



Report of the Head of Corporate Policy

Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide an end of year performance update (2005/06) for Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) relevant to our Corporate Aim, Promoting Strong, Healthy and Safe Communities.
- 2 The end of year performance 2005/06 for BVPIs aligned to Promoting Strong, Healthy & Safe Communities is available in Appendix A.
- 3 There are 26 BVPIs relevant to our Corporate Aim, Promoting Strong, Healthy and Safe Communities. Comparison of the final outturn of 2005/06 to the final outturn of 2004/05 shows that 20 indicators improved performance, 3 deteriorated, 2 remained static and 1 had no comparative data (BV127b – robberies per 1,000 population was a new indicator for 2005/06 so has no comparative data from 2004/05). Of those indicators that had a target set for 2005/06, 19 (73%) met the target and 7 (27%) did not.

Performance	BVPI
Improved	49 - % children in care 3+ placement 53 – Intensive home care per 1,000 65+ population (T) 54 – Older people helped to live at home (T) 56 - % equipment <£1000 in 7 days (T) 58 – People with statement of needs (T) 99ai – Road accident casualties – KSI All (T) 99aii - % change – KSI All (T) 99aiii - % change 1994-98 KSI All (T) 99bi – Road accident casualties – KSI Child (T) 99bii - % change – KSI Child (T) 99biii - % change 1994-98 KSI Child (T) 99ci – Road accident casualties – Slight Injuries (T) 99cii - % change – Slight Injuries (T) 99ciii - % change 1994-98 – Slight Injuries (T) 126a – Domestic Burglaries per 1,000 households (T) 128a – Vehicle Crimes per 1,000 population (T) 162 – Reviews of child protection cases (T) 163 – Adoptions of children looked after (T) 196 – Acceptable wait for care packages (T) 197 – Change in <18 conception rate
Static	166b – Checklist – Trading Standards (T) 201 – Adults receiving direct payments

Performance	BVPI
Deteriorated	127a – Violent crime per 1,000 population 161 – Care Leavers – Employment and Training 195 – Acceptable waiting times for assessment
No comparative data	127b – Robberies per 1,000 population

(T) denotes that the target for that indicator was met.

Areas of Improved Performance

4 The performance of a number of indicators improved since 2004/05. Of particular note:

- **BV 49 - % children in care 3+ placement.** During 2005/06 48 Looked After Children had 3 or more placements (353 had less than 3). Although an improvement on 2004/05 outturn, performance was below target. This was due to a high number of children entering the looked after system, who may encounter more than 3 placement moves during their early stages in the system.
- **BV 53 – Intensive home care per 1,000 65+ population.** More households received intensive home care than during 2004/05 and performance was better than target.
- **BV 54 – Older people helped to live at home.** During 2005/06, 8,108 older people were helped to live at home. The rate per 1,000 population for 2005/06 is higher than 2004/05 and above the 2005/06 target.
- **BV 56 - % equipment <£1000 in 7 days.** 6,097 items (91.2%) of equipment were delivered / adaptations made within 7 working days during 2005/06. Performance was better than during 2004/05 and the 2005/06 target was exceeded.
- **BV 58 – People with statement of needs.** 2005/06 performance has improved from 2004/05 and is better than 2005/06 target.
- **BV99 Road Safety (and its sub-indicators)**
 - i. **BV 99a - Road accident casualties - KSI (All).** 24 fewer people were killed / seriously injured.
 - ii. **BV 99b - Road accident casualties – KSI (Child).** 12 fewer children were killed / seriously injured.
 - iii. **BV 99c - Road accident casualties – Slight Injuries.** 170 fewer people suffered slight injury due to road accidents.

This BVPI is included in the 2005/06 table but it should be noted that the guidance requires us to report figures for the calendar year 2004. These figures are therefore already established.

- **BV 126a – Domestic Burglaries per 1,000 households.** Throughout 2005/06, domestic burglaries were reduced and this was significantly below the 2005/06 target.
- **BV 128a – Vehicle Crimes per 1,000 population.** Vehicle crime reduced in 2005/06 compared to 2004/05 and is better than target.
- **BV 162 – Reviews of child protection cases.** Every child protection case that should have been reviewed regularly during 2005/06 was reviewed. This amounted to 125 cases.
- **BV 163 – Adoptions of children looked after.** Performance during 2005/06 was significantly better than both 2004/05 outturn and 2005/06 target. During 2005/06, 44 adoption and 2 guardianship orders were granted.
- **BV 196 – Acceptable wait for care packages.** We have increased the proportion of new older clients waiting no more than 28 days from completion of assessment to provision of all services in the care package. This is an improvement on 2004/05 outturn and is better than target.
- **BV 197 – Change in <18 conception rate.** This data was published in February 2006 and relates to the 2004 calendar year. 1998 data is used as the baseline to calculate the change in the <18 conception rate. During 1998, there were 499 teenage pregnancies in Durham County (a rate of 54.4 per 1,000 girls aged 15-17). During 2004, this had dropped to 444 teenage pregnancies (48.1 per 1,000 girls aged 15-17).

Areas of deteriorated performance

- 5 The performance of a number of indicators deteriorated since 2004/05. Of particular note:

- **BV 127a – Violent crime per 1,000 population.** During 2003/04 Durham Constabulary was graded as 'amber' for compliance to the National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS) by the audit commission. Significant effort was made to ensure a totally victim focussed approach to crime recording. This resulted in a rise in the number of crimes recorded, especially violent crime. Therefore, part of the increase can be attributed to rigorous compliance to NCRS. In addition, Durham Constabulary is tackling quality of life issues across the communities of County Durham and this positive policing is resulting in an increase in low level violent crime.

- **BV 161 – Care Leavers – Employment and Training.** The ratio of the percentage of care leavers aged 19, engaged in education, employment and training, to the percentage of the population of Durham County aged 19 in education, employment and training has decreased in 2005/06. The 2005/06 target was not achieved.
- **BV 195 – Acceptable waiting times for assessment.** Performance of this indicator appears to have deteriorated. However, this dip in performance can be attributed to a change in definition during 2005/06. Prior to this change, contact with a third party (close relatives / carer) could be classed as a 'contact assessment'. The new definition states that the 'contact assessment' must include the client. As the client makes only 18% of enquiries, performance during 2005/06 appears much lower when in reality there has been no change in practice.

Recommendations

That Corporate Scrutiny Sub-Committee Members:

- (i) note the contents of this report
- (ii) agree to receiving subsequent quarterly performance progress reports

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