

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Environment
SERVICE: Major Projects Department
PERIOD: Quarter 1, 2007/08

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Major Projects Department first quarter period up to 30 June 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.




2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Work on the Brindley mound removal contract has been suspended following the discovery of a High Voltage cable in the mound.
- An 'Options Appraisal' for St. Michael's Golf Course has been completed and has been submitted to the Environment Agency for consideration.

3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

- Changes in the interpretation of State Aid rules by the North West Development Agency have led to the re-appraisal of project applications and subsequent delays in implementation.
- Castlefields: Phase three Housing Development proposals are now being prepared to facilitate a further funding application to The Housing Corporation in the Summer (2007).




4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

Total	17		13		4		0
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Thirteen of the seventeen milestones have been assigned green lights. Two milestones relating to MP01 (To implement a regeneration plan for

the Widnes Waterfront EDZ) and a further two relating to MP04 (Monitor investment levels in the 3 town centres) have been assigned amber lights. For further details, please refer to Appendix 1.

4.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES




Total	1		1		0		0
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Objective MP06 - To devise and implement a regeneration plan for Halebank resulting in improved residential amenity - responsibility for this measure has ceased to be the responsibility of the Council with the housing site having been passed to Barratts. As a consequence it will be removed from future reports.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW




There are no issues to report.

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	3		3		0		0
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All three key performance indicators have been assigned green lights. For further details, please refer to Appendix 3.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	6		5		1		0
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LPI 3 - New private housing - Responsibility for this measure has ceased to be the responsibility of the Council with the Halebank housing site having been passed to Barratts. As a consequence it will be removed from future reports. Please see Appendix 4.

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 Other Objectives/ Milestones
Appendix 3- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
Appendix 4- Progress against Other Performance Indicators
Appendix 5- Financial Statement
Appendix 6- 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	<p>Implement North West Development Agency Performance Plan for 2007/8</p> <p>Initiate CPO procedure to secure land required for implementation of the Masterplan</p> <p>Oversee completion of Priority Sites, Langtree, Forward Group and Heron Business Park developments</p> <p>Oversee Venture Fields Leisure development construction</p>	   	<p>Changes in the interpretation of State Aid rules has led to delays in the approval of funding to two projects. These are being pursued with the Agency.</p> <p>External Support for the CPO process has been retained from Cobbetts (Solicitors) and GVA Grimley (purchase negotiations).</p> <p>Priority Sites' scheme is under construction; Langtree Developments purchased their site and secured all permissions; Heron Ph. 2 and Forward Group are affected by delay in North West Development Association funding (see above).</p> <p>Leisure scheme being progressed by St. Modwen Properties.</p>
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	<p>Acquire the existing local centre via CPO</p> <p>Secure outline planning permission for HBC sites</p> <p>Dispose of 3 hectares of HBC land at Lakeside Castlefields</p> <p>Commence delivery of</p>	  	<p>CPO served; public inquiry scheduled for October 2007.</p> <p>Planning application submitted.</p> <p>Awaiting planning decision</p> <p>Work has commenced on the</p>

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date*	Commentary
		<p>RSL phase two housing schemes</p> <p>Continue to Implement public realm improvements in accordance with the proposals of the Masterplan</p>	 	<p>redevelopment of LHT blocks at Hedge Hey and Meadow Row. A planning application for the demolition and redevelopment of the deck assess flats at Caesars Close has been approved.</p> <p>Public realm lighting improvements continue to be rolled out with the renewal of poor quality lighting in a number of the residential areas within Castlefields</p>
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>CPO process being reviewed.</p> <p>Planning application submitted for four rail sidings.</p> <p>W.S.Atkins preparing design for A5300 link.</p> <p>Will follow completion of road construction.</p>

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date*	Commentary
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 Town Centres	<p>Implement Shopfront Improvement Programme</p> <p>Oversee the initiation of the Canal Quarter development</p> <p>Co-ordinate the implementation of the Windmill Centre redevelopment according to the appropriate planning permission</p>	  	<p>40 expressions of interest received; 1 shopfront improvement grant offer made.</p> <p>Architects AAHM progressing designs dependent on results of the parking, valuation and Site Investigation studies being undertaken with £200,000 secured from English Partnerships. Terms have been agreed for the purchase of 73 High Street (Garage). Negotiations are ongoing for other High Street properties. There has been a delay with the removal of the Mound. Two uncharted 11KB cables have been found on site restricting the work that can be done until they have been relocated.</p> <p>Construction phase being delayed by property acquisition problems being encountered by Stadium Developments.</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.		Option Appraisal completed and submitted to the EA. Following approval of the Options Analysis by the EA, an initial application to DEFRA will be made for Phase 1 funding.

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2007/08 Key Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
MP 06	To devise and implement a regeneration plan for Halebank resulting in improved residential amenity	Implementation proceeding according to Masterplan including the redevelopment of the former Asda site for housing	N/A	Responsibility for this measure has ceased to be the responsibility of the Council with the housing site having been passed to Barratts. As a consequence it will be removed from future reports.

Ref	Indicator	Actual 06 / 07	Target 07 / 08	Quarter 1	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%		Renewal Strategy and Action Plan 2007-10 is currently in development. On line to achieve target.
MPLPI 14	3MG Outputs as set out in Masterplan (% achieved)	100%	100%	100%		Refer to commentary for Objective MP03 in Appendix 1.

Ref	Indicator	Actual 06 / 07	Target 07 / 08	Quarter 1	Progress	Commentary
Service Delivery Indicators.						
LPI 3	New private housing	60	24	N/A	N/A	Responsibility for this measure has ceased to be the responsibility of the Council with the Halebank housing site having been passed to Barratts. As a consequence it will be removed from future reports.
LPI 15	EDZ Programme Outputs as set out in the North West Development Agency Performance Plan	N/a	100%	N/A		Refer to commentary for Objective MP01 in Appendix 1.

MAJOR PROJECTS

Revenue Budget as at 30th June 2007

	Annual Revised Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (Overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure					
Employees	716	156	152	4	152
Premises Support	25	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	66	15	13	2	13
Transport	39	8	8	0	8
Central Support Services	103	0	0	0	0
Departmental Support Services	26	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	975	179	173	6	173
Income					
Fees & Charges	-107	-27	-27	0	-27
Recharges to Capital	-473	-91	-91	0	-91
Total Income	-580	-118	-118	0	-118
Net Expenditure	395	61	55	6	55

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms spend to the end of quarter 1 is slightly below budget.




The underspend against staffing relates to a vacancy

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

Local Strategic Partnership Schemes as at 30th June 2007

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (Overspend) £'000	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
Partnership Co-ordinator	20	5	11	(6)	11
Total Expenditure	20	5	11	(6)	11

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>