Report to: Audit Scrutiny

Date: 5th December 2005

Report of: **Assistant Chief Executive**

Subject: Quarterly performance report against Best Value Performance

Indicators (BVPIs)

Ward: All

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To present the Council's performance against BVPIs for the second quarter of 2005-6, giving emphasis to the PIs the Council has selected for particular attention because performance in these areas needs to be accelerated.

2.0 Consultation

The performance information in this report has been gathered from managers from across the Council.

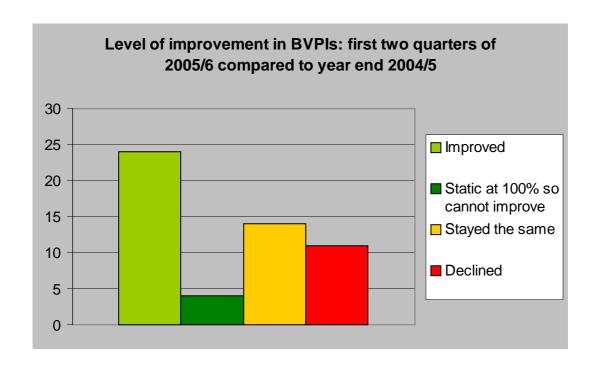
3.0 Background

- 3.1 In August of this year, we reported on the results from the first quarter's returns for the BVPI's. It was pleasing to report that there had been improvement in almost 50% of our indicators. Even more pleasing was the updated picture relating to the 11 areas of poor performance: where 9 of the 11 indicators had shown improvement, with a number either close to, or reaching the target set for the year end. We have now collated the returns for the second quarter and therefore can provide the latest information in relation to our overall performance in terms of the BVPI's and also give details of the current position in relation to the 11 areas earmarked for specific attention during this year.
- 3.2 With six months' worth of data, it is now easier to determine how we are performing overall and whether we are on track to reach the targets set for the year end.

4.0 Performance summary

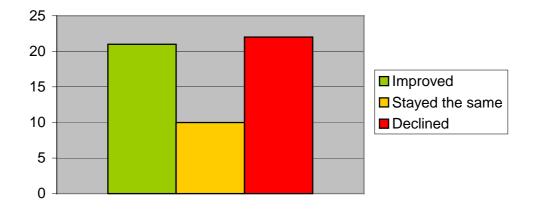
4.1 Best Value Performance Indicators: overall performance at the end of the second quarter (up to end of September 2005)

- 4.1.1 For 2005/6 there are 97 statutory BVPIs against which the Council is required to measure progress. Of these, 46 are either new indicators with no comparative data; are satisfaction indicators only measured every three years; are only measured annually or there is currently no data available to measure them. This leaves us with 54 indicators on which we can currently track progress on a quarterly basis. A full performance table up to the end of September 2005 is included as Appendix 1.
- 4.1.2 The table below indicates how we have performed in the first two quarters in comparison to the year end results for 2004/2005.



When compared to the 2004/5 year end picture (shown below, taken from the 2004/5 Performance Washup Report) we can see an increased proportion of improving PIs (the table does not include cumulative PIs).

Improvement and decline in Easington's BVPIs 2004/5 (taken from year end report)



4.2 Specific issues

Although the general improvement picture is positive there are some areas (other than those already identified for specific attention, which are discussed below) where performance is static or continuing to decline. Some areas where questions could need to be asked are:

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BVPI	Definition	Issue?
14	Early retirements as % of total workforce	An increase of 0.4% in the second quarter. This is due to 2 staff taking early retirement in that quarter and is not felt to be an overall cause for concern.
184a	Proportion of LA homes that were non-decent at 1 April 2005	Performance is bottom quartile by a significant margin and the target for 2005/6 will not lift us out of that position. The current strategy for improving homes is "worst first" and whole property based rather than looking for quick wins. The Council could require a change of approach through the process of approving the EDH capital strategy. However the current approach is ethical and economical (all updates to a property done at once rather than many visits from different workers). This does mean that this PI is unlikely to improve significantly until EDH achieves 2* status. When this issue was discussed at the end of 2004/5 it was agreed that we should focus on the 3* improvement strategy rather than any specific PIs.
76c	Number of fraud investigations per 1000 caseload Number of	Although we have improved our visits rate, the number of fraud investigations fell off in the second quarter from 32 to 19 per 1000. This is partly due to a lower number of referrals from the Housing Benefit Monitoring Service.
700	prosecutions/sanctions per 1000 caseload	referrals from the frouging benefit Monitoring Service.
179	Percentage of standard searches carried out in 10 working days	Planning application turnaround PIs have improved this year but the percentage of standard searches completed on time has fallen from 99% to just over 90% for the July-September quarter. We are aiming for top quartile (100%) performance on this PI so this does cause concern. An investigation of this suggests that this is due to issues with the introduction of the new Paradox planning system; the system goes live in December 2005. In the medium term this will increase efficiency but there may still be teething problems over the next few weeks.
127a	Violent crimes per 1,000 population in the local authority area	This apparent increase (from 11 to 20 incidents per 1,000 population) is due to changes in how violent crime is recorded by the police across County Durham; there has been no perceived increase in the actual level of violent crime as experienced by partners in the Community Safety Partnership.

Members may wish to comment on any of these areas they would wish to scrutinise further.

4.3 11 areas identified for particular focus

- 4.3.1 In relation to the 11 areas of poor performance where it was agreed that focused attention needed to be given in order to drive improvement, the picture continues to be very pleasing. There have been improvements in 10 of the 11 indicators, in relation to these key performance indicators. Attached in table format as Appendix 2 is the updated picture in relation to these PIs, showing the current quarterly figures and what actions have been taken in order to try and improve the figures.
- 4.3.2 It is worth noting that there have been particular improvements in the areas of **Planning, Benefits, Recycling** and **Sickness absence** in these areas there have been concerted efforts to take positive action to improve performance, the approaches taken within these teams have reaped rewards as reflected in the returns for the first two quarters.
- 4.3.3 There is one area of major concern remaining in this set of low performing Pls. BV156 (Authority buildings open to the public accessible by the disabled) is showing a decline and is still significantly short of meeting its target, as well as remaining firmly in the bottom quartile. Because the required amount of progress is not being made on this Pl, staff from the Asset Management Team are meeting with East Durham Homes (who operate many of the buildings concerned) on 2nd December to put in place action to ensure the required building works are carried out to programme. It is recommended that this target should now be formally project managed and regular progress reports brought to Scrutiny.

5. Implications

5.1 Financial Implications

This report has no direct financial implications; however performance is a factor in making financial decisions.

5.2 Legal Implications

This report has no direct legal implications

5.3 Policy Implications

This report has no direct policy implications but performance will be taken into account in reviewing the Council's priorities during 2005/6.

5.4 Risk Implications

A risk assessment has been carried out.

6. Communications

Highlight messages about the past year's performance are being developed for communication to all staff. Directors are taking on the responsibility of communicating performance in their own Directorates and ensuring routine discussion of performance in their management teams.

7. Corporate Implications

7.1 Corporate Plan and Priorities

Performance will be taken into account in reviewing priorities during 2005/6.

7.2 Service Plans

Performance will be taken into account in shaping future service plans.

7.3 Performance Management and Scrutiny

This report presents the quarterly position in terms of the Council's performance up to end of September 2005. This information will be used to further focus on those areas which may need special attention to generate further improvement.

7.4 Sustainability

There are no sustainability implications.

7.5 Expenditure related to 'well-being' powers

There are no direct well being implications.

7.6 Human Resource Implications

There are no HR implications.

7.7 Information Technology

There are no I.T. implications.

7.8 Equality and Diversity

There are no direct Equality and Diversity implications.

7.9 Crime and Disorder

There are no direct crime and disorder implications.

7.10 Human Rights

There are no human rights implications.

7.11 Social Inclusion

There are no direct social inclusion implications.

7.12 Procurement

There are no specific procurement issues.

8. Conclusion

8.1 The overall picture that is emerging from these results continues to be encouraging, although we need to maintain our focus on improvement generally, and in particular on formerly low performing areas (accessible buildings especially). It is hoped that this trend will continue in order to reach the targets we have set ourselves by the end of the year.

9. Recommendations

Members are recommended to:

- 9.1 Note the quarterly performance of the Council as represented through the BVPIs
- 9.2 Note the progress in relation to the 11 areas of underperformance
- 9.3 Recommend any additional action they require in order to maintain the focus on improvement against these PIs
- 9.4 Recommend that BV156 (Accessible buildings) be formally project managed with regular reports to Scrutiny

Background Papers

Corporate and Best Value Performance Plan 2005/6 Performance Washup Report August 2005 Quarterly BVPI pro formas

Appendix "1" <u>1st and 2nd Quarterly returns 2005/06</u>

<u>Key</u>

Cumulative P.I.
P.I. has declined in this quarter
P.I. has stayed the same
P.I. is improving against target or
outturn from last year

BVPI	Outturn 2004/05	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	2005/6 target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
GENERAL CORPORATE HEALTH						
BV2a – Level of the Equality Standard for LG to which the authority conforms	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 2	N/A	N/A
BV2b – The duty to promote race equality (now cumulative)	58%	37%	47%	65%	55%	26%
BV3 - % of citizens satisfied with the overall services provided	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
BV4 - % complainants satisfied with the handling of their complaint	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
BV8 – The percentage of undisputed invoices paid within 30 days	98.4%	99%	99%	99%	96.74%	90.89%
BV9 – Percentage of Council Tax collected	95.40%	26.91%	54.60%	98.2%	98.50%	97.20%
BV10 - % of NNDR collected that were due for the financial year	98.10%	28.19%	57.17%	98.3%	99.12%	98%
BV11a – The percentage of top 5% of earners that are women	14.3%	14.3%	14.7%	16%	26.69%	14.70%
BV11b – The percentage of top 5% of earners from black & ethnic minority communities	0%	0%	0%	2%	2.20%	0.00%
BV11c (NEW) Top 5% of earners that have a disability	N/A	5.7%	5.9%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV12 – The average working days/shifts lost due to sickness per FTE	11.3	10.7	9.7	10	8.93	11.82

BVPI	Outturn 2004/05	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	2005/6 target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
BV14 – Early retirements as % of total workforce	0.63%	0.40%	0.80%	0.45%	0.14%	1.02%
BV15 – ill health retirements as % of total workforce	1.05%	0.40%	0.20%	0.35%	0.00%	0.61%
BV16a - % of Council workers declaring they are disabled	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	5%	4.11%	1.72%
BV16b - % of economically active people in LA area declaring they are disabled	29%	29%	29%	N/A	15.09%	10.44%
BV 17x % of council workers from minority ethnic communities	0.36%	0.35%	0.35%	0.4%	2.4%	0.6%
BV17y - % of economically active people in LA area from minority ethnic communities	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	N/A	3.4%	1.1%

BVPI	Outturn 2004/05	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	2005/6 target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
BV156 – Authority buildings open to the public accessible by the disabled	21.62%	16.67%	17.65%	100%	67%	27%
BV157 - % of interactions with public capable of electronic service delivery	53.78%	53.78%	62.76%	100%	72%	50.30%
HOUSING						
BV63 – Average SAP energy efficiency rating of LA owned dwellings	60	N/A	N/A	63	65	58
BV64 – The number of private sector dwellings vacant for 6 months and reoccupied from LA action	47	16	27	52	N/A	N/A
BV66a – Proportion of rent collected	97.8%	97%	97.5%	97.4%	98.60%	96.79%
BV66b (NEW) Number of local authority tenants with more than 7 weeks of (gross) rent arrears as a % of total number of council tenants	New indicator for 05/06	5.96%	5.36 %	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV66c (NEW) % of local authority tenants in arrears who have had Notices Seeking Possession served	New indicator for 05/06	3.65%	14.73%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV66d (NEW) % of local authority tenants evicted as a result of rent arrears	New indicator for 05/06	0.05%	0.1%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV74(i) Satisfaction of tenants with overall service BV74 (ii) Satisfaction of tenants with overall service provided – black & ethnic minority BV74 (iii) Satisfaction of tenants with overall service provided – non-black & ethnic minority	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
BV75 Satisfaction of Council tenants with opportunities for participation in management & decision making in relation to housing services: with results further broken down by 75(i) black and ethnic minority tenants 75(ii) non-black and ethnic minority tenants	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

BVPI	Outturn 2004/05	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	2005/6 target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
BV164 – Does the authority follow the Commission for Racial Equality's code of practice in rented housing and follow the Good Practice Standards for social landlords on tackling harassment including in Tackling Racial Harassment: Code of Practice for Social Landlords	No	No	No	Yes	N/A	N/A
BV183a – Average length of stay in bed and breakfast accommodation	0	0	0	0	1.18	8.80
BV183b – Average length of stay in hostel accommodation	0	0	0	0	0	22.25
BV184a – Proportion of LA homes that were non-decent at 1 April 2005	72.30%	72.97%	74.71%	72.96%	15%	46%
BV184b – Percentage change in proportion of non-decent homes 2005-2006	+6.93%	+1.06%	+2.17%	+4.90%	26.6%	4.5%
BV211a (NEW) The proportion of planned repairs & maintenance expenditure on HRA dwellings compared to responsive maintenance expenditure on HRA dwellings	New Indicator	Data unavail.	44.67%	50%	N/A	N/A
BV211b (NEW) Proportion of expenditure on emergency and urgent repairs to HRA dwellings compared to non urgent repairs expenditure to HRA dwellings	New Indicator	Data unavail	Data unavail	60%	N/A	N/A
BV212 (NEW) Average time taken to re-let council dwellings	New indicator	84 days	56.8 days	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV202 – The number of people sleeping rough on a single night within the area of the local authority	0 – 10	0 - 10	0-10	0-10	N/A	N/A
BV203 – The % change in the average no. of families, which include dependent children/ pregnant woman, placed in temporary accommodation under the homelessness legislation compared with average from previous year	8.33%	3%	2%	2%	N/A	N/A

BVPI	Outturn 2004/05	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	2005/6 target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
BV213 (NEW) Number of homelessness cases prevented	New indicator	27	13	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV214 (NEW) Repeat homelessness	New indicator	16.18%	4.3%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
HOUSING TAX BENEFIT & COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT						
Strategy for combating fraud & error						
BV76a – Number of claimants visited per 1000 caseload	26.5	48.65	75.74	50	304	64.11
BV76b – Number of fraud investigators per 1000 caseload	0.32	0.31	0.32	0.32	0.48	0.26
BV76c– Number of fraud investigations per 1000 caseload	32.5	31.85	19.35	30	61.70	32.87
BV76d – Number of prosecutions/sanctions per 1000 caseload	1.6	0.39	0.63	1.7	5.83	1.77
BV78a – Average time for processing new claims	35.6	35.02	34.07	29	31.0	46.3
BV78b – Average time for processing change of circumstances	8.11	6.9	7.34	7.5	7.2	13.0
BV79a – Accuracy of processing: % of cases for which the calculation was correct	96.6%	100	100	100	99.00	96.80
BV79b – Accuracy of processing: % of recoverable overpayments (ex council tax benefit) that were recovered in the year	Unable to supply data	New com system sh able to su data later year	nould be ipply	No baseline	55.60	39.32
BV79b (ii) (NEW) HB overpayments written off as % HB overpayment debt	"			"	N/A	N/A
BV79b (iii) (NEW) HB overpayments written off as % HB overpayment debt	66			"	N/A	N/A
ENVIRONMENT BV199 – proportion of relevant						
land/highway as defined under EPA 1990 Part IV sec 86 that is assessed as having combined deposits of litter & detritus across 4categories of cleanliness (Clean, Light, Significant, Heavy)	Qualified nil return	28%	28%	30%	12.0%	25.2%

BVPI	Outturn 2004/05	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	2005/6 target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
BV199b (NEW) % of relevant land and highways where unacceptable levels of graffiti are visible	New indicator	15%	15%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV199c (NEW) % of relevant land and highways where unacceptable levels of flyposting are visible	New indicator	4%	4%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV199d (NEW) Reduction in incidents/increase in enforcement actions in relation to fly-tipping	New indicator	4	4	4	N/A	N/A
BV82a - Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste arising which have been recycled	7.62%	8.17%	12.61%	10%	N/A	N/A
BV82a (ii) – Total tonnage of household waste arisings which have been sent by the Authority for recycling	New indicator	837.31	894.01	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV82b – Percentage of waste sent for composting: definition amended to include waste, which has been treated through a process of anaerobic digestion	6.02%	12.74%	25.88%	15%	5.14%	0.00%
BV82b (ii) – The total tonnage of household waste sent by the authority for composting or treatment by anaerobic digestion	New indicator	1179	1835.6	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV82d (i) – Percentage of household waste arisings which have been landfilled	86.36%	83.02%	61.51%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV82d (ii) – The tonnage of household waste arisings which have been landfilled	38252	10373.2	9346.6	No baseline	N/A	N/A

BVPI	Outturn 2004/05	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	2005/6 target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
BV84 – No of kgs of household waste collected per head (NB methodology changed to quarterly not annual estimate)	477.21	126.46	117.51	460	371.7	430.3
BV84b (NEW) % change from the previous financial year in the number of kgs of household waste collected per head of the population	3.26%	+7.25%	-39.9%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV86 – Cost of waste collection per head	£44.06	£50.65	£48.01	£45.78	N/A	N/A
BV89 – Percentage of people satisfied with the cleanliness standard in their area	Survey every 3 years	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
BV90 - Percentage of people satisfied with a) household waste collection b) waste recycling	Survey every 3 years	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
BV91a – Percentage of the population resident in the authority's area served by a kerbside collection of recycling	99.48%	99.48%	99.48%	99%	100%	84.95%
BV91b – % of household residents served by kerbside collection of at least two recyclables	99.48%	99.48%	99.48%	99%	N/A	N/A
BV216a (NEW) Number of "sites of potential concern" with respect to land contamination	New indicator	408	408	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV216b (NEW) Number of sites where remediation of the land is necessary as a % of all "sites of potential concern"	New indicator	7/408= 1.7%	7/408= 1.7%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV217 (NEW) % of pollution control improvements to existing installations completed on time	New indicator	100%	100%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV218a (NEW) % new reports of abandoned vehicles investigated within 24hrs of notification	New indicator	74%	92%	No baseline	N/A	N/A
BV218b (NEW) % of abandoned vehicles removed within 24 hrs from the point at which the authority is legally entitled to remove the vehicle	New indicator	100%	89%	No baseline	N/A	N/A

BVPI	Outturn 2004/05	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	2005/6 target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
PLANNING						
BV106 – Percentage of new homes built on previously developed land	81%	87%	80%	65%	86%	45.20%
BV109 – Percentage of applications decided in line with Government Development Control targets:						
a) major applications, 60% in13 weeksb) minor applications, 65% in	44.1%	75%	77%	60%	63.58%	40.25%
8 weeks	61.3%	70%	67%	65%	71.00%	52.00%
c) other applications, 80% in 8 weeks	88.5%	83%	81.5%	80%	_86.00%_	_73.98%_
BV179 – Percentage of standard searches carried out in 10 working days	99.8%	100%	90.79%	100%	100%	93.28%
BV200a – Did the local planning authority submit the Local Development Scheme (LDS) by 28 th March 2005 and thereafter maintain a 3-year rolling programme	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
BV200b – Has the local planning authority met the milestones which the current Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
BV200c – Did the Local Planning Authority publish an annual monitoring report by December of the last year	New indicator	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A
BV204 – Percentage of appeals allowed against the authority's decision to refuse planning applications	27%	50%	21%	30%	N/A	N/A

BVPI	Outturn 2004/05	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	2005/6 target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
BV205 – Quality of planning services checklist	88%	88%	88%	100%	N/A	N/A
BV219a (NEW) Total number of conservation areas in the local authority area	New indicator	4	4	4	N/A	N/A
BV219b (NEW) % of conservation areas with an up to date character appraisal	New indicator	0%	0%	0%	N/A	N/A
BV219c (NEW) % of conservation areas with published management proposals	New indicator	0%	0%	0%	N/A	N/A
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & TRADING STANDARDS						
BV166 – Score against the checklist of enforcement best practice for environmental health	96.6%	96.6%	96.6%	100%	90	68.40
COMMUNITY SAFETY SERVICES BV126 – Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households	11.72%	9.43	9.38	10%	N/A	N/A
BV127a – Violent crimes per 1,000 population in the local authority area	11.39	17.97	20.53	10.94	N/A	N/A
BV127b – Robberies per 1,000 population in the local authority area	New indicator	0.43	0.49	0.49	N/A	N/A
BV128 – Vehicle crimes per year per 1,000 population in the local authority area	11.17	10.81	10.9	10.5	N/A	N/A
BV174 – The number of racial incidents reported to the local authority, and subsequently recorded, per 100,000 population	4.3	0	2.15	3	N/A	N/A
BV175 – The percentage of racial incidents reported to the local authority that resulted in further action	100%	0	100%	100%	100%	0.00%
BV225 (NEW) Assess the overall provision and effectiveness of local authority services designed to help victims of domestic violence and prevent further domestic violence	New indicator	54.5%	72.72%	81.81%	N/A	N/A

BVPI	Outturn 2004/05	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	2005/6 target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile
COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE BV226a (NEW) Total amount spent by the Local Authority on Advice and Guidance services provided by external organisations	N/A	£ 104,667	£ 104,667	£ 104,667	N/A	N/A
BV226b (NEW) Percentage of monies spent on advice and guidance services provision which was given to organisations holding the CLS Quality Mark at 'General Help' level and above	29.51%	100%	100%	100%	N/A	N/A
BV226c (NEW) Total amount spent on Advice and Guidance in the areas of housing, welfare benefits and consumer matters which is provided directly by the authority to the public	New indicator	Reported	annually	No baseline	N/A	N/A

11 areas of Performance causing concern

BVPI

Waste, recycling and cleanliness

BV82a - % of household

waste sent for recycling

BV82b - % of household

BV84a - Kg/head of

safe walking in their

and detritus

daylight

b) at night

waste sent for composting

household waste collected

BV199a - % of land having

combined deposits of litter

neighbourhoods a) during

Planning

BV109 a) - Planning

applications (major)

BV109b) - Planning

applications (minor)

Community Safety NI3 -% residents who feel

Appendix 2 Top Bottom Outturn target Imp? Action 2004/5 Quartile Quartile quarter quarter 8.169% 16.86% 7.62% 12.60% 10% 10.85% Recycle Action Team set up to drive improvement, already doubled last vear's outturn Massive improvement, well above top \odot 6.02% 12.74% 25.88% 15% 5.14% 0.00% quartile *Figures reported as actuals for each 477.21 126.46* 117.51* 371.7 430.3 quarter, previously this has been a 460 cumulative yearly figure. This P.I shows improvement in comparison with last year Working party continues to look at the 32% 30% issues around this P.I - zonal working 28% 28% 12.0% 25.2% \odot should improve the figures a) 95% a) 95% Survey carried out once a year, a) 95% however lots of work done by the CSP b) 58% b) 58% b) 58% to raise awareness of the issues and reduce the fear identified in the original survey. The next survey will be carried out in December, the results of which will be reported in the final quarter (March 2006) Major improvements already made after 75% 77% 63.58% 1st quarter, staff are becoming more 44.1% 60% 40.25% \odot experienced, and extra staff being appointed 70% 67% 65% 61.3% 71.00% 52.00% There has been a slight drop in performance, although this P.I. is still

performing above the national standard

in this area

BVPI	Outturn 2004/5	1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	target	Top Quartile	Bottom Quartile	Imp?	Action
BV109c)- Planning applications (other) * consider all three & address fall-off in performance on (a)	88.5%	83%	81.5%	80%	86.00%	73.98%	(3)	There has been a drop in performance, taking us out of top quartile positioning. The Performance Improvement team to consider what can be done to achieve top quartile positioning by year end
Benefits BV78a – Speed of processing new claims further improvement to reach top quartile	37.3	35.02	34.07	29	31.0	46.3	:	Steady Improvements are being made with this indicator – additional resource has been identified within benefits to chase up documentation, therefore further improvement is expected
BV78b – Notifying change in circumstances	8.11	6.9	7.34	7.5	7.2	13.0	\odot	Performance has dropped slightly from the first quarter, however still performing well and in line with the target set for the year end
BV76a – Percentage of claimants visited	26.5	48.65	75.74	50	304	64.11	\odot	Performance has further improved.
Corporate Health BV12 – Sickness rates	11.3	10.7	9.7	10	8.93	11.82	:	Further improvement made on this indicator – major push on monitoring sickness has occurred in East Durham Homes, now being carried out across the Council
BV156 – Buildings open to the public	21.62%	16.67%	17.65%	100%	67%	27%		Progress on this P.I. is unacceptably slow and staff of the Council and EDH are meeting on 2/12/05 to find the best way forward to ensure the required building works are completed.