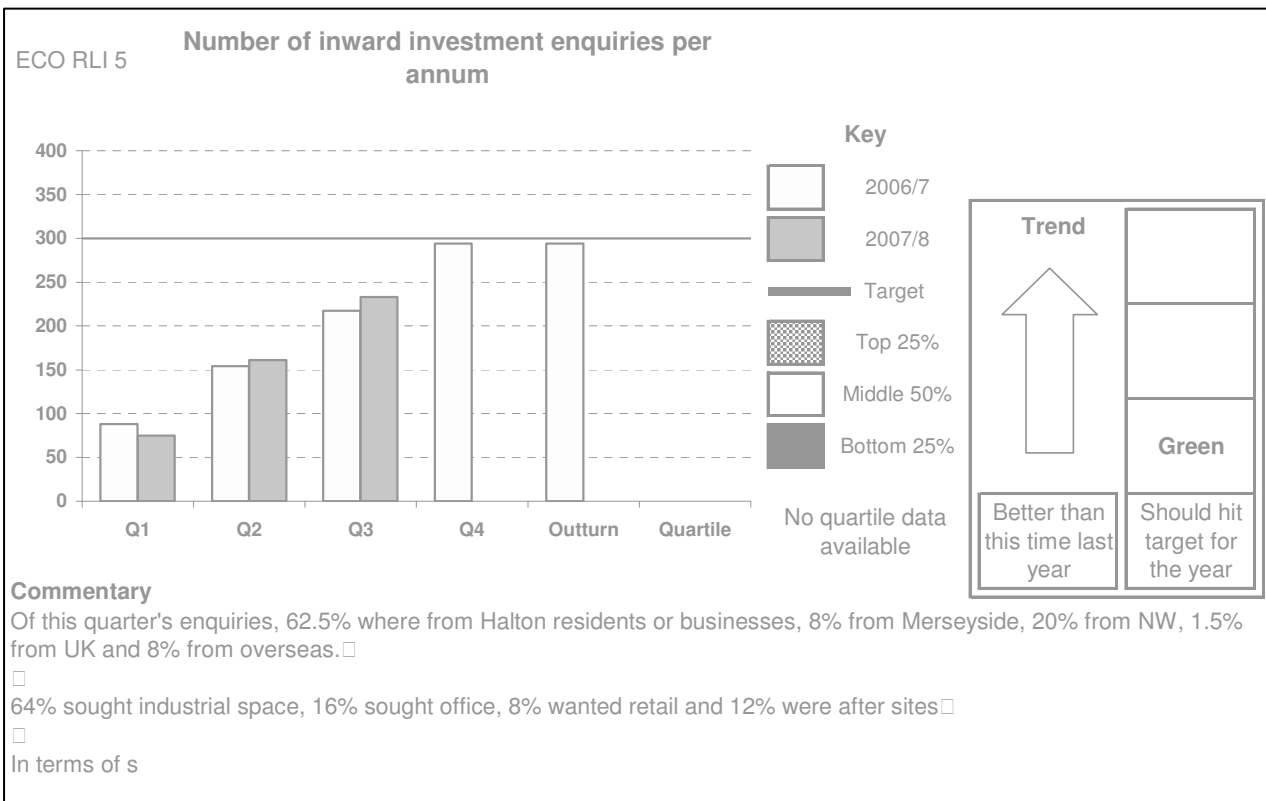
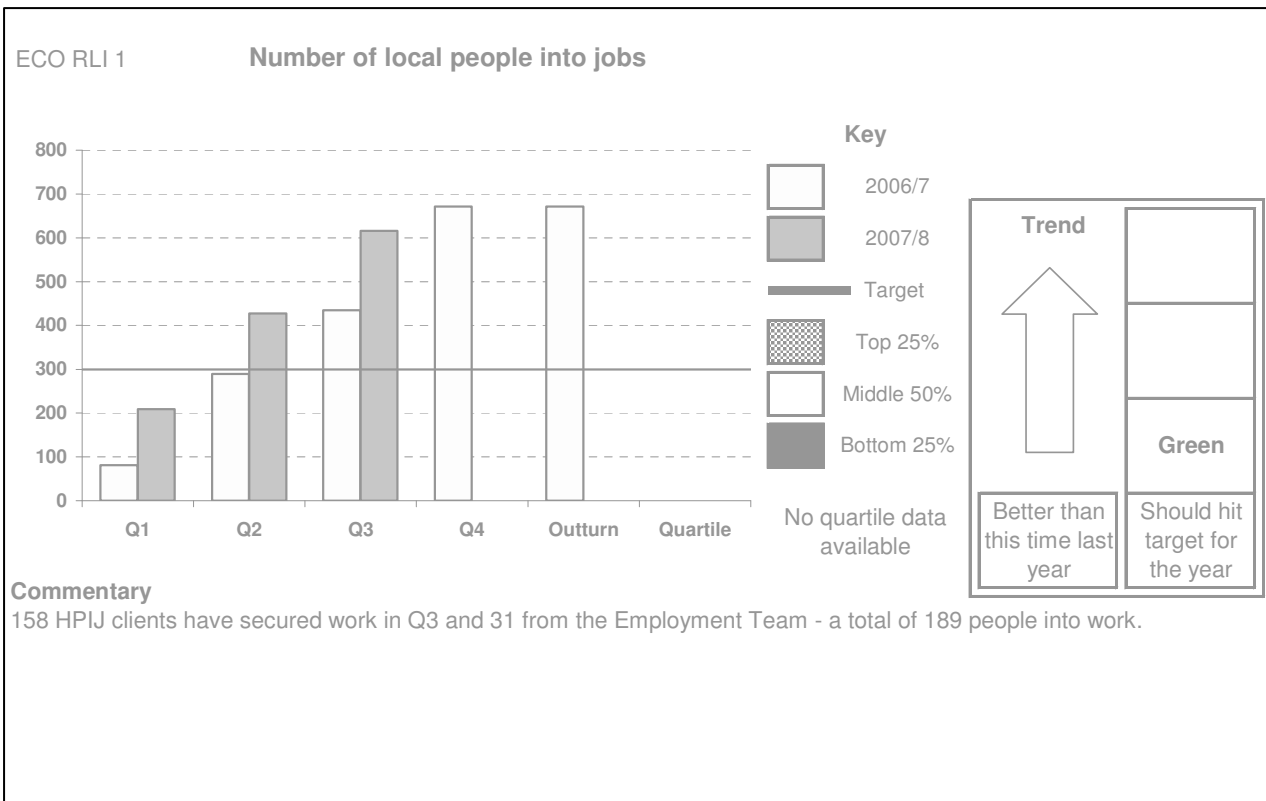
Appendix 1- Progress against Key Objectives/ Milestones
 Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
 Appendix 3- Progress against LPSA targets
 Appendix 4- Financial Statement
 Appendix 5- Explanation of traffic light symbols

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
ER01	Promote diversity and competitiveness, in order to develop a modernised and more competitive business base to provide greater employment security for the Halton community.	Implement Phase 2 marketing action plan by 30-3-08		The marketing action plan is presently under review given budget reductions and the request to examine a major marketing drive for the logistics sector.
		Forward Strategy for eHalton by 30-9-07		Complete
		Expand business Parks to another estate by 30-6-07 (dependent on funding)		Inaugural meeting of the Widnes Waterfront Business Park Steering Group took place in October 2007
		Present options for future of eHalton to Strategic Director Environment by 31-10-07		Strategy detailing a timeframe and milestones for programme shut down completed and ratified.
ER02	Develop sectors and clusters with a view to developing stronger business inter-linkages and stronger overall business performance in Halton	Implement phase2 sector plans for tourism, science and chemicals – by 31-3-08		Graduate recruited for x 26 weeks to facilitate the delivery of a series of key actions associated with the Halton Science programme.
		Facilitate the development of Daresbury Science and Innovation Campus		The Business Development Team are fully engaged with the DSIC Master Planning exercise
ER03	Foster enterprise and entrepreneurship in order to develop an enterprise culture that encourages people to consider starting a business and give new ventures every chance	Explore on-line enterprise game by 30-9-07		Halton EBP developed two new versions of the Game, attracting funding to launch a Maritime version in September 2007 and a primary

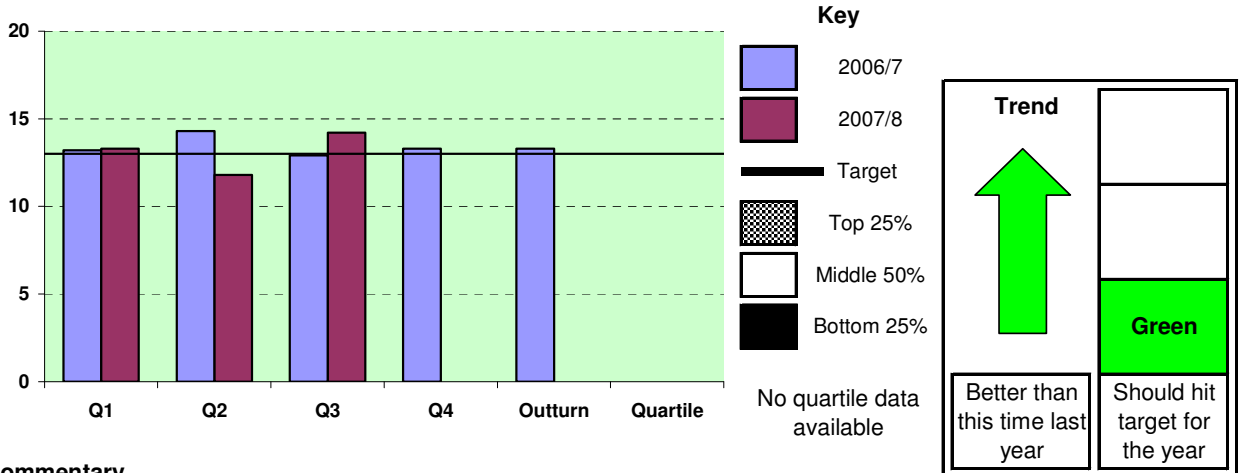
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
	of success.	<p>Establish Halton Enterprise Island pilot by 30-9-07</p> <p>Develop LEGI bid by 31-3-08 (subject to round three taking place)</p>	<p></p> <p>N/a</p>	<p>school version launched in November 2007. The on-line version is considered viable and will be developed during the next phase.</p> <p>The Enterprise Halton Challenge Competition 2007 was a great success, attracting 7 new business ideas of all whom received business advice and help with developing a business plan. The Mayor presented the competition winner Helen Brennan with her cheque and prizes at the Halton Chamber Enterprise Awards Dinner on 16 November 2007.</p> <p>The government has announced that LEGI has been withdrawn and along with NRF has been replaced by the Working Neighbourhood Fund.</p>
ER04	Reduce unemployment and increase employment by equipping people with the basic skills and assisting them to secure employment	<p>Review Basic Skills Strategy by 30-9-07</p> <p>Outreach pilot programme to be evaluated by 31-12-2007</p> <p>Deliver JCP co-finance contracts by 31-3-2008</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Previous arrangements evaluated. HPiJ now delivering neighbourhood outreach.</p> <p>All JCP co-financed contracts have been maximised and will terminate on 31/3/08.</p>

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Deliver ILMs programme by 31.3.2008		Stepping Stones (Halton ILM) continuing to exceed job outcomes. Steps2Work (PCT funded Mental Health ILM) progressing well. No further update LHT Jigsaw Environmental Services ILM.
ER05	Raise workforce skill levels by reviewing and addressing the skills deficit in Halton	Review TNA (Training Needs Analysis) provision between 30-6-06 & 30-6-07		Completed. Targets for provision of WFD (workforce development) to companies and/or employees located in NRF priority wards were overachieved.
		Develop a Skills Sub-Group of the ELS by 30-6-07		The Skills Group met twice in Q3 (October and November 2007).
		SSP to consider customer satisfaction post LSC revamp by 31-3-08		On track
ER06	Encouraging investment in land and property to develop assets that meet business needs and help to produce an attractive and prosperous Borough.	Commence Implementing commercial property plan by 30-3-08		The first draft of the Astmoor Master Planning Group report has been completed
		Complete delivery of BIA scheme by 31-3-08		The programme is currently slightly under-spent, however, agreement is being sought from External Funding to extend the programme until September 2008.
ER07	Improving the environment and image of the borough including town centres, to appeal to residents, encourage visitors, businesses and investors.	Annual footfall statement by 30-9-07		Footfall counters installed and operational

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Finalise night time plan for Victoria square by 31-12-07		Risk assessment prepared and first draft produced. Further work presently delayed due to workload pressures.



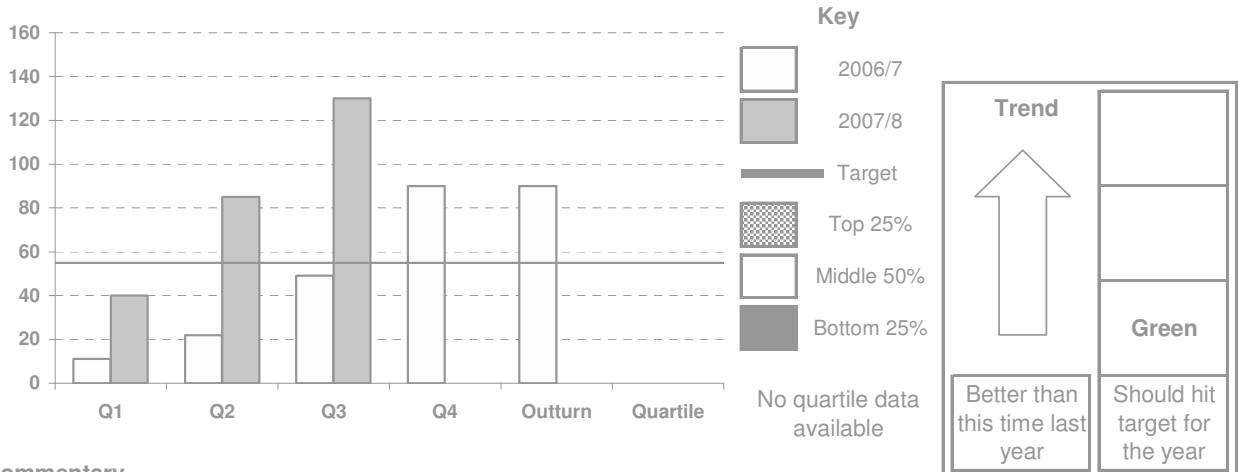
ECO RLI 6 **Inward investment enquiry conversion rate**



Commentary

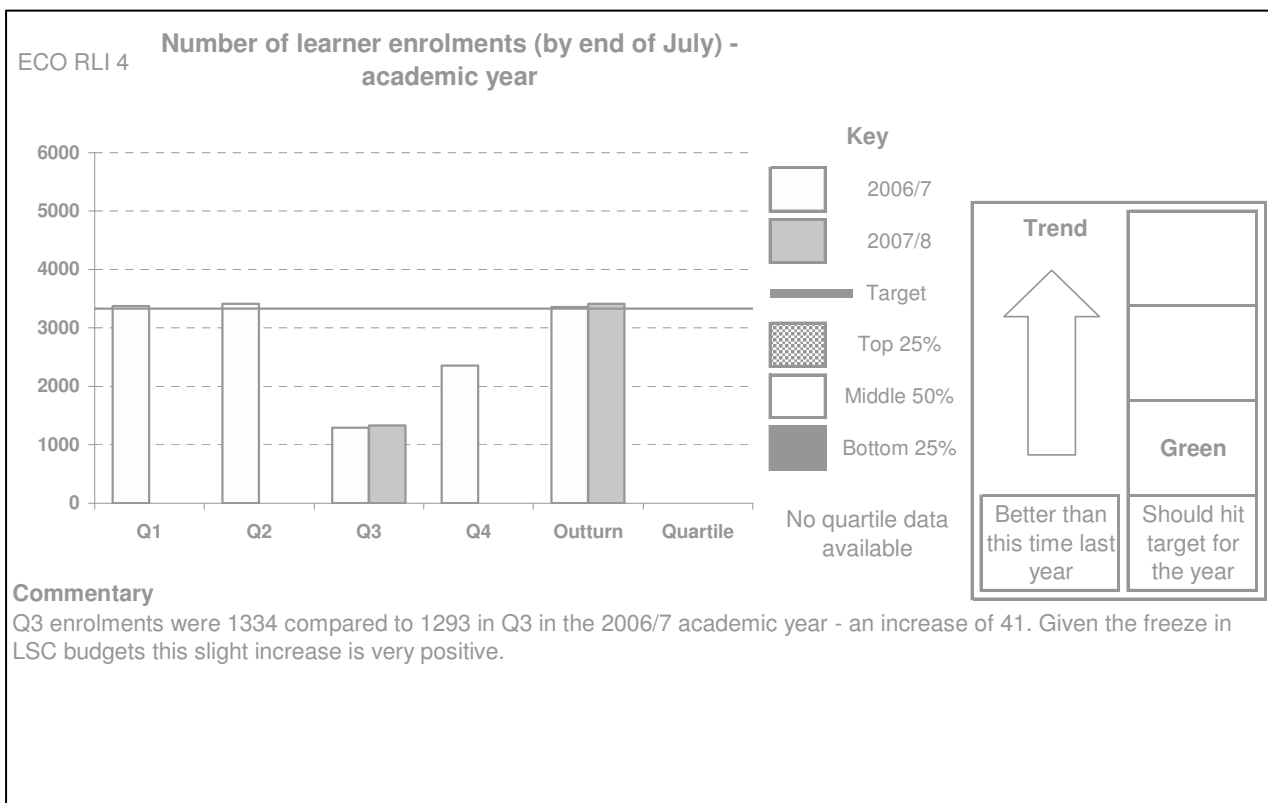
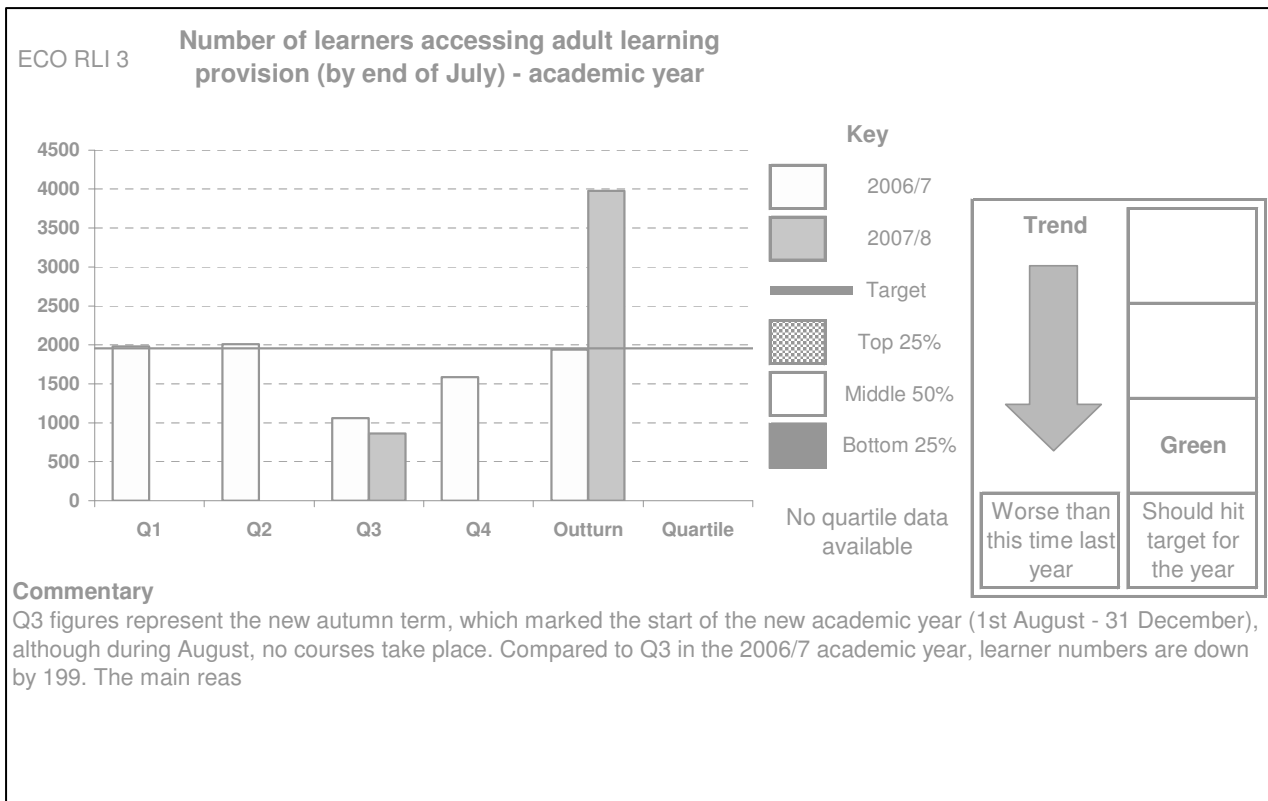
14 conversions this quarter, 2 start ups, 7 expansions, 1 from Merseyside and 4 from the NW. □
 □
 8 Industrial units, 4 office and 2 retail units taken. □
 □
 In terms of activity, 5 are manufacturing businesses, 4 are wholesale/retail, 2 construction, 2 other

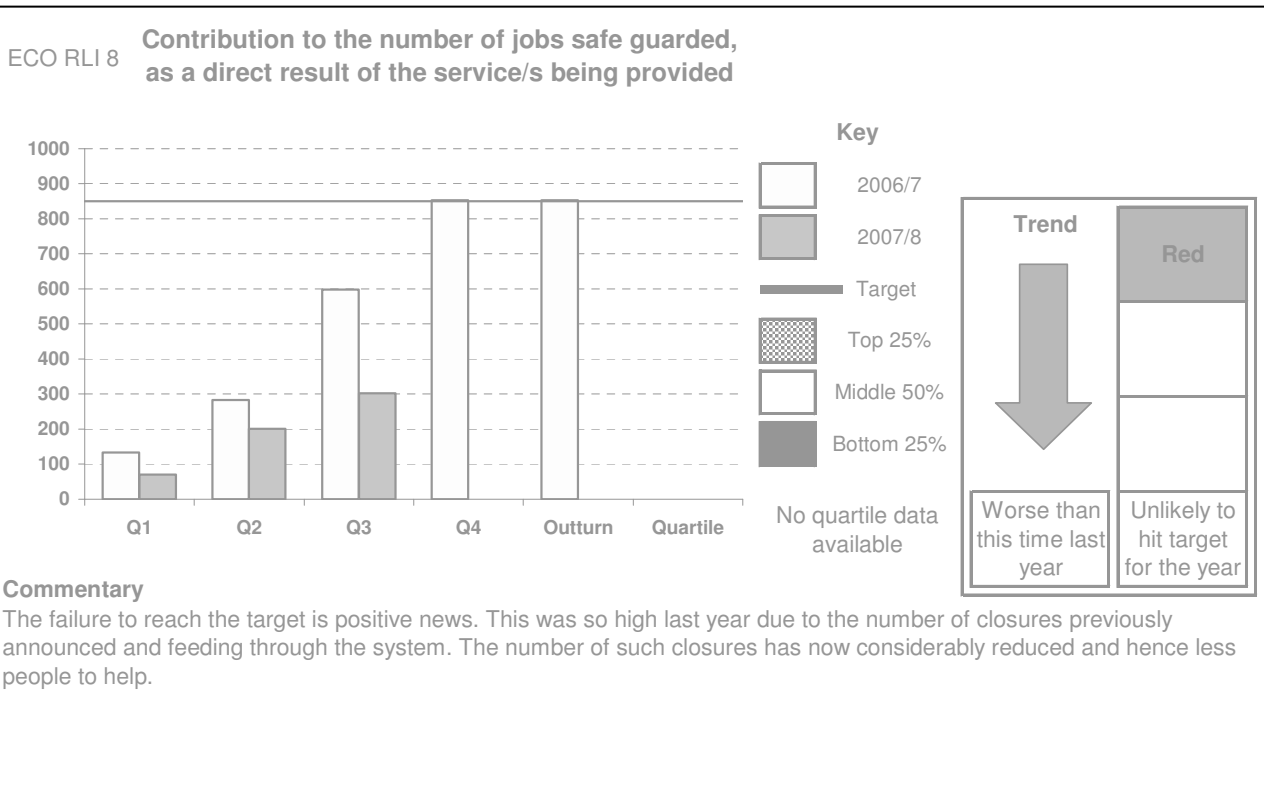
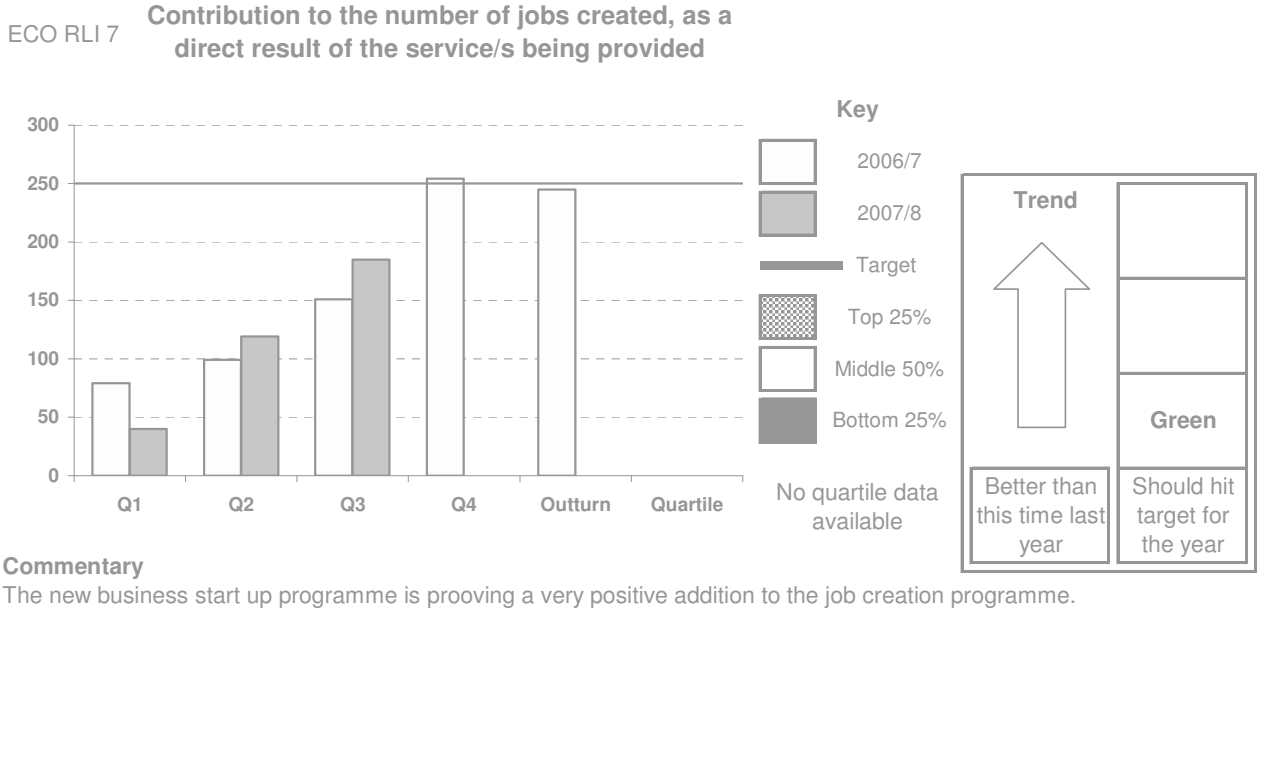
ECO RLI 2 **Number of local people with disabilities into permitted/paid work**

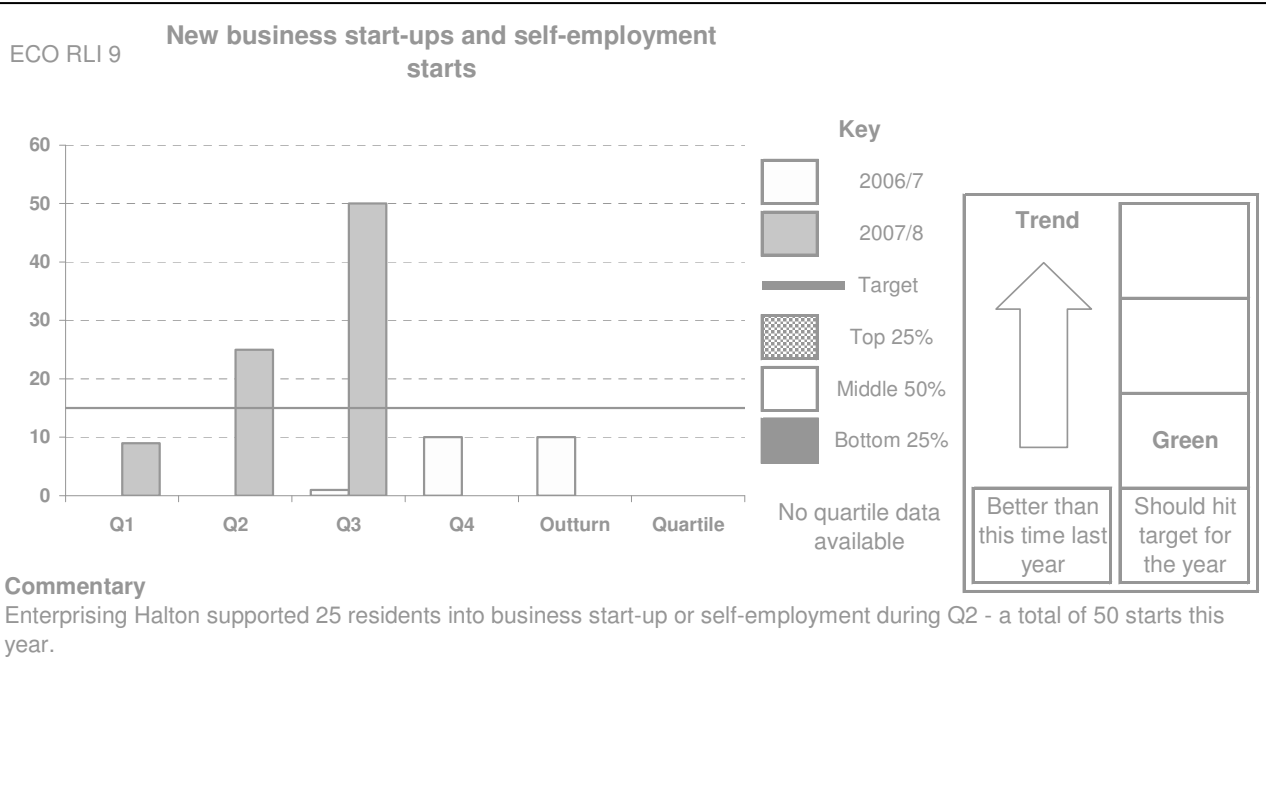




Commentary

HPIJ have supported 33 residents into work in Q3 who are in receipt of a Health related benefit (Income support Disability related, Incap, DLA) and 12 people into paid/permitted work from the Employment Team - a total of 45 people with disabilities into







LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 06/07	Perform 07/08 Q3	Traffic light	Commentary
10	Number of adults gaining a national Skills for Life qualification at level 1, 2 or 3 in literacy, numeracy or ESOL	19 04/05	116 measured in academic year ending 31/08/08	35	37		Cumulative figure to date including Q3 - 102.
12	Increase the number of people who have been claiming an incapacity benefit into sustained employment of at least 16 hours per week for 13 consecutive weeks or more	18 for year ending 31/03/06	179 3 year Cumulative to 31/03/09	38	57		Cumulative figure to date including Q3 - 95

REGENERATION**Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2007**

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (Overspend) £'000	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
Expenditure					
Employees	1,370	1,043	999	44	1,000
Premises Support Office	2 110	0 16	0 16	0 0	0 16
Accommodation					
Marketing Programme	55	41	22	19	26
Promotions	29	29	50	(21)	50
Development Projects	20	4	4	0	8
Supplies & Services	158	83	87	(4)	104
ICT Investment for Growth	20	0	0	0	0
Halton People into Jobs	125	0	0	0	0
Transport	33	23	20	3	20
Central Support Services	148	0	0	0	0
Departmental Support Services	29	0	0	0	0
Agency	4	1	1	0	1
Asset Charges	7	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	2,110	1,240	1,199	41	1,225
Income					
Sales	0	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	-13	-10	-3	(8)	-3
Reimbursements	-131	-122	-131	10	-131
Government grants	-371	-322	-322	0	-322
Employment Service	-257	-107	-107	0	-107
Recharges to Capital	-12	0	0	0	0
Total Income	-784	-561	-563	2	-563

Net Expenditure					
	1,326	679	636	43	662

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms revenue spending to the end of quarter 3 is slightly under budget.

With regards to expenditure the staffing underspend relates to savings against costs for the Supported Employment Team, external funding is being used to fund eligible salary costs. There is also an underspend in salaries against the Foundation Modern Apprenticeship scheme as actual numbers going through the scheme are lower than estimated. A staffing vacancy also existed within the Tourism & Promotions team.

Promotions expenditure above budget is a result of the increased costs of staging the Fireworks event but this will be offset by compensatory savings elsewhere.

At this stage, it is anticipated that overall revenue spending will be within departmental budget by year-end.

REGENERATION**Local Strategic Partnership Schemes as at 31st December 2007**

	Annual Revised Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (Overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Halton People into Jobs	180	135	144	(9)	144
HPIJ	109	82	57	25	57
Neighbourhood Employment Outreach					
Halton ILM	163	122	125	(3)	125
HPIJ & Altcourse	10	7	1	6	1
Prison Pre Release Employment					
Halton Inspiring Women	10	7	3	4	3
Enterprise Development	102	76	66	10	66
Workforce Development	71	53	14	39	14
Supported Employment	129	96	76	20	76
Skills for Life	81	60	38	22	38
Town Centres Initiatives	75	56	35	21	35
Pre Employment Training Programme	12	9	2	7	2
Total Expenditure	942	703	561	142	561




REGENERATION**External or Grant Funded Schemes as at 31st December 2007**

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (Overspend) £'000	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
ERDF					
Halton People into Jobs	155	116	112	4	112
ICT Investment for Growth	112	84	47	37	47
Total Expenditure	267	200	159	41	159

REGENERATION**Capital Projects as at 31st December 2007**

	2007-08 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
<u>Multi-Funded Projects</u>				
Business Improvement Area Scheme	458	280	141	317
Total Capital	458	280	141	317

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved</u>.</p>
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, due to a lack of information or a key milestone date being missed, <u>whether the objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.</p>
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the objective will not be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</p>

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Health & Community
SERVICE: Culture & Leisure Services
PERIOD: Quarter 3 to period-end 31 December 2007.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Culture & Leisure Department third quarter period up to 31 December 2007. It describes key developments and progress against key objectives and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained in Appendix 6.

It should be noted that this report is presented to a number of Policy and Performance Boards. Those objectives and indicators that are not directly relevant to this Board have been shaded grey.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

£1.3 million has been awarded by the Big Lottery Fund to enable the upgrade of Halton Lea Library.

An appointment has been made to the post of Community Safety Co-ordinator.

Sport England are providing 20 days free consultancy to develop ideas for sport and recreation development in the context of Building Schools for the Future.

The Sports programme of events for 2008, and the Brindley Spring programme have been launched.

10 applications for Green Flag status for excellence in parks and open spaces have been submitted.

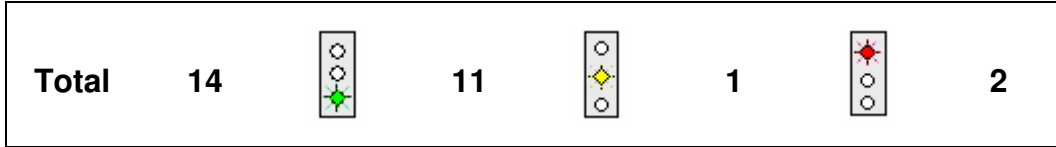
3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

A Strategic Needs Assessment in respect of Community Safety has to be completed by April 2008. This is a Home Office requirement, and will be used to prioritise the work of the Community Safety Team over the next 3 years.

The application to the Big Lottery for the transfer of community assets

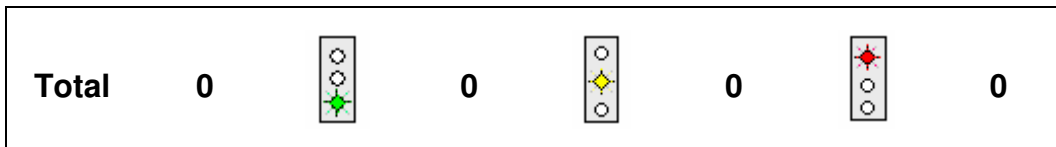
regarding Kingsway Health Centre to establish a 'one-stop shop' for the voluntary sector has been successful in the first-stage of its application. Further work is now required through stage two of the process. The outcome is anticipated in April 2008.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES



Progress towards "Key" objectives and milestones is generally good. For further details please refer to Appendix 1.

4.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

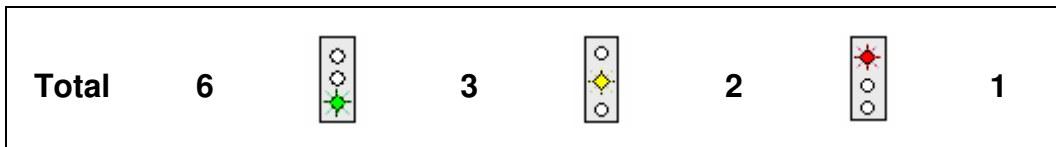


There are no "Other" objectives for this service.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW

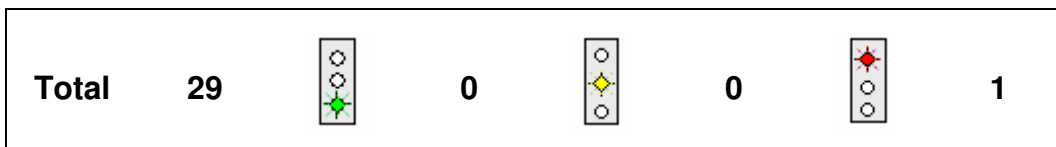
Culture and Leisure Services has retained its 4 star status (the highest possible score) as part of the CPA assessment.

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Performance around violent crime and robberies is a cause for concern. For further details refer to Appendix 2.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Performance in respect of burglaries has been reported by exception this quarter. Further details can be found in Appendix 3.

7.0 PROGRESS AGAINST LPSA TARGETS

LPSA targets around crime remain areas for concern. For further details please refer to Appendix 4.

8.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2007-08 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.

Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.





There are no Key Service Objectives for this service that have been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risks. Therefore, there is no progress to report.




9.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS





During 2006/07 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.


10.0 APPENDICES

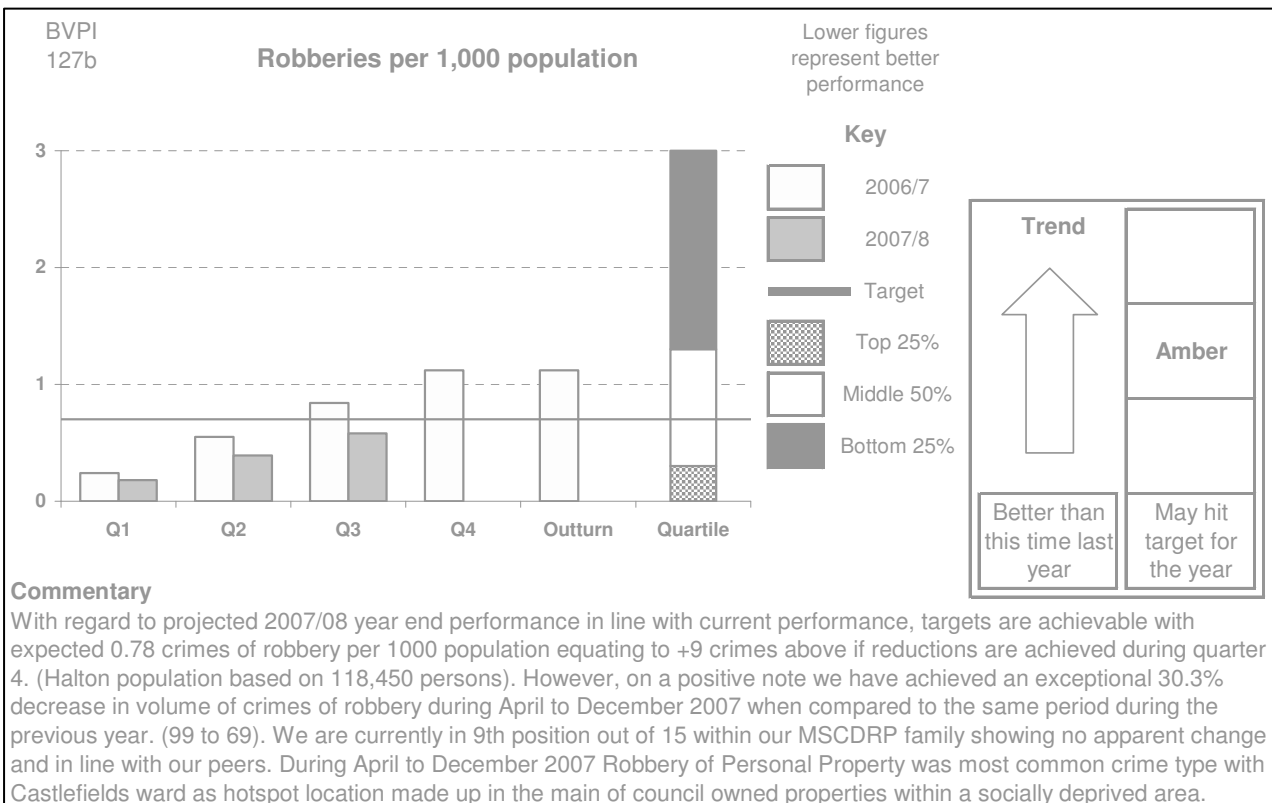
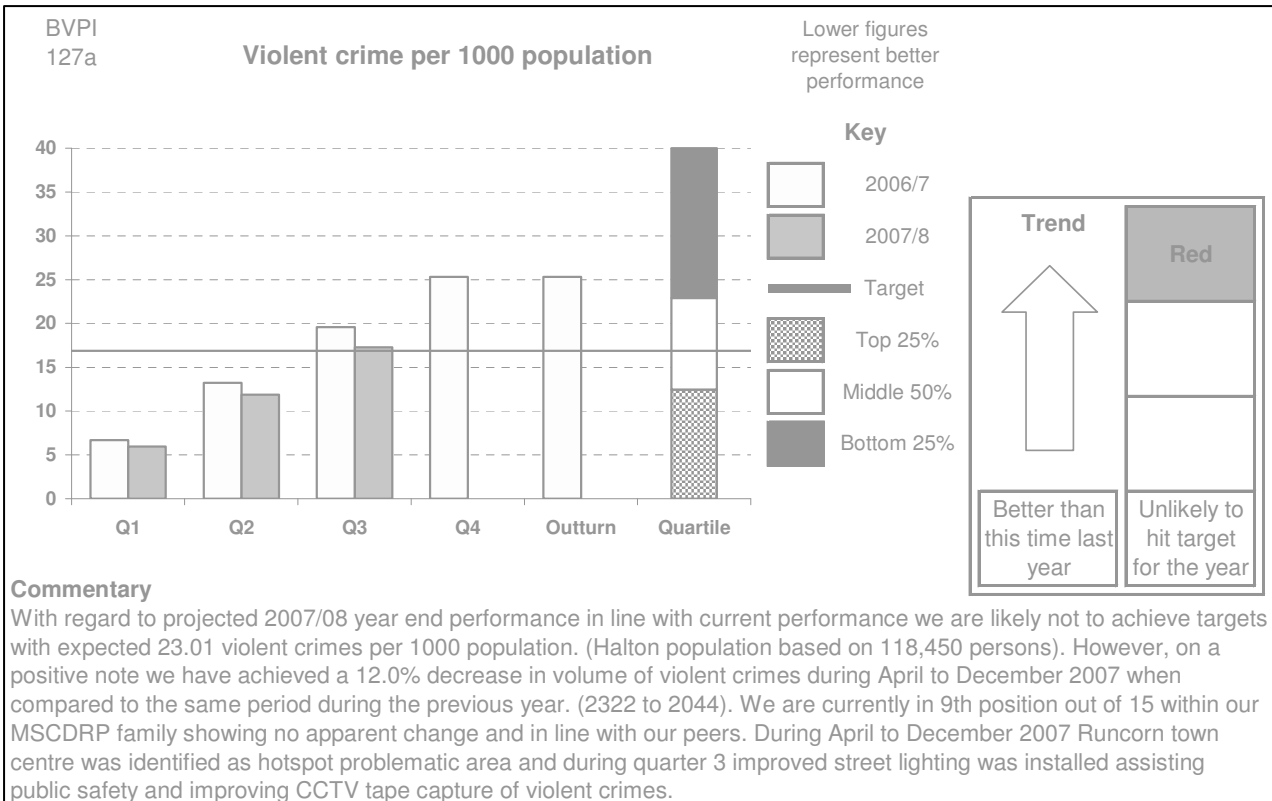
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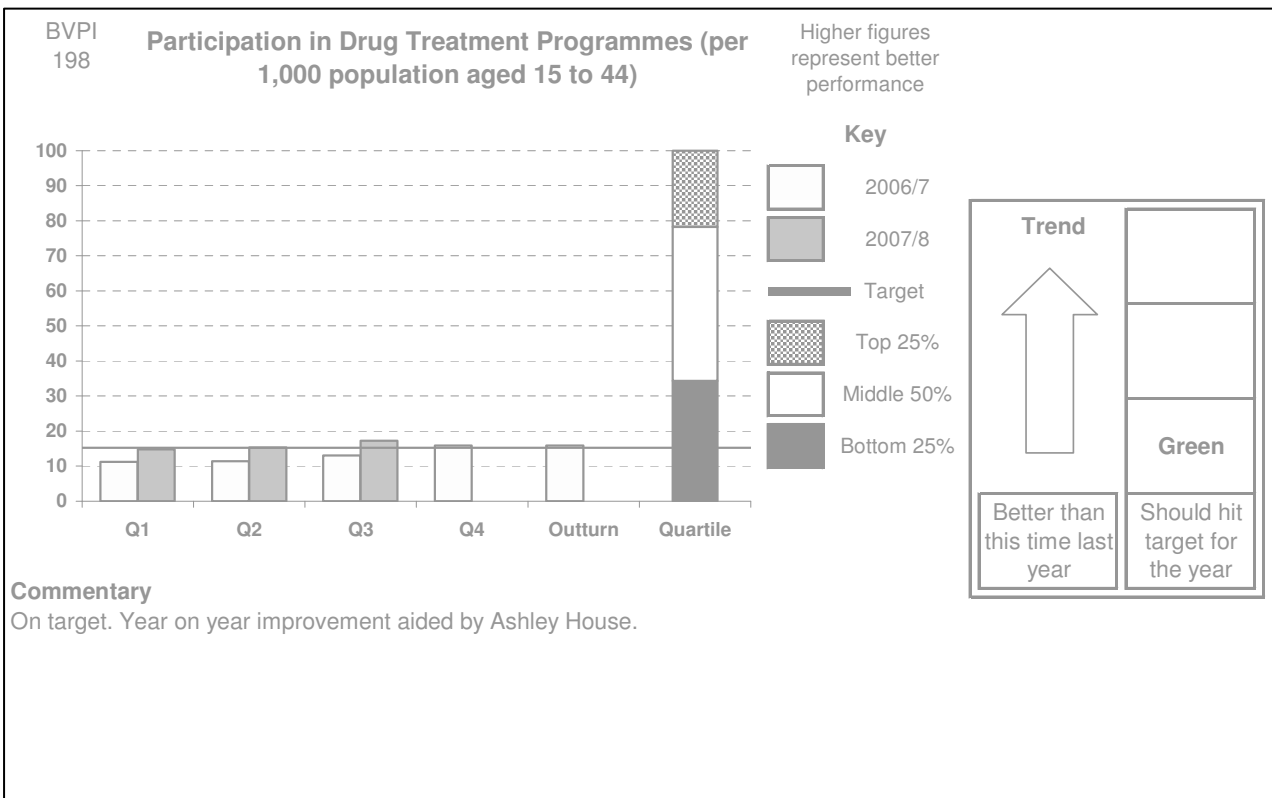
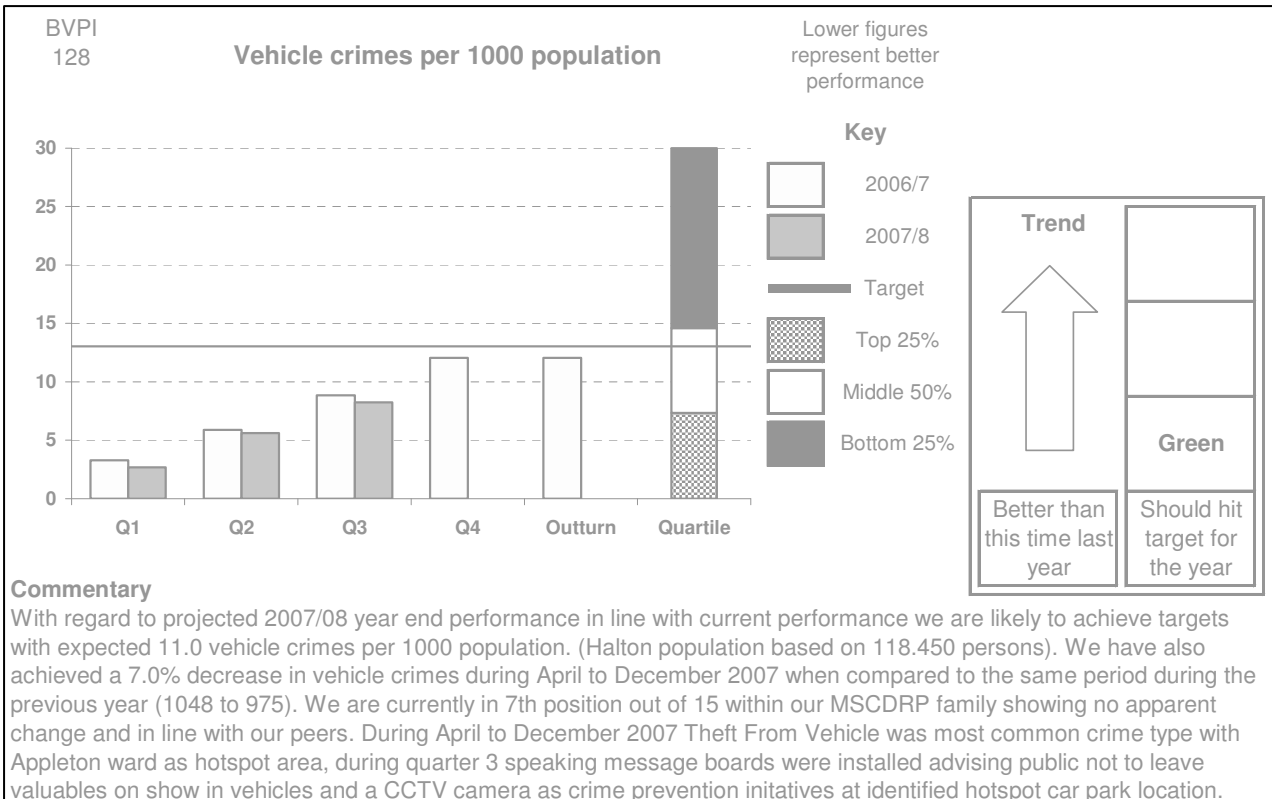
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
CL 1	To contribute to the health and well-being of the people of Halton by developing self-confidence, providing opportunities for self-achievement, enjoyment and recreation by promoting healthy lifestyles through sporting and cultural opportunities.	<p>Secure funding to implement proposed programme of activity as part of Liverpool's Capital of Culture status.</p> <p>Ensure that Halton's people and their twin towns are able to participate in Liverpool's 800th Birthday celebrations in August 2007.</p> <p>Establish youth development/exchange programme with Newham B.C. (hosts of Olympics 2012) in respect of sporting and cultural opportunities.</p> <p>Establish an 'Olympics Support Fund', with appropriate criteria to allow young Halton talent to bid for funding</p>	   	<p>£40k secured from Capital of Culture Company; HBC to underwrite Youth Cultural Festival.</p> <p>3 Twin Towns attended. Halton's Samba Band performed.</p> <p>Contacts established. Dialogue regarding possibilities on-going. Will be invited to 2008 Youth Cultural Festival.</p> <p>Fund established. Criteria for applications developed, to be approved by Executive Board Member.</p>

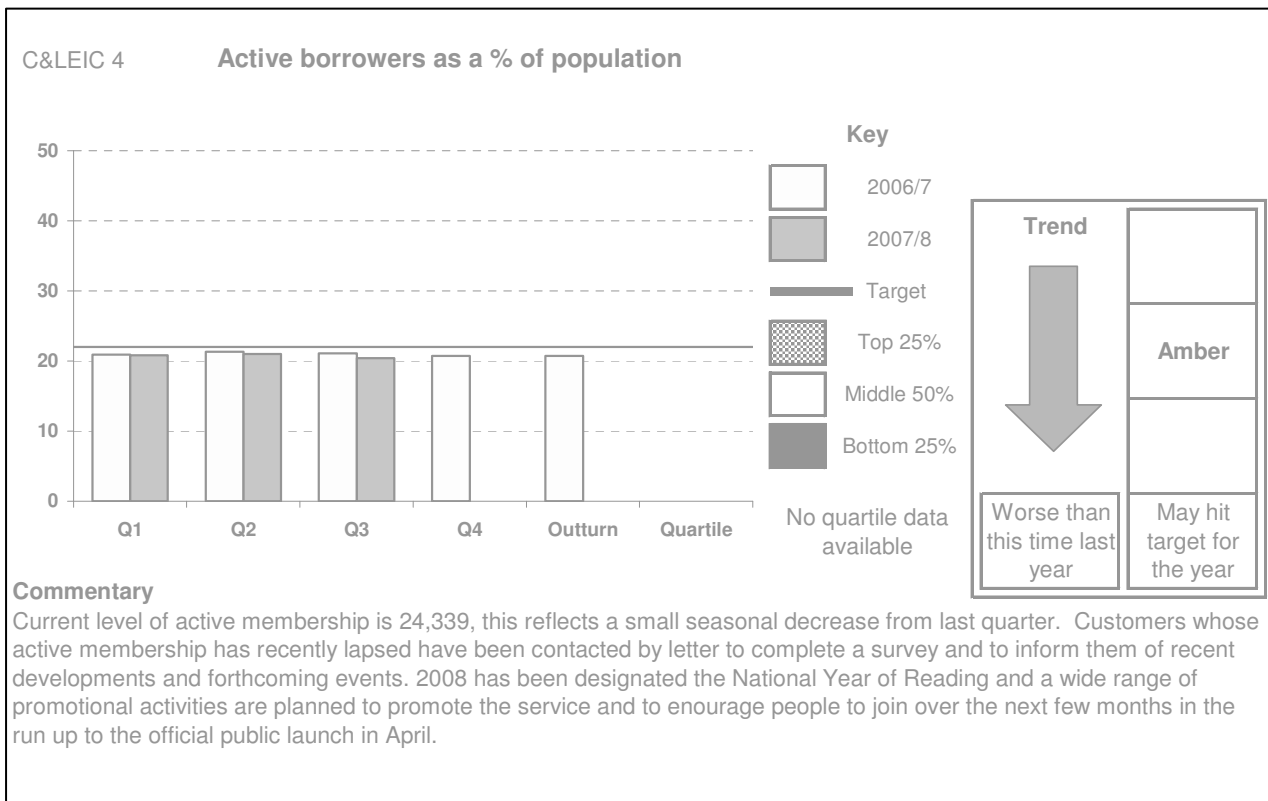
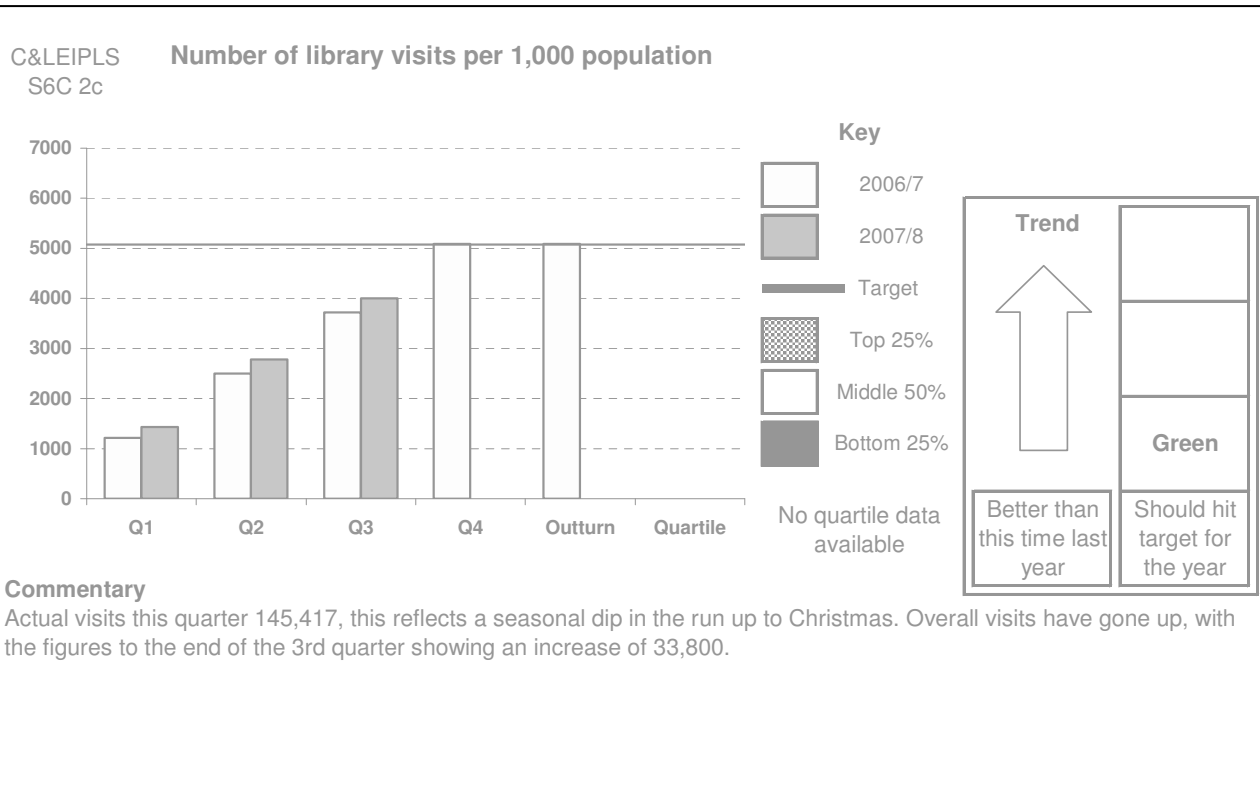
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		<p>to improve their chances of being able to participate in 2012.</p> <p>Establish funding and final work programme for St Chads Big Lottery Fund Sports Hall Scheme. Work to be completed October 2007.</p> <p>Complete design of the new Castlefields Community Centre as part of the Castlefields Regeneration Scheme by June 2007. Establish funding package by March 2008 to allow work to proceed.</p> <p>Develop local PI's for in-house ALD Day Services and SLA between Community Centres and ALD Services to measure</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p>	<p>Work completed.</p> <p>Inquiry into Compulsory Purchase Order on existing shopping centre taking place. Outcome awaited.</p> <p>PI's not yet fully developed. SLA's in place. Performance monitored by ALD through their personal action plans.</p>


Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		<p>and improve performance by June 2007.</p> <p>Consult with users and local communities to prepare a Lottery Fund bid to upgrade Halton Lea Library in line with user expectations (May 07). Outcome of bid known by September 07. If successful, develop detailed scheme by January 08.</p>		<p>Awaiting outcome of bid, now expected in October.</p>
CL 2	To develop strategies and action plans to reduce anti-social behaviour and the perceptions of crime.	<p>Launch new Strategy April 07. Safer Halton Partnership to monitor Action Plans on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>Establish new structure for Community Safety Team Sept 07.</p> <p>Introduce system of dedicated Police Community Safety Officers (PCSO's) into</p>	  	<p>Strategy launched. Number of reports reduced.</p> <p>All appointments now made. Recommendations for new structure delayed until July '08.</p> <p>Teams in place. Review meetings have taken place.</p>


Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Parks to manage security and anti-social behaviour issues by May 07. To be reviewed on a quarterly basis.		
CL 3	To implement the Action Plan of the self-assessment of 'Towards an Excellent Service' model as prescribed by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. The plan will prioritise areas for self-improvement.	<p>Action plan agreed with IDEA by April 07.</p> <p>Plan to be presented to PPB/Executive Board in first cycle of Municipal Year.</p> <p>Culture and Leisure Services Management team to monitor Action Plan on a quarterly basis.</p>		<p>Action Plan agreed.</p> <p>Report presented.</p> <p>Plan monitored quarterly.</p>









Ref	Indicator	Actual 06 / 07	Target 07 / 08	Quarter 3	Progress	Commentary
Service Delivery						
BVPI 126	Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households	13.72	7.33	8.92		<p>During April to December 2007 Halton Area recorded 433 Domestic Burglaries equating to 8.92 per 1000 households exceeding the 07/08 target. If Halton continues with current performance 07/08 year end projections are 577 crimes or 11.9 per 1000 households, although this is above fiscal target we must note the very low target set of a 40% reduction from 03/04 baseline data.</p> <p>When compared to the same period during the previous year Halton Area achieved a 10.5% decrease (484 to 433).</p> <p>If we compare Halton performance against MSCDRP up to November 2007 Halton area has currently no apparent change and in line with our peers in 8th position out of 15.</p> <p>During Quarter 3 Cheshire Police had 3 Operations running and 1 prioritised target in relation to Domestic Burglaries within Widnes area resulting in decreased crimes and proactive policing action has resulted in offenders being identified and arrested.</p>


LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 06/07	Perform 07/08 Q3	Traffic light	Commentary
1	<p>Reduce the level of violent crime:</p> <p>The number of recorded incidents of violent crime within Halton (serious woundings and common assault).</p>	2133 (2003/4)	1913 (Mar 08)	2005	1557		<p>Data as supplied is based on objectives supported within LAA targets and therefore Violent Crimes consist of Common Assault and Woundings (serious and other) only.</p> <p>During April to December 2007 Halton Area recorded 1557 crimes equating to 13.14 per 1000 population (Halton population supplied as 118,450) Halton area achieved a 5.9% decrease when compared to the same period during the previous year (1655 to 1557).</p> <p>If Halton continues with current performance 07/08 year end projections are 2076 crimes or 17.5 per 1000 population, although above target levels initiatives and operations planned during the remainder of this fiscal year should have a positive impact .</p> <p>During Quarter 3 Town Centre locations encompassing core</p>



LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 06/07	Perform 07/08 Q3	Traffic light	Commentary
							<p>licensed premises and fast food outlets continue as hotspot areas with alcohol related crimes as main causation factor. Improved street lighting was installed within Runcorn Town Centre to improve public safety and improve CCTV images. A Partnership marketing campaign was run during December 2007 aimed at reducing alcohol related crimes within town centres during night time economy.</p> <p>If we compare Halton performance against MSCDRP for total violent crimes up to November 2007 Halton area is currently 9th position out of 15 in line with our peers and performance shows no apparent change.</p>
2	<p>Reduction in vehicle crime in Halton:</p> <p>i) The number of thefts of vehicles in Halton</p>	753 (2003/4)	558 (Mar 08)	529	374		<p>During April to December 2007 Halton Area recorded 374 crimes equating to 3.16 per 1000</p>



LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 06/07	Perform 07/08 Q3	Traffic light	Commentary
							<p>population (Halton population supplied as 118,450).</p> <p>Halton area achieved a 3.6% decrease when compared to the same period during the previous year (388 to 374).</p> <p>If Halton continues with current performance 07/08 year end projections are 499 highlighting exceptional projected performance against targets.</p> <p>During Quarter 3 Cheshire Polic had two Operations running with one to deter travelling criminals entering Widnes and committing vehicle crimes. Also one in relation to increased crime relating to theft of older vehicles. Current Partnership initiatives are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purchase of a 'sting' vehicle with a tracking device in order to identify and arrest. - Purchase of a portable ANPR kit to identify stolen vehicles. <p>If we compare Halton</p>

LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 06/07	Perform 07/08 Q3	Traffic light	Commentary
							<p>performance against MSCDRP for theft of vehicle crime up to November 2007 Halton area is currently 13th position out of 15 and performance is well above with MSG average.</p> <p>Total Vehicle crime (Theft From and Theft Of Vehicles) is currently showing no apparent change and performing in line with our peers when compared to MSCDRP.</p>
	ii) The number of thefts from vehicles in Halton	1108 (2003/4)	749 (Mar 08)	908	601		<p>During April to December 2007 Halton Area recorded 601 crime equating to 5.07 per 1000 population (Halton population supplied as 118,450).</p> <p>Halton area achieved an 8.9% decrease when compared to the same period during the previous year (660 to 601).</p> <p>If Halton continues with current performance 07/08 year end projections are 801 (6.76 per 1000 population) indicating we are not likely to meet this target.</p>

LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 06/07	Perform 07/08 Q3	Traffic light	Commentary
							<p>Current Partnership initiatives are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Installation of 'talking signs' within Widnes and Runcorn town centres in order to remind members of the public not to leave valuables on show in vehicles. - Installation of CCTV at identified hotspot location within Widnes town centre car park. <p>If we compare Halton performance against MSCDRP for theft from vehicle crime up to November 2007 Halton area is currently 6th position out of 15 and performance is well below MSG average lower bound.</p> <p>Total Vehicle crime (Theft From and Theft Of Vehicles) is currently showing no apparent change and performing in line with our peers when compared to MSCDRP.</p>

LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 06/07	Perform 07/08 Q3	Traffic light	Commentary
3	<p>Improving the health and well-being of residents:</p> <p>The percentage of adults in Halton participating in at least 30 minutes moderate intensity sport and active recreation (including recreational walking) on 3 or more days a week, as measured by Sport England's Active People survey.</p>	19.62 (Nov 2006)	21.32 (Nov 2009)	19.62			Reported through LAA.
4	<p>Tackling the problems of domestic violence:</p> <p>1. The number of incidents of domestic violence reported to the police (directly or through a third party) in Halton.</p>	1613 (2004/5)	1774 (Mar 08)	2132	2157		Throughout the year, reporting has been consistent month on month – exceeding the monthly target of 148. The month that saw the biggest rise in reports was Aug 07, when 257 were recorded. This constant good performance means that the target for year-end has already been exceeded and an increase can be noted on each quarter as the year progresses. The projected figure of reported incidents for year-end is 2876.

LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 06/07	Perform 07/08 Q3	Traffic light	Commentary
	2. The proportion of incidents of domestic violence which result in a sanction detection.	269 (2005/6)	282 (Mar 08)	242	258		The annual target looks to be met by year-end, with only another 24 detections to record in Q4 to hit the target of 282. However, the target of 24 detections per month was not always met throughout the year. This does not appear to have affected overall performance in this area and it is expected that by the end of the year, this target will also be exceeded.
	3. The proportion of the total number of incidents of domestic violence reported annually to the police (directly or through a third party) in the same period, who are repeat victims.	23% (2003/4)	18% (Mar 08)	20%	5%		Year to date, only 5% of individuals reporting domestic abuse to the police are repeat victims. Out of 2157 reports of domestic abuse to the police in Quarters 1 to 3 – 99 individuals have been repeatedly targeted as victims. This is well below the target of 18% and is due to the efforts of the forum and its partners, including Cheshire Police, in developing initiatives that encourage repeat victims to make statements and eventually press charges, or leave a perpetually abusive partner.

LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 06/07	Perform 07/08 Q3	Traffic light	Commentary
5	Reducing the harm caused by drug misuse: 1. The number of individuals in Halton who are in contact with structured drug treatment services.	604 (2004/5)	790 (2008/9)	879	956		Numbers in treatment continues to significantly exceed the 07/08 target.
	2. The percentage of individuals in Halton starting treatment who are retained in treatment for over 12 weeks.	80% (2004/5)	88% (2008/9)	83%	93%		Retention in treatment continues to significantly exceed the 07/08 target.

Cultural & Leisure Services

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2007

	Annual Revised Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Employees	3,855	2,901	2,841	60	2,841
Grounds	2,648	0	0	0	0
Maintenance					
Premises Support	829	0	0	0	0
Other Premises	648	472	471	1	471
Book Fund	256	182	154	28	154
Hired & Contracted	446	335	327	7	327
Promotions	151	113	101	12	101
Other Supplies & Serv.	445	320	316	4	316
Transport	71	43	40	3	40
Leisure Mgt. Contract	1,282	862	861	1	861
Grants	650	645	650	(5)	650
Other Agency	139	132	132	0	132
Asset Charges	1,570	0	0	0	0
Support Services	3,432	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	16,422	6,005	5,893	111	5,893
<u>Income</u>					
Sales	-118	-89	-126	38	-126
Fees & Charges	-520	-361	-428	67	-428
Rents	-17	-13	-19	6	-19
Support Recharges	-1,521	0	0	0	0
Grant Funding	-270	-202	-201	(1)	-201
Reimbursements	-690	-424	-437	13	-437
Total Income	-3,136	-1,089	-1,211	122	-1,211
Net Expenditure	13,286	4,916	4,682	233	4,682

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms revenue spending to the end of quarter 3 is under budget.

The uexpenditure below budget profile on Employee costs relates to a number of posts which have previously been vacant, but which have now recently been filled. It is not

anticipated that there will be a significant underspend on this budget heading at the year-end.

Whilst the "Other Premises Costs" budget heading is currently showing expenditure to budget, expenditure on energy costs will need careful monitoring. Expenditure on gas and electricity costs are anticipated to be significantly higher in the fourth quarter, and remedial action may be needed to ensure a balanced budget is achieved.

Expenditure below budget to date on the Bookfund budget relates to the phasing of invoice payments, and it is not anticipated that expenditure on this heading will be underspent at the year-end.

The overachievement of sales and fees and charges income is primarily related to the Brindley Arts Centre. Income is significantly above target for the first three quarters, although it cannot be assumed that a similar trend will continue for the remainder of the year.

At this stage it is anticipated that overall revenue spending will be in line with the Departmental budget by the end of the financial year.

Cultural & Leisure Services
Capital Projects as at 31st December 2007

	2007/08 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
<u>Show Pitches</u>	40	0	-5	45
<u>Athletics track</u>	301	156	156	145
<u>Improvements To Pavilions</u>	30	0	-20	50
<u>Brindley Forestage</u>	30	30	26	4
<u>Skate Park</u>	100	0	0	100
	501	186	157	344

Cultural & Leisure Services




LSP, External or Grant Funded Items as at 31st December 2007

	Annual Revised Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Priority 1: Healthy Halton</u>					
Sports Partnership	59	45	25	19	25
Health & Physical Activity	39	29	27	3	27
Enhanced Sports	75	56	22	34	22
Sub Total	173	130	74	56	74
<u>Priority 3: Children & Young People</u>					
Vikings In The Community	50	37	13	25	13
Sub Total	50	37	13	25	13
Priority 4: Employment Learning & Skills					
Citizen's Advice Bureau	68	51	34	17	34
Sub Total	68	51	34	17	34
Priority 5: Safer Halton					
Youth Splash	178	134	94	39	94
Blue Lamp	631	473	315	158	315
Prolific & Persistent Offenders	47	35	23	12	23
Positive Futures	25	19	27	(8)	27
Sub Total	881	661	459	201	459
<u>Total Expenditure</u>	1,173	879	581	299	581

Comments on the above figures:

Regular monitoring reports are sent to the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) in respect of all LSP projects and any areas of concern are dealt with throughout the year by the LSP support team and individual project managers. Some variances against the budget to date are expected, as the LSP have deliberately over-programmed in order to ensure that the full allocation of Neighbourhood Renewal Fund grant is spent during the year.

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved.</u></p>
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, due to a lack of information or a key milestone date being missed, <u>whether the objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.</p>
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the objective will not be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</p>

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Environment

SERVICE: Environment & Regulatory Services

PERIOD: Quarter 3, period-end 31 December 2007.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Environment & Regulatory Services Department third quarter period up to 31 December 2007. It describes key developments and progress against key objectives and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained in Appendix 5.

It should be noted that this report is presented to a number of Policy and Performance Boards. Those objectives and indicators that are not directly relevant to this Board have been shaded grey.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

<u>Environmental Health, Enforcement and Building Control Division</u>	
Nothing to report.	
<u>Planning and Policy Division</u>	
<u>Summary of major applications received (but not decided) over the last Quarter.</u>	
These applications are those that result in the biggest changes to the built infrastructure of the Borough. More information on any application can be found on the online planning system http://www.halton.gov.uk/planningapps .	
REFVAL	Site Info
07/00832/FUL	Proposed redevelopment of former milk depot to provide 81 No. apartments in single block (up to seven storeys high) at Former Express Dairies Site, Sewell Street/Perry Street, Runcorn, WA7 5SW.
07/00739/FUL	Proposed demolition of existing buildings and erection of 3 No. five storey buildings (piers) comprising 108 No. one and two bedroom apartments, landscaping, parking, basement parking and waterfront walkway/cycleway structure at Former Cemex Building, St Marys Road, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 0DL.
07/00923/FUL	Proposed change of use/building works consisting of demolition of the derelict British Legion Club, erection of 9 No. three bedroom apartments and 11 No. two bedroom apartments together with provision of 30 No. car parking spaces and landscaping at 21-25 Hale Road, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 8SF

07/00797/OUT	Outline application (with appearance, landscaping, layout and scale matters reserved) for a residential development (up to 40 No. units) together with creation of wildlife corridor and greenways on Land Adjacent To 179 Derby Road, Widnes, Cheshire.
07/00878/FUL	Proposed demolition of former public house together with adjacent property and construction of 11 No. apartments in a four storey block at 110 Upper Mersey Road, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0DE.
07/00835/FUL	Proposed demolition of existing building and erection of 14 No. new apartments at 1-5 Ollier Street, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 7SE
07/00767/FUL	Proposed erection of 10 No. nursery units for B1 and B8 uses at Catalyst Trade Park, Waterloo Road, Widnes, Cheshire.
07/00770/FUL	Proposed storage warehouse at 298 Hale Road, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 8PX
07/00807/FUL	Proposed stand alone high bay warehouse with two storey offices within building curtilage on Land At Manor Manor Park 3, Off Green Wood Drive, Runcorn, Cheshire.
07/00787/REM	Application for approval of reserved matters (all matters on 07/00279/OUT) for 19 No. two storey industrial units (with mezzanine) at Picow Farm Road, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 4UH
07/00853/FUL	Proposed installation of service road at Port Of Weston, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 4HN
07/00772/FUL	Proposed erection of 10 No. single/part two storey detached and semi detached industrial buildings (Use classes B1/B2/B8) and up to 39 No. office units in 5 No. two storey blocks (Use class B1), associated external works/structures and sub station at Land At Bennetts Lane/Dans Road, Widnes, Cheshire
07/00884/FUL	Proposed erection of plant machinery, stock bays and offices for the manufacture of mortar and screeding at Heron Business Park Tanhouse Lane, Widnes, Cheshire
07/00815/FULEIA	Proposed distribution centre and additional warehousing floor space with associated access, vehicle parking, landscaping and ancillary development including diversion of existing watercourse at Widnes International Freight Terminal, West Bank Dock Estate, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 0NX
07/00886/FUL	Proposed new two storey office development (with storage in roof) at Land At Sutton Quays Business Park, Clifton Road, Sutton, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 3EH
07/00790/FUL	Proposed demolition of extensions to south of site and construction of replacement two storey extension including change of use to mixed use hotel (C1), restaurants (A3) and bars (A4) at Halton Business Forum, Victoria Square, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 7SP

Landscape Services Division

In November 2007 the Division completed a PQQ (pre-qualification questionnaire) document for the forthcoming Runcorn RSL (Registered Social Landlord) Joint Procurement Contract. The Strategic Director (Environment) was given authority at an Executive Board Sub

Committee Meeting on the 15th November 2007 to bid for four RSL Contracts in Runcorn.

Waste Management Division

Kerbside Recycling Pilot Scheme

The kerb side pilot scheme to collect plastics, cans, paper, card and glass from 6,000 households in the borough commenced in October 2007 and the results will be used to inform future decisions on the extension of the service to other areas of the borough. Initial figures have been encouraging, with over 200 tonnes of recyclables collected to date, and surveys have shown that satisfaction with the scheme is high and also that participation in the scheme has increased since the launch of the service. In the last quarter there has also been a further 5 neighbourhood bring sites introduced within the borough, and services at 3 existing sites have been extended to include the recycling of tetra-paks.

Waste Management Strategy

The Waste Management Division is currently updating the Council's Waste Management Strategy. The purpose of the update is to ensure that the Council's Strategy document remains fit for purpose and that content reflects present data, good practice and information with regard to waste arisings, performance, key projects, and the current procurement process. The overall aims and objectives of the current Strategy remain the same. At its meeting of 13th December 2007, the Executive Board considered a draft updated Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Halton and approved the document for the purposes of public consultation. The consultation exercise commenced on 17th December 2007 and will run until 27th January 2008. A further report will be presented to the Executive Board that will report the outcome of the consultation, together with a recommendation to endorse the production of a final Strategy that takes account of the consultation results.

Waste Contracts Procurement

During this quarter, the award of both Halton's Landfill Services Contract and a short term Recycling and Household Waste Centres (RHWC) Contract was approved, subject to completion of contract documents. It is intended to award the Landfill Services contract to Waste Recycling group and the RHWC contract to Mersey Waste Ltd. Both contracts commence on 1st February 2008.

3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

Environmental Health, Enforcement and Building Control Division

The Environmental Permitting (EP) regime comes into force on 6 April this year after several public consultations. The EP Regulations bring together the Pollution Protection and Control (PPC) and waste licensing regimes, and provide a framework for including other regulatory regimes. There have had to be some changes to the Local Authority IPPC

(Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control) and LA PPC regimes to fit into this framework, but these are limited. The key thing to note is that for Local authority-IPPC and Local authority PPC there is comparatively little change, and existing permits issued under the PPC Regulations automatically become EP permits without any action needed from operators or local authorities.

A new European Regulation on Pollutant release and Transfer registers entered into force on the 24 February 2006 (E-PRTR Regulation). Local authorities will be the competent authority for collecting the data relating to premises they regulate which is a new statutory function. Data will be collected electronically on a form supplied by DEFRA. For the 2007 reporting year, data must be submitted to the local authority by 28 April 2008. The Regulation requires operators of industries regulated by us and falling under the activities listed in the Regulation to report their releases and transfers to the European Commission on an annual basis starting in 2007. The E-PRTR succeeds the European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER) under which data were reported for the years 2001 and 2004. The E-PRTR Regulation aims to enhance public access to environmental information through the establishment of a coherent and integrated E-PRTR, thereby finally also contributing to the prevention and reduction of pollution, delivering data for policy makers and facilitating public participation in environmental decision making. EU member states are required to report releases from PPC activities to the E-PRTR.

Planning and Policy Division

Progress is being made towards the divisions immediate priorities:

1. Production of the Core Strategy for the Local Development Framework. Proposed Changes to Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) have still not been published and is now expected January 2008. RSS will be an important consideration in the formulation of the Halton Core Strategy, particularly in relation to matters of employment land and housing.
2. Addressing the Mersey Gateway needs in a land use context. This requires the production of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) to be adopted Oct 08; these being the a) Southern Widnes SPD – being done by GVA Grimley as part of regeneration strategy to be delivered April 08 b) Runcorn Old Town SPD. Amongst other matters, they deal with the de-linking of the Silver Jubilee Bridge in land use terms. They also aim to address the sustainable and regeneration benefits of the new bridge together with defining public transport requirements such as organising bus and train stations appropriately.
3. Development Control policy requires updating, especially the production of a new residential SPD to strengthen the Council's case at appeals.

4. Government policy has housing provision high on the agenda. To meet the needs of this policy the Division is undertaking a Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment in partnership with the development community to demonstrate a 5 to 15 year supply of housing land. It is likely the Housing and Delivery Government Grant will be inextricably linked to delivering new homes.

Landscape Services Division

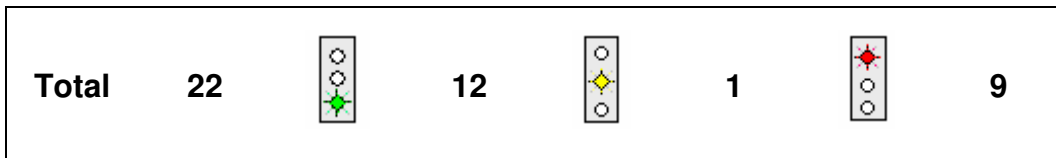
Nothing to report.

Waste Management Division

Performance Indicators

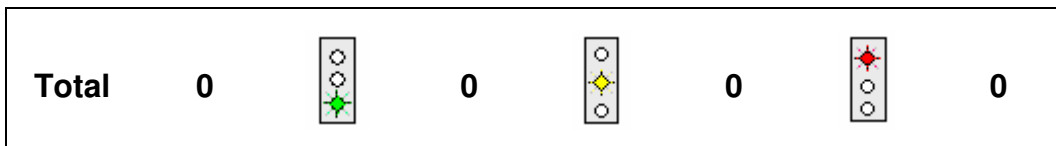
A new set of national indicators is set to change the way local authorities report performance levels for their waste and recycling services from April 1st 2008. Reforms led by the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) will see the existing "Best Value" indicators, on which recycling targets have been based in the past, dropped in favour of three waste indicators that form part of a new set of 198 national indicators covering all local authority services. Three new indicators will be used to monitor waste and recycling services - one for residual household waste per head, one for household waste recycled and composted, and a third looking at the amount of municipal waste landfilled. Final guidance on the technical definitions of the indicators is expected in January or February 2008.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES



The adoption of some SPD's have been delayed along with the consultation and strategy for the three town centres. For further details please refer to Appendix 1.

4.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES



There are no "Other" objectives for this service.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW

Environmental Health, Enforcement and Building Control Division

Nothing to report.

Planning and Policy Division

Nothing to report.

Landscape Services Division

The Divisional Manager has been working on a restructure of the Division which will be undertaken in three phases. A report recommending Phase 1, which will see the creation of an External Contracts Team, which will service external clients, will be presented to Executive Board Sub in January 2008. It is anticipated that phases 2 and 3 of the restructure, which will see a distinctive parks and a distinctive Streetscene section created within the Division, will be completed by April 2008.

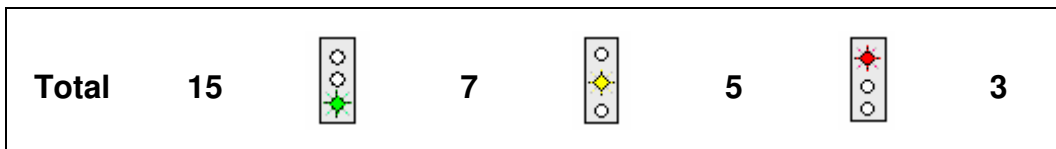
The Landscape Services Division benchmarks itself against other local authorities through the APSE Performance Networks and has done so for the last seven years. Figures for the year 2006/7 were submitted to APSE in July 2007 and in December 2007 the annual report was published.

The Landscape Services Division performed well across a range of indicators and achieved an award for 'Most Improved Performer'. The report clearly shows that the Landscape Services Division provides a cost effective service that delivers a quality product. Only in the area of 'cost per head of population' does the service appear to be expensive. It should be noted that this is due to Halton having a large amount of open space in relation to its population size.

Waste Management Division




Nothing to report.

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Some concern is expressed in respect of some areas of performance in Planning and abandoned vehicles. Details can be found in Appendix 2

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	19		13		3		3
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No "Other" indicators have been reported by exception this quarter.

7.0 PROGRESS AGAINST LPSA TARGETS

Progress against the 2 LPSA targets for this service can be found in Appendix 3.

8.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2007-08 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.

Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.






9.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS




During 2006/07 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.






There are no High priority actions for this service, therefore, there is no progress to report.






10.0 APPENDICES





Appendix 1- Progress against Key Objectives/ Milestones
 Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
 Appendix 3- Progress against LPSA targets
 Appendix 4- Financial Statement
 Appendix 5- Explanation of traffic light symbols

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
ER 01	To maintain a co-ordinated and robust regulatory/enforcement regime operable and that authorised development is implemented in accordance with approved documents and that inappropriate unauthorised activity is quickly addressed.	To produce and have adopted a revised cross-cutting Enforcement Policy, January 2008		The structure and appropriate working procedures are in place and are proving beneficial. This will remain an ongoing process of progressive improvements to the coordination and close working arrangement to coordinate regulatory efforts. This will be adopted by Jan 08.
ER 02	Continue Borough-wide Playground Refurbishment Project to ensure compliance with national standard	Establish funding and agree 2 playground refurbishments, June 2007		The two playgrounds are King George V in Widnes and Town Park in Runcorn.
		Monitor and report the success of playground refurbishment March 2008		Refurbishment is progressing well. A report will be submitted in March 2008.
ER 03	Natural Assets Strategy - Publish the reviewed and revised Strategy and commence implementation of the relevant aspects of the new 5 year Action Plan.	Open Wigg Island Visitor Centre, May 2007		Wigg Island Visitor Centre was opened by the Mayor of Halton on the 31 st October 2007.
		Secure funding, from National Lottery Fund, for Hale Park restoration plan, July 2007		Funding was secured to enable a full restoration plan to be drawn up and a submission made to NLF for full implementation funding.

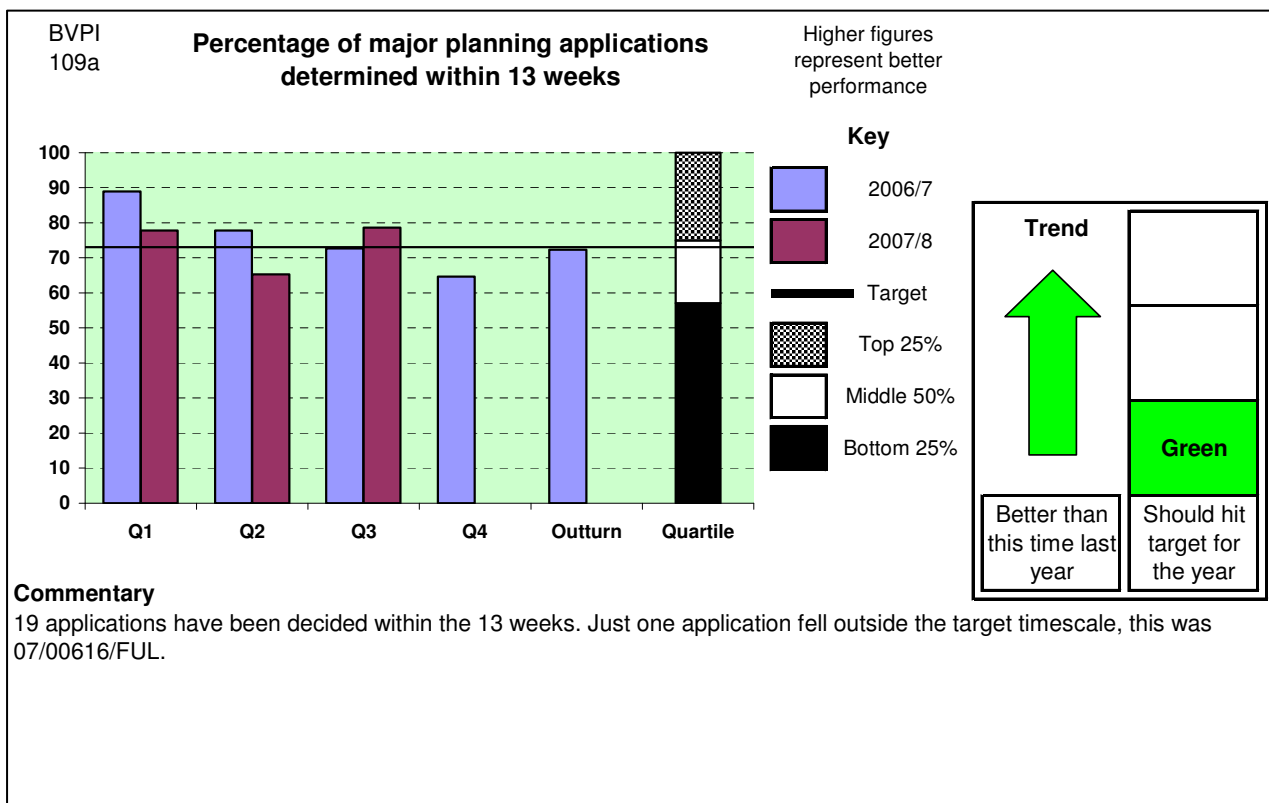
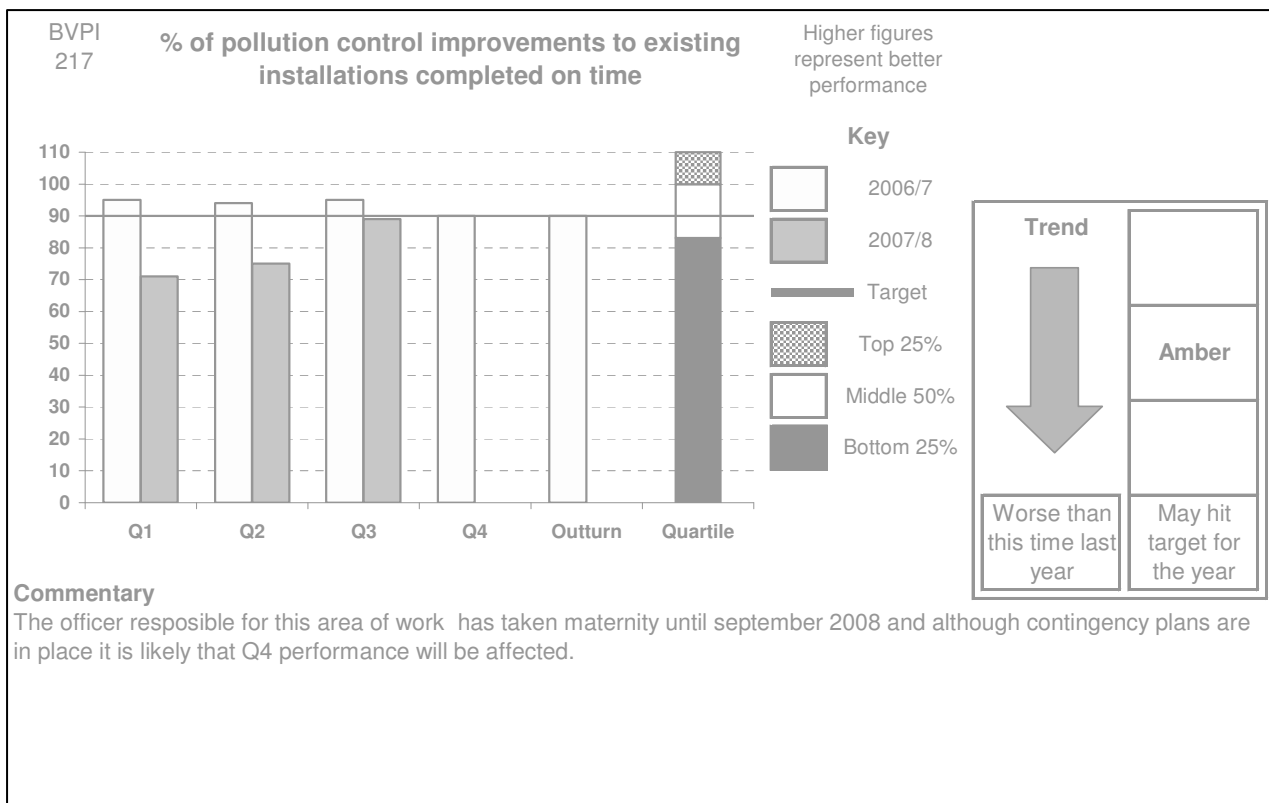
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Hale Park restoration complete, March 2008		It is anticipated that the bid for stage 2 (implementation) funding will be ready for the deadline date in March 2008.
		Secure 7 Green Flag Awards, August 2007 (An additional site, Victoria Park, in for the award)		Victoria Promenade and Runcorn Town Hall Park did not achieve the award in 2007. (Reported in Quarter 2 in detail)
ER 04	To prepare and adopt a local development framework (LDF) and to review the LDF on a regular basis ensuring that an up to date development plan is available (statutory requirement). To achieve this by producing the following targets:-	Adoption of the Halton Lea Town Centre Strategy SPD, September 2007		To ensure a consistent approach it is felt appropriate to adopt both the Runcorn Old Town and Halton Lea Town Centre Strategies simultaneously. A delay has been incurred due to the need for the Runcorn Old Town SPD to undertake Habitat Regulatory Assessment and increase its geographical scope to incorporate de-linking arrangements of the existing Silver Jubilee Bridge from the strategic highway network that will result from the construction of the new Mersey Gateway Bridge and resulting regeneration opportunities as a consequence of the Mersey Gateway Regeneration Strategy.

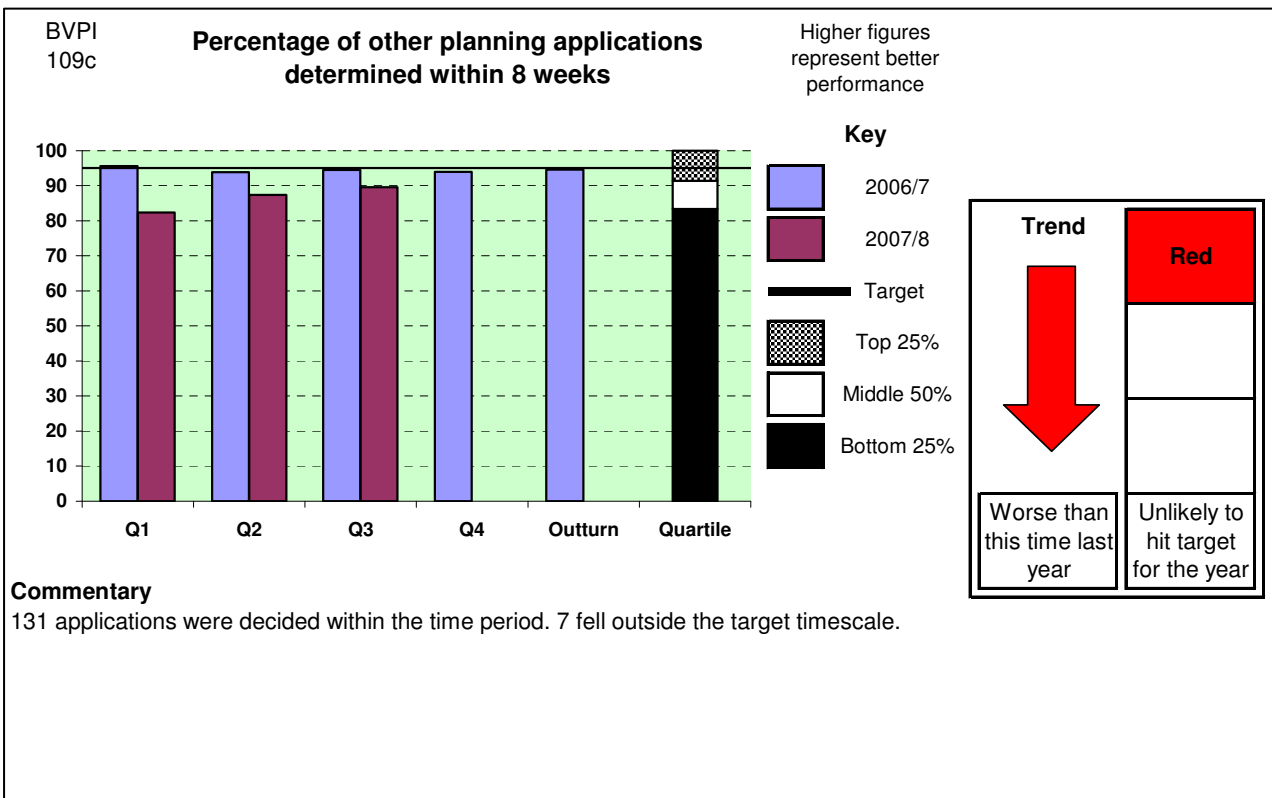
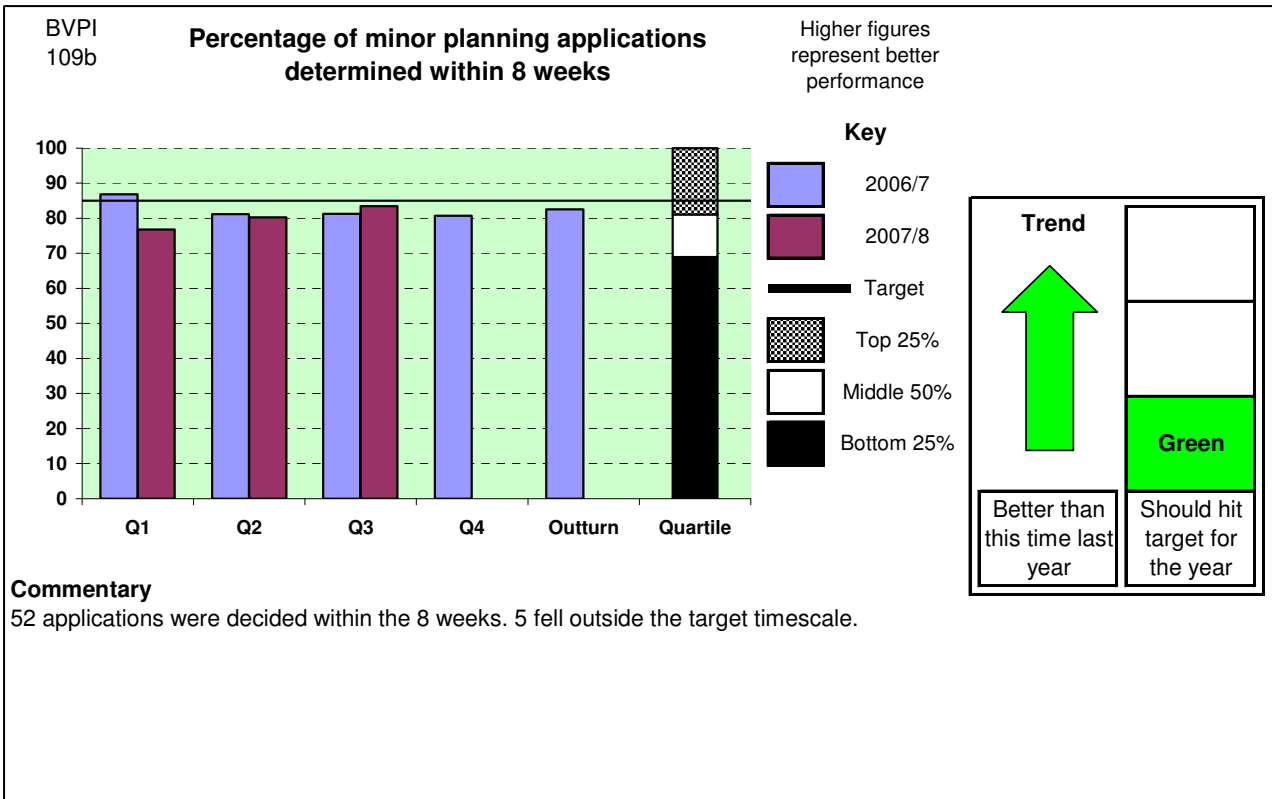
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Adoption of the Sandymoor SPD, February 2008		Requirement for a revised hydrology and flood risk model (Environment Agency approved) for Keckwick Brook catchment was undertaken following unforeseen flooding events. This modelling work was completed and approved by EA in autumn 2007 allowing revised Masterplan and, design of mitigation measures to proceed.
		Adoption of the Design of New Residential Development SPD, November 2007		This SPD will be delayed due to priority given to other SPDs and the Core Strategy and to take account of recent appeal decisions on residential development design standards.
		Adoption of the Transport & Accessibility SPD, February 2008		This SPD will be delayed due to priority given to other SPDs and the Core Strategy and to take account of recent appeal decisions on residential development design standards.
ER 05	To develop and implement a strategy for the three town centres in order to maximise the social, economic and cultural well-being of the local population	Complete consultation with interested parties, April 2007		Work has been delayed due to priority given to other SPDs and the Core Strategy.
		Produce strategy document and submit		The issues raised in the commentary to ER04, above, are

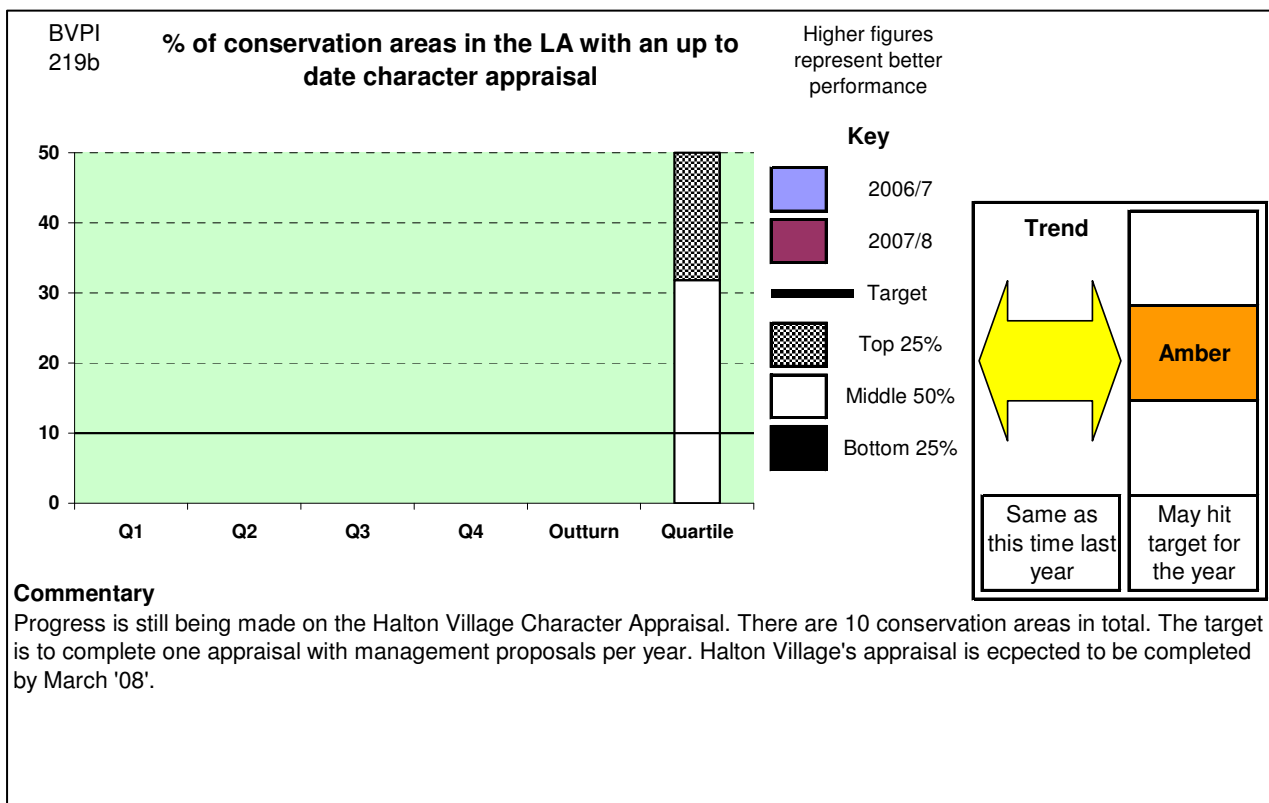
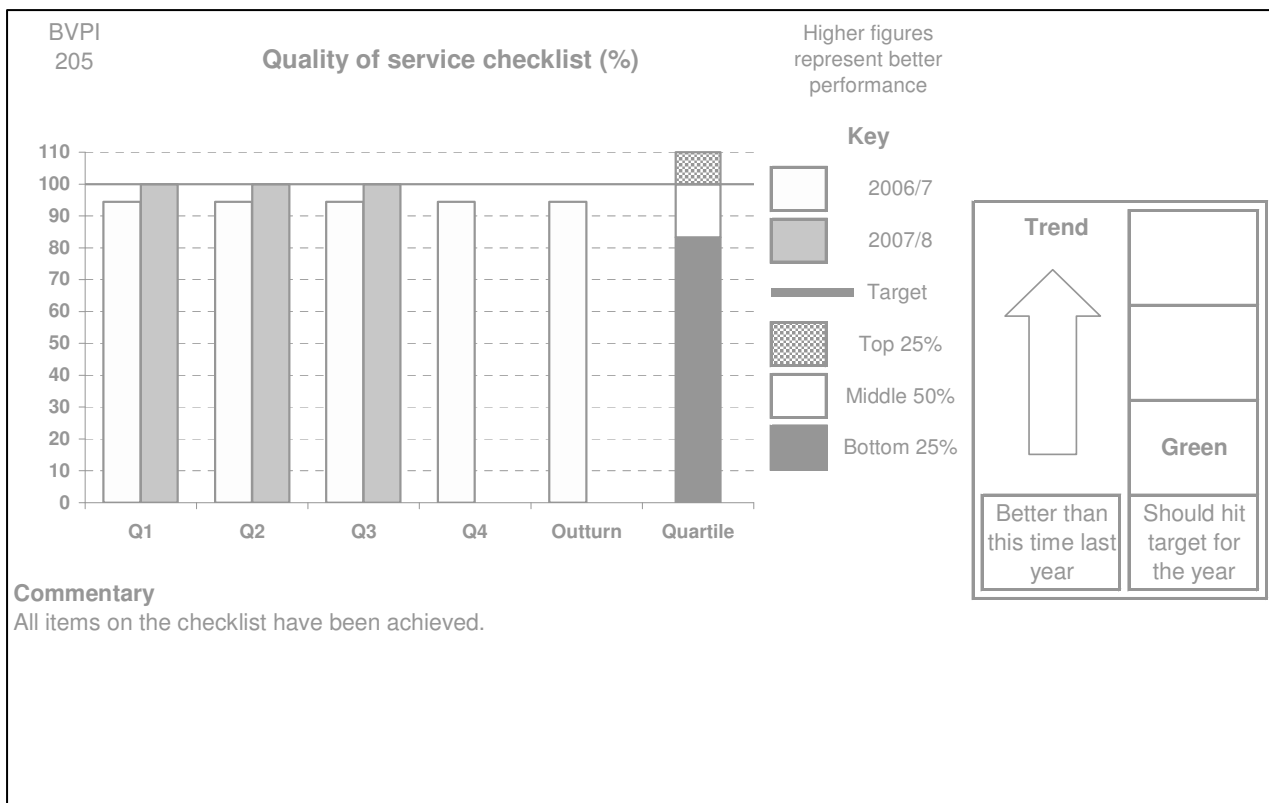
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		to Exec. Board for approval. December 2007.		also applicable here. The most relevant is the staffing issue.
ER 06	Review and publish an updated Municipal Waste Management Strategy and commence implementation of the relevant objectives contained within the strategy, so as to secure compatibility with wider Merseyside strategy.	<p>Exercise to Update Waste Management Strategy, April 2007</p> <p>Consultation on draft Updated Strategy, Autumn 2007</p> <p>Adoption of Updated Strategy, December 2007</p> <p>Approval of Waste Action Plan, July 2007</p> <p>Pilot scheme to deliver kerbside multi-material recycling services (subject to the approval of the Waste Action Plan), October 2007</p>	    	<p>Work to update the Council's Waste Management Strategy commenced as planned.</p> <p>Consultation commenced 27 December, 2007 and will continue until 27 January, 2008 (See Key Developments for further information)</p> <p>Adoption of the Council's Strategy is now anticipated to be by March 2008.</p> <p>At its meeting of the 19th July 2007, the Executive Board approved the principles of the Council's Waste Action Plan</p> <p>Pilot scheme commenced October 2007. (See Key Developments for further information)</p>

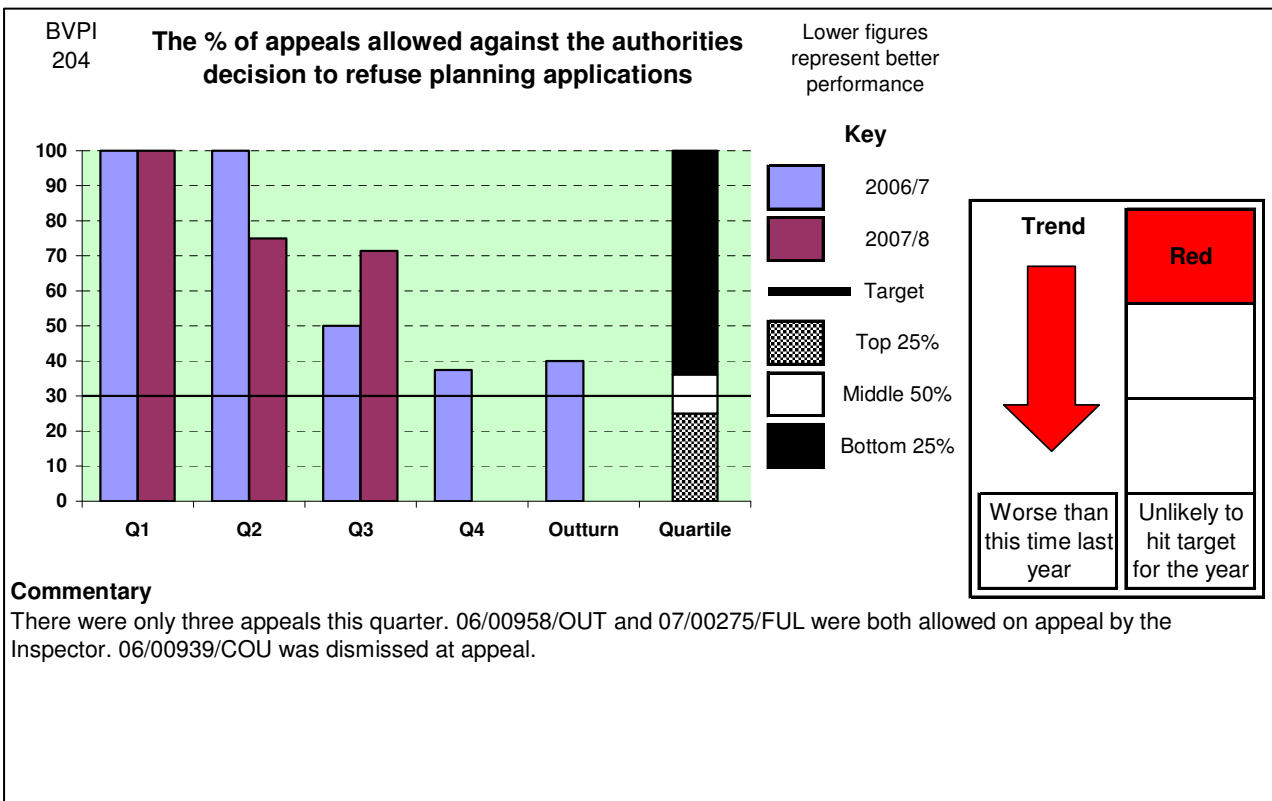
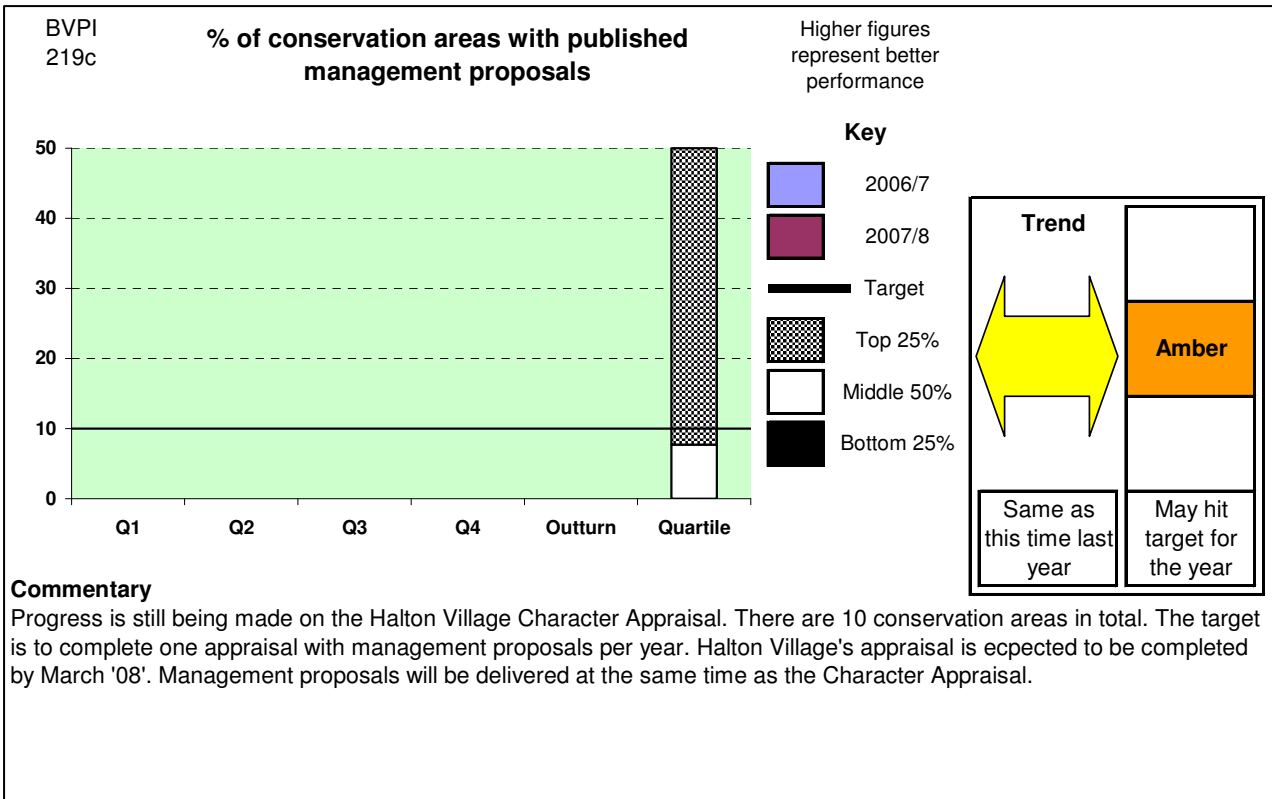
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
ER 07	To procure an integrated waste management infrastructure/partnership to meet the requirements of the Municipal Waste Management Strategy	<p>Halton agreed Contract Procurement Strategy with Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority, March 2007</p> <p>Approval of Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) to formalise partnership arrangement with MWDA for the procurement of facilities and services, July 2007</p>	 	<p>The Strategy was agreed in March 2007. Progress on the implementation of this strategy continues to be made on contract procurement with the MWDA.</p> <p>Negotiations are continuing with the MWDA, and it is anticipated that a formal IAA will be completed by February 2008.</p>
ER 08	Develop policy and practice regarding the introduction of legislation to ban smoking in public places introduce and continue to undertake effective balanced enforcement and review impact after 12 months and 24 months with the objective of ensuring appropriate smoke free environments.	<p>Establish Smoking, Education & Enforcement Team by May 2007.</p> <p>Complete programme of education for all premises by July 2007.</p>	 	<p>The Department has continued to enforce across the range of workplaces within the borough both within and outside working hours.</p> <p>Compliance rates have been good and only one fixed penalty notice has needed to be served. Areas of non-compliance on the whole are due to lack of correct signage and relate to small businesses. The section continues to work with partners in Merseyside to ensure a consistent approach and the PCT</p>

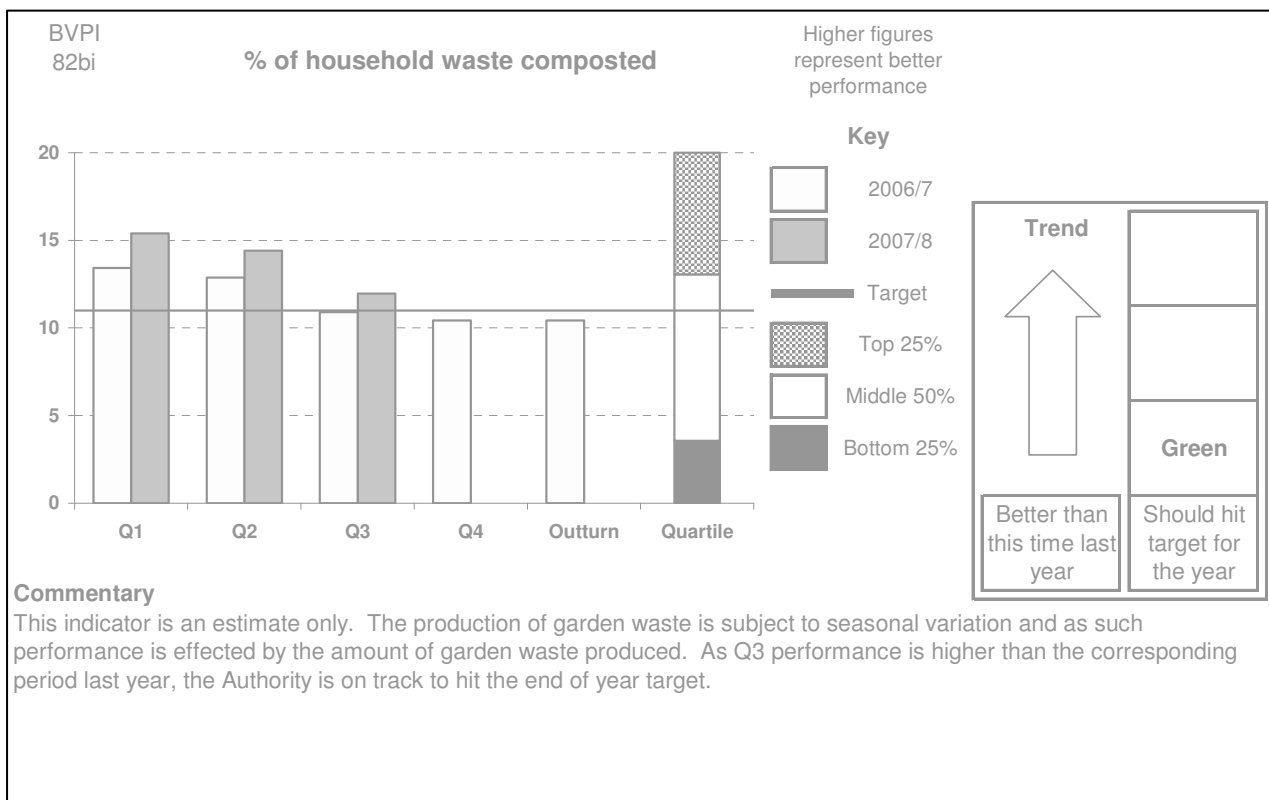
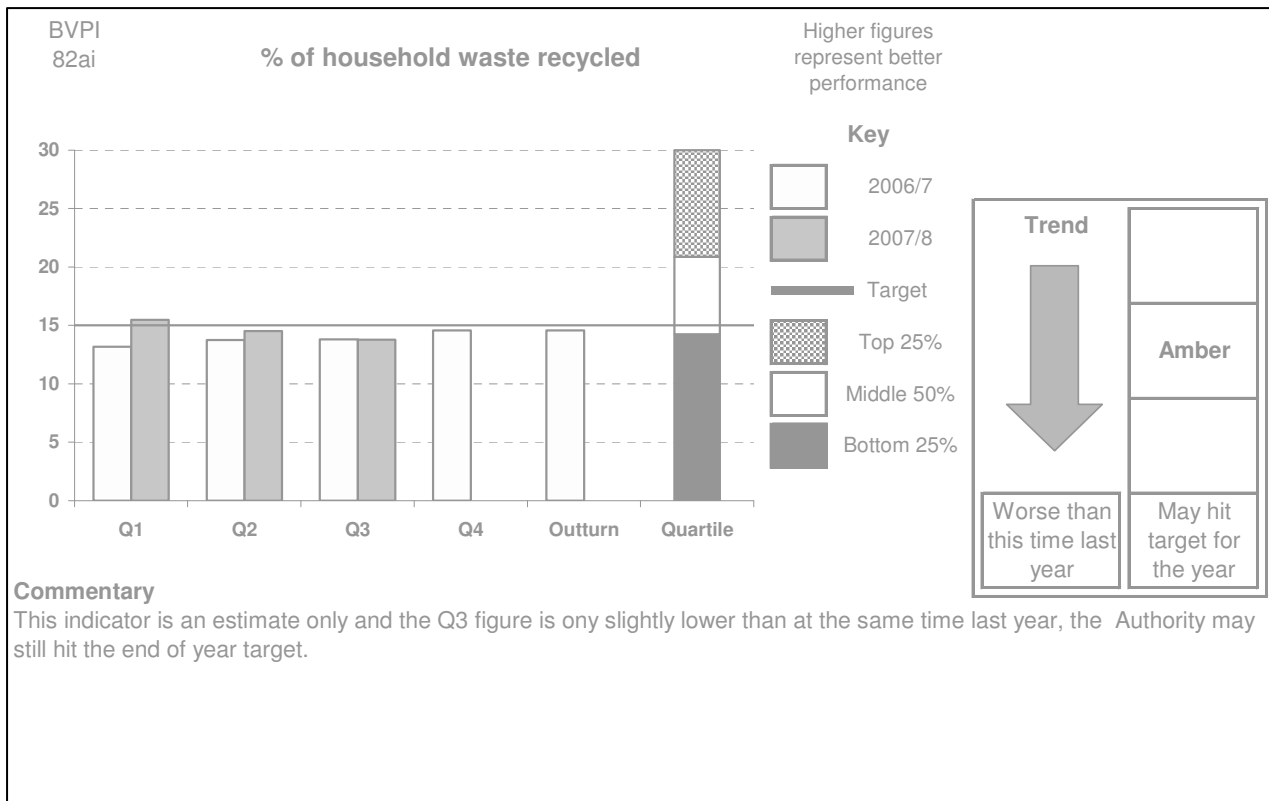
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
				to maximise the health benefits.

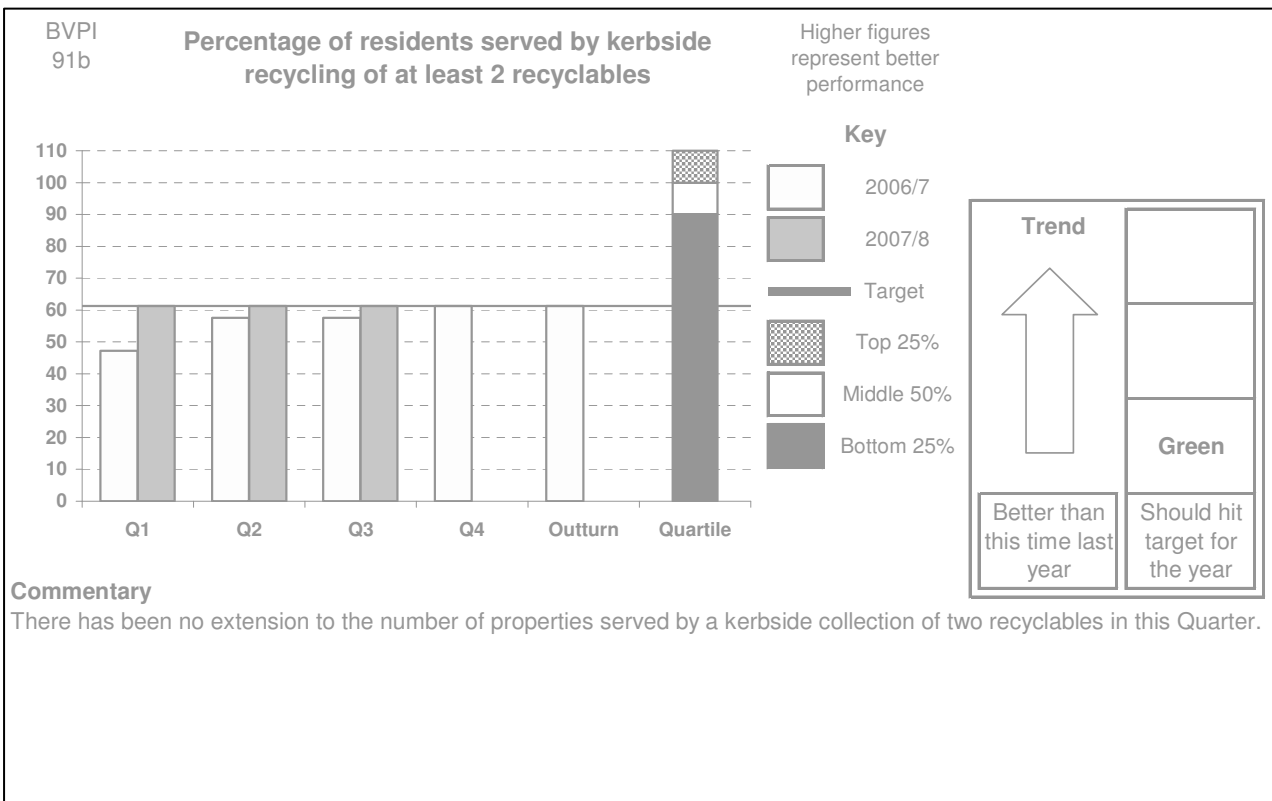
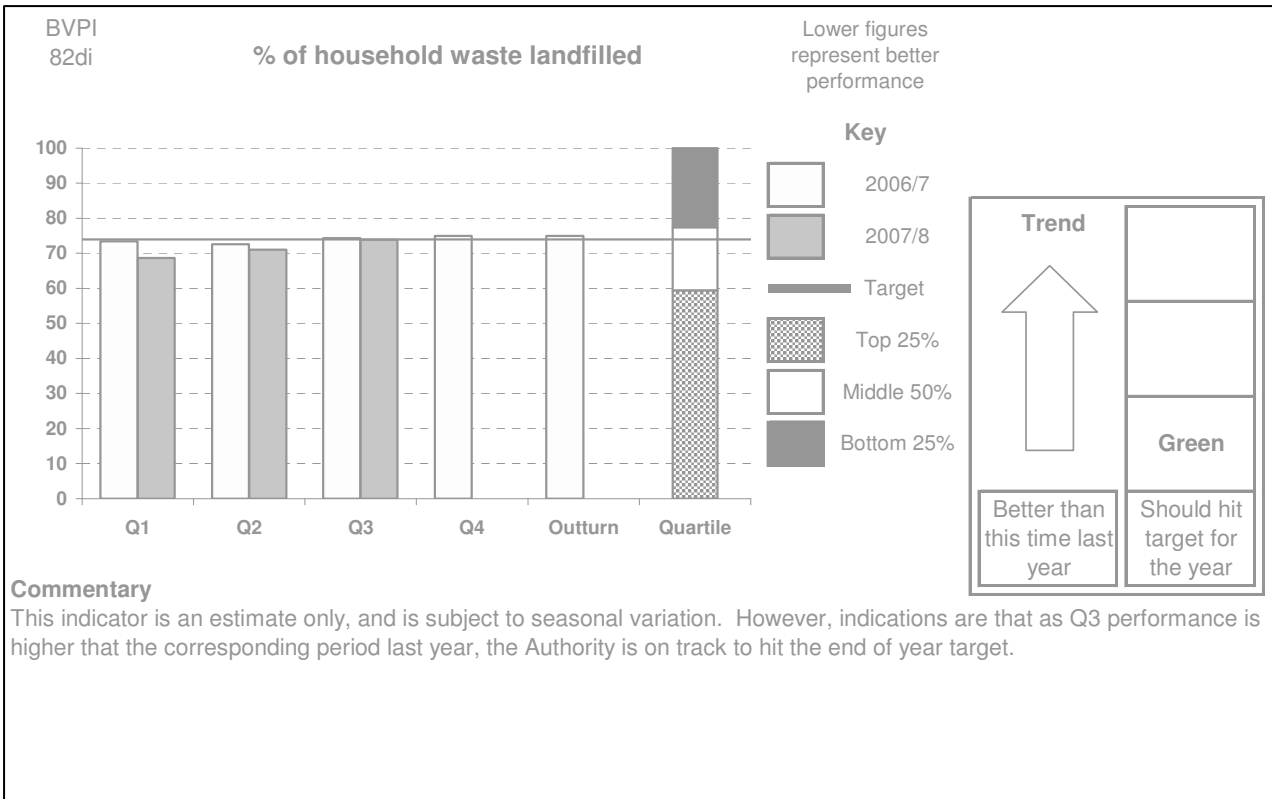


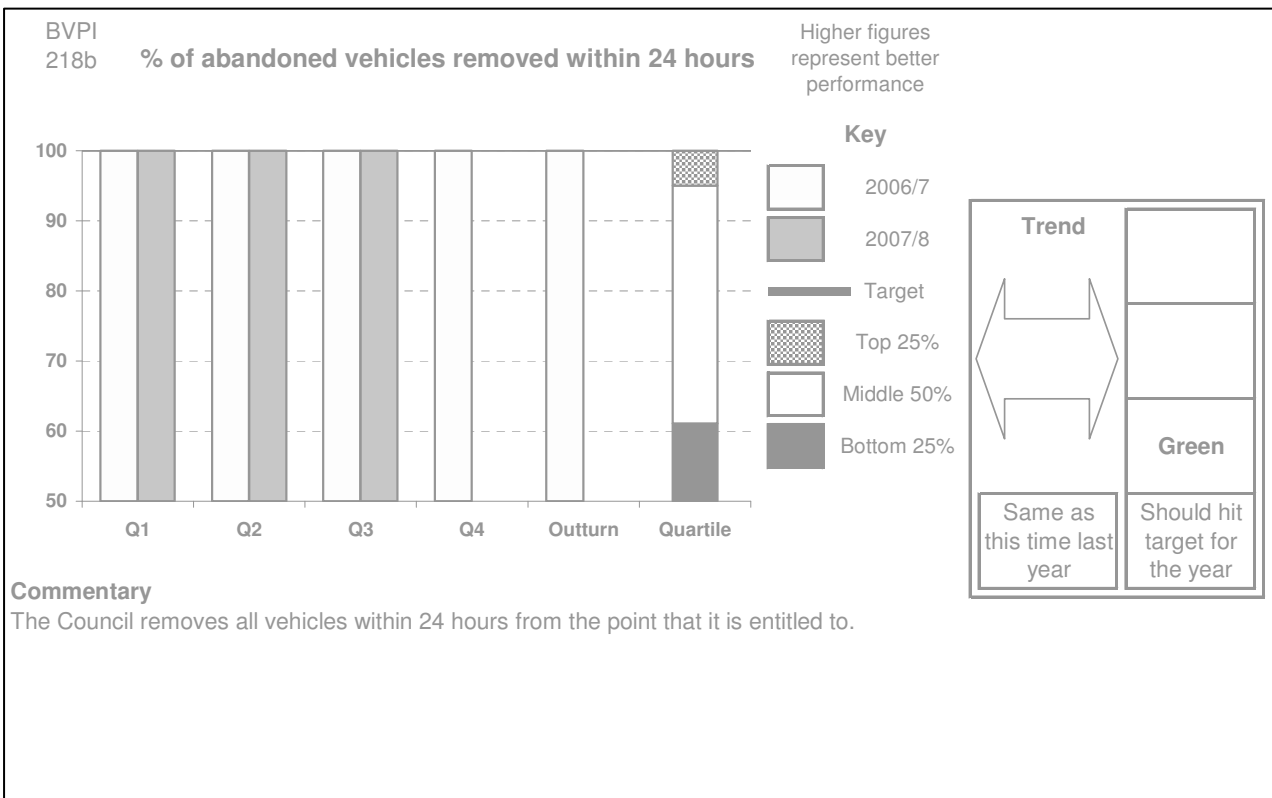
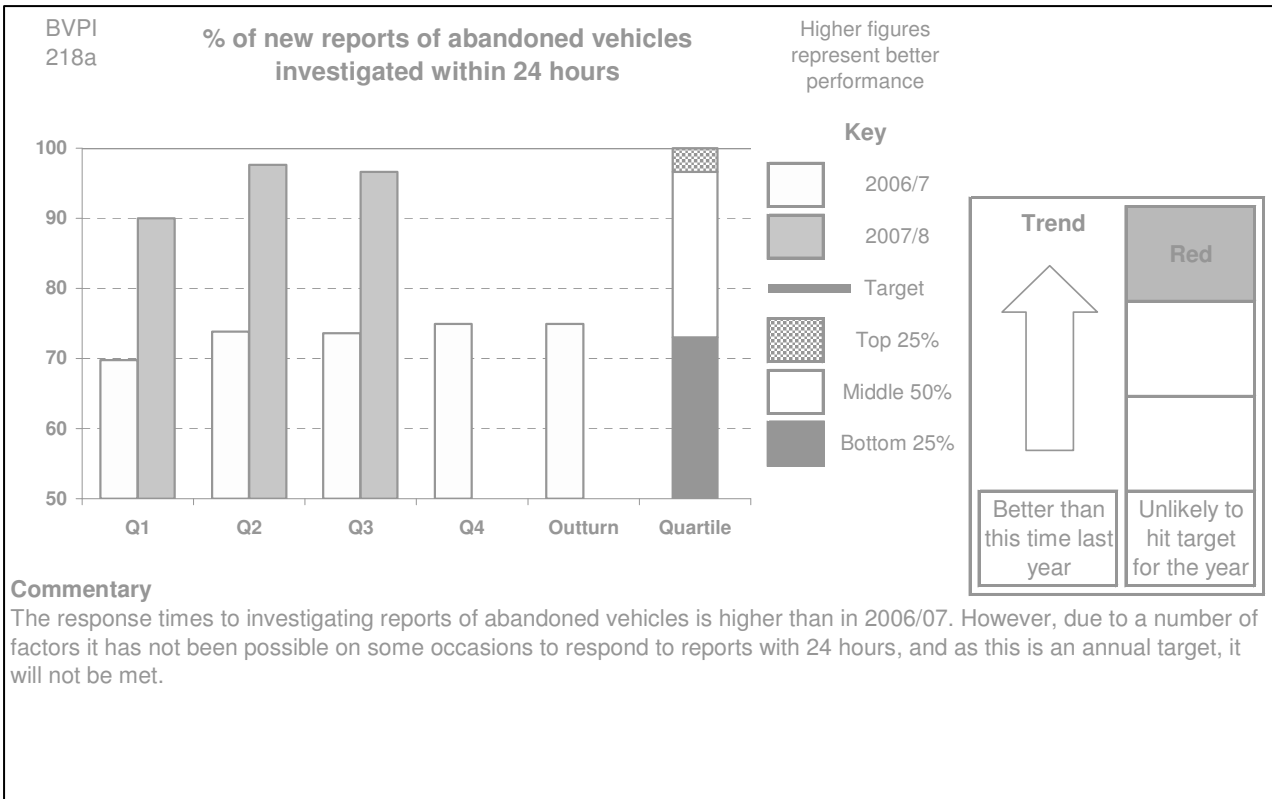


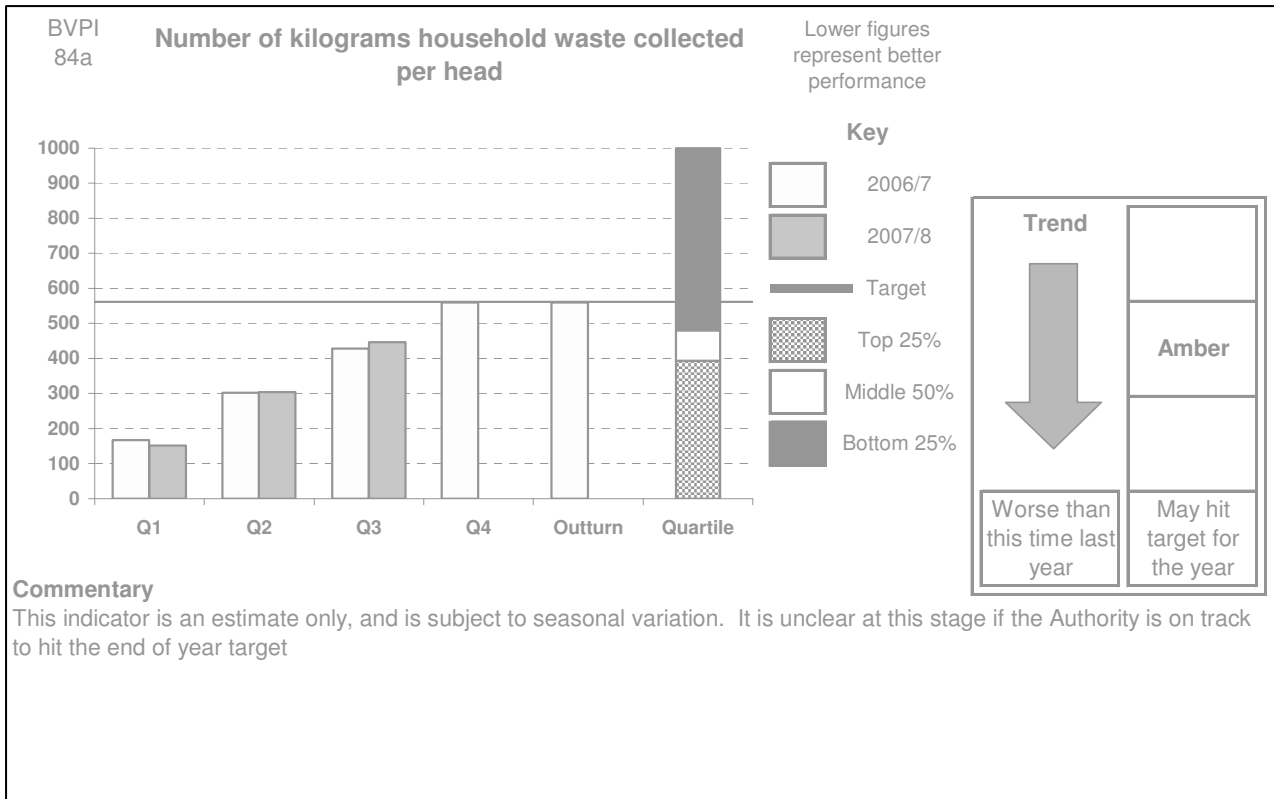













The following indicators will be reported on an annual basis in Q4,

- BVPI 106
- BVPI 199a
- BVPI 199b
- BVPI 199c
- BVPI 199d
- BVPI 86
- BVPI 87

LPSA Ref.	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Perform 06/07	Perform 07/08 Q3	Traffic light	Commentary
6	Reducing vehicle arson: The number of incidents of arson occurring to non derelict vehicles (during the year 1 April to 31 March)	200 (Jan – Dec 2005)	140 (Apr 07 – Mar 08)	143	120		Compared to previous quarters, there has been a significant number of incidents of vehicle arson in the third quarter. However, the year end target is anticipated to be met.
7	Improving health and well-being: The number of people reporting to the NHS stop smoking services who had set a quit date and who are still not smoking at the four weeks review (during the year 1 April to 31 March)	850 (2005/6)	2000 (2008/9)	1049	N/a	N/a	Statistics are not available from the NHS until Feb 08.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & BUILDING CONTROL DIVISION**Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2007**

	Annual Revised Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<i>Expenditure</i>					
Employees	1,644	1,237	1,173	64	1,174
Premises Support	79	0	0	0	0
Other Premises	8	7	3	4	3
Supplies & Services	305	228	184	44	235
Transport	66	44	42	2	43
Central Support Services	324	0	0	0	0
Departmental Support Services	321	0	0	0	0
Agency Related	14	14	17	(3)	17
Asset Charges	2	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	2,763	1,530	1,419	111	1,472
<i>Income</i>					
Sales	-50	-49	-43	(6)	-43
Building Control Fees	-370	-277	-230	(47)	-230
Pest Control	-64	-48	-60	12	-60
Other Fees & Charges	-5	-4	-3	(1)	-3
Grant Funding	-196	-190	-173	(17)	-173
Reimbursements	-14	-6	-7	1	-7
Total Income	-699	-574	-516	(58)	-516
Net Expenditure	2,064	956	903	53	1,056

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms, revenue net expenditure at the end of quarter 3 is below budget. With regards to expenditure, staffing is below budget at the end of quarter 3. This is a combination of vacancies within the Enforcement Co-ordination, Building Control, Food Health & Safety and Environmental Protection Teams. With regards to income, Building Control fees are less than budget to date as a result of increased competition from the private sector. Although it can be anticipated that the deficit will be closed in the final quarter of the financial year, it is unlikely that the annual target will be achieved. At this stage it appears the only significant issue is the low Building Control income.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & BUILDING CONTROL DIVISION**Capital Projects as at 31st December 2007**

	2007/08 Capital Allocation	Allocation To Date	Actual Spend To Date	Allocation Remaining

	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Noise Equipment Replacement	10	10	11	(1)
Contaminated Land Stenhills Quarry	170	74	0	170
Air Quality Monitoring Station	20	0	0	20
Total Capital Expenditure	200	84	11	189

PLANNING DIVISION

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2007

	Annual Revised Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<i>Expenditure</i>					
Employees	993	747	685	62	690
Premises Support	67	0	0	0	0
Hired & Contracted Svcs	80	60	109	(49)	111
Unitary Development Plan	25	19	4	15	10
Supplies & Services	138	101	51	50	219
Transport	16	12	13	(1)	13
Central Support Services	229	0	0	0	0
Departmental Support Services	255	0	0	0	0
Agency	3	2	0	2	0
Total Expenditure	1,806	941	862	79	1,043
<i>Income</i>					
Planning Fees	-782	-547	-541	(6)	-541
Support Services	-400	0	0	0	0
Planning Delivery Grant	-250	-77	-77	0	-77
Total Income	-1,432	-624	-618	(6)	-618
Net Expenditure	374	317	244	73	425

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms revenue spending at the end of quarter 3 is below budget.

With regards to expenditure, employees is below budget to date due to staff vacancies within the department. The variance of spend above budget to date relating to hired and contracted services is due to spend funded by Planning Delivery Grant and will be offset by grant by the financial year-end. The variance in supplies and services is mainly due to spend within the Spatial Planning section, however, it is anticipated that the full budget will be spent by the financial year end. The large commitment in this area includes £134k of Mersey Gateway related expenditure for policy work.

In terms of income, an estimated budget of £250k has been identified against the Planning Delivery grant. In fact, the actual allocation for grant has been confirmed at £300,000 all of which has been committed. The first tranche of £77k has been received to date.

At this stage it is anticipated that overall spend will be in line with the Departmental budget by the financial year-end.

Landscape Services Division 2007/2008.

Waste Management Services Division 2007/2008.

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2007.

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Employees	6,591	4,939	4,850	89	4,850
Building Maintenance	27	0	0	0	0
Operational Buildings	108	0	0	0	0
Landscape Maintenance	271	206	190	16	190
Office Accommodation	59	0	0	0	0
Other Premises Costs	131	98	82	16	85
Supplies and Services	398	302	329	(27)	356
Recycling Plan/Strategy	133	100	100	0	100
Hired & Contracted Services	304	230	276	(46)	303
Tipping	212	151	121	30	121
Transport	1,958	1,465	1,527	(62)	1,527
Grants To Voluntary Organisations	18	14	9	5	9
Agency Services	128	96	78	18	78
Waste Disposal - Fridges	60	45	32	13	32
Waste Disposal - Green Waste	128	96	92	4	92
Waste Disposal - Other	154	116	74	42	74
Waste Disposal - HWC's	1,129	847	890	(43)	890
Waste Disposal - Domestic Refuse	615	462	433	29	433
Waste Disposal - Landfill Tax	1,138	854	855	(1)	855
Internal Support Costs	618	0	0	0	0
Central Support Costs	437	0	0	0	0
Capital Financing	81	69	67	2	67
Asset Charges	202	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	14,900	10,090	10,005	85	10,062
<u>Income</u>					
Sales	-138	-91	-97	6	-97

Fees & Charges - Trade Waste	-625	-469	-365	-104	-365
Fees & Charges - Bulky Waste	-213	-160	-27	-133	-27
Fees & Charges - Other	-67	-50	-13	-37	-13
Rents	-15	-11	-9	-2	-9
Grounds Maintenance Recharge	-3,112	-78	-166	88	-166
Support Service Income	-233	0	0	0	0
Government Grants	-120	-91	-165	74	-165
Reimbursements & Other Grants	-491	-358	-381	23	-381
School's SLA	-152	-124	-124	0	-124
Building Cleaning Recharges	-777	-583	-589	6	-589
School Cleansing Recharges	-635	-477	-495	18	-495
Miscellaneous St. Cleansing Recharges	-159	-119	-80	-39	-80
Non - Revenue	-110	-83	-73	-10	-73
Total Income	-6,847	-2,694	-2,584	(110)	(2,584)
Net Expenditure	8,053	7,396	7,421	(25)	7,478

Capital Expenditure - 2007/2008




Expenditure as at 31st December 2007.

Code	Scheme	2007/2008 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	2007/ 2008 Variance £'000
H300	Litter Bin Replacement	20	10	3	17
H302	Victoria Park HLF	170	50	127	43
H308	Victoria Park CCTV	28	0	23	5
N002	Drainage Works at Household Waste Site	50	0	0	50
N003	Hale Park	35	10	4	31
N004	Children's Playground Equipment	65	20	-16	81
N009	Sports Pitch Improvement	400	290	247	153
N010	Wigg Island Visitor Centre	120	20	90	30
N021	Noise Equipment Replacement	10	10	11	(1)
N022	Air Quality Monitoring Station	20	0	0	20
N023	Refuse Collection Fleet	1,088	1,088	1086	2
N529	Contaminated Land - Stenhills Quarry	170	74	0	170
	Landfill Tax Credit	340	320	178	162
		2,516	1,892	1,753	763

Local Strategic Partnership 2007/2008.**Expenditure as at 31st December 2007.**

Code	Scheme	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
7301	Area Forum 1	110	82	12	70
7302	Area Forum 2	89	67	24	43
7303	Area Forum 3	87	65	15	50
7304	Area Forum 4	127	95	23	72
7305	Area Forum 5	114	86	13	73
7306	Area Forum 6	53	39	0	39
7307	Area Forum 7	20	15	14	1
7338	Civic Pride	10	7	9	(2)
7343	Enterprise Development	102	76	66	10
7372	Pride Of Place Action Team	72	54	88	(34)
7373	Multi Skilled Maintenance Team	44	33	33	0
7375	Neighbourhood Pride	49	36	30	6
7377	Area Forum Co-ordinator	30	22	25	(3)
7382	Anti-Social Behaviour	27	20	14	6
7390	Graffiti Team	72	54	43	11
					0
		1,006	751	409	342

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved</u>.</p>
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, due to a lack of information or a key milestone date being missed, <u>whether the objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.</p>
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the objective will not be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</p>

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Health & Community
SERVICE: Health & Partnerships
PERIOD: Quarter 3 to period-end 31 December 2007.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Health & Partnerships Department third quarter period up to 31 December 2007. It describes key developments and progress against key objectives and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic lights symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within Appendix 5

It should be noted that this report is presented to a number of Policy and Performance Boards. Those objectives and indicators that are not directly relevant to this Board have been shaded grey.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Information Technology

Corporate IT will be working with Health & Community (H&C) and Children' & Young People's Directorate (CYPD) to implement Carefirst 6. The Project Board is due to meet in January and start to progress the implementation of the system.

In addition to implementing Carefirst 6, H&C will commence work on a comprehensive Business Process Review with Corporate IT so that a 3 and 5 year Information Technology Strategy is produced for the Directorate.

Finance

A Croft Divisional Group has been established in line with the CSED (Care Services Efficiency Group) initiative for financial assessments. Work has commenced this quarter with progress made in a number of areas e.g. to improve the management of bad debts, increase methods of payment and recovery through the use of direct debits and a review of the charging policy and the fee rates for Direct Payments. A number of suggestions have been/will be put forward to members to ensure consistent application with neighbouring authorities across the North West in particular for charging policy and direct payment rates.

Direct Payments

The number of service users in receipt of Direct Payments continues to increase and in total has exceeded this years target. At the 31st December there were 190 ongoing service users and 338 carers receiving a carers break using a Direct Payment.

Performance Management

The Directorate has noted which of the 198 National Indicators it will be required to contribute to. Additionally H&C will be working with Health to determine how the 40 indicators outlined in the new Health & Social Care Outcomes Performance Accountability Framework will be supplied. An announcement is expected from CSCI in February 2008 about the way they will measure performance for social care services in 08/09 following their recent merger with the Department of Health and the setting up of the new Care Quality Commission.

Consumer Protection

The financial aspects of the joint Halton/Warrington project aimed at developing a single Trading Standards Service to serve both Boroughs are to be examined by the management consultants KPMG, as one element of their work programme for the Council.

A customised, shared online diary system has been installed for use by the Registration Service, the Contact Centre and the staff at HDL offices. It is envisaged that funeral directors and Halton Hospital will be allowed to make appointments on the system at the end of 2008. The system will also generate certain performance data, which is presently recorded and collated manually.

Contracts and Supporting People

Work has commenced on the development of a Domiciliary Care Strategy. The strategy will take into account long term demand forecasts, the local and regional market and best practise models/innovation in the field of domiciliary care. Service users, carers, providers and wider stakeholders will be consulted to inform the development of the strategy.

Housing

Following the announcement in the Housing Green Paper (July07) of opportunities to bid for housing Growth Point status, a joint expression of interest has been submitted for the Mersey sub region by Halton/St Helens and Liverpool/Wirral. For Halton, Growth Point Status will require the development of 600 units per annum to 2016 (i.e. Draft RSS figure of 500pa + 20% over 8 years).

The refurbishment of Riverview Traveller site has been successfully completed, and the temporary site at Johnsons Lane has now been decommissioned.




3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

Housing

The initial bidding round for Housing Corporation funding to support Housing Association developments in the Borough over the next 3 years has now closed and the outcome is expected in March 08. Key proposals include:

- the continued regeneration of the Castlefields neighbourhood
- the development of extra care housing in Halton View, Widnes

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

Total	6		3		3		0
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Of the six key milestones, three are progressing satisfactorily and three have been rated amber. For further details, please see Appendix 1.

4.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

There are no other objectives for the service. Nine milestones within the key objectives are designated 'non-key'. Those milestones are routinely reported in quarters 2 and 4. No non-key milestones have been reported by exception this quarter.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW

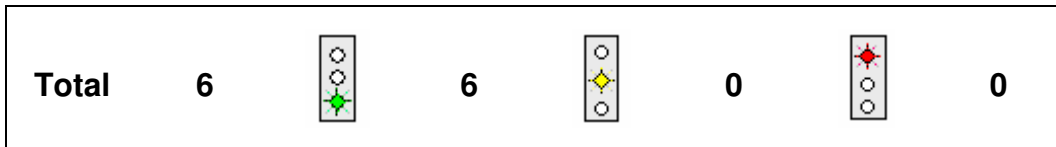
Housing

Halton Housing Trust (HHT) completed a review of contracted services carried out by HHT on behalf of HBC. A project team in Health and Community have been reviewing the implications for HBC with a view to presenting options to members on the future of the services by February 2008.

Adults with Learning Disabilities Financial Recovery Plan

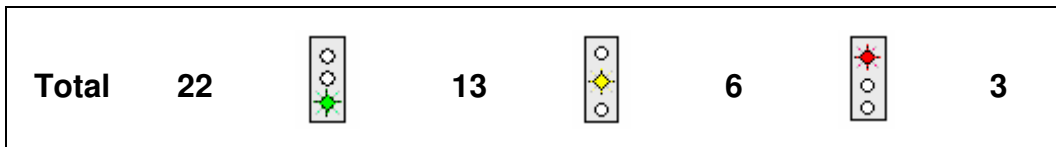
The Directorate Management Accounts Team is continuing to provide support to critically review all areas of spend and services provided to identify ways of reducing the current ALD overspend of care services and transport.

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Progress towards targets for all Key indicators is good. For further details refer to Appendix 2

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Of the other indicators for the service, 13 are progressing satisfactorily. 6 are uncertain and have been rated amber and 3 are causing cause for concern and have been rated red. For further details, please refer to Appendix 3.

7.0 PROGRESS AGAINST LPSA TARGETS

There are no LPSA targets for this service.

8.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2007-08 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.




Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.




9.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS

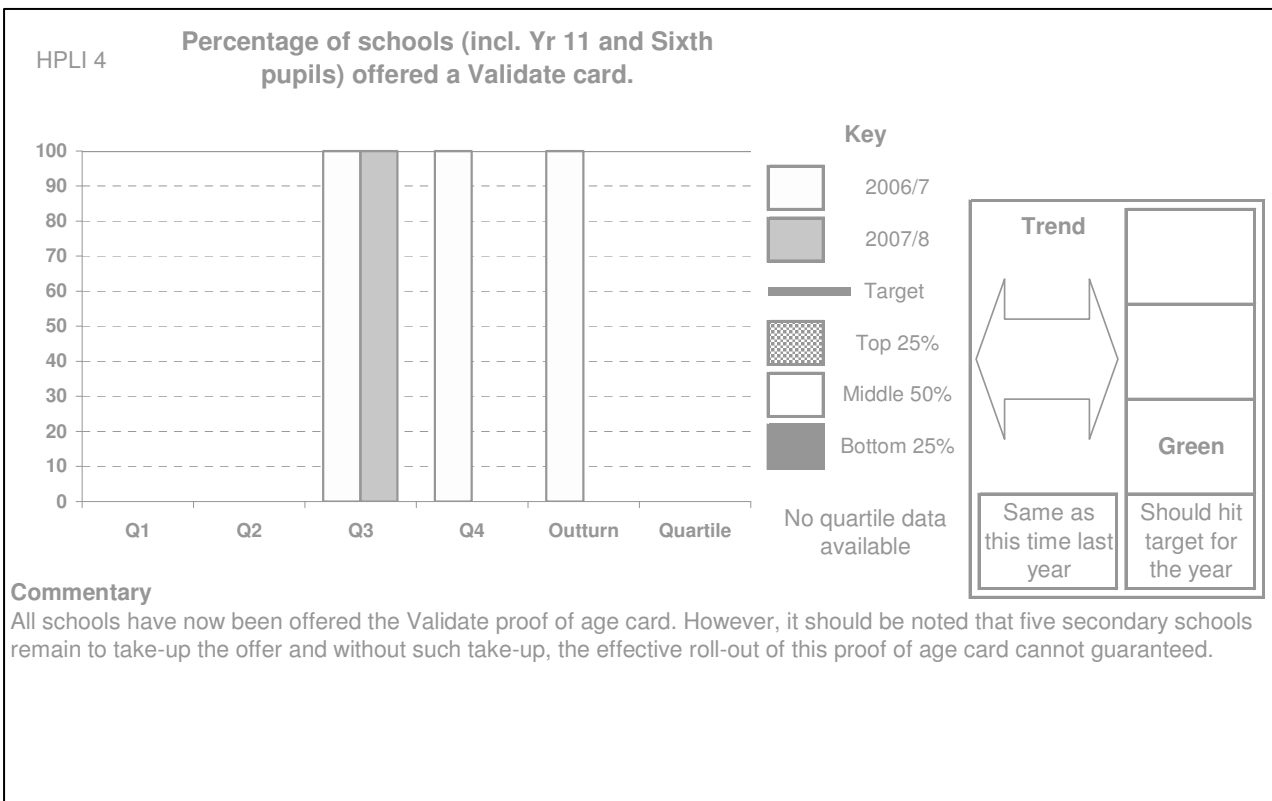
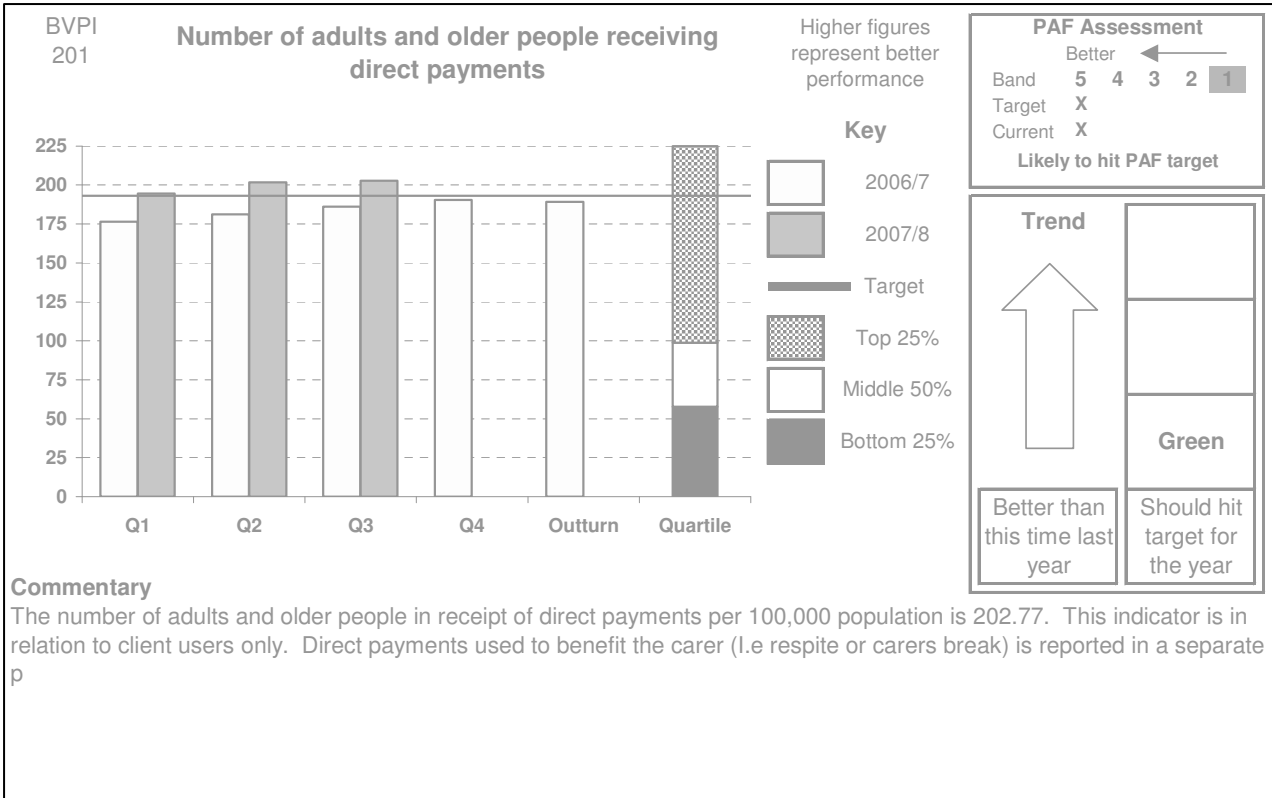
During 2006/07 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

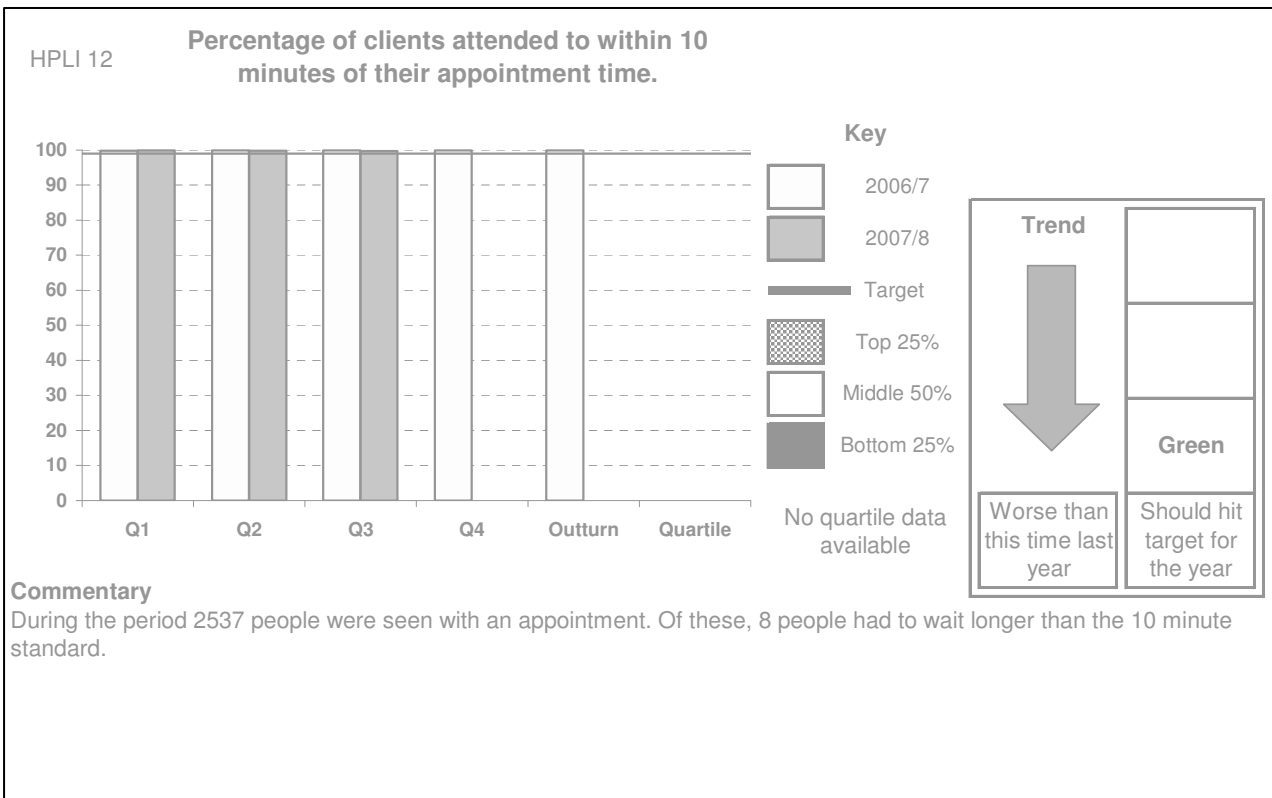
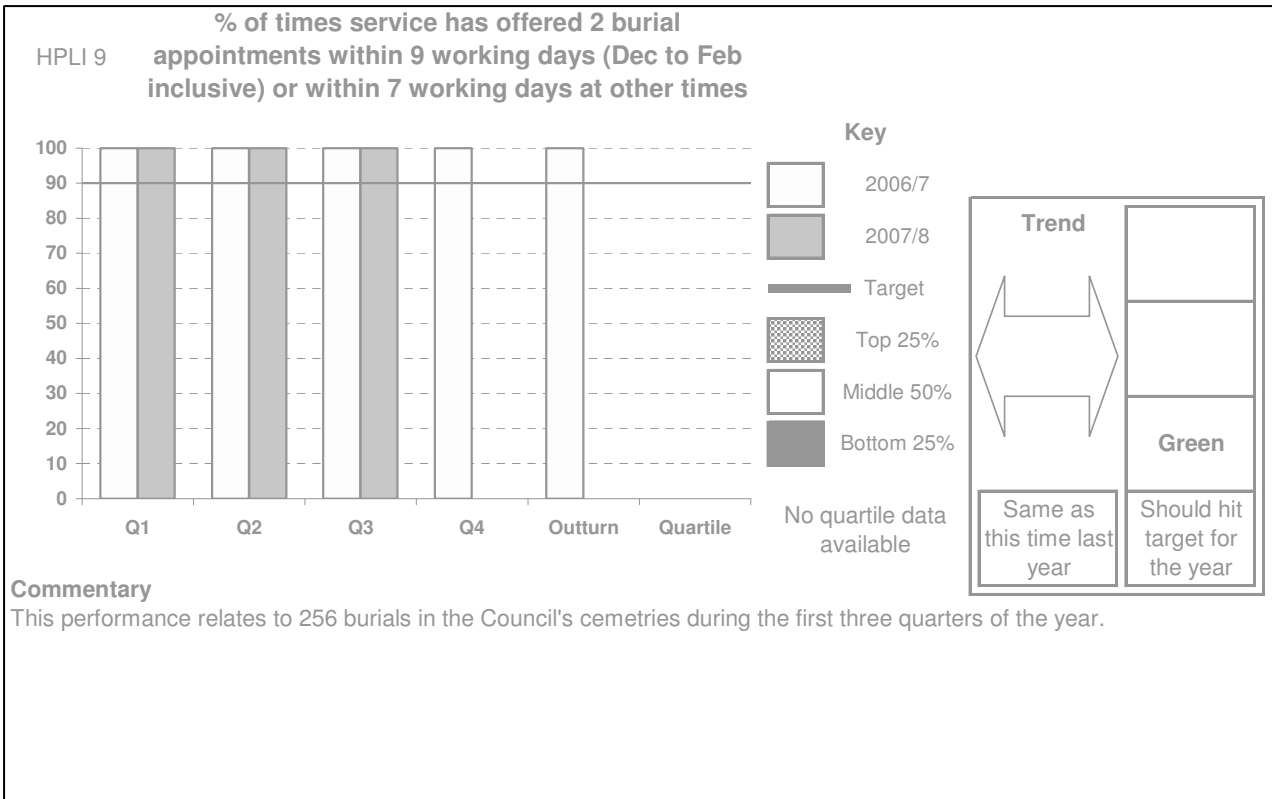
10.0 APPENDICES

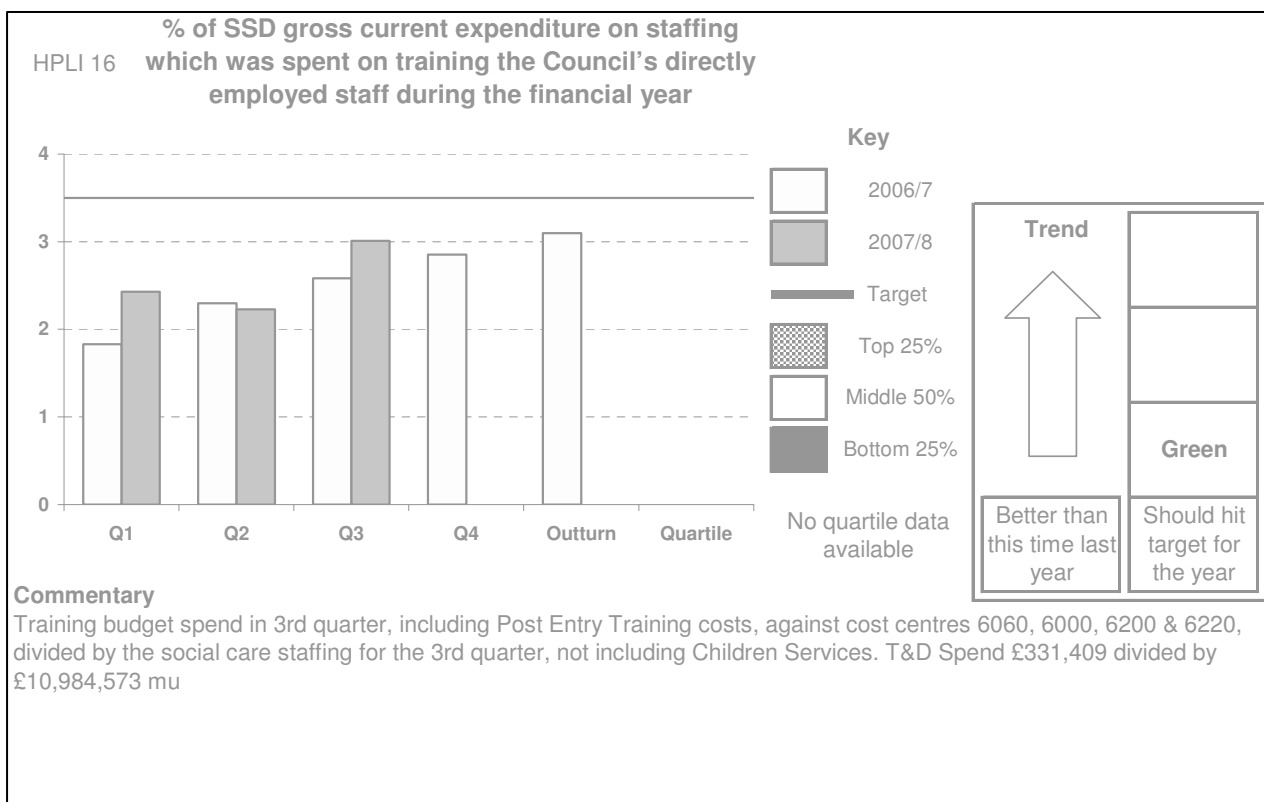
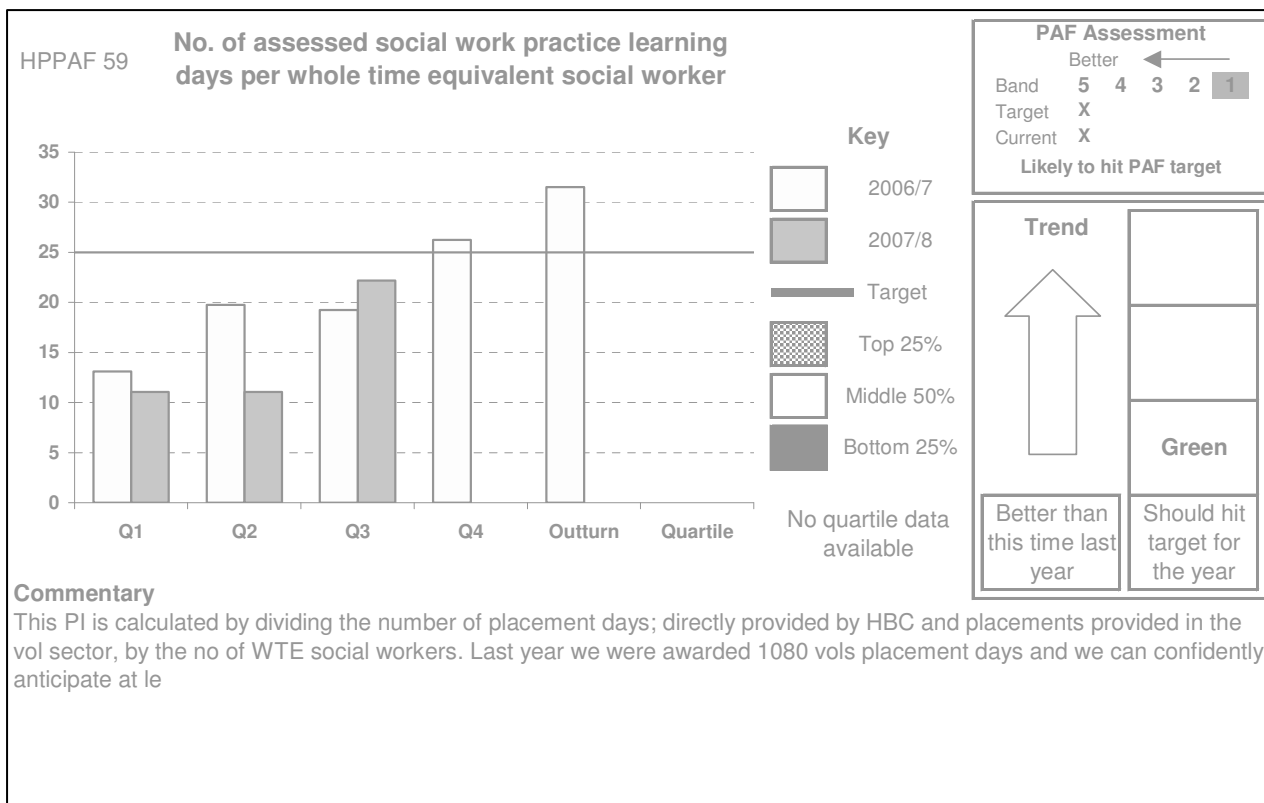
Appendix 1- Progress against Key Objectives/ Milestones
Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
Appendix 3- Progress against Other Performance Indicators
Appendix 4- Financial Statement
Appendix 5- Explanation of traffic light symbols




Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone <i>Italic = Q2 & Q4 only</i>	Progress to date*	Commentary
HP1	Ensure that high level strategies are in place, and working to deliver service improvements, and support frontline services to deliver improved outcomes to the residents of Halton	Update the Housing and Homelessness Strategy's to reflect findings of 2006 needs assessment and revised strategy and action plan by March 2008		<p>The first draft of the Housing Strategy has now been completed. Consultation will take place January and February 08, before being submitted to Board for adoption.</p> <p>Development of the Homelessness Strategy has been delayed due to the ongoing review into the future delivery of the service. Production of the strategy will likely slip into 2008/09.</p>
		Review 5 year Supporting People Strategy to ensure diverse and flexible housing support services are in place to support people to live at home by July 2007		Targets met - work ongoing to reconfigure ALD supported living services - good progress to date.
HP2	Work with operational managers to design a performance management framework that will provide high quality performance monitoring and management information,	Develop a performance monitoring framework to meet the requirements of changing National priorities including outcomes and non care managed services by June 2007		A Performance and IT Management Strategy is produced on an annual basis and approved by SMT.





Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone <i>Italic = Q2 & Q4 only</i>	Progress to date*	Commentary
HP2 continued	to help improve service delivery and assist services to continuously improve	Establish an IT strategy in conjunction with Corporate IT so that Carefirst6, Carestore and CareAssess are implemented in accordance with agreed timescales so that Carefirst users have access to more effective data input systems – October 2007		A Performance and IT Management Strategy is produced on an annual basis and approved by SMT.
HP3	To deliver high quality Bereavement, Consumer and Registration Services, that are fit-for-purpose and meet the needs, dignity and safety of the Halton community	Ensure that sufficient longer-term cemetery provision exists to meet the needs of the Halton people, by initially completing an options appraisal and securing member decision by 31 March 2008		The completed options appraisal has been considered by the Safer Halton P & P Board and the Chief Officer's Management Team. Detailed cost benefit analysis work is ongoing to inform the final member decision.
HP4	Ensure that effective financial strategies and services are in place to enable the directorate to procure and deliver high quality value for money services that meet people's needs	Develop, by April 2007, a 3-year financial strategy, to ensure that funding is matched to changing service requirements		Completed. Gross and savings proposals submitted to Corporate Services as part of 2008/09 budget setting round including details details of all future proposed grant spend to be rolled into the base budget. This includes staff in temporary and permanent grant funded posts. Decision awaited by members once all grant announcements are known with strategy to be then amended accordingly.









Ref	Indicator	Actual 06 / 07	Target 07 / 08	Quarter 3	Progress*	Commentary
Service Delivery Indicators.						
BVPI 64	Number of private sector dwellings returned into occupation or demolished as a direct result of action by the local authority.	2	2	1		Outputs against this BVPI have always been reliant on Council grants for Landlords to refurbish and let out previously empty dwellings that they acquired. Under current grants policy only accredited landlords can access assistance, and no such applications are in the pipeline. There is therefore a risk of not meeting even the low target that has been set.
BVPI 183a	The average length of stay in B&B accommodation of homeless households that are unintentionally homeless and in priority need (weeks)	5.33	3.0	3.45		The average period has reduced throughout 2007/08 from the 5.33 weeks reported for 2006/07, and should continue to decline due to the introduction of a number of homelessness prevention initiatives, However quarter 4 is traditionally a period of high homelessness presentations and meeting the 3 week overall target may be difficult to achieve.
BVPI 202	Number of Rough Sleepers	0	0	N/K		A consultation with stakeholder organisations will be undertaken at year-end to inform the year-end BVPI

Ref	Indicator	Actual 06 / 07	Target 07 / 08	Quarter 3	Progress*	Commentary
BVPI 203	The % change in the average number of families placed in temporary accomodation	18.75%	-15%	-10.3%		This BVPI is calculated by averaging the numbers of household (accepted as homeless and in priority need) with children or an expectant mother, in temporary accommodation at the end of each quarter in 2007/08, and then comparing that figure with the same calculation for the previous year. A complete picture will not therefore be available until year-end but a snapshot comparison of Q1-3 this year to Q1-3 last year shows a 10.3% decrease, which is a move in the right direction compared to the +18.75% in 2006/07.
BVPI 213	The number of households who considered themselves as homeless, who approached the LA housing advice service, and for whom housing advice casework intervention resolved their situation (expressed as the number divided by the number of thousand households in the Borough)	0.42	1.42	0		The Directorate established a Homelessness Welfare/Prevention Team earlier this year to assist in the prevention of homelessness. Although the service can evidence 118 successful interventions (equivalent to a BVPI indicator of 2.46), these outcomes cannot be included for BVPI purposes due to the way in which the service is funded.
HP/ LPI 2	Percentage of Social Services working days/shifts lost to sickness absence during the financial year.	9.21%	8%	9.11		This figure is for April – November 07. Figures for the full period April – December 07 will be available from approximately 16 th January 08
HP/ LPI 1	Percentage of SSD directly employed staff that left during the year.	7.69%	8%	9.32		Figure updated using actual leavers for September 2007

Ref	Indicator	Actual 06 / 07	Target 07 / 08	Quarter 3	Progress*	Commentary
Cost & Efficiency Indicators.						
HP/ LPI 15	% of SSD directly employed posts vacant on 30 September	11.78%	9.5%	14.89%		<p>The above % figure relates to vacancies as at 30th September 2007 within Adults, Health and Partnerships and Older People, and is based on the number of posts within all service areas.</p> <p>As Part of the continued drive to improve retention in the Health and Community Directorate, a new Recruitment and Retention Strategy is currently being produced.</p>
HP/LPI 6	% of HR Development Strategy Grant spent on Council staff	73%	73%	42%		<p>Due to the revised allocation of the HRD Grant on the independent sector (£35k), the spend on Council staff is on track for 64.5% by 31st March 2008.</p>

HEALTH & COMMUNITY - HEALTH AND PARTNERSHIPS**Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2007**

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (overspend) £'000	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
<i>Expenditure</i>					
Employees	3,312	2,442	2,300	142	2,311
Premises Support	164	0	0	0	0
Other Premises	77	40	32	8	32
Supplies & Services	579	371	373	(2)	438
Training	79	31	24	7	33
Transport	24	18	16	2	16
Departmental Support Services	132	0	0	0	0
Central Support Services	1,052	0	0	0	0
Agency Related	106	85	77	8	146
Supporting People Payments to Providers	9,233	6,021	6,017	4	6,017
Asset Charges	905	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	15,663	9,008	8,839	169	8,993
<i>Income</i>					
Sales	-13	-10	-10	0	-10
Receivership	-18	-13	-47	34	-47
Rents	-64	-61	-118	57	-118
HR Development Grant	-99	-99	-99	0	-99
National Training Strategy Grant	-159	-159	-159	0	-159
Information Management Grant	-103	-10	-8	(2)	-8
Supporting People Main Grant	-9,233	-6,740	-6,736	(4)	-6,736
Supporting People Grant	-132	-90	-91	1	-91
Disabled Facilities Grant	-40	-30	-39	9	-39
Departmental Support Services	-3,990	0	0	0	0
Other Grants	-218	-135	-239	104	-239
Re-imbursements	-91	-91	-147	56	-147
Other Income	-84	0	0	0	0
Total Income	-14,244	-7,438	-7,693	255	-7,693
Net Expenditure	1,419	1,570	1,146	424	1,300

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms the revenue spending (including commitments) at the end of quarter 3 is £270k below budget profile. This, in the main, is due to expenditure on employees being less than anticipated at this stage of the year and also to the overachievement of income.

Salary costs are below budget by £131k (including commitments), which is due to a number of posts being vacant at the start of the financial year. Several of these posts are now filled therefore the staffing budget is not expected to be significantly under budget profile at year-end. The pay award for 2007/08 has now been agreed and was paid to employees in December, therefore is included within the actual to date figure.

The commitment figure for supplies & services relates to further IT costs. It is anticipated this area will be over budget profile at year-end.

Commitments for agency & related expenditure refer to bed & breakfast invoices not yet received. This area is also expected to be over budget profile at year-end.

Receivership income has increased following a review of the service user needs, changing their status from appointee to a receivership service in line with the Mental Capacity Act. This has led to the recovery of higher charges this year.

Rents received during the period are currently overachieving budget profile especially for the Riverview site, where rents are higher than anticipated at budget setting time. Included within the £118k rents received to date is a one off payment of £17k in respect of rent recovered relating to two prosecutions for non payment of rent from previous years.

The Disabled Facilities Grant has also overachieved against the current budget profile. This represents the client contributions made for adaptations and it is anticipated this will continue throughout quarter 4.

Other grants include Community Rollout grant £100k for the Roy Castle appeal & other projects & Supporting People grant for both the ALD reconfiguration project £41k and £19k for the rent deposit scheme.

Reimbursement income has also overachieved against budget profile. This includes £34k for practice placements, of which £22k was carried forward from 2006/07 and also £10k for Local Involvement Network.

Health And Partnerships

Capital Projects as at 31st December 2007

	2007/8 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
<u>Private Sector Housing</u>				
<u>Renovation/Modernisation</u>	586	300	125	461
<u>Grants</u>				
<u>Disabled Facilities Grants</u>	942	700	251	691
<u>Home Link</u>	10	4	0	10
<u>Energy Promotion</u>	75	50	21	54
<u>Castlefield Equity Release</u>	565	65	78	487
<u>Loans</u>				
<u>West Bank Neighbourhood</u>	4	4	4	0
<u>Renewal Assessment</u>				
<u>Riverview Refurbishment</u>	1,272	1,267	1,187	85
Belvedere Repairs	28	28	0	28
<u>Adaptations Initiative</u>	92	30	0	92
<u>Uncommitted</u>	122	0	0	122
<u>Total Expenditure</u>	3,696	2,448	1,666	2,030

HEALTH & COMMUNITY – LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BUDGETBudget as at 31st December 2007

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (Overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Priority 1 Healthy Halton					
Health Awareness	40	30	0	30	0
Recipe For Health	29	22	14	8	14
Five A Day Programme	3	2	0	2	0
Vulnerable Adults Task Force	592	444	328	116	328
Vol. Sector Counselling Proj.	39	29	19	10	19
Info. Outreach Services	34	26	17	9	17
Reach for the Stars	34	26	16	10	16
Carer Support Development	49	37	25	12	25
Healthy Living Programme	98	73	47	26	47
Advocacy	63	48	41	7	41
Priority 2 Urban Renewal					
Landlord Accreditation Programme	28	21	28	(7)	28
Priority 5 Safer Halton					
Good Neighbour Pilot	27	20	13	7	13
Grassroots Development	18	14	5	9	5
Alcohol Harm Reduction	43	32	0	32	0
Domestic Violence	77	58	18	40	18
Total Expenditure	1,174	882	571	311	571

HEALTH & COMMUNITY**Capital Budget as at 31st December 2007**

	2007/08 Capital Allocation £000	Allocation To Date £000	Actual Spend To Date £000	Allocation Remaining £000
<i>Social Care & Health</i>				
DDA	24	2	0	24
LDDF	7	7	0	7
Women's Centre & Other Projects	178	100	102	76
PODS (Utilising DFG)	40	0	0	40
Bredon Improvements	24	24	32	(8)
Improvement of Care Homes	150	100	141	9
Bridgewater Capital Improvements	1	1	0	1
Refurbishments to John Briggs House	90	30	6	84
Door Entry System – John Briggs	2	2	2	0
IT for Mobile Working	12	12	0	12
Total Spending	528	278	283	245

It is anticipated the capital budget will be fully committed by the end of the year.

FAIR TRADING & LIFE EVENTS**Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2007**

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (overspend) £'000	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
<i>Expenditure</i>					
Employees	796	600	590	10	594
Premises Support	145	0	0	0	0
Other Premises	252	84	88	(4)	101
Hired & Contracted Services	52	35	32	3	51
Supplies & Services	95	73	68	5	75
Transport	19	14	15	(1)	15
Support Services	575	0	0	0	0
Asset Charges	54	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	1,988	806	793	13	836
<i>Income</i>					
Sales	-86	-59	-60	1	-60
Fees & Charges	-630	-442	-437	(5)	-437
Grants	-1	-1	-12	11	-12
Rents	-4	-3	-3	0	-3
Support Recharge	-202	0	0	0	0
Total Income	-923	-505	-512	7	-512
Net Expenditure	1,065	301	281	20	324

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms the revenue spending to the end of quarter 3 is below the budget profile.

Expenditure on employees is likely to be slightly underspent. The 2007/08 Budget originally included a £75,000 saving item relating to the proposed outsourcing of the Consumer Protection Service. However, we now know that even if this proposal materialises, no savings will be made within the current financial year. As a consequence, the £75,000 savings target has been removed from the 2007/08 budget, and the savings will be met from elsewhere within the Health and Community Directorate. However, the savings target remains built into the Consumer Protection 2008/09 base budget, so measures will need to be implemented to ensure that this target is met.

A vacant post was kept unfilled in the current financial year with a view towards contributing to the original savings item, and the current net underspend on employee costs for the first three quarters is in the region of £10,000.

Income budgets are running broadly to target at this stage in the year, and Cemeteries and Crematoria income are currently running at the anticipated income target for the first three quarters. However the previous two quarters income for Cemeteries and Crematoria were marginally above target, so the third quarter's income has not achieved the same level of performance against estimate. Due to the nature of the service it is difficult to estimate whether income targets will be fully realised.

The over-achievement of grants income relates to a payment received from the Home Office for copyright enforcement. This grant is fully committed to be spent during the year.

Capital Projects as at 31st December 2007

	2007-08 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
Cemeteries	50	50	52	-2
Headstone Safety Programme	50	36	24	26

Bereavement Services Capital Programmes




Phase 3 of the western strip works cost slightly more than the £50,000 capital allocation but this small overspend will be offset by a corresponding underspend in the headstone safety programme.

Commitments in the system for the headstone safety programme plus anticipated Quarter 4 spend will ensure that this budget is fully spent by year-end.

LSP, External or Grant Funded Items as at 31st December 2007

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (overspend) £'000	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
Bill Payment Service	33	16	17	(1)	17
Budgeting Skills Project	33	24	15	10	15

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved</u>.</p>
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, due to a lack of information or a key milestone date being missed, <u>whether the objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.</p>
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the objective will not be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</p>

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Environment

SERVICE: Highways, Transportation & Logistics

PERIOD: Quarter 3 to period-end 31 December 2007.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Highways, Transportation & Logistics Department third quarter period up to 31 December 2007. It describes key developments and progress against key objectives and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained in Appendix 4.

It should be noted that this report is presented to a number of Policy and Performance Boards. Those objectives and indicators that are not directly relevant to this Board have been shaded grey.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

The capital settlement announced in December 07, indicated that the LTP allocation for the Integrated Transport block for 08/09-10/11 remained as detailed in the December 06 settlement letter. It also provided details of the capital Highways Maintenance allocation for 2008/09 – 2010/11. This has been based on a new capital formula and has resulted in a reduction of £959,000 over three years, over that previously indicated as the Provisional Planning Guideline for the preparation of LTP2. However, the additional Primary Route Network funding, detailed below, was top sliced from the national amount available for Highways capital maintenance and it should help to offset this reduction (assuming that funding is allocated as anticipated) and enable much needed maintenance and inspection work on the SJB complex to commence in 2008/09. The comparative Highways capital maintenance allocations for each year is given below:

Block	2008/09 £000s	2009/10 £000s	2010/11 £000s
LTP2 Provisional Planning Guideline	2,237	2,349	2,467
Nov 2007 Settlement Letter	1,881	2,023	2,190
Reduction (%)	356 (16%)	326 (14%)	277 (11%)

Significantly, additional funding from the Bridge Strengthening and

Maintenance on PRN allocation was also secured. This funding will, amongst other items, enable delivery of the first three years of the 10-year maintenance strategy for the SJB Complex of structures. This funding has been allocated for work on the SJB and will replace some of the funding required from the RFA for the SJB complex of structures' major scheme. The total awarded over the three years is £14.288m, which is over 12% of the total available nationally. A review of the costs and profile of the SJB major scheme is due early in the New Year, which will identify the funding required from the RFA to complete the major maintenance scheme. The funding allocated, which is to be provided as a direct capital grant, is as follows:

2008/09 £000s	2009/10 £000s	2010/11 £000s
4,402	4,906	4,980

Halton's Road Safety Grant, which is used to help support the Cheshire Safer Roads Partnership, was also confirmed unchanged from that indicated in the 2006 decision letter. The Road Safety Grant allocated is detailed below:

Road Safety Grant 2008/09 – 2010/11

Funding	2008/09 £000	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	Total £000s
Specific Road Safety Grant (Capital)	69.424	72.167	75.114	216.705
Specific Road Safety Grant (Revenue)	312.024	324.350	337.597	973.971
Total £000s	381.448	396.517	412.711	1,190.676

Halton also continued to be allocated an element of Detrunked Roads Maintenance grant. This grant is used to maintain the Widnes Eastern Relief Route. The funding is as follows:

Detrunked Roads Maintenance Grant 2008/09 – 2010/11

Funding	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Detrunked Roads Maintenance (Revenue)	208,614	213,830	219,175

The Council along with its Merseyside partners has been short listed for Beacon Status in the category of 'Accessibility'.

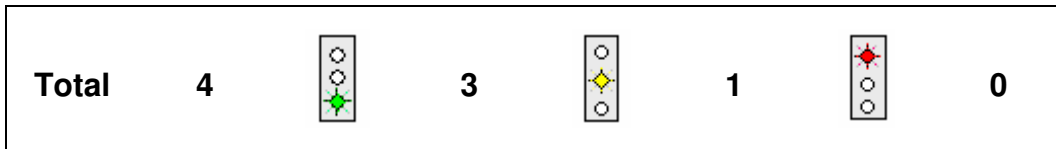
A Sustainable Transport Strategy is currently in the process of being developed for the Borough covering the period 2011/12-2021/22. The strategy will address key social, economic and environmental issues and build on the opportunities offered by the Mersey Gateway project.

3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

The emerging Liverpool City Region could have an over-arching strategic transport role. Governance arrangements and strategic roles and responsibilities have yet to be determined. However, this could potentially lead to a review of how services are delivered by the Department in the longer term.

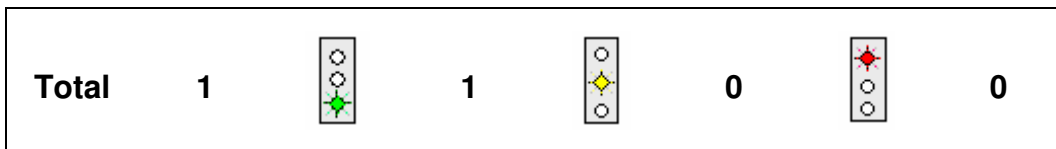
The Government is progressing it's Local Transport Bill through Parliament, which includes proposals to give local authorities more influence over bus companies' services, enables transport to be managed strategically and facilitates increased use of Road User Charging. It is expected that the Bill will become an Act in Spring 2008 . This could have far reaching effects on how Transport Co-ordination delivers services.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES



Progress towards “Key” objectives and milestones is good. Please refer to Appendix 1 for further details.

4.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

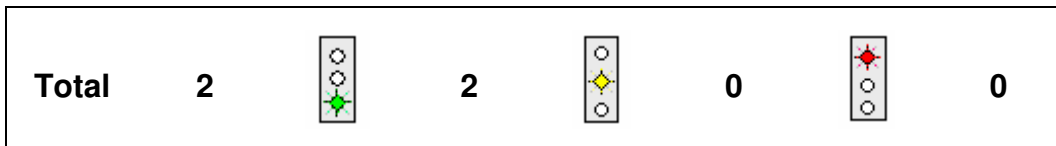


No “Other Objectives/Milestones” have been reported by exception this quarter.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW




There have been no service reviews this quarter.

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Progress towards achieving targets for “Key Indicators” is good. For further details please refer to Appendix 2.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	22		2		0		1
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No "Other Indicators" have been reported by exception this quarter.

7.0 PROGRESS AGAINST LPSA TARGETS

There are no current LPSA targets for this service.

8.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2007-08 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.

Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

9.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS

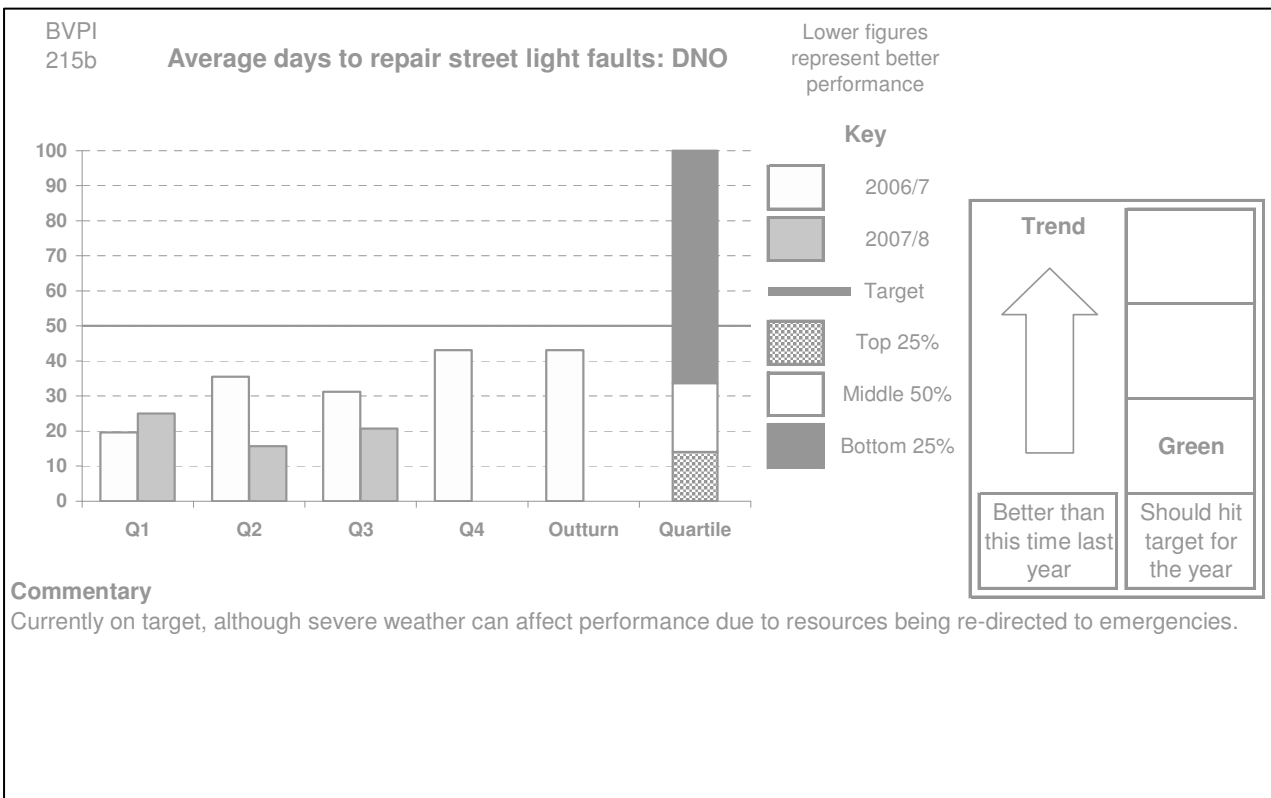
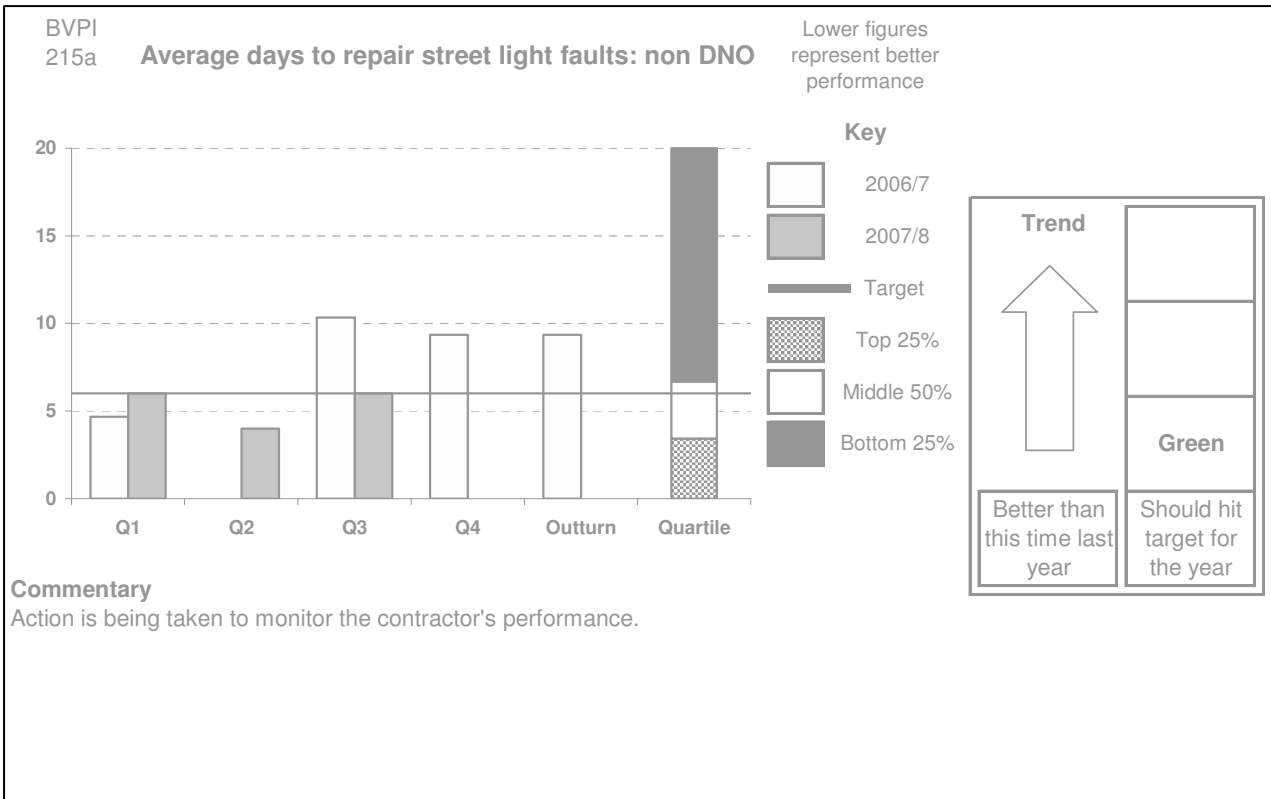
During 2006/07 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

10.0 APPENDICES

- Appendix 1- Progress against Key Objectives/ Milestones
- Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
- Appendix 3- Financial Statement
- Appendix 4- Explanation of traffic light symbols

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
HT 01	Mersey Gateway – to complete the procedural process to achieve all necessary orders for the construction of Mersey Gateway.	Publish orders and applications by January 2008.		Executive Board Sub-Committee has agreed to the submission of all necessary applications and orders between January and April according to a detailed timetable
HT 04	Local Transport Plan 2 – to deliver the implementation programme of LTP2, submit Progress Reports as required by DfT and monitor progress against the Council's transport objectives.	APR 2006/07-07/08 in preparation. Requirements yet to be confirmed by DfT.		Report on progress was submitted to DfT at the end of July 2007. Guidance for 2008 Mid Term Review has been issued and work has commenced on preparing the report.
HT 05	Silver Jubilee Bridge Maintenance Major Scheme – to secure funding, complete procurement and deliver works.	Funding secured (£47m through MSB or £14.3m through PRN), procurement means established, delivery programme initiated by 31.05.08		DfT has still not determined the Major Scheme application. However, £14.3m has been secured between 2008/09 & 2010/11 for maintenance works to the Silver Jubilee Bridge from the PRN Bridge Strengthening and Maintenance allocation. This will enable some of the much-needed work included in the Major scheme bid to commence.
HT 06	Vehicle Fleet Replacement Programme – Implement and complete tendering process.	Tenders advertised. Contracts awarded by 31.03.08		Tendering process complete. Procurement will be undertaken through a Central Purchasing Body complying with the requirements of

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
				the Public Contracts Regulations as agreed by Exec Board on the 18/10/07.



HIGHWAYS , TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2007

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (overspend) £'000	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
<i>Expenditure</i>					
Employees	3,296	2,481	2,257	224	2,257
Premises Support	260	0	0	0	0
Other Premises	152	88	70	18	72
Hired & Contracted Services	246	188	154	34	228
Supplies & Services	359	235	199	36	245
Highways Insurance	639	0	0	0	0
Street Lighting	1,694	836	819	17	931
Highways Maintenance	2,200	989	963	26	1,039
Bridges	113	79	70	9	72
Eastern Relief Road (met by grant)	205	154	141	13	154
Other Transport	247	212	140	72	151
Central Support Services	540	0	0	0	0
Departmental Support Services	284	0	0	0	0
NRA Levy	55	41	42	(1)	42
Subsidised Bus Routes	654	490	431	59	565
Out of Zone Transport	144	108	53	55	63
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	113	113	113	0	113
Asset Charges	4,988	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	16,189	6,014	5,452	562	5,932
<i>Income</i>					
Sales	-42	-36	-41	5	-41
Out of Zone Transport	-144	-108	-67	(41)	-67
Other Fees & Charges	-108	-75	-116	41	-116

Support Service Recharges	-979	0	0	0	0
Grants & Reimbursements	-406	-380	-418	38	-418
Recharge to Capital	-638	-247	-247	0	-247
Total Income	-2,317	846	-889	43	-889
Net Expenditure	13,872	5,168	4,563	605	5,043

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms revenue spending at the end of quarter 3 is below budget to date. This is mainly due to a number of expenditure budget areas.

Staffing is below budget to date mainly in the Highways Engineers section as a result of staff turnover and vacancies for professional staff being slow to fill. In addition, there are also a number of vacancies within Transportation, resulting from staff leaving and secondments to other sections.

With regards to works budgets – Street Lighting, and Highways Maintenance, these budgets usually incur expenditure towards the end of the financial year due to the nature of the work undertaken. As a result the budgets will be spent by the financial year-end.

Hired and Contracted Services is below budget to date due to the fact that there is no requirement to produce an annual LTP progress report this financial year. However, this budget has been committed elsewhere and will be spent by the financial year-end.

Subsidised Bus Routes is below budget due to quarterly charges not yet received from other authorities and Merseytravel. This budget will be fully spent at the financial year-end, as indicated by the actual including commitment figure.

At this stage it is anticipated that overall spend will be in line with the Departmental budget by the financial year-end.

Environment Directorate.**Highways & Transportation.****Operational Services Division 2007/2008.****Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2007.**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Employees	1,140	866	851	15	851
Building Maintenance	51	0	0	0	0
Operational Building	125	57	57	0	57
Other Premises Costs	164	122	122	0	122
Supplies & Services	107	72	49	23	49
Hired & Contracted Services	95	71	67	4	67
Transport Recharges	197	150	152	(2)	152
Transport - Insurance Recharge	304	228	228	0	228
Transport - Contract Hire	1,497	1,123	1,086	37	1,086
Transport - Road Fund Licence	8	6	4	2	4
Transport - Fuel	420	315	311	4	311
Transport - Tyres	70	53	64	(11)	64
Transport - Casual Hire	20	15	61	(46)	61
Transport - Vehicle Parts	321	241	255	(14)	255
Transport - Sub-Contractors	38	29	30	(1)	30
Transport - Garage Equipment & Consumables	35	27	33	(6)	33
Central Support Costs	237	0	0	0	0
Internal Support Costs	262	138	138	0	138
Asset Charges	213	116	116	0	116
Total Expenditure	5,304	3,629	3,624	5	3,624
<u>Income</u>					
Miscellaneous Sales	0	0	-8	8	-8
Fees & Charges	-138	-106	-128	22	-128
Rents	-103	-77	-71	(6)	-71
Support Service Income	-943	-195	-195	0	-195
Reminbursment & Other Grants	-307	-231	-217	(14)	-217

Transport - Contract Hire	-2,377	-1,762	-1,774	12	-1,774
Transport - Fuel	-444	-334	-328	(6)	-328
Transport - Tyres	-84	-63	-74	11	-74
Transport - Casual Hire	-31	-23	-77	54	-77
Transport - Vehicle & Plant Repairs	-354	-251	-257	6	-257
Community Meals	-114	-84	-70	(14)	-70
Client Transport	-413	-277	-306	29	-306
Total Income	-5,308	-3,403	-3,505	102	-3,505
Net Expenditure	-4	226	119	107	119

Comments

Overall the division is operating as anticipated. The under spend on labour is as a result of a vacant post.

The demand for casual hire vehicles has been greater than anticipated. Delays in the procurement of new fleet vehicles has resulted in an overspend on vehicle parts.

HIGHWAYS , TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Capital Projects as at 31st December 2007

	2007/08 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
Local Transport Plan				
Bridges & Highway Maintenance				
Bridge Strengthening - Calvers	150	0	0	150
A533 Desoto Road Railway Bridge	120	123	119	1
A533 Widnes Pedestrian Subway	30	0	9	21
A533 Widnes Approach Viaduct	284	284	359	(75)
A533 Brook Place Bridge	67	0	0	67
SJB Complex & Associated Structures	68	48	14	54
Other Bridges	60	40	27	33
HBC Bridges LTP Staff Costs	147	0	0	147
Seconded Staff Waterman	72	72	92	(20)
Retentions on Contracts from 04.05	20	6	1	19
Carriageway Reconstruction Major – PRN Minor	250	250	201	49
Carriageway Reconstruction MLI	150	140	140	10
Footway Reconstruction PRN	80	64	20	60
Independent Footpath Network	75	27	7	68

(205k)				
Footway Reconstruction MLI	100	91	56	44
Carriageway Reconstruction Other Roads	110	110	90	20
Footway Reconstruction Other Roads	51	19	24	27
Carriageway Major Drainage	45	10	41	4
Cycleways	34	34	34	0
HBC Highways LTP Staff costs	90	0	67	23
Secoded Staff Waterman	39	0	7	32
Lighting	150	45	4	146
Total Bridges & Highway Maintenance	2,192	1,363	1,312	880
Capital				
LSS – PR Safety Schemes Barriers	17	13	21	(4)
Local safety schemes – Watkinson Way	89	55	24	65
Walking (Quality Corridor)	158	128	60	98
Walking (Outside Corridor)	33	0	5	28
Cycling (Quality Corridor)	161	131	39	122
Cycling (Outside Corridor)	49	0	0	49
Bus Route – Quality Corridor	170	100	35	135
Direct Contribution to Regeneration	40	35	0	40
A56/Eastern Expressway Improvements	130	30	84	46
Upton Lane Distributor Match Funding	60	60	6	54
Secoded Staff Waterman	75	70	41	34
Minor Works Staff Costs	199	150	130	69
Total Capital	1,181	772	445	736
Lighting				
Variable Message Signing	167	120	69	98
Traffic Signal Upgrades	27	20	18	9
Minor Works Staff Costs	18	13	0	18
Total Lighting	212	153	87	125
Transport				
LSS – Minor Works	65	54	33	32
School Travel Plan Support	19	15	8	11
Bus Shelter Improvements	33	27	27	6
Integrated Transport Improvements	70	70	82	(12)
Accessibility Buses	145	0	0	145
Access Improvements	33	33	12	21
PRW	63	8	8	55
Greenways	40	0	0	40
Transportation LTP Staff Costs	97	27	17	80

Total Transportation	565	234	187	378
Total Local Transport Plan	4,150	2,522	2,031	2,119
Halton Borough Council				
Mersey Gateway	3,750	3,213	3,579	171
Flood Defence	75	38	9	66
Street lighting	200	100	0	200
Peelhouse Lane Link Compensation	160	0	9	151
Total Halton Borough Council	4,185	3,351	3,597	588
Section 106 Schemes				
Royal Avenue Car Parking	18	0	0	18
Widnes Station Access/Car Park	180	0	4	176
Upton Rocks Distributor Road	100	100	0	100
B & Q Site Public Transport	39	0	0	39
Total Section 106 Schemes	337	100	4	333
Section 278 Schemes				
Keckwick Lane	14	0	0	14
A56/Eastern Expressway – Non LTP	352	0	0	352

HIGHWAYS , TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

LSP, External or Grant Funded Items as at 31st December 2007

	Annual Revised Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Accessible Transport	24	18	24	(6)	24
Links to Work	20	45	43	2	43
Neighbourhood Travel Team	60	15	5	10	5
Total Local Strategic Partnerships Funding	104	78	72	6	72




Quality transport corridor works commenced later than anticipated in Birchfield Road, Widnes due to extended consultation with residents. Works are now well underway and will spend to budget at year end. The next phase of the Runcorn quality corridor (Boston Avenue) is due to commence late February and works are programmed to continue next financial year. Outside-corridor improvements at various locations, are also programmed to be completed in February and March.

The delayed starts on Watkinson Way and A56 / A558 Daresbury junction improvements due to the need to avoid Christmas trading in Widnes town centre and the assembly of funding approvals respectively has resulted in a slower than expected expenditure profile. Both major schemes are now underway and will spend to budget.

Outstanding land purchase agreement issues and the need to re-apply for planning permission continue to delay the commencement of the Upton Rocks distributor road. It is proposed that LTP funding will be re-directed to other schemes and re-allocated to Upton distributor road in the 2008/09 budget. Expenditure of Section 106 money in connection with the scheme is also delayed.

It is anticipated that funds available through the Local Transport Plan will be fully spent by year end.

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>objective</u> is <u>on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved</u>.</p>
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, due to a lack of information or a key milestone date being missed, <u>whether the objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.</p>
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the objective</u> will not be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target</u> will not be achieved unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</p>

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Environment
SERVICE: Major Projects Department
PERIOD: Quarter 3 to period-end 31 December 2007.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Major Projects Department third quarter period up to 31 December 2007. It describes key developments and progress against key objectives and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained in Appendix 4.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS




Removal of the Brindley Mound completed.

Planning permission secured for Venture Fields Leisure Development ('The Hive').

3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

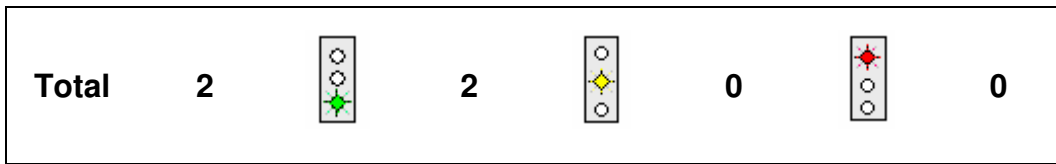
The adverse changes in the national and international property and finance markets are beginning to have an effect on the delivery of development opportunities in the Borough. Tougher financing conditions, increased numbers of company failures and higher construction costs are making developers increasingly risk averse – so making it increasingly difficult to attract investment into Halton as the market 'cools'.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

Total	17		13		4		0
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Generally good progress towards achieving milestones for the year. For further details refer to Appendix 1.

4.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES



No "Other Objectives" have been reported by exception this quarter.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW

Activities which have been recognised professionally during the quarter:

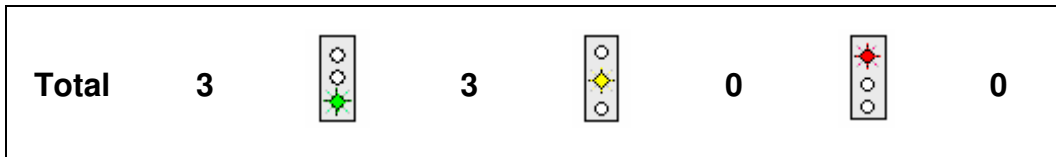
A Silver 'Green Apple' award for Environmental Sustainability for the Castlefields Regeneration Scheme

RTPI North West: Commendation for the Castlefields Regeneration Scheme

Regeneration and Renewal Magazine: Runner-up in the Best Local Authority Regeneration category

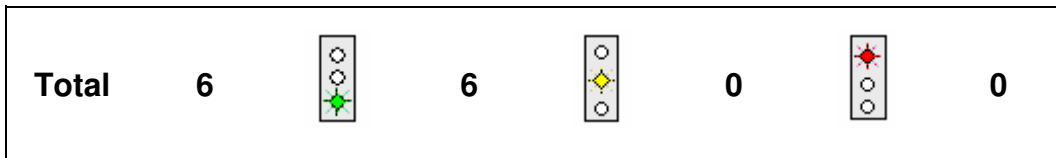
Regeneration Award: Runner-up in the Best Regeneration Partnership for the Castlefields Regeneration Partnership

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



All 3 "Key Indicators" are on track to achieve their targets. For further details refer to Appendix 2.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



No "Other Indicators" have been reported by exception this quarter.

7.0 PROGRESS AGAINST LPSA TARGETS

There are no LPSA targets for this service.

8.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2007-08 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.

Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

There are no Key Service Objectives for this service that have been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risks. Therefore, there is no progress to report.





9.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS






During 2006/07 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.






There are no High priority actions for this service, therefore, there is no progress to report.




10.0 APPENDICES




Appendix 1- Progress against Key Objectives/ Milestones
Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
Appendix 3- Financial Statement
Appendix 4- Explanation of traffic light symbols

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
MP 01	To implement a regeneration plan for the Widnes Waterfront EDZ in accordance with the EDZ Team Plan and Regeneration Masterplan (See Team Plan) resulting in 44 ha. of regenerated land on the Widnes waterfront	Implement North West Development Agency Performance Plan for 2007/8		On target to meet outputs as revised grant offers have been accepted by developers (Forward and Heron).
		Initiate CPO procedure to secure land required for implementation of the Masterplan		Remediation study initiated to determine viability of subsequent developments on Pilkington Sullivan site. This will determine whether it will be practicable to CPO/purchase the site and redevelop it.
		Oversee completion of Priority Sites, Langtree, Forward Group and Heron Business Park developments		Adverse changes in property market have led to re-evaluations by developers (Langtree and Forward in particular) which might impact on their ability to deliver their developments. This will become known in Q4. B&Q opened November 2007.
		Oversee Venture Fields Leisure development construction		Meeting the EA's Flood Risk criteria has been challenging and has caused a delay in delivering the project.

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
MP 02	To implement a regeneration plan for Castlefields according to the Castlefields Team Plan and Regeneration Masterplan (See Team Plan) resulting in the achievement of The Masterplan's Vision of an improved estate	Acquire the existing local centre via CPO		CPO inquiry held in October 2007. Result due early 2008.
		Secure outline planning permission for HBC sites		Outline planning permission has been achieved.
		Dispose of 3 hectares of HBC land at Lakeside Castlefields		The agreement of a timetable to create a travellers' transit site has allowed a programme to be set for the removal of the constraint of a temporary travellers site currently located on the proposed housing site and allowed planning to begin for the marketing of the sites. A Development Brief is being prepared.
		Commence delivery of RSL phase two housing schemes		Commenced in November 2007.
		Continue to Implement public realm improvements in accordance with the proposals of the Masterplan		Ongoing.

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
MP 03	To implement a regeneration plan for 3 MG (Ditton Strategic Rail Freight Park) (See Team Plan) resulting in the creation of a regionally-significant rail freight park	<p>Inauguration of CPO procedure to secure land required for implementation of the Masterplan</p> <p>Co-ordinate the construction of rail sidings</p> <p>Initiate arrangements for improved road access to Halton Borough Council Field</p> <p>Commence procedures for the disposal of Halton Borough Council Field in accordance with the Masterplan proposals</p>	   	<p>Preliminary land referencing complete. CPO will commence when private sector partner is on board to provide financially and human resources.</p> <p>Atkins Rail are undertaking the detailed design in consultation with Network Rail. GRIP stage 3 is now complete.</p> <p>Atkins Highways are preparing the detailed design. The planning application will be submitted Jan '08. A value engineering exercise will also take place Jan 2008.</p> <p>The Strategic Officers will be meeting at the end of Jan 2008 to agree disposal in Spring / Summer '08.</p>
MP 04	Monitor investment levels in the 3 town centres in order to comply with Community Plan objectives (See Team Plan) and ensure a continued improvement in the quality of Halton's	<p>Implement Shopfront Improvement Programme</p> <p>Oversee the initiation</p>		<p>Programme on target for achieving all targets</p> <p>Application made to English</p>

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
	Town Centres	<p>of the Canal Quarter development</p> <p>Co-ordinate the implementation of the Windmill Centre redevelopment according to the appropriate planning permission</p>	 	<p>Partnerships for gap funding</p> <p>Work ongoing on the development</p>
MP 05	Reclamation of contaminated and derelict land including 48 ha. at St Michael's Golf Course to produce a safe and attractive replacement course	Phase 1 reclamation of 18 ha. of the Golf Course begun – Formal determination and funding application to DEFRA.		Decision on application to Defra for Phase 1 funding expected January 2008

Ref	Indicator	Actual 06 / 07	Target 07 / 08	Quarter 3	Progress	Commentary
Service Delivery Indicators.						
MPLPI 9	Castlefields Regeneration Outputs as set out in Masterplan (% achieved)	100%	100%	100%		Refer to commentary for Objective MP02 in Appendix 1.
MPLPI 10	Urban Renewal Outputs as set out in Urban Renewal Strategy and Action Plan (% achieved)	100%	100%	100%		Urban Renewal Strategy and Action Plan 2007-10 is approved.
MPLPI 14	3MG Outputs as set out in Masterplan (% achieved)	100%	100%	100%		Refer to commentary for Objective MP03 in Appendix 1.

MAJOR PROJECTS**Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2007**

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (Overspend) £'000	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
Expenditure					
Employees	716	474	462	12	462
Premises Support	25	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	66	37	33	4	135
Transport	39	24	22	2	22
Central Support Services	103	0	0	0	0
Departmental Support Services	26	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	975	535	517	18	619
Income					
Fees & Charges	-107	-80	-80	0	-80
Recharges to Capital	-473	-272	-272	0	-272
Total Income	-580	-352	-352	0	-352
Net Expenditure	395	183	165	18	267




Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms spend to the end of quarter 3 is slightly below budget.

The underspend against staffing relates to a vacant post that existed within the department.

It is anticipated that overall revenue spending will be in line with the departmental budget at year end.

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REPORT: Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 19 March 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Environment

SUBJECT: Widnes Waterfront EDZ Performance Plan

WARDS: Kingsway, Riverside and Halton View

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To agree the Widnes Waterfront Economic Development Zone (EDZ) Northwest Development Agency (NWDA) Performance Plan for the financial year 2008/09.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Members endorse the annual Widnes Waterfront NWDA Performance Plan for 2008/09.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 For NWDA schemes that last more than 1 year it is a requirement of the scheme approval that the delivery organisation, in this case Halton Borough Council (HBC), prepares an Annual Performance Plan. This is attached as Appendix 1.

3.2 In the last financial year up to March 2008 it is likely that £850K of NWDA will be claimed. This is less than originally anticipated mainly due to changes in the Borough's assisted status on 1st January 2006 which meant that two projects each with £0.5million NWDA contribution have been delayed. The main NWDA funded achievements from April 2007 to March 2008 have been:-

- completion of the new access road
- completion of Tanhouse Lane phase 1 improvements
- the start on site of the Gyratory improvements
- Linear park site investigations and design work
- Start of phase 2 gateway landscaping work
- Site investigations at the WRL owned former Croda site
- Approval of NWDA funding for the design of a landmark arts project.

3.3 Further details are contained in section 2 of the draft Performance Plan 2008/09 section 2.

3.3 This Performance Plan is for the third year of a three year programme which has now been extended to four years. The plan has been rolled forward from last year and must be agreed with the NWDA before new expenditure is incurred for which grant will be claimed.

- 3.4 The Performance Plan summarises what the Widnes Waterfront Scheme is intending to achieve in the year 2008/09.
- 3.5 It provides output detail and clarifies how HBC intends to deliver and achieve them.
- 3.6 The Performance Plan will also enable the EDZ Programme Manager to review the progress and activity in the EDZ as a key part of the monitoring and evaluation process.

4.0 LOCATION

- 4.1 The Widnes Waterfront programme area is situated between Widnes Town Centre and the waterfront environment. Since the construction of large-scale factories, plant and infrastructure in the mid 19th Century, the riverside environment has been cut off from the remainder of the town. Proposals for the EDZ are designed to regenerate the area and to improve the link between the waterfront and the Town Centre.

5.0 KEY PROJECTS IDENTIFIED FOR 2007/08

Projects approved in 2006/07 and continuing into 2008/09

- Tanhouse Lane Landscaping Improvements (phased)

Projects rolled forward from 2007/08 to 2008/2009

- Completion of the Gyrotory Improvements
- Completion of the Linear Park
- Completion of the Gateway Landscaping Improvements Phase 2
- Completion of Widnes Regeneration Limited Heron Phase 2 Industrial Units
- Completion of the landmark Arts Project

New Projects for 2008/09

- Utilities Upgrade
- Start on site of Priority Sites Phase 2 hybrid and industrial units
- Replacement of Charterhouse Bridge

- 5.1 Currently the planned expenditure for 2008/09 is £2,916,785.
- 5.2 These projects are detailed in Appendix 1, the Draft Performance Plan. There will be a presentation of the Performance Plan and an update on the progress of the Widnes Waterfront programme to Members at the meeting.

6.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None at this stage.

7.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The performance plan needs to be agreed by Halton Borough Council, the Urban Renewal SSP and the Northwest Development Agency before projects can be appraised and the allocation spent.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

8.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None known.

8.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

Overall the EDZ will assist on providing job opportunities for local people and will go some way in addressing the level of unemployment in Halton.

8.3 A Healthy Halton

The overall EDZ programme provides new walking and cycling routes which offer a safe and affordable means of accessing key services and thereby can overcome many of the transport barriers often faced by people who do not own or have access to cars.

8.4 A Safer Halton

The EDZ programme will provide much-needed environmental improvements to the area.

8.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The EDZ programme is acting as a catalyst to attract developers and new businesses to the Widnes Waterfront area by creating an attractive, well-accessed and serviced area which provides a safe and attractive environment for employees and visitors.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 7.1 NWDA funding needs to be spent over the next two years on projects outlined in the NWDA Widnes Waterfront Performance Plan. Changes to this plan need to be agreed with NWDA prior to project development.

- 7.2 Delay in approving this draft performance plan will further delay key decisions for funding agencies ultimately resulting in the loss of some time dependant grants. Without this initiative, several key projects could be affected, and all of the money might not be spent within the time allocated.

- 7.3 The Council will not itself be implementing all of the projects taking place within the EDZ. Therefore, it will need to ensure that the risks associated with the NWDA funding are passed onto those third parties undertaking the projects.

- 7.4 The NWDA funding agreement provides that any breach of the agreement, no matter how technical, can trigger a right for the NWDA not only to refuse future funding under the agreement but also to

reclaim from HBC funding paid up to that date under the agreement. Monitoring of the Performance Plan will minimise this risk.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

The NWDA operates a code of Conduct relating to equality and diversity matters. All NWDA funded projects will have to adhere to this code.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 There are no background papers within the meaning of the Act.

**WIDNES WATERFRONT ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT ZONE**

PERFORMANCE PLAN 2008/2009

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE MANAGEMENT BOARD

We, as members of the above mentioned Board, give our approval to the Widnes Waterfront Economic Development Zone Performance Plan, which was approved at the meeting of the Urban Renewal Specialist Strategic Partnership on Tuesday 22nd April 2008.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Signature</i>
Cllr. Ron Hignett	Halton Borough Council	
Ms Sasha Deepwell	PLUS Housing Group	
Ms Michelle Taylor	St Modwen Properties	
Mr Ed Burrows	Peel Holdings	
Ms Gwen Scott	Environment Agency	
Ms Suzanne Carr	Groundwork Mersey Valley	
Andrew Sharpe	CCLSP/Daresbury Laboratories	
Ms Janitha Redmond	English Partnerships	
Chris Korall	NWDA	
Mr Steve O'Connor	O'Connor Group Management Ltd	
Cllr. Marie Wright	Halton Borough Council	
Mr Dick Treglea	Halton Borough Council	

Widnes Waterfront EDZ

1. INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This document sets out the mechanisms by which Halton's Urban Renewal Specialist Strategic Partnership (Urban Renewal SSP) will implement the New Widnes Waterfront Economic Development Zone (EDZ) as the Economic Development Zone Management Board. There are 2 years remaining in the current ERDF programme, which is targeted at the deprived wards of Kingsway, Riverside and Halton View but because of its size could impact on the whole of Halton.

This Performance Plan commits Halton's Urban Renewal Partnership as the Economic Development Zone Management Board to deliver a set of projects. The results of the programme review will be submitted to the Northwest Development Agency for approval when the year's final performance figures will be agreed in detail.

The Draft Performance Plan was approved by Halton's Urban Renewal Specialist Strategic Partnership on 19th march 2008.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE SCHEME AND TARGET AREA

The Widnes Waterfront EDZ is a regionally significant Merseyside gateway development. It has a substantial role to play in the delivery of a quantum economic uplift of economic activity for the North West region (Northwest Regional Economic Strategy 2006) and for Merseyside (Liverpool City-Region Economic Strategy & Action Plan 2005-2025) as well as Halton.

The EDZ has the potential to contribute towards many targets including increasing GDP and employment, deliver positive change, reversal of the regions negative image and will attract support and investment from the private sector.

The EDZ specifically addresses Actions 82, 83 and 84 in the Regional Economic Development Plan. Due to its proximity to the New Mersey Crossing it has been recognised as an important sub-regional employment site which aims to attract good quality business accommodation on brownfield land.

Halton Borough Council's (HBC) vision, as set out in the EDZ Masterplan and Delivery Strategy, is to produce a regionally significant, high quality environment for commercial and industrial development, accompanied by a major visitor attraction. It aims to

transform an 80-hectare low quality industrial area in southern Widnes into a major regional gateway development that will be highly visible from the New Mersey Crossing and will take advantage of its excellent waterside location.

Underpinning the programme is the need to target the underlying problems of Widnes and its Waterfront area. These are the environment, unemployment, the business community, skills shortages and health. Out of 354 English Local Authorities for 2007, Halton is ranked the 30th most deprived area and 3rd on Merseyside after Liverpool and Knowsley.

1.3 PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The programme objectives are:

- ❑ To create a development of truly regional significance;
- ❑ To bring significant areas of brownfield land back into beneficial use;
- ❑ To open up the untapped amenity of the canal and river frontage;
- ❑ To generate sustainable employment in sectors identified as sub-regional priorities;
- ❑ To improve access to and from Widnes Town Centre and between the New Widnes Waterfront EDZ and the town's population, particularly those in the deprived wards of Riverside and Kingsway;
- ❑ To improve the take up of public transport options;
- ❑ To improve the competitiveness of existing employers in the area, retaining and sustaining employment;
- ❑ To improve the environmental quality of the whole project area.

1.4 KEY PROJECTS FOR 2008 / 2009

The key projects for 2008 / 2009: -

Project	Anticipated Start date	Anticipated Completion date
Gyratory Improvements	Jan 2008	December 2008
Linear Park <i>(subject to land acquisition)</i>	March 2008	Sept 2008
Tanhouse Lane Improvements <i>(completion subject to land acquisition)</i>	Jan 2007	Sept 2008
Gateway Landscaping Improvements <i>(completion subject to land acquisition)</i>	August 2007	Sept 2008
Heron Phase 2	April 2008	Dec 2008
Landmark Arts Project	April 2008	Dec 2008
Utilities upgrade	Dependant on negotiations	
Carterhouse Bridge <i>(subject to HBC match funding)</i>	June 2008	March 2009
Priority Site Phase 2 <i>(dependant on land acquisition from HBC)</i>	January 2009	March 2010

Some of the above projects have been carried over from the previous years Performance Plan. Reasons for the delays are detailed in Section 2 Progress Report.

Completion of the Gyratory Improvements will improve access for both vehicles and pedestrians from the Town Centre into the Widnes Waterfront area.

The Linear Park, Tanhouse Lane and Gateway Landscaping improvements will considerably improve the Widnes waterfront Environment.

Heron Phase 2 will contribute to bringing a significant area of brownfield land back into beneficial light industrial use.

The arts project will see the installation of a land mark piece within the Widnes Waterfront area.

It is anticipated that work to upgrade the utilities will ensure an electricity supply at the Widnes Waterfront to allow future development.

The replacement of Carterhouse Bridge with a permanent swing bridge will allow permanent access to the Transpennie Sustrain's route form Tanhouse Lane as well as opening access for canal boats along the Sankey Canal.

Priority Sites have just completed a 5,574 sq m of quality office and hybrid accommodation. It is intended that Phase 2 will follow on from this success.

Together all the projects will contribute towards creating a development of truly regional significance.

1.5 PROGRAMME DELIVERY

A dedicated team of three full time employees has been established to oversee programme delivery.

The team is supported by a steering group comprising of officers from various Council departments including Highways, Planning, Finance, Landscape Services, Major Projects, Property Services, and is chaired by Derek Sutton, Operational Director of the Major Projects Department. The steering group meets once every 2-3 months to discuss project progress, resolve issues and to ensure that the programme is on target.

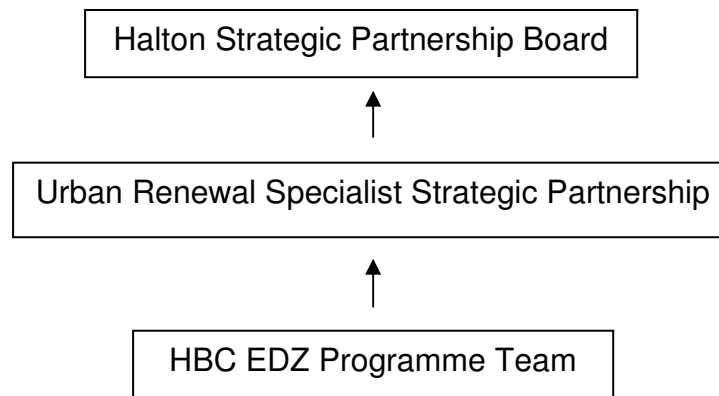
Monthly update meetings between the programme team and NWDA contract manager, Carole Lythall, take place to ensure the NWDA is kept up to date with the delivery of individual projects and the programme as a whole.

Several projects led by HBC, relating to the key strategic objectives listed in 1.3, have already been established. They include: Marketing; Phase 1 Landscaping Works; Infrastructure Improvements; Site Investigations; Heron Phase 1; Halton people into Jobs; and the Business Improvement Area Grant Scheme. Ongoing projects are discussed in detail in the Progress Report.

A number of projects will be delivered externally by developers and landowners.

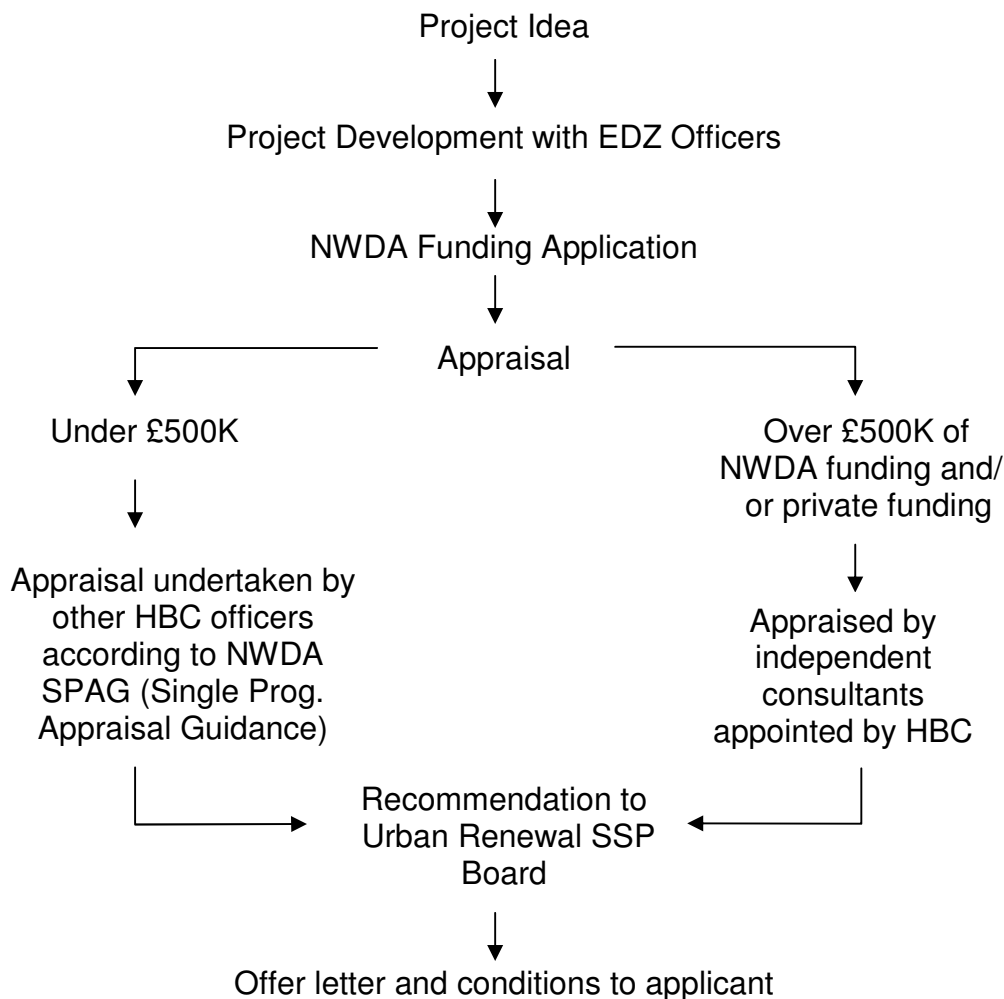
1.6 GOVERNANCE OF THE SCHEME & ITS OPERATION

Halton Borough Council is the Accountable Body and lead partner for the Widnes Waterfront EDZ programme. The programme management arrangements for its administration are summarised in the diagram below:



The Urban Renewal Specialist Strategic Partnership (Urban Renewal SSP) meets on a quarterly basis and is responsible for overseeing the strategic direction of all regeneration activity. The Board is specifically responsible for: -

- The overall management of the Widnes Waterfront EDZ programme, reporting annually to the Halton Strategic Partnership Board as the Parent Organisation.
- The approval of projects for the Widnes Waterfront EDZ within the agreed plan, after detailed project appraisal set out in the flow chart.
- The overall preparation and approval of the Performance Plan each year, together with recommendations for the future resource requirements to parent funding bodies.
- Monitoring the implementation of the projects within the Performance Plan.

Project Appraisal Flow Chart

The Urban Renewal SSP takes its direction from the Halton Strategic Partnership, which is responsible for five thematic sub-groups. Each sub group oversees projects relevant to its theme and sets priority objectives relating to the future direction of those priorities. Sub groups present formal reports to the Partnership Management Board on a quarterly basis, detailing recent activities and the status of their projects.

1.7 PROJECT APPRAISAL, MONITORING AND FINANCIAL PROCEDURES**APPRAISAL**

This will be undertaken by a selected body, independent from the project, either within HBC or by an external consultant appointed by HBC in accordance with NWDA procedure.

Halton Borough Council has set up an appraisal system to consider projects within the EDZ programme. The Urban Renewal SSP Board acting as the Economic Development Zone Management Board will oversee the appraisal of projects up to a delegation level of £0.5M. This board, Chaired by Cllr Ron Hignett, is made up of representatives from the NWDA, English Partnerships, Environment Agency, Groundwork Mersey Valley and private sector businesses and is supported by senior HBC officers.

MONITORING

The EDZ programme team carry out project monitoring in accordance with NWDA guidelines.

FINANCIAL SYSTEMS

The EDZ programme team undertakes day-to-day management of the programme. The team has put a Management System in place to monitor the progress, project spend, outputs and outcomes of the programme.

The Council ensures proper accountability, propriety and regulation of all payments and handling of public funds through the effective provision of detailed financial management and payment systems as well as stringent audit procedures.

Some of the key steps in the Financial Control process are detailed below:

- All strategic programme themes for the coming year are indicated in this Annual Performance Plan, following discussion and approval at the Urban Renewal Partnership Board.
- All applications for funding are submitted on a standard Application Form.
- Project appraisal is to be undertaken by or on behalf of the Urban Renewal SSP Board by HBC Officers or external

consultants as per a set of standard guidelines based upon NWDA best practice.

- Certification of appraisal and recommendation for approval is by the Urban Renewal SSP Board.
- Formal approval for expenditure on all EDZ funded schemes is the responsibility of the Urban Renewal SSP Board.
- Grant Claims and Monitoring Reports are submitted by Project Managers on a quarterly basis to the EDZ team.
- Claims are certified for payment by the EDZ Programme Manager and authorised by the Chief Accountant at HBC.

Monitoring and evaluation of projects will take place to ensure that:

- ✓ Outputs are verified and in line with performance plan projections
- ✓ Payment of grant is linked to performance
- ✓ Projects are cost effective and demonstrate value for money.
- ✓ Propriety and regularity in the use of public funds is evident.
- ✓ Project's administrative procedures meet the conditions set out in EDZ grant offers and are available and are auditable as such.
- ✓ All other information is verifiable in line with the requirements of the Urban Renewal SSP Board.
- ✓ Halton Borough Council is the Accountable Body and is responsible for paying claims and seeking reimbursement from the Northwest Development Agency.

2. **PROGRESS REPORT**

The European funded element of the Widnes Waterfront EDZ programme, supported and matched by Neighbourhood Renewal Funding, has now been in operation for five years and will come to an end in December 2008.

Key successes over the last year of the programme (08/09) are:

- ★ Period of NWDA funding for the Widnes Waterfront programme extended by one year to March 2010.
- ★ The NWDA Management System, established in 2006 when the NWDA funding was first awarded, has now been in operation for over 1 year and has proven to work well.
- ★ Completion of Turnstone Business Park by Priority Sites providing circa 60,000 sq ft of much needed quality business space in the heart of the Widnes Waterfront programme area.
- ★ Completion of the initial phases of landscaping along Tan House Lane, which is one of the major spinal roads of the EDZ. The remaining phase is currently on hold whilst land acquisition negotiations continue. This project has already had a significant impact on the aesthetic uplift of the central EDZ area. This impact is evident by the positive uptake of units in the first phase of Heron Business Park, where now all but 2 of the 11 units are occupied.
- ★ Langtree Access Road and associated 3m wide combined footpath / cycle way constructed utilising NWDA and ERDF funding.
- ★ Next phase of improvements to the busy Ashley Way / Fiddlers Ferry / Earle Road road junction started early 2008 following the completion of the first phase in 2007. NWDA, ERDF, LTP, Section 106 and Council monies have allowed alterations to simplify this major junction to take place and to improve access between the town centre and the Widnes Waterfront.
- ★ An architectural practice has been appointed and pre approval NWDA funding awarded to a landmark public art project. Design and development of the project is on going.
- ★ Former chemical works on Gorse Lane purchased by

Widnes Regeneration Limited. NWDA pre approval funding has facilitated site investigations and an asbestos survey. Demolition has begun in preparation of transforming the area into a high quality industrial park.

- ★ Planning permission has been obtained for a linear park to transform an area of disused rail tracks into a public open space with a combined footpath/cycleway, linking two of the main spinal roads in the programme area. NWDA pre approval funding has allowed site investigation and the design of the park to take place.
- ★ Property Alliance has completed a new modern B&Q Warehouse on Dennis Road and is nearing the end of construction on the adjacent Widnes Trade Park.
- ★ Full planning approval has been awarded for an exciting new leisure development on Earle Road in the Waterfront area. The complex will include a 6-screen cinema, ice rink, bowling alley, restaurants and associated retail.

Initial management, financial and monitoring arrangements have now been in place for over one year, and the arrangements have shown flexibility when needed. The EDZ team have functioned and adapted with success allowing projects to be created, developed and implemented in the programme area. However, issues outside of the teams control have impacted on certain projects.

A key issue which has had a significant impact on the programme, through its effects on the private sector lead projects i.e. Forward Partnership office and industrial developments and phase 2 Heron Business Park, were the changes to state aid rules. Following the change in April 2007, Halton became a non assisted area. It was understood that with preliminary NWDA approval given for projects detailed in the 2006/07 Performance Plan, the aforementioned projects would not be subject to the State Aid changes made in April 2007. However, it was later discovered that this was not the case. Consequently both project D&A forms required reappraisal. The Forward Partnership development, originally split over two sites, will now not take place with NWDA funding and the second phase of Heron Business Park has been delayed.

Several infrastructure projects have also been impacted by lengthy acquisition negotiations. Discussions are ongoing to ensure the successful completion of land acquisitions as soon as possible. Crucially, the majority of negotiations are now nearing a positive

conclusion.

Mainly due to these delays, some spend and output targets have been moved into next financial year.

3. **FUNDING**

This programme has ERDF grant available until December 2008. An element of Working Neighbourhoods Funds is also available until March 2009. NWDA funding is available until March 2010 – in some cases this has been used to match fund approved ERDF applications.

The New Widnes Waterfront Vision is aimed at transforming a run down, in parts derelict and contaminated, part of Widnes into a regionally significant major development site. It is anticipated that this pump priming will generate greater self-belief and confidence amongst investors, businesses and the local community together with a willingness to commit both effort and resources to realise the full potential of the opportunities that exist. A rise in land values should ensure viability of further projects and private sector operations should become self sustaining. Where appropriate, the Council and other partners will continue with services, as part of mainstream programmes.

The anticipated quarterly profiles for NWDA spend and claims are below.

	Q1 April – June 08	Q2 July – Sept 08	Q3 Oct – Dec 08	Q4 Jan – March 09
Project Appraisal Costs	7000	7000	7000	7000
Gyratory Improvements	77,000			
Linear Park	73,500	73,500		
Tanhouse Lane Improvements (phased)	38,000	38,000		
Gateway Landscaping Improvements Phase 2	213,000	213,000		
Heron Phase 2	424,892	424,893	93,000	
Landmark Art Work		20,000	80,000	
Priority Sites Phase 2				50,000

Carterhouse bridge			50,000	50,000
Utilities			500,000	500,000
Total NWDA spend per Quarter	833,392	791,393	685,000	607,000

Information relating to funding levels and sources of the individual projects is in Section 6 Project Information.

4. **Milestones**

This section outlines the key activities required to achieve the programme outcomes. It also lists the major milestones, with individual project milestones being included in Section 6: Project Information, which also includes information relating to project risks.

Key programme activities include: -

- Complete the Gyratory Improvements.
- Complete the linear park.
- Complete construction of the second phase of Tanhouse Lane Improvements.
- Complete phase 2 of the structural landscaping improvements (subject to land acquisitions).
- Widnes Regeneration Limited to complete construction of Heron Phase 2.
- Install a landmark art work within the programme area.
- Permanently replace Carterhouse Bridge.
- Priority Sites secure NWDA funding for Phase 2 of their work.
- Securing sufficient utilities.

The major milestones for the year 2008/09 are:-

Quarter 1 April-June	Start Carterhouse Bridge design proposals Start NWDA Utilities funding application
Quarter 2 July-Sept	Complete the Gyratory Improvements. Complete the Linear park Works Complete Tanhouse Lane Improvements
Quarter 3 Oct-Dec	Complete Gateway Landscaping Complete Heron Phase 2 Complete landmark Art work
Quarter 4 Jan-March	Complete Carterhouse Bridge Gain NWDA funding approval for Priority Sites Phase 2

5. **Outputs**

The programme will create a development of truly regional significance and a gateway into Merseyside. It will not only initiate a

step change in the area known as the Widnes Waterfront but also Halton and Merseyside in general, due to its prominent position adjacent to the proposed New Mersey Crossing.

It seeks to tackle some of the worst industrially contaminated sites within the Borough: to break out of the brownfield dereliction of the area and replace it with a high quality development, as set out in the design guideline in the Masterplan and the Widnes Waterfront Statutory Planning Document (SPD).

Infrastructure improvements within the EDZ area will facilitate and safeguard new sustainable jobs in office, tourism and industrial developments for local people and open up the untapped amenity of the Sankey Canal and the Upper Mersey Estuary nature reserve.

The programme will also improve access to and from Widnes Town Centre, improve the take-up of public transport options and will help to keep local people within the borough.

The greater EDZ programme of work will: -

- Create 1,600 job opportunities
- Improve links to and through the site
- Encourage the use of sustainable transport i.e. bus, walking and cycling
- Promote other initiatives within the new developments i.e. Halton People Into Jobs and Workforce Development
- Maximise public investment in the area

Individual project outputs are detailed in Section 6 Project Information. This information will be collected on a quarterly basis and reported to the NWDA as set out in the monitoring and evaluation plan.

6. Project Information

<u>NAME OF PROJECT:</u>	<u>Priority Site Phase 2</u>
<u>LOCATION:</u>	Earle Road

FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Source	Amount
NWDA	700,000
Private	7,100,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	7,800,000

MILESTONES

Prepare NWDA funding application	June 2008
Start on site	Jan 2009
Complete project	December 2009

NWDA MANDATORY OUTPUTS

Output Indicator	2008/2009		2009/20010		Total	
	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA
Jobs created or safeguarded	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1(a) Jobs created						
1(b) Jobs Safeguarded						
3(d) Other businesses created						
5. Regeneration - investment levered for infrastructure	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
5(a) Redevelopment of brownfield land – public investment		50,000		650,000		700,000

5(a) Private investment	1,000,000		6,100,000		7,100,000	
5(d) New or upgraded business premises including incubators – Public Investment						
5(d) Private Investment						
5(e) Renaissance programmes including public realm – public investment						
5(e) private investment						
5(f) Ha. Brownfield reclaimed, by use:	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
(i) Industrial / Commercial			TBC		TBC	
(iii) other hard end uses – the road			TBC		TBC	
(v) Other soft end uses – public realm						
5(h) m2 of floor space – or upgraded business premises			55,000sqft		55,000sqft	

RISKS

- Require the footpath diversion through linear park to be completed before the HBC land sale to Priority Sites.

<u>NAME OF PROJECT:</u>	<u>GYRATORY IMPROVEMENTS</u>
<u>LOCATION:</u>	A577 / FIDDLERS FERRY / EARL RD JUNCTION

FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Source	Amount
ERDF	75,000
Greenways project	125,000
LTP	89,000
NWDA	421,000
Private (potential Section 106 monies)	431,000
HBC Capital	100,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,241,000

MILESTONES

Start on Site	January 2008
Gyratory site work Complete	October 2008

NWDA MANDATORY OUTPUTS

Output Indicator	2007/2008		2008/2009		Total	
	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA
Jobs created or safeguarded	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1(a) Jobs created						
1(b) Jobs Safeguarded						

3(d) Other businesses created						
5. Regeneration - investment levered for infrastructure	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
5(a) Redevelopment of brownfield land – public investment						
5(a) Private investment						
5(d) New or upgraded business premises including incubators – Public Investment						
5(d) Private Investment						
5(e) Renaissance programmes including public realm – public investment	1,340,000	400,000	61,721	Nil	1,401,721	400,000
5(e) private investment						
5(f) Ha. Brownfield reclaimed, by use:	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
(i) Industrial / Commercial						
(iii) other hard end uses – the road						
(v) Other soft end uses – public realm						
5(h) m2 of floor space – or upgraded business premises						

INDIRECT OUTCOMES

- improved functioning of the gateway junction into the EDZ
- Improved public footpaths and cycleway
- Enhanced Marketability of development sites within the EDZ
- Improve connectivity between the town centre and the EDZ
- Attract new businesses to the EDZ
- Facilitate the use of the waterfront area by local people
- Increase use of waterfront asset

RISKS

Risk	Addressed through ...
Remediation costs could increase depending on levels of contamination	Early consideration of available desktop data.
Utility constraints could force design modifications, which could delays construction and increase costs	Early consultations with Utilities companies required.
Outturn Sum exceeds Tender Sum due to unforeseen costs such as utilities outlined above or adverse weather conditions	Allow for contingencies in funding package
Requirement to maintain existing traffic flows delays construction	

<u>NAME OF PROJECT:</u>	<u>LINEAR PARK</u>
<u>LOCATION:</u>	LINKS EARLE RD AND TAN HOUSE LANE

FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Source	Amount
ERDF	264,463
NWDA	315,663
LSP	111,200
<u>TOTAL</u>	691,326

MILESTONES

Complete site investigations	March 2008
Acquire Network Rail land	March 2008
Secure NWDA Funding	March 2008
Rail line removed	April 2008
Start on site	May 2008
Complete Linear Park	September 2008

NWDA MANDATORY OUTPUTS

Output Indicator	2008/2009		2009/20010		Total	
	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA
Jobs created or safeguarded	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1(a) Jobs created						
1(b) Jobs Safeguarded						
3(d) Other businesses created						
5. Regeneration - investment levered for infrastructure	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s

5(a) Redevelopment of brownfield land – public investment						
5(a) Private investment						
5(d) New or upgraded business premises including incubators – Public Investment						
5(d) Private Investment						
5(e) Renaissance programmes including public realm – public investment	291,000	147,000			291,000	147,000
5(e) private investment						
5(f) Ha. Brownfield reclaimed, by use:	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
(i) Industrial / Commercial						
(iii) other hard end uses – the road						
(v) Other soft end uses – public realm			2.5ha		2.5ha	
5(h) m2 of floor space – or upgraded business premises						

INDIRECT OUTCOMES

- Providing recreational space for EDZ employees or just visitors to it
- New footpaths, cycleway and landscaping
- Enhanced marketability of development sites in the EDZ
- Improved public realm
- Attract businesses to the EDZ
- Facilitates the use of sustainable modes of movement – walking and cycling

RISKS

Risk	Addressed through ...
Remediation costs could increase, depending on levels of contamination, as former railway line was used to transport chemical waste to ICI tip at Johnson's Lane.	Early consideration of available desktop data. Undertake Site Investigation and discuss results with Environment Agency.

Utility problems.	Consideration of utility plans and discussions with UU and Waterman Gore has revealed no foreseeable problems given the end use.
Land Acquisition from Network Rail has already been costly in terms of time due to their numerous re-organisations.	Early valuations, discussions / negotiations with landowners. Commencement of preliminary CPO procedures.

<u>NAME OF PROJECT:</u>	<u>TAN HOUSE LANE IMPROVEMENTS</u> <u>(phase 2)</u>
<u>LOCATION:</u>	TAN HOUSE LANE

FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Source	Amount
ERDF	£76,000
HBC	£76,000
TOTAL	£152,000

MILESTONES

Start Phase 2 (subject to land acquisition)	June 2008
Project Complete	September 2008

NWDA MANDATORY OUTPUTS

Output Indicator	2008/2009		2009/20010		Total	
	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA
Jobs created or safeguarded	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1(a) Jobs created						
1(b) Jobs Safeguarded						
3(d) Other businesses created						
5. Regeneration - investment levered for infrastructure	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
5(a) Redevelopment of brownfield land – public investment						
5(a) Private investment						

5(d) New or upgraded business premises including incubators – Public Investment						
5(d) Private Investment						
5(e) Renaissance programmes including public realm – public investment						
5(e) private investment						
5(f) Ha. Brownfield reclaimed, by use:	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
(i) Industrial / Commercial						
(iii) other hard end uses – the road						
(v) Other soft end uses – public realm	0.56ha				0.56Ha	
5(h) m2 of floor space – or upgraded business premises						

INDIRECT OUTCOMES

- Improve the public realm within the EDZ
- New highway verges, footpaths, cycleway, landscaping
- Improve location for existing businesses
- Creates a safer environment for pedestrians
- Facilitates the use of sustainable modes of movement – walking and cycling

RISKS

Risk	Fall-back
Discovery of unknown utilities on site	Try and identify utilities from service providers before starting on site.
Land Acquisition can be costly in terms of both time and funding	Early valuations, discussions / negotiations with landowners. May require a contingency.

<u>NAME OF PROJECT:</u>	<u>GATEWAY LANDSCAPING IMPROVEMENTS</u>
<u>LOCATION:</u>	THROUGH OUT WIDNES WATERFRONT

FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Source	Amount
ERDF	426,000
NWDA	426,000
TOTAL	852,000

MILESTONES

Start Landscaping works	January 2008
Complete construction	December 2008

NWDA MANDATORY OUTPUTS

Output Indicator	2008/2009		2009/2010		Total	
	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA
Jobs created or safeguarded	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1(a) Jobs created						
1(b) Jobs Safeguarded						
3(d) Other businesses created						
5. Regeneration - investment levered for infrastructure	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
5(a) Redevelopment of brownfield land – public investment						
5(a) Private investment						
5(d) New or upgraded business premises including						

incubators – Public Investment						
5(d) Private Investment						
5(e) Renaissance programmes including public realm – public investment	852,000	426,000			852,000	426,000
5(e) private investment						
5(f) Ha. Brownfield reclaimed, by use:	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
(i) Industrial / Commercial						
(iii) other hard end uses – the road						
(v) Other soft end uses – public realm	0.25ha				0.25ha	
5(h) m2 of floor space – or upgraded business premises						

INDIRECT OUTCOMES

- Enhanced marketability of development sites in the EDZ
- New Access to the waterfront area
- Attract businesses to the EDZ
- New footpaths, cycleway and landscaping
- Create jobs within the EDZ
- Improved public realm
- Improved connectivity between town centre and waterfront

RISKS

- Contamination Issues and reaching agreement with the EA over remediation within the time scales
- Estimated costs may increase due to remediation costs
- Tender returns may exceed the estimates used for the funding applications
- The final contract costs may exceed the tender figure due to unforeseen circumstances such as discovering unknown utilities or inclement weather.
- Land acquisitions may cost more than estimated.

<u>NAME OF PROJECT:</u>	<u>Charterhouse Bridge</u>
<u>LOCATION:</u>	Tanhouse Lane

FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Source	Amount
NWDA	100,000
HBC	150,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	£250,000

MILESTONES

Development of project	April 2008
Completion of project	March 2009

NWDA MANDATORY OUTPUTS

Output Indicator	2008/2009		2009/2010		Total	
	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA
Jobs created or safeguarded	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1(a) Jobs created						
1(b) Jobs Safeguarded						
3(d) Other businesses created						
5. Regeneration - investment levered for infrastructure	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
	250,000	100,000			250,000	100,000
5(a) Redevelopment of brownfield land – public investment						
5(a) Private investment						
5(d) New or upgraded business premises						

including incubators – Public Investment						
5(d) Private Investment						
5(e) Renaissance programmes including public realm – public investment						
5(e) private investment						
5(f) Ha. Brownfield reclaimed, by use:	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
(i) Industrial / Commercial						
(iii) other hard end uses – the road						
(v) Other soft end uses – public realm						
5(h) m2 of floor space –or upgraded business premises						

INDIRECT OUTCOMES

- Opening up of this section of the Sankey Canal to canal boats.
- Permanent pedestrian and cycle connection with the Transpennie Sustrains cycle route.

RISKS

- Objection by Network Rail
- Increase in costs

<u>NAME OF PROJECT:</u>	<u>HERON PHASE 2</u>
<u>LOCATION:</u>	TAN HOUSE LANE

FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Source	Amount
ERDF	850,000
NWDA	942,785
Widnes Regeneration Ltd	4,124,266
<u>TOTAL</u>	5,917,051

MILESTONES

ERDF approved	March 2008
Secure NWDA funding	March 2008
Start on Site	April 2008
Complete construction	December 2008

NWDA MANDATORY OUTPUTS

Output Indicator	2008/2009		2009/2010		Total	
	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA
Jobs created or safeguarded	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1(a) Jobs created	TBC				TBC	
1(b) Jobs Safeguarded	TBC				TBC	
3(d) Other businesses created						
5. Regeneration - investment levered for infrastructure	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
5(a) Redevelopment of brownfield land –	1,792,785	942,785			1,792,785	942,785

public investment						
5(a) Private investment	4,124,266				4,124,266	
5(d) New or upgraded business premises including incubators – Public Investment						
5(d) Private Investment						
5(e) Renaissance programmes including public realm – public investment						
5(e) private investment						
5(f) Ha. Brownfield reclaimed, by use:	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
(i) Industrial / Commercial	1.2 Ha				1.2 Ha	
(iii) other hard end uses – the road						
(v) Other soft end uses – public realm						
5(h) m2 of floor space – or upgraded business premises	TBC				TBC	

INDIRECT OUTCOMES

- Enhanced marketability of development sites in the EDZ
- Attract more businesses to the EDZ
- Create more jobs within the EDZ

RISKS

Risk	Addressed through ...
Remediation costs could increase depending on levels of contamination	Early consideration of available desktop data. Undertake further Site Investigations. Appreciation of remediation costs.
End users for developed premises not guaranteed	Partnership aware of local market and marketing and promotion expertise.

<u>NAME OF PROJECT:</u>	WIDNES WATERFRONT PUBLIC ART PROJECT
<u>LOCATION:</u>	WIDNES WATERFRONT PROGRAMME AREA

FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Source	Amount
WREN	£50,000
NWDA	£100,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	£150,000

MILESTONES

Appoint Architects	March 2008
Complete design works	June 2008
Tender design	July 2008
Start construction	September 2008
Complete construction	October 2008

NWDA MANDATORY OUTPUTS

Output Indicator	2007/2008		2008/2009		Total	
	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA
Jobs created or safeguarded						
1(a) Jobs created						
1(b) Jobs Safeguarded						
3(d) Other businesses created						
5. Regeneration - investment levered for infrastructure						
5(a) Redevelopment of brownfield land – public investment						
5(a) Private investment						

5(d) New or upgraded business premises including incubators – Public Investment						
5(d) Private Investment						
5(e) Renaissance programmes including public realm – public investment			£150,000	£100,000	£150,000	£100,000
5(e) private investment						
5(f) Ha. Brownfield reclaimed, by use:						
(i) Industrial / Commercial						
(iii) other hard end uses – the road						
(v) Other soft end uses – public realm						
5(h) m ² of floor space – or upgraded business premises						

INDIRECT OUTCOMES

- Enhanced public realm
- More attractive location for business
- Creates an environment attractive to residents
- Creates an environment attractive to visitors
- Engenders a strong and attractive image for the project

RISKS

Risk	Fall-back
Important to ensure buy-in by all stakeholders	Constitute a strong and inclusive steering group with clear strategic objectives and a transparent and realistic delivery programme.
Commissioning can be complex and time consuming	Establish a clear commissioning strategy from the outset

<u>NAME OF PROJECT:</u>	<u>UTILITIES UPGRADE</u>
<u>LOCATION:</u>	The Widnes Waterfront Area

FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Source	Amount
NWDA	£1,000,000
Private	
<u>TOTAL</u>	Total costs and extent of works still to be agreed with utility companies

MILESTONES

Complete baseline utility study of programme area	February 2008
Out to tender	
Secure funding	
Complete phase 1	
Complete phase 2	
Complete project	

NWDA MANDATORY OUTPUTS

Output Indicator	2007/2008		2008/2009		Total	
	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA	Total	NWDA
Jobs created or safeguarded	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1(a) Jobs created						
1(b) Jobs Safeguarded						
3(d) Other businesses created						
5. Regeneration - investment levered for infrastructure	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s

5(a) Redevelopment of brownfield land – public investment						
5(a) Private investment						
5(d) New or upgraded business premises including incubators – Public Investment						
5(d) Private Investment						
5(e) Renaissance programmes including public realm – public investment						
5(e) private investment						
5(f) Ha. Brownfield reclaimed, by use:	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
(i) Industrial / Commercial						
(iii) other hard end uses – the road						
(v) Other soft end uses – public realm						
5(h) m2 of floor space – or upgraded business premises						

INDIRECT OUTCOMES

- Enhance marketability of Development Plots within the EDZ
- Improve service provision for existing businesses
- Attract more businesses the EDZ
- Encourage existing businesses to remain in the EDZ
- Create more jobs within the EDZ
- Safeguard existing jobs

RISKS

Risk	Addressed through ...
In order to obtain a point of connection the regional supply company may have to upgrade the existing infrastructure. This could increase costs and duration of works.	The regional supply companies have been informed of the aspirations for the Widnes Waterfront and are underway with their investigations.

<p>The granting of the necessary easements across private land is likely to take a considerable length of time.</p>	<p>Finalise routes of required works. Early consultation with affected land owners.</p>
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REPORT TO: Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 19 March 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Environment

SUBJECT: Topic Group – Raising Additional Revenue From Existing Services – Summary Report

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To provide an update of the ideas put forward in February 2007 of raising revenue from existing services within the Environment Directorate.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That approval is given to Council Officers to conclude the work of this Topic Group following the investigation of revenue-raising ideas.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Work on furthering this has been undertaken following consideration of the following possible areas of raising revenue which were reported in 2007:

- a) Fuel sales
- b) Sponsorship
- c) Advertising
- d) Refuse Services
- e) Printing Services
- f) Franchising
- g) Car parking charges
- h) Procurement
- i) Biomass
- j) Bridge walks
- k) Copyright charges

3.2 Further investigations were recommended following the presentation of the previous Topic Group report on 22nd February 2007 on the revenue-raising ideas shown and these are updated below:

- a) Biomass – An ‘Invest to Save’ proposal was submitted in July 2007 which outlined power generation ideas. This proposal suggested that the Picow Farm depot could be used as a pilot scheme with an installation of a wood-burning heating system to replace the current energy supply. The set-up costs were particularly high, estimated to be in the region of £100,000, and would take ten years to recoup the possible savings that would

be made. This proposal was not accepted as an acceptable 'Invest to Save' proposal because the payback period was longer than required.

- b) Printing Services – All printing requirements are now being co-ordinated through the Printing section, producing economies of scale as a result. The Printing Section has also been proactively advertising the services they are able to offer to all departments within the Council. Workload has increased, resulting in an average of 300 jobs/month using 600,000 sheets of paper. Average monthly turnover is now approximately £30,000.
- c) Sponsorship – When the current company's contract ends regarding sponsorship opportunities the Council can either look to use a different promotions company or introduce a new role for a dedicated officer within the Council who will investigate sponsorship opportunities. Such opportunities include sponsorship of roundabouts, road signage and facilities in Council ownership (For example; Brindley Theatre, Silver Jubilee Bridge).

3.3 The savings outlined in 3.2, along with the other savings included within the previous Topic Group report on 22nd February 2007, have been fully investigated and incorporated in the 2008/2009 budget. It is therefore considered that the work of the group has been satisfactorily concluded.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The proposals are in line with Council policy to reduce costs and increase revenue.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 All the proposals are sustainable.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None applicable

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None applicable

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None applicable

6.4 A Safer Halton

None applicable

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Revenue raised would enhance the funding available to enable the Council, with key partners, to achieve the key objectives as outlined in The Corporate Plan 2006-2011.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None applicable

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None applicable

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 There are no background documents under the meaning of this Act.