


















More people with the skills to meet current and future business needs

2007/08 outturn	PI ref	PI description	Q1	Q2	Q3	compared to target	2008/09 year-end target	predicted performance to target	Progress to date	Remedial Action
	NI 163	% of population (aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females) qualified to at least Level 2			68.8				The latest data from 2007 shows that within the County 200,000 people (males between 19-64 and females between 19-59) are qualified to level 2 or higher. National changes to training programmes such as Train to Gain should help residents to continue to upskill during the downturn	
46.10	NI 164	% of population (aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females) qualified to at least Level 3	45.20	46.10	46.10		47.70		The latest data from 2007 shows that within the County 134,000 people (males between 19-64 and females between 19-59) are qualified to level 3 or higher. National changes to training programmes such as Train to Gain should help residents to continue to upskill during the downturn	
26.90	NI 165	% of population (aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females) qualified to at least Level 4	21.10	26.90	26.90		25.00		The latest data from 2007 shows that within the County 78,000 people (males between 19-64 and females between 19-59) are qualified to level 4 or higher. Maintaining this high rate of residents with level 4 may prove difficult during the economic downturn	
	NI 174	% of employers who report having skills gaps in their existing workforce							Data for this indicator is not yet available. However, the County Durham Economic Partnership have been working with employers, learners and training providers throughout the year culminating in a skills summit which took place in November 2008. The event was very well attended and key feedback from the event has been captured and is being taken forward through the County Durham Economic Strategy Action Plan	

Task ref	Task description	Q1	Q2	Q3	Progress to date	Remedial Action
CP EW 3.1	We will maximise the use of funding to support skills based training and work with partners to identify and secure funding to deliver initiatives which help to improve the skills of residents in County Durham				Delivery of Train 2 Gain commenced in October 2008, which should help residents to continue to upskill during the current economic downturn	
CP EW 3.2	We will work with Durham University, Business Link North East, the private sector and others to develop initiatives to attract and retain graduates. This will both increase the competitiveness of existing businesses within County Durham and provide the necessary workforce to encourage them to develop within the County.				A connecting Enterprise in Education action plan has been developed with Durham University. The Plan will deliver university/ enterprise in education activity in schools and will commence in the new academic year in September 2009. Work to explore graduate retention in the North East has been put on hold whilst the focus is on supporting those who have recently been made unemployed	
CP EW 3.3	We will develop a better understanding of the skills needs of employers, the skills pool and the opportunities for developing the skills of potential employees so that there is a match. This will be achieved through a programme of activities leading to a Skills Summit in November 2008. This will guide future activity.				The 'Skills Summit' took place on 14th November 2008. The event was very well attended with key feedback from stakeholders and employers being captured which will be taken forward through the County Durham Economic Strategy (CDES) Action Plan. The Employment and Skills Group of the County Durham Economic Partnership have prioritised business engagement with schools and raising aspirations for young people as key actions from the CDES Action Plan	
CP EW 3.4	As part of our work to improve our links with the international community we will work with the British Council and other regional local authorities to promote and develop international partnerships to raise cultural awareness and the importance of language skills.				A number of events have taken place over the last quarter (Sept-Dec 2008) including: an international contact seminar for primary schools, a major celebration event for International School Award success and a contact seminar in France which saw UK schools meet with French partner schools to agree further project work. In addition, a Europe in our Region event was held in October and attracted 90 attendees	
CP EW 3.5	We will seek to influence the alignment of skills provision, employer engagement and regional strategy through our work with the CDEP and the Regional Employability Framework.				An Action Plan has recently been agreed for the Regional Employability Framework. Some elements of which are being actioned nationally such as the widening out of the Train 2 Gain programme. Locally we are working to address elements such as increasing the offer of apprenticeships in both the public and private sector	