

CABINET

Thursday, 28 July 2005

10.00 a.m.

Conference Room 1, Council
Offices, Spennymoor

AGENDA and REPORTS

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To notify the Chairman of any items that appear in the agenda in which you may have an interest.

3. MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2005. (Pages 1 - 4)

4. EVERY CHILD MATTERS DCC CONSULTATION ON ESTABLISHING A CHILDREN'S SERVICES AUTHORITY FOR COUNTY DURHAM- PROPOSED RESPONSE

Report of Head of Strategy and Regeneration (Pages 5 - 14)

KEY DECISIONS

REGENERATION PORTFOLIO

5. REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO BUSINESS PACKAGE

Report of Chief Executive Officer. (Pages 15 - 24)

OTHER DECISIONS

ALL PORTFOLIOS

6. SEDGFIELD BOROUGH COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2005-2008 ACTION PLAN

Report of Chief Executive Officer (Pages 25 - 114)

MINUTES

7. AREA 2 FORUM

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2005 (Pages 115 - 118)

8. AREA 3 FORUM

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 6th July 2005 (Pages 119 - 124)

9. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 1

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 14th June 2005 (Pages 125 - 134)

10. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 28th June 2005. (Pages 135 - 138)

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Lead Members are requested to inform the Chief Executive Officer or the Head of Democratic Services of any items they might wish to raise under this heading by no later than 12 noon on the day preceding the meeting. This will enable the Officers in consultation with the Chairman to determine whether consideration of the matter by the Cabinet is appropriate.

N. Vaulks
Chief Executive Officer

Council Offices
SPENNYMOOR
20th July 2005

Councillor R.S. Fleming (Chairman)

Councillors Mrs. A.M. Armstrong, Mrs. B. Graham, A. Hodgson, M. Iveson, D.A. Newell, K. Noble, J. Robinson J.P and W. Waters

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection in relation to this Agenda and associated papers should contact Gillian Garrigan, on Spennymoor 816166 Ext 4240

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Item 3

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL CABINET

Conference Room 1,
Council Offices,
Spennymoor

Thursday, 14 July 2005

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillor R.S. Fleming (Chairman) and

Councillors Mrs. A.M. Armstrong, Mrs. B. Graham, A. Hodgson,
M. Iveson, K. Noble, J. Robinson J.P and W. Waters

In Attendance: Councillors W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. K. Conroy, Mrs. J. Croft, V. Crosby,
A. Gray, B. Hall, D.M. Hancock, J.E. Higgin, J.G. Huntington, J.P. Moran,
G. Morgan, Mrs. E.M. Paylor, A. Smith, Mrs. I. Jackson Smith,
Mrs. C. Sproat and J. Wayman J.P

Apologies: Councillors D.A. Newell

CAB.30/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

CAB.31/05 MINUTES
The Minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

CAB.32/05 DISCUSSION PAPER - CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW: MEMBER INVOLVEMENT
Consideration was given to a report detailing proposals to engage Members in the Council's processes for reviewing its Constitution. (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was pointed out that there was a number of areas where Members could have a legitimate expectation to be engaged in the review of the Council's Constitution e.g. Rules of Procedure at meetings, call-in arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny Committees etc.

Members' attention was drawn to paragraph 3.5 of the report, which detailed how an opportunity could be provided within the working arrangements between Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committees to establish a formal review mechanism.

RESOLVED : *That Cabinet approves the report.*

CAB.33/05 CHILDREN'S FIXED PLAY EQUIPMENT 2005/07 (KEY DECISION)
The Lead Member for Culture and Recreation presented a report regarding the above. (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was explained that Management Team at its meeting on 22nd December 2005 had considered a report commissioned from the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) into the state of fixed play equipment within the Borough and had agreed to remove 42 pieces from 21 sites in Newton Aycliffe as part of a safety programme.

It was reported that since then, discussions had been held with partner organisations, Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 and local Members to establish an investment plan for fixed play equipment for the period 2005/2007. Work had also commenced on an open space needs assessment, however, it was not scheduled for completion until 2007. Ideally, an investment strategy dealing with equipment should also reflect the findings of the needs assessment, however, key issues of play value, safety and overall suitability needed to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Member's attention was drawn to paragraphs 4.1 and 5.3 of the report, which detailed the proposed rationale for future investment in play sites and the five areas of the Borough that had been identified for investment in 2005/06.

It was proposed that it would be reasonable to allocate £350,000 in 2005/06 for investment in Eldon, Newton Aycliffe (Agnew 2), Chilton, Spennymoor, Middlestone Moor and Trimdon Colliery and for a similar amount to be earmarked for investment in 2006/07.

- RESOLVED :*
- (1) That the criteria for investment detailed in the report be approved.*
 - (2) That the Investment Plan Programme detailed in the report covering the period 2005/06 be approved.*
 - (3) That a capital allocation of £700,000 be approved to deliver a 2 year programme.*
 - (4) That a further report be submitted to Cabinet outlining the details of the NPFA Audit Study.*

CAB.34/05 IMPLEMENTING ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT STATEMENT (IEG 4.5)

Consideration was given to a report regarding the Council's I.E.G 4.5 Statement and the ICT Capital Programme for 2005/06. (For copy see file of Minutes). A presentation was also given by the e-Government Manager.

It was explained that this was an interim report which had to be submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on 18th July, 2005. The report would be submitted to Council at its meeting on 29th July, 2005 and any changes to the version submitted would be referred to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

It was explained that the modernisation programme was concerned with reviewing ways in which services were delivered with a view to achieving service improvements. The programme was linked to the Council's Corporate Plan and Community Strategy through Service Improvement Plans at departmental level

The report gave details of the progress being made in respect of the delivery of the 73 Priority Service Outcomes that authorities were responsible for implementing and the Council's performance against BVPI 157, which set a 100% target for the delivery of customer facing services through electronic means.

Members' attention was drawn to Appendix 2 of the report, which gave an update on projects and expenditure to date.

- RESOLVED :*
- (1) That the contents of IEG4.5 Statement (Appendix 1) be agreed.*
 - (2) That the e-Government and ICT Programme 2005/06 as set out in Appendix 2 be approved.*
 - (3) That IEG4.5 Statement be recommended to full Council for approval.*

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: *That in accordance with Section 100(a)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 7 and 9 of Schedule 12a of the Act.*

CAB.35/05 ASSET MANAGEMENT - LAND SALE AT DEAN AND CHAPTER INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, FERRYHILL

The Lead Member for Regeneration presented a report seeking approval to sell for 0.12 hectares of land at Dean and Chapter Industrial Estate, Ferryhill. (For copy see file of Minutes).

RESOLVED : *That the recommendation detailed in the report be adopted.*

CAB.36/05 ASSET MANAGEMENT: LAND SALE AT FURNACE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, SHILDON

The Lead Member for Regeneration presented a report seeking approval to sell 0.17 hectares of land at Furnace Industrial Estate. (For copy see file of Minutes).

RESOLVED : *That the recommendation detailed in the report be adopted.*

Published on 15th July 2005

The key decision contained in these Minutes will be implemented on Monday 25th July 2005 five working days after the date of publication unless it is called in by five Members of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the call in procedure rules.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Gillian Garrigan, on Spennymoor 816166 Ext 4240

Item 4

REPORT TO CABINET

28 JULY 2005

REPORT OF HEAD OF STRATEGY AND REGENERATION

All Portfolios

EVERY CHILD MATTERS: DCC CONSULTATION ON ESTABLISHING A CHILDREN'S SERVICES AUTHORITY FOR COUNTY DURHAM – PROPOSED RESPONSE

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report outlines Durham County Council's proposals on establishing the structure of the Children's Service's Authority for County Durham, in which the Borough Council is legally required to participate.
- 1.2 The report seeks approval for a response to the County's consultation paper developed by the Lead Member for Social Inclusion/Children and Young People and key officers across the Council.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet approves the response to Durham County Council's consultation paper on establishing the structure of a Children's Service Authority for County Durham.

3 THE EVERY CHILD MATTERS AGENDA

Background

- 3.1 The Every Child Matters (ECM) Agenda emerged as part of the Government's response to the Laming Report on the death of Victoria Climbié, which called for a radical reform of child protection services.
- 3.2 The ECM Green Paper, published alongside the formal response to Laming in September 2003, proposed changes in policy and legislation in England to bring about radical improvement in opportunities and outcomes for children, driven by whole-system reform of the delivery of children's services.
- 3.3 Specifically this will mean the integration of universal and targeted services across the age range 0-19 to focus services more effectively on the five ECM outcomes for all children and young people - being healthy, staying safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and economic wellbeing – and to close the gap in outcomes between the disadvantaged and their peers. 'Children's services' means all services received by children, young people and their families including core education, health and social services, child protection and services provided at local level such as housing, nursery provision and leisure.

- 3.4 The Children Act 2004 provides the legislative foundation for ECM, introducing the following...
- Appointment of a National Children's Commissioner
 - Duty on Children's Services Authorities to develop appropriate partnership arrangements (e.g. a Children's Trust) to promote the wellbeing of children and reciprocal duties on the other agencies to co-operate in these arrangements
 - Requirement to prepare an overarching Children and Young People's Plan
 - Duty to have regard to the need to safeguard children and promote their welfare
 - Statutory Local Safeguarding Children Boards to replace the existing non-statutory Area Child Protection Committees
 - Shared information databases on all children and young people
 - Appointment of a Director and Lead Member for Children's Services at Children's Services Authority level
 - Integration of reviews and inspections for Children's Services
- 3.5 Every Child Matters: Change for Children (December 2004) provides the national framework for all Local Authorities working within the change programme. As Children's Services Authority, Durham County Council is leading on the implementation of the ECM agenda in County Durham and is engaging relevant partners (including District Councils) via the County Children and Young People's Partnership and the District LSP's Planning Groups.
- 3.6 Legislation provides for the development of a fully co-ordinated and integrated service by 2014. However ECM in Durham is working towards a 3-5 year strategy with full co-ordination and integration by 2008/2009 with significant milestones achieved through the development of pathfinders during 2006/2007.
- 3.7 Work to date has concentrated on establishing an Outcomes Framework for County Durham to inform the Children and Young People's Plan, ensuring that the local element is fully addressed via the District Planning Groups. In June 2005 the County Council issued a consultation paper outlining proposals for setting up the structure of the Children's Service's Authority. Each of the partner organisations under the Children Act were requested to consider the discussion paper at the next relevant meeting of their Cabinet and offer a formal response to the consultation paper by 5 September 2005.

Proposals

- 3.8 The consultation paper seeks agreement to establishing the role of a **Children's Executive Board** – accountable for the strategic development, planning and commissioning of children's services; joint funding and resourcing of services; and the monitoring and reviewing of performance management standards. The Executive Board would ensure that collectively, organisations deliver effective, efficient and appropriate co-ordinated and integrated services and will function as a strategic decision making body. It would be accountable to Durham County Council as the Children's Services Authority. All members would also be accountable individually within their own organisation.
- 3.9 The format of the Children's Executive Board will either be a Trust or a Partnership and responses from Partners under a duty-to-co-operate within the legislation are particularly invited for consideration.

- 3.10 At local level, the paper suggests the development of **Local Children's Boards** responsible for the local development, commissioning and planning of services to deliver and implement services that meet local needs and priorities for children and support the strategic direction of the Executive Board. The Local Boards would be accountable locally for the delivery and performance of the services within their locality and would be at the forefront of developing and implementing co-ordinated and integrated service provision to achieve better outcomes for children, young people and their families.
- 3.11 The format for the Local Boards can also adopt that of a Trust or Partnership. Proposals within the paper for the number of local boards are pragmatically based on current PCT and CDRP boundaries (Dales; Derwentside; Durham and Chester-le-Street; Easington and Sedgefield). Views are particularly sought from partners in relation to the format, responsibilities and number of the Local Children's Boards and on their accountability arrangements.
- 3.12 Durham County Council has requested responses to seven questions, as follows...
- 1 What improvements can be made to the model?
 - 2 (a) Does the proposed functional model address the Every Child Matters Agenda?
(b) Is your core business area represented appropriately within it?
 - 3 What format, Trust or Partnership, do you consider would be most effective?
 - 4 Is the membership of the Children's Executive Board adequately representative?
 - 5 Is the membership of the Local Children's Boards adequately representative?
 - 6 What government arrangements would best support the model?
 - 7 What do you consider as the major risks in implementing the model?

Recommended response

- 3.13 The Lead Member for Social Inclusion/Children and Young People and key officers across the Council were consulted in the preparation of the draft response to the consultation questions attached at Appendix 1. Management Team approved the draft for submission to Cabinet on 18 July 2005.
- 3.14 The key points to be noted in the draft response include...
- A request for the County Council to fully explore the possibility of establishing a Children's Trust for County Durham so that vision, accountability and governance arrangements are clear to organisations, employees and the local community
 - A request for appropriate consideration to be given to establishing Local Boards at the District LSP level and 'contextualising' the model within current and proposed arrangements for the delivery of all public services across the County e.g. a Local Area Agreement for County Durham

Next steps

- 3.15 Durham County Council has stated that further development of the model will take place throughout the consultation process as a result of the feedback from workshop sessions together with formal responses by all interested parties. The outcomes of the consultation will be shared during September 2005 and a model for the future formally identified after this.

Corporate policy implications

- 3.16 The proposals are at the consultation stage only at present but ultimately will impact on the Council's policy and practice in respect of children and young people. A further report will be brought forward on implications when the County Council has considered all consultation responses and issued a formal proposal.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Approval of this draft response does not result in any costs to the Council but it should be noted that a significant amount of officer time – particularly within Strategy and Regeneration – is expended on the planning and delivery of the Every Child Matters agenda in the Borough.

- 4.2 However, once the structure of the Children's Services Authority is agreed and approved the Council will no doubt be required to commit resources to support the structure. The degree of organisational change involved will be determined in the coming months.

5 CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 The Lead Member for Social Inclusion/Children and Young People and key officers across the Council have participated in the development of this draft response.
- 5.2 Durham County Council has hosted consultation events across the County to collate the views of key service providers, the voluntary and community sector and other stakeholders on its proposals. Children and young people across the County are closely involved in the development of the Every Child Matters agenda, through Investing in Children amongst other agencies.

6 OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 Legal Implications

Participation in the development of the Children's Services Authority and the delivery of the Every Child Matters agenda in County Durham ensures compliance with the Children Act 2004.

6.2 Risk Management

The establishment of the Children's Services Authority will reduce the risk to organisations and importantly to individuals deriving from silo working on children and young people's issues.

6.3 Efficiency/ Procurement

The establishment of the Children's Services Authority will no doubt result in efficiencies in respect of use of employees and in commissioning, in the medium-term.

6.4 Sustainability

The Children's Services Authority will play in significant role in the development of sustainable communities in County Durham. However the model itself needs to be

sustainable and consistent with the future development of local government in the County. This key point is raised in the draft response.

6.5 Information Technology

No implications at this stage.

6.6 Human Rights

The proposal and the draft response in no way contravene the Human Rights Act 1998.

6.7 Health and Safety

The establishment of the Children's Services Authority will result in significant improvements in child protection across County Durham.

6.8 Equality and Diversity

The proposal does not clearly set out how it will promote the Equality and Diversity agenda and this has been raised in the draft response.

6.9 Social Inclusion

The Children's Services Authority will be focused in improving outcomes for all children and narrowing the gap between the quality of life experienced by the disadvantaged and their peers. In tailoring services to the needs of individuals it will significantly improve the quality and accessibility of children's services in the County.

6.10 Neighbourhoods

Integrated planning and delivery for children and young people will assist in narrowing the gap in comparative disadvantage experienced by children and young people across the Borough.

6.11 Children and Young People

The Children's Services Authority will deliver improved outcomes for children and young people across the County.

6.12 Crime and Disorder

Integrated planning and delivery for children and young people will be more effective in protecting children and young people and in steering them away from potential pathways to crime and anti-social behaviour.

7 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Overview and Scrutiny has not been involved in the preparation of the draft response. The role of Overview of Scrutiny within the proposed model is not made clear and this has been raised in the draft response.

8 LIST OF APPENDICES

DCC proposals on CSA functional modelling: Draft SBC response

Contact Officer
Telephone Number
E-mail address

Andy Palmer
01388 816166 ext. 4360
anpalmer@sedgefield.gov.uk

Wards: Potential to impact on all wards but consultation only at present.

Key Decision Validation: Consultation only at present, formal approval of structure will be key decision.

Background Papers:

- Children Act 2004
- Every Child Matters: Change for Children
- Every Child Matter in County Durham: Functional Modelling (DCC consultation)

Examination by Statutory Officers

	YES	N/A
1 The report has been examined by the Councils Head of the Paid Service or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 The content has been examined by the Councils S.151 Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 The content has been examined by the Council's Monitoring Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 The report has been approved by Management Team	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

APPENDIX 1
DCC PROPOSALS ON CSA FUNCTIONAL MODELLING
DRAFT SBC RESPONSE

<p>Question 1: What improvements can be made to the model?</p>	<p>It should be made clear how the model links with LSP arrangements across the County. The model needs to be sustainable/future proof – the concept of Local Boards for current PCT boundary areas would be unlikely to achieve this, given their potential amalgamation. In addition this structure would promote confusion over the concept of local (e.g. 7 Local Strategic Partnerships but 5 Local Boards) within the County and the responsibility of elected members within those PCT areas that are not coterminous with district boundaries. Appropriate consideration must be given to establishing Local Boards at the District LSP level and the model must be ‘contextualised’ within current and proposed arrangements for the delivery of all public services across the County. In particular, it must be consistent with the governance arrangements and the proposals for neighbourhood engagement developed through the Local Area Agreement for County Durham.</p> <p>The role and membership of the ‘Local’ Safeguarding Children Board requires clarification – how will this link to the local level and work on the ‘Staying Safe’ outcome? In addition the roles of the Children’s Champions for safeguarding and attainment need to be clarified.</p> <p>Communication between the Executive Board and the Local Boards needs to be strengthened and the respective roles and responsibilities of each need to be set out clearly. A Communication strategy will be required to enshrine the ‘bottom-up’ design principle.</p> <p>The accountability and responsibilities of Local Boards in respect of commissioning requires clarification – will Local Boards have some devolved responsibility for commissioning or just provide services?</p> <p>In addition, the operational aspects of the model require further consideration. It may be considered appropriate to establish thematic working groups below the Local Board level focusing on the five ECM outcomes. This will ensure that the outcomes are given appropriate consideration outside of current remits and delivered from the bottom-up.</p> <p>The model suggests unclear commitment to VCS and a lack of inclusion of the views of children and families - contrary to claims that this is what the preferred model will secure. Consideration must be given as to how the views of CYP and families can be central to the CSA’s development and governance.</p>
<p>Question 2: (a) Does the proposed functional model address the Every Child Matters Agenda?</p>	<p>UNCLEAR</p> <p>The 5 ECM Outcomes do not appear to be sufficiently addressed in the model. It is not clear whether the personnel selected can fully deliver the five outcomes (e.g. would have limited impact on the economic wellbeing outcome without involving the business sector). A stakeholder mapping exercise should have been undertaken to inform representation on the Boards.</p> <p>As stated above, thematic working groups could support the Boards in order to ensure appropriate consideration of the ECM Outcomes Framework.</p>
<p>(b) Is your core business area represented appropriately within it?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>The Council welcomes the full involvement of Districts in the model. The Council’s Management Team has previously determined appropriate officer representation on the County and Borough’s Children and Young People’s Partnerships and this will be reviewed when the CSA model is finalised. An internal officer group chaired by the Council’s ECM Officer Champion is in place to ensure officers working with children and young people are familiar and comfortable with the impending changes.</p> <p>However, there is a need to clarify the representation of Sure Start/Children’s Centres in the structure.</p>

<p>Question 3: What format, Trust or Partnership, do you consider would be most effective?</p>	<p>TRUST</p> <p>The Council strongly urges the County Council to fully explore the possibility of establishing a Children's Trust for County Durham. The Council's view is that the benefits of the Trust structure remain clear...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Offers a clear vision and mandate, a robust structure and governance arrangements ■ Provides a focus on service improvements – clear workstreams to facilitate commissioning ■ Secures appropriate resources through the pooling of budgets ■ Promotes accountability ■ Supports change management by being suitably distinct from current arrangements <p>This is a decision that it is crucial to get right first time and to be fully persuasive that a Partnership would be the most appropriate structure the consultation paper should present a compelling argument for implementing an alternative arrangement to the Trust structure. However, an informed discussion of alternatives – demonstrating learning from pathfinders (that include Gateshead and Darlington) and other sources – is not included and the 'detailed analysis' at Appendix 2 is merely a brief SWOT exercise.</p> <p>Whilst partnership working in the County is indeed strong, the sheer scale of this endeavour and the mandate to integrate services would not be best promoted through a Partnership structure, which would no doubt prove extremely difficult to manage and may result in continued silo working. The Trust structure would promote true integration across all levels – from fieldwork to management and governance – and create new culture that would respond to needs of families and not needs of service provider.</p> <p>However, it may prove appropriate to combine the two structures e.g. a County Durham Trust supported by local partnerships or vice versa (to ensure local needs are met). Consideration should perhaps be given to commissioning a detailed options appraisal on this matter if consensus cannot be reached.</p>
<p>Question 4: Is the membership of the Children's Executive Board adequately representative?</p>	<p>NO</p> <p>It is questionable whether the Executive Board can be truly representative of local services/needs if the Chairs of the Local Boards attend the Executive for 'communication purposes'. The Executive Board should also secure representation in respect of the following...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Schools ■ Sure Start/Children's Centres ■ Acute Hospital Trusts ■ County Durham Youth Service ■ Further Education providers ■ Building Schools for the Future and extended schools initiatives ■ Business community ■ VCS ■ Participation workers ■ Children and young people and their families
<p>Question 5: Is the membership of the Local Children's Boards adequately representative?</p>	<p>NO</p> <p>The Local Boards should also secure representation in respect of the following...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Schools ■ Acute Hospital Trusts ■ County Durham Youth Service ■ Further Education providers ■ Building Schools for the Future and extended schools initiatives ■ Business community ■ VCS ■ Participation workers ■ Children and young people and their families

<p>Question 6: What government arrangements would best support the model?</p>	<p>UNCLEAR</p> <p>The document does not provide sufficient information to make a call on this issue. Clearly effective governance (performance, financial and risk management) can be better achieved within the Trust environment and the processes adopted should safeguard local interests within the overall County agenda. Particular consideration should be given to the following issues...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Learning from best practice in respect of governance ■ Terms of reference for each group within the structure ■ Clear decision-making, including a policy on alternates ■ Guidance, training and support for employees ■ Internal and external communication ■ Monitoring/assessment of progress ■ Appropriate scrutiny/audit arrangements
<p>Question 7: What do you consider as the major risks in implementing the model?</p>	<p>The document concedes that there is considerably more risk in implementing the Partnership structure yet does not fully explain how the benefits would make this option the most appropriate. Generic risks of service integration would include...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Local needs being lost within the overall County picture ■ Insufficient links to CYP and families and VCS – may not be delivering what is needed ■ Raising community expectations but not delivering through lack of resources etc. ■ Disruption to delivery/inconvenience to families, with reputations increasingly damaged ■ Impending Green Paper and other policy changes – does model fit? ■ Difficulties in marrying systems/data sharing ■ Lack of experience in joint-commissioning ■ Roles and responsibilities not clearly specified ■ Change management issues – training, communication etc.
<p>Any Other Comments</p>	<p>The Council would stress the importance of effectively 'managing the change' during the integration of services, particularly in respect of staff involvement, to ensure that the transition is as effective as possible.</p> <p>In addition, the model should more clearly set out how it addresses and promotes the equality and diversity agenda.</p>

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Item 5

KEY DECISION

REPORT TO CABINET

28th JULY, 2005

REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REGENERATION PORTFOLIO

REVIEW OF THE CURRENT FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO BUSINESS

1. SUMMARY

1. To present proposals for Sedgefield Borough Business Service to operate a revised financial incentives package from April, 2005.

2. To indicate that the financial resources available to operate either the current or the revised package of financial incentives are diminishing placing an increased emphasis on the Economic Development Fund to provide the budget resource, which is estimated to be exhausted during 2006/7 financial year.

3. The review was placed in to the context of a diminishing budget and the possible opportunity for the utilisation of revenue generated by the proposed capital receipts to support a future financial incentives package. The requirement for this additional allocation will need to be considered further when the Regeneration Capital Receipts Programme becomes more certain.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Support the proposal for SBBS to operate the revised package of financial incentives from April, 2005.

3. Background

3.1 The rationale was to review the impact of the current financial incentives to business provided by Sedgefield Borough Business Service and to identify opportunities to update these incentives to better meet both current and future business needs.

3.2 The process for undertaking the review of the financial incentives package included: the impact of the package operated by SBBS over the previous four years; an appraisal of the financial assistance schemes to business provided by the other mainstream providers – ONE North East, County Durham Development Company and Business Link County Durham; an analysis of schemes operated by other local authorities; consideration of the remaining budget and the aims / objectives of the Regional Economic Strategy; County Durham Vision and Sedgefield Borough Community Strategy.

3.3 Appendix One provides an overview of the current financial incentives provided by ONE North East; County Durham Development Company and Sedgefield Borough Business Service. Business Link County Durham provides significant revenue support to businesses covering a broad range of specialist consultancy from Marketing; ICT; Workforce Development to Business Planning.

3.4 Over the previous financial years the impact of the current financial incentives package is as follows:

- Assisted in the creation of 330 new jobs.
- Helped to create 85 new businesses.
- Generated £468k of private sector investment.

3.5 The financial incentives package operated by SBBS was originally funded through the Economic Development Fund (Sedgefield Borough Council); Single Regeneration Budget and the European Regional Development Fund. ERDF is no longer available and SRB support will cease on 31 March, 2006.

3.6 The breath of this review was scaled to reflect the future availability of funding and this paper also highlights the need for both Sedgefield Borough Council and Sedgefield Borough Business Service to review the future provision of financial incentives to business and how this will be funded.

Analysis of current package against key economic development priorities

3.7 Qualitative research undertaken by SBBS indicated a number of key points for consideration:

- The financial incentives package has assisted a broad range of businesses to expand or relocate their current activities in to the Borough, thereby creating valuable jobs.
- Payments are made on forecasted jobs and not those jobs created.
- Access to finance is the key barrier faced by residents entering self-employment and to small businesses with ambitions for future growth.

- The current financial incentives package is prescriptive in terms of the focus on manufacturing.
- Economic Policy at a national, regional and sub regional level outlines the need to support the competitiveness and diversification of the economy.
- The continued focus on the manufacturing sector by the current financial incentives package also excludes the economic potential of other key sectors, including: cultural, tourism, high tech, knowledge and the social enterprise sectors.
- Businesses increasingly operate in highly competitive markets and face pressures of global economics.
- That the revised package should not duplicate those schemes provided by key business support agencies, including ONE North East; County Durham Development Company and Business Link County Durham. Therefore, avoiding duplication of provision and maximising the use of finite resources.
- The provision of loan finance was already well provided for by a broad range of loan and equity funders, including High Street banks.

Proposals for the revised SBBS Financial Incentives Package

3.8 Following the review it is proposed to operate the following financial incentives package to business through SBBS:

- **New Entrepreneur Support:** to provide financial support of 30% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £1,000 to support residents entering self-employment. The aim is to provide a flexible pot to improve the new business formation rate in the Borough.
- **New Entrepreneur Phase 2:** to provide financial support of 30% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £2,000 to support businesses moving into commercial premises for the first time. Eligible costs would cover rent and rates.

Companies would only be eligible to access one of the above grants.

- **Development Grant:** to provide financial support of 30% up to £10,000 to support significant expansions and inward investments. Eligible costs include: capital plant; fitting out of a unit; non domestic business rate free periods. A demonstrable needs test will be applied to grant applications and all awards will be made to cover a twelve month period, with payments made when jobs are created.
- **Business Improvement Package:** to provide financial support of 30% up to £2,000 to support the introduction of ICT in to a business to improve its competitiveness, including the ability to trade electronically. Eligible costs include hardware and software costs.

- **Marketing Grant:** to provide financial support of 30% up to £2,000 to enable companies to implement a new marketing initiative. Printing costs are not eligible.

3.9 It is envisaged that these proposals will increase both the number of grant applications and their payment rates. Although no specific numbers of anticipated applicants by category has been established the budget will be managed in a flexible way to maximise the impact of this finite resource, including utilising other sources of funding as appropriate.

3.10 The budget to support the Financial Incentives Package (both the existing and proposed schemes) comprises of SRB; ERDF and the Economic Development Fund. All three sources will come to an end as follows: ERDF is no longer available and SRB will cease to be a funding source from 31 March, 2006, which will leave the Economic Development Fund as the principle funder of the financial incentives package. Therefore, the main source of funding is the Economic Development Fund, which is estimated to be fully committed during the 2006/7 financial year based on an anticipated but non quantified increase in both the number of grant awards made and the current claim rate of 80% of those grants approved.

3.11 The scope and scale of this paper has taken in to account the declining budget and the proposals will maximise the benefit of this finite resource.

3.12 The value of the Financial Incentives Package cannot be questioned in terms of its role in enabling the growth of the business community, as well as supporting the business engagement work of Sedgefield Borough Business Service. However, by reviewing the effectiveness of the grants package, it is clear that changes could be made to maximise the impact on the economy of Sedgefield Borough from this finite resource.

3.13 The importance of encouraging new start activity is apparent and would therefore suggest a refocusing of the programme to encourage entrepreneurial activity.

3.14 By supporting a broader range of business sectors under the financial incentives package, economic diversification can be encouraged, and sectors which need stimulating can be addressed through directly tackling barriers to finance.

3.15 The Financial Incentives Package operated by SBBS should not overlap with other grant providers who offer assistance in the Borough. By tailoring SBBS financial support, a more comprehensive package of support can be offered, providing the maximum impact from finite resources.

3.16 Demonstrable needs should also be taken in to account when considering grant applications.

4. CORPORATE POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The provision of the Financial Incentives Package by SBBS is an effective way of providing support to the business community, enhancing the way both SBBS and Sedgefield Borough Council engage with the private sector. It as supported a broad range of businesses; created valuable jobs and enabled the Borough to attract inward investing companies.

4.2 The proposed revised package of Financial Incentives will build on the above, but will also enable SBBS to support a broader range of businesses helping to support the continued competitiveness and diversification of the economy – key activities contained within the Prosperous Economy section of the Sedgefield Borough Community Strategy.

4.3 The proposals also reflect the need to add value to the current schemes operated by ONE North East; County Durham Development Company and Business Link County Durham. Thereby, avoiding duplication and adding value.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 No additional resource is requested to support the implementation of the proposals. However, ERDF is no longer available and SRB will cease to be a funding source from 31 March, 2006, which will leave the Economic Development Fund as the principle funder of the financial incentives package. This resource is anticipated to be fully utilised during the 2006/7 financial year, based on an anticipated but non quantified increase in both the number of grant awards made and the current claim rate of 80% of grants approved.

5.2 The revised financial incentives schemes will be funded during the 2005/6 financial year through the Economic Development Fund and Single Regeneration Budget. The uncommitted balance of the Economic Development Fund as of 31st March, 2005 is estimated at £183,318. Subject to demand for the proposed financial incentives schemes SRB funding could amount to £38K during 2005/6 financial year.

5.3 For the 2006/7 financial year the financial incentives schemes will be funded through the Economic Development Fund.

5.4 Based on the current take up rate and claim rate for the current Financial Incentives Schemes it is estimated that the uncommitted balance of the Economic Development Fund at 31st March, 2007 will amount to £76,908. However, it is anticipated that the revisions to the schemes will increase both

the number of grant applications and their claim rate, which would reduce this balance. Based on this non quantified view it is anticipated that the Economic Development Fund would be fully allocated during the 2006/7 financial year.

5.5 Future funding support will need to be debated further during the 2006/07 budget setting process and in the annual review of the Council's Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Plan. The review of the current financial incentives to business was also included in the Forward Planning process.

6. CONSULTATIONS

6.1 A key element of the review involved a broad ranging consultation exercise, which involved discussions with ONE North East; County Durham Development Company; Business Link County Durham; SASDA Limited Board and Executive; LSP Economy Policy Group; Sedgefield Borough Business Forum, as well as with those businesses, which had received financial incentives during the previous four years.

7. OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

8. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There has been no previous consultation or engagement with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

9. LIST OF APPENDICES

Contact Officer: Andrew Quain
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Email Address: aquain@sbbs.org.uk

Ward: Borough Wide

Key Decision Validation: involves a budget in excess of £100,000

Background Papers: None

Examination by Statutory Officers

	Yes	Not Applicable
1. The report has been examined by the Councils Head of the Paid Service or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The content has been examined by the Councils S.151 Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The content has been examined by the Council's Monitoring Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The report has been approved by Management Team	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

APPENDIX ONE – CURRENT SCHEMES OPERATED BY SBBS AND KEY BUSINESS SUPPORT AGENCIES

1 The mainstream business grant providers within Sedgefield Borough are ONE NorthEast; County Durham Development Company and the Borough Council via Sedgefield Borough Business Service.

ONE NorthEast

1.2 One NorthEast (ex DTI), who until April 2004 had two grants schemes associated with jobs, premises and capital expenditure, known as Regional Enterprise Grant & Regional Selective Assistance. The former paid out grant from as little as £1,000 up to £75,000, whilst the latter dealt with projects in excess of £500,000. As Sedgefield Borough is a Tier 2 area, the maximum amount of public intervention money is 20% of the project qualifying costs.

1.3 Both schemes have now subsequently been replaced by a single grant, still up to 20% of qualifying costs, known as SFI, (Selective Finance for Investment), but there is now a minimum grant payout of £10,000 which at the normal grant level of 15% for the area, represents a minimum spend for the business of £63,000, paid out at the rate of a minimum of £5,000/job created or saved, in arrears to the jobs created. This grant is now aimed at higher technology jobs, and business profitability as a consequence, and if awarded would normally represent the maximum amount of public money available for the project.

County Durham Development Company

1.4 County Durham Development Company had until October 2004 two basic grants known as Rates Equivalent Grant, paying up to £25,000 on qualifying projects, and paid out before the jobs were created based upon a 3 year forecast, and a Small Business Grant of maximum £3000 again paid out before forecasted jobs have been realised.

1.5 Both schemes have now been replaced with a Business Development Grant, (BDG) which is a mini One NorthEast SFI grant with broadly the same conditions and rationale, and a Strategic Investment Grant which is aimed at carrying out scientific and technological research and development.

1.6 The BDG pays out a maximum of £10,000 whilst the SIG is a 30% grant of up to £50,000, but whereas the previous grants would have recognised people working from home, the new grants will not.

Sedgefield Borough Business Service

1.7 SBBS's financial incentives package contains a Small Business Grant (SBG) and a Development Grant (DG). To be eligible for incentives from the Borough Council, a business should be:

- Manufacturing, or providing a service to industry,
- Serving at least a regional market,
- Operating from industrial premises,
- Creating jobs within a 3 year forecast period.

1.8 The SBG is available throughout the Borough, to assist businesses moving into industrial premises of less than 300sq.m. in size. It is not aimed solely at business start-ups, and may in certain circumstances, (e.g. size of project), be applicable to businesses already established. Criteria includes:

- Up to 50% of eligible expenditure and a maximum grant of £2,000.
- Maximum limited to £1,000 per job, forecast over 3 years.
- Eligible expenditure to cover costs associated with the establishment of a new business, and eligible costs, include fitting out of a business unit; stationery; provision of mains services; purchase of machinery; PC's and ancillary equipment.

1.9 The Development Grant is available throughout the Borough and is designed to assist businesses with the costs associated with building, leasing or purchasing **additional** industrial floorspace, up to a maximum of 1,400 sq.m.(15,070sq.ft.). Criteria include:

- Maximum 100 Employees within Sedgefield Borough.
- Maximum grant £10,000, paid on the basis of £10 per sq.m. or £1,000 per new job created (whichever is the lesser).
- The size restriction of 1,400sq.m. relates to the additional floorspace constructed, leased or purchased, irrespective of where the business is currently located, and it is this additional floorspace that is grant aided.
- For example, a business currently located in a 1,000sq.m. unit in Wear Valley, moving to a 1,400sq.m. unit in Sedgefield Borough would be grant aided on the additional 400sq.m. only. This restriction is aimed at ensuring that businesses do not simply 'border hop'.
- A business moving into Sedgefield Borough but retaining an operation outside of the Borough will be grant aided on the full amount of any expansion up to a maximum of 1,400sq.m.

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Item 6

REPORT TO CABINET

28 JULY 2005

REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

All Portfolios

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2005-2008 ACTION PLAN

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for the first three-year Action Plan (for the period 2005-2008) developed through Sedgefield Borough Local Strategic Partnership in support of the Community Strategy for the Borough approved by Council in July 2004. The Plan is attached as an Appendix to the report.
- 1.2 The report outlines the development process for the Plan, how it will be performance managed, how progress will be reported to stakeholders and the local community and how it will be refined and developed in the future.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet...

- 1 Approves the first three-year Action Plan prepared in support of the Borough's Community Strategy.
- 2 Delegates approval of amendments to the Action Plan to the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the LSP Chair.

3 COMMUNITY STRATEGY ACTION PLAN

Community Strategy

- 3.1 Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2000 places a duty on local authorities to prepare a Community Strategy to improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of their areas. A Community Strategy will...
 - Allow local communities (based upon geography and/or interest) to articulate their aspirations, needs and priorities
 - Co-ordinate the actions of the council, and of the public, private, voluntary and community organisations that operate locally
 - Focus and shape existing and future activity of those organisations so that they effectively meet community needs and aspirations; and

- Contribute to the achievement of sustainable development both locally and more widely, with local goals and priorities relating, where appropriate, to regional, national and even global aims.
- 3.2 The Act also provides the opportunity to utilise a Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) – comprising representatives from across the public sector, business interests and the local community – as the vehicle for the development and implementation of the Strategy.
- 3.3 Legislation and statutory guidance requires that a Community Strategy have four key components...
 - 1 A long-term vision for the area focusing on the outcomes that are to be achieved
 - 2 An action plan identifying shorter-term priorities and activities that will contribute to the achievement of long-term outcomes
 - 3 A shared commitment to implement the action plan and proposals for doing so
 - 4 Arrangements for monitoring the implementation of the action plan, for periodically reviewing the community strategy, and for reporting progress to local communities
- 3.4 The Council delegated the development of the Borough’s Community Strategy to Sedgefield Borough LSP in 2002 and subsequently approved a Strategy for 2004-2014 in July 2004. This Strategy was based on needs and aspirations identified through the community appraisals process and shaped by an extensive consultation process involving local communities and LSP partners.

Action Plan

- 3.5 The Community Strategy identifies four ambitions – for the Borough to be healthy, prosperous, attractive and strong – and outlines how this will be achieved over the next ten years. However, the development process emphasised that the Action Plan element required further attention and in approving the Strategy, the Council committed itself to developing with partners a separate, comprehensive Action Plan document, which would...
 - Identify appropriate and SMART shared outcome measures against the aims and objectives of the Strategy
 - Baseline these measures to establish the current situation prevailing in the Borough
 - Establish short, medium and long-term targets for the outcome measures taking into account national targets and local needs and aspirations
 - Identify the short to medium term activities, resources and responsibilities of partners that will move the Borough from the baseline towards the target position over the next three years
 - Provide an opportunity for partners to begin to align their operational budgets for the Borough in support of the jointly agreed aims and to secure sustainable improvements
- 3.6 This Action Plan has been in development since September 2004. The process has been coordinated by Strategy and Regeneration and involved...
 - Meetings with key service providers to complete an agreed Action Plan template
 - Drafts considered by Policy Groups and key personnel and signed-off by the LSP Board
 - A Data Management Group comprising key statistics/research personnel from each thematic area to populate the template with performance data and targets

- 3.7 The value of the Action Plan is that it collates all partners' key targets and activity related to Community Strategy objectives in one document for the first time. It also takes into account targets set in the development of the Shared Priorities between Central and Local Government; National and Local PSA targets; the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund agreement for the Borough; relevant national, regional and sub-regional strategies; the County Durham Strategic Vision and the needs and ambitions of local people.
- 3.8 At the same time it is important to recognise that the Plan is an early milestone in the development of LSP joint working and will be a platform for further development, particularly in relation to LSP Performance Management Framework.

LSP Performance Management Framework

- 3.9 In addition to the routine performance monitoring and management of improvement programmes via the partnership structure, the LSP is subject to a Government prescribed Performance Management Framework (PMF). Specifically, the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit (NRU) has established three core criteria for LSP performance management...
1. An annual **Review of Outcomes** – measuring progress on achieving Neighbourhood Renewal related National Floor Targets and supporting local targets in each thematic area (including narrowing of the gap between deprived communities and the rest) and the plausibility of LSP activity designed to achieve these targets, including the allocation of NRF.
 2. A triennial **Review of Partnership Working** – an evolution of the LSP accreditation arrangements.
 3. **Improvement Plans** flowing from both reviews to be approved by Government Office at Annual Review meetings and progressed by the LSP in the interim period, with the Outcomes Improvement Plan focusing on priority neighbourhoods and directing the use of NRF.
- 3.10 Clearly the annual Review of Outcomes will usefully double as an opportunity to review progress against the Community Strategy Action Plan and so add value to the action planning process.

Next steps

- 3.11 The Action Plan offers a firm platform for the further development of joint working and performance management across the LSP. Specifically this will include the following initiatives...

Improving efficiency

The Action Plan sets out the key issues and challenges for partners to address in the development and delivery of services. Activity to improve services and narrow the gap have been undertaken to date in line with the Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy (LNRS) 2002-2007 utilising partners' mainstream budgets and amongst other resources, Neighbourhood Renewal Funding (NRF). NRF in particular has been used as a lever to begin to steer the way that core funding is spent by organisations operating within the Borough in order to increase focus on disadvantaged areas.

However, NRF is currently identified as being available only up to 2006 and other funding streams are likely to expire over the next two years. It is recognised that in order to achieve the Vision for the Borough within the specified ten-year period, partners must improve capacity and effectiveness through joint working and identify and secure additional resources to support the delivery of the Community Strategy and contribute to Government requirements in respect of public sector efficiency. This will involve...

- Mapping the resources flowing into the Borough from all partners and from grant funding and comparing this with the other Durham Districts and areas of comparable disadvantage
- Joining up research, survey and strategy development and rationalising current activity where appropriate
- Identifying further areas of shared responsibility where multi-agency planning and delivery will increase the benefit to local people and progressing these accordingly
- Ensuring that all partners adhere to appropriate sustainability appraisal and risk management procedures in the planning and delivery of services

Area Frameworks

Area Framework documents will also be developed in order to drive down Strategy objectives to local community level and to address specifically areas of disadvantage. These communities have been defined in line with the Borough's five Area Forums – Newton Aycliffe, Spennymoor, Shildon, Ferryhill, Chilton and West Cornforth and the Rural East of the Borough (the Trimdons, Fishburn, and Sedgfield Village). The Frameworks will provide a vision for how areas will develop over the next ten years and will be developed, in close consultation with the local communities and Town and Parish Councils over the next three years. The development of the Frameworks will be aligned with the pilot Local Area Agreement for County Durham (and the neighbourhood arrangements that will be introduced to support this), the emerging Local Development Framework and existing Parish Plans.

- 3.12 The Action Plan is a rolling three-year document and it is anticipated that this first plan will be the basis for future development and refined significantly, particularly in its first year of operation. Consequently it is proposed that to improve flexibility Cabinet delegates approval of amendments to the Action Plan to the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the LSP Chair and that the Plan be reviewed at the end of its first year and at regular intervals thereafter, with the frequency to be determined following the first review. Furthermore, in order to ensure that the Community Strategy continues to reflect the priorities and aspirations of the local community, it will be fundamentally reviewed every three years and republished accordingly.

Reporting progress

- 3.13 Following the annual Review of Outcomes, the LSP will prepare an Annual Report setting out progress against the Community Strategy and make this available to the local community to coincide with its Annual General Meeting in July. The report will focus on key Community Strategy indicators only in order to illustrate the general direction of travel.

Corporate policy implications

- 3.14 The Community Strategy and its Action Plan are closely aligned with the 20 year Strategic Vision for County Durham and fulfil a central role in the Council's strategic policy framework by clearly articulating a joint community and stakeholder vision for the Borough and providing the context for the Council's corporate strategy development and service planning.
- 3.15 The Corporate Plan will demonstrate those areas of activity that the Borough Council will undertake as part its commitment to the delivery of the aims of the Community Strategy. Council activity and performance-related data contained within this Action Plan are consistent with the recent second iteration of the Corporate Plan.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The only costs incurred during the development of the Action Plan have been in respect of officer time. The costs of printing/publishing the Plan will be met from within the existing Community Strategy budget.
- 4.2 The Action Planning process will proceed to identify areas and resources to be utilised in delivering the Community Strategy. It is acknowledged that partners must improve capacity and effectiveness through joint working and identify and secure additional resources to support the delivery of the Strategy and contribute to Government requirements in respect of public sector efficiency.

5 CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 The Community Strategy is built upon consultation as a core principle. Beyond the initial priority setting exercise, based on a number of local community appraisals, the draft consultation Community Strategy was developed as a progression of the LSP's Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy and was subject to public consultation that commenced in August 2003 and concluded with the LSP's Annual Conference in November 2003.
- 5.2 Whilst no additional public consultation was required for the supporting Action Plan, its development has been discussed in detail with partners both within and outside of the LSP structure.
- 5.3 Further consultation will be necessary during the refinement of the Action Plan over time (e.g. with Town and Parish Councils in the development of the Area Framework documents) and specific consultations with the public to identify local perceptions of improvements in quality of life may be commissioned.

6 OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 **Legal Implications**
The CSAP ensures compliance with the provisions of Local Government Acts 1999/2000 and associated statutory guidance.

- 6.2 **Risk Management**
The Plan facilitates the management of high-level risks to the Council by acting as a springboard for the development of partnership and joint-working arrangements.
- 6.3 **Efficiency/ Procurement**
The Plan facilitates required efficiency gains by identifying opportunities for the development of partnership and joint-working arrangements.
- 6.4 **Sustainability**
Sustainability is a core principle of the Community Strategy. Following an assessment of the Community Strategy by partners at a GONE event in February 2005, the Plan covers the issues set out in the Integrated Regional Framework for the North East and in addition will be subject to comprehensive sustainability appraisal when the process is established, in line with the move towards 'Sustainable Community Strategies'.
- 6.5 **Information Technology**
ICT is a crosscutting theme of the CSAP, which is aligned with the E-Government agenda.
- 6.6 **Human Rights**
The Plan in no way contravenes the Human Rights Act 1998.
- 6.7 **Equality and Diversity**
A key principle of CSAP – LSP has assumed responsibility for coordinating partners' equality strategies and developing a Community Cohesion Strategy for the Borough.
- 6.8 **Social Inclusion**
Accessibility is a crosscutting theme of the Community Strategy. The CSAP outlines the approach to promoting the wellbeing of the whole community, but explicitly addresses those neighbourhoods and groups that experience particular disadvantage.
- 6.9 **Neighbourhoods**
The Borough's Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy has been subsumed within the Community Strategy and the CSAP will develop a pronounced neighbourhood focus over time through the development of Area Frameworks.
- 6.10 **Children and Young People**
A third crosscutting theme of the CSAP, which is aligned with the ongoing preparatory work for the County Durham Children and Young People's Plan.
- 6.11 **Crime and Disorder**
The CSAP summarises arrangements within the Borough to address the requirements of crime and disorder legislation and furthers the process of mainstreaming required by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

7 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Whilst there are no specific Overview and Scrutiny implications arising from the preparation of the Community Strategy Action Plan, the Community Strategy and/or

any of its related documents could be subject to overview and scrutiny if this is considered appropriate.

8 LIST OF APPENDICES

Community Strategy Action Plan 2005-2008

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Wards: Impacts on all wards, but as a summary of existing plans and strategies, contains no new information for approval.

Key Decision Validation: Development of the Plan was approved in July 2004; approval is not a key decision as no new information is included.

Background Papers:

- Local Government Act 1999
- Local Government Act 2000
- Sedgefield Borough Community Strategy 2004-2014

Examination by Statutory Officers

	YES	N/A
1 The report has been examined by the Councils Head of the Paid Service or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 The content has been examined by the Councils S.151 Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 The content has been examined by the Council's Monitoring Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COMMUNITY STRATEGY ACTION PLAN 2005-2008



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INTRODUCTION

SEDFIELD BOROUGH

Sedgefield Borough is situated in the South of County Durham in the North East of England, between Durham City and Darlington. Covering some 217 km², almost 80% of the 87,200 residents live within the four towns of Newton Aycliffe, Spennymoor, Shildon and Ferryhill, which provide the main focus for employment, shopping and leisure. Newton Aycliffe is a former ‘New Town’ and the others have developed around iron, coal and railway industries. In contrast to these urban centres, the Borough also contains small historic villages (some of Saxon origin) and coalfield communities in the more rural eastern part of the Borough.

The Borough is subject to ‘two-tier’ local government, with Durham County Council (DCC) responsible for more strategic functions and services such as education, social care and transport and Sedgefield Borough Council (SBC) providing more local services such as environmental services, housing and leisure. In addition, some functions are shared between the County and Borough Council (e.g. waste management) and others are delivered across the region, with multi-agency involvement (e.g. planning, economic development and tourism). The Borough is also fully parished with 13 Town and Parish Councils; amongst these Great Aycliffe and Spennymoor Town Councils represent two of the largest in the country.

The population within Sedgefield has fallen by 4.3% since the 1991 Census compared to the North East average of 2.8%, due largely to economic migration. The departure of young families and longer lives has resulted in an increasingly ageing population within the Borough, with more than twice the number of people aged over 65 than aged under 5. At the 2001 Census the population was 99.3% white, compared to the regional average of 97.6%.

The key socio-economic factors influencing the quality of life of local people across the Borough have been identified as follows...

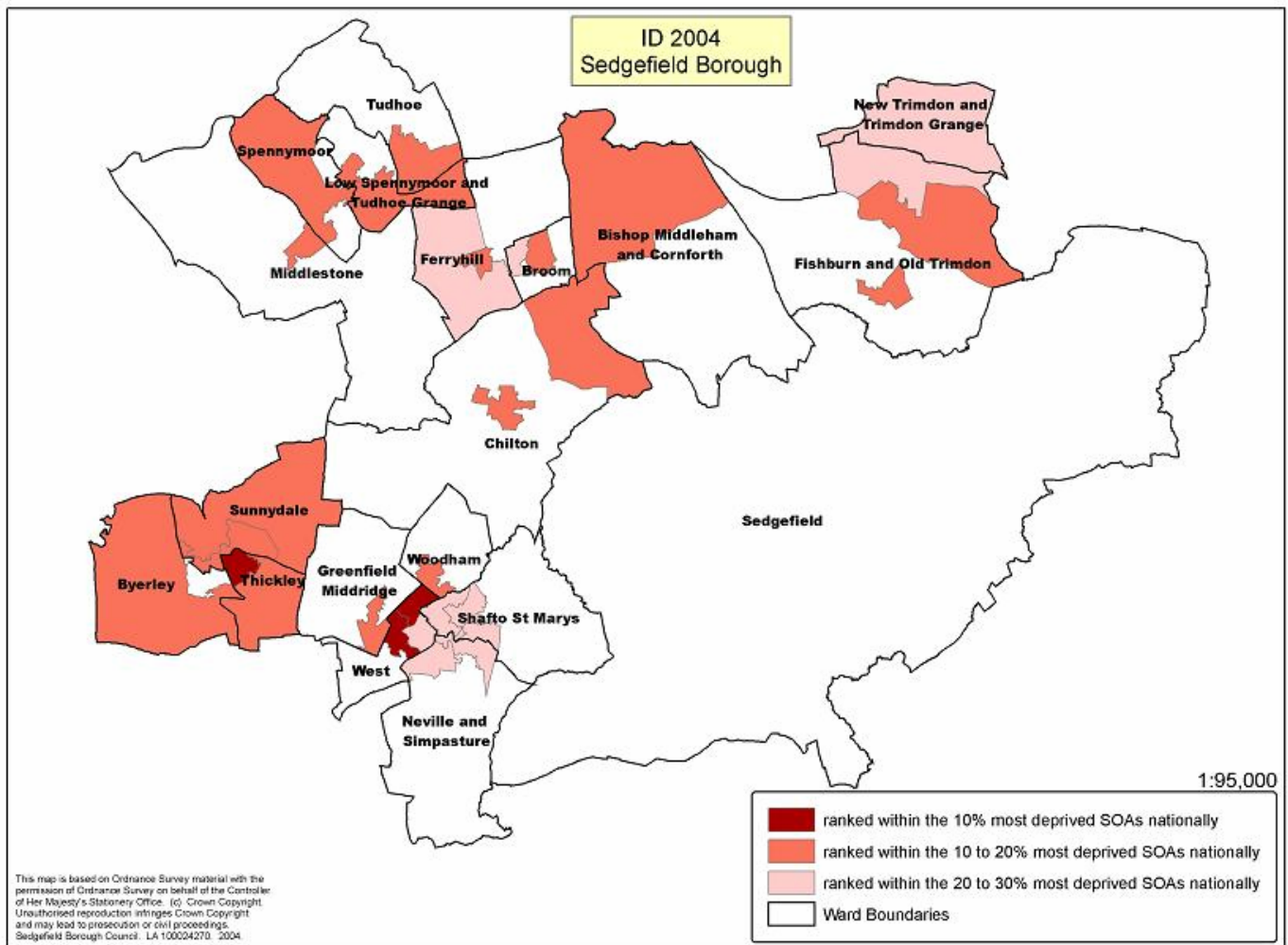
Key factors influencing quality of life and the sustainability of communities within Sedgefield Borough	
■	Unemployment – over 7% of the workforce is unemployed and means-tested benefits provide a major source of income for a significant proportion of the Borough’s population.
■	Narrow employment base – centred upon manufacturing and so more vulnerable to global economic pressures.
■	Low educational and skills attainment – with many less young people achieving 5 A*-C GCSE passes than the national average and a significant proportion of adults lacking basic literacy and numeracy skills.
■	Health deprivation –high levels of ill health, long-term illness and a lower than average life expectancy, with 18 of the Borough’s 19 wards containing areas amongst the worst 10% in the country for health-related issues.
■	An ageing population – more residents over 60 years of age than children aged under 14, placing significant demands on services for the elderly.
■	Regeneration of towns and villages – some settlements and main town centres are struggling to maintain their competitiveness in the light of changing shopping patterns.
■	Access to key services – is often difficult, particularly for residents in the outlying areas of the Borough.
■	Reassurance – real successes in addressing issues such as community safety need to be better communicated to local communities.
■	Community development – development and support are required to increase the aspirations and participation of residents in their communities.

These types of deprivation can affect anyone across the Borough but tend to cluster in certain neighbourhoods. The Indices of Deprivation (ID) 2004 identifies three of the 56 Super Output Areas (areas of around 1,000 residents constructed to allow statistical comparison) in the Borough as within the 10% most deprived nationally across a range of factors and 18 of the Boroughs 19 wards containing SOAs within the 30% most deprived. This is illustrated below. The Borough was one of the original 88 areas allocated Government Neighbourhood Renewal Funding (NRF) on the basis of the extent of multiple deprivation in the area.

Super Output Area	Rank*	IMD	Income	Employment	Health	Education	Barriers	Crime	Environment
Thickley North East	1,557								
West of West Ward	2,304								
North of West Ward	3,012								
Greenfield Middridge South	3,265								
Dean Bank East	3,491								
Thickley South	3,914								
Middlestone Moor	4,071								
The Agnews	4,216								
Fishburn Village South	4,487								
Lower Spennymoor and Tudhoe Grange South	4,580								
Lower Spennymoor and Tudhoe Grange West	4,704								
Sunnydale South	4,790								
Broom Road East	4,823								
Byerley West	5,009								
Chilton	5,318								
West Cornforth and Surrounding Area	5,440								
Tudhoe South	5,533								
Ferryhill Station and Surrounding Area	5,570								
North of Spennymoor Ward	5,915								

Trimdon Village South	5,961								
Sunnydale North	6,216								
Shafto St. Mary's South	6,759								
Dean Bank West, Lakes Estates and Dean Road area	6,786								
East of West Ward	7,032								
Trimdon Grange and Trimdon Colliery	7,327								
West of Broom Road	8,520								
Shafto St. Mary's Central	8,554								
Neville Simpasture North West	8,571								
Neville Simpasture North East	8,869								
Shafto St. Mary's West	9,350								
Trimdon Village North	9,572								
Lower Spennymoor and Tudhoe Grange East	10,070								
Ferryhill North	10,771								
South of West Ward	10,787								
Duncombe and South Broom	10,835								
Shafto St. Mary's East	11,043								
Middridge and Surrounding Area	11,519								
South of Spennymoor Ward	11,555								
Neville Simpasture South	11,813								
Byerley East	12,100								
Byers Green, Middlestone Moor North and Surrounding Area	12,505								
Surrounding Area of Chilton	12,922								
Fishburn Village North and Surrounding Area	13,028								
Sedgefield Village East	14,326								
Woodham Village South	14,494								
Tudhoe North and Surrounding Area	15,985								
Greenfield Middridge East	16,839								
Kirk Merrington, Middlestone Moor South West and Surrounding Area	19,881								
Bishop Middleham and Surrounding Area	20,334								
Surrounding Area of Sedgefield Village	20,957								
Woodham Village North	21,739								
East of Spennymoor Ward	22,321								
Lower Spennymoor and Tudhoe Grange North	22,566								
Greenfield Middridge West	23,086								
Sedgefield Village West	24,547								
Woodham Village West	25,110								

*SOA National IMD Rank from 1 (worst) to 32,482



SEDFIELD BOROUGH LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

The Borough's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) was established in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 to bring together at a local level all the different parts of the public sector as well as private, business, community and voluntary sector interests and local people so that a series of agreed priorities can be determined and service plans implemented to improve the overall economic, social and environmental conditions of the Borough and address the specific issues set out above. The core responsibilities of the LSP include: -

- Development, delivery and monitor/review of a Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy for the most disadvantaged wards
- Development, delivery and monitor/review of a Community Strategy for the Borough
- Joining up plans, partnerships and initiatives to reflect the aims and priorities of the Partnership and local people
- Managing allocated resources, including Neighbourhood Renewal Funding, in line with key priorities

The LSP Board is made up of representatives from a range of organisations including SBC, DCC, Town and Parish Councils, Durham Police, Sedgefield Primary Care Trust (PCT) as well as from local businesses and the local community. Businesses are represented through the Sedgefield Business Forum whilst the Community Empowerment Network (CEN) provides the main opportunities for local community groups and their representatives to get involved. Six Policy Groups (PGs) – Community Safety, Economy, Environment & Leisure, Healthy Borough, Housing & Communities and Lifelong Learning – and a Children and Young People's (CYP) Planning Group support the Board.

Whilst the LSP does not have specific executive powers, its value lies in providing a forum for the identification of common purpose and priorities and a means of improving partnership working to deliver effective local services. It also provides a channel for improved and co-ordinated engagement with sub-regional and regional bodies such as the County Durham Strategic Partnership, Government Office North East and One NorthEast on key strategic issues.

THE SEDFIELD BOROUGH COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The Local Government Act 2000 requires all local authorities to produce a Community Strategy that set out how public services, other organisations and local people will work together to improve the quality of life in the area. Published in November 2004, the ten-year Community Strategy for Sedgefield Borough was developed by the Borough's Local Strategic Partnership following an extensive community appraisal and consultation process and consideration of the wider regional and sub regional strategic frameworks, including the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies and the County Durham Strategic Vision.

Social inclusion was a fundamental consideration in the development of the Borough's Community Strategy, which in addressing the key factors influencing the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of all local people subsumes the Borough's Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy and provides an over-arching vision and direction for public services across the Borough...

Vision for Sedgefield Borough In 2014

To ensure that Sedgefield Borough is a place where...

- People can live healthy, active and fulfilling lives as part of vibrant and strong communities
- High quality businesses can prosper and local people have the confidence and skills to access the jobs that they offer
- The natural and built environment is valued, conserved and enhanced
- People can access the housing they want in attractive and safe neighbourhoods

This vision is commonly expressed as '**Healthy, Prosperous and Attractive with Strong Communities**'. The Strategy is structured around these four aims for the Borough, setting out a number of supporting priorities and targets to be addressed under which specific activity will be developed, in accordance with four LSP core principles – **sustainability, equality, partnership and citizenship**.

In addition, the Strategy identifies three key themes integral to the development and implementation of all services to ensure that the vision for the future of the Borough is achieved – **Information Communication Technology (ICT), youth engagement and access to services**.

Following the publication of the Strategy document, the LSP has proceeded – in accordance with Government guidance – to develop the remaining three components of an effective Community Strategy. The remainder of this section sets out how these components – the Action Plan, Performance Management Framework and arrangements for reporting progress – will operate and interact.

COMMUNITY STRATEGY ACTION PLAN

Purpose and development process

The Community Strategy will fulfil a key role in partners' policy frameworks by articulating a joint community and stakeholder vision for the Borough that will provide clear direction to partners' individual plans and strategies. Successive three-year Action Plans will support the Strategy and – in collating all partner activity currently proposed to achieve long-term aims, identifying progress to date and steering available resources – will be the key documents in terms of delivering the Strategic Vision. Although operating over a three-year period, the Action Plans will be rolling documents, reviewed on an annual basis as part of the LSP's Performance Management Framework.

This is the first Community Strategy Action Plan (CSAP) – covering the period 2005-2008 – and in presenting the shared objectives and targets of all partners in a single document for the first time represents an important step in the development of the LSP and adds considerable depth to the Strategy document.

The Plan was developed in consultation with key service providers and has been subject to an extended consultation period via the LSP's PGs. It also takes into account targets set in the development of the Shared Priorities between Central and Local Government; National and Local PSA targets; the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund agreement for the Borough; relevant national, regional and sub-regional strategies; the County Durham Strategic Vision and the needs and ambitions of local people. The key themes identified in the Community Strategy cut across the Plan but ongoing and detailed planning at a both County and Borough level in respect of delivery of the national *Every Child Matters* agenda has meant that this material has not been integrated within the main body of the Plan and is attached at Appendix 1. PGs will continue to work with Sedgefield Children and Young People's Partnership (SCYPP) throughout the year to ensure improved integration and joint working is achieved, as envisaged in the Community Strategy document.

To facilitate the effective performance management of LSP activity, the Plan will be disaggregated into Policy Group Work Plans reflecting the thematic areas of neighbourhood renewal – health, crime, education, health, housing, worklessness and liveability. The ECM Outcomes Framework will be the Work Plan for the SCYPP.

Whilst the Plan represents a valuable first step, it is anticipated that ongoing developments in partnership working – particularly the joint planning and rationalisation of activity – will see it refined considerably in year one and accordingly a fundamental review will be undertaken in April 2006.

Further development

The Action Plan offers a firm platform for the further development of joint working and performance management across the LSP. Specifically this will include the following initiatives...

Improving efficiency

The Action Plan sets out the key issues and challenges for partners to address in the development and delivery of services.

Activity to improve services and narrow the gap have been undertaken to date in line with the Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy (LNRS) 2002-2007 utilising partners' mainstream budgets and amongst other resources, Neighbourhood Renewal Funding (NRF). NRF in particular has been used as a lever to begin to steer the way that core funding is spent by organisations operating within the Borough in order to increase focus on disadvantaged areas.

However, NRF is currently identified as being available only up to 2006 and other funding streams are likely to expire over the next two years. It is recognised that in order to achieve the Vision for the Borough within the specified ten-year period, partners must improve capacity and effectiveness through joint working and identify and secure additional resources to support the delivery of the Community Strategy and contribute to Government requirements in respect of public sector efficiency. This will involve...

- Mapping the resources flowing into the Borough from all partners and from grant funding and comparing this with the other Durham Districts and areas of comparable disadvantage
- Joining up research, survey and strategy development and rationalising current activity where appropriate
- Identifying further areas of shared responsibility where multi-agency planning and delivery will increase the benefit to local people and progressing these accordingly
- Ensuring that all partners adhere to appropriate sustainability appraisal and risk management procedures in the planning and delivery of services

Area Frameworks

Area Framework documents will also be developed in order to drive down Strategy objectives to local community level and to address specifically areas of disadvantage. These communities have been defined in line with the Borough's five Area Forums – Newton Aycliffe, Spennymoor, Shildon, Ferryhill, Chilton and West Cornforth and the Rural East of the Borough (the Trimdons, Fishburn, and Sedgefield Village). The Frameworks will provide a vision for how areas will develop over the next ten years and will be developed, in close consultation with the local communities and Town and Parish Councils over the next three years. The development of the Frameworks will take account of any potential Local Area Agreement for County Durham and the neighbourhood arrangements that could be introduced to support this.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

In addition to the routine performance monitoring and management of improvement programmes via the partnership structure, the LSP is subject to a Government prescribed Performance Management Framework (PMF). Specifically, the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit (NRU) has established three core criteria for LSP performance management...

1. An annual **Review of Outcomes** – measuring progress on achieving Neighbourhood Renewal related National Floor Targets (NFTs) and supporting local targets in each thematic area (including narrowing of the gap between deprived communities and the rest) and the plausibility of LSP activity designed to achieve these targets, including the allocation of NRF.
2. A triennial **Review of Partnership Working** – an evolution of the LSP accreditation arrangements.
3. **Improvement Plans** flowing from both reviews to be approved by Government Office at Annual Review meetings and progressed by the LSP in the interim period, with the Outcomes Improvement Plan focusing on priority neighbourhoods and directing the use of NRF.

Based upon outcomes of reviews and the quality of their Improvement Plans, LSPs self-assess against a 'traffic-light' system, with their assessments being critically challenged by Government Office.

The preparation of this documentation for the Annual Review will naturally also serve as the review of Community Strategy progress. The Outcomes Improvement Plan will summarise the high-level, boroughwide priorities set out in the CSAP/Policy Group Work Plans and bring these together with recommendations from the Reviews and what is being done in targeted neighbourhoods to narrow the gap. The Plans will be monitored through the partnership structure and their content will be incorporated into the evolving CSAP and Area Framework documents.

REPORTING PROGRESS

Following the annual Review of Outcomes, the LSP will prepare an Annual Report setting out progress against the Community Strategy and make this available to the local community to coincide with the Annual General Meeting in July. The report will focus on key indicators only in order to illustrate the general direction of travel.

Furthermore, in order to ensure that the Community Strategy continues to reflect the priorities and aspirations of the local community, it will be fundamentally reviewed every three years and republished accordingly.

ACTION PLAN

UNDERSTANDING THIS ACTION PLAN

The CSAP sets out for the first time in a single document the key activities, indicators and targets of all partners of the Sedgefield Borough LSP. The Plan is divided into the Community Strategy Ambitions, with each section sharing the following common structure.

Aims

The four Community Strategy Ambitions have been broken down into a number of supporting aims that if realised will ensure that the Borough is Healthy, Attractive, Prosperous and Strong. These aims derive from the extensive consultation and research that formed part of the Community Strategy development process. Each are allocated a reference number for performance management purposes.

Key issues

The issues identified through the development process and that have made each aim a key priority are then summarised.

Indicators and targets for improvement

This sub-section sets out the indicators that will demonstrate improvement in the key areas outlined in the *Key issues* sub-section. These include indicators over which the Government expects LSPs to bring about improvement and/or keep a watching brief – the National Floor Targets (identified in the reference column) – Local PSA targets, appropriate Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) and key local targets. Again, each are allocated a reference number for performance management purposes.

Baseline performance will be for the year 2003/2004 unless indicated. Indicators that relate to NFTs are shaded in the baseline column (where available) to reflect...

High-flying/on course to meet target	=	Green
Improving but not on course to meet target	=	Amber
Not improving or on course to meet target	=	Red

Targets are set in recognition of the baseline position and have been established for the current year, 2007/2008 (the end of the Action Plan period) and 2014/2015 (the end of the Community Strategy period) wherever possible.

Taken together these represent the suite of performance indicators that the LSP will use to assess progress against its priorities in the round. Within this suite a number of indicators against which improvement is imperative have been identified. These Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be used to assess the general direction of travel of the LSP and its impact of the wellbeing of Sedgefield Borough and its communities. KPIs are highlighted in **blue** in the reference column and will be used in the LSP's Annual Report to provide a snapshot of progress.

Actions relating to targets

This sub-section summarises the key actions that will bring about the targeted improvements in key indicators. Some of this activity will be developed and delivered via the LSP and some will be the ongoing mainstream activity of partners. The final column of the table sets out which key indicator(s) the action will impact upon.

Each action has a lead organisation or LSP Policy Group (PG) (abbreviations are set out in the *Glossary of Terms*). This organisation/PG will not usually be solely responsible for the action but will be best placed to take the lead or co-ordinate.

More information on specific operational activity can be found in the plans and strategies of partners listed in the *Find Out More* sections at the end of each chapter. In addition to this LSP PGs are developing detailed Work Plans for their areas of responsibility. This is the first step in mapping the resources flowing into the Borough from key partners.

Stakeholders

To supplement the information provided in the actions table on lead partners, the end of each thematic section sets out which other organisations and groups will be involved in delivery of the aim and which organisations will be positively influenced by its achievement.

Additional information

In addition the end of each thematic section lists the national, regional, sub-regional and local plans, strategies and publications that offer further information on the agendas and activities covered in this Action Plan. Further information on the LSP, the Community Strategy and its supporting documents is available from the LSP's website.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (large print, audiotape or Braille) and other languages upon request. Please contact: -

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A HEALTHY BOROUGH

H01.

TO ENSURE THAT LOCAL PEOPLE ARE PROUD TO BE A RESIDENT OR BUSINESS OF SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH

Key issues in the Borough today

Low levels of participation in local decision-making and low turnout at elections demonstrate that the level of political interest and engagement in UK society has decreased significantly over the last decade. Turnout at the last local elections of the Borough Council in 2003 was low at 44% – some 18% lower than that at the 2001 General Election.

Research has thrown up many possible explanations for this disengagement – from the theory that people simply become more involved when they have to fight for their interests (e.g. in less democratic or prosperous societies or in more diverse communities) to the concern that modern lifestyles (increased family breakdown, increased social mobility, globalisation etc.) damage identification with a local communities to the idea that existing methods of engagement are not responsive to the various circumstances and abilities of local people. Whatever the reason, there is a consensus that should the trend continue unabated it could in the long-term undermine the authority of democratic institutions and the effectiveness of public services.

Addressing community disengagement is referred to by Government as building civil renewal and as a key building block of a sustainable community, is the subject of the first two sections of this Action Plan. It is vital that in the delivery of this Community Strategy local people identify with their local community and are made aware of the LSP's purpose and its programme of action, the impact that this work is having on local communities and how they can become involved. Such a process will ensure that improvements to social capital, public services, local liveability and people's view of the Borough are jointly achieved.

Central to this process is community capacity building (see H02.) but it is equally important that public services operating in the Borough put in place an engagement infrastructure that is appropriate to local needs and abilities, raise awareness of this and clearly demonstrate the improvements that it brings about.

Furthermore, it is important that the opportunity to participate is made equally available to all local people – whatever their race, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, physical ability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation or age. The LSP values the diversity of local communities and is committed to promoting a sense of common belonging and cohesion across the Borough.

The population within the Borough has fallen by 4.3% since the 1991 Census compared to the North East average of a 2.8% fall. The Community Strategy sets out partners' plan to develop a Borough in which people are proud to live and in which they can fulfil their aspirations and so ensure the continued viability of local communities.

Indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
01.01	Local election turnout	44% (2003)	N/A	None established	50% (14/15)
01.02	Percentage of people surveyed who feel that they belong to the Borough	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.03	Percentage of people surveyed who are satisfied with their local area as a place to live	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
01.04	Percentage of residents surveyed who consider that their local area is getting better	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.05	Percentage of people surveyed who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.06	Percentage of people who feel that local ethnic differences are respected	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Further develop alternative methods of voting to facilitate increased turnout.	2005 onwards	SBC	01.01
Develop LSP Communications Strategy, including annual report on progress towards Community Strategy targets.	2005	SBC	01.01-04
Review engagement mechanisms of public services operating in the Borough, consulting stakeholders throughout and implement agreed changes.	2006	SBC	01.01-04
Further develop approach to e-Democracy to include electronic consultations and text messaging.	2006	SBC	01.01-04
Explore with local schools/youth service the potential of providing material on local democracy for citizenship classes.	2007	SBC/LLL	01.01-04
Develop and implement a Community Cohesion Strategy for Sedgefield Borough.	2006	HC	01.05-06

H02.

TO WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR COMMUNITIES IN THE PLANNING AND DELIVERY OF LOCAL SERVICES

Key issues in the Borough today

Enabling local people to play a key role in improving where they live and in making decisions about how services are delivered will be crucial to the success of the Community Strategy. To assist in this process, the Borough's Community Empowerment Network (CEN) was established in 2002 to support the participation and involvement of citizens from all areas and communities of the Borough in the work of the LSP. The key issue for the CEN continues to be addressing disengagement and low aspirations through community capacity building initiatives.

An independent and diverse Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) is an essential component of a democratic and socially inclusive society. The VCS provides vital services, advocates and campaigns on behalf of the local community and provides opportunities for citizens to volunteer and so contribute to community life. In the development and delivery of services, local authorities, NHS agencies and the VCS have distinct but complementary roles. Working in partnership towards shared aims and outcome targets will build relationships and mutual confidence and maximise the effectiveness and efficiency of services to the community.

These principles are set out in detail in the County Durham Strategic Vision and the County Durham Compact agreement, which is led by the County Durham One Voice Network and has the support of all LSPs in the County. Community and Voluntary Organisations Sedgefield (CAVOS) is an umbrella body for community and voluntary organisations in the Borough. CAVOS supports, promotes and develops local voluntary and community action and is supported through a Service Level Agreement with the Borough Council.

In delivering on the LSP's commitment to the VCS, the following issues will be key over the next three years...

- The public sector plays a significant role in providing crucial funding to the VCS, through contracts, service level agreements and grants. Partners need to examine how this can be maintained and improved, particularly in the light of recent Government policy decisions and efficiency pressures on public services.
- Raising the low levels of registered volunteers in neighbourhoods across the Borough will be key in promoting community cohesion.

Key indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
02.01	Percentage of people surveyed who are involved in local decision-making	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	+15%	TBE 2008
02.02	Percentage of people from disadvantaged groups surveyed who are involved in local decision-making	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	+15%	TBE 2008
02.03	Percentage of those involved who feel that they can influence decisions in their area	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	+15%	TBE 2008
02.04	Percentage of those involved from disadvantaged groups who feel that they can influence decisions in their area	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	+15%	TBE 2008
REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
02.05	Percentage of people surveyed who are aware of the LSP/CEN	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	+15%	TBE 2008
02.06	Number of local people registered with volunteer centres in the Borough	733	993	1,523	TBE 2008
02.07	Percentage of people surveyed who have carried out any of a specified list of actions, unpaid, for someone who is not a relative in the past 12 months	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	+15%	TBE 2008
02.08	Percentage of people surveyed who have received any of a specified list of actions, unpaid, by someone who is not a relative in the past 12 months	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	+15%	TBE 2008
02.09	Percentage of VCS organisations involved in public service delivery	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	+10%	TBE 2008

02.10	Percentage of LSP partners attributing improved understanding of community or VCS to community representatives/CEN	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
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Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Secure appropriate and representative community involvement in the work of the LSP by... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Promoting the work of the LSP/CEN across the Borough ■ Increasing awareness of engagement opportunities via the distribution of an annual diary of events and regular newsletters ■ Working with partners to target BME/under-represented groups 	2005 onwards	CEN	02.01-05
Ensure that CEN representatives are properly equipped to contribute to the work of the LSP through the provision of an effective induction and training programme, briefings and ongoing support.	2005 onwards	CEN	02.03-04
Review effectiveness of existing processes and explore potential incentives to facilitate community involvement in the work of the LSP.	2006	SBC/CEN	02.01-05
Facilitate the capture of community views through hosting 'Sharing Ideas' events on key issues across the Borough.	2005 onwards	CEN	02.03-04 02.10
Continue to seek the involvement of local community groups/communities of interest in the design and delivery of services.	2005-2008	ALL	02.09
Monitor and develop with partners the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund agreement for the Borough.	2005 onwards	SBC	02.01-04
Provide a range of support services to ensure the sustained development of VCS infrastructure in the Borough, including advice on funding and governance arrangements, the provision of training opportunities and the development of community partnerships.	2005 onwards	CAVOS	02.09-10
Develop strategic links with statutory, private and voluntary sector agencies and organisations to strengthen support delivered to the VCS and develop appropriate networking opportunities.	2005 onwards	CAVOS	02.09-10

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Promote volunteering opportunities to the wider community and support groups to engage with volunteers through the publication of newsletters and the delivery of training sessions.	2005 onwards	CAVOS/CEN	02.06-08
Ensure that CAVOS is properly representative of the local VCS by... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Promoting the work of CAVOS across the Borough ■ Hosting regular sign-up/networking events 	2005 onwards	CAVOS	02.09-10
Monitor and review the Service Level Agreement with CAVOS to ensure the continuation of effective support for local voluntary and community groups.	2005 onwards	SBC	02.06-10
Consider impact of recent Government policy decisions on VCS infrastructure of the Borough and review funding arrangements for VCS in Sedgefield Borough.	2005	SBC	02.06-10

H03.

TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Key issues in the Borough today

With health deprivation far more prevalent than multiple deprivation in the Borough, improving health and reducing health inequalities are key priorities for the LSP. 24 areas in 18 of the Borough's 19 wards are within the worst 10% nationally for health-related issues and surveys have indicated high levels of smoking and alcohol abuse, poor diet and low levels of physical activity, contributing to high levels of obesity, ill health, and long-term limiting illness. The scale of the challenge posed in improving this situation is highlighted by the fact that residents of the Borough live, on average, around two years less than the national average.

Even against this general picture of poor health across the Borough, there is a clear link between the various measures of deprivation such as poor education and worklessness and health-related issues, demonstrated by more acute health difficulties in the areas of highest deprivation. This demonstrates that improvements in health are best brought about when addressed as part of a wider strategy for social, environmental and economic wellbeing, such as this Community Strategy.

In the light of this, the challenge for partners is to address the behaviours of local people that impact negatively upon health through improved promotion and education and provision of opportunities to change appropriate to their needs and circumstances, within the context of sustained environmental and economic improvement that supports such lifestyle change.

A comprehensive analysis of health across the Borough can be found in the Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2004/2005.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 03.01	Life expectancy – male	74.3 yrs (2001-03)	None established		78.6 (2010)
NFT 03.02	Life expectancy – female	78.7 yrs (2001-03)	None established		82.5 (2010)
NFT 03.03	Infant mortality – number of deaths of infants under a year old per 1,000 live births	7.6 (2001)	None established		7.3 (2010)
NFT 03.04	Standardised mortality rate per 100,000 population – circulatory diseases in under 75s	168.6 (96-98 av.)	None established		101.2 (2010)
NFT 03.05	Standardised mortality rate per 100,000 population – cancer in under 75s	169.0 (96-98 av.)	None established		135.2 (2010)
NFT 03.06	Standardised mortality rate per 100,000 population – suicide	9.8 (96-98 av.)	None established		7.8 (2010)
NFT 03.07	Teenage pregnancy – conception rates per 1,000 population (15-17 years)	55.5 (96-98 av.)	None established		27.8 (2010)
NFT 03.08	Adult smoking rate	TBE 2005	None established		<21% (2010)

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 03.09	Percentage of children obese	TBE 2005	None established		Halt rise (2010)
NFT 03.10	Percentage of children spending a minimum of two hours in a typical week on high quality physical activity and school sport within and beyond the curriculum	TBE 2005	75%	85%	None established
NFT 03.11	Percentage of adult population participating in active sports at least 12 times a year	TBE 2005	None established	+3%	None established
NFT 03.12	Percentage of adult population engaging in at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity level physical activity at least three times per week	TBE 2005	None established	+3%	None established

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
03.13	Percentage of working age population claiming incapacity Benefit/SDA	13% (2004 av.)	None established		Reduce (14/15)
03.14	Percentage of population obese	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
03.15	Smoking cessation – percentage course attendees quitting at 4 weeks	57.1% (04/05)	??	??	TBE 2008
03.16	Substance abuse rates	??	??	??	??
03.17	Percentage of Looked After Children and care leavers aged 14 to 21 who successfully complete the Health component of the Life Skills Course	2% (County average)	None established	10% (County average)	TBE 2008
03.18	Percentage of schools assessed at level 3 against the national healthy school standard	55%	100%	100%	100%

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Continue to build comprehensive prevention and disease management programmes to address coronary heart disease and cancer.	2005-2008	HB	03.01-02 03.04-05 03.13-14
Develop a three-year Alcohol Misuse Action Plan for the Borough in support of the countywide strategy, including an incentive package to encourage high standards of care in licensed premises.	2005-2008	CS/HB/ECON	03.01-05 03.14 03.16
Develop a three-year Tobacco Control Strategy and Action Plan for the Borough, with particular focus on groups with high smoking levels.	June 2005	HB	03.01-05 03.08 03.15
Deliver smoking cessation courses for targeted groups and promote/enforce smoke free public spaces to the safeguard health of non-smokers.	June 2005 onwards	HB	03.01-05 03.08 03.15
Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Develop a three-year local Obesity Strategy to reduce prevalence within the Borough.	June 2005	HB	03.01-02 03.04-05 03.09-14

Develop a three-year Food and Health Strategy for the Borough to coordinate local work to improve health, reduce diet-related disease and improve the nutritional balance of the average diet, with particular focus on the 0-5 age group.	June 2005	HB	03.01-05 03.09 03.14
Develop a three-year local Physical Activity Strategy for the Borough, including links with transport and planning within the framework provided by the countywide strategy.	June 2005	HB	03.01-02 03.04-05 03.09-14
Continue to deliver 'Walking the Way to Health' initiative to instil a walking culture in all age groups irrespective of ability, including vulnerable groups and those recovering from illness.	2005-2008	HB	03.01-02 03.04-05 03.09-10 03.12-14
Build capacity of local volunteers to promote sustainability of community allotments schemes across the Borough.	2005-2008	HB	03.01-02 03.04-05 03.12-14
Continue to promote flu vaccinations to the over 65s, carers and vulnerable groups in order to reduce the winter mortality rate for older people.	2005-2008	HB	03.01-02
Improve sexual health services in line with the process indicated by Choosing Health to reduce transmission of HIV and STIs and participate in the delivery of the County Durham Local Teenage Pregnancy Strategy (CDTPS) to deliver improved information, education, services and support.	2005-2008	HB	03.03 03.07 03.18
Encourage all schools to register as Healthy Schools and youth centres to adopt Healthy Youth Work standards.	07/2007	LLL	03.01-02 03.04-07 03.09-10 03.14 03.16-18
Build on the Health Equity Audit undertaken through the SCYPP to address educational aspiration and attainment.	2005-2008	HB	
Continue to promote the improved health of looked after CYP and the children of care leavers.	2005-2008	SCYPP	
Work with the County Durham Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) to address the impacts of substance misuse and ensure that parents and carers of people with drug and alcohol problems have access to support.	2005-2008	CS/HB	03.01-02 03.06 03.13 03.16
Encourage multi-agency operations to reduce levels of underage substance misuse and continue to support schools and the training of teachers in drug awareness.	2005-2008	CS	03.12 03.16 03.18
Continue to develop and improve diversity awareness and good practice including race equality with ethnic minorities within the Borough.	2005-2008	HB	ALL
Develop closer links with the LSC and Jobcentre Plus to ensure that basic skills work uses health literacy materials and develop closer links between front line health care providers and basic literary services.	2005-2008	HB	ALL
Implement the Older People's National Service Framework and continue to target vulnerable groups using interagency approaches.	2005-2008	HB	03.01-02 03.04-05 03.08 03.12 03.14-15
Promote mental health through schools and workplaces and improve range of services to address depression, other mental health issues and suicide.	2005-2008	HB	03.01-02 03.06 03.13 03.16

H04.

TO IMPROVE SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH SERVICES

Key issues in the Borough today

Given the incidence of poor health in the Borough, local health agencies must ensure that their services are easily accessible to local people and also that both diagnosis and treatment are as efficient and effective as possible.

Sedgefield has an increasingly ageing population (with approximately 17% of local people aged over 65) and a significant number of people suffer from disability and long-term limiting illness. In the light of this, a key challenge to social care and health services in the Borough is to promote independence and provide personalised services for elderly and vulnerable residents which enable them to live in their own homes, where possible and for as long as possible.

To address this issue, Sedgefield Adult Community Care Partnership – a partnership of Sedgefield PCT, DCC and SBC – has been established to provide a seamless health, social care and housing service to the adults and older people of the Borough. Five locality-based Integrated Teams bring together District Nurses, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and Housing Support Officers to create a streamlined service with a single point of access. The teams will offer a single assessment process that will reduce duplication and speed up responses for people with complex needs. The first team has been operational in Trimdon since June 2004, with the remaining four in development.

Further evidence of the joint working between these partners – which began with the Sedgefield Locality Health Alliance in 1994 – is the joint funding of the expansion of the Age Concern Handyvan scheme into the Borough from October 2004. This scheme improves safety in the homes of people aged 60 and over and so prevents avoidable hospital admissions and promotes independent living.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 04.01	Percentage of patients accessing GP appointment within 2 working days	100%	100%	100%	100%
NFT 04.02	Percentage accessing health specialist appointment within 1 working day	100%	100%	100%	100%
NFT 04.03	Percentage waiting more than 18 weeks for GP referral to hospital	0%	0%	0%	0%
NFT 04.04	Number of emergency bed days	??	None established	- 5%	None established
NFT 04.05	Number of people supported at home per 1,000 population	38.48	38.99	39.49	43.49
NFT 04.06	Proportion of people supported intensively to live at home of the total of those being supported at home or in residential care	??	None established	34%	None established
NFT 04.07	Number of people in treatment for substance misuse	??	??	+24%	TBE 2008
NFT 04.08	People retained in treatment for substance misuse for over 12 weeks	??	??	+49%	TBE 2008

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
04.08	Percentage of Social Care and Health clients assessed within 48 hours of first contact	80.79%	85%	90%	100%
04.09	Percentage of all patients waiting more than 6 months for treatment	??	0%	0%	0%
04.10	Average length of stay in hospital for all patients with mental health problems	??	??	??	??

04.11	Number of older people moving in to long-term institutional care per 10,000 population of over 65s	123.3	110.00	100.00	86.2
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Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Support service modernisation and integration through the Partnership Board for Vulnerable Adults.	Ongoing	HB	ALL
Review the Housing Care and Support Strategy for the Borough.	March 2006	HB	ALL
Develop an Older Person Strategy for the Borough in line with sub-regional document.	March 2006	HB	04.01-06 04.09-12
Implement Integrated Teams for vulnerable adults across the five areas of the Borough.	2005-2006	PBVA	ALL
Review the Community Alarm Service in County Durham as part of the Value Improvement Programme.	March 2006	CDSP	04.05-06 04.12
Evaluate and consolidate the block contracting arrangement with independent domiciliary care providers to assist with the recruitment and retention of care staff.	2005	DCC	04.04-06 04.10 04.12
Improve access to community equipment through promotion and development of the Home Independence Service providing access to specialist advice, assessment and equipment for people with disabilities and or mobility problems, including a specialist demonstration centre, equipment shop and sensory impairment resource based within the Borough.	2005	Community Equipment Board	04.04-06 04.12
Continue investment into intermediate care services and evaluate the Home Independence Service.	2005	DCC	04.04-06 04.10-12
Continue investment and promotion of the Handyvan service across the Borough.	2005-2008	DCC/PCT/SBC	04.04-06 04.12
Continue to develop and promote the Expert Patient Programme to improve the ability of local people to manage long-term conditions and develop specialist support and self-care initiatives in line with the Long-term Conditions NSF.	2005-2008	HB	04.04 04.12
Develop extended care agreements in all GP practices.	2005-2008	HB	??
Promote increased use of Day Centres in the Borough.	June 2005	DCC/SCH	04.04 04.10 04.12
Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Examine opportunities to further develop the CREATE service to promote improved quality of life amongst older people and people with a disability through recreational and activity work.	June 2005	DCC/SCH	04.04 04.10 04.12
Establish an interagency group to enhance accident surveillance and develop a strategy and action plan to coordinate existing prevention initiatives.	2005-2008	HB	04.04-06 04.12
Improve the existing substance misuse treatment provision and continue to support the development of initiatives such as the High Street Project and XS service.	2005-2008	CS	03.16 04.07-08
Explore the possibilities of working with accident and emergency departments to provide immediate support, advice and treatment to people receiving treatment for alcohol and drug related injuries.	2005-2008	CS	03.16 04.07-08

Strengthen carer support initiatives and groups across the Borough and review support for these.	2005-2008	HB	04.04-06 04.08 04.10 04.12
Develop work on chronic disease management linking strongly with employers and occupational health services in order to support people who wish to be economically active.	2005-2008	HB/ECON	03.13

H05.

TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO SERVICES

Key issues in the Borough today

Access to high-quality services is a major concern for local communities, particularly in the more rural and outlying parts of the Borough, where low levels of car ownership and often-infrequent public transport can result in real difficulties for local residents. Issues related to this type of isolation require service providers to examine how they engage with customers, whether that be through facilitating improvements in public transport, co-locating services within targeted communities, mobile/outreach service provision or by utilising developing technologies to enable remote access via the E-Government agenda.

Several initiatives are underway to improve physical access to services, notably the introduction of a Real Time Information System to improve the availability of bus schedules, the implementation of community transport and the early introduction of low floor buses.

E-Government in particular has already and will in the future bring about significant improvements in service delivery, citizen participation and governance through the utilisation of technology, the Internet and new media. All interactions with the public capable of electronic service delivery (e.g. payments, bookings, applications, guidance etc.) will be available through this means by the end of 2005-2006. The County Durham E-Government Partnership has been established to deliver integrated E-Government across County Durham and has developed a countywide strategy to deliver resident aspirations for contact with local government services. These aspirations include a single telephone number for all services, the ability to call in at any county, district or borough office for any matter and the ability to access services locally via one-stop shops. It is anticipated that these aspirations will be met by 2010 at the latest, with one-stop shops in built-up areas linking to customer services infrastructure, rural areas supported through static (Kiosk) and mobile face-to-face contact (e.g. home care staff, benefits officers, CAB volunteers) and a countywide call centre. It is vital the development of this approach is aligned with plans to introduce a network of Community Hubs – local centres for leisure, community interaction and socialising and also facilitate effective workplace learning - across the County and any future plans for the roll-out of neighbourhood management across the Borough.

Further types of access issues surround those residents or businesses that are unable to access services and opportunities through other barriers, be that worklessness and low incomes, discrimination, poor skills, non-decent housing, high crime, poor health and family breakdown. This social exclusion needs to be addressed in the development and implementation of all services.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 05.01	Total local public transport journeys per year by bus	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	+ 12% (2010)

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
05.02	Percentage of a) households, and b) households without access to a car within 30 and 60 minutes of a hospital by public transport	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
05.03	Percentage of a) households, and b) households without access to a car within 15 and 30 minutes of a GP by public transport	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
05.04	Percentage of a) households, and b) households without access to a car within 15 and 30 minutes of a major centre by public transport	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
05.05	Number of concessionary travel permits issued in accordance with agreed criteria	14,490	15,000	TBE 2005	TBE 2005
05.06	Percentage of scheduled services that arrive between 1 minute early or 5 minutes late	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
05.07	Percentage of respondents satisfied with the local bus service	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
05.08	Number of outpatient "did not attends" due to transport difficulties	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
05.09	Percentage of interactions with the public capable of electronic service delivery being delivered electronically	79.35% (04/05)	100%	Deadline is December 2005	
05.10	Percentage of residents surveyed finding it easy to access key local services	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
05.11	Percentage of disabled residents surveyed finding it easy to access key local services	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Ensure that Local Area Transport Plan for the Borough addresses access issues, particularly in respect of public transport provision.	2005-2006	EL	05.01-08 05.10-11
Introduce Real Time Information System into the Borough's major centres to ensure that local people have accurate information on bus frequency and use management information to broker service improvements with local providers.	2005-2008	DCC	05.01-08 05.10-11
Evaluate the potential of negotiating Quality Bus Partnership agreements with local providers to ensure efficient, timely services.	2005-2008	DCC	05.01-08 05.10-11
Work with public transport providers operational in the area to introduce low floor routes in advance of 2016 deadline.	2005-2008	DCC	05.01 05.05 05.07-08 05.10-11
Introduce revised concessionary travel scheme to ensure free public transport for people aged over 60 and review travel concession schemes for young people.	2006	DCC/SBC	05.01 05.05 05.07 05.10-11

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Develop a Community Transport toolkit to complement statutory provision in the Borough, oversee its implementation and review progress of the East Durham Rural Transport Partnership in the light of developments.	2005-2006	EL	05.10-11
Progress Community Hubs initiative in the Borough, reviewing operation of multi-purpose community buildings/access points and developing forward strategy for implementation.	2005-2006	HC	05.10-11
Explore links with the local government E-Government agenda to maximise potential of new technologies in improving access to services and in delivering the objectives of the Community Strategy.	2005-2006	HC	05.09 05.10-11
Evaluate telemedicine pilot and research innovative approaches to delivering services to those with special requirements and produce implementation plan for the Borough linked to Community Hubs/E-Government agendas.	2005-2006	HB/HC	05.10-11
Evaluate Neighbourhood Management Pilot in Western Newton Aycliffe and act on learning in rolling out programme to other targeted areas.	2005-2008	HC	05.10-11
Implement the LIFT programme to improve access to 21st century health facilities accessible to deprived groups and neighbourhoods.	2005-2008	PCT	05.10-11

STAKEHOLDERS IN A HEALTHY BOROUGH

Delivery

Age Concern Durham County, business community, carers, CAVOS, CEN, Children's Fund, Citizens' Advice Bureau, County Durham and Darlington Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, County Durham and Darlington Priority Services NHS Trust, County Durham Drugs and Alcohol Action Team, County Durham E-Government Partnership, County Durham Learning and Skills Council, Darlington and Durham County Racial Equality Council, DISC, Durham and Districts Supporting People Partnership, Durham County Council, Durham Rural Community Council, Durham Sport, Government Office for the North East, GPs, Groundwork East Durham, independent domiciliary care providers, Integrated Teams, Investing in Children, Mental Health Local Implementation Group, North East E-Democracy Partnership, One Northeast, One Voice Network, Partnership Board for Vulnerable Adults, Pioneering Care Partnership, schools, Sedgfield Borough Council, Sedgfield Primary Care Trust, Suicide Prevention Task Force, Sure Start, Town and Parish Councils, transport providers, Voluntary and Community Sector, volunteers

Influencing/influenced by delivery

Business, carers, central Government, Chinese Association for the North East Region (CANER), colleges and universities, County Durham Children and Young People's Partnership, County Durham Economic Partnership, County Durham Strategic Partnership, Department for Education and Skills, Department of Culture, Media and Support, Department of Health, Home Office, Jobcentre Plus, LSP Policy Groups, minority groups, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Sedgfield Borough Children and Young People's Partnership, schools, Sport England

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A Joint Approach to Mental Health: A Strategy for County Durham and Darlington
CAVOS Delivery Plan
Choosing Health: making healthier choices easier (White Paper)
County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2005-2010
County Durham and Darlington Health Authority Strategy
County Durham Adult Drug Treatment Plan
County Durham E-Government Strategy
County Durham Local Transport Plan
County Durham One Voice VCS Compact
County Durham Physical Activity Strategy 2005-2008
County Durham Strategic Vision
County Durham Teenage Pregnancy Strategy
County Durham Young People's Substance Misuse Plan 2004-2005
County Durham Youth Justice Plan
Durham County Council Social Care and Health Operational Plan
Durham Police Authority Strategy 2003-2005/Annual Policing Plan
Integrated Regional Framework for the North East
National Strategy for local E-Government
National Service Framework for Children
National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease
National Service Framework for Mental Health
National Service Framework for Older People
National Probation Service Business Plan (County Durham area)
National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal
Securing the Future – UK Sustainable Development Strategy
Sedgfield Adult Mental Health Services: A Framework for Action
Sedgfield Borough CEN Delivery Plan
Sedgfield Borough Community Safety Audit 2001-2004 and Strategy 2005-2008
Sedgfield Borough Council Corporate Plan
Sedgfield PCT – Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2004-2005
Sedgfield PCT Local Delivery Plan
The NHS Plan: A Plan for investment, A Plan for Reform
Turning Ambition into Reality – the North East Regional Plan for Sport and Physical Activity

A PROSPEROUS BOROUGH

P01.

TO PROMOTE A STRONG AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS BASE

Key issues in the Borough today

The Borough contrasts modern and developing business and industrial areas, with a mix of rural and former colliery settlements. It has a strong history of manufacturing – particularly within engineering – with over one third of local people employed within the sector and continues to boast one of the largest employment locations in the region in Aycliffe Industrial Park. These links have, however, rendered the Borough's economy vulnerable to the rapid and on-going changes in global manufacturing – leading to a continuing local loss of businesses in this sector and 10,000 jobs since the 1980s. Unemployment in the Borough is higher than the regional average at 7.3%.

The Borough's economy will continue to be affected by the further reduction of its manufacturing base and so it is important that the economic base is diversified through the attraction and retention of high value, high growth businesses and the encouragement of increased service sector employment to promote stability and competitiveness.

The Northern Way Growth Strategy (NWGS) identifies two City Regions within the North East, with Sedgefield Borough the only district in County Durham identified as part of the Tees Valley Region. The NWGS prioritises the City Regions for future economic growth and ensuring that the infrastructure is in place to support this objective is a key issue.

In this respect significant opportunities exist within the Borough. In particular the Borough's strategic location in the central A1(M) corridor and its portfolio of sites and premises represents a major economic opportunity – bolstered by high-quality business support provided by SBBS through the Business Support Network for County Durham and a strong tradition of securing inward investment.

Currently under construction, NETPark (The North East Technology Park) will become the regional hub for businesses in the science and technology research and development field and be capable of attracting and growing major global innovators and research organisations. The spin out potential from this for employment, local businesses and the local communities is tremendous but will require careful management to maximise the benefits to residents.

A further key issue is the role of local town and village centres, which have struggled to maintain their competitiveness in the light of changing shopping patterns. Town centre management initiatives are in place in the Borough's major towns to oversee physical and environmental improvements and to encourage new investment.

Whilst building demand for labour is a key priority, it is also important to match this with an appropriate supply of labour. The percentage of economically active people in the Borough is significantly less than the regional and national averages. 'Worklessness' (unemployment plus economic inactivity) in the Borough stands at 39.5%, with an estimated 25% of the workforce not looking for a job. Whilst further research into economic inactivity in the Borough is required, the very high level (some 5% above the regional and 10% above the national average) is linked to the high-incidence of long-term limiting illness. The Employment and Health Group continues to promote health at work, corporate citizenship by business, NHS contributions to employment and employability, including pathways to work and conditions management.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 01.01	Overall employment rate	62.8% (03/04)	None established	Increase baseline	None established
NFT 01.02	Employment rate of disabled people	N/A	None established	Increase baseline	None established
NFT 01.03	Employment rates of other disadvantaged groups – lone parents, ethnic minorities, people aged 50+	N/A	None established	Increase baseline	None established
NFT 01.04	Difference between employment rates of disadvantaged groups and overall rate	N/A	None established	Reduce difference	None established
NFT 01.05	Number of VAT registered businesses per 10,000 population in the Borough	21.4 (2003)	None established	Improve baseline	None established
NFT 01.06	Measure of productivity – earnings per head (GVA)	£13,374 (01/02)	None established	Improve baseline	None established

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
01.07	Percentage of working age population that is economically active	67.8% (2005)	None established		Improve baseline
01.08	Proportion of economically active workforce that is self-employed	4.81% (2001)	None established		Improve baseline
01.09	Annual average unemployment rate	7.3%	None established		Reduce baseline
01.10	Percentage of working age people claiming JSA	2.4% (2005)	None established		Reduce baseline
01.11	Average weekly earnings	£395.9 (2003)	None established		Improve baseline
01.12	Number of new jobs created through new businesses, inward investment and business expansions over lifetime of Community Strategy (cumulative)	0 (2004)	None established		5,000 (14/15)
01.13	Number of people employed within the Borough's business stock	15,191	15,950	16,748	20,500
01.14	Number of jobs created or safeguarded through the provision of financial assistance to business by SBBS	75 (04/05)	83	90	TBE 2008
01.15	Percentage increase or decrease in the number of local jobs	0	+5%	+10%	+35%
01.16	Number of inward investment enquiries received by SBBS (Based on a 5% increase per annum)	110	115	120	TBE 2008

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
01.17	Occupancy rates – NetPark incubator and business park	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.18	Occupancy rates – Council owned sites/premises	77%	80%	85%	90% (14/15)
01.19	Occupancy rates – premises in main town centres	NA - 85% SP - 93%	NA - 87% SP - 95%	NA - 87% SP - 95%	TBE 2008
01.20	Footfall in major town centres	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.21	User satisfaction with major town centres	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.22	Number of residents receiving new business start advice and guidance	288 (04/05)	300	333	TBE 2008
01.23	Number of companies advised on business development	517 (04/05)	542	567	TBE 2008
01.24	Number of new start up businesses supported by SBBS	44 (04/05)	60	73	TBE 2008
01.26	Number of social enterprises in the Borough	11	12	13	TBE 2008
01.27	Business Link Customer Satisfaction	90%	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Manage NetPark Phase 1 to maximise occupancy rate and implement Phase 2 expansion. Provide grow on space to facilitate NetPark development in line with Master plan.	2005-2007	ECON	01.01-06 01.08-17 01.22-27
Implement a marketing strategy for NetPark to secure private sector interest in the form of direct investment from companies alongside a mix of speculative and design and build accommodation.	2005-2007	ECON	
Implement Green Lane Industrial Estate capital scheme and Aycliffe Industrial Park Improvements Programme and establish the physical infrastructure for the successful development of the Heighington Lane West as site for logistics businesses.	2007	ECON	01.01-06 01.08-16 01.18 01.22-27
Develop enhanced, targeted marketing of Borough sites and premises to attract increased investment.	2007	ECON	
Deliver initiatives to increase the vitality and vibrancy of the Borough's town centres and promote them as competitive locations... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Town Centre Management initiative ■ Bus station development ■ Shop front and environmental improvement schemes ■ Major Centres Programmes in Spennymoor and Newton Aycliffe ■ Urban Renaissance Programme to small and medium sized settlements 	2005 onwards	ECON/EL/HC	01.01-06 01.08-16 01.19-24 01.27

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Evaluate existing sites and premises provision across the Borough against current and future demand and progress demolition of derelict stock to improve the environmental quality of sites and local areas.	2005-2007	ECON	01.12-19
Promote and develop local employment sites to attract increased investment.	2005-2007	ECON	01.01-06 01.08-16 01.18 01.22-27
Undertake feasibility study on nominating local industrial estates as Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)	2005-2006	ECON	01.01-06 01.08-16 01.18 01.22-27
Promote and support higher value/high growth businesses and work with businesses to increase and secure R&D investment in the Borough.	2007	ECON	01.01-06 01.08-18 01.22-27
Promote and develop existing assistance available to businesses from local universities and colleges, such as... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ EQ8 training pilot ■ Rapid prototyping to assist SMEs in developing new products ■ Integrated specialist training in CAD/CAM ...and stimulate further collaborative working on R&D and improved systems.	2005-2008	ECON/LLL	01.01-06 01.08-18 01.22-27
Increase the number of employees participating in work-based learning with key providers and promote EQ8 courses to employers.	2008	LLL/ECON	01.01-06 01.08-18 01.22-27
Develop links between educational institutions and local businesses to promote workforce development and enterprise... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Increase staff placements to industry ■ Develop business forums in key vocational areas in BAC ■ Conduct LSDA skills needs analysis and use findings to inform planning and development of training 	2005-2008	ECON/LLL	01.01-04 01.06 01.09 01.11-15
Promote graduate employment to local businesses, including micro and small enterprises.	2007	ECON	01.01-06 01.08-15 01.17-19 01.24-27
Foster entrepreneurship in local communities by implementing an awareness-raising programme for business start-up and self-employment advice, assistance and support.	2005-2006	ECON	01.01-04 01.06 01.09-11
Continue to deliver JobSearch initiative in targeted communities to assist job seekers into employment and explore alternatives for mainstreaming.	2005-2006	ECON	01.01-06 01.08-26
Ensure that Local Area Transport Plan for the Borough supports Regional Economic and Growth Strategies and Regional Spatial Strategy.	2005-2006	EL	01.01-04 01.06 01.10-15 01.17-19 01.22-27
Promote and support growth in the Borough's social enterprise sector.	2007	ECON	01.01-04 01.06 01.10-15 01.17-19 01.22-27
Support the development of Community Enterprises linked to flagship economic regeneration activities such as Locomotion and NetPark and explore alternatives for mainstreaming.	2005-2006	ECON	01.01-06 01.08-27
Ensure the effective delivery of high quality business advice and guidance through the Business Support Network for County Durham.	2005-2008	ECON	01.01-06 01.08-27

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Continue to deliver Civic Pride ILM to offer a bridge to employment for unemployed New Deal young clients in Newton Aycliffe West.	2005-2006	EL	01.01-06 01.08-15
Continue to work with local employers, employees and colleges to identify skills gaps, barriers to training and weaknesses in current provision and co-ordinate activity to meet needs.	2005-2007	LLL/ECON	01.01-04 01.06 01.10-15 01.17-19 01.22-25 01.27
Develop a LSP worklessness strategy to co-ordinate existing initiatives designed to impact on economic inactivity and identify how the LSP can add value to these.	2005	ALL	01.01-04 01.07-10

P02.**TO DEVELOP THE BOROUGH'S UNIQUE CULTURAL AND TOURISM ATTRACTIONS****Key issues in the Borough today**

In global terms, tourism is one the largest and fastest growing industries but it is one – despite an offer that includes the World Heritage Site of Durham Cathedral and Castle and a number of high-quality and diverse attractions – in which County Durham traditionally under performs.

County Durham offers a varied visitor experience covering Christian, Industrial, Cultural and Natural Heritage and benefits from close proximity to Newcastle and Northumberland. The County Durham Economic Partnership has recently developed a County Tourism Strategy – aligned with the Regional Strategy and the Regional Image Strategy – that aims to develop a tourism experience that matches the quality of the built heritage and the natural environment of the County as a means of creating economic activity and prosperity for local people.

Sedgefield Borough will make a major contribution to the success of the County Strategy. Locomotion – the National Railway Museum at Shildon – is an innovative and award-winning venture and a high profile addition to the County visitor offer. The success of Locomotion, the re-development of Hardwick Hall Country Park and the continuing popularity of Sedgefield Racecourse are also significant contributors to the County picture.

The challenge over the lifetime of the Community Strategy and beyond is to maximise the potential of the attractions within the Borough, developing a joined-up and attractive visitor experience across County Durham and appropriate neighbouring areas, making this accessible, promoting this effectively and managing the benefits to ensure maximum value for the people of the Borough.

National Floor Target

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 02.01	Number of visits/usages to museum per 1,000 population	1,354	1,395	1,395	TBE 2008

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
02.02	Visitors to the Borough per annum	2,397,130	2,796,012	3,261,268	TBE 2008
02.03	Total visitor spend per annum (£)	38,170,000	42,887,812	48,188,745	TBE 2008
02.04	Visitor spend per head (£)	15.92	15.33	14.80	TBE 2008
02.05	Visitors spend with local businesses (£)	24,422,000	27,440,559	30,832,214	TBE 2008
02.06	Jobs created through tourism	45.3	50.9	57.2	TBE 2008

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Support the development and implementation of the Regional and County Durham Tourism Strategies, including the Action Planning phase... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Undertake audit and develop local tourism action plan ■ Ensure the Borough links to regional and sub-regional tourism/events e.g. Durham Cathedral, Hadrian's Wall, International Cricket, Tall Ships, Great North Run etc., through the promotion of a more 'joined-up' visitor experience. ■ Improve linkages with the regional airports – Newcastle and Durham Tees Valley. 	2007	ECON/SBC	02.01-06
Work with surrounding local authorities to develop an effective County Durham Destination Management Organisation and engage with adjacent DMOs to maximise benefit of facilities and attractions in the south of the Borough.	2005-2008	ECON/EL	02.01-06

Invest in the development of Locomotion: the NRM at Shildon, creating a high-class site as a catalyst for further opportunities e.g. joint working with other railway heritage sites across the County and Region	Ongoing	SBC	02.01-06
Promote opportunities to supply Locomotion and other tourism/culture-based businesses located in the Borough.	2007	ECON	02.06
Support the development of and co-ordinate new and existing tourism/cultural businesses located in the Borough, including social enterprise activity.	2007	ECON	02.06
Ensure that Local Area Transport Plan for the Borough facilitates good access and signposting to the Borough's major attractions.	2005-2006	EL	02.01-06

P03.**TO ENSURE A COMMUNITY AND WORKFORCE WITH THE SKILLS REQUIRED BY BUSINESS****Key issues in the Borough today**

The Borough suffers from poor basic skills, with approximately one in four people experiencing literacy needs and nearly one in three numeracy needs. This situation acts as a brake on continued participation in education and training, limits the ability of people in employment to respond to training and development and ultimately results in business skill shortages in potential development sectors.

In order to improve skills, participation and learning in the Borough and so promote local economic competitiveness partners will seek to promote learning in ways that best meet individuals' needs and circumstances. This means building on the work that is now taking place in schools, colleges and through training providers to raise attainment levels, support community learning and to widen participation. It will also mean working with universities, businesses and other organisations interested or concerned with promoting lifelong learning. A network of community learning access points in appropriate locations will support this work.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 03.01	Proportion of 19 year olds achieving NVQ Level 2	??	+3%	+2%	None established
NFT 03.02	Proportion of young people not in education, employment or training	13.33% (Nov 04)	11.5% (Nov 05) 10.5% (Nov 06)		Reduce baseline (2010)
NFT 03.03	Number of adults in the workforce lacking NVQ2 or equivalent qualifications	34.2% (2001)	None established		20.5% (2010)
NFT 03.04	Participation in higher education of those aged 18-30 years	??	None established		Towards 50% (2010)
NFT 03.05	Participation in higher education – rates of non-completion	??	None established		Reduce baseline (2010)

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
03.06	% Adults with poor literacy	28.4% (2001)	None established		Reduce baseline (14/15)
03.07	% Adults with poor numeracy	30.9% (2001)	None established		Reduce baseline (14/15)
03.08	% Working age with no qualifications	24.6%	None established		Reduce baseline (14/15)
03.09	% Working age qualified to NVQ1 only	21.1%	None established		Reduce baseline (14/15)
REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
03.10	% Working age qualified to NVQ level 3 and above	32.2%	None established		Improve baseline (14/15)
03.11	% Working age qualified to NVQ level 4 and above	17.7%	None established		Improve baseline (14/15)
03.12	Number of foundation degree opportunities available locally	2	6	8	TBE 2008
03.13	Number of employees participating in work-based learning with key providers	150	160	200	TBE 2008

03.14	Percentage of students continuing in structured learning post-16	61%	63%	65%	TBE 2008
03.15	Number of adults accessing learning in the Borough	N/A	2,330	2,500	TBE 2008
03.16	Volume of youth work formal accreditation achieved by young people aged 13-19	0	60	120	TBE 2008
03.17	Number of internal awards achieved by young people aged 13-19	5	10	40	TBE 2008

Actions relating to key targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Widen participation by improving the portfolio of foundation degrees available at Bishop Auckland College.	2008	LLL	03.02 03.04 03.11 03.12
Widen participation by ensuring that IAG is widely available and accessible in a variety of forms and venues.	March 2005	LLL	03.01-11 03.13-17
Secure the future of the Sedgefield Learning Borough Partnership after current funding expires to ensure the co-ordination of an accessible, consistent and high-quality learning programme across the Borough.	March 2006	LLL	03.01-11 03.15
Undertake a borough-wide promotional campaign across all learning access points and encourage participation in learning through Moving On and Bite Size campaigns, Skills for Life provision and family learning.	March 2006	LLL	03.01-11 03.15
Secure additional Youth Service provision seven days per week and during holidays to increase access and develop inter-agency partnership.	Sept 2005	LLL	03.01-02 03.08-09 03.14 03.16-17
Increase accreditation of achievement by introducing level 1 drugs awareness, ASDAN, Youth Achievement and Education in the Community Awards, Young Achievers, and Youth Works Awards.	Sept 2005	LLL	03.16-17
Promote Aim Higher activities in schools and target those Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS) to improve staying on rates and facilitate progression.	2007	LLL	03.01-02 03.04-05 03.08-11 03.14

P04.**TO PROMOTE AIMING HIGH IN SCHOOL****Key issues in the Borough today**

Educational attainment within the Borough at Key Stage 4 continues to fall below the county, regional and national average; the gap is being reduced at a significant rate, with performance improving by approximately 7% between 2002 and 2004. Performance at Key Stages 2 and 3 are steady and within touching distance of the national average. However, there is still much work to be done to ensure that the Borough contributes to the achievement of challenging national policy initiatives and floor targets in respect of education.

The Specialist Schools Programme helps maintained secondary schools to establish distinctive identities through their chosen specialisms and achieve their targets to raise standards. Six of the Borough's seven secondary schools have achieved specialist status to date and plans are in place for the remaining school to achieve Special School Status by the end of 2007/2008.

In addition to this, the Borough schools are developing plans to offer extended services. For primary schools this means that they will offer a wide range of study support activities, parenting support including family learning, and ensure swift referral from schools to a wider range of specialised support services for pupils. Secondary schools will provide a core offer of study support activities, widespread community use of the school's facilities and family learning activities.

A key local priority within this developing national framework is the expansion of the vocational curriculum to ensure that learning meets the learner's needs.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 04.01	Percentage of 11 year olds achieving Level 4+ at Key Stage 2 in English and Maths	E - 74.7% M - 75.7% (2004)	85%	85%	None established
NFT 04.02	Proportion of schools in which fewer than 65% of pupils achieve Level 4+ at KS2	E - 30% M - 18%	None established	E - 18% M - 10.8%	None established
NFT 04.03	Percentage of 14 year olds achieving Level 5+ at Key Stage 3 in English, Maths and ICT	E - 69% M - 69% ICT - N/A	None established	85%	None established
NFT 04.04	Percentage of 14 year olds achieving L5+ at KS3 in Science	62%	None established	80%	None established
NFT 04.05	Proportion of schools where at least 50% of pupils achieve L5+ at KS3 in English, Maths and Science	E - 100% M - 100% S - 86%	None established	100%	None established
NFT 04.06	Percentage of those aged 16 achieving 5 A*-C grades achieved at Key Stage 4	43%	52%	60% (2008)	TBE 2008
NFT 04.07	Improved attendance in schools	91%	92%	92.5%	TBE 2008

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
04.08	Percentage of those aged 16 achieving 5 A*-G grades at Key Stage 4	83% (03/04)	85%	87%	TBE 2008
04.09	Number of secondary schools with Specialist School status	6	6	7 (100%)	
04.10	Number of extended schools in the Borough	3	10	42 (100%)	
04.11	Strategy agreed and reporting system in place	??	??	??	??

04.12	Number of specialist teachers in vocational subjects trained in local schools	0	15	25	TBE 2008
04.13	Number of internal awards achieved by young people aged 13-19 through Youth Work	5	10	40	TBE 2008
04.14	Number of students involved in work experience or work-related learning	762	2,000	2,500	TBE 2008

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Engage with local primary and secondary schools to identify LSP initiatives and projects that can contribute to improved performance at Key Stages 2 and 3.	2005-2008	LLL	04.01-05
Ensure all existing specialist schools achieve re-designation and that all the Borough's secondary schools attain specialist school status and implement appropriate community outreach programmes.	2007	LLL	04.06 04.08-09
Encourage all schools to become Extended Schools, offering out-of-hours opportunities to learners.	2006	LLL	03.01-03 03.06-09 03.15 04.01-08 04.10-11 04.13-14
Support the development of Communities of Learning to offer appropriate and inclusive learning opportunities for all.	07/2006	LLL	04.10-11 04.13-14
Expand the 14 to 16 curriculum offer of the Increased Flexibility programme.	09/2005	LLL	04.06-08 04.12 04.14
Implement the Learning and Skills Council's area action plan for 14-19 provision.	09/2005 onwards	LLL	04.01-08 04.14
Develop mechanisms to strengthen the influence of the 'learner voice'.	12/2007	LLL	04.01-08 04.14
Support the training of vocational teachers through School Centred Initial Teacher Training in Newton Aycliffe.	2015	LLL	04.12
Increase the number of Education in the Community, Young Achievers and Youth Works Awards etc.	03/2006	LLL	04.13

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Expand the 14-16 curriculum to include work-related opportunities appropriate to the interests and needs of individuals.	07/2007	LLL	04.14
Continue to deliver NRF-supported Service Improvement Plans in targeted wards, providing additional pupil support to impact on Key Stage 2, 3 and 4 performance.	2005-2006	LLL	04.01-08
Contribute to the development of an Industrial Learning Centre on Aycliffe Industrial Park to support key new developments in the education and training of all 14-19 year olds in County Durham.	2006-2007	LLL	04.06-08 04.14

STAKEHOLDERS IN A PROSPEROUS BOROUGH

Delivery

Agility, Banks, Bishop Auckland College, Business Link County Durham, CAVOS, CEN, Centre for Vocational Excellence, Citizens' Advice Bureau, colleges and universities, commercial property agents and developers, Connexions County Durham, Consortium of Railway Attractions, County Durham Business and Learning Partnership, County Durham Development Company, County Durham E-Government Partnership, County Durham Learning and Skills Council, Destination Management Partnerships, Digital Factory, Durham County Council, estate agents, Groundwork East Durham, Hardwick Country Park, Jobcentre plus, Learn Direct, NetPark, Newton Aycliffe and Spennymoor Town Centre Forums, North East Chamber of Commerce, One Northeast, One Voice Network, private sector service providers, property owners and developers, Regional Gymnastics Facility, Regional Skills Partnership, Regional Technology Centre North, schools, Sedgefield Borough Council ETC, Sedgefield Borough Business Forum, Sedgefield Borough Business Service, Sedgefield Borough Council, Sedgefield Primary Care Trust, Sedgefield Racecourse, Teesside University, UK Online, University of Durham, University Knowledge Houses

Influencing/influenced by delivery

Bishop Auckland College, business community, Business Link County Durham, central Government, colleges and universities, Connexions County Durham, County Durham Economic Partnership, County Durham Strategic Partnership, Department for Education and Skills, Digital Factory, Federation of Small Businesses, Ferryhill Enterprise College, Jobcentre plus, LSP Economy Healthy Borough and Lifelong Learning Policy Groups, North East Chamber of Commerce, private sector service providers, SASDA Limited, schools, Sedgefield Borough Business Forum, Sedgefield Borough Business Service, Sedgefield Learning Borough Partnerships, Small Business Service, Teesside University, UK Online, University of Durham, Young Enterprise

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Adult and Community Education Learning Plan
Business Link County Durham Business Plan
CAVOS Delivery Plan
Connexions Service Business Plan (County Durham)
County Durham Business & Learning Partnership Business Plan
County Durham Economic Strategy
County Durham E-Government Strategy
County Durham Learning and Skills Council – Local Strategic Plan 2002-2005/ Business Plan 2004-2005
County Durham Local Transport Plan
County Durham STEAM Reports
County Durham Strategic Vision
County Durham Tourism Strategy
Draft Durham Sites and Premises Study
Draft Regional Sites and Premises Study
Durham County Council Education Development Plan 2002-2007
Durham County Council Lifelong Learning Plan
Green Lane Masterplan
Integrated Regional Framework for the North East
Local Development Framework
National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal
NetPark Masterplan
Regional Economic Strategy
Regional Image Strategy
Regional Spatial Strategy
Regional Tourism Strategy
Securing the Future – UK Sustainable Development Strategy
Sedgefield Borough CEN Delivery Plan
Sedgefield Borough Council Corporate Plan
Sedgefield Borough Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy
The Northern Way Regional Growth Strategy

AN ATTRACTIVE BOROUGH

A01.**TO IMPROVE THE DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OF OUR TOWNS AND VILLAGES****Key issues in the Borough today**

With a mix of small industrial towns and attractive villages and set within open and accessible countryside, the Borough is an attractive place to live and work. The Borough has a strong reputation for delivering sustainability and environmental projects, and partners have committed substantial resources to enhance the built environment. However, certain areas require further attention. Litter, dog fouling and fly tipping remain key concerns for local residents and the design and environmental quality of some settlements and housing estates is variable.

It is a priority for the LSP to build on the 'liveability' of the Borough over the life of the Community Strategy. A significant component of improving liveability is improving the look and feel of an area and to this end the Borough Council is committing significant resources to improving the cleanliness of streets and regulating the contribution of activity within the Borough to the quality of the environment and to national pollution levels.

In addition, as part of the statutory requirement under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Borough Council is currently in the process of drawing up a Local Development Framework (LDF) to regulate the development of land across the Borough. Planning applications are currently determined on the basis of compliance with land allocations and land use policies within the current Borough Local Plan, which was adopted in 1996. The LDF will establish a framework to ensure the most efficient use of land by balancing competing demands within the context of sustainable development. In order to do this effectively the LDF will integrate with all other policies and programmes that influence the nature of places and how they function. The LDF will be a key component in the delivery of the Community Strategy and work will continue over the life of this action plan to explore the synergy between the two initiatives.

Key indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
01.01	Percentage of relevant land and highways assessed as having combined deposits of litter and detritus across 4 categories of cleanliness that fall below an acceptable level	19%	20%	17%	TBE 2008
01.02	Percentage of local people satisfied with cleanliness standards	65%	Triennial survey 2006/2007 target = 67%		TBE 2007
01.03	Number of incidents of fly tipping	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.04	Percentage of abandoned vehicles removed within 24 hours from the point at which the Authority is legally entitled to remove the vehicle	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.05	Percentage of main rivers and canals rated as 'good' or 'fair' quality	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.06	Number of 'sites of potential concern', with respect to land contamination	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.07	Proportion of land stock that is derelict	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
01.08	Percentage of conservation areas with published management proposals	6.7%	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
01.09	Percentage of major commercial and industrial applications decided within 13 weeks	48% (04/05)	60%	70%	TBE 2008
01.10	Percentage of minor Commercial and Industrial applications decided within 8 weeks	50% (04/05)	70%	80%	TBE 2008
01.11	Did the local planning authority submit the Local Development Scheme (LDS) by 28 March 2005 and thereafter maintain a 3-year rolling programme?	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes

01.12	Has the local planning authority met the milestones that the current Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out?	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
01.13	Did the local planning authority publish an annual report by 31 December of each year?	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Develop a partnership approach to the monitoring and improvement of local environmental conditions relevant to street cleansing activities, increasing levels of enforcement and educational activity to increase awareness.	2005 onwards	EL/HC/CS	01.01-04
Continue to work with local Resident's Associations in the development and maintenance of environments within the Borough's housing estates.	2005 onwards	EL/HC/CS	01.01-04
Deliver the Life Laundry SIP to provide an enhanced street scene service in Newton Aycliffe West.	2005-2006	EL	01.01-04
Deliver the Abandoned/Untaxed Vehicles SIP to reduce ASB, vandalism and arson in targeted areas and mainstream through neighbourhood wardens.	2005-2006	EL	01.04
Monitor the pollution of the local environment and continue to work to the Borough's Contaminated Land Strategy.	2005 onwards	EL	01.05 01.06
Deliver the Dean Bank Environmental Improvements SIP.	2005-2006	EL	01.01-02
Continue to work to the Development Control Action Plan to improve performance in the turnaround of planning applications.	2005-2008	SBC	01.09-10
Establish a Local Development Framework for the Borough.	2008	EL	01.07-08 01.11-13

A02.**TO ENSURE THE EFFICIENT USE OF OUR RESOURCES****Key issues in the Borough today**

The Borough faces major challenges in improving its use of resources and recycling rates and responding to issues of fuel poverty. Recovering value from household waste – by recycling, composting or re-use – is a particular challenge, with the Borough lagging behind the national average. The Borough Council has developed a Sustainable Waste Management Strategy that focuses on minimising the quantity of waste produced through the adoption of wide-ranging education and awareness raising programmes and maximizing the recycling opportunities available to local people. This Strategy has been successful in raising recycling levels in the Borough to those required Government but much more remains to be done if the Borough is match national and international performance.

With approximately 9,000 households in the Borough estimated as fuel poor, improving energy efficiency in all housing sectors to improve the health of local people and to reduce the environmental impact of household energy use is a key challenge for the Borough. As part of the Borough's Affordable Warmth Strategy, a number of partnership initiatives are underway to address this issue, including Durham Energy Savers, Sedgefield Energy Securing Affordable Warmth (SES AW) and the successful partnership with the Warm Front Scheme, all of which offer advice and assistance with insulation and other efficiency measures.

These issues must be addressed within the wider context of the UK commitment under the Kyoto Protocol to reduce emissions of greenhouses gases and so mitigate the impact of human activity on climate change. A Climate Change Strategy and a Sustainability Appraisal Framework will be brought forward via the LSP to ensure partners' plans and strategies address this crucial issue.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 02.01	Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste that has been recycled/composted/ used to recover heat, power and other energy sources	14% (04/05)	18%	TBE 2006	TBE 2006
NFT 02.02	Number of households in the Borough that are fuel poor	9,000	8,850	7,500	1,500 (14/15)

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
02.03	Percentage of people expressing satisfaction with recycling facilities	73% (03/04)	Triennial survey 2006/2007 target = 75%		TBE 2007
02.04	Energy use per household (electricity)	112.96 (1996)	92	90	TBE 2008
02.05	Carbon dioxide emissions by households (tonnes per year)	367,469	364,000	358,000	TBE 2008
02.06	Council Housing SAP rating	66 (04/05)	67	67	68

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Continue to implement the Borough's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy to ensure that national and local recycling targets are achieved.	2005-2008	SBC	02.01 02.03
Promote "Kerb It" and other current recycling schemes and explore further opportunities to increase recycling and/or reduce waste.	2005-2008	SBC	02.01 02.03
Review the Borough's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy.	2005-2006	SBC	02.01 02.03
Continue to deliver the Affordable Warmth Strategy, providing advice, support and assistance in respect of home energy efficiency.	2005-2008	SBC	02.02 02.04-06

Work with partners to maintain and expand domestic energy schemes.	2005-2008	SBC	02.02 02.04-06
Review the Borough's Affordable Warmth Strategy.	2005-2006	SBC	02.02 02.04-06
Develop and implement a Climate Change Strategy for the Borough.	2007	SBC	02.02 02.04-06
Develop a Renewable Energy Strategy, including promotional initiatives and the identification of potential locations for installations.	2007	SBC	N/A
Develop and promote Sustainability Appraisal Framework to ensure that all LSP sponsored plans and strategies contribute to sustainable development.	2007	SBC	N/A
Develop an Environment Hub to widen stakeholder and community participation in the work of LSP in respect of sustainability issues.	2005-2006	EL	N/A

A03.

TO VALUE, CONSERVE AND ENHANCE THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF THE BOROUGH

Key issues in the Borough today

Biodiversity – the variety of plants and animals within a certain area – is key to human health and welfare, recycling waste products and producing oxygen needed for survival. However, biodiversity is diminishing, with the current rate of species extinction hundreds of times the natural rate. In Sedgefield Borough, there are over 40 species and 12 habitats prioritised for conservation. Of particular importance are species including the otter, Durham Argus Butterfly and Dark Red Helleborine and habitats including Wetland and Magnesian Limestone Grassland. The most important site in the Borough is Thrislington National Nature Reserve, which supports an expanse of Magnesian Limestone Grassland within which various rare species thrive. In addition to this, habitats such as wildflower meadow, ancient woodland and wetland often occur within isolated locations in intensively managed farmland or developed areas. A major objective is to connect these fragments back together with newly created habitat so that plants and animals can migrate and colonise throughout the landscape.

Promoting biodiversity is one element of sustainable development and so must be viewed as a key principle of service delivery within the Borough. At the same time, awareness of the biodiversity agenda within the Borough must be raised to promote the interest and ownership of local people.

Indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
03.01	Percentage of assessed area in favourable and unfavourable recovering condition, within SSSIs	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
03.02	Area of Local Nature Reserve per 1000 population (ha)	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
03.03	Number of Local Nature Reserves managed in partnership with established community groups	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Develop a Green Space Strategy for the Borough that will provide direction for conserving and enhancing geo-biodiversity across the Borough; secure an accessible network of green spaces and raise public awareness and ownership of geo-biodiversity issues.	2006	SBC	03.01-03
Identify and implement site management/maintenance activities in relation to existing countryside sites involving local communities and identify opportunities for the creation of new sites.	2008	SBC	03.01-03
Create new and connect existing wildlife sites and deliver special projects to improve local biodiversity.	2005-2008	SBC	03.01-03
Ensure that all services that affect the landscape accommodate the need to conserve and enhance biodiversity.	2005 onwards	ALL	03.01-03

A04.

TO ENHANCE TRANSPORT PROVISION ACROSS THE BOROUGH

Key issues in the Borough today

Durham County Council is responsible for the ongoing maintenance and development of the transport infrastructure within the Borough via its five-year Local Transport Plan (LTP). The LTP aims to bring about improvements to the network and to public transport and so improve access to housing, jobs and services, whilst at the same time reducing the impacts of transport such as congestion, poor air quality and road traffic accidents. Principal activity in the Borough over the period of the first LTP included...

- Construction of the A167 Chilton Bypass
- Major highway maintenance on the A177 between Sedgefield and Thorpe Larches and the A688 Spennymoor Bypass
- Dualling of the remaining single carriageway section of the A689 between Sedgefield and the County boundary
- Integrated travel measures and public transport improvements in Newton Aycliffe, Shildon and Spennymoor

The planned reinstatement of the Leamside Line for freight at Ferryhill Station as part of the East Coast Main Line upgrade project is no longer considered viable by the Strategic Rail Authority. Work in relation to the provision of new stations on the Leamside Line, which was one of the major scheme proposals in LTP1, has therefore been suspended. Reinstatement of passenger services on a reopened Leamside Line is still a key objective for the County Council and every effort will be made to safeguard the route for possible future use.

LTP2 (2006-2011) is currently in development and will be reflective of the Regional Economic, Spatial and Transport Strategies together with sub-regional strategies such as the Borough's Community Strategy. LTP2 is being developed in partnership with the County's seven district councils and channelled through the district LSPs to ensure a strong local focus. This information will be captured in a Local Area Transport Plan for the Borough that will set out key priorities and activity over the next five years and will include much of the information set out below.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFI 04.01	Road accident casualty rate - Number of people killed or seriously injured per 1,000 population	0.58 (94-98 av.)	None established		0.35 (2010)
NFI 04.02	Road accident casualty rate - Number of children killed or seriously injured per 1,000 population	0.48 (94-98 av.)	None established		0.24 (2010)

Indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
04.03	Principal Road Condition	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005
04.04	Non-Principal Classified Road Condition	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005
REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
04.05	Unclassified Road Condition	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005
04.06	Footway condition	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005
04.07	Usage - change in area-wide vehicle kilometres	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005
04.08	Percentage of schools with safe access routes	TBE 2005	50%	TBE 2005	TBE 2005
04.09	Community satisfaction with routeways and corridors	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Develop and implement a Local Area Transport Plan for the Borough as part of LTP2 to address infrastructure/maintenance issues and the wider concerns of Borough residents.	2005-2008	EL	04.01-09
Roll out routeway plans for the Borough linked to LDF/LTP2 to develop interconnecting routes that are local priorities and improve the overall quality of the Borough's strategic route ways and corridors.	2005-2008	EL	04.06 04.09
Extend, develop and promote the network of footways and cycle routes across the Borough.	2005-2008	EL	04.01-02 04.06 04.09
Deliver safe routes to school as part of the Borough's Local Area Programme in LTP2 and linked to countywide Accessibility Strategy.	2005-2008	EL	

A05.

TO DEVELOP AND MAXIMISE THE LEISURE AND CULTURAL FACILITIES IN THE BOROUGH

Key issues in the Borough today

Culture and leisure activities make a significant contribution both to personal health, development and inclusion and to the overall liveability and prosperity of an area. In acknowledgement of this, Sedgefield Borough LSP plays a key role in the implementation of the County Durham Cultural Strategy, which aims to ensure that cultural activity plays a key role in the life and regeneration of the County and provides a framework for service planning, delivery and review.

The Borough has a strong local culture based on identification with place and tradition, illustrated by community-based activities including brass bands, amateur football, sports clubs, horticultural societies and events peculiar to the Borough e.g. the Sedgefield Ball Game.

In addition to this, the Borough has a strong portfolio of leisure facilities, including five leisure centres in major settlements – two with swimming pools and all with high-quality fitness suites – an Athletics Stadium at Shildon and a variety of other facilities, venues and pitches. A varied and high-quality activities programme operated by the Borough Council and involving an array of partners from across all sectors, including health services and local schools, exploits this infrastructure. This programme will continue to expand in line with the requirements of Choosing Health and the Youth Green Paper and the skills and competencies of staff will be enhanced to address a wider range of clients with clinical conditions.

Whilst there are few cultural facilities in the Borough outside of local libraries, the increasing development of multi-purpose community venues in recent years facilitates the delivery of outreach cultural programmes.

The key challenge for the Borough over the life of the Community Strategy is to encourage increased participation in physical and cultural activity through the continuing development and improved integration of facilities and the development of a range of quality leisure, cultural and educational opportunities for the enjoyment of local people, appropriate to needs, interests and aspirations.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 05.01	Percentage of residents satisfied with local parks and open spaces	69% (03/04)	Triennial survey 2006/2007 target = 75%		TBE 2007
NFT 05.02	Number of people spectating or participating in a cultural activity	??	??	+2%	None established
NFT 05.03	Number of people attending an arts event at least twice a year	??	??	+3%	None established
NFT 05.04	Number of people visiting designated historic environment sites	??	??	+3%	None established

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
05.05	Percentage of people satisfied with sport and leisure facilities	58.3% (03/04)	Triennial survey 2006/2007 target = 70%		TBE 2007
05.06	Percentage of all people satisfied with museum/galleries	27% (03/04)	Triennial survey 2006/2007 target = 75%		TBE 2007
05.07	Number of pupils visiting museums in organised school groups	2,691 (04/05)	3,000	3,000	TBE 2008
05.08	Number of visits to SBC facilities per 1,000 population	12,509	12,625	12,857	TBE 2008

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Continue to monitor service development and performance against national objectives and contribute to the review of County Durham Cultural Strategy and Action Plan.	2005-2006	EL	05.02-04
Review activities programmes and points of delivery to ensure fit with local needs and aspirations, in particular progress joint working with local schools.	2005-2008	EL	ALL
Continue to develop Sports and Arts Hubs to inform service development.	2005-2008	EL	ALL
Develop an Outdoor Play Strategy to ensure that children have safe play areas in appropriate locations and which are appropriate to their needs and requirements.	2005-2006	EL/SCYPP	05.01 05.05
Continue to deliver the Borough's Playing Pitch Strategy.	2005-2008	EL	05.01 05.05
Continue to develop activities programme for Locomotion to ensure contribution to local cultural development as well as the tourism agenda.	2005-2008	SBC	05.02 05.06-07
Explore opportunities for the use of public art as part of physical developments across the Borough.	2005-2008	EL	05.02-03
Implement Leisure Centre capital improvement programme at Newton Aycliffe, Shildon Sunnydale and Spennymoor Leisure Centres.	2005-2006	SBC	05.05 05.08-09
Develop the regional Gymnastics Centre at Spennymoor Leisure Centre.	2005-2006	SBC	
Develop single Leisure Centre management information system to facilitate the improved marketing of leisure opportunities and improved service delivery.	2005-2006	SBC	05.02-03 05.05 05.08-09

STAKEHOLDERS IN AN ATTRACTIVE BOROUGH

Delivery

Business community, CAVOS, CEN, County Durham Biodiversity Partnership, County Durham Cultural Partnership, County Durham Environmental Trust, Durham County Council, Durham Rural Community Council, Durham Sport, Durham Wildlife Trust, Government Office for the North East, GPs, Groundwork East Durham, Investing in Children, National Railway Museum, One Northeast, Pioneering Care Partnership, schools, Sedgefield Borough Council, Sedgefield Primary Care Trust, Sure Start, Town and Parish Councils, transport providers, Voluntary and Community Sector, volunteers

Influencing/influenced by delivery

Arts Council England, business, central Government, CAVOS, CEN, Chinese Association for the North East Region, colleges and universities, County Durham Economic Partnership, County Durham Strategic Partnership, Department for Education and Skills, Department of Culture, Media and Sport, Department of Health, Department for Transport, English Heritage (North East Region), English Nature, Environment Agency, LSP Policy Groups, minority groups, Sport England, Sustain NE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Building in Sustainability: A guide to sustainable construction and design in the North East
CAVOS Delivery Plan
Choosing Health: making healthier choices easier (White Paper)
County Durham and Darlington Health Authority Strategy
County Durham Cultural Strategy
County Durham Economic Strategy
County Durham E-Government Strategy
County Durham Environment Strategy
County Durham Local Transport Plan
County Durham Physical Activity Strategy 2005-2008
County Durham Strategic Vision
Durham Biodiversity Action Plan and Sedgefield Biodiversity Strategy (draft)
Game Plan - a strategy for delivering Government's sport and physical activity objectives
Integrated Regional Framework for the North East
Local Development Framework
National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal
Regional Economic Strategy
Regional Spatial Strategy
Securing the Future – UK Sustainable Development Strategy
Sedgefield Borough Annual Centres Survey
Sedgefield Borough CEN Delivery Plan
Sedgefield Borough Community Safety Partnership Crime and Disorder Strategy 2002-2005
Sedgefield Borough Contaminated Land Strategy
Sedgefield Borough Council Corporate Plan
Sedgefield Borough Council Sustainable Waste Management Strategy
Sedgefield Borough LA21 Strategy
Sedgefield Borough Local Plan
Sedgefield LSP Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy
Sedgefield PCT – Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2004-2005
Spennymoor and Newton Aycliffe Town Centre Study (EDAW Study)
Turning Ambition into Reality – the North East Regional Plan for Sport and Physical Activity

STRONG COMMUNITIES

S01.

TO TACKLE DISADVANTAGE, REDUCING THE CURRENT GAPS BETWEEN THE BOROUGH'S BETTER OFF AND LESS WELL OFF NEIGHBOURHOODS

Key issues in the Borough today

Sedgefield Borough is identified as amongst the 88 most deprived local authorities in the country under the Government's National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal. At the present time, 18 of the Borough's 19 wards contain areas recognised as being amongst the 30% most disadvantaged nationally and two wards areas within the worst 10%. Within this context of widespread disadvantage, health in particular is poor, with 12 out of 19 wards within the worst 10% nationally.

Consequently a key priority for the Borough is to bridge the gap in priority areas – first between these disadvantaged areas and the rest of the Borough and then between the Borough and the rest of the country. To address this issue the LSP's initial focus was the development and implementation of a Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy (LNRS) to steer the use of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding (NRF), other grant funding and partners' mainstream activities in assisting those neighbourhoods with the most acute levels of disadvantage. As the LNRS (and potentially NRF) comes to an end it is important that the Community Strategy maintains focus on neighbourhood renewal and bridging the gap within the context of the overall improvement strategy for all of the Borough's communities, for whilst a considerable amount of work has been undertaken over the last decade to help rebuild communities and neighbourhoods across the Borough, there is still some way to go. Consequently, the Community Strategy can be regarded as a 'narrowing the gap' strategy as well as an overall improvement strategy for the Borough and activities and initiatives to narrow the gap across the three relevant neighbourhood renewal themes – health, education and worklessness – can be found throughout this action plan.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 01.01	Narrowing the gap between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation and population as a whole (measured by life expectancy)	0.1 yrs (2001-03)	None established		40% reduction
NFT 01.02	Narrowing the gap in education between the most deprived areas and the rest of England	TBE 2005	None established		Improve by 2010
NFT 01.03	Narrowing the gap in worklessness between the most deprived areas and the rest of England	TBE 2005	None established		Improve by 2010

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
01.04	Percentage of local people living in deprived Super Output Areas (worst 30%)	56.3% (2004)	None established		Reduce baseline (14/15)

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Update the Borough's suite of community appraisals to ensure that neighbourhood interventions are targeted effectively to meet local needs.	2005-2006	SBC	01.01-04
Continue to deliver Neighbourhood Renewal SIPs to bridge the gaps in targeted communities.	2005-2006	ALL	01.01-04
Evaluate success of Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy and use findings to inform the development of Local Area Frameworks to support the delivery of the Community Strategy.	2005-2006	SBC	01.01-04
Identify level of external funding support to community based partnerships and neighbourhood renewal opportunities post-2006 and determine forward strategy.	End 2005	SBC	01.01-04
Map and compare partners' resource expenditure across the Borough to inform the development of Local Area Frameworks.	End 2005	SBC	01.01-04
Build on work undertaken to date to create active area-based development programmes addressing health and wellbeing.	2005-2008	HB	01.01-04
Continue to promote access to services and entitlements to deprived communities, disadvantaged groups and the wider community.	2005-2008	ALL CAB	01.01-04

S02.**TO ENSURE A GOOD CHOICE OF QUALITY HOUSING****Key issues in the Borough today**

The Borough has over 40,000 homes with approximately 28,000 owner occupied, 9,000 council-owned, 1,500 privately rented and 1,300 rented by registered social landlords (often called housing associations). The LDF will be a key document in shaping the future provision of new housing across the Borough in terms of location, type and tenure. Priorities will be the delivery of new housing on sustainable sites, especially previous used land ('brownfield' sites) and the provision of new high quality housing across a range of prices and tenures.

With nearly twice the national average of pre-1919 terraced housing, rebalancing the housing market will also be a priority for the Borough in the coming years. Like many areas of the North East the Borough has seen a sharp rise in house prices, which has impacted on first time buyers' ability to access the housing market. Affordability of housing in particular areas of the Borough is an issue that the Council will seek to address through the LDF.

Against this background of increased house prices and demand, there are still a number of areas where the housing market is failing. Priorities for intervention are Dean Bank, Ferryhill, Ferryhill Station and Chilton West – areas of predominately pre -1919 terraced housing with the symptoms of market collapse such as low house prices, high numbers of empty and abandoned homes, high levels of privately rented housing and associated issues of crime, anti-social behaviour and deprivation. In consultation with partners and local residents, the Council is undertaking a Masterplanning exercise to determine future options for these communities. The delivery of the Masterplan will be a significant issue for all partners, requiring new ways of working. The County Durham Coalfields Housing Partnership is working at a regional and national level to develop options to attract funding and new delivery options to support the regeneration of failing communities in the Durham Coalfield.

As required by the Sustainable Communities Plan, the Borough Council completed an Options Appraisal for the future management and maintenance of its 9,000 properties in 2003. In consultation with stakeholders and tenants the decision was made to pursue the Large Scale Voluntary Transfer of the stock to a new Registered Social Landlord in order to increase investment in housing stock in line with tenant aspirations. Regardless of whether or not this proceeds following the summer 2005 ballot, the Government's Decent Homes target is achievable by the 2010 deadline through existing income streams. The Borough does not have a significant level of unfitnes in the private sector compared to the national average. However, there is a need to engage with private landlords of terraced housing in small neighbourhoods to reduce existing levels of unfitnes.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 02.01	Percentage of social housing in the Borough that meets Decency Standard	62%	72%	80%	100% (2010)
NFT 02.02	Percentage of vulnerable private sector housing in the Borough that meets Decency Standard	TBE 2006	TBE 2006	TBE 2006	TBE 2006
NFT 02.03	Affordable housing index (average price for semi and terraced housing/average male and female earnings)	M – 2.33 F – 2.83 (2003)	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
02.04	Annual percentage change in non-decent homes	-5.33%	5%	8%	TBE 2008
02.05	Number of private sector stock empty properties brought back into use as a percentage of all private stock	19 (04/05)	22	TBE 2006	TBE 2006
02.06	Number of vacant dwellings demolished or returned to occupation	862	+22	+25	+30
02.07	Number of new housing units released	??	??	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
02.08	Percentage of new housing development on previously developed land	76.5% (04/05)	35%	40%	TBE 2008
02.09	Number of affordable dwellings delivered through planning powers	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Contribute to the development of the Durham Housing Coalfield Partnership Board and delivery team.	2005	SBC	ALL
Complete the Coalfield Housing Partnership review of housing markets and explore regional and national funding options to support planned interventions.	2005	SBC	ALL
Complete the Masterplanning Study and Area Develop Frameworks for Dean Bank, Ferryhill and Chilton.	2005	HC	ALL
Implement preferred delivery options for Dean Bank, Ferryhill and Chilton and monitor progress against actions in the Area Development Framework plans on an annual basis.	2006 onwards	HC	ALL
Produce an affordable housing policy statement as part of the LDF.	2008	SBC	02.03 02.09
Develop and implement a Housing Strategy for the Borough that is fit for purpose.	2006	SBC	ALL
Contribute to the development of a sub-regional Housing Strategy.	2006	SBC via CDSP	ALL
Continue housing improvement programme to ensure that Decent Homes Standard is achieved for all Council housing by the 2010 target date.	2005 onwards	SBC	02.01 02.04
Respond to ballot of Council tenants on establishing a local Registered Social Landlord in accordance with agreed action plan for LSVT.	July 2005 onwards	SBC	02.01 02.04 02.07
Participate in the development of a countywide study of housing decency in the private sector to establish a more robust baseline and spatial assessment of need and facilitate targeted interventions.	2006	SBC via CDSP	02.02 02.05 02.06

S03.

TO ADDRESS CHANGING HOUSING DEMANDS AND NEEDS

Key issues in the Borough today

Addressing changing housing needs and demand in the Borough must not be considered solely as an issue of bricks and mortar. The provision of high quality housing support services is also a key part of addressing these issues.

The 2003 Housing Needs Study (updated in 2005) shows that the Borough has one the highest levels of long-term ill health and disability in the country. In response to this, the needs assessment undertaken by the Durham County Supporting People Partnership during the development of the Supporting People Strategy 2005-2010 has identified the vulnerable client groups whose housing needs must be addressed. Issues identified include the provision of...

- Housing and support for the victims of domestic abuse
- Access to suitable temporary accommodation for the homeless
- Support for young people with complex needs
- Supported lodgings for young people in need
- Support for young parents
- Support for people with a learning disability

Like many areas of the North East the Borough has seen a sharp rise in house prices, which has impacted on first time buyers' ability to access the housing market. This has resulted in increased demand for rented housing particularly in the social sector and has also been linked to the increase in the number of people seeking assistance from the Council for housing difficulties, including being homeless. Youth homeless in particular is an issue of increasing concern for housing authorities in the County.

These issues provide significant challenges including the provision of new lifetime homes and alternative options such as extra care housing, as well as ensuring capacity to adapt existing homes and provide housing support services.

National Floor Target

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 03.01	Average time taken to process a Housing/Council Tax Benefit claim	36.93 days (04/05)	28 days	18 days	TBE 2008

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
03.02	Percentage of households accepted as homeless who were accepted as homeless by the authority within the last two years	TBE 2005	14%	10%	TBE 2008
03.03	The length of time the homeless stay in B & B or hostel accommodation (weeks)	6	4	3	0

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
03.04	The length of time the homeless stay in hostel accommodation (weeks)	0	0	0	0
03.05	Number of 16 and 17 year olds presenting as homeless	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
03.06	Number of tenancies held by 16 and 17 year olds that fail	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
03.07	Number of people sleeping rough in the Borough	0	0	0	0
03.08	Percentage of domestic violence incidents involving repeat victims	29% (03/04)	30%	Maintain ceiling of 30%	
03.09	Effectiveness of domestic violence services against the national standard for service provision	TBE 2005	100%	Maintain at 100%	
03.10	The provision of and effectiveness of housing advice service	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2005	TBE 2008
03.11	Client satisfaction with the Sedgefield Borough Home Improvement Agency	94% (04/05)	94%	95%	96%

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Continue to work to the Benefits Improvement Plan to maintain national best quartile performance.	2005-2008	SBC	03.01
Participate in the delivery of the five-year Durham and Districts Supporting People Strategy and re-engineer arrangements within the Borough in accordance with strategy requirements as appropriate.	2005 onwards	HC	03.02-10
Review Homelessness Strategy and produce a Homelessness Reduction and Housing Advice Action plan.	2005	SBC	03.02-07
Develop Accommodation and Support Strategy for the Borough.	2006	SBC	03.02-10
Promote grant funding for via the Sedgefield Borough Home Improvement Agency and review funding options for HIA clients.	2005	SBC	03.11
Implement the Domestic Violence, Crimes and Victims Act 2004 to increase the protection, support and rights of victims and witnesses.	2005-2008	CS	03.08-09
Develop a Domestic Abuse Reduction Strategy for the Borough.	2005	SBC	03.08-09
Develop and implement with partners appropriate accommodation and support options for those experiencing domestic abuse.	2005-2008	HC/CS	03.08-09
Improve awareness raising and advice on available support services and safety measures and ensure that referrals for domestic abuse are met with a consistent and positive response from all partnership organisations.	2005-2008	CS	03.08-09
Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links

Develop policies in relation to the needs of young people as victims, witnesses and perpetrators of domestic abuse following an assessment of needs.	2005-2008	CS	03.08-09
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S04.

TO PROMOTE SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

Key issues in the Borough today

The Borough's Community Safety Partnership has recently completed an audit of crime across the Borough in the period 2001-2004. The findings are as follows...

- Residents of Sedgefield Borough are less likely to be the victim of crime. Whilst total crime in Borough rose by 11% in the three-year period 2001-2004, this was still 26% less than the average for England and Wales.
- Vehicle crime has continued to decline and is much lower than the national average with 9.1 incidents per 1,000 people compared to 17.1 nationally.
- Household burglary fell by 13% and is currently 9.4 incidents per 1,000 properties per annum but understandably remains an area of concern for local people.
- Almost a third of total crime in this period was criminal damage, with theft comprising one fifth and violent crime the next greatest area by volume. Criminal damage remains greater than the national average and has a detrimental effect on residents' perception of the areas in which they live.
- Violence against the person increased by 61% during the audit period (due in part to a change in the way in which crime is recorded), with the majority of victims being young men aged between 16-24.
- Perhaps due to the Partnership's proactive approach to raising awareness, the Borough has the highest number of recorded domestic abuse incidents in County Durham. However, the number of incidents involving repeat victims has fallen by 37% over the last three years and is currently the lowest in the County.
- Strong associations have been identified between drug and alcohol abuse and crime and anti-social behaviour outlined above ensure that tackling substance abuse remains a key priority for the Partnership.

A Fear of Crime Survey carried out at the same time as the audit suggests that 28% of people in the Borough consider crime to be a problem but not as great a problem as street cleanliness, service provision for young people and anti-social behaviour. Whereas only 2% of residents are affected by crime, 6% are affected by anti-social behaviour, which whilst not a crime can be at least as damaging to the lives of those affected. The 9000+ incidents of ASB reported to the Police and the Borough's Neighbourhood Wardens include categories such as youths causing annoyance, alcohol-related street disturbances, vehicle nuisance (e.g. abandoned vehicles, off-road riding) and environmental nuisance (dogs, noise etc.). *StreetSafe* was launched in 2004 to reassure local residents by promoting order and security in the local environment. The aims of the scheme are to increase the Partnership's presence in the community and improve communication and public engagement via the Police and Neighbourhood Wardens, address environmental factors and provide an effective response to public concerns.

Based on the audit data and public concerns, the Partnership has developed the 2005-2008 Community Safety Strategy focusing on prevention/intervention, enforcement, and increasing public confidence in the areas of **crime reduction, domestic abuse, anti-social behaviour** and **substance misuse**. The key targets and activity of this Strategy are set out in the appropriate sections of this Action Plan.

National Floor Targets

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFT 04.01	Total crime	7,216	6,927	6,134	TBE 2008

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
NFI 04.02	Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households	9.4 (03/04)	8.8	7.6	TBE 2008
NFI 04.03	Theft of a motor vehicle	292	263	178	TBE 2008
NFI 04.04	Theft from a motor vehicle	502	462	356	TBE 2008

Other indicators and targets for improvement

REF	Indicator	Baseline	TARGETS		
			2005/2006	2007/2008	Long term
04.05	Non-domestic burglaries per 1,000 population	5.18	5.08	4.40	TBE 2008
04.06	Violence against the person per 1,000 population	15.1	14.8	13.4	TBE 2008
04.07	Total number of incidents of criminal damage	2,501	2,426	2,226	TBE 2008
04.08	Percentage of residents considering themselves affected by Anti-social Behaviour	71% (2005)	Measured via CDCSP – more appropriate local measure to be devised		TBE 2008
04.09	Number of racial incidents reported to Police per 100,000 population	114	114	80	TBE 2008
04.10	Percentage of residents surveyed who feel 'fairly safe' or 'very safe' after dark whilst outside	62% (2005)	Measured via CDCSP – more appropriate local measure to be devised		TBE 2008
04.11	Percentage of residents surveyed who feel 'fairly safe' or 'very safe' during the day whilst outside	99% (2005)	Measured via CDCSP – more appropriate local measure to be devised		TBE 2008

Actions relating to targets

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Use the National Intelligence Model to identify known offenders, crime hotspots, trends and series and develop partnership responses to problems.	2005-2008	CS	ALL
Continue to offer advice and improvements to vulnerable properties to reduce risk of burglary e.g. through the HomeSafe SIP.	2005-2008	CS	04.01-02
Work closely with partners to tackle the risk factors of offending amongst young people e.g. through the Neighbourhood Wardens and Positive Futures initiatives.	2005-2008	CS	ALL
Provide support to people most at risk of becoming a victim and those that are repeat victims of crime.	2005-2008	CS	ALL
Adopt a proactive use of 'designing out crime' to reduce risk factors associated with the physical environment e.g. isolated, unlit areas.	2005-2008	HC/EL	04.01 04.03-08 04.10-11

Action	Timescale	Lead	PI Links
Identify the difference between malicious and unintentional ASB and issues of intolerance.	2005-2008	CS	04.08 04.10-11
Establish processes to identify and target individuals involved or at risk of being involved in anti-social behaviour.	2005-2008	CS	04.10-11
Establish protocols to ensure a quick response to dealing with signal crimes and implement the Arson Reduction Strategy across the Borough.	2005-2008	CS	04.01 04.07-08 04.10-11
Improve communication between the Partnership and the public and undertake targeted, sustained media campaigns to raise awareness of crime/ASB issues and encourage people to reduce their risk of becoming a victim.	2005-2008	CS	ALL
Deliver the Community Reassurance SIP to provide a mobile CCTV unit to complement the fixed units across the Borough, reduce ASB and target interventions.	2005-2006	CS	ALL
Implement the Anti-Hate Crime Strategy for the Borough and continue to improve dialogue with minority communities.	2005-2008	CS	04.01 04.07 04.09 04.10-11
Raise awareness amongst young people about crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and domestic violence through routes such as PSHE and citizenship classes.	2005-2008	CS	ALL
Work with victims and witnesses of crime to provide support and increase public confidence.	2005-2008	CS	04.10-11
Work with the Criminal Justice System to ensure that prolific and priority offenders are caught and convicted and support offenders to help them break the cycle of repeat offending.	2005-2008	CS	ALL

STAKEHOLDERS IN STRONG COMMUNITIES

Delivery

Age Concern Durham County, CAVOS, CDSP Housing and Neighbourhoods Group, CEN, Centrepoin, Citizens Advice Bureaux, County Durham and Darlington Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, County Durham and Darlington Priority Services NHS Trust, Crown Prosecution Service, DART, DISC, Drug and Alcohol Action Team, Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, Durham and Districts Supporting People Partnership, Durham Constabulary, Durham County Council, Durham Housing Coalfield Partnership Board, Government Office for the North East, GPs, Home Improvement Agency, House Builders' Federation, Integrated Teams, Jobcentre Plus, local Housing Associations, Magistrates Courts, Mental Health Local Implementation Group, Neighbourhood Watch, Partnership Board for Vulnerable Adults, Police Authority, Primary Care Trust, Probation Service, schools, Residents Associations, Residents Federation, Sedgfield Borough Council, Town and Parish Councils, Victim Support, Voluntary and Community Sector, Youth Engagement Service

Influencing/influenced by delivery

Business, central Government, Chinese Association for the North East Region, County Durham Strategic Partnership, Darlington and Durham County Racial Equality Council, Department of Health, LSP Policy Groups, minority groups, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Regional Assembly, Regional Housing Board, residents

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A Joint Approach to Mental Health: A Strategy for County Durham and Darlington
CAVOS Delivery Plan
County Durham Adult Drug Treatment Plan
County Durham and Darlington Arson Reduction Strategy 2005-2008
County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2005-2010
County Durham and Districts Supporting People Strategy
County Durham E-Government Strategy
County Durham Housing, Care and Support Strategy
County Durham Strategic Vision
County Durham Young People's Substance Misuse Plan 2004-2005
County Durham Youth Justice Plan
Durham Police Authority Strategy 2003-2005/Annual Policing Plan
Durham County Council Social Care and Health Operational Plan
Integrated Regional Framework for the North East
Local Development Framework
National Service Framework for Children
National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease
National Service Framework for Mental Health
National Service Framework for Older People
National Probation Service Business Plan (County Durham area)
National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal
Regional Housing Strategy
Regional Spatial Strategy
Securing the Future – UK Sustainable Development Strategy
Sedgfield Adult Mental Health Services: A Framework for Action
Sedgfield Borough CEN Delivery Plan
Sedgfield Borough Council Corporate Plan
Sedgfield Borough Council Housing Strategy
Sedgfield Borough Community Safety Audit 2001-2004 and Strategy 2005-2008
Sedgfield Borough Homelessness Strategy
Sedgfield PCT – Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2004-2005
Sedgfield PCT Local Delivery Plan
Sub-Regional Housing Strategy

EVERY CHILD MATTERS OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

The Every Child Matters (*ECM*) agenda emerged as part of the Government's response to the Laming Report on the death of Victoria Climbié. The *ECM* Green Paper, published alongside the formal response to Laming in September 2003, proposed changes in policy and legislation in England to maximise opportunities and minimise risks, focusing services more effectively around five outcomes for all CYP...

- Being healthy
- Staying Safe
- Enjoying and achieving
- Making a positive contribution
- Economic well-being

In the light of broad support for this paper, the Children Act 2004 gives effect to legislative proposals set out in the Green Paper. Significantly this provides for improved accountability and better integrated planning, commissioning, and delivery of children's services by bringing partners together within a Children's Trust or equivalent. As children's services authority (CSA), DCC is leading on the implementation of the *ECM* agenda in County Durham is working in partnership via its LSP and the district LSPs to develop an effective structure for the CSA and a Children and Young People's Plan for County Durham.

This local draft framework document has been prepared by the Sedgefield LSP's Children and Young Peoples Partnership (SCYPP) incorporating the five key outcomes. The priorities were identified via existing SCYPP members and feedback from CYP residing within Sedgefield Borough by using several recent participation exercises (within the past 6 months) and relevant strategies, action plans and working documents.

This framework document will be transferred into a SMARTer format and will be used by the SCYPP as its key working document, with each partner identified as the lead (indicated in the brackets next to the indicator/target) making regular reports back to the Partnership on their progress. This in turn will lead to a regular progress report being submitted to the County Durham Children and Young Peoples Partnership and its 'Every Child Matters' team. Once completed, this work will be subsumed within the overall CSAP.

The following framework information is colour coded:

Borough wide Priorities Children and Young People Key Priorities	=	Green
26 National Priorities	=	Red
13 National Indicators	=	Blue
County wide Priorities	=	Black
Borough wide Priorities	=	Pink

For further information on the Every Child Matters agenda, please visit: -

www.everychildmattersincountydurham.org

BE HEALTHY

WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL WHEN...

- Health inequalities have reduced
- There is an increase in the rates of children and young people engaged in regular exercise and recreational activities outside of school
- Advice and support is available to the children exposed to illegal drug use at home
- Children/young people with mental health problems access CAMH services in universal and specialist settings as appropriate
- There is a reduction in the teenage conception rate
- There is a reduction in smoking, drug, alcohol and other substance abuse
- Children/young people who are ill/injured receive effective services, which address their health, social, educational and emotional needs
- Young people who need ongoing services are satisfied with their transition to adult services

REQUIRED INPUTS	SCYPP PRIORITIES	SCYPP INDIC. OR TARGET	COUNTYWIDE INDICATORS
<p>The new Child Health Promotion Programmes provides health promotion, advice, assessment, screening and immunisation.</p> <p>Multi-agency health promotion including promotion of positive mental health & emotional wellbeing.</p> <p>Parents are enabled (with information, services and support) to care for their children and promote healthy living.</p>	<p>To promote & encourage breastfeeding</p> <p>To improve dental health provision & awareness (*1)</p>	<p>No. Of mothers breastfeeding at birth, 6 wks and 17 wks. (PCT)</p> <p>% Of mothers breastfeeding at birth, 6 wks and 17 wks (PCT)</p> <p>Increased access to NHS dentists (PCT)</p> <p>To reduce levels of dental caries in children from 50% to 35% by 2010 (PCT)</p> <p>To provide fluoridated milk for 5-11 yrs in 7 targeted primary schools by Sept 2005 (PCT)</p>	<p>Reduced infant mortality (DH PSA)</p> <p>Increased levels of immunisations and Downs Syndrome screening for all.</p> <p>Increased % LAC having dental check in last 12 months. (*1)</p> <p>Increased access to therapy services in universal settings. (*2)</p> <p>Fewer 0-4 year olds admitted to hospital as emergency through injury, gastroenteritis or respiratory infection.</p>
<p>Improved provision of, and access to, local facilities for physical activity.</p> <p>Services assess children/young people's health needs and intervene early.</p> <p>Services target vulnerable groups of children/young people* and communities where take up of services is low.</p>	<p>To provide support for post natal depression (pnd) (*2)</p> <p>To improve parental support & knowledge with specific work being carried out with teenage parents</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to work closely with County Durham Teenage Pregnancy Strategy <p>Improve access to leisure and youth activities (cost, times) with specific work being carried out with CYP with a disability</p> <p>Note:</p> <p>Regional CYP Arts Strategy currently being developed</p> <p>Sedgefield Positive Inclusion Partnership being developed</p>	<p>No. Of mothers identified with pnd in first 12 months (PCT)</p> <p>% Of mother receiving support (PCT)</p> <p>60% of 16 – 19 yrs parents in EET (Connexions)</p> <p>To better support teenage parents to lead active, fulfilled lives as valued citizens (CDLTPS)</p> <p>Total no. Leisure Centre users - under 18 years (SBC Leisure)</p> <p>No. School aged children participating in a min. of 2 hrs school based activity per week (SBC leisure)</p> <p>No. Of summer holiday play schemes (SBC Leisure)</p> <p>No. Of CYP attending summer holiday play schemes (SBC Leisure)</p> <p>% Of customers satisfied with VFM (SBC Leisure)</p> <p>Note; this measure maybe smartened soon.</p> <p>No. Of CYP spectating or participating in a cultural act. (SBC Leisure)</p> <p>Reach 13% of 13 19 year olds – with in Sedgefield (EitC)</p>	

REQUIRED INPUTS	SCYPP PRIORITIES	SCYPP INDIC. OR TARGET	COUNTYWIDE INDICATORS
<p>Universal and targeted services provide age-appropriate sex and relationship education.</p>	<p>Increase the number of community facilities with no smoking policies (*3)</p> <p>Improve access to information on sexual health/relationships including gay/lesbian support (*4) Note : ■ Need to link to County Durham Teenage Pregnancy Partnership</p>	<p>Access to Provision (80%) – includes weekends and school holidays (EITC)</p> <p>No. of cyp supported (CoSIP)</p> <p>No. cyp programmes delivered (CoSIP)</p> <p>No. of cyp supported via KoolKash (SBC leisure)</p> <p>No. cyp projects developed - KoolKash (SBC Leisure)</p> <p>Reducing exposure to second-hand smoke-is a staged approach to ending smoking in smoke free public places. Every year thousands of young children have to go to hospital because of breathing other peoples cigarette smoke. NHS and voluntary agreements by 2006. Legislation on enclosed public spaces by end 2007 Licensed premises by end 2008 (PCT)</p> <p>Improve access to GUM clinics within 48 hours (PCT)</p> <p>Decreased rates of new diagnosis of gonorrhoea screening (PCT)</p> <p>% of people aged 15-24 accepting Chlamydia</p>	<p>6% reduction of women who continue to smoke during pregnancy. (*3)</p> <p>Reduced % of young people who are regular smokers (DH). (*3)</p> <p>Under 18s conception rate is halved by 2010 (DfES/DoH PSA). (*4)</p> <p>Reduced rate of new episodes of STI among under 16s and 16-19s (DoH). (*4)</p>
<p>The obesity prevention & treatment strategy is implemented.</p> <p>A comprehensive CAMH Service.</p>	<p>Promote and support healthier lifestyles – emphasis on healthy eating (*5)</p> <p>Improve access to school nurses</p> <p>Improve transport provision so that CYP can access active healthier lifestyles. Note: ■ Local Transport Plan 2 ■ IiC Transport Group</p> <p>Establish CAMHS & transitional services (*6) ■ Improving access to CAMH Services for LAC ■ Implement Transitional Service Model ■ Promoting Emotional Well-being within educational settings ■ CAMHS/Primary Care Interface</p>	<p>% schools meeting Healthy Schools Standards (LEA)</p> <p>No. of school aged children participating in a minimum of 2 hours school based activity per week (SBC leisure)</p> <p>No. of Lifestyle fitness users - under 18's (SBC Leisure) Total no. Leisure Centre users - under 18 years (SBC Leisure)</p> <p>No. of school nurses available per school (PCT)</p> <p>% schools offering transport for after school activities (IiC/LEA)</p> <p>Development of a16-18 student fare (IiC)</p> <p>All CYP from0-18 with mental health problems and disorders, have access to timely, integrated, high-quality, multi-disciplinary mental health services to ensure effective assessment, treatment and support for them and their families.</p>	<p>Halt rise in obesity among children under 11 by 2010 (DfES/DoH/DCMS PSA).(*5)</p> <p>% of children consuming 5 portions of fruit and vegetables per day (DH). (*5)</p> <p>Schools with 20% free school meal eligibility are working towards the National Healthy School Standard by March 2006.(*5)</p> <p>Improved access to CAMHS (DH).(*6)</p> <p>Reduced death rate from suicide and undetermined injury (DH).(*6 & 7)</p>

REQUIRED INPUTS	SCYPP PRIORITIES	SCYPP INDIC. OR TARGET	COUNTYWIDE INDICATORS
<p>Universal and specialist services provide a range of drug and alcohol programmes for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Implement CAMHS Learning and Development Strategy for staff working with Children and Young People ■ Improving the CAMHS/Primary Care Interface <p>Increase proportion of 13 – 18 yrs identified as having misuse problems referred to a specialist service (*7)</p> <p>Improve provision of substance misuse education in schools (*7)</p> <p>To have access to DAAT Parent/Carer Support Service, including education, practical support and advice, etc.(*7)</p> <p>Dedicated Family Support Worker to work with parents/carers of substance using young people (*7)</p> <p>To develop access to a dedicated service for young carers living with substance misuse.(*7)</p> <p>To pilot a multi agency screening tool to identify levels of need and referral routes for YP with substance misuse issues (*7)</p>	<p>% of 13 – 18 yrs referred to specialist service (DAAT)</p> <p>BV 198 No. of misuses accessing treatment (DAAT)</p> <p>% of schools assessed at level 3 against National Healthy Schools Standards (LEA)</p> <p>20 parent/carers per annum to access service (DAAT)</p> <p>Worker to access 30 parents/carers per annum (DAAT)</p>	<p>Harm caused by illegal drugs (HO PSA) including reduced rates of use of Class A drugs by under-25s (HO/DfES PSA). (*7)</p> <p>Average alcohol consumption (DH). (*7)</p> <p>The numbers entering treatment through the criminal justice system (*7)</p>
<p>Vulnerable young people* have access to specialist drug services within statutory timescales.</p> <p>Integrated and co-ordinated teams provide child and family centred services to meet the health and care needs of children/young people with disabilities, long term or complex conditions.</p>	<p>To develop a local baseline by March 2006 & increase % year on year of looked after children receiving identification, assessment and intervention.(*7)</p> <p>100% of CDYES young people screened via asset and those with identified needs to receive specialist assessment and early intervention/treatment. (*7)</p> <p>Develop local baseline by March 2006 and increase % year on year of truants and excludees receiving identification, assessment and intervention (*7)</p> <p>To improve integrated services in partnership with relevant community and voluntary sector providers</p> <p>Improve quality of toilets within schools and community premises</p>	<p>% of LAC receiving substance misuse identification, assessment and intervention. (YP JCG)</p> <p>Ensure all CDYES young people are screened for substance misuse, those with identified needs receive specialist assessment within 5 working days and access early intervention and treatment required within 10 working days. (CDYES/ YP JCG)</p> <p>% of truants and excludees receiving substance misuse identification, assessment and intervention. (YP JCG)</p> <p>Number of young people under 18 entering, receiving and completing treatment. (XS/YP JCG)</p> <p>Re-examine the work direction of the DCC CYPP Co-ordinator.</p> <p>Investing in Children standard – incorporate into monitoring (IIC)</p> <p>Possible development of Me2 standard (SPIP)</p>	

STAY SAFE

WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL WHEN...

- Children and young people have fewer accidents at home, in play areas and on the roads
- Fewer young people experience homelessness (including fewer placed in temporary accommodation and repeat homelessness)
- There are fewer children on the Child Protection Register (CPR)
- Children Looked After have stable placements
- There is a reduction in bullying, racism and other forms of discrimination
- There is increased safety in public places
- There is reduced crime and reduced fear of crime

REQUIRED INPUTS	SCYPP PRIORITIES	SCYPP INDIC. OR TARGET	COUNTYWIDE INDICATORS
<p>Parents and carers provide safe, secure, warm and stable homes.</p> <p>Leisure/recreation amenities and activities are available locally.</p> <p>Universal and targeted services promote personal safety, safety in the home and public places, fire and road safety etc</p>	<p>Promote safety awareness via schools and safety carousel. (*1)</p> <p>Improve safer physical environment – school, housing, open space, parks and playgrounds</p>	<p>No. of safety awareness sessions delivered in schools (Com. Safety P/ship)</p> <p>No. of schools attend safety carousel (SBC leisure)</p> <p>No. of cyp attending the safety carousel sessions (SBC leisure)</p> <p>No. of PHSE sessions attended (Com. Safety P/ship)</p> <p>% of playgrounds covered by NPFA standards (SBC leisure)</p> <p>% residents satisfied with parks/open spaces – every 3 yrs (SBC Strat/regen)</p>	<p>Reduced number of 0-15 year olds injured or killed in road traffic accidents. (D for T PSA).(*1)</p> <p>Reduced number of fire related deaths in the home (ODPM PSA).(*1)</p>
<p>Schools and services implement policies to promote equality and prevent discrimination.</p> <p>Anti-bullying policies and practices are implemented in schools, youth work and other services.</p>	<p>Reduction in hate crime (*2)</p> <p>Improved information and support for black and ethnic minorities, travellers, gay/lesbian and disability groups. Note: ■ Use targets from the to be formed EMTAS</p> <p>Increase awareness of bullying with CYP, parents and relevant service providers (*3)</p>	<p>% of residents satisfied with housing estates - every 3 yrs (SBC Strat/regen)</p> <p>Housing Decency Standards (SBC Housing)</p> <p>Development of an open space needs assessment by 2006 (SBC Planning)</p> <p>Introduction of planning curriculum into local schools over next 3 years SBC Planning)</p> <p>Reduction in no. of repeat victims of hate crimes (Community Safety P/ship)</p> <p>Increase in confidence of local minority groups in reporting incidents (Community Safety P/ship)</p> <p>Reduction in no. of repeat victims of hate crimes (Com. Safety P/ship)</p> <p>No. of support programmes (?) No. cyp accessing programmes (?) No. of cyp referred to support services (LEA)</p>	<p>BV 174 No. of hate crime incidents recorded (Police – lead) (*2)</p> <p>BV 175 No. of hate crime incidents resulting in further action (Police – lead) (*2)</p> <p>An increased number of schools achieve accredited anti-bullying status. (*3)</p> <p>% 11-15 year olds who state they have been bullied in the last 12 months (DWP/DfES). (*3)</p>

REQUIRED INPUTS	SCYPP PRIORITIES	SCYPP INDIC. OR TARGET	COUNTYWIDE INDICATORS
<p>Support for parents and for the development of parenting skills at an appropriate preventive, proactive, early intervention or intensive level.</p> <p>All agencies prioritise the safeguarding and welfare of children/young people.</p> <p>Staff receive training and supervision so they can effectively promote the welfare of, children and young people and keep them safe.</p>	<p>To improve parental support & knowledge with specific work being carried out with teenage parents Note: ■ Need to work closely with County Durham Teenage Pregnancy Strategy</p> <p>Improved training and awareness of child protection issues, especially within com./vol. sector</p>	<p>60% of 16 – 19 yrs parents in EET (Connexions)</p> <p>To better support teenage parents to lead active, fulfilled lives as valued citizens (CDLTPS)</p> <p>Increase the confidence of local minority groups in reporting incidents of hate crime (Com. Safety P/ship)</p> <p>No. of com/vol. groups accessing child protection courses (SLB)</p> <p>SBC corporate child protection training delivered to all personal who have direct contact with cyp (SBC)</p>	<p>% of under 16s who have been LAC for more than 2.5 years in the same placement for at least 2 years or are placed for adoption (DfES PSA).</p> <p>% of care cases completed in the courts within 40 weeks (DCA PSA).</p> <p>% children/young people re-registered on the CPR (DfES).</p> <p>% deregistered from CPR who have been registered for 2 years+.</p> <p>% children/young people on the CPR with key worker (PAF).</p> <p>% child protection cases reviewed in the last year.</p>
<p>A Common Assessment Framework and information sharing system are implemented.</p> <p>High quality and integrated services are provided to meet the assessed needs of children/young people who are, or are at risk of, being harmed, abused or neglected.</p> <p>Crime and disorder prevention and reduction programmes and initiatives.</p> <p>Work to meet the targets of the Youth Engagement Service and the Youth Justice Board.</p> <p>Awareness raising of, and support for children/young people who experience domestic violence.</p>	<p>Improved systematic data sharing between partner agencies.</p> <p>Continue to support the development of Positive Futures and PAYP via the CoSIP group</p> <p>Improve support and awareness of domestic violence and its effect on CYP</p> <p>Reduction in self harm and attempted suicide (*4)</p>	<p>Development of effective multi-agency recording and measuring systems in relation to anti-social behaviour (Com. Safety P/ship)</p> <p>Improve access to all SCYP partners action plans/strategies (SCYPP)</p> <p>No. of cyp supported (CoSIP)</p> <p>No. cyp programmes delivered (CoSIP)</p> <p>Level of contact between victims of domestic abuse and outreach support services (Com. Safety P/ship)</p> <p>Have a maximum % of incidents involving repeat victims of 30% by 2008 (Com. Safety P/ship)</p> <p>Development of a cyp's support programme around domestic violence (Com. Safety P/ship).</p>	<p>Fear of crime and anti-social behaviour (HO/CJS/CPS PSA).</p> <p>Reduced death rate from suicide and undetermined injury (DH).(*4)</p>

REQUIRED INPUTS	SCYPP PRIORITIES	SCYPP INDIC. OR TARGET	COUNTYWIDE INDICATORS
	<p>Reduced issues regarding homelessness and YP</p> <p>Improve transport provision so that CYP can access activities in a safe and controlled environment</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Local Transport Plan 2 ■ IiC Transport Group 	<p>No. of awareness raising programmes carried out with cyp (Centrepoint)</p> <p>The implementation of the joint protocol for homeless 16/17 yrs (Centrepoint)</p> <p>Reduction in the no. of 16/17 yrs presented as homeless (Centrepoint)</p> <p>No. of cases of homelessness prevented through housing advice (SBC – Housing)</p> <p>No. of cases of repeat homelessness (SBC – Housing)</p> <p>Work closely with Youth Homelessness Action P/ship</p> <p>% of schools offering transport for after school activities (IiC/LEA)</p> <p>Development of a16 to 18 student fare (IiC)</p>	

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL WHEN...

- Children/young people feel they are treated with respect in schools and other educational settings
- Children/young people are educated as close to home as possible
- Attainment at age 7, 11 and 14 years is in line with or above the national average
- There is improved attainment and raised aspirations in Key Stage 4 (14-16)
- The gap between the levels of achievement and attainment of vulnerable young people* and their less vulnerable peers is reduced
- Attendance/uptake rates are high
- Staying on rates for pupils in our schools and progression to further or higher education have risen
- Children/young people report personal satisfaction in achieving their personal goals

REQUIRED INPUTS	SCYPP PRIORITIES	SCYPP INDIC. OR TARGET	COUNTYWIDE INDICATORS
<p>Parents, carers and families support children's learning.</p> <p>3 year olds have access to quality early years education/provision, which effectively prepares children for school – Sure Start, Children's Centres etc.</p> <p>Information about, and availability of, Family Support Services.</p> <p>Schools and other learning settings provide high quality learning opportunities.</p>	<p>To improve parental support & knowledge with specific work being carried out with teenage parents</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Need to work closely with County Durham Local Teenage Pregnancy Strategy <p>Improve awareness and access to family learning and support structures (*1)</p>	<p>60% of 16 – 19 yrs parents in EET (Connexions)</p> <p>To better support teenage parents to lead active, fulfilled lives as valued citizens (CDLTPS)</p> <p>No. of family learning programmes (SLB)</p> <p>No. of families attending programmes (SLB – measured by adult attendance)</p>	<p>% increase in 0-5 year olds with normal levels of personal, social and emotional development for their age (SSCD PSA). (*1)</p> <p>% increase in children with satisfactory speech and language development at age 2 (SSCD PSA). (*1)</p> <p>Average level of development reached at the end of foundation stage (DfES PSA) inc. narrowing the gap in the 20% most disadvantaged areas (DfES/DWP PSA). (*1)</p> <p>% 7 year olds achieving Level 2+ (DfES). (*1)</p> <p>% 11 year olds achieving Level 4+ in English and Maths including floor targets (DfES PSA). (*1)</p>
<p>Schools and other learning settings promote emotional health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Locally accessible play, leisure and recreational facilities are available.</p>	<p>Improve quality of toilets within schools and community premises</p> <p>Support development of extended schools, out of school provision & full service schooling. (*2)</p> <p>Improve access to leisure, youth centres & after school provision (*2)</p>	<p>Investing in Children standard – incorporate into monitoring (iIC)</p> <p>Possible development of Me2 standard (SPIP)</p> <p>All schools to have extended school status by 2009 (LEA)</p> <p>% of schools with full service schooling status (LEA)</p> <p>% of pupils accessing after school provision (LEA)</p> <p>Total no. of visitors to leisure Centre - under 18 years (SBC Leisure)</p> <p>% of customers satisfied with value for money (SBC Leisure) Note; this measure maybe smartened soon</p> <p>Reach 13% of 13 19 year olds – with in Sedgefield (EitC)</p> <p>Access to Provision (80%) – includes weekends and school holidays (EITC)</p>	<p>% 14 year olds achieving Level 5+ in English, Maths, Science and ICT including floor targets (DfES PSA).</p> <p>% of 16 year olds achieving the equivalent of 5 A*-C GCSEs including floor targets (DfES PSA).</p> <p>Take up of sporting opportunities by 5-16 year olds (DfES) (DCMS PSA).(*2)</p> <p>Take up of cultural & sporting opportunities among >16 year olds (DCMS PSA).(*2)</p> <p>Half days missed through absence (DfES PSA).</p>
REQUIRED INPUTS	SCYPP PRIORITIES	SCYPP INDIC. OR TARGET	COUNTYWIDE INDICATORS

<p>Schools and services encourage and support vulnerable children/young people* to stay in education or training and achieve.</p> <p>Suitable alternative provision is made available to children and young people not attending school.</p>	<p>Improve transitional support from primary to secondary schooling.</p> <p>Improve awareness and recognition of alternative achievements over and above GCSE and A-Level</p>	<p>No. of cyp spectating or participating in a cultural act. (SBC Leisure)</p> <p>No. of cyp supported (CoSIP)</p> <p>No. cyp programmes delivered (CoSIP)</p> <p>No. of cyp supported via KoolKash (SBC leisure)</p> <p>No. cyp projects developed - KoolKash (SBC Leisure)</p> <p>% of secondary schools offering transitional support schemes (LEA)</p> <p>30% of yp attending EitC sessions achieving an accreditation (EitC)</p> <p>To plan and organise ACL courses for 30 16 to 19 yrs (EitC)</p> <p>No. of yp accessing vocational training (SLB)</p> <p>Build on existing EitC yp annual awards (EitC & SBC)</p>	<p>Permanent and fixed term exclusions (DfES).</p> <p>Educational achievement of 11 year old and 16 year old LAC compared with peers (DfES PSA).</p>
	<p>Improve links between schools and after school learning providers</p> <p>Increased number of YP accessing EMA's</p> <p>Reduce NEETs</p> <p>Improve transport provision so that CYP can access after school activities. Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Local Transport Plan 2 ■ IiC Transport Group 	<p>No. of schools offering or linked to after school learning (LEA/SLB)</p> <p>No. of YP accessing EMA's (LEA?)</p> <p>% and no.s of 16 – 19 yrs not in EETS (Connexions)</p> <p>% of schools offering transport for after school activities (IiC/LEA)</p>	

MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL WHEN...

- Children/young people feel they are treated with respect by services.
- Children/young people treat others with respect
- Children and young people are actively involved in the planning of services, which are aimed at supporting them
- Children and young people have a say and make a difference in the life of their community and in protecting/developing the environment
- Increased number of children and young people involved in evaluation and governance
- There is a reduction of bullying
- There is a reduction in youth offending

REQUIRED INPUTS	SCYPP PRIORITIES	SCYPP INDIC. OR TARGET	COUNTYWIDE INDICATORS
<p>The views of children and young people are used to inform and influence future service developments.</p> <p>Children and young people are fully involved in researching and developing effective ways to be listened to, respected and involved in decision-making.</p>	<p>Improved CYP participation in service delivery by reviewing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - methods of participation - awareness of methods - opportunity/choice - training/capacity - feedback - specialist groups (*1) <p>Promote good practice in services and community/voluntary provision</p>	<p>Production of a partnership participation statement. (SCYPP)</p> <p>No. of participation events (SCYPP)</p> <p>No.'s of cyp involved in regular participation projects (SCYPP)</p> <p>Role out participation statement , support and training (SCYPP)</p> <p>No. of com/vol. Groups adopting participation statement (SCYPP)</p>	<p>Children/young people's perceptions are included in service evaluation.(*1)</p> <p>Services provide evidence of how children and young people contribute to the design and development of policies, services and communities. (*1)</p> <p>There is evidence that young people participate in identifying issues that affect them and deciding local priorities for action.(*1)</p> <p>% of children in secondary schools participating in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) election of school/college council members. b) mock general elections (DfES). <p>(*1)</p>
<p>Young people have opportunities to gain knowledge and skills, which enable them to contribute as citizens to their local community, the environment and the economy.</p> <p>Parents and carers promote positive social behaviour.</p> <p>Lifelong learning opportunities.</p> <p>Crime and disorder prevention and reduction programmes and initiatives</p> <p>Intensive Supervision & Surveillance Programmes (ISSP) for persistent and/or prolific offenders and targeted support/intervention for their parents</p> <p>Work to meet the targets of the Youth Engagement Service and the Youth Justice Board.</p>	<p>To encourage all CYP providers to gain Investing in Children status</p> <p>Promote and develop CYP involvement within their local community (*2)</p> <p>Promoting a positive image and celebrating the achievements of CYP Eg. CYP Community Awards</p> <p>Provide opportunities for CYP to address anger issues: - anger management - conflict resolution (*3)</p> <p>Increase the proportion of young offenders into EET</p> <p>Increase number of young voters (18 – 25) at local elections</p>	<p>No. of services & organisations with IiC status (IiC)</p> <p>To encourage and support yp to volunteer (EitC)</p> <p>No. of YP engaging with Millenium Volunteers (MV)</p> <p>No. of positive PR's regarding CYP (?)</p> <p>Build on existing EITC yp annual awards (EitC & SBC)</p> <p>An increased number of schools achieve accredited anti-bullying status.(LEA)</p> <p>% of young offenders not in EET (CDYES / Connexions)</p> <p>Increase % of 18 – 25 yrs voting at local and National elections (SBC)</p>	<p>Voluntary and community engagement (HO PSA).(*2)</p> <p>%18-24 year olds who are self-employed, manage their own business or who have thought seriously about starting their own business (DTI).</p> <p>% 10-19 year olds admitting to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) bullying another pupil in the last 12 months. b) Attacking, threatening or being rude due to skin colour, race or religion (HO).(*3) <p>Reduced levels of offending including reduced re-offending rates (HO/CJS PSA).</p> <p>Crimes brought to justice (CJS PSA).</p> <p>75% participation in restorative justice processes.</p>

ACHIEVE ECONOMIC WELLBEING

WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL WHEN...

- An increased % of young people aspire to accredited academic or vocational learning or employment on leaving school
- An increased % of young people are in employment or are involved in education/training on leaving school
- The gap between the involvement of vulnerable young people* (in education/employment/training) and their less vulnerable peers is reduced
- All our young people live in suitable accommodation whether this is provided by their families, carers, the Local Authority or independent living
- Children and young people are satisfied with their access to public transport
- The number of children/young people living on or below the poverty line is reduced

REQUIRED INPUTS	SCYPP PRIORITIES	SCYPP INDIC. OR TARGET	COUNTYWIDE INDICATORS
<p>Increased childcare and high quality out of school club childcare places enable parents to work.</p> <p>An improved and affordable public transport system supports access to jobs, leisure and services including for those living in rural areas.</p> <p>Education, training and employment choices and opportunities are available locally including access to ICT learning and development opportunities.</p> <p>Young people receive advice and guidance and have opportunities to gain skills and knowledge in preparation for the world of work.</p>	<p style="color: magenta;">Improve access to childcare facilities to enable more parents to work – EET(*1)</p> <p style="color: magenta;">Improve transport provision so that CYP can access further education facilities</p> <p style="color: green;">Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Transport Plan 2 • IIC Transport Group <p style="color: green;">To develop mentoring schemes within Secondary schools to help prepare YP for work</p>	<p>No. of childcare facilities/places available (breakfast & after school clubs & full day care) (Children's Centres)</p> <p>% of schools offering transport for after school activities (IiC/LEA)</p> <p>Development of a16 to 18 student fare (IIC)</p> <p>% of secondary schools delivering mentoring schemes (LEA)</p>	<p>Stock and take up of childcare for all families (DfES/DWP PSA).(*1)</p> <p>% of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment and training (DfES PSA).</p> <p>% 19 year olds achieving at least level 2 in NVQ 2 or equivalent (DfES PSA).</p> <p>% 18- 30 year olds participating in higher education (DfES PSA).</p>
<p>High quality workplace learning and training is available.</p> <p>Improved Family Support Services.</p> <p>Targeted support to raise opportunities and levels employment in disadvantaged neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Housing and neighbourhood renewal programmes.</p> <p>Supporting People Strategy (ODPM).</p>	<p style="color: magenta;">Improve awareness and access to family learning and support structures</p> <p style="color: red;">Improve safer physical environment – housing improvement & neighbourhood renewal programmes</p> <p style="color: magenta;">Work closely with the community & voluntary sectors to make learning and accreditation more accessible</p> <p style="color: magenta;">To increase the proportion of 19 year old care leavers into EET</p> <p style="color: magenta;">Raise awareness of benefits & support available to YP</p>	<p>No. of family learning programmes (SLB)</p> <p>No. of families attending programmes (SLB – measured by adult attendance)</p> <p>% of residents satisfied with housing estates - every 3 yrs (SBC Strat/regen)</p> <p>Housing Decency Standards (SBC Housing)</p> <p>No. of community / voluntary venues delivering learning and accreditation courses. (SLB)</p> <p>BV 161 Employment, education & training for care leavers (?)</p> <p>No. of cases of homelessness prevented through housing advice (SBC – Housing)</p> <p>Access to benefits/support via IT connection (SBC – E-Gov.)</p> <p style="color: magenta;">Quids for kids access???</p>	<p>Families report improvements in Family Support Services (SSCD SDA).</p> <p>Cleaner, safer and greener public spaces and quality of the built environment in deprived areas (ODPM PSA).</p> <p>% of children living in relative low-income households (DWP/HMT PSA) including a reduction of young children living in households where no one is working (DWP PSA) – (SSCD PSA aims for a 12% reduction in the latter via the creation of childcare places (SSCD SDA).</p> <p>% of social housing and vulnerable households in the private sector are in a decent condition (ODPM PSA).</p> <p>Level of material deprivation and low income (DWP/HMT)</p> <p>Fuel poverty in vulnerable households (DEFRA/DTI PSA).</p>

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The following terms, acronyms and abbreviations are used throughout and in relation to this Community Strategy: -

TERM	DEFINITION
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour - 'Acting in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household'
ASDAN	Award Scheme Development And Accreditation Network
BAC	British Accreditation Council
BID	Business Improvement District
Biodiversity	The variety of plants and animals within a certain area
BVPI	Best Value Performance Indicator - a national measure of performance, set by central government
CAB	Citizen's Advice Bureaux
CADCAM	Computer Aid Design and Computer Aid Manufacturing
CAMHS	Community and Adolescent Mental Health Service
CAVOS	Community And Voluntary Organisations in Sedgefield – an umbrella organisation for community and voluntary organisations in the Borough, providing a range of services and support to develop the capacity and infrastructure of the Borough's VCS
CDLTPS	County Durham Local Teenage Pregnancy Strategy
CDSP	County Durham Strategic Partnership
CDYES	County Durham Youth Engagement Service
CEN	Community Empowerment Network – an organisation established to secure community involvement in a LSP
Civil Renewal	National programme to address community disengagement from the political and decision-making process
Community Appraisal	Assessment of the needs and aspirations of local towns and villages, based on detailed consultation, used to inform the LNRS and Community Strategy
Community Capacity Building	National programme to build the skills of local people to enable them to participate in community life
Community Chest	Awards grants of up to £5,000 to projects which work to actively renew neighbourhoods and work with marginalised groups
Community Cohesion	A common vision and sense of belonging and where the diversity of people from different backgrounds is positively valued
Community Empowerment Fund	Provides financial support for the establishment and development of CENs
Community Learning Chest	Allocates funding of between £50 - £5,000 to assist local residents to play an active role in the improvement of the their neighbourhood through learning
Consultation	Giving local people the opportunity to give their views on issues/documents which will affect them and the community in which they live
Co SIP	Coordination of Social Inclusion Partnership
CS	Community Safety Policy Group
CSA	Children's Services Authority – Durham County Council
CSAP	Community Strategy Action Plan
CYP	Children and Young People
DAAT	Drug and Alcohol Action Team
DCC	Durham County Council
DCC CYPP	Durham County Council Children and Young Peoples Partnership
Diversity	The variety of backgrounds and circumstances of people in a given area
DMO	Destination Management Organisation
ECON	Economy Policy Group
EET	Education, Employment or Training
E-Government	National programme to deliver local government services through electronic means
EiTC	Education in the Community – DCC's Youth Service
EL	Environment and Leisure Policy Group
EMTAS	Ethnic Minority and Travellers Attainment Service
Equality	The principle of treating everyone in the same way and allowing everyone the same opportunities
Fuel poverty	Where a combination of poor housing conditions and low income mean that the household cannot afford sufficient warmth for health and comfort. The widely accepted definition of fuel poverty is where a household needs to spend 10% or more of income to meet fuel costs.
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education
GONE	Government Office for the North East
GUM	Genito Urinary Medication
HB	Healthy Borough Policy Group
HC	Housing and Communities Policy Group
HIA	Housing Improvement Agency
IAG	Information, Advice and Guidance
ID	Indices of Deprivation (2004) – quadrennial assessment of the relevant deprivation of English SOAs
IiC	Investing in Children – Partnership led by DCC to promote the involvement of CYP in public services
JSA	Jobseeker's Allowance
KPI	Key Performance Indicator – indicators against which improvement is imperative and used to assess the general direction of travel of the LSP
KS	Key Stage – when schoolchildren are examined
LAA	Local Area Agreement
LAC	Looked After Children
TERM	DEFINITION
LDF	Local Development Framework – in development, replaces the Borough's Local Plan
LDS	Local Development Scheme – part of the LDF

LEA	Local Education Authority – Durham County Council
LEGI	Local Enterprise Growth Initiative
LIFT	Local Improvement Finance Trust
Liveability	The overall quality of life in a certain area, in terms of housing, public services etc.
LLL	Lifelong Learning Policy Group
LNRS	Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy – key policy document for delivering targeted support into the Borough's most deprived wards and steering the use of NRF
LPSA 1/2	Local Public Service Agreement – the second agreement for County Durham is in development
LSC	Learning and Skills Council
LSDA	Local Skills Development Agency
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership - provides the framework for organisations to work together to tackle issues which are important to community life
LSP Board	Provides the strategic direction for the work of the Partnership and monitors its performance
LSP Management Group (MG)	Supports the Board and assists in co-ordinating the overall work of the Partnership
LTP1/2	Local Transport Plan – the second plan for County Durham is in development
N/A	Not applicable/available (in this instance)
NA	Newton Aycliffe
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NETPark	The North East Technology Park at Sedgfield
NFT	National Floor Targets - Government targets to which LSPs contribute, set out in the biennial Spending Review PSAs
NHS	National Health Service
NPFA	National Playing Fields Association
NSF	National Service Framework
NRF	Neighbourhood Renewal Funding – provides funding for projects working towards reducing the gap between the most deprived communities and the rest of the country
NRM	National Railway Museum
NRU	Neighbourhood Renewal Unit
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification
NWGS	Northern Way Growth Strategy
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
Partners	Organisations that have signed up to work to the values and principles of the LSP
PAYP	Positive Activities for Young People
PCT	Primary Care Trust
PHSE	Personal Health and Social Education
PMF	Performance Management Framework
Pnd	Post-natal depression
LSP PG	Policy Group - responsible for facilitation of delivery of services, managing resources, monitoring performance and addressing issues raised by the MG and Board
PSA	Public Service Agreement – these set out each Government Department's aim, objectives and key outcome-based targets
RDA	Regional Development Agency – One NorthEast is the RDA for the North East
Reassurance	Initiatives designed to demonstrate the safety of the local community
SAP	Standard Assessment Procedure – energy efficiency rating for Council housing
SASDA	The Borough's development agency
SBC	Sedgfield Borough Council
SBBS	Sedgfield Borough Business Service – partnership between SBC and SASDA
SCH	Social Care and Health, Durham County Council
SDA	Severe Disablement Allowance
SESAW	Sedgfield Energy Securing Affordable Warmth
Signal crime	A criminal incident, or physical or social disorder, interpreted by members of the public as warning signal about their level of security e.g. a burnt-out vehicle
SIP	Service Improvement Plan
SLB	Sedgfield Learning Borough – partnership developed to promote adult and community learning
SME	Small or Medium-sized Enterprise
SOA	Super Output Area – area of around 1,000 residents constructed to allow national comparison of ID statistics
SP	Spennymoor
SPIP	Sedgfield Positive Inclusion Partnership
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SCYPP	Sedgfield Children and Young People's Partnership
Targeted communities	Areas in the Borough identified as being the most disadvantaged and targeted in the LNRS – West Ward (Newton Aycliffe), Shildon, Cornforth, The Trimdons, Ferryhill (Dean Bank & Ferryhill Station)
TBE	To be established
VCS	Voluntary and Community Sector
VFM	Value For Money
XS	Young people's substance misuse programme
YP JCG	Young People's Joint Commissioning Group

KEY PARTNERS

The following key partners are working to this Plan in order to achieve sustainable improvements in local quality of life:-

Age Concern Durham County
Arts Council England, North East
Bishop Auckland College
Bishop Middleham Parish Council
Bradbury Parish Meeting
Business Link County Durham
Community and Voluntary Organisations Sedgefield (CAVOS)
Chilton Parish Council
Chilton Partnership
Connexions County Durham
Cornforth Parish Council
County Durham and Darlington Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service
County Durham and Darlington Priority Services NHS Trust
County Durham Business and Learning Partnership
County Durham Development Company
County Durham Drugs and Alcohol Action Team
County Durham E-Government Partnership
County Durham Environmental Trust (CDEnT)
County Durham Foundation
County Durham Learning and Skills Council
County Durham Strategic Partnership
County Durham Youth Engagement Service
Darlington and Durham County Racial Equality Council
Dean Bank Residents' Association
Developing Initiatives for Support in the Community (DISC)
Durham and Districts Supporting People Partnership
Durham Constabulary (South Area)
Durham County Council
Durham Police Authority
Durham Rural Community Council
Durham Sport
Durham Wildlife Trust
East Durham and Houghall Community College
Eldon Parish Council
English Heritage (North East Region)
English Nature
Environment Agency
Ferryhill Business Enterprise College
Ferryhill Station and Chilton Lane Residents' Association
Ferryhill Town Council
Fishburn Parish Council
Government Office North East
Great Aycliffe Town Council
Greenfield School Community and Arts College
Groundwork East Durham
Home Housing
House Builders' Federation
Investing in Children
ITEC North-East Limited
Jobcentre Plus
Lakes Residents' Association
Midridge Parish Council
Mordon Parish Meeting
National Probation Service County Durham
New College Durham
New Residents' Association of Jubilee Fields
New Shildon Residents' Association
Newton Aycliffe Town Centre Forum
North East Chamber of Commerce
One NorthEast
One Voice Network
Pioneering Care Partnership
S. & D. Training Limited
SASDA
Sedgefield and District Advice and Information Service
Sedgefield Borough Community Empowerment Network (CEN)
Sedgefield Borough Council
Sedgefield Business Forum
Sedgefield Community College
Sedgefield Learning Borough
Sedgefield NHS Primary Care Trust (PCT)
Sedgefield Residents' Federation
Sedgefield Town Council
Shildon Chamber of Trade
Shildon Forum for Local Organisations
Shildon Town Council
South West Durham Training Limited
Spennymoor Comprehensive School
Spennymoor Town Centre Forum
Spennymoor Town Council
Sport England
Stoneham Housing Association
Sunnydale Residents' Association
Sunnydale School
Tees Valley Housing Group
The Cornforth Partnership
The Countryside Agency
Three Rivers Housing Group
Trimdon Parish Council
Trimdon 2000
Tudhoe Grange School
University of Durham
Victim Support (Sedgefield Branch)
Windlestone Parish Council
Workers Educational Association (North East)
Woodham Community Technology College

Item 7

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 2 FORUM

Dean Bank and Ferryhill
Literary Institute

Tuesday,
21 June 2005

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Present: Councillor Mrs. C. Potts (Chairman) – Sedgefield Borough Council and

Mrs. K. Conroy	– Sedgefield Borough Council
T.F. Forrest	– Sedgefield Borough Council
J.E. Higgin	– Sedgefield Borough Council
G. Morgan	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor M. Errington	- Chilton Town Council
Councillor J. Lee	- Chilton Town Council
Mrs. J. Weston	- Dean Bank residents Association
Sergeant A. Green	- Durham Constabulary
Inspector K. Vincent	- Durham Constabulary
Councillor A. Denton	- Ferryhill Town Council
Dr. A. Learmonth	- Sedgefield Primary Care Trust
Mrs. S. Slaughter	- Sedgefield Primary Care Trust

Apologies:

B.F. Avery J.P.	– Sedgefield Borough Council
A. Hodgson	– Sedgefield Borough Council
B. Meek	– Sedgefield Borough Council
D.A. Newell	– Sedgefield Borough Council
R.A. Patchett	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Ms. M. Predki	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor G. Porter	– Durham County Council

AF(2)1/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Members had no interests to declare.

AF(2)2/05 MINUTES
The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th April 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (For copy see file of Minutes).

AF(2)3/05 POLICE REPORT
Sergeant K. Vincent and Inspector A. Green were present at the meeting to give details of the crime figures and local initiatives for the area.

Insp A. Green explained that he had recently taken up post to replace Insp Winship. He explained that he had been in service with Durham Constabulary for 15 years with an operational background.

It was reported that the crime statistics for the area were as follows: -

	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
Total No. of Crimes	103	156	99
Dwelling Burglary	5	12	7
Att. Burglary – Dwelling	0	3	2
Burglary – Other	7	8	8
Assaults	8	28	11
Theft of Motor Vehicle	3	4	4
Theft from Motor Vehicle	20	2	4
Attempted Thefts from Motor Vehicles	1	0	0
Theft – General	20	36	17
Drug/Substance Misuse	2	3	4
Criminal Damage	20	58	43
Youths Causing Annoyance	108	114	35
Motorcycle Complaints (Total 2003 – 43) (Total 2004 – 73)	20	16	4
Total No. Of Incidents	624	745	447
Total No. Of Arrest	52	30	46

The Forum was given details of a number of operations and initiatives that were ongoing throughout the area.

It was explained that a new PCSO had recently been appointed to assist the Beat Team and increase the numbers of patrols during the summer months to target any anti social behaviour.

Members were also informed of the procedures for holding events on the public highway. It was explained that there was strict legislation that needed to be followed. Organisers should consult with Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary, Sedgefield Borough Council and a Traffic Management Company in order for the event to be carried out correctly and safely.

Members expressed concern at the criminal damage that had been caused to a number of allotments, greenhouses and newly planted trees around the area. Sgt Vincent explained that the matter was being looked into and that the Town Council was considering the development of an allotment watch.

Concerns were also raised regarding the number quad bikes that were being misused and what powers the police had. It was explained that the police would talk to the owners to deter them from using the bikes in public areas and that they also had powers to seize the bikes if their advice was not taken and registration documents were not provided.

Cards detailing the new non-emergency contact number for the police were distributed to the Forum.

AF(2)4/05

SEDGEFIELD PRIMARY CARE TRUST

Dr. A. Learmonth and Mrs. S. Slaughter were present at the meeting to provide an update on local health matters and performance figures.

Detailed discussion was held regarding the progression of the Health Care Centre at Chilton. The Chairman of the Forum informed Members that she had received a letter from G. Wills, Chairman of Sedgefield Primary Care Trust to assure the Forum that the Health Care Centre would be developed and was constantly being reviewed.

Mrs. S. Slaughter informed the Forum that funds had been released by the PCT in April to begin the process of purchasing the land, it was then agreed in May that the development was to be given the full go ahead and again reassured Members that the Centre would be developed at Chilton. It was also explained that a feasibility study would be taking place in July to be completed in September and would consider all aspects of the development. Once that was complete a Business Case would be implemented to progress the development further.

Members expressed concern at the length of time the development was taking, pointing out that there were still problems in making appointments with a doctor and that people were continuing to find it difficult if it was necessary for them to travel to Ferryhill.

Dr Learmonth gave a presentation detailing the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2004/05 'The Health and Wellbeing of People in Sedgefield.' Copies of which were distributed at the meeting.

The presentation gave details of the Structure of the report, its 4 main aims, new features, the agencies who contributed to the development of the report, local statistical information and the priority areas.

Dr. Learmonth distributed the Board Report, 9th June 2004 detailing performance figures, making specific reference to the problems in meeting the target for the ambulance response time. Questions were raised as to whether satellite navigation could be installed in the ambulances, and what ways local knowledge could be developed to aid in the response time improving. It was explained that all concerns and comments would be taken back to the relevant Officers at the PCT for consideration.

It was also explained that the Local Delivery Plan 2005/2008 had been agreed. More information would be brought to the next meeting.

Detailed discussion was also given to ways of improving services, the practice based commissioning service, the progress of the Integrated Teams and the investment that had been made in developing the services for those suffering from mental health problems.

AF(2)5/05 Local Strategic Partnership - Appointment Of Board Members and 'Alternate'

Consideration was given to a letter from the Local Strategic Partnership Board. (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was agreed that Councillor A. Hodgson would continue to represent the Area 2 Forum at the Local Strategic Partnership Board and Councillor G. Morgan would continue in post as the alternate for the Area 2 Forum.

AF(2)6/05 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

6th September 2005 at 6.30 p.m. at West Cornforth Community Centre.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Miss S. Billingham Tel 01388 816166 Ext 4240

Item 8

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 3 FORUM

Fishburn Youth and
Community Centre,
Butterwick Road, Fishburn

Wednesday,
6 July 2005

Time: 7.00 p.m.

- Present:** Councillor T. Ward (Chairman) – Sedgefield Borough Council and
- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Councillor J. Burton | – | Sedgefield Borough Council |
| Councillor Mrs. L. Hovvels | – | Sedgefield Borough Council |
| Sergeant B. O'Connor | - | Durham Constabulary |
| J. Irvine | - | Fishburn Parish Council |
| Mrs. S. Nicholson | - | Fishburn Parish Council |
| C. McCaughey | - | Sedgefield Primary Care Trust |
| R. Pattinson | - | Sedgefield Primary Care Trust |
| Mrs. J. Bowles | - | Sedgefield Residents Association |
| J. Davis | - | Trimdon Joint Partnership |
| Mrs. L. Burton | - | Trimdon Parish Council |
| Mrs. L. Burton | - | Trimdon Parish Council |
- Apologies:**
- | | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------------------------|
| D.R. Brown | - | Sedgefield Borough Council |
| K. Noble | – | Sedgefield Borough Council |
| J. Robinson J.P | – | Sedgefield Borough Council |
| J. Wayman J.P | – | Sedgefield Borough Council |
| B. Halliday | – | Sedgefield Primary Care Trust |
| P. Irvine | – | Sedgefield Primary Care Trust |
| Mrs. A. Oliver | – | Sedgefield Residents Association |

AF(3)1/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It is noted that the following Councillor would be declaring an interest :-

Councillor Mrs. L. Hovvels : Personal Interest – Item 6 – Joint Trimdon Partnership – Member of the Joint Trimdon Partnership.

AF(3)2/05 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th April, 2005 were considered and noted. (For copy see file of Minutes).

AF(3)3/05 POLICE REPORT

Sergeant B. O'Connor was present at the meeting to give details of the crime statistics in the area.

It was reported that the crime statistics were as follows :-

<u>Type of Crime :</u>	<u>Sedgefield :</u>	<u>Fishburn/Trimdon Village :</u>	<u>Trimdon Grange/Trimdon Colliery :</u>
Burglary (Dwelling)	0	0	0
Burglary (Other)	3	3	1
Theft	14	11	12
Criminal Damage	26	16	14
Assault	9	1	5
Incidents Reported	417	194	178

Detailed discussion took place in relation to anti-social behaviour throughout the area. It was reported that Durham Constabulary had submitted a proposal to Trimdon 2000 Community Safety Group for the siting of a number of overt CCTV cameras on Church Road shops, Trimdon Village, to address concerns from local residents of anti-social behaviour in and around the area.

As a result of complaints received relating to youths congregating in the plantation area at the rear of Balmoral Terrace, Trimdon Grange, the Police had liaised with Sedgefield Borough Council and arranged for the removal of discarded litter from the area.

Concern was expressed regarding the number of youths congregating in Sedgefield Village to consume alcohol. It was pointed out that the Police would always remove alcohol from any person under the age of 18 years found drinking in a public place.

It was reported that the PCT was concerned regarding the problem of underage drinking. Members were informed that there had been an increase in alcohol misuse especially in young people.

Reference was made to the responsibility of parents. Members were of the opinion that some anti social behaviour could be prevented if parents acted responsibly.

The Forum agreed that a multi-agency approach was required in order to address the problem effectively.

AF(3)4/05

SEDGEFIELD PRIMARY CARE TRUST

Charles McCaughey and Ray Pattinson were present at the meeting to give a presentation in relation to out-of-hours services on Saturdays in the Sedgefield area and to update the Forum on local health matters.

It was reported that on 1st December 2004 the PCT had taken responsibility for out of hour services. Saturday surgeries had ceased and

patients were expected to use the urgent care centre at Bishop Auckland Hospital. It had been agreed, however, that Saturday morning surgeries in Sedgfield would continue for six months to allow residents to adapt to the change.

The Saturday surgery had been monitored throughout this period and it was found that:-

- there was a limited requirement for the service
- most patients attending the surgery had minor illnesses
- there were staffing problems
- patients would be better served at the Urgent Care Centre

As a result of these findings the Saturday morning surgery would no longer operate.

It was reported that the PCT hoped to pilot an out of hour service at Sedgfield Community Hospital. This pilot service would be advertised through the area 3 forum, leaflets, the media and local doctors surgeries.

The PCT was also actively seeking ways to reduce illness out of hours.

Members were given an update in relation to local health matters. It was reported that a number of listening events were taking place. Specific reference was made to a recent listening event for the Chinese community.

It was also reported that the Integrated Team based at Tremaduna Grange had won a national award.

Specific reference was also made to the Public Health Annual Report - 'Health and Well-being of People in Sedgfield Borough'

Reference was made to the problems that patients encountered when collecting prescriptions from hospitals. It was pointed out that patients could not collect hospital prescriptions from local pharmacists even in cases where the hospital did not have the drugs available.

AF(3)5/05

JOINT TRIMDON PARTNERSHIP

John Davis was present at the meeting to inform members of the role of the Joint Trimdon Partnership within the community.

The Forum was informed that the Joint Trimdons Regeneration Partnership was established in 1997 to bring together all the Trimdons in partnership to initiate joint projects for the regeneration of the three villages and oversee and co-ordinate the implementation.

Specific reference was made to the "Over the Hedge" project. It was explained that this project was established in February, 1999 and had received three years funding from Comic Relief.

The aim of the project, which covered the Trimdons, Fishburn, Bishop Middleham, Sedgefield, Bradbury and Mordon areas, was to develop the community and voluntary sector infrastructure to encourage joint working and the sharing of best practice across all the villages working in partnership. It also aimed to develop sustainable projects across the project area.

It was reported that the current project was scheduled to end by 30th June 2005. There was, however, funds remaining and it was envisaged that the project would now conclude at the end of October 2005.

Funding applications had been submitted for a new post to start on 1st January, 2006. This post would concentrate on 'building capacity' as identified in a recent feasibility study.

The Forum was given examples of some ongoing and new projects carried out by the Joint Trimdon Partnership.

Discussion took place in relation to an information pack which was being produced by the partnership. It was explained that this information pack would contain relevant information about the area and would be issued to all new residents.

AF(3)6/05 LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Consideration was given to a letter regarding nominations to the LSP Partnership Board (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was agreed that Councillor T. Ward be appointed be representative for Area 3 Forum on the LSP Board and Councillor Mrs. L. Hovvels as alternate

AF(3)7/05 SEDGEFIELD POST OFFICE BRANCH

Consideration was given to a letter in relation to the relocation of Sedgefield Post Office. (For copy see file of Minutes).

Concern was expressed in relation to parking. It was felt that although on street parking and a public car park was available, there was already a problem with parking in that area.

Reference was also made to access to the building. It was felt that the step at the front of the building could potentially cause problems for disabled persons, especially wheel chair users.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Post Office expressing the concerns of the Forum.

AF(3)8/05 QUESTIONS

Community Empowerment Network

Members were informed that Councillor Mrs. L. Hovvels would attend a meeting of the Community Empowerment Network in July, 2005. Any relevant information would be reported back to the Area 3 Forum.

It was agreed that a representative from the Community Empowerment Network be invited to attend the next meeting of the Area 3 Forum to give an update on their work in the community

Sedgefield Positive Inclusion Partnership

Members were given an update on the work of the Sedgefield Positive Inclusion Partnership.

East Park, Sedgefield

It was pointed out that as a result of excavations in the field at the rear of East Park, Sedgefield, nearby gardens were being mistaken as a footpath. It was therefore requested that a public footpath sign be erected.

AF(3)9/05

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 14th September 2005 at Trimdon Colliery Community Centre

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Miss L. Moore Tel (01388) 816166 ext 4237

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Item 9

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 1

Conference Room 1,
Council Offices,
Spennymoor

Tuesday,
14 June 2005

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillor A. Gray (Chairman) and

Councillors Mrs. K. Conroy, B. Hall, D.M. Hancock, J.M. Khan,
G. Morgan, Mrs. I. Jackson Smith and K. Thompson

Invited to attend: Councillors Mrs. B. Graham, and D.A. Newell

In

Attendance: Councillors W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. B.A. Clare, Mrs. J. Croft,
Mrs. B. Graham, G.C. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, J.E. Higgin, D.A. Newell and
Mrs. E.M. Paylor

Apologies: Councillors Mrs. A.M. Fleming, K. Henderson, J.G. Huntington, B. Meek
and J.M. Smith

OSC(1).1/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
No declarations of interest were submitted.

OSC(1).2/05 MINUTES
The Minutes of the Meeting held on 29th March 2005 were confirmed as a
correct record and signed by the Chairman.

OSC(1).3/05 FEEDBACK FROM CABINET
The Committee was reminded that at its meeting on 15th February 2005
consideration had been given to a half yearly report on complaints
received by Corporate Complaints staff.

A major source of those complaints related to the housing maintenance
appointments system. There had been occasions when tenants had not
been informed when an appointment could not be kept, leading to
dissatisfied tenants and therefore complaints.

The Committee at that meeting suggested that Cabinet consider
introducing an appointments system whereby when appointments in
relation to housing maintenance could not be kept, the tenant was
informed.

Cabinet considered this issue at its meeting on 31st March 2005 and agreed that the Director of Housing Services be requested to introduce an appointments system whereby when appointments in relation to housing maintenance could not be kept, the tenant be informed.

AGREED: That the information be received.

OSC(1).4/05 THE ROLE OF SCRUTINY IN THE COUNCIL'S CUSTOMER SERVICES MODERNISATION PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Resources (for copy see file of Minutes) detailing progress on delivering the Council's Customer Service Modernisation Programme.

It was explained that the Lead Member For Performance Management, Councillor D. A. Newell and Siobhan Walsh, e-Government Manager, were present at the meeting to give a presentation and answer queries on progress on delivery of the programme. The presentation was to cover the role of Overview and Scrutiny in the Modernisation Programme.

The Committee was informed that the Modernisation Programme was not just concerned with technology but related also to people and service delivery. It was concerned with reviewing ways in which services were delivered with a view to achieving service improvements.

The ethos behind the modernisation programme had been driven by the 1998 White Paper on Transforming Services, which dealt with improved proposals for improved democratic services and providing services in a way which was sustainable and underpinned the principles of Best Value. The concept of modernisation had also been formed from the Gurshon Efficiency Review which had been undertaken. The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister's had also published a list of Service Outcomes, which needed to be underpinned through Customer Services.

It was explained that the Council aimed to address the modernisation agenda through four key objectives relating to the development and delivery of modernised customer services:-

- To develop and deliver a modernised customer services function that provides seamless access to all customer -facing services.
- To enable customer services staff to become multi-skilled professionals supported by technology to achieve the long- term objective of resolving 80% of customer enquiries at the first point of contact.
- To provide an accessible, information and up to date website.
- To develop internet facilities for Council members to engage in electronic democracy functions.

The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister had identified seventy three Priority Service Outcomes, nineteen of which were voluntary outcomes. In

relation to the programme for achieving the other outcomes it was explained that twenty nine outcomes should be implemented by December 2005 and the remaining twenty five by March 2006.

Within those outcomes, which had been agreed by the Local Government Association, were seven key priority areas, including raising standards; improving quality of life; promoting healthier communities; creating safer, strong communities; transforming the environment; meeting local transport needs and promoting economic vitality.

It was explained that to monitor the progress on outcomes, Position Statements had to be submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on a regular basis. The next one would be due on 16th July 2005. and would be considered by Council on 29th July 2005. The position as at 11th May 2005 was that 41% of the priority service outcomes had been implemented.

Members were informed that a number of systems had been implemented to underpin the priority service outcomes, including:-

Customer Relationship, Management and Enterprise Work flow; Content Management System; Electronic Records and Document Management System; Geographical Information System.

With regard to work on the Customer Relation Management Workflow, this was ongoing and would link to all service departments. The geographical information system was also ongoing. With regard to the Electronic Records and Document Management System, work needed to be undertaken prior to implementation.

It was noted that in respect of the Content Management System, this was to be implemented by December 2005 and dealt with website management, web content information, etc. It was explained that there were issues in relation to engaging service departments in this process. There was a need for various information to be input from service departments prior to implementation. The process needed to be driven by service departments rather than IT driven.

The Committee was informed that the systems had been developed by local authorities for local authorities and was intended eventually to roll out to Town and Parish Councils. It was intended that organisations such as Citizens Advice Bureaux would use the website to obtain information and that it could be used as an out of hours internet service with residents being able to conduct business with the Council on line.

In relation to the process of implementation of the system, e champions and editors from departments had been identified. The system would be very customer focused and customer services would be the publishers of the content. The next stage of the process was for content owners to publish their own content to be checked. The final phase of the process was to encourage the philosophy to cross service departments and make

the system sustainable. It was then intended to engage Town and Parish Councils in linking to the website.

Members were informed of the issues and key inhibitors in relation to the process. It was explained that the Support Unit had undertaken an assessment when a number of issues had been identified, including a lack of capacity to deliver the agenda in terms of the number of staff with the necessary IT skills, a lack of understanding of the process and the will to modernise. The agenda, therefore, needed to be communicated more broadly.

A key constraint in development of the programme was however, time. The success of the system relied upon a Corporate Approach which needed to be created. However attendance at the meetings of Modernisation Taskforce was dependant upon the other commitments of Officers

Overview and Scrutiny Committee was to provide a project assurance role to ensure that the delivered programme was 'fit for purpose', and to ensure the full engagement of service department. The role of scrutiny would also include monitoring the programme in relation to the delivery of the Priority Service outcomes and the progress of the ICT Capital Programme.

Members commented that Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be ensuring that the e Government Manager had the backing of all section heads as departmental engagement was the key to achieving the programme.

A query was raised by members regarding the training of customer relations staff to enable them to have the variety of skills etc. needed to undertake the job. In response, it was explained that more varied skills would be needed and remuneration would be dealt with through the job evaluation process. However, main requirement of staff would be the ability to ask the right questions which would be provided by the system as background information.

Reference was made by Members to the efficiency savings of £2.5 million which had been made by joint working with other authorities and were applauded as a step in the right direction.

Reference was also made to the information that would be available on the web, and to whom particularly in relation to security. It was explained that there would be a security aspect to the access to information and the amount of information available would be limited.

A query was raised by Members regarding the cost of the Programme. In response, it was explained that it was the first time that the way in which business was undertaken had been challenged and there were problems in delivering the first efficiency statement in relation to availability of information electronically and it was noted that baseline information was needed.

Discussion was also held regarding the use of information by Members. It was explained that access would be available to Members via a laptop which would be provided and training would be given.

The lead member for Performance Management and the e Government Manager then left the meeting to enable the Committee to reach recommendations.

AGREED: That Scrutiny Committee plays a pro-active role in:-

Ensuring full engagement of service departments in enabling the Council to realise its vision for customer services.

Monitoring the Council's progress in delivering the ODPM's priority service outcomes.

Monitoring progress and spend associated with 2005/06 e Government and ICT Capital Programme.

OSC(1).5/05 INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE - ANNUAL REPORT 2004/05

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Resources detailing the work undertaken by Internal Audit throughout the year ended 31st March 2005 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Members were reminded that the Audit Plan approved by Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 on 30th March 2004 had scheduled a total of 936 days for the year. The final out-turn report however showed that a total of 950 days had been achieved this year.

It was explained the work had been undertaken on a number of policy areas as well as all major areas of regularity audit included in the Plan being examined during the year or prioritised for review in the current year following major system change.

Reference was made to the area of Energy Management and the need for appropriate comprehensive energy monitoring and conservation arrangements. This had been included in the Committees Work Programme.

It was pointed out that the Council historically had strong governance arrangements and they were being reinforced by the continuing efforts to enhance risk management and performance monitoring arrangements.

The Council's ability to demonstrate quality corporate governance arrangement would in future be linked to the Statement of Internal Control (S.I.C) requirements introduced by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003. The importance of the S.I.C. was emphasised and officers representing all departments were currently developing formal policy procedural documents covering financial and operational controls, performance and risk management processes.

The report provided an update on three areas previously reported to the Committee on 23rd November 2004 , as follows:-

- Collections Accounting Reconciliation – Relevant managers were currently reviewing working arrangements to ensure that this area operated effectively.
- Financial Management Information System – reconciliation timetables had been introduced for 2005/6. The system would also be subject to Audit Commission review.
- Housing Capital/Maintenance Work –Where problems had arisen as a result of revised structure, single status, the impact of the Housing Maintenance Service Improvement Plan and the development of the proposed LSVT. In relation to housing capital works, significant progress had been made in the area of performance management systems and the development of a housing procurement protocol was expected to be progressed shortly. Housing maintenance works and in particular jobbing maintenance was an area where issues of Best Value still existed. However, the development of information systems was now taking place and work in relation to the Statement of Internal Control would provide a clearer indication of whether performance and monitoring arrangements were satisfactory.

It was noted that the Internal Audit Plan had been based on the establishment of six posts. During the year two members of staff had left the section and a modern apprentice had joined the team. The vacant post would however remain unfilled until the outcome of the forthcoming LSVT ballot was known.

During discussion of this item, Members made reference to consultation with service heads in relation to actions required etc. In response it was explained that close contact was maintained with section heads and responses to recommendations were required within agreed time frames. If appropriate progress could not be made, these would be highlighted to Overview and Scrutiny Committee who could request attendance of a particular manager at a meeting to discuss concerns.

A query was raised with regard to the Council's fixed assets and the monitoring of assets. In response it was explained that each area of service had an ongoing responsibility to check that satisfactory arrangements were in place to control assets. Audit work also included examination of stock and inventory control systems

It was considered that there were no matters of concern which needed to be brought to the attention of Cabinet, other than those contained in the report.

AGREED: *That the work of the Internal Audit Service Work during 2004/05 be noted and supported .*

OSC(1).6/05 AUDIT COMMISSION - AUDIT AND INSPECTION PLAN 2005/06

Consideration was given to a report setting out the Audit and Inspection work to be undertaken by the Audit Commission during 2005/06.(For copy see file of minutes)

It was explained that the Plan had been drawn up from a risk based approach to audit planning and reflected:-

- The impact for the new Code for Audit Practice that came into effect in April 2005.
- Local risks and improvement priorities: national risks relevant to local circumstances.
- The impact of international standards on auditing.
- The Council's current Comprehensive Performance Assessment rating of "Good".

The report also identified the responsibilities of the Commission and the fee for the core audit and inspection work planned for 2005/06 which would be £92,500.00. A summary of key audit and inspection risks were also identified.

In relation to Comprehensive Performance Assessment it was noted that following the Council's classification as a 'Good' Council in the CPA in March 2003 the Audit Commission had applied the principles of strategic regulation recognising the key features of Sedgefield's performance, including improvements in the Council's frontline services and improvement in corporate arrangements and as a consequence the inspection would consist only of the new formal direction of travel statement which was part of the CPA 2005 arrangements.

The areas of audit risk to be addressed were identified in the report and Asset Management Arrangements would be reviewed, as would the arrangements for producing the Statement of Internal Control. Progress towards LSVT would also be reviewed and monitored.

In respect of grant claim certification the Audit Commission would continue to certify the Council's grant claims.

It was also noted that in respect of voluntary improvement work, the Audit Commission had identified the potential to undertake cross cutting improvement works and these would be discussed in further detail at a later date.

AGREED: That the Audit Commission Audit and Inspection Plan 2005/06 be noted.

OSC(1).7/05 ANNUAL REPORT ON COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY CORPORATE COMPLAINTS STAFF

Consideration was given to a Report of the Chief Executive's Office (for copy see file of Minutes).

In respect of complaints/issues received by the Corporate Customer Relation Staff in the Chief Executive's Department during the period 1st April 2004 to 31st March 2005.

It was explained that the Lead Member for Welfare and Communications together with the Customer Services Manager and Principal Admin Officer, Customer Relations, were present at the Meeting to present the report and answer queries.

The Committee was informed that the Borough had recently adopted a revised complaints policy aimed at providing residents and other users of Borough services the opportunity to comment on /criticise Borough services.

The Policy provided for a publication of a half yearly and an annual report on complaints handling. Future reports would include information relating to complaints received by departments as well as those dealt with by the Chief Executive's Office Corporate Complaints Staff.

It was reported that the number of complaints/issues dealt with by the Corporate Complaints Staff had increased from 845 in 2003/04 to 946 in 2004/05, an increase of 101. 50% of the increase was however, attributable to enquires/complaints regarding matters, which were the responsibility of other organisations or agencies.

The main area of complaint (40% of the total) related to housing maintenance management, improvements and adaptations for the benefit of people with disabilities.

The report identified a number of complaints etc. received within each service area and the nature of the complaints. It was explained that the Corporate Complaints Staff aimed to respond to 100% of complaints and enquiries within ten working days and achieved 97.25% in 2004/05 compared with 99.4% in 2003/04. The average time to respond to a complaint/enquiry was 2.3 days. The recent appointment of a Customer Service Manager would allow the Corporate Complaints Staff to focus on resolving complaints received within target time.

The Committee was also advised of the complaints procedure whereby complainants had the right to complain to the Local Government Ombudsman if they had exhausted the Borough's complaints procedure. In 2003/04 thirteen cases had been investigated and decided by the Ombudsman and the Borough Council had not been found guilty of mal-administration in any of the cases. In 2004/05 thirty cases had been investigated and decided by the Ombudsman and again the Borough Council had been found not guilty of mal-administration in any of the cases.

It was noted that in future complaints were to be dealt with initially within departments prior to the customer complaints section.

Members made reference to the refuse collection service and the need for a system to be in place if problems arise in relation to the delivery of the service.

Members of the Committee also made reference to problems being encountered with letters from Development Control to consultees in relation to planning applications on occasions not being received. The question of the need for proof of posting etc. was discussed. In response Officers explained that the system used in Development Control automatically generated letters and there was a record of them being sent. It was recognised that the Royal Mail handled hundreds of thousands of letters and it was not feasible to obtain certificates of posting or despatch mail by recorded delivery. Internal postal arrangements had been checked and found to be satisfactory.

AGREED: That the Annual Report be received and published on the Borough's website.

OSC(1).8/05 WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Chairman of the Committee setting out the Committee's Work Programme for consideration and review. (For copy see file of Minutes).

An update was given in relation to progress ongoing Reviews .

It was explained that at the next meeting consideration would be given to the Human Resources Best Value Review Service Improvement Plan and the Procurement Service Improvement Plan.

In relation to Energy Efficiency Monitoring it had been intended for the Energy Efficiency Officer to attend the next meeting in relation to monitoring energy efficiency in the Council's buildings. It was explained that the Energy Efficiency Officer gave advice to people externally . However it was not part of his role to monitor energy efficiency within the Council buildings. Some research therefore would need to be done as to the level of monitoring currently being undertaken . A report would be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 to decide best course of action. It was suggested that this report be submitted to the October meeting of the Committee.

AGREED:

- 1. That the item relating to Energy Efficiency Monitoring be considered at the meeting on 11th October 2005.*
- 2. That the Committee's Work Programme as outlined in the Report be agreed*

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Liz North

Item 10

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2

Conference Room 1,
Council Offices,
Spennymoor

Tuesday,
28 June 2005

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillor J.E. Higgin (Chairman) and
Councillors W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. J. Croft, G.M.R. Howe, R.A. Patchett,
Mrs. E.M. Paylor, T. Ward and J. Wayman J.P.

Tenant Representatives

Mrs. M. Thomson

Invited to attend: Councillor Mrs. A.M. Armstrong and Mrs. B. Graham

In

Attendance: Councillors Mrs. B.A. Clare, V. Crosby, A. Gray, G.C. Gray,
D.M. Hancock, J.G. Huntington, B. Meek, G. Morgan and A. Smith

Apologies: Councillors J. Burton, M.A. Dalton, T.F. Forrest, Mrs. L. Hovvels,
A. McGreggor, Ms. M. Predki and G.W. Scott

OSC(2).1/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
There were no declarations of interest.

OSC(2).2/05 MINUTES
The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

OSC(2).3/05 Benefits Service Improvement Plan - Progress Update
Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Resources detailing the progress made on the implementation of the Benefits Service Improvement Plan. (For copy see file of Minutes).

The Director of Resources reminded Members that the Benefits Service Improvement Plan was originally reported to Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 in 2001 and of the changes that had been implemented since that time. It was explained that the service had received positive results from the Council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment, which recognised the work that had been undertaken in improving the service since the introduction of the Service Improvement Plan.

Members were informed that the Department of Works and Pensions had approved funding for the development of the Electronic Document

Management System, the Bureau Imaging Service, the Benefits Calculator which would be used on the Council's website and for the appointment of a Training Officer. The successful bids had increased the funding to a total £0.25 million.

The Committee's attention was drawn to the submitted table that detailed the current performance of the three Key Performance Indicators together with the set targets for 2005/06. It was noted that the targets for 2004/05 had been met and it was hoped that performance would continue to improve.

With regard to the Charter Mark award for the Benefits Service it was pointed out that many improvements had been made, however problems with regards to staffing had slowed progress. It had however been agreed by Cabinet to appoint a Revenue Performance Improvement Officer to develop the Service further.

Questions were raised as to whether services regarding the 'Change in Circumstances' when applying for a benefit claim was monitored. It was explained that although it was the responsibility of the claimant to inform the Council of a change in circumstance the Council was in contact with other agencies, such as the Department of Works and Pensions to keep all information up to date. It was also noted that the Council would perform data matching exercises.

Concerns were also raised regarding the amount of money that had been written off in 2004/05. Members were informed that the service now employed a team of Fraud Investigations Officers to target such issues and to aid in reducing the amount that had been written off.

The Committee welcomed the achievements made against the Action Plan and thanked the Director of Resources and his staff for the progress which had been made.

The Cabinet Member for Supporting People and Welfare and Communications then left the meeting during deliberation on the Committee's recommendations.

AGREED:

- 1. That the Committee endorses and welcomes the progress made on the Service Improvement Plan.*
- 2. That the Committee receive a further update at the year end 2005/06.*

OSC(2).4/05 Equality and Diversity Improvement Plan - Progress Update

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Service Improvement detailing the progress made following the completion of the Equity and Equality Service Improvement Plan in October 2004. (For copy see file of Minutes).

Members were reminded that the Council had achieved Level 1 Equality Standard for Local Government and informed them that work was currently

ongoing to achieve Level 2. In order to progress onto the next Level advice had been sought from an external consultant, Doug Ferry. From the advice given the existing action plans were revised. Progress from Level 1 also required a comprehensive equality policy to be adopted, therefore a consolidated action plan would be developed, which would be presented in the Corporate Equality Plan (CEP). The draft CEP was attached for Members information. It was explained that once the document had been amended and agreed it would be the mechanism for progressing the equality agenda.

Details were also given of the work that had been carried out in relation to the Race Equality Scheme, the Equality Standard in Local Government and the Corporate Equality and Diversity Group.

Members questioned what progress was being made with regard to Member training for the use of laptops. It was explained that before training was given and the system was fully implemented any problems needed to be rectified, questionnaires would also be circulated to Members to identify each Members training needs.

The Cabinet Members for Supporting People and Welfare and Communications then left the meeting in order to allow the Committee to consider the recommendations.

AGREED: That the Committee endorses and welcomes the progress made on the Service Improvement Plan.

OSC(2).5/05 WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Chairman of the Committee setting out the Committee's Work Programme for consideration and review. (For copy see file of Minutes).

Members were informed that the Annual Report for Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 was due to be considered by Committee at its next meeting on September 13th 2005.

It was also pointed out that the Director of Public Health for Sedgefield Primary Care Trust had recently published the Annual Report, 'The Health and Wellbeing of People in Sedgefield' and suggested that the Committee receive a presentation on the document.

Members were updated on the progress of the two ongoing reviews and were informed that both the reviews were drawing to a close and were in the process of drawing up the final reports.

AGREED: That the Committee's Work Programme be approved.

OSC(2).6/05 DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE
The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2005 were noted. (For copy see file of Minutes).

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

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