

REPORT TO: Corporate Services Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 6 January 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Corporate and Policy

SUBJECT: Local Area Agreement Performance Report

WARDS: Borough-wide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report on progress towards meeting Local Area Agreement targets at the end of the first six months of the Agreement.

2. RECOMMENDATION: That

- (1) the report is noted; and**
- (2) the Board considers whether it requires any further information on the actions being taken to deliver the LAA targets.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The Secretary of State signed off the revised Local Area Agreement (LAA) in June 2008. The purpose of the LAA is to agree a set of targets for Halton with government and local partners. Named partners have a duty to co-operate in striving to achieve these targets. There are 34 indicators in the LAA, plus a further 16 statutory education and early years targets. The agreement covers the period April 2008 to March 2011.

A report on progress over the first 6 months of the Agreement is attached at Appendix 1, covering those indicators which fall within the responsibilities of Corporate Services Policy and Performance Board.

Given that the Agreement was only signed in June, this first progress report reflects a very early stage in the Agreement's life. In reading the report members should bear in mind that:

1. As all the national indicators are built into service plan monitoring, the information in the appendix has already been before the Board. The intention of this report is pick out the LAA indicators from the different service plans so that it is possible to see a clearer picture of progress overall.

2. It was not possible to set targets for all of the chosen indicators in June for lack of baseline information. For example, the first Places Survey is only just taking place so there was no background against which to set targets for indicators that are reliant on that survey.

4. LAA REVIEW AND REFRESH

A process has just begun to “Review and refresh” the LAA with government office. The main purpose is:

1. To fill in the gaps – by February 2009 information should be available to fill in the missing baselines and targets.
2. To update baselines and targets for a small number of indicators following changes to definitions.
3. To consider if there are significant changes in context which make it necessary to amend targets even at this early stage (for example, the impact of the recession).

5. CONCLUSION

This is an early stage in the progress of the Local Area Agreement, but it is an opportunity to take stock of current progress and to check that appropriate delivery plans are in place.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Local Area Agreement acts as a delivery plan for the sustainable community strategy and as such is central to our policy framework.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Achievement of our Local Area Agreement targets has direct implications for our comprehensive area assessment. Further consideration of any areas of under-performance may give rise to other implications for the Council and its partners.

8. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL’S PRIORITIES

This report deals directly with progress and delivering one of our five priorities.

9. RISK ANALYSIS

The key risk is failure to improve the quality of life for residents of Halton in accordance with the objectives of our community strategy. This risk can be mitigated by regular reporting of performance, and reviewing the action being taken where under-performance occurs.

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES


One of the guiding principles of the LAA is to reduce inequalities in Halton.

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

Document:

Local Area Agreement 2008. Place of inspection 2nd floor Municipal Building.
Contact officer – Rob McKenzie (0151 471 7416)

LAA PERFORMANCE REPORT CORPORATE SERVICES PPB (APRIL 08 - SEPTEMBER 2008)

Target Ref	Indicator Description	Baseline (2007/08 unless specified otherwise)	Current Performance (30.09.08)	Target 2008/09	Traffic Light	Commentary
NI 186	Per capita CO2 emissions in LA area	10.1 tonnes per capita (2005) (DEFRA revised in Oct 08 to 10.0)	9.8 tonnes per capita (2006)	3.76% 9.72 tonnes		<p>The 2008/09 target relates to the 2006 CO2 emission figure which DEFRA have returned at 9.8 tonnes per capita. (http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/globalatmos/download/regionalrpt/local-regionalco2-ni186indicator.xls)</p> <p>The target of 9.72 tonnes per capita was only marginally missed, and a reduction has been achieved.</p> <p>Activities are ongoing to deliver further reductions across future years and these include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partnership working with ESTAC to deliver energy saving advice to residents, both fuel rich and fuel poor. This includes access to grants. - Partnership working with Groundwork to deliver best practice advices to business - CT working with larger businesses to develop Carbon reduction Plans. - Several transport related reduction initiatives being delivered through the LTP - Delivery of a Carbon Reduction Plan within Halton Borough Council.
NI 5	Overall satisfaction with the area C4	Baseline to be collected through the Place Survey autumn 2008, target setting deferred until 2009. Future targets to show a statistically significant positive change .				Place Survey Indicator – data not yet available.