

The Sustainable Community

Strategy For Halton

2006 - 2011

Year End Progress Report

01st April 2009 – 31st March 2010

URBAN RENEWAL

Version control

Version	Date	Revision
1.0		

**Document
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Council)**

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This report provides a summary of progress in relation to the achievement of targets within Halton's Sustainable Community Strategy.

It provides both a snapshot of performance for the period 01st April 2009 to 31st March 2010 and a projection of expected levels of performance to the period 2011.

The following symbols have been used to illustrate current performance against 2010 and 2011 target levels.



Target is likely to be achieved or exceeded.










The achievement of the target is uncertain at this stage









Target is highly unlikely to be / will not be achieved.

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	154	<u>Net additional homes provided</u>		
	175	<u>Access to services and facilities by public transport walking and cycling</u>		
	186	<u>Per Capita CO2 Emissions in LA area</u>	N/A	
	192	<u>Household waste collected and recycled</u>		

Non Local Area Agreement Measures / Targets

	UR1	<u>Assist in maintaining the current baseline of 59,000 jobs in Halton</u>		
	UR2	<u>To bring 10 hectares of derelict land back into beneficial use annually</u>		
	UR3	<u>Facilitate the relocation of businesses affected by the construction of the Mersey Gateway Bridge (Business identified - 78)</u>		

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NI 154 Net additional homes provided

Baseline (2007/08)	2009 - 10			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
522	159	114		159	

Data Commentary

Report covers progress of development sites from **1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010**.

The annual total gross dwelling gain for Halton is 224 dwellings – minus demolitions equals an **Annual Net dwelling gain of 114 dwellings** slightly less than the revised target of 159 dwellings (original target for this NI was 518 dwellings to 2011)

General Performance Commentary

As anticipated the outturn figures for 2009/10 show the impact of the credit crunch on the house building industry in terms of lower numbers of dwelling completions and less than the revised target of 159. The net figure for the year was heavily influenced by demolitions occurring as part of the Castlefields regeneration scheme.

Headline findings & observations

108 dwelling completions are for affordable housing.

Currently 183 dwellings are under construction on 6 major sites (greater than 10 dwellings) with a total capacity of 466 dwellings. Projection for 2011/12 is that the target will not be achievable due to the continued program of demolitions on Castlefields.

There has been an overall slowdown of apartment schemes and two schemes, with a combined total of 75 dwellings, currently halted due to the economic climate.

Information gained from the quarterly telephone survey of extant planning permissions revealed that only one major site is expected to commence in Q1 of 2010. This is Keepers Walk, Castlefields.

Castlefields regeneration project has the potential to have huge impact on the net completions to 2011

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Summary of key activities undertaken / planned during the year

Halton is working together with its partners in the Mid Mersey Growth Point and have established a robust framework for the collation of housing market data, including formal engagement with key stakeholders in the Housing Market Partnership through annual SHLAA updates and quarterly monitoring of developer intentions of sites of 10 or more dwellings.

Annual planning application housing survey is currently in progress with a questionnaire to ascertain housing development progress/timescales and detailing reasons for non implementation of planning permission. This consultation period ends on the 23rd April 2010. This data will be collated and used to inform SHLAA and will help to forecast completions for the coming year and inform the quarterly monitoring process.

A current application is awaiting confirmation of Kick Start round 2 funding – Seddon Homes – Halton Brook Site, Runcorn. This site has been shortlisted and is going through the due diligence process.

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NI 175 Access to services and facilities by public transport walking and cycling

Baseline (2007/08)	2009 - 10			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
1A – 100%	100%	100%	✓	100%	✓
1B – 100%	100%	100%	✓	100%	✓
1C – 86%	82%	93%	✓	89%	✓
1D – 89%	86%	98%	✓	93%	✓

Data Commentary

NI 175 is reported on an annual basis and the figures identified above are actual figures for the year 09/10, this data is complete.

General Performance Commentary

All targets for 2009/10 have been exceeded, this is particularly due to the introduction of 4 new college services operated by Halton Transport Ltd. The services are operated commercially, with a level of funding being provided by Riverside college, directly to the bus company. The services all operate one inward journey to the appropriate college (or to a linking service) and one return journey at peak time from the following main areas:

- 41 From Windmill Hill – Murdishaw – Palacefields – Beechwood
- 43 From Windmill Hill – Castlefields – Halton Lea – Grangeway
- 44 From Liverpool – Hough Green – Cronton- Kingsway
- 45 From Liverpool – Hale – Queensbury Way – Cronton - Kingsway

The above services have been secured medium-term and have therefore been registered to operate as per the above routes, it is therefore anticipated that these will continue to operate throughout 2010/11 and so there should be no reason the targets would not be achieved during the next financial year.

Summary of key activities undertaken / planned during the year

As suggested above, major improvements have been made during the 2009/10 financial year due to the introduction of new bus services. These new services have ensured that a number of residents along key routes can more easily access transport to attend the local colleges.

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NI 186 Per capital CO2 emissions in LA area

Baseline (2005)	2009 - 10			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
9.9 tonnes per capita	7.52% (9.16 tonnes)	N/A	See comment	11.1% (8.8 tonnes)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Data Commentary

Data is provided by DEFRA and updated on an annual basis. Quarterly figures are unavailable.

General Performance Commentary

Performance is improving. Data for 2005 was 9.9 tonnes per capita; for 2006 figure was 9.1 tonnes per capita; and the most recent figure is 8.9 tonnes per capita for 2007. We are therefore well placed to hit our 10/11 target.



Summary of key activities undertaken / planned during the year

- Develop a HSPB Climate change Strategy (report to HSPB in May10)
- Initial meeting planned to look at developing business skills/capacity on renewable technology
- The council are continuing with carbon management and have recently completed a scrutiny review of energy management
- Support to Eco schools
- Green champions in council buildings

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NI 192

Household waste recycled and composted

Baseline (2007/08)	2009 - 10			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
25.1%	31%	29.92%*		34%	

Data Commentary

Although this report covers the period 1st April 2009 to 31st of March 2010, actual data is only currently available for April 2009 through to January 2010. Some of the data for March is estimated and is based upon previous years' performance for that month. A validated annual performance figure will not be available until June/July 2010.

General Performance Commentary

It is disappointing that, despite the roll-out of planned recycling services delivery of other supporting initiatives, the end of year target is not likely to be achieved.

Even though the level of recycling materials collected in 2009/10 is forecast to have increased by over 800 tonnes and the amount of waste sent to landfill reduced by over 4,000 tonnes, the Council will fall short of the 2009/10 target.

Summary of key activities undertaken / planned during the year

The planned extensions to the Council's kerbside recycling services are detailed below:

- In July 2009, further 16,000 properties were added to the kerbside multi-material recycling scheme, taking the total number of properties provided with blue bin recycling collections to 42,000.
- In March 2009, a further 5,000 properties were added to the Council's garden waste collection service taking the total number of properties provided with green bins to 37,000.

Two pilot schemes introduced in October 2009 are anticipated to increase recycling levels further;

- The first was a pilot kerbside multi-material recycling collection service using recycling boxes. This service has been provided to approximately 3,800 properties that cannot have wheeled bins. This

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means that almost 85% of properties in Halton now have kerbside multi-material recycling collections, with all remaining households due to receive the service by the summer of 2010.

- The second was a pilot scheme that encourages increased levels of recycling by providing rewards to residents who recycle using their blue wheeled bin. The scheme was initially introduced to 10,000 households in seven areas of the borough.
- Communication and community engagement activities to increase the percentage of residents participating in the Council's recycling and composting services have continued throughout this financial year.

ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE RECYCLING LEVELS IN 2010/11

During 2010/11, the following activities will be undertaken to increase recycling levels to meet the stretched LAA performance target of 34%.

- A further 9,000 properties will be added to the Council's multi-material recycling collection service. Approximately 5,000 residents will be provided with wheeled bins and 3,000 provided recycling boxes. The remaining properties are multi-occupancy dwellings and will be provided with communal recycling containers.
- Arrangements have been secured to increase the recycling of other elements of household waste, such as unwanted bulky items and wastes collected through the Council's Open Space Services Division.
- In 2010, a recycling rewards programme is being rolled out to all properties in Halton that are served by a wheeled bin recycling service. The programme encourages increased levels of recycling by providing rewards to residents who recycle using their blue wheeled bin. A pilot scheme was introduced to 10,000 households in seven areas of the borough in October 2009. Evidence from the pilot scheme indicates that the programme can significantly increase participation with the Council's recycling services and the amount of recyclable materials collected per household.
- Communication and resident engagement programmes will continue to be delivered to increase the percentage of residents participating in the Council's recycling and composting services.

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Non Local Area Agreement Measures contained within Halton's Sustainable Community Strategy (2006 – 2011)

UR 1	Assist in maintaining the current baseline of 59,000 jobs in Halton until 2011
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Baseline (2007)	2009 - 10			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
59,000 jobs	59,000 jobs	No new data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	59,000 jobs	<input style="background-color: yellow;" type="checkbox"/>

Data Commentary

Although this is the end of year data report for 2009-10, the data is only available annually two years in arrears and there is no new data available yet (data is ONS job density figures).

General Performance Commentary

The next set of data will relate to 2008 and thus will not have the full impact of the recession included, but they are expected to be down on the 2007 numbers.



Summary of key activities undertaken / planned during the year

A number of key programmes that are leading to job creation. These include:

- 3MG. Recruitment for Tesco now underway c600 jobs
- Widnes Waterfront: Leisure development is due to complete next year; Bayer site has been purchased and will be brought forward for job creation uses.
- Widnes Shopping Park now opened which ultimately will create 650 jobs.
- Enterprising Halton supported 154 new business start ups.

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UR 2 To bring 10 hectares of derelict land back into beneficial use annually

Baseline	2009 - 10			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
10 hectares p.a. over 21 year	10 hectares	Refer data commentary		10 hectares	

Data Commentary

In line with previous reporting, this is a local target indicating average progress over a number of years. However, this measure is likely to be reviewed in the next Community Strategy for Halton, as funding availability will impact on the area of land able to be reclaimed.

Significant changes resulting from the Council's organisational restructure have made the calculation of this measure difficult for 2010. however all indications are that the target has been exceeded.

General Performance Commentary

The reclamation of brownfield sites continues in Halton, especially given the borough's chemical heritage, and new sites have recently been acquired by HBC.

Summary of key activities undertaken / planned during the year

St. Michael's golf course is currently undergoing a second remediation phase, the new Environment Protection Act having been introduced since its first remediation exercise in the 70's and 80's.

In addition, reclamation work has taken place at 3MG, as land has been cleared for development to support the new multi-modal railfreight park and former grot-spot business premises at Eddarbridge have been cleaned up, transforming the facility. On the back of these developments, new distribution and warehousing facilities have been developed, attracting a wholesale Tesco operation to the site, bringing with it much needed jobs.

NWDA and landfill tax credits have also facilitated the remediation and development of a new local leisure facility known as Halebank Rec. This area now supports new woodland planting, a wildlife water feature, mounding work and cycle/pathways, as well as outdoor fitness facility and children's park which are now available for local community use.

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Moss Bank Linear Park has also been created from an area of dereliction on the Widnes Waterfront, transforming an area of neglected and unused railway line into a pleasant leisure amenity that links aspects of this programme of work. This development has included site clearance, excavation for paving and tree-pits at the main entrances to the park, together with a new footpath and cycleway which runs from Spike Island through to the Trans-Pennine Trail leading to Warrington. A shrub and tree planting scheme enhances the seeded grass and wildflowers which was inspired by pioneering work promoted by the Butterfly Conservation charity.

In addition, in April, 2009 Virgin Trains and Network Rail developed and opened a new multi-storey car park from derelict land at Runcorn Train Station, facilitated by HBC and providing 198 parking spaces and a new wind turbine facility at the station.

The temporary car park used as an interim measure for the station is now available to users of the adjacent playing field and this accommodates more than 100 cars, thus easing general parking in the area.

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UR 3	Facilitate the relocation of businesses affected by the construction of the Mersey Gateway Bridge (businesses identified 78)
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Baseline	2009 - 10			2011	
	Target	Actual	Progress	Target	Projected
n/a	0	1	✓	77	?

Data Commentary

The data relates to the period 2009-10

Target may be revised when the General Vesting Declaration is made following confirmation of orders.

General Performance Commentary

The level of performance is in line with the activities agreed with the MG Officer Project Board.

Summary of key activities undertaken / planned during the year

The MG Team continue to hold discussions with affected businesses in line with the Mersey Gateway Relocation Strategy ahead of the confirmation of orders.

Once the government approve this development, other relocations of affected businesses will be implemented.