

POLICY AND CO-ORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in the Civic Centre (Committee Room No. 1) on Thursday, 26th April, 2007 at 5.30 p.m.

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Members are asked to bring their copy of the report which was included in the Cabinet Agenda for 14th March, 2007 to the meeting.	
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Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

The reports contained in Part II of the Agenda are not for publication as the Committee is considered likely to exclude the public during consideration thereof as they contain information relating to any individual, which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual, the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) or to consultations or negotiations in connection with labour relations matters arising between the Authority and employees of the Authority (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 4).

Part II

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R.C. RAYNER,
City Solicitor.

Civic Centre,
SUNDERLAND.

18th April, 2007.

At a meeting of the POLICY AND CO-ORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on THURSDAY, 22ND MARCH, 2007 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Tate in the Chair

Councillors F. Anderson, D. Forbes, R. Heron, Howe, Porthouse, J. Walker, P. Walker, Whalen and Young

Also Present:-

Councillor Sleightholme - Chairman of the Washington Area Committee

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Variation of Agenda

The Chairman proposed that the agenda be varied to consider the item on the Role of Councillors –Call for Evidence directly after Item 6 – Contact Centres : Benefits and Long Term Support in view of Councillor Sleightholme's attendance at the meeting specifically to present the views of the Area Chairmen to the consultation.

1. RESOLVED that the agenda be varied accordingly.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Morrissey and L. Williams.

Declarations of Interest (Including Whipping Declarations)

There were no interests declared at the meeting.

Report of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 14th February, 2007, Part I

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) attaching a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 14th February, 2007, Part I, for Members' information.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

2. RESOLVED that the report of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 14th February, 2007 be received and noted.

Policy Review : North East Chamber of Commerce

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) detailing the evidence already received in relation to its policy review of employment land and premises and advising that Mr. Mick Thurlbeck, Chair of the Sunderland Committee of the North East Chamber of Commerce (NECC) would be in attendance at the meeting to contribute to the Committee's review.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman introduced Mr. Thurlbeck to Members and invited him to address the Committee.

Mr. Thurlbeck stated that the Sunderland Committee of the NECC had strong ties with the Sunderland University and the Sunderland ARC and worked hand in hand on all initiatives supporting partners to sustain and improve the City. He advised that lots of support had been given to Doxford International and the Rainton Bridge developments and commented on their success. However Mr. Thurlbeck pointed out that there were businesses in and around the City that needed support as they were experiencing difficulties such as the Stag furniture group.

Mr. Thurlbeck advised that the NECC with partner agencies was working to bring new businesses to the City and make facilities available to them. Businesses in retail, manufacturing and services were all lacking in the City. Premises were hard to get as they were often connected with long term leases and required major investment. The NECC was trying to get businesses in areas such as Sunnyside to go for short-term leases and was working with the Business Innovation Centre (BIC) to try and get businesses established before they had to make a commitment to a long lease. A successful initiative was held called 'The Go for Jobs Campaign' last year which had been held in high esteem and initiatives from that would be followed up.

Businesses stayed at the BIC for two years before moving on however some stayed longer and therefore more facilities were required for small businesses.

Mr. Thurlbeck stated that he would like to see the BIC expanding to provide small incubator units. There were lots of enterprises in Sunderland some working from home however and were so small that they were not registered for VAT and therefore were not included in the statistics. In conclusion, Mr. Thurlbeck enquired

what would be the next major development after the Rainton Bridge Industrial Estate in the City.

Councillor Porthouse commented about the proposed deletion of TyneWear Park from the Regional Spatial Strategy and that the Council had objected to this.

Mr. Thurlbeck advised that he sat on the North East Chamber of Commerce Tyne and Wear Committee which met to discuss land availability, issues preventing developments, the list of sites where developments were to take place in the next ten years and what was needed for their development.

Mr. Thurlbeck confirmed he would like to see more manufacturing going on in Sunderland. There were lots of students taking automotive courses at Sunderland University and it would be nice to see them retained and employed in Sunderland based manufacturing businesses.

Mr. Thurlbeck highlighted the financial constraints for businesses in Sunderland in that there was not a Bank in the City that could sanction a business loan for more than £500,000. He expressed concern that three Banks in the City could not sanction a loan of more than £200,000 and that in order to get a loan greater than this amount, businesses needed to approach a larger branch often based in Newcastle.

Mr. Thurlbeck recounted a case where the Sunderland branch of a Bank was only able to sanction a business loan of £200,000. This was referred to the branch in Newcastle for £500,000 who then referred it to Birmingham. The Birmingham branch refused to sanction the loan as it was for a business in the Sunniside area of Sunderland which is classed as a regeneration area.

Mr. Thurlbeck advised that the decline in manufacturing business was not a problem specific to Sunderland but it was an international concern. He commented on the visit he made to Washington DC in June 2006 where the manufacturing industry was also in decline.

Mr. Thurlbeck commented that Sunderland had the second best manufacturing plant in Western Europe in Nissan, which was supplied by a chain of 20-30 companies in the region manufacturing car accessories and components. He commented on the tremendous growth in Call Centres and the decline of the traditional industries of shipbuilding and mining which Call Centres had now replaced as large employers in the region.

In response to Councillor R. Heron, Mr. Thurlbeck advised that 4.8% of businesses were new start ups in the region and a shortfall of 18,000 new businesses in Tyne and Wear had been identified.

Mr. Thurlbeck advised the Committee of the difficulties in receiving financial help from Business Link stating that someone would need to apply for assistance on the same day as they started up a company as financial support could not be provided retrospectively.

Councillor Young highlighted the number of industrial units and land that was not being used in Sunderland and enquired whether there was a way to unlock these facilities for companies.

Mr. Thurlbeck advised that many of the units currently not in use were in private ownership. He stated that he would like to see them being used and suggested that a strategy to bring them into use and allow businesses to start up in the premises needed to be adopted. Partners in the City needed to work together and he suggested that it would be useful to meet with representatives from English Estates to discuss the issue of empty industrial units.

Members of the Committee supported the above proposal.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Thurlbeck for his attendance and it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the information and evidence received be noted and included in the Committee's review of employment land and premises to support future employment needs.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 22nd February, 2007

4. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Review Committee held on 22nd February, 2007 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Contact Centres : Benefits and Long Term Support

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing the Committee with progress on implementing the recommendations from a policy review of Contact Centres.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Peter Chapman, Assistant Chief Executive introduced the report referring to the progress made in delivering on each of the recommendations of the policy review of the benefits and long-term support for Contact Centres detailed in paragraph 3 of the report.

The Chairman then invited Ms. Joanne Carmichael of the WSP Group to provide a powerpoint presentation to the Review Committee on the Travel Plan progress.

The presentation provided details of the Doxford Travel Plan Working Group, achievements to date, company involvement, travel plan costs, barriers to achieving targets and solutions proposed.

In response to Councillor Porthouse, Ms. Carmichael acknowledged that companies were reluctant to get involved in the Travel Plan unless it directly affected them. If it was not perceived as a problem for them they were not willing to get involved as there was a cost to providing a solution. However work was continuing to persuade

businesses of the benefits of a Travel Plan and about four of the larger businesses were more proactive. It was hoped when others started to see the benefits, they would join in.

Mr. Bob Donaldson, Manager, Transportation, Development and Regeneration added that he had noticed a change in attitude from the initial meetings with companies. There was now an acceptance that something needed to be done and a broad acceptance of the green agenda. Hopefully the number of companies attending the Doxford Travel Plan Working Group would continue to improve. The Travel Plan aimed not only to address the travel issues to and from the site and the parking problems but also the Co₂ emissions level.

In response to Councillor Porthouse, Mr. Donaldson advised that he had spoken to colleagues in Merseyside who were experiencing similar problems in relation to car sharing. Due to issues of personal safety people were not willing to car share with anyone who was not personally known to them.

Councillor Porthouse advised that there were companies on the Doxford site which were starting to clamp vehicles. This added to the proposal to put in double yellow lines to deter people from parking on the roads around the area was resulting in workers parking in the surrounding neighbourhoods of Doxford Park and Herrington.

Councillor F. Anderson commented that the principle of a Travel Plan was to be welcomed. However, it was understandable that people were only prepared to share a car with their workmates. The Council could only encourage companies on the Doxford site to work together to try to overcome the traffic issues and highlight the environmental issues.

In response to Councillor Howe, Mr. Donaldson advised that there were in excess of 4,000 parking spaces on site. There were some that were vacant and the Council was trying to encourage companies to work together to make maximum use of the spaces available. Officers could not compel companies to attend the Travel Plan Working Group or implement the recommendations, however they were trying to encourage attendance by highlighting the successes already achieved.

Ms. Carmichael added that the purpose of the Travel Plan was to give the companies the tools to make the changes. Businesses needed to have parking strategies in place to give parking places to those workers in greatest need. It was important that those businesses which put the effort in were able to see a change however, funding would be needed to effect the changes.

Mr. Donaldson advised that initial baseline surveys had been carried out and companies had been asked to review the surveys again later this year at which time Officers would be able to see how successful the measures already put in place had been.

In response to Councillor Young, Mr. Donaldson advised that the renting out of parking spaces to other companies was already happening to a degree and a number of companies had come to an agreement with other users.

However there were issues in relation to the operation of individual sites concerning the terms of the lease.

Members commented that the success of Doxford International had created the traffic congestion problems in the area and it was important that measures were put in place at the outset to avoid the same issues at Rainton Bridge.

The Chairman thanked the Officers for their attendance and it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be the final progress report in this format to be brought to the Committee and that:-

- (a) recommendations R1, R2, R3, R4, R5 and R7 be accepted as having been implemented; and
- (b) it be noted that recommendations R6, R8, R9, R10 and R11 will require further reporting to Committee and that these will be included in future work programming.

Inquiry on the Role of Councillors – Call for Evidence

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) providing the Committee with notification of a Parliamentary Inquiry on the role of Councillors and to invite consideration of a response to the Call for Evidence by 30th March, 2007.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman invited Councillor Sleightholme, Chairman of the Washington Area Committee to address the Committee.

Councillor Sleightholme advised that he was attending the meeting to provide comments as spokesman for the Area Committee Chairmen. He stated that Members felt that the new role for Councillors presented a great challenge. There was concern that the proposals in the Local Government White Paper would further dissect Backbench Members from Officers and from Executive Members. Alongside an expectation that Backbench Members could be more powerful forces in their local communities, they would be effectively removed from the central power base. There was some feeling that this is an 'Officer's charter'. Backbench Members feel under threat of either delivering meaningful results in the community or seeing their numbers drastically reduced.

Councillor Sleightholme went on to say that Ward Councillors would need greater administrative support than they currently received in order to carry out an enhanced role and undertake greater community involvement if they are to be the champions of the people. He referred to the community engagement with local groups Councillors were doing already which enabled Members to sound out ideas and community wishes at the grass roots, which then could be fed into community developments and strategies for the local area. He referred to the £200,000 budget funding Area

Committees received presently in Sunderland to allocate to local community groups to support initiatives to benefit the area and commented that Area Committees would need greater financial resources in the future. Greater technical provision such as PCs and blackberries would be needed for all Councillors in order to access support from the Council and deliver an answer to the community in a short space of time.

Members commented that the need for Councillors to declare personal interests often acted as an inhibitor as they were unable to discuss or take part in a decision where they had an interest.

The Chairman advised that the Code of Conduct for Members including the provisions in relation to the need to declare interests was currently being considered in light of the difficulties being experienced by Members engaged in local groups in the community by the Standards Board.

Members commented on the need to increase public interest and attendance at Council meetings and that greater support and back up in the local areas was needed to prove to the community that they were able to deliver.

Full consideration having been given to the matter, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that the comments detailed above be included in a response to the Call for Evidence by the required deadline.

Reference from Cabinet – 14th March, 2007 – Refreshing the Sunderland Strategy

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) seeking the advice and consideration of the Review Committee on a report considered by the Cabinet on 14th March, 2007, updating Members on the progress in developing the next Sunderland Strategy and requesting approval to extend the term of the current Strategy to April 2008.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Graeme Farnworth, Head of Corporate Policy briefed the Committee on the report. He highlighted that the Community Strategy (Sunderland Strategy) was defined as an Article 4 Plan within the Council's Constitution. The Local Government White Paper (Strong and Prosperous Communities), and Bill currently passing through Parliament, as well as the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR 07) would present significant implications and opportunities for the City Council and its partners. Publication of the Sunderland Strategy in April 2008 was the optimum time to allow the Council and partners to take these implications and opportunities fully into account and ensure that the Strategy and related plans and strategies were consistent with Government frameworks (including funding regimes) set to emerge later in 2007/early 2008.

Mr. Farnworth advised that Government Office for the North East had indicated that they would be content for the term of the current Local Area Agreement to be

extended so that timescales could be aligned with the development and publication of the overarching Sunderland Strategy.

Mr. Farnworth drew attention to the range of discussions, consultation events and workshops to be held to establish the appropriate direction for each stage of the Strategy's development. The final proposed Strategy would be submitted to the full Council and the Sunderland Partnership for approval.

Members commented on the need to ensure that a robust process of community and stakeholder input was established for the development of a Strategy that was relevant to the City's needs and that all Councillors and area/community based groups and representatives were involved in the process.

Full consideration having been given to the report; it was:-

7. RESOLVED that the Council be advised that the Review Committee agreed to endorse that the current Sunderland Strategy remains extant until April 2008 and recommended that all Members, partners and interested parties be involved in the process of consultation on the content of its successor.

Reference from Cabinet – 14th March, 2007 Revised Procurement Procedure Rules and Proposed Financial Procedure Rules

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) advising that a joint report of the City Treasurer and the City Solicitor recommending to Council that revisions be made to the Council's Financial Procedure Rules and Contract Procedure Rules to reflect current good practice, had been referred to the Review Committee for comments prior to consideration by the Council at its meeting to be held on 28th March, 2007.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. George Blyth, Senior Assistant City Treasurer and Mr. Paul Davies, Assistant City Treasurer (Audit and Procurement) briefed the Committee on the report drawing attention to paragraph 4.1 of the Cabinet report relating to the Financial Procedure Rules, paragraph 5.1 relating to the Contract Procedure Rules and the table in paragraph 5.3 detailing the current and proposed thresholds and tenders/quotes sought.

Consideration having been given to the report; it was:-

8. RESOLVED that the Council be advised that the Review Committee congratulated the City Treasurer's Department and the Council on the work done to further improve the Financial Procedure Rules and Procurement Procedure Rules to reflect good practice, endorsed the report and recommended that the good work continue.

Progress Monitor and Work Programmes 2006/2007

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) setting out in-year changes to the Review Committee Work Programmes.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

9. RESOLVED that the variations to the Corporate Annual Work Programme for 2006/2007 be noted.

Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) 2006

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) providing the Committee with a report for information, on the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) considered by the Cabinet on 14th March, 2007 advising that the Council had achieved the maximum four star rating in the latest CPA results and was judged to be improving well by the Audit Commission.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Dave Smith, Deputy Chief Executive briefed the Committee on the report. He highlighted that the process was to change next year and there would be new rules and new tests. He advised that the Council had sustained its four star position and was continuing to take advice on the areas it needed to continue to improve and challenge itself.

In response to Councillor Howe, Mr. Smith advised that the limitation for Councils with the current system of assessment was that it judged Councils in isolation, whereas Councils work in partnership with other bodies. The new system was expected to take this into consideration and was broadly welcomed. However the detail of how this would work and what Councils and other bodies would be measured against was awaited and therefore the changes could not be fully embraced until this detail was available.

10. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Audit Commission Annual Audit and Inspection Letter

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) on the Audit Commission Annual Audit and Inspection Letter considered by Cabinet on 14th March, 2007, which had been submitted to the Review Committee for information.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman congratulated the Cabinet, the Officers and the Members of the Review Committee for contributing to maintaining the four star rating. He commented that the Council was also the lowest Council Tax level in the region and one of the top achievers.

Councillor F. Anderson stated that the Officers of the Council were to be particularly thanked.

In response, Mr. Dave Smith, Deputy Chief Executive thanked Members for their comments. He stated on behalf of the Officers that it was hoped that the combination of sound advice from Officers together with the sense of community needs and common sense of Members in the right balance had resulted in the Council being judged as a top performing Council.

11. RESOLVED that the congratulations of the Review Committee be conveyed to Officers and the Members of the Cabinet on the achievement of maintaining the Council's four star rating.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) R.D. TATE,
Chairman.

POLICY AND CO-ORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE - 26TH APRIL, 2007

**REPORTS OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CABINET HELD ON 14TH AND 27TH
MARCH, 2007 PART 1**

Report of the City Solicitor

Copies of the minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 14th and 27th March, 2007 are attached for Members' information.

R.C. RAYNER,
City Solicitor.

At a meeting of the CABINET held in the CIVIC CENTRE (COMMITTEE ROOM NO. 1) on WEDNESDAY, 14TH MARCH, 2007 at 2.00 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Watson in the Chair

Councillors Allan, Charlton, Lawson, Rolph, P. Smith, Speding, Trueman and Timmins.

Part I

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 14th February, 2007, Part I (copy circulated) were submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

1. RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Receipt of Declarations of Interest

The following Councillors declared personal interests in the undermentioned reports as Members of the various bodies indicated:-

Item 9 – Refreshing the Sunderland Strategy	Councillor P. Watson	Sunderland Partnership
Item 14 – Gambling Act 2005 – Delegation of Fees	Councillor P. Watson	Licensee
Item 15 – Respect Action Plan 2007-2008	Councillors P. Smith and Timmins	Children’s Trust
	Councillor P. Watson	Sunderland Partnership, Safer Sunderland Partnership

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R. Symonds.

Reports of the Meetings of the Personnel Committee, Part I

The reports of the meetings of the Personnel Committee held on 1st, 2nd and 5th March, 2007, Part I (copies circulated) were submitted and consideration was given thereto.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

2. RESOLVED that the reports be received and noted.

Response from Environmental and Planning Review Committee, 19th February, 2007 and Planning and Highways Committee, 27th February, 2007 – City of Sunderland Unitary Development Plan: Arrangements for Saving Policies

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) to advise of the comments of the above Committees on a report of the Director of Development and Regeneration which sought approval of those adopted Unitary Development Plan (UDP) Policies that the Council wished to save beyond 2007, which were considered by Cabinet at its meeting held on 14th February, 2007.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Cabinet Members having noted that the Committees both agreed to endorse the recommendations in the report, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-
 - (i) the comments of the Committees, be noted;
 - (ii) it be recommended to Council:-
 - (a) to agree and endorse the attached schedule outlining UDP policies to be saved; and
 - (b) to authorise Officers to make appropriate arrangements for submitting the schedule of saved policies to the Government Office for the North East.

Annual Residents Survey 2006 – Findings

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to present findings from the 2006 Annual Residents' Survey.
(For copy report – see original minutes).

Simon Atkinson of Ipsos MORI was in attendance to present the final report.

Cabinet Members were pleased to note that residents' perceptions of Sunderland remained relatively positive. In terms of community, people remained positive about their local area as a place to live, consolidating the rise in satisfaction seen between 2004 and 2005. Referring to lifestyle and volunteering on the whole, residents' health had been good over the last 12 months with only one in seven saying it had been poor.

Cabinet Members noted that satisfaction with the image of the City Council had remained steady since 2005, and that fluctuations were generally in line with national factors influencing residents' satisfaction across Great Britain.

Residents felt well informed about services and benefits the Council provided and leaflets through the door were identified as the most effective source of information.

Having given consideration to the report, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report and appendices be noted.

Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) 2006

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to inform that the Council had continued to achieve the maximum four star rating in the latest Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) results and was judged to be 'improving well' by the Audit Commission.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Having given consideration to the report, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be accepted and referred to Council for consideration.

Co-operation with China

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which advised of preliminary discussions undertaken regarding co-operation with China and recommended that the benefits be explored further.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Upon consideration of the report, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) discussions with officials be continued in the Chinese City of Harbin, and with partners in Sunderland, to explore the opportunities which a formal partnership would represent for both communities;
- (ii) the Chief Executive be authorised to organise a delegation of partners, including the Leader of the City Council, to attend the annual Trade Fair in Harbin in June in order to continue to explore the economic potential of co-operation; and
- (iii) officers be authorised to explore how the City Council can best support the University of Sunderland in the ongoing development of its links with Liuzhou.

Refreshing the Sunderland Strategy

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to update on progress in developing the next Sunderland Strategy and to request approval to extend the term of the current Strategy to April 2008.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Deputy Leader highlighted that the Community Strategy (Sunderland Strategy) was defined as an Article 4 Plan within the Council's Constitution.

Having given consideration to the report, it was:-

7. RESOLVED that it be recommended to Council to agree that the current Sunderland Strategy remains extant until April 2008.

Audit Commission Annual Audit and Inspection Letter

The Chief Executive and City Treasurer submitted a joint report (copy circulated) on the Audit Commission's Annual Audit and Inspection Letter.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The District Auditor and Relationship Manager provided an overview of the report, highlighting the salient points. She reported that the Council had maintained its four star rating, was "improving well" and "performing strongly" in its use of resources with improvements in a number of key areas.

The report acknowledged that the Council was well placed financially and had an excellent Risk Management which had won awards.

Cabinet Members' attention was drawn to the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter, and the need to continue to develop the following areas:

- (a) target setting should be refined to challenging and achievable and focus on the quality of performance information;
- (b) improvements had been made in quality assurance arrangements for checking non-financial performance information. This should be build upon by ensuring that all data collection systems are fit for purpose;
- (c) the scrutiny function should be taken forward to provide effective but constructive challenge more consistently, and maximise members' contribution to performance review and service improvement;
- (d) in view of Children's Services, the Council and the Children's Trust should work together to agree clear protocols on decision-making and accountability, then use this as a solid base to implement joint commissioning and a common assessment framework; and
- (e) develop the corporate procurement process.

It was concluded that the Audit Commission would work with the Council to address the issues identified.

8. RESOLVED that the contents of the Audit Commission's Annual Audit and Inspection Letter be noted and referred to Council for its consideration.

Revised Financial Procedure Rules and Proposed Procurement Procedure Rules

The City Treasurer and City Solicitor submitted a joint report (copy circulated) to recommend revisions to the Council's Financial Procedure Rules and Contracts Procedure Rules to reflect current good practice.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Allan reported that changes were minor as outlined in the report. Cabinet Members' attention was drawn to two errors in the report:-

- a) Page 162 – paragraph 4.2 should read £5,000
- b) Page 163 – paragraph 4.8 should read £5,000

Having noted the report and Councillor Allan's comments it was:-

9. RESOLVED that it be recommended to Council to approve the revisions to the Council's Financial Procedure Rules and Contract Procedure Rules for incorporation in the Constitution.

Tyne and Wear Care Alliance – Training Provider Procurement

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to obtain approval to establish a Standing List of training providers using Framework Agreement in order to utilise additional funding from the Learning and Skills Council, for the provision of training to the independent social care sector.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Timmins reported that the proposal would support employers in the Independent Social Care Sector across the sub-region. Funding would be used to revisit and set up training facilities to ensure staff in the sector maintained standards by achieving vocational qualifications.

Having considered the report, it was:-

10. RESOLVED that the development of a new Framework Agreement to utilise additional funding from the Learning and Skills Council be approved.

Review of School Place Planning

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which described the current position with regard to primary school places and current levels of surplus places. The report also sought approval to carry out consultation and review on an area basis city-wide to develop proposals to reduce surplus places. It also presented the proposed process and timescales the authority would need to carry out the city-wide review of primary surplus places.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor P. Smith advised Cabinet Members that 4,790 places would be removed from the secondary sector under BSF. This reduction of places would include the closure of Usworth School.

Cabinet Members having been advised that the current level of surplus places with the primary sector is 14.2% and projected to increase to 17% by 2013, it was:-

11. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the current position with regard to primary school places be noted; and
- (ii) proposals for the authority to consult further on how to achieve a reduction in surplus places and to agree the scope and timetable for consultation on this issue be approved.

The Gambling Act – Amendment to Constitution – Delegation of Functions

The City Solicitor and Director of Community and Cultural Services submitted a joint report (copy circulated) upon the management and delegations in respect of the new functions and responsibilities which had been placed upon the Licensing Authority as a result of the Gambling Act 2005. The report also highlighted the intention to bring the new functions in line with the existing general delegation scheme which was set out in the Constitution and by amending and updating the Constitution to take account of the delegated functions and repeals of old legislative functions as a consequence of the Gambling Act 2005.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Trueman reminded Cabinet Members of previous reports which led to the adoption by the Council of its Statement of Licensing Policy under the Gambling Act 2005 on 22nd November, 2006. This required the adoption of an appropriate delegation scheme to enable this to be done in a responsible, fair and efficient manner.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

12. RESOLVED that it be recommended to Council:-

- (i) approve the delegation of the setting of fees arising out of the new licensing functions from the Gambling Act to the Director of Community and Cultural Services; and
- (ii) the amendments to the Constitution to incorporate all the new functions identified in the Gambling Act and adopt the delegation of functions to the Licensing Committee, Sub-Committee and Officers in line with the statutory requirements as set out in Appendix B.

Respect Action Plan 2007-2008

The Director of Children's Services and Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a joint report (copy circulated) which sought Cabinet's approval for the Sunderland Respect Action Plan 2007-2008.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Smith highlighted the report and in particular she advised that:-

- (a) work was ongoing in the City to reduce crime, fear of crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse which had led Government to identify Sunderland as a Respect Action Area;
- (b) the national Respect Action Plan which was launched in January, 2006 set out a framework of powers and approaches to positively promote respect and acceptable behaviour;

(c) the national Respect Action Plan had six main strands:

- Activities for children and young people
- Improving behaviour and attendance in schools
- Supporting Families
- A new approach to the most challenging families
- Strengthening communities
- Effective enforcement and community justice

Councillor Charlton endorsed Councillor Smith's remarks and looked forward to the additional impact that the delivery of the plan would have on tackling anti-social behaviour across Sunderland. The Sunderland Respect Action Plan would be launched on Monday, 19th March, 2007 within the Redhill Ward, which would encompass a range of targeted and focussed enforcement and preventative activities to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.

Councillor Trueman added that it was no surprise that Sunderland City Council had been identified as an exemplar as Sunderland was at the forefront of tackling anti-social behaviour in communities and whose work had resulted in great confidence in residents to raise and take a stand against neighbourhood nuisance.

Having considered the report, it was:-

13. RESOLVED that the Sunderland Respect Action Plan 2007-2008 be approved.

Disposal of Land at Amberley Street and Harrogate Street, Sunderland

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought approval to the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in 3.10 acres of land at Amberley Street and Harrogate Street, Hendon.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Allan, having explained that the land was surplus to requirements and that the disposal to Back on the Map was considered to be the best option to ensure long term regeneration and development of the area, it was:-

14. RESOLVED that approval be given for the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in land at Amberley Street and Harrogate Street, Hendon, to Back on the Map, at the price set out in the report on Part II of the agenda and otherwise on terms agreed by the Head of Land and Property, on the basis that these terms represent best consideration for the land.

Disposal of Land at the Former Whitefield Pit, Station Road, Penshaw

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought approval for the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in 0.22 hectares of land at the former Whitefield Pit, Station Road, Penshaw.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Allan outlined the proposal to dispose of a small piece of land which was surplus to the Council's requirements. He reported that the site had become overgrown and adjoined a piece of land in private ownership.

Cabinet Members having been advised that the approval of the proposals would achieve development of the area and a capital receipt to the Council, it was:-

15. RESOLVED that approval be given to the disposal of the Council's freehold interest 0.22 hectares of land at the former Whitefield Pit, Station Road, Penshaw to Bellway Homes Limited for the price set out in the report on Part II of the Agenda and otherwise on terms to be agreed by the Head of Land and Property.

Disposal of the Council's Freehold Interest in Unit 10 Mercantile Road, Rainton Bridge Industrial Estate, Houghton-le-Spring

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought approval for the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in Unit 10 Mercantile Road, Rainton Bridge Industrial Estate, Houghton-le-Spring.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Allan having advised that the site was a Council owned factory which had become derelict and damaged and subsequently declared a write off following structural surveys, it was:-

16. RESOLVED that approval be given to the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in Unit 10 Mercantile Road, Rainton Bridge Industrial Estate, Houghton-le-Spring to the Sekura Group for the price set out in the report on Part II of the agenda and otherwise on terms to be agreed by the Head of Land and Property.

Land at Grindon

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought approval to dispose of an area of land at Grindon to a purchaser other than that previously agreed by Cabinet.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Allan having highlighted the report advised that the proposal would reduce the sale costs of the land transaction and enable the savings to be utilised for the benefit of the school development.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

17. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Cabinet decision made on 13th September, 2006 to dispose of the Council's freehold interest in 789sq. metres of land at Grindon to North Eastern Christian School Limited be rescinded; and
- (ii) approval be given to the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in the same 789sq. metres of land at Grindon to Tees Valley Housing Group Limited.

Adoption of Shoreline Management Plan 2

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) seeking approval for the completed Shoreline Management Plan 2 (SMP2) to be adopted which would cover the section of coast from the River Tyne to Flamborough Head, north of Bridlington.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Lawson reported that the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) provided an assessment of coastal risks to the developed, historic and natural environment due to coastal evolution and then set out a policy framework to address those risks in a sustainable manner. He referred to the background to the product of the first SMP in 1998, the work done since then leading to the development of the second SMP and reported that there had been substantial consultation on this second plan. The policy implications were summarised in Section 4.3 of the report.

Cabinet Members having been advised that the plan was now up to date and in accordance with Defra's guidance and requirements and provided the Council with a non-statutory policy document for coastal defence management planning, it was:-

18. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the SMP2 be approved and adopted;
- (ii) the policy options and action plan contained in the SMP2 be endorsed with regard to Sunderland's coastline management areas;

- (iii) the action of the Director of Development and Regeneration be approved in seeking approval from Defra for funding in due course for future monitoring, a review of the coast protection strategy and future capital works it be noted that the Cabinets of South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council, Easington District Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council, Scarborough Borough Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council are also to be recommended to adopt the SMP2.

Bishopwearmouth Conservation Area: Character Appraisal and Management Strategy

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) on the outcome of consultations on the draft 'Bishopwearmouth Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Strategy' and to seek approval to adopt the revised document as formal Planning Guidance.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Lawson reported that the Appraisal and Strategy had been prepared to satisfy the Council's statutory obligations and duties. It also complied with English Heritage guidance. The document, adopted as formal Planning Guidance, will also satisfy the relevant Best Value Performance Indicators for 2006/07.

He added that the aim of the document was to increase awareness and appreciation of the Conservation Area's special qualities and provide the Council with an appropriate basis for the control of development in the Area. This was considered especially important as in recent years the special historic character of Bishopwearmouth Conservation Area had increasingly come under pressure, particularly for building alterations and extensions.

Cabinet Members were advised that the Management Strategy, in particular, established objectives and proposals to secure the future preservation and enhancement of the Conservation Area's special character. These included measures to protect key buildings, features and views, environmental improvements to Town Park and design guidelines for shop fronts and new developments. The document had been subject to public consultations and had been modified in light of the representations received. Responses were received from Sunderland Civic Society, the Theatres Trust and local architects and generally, respondents were very supportive.

Councillor Lawson, having concluded that the document, once adopted, would strengthen Council policy for the Conservation Area and help to protect its best features and provide a basis for its enhancement.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

19. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the outcome of consultations on the draft 'Bishopwearmouth Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Strategy' be noted; and
- (ii) the revised Character Appraisal and Management Strategy be adopted as Formal Planning Guidance.

Sunderland Energy Efficiency Programme (SEEP) 2006-08

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report t (copy circulated) which advised of a proposed amendment to the criteria used to determine eligibility for grant funding to address the problems associated with fuel poverty and to seek approval to implement the Sunderland Energy Efficiency Programme (SEEP) throughout the City.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Trueman highlighted that the Council had been working towards the Government target of reducing energy use in residential properties since 1996 and had implemented several programmes to achieve this goal. He added that the Warm Homes Initiative had operated from April 2003 to March 2005 and had been very successful in delivering energy efficiency measures to householders across the City. Over 5,000 properties had received insulation measures and 25,000 households had received advice on energy efficiency measures.

Councillor Trueman reported that feedback from the current energy efficiency programme was showing that there was a low take up of one of the Grant packages relating to older people. Other Local Authorities in the area were providing free grants for this client group and there was an urgent need to review the criteria to ensure the grant met the needs of older and more vulnerable people in the City. He therefore proposed that an amendment be made to the grant criteria to householders aged over 60, allowing all people over that age to receive the same opportunity for grants as in other Local Authority areas which would allow for the improved take up of Single Housing Investment Funding by residents of Sunderland.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

20. RESOLVED that approval be given to amend, with immediate effect, the criteria used to determine eligibility for grant funding to the residents of the City from the funds allocated to the City Council by the North East Housing Board via the Single Housing Investment Programme, (SHIP) as set out in paragraph 4.9 of the report.

Evening Economy Supplementary Planning Document (EESPD)

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) seeking approval to the draft Evening Economy Supplementary Planning Document as Interim Planning Guidance and approval for the document to be subject to public consultation.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Lawson reported that ensuring licensed premises were appropriately located and controlled was becoming more important due to an emphasis on more diverse land uses and attempts to attract more people to live and work in the City Centre. It also helped the City Centre become more vital and viable, attractive and accessible to all groups, providing a wider choice from the early to the late evening. He added that with the introduction of the 2003 Licensing Act, the Council's 2002 '*Sunderland City Centre: Policy Statement on Licensed Premises*' was no longer a material consideration when assessing licensing applications in the City Centre, and this, along with recent changes within planning legislation and the way the City Centre had developed, required a review of the current approach.

Cabinet Members were informed that Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) had therefore been prepared to inform decisions on planning applications and to provide a basis for responding to consultations on licensing applications.

The document identified four principal character areas or quarters of the City Centre. These were the Nightlife, Theatre, Sunnyside and Culture quarters, which were described in more detail in the report. It set out the overall aims for these quarters and how these aims could be achieved through planning controls. Controls included closing times, refuse storage arrangements, restrictions on uses and the number of premises.

Councillor Lawson having reported that the Evening Economy Supplementary Planning Document would be taken forward through the statutory planning process to form part of the Local Development Framework, it was:-

21. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the draft proposals, as detailed in the draft document be approved as Interim Planning Guidance for controlling the planning aspects of licensed premises within the City Centre; and
- (ii) officers be authorised to make appropriate arrangements for public consultation on the Evening Economy Supplementary Planning Document.

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

At the instance of the Chairman it was:-

22. RESOLVED that in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it was considered to involve a likely disclosure of information relating to any individual, which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual, the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) or to consultations or negotiations in connection with labour relations matters arising between the Authority and employees of the Authority (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4).

(Signed) P. WATSON,
Chairman.

Note:

The above minutes comprise only those relating to items of business during which the meeting was open to the public.

Additional minutes in respect of other items are included in Part II.

At a meeting of the CABINET held in the CIVIC CENTRE (COMMITTEE ROOM NO. 1) on WEDNESDAY, 27TH MARCH, 2007 at 2.00 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Symonds in the Chair

Councillors Charlton, Rolph, Speding, Trueman, Timmins and P. Watson.

Part I

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 14th March, 2007, Part I (copy circulated) were submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

1. RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Receipt of Declarations of Interest

None

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Allan, Lawson and P. Smith.

Sunderland Housing Group – Governance Review

The Chief Executive, the City Solicitor, the City Treasurer and the Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a joint report (copy circulated) to advise of the outcome of the consultation exercise undertaken by Sunderland Housing Group (SHG) in respect of its proposed structural review of its governance arrangements and requesting Members to consider whether there was now an urgent need for a decision arising from tax implications facing SHG if interim changes were not made in the current tax year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Trueman reminded Members that Cabinet first considered the principle of the proposed restructuring by Sunderland Housing Group (SHG) on 6th December last year. Having noted the proposals to change its structure, for the purpose of growing and expanding its business, it was agreed that SHG's proposals be approved, in principle, with a review once the consultation exercise was completed. He indicated that paragraph 4.6 of the report summarised the responses received from tenants. The response level was extremely low but it was evident that there was no significant adverse reaction from tenants to the proposal.

Councillor Trueman reported that the thrust of this report was to advise Members that the Group had had to amend its original proposals. In simple terms the destination had remained the same but the route of the journey had changed. He explained that the reason this matter was being treated as urgent was due to the late receipt by Sunderland Housing Group of tax advice from its advisers. Essentially, the Group needed to put in place interim arrangements which demonstrated control by the current parent Company. However, he emphasised that it involved only temporary dilution of the interests of independent Members and tenant members whose interests would return to 33%, (the same as the Council) on the Sunderland Housing Company Ltd. in the final arrangements. These arrangements were intended to save SHG a substantial tax bill of millions of pounds.

The attention of Cabinet Members was then drawn to Section 5 of the report which contained a risk assessment and it was noted that they had received advice on the issues of assets and surpluses and it was noted that SHG had subsequently agreed to provide an indemnity and it was noted that the covenants given by the Group in the original transfer must continue to be honoured.

Councillor Trueman reported the receipt of a stark statement from SHG on the consequences if approval was not given by the Council for the restructuring proposals at paragraph 5.7 of the report.

Councillor Trueman concluded that Members were already mindful of the bigger picture and had previously expressed their agreement with the restructuring proposals and there was nothing arising from the consultation exercises to depart from this. Accordingly, he invited Members to give approval to the request as set out in item (i), and stated that for the avoidance of doubt that the authority given to complete the legal documentation would also include signing the Council's consent to the requisite Company resolutions.

Councillor Trueman advised that, regrettably, this decision had become urgent through matters outside the Council's control but it was clear that the timescales involved in the operation of the call-in process would frustrate the implementation of the interim arrangements in this tax year and thus the viability of the re-structure. This would seriously prejudice the Council and the public's interest in providing SHG with the opportunity to control its costs, safeguard employment in Sunderland and provide a better service to tenants in Sunderland. The Chair of the Review Committee had signified her consent and therefore Members were requested to agree to the matter to the call in arrangements being blocked in these exceptional circumstances.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the contents of the report be noted and approval be given to the request from SHG to amend its governance arrangements in respect of the interim and long term arrangements as described in the report and to authorise the completion of the necessary legal agreements including the Council's consent to the requisite Company resolution; and
- (ii) it be agreed that as the decision is urgent, the call in process be blocked in these exceptional circumstances, as any delay likely to be caused by the call in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interest having regard to SHG's need to implement the interim arrangement in this tax year to mitigate its tax liability which will facilitate the re-structure.

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

At the instance of the Chairman it was:-

3. RESOLVED that in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it was considered to involve a likely disclosure of information relating to any individual, which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual, the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) or to consultations or negotiations in connection with labour relations matters arising between the Authority and employees of the Authority (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4).

(Signed) R. SYMONDS,
Chairman.

Note:

The above minutes comprise only those relating to items of business during which the meeting was open to the public.

Additional minutes in respect of other items are included in Part II.

POLICY & COORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: ANNUAL RESIDENTS' SURVEY 2006 - FINDINGS

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

26 APRIL 2007

1. Purpose of Report

To provide Members with an opportunity to consider the findings of the Sunderland Residents' Survey for 2006.

2. Background

Each year the Council commissions a research study of local resident's views. Findings from the 2006 report were provided to Cabinet on 14 March 2007 (a copy of which was circulated to all Members).

3. Reporting to Review Committees

The survey provides insight into key themes of interest to the Policy & Coordination Review Committee.

Key messages emerging from the Sunderland Residents' Survey will no doubt assist the Committee as it establishes its priorities for the 2007-08 Council year.

To save printing and paper Members are asked to bring their copy of the report to the meeting. (The report is included with the 14 March 2007 Cabinet Agenda).

4. Recommendation

That the Review Committee considers the feedback of residents in the 2006 MORI survey.

5. Background Papers

Cabinet Agenda 14 March 2007

Contact Officer : Karen Brown 0191 553 1004
karen.brown@sunderland.gov.uk

POLICY & CO-ORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

PERFORMANCE REPORT – Quarter 3 April to December 2006

Report of the Chief Executive

26th April 2007

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To inform the Review Committee of the current position regarding key performance indicators across the Council for the period April 2006 to December 2006. The details in this report build upon performance information contained in the Corporate Improvement Plan Summary and provide the Review Committee with the latest available performance outturn data.

2.0 Background

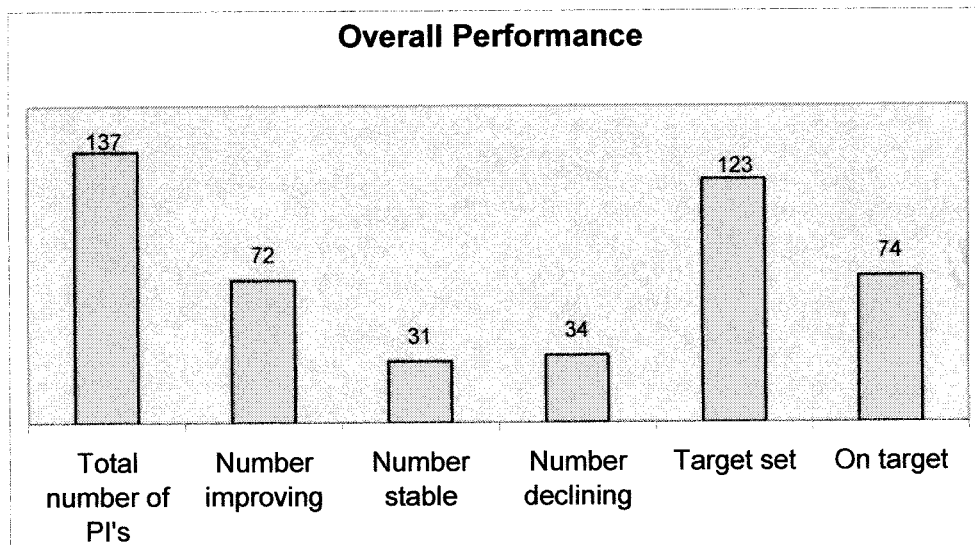
- 2.1 This is the third corporate performance report for 2006/07. The report is structured around the principles of the Performance Management Framework, an overarching dataset that reflects strategic or corporate performance underpinned by specific service related performance information. It is risk based with focus on the key performance issues from the third quarter of 2006/07.
- 2.2 It is particularly important to take the opportunity to respond to performance data and take corrective action against key performance indicators that are failing to achieve targets.

3.0 Current Position

- 3.1 The focus of the performance report will vary from quarter to quarter as different data sets become available. The report this quarter focuses on progress with:
- An update in relation to the key risks identified in the 2nd quarter performance report and
 - Issues arising from the 3rd quarter performance outturns
- 3.2 We collect a total of 327 performance indicators, and at the third quarter stage information was available against 221 indicators, this can be broken down as shown in the table below:

Datasets	Total Number of indicators	Number available at Q3	Percentage on target at Q3
Best Value Performance Indicators	147	100	61%
Direction of Travel	49	28	79%
CPA Culture Service Block	25	18	61%
CPA Environment Service Block	45	20	68%
CPA Housing Service Block	9	7	57%
LAA	115	81	77%
LPSA2	24	19	68%

3.3 In relation to Council performance there are 137 performance indicators available for the period April to December 2006. 72 indicators (53%) are improving, 31 indicators (23%) are stable with performance declining against the remaining 34 indicators (25%). In relation to performance indicators direction of travel is positive with only a small number of key risks emerging at the third quarter stage. Target information is available for 123 indicators at the third quarter a total of 74 (60%) are on target with the remaining 49 indicators (40%) currently not on target.



4.0 Key Risks and Remedial Action

4.1 Following the EMT Performance Clinic the following risks were identified.

4.2 Customer perspective – although high satisfaction with customer services, there has been some reduction in resident satisfaction with the Authority as reflected in the MORI and BVPI User Satisfaction Survey.

Remedial Action

There are a number of actions to be undertaken to ensure improvement:

- Commissioning further research into resident's perception of the council and drivers behind responses
- Further research into impact of residents' publications
- Consolidation of council brand and review internal processes for brand guardianship
- Review arrangements for responding to media enquiries

- 4.3 Customer perspective – customer take-up of services. There appears to be some reducing numbers with regard to the number of residents accessing certain Council Services.

Remedial Action

There are a number actions to be undertaken in order to improve performance:

- Development and implementation of a co-ordinated and focussed marketing and communications plan
- Review of internal communications with focus on front-line staff

- 4.4 Access to Services / Equalities – Reaching level 3 of the Equality Standard by September 2007.

Remedial Action

A report went to EMT that set out a clear timescale to achieve the level 3 equality standard. The Equality Steering Group has been revamped and repopulated and has clear targets and objectives set out to achieve level 3 by September 2007. This is set out in an agreed Equality Level 3 Action Plan. Work to ensure compliance with the statutory Equality Schemes relating to disability, gender and race and associated policies relating to sexual orientation, faith / belief and age.

Equality issues covered in the following:

- Impact Needs Risk Assessment (INRAs)
- Consultation
- Monitoring – through an agreed basket of indicators
- Procurement
- Contract Management
- Service planning
- Personnel

- 4.5 Community Safety – increase in criminal damage for the year to date.

Remedial Action

Criminal damage has been included as a priority issue in the current Control Strategy for the Safer Sunderland Partnership (SSP) and a multi-agency action plan to tackle it is currently being developed by the relevant Task Group. The SSP

has allocated funding to implement initiatives on the multi-agency action plan in 2007/08. It will remain a key priority of the SSP.

4.6 Corporate Health – BVPI 12 The number of working days / shifts lost to the local authority due to sickness absence

Remedial Action

There are a number of actions being undertaken which aim to improve performance:

- Continue to reduce the rate of unplanned absence by a variety of approaches and ensure successful initiatives are highlighted
- Ensure employees understand the importance of a work/life balance, incentives and the management approach
- Ensure managers are given appropriate skills and training to manage this risk issue and the position is monitored
- Ensure appropriate training / guidance is undertaken for the introduction of the new HR/Payroll system to produce accurate information to extract all possible business benefits, including contribution to Gershon efficiencies
- Risk register to be reviewed for HR / Payroll project
- HSE Stress Management standard to be implemented

4.7 Adults Social Care – declining performance against PAF C32 The number of older people helped to live at home per 1,000 population aged 65 or over and PAF C28 The number of clients in receipt of more than 10 hours home support. At the third quarter stage performance has declined and based upon current performance it is not anticipated that the targets set for PAF C32 and C28 will be achieved.

Remedial Action

- Complete the quality assurance of all business processes relating to recording to ensure that community based service provision is recorded correctly.
- Review / monitor at operational level the potential under-reporting of social care professionals as a resource in their own right.
- Work towards increasing the level of Direct Payments to end of year in order to achieve the agreed divisional targets, also increasing the number of people helped to live at home.
- Review modernisation programme and new development plan for older people to ensure that impact of programmes will improve level of intensive home support and reduce residential/nursing care admissions.

4.8 Children's Services – Social Care. Target setting issues.

Remedial Action

- Revision of current target setting process across the Directorate, to look toward a more 'bottom up' approach, involving operational managers at an earlier stage in the process with support from relevant Performance and Information teams.

- Introduction of performance monitoring clinics with relevant individuals.
- 4.9 Children's Services – Education. Percentage of pupils achieving level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 English test (BVPI 41). Percentage of 11 year olds achieving level 5 in Key Stage 2 English test.

Remedial Action

KS2 writing was identified as a particular priority. In January 2007, 11 schools were identified to take part in a writing project to address issues between pupil level performance in reading and writing, this should have an impact when to pupils undertake the SAT examinations in June 2007.

- 4.10 A full list of all risks is attached at appendix 1, the Performance Indicators used, detailing third quarter outturn and trend analysis is attached at appendix 2.
- 4.11 Identified at appendix 3 are the key risk areas for the LAA and LPSA2.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 The Review Committee is recommended to consider the performance of the Council against key performance measures as part of our quarterly monitoring arrangements.

6.0 List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Key Risk Areas

Appendix 2 – Detailed Quarter 3 trend analysis

Appendix 3 – Key risks identified for the LAA and LPSA2

Background Papers

SCC Corporate Improvement Plan

MORI Residents Survey 2006

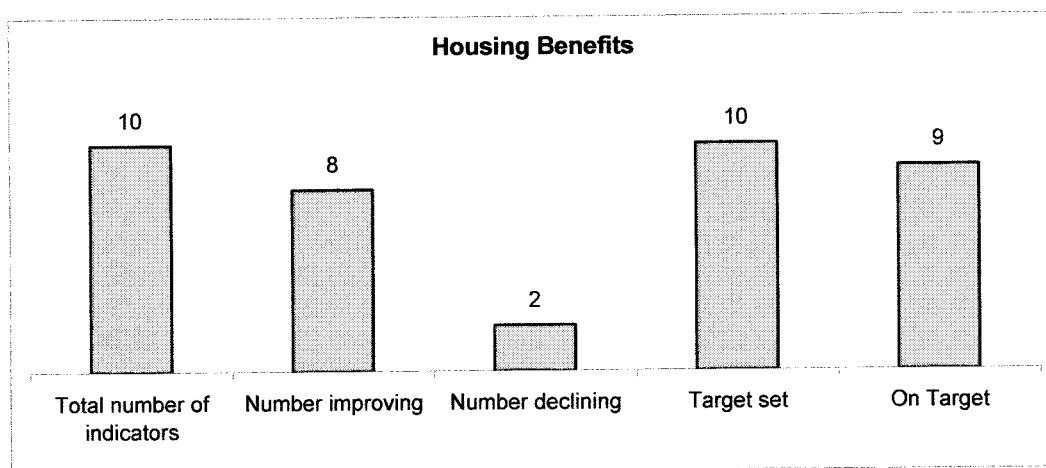
BVPI User Satisfaction Survey

Contact Officer: Sarah Reed 0191 553 1347
Head of Performance Improvement

Housing Benefits

There are 10 performance indicators available for Housing Benefits and have an impact on CPA, Direction of Travel and Best Value performance. Some indicators are included in more than one dataset, a breakdown of the indicators can be found below.

Best Value Performance Indicators	10
CPA Direction of Travel	7



There are 10 performance indicators in relation to Benefits. Of these 10 indicators, 8 indicators (80%) are improving while the remaining 2 indicators (20%) are declining. Targets have been set against 10 indicators, 9 indicators (90%) are currently expected to meet or exceed their target while the remaining 1 indicator (10%) is not expected to meet the target set for 2006/07.

There are a number of indicators which have improved in performance and are expected to exceed the targets that have been set. Examples of these are:

(BVPI 79a) The percentage of cases within a random sample for which the Authority's calculation of Housing and Council Tax Benefit is found to be correct, current performance is 100% against a target of 99.6%.

(BVPI 79b(i)) The amount of Housing Benefit overpayments recovered during the period being reported on as a percentage of Housing Benefit deemed recoverable overpayments during that period, current performance is 120.73 against a target of 84.

(BVPI 79b(ii)) Housing Benefits overpayments recovered during the period as a percentage of the total amount of Housing Benefit overpayment debt outstanding. Performance currently stands at 27.57% at the third quarter point. Based on current performance, an estimated annual out turn of 37% would be achieved. This is an improvement over the previous year and higher than the target we set ourselves in 2006/2007.

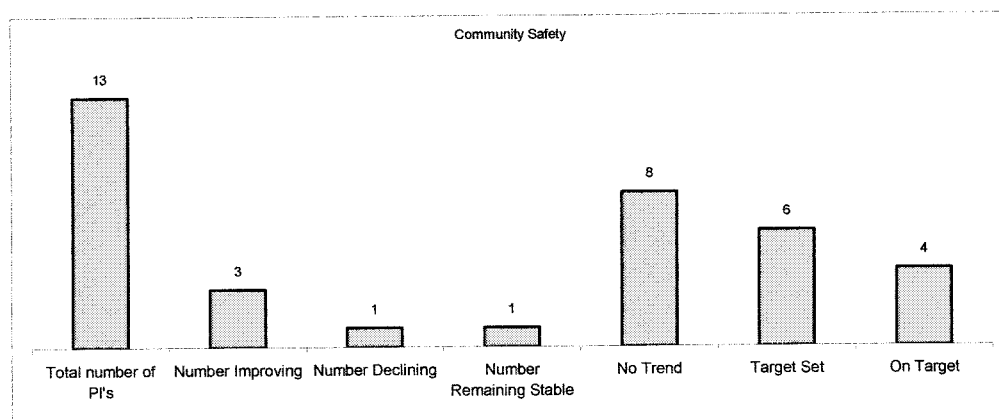
However, there are 2 indicators (20%) that have declined in performance and 1 indicator (10%) that is currently not expected to meet the target that have been set. This is also a concern as it is a Direction of Travel indicator. However, the indicator which is not currently projected to meet the target is BVPI 76c The number of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (HB/CTB) fraud investigations carried out by the Local Authority per year, per 1,000 caseload. This is an input measure and does not measure the success of fraud investigations in terms of sanctions which is achieved i.e. you can achieve a high rating by investigating large numbers of cases which do not result in a sanction i.e. low risk. Following representations made by the City Treasurer to the Department of Work and Pensions this indicator is being dropped for 2007/08 and future years in light of it's limitations.

(BVPI 76a) The number of housing benefit claimants in the local authority area visited per 1,000 caseload, there has been a decline in performance in the 3rd quarter as a consequence of the implementation of the new Revenues and Benefits ICT system. Performance is currently 183.82 against a target of 250.73. Measures have been put in place to ensure that our performance year on year will not decline.

Community Safety

A total of 13 community safety indicators have an impact on CPA, Direction of Travel and Best Value Performance. Some indicators are included in more than one dataset. A breakdown of the indicators can be found below.

Best Value Performance Indicators: 6 indicators
 CPA Direction of Travel: 7 indicators
 CPA Service Score for Housing: 1 indicator



Of the 13 performance indicators collected, 3 (23%) are improving, 1 (8%) is declining, 1 (8%) remains stable, with no trend analysis available for 8 (61%) other indicators. Where targets have been set and performance data is available at the third quarter, 80% of targets are on track to be reached by the year-end.

The total number of robberies at the third quarter stage (BVPI 127b) stands at 0.58 per 1000 population (165 robberies), which is an improvement on 2005/2006 and remains on target for 2006/2007. Total number of vehicle crimes (BVPI 128a) stands at 8.2 per 1000 population (2,326 incidents), which is an improvement on 2005/2006 and remains on target for 2006/2007.

The total number of Incidents of violent crime (BVPI 127a) stands at 15.9 per 1000 population (4,511 incidents), which is an improvement on the previous year although based on current performance it is not anticipated to meet the target of 19.2 we set ourselves in 2006/2007. The rise in violent crime is linked to lower level incidents, increases in public order offences and a decrease in section 47 assaults. This could be linked to the Police DVD campaign, which is taking an early intervention approach. The SSP carried out a detailed problem profile of violent crime in August and a multi-agency action plan is currently being developed to address this. In addition, the City Centre LMAPS group has developed a safer city centre strategy and is implementing initiatives to address alcohol-related crime and disorder linked to the evening economy.

Appendix 1

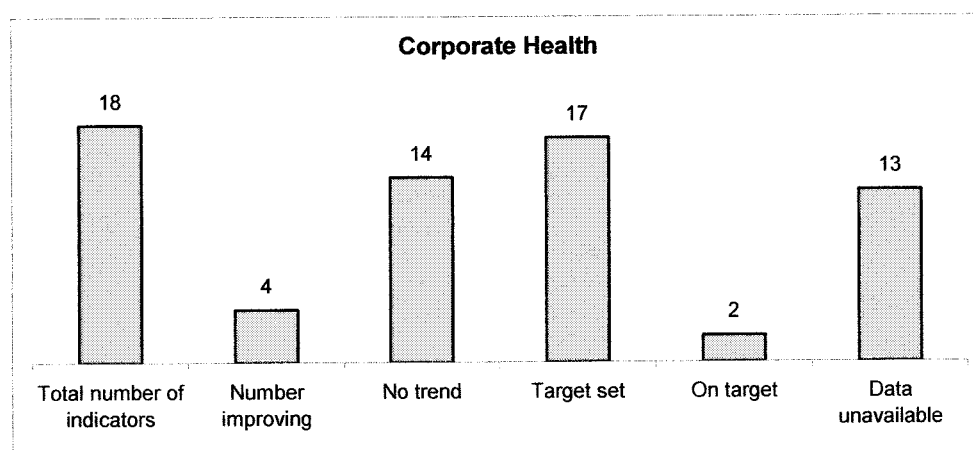
Performance has declined in relation to the number of domestic burglaries per 1,000 households and percentage detected. Despite this decline it is still anticipated that the target of 14.2 per 1,000 will be achieved. It is expected that this increase will be tackled through initiatives such as 'Operation Javelin' and the forthcoming 'Safer Homes Initiative' expect to roll out early this year.

The Council's performance in relation to section 17 came under scrutiny as part of the CPA process. The basket of relevant performance indicators continue to be monitored and where relevant key risks highlighted in order to improve performance.

Corporate Health

A total of 18 performance indicators are collected for Corporate Health and have an impact on CPA, Direction of Travel and Best Value performance. Some indicators are included in more than one dataset.

Best Value Performance Indicators:	18
CPA Direction of Travel	12
CPA Environment Service Block	1



At the 3rd quarter stage there is only information available against 4 performance indicators. However, there has been improvement against all 4 indicators (100%). Of the remaining indicators, 9 are collected on a six monthly basis and were reported last quarter and along with the remaining 5 that are collected annually will be reported on again at the year-end. Based on information available at the third quarter a total of 50% of targets set are on-track to be achieved by the year-end.

(BVPI 9) The percentage of council tax collected by the authority in the year, performance against this indicator has improved and whilst it is currently expected that the target will be met, the implementation of the new Revenues and Benefits ICT system will impact on progress during the last quarter of the year. Every step is being taken to ensure that the target will be met and that performance does not decline, but this can not be ruled out, given the significant resource requirement and deflection associated with the implementation of this major new ICT implementation.

(BVPI 10) To monitor the collection rate of national non-domestic rates, performance has also improved against this indicator and based on current performance it is expected that the target will be met.

Based on current performance 2 indicators (50%) are not expected to meet the target set at the third quarter stage. These are (BV 8) Percentage of invoices for commercial goods and services paid by the Authority within 30days of receipt or within the agreed

payment terms and (BV 12) The number of working days / shifts lost to the Local Authority due to sickness absence.

Performance against BVPI 8 is currently 94.7% which is an improvement however, based on this performance it is not anticipated that the statutorily set Government target of 100% will be achieved. No Principal Authority in the country has managed to achieve the statutory target to date, however, a strategy has been prepared to further improve our performance in this area.

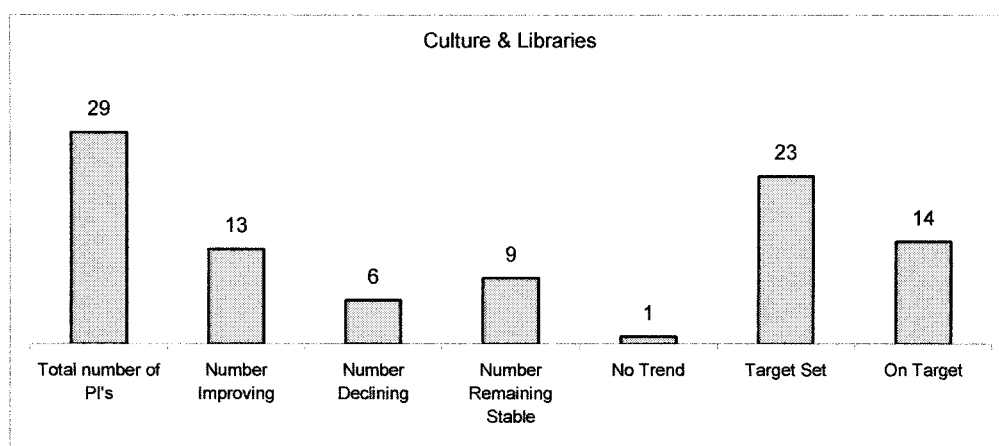
Performance against BVPI 12 is currently 8.88 days although this is also an improvement, based on current performance it is not anticipated that the target of 11.2 days will be achieved. A number of measures have been introduced throughout the authority to try and improve performance against this indicator. These include: continuing to reduce the rate of unplanned absence, ensuring employees understand the importance of a work/life balance and ensuring managers are given appropriate skills and training.

Progress towards the next level of the Equality Standard (Level 3) by September 2007 remains a key risk for the Authority. A report have been to EMT which sets out clear timescales to achieve the Level 3 Equality Standard. The Equality Steering Group has been revamped and repopulated and has clear targets and objectives set out in order to achieve Level 3 by September 2007.

Culture & Libraries

A total of 29 culture & library indicators have an impact on CPA, Direction of Travel and Best Value Performance. Some indicators are included in more than one dataset.

Best Value Performance Indicators:	10 indicators
CPA Direction of Travel:	1 indicator
CPA Service Score for Culture:	25 indicators



Of the 29 performance indicators collected, 13 (45%) are improving, 6 (21%) are declining, 9 (31%) remain stable and trend is unavailable for 1 indicator (3%) in the third quarter. Where targets have been set and performance data is available at the third quarter, 61% of targets are on track to be reached by the year-end.

The number of visits to public library premises currently stands at 5,379 visits per 1000 population (old BVPI 117, used in CPA under code C2c), which even at the third quarter point is an increase over the previous year and well above the target of 5000 we set ourselves in 2006/2007.

Performance in relation to the number of visits to museums and galleries is strong in the third quarter, with the number of visits at 1,128 per 1000 population (BVPI 170a), which is an increase of 79 visits over the previous year and higher than the target of 1,387 we set ourselves in 2006/2007. The number of those visits that were in person currently stands at 929 in the third quarter, this is also an improvement on 1,146 reported the previous year and higher than the target we set ourselves for 2006/2007. A total of 12,001 pupils visited as part of an organised school group, this is an increase over the previous year and higher than the target we set ourselves in 2006/2007.

With regard to Monkwearmouth Railway Museum, building contractors started work on exhibition elements of the museum on 4th December. The museum is scheduled to re-open in summer 2007, although this is dependent on scheduling of stonework repairs that have been added to the scheme. New projects for Monkwearmouth Station include

a creative writing project with 'New Writing North', which is due to begin in February 2007.

Links are being sustained with the under 5's audience through activities at Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens. Interest in the re-launch of the Museum is being promoted through the Sunderland to Saigon film project. The Away Days project with Southwick Community Group took place at the Sunderland museum and winter gardens between July and September, which resulted in an exhibition in October 2007.

In relation to libraries, the percentage of households living within 2 miles of a static library (CPA code C2a(ii)) remains stable at 100%. This is in line with the national standard and remains on target for 2006/2007. The percentage of households living within 1 mile (CPA code C2a(i)) remains stable at 93%, although lower than our target which is a national standard of 95%.

The aggregate scheduled opening hours of all libraries (C2b) currently stands at 141 hours per 1,000 population compared to 140 hours in 2005/2006. This is an increase of over 190 additional hours, which brings us in line with the target we set for 2006/2007.

Internet access is available at all static libraries within the city (CPA code C3a). The total number of electronic workstations available within all static libraries is currently 9 per 1,000 population (approximately 2,500 workstations). This figure remains stable against 2005/2006 and we remain on target for 2006/2007.

The percentage of book requests supplied within 7 days (CPA code C11a(i)) currently stands at 58% in the third quarter, an increase over 53% recorded during 2005/2006 and on target for 2006/2007.

The number of books, audio-visual and electronic publications added to overall stock through purchase (C11b) currently stands at 168 per 1,000 population in the third quarter (approximately 47,600 items). Should current performance continue we will exceed the 177 per 1,000 reported last year. This figure remains on target for 2006/2007, and exceeds the national standard of 216 additions per 1,000 population.

Stock level per 1,000 population currently stands at 1,486 in the third quarter (C12b). Should current performance continue we will exceed the figure of 1,332 reported in 2005/2006 and also exceed the target we set ourselves in 2006/2007. The number of books issued against the total number available for loan currently stands at 5.3 per 1,000 population (C12a) in the third quarter, should performance continue we will exceed the figure of 6.1 reported in 2005/2006 and also exceed the target of 6.8 we set ourselves in 2006/2007.

The percentage of book requests supplied within 15 days (CPA code C11a(ii)) currently stands at 76% in the third quarter, which is a decline in performance compared to 79% reported in 2005/2006 and also lower than our annual target of 80 we set ourselves in 2006/2007. The percentage supplied within 30 days (CPA code C11a(iii)) has also

declined from 96% to 91% since 2005/2006, and is also not expected to achieve the target of 96% for 2006/2007.

The estimated time it would take to replenish lending stock on open access or available for loan (CPA code C11c) currently stands at 9.3 years in the third quarter. This is a decline in performance against 7.8 years reported in 2005/2006 and higher than the target of 7.5 years we set ourselves in 2006/2007.

The percentage of adults aged 16 or over who participate in sport and physical activity three times a week or more, for at least 16 hours (LPSA 9a) has declined to 20% in the third quarter. This is a decline in performance against 25% reported for 2005/2006 and is also lower than the target of 25% we set ourselves in 2006/2007.

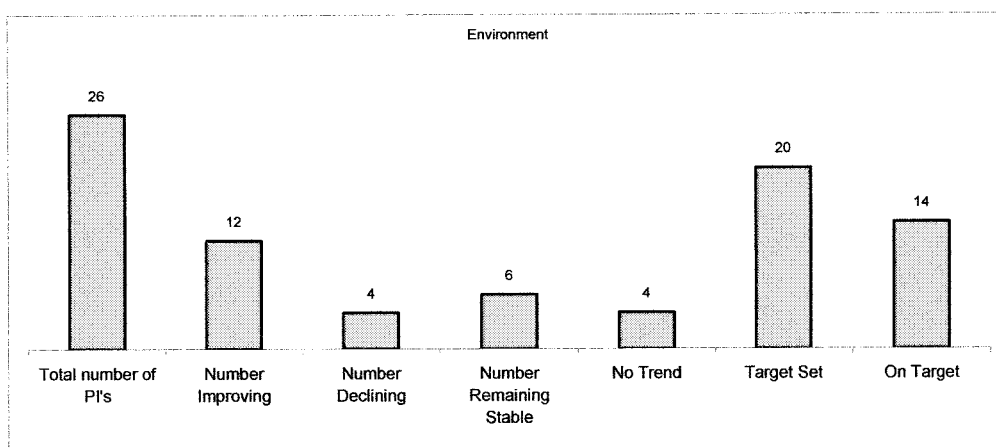
Work is being undertaken to improve performance in respect of a number of PLSS indicators so that this can have a positive impact on the CPA Culture service block score.

A total of 10 public library service standard indicators (PLSS) are used to rate performance in relation to BVPI 220. In 2005/2006 we were assessed as level 2 as 13.5 out of a possible 18 points were scored. Although performance in the third quarter remains stable at level 2, we are not expecting to reach our target of level 4. It is recommended that future targets in relation to BVPI 220 be revised for 2007 to 2009. Additional funding has been allocated to purchase additional stock and to raise the profile of the Library service with the aim of increasing book stock, active borrowers and visitor figures. Improvements in these indicators will positively impact on the BVPI 220 outturn.

Environment

A total of 26 environment indicators have an impact on CPA, Direction of Travel and Best Value Performance. Some indicators are included in more than one dataset.

Best Value Performance Indicators: 24 indicators
 CPA Direction of Travel: 4 indicators
 CPA Service Score for Environment: 20 indicators



Of the 26 performance indicators collected, 12 (46%) are improving, 4 (15%) are declining, 6 (23%) remain stable, with no trend available for 4 (15%) indicators at the third quarter. Where targets have been set and performance data is available at the third quarter, 78% of targets are expected to be achieved by the year-end.

Performance in relation to waste recycling has improved in the third quarter, with 14% of household waste sent for recycling (BVPI 82a), compared to 12% in 2005/2006. The percentage of household waste sent for anaerobic digestion (BVPI 82b) has increased to 11%, over 7% reported in 2005/2006. The percentage of household waste used to recover heat, power and other energy sources (BVPI 82c) remains stable at 0%, while the percentage of household waste sent to landfill has been reduced to 76%, compared to 81% in 2005/2006.

The total amount of household waste collected per head of population (BVPI 84) currently stands at 387 kilograms at the third quarter. This has declined in performance and is an issue which needs to be addressed. The growth in the total amount of waste handled (an average of 3% per annum until 2002/03) has halted and total waste is now gradually reducing although there was a slight counter trend in 2005/06. Bulky waste requests are significantly down and we have met LATS targets are expected to do so up to the 2009/10 target year.

The percentage of residents served by kerbside recycling facilities (BVPI 91a) remains stable at 98.8%. This figure remains slightly lower than the target of 99% we set ourselves in 2006/2007. The percentage of residents served by at least two recyclables

(BVPI 91b) also remains stable at 97.3%, but slightly lower than the target of 97.5% we set ourselves in 2006/2007. This is an issue as performance has remained static and targets should be adjusted accordingly. Plans are in place to ensure that where practicable all properties in the City are able to present 2 recyclable materials for kerbside collection.

Best value performance indicators that relate to the condition of land and highways, are available every 4 months. During April and November, performance in relation to the proportion of land and highways with high levels of litter and detritus (BVPI 199a) has improved with a reported figure of 11%. This is an improvement over the figure of 14% reported in 2005/2006 and remains lower than the target of 13% we set ourselves for 2006/2007. The percentage of land and highways with unacceptable levels of graffiti (BVPI 199b) remains stable at 2%, while the percentage of land and highways with unacceptable levels of fly posting (BVPI 199c) has increased to 0.17%. This is an increase over 0% reported in 2005/2006 and remains off target for 2006/2007. To improve the response rate for the removal of graffiti in Washington and across the City additional teams and equipment have been deployed utilising LPSA2 funding.

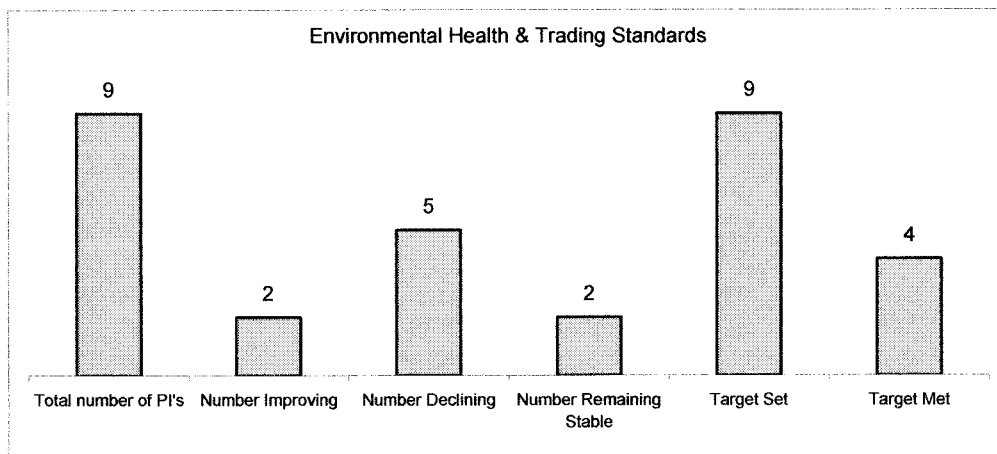
In relation to fly tipping, a total number of 6,170 incidents have been reported at the third quarter, and of those, 158 enforcements were made. As both the total number of incidents and enforcements have increased, we would maintain a score of 3 out of 4 (1 is very effective and 4 is poor) for BVPI 199d which measures our ability to decrease incidents and increase enforcements.

Although the percentage of abandoned vehicles investigated within 24 hours (BVPI 218a) has decreased to 70% in the third quarter (against a figure of 73% reported in 2005/2006), the percentage removed within 24 hours (BVPI 218b) has increased to 76% in the third quarter, against 64% reported 2005/2006.

Environmental Health & Trading Standards

A total of 9 environmental health & trading standards indicators have an impact on CPA, Direction of Travel and Best Value Performance. Please note that some indicators are included in more than one dataset.

Best Value Performance Indicators: 5 indicators
 CPA Direction of Travel: 2 indicators
 CPA Service Score for Environment: 6 indicators



Of the 9 performance indicators collected, 2 (22%) are improving, 5 (56%) are declining and 2 (22%) remain stable in the third quarter. Where targets have been set and performance data is available at the third quarter, 44% of targets are expected to be achieved by the year-end.

The total number of sites of potential concern with regard to land contamination (BVPI 216a) has been reduced to 230 sites in the third quarter, against 239 sites reported in 2005/2006. The percentage of sites for which sufficient detailed information is available to decide whether remediation of the land is necessary (BVPI 216b) has declined to 2.27% in the third quarter.

Improvements to all pollution control installations have been completed within the recommended timescale (BVPI 217).

Consumer satisfaction in relation to trading standards (CPA code E30) has decreased to 83% for 2006/2007, an 8% reduction over the previous year. Business satisfaction in relation to trading standards (CPA code E31) has also decreased to 91%, a 4% reduction over the previous year. Both indicators are not on target in 2006/2007.

Appendix 1

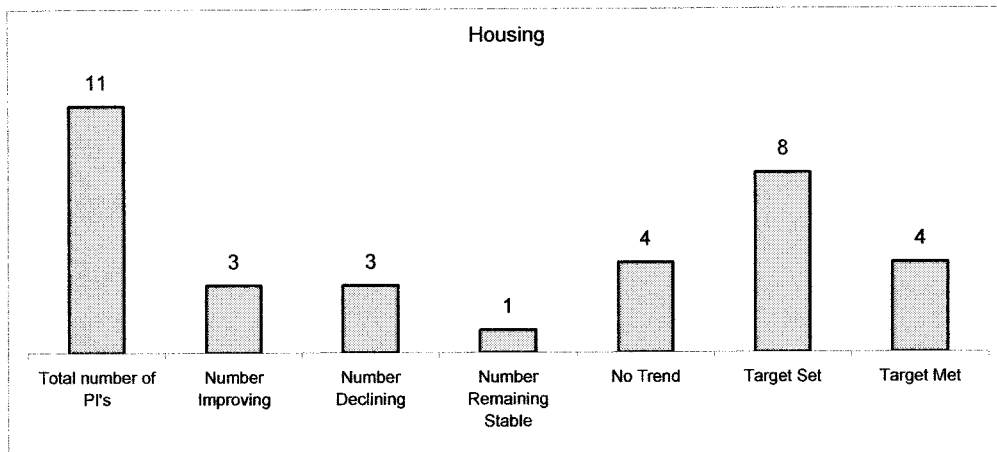
Although the percentage of high-risk premises visited by trading standards (CPA code E32) is at 33% in the third quarter, trading standards are confident that all high-risk premises will be visited and 100% will be achieved by the year-end.

The percentage of high-risk premises that conform to trading standards regulations (E33 high) currently stands at 88% in the third quarter. The percentage of medium risk premises that conform to regulations (E33 medium) currently stands at 78%, while the percentage of low risk premises that conform standards (E33 low) is at 86%. Trading standards expect performance in relation to all 3 categories to change before the year-end.

Housing

A total of 11 housing indicators have an impact on CPA, Direction of Travel and Best Value Performance. Please note that some indicators have an impact on more than one dataset.

Best Value Performance Indicators: 9 indicators
 CPA Direction of Travel: 6 indicators
 CPA Service Score for Housing: 7 indicators



Of the 11 performance indicators collected, 3 (23%) are improving, 3 (23%) are declining, 1 (8%) remain stable, with no trend available for 4 (36%) indicators in the third quarter. Where targets have been set and performance data is available at the third quarter, 57% of targets are expected to be achieved by the year-end.

The number of people sleeping rough within the city (BVPI 202) has dropped from 2 people recorded in 2005/2006 to 1 person in the third quarter.

Performance is strong in relation to the percentage of repeat homelessness cases (BVPI 214) improving to 1.3% at the third quarter point, compared to 2.21% the previous year and remains lower than the target of 1.9% we set ourselves in 2006/2007.

The percentage of homelessness cases where intervention by the authority resolved their situation (BVPI 213) stands at 2.75% in the third quarter. Although this is an increase over the previous year, we would remain below our annual target of 4%.

Performance has declined in relation to the average number of families placed in temporary accommodation, which currently stands at 11 families at the third quarter stage. This is a 7% increase against the same point in 2005/2006 (BVPI 203).

44

Appendix 1

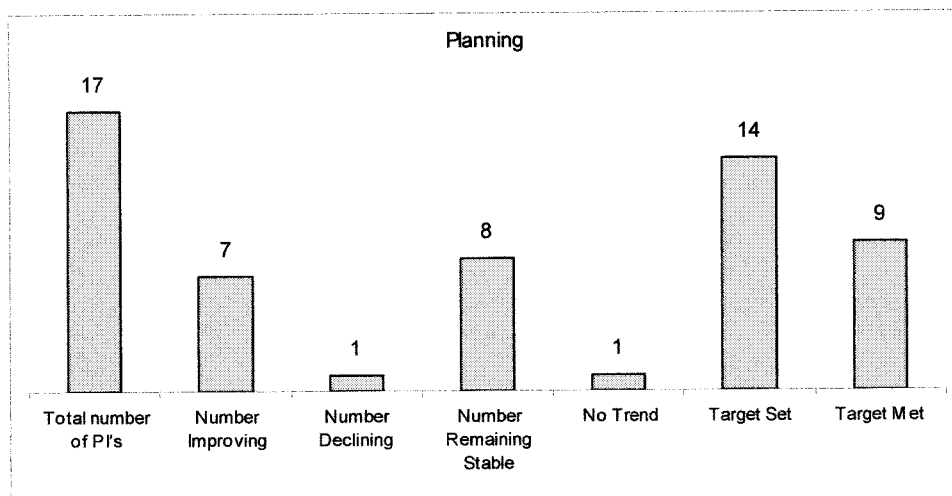
The average length of stay in bed and breakfast accommodation (BVPI 183a) is 4.9 weeks in the third quarter. Based on current performance it is not anticipated that we will achieve the target set of 6 weeks for 2006/2007.

Although funding has been made available to utilise shops above flats, delays have had an impact on our ability to reduce this figure. We expect to see a significant improvement in 2007/2008, by which time alternative accommodation will be available.

Planning

A total of 17 planning indicators have an impact on CPA, Direction of Travel and Best Value Performance. Please note that some indicators are included in more than one dataset.

Best Value Performance Indicators: 13 indicators
 CPA Direction of Travel: 5 indicators
 CPA Service Score for Environment: 13 indicators



Of the 17 performance indicators collected, 7 (41%) are improving, 1 (6%) is declining, 8 (47%) remain stable, with no trend available for 1 (6%) indicator in the third quarter. Where targets have been set and performance data is available at the third quarter, 69% of targets are expected to be achieved by the year-end.

In the third quarter, 75% of major planning applications were determined within 13 weeks (BVPI 109a), a substantial increase over 43.1% reported in the previous year. The percentage of minor planning applications determined within 8 weeks (BVPI 109b) stands at just over 83%, which is an increase against 81% reported last year. The percentage of other planning applications determined within 8 weeks (BVPI 109c) currently stands at 93%, an improvement over 87% previously reported.

The percentage of new homes built on previously developed land (BVPI 106) remains stable at 91% in the third quarter and on track to hit the target we set ourselves in 2006/2007.

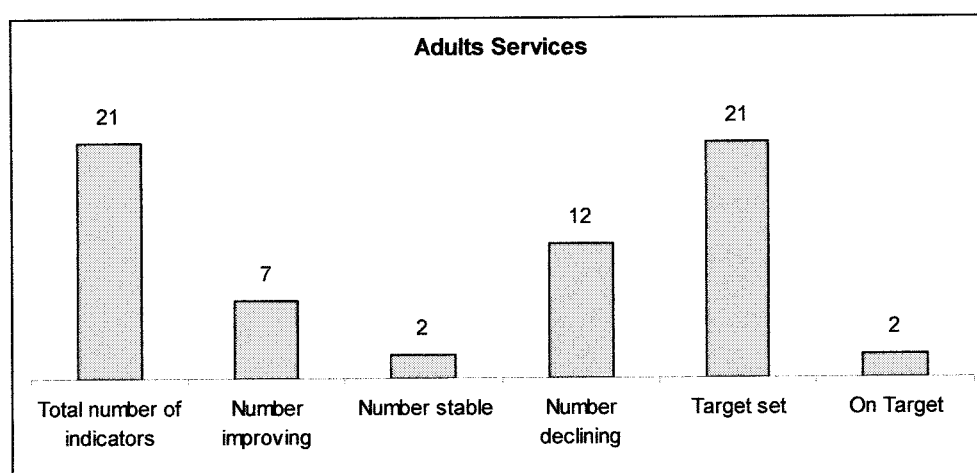
The total number of conservation areas (BVPI 219a) remains at 13 and on target for 2006/2007, while the total number with an up to date character appraisal (BVPI 219b) remains off target for 2006/2007. The percentage with published management

proposals (BVPI 219c) remains stable at just over 23%, which is also on target for 2006/2007.

The percentage of planning applicants satisfied with the service they receive currently stands at 76% for 2006/2007 (data published December 2006). This is a decline against the figure of 77% reported during 2003/2004 (indicator collected every three years) and not on target for 2006/2007.

Adult Services

In relation to Adult Social Care a Performance Assessment Framework that is comprised of 21 performance indicators is used to evaluate the service. A breakdown of performance can be found below. Adult Social Care performance information is calculated on a rolling year basis, and 3rd quarter information relates to January 2006 to December 2006.



At the third quarter stage there are 7 indicators (33%) improving, 2 indicators (10%) are stable with the remaining 12 indicators (57%) declining. There were targets set against all 21 indicators however, the service are currently only anticipated to meet 2 (10%) of the targets set. This is an issue which needs to be addressed.

There has been an improvement in the number of adults and older people receiving direct payments per 100,000 population aged 18 years or over (PAF C51). Having reported an outturn of 183 in 2005/06 and was the top performing local authority in this area, as well as being heralded by the Commission for Social Care Inspection as a 'spectacular success'. There was further improvement at quarter 2 to 201 and has again improved in quarter 3 to 205. However this is still below the 2006/07 target of 215.

Also seeing an improvement is PAF D40 – Clients receiving a review, which has improved from 72% in 2005/06 to 75% at quarter 3. This is only slightly below the 2006/07 of 76%. CSCI continue to rate performance as 'acceptable' which is the top performing band for this indicator.

There has been a decline in the ethnicity of older people receiving assessment (PAF E47), having been 0.83 in 2005/06 it has declined in quarter 3 to 0.65 and based on current performance it is not anticipated to meet the 2006/07 target of 1. The performance is rated as 'cause for concern'.

Appendix 1

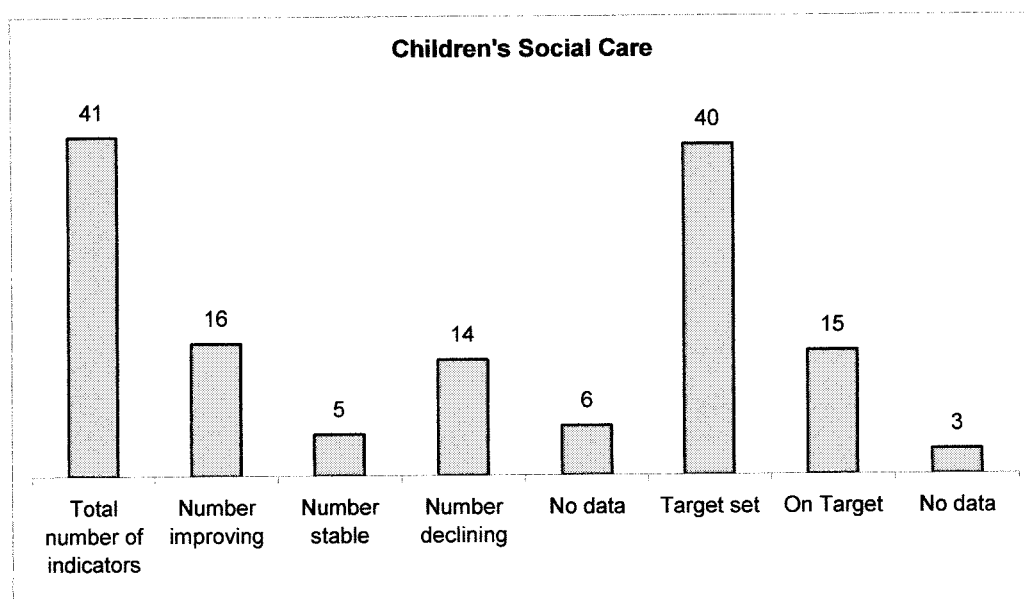
The number of older people helped to live at home per 1,000 population aged 65 or over (PAF C32) has continued to decline from 128 in 2005/06 to 127 at quarter 3. Declining from 5,847 to 5,780 this is some distance from the target of 5,950 clients (or 131 per 1,000 population). Although there are ongoing financial and capacity issues for care packages, the reduction in services does not seem to tally with the number of new clients assessed.

The number of clients in receipt of more than 10 hours home support (PAF C28) was 538 clients or 11.8 per 1,000 population aged 65+ at quarter 3. This is a decline from 12.1 per 1,000 population for 2005/06 or 555 clients and performance is now rated as acceptable. Based on current performance it is not anticipated that the target of 13.5 for 2006/07 will be met.

Children's Services

Social Care

In relation to social care for children there are 41 performance indicators used to monitor performance.



Of the 41 indicators, 16 are improving (39%), 5 indicators (12%) are stable while 14 indicators (34%) are declining with no data available for the remaining 6 indicators (15%). Targets have been set against 40 indicators, 15 indicators (38%) are currently on target and there is no data for 3 indicators (8%) at the quarter 3 stage.

The total number of registrations has fallen in recent months, due to new procedures in Case Management and Safeguarding. However the total number of reregistered children on the Child Protection Register has remained constant suggesting a continued highlighting of the most vulnerable cases. These procedures have therefore resulted in an increase in PAF A3 to 11.8% in the third quarter. This figure is expected to rise more slowly as the year progresses. However, it is slightly above the target set of 11.

The free school meal uptake in primary schools has seen a decline from the previous quarter. Having been 85.2 in Q2 it has decreased to 84.1 in Q3. There has also been a decline in performance in relation to paid school meal uptake in primary schools having been 41 in Q2 it has decreased to 39.9 in Q3. Based on this current performance it is not anticipated that either of these indicators will meet the target.

The number of children looked after under 10 years of age placed for adoption currently stands at 21 children, or 11.8%, showing a continued the lowest outturn recorded (on a

rolling year basis) since 2005/06 outturn of 14.7%. Currently, this indicator is not on target to achieve the 2006/7 of 23.3%.

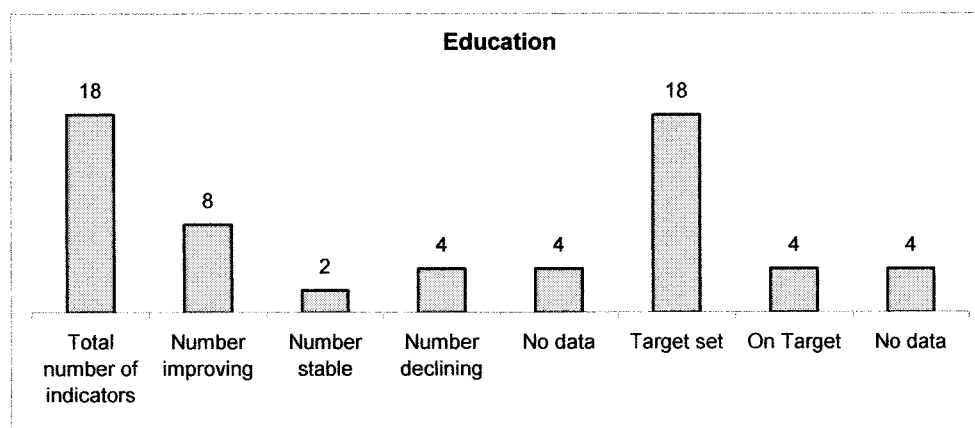
The number of looked after children adopted during the year as a percentage of the number of children looked after at 31 March who had been looked after for 6 months or more on that day.

The percentage of children adopted is stable at 5.4% (21) for December 2006, showing a slight decrease on quarter 2, which stood at 22 children (or 5.8%), although it is of note Sunderland still falls behind both its Met LA average and the target for 2006/07 of 11.6%, or approximately 44 adoptions. Based on a projection of possible adoption it is expected that we will achieve approximately the same number as 2005/06.

The number of first time entrants into the Youth Justice System is currently 765 at quarter 3, showing an increase of 246 from the quarter 2 position of 519, and is currently not on target to achieve the 2006/7 target of 884.

Education

In relation to Educational Services there are 18 performance indicators used to monitor performance. The graph below provides an overview. All of the indicators are best value performance indicators and no indicators impact on CPA / Direction of Travel.



Of the 18 performance indicators, 8 indicators (44%) are improving, 2 indicators (11%) remain stable while 4 indicators (22%) are declining with no data available for the remaining 4 indicators (22%) at the third quarter. Target setting remains an issue with only 4 (29%) of the 14 indicators where information is available currently expected to meet the targets set. There is no target information for 4 indicators at the third quarter.

There has been an improvement in the percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C or equivalent (BV 38), having been 51.5% in 2005/06 it improved to 55% in 2006/07.

Appendix 1

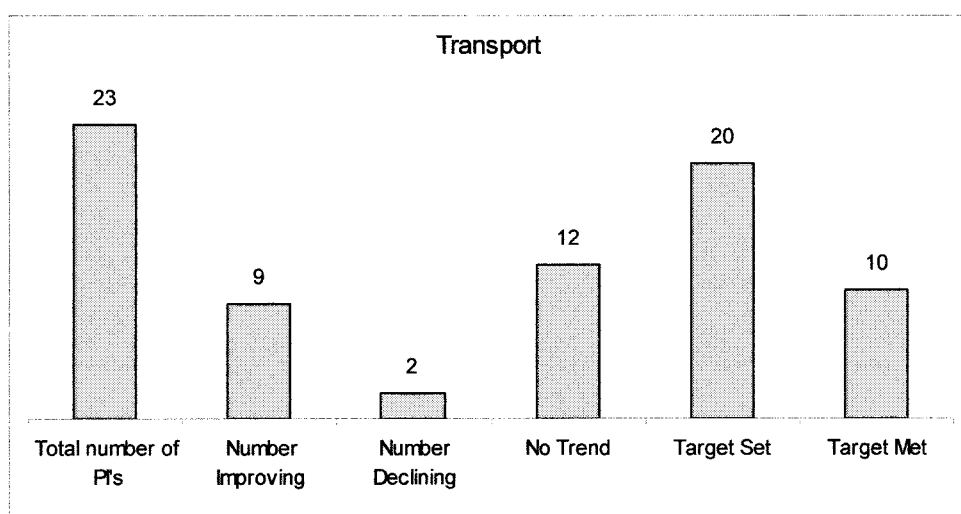
There has been a decline in the percentage of pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 English test (BV 41), having been 78% in 2005/06 it decreased to 75% in 2006/07.

There has been a decline in performance against BV 43b percentage of proposed statements of Special Educational Need issued by the authority in a financial year and prepared within 18 weeks including 'exceptions' having been 77.6% in 2005/06 at the third quarter it is 66.7%, based on current performance it is unlikely that this indicator will meet the expected target of 80%.

Transport

A total of 23 transport indicators have an impact on CPA, Direction of Travel and Best Value Performance. Please note that some indicators are included in more than one dataset.

Best Value Performance Indicators:	21 indicators
CPA Direction of Travel:	3 indicators
CPA Service Score for Environment:	14 indicators



Of the 23 performance indicators collected, 9 (39%) are improving, 2 (9%) are declining and trend analysis is unavailable for 12 (52%) indicators at the third quarter. Where targets have been set and performance data is available at the third quarter, 100% of targets are on track to be reached by the year-end.

Performance data in relation to road safety is published by the Tyne and Wear traffic and Accident Data Unit (TADU) every November and relates to statistical data collected during the previous year (January to December).

Performance in relation to road safety is strong, with a 7% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents (BVPI 99a(ii)), a 16% reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured (BVPI 99b(ii)), and an 11% reduction in the number of people slightly injured (BVPI 99c(iii)).

The percentage of rights of way easy to use by the general public (BVPI 178) is 77% at the third quarter, an increase on 72% reported in 2005/06 and on track to reach the target of 75% we set ourselves for 2006/2007.

Progress in relation to our local transport plan was published on 18th December 2006, when we were assessed as 'Good'. This is a positive improvement over the previous year when we were assessed as 'Fair'.

Appendix 2

The table below shows performance at the 3rd quarter against each of the indicators. Also included are the outturns for 2004/05 and 2005/06 as well as quartile positions. It is shown in the priority column where the indicators are a BVPI, Direction of Travel (DOT) indicator or included in a CPA Service Block (CPA).

Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	200405 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	200506 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
Benefits												
BVPI 76a	Number	High	The number of housing benefit claimants in the local authority area visited, per 1,000 caseload.	216.57	Lower Mid	257.15	Unavailable	183.82	↘	✓	250.73	BVPI DoT
BVPI 76b	Number	High	The number of fraud investigators employed by the Local Authority, per 1,000 caseload.	0.25	Unavailable	0.25	Unavailable	0.28	↖	✓	0.29	BVPI
BVPI 76c	Number	High	The number of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (HB/CTB) fraud investigations carried out by the Local Authority per year	33.04	Lower Mid	36.87	Unavailable	21.49	↘	✗	37.8	BVPI DoT
BVPI 76d	Number	High	The number of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (HB/CTB) prosecutions and sanctions, per year, per 1,000 caseload, in the	2.34	Lower Mid	4.19	Unavailable	3.56	↖	✓	4.27	BVPI
BVPI 78a	Days	Low	The average processing time taken for all new Housing and Council Tax Benefit (HB/CTB) claims submitted to the Local Authority.	31.6	Upper Mid	27.8	Upper Mid	25.05	↖	✓	27	BVPI DoT
BVPI 78b	Days	Low	The average processing time taken for all written notifications to the Local Authority of changes to a claimant's circumstance	6.1	Upper	7.7	Upper	8.27	↖	✓	8.5	BVPI DoT
BVPI 79a	%	High	The percentage of cases within a random sample for which the Authority's calculation of Housing and Council Tax Benefit (HB/CTB)	99.2	Upper	99.6	Upper	100	↖	✓	99.6	BVPI DoT
BVPI 79b(i)	%	High	The amount of Housing Benefit overpayments (HB) recovered during the period being reported on as a percentage of HB deemed recoverable	50.3	Upper	96.32	Upper	120.73	↖	✓	84	BVPI DoT
BVPI 79b(ii)	%	High	HB overpayments recovered during the period as a percentage of the total amount of HB overpayment debt outstanding at the start	New in 200506	Unavailable	34.57	Upper Mid	27.57	↖	✓	36	BVPI DoT
BVPI 79b(iii)	%	Low	Housing Benefit (HB) overpayments written off during the period as a percentage of the total amount of HB overpayment debt out	New in 200506	Unavailable	3.78	Unavailable	1.45	↖	✓	4.5	BVPI

Appendix 2

Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	200405 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	200506 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
Community Safety												
BVPI 126a	Number	Low	Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households and percentage detected	15.43	Lower	10.9	Lower Mid	9.35	↘	✓	14.2	BVPI
BVPI 127a	Number	Low	Violent crime per year, 1,000 population in the Local Authority area.	4.73	Upper Mid	21.3	Lower Mid	15.9	↑	✗	19.2	BVPI
BVPI 127b	Number	Low	Robberies per year, per 1,000 population in the Local Authority area.	14.11	Lower	0.9	Lower Mid	0.58	↑	✓	1	BVPI
BVPI 128a	Number	Low	Vehicle crimes per 1,000 population and percentage detected	12.79	Lower Mid	13	Lower Mid	8.2	↑	✓	12.1	BVPI
BVPI 174	Number	Low	The number of racial incidents reported to the Local Authority, and subsequently recorded, per 100,000 population.	Qualified	Unavailable	26.18	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	31.84	BVPI
BVPI 175	%	High	The percentage of racial incidents reported to the Local Authority that resulted in further action.	Qualified	Unavailable	100	Upper	100	↔	✓	100	CPA BVPI
CRIME 32	Number	Low	Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households (CDRP not BVPI)	15.9	Unavailable	11.3	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	DoT
CRIME 33	Number	Low	Robberies per 1,000 persons (CDRP not BVPI)	1.1	Unavailable	0.9	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	DoT
CRIME 34	Number	Low	Theft of a motor vehicle per 1,000 persons (CDRP not BVPI)	5.3	Unavailable	4.4	Upper Mid	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	DoT
CRIME 35	Number	Low	Theft from a motor vehicle crimes per 1,000 persons (CDRP not BVPI)	7.5	Unavailable	8.6	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	DoT
CRIME 36	Number	Low	Violence against the person per 1,000 persons (CDRP not BVPI)	19.2	Unavailable	19.4	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	DoT
CRIME 37	Number	Low	Sexual offences per 1,000 population (CDRP not BVPI)	1.1	Unavailable	1.1	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	DoT
CRIME 38	%	Low	% of young people who offend in October - December quarter that then re-offend in the following 24 months (data provided by loc	Not Collected	Unavailable	Not Collected	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	DoT

Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	2004/05 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	2005/06 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
Corporate Health												
BVPI 10	%	High	To monitor the collection rate of national non-domestic rates.	98.99	Upper Mid	99.72	Upper	87.46	↑	✓	99.7	BVPI DoT
BVPI 11a	%	High	Percentage of top-paid 5% of local authority staff who are women.	37.36	Upper Mid	38.2	Upper Mid	Collected Six Monthly	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	39.5	BVPI DoT
BVPI 11b	%	High	The percentage of the top 5% of Local Authority staff who are from an ethnic minority.	1.11	Upper Mid	0.74	Lower Mid	Collected Six Monthly	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	1.1	BVPI DoT
BVPI 11c	%	High	Percentage of the top paid 5% of staff who have a disability. (excluding those in maintained schools.)	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	2.29	Upper Mid	Collected Six Monthly	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	2.5	BVPI DoT
BVPI 12	Days	Low	The number of working days/shifts lost to the Local Authority due to sickness absence.	Qualified	Unavailable	11.87	Lower	8.88	↑	✗	11.2	BVPI
BVPI 14	%	Low	The percentage of employees retiring early (excluding ill-health retirements) as a percentage of the total work force.	0.28	Upper Mid	0.41	Upper Mid	Collected Six Monthly	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	0.15	BVPI
BVPI 15	%	Low	The percentage of local authority employees retiring on grounds of ill health as a percentage of the total workforce.	0.3	Lower Mid	0.17	Upper Mid	Collected Six Monthly	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	0.16	BVPI
BVPI 156	%	High	The percentage of authority buildings open to the public in which all public areas are suitable for, and accessible to, disable	16.8	Lower	45.1	Lower Mid	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	74.51	BVPI
BVPI 16a	%	High	The percentage of local authority employees with a disability.	1.75	Lower Mid	2.3	Lower Mid	Collected Six Monthly	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	2.6	BVPI DoT
BVPI 16b	%	High	The percentage of the economically active population in the local authority area who have a disability.	21.18	Upper Mid	21.18	Unavailable	Collected Six Monthly	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	21.18	BVPI DoT
BVPI 179	%	High	The percentage of standard searches carried out in 10 working days	100	Upper	97.66	Lower	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	100	CPA BVPI
BVPI 17a	%	High	The percentage of local authority employees from ethnic minority communities.	0.9	Lower Mid	0.9	Lower Mid	Collected Six Monthly	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	1.3	BVPI DoT
BVPI 17b	%	High	The percentage of the economically active (persons aged 18-65) population from ethnic minority communities in the local authority area	1.9	Lower	1.9	Unavailable	Collected Six Monthly	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	1.9	BVPI DoT

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Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	2004/05 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	2005/06 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
BVPI 2a	Number	High	The level of the Equality Standard for local government to which the Authority conforms in respect of gender, race and disability	1	Unavailable	2	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	2	BVPI DoT
BVPI 2b	%	High	The quality of an Authority's Race Equality Scheme (RES) and the improvements resulting from its application.	58	Upper Mid	58	Lower Mid	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	74	BVPI DoT
BVPI 8	%	High	Percentage of invoices for commercial goods & services paid by the Authority within 30 days of receipt or within the agreed pay	90.98	Lower Mid	92.78	Lower Mid	94.7	↑	✗	100	BVPI DoT
BVPI 9	%	High	The percentage of council tax collected by the Authority in the year.	96.68	Lower Mid	97.02	Lower Mid	82.49	↑	✓	97	BVPI DoT
DFES 79	%	High	% of economically active population aged 16+ in employment (LFS)	Not Collected	Unavailable	Not Collected	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable		DoT
Culture & Libraries												
BVPI 117	Number	High	The number of physical visits per 1,000 population to public library premises	4942	Lower Mid	4835.5	Unavailable	5379	↑	✓	5000	CPA
BVPI 118c	%	High	Users - satisfied with the library overall (aged 16 and over - PLSS 7)	92.6	Unavailable	92.6	Unavailable	93.1	↑	✗	94	CPA BVPI
BVPI 119a	%	High	Resident satisfaction - Sports/Leisure facilities	56	Upper Mid	56	Upper Mid	58	↑	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 119b	%	High	Resident satisfaction - Libraries	73	Upper	73	Upper	77	↑	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 119c	%	High	Resident satisfaction - Museums/Galleries	64	Upper	64	Upper	64	↔	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 119d	%	High	Resident satisfaction - Concert Halls	54	Upper Mid	54	Upper Mid	60	↑	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 119e	%	High	Resident satisfaction - Parks/Open Spaces	71	Lower Mid	71	Lower Mid	70	↔	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 170a	Number	High	The number of visits to/usage's of local authority funded or part-funded museums in the per 1,000 population.	1419	Upper	1421	Upper	1128	↑	✓	1387	BVPI
BVPI 170b	Number	High	The number of those visits to Local Authority funded, or part-funded museums that were in person, per 1,000 population.	1222	Upper	1146	Upper	929	↑	✓	1117	BVPI

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Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	2004/05 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	2005/06 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
BVPI 170c	Number	High	The number of pupils visiting museums and galleries in organised school groups.	11509	Upper	15389	Upper	12001	↑	✓	10720	BVPI
BVPI 220	Number	High	Composite library indicator (score against a checklist)	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	2	Unavailable	2	↔	✗	4	BVPI
C11a(i)	%	High	Request supply time - 7 days	44	Lower	53	Upper	58	↑	✓	55	CPA
C11a(ii)	%	High	Request supply time 15 days	73	Upper Mid	79	Upper	76	→	✗	80	CPA
C11a(iii)	%	High	Request supply time 30 days	90	Upper	96	Upper	91	→	✗	96	CPA
C11b	Number	High	Annual items added through purchase per 1,000 population	Qualified	Unavailable	176.85	Lower	168	↑	✓	190	CPA
C11c	Years	Low	Time taken to replenish the lending stock on open access or available for loan	Qualified	Unavailable	7.8	Lower	9.3	→	✗	7.5	CPA
C12a	Number	High	Stock turnover - issues per 1,000 population / books per 1,000 population	Qualified	Unavailable	6.1	Unavailable	5.3	↑	✓	6.8	CPA
C12b	Number	High	Stock level per 1,000 population.	Qualified	Unavailable	1332	Unavailable	1486.4	↑	✓	1354	CPA
C13	£	Low	Cost per visit (libraries)	3.49	Lower	3.09	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	3.15	CPA
C15	Number	High	Number of Museums accredited, including level (MLA)	Not Collected	Unavailable	2	Unavailable	2	↔	✓	2	CPA
C18	%	High	% of population volunteering in sport and active recreation for at least one hour per week.	Not Collected	Unavailable	5.46	Unavailable	5.46	↔	✓	5	CPA
C19	%	High	% of population that are within 20 minutes travel time (urban areas - by walk; rural areas - by car) or a range of three differ	Not Collected	Unavailable	49.86	Unavailable	49.86	↔	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA
C2a(i)	%	High	Proportion of households living within 1 mile of a static library. Standard = 95%	93	Unavailable	93	Lower	93	↔	✗	95	CPA
C2a(ii)	%	high	Proportion of households living within 2 miles of a static library. Standard = 100%	100	Unavailable	100	Upper	100	↔	✓	100	CPA

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Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	2004/05 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	2005/06 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
C2b	Number	High	Aggregate scheduled opening hours per 1,000 population for all libraries	133	Lower Mid	140.3	Upper	141	↑	✓	141	CPA
C3a	%	High	Percentage of static libraries providing access to electronic information resources connected to the internet.	100	Upper	100	Upper	100	↔	✓	100	CPA
C3b	Number	High	Total number of electronic workstations available to users per 10,000 population.	0	Lower	8.81	Upper	8.81	↔	✓	8.81	CPA
C4	%	High	Active borrowers as a % of population	19.75	Lower Mid	15	Lower	14.9	→	✗	20.8	CPA
LPSA 9a	%	High	The % of adults aged 16 or over reporting participation in sport and physical activity three times a week or more for at least	Not Collected	Unavailable	25.17	Unavailable	20.03	→	✗	24.53	CPA
Education												
BVPI 181a	%	High	Percentage of 14 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving level 5 or above in the Key S	64	Lower	69	Lower Mid	72.5	↑	✗	76	BVPI
BVPI 181b	%	High	Percentage of 14 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving level 5 or above in the Key S	69	Lower Mid	70	Lower Mid	75.5	↑	✓	75	BVPI
BVPI 181c	%	High	Percentage of 14 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving level 5 or above in the Key S	60	Lower Mid	65	Lower Mid	69.7	↑	✗	72	BVPI
BVPI 181d	%	High	Percentage of 14 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving level 5 or above in the Key S	68.2	Upper Mid	71.7	Upper Mid	72	↑	✗	78	BVPI
BVPI 194a	%	High	The percentage of 11 year old pupils* achieving Level 5 in Key Stage 2 English	26	Upper Mid	27	Upper Mid	26.1	→	✗	29	BVPI
BVPI 194b	%	High	The percentage of 11 year old pupils* achieving Level 5 in Key Stage 2 Maths	30	Upper Mid	29	Lower Mid	29.5	↑	✗	31	BVPI
BVPI 221a	%	High	Percentage of young people aged 13-19 gaining a recorded outcome compared to the percentage of young people in the local authority area	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	47	Upper Mid	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	60	BVPI
BVPI 221b	%	High	Percentage of young people aged 13-19 gaining an accredited outcome compared to the percentage of young people in the local authority area	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	29	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	30	BVPI

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Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	2004/05 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	2005/06 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
BVPI 222a	%	High	Percentage of leaders of integrated early education and childcare settings funded or part-funded by the local authority with a	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	61	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	62	BVPI
BVPI 222b	%	High	Percentage of leaders of integrated early education and childcare settings funded or part-funded by the local authority which h	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	42	Lower Mid	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	44	BVPI
BVPI 38	%	High	Percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the Local Education Authority achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*	44.2	LOWEST	51.5	Lower Mid	55	↑	✓	55	BVPI
BVPI 39	%	High	Percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the Local Education Authority achieving 5 or more GCSEs or equivalent	85.2	LOWEST	85.1	LOWEST	86	↑	✗	87	BVPI
BVPI 40	%	High	Percentage of pupils in schools maintained by the Local Education Authority achieving Level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 Mathematics	75	Upper Mid	73	Lower Mid	76.2	↑	✗	82	BVPI
BVPI 41	%	High	Percentage of pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 English	76	Lower Mid	78	Lower Mid	75	↔	✗	82	BVPI
BVPI 43a	%	High	Percentage of proposed statements of Special Educational Need issued by the authority in a financial year and prepared within 1	100	Upper	100	Upper	100	↔	✓	100	BVPI
BVPI 43b	%	High	Percentage of proposed statements of Special Educational Need issued by the authority in a financial year and prepared within 1	64.4	LOWEST	77.6	Lower Mid	66.7	↔	✗	80	BVPI
BVPI 45	%	Low	Percentage of half days missed due to total absence in secondary schools maintained by the local education authority	8.53	Lower Mid	8.43	LOWEST	8.43	↔	✓	8.6	BVPI
BVPI 46	%	Low	Percentage of half days missed due to total absence in primary schools maintained by the local education authority	5.82	Lower Mid	5.39	Upper Mid	6.07	↔	✗	5.43	BVPI

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Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	200405 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	200506 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
Environment												
BVPI 199a	%	Low	The proportion of relevant land and highways (expressed as a percentage) that is assessed as having combined deposits of litter	22.1	Lower Mid	14.2	Lower Mid	11.05 (April to November)	↑	✓	13	CPA BVPI
BVPI 199b	%	Low	The proportion of relevant land and highways (expressed as a percentage) from which unacceptable levels of graffiti are visible	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	2	Upper Mid	2 (April to November)	↔	✓	2	BVPI
BVPI 199c	%	Low	The proportion of relevant land and highways (expressed as a percentage) from which unacceptable levels of fly-posting are visible	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	0	Upper	0.17 (April to November)	→	✗	0	BVPI
BVPI 199d	Number	Low	The year-on-year reduction in total number of incidents and increase in total number of enforcement actions taken to deal with	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	3	Unavailable	3	↔	✓	3	BVPI
BVPI 218a	%	High	Percentage of new reports of abandoned vehicles investigated within 24hrs of notification.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	73	Lower Mid	70.19	→	✗	75	BVPI
BVPI 218b	%	High	Percentage of abandoned vehicles removed within 24 hours from the point at which the Authority is legally entitled to remove them	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	63.79	Lower Mid	75.51	↑	✓	70	BVPI
BVPI 82a(i)	%	High	Percentage of household waste arisings which have been sent by the Authority for recycling.	9.25	Lower	11.89	Lower	13.81	↑	✓	13	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 82a(ii)	Number	High	Total tonnage of household waste arisings which have been sent by the Authority for recycling.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	17108.2	Upper	15161	↑	✓	18720	BVPI
BVPI 82b(i)	%	High	The percentage of household waste sent by the Authority for composting or treatment by anaerobic digestion.	1.09	Lower	6.84	Lower Mid	10.55	↑	✓	7.5	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 82b(ii)	Number	High	The tonnage of household waste sent by the Authority for composting or treatment by anaerobic digestion.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	9845.05	Upper	11588	↑	✓	10800	BVPI
BVPI 82c(i)	%	High	Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste arisings which have been used to recover heat, power and other energy source	0	Upper Mid	0	Lower Mid	0	↔	✓	0	BVPI

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Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	200405 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	200506 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
BVPI 82c(ii)	Number	High	Tonnage of household waste arisings which have been used to recover heat, power and other energy sources.	New in 200506	Unavailable	0	Lower Mid	0	↔	✓	0	BVPI
BVPI 82d(i)	%	Low	Percentage of household waste arisings which have been landfilled.	89.66	Lower	81.27	Lower	75.64	↑	✓	79.5	BVPI
BVPI 82d(ii)	Number	Low	The tonnage of household waste arisings which have been landfilled.	New in 200506	Unavailable	116988.46	Lower Mid	83096	↑	✓	114480	BVPI
BVPI 84a	Kgs	Low	Number of kilograms of household waste collected per head of the population.	501.9	Lower Mid	509.2	Lower	387.12	↔	✓	517	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 84b	%	Low	Percentage change from the previous financial year in the number of kilograms of household waste collected per head of the population	New in 200506	Unavailable	1.44	Lower	1.11	↑	✓	1.53	BVPI
BVPI 86	£	Low	Cost of waste collection per household	27.9	Upper	38.37	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	40.93	BVPI
BVPI 87	£	Low	Cost of waste disposal per tonne of municipal waste	32.21	Upper	32.77	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	36.75	BVPI
BVPI 89	%	High	Satisfaction with the cleanliness of public space	58	Lower Mid	58	Lower Mid	59	↑	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 90a	%	High	Satisfaction with waste collection	89	Upper	89	Upper	83	↔	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 90b	%	High	Satisfaction with recycling	53	Lower	53	Lower	58	↑	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 90c	%	High	Satisfaction with waste disposal	76	Lower Mid	76	Lower Mid	77	↑	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 91a	%	High	Percentage of households resident in the authority's area served by kerbside collection of recyclables	98.6	Upper Mid	98.8	Lower Mid	98.8	↔	✗	99	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 91b	%	High	Percentage of households resident in the authority's area served by kerbside collection of at least two recyclables.	New in 200506	Unavailable	97.3	Lower Mid	97.3	↔	✗	97.5	BVPI
E4(1)	%	Low	Cleanliness of public places - Land Use Class 1	19	Unavailable	19	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA
E47	%	Low	% of residents that felt rubbish and litter lying around in their local area was a very or fairly big problem (BVPI Survey Q20)	53	Lower Mid	Not Collected	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA

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Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	200405 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	200506 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
Environmental Health & Trading Standards												
BVPI 166a	%	High	Score against a checklist of enforcement best practice for Environmental Health	100	Upper	100	Upper	100	↔	✓	100	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 166b	%	High	Score against a checklist of enforcement best practice for Trading Standards	100	Upper	100	Upper	100	↔	✓	100	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 216a	Number	Low	Number of 'sites of potential concern' [within the local authority area], with respect to land contamination.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	239	Upper	230.3	↑	✓	239	BVPI
BVPI 216b	Number	High	Number of sites for which sufficient detailed information is available to decide whether remediation of the land is necessary.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	3	Upper Mid	2.27	→	✗	3	BVPI
BVPI 217	%	High	Percentage of pollution control improvements to existing installations completed on time.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	64	Lower	100	↑	✓	90	BVPI
E30	%	High	Consumer satisfaction with trading standards service.	81	Lower Mid	91	Upper	83.4	→	✗	93	CPA
E31	%	High	Business satisfaction with trading standards service.	89	Upper Mid	95	Upper	90.5	→	✗	95	CPA
E32	%	High	Trading standards, visits to high risk premises.	100	Upper	100	Upper	33	→	✗	100	CPA
E33	%	High	Trading Standards, levels of business compliance, high-medium and low risk premises - ALL PREMISES	55	Lower Mid	98.5	Unavailable	84	→	✗	95	CPA

Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	2004/05 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	2005/06 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
Housing												
BVPI 183a	Weeks	Low	The average length of stay in bed & breakfast accommodation which include dependent children or a pregnant woman are unintentionally homeless	2	Upper Mid	4.45	Lower	4.9	↘	✗	6	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 183b	Weeks	Low	The average length of stay in hostel accommodation which include dependent children or a pregnant woman are unintentionally homeless	0	Upper	0	Upper	0	↔	✓	0	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 184a	%	Low	The proportion of local authority dwellings which were non-decent at the start of the financial year.	Not Collected	Unavailable	Not Collected	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	BVPI DoT
BVPI 202	Number	Low	The number of people sleeping rough on a single night within the area of the local authority	2	Upper Mid	2	Upper Mid	1	↗	✓	2	BVPI
BVPI 203	%	Low	The percentage change in the average number of families placed in temporary accommodation.	15.15	Lower Mid	-10.53	Upper Mid	7	↘	✗	-5	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 213	%	High	Number of households who considered themselves as homeless, who approached the local housing authority's housing advice service	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	3	Upper Mid	2.75	↗	✗	4	BVPI
BVPI 214	%	Low	Percentage of households accepted as statutorily homeless who were accepted as statutorily homeless by the same Authority within the last 2 years	3	Unavailable	2.21	Lower Mid	1.3	↗	✓	1.9	CPA BVPI
BVPI 62	%	High	The proportion of unfit private sector dwellings made fit or demolished as a direct result of action by the local authority	7.29	Upper	7.61	Unavailable	Annual Only	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA
BVPI 63	Number	High	The average SAP rating of local authority-owned dwellings.	Not Collected	Unavailable	Excluded	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	BVPI DoT
BVPI 64	Number	High	Number of non-local authority-owned vacant dwellings returned to occupation or demolished during the financial year as a direct	65	Upper	187	Upper	121	↘	✓	60	CPA BVPI DoT
H18	%	Low	Percentage of total private sector homes vacant for more than 6 months	0.69	Upper	1.89	Unavailable	Annual Only	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	1.92	CPA

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Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	2004/05 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	2005/06 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
Planning												
BVPI 106	%	High	Percentage of new homes built on previously developed land	68.8	Lower Mid	91	Upper Mid	91	↔	✓	60	CPA BVPI
BVPI 109a	%	High	Percentage of major applications determined within 13 weeks	42.68	Lower	43.1	Lower	75	↑	✓	60	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 109b	%	High	Percentage of minor applications determined within 8 weeks	42.78	Lower	81.04	Upper Mid	83.14	↑	✗	90	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 109c	%	High	Percentage of 'other' applications determined within 8 weeks	59.53	Lower	87.04	Lower Mid	92.98	↑	✓	88	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 111	%	High	Satisfaction of applicants with planning service	77	Upper Mid	77	Unavailable	76	↘	✗	88	CPA BVPI
BVPI 200a	Yes/No	High	Did the local planning authority submit the Local Development Scheme (LDS) by 28th March 2005 and thereafter maintain a 3-year	No	Unavailable	Yes	Unavailable	Yes	↔	✓	Yes	CPA BVPI
BVPI 200b	Yes/No	High	Has the local planning authority met the milestones which the current Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out?	Yes	Unavailable	No	Unavailable	No	↔	✗	Yes	CPA BVPI
BVPI 200c	Yes/No	High	Did the Local Planning Authority publish an annual monitoring report by December of the last year?	New for 2005/06	Unavailable	Yes	Unavailable	Yes	↔	✓	Yes	BVPI
BVPI 204	%	Low	The number of planning appeal decisions allowed against the authority's decision to refuse on planning applications, as a percentage	20.6	Upper	27.4	Unavailable	17.65	↑	✓	21	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 205	%	High	The local authority's score against a 'quality of planning services' checklist.	88.9	Upper	100	Upper	100	↔	✓	100	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 219a	Number	High	Total number of conservation areas in the local authority area.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	13	Unavailable	13	↔	✓	13	BVPI
BVPI 219b	%	High	Percentage of conservation areas in the local authority area with an up to date character appraisal.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	30.77	Upper Mid	30.77	↔	✗	38.46	BVPI
BVPI 219c	%	High	Percentage of conservation areas with published management proposals.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	23.08	Upper	23.08	↔	✓	23.07	BVPI
E2Ja	%	High	% of major planning applications within 13 weeks - June to June	Not Collected	Unavailable	56.6	Unavailable	75	↑	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA

Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	2004/05 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	2005/06 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
E2Jb	%	High	% of minor planning applications within 8 weeks - June to June	Not Collected	Unavailable	79.72	Unavailable	83.14	↑	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA
E2Jc	%	High	% of other planning applications within 8 weeks - June to June	Not Collected	Unavailable	87.83	Unavailable	92.98	↑	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA
E39	%	Low	% of brownfield land that is derelict (NLUJ)	2	Upper Mid	44.5	Lower	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	0	CPA
Social Services (Adults)												
BVPI 195	%	High	For new older clients (that is over 65 years of age), the average of (i) the percentage where the time from first contact to be	89.6	Upper	87	Upper	87.2	↑	X	91	BVPI
BVPI 196	%	High	For new older clients, the percentage for whom the time from completion of assessment to provision of all services in the care	86.7	Upper Mid	83	Lower Mid	83	↔	X	85	BVPI
BVPI 201	Number	High	The number of adults and older people receiving direct payments at 31st march per 100,000 population aged 18 years or over (age	169	Upper	183	Upper	205	↑	X	215	BVPI
BVPI 53	Number	High	Households receiving intensive home care per 1,000 population aged 65 or over.	12.1	Lower Mid	12.1	Unavailable	11.8	↓	X	13.5	BVPI
BVPI 54	Number	High	Older people helped to live at home per 1,000 population aged 65 or over.	126.83	Upper	128	Upper	127	↓	X	131	BVPI
BVPI 56	%	High	Percentages of items of equipment delivered and adaptations made within 7 working days.	Qualified	Unavailable	92	Upper	88.4	↓	X	92.2	BVPI
Social Services (Children)												
BVPI 161	%	High	The percentage of those young people who were looked after on 1 April in their 17th year (aged 16), who were engaged in education	0.57	Lower	0.71	Lower Mid	0.64	↓	X	0.84	BVPI
BVPI 162	%	High	The percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed regularly, out of those cases which should have been reviewed during the year	100	Upper	96	Lower	97.9	↑	X	100	BVPI
BVPI 163	%	High	The number of children who ceased to be looked after during the year as a result of the granting of an adoption or special guar	11.1	Upper	7.2	Lower Mid	5.4	↓	X	11.6	BVPI

Appendix 2

Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	2004/05 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	2005/06 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
BVPI 197	%	Low	Percentage change in number of conceptions amongst 15 – 17 year olds. Against 1998 baseline	-0.5	Lower	-18.7	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	-24.7	BVPI DoT
BVPI 49	%	Low	Stability of placements of children looked after by the authority by reference to the percentage of children looked after on 31	7.97	Upper	13.2	Unavailable	13.4	↓	✘	8	BVPI
BVPI 50	%	High	The percentage of young people leaving care aged 16 or over with at least one GCSE at Grade A* – G or a GNVQ.	55	Upper Mid	64.3	Upper	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	70	BVPI
Social Services (Cross Cutting)												
BVPI 198	%	High	The number of drug users in treatment per thousand head of population aged 15-44 (separate from PAF A60)	51.4	Upper Mid	6.7	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	10.9	BVPI
BVPI 225	%	High	The purpose of this BVPI is to assess the overall provision and effectiveness of local authority services designed to help vict	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	72.7	Unavailable	72.7	↔	✘	81.8	CPA BVPI
Transport												
BVPI 100	Days	Low	Number of days of temporary traffic controls or road closure on traffic sensitive roads caused by road works per km of traffic	0.1	Upper	12.2	Lower	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	5.5	BVPI
BVPI 103	%	High	Satisfaction with passenger transport information	57	Lower	Not Collected	Unavailable	66	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 104	%	High	Satisfaction with bus services	61	Upper	Not Collected	Unavailable	64	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA BVPI
BVPI 165	%	High	The percentage of pedestrian crossings with facilities for disabled people, as a proportion of all crossings in the local authority area	15.03	Lower	32.7	Lower	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	50	CPA BVPI
BVPI 178	%	High	The percentage of the total length of rights of way in the local authority area, that are easy to use by the general public.	56.7	Lower	72.1	Lower Mid	76.98	↑	✓	75	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 187	%	Low	Percentage of the category 1, 1a and 2 footway network where structural maintenance should be considered.	11	Upper	5	Upper	Annual Only	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	8	CPA BVPI
BVPI 215a	Days	Low	The average number of days taken to repair a street lighting fault, which is under the control of the local authority.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	5	Lower Mid	Annual Only	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	7	BVPI
BVPI 215b	Days	Low	The average time taken to repair a street lighting fault, where response time is under the control of a DNO.	New in 2005/06	Unavailable	26.68	Lower Mid	Annual Only	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	35	BVPI

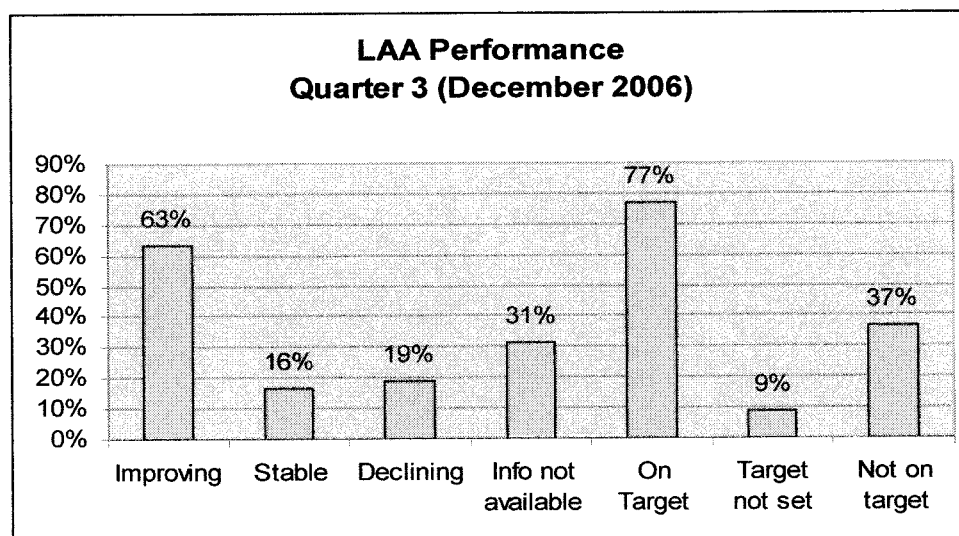
Appendix 2

Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	200405 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	200506 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
BVPI 223	%	Low	Percentage of the local authority principal road network where structural maintenance should be considered.	New in 200506	Unavailable	11.65	Unavailable	Annual Only	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	11.7	BVPI
BVPI 224a	%	Low	Percentage of the non-principal classified road network where maintenance should be considered.	New in 200506	Unavailable	16.04	Unavailable	Annual Only	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	15.7	CPA BVPI
BVPI 224b	%	Low	Percentage of the unclassified road network where structural maintenance should be considered.	5.94	Unavailable	7.26	Unavailable	Annual Only	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	10	CPA BVPI
BVPI 97a	%	Low	Condition of non-principal classified roads - the percentage of the network with negative residual life	7.42	Upper	Not Collected	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	6.6	CPA BVPI
BVPI 99a(i)	%	Low	Number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions.	121	Upper Mid	97	Upper Mid	90	↑	✓	98	CPA BVPI
BVPI 99a(ii)	%	Low	Percentage change in the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions since the previous year.	8	Lower	-19.8	Upper	-7.2	↔	✓	0	BVPI
BVPI 99a(iii)	%	Low	Percentage change in the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions since the 1994-98 average	-25.8	Upper Mid	-40.1	Upper Mid	-44.8	↑	✓	-39.9	CPA BVPI DoT
BVPI 99b(i)	%	Low	Number of children (aged under 16 years) killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions.	34	Lower	25	Lower Mid	21	↑	✓	24	BVPI
BVPI 99b(ii)	Number	Low	Percentage change in the number of children (aged under 16 years) killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions	-5.6	Lower Mid	-26.5	Upper	-16	↔	✓	-4	BVPI
BVPI 99b(iii)	%	Low	Percentage change in the number of children killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions since the 1994-98 average	-26.1	Lower Mid	-45.7	Upper Mid	-54.3	↑	✓	-47.8	BVPI
BVPI 99c(i)	Number	Low	Road accident casualties all people slightly injured	1225	Lower Mid	1139	Lower Mid	1011	↑	✓	1083	CPA BVPI
BVPI 99c(ii)	%	Low	Road accident casualties all people slightly injured - percentage change over the previous year	7.2	Lower	-7	Upper Mid	-11.3	↑	✓	-5	BVPI
BVPI 99c(iii)	%	Low	Road accident casualties all people slightly injured - percentage change over the 1994-98 average	2.8	Lower	-4.4	Lower Mid	-15.2	↑	✓	-9.1	CPA BVPI DoT

Appendix 2

Ref	Format	Polarity	Description	2004/05 Out turn	200405 Quartile	2005/06 Out turn	200506 Quartile	3rd Quarter (Oct - Dec) Cumulative	Trend	On Target?	2006/07 Target	Priority
E1	Text	High	Progress with local transport plan	Fair	Unavailable	Fair	Unavailable	Good	↑	Not Applicable	Not Set	CPA
E19	Text	Low	Intervention by the Secretary of State under traffic management act powers.	No	Unavailable	No	Unavailable	Unavailable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No	CPA

LSP Performance – Local Area Agreement

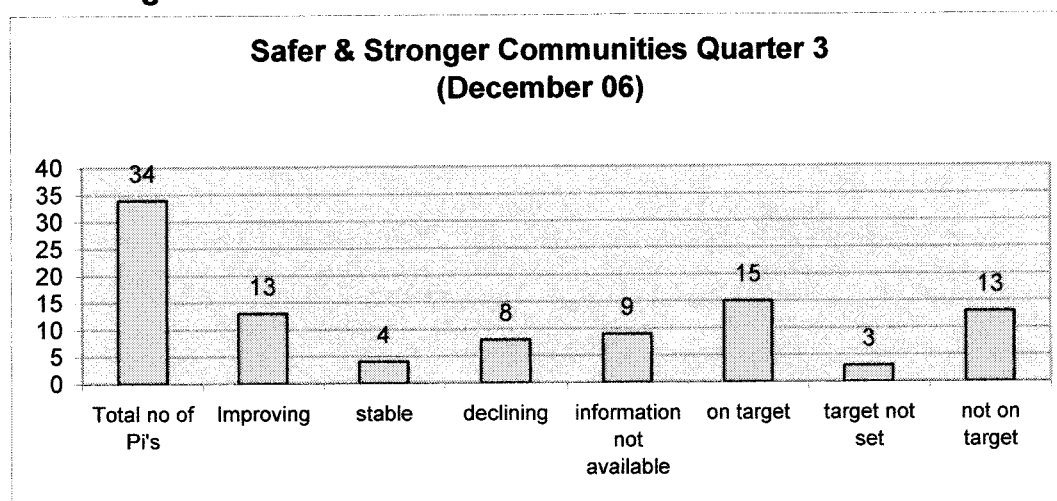


Total no of PI's	Improving	Stable	Declining	Info not available	On Target	Target not set	Not on target
115	50	13	15	34	62	7	30

There are 115 performance indicators contained within the Local Area Agreement. From this, there is no information available yet for 34 of the indicators. This is in part due to the annual residents survey, and in part around the development and establishing of baselines, with a target of 2006/7 for completion.

Of the indicators where information is available, 77% are on target and 37% are not on target. 63% of indicators are improving, 16% remain stable with a further 19% showing decline in performance.

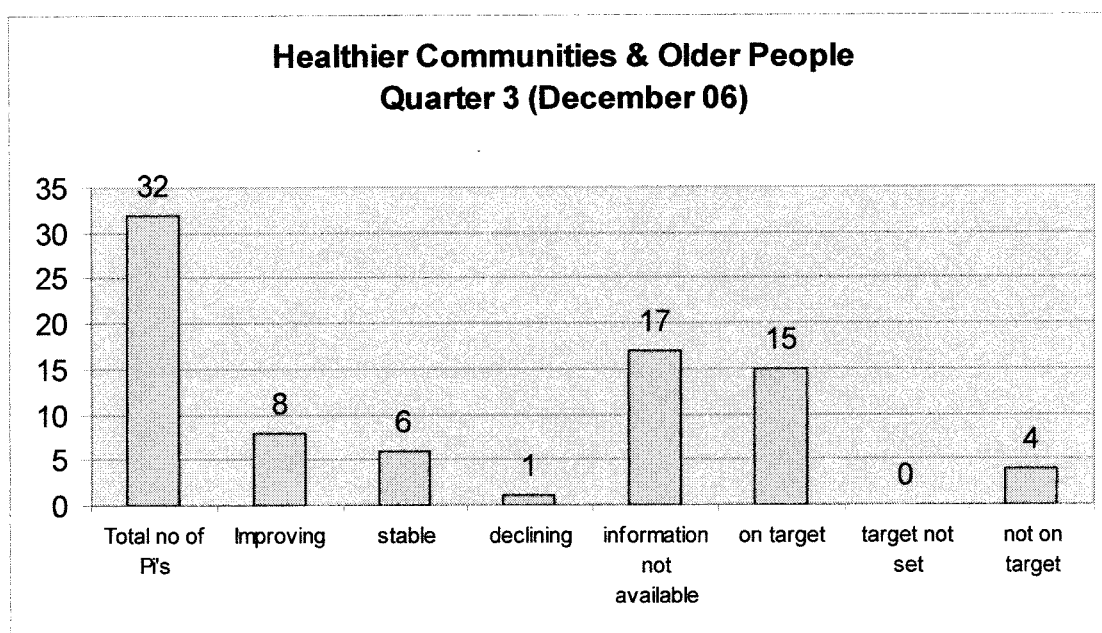
Safer & Stronger Communities



Currently, there are 15 indicators on target, 13 indicators not on target, 3 targets not set.

Information is not available at this point in the year in relation to progress against a number of targets that are measured using an annual resident survey, which is expected March 2007. Only two indicators cannot be collected during 2006/07 due to delays in implementing the hate crime reporting system, although this is expected for April 2007. The responsibility for delivery sits with the Inclusive Communities Thematic Partnership.

Health & Older People



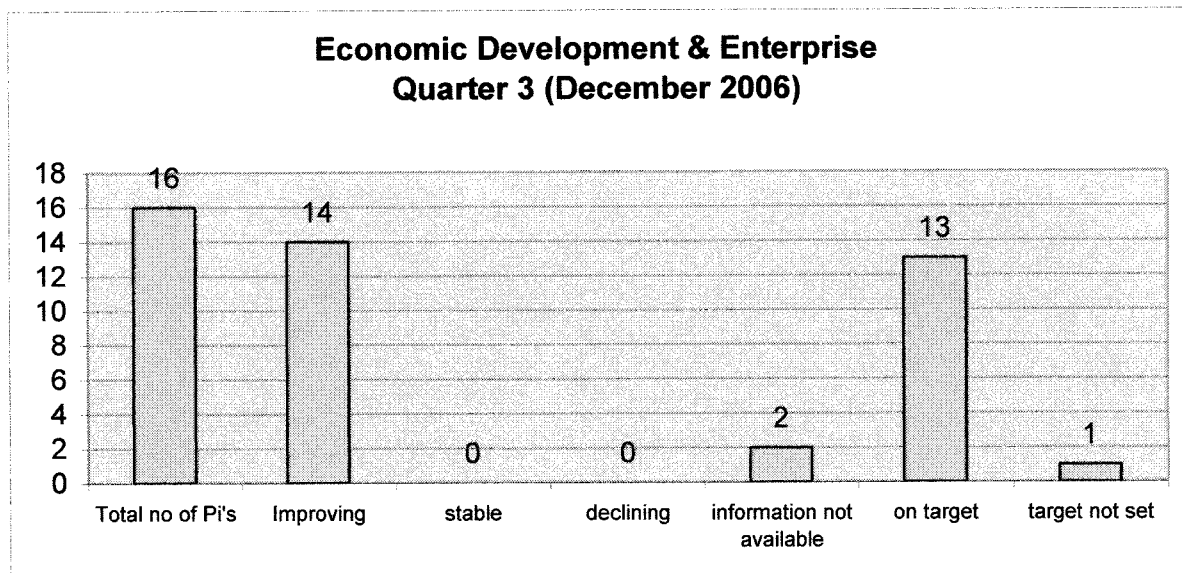
Currently, there are 15 indicators on target, and 4 indicators not on target.

Within this block, there are a number of indicators that are measured through the annual residents survey, which is not available for update until March 2007.

Overall, performance has remained stable between quarters 2 and 3. There are two indicators that as yet are not measurable around the improved level of support for older people with mental health and the target for 2006/7 of establishing a baseline is not set to be achieved.

However, performance around the number of people completing the Healthy Exercise and Lifestyle Programme (HELP), a structured programme of nutrition, weight management and exercise is set to exceed the challenging target identified by 2007/8, with performance standing at 632 people completing HELP, resulting in an increase of 387 disability adjusted life years.

Economic Development & Enterprise

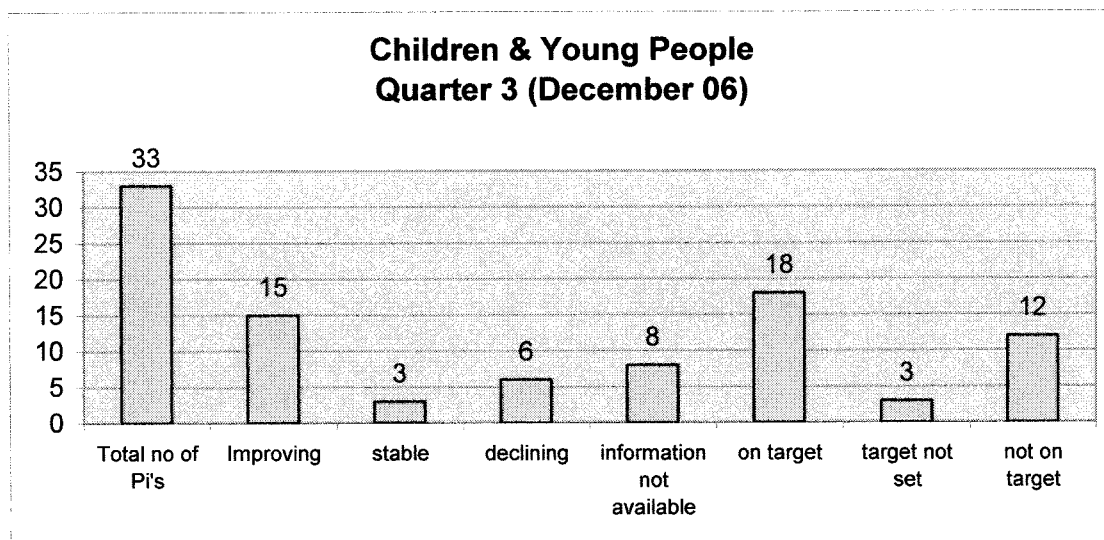


Currently, there are 13 indicators on target, with no target set for one indicator.

The Partnership has recognised that economic inactivity is a key issue in relation to addressing worklessness and as a result, have agreed a stretch target within the second Local Public Service Agreement to support 400 residents into sustained employment. First updates have demonstrated that we are on target to achieve this.

A number of the indicators identified in the Local Area Agreement are available on an annual basis. Although the number of VAT registrations has declined over the last few years the number of de-registrations has also declined resulting in net stock increasing from 4020 in 2003 to 4115 in 2005 achieving the 50 net increase target that has been set for each year. Employment rates in Sunderland are below the national average, nevertheless the Labour force survey highlights that the rate has increased slightly over a period of years to 69.7% at March 2006.

Children & Young People

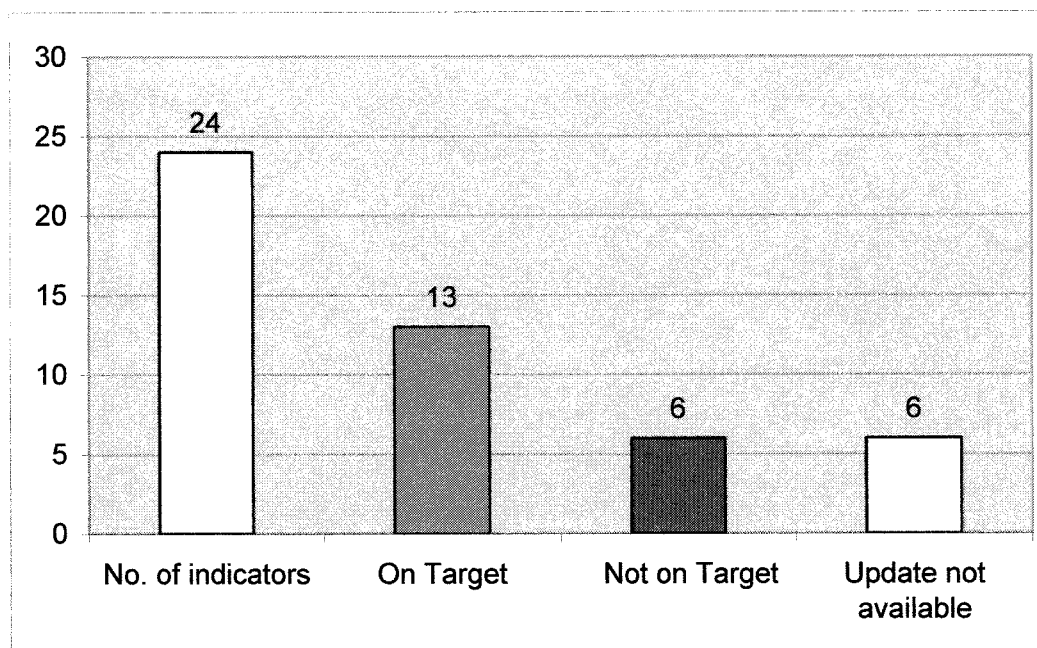


Currently, there are 18 indicators on target, 12 indicators not on target and 3 targets not set.

The teenage conception rate (aged 15-17 years) in the City has seen a significant reduction of 18.7% since the baseline period 1998-2000, which equates to 51.3 per 1,000 population. Whilst still higher than national and regional averages, there has been marked reduction in teenage conception figures.

In relation to the number of supported housing placements available for teenage parents, the target for 2006/07 is to increase places from current number of 8 to 13 places. It is expected this figure will remain at 8. In order to increase capacity / places available, the Sunderland Housing Strategy would need to prioritise young teenage parents for this type of provision. It is worth noting that between now and March 2007 the Supporting People Team, in conjunction with the Housing Options Team, are undertaking a social exclusion review. This client group falls within that review and it will be expected, depending on demand and need, that extra places for teenage parents will be delivered within the city. It is expected that this target will therefore be met and possibly exceeded by 2009. Additionally, the Teenage Pregnancy Board has agreed funding to commission a piece of work that will identify needs etc of accommodation for young parents

2. LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT 2



No. of indicators	On Target	Not on Target	Update not available
24	13	6	5

1. The Local Public Service Agreement 2 (LPSA) contains 12 key outcome areas, with 25 associated indicators. Of these 25 targets, there are 13 which are on target, 6 which are not currently on target and 6 waiting for update information.
2. For the 6 areas not on target, remedial action will be picked up through the ongoing performance monitoring. These should be treated with caution at this point in the year due to fluctuations in performance during quarters 3 and 4. A full risk assessment will be undertaken at the year end.

Areas not currently on Target
The % of girls achieving 5+ A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) less the % of boys achieving 5+A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent)
The % of girls achieving level 5 or above in English at Key Stage 3, less the % of boys achieving level 5 or above in English at Key Stage 3
To reduce the number of people accepted as homeless in Sunderland through increased homeless prevention work
The speed at which graffiti, reported to the Council, is removed
The number of young people who reoffend within 24 months as measured by YOT cohort data
The number of Looked After Children who have been in care for 12 months and have offended

3. A more detailed report on LPSA2 progress, including financial information, is being presented to EMT following the Performance Clinic.

POLICY & COORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

POLICY REVIEW : EMPLOYMENT LAND & PREMISES

REPORT OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

26TH APRIL 2007

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The Committee is invited to endorse the attached draft final report following a review of employment land and premises.

2. Background

- 2.1 A key function of the Review Committee is to evaluate and review policy and make proposals to Cabinet for policy development.
- 2.2 The Committee identified an examination of the strategies in place to support the provision of fit for purpose land and premises to cater for emerging growth sectors as a topic for review in June 2006. Evidence has been taken at four meetings and at two site visits.

3. Review Recommendations

- 3.1 The Committee has identified a small number of recommendations within the context of the significant developing national and regional influences relating to the availability of sites and premises to support future economic growth.

4. Conclusion & Recommendations

- 4.1 The draft final report is provided for endorsement by the Review Committee prior to submission to Cabinet as the Committee's proposals for review of policy.

5. Background Papers

Review Committee Policy Review reports 2006/07

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karen.brown@sunderland.gov.uk

POLICY & COORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

LAND & PREMISES TO SUPPORT EMPLOYMENT

FINAL REPORT

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Foreword

To be completed

Terms of Reference

Aim:

To review strategies in place to secure an adequate supply of employment land and of premises.

Objectives:

- To assess the supply of land and premises, including the Council's own stock
- To highlight some of the issues around both the availability and adequacy of employment land and premises.

Methodology: Evidence gathering through committee meetings from Planning Policy, Business & Investment, and Property Services. Consultation with external stakeholders e.g. private sector property market, agents and those providing support to the commercial sector.

Schedule: The review started in September 2006 and completed its evidence gathering in March 2007.

Background to Review

Businesses require appropriate premises in appropriate locations with access to skilled labour, markets, high quality physical infrastructure and modern broadband technology. This quality of place is fundamental to economic success.

Sunderland's commercial and industrial market has been buoyant in recent years with success in attracting investment and business, and the jobs that go with it.

Although industrial demand is strong, there is a risk that Sunderland cannot offer suitable provision beyond the medium term. This gives rise to the risk of companies moving out of the city and of curtailing opportunities for new development.

Against this background, the Review Committee decided to look at the strategies in place to achieve the aspirational economic growth targets set out in the Regional Economic Strategy ('Leading the Way', 2006). Sunderland must position itself to play a key role in the performance of the regions economy. If it fails to do so, other parts of the Region will inevitably become the focus for public investment.

Summary of Recommendations

1. This Committee supports the Council in pressing for the release of a Prestige Employment Site North of Sunderland.
2. The Committee recommends that the long-term potential of the Port area to accommodate business development should continue to be examined.
3. Exploratory work should be undertaken towards the possible acquisition of land at South Ryhope (as identified in the Sunderland UDP).
4. The scope for broadening the range of activities permitted in smaller industrial units should be investigated.
5. The Committee recommends a review of the need for managed workspace, incubators and start-up accommodation.
6. The Committee recommends the investigation of options available to require the 'Market Renewal' of outworn employment estates in Washington.

Summary of Findings

1. Demand for Land and Premises

- 1.1 During the 1990s, employment in Sunderland's traditional industries of shipbuilding, coalmining and heavy engineering was replaced by automotive manufacturing, financial and customer services (including contact centres) and the general growth in service industries such as retail and leisure. There are now around 10,000 people employed in automotive manufacturing, 10,000 in contact centres and 30,000 in retail and leisure (out of a total of about 120,000 people in employment in the City).
- 1.2 These sectors continue to grow in Sunderland, so the City must continue to be able to meet their locational requirements. This is particularly critical with regard to automotive manufacturing, which in Sunderland takes the form of a cluster of inter-dependent businesses - the competitiveness of Nissan being linked to the proximity of its suppliers and the efficiency of its just-in-time delivery system.
- 1.3 Both automotive manufacturing and contact centres typically require large sites. Whilst the former need to be outside the urban core (due to the number of heavy vehicle movements), it is anticipated that higher value office-based activities will increasingly look towards more central locations that can be accessed by public transport. Whilst there continues to be a strategic advantage in having a balanced portfolio of sites to meet different requirements, an increasing focus upon the City Centre is consistent with national planning policy, which seeks to steer office development towards the urban core wherever possible.
- 1.4 The continuing growth of retail and leisure is heavily dependent upon the regeneration of Sunderland City Centre and the local centres in Washington, Hetton-le-Hole and Houghton-le-Spring. The future of the City Centre is linked to the implementation of the regeneration plans being championed by the City Council and Sunderland arc, and falls outside the remit of this review.
- 1.5 It is prudent to look forward to where the next wave of investment is likely to come from. Sunderland continues to suffer from very high levels of worklessness (almost 35,000 people, equivalent to about one in four of the workforce), so there is still significant capacity to develop the local economy through adding new sectors.
- 1.6 It is difficult to predict which sectors are likely to experience long-term growth. A key element in the portfolio of the sites and premises therefore has to be flexibility. It would be a high risk strategy to commit resources to the delivery of property for one or two specific sectors upon the basis of an expectation of growth. Moreover, vibrant local economies tend to be characterised by diversity, rather than by the success of specific sectors.
- 1.7 The need to maintain flexibility in the portfolio of sites is highlighted by the fact that there was no expectation Sunderland would become a major location for automotive manufacturing prior to the arrival of Nissan in the mid-1980s.

Equally, contact centres were unheard of when work started on the development of Doxford International in 1990, although the layout of the site was sufficiently flexible to respond to this emerging market. Similarly, over the last twelve months it has been necessary to substantially revise the original master plan for Rainton Bridge South as Northern Rock's expansion plans have become apparent.

- 1.8 In the last year there have been significant job losses in the City's manufacturing sector (550 redundancies at Stag Furniture, 600 at Goodyear-Dunlop, 170 at SIG Combibloc, 100 at Corning and 240 at Arc International).
- 1.9 In contrast, automotive manufacturing continues to be buoyant, with a number of new employers being attracted to Sunderland over the last twelve months (Tacle UK Ltd. creating 250 jobs, Valeo creating 70 jobs and Karmann creating 50 jobs). Non-automotive job gains in the manufacturing sector include Tanfield Group (400 jobs) and Continental Conveyor (180 jobs).
- 1.10 Even outside the Nissan supply chain, there is reason to believe that the manufacturing sector has a long-term future in Sunderland, given the range of skills and support initiatives available to companies. Large-volume production will be hard-pressed to compete with lower wage economies overseas. However, the City is well placed to benefit from growth in small-scale, niche manufacturing. Whilst this may not be a source of large-scale employment, it will add-value and so contribute to the aim of generating economic prosperity.
- 1.11 An emerging sector that is likely to become increasingly important is environmental technologies. There is already significant investment in the development of alternative energy sources, creating business opportunities in R&D and niche manufacturing. These activities are likely to have sizeable land-use requirements, and the Port has been suggested as a possible location. The priority is to ensure that Sunderland is positioned to capture high value activities that generate significant numbers of well-paid jobs, rather than becoming a location for low-order activities that actually have a negative impact upon the local environment.
- 1.12 The knowledge economy is increasingly key to wealth creation in the UK. Tapping the knowledge-base in the University of Sunderland is already resulting in the creation of high quality spin-out enterprises. In recognition of its success in fostering e-businesses such as Leighton Group and ActivAeon, Sunderland's emerging 'Software City' brand highlights the success of businesses engaged in IT-related sectors. There are now plans to further develop the brand, strengthening the City's contribution to developing the knowledge economy in the Region.
- 1.13 Developments in the knowledge economy are generally associated with high value, low volume business activities. Whilst these play an important part in adding value within the local economy and in promoting graduate retention, they are unlikely to be a major source of direct employment for local people in the foreseeable future.
- 1.14 Nevertheless, the importance of the knowledge economy for creating wealth means that the City must be able to offer a portfolio of sites and premises

appropriate to activities of this type. Sunderland is already home to one of the UK's limited number of accredited science parks, which is based upon the Business & Innovation Centre and incorporates the University's Industry Centre and the St. Peter's Gate Incubator. The further development of the Science Park will be key to exploiting the potential of the knowledge economy, whether as a specific location or as a brand for a range of facilities.

2. Current and Future Employment Sites

- 2.1 During the latter half of the last century, industry within the Sunderland central core was focused on the river with the traditional industries of coal and shipbuilding.
- 2.2 The development of Washington New Town from 1964 onwards saw a concentration of small industrial units in that area. Other established industrial estates in Sunderland include Pallion, home of Rolls Royce for many years, and Hendon and Sheepfolds (likely to be re-developed into non-industrial use). Smaller sites include Leechmere and Pennywell Industrial Estate.
- 2.3 The City's newest business parks at Doxford International Business Park and Rainton Bridge Business Park have been hugely successful. Latest developments include the £100 million Rainton Bridge South e-business park, which will provide 4,000 new jobs plus a £7million incubator unit for up to 20 fledgling businesses. Also, work has now started on the Northern Rock development at Rainton Bridge, where 2,500 additional jobs will be created over the next few years.
- 2.4 The Vaux site will play a key role in the economic growth of the city, however, smaller niche manufacturing or office type developments will also add value and contribute to the aim of generating economic prosperity.
- 2.5 There is obviously a finite supply of land however where industrial sites are aging and there are potentially contamination issues, opportunities need to come forward to re-use these sites.
- 2.6 Evidence taken indicates a major issue is the ready availability of employment land. There is 172.83ha of land in the City, however only 87.41ha, just over half, is immediately available. In some parts of the city there is a greater gap between the amount of land immediately available and available land, including constraints.
- 2.7 The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) Panel Report recommends sub-regional and local employment land assessments based on a 25 year level of supply. Authorities are recommended to protect employment land, de-allocate or alternatively use land no longer required, regenerate / upgrade existing sites, with shortfalls to be met through intensification of sites around transport hubs and on brownfield land.
- 2.8 Based on historic take-up rates (see Appendix 2) there is theoretically enough land to cater to 2016, however, this is well below the 25 years recommended by the RSS Panel Report. Moreover, there are issues relating to whether some of the allocations included in the Sunderland UDP are in fact

developable. There is a need to bring forward sites urgently and address issues of how to speed up development e.g. it had taken about 10 years to develop Rainton Bridge South.

- 2.9 The RSS Panel Report recommends the deletion of the Tyne Wear Park (Strategic Site North of Sunderland) resulting in the loss of a 90 ha Prestige Employment Site. This is likely to create a sub-regional disparity as Newcastle and Gateshead retain 150 ha of Prestige Employment sites. This would encourage prestige economic development and a population migration north of the Tyne in addition to the concern that the population in Sunderland was also migrating to Durham and rural areas.
- 2.10 It is the view of this Council that the loss of Tyne Wear Park is a major setback reducing the potential supply for the three authorities south of the Tyne by more than 20%. The Committee was pleased to note the Tyne and Wear Chief Executives' Group joint response to Government Office North East and the North East Assembly making representations against this in the strongest possible terms. The Council is continuing to promote the case to retain the Tyne Wear Park. **This Committee supports the Council in pressing for the release of a Prestige Employment Site North of Sunderland.**
- 2.11 The only other option in Sunderland on a similar scale is the Port, a reclaimed brownfield site requiring significant reclamation works. Bringing land at the Port into use for offices, factories or warehouses will involve very high remediation costs, and its coastal location might become a concern to businesses if sea-levels change. Also, it is likely to take many years to deliver, so whilst the Port may have potential, it cannot be relied upon to meet the medium-term requirement for additional employment land.
- 2.12 The Committee visited the Port of Sunderland to discuss the site constraints, redevelopment opportunities, the Concept Plan, together with the emerging regeneration priorities and the proposed timetable for the appointment of an operational partner. The Committee welcomed the Concept Plan as a basis for moving forward with the regeneration of the Port but emphasised
- The importance of the Council building on the strength of its partnerships and existing users and work with developers to regenerate the Port for employment based uses.
 - The fundamental importance of the rail link and better road access.
 - The need to expedite the plans.
- 2.13 Regeneration of the Port is envisaged over 20 years. Any slippage in the appointment of an operational partner scheduled for Spring 2007 would be a barrier to progress and the Committee reiterated that they would like to see some early tangible progress.
- 2.14 **The Committee recommends that the long-term potential of the Port area to accommodate business development should continue to be examined.**
- 2.15 The City must have a continuous supply of employment land if the current momentum of investment is to be maintained. The Local Development Framework (LDF) now being prepared by the City Council to replace the

Sunderland UDP might therefore need to identify additional employment land allocations. However, it will clearly be a challenge to find new sites in locations that can easily be accessed by the City's residents.

- 2.16 The Sunderland UDP identifies a new greenfield allocation of 20 hectares (50 acres [= 3.3x Vaux site]) at South Ryhope, which the Southern Radial Route will unlock. This is not in public ownership, but there are plans to undertake site investigations with acquisition as a possibility thereafter. Since this is a greenfield site, it is good practice to first examine whether there are brownfield sites that might meet the requirement. **Exploratory work should be undertaken towards the possible acquisition of land at South Ryhope (as identified in the Sunderland UDP).**
- 2.17 Recent factory closures have left vacant sites that would be appropriate for redevelopment. The objective with regard to these sites should be to identify the best way to replace the lost jobs as quickly as possible. The immediate priority is therefore to safeguard the allocation of these and other viable sites against any attempt by their owners to seek a change of use (recognising that the emphasis in Government planning policy on steering housing development towards brownfield land has increased the likelihood of such an eventuality). To this end, the City Council must adopt a position that is robust and consistent, systematically re-examining the viability of employment land that has failed to attract market interest, while at the same time defending those allocations that continue to have job-creating potential.
- 2.18 There are also issues relating to how the City Council can secure the delivery of sites - whether greenfield or brownfield - given the limited availability of public funds for acquisition and servicing (this is despite the fact that these costs can be recovered through the sale of land, and that once occupied sites generate income in the form of business rates). The City Council has already undertaken the development of sites through partnerships with a private developer (Akeler Developments Ltd. at Doxford International and Rainton Bridge South). There may be scope for similar arrangements on new sites, so relationships with potential partners should be nurtured wherever possible.
- 2.19 The development of new sites needs to be integrated with other measures aimed at generating economic prosperity. For example, the creation of additional employment opportunities has to be matched by an increase in the supply of appropriately skilled, work-ready people, otherwise continuing investment will draw in commuters from the rest of the region rather than impacting upon the problem of worklessness in the City. Transport policies and the improvement of communications infrastructure are also highly relevant, since it is not always possible to create jobs adjacent to the places where people live. This emphasises the City Council's key co-ordinating role.

3. Business Accommodation

- 3.1 Finding suitable premises and improvement in road infrastructure are two of the most commonly cited factors by north east businesses for improving their business prospects¹. High quality physical infrastructure and modern

¹ North East Business Barometer Economic Survey Q3 2006

broadband technology are significant issues in relation to the creation and maintenance of a vibrant economy.

- 3.2 The Committee sought detailed information about the Council's industrial property portfolio. As a landlord the Council currently has 152 factory units located on 16 industrial estates throughout the city. There are approximately 800 people employed in the factory units. The estimated income from factory unit rental in 2006/07 is approximately £1,674,768 against an estimated cost to the Council of managing and maintaining the factory portfolio of approx £200,000 per year.
- 3.3 We were interested in the Council's strategic purpose for holding property, either to generate income or to stimulate economic or social development. We were also interested in condition, suitability, options for future and fitness for purpose. At the time of the review we were notified that this analysis may not be available until after the conclusion of the review i.e. mid to late 2007.
- 3.4 The Committee will look to investigating this aspect further including:
- The future shape and size of the Council's property portfolio
 - Is property ownership the only, or the best, way of achieving identified objectives for economic prosperity?
 - Opportunities to share property with other public agencies which would increase customer convenience.
- 3.5 There are around 10,000 self-employed people in Sunderland (significantly, this is the same as the number of people employed in either the automotive manufacturing sector or the City's contact centres). Of these, 4,000 are proprietors of VAT-registered SMEs, the rest are mainly one-person enterprises operating below the VAT-threshold. The City's indigenous businesses are spread across a very wide range of sectors, and so have diverse accommodation requirements. For instance, some types of one-person enterprises may be capable of being operated from home, including those engaged in e-business activity.
- 3.6 There are issues relating to the availability of premises for some types of smaller enterprises, with anecdotal evidence that business formation rates are being suppressed and that projects are being lost to other locations within the region. Specifically, current planning controls on the use of smaller industrial units may be restricting the City's ability to accommodate non-manufacturing businesses (for example, motor-related activities).
- 3.7 There may be factors such as access and parking arrangements that necessarily limit the range of activities that can be conducted from smaller industrial units. However, there could be locations where a degree of flexibility in terms of the range of permitted use classes might be possible. This would be consistent with a trend towards mixed-use locations rather than strict segregation of different types of commercial activity.
- 3.8 Given the need to encourage enterprise across a wide range of different sectors, an examination of the impact of relaxed planning controls in other parts of the region would be a beneficial exercise as part of an in-house feasibility study. **The Committee recommends that the scope for**

broadening the range of activities permitted in smaller industrial units should be investigated.

- 3.9 The North East Business Innovation Centre (BIC) offers support to business start ups enabling businesses to grow and provide professional services. This package of support includes legal, accountancy, answering service, and IT support. The BIC can claim a survival rate of 86% for businesses over a 3 year period (national average 62%).
- 3.10 The average length of stay on the BIC site is 4 years however with a lack of availability of premises to move on to some businesses do stay longer on site (limiting the availability for new start ups moving in).
- 3.11 There is an apparent shortage in the City of 'follow-on' accommodation for enterprises that have started-up locally, but which could be lost to other areas if they cannot secure suitable premises as their business develops.
- 3.12 The private sector provides a range of accommodation for many types of business in Sunderland. However, in many cases businesses cannot find suitable, available accommodation. This is often due to high site acquisition costs caused by the high value expectations of landowners, particularly where residential or retail land values are foreseen.
- 3.13 Furthermore, the returns likely to be generated on any business accommodation development are likely to be modest at best due to the level of rental or subsequent sale that can be expected. This too can mitigate against business accommodation projects by the private sector, particularly with regard to larger scale schemes.
- 3.14 Other restrictions to fledgling businesses can include finding themselves limited in options by long term leases. The Council can assist in the provision of appropriate accommodation where the private sector is unable to make such provision. This involvement may simply be providing information to the private sector at one end of the spectrum, or through to direct provision of accommodation at the other. The Council cannot provide this support alone and a key message throughout this review is that our partnership work will unlock key solutions.
- 3.15 **The Committee recommends a review of the need for managed workspace, incubators and start-up accommodation.**
- 3.16 Washington was frequently cited during the review as an example of an area requiring intervention. The focus in Washington is predominately on the regeneration, redevelopment and intensification of existing sites. There is a growing awareness of the need to enhance some of Washington's industrial estates in order to maintain their attractiveness as a location for inward investment.
- 3.17 **The Committee recommends the investigation of options available to require the 'Market Renewal' of outworn employment estates in Washington.**

Membership & Operation of Review

Members:

Councillor David Tate (Chairman)
Councillor Peter Walker (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Florence Anderson
Councillor David Forbes
Councillor Robert Heron
Councillor George Howe
Councillor Stuart Porthouse
Councillor John Walker
Councillor Denis Whalen
Councillor Linda Williams
Councillor Peter Wood (up to November 2006)
Councillor Anthony Morrissey (from November 2006)
Councillor Peter Young

Operation of the Committee:

The topic was chosen for review by the Committee on 20 June 2006 and the terms of reference were agreed on 20 July 2006. Evidence was taken at four meetings held on 21 September, 16 November, 22 February and 22 March. Site visits were also undertaken to the Port of Sunderland on 6 October 2006 and the Business Innovation Centre on 20 February 2006.

Contributors to the review:

Keith Lowes, Head of Planning & Environment
Janet Snaith, Head of City Business and Investment Team
Kevin Donkin, Policy Officer, Business and Investment Team
Colin Clark, Head of Land & Property
John Anderson CBE, Chairman BIC
David Howell, Director of Operations BIC
Paul McEldon, Chief Executive BIC
Bill Naylor, Managing Director Naylor's Chartered Surveyors
Mick Thurlbeck, North East Chamber of Commerce

**Sunderland City Council
Employment Land Strategy**

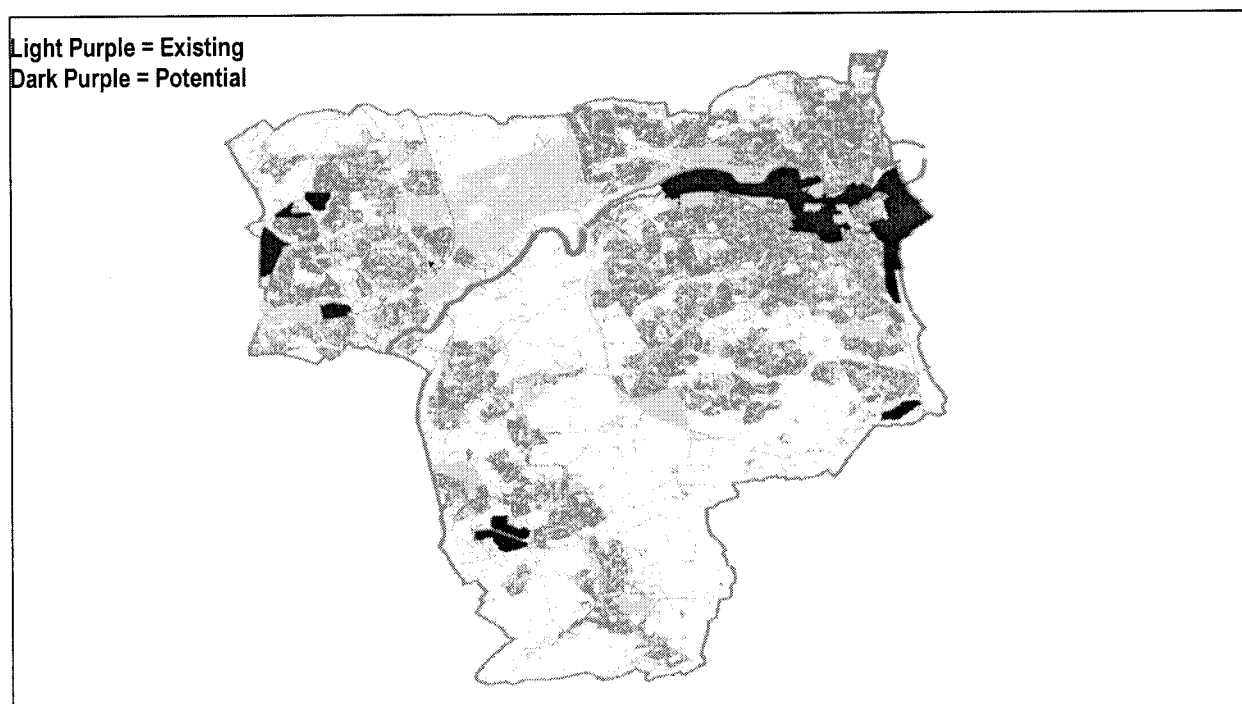
UDP Allocations & Spatial Distribution

Allocations:

Initial allocation of 1250ha within the adopted UDP (1998) to allow the Council to meet the City's economic development requirements.

Sunderland South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 332ha allocated for employment land distributed across 17 industrial / business areas • Economic development pursued through existing areas and through utilising the strategic road network
Sunderland North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75.8ha allocated for employment land distributed across 10 industrial / business areas. • Economic regeneration especially through the development of land as Wessington Way and ensuring accessibility from wards with high unemployment
Washington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 658.17ha allocated for employment land distributed across 16 industrial / business areas • Location has significant advantages in attracting employment and industry
Houghton & Hetton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 134.25ha allocated for employment land distributed across 13 industrial / business areas • Existing sites to be developed to increase employment opportunities including a large site as part of Rainton Bridge South

Current Land Availability

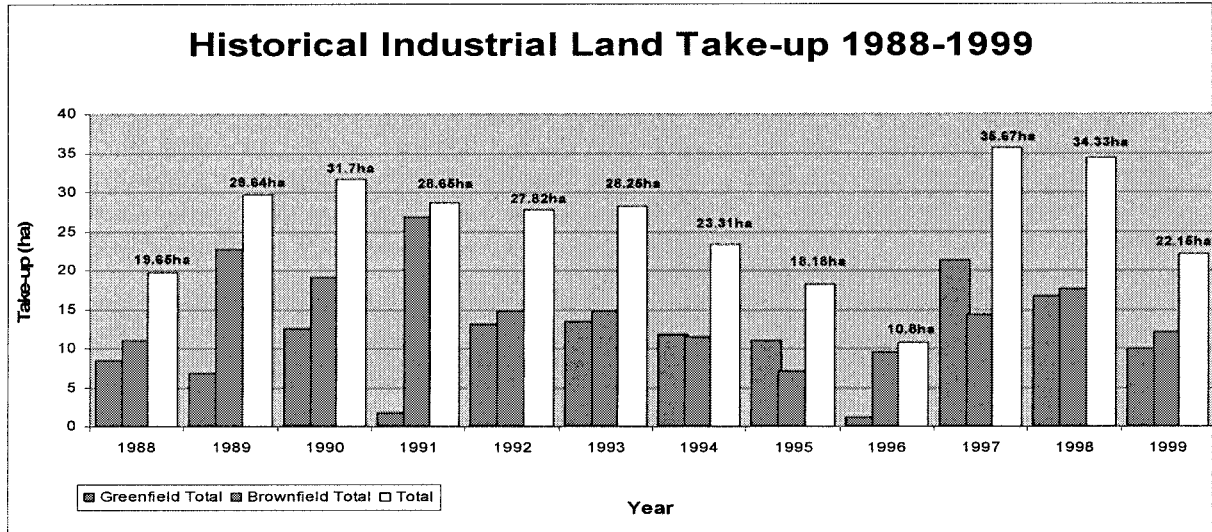


Current Land Availability

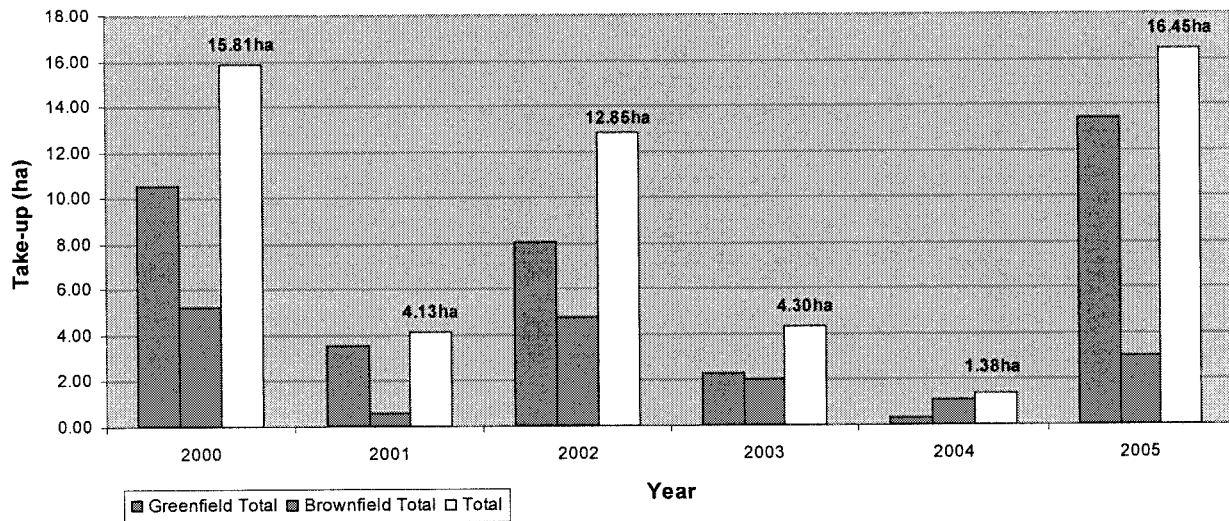
<p>Sunderland (South & North) Immediate availability: 15.83ha Medium-term availability: 40.24ha</p>	<p>Key: Immediate availability: Sites are those were development is able to progress in the immediate future</p> <p>Medium-Term Availability: Sites are those where development is likely to be affected by external factors e.g. ownership issues, remediation or the construction of proposed access roads.</p>
<p>Washington Immediate availability: 31.07ha Medium-term availability: 31.17ha</p>	
<p>Houghton & Hetton Immediate availability: 40.51ha Medium-term availability: 14.01ha</p>	
<p>CITY-WIDE Immediate availability: 87.41ha Medium-term availability: 85.42ha</p>	
<p>TOTAL 172.83ha</p>	

Take Up Rates

Two take-up rates are illustrated as the plan period rate is often used to illustrate poor take-up with the aim to justify the release of employment land for other uses (residential etc). The true historic take-up rate illustrates a much higher rate supporting retention of employment land.



Recent Industrial Land Take-up 2000-2005



Take up rate 1988 – 2005 = 20.28ha per annum. This is influenced through the introduction and implementation of:

- Enterprise Zones
- Derelict Land Grants
- Urban Development Corporation / Urban Regeneration Corporations
- English Partnerships

UDP period take-up rate 1988 – 2005 = 13.92ha per annum. Whilst the plan period may be acknowledged, recognition should be given that regeneration and economic development schemes exist independently from the adopted period of a UDP or emerging LDF, and longer periods should be considered.

Expected Land Supply 1998 – 2005

Life span using take up rate 1998 – 2005 = 13.92ha

- Total land immediately available 87.41ha
Divided by
- Take up rate 13.92ha
- Life Span 6.3 years

Life span using take-up rate 1998-2005 = 13.92ha

- Total land available 172.83ha
Divided by
- Take up rate 13.92ha
- Life Span 12.4 years

Expected Land Supply 1988 – 2005

Life span using take up rate 1988 – 2005 = 20.28ha

- Total land immediately available 87.41ha
Divided by
- Take up rate 20.28ha
- Life Span 4.3 years

Life span using take-up rate 1988-2005 = 20.28ha

- Total land 172.83ha
Divided by
- Take up rate 20.28ha
- Life Span 8.5 years

Background Papers

Contact Centres : Benefits & Long Terms Support 2004/05+	SCC
Inward Investment & Business Support 2002/03	SCC
North East Business Barometer	NECC
Regional Economic Strategy: Leading the Way 2006-2016	ONE
Regional Spatial Strategy for the North East 2005	ONE
Regional Spatial Strategy for the North East Panel Report 2006	EIP
Asset Management Plan 2006	SCC
Local Development Framework	SCC
Unitary Development Plan 1998	SCC

For further information about this review please contact
 Karen Brown, Review Coordinator Tel: 0191 553 1004
 Scrutiny Team, Sunderland City Council

POLICY AND CO-ORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – SECOND YEAR OF OPERATION

REPORT OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

26th APRIL 2007

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an overview of experience in Sunderland in the light of two years operation of information access rights under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

2. Background

- 2.1 The individual right of access to information held by public bodies, such as local authorities, health authorities and Central Government, came into effect on 1st. January 2005. This Committee received a report in December 2004 which outlined the arrangements that had been put in place within the Council to manage requests for information, and a further report in January 2005 detailing the first year's operation of those arrangements. Members asked for a further report to be scheduled into this year's work programme.
- 2.2 Members will recall that the requirement to manage requests for information in accordance with the detailed requirements of the Freedom of Information Act represents new work to the Council. We log only those requests for information that we would not have expected to deal with before January 2005 and continue to deal as 'business as usual' with the many other routine requests for information that always formed part of the day to day work of the Council.
- 2.3 The Act is based on the assumption that information will be supplied unless the public interest in keeping it confidential to the Council outweighs the public interest in making the information available.
- 2.4 Members will also recall that the duty to supply information is not absolute, but that there are some categories of information that are exempt from the duty to supply, primarily where publication would not be in the interests of the wider public. In these cases those parts of the information that can be published are provided as promptly as possible, but the Act does permit additional time to be taken in providing the information, where this is necessary to consider difficult issues around exemptions, such as an evaluation of where the public interest lies

3. Fees Limit

- 3.1 A significant limitation on information that can be provided is the mechanism of the fees limit. Where the cost to the Council of providing information is estimated to exceed £450 (which represents 2 ½ days' work by a single officer), then the obligation to provide the information in full is modified. Time

taken in considering exemptions cannot be taken into account in calculating the fees limit, which relates primarily to the cost of locating and extracting relevant information held in record-keeping systems.

- 3.2 In cases where the fees limit will be exceeded there is discussion with the applicant to help identify information we could provide within the fees limit. In recognition of the potential for officer time to be diverted from our other core services, the Council will undertake work to provide information in excess of the fees limit only in exceptional circumstances.
- 3.3 Requests for Environmental Information are managed under the Environmental Information Regulations, with slightly different rules on exemptions, time limits and fees. While the total cost of providing the information can be required before information is provided, there is no fees limit, meaning that large volumes of information may be involved.
- 3.4 A Government consultation on proposed amendment to the fees regime has been undertaken in the course of the year. This is in recognition of the burden some requests impose on public authority resources, which is perceived to be disproportionate. Of requests received by central government departments some 5% of requests are identified as costing over £1000, while some 61% are identified as costing less than £100 each to deliver. 14% of requests by volume are thought to represent 26% by cost. A supplementary consultation paper has now been published with consultation closing on 21 June 2007.

4. Requests Received

- 4.1 Requests have continued to be managed through the Council's network of Directorate Link Officers, who coordinate the supply of information held by their service area, and cooperate on the broader requests which cross service areas.
- 4.2 The Council registered 371 individual requests for information, representing a significant increase on the 301 received during 2005 (the first year of operation of the Act). The monthly average has therefore risen from just over 25 to a little under 31 new requests. As was noted during 2005, the number of requests received has tended to rise during traditional holiday periods.
- 4.3 The Act requires information to be provided promptly, and within 20 working days of receipt of the request. This does not include those requests which required further time to consider exempt information, so long as the applicant was informed of this within the 20 day period as the Act requires.
- 4.4 The breadth of information requested has continued to vary significantly, ranging from a simple request for access to a single identified document, to a request for details which are held across the full range of Council services. Requests have related to topics of current and historical public and individual interest, including award of contracts, family history, environmental health, and regulatory reports.

5. How we compare

- 5.1 We contributed to research carried out by a neighbouring authority which compared numbers of requests received and the systems other authorities have in place for managing these. This shows that Sunderland's experience, regarding volume, range of subjects, and source of requests continues to be similar to the experience elsewhere in the North East.
- 5.2 Sunderland has to date seen only one FOI request referred to the Information Commissioner for review, this being a request submitted to all Councils in Tyne and Wear in January 2006 where each Council's response has been appealed to the Commissioner. In this Sunderland compares well with authorities nationally. The Commissioner's decision on that request is expected shortly.

6. Systems Development

- 6.1 As experience of operation of the Act has developed, some refinement to the systems has been undertaken and responsibilities re-defined. Extensive training provided by the City Solicitor to all Directorates planning for the introduction of the Act is followed up with a programme of introductory/refresher training available to all new starters and to staff changing role within the Council. The FOI guidance manual, materials and systems continue to be updated progressively to reflect experience of the Act and decisions of the Information Commissioner as these emerge.
- 6.2 Working groups are now in place across the Council and an information audit programme underway, working towards a consistent approach to information management across Council systems and services. This covers the linked information governance themes of Information Management, Information Security, and Access to Information under the Freedom of Information and Data Protection Acts.

7. Recommendation and Conclusion

Members are invited to note the contents of this report.

8. Background Papers

Consultation on the Draft Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limits and Fees Regulations) 2007 28/06

Contact Officer: Rhiannon Hood (0191 553 1005)
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POLICY & COORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

ACTION PLAN: BETTER SCRUTINY MEETINGS

REPORT OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

26TH APRIL 2007

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To recommend to the Committee a method of monitoring delivery of implementation of the Action Plan for Better Scrutiny Meetings.

2. Background

- 2.1 At the December 2006 meeting the Review Committee considered a report outlining actions for the development of the scrutiny function. The actions had been identified by Members following a workshop facilitated by the Audit Commission in November 2006, with Members identifying which actions were within their control, and where they would require support to effect change.
- 2.2 The resulting Action Plan was adopted for implementation with the agreement of each of the Review Committees.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 Further consideration has been given, to practical methods of ensuring delivery of the Action Plan, and advice obtained from the Head of Performance Improvement. Based on this advice the format of the plan has been developed to improve clarity of responsibilities and timescales, which will allow delivery to be more clearly monitored by the Committee. A copy of the proposed format, illustrating how this would apply to the first of the actions is attached at Appendix A.
- 3.2 The revised format is designed to provide Members with a working tool to monitor actions planned and delivered, and clarify which actions Members have committed to taking, and which are to be delivered by officers on the Committees' behalf.
- 3.3 The Head of Performance Improvement advises that all the Review Committees monitor implementation of the Action Plan on a quarterly basis, as is usual for performance reports.
- 3.4 It is suggested that a copy of the Plan is provided to each Member of the Review Committees in advance of the first meeting of the new Council year. This would enable Members' suggested additions or variations to the plan to be reported to the Committee when the plan is presented for monitoring.

4. Recommendation and Conclusion

- 4.1 Members are recommended to consider the revised format of the Action Plan and adopt this, subject to any amendments agreed at this meeting, and
- 4.2 Members are recommended to agree to receive quarterly reports on implementation of the Action Plan, and contribute to development and delivery of the actions, as outlined at 3.4 above.

5. Background Papers

Audit Summary : Better Scrutiny Meetings

Contact Officer : Karen Brown 0191 553 1004
karen.brown@sunderland.gov.uk

Sunderland City Council
Action Plan for Better Scrutiny Meetings 2007/2008

Action 1.	Improvement activity needed	Current Activity		Target Date	Current Activity	Target Date	Is Current Activity meeting requirements of Action? Outline Future action required
		Officers	Members				
To seek more public involvement and awareness of the work of the Review Committees.	All Review Committees to explore occasional meeting venues outside of the Civic Centre.	Incorporate in annual work planning	Incorporate in annual work planning	31 May 2007	31 May 2007		Review monthly – Chair and Review Coordinator
	Explore links between themes on agenda and associated venues e.g. meet in library when considering library service targets.	In place -- to continue to identify opportunities to Members	In place -- continue to liaise on opportunities				e.g. Bunny Hill Vibrant City Centre Libraries review Keep under review

POLICY & COORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

Item No.10

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POLICY & COORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE 2006-07

REPORT OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

26 APRIL 2007

1. Purpose of Report

To present a summary of the work of the Review Committee during 2006-07. Once agreed the report will be submitted to Council in June 2007, in accordance with the Council's constitutional arrangements.

2. Introduction

This is the fifth Annual Report of the Review Committee.

3. Operation of the Committee

The Committee has met 11 times and has also undertaken site visits.

The Review Committee works to an annual work programme approved at the beginning of each year. A total of 64 reports and presentations were taken to Committee as follows:

- Policy Review (12 items)
- Policy Framework (21 items)
- Review & Scrutiny (23 items)
- Information / Awareness (8 items)

Copies of Cabinet minutes (Part I and Part II) were also received by the Committee for information.

4. Policy Review

4.1 Employment Land

This year, the Committee undertook a study into availability of employment land and premises. The Final Report is presented elsewhere on this agenda.

4.2 Absence Management

In 2005/06 the Committee undertook a policy review of staff attendance within the Council. The Committee monitored the implementation of the recommendations and received the latest sickness statistics.

The Committees view was that officers should be required to attend absence management training and asked that consideration be given to making the training mandatory for managers.

The Committee also asked for a more detailed breakdown in future reports of the types of illness for which staff were absent and asked officers to think about how staff who had not taken sick leave could receive recognition without this being seen as discriminatory.

The Committee will be interested in continuing to monitor levels of absence and also the operation of the new payroll system which went live on 21 December 2006.

4.3 Contact Centres

In 2004/05 the Committee undertook a review of work with contact centres and during this year continued to monitor the implementation of the recommendations.

This gave the Committee the opportunity to consider the travel plan project undertaken as a consequence of businesses identifying transport problems at Doxford Park. The travel plan at Doxford Park had targets to be achieved over a three year period and was developed in a partnership approach.

The Travel Plan gives businesses the tools to help solve their own travel related problems and in March 2007 the Committee examined the extent of 'buy-in' from businesses, staff and partners and what further work could be done to widen staff travel choice.

5. **Policy Framework**

The Committee receives plans and strategies contained in Article 4 of the Council's constitution. The Review Committee is required to be consulted by Cabinet for advice and consideration on these plans and strategies.

5.1 Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA)

Reports included a value for money, self-assessment, use of resources and an update on preparations for inspection.

The Committee took the opportunity during the year to congratulate Cabinet, Officers and the Members of the Review Committees for contributing to maintaining the Council's four star rating and also setting the lowest Council Tax level in the region while being one of the top achievers.

5.2 Sunderland Strategy

The Committee was consulted on the timescales and consultation process for a revised Community Strategy. This gave the Committee the opportunity to ask questions about the robustness of the consultation with communities, partners and stakeholders to ensure the Strategy was directly relevant to community based issues.

5.3 Safer Sunderland Strategy 2005-2008

The Committee considered the structure and operations of the Safer Sunderland Partnership and how it is tackling the priorities outlined in the Safer Sunderland Strategy.

The Committee was particularly interested in the operation of the Local Multi Agency Problem Solving Groups (LMAPs) set up to identify, analyse and resolve crime, the fear of crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse issues at a local level. Members expressed a wish to become more involved in the LMAPS groups and were advised that discussions were taking place between the Council and the Police and the spirit was for moving forward to include Councillors in the LMAPS groups.

LMAPS were now reporting to Area Committees on the issues affecting local wards and Councillors were being involved in this way in the meantime.

5.4 Budget

In accordance with Article 4, the Committee was also consulted on every stage in preparing the Revenue Budget, with reports for advice and consideration, from Cabinet. In addition Members were invited, and gave comment on, allocation of financial resources to services and projects, setting the council tax, the control of capital expenditure and virements.

6. **Review & Scrutiny**

Members were presented with opportunities to influence the shape of policies and services including through referral of reports from Cabinet.

6.1 Port of Sunderland Regeneration

In September 2006 the Committee held a meeting with the Environmental and Planning Services Review Committee and the Regeneration and Community Review Committee to review progress in relation to the completion of the Regeneration Study, the appointment of a Port Operational Partner and current developments.

The notice of the meeting was publicised in the local media inviting members of the public to attend and contribute their views. The meeting was the first opportunity to consider proposals prior to the Council's consultation exercise seeking the views of stakeholders on the future of the Port. Discussions arising from the meeting were submitted to the consultation.

The three Committees endorsed the Concept Plan as a basis for moving forward with the regeneration of the Port stressing that the Council needed to avoid slippage.

The Committees subsequently visited the Port of Sunderland on 6 October 2006.

6.2 Performance Management

Statutory and local performance indicators are received and assessed by the Committee. Performance information is used to inform decisions and drive improvement.

Members discussed in detail actions in place to attend to Key Performance Risk Areas and raised specific concerns relating to varied performance targets including homelessness in the City, removal of graffiti, targets missed in Adult Social Care, and improving the take up of free school meals.

6.3 Corporate Procurement Strategy

A revised Corporate Procurement Strategy and Action Plan were referred to the Review Committee for advice and consideration.

The Committee was interested in the extent of the Council's use of local suppliers with a target for a 10% spend in relation to small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The Council was working with local business representatives to raise awareness of opportunities. A survey was being undertaken of current suppliers, asking questions such as where the company was based, in order to build a database of companies the Council was working with now and looking to set targets to involve more local suppliers.

6.4 E-Procurement Developments

The Committee was notified that under the new arrangements for e-procurement the storage of goods would no longer be necessary and the stores facility was to close. The Committee discussed the measures in place to redeploy staff wherever possible.

In moving to this model of procurement the Committee proposed that through the tendering process, the Council needed to ensure that contractors were contractually bound to hold sufficient stock to meet requirements to timescale, to avoid the risk of any particular project being delayed and additional costs potentially incurred, due to late delivery of materials.

6.5 Capital Strategy & Asset Management Plan

The Committee received the Capital Strategy, a key corporate document on the use of available capital resources and the Asset Management Plan detailing the utilisation of property data at a strategic level across the organisation to ensure the Council's service planning and property planning were fully integrated.

The Committee was interested in the Council's maintenance backlog on its properties. A health check around asset management had shown that the operational practices were very good but strategic practices were somewhere away from where they needed to be. Liaison between service departments and Property Services had been improved, and the Asset Management Plan was helping to underpin these relationships.

6.6 Elections Pilot

The Committee was notified of proposals to increase voter participation involving a pilot application to the Department of Constitutional Affairs for the Local Government Election in May 2007.

The Committee was asked to comment and endorsed the proposal to prepare a pilot application for Sunderland based around advance voting welcoming this proposal as a way to increase voter participation.

The Review Committee requested that a briefing note be provided to all Members of the Council detailing the arrangements for the pilot scheme.

6.7 European Grant Funding

The Committee reviewed the funding that had been received in Sunderland from the European regional development in order to assess the impact of the programmes and whether the objectives had been achieved. For example, the Committee sought clarification on the priority to raise employment levels in certain areas of the City and whether this had been achieved.

6.8 Promoting & Communicating Council Services

The Committee reviewed further progress made on provision of services and implementation of the Improvement Plan following the Best Value Review of Promoting and Communicating Council Services.

Members were concerned about the lack of information they received about what was happening in the Council. The Committee suggested a Members' Newsletter would be useful to keep Members informed in relation to certain items of news and senior Council Officer appointments.

The Committee also took the opportunity to consider how to promote the work of Members and Review Committees in local areas as well as corporately.

6.9 Marketing the City

The Committee reviewed work being done to market the City of Sunderland and how we work with partners to achieve this.

Members commented on the improved image of the City and promotion of the City as a whole but also on the need to allow scope for people to identify with their local communities, for example, residents of areas such as Washington identified closely with their own local area.

The Committee requested that further information be provided to a future meeting on the specific actions and campaigns undertaken by the newly set up Marketing Group to promote the City.

6.10 Inquiry into the Role of Councillors

The Committee was notified of a parliamentary inquiry on the role of councillors and coordinated a response to the Call for Evidence.

A summary of all comments received was submitted to the parliamentary inquiry covering the powers that ward councillors need to be effective, the changes needed in the activities that councillors carry out, the support needed to enhance the effectiveness of ward councillors and public attitudes to political officeholders.

6.11 Freedom of Information

The Committee received a further progress report on arrangements in place under the Freedom of Information regime after the second full year of operation.

6.12 Coordination

In its co-ordinating role, the Committee received regular updates on in-year variations to the other Review Committee work programmes. Members appreciated changes primarily reflected new issues arising in-year and the fast moving national policy agenda.

7. **Information / Awareness Raising**

7.1 Local Government White Paper

The Committee was briefed on the key proposals of the White Paper particularly, ways in which the Government plan to legislate to enhance the role for front line councillors including community calls for action on local issues and to widen and strengthen the overview and scrutiny arrangements.

The proposals in the White Paper have now been introduced to Parliament as the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill on 12 December 2006. The Bill puts forward changes which in some cases could affect the way the authority functions. The Review Committee will be kept briefed on the progress of the Bill through Parliament.

7.2 Area Arrangements

The Committee was briefed on early proposals to update some of the constitutional, structural and operational arrangements across the City's six areas.

In order to keep abreast of current issues, the Committee also received information reports relating to: the Annual Efficiency Statement 2006/07, transformation of Children's Services, Respect programme, Annual Performance Assessment of the Council's Children's Services, Community Spirit Priority Issues and the Audit Commission's Annual Audit and Inspection Letter.

8. **Scrutiny Practice**

8.1 OSC Handbook 2006/07

To assist witnesses attending Review Committees, and to give 'a public face' to scrutiny - a Handbook was again delivered. This had been circulated to all the Review Committees and comments received were endorsed and included in the final document.

8.2 Call In

The operation of the provisions relating to call-in and urgency were reviewed during the year and in February 2007 this Committee coordinated a consultation on the implementation of a new call-in form to assist members in giving all of the necessary information when asking to call-in a decision.

The new protocol was endorsed by all Review Committees for inclusion in the Handbook in 2007/08.

8.3 New Developments in OSC

The Committee was briefed on the Home Office Community Call for Action (CCfA) and the role of overview and scrutiny committees. Further guidance is awaited in the summer of 2007 and consultation will be carried out with Review Committees on how to implement the provisions in Sunderland after the guidance has been received.

8.4 Audit Commission Better Scrutiny

A workshop facilitated by the Audit Commission was held on 10 November 2006 for Members involved in Review Committees.

An Action Plan for Better Scrutiny Meetings to take forward the issues identified by Members was endorsed by all the Review Committees.

This highlighted the need for clarity of reports and joint training with officers in order to develop a set of common expectations and to identify appropriate community-based venues for some meetings of the Committees. Committee Room Number 1, 'The Scrutiny Room', has been adapted to provide an improved venue for Review Committee meetings, and it was preferred that this room be used although it may sometimes be more appropriate for meetings to be held outside the Civic Centre when a particular theme or issue was being considered.

From September 2006 the Review Committees have benefited from the newly installed individual monitors to view on screen presentations as an additional enhancement to the 'Scrutiny Room'.

9. **Conclusion & Recommendation**

Members are asked to consider the operation, achievements and impact of the Committee during 2006-07 and submit this report to Council.

10. **Background Papers**

Review Committee Reports 2007-2008

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Item No.11

POLICY & CO-ORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

PROGRESS MONITOR & WORK PROGRAMMES 2006/07

REPORT OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

26 APRIL 2007

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To set out in-year changes to the Review Committee work programmes.

2. Review Work Programmes

- 2.1 The Policy and Co-ordination Review Committee has a role in co-ordinating efficient business across the Review Committees. The aim is to avoid duplication, make best use of resources and to provide a corporate overview of the overview and scrutiny function.
- 2.2 Attached at Appendix A are changes during this month to the Review Committee work programmes from those endorsed at the start of the municipal year.

3. Policy & Coordination Review Committee

- 3.1 The Committees own work programme was agreed at the start of the year and variations are detailed in the Appendix.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 That the Policy and Co-ordination Review Committee notes the variations to the corporate Annual Work Programme for 2006-07.

5. Background Papers

Review Committee Agendas April 2007 cycle of meetings.

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Amendments to Review Committee Work Programmes – April 2007

	Remove Item	Reason	Add New Item	Purpose for Inclusion
Health & Well-Being 18.4.07	As original work programme		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health In-patient facilities in Sunderland Action Plan: Better Scrutiny 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation on new south of Tyne proposals (Chairman's request) New developments in action planning
Children's Services 19.4.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSF / Academies progress from co-sponsors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not considered timely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Termly School Census Action Plan: Better Scrutiny 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newly available performance information New developments in action planning
Environmental & Planning 23.4.07	As original work programme		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon Action Plan Priorities & Key Issues – End of Year Action Plan: Better Scrutiny 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet report relating to policy review Request of Chairman New developments in action planning
Culture and Leisure 24.4.07	As original work programme		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LGA Annual Conference Culture, Tourism and Sport – Action Plan: Better Scrutiny 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from delegates attending New developments in action planning
Regeneration & Community 25.4.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tyne & Wear Fire Authority Hard to Reach Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not yet prepared by the Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet report – Gender Equalities Scheme Action Plan: Better Scrutiny 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theme (equalities) pursued by Committee this year New developments in action planning
Policy & Coordination 26.4.07	As original work programme		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Plan: Better Scrutiny 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New developments in action planning

