



---

## **Report of the Head of Corporate Policy**

---

### **Purpose of the Report**

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide a performance update for quarter 2, 2006/07, for the authority's corporate priorities and the Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) relevant to our Corporate Aim, Promoting Strong, Healthy and Safe Communities.
- 2 Performance for quarter 2, 2006/07, for indicators aligned to Promoting Strong, Healthy & Safe Communities is available in Appendix A (Corporate Priorities) and Appendix B (BVPIs). Unless otherwise stated, 12 month rolling totals have been used throughout this document. Therefore any reference to data for quarter 2 relates to the 12 months ending 30 September 2006 and quarter 1 relates to the 12 months ending 30 June 2006. This allows comparisons to be made between quarter 2, quarter 2 and targets.
- 3 Symbols have been included throughout this report and its appendices, the following table provides an explanation of their meaning.

	increasing, improved performance		performance worse than target (outside tolerance)
	decreasing, improved performance		performance within tolerance levels
	decreasing, deteriorating performance		performance better than target (outside tolerance)
	increasing, deteriorating performance		
	no change		

### **Priorities for Improvement**

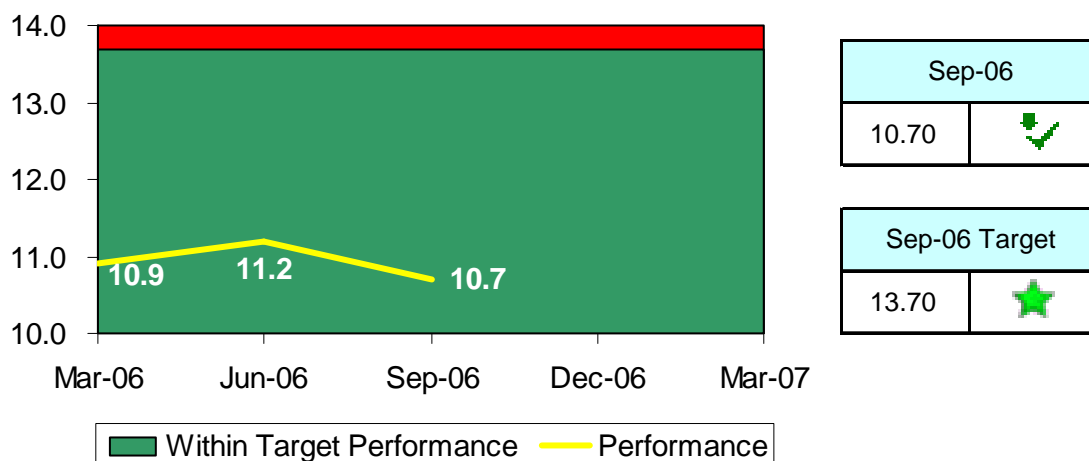
- 4 There are 3 priority areas for improvement aligned to our Corporate Aim, Promoting Strong, Healthy and Safe Communities.

### **Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Children**

Within this theme there are 3 outcomes that have been identified as areas we want to improve.

**Fewer children at risk** – to know if we are succeeding at this we are measuring:

- **PAF 3 – re-registrations on the Child Protection Register**



Performance of this indicator is continuing to exceed target. During the 12 months ending 30 September, 30 children were re-registered on the Child Protection Register. It should be noted that performance is prone to fluctuation as re-registrations often include large sibling groups. On 30 September 2006, there were 193 children on the Child Protection Register.

**Better access for young people to mental health services** – to know if we are succeeding at this we are measuring:

- **LAA C&YP 2a – no. participating in programmes to develop self-esteem & emotional well-being**  
An emotional and well-being strategy will be produced during 2006/07 and this would allow a baseline and targets for this indicator to be established before March 2007.
- **LAA C&YP 2b – acute mental health referrals within 5 days**  
Q2 data is unavailable due to a delay rolling out the reporting tools of County Durham Youth Engagement Service's new management information system (web-based careworks)
- **LAA C&YP 2c – non-acute mental health referrals within 15 days**  
Q2 data is unavailable due to a delay rolling out the reporting tools of County Durham Youth Engagement Service's new management information system (web-based careworks)

**Fewer young people offending** – to know if we are succeeding at this we are measuring:

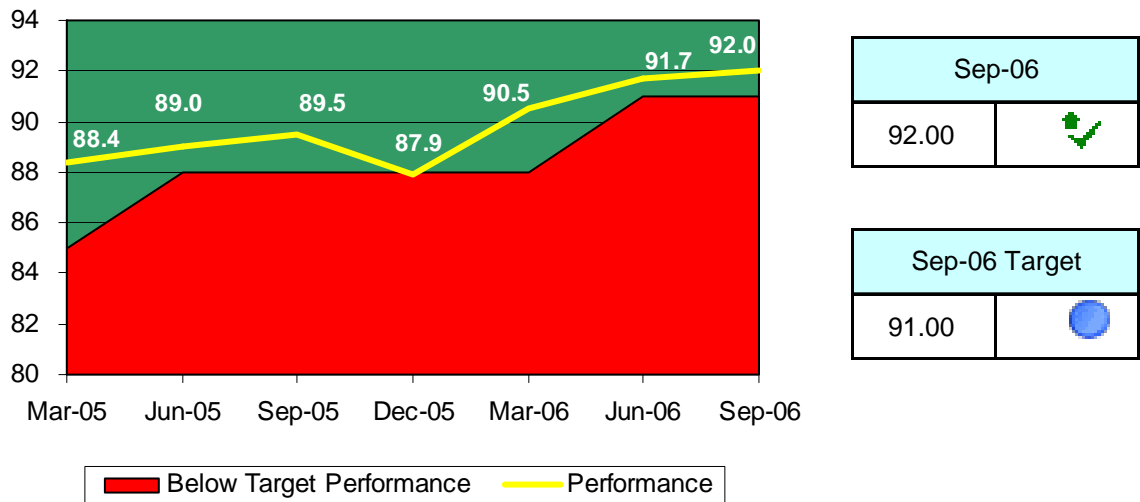
- **LAA SSC 1e - % of young people who reoffend within 12 months**  
This indicator is reported annually each April.
- **LAA SSC 1f – first time entrants to the youth justice system**  
Q2 data is unavailable due to a delay rolling out the reporting tools of County Durham Youth Engagement Service's new management information system (web-based careworks)

## Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Adults

Within this theme there are 2 outcomes that have been identified as areas we want to improve.

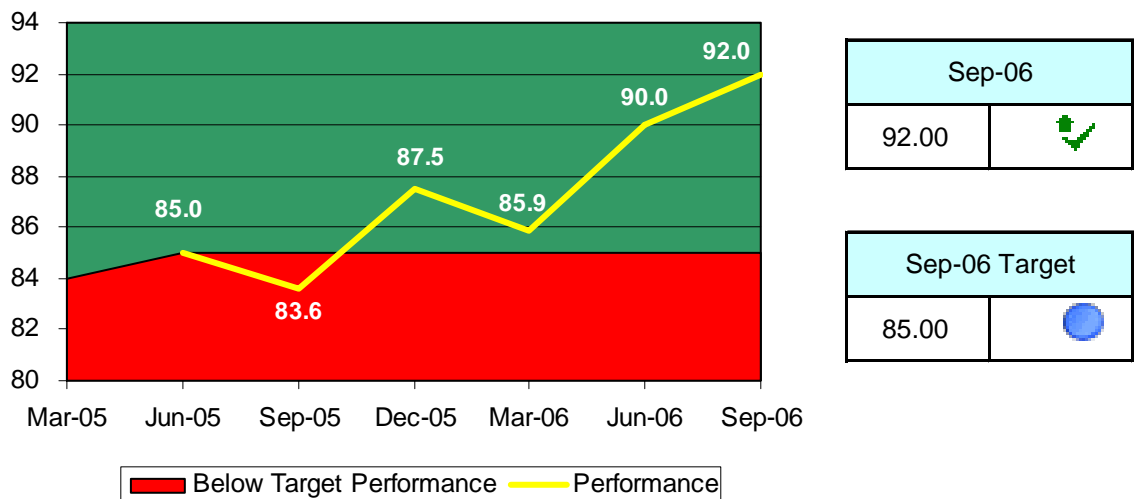
### Improved opportunities, choice and independence for vulnerable adults and older people – to know if we are succeeding at this we are measuring:

- **BV056 - % equipment delivered / adapted within 7 working days**



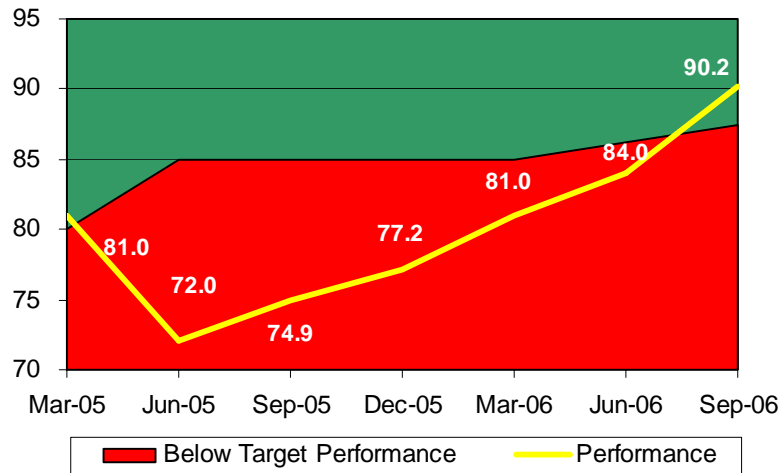
With the exception of December 2005, this indicator has shown continual quarter-on-quarter improvement. A 3.6 percentage point rise has been achieved over the last 18 months. 4,664 (92%) of equipment were delivered / adaptations made within 7 working days during the 12 months ending 30 September 2006.

- **BV 196 – acceptable wait for care packages**



During the last 12 months, 92% of new older clients experienced completion of assessment to provision of all services in the care package within four weeks. Performance has improved by 8.4 percentage points in the last 12 months.

- **BV 201 – adults receiving direct payments of benefits (LAA stretch target)**



Sep-06	
90.17	✓

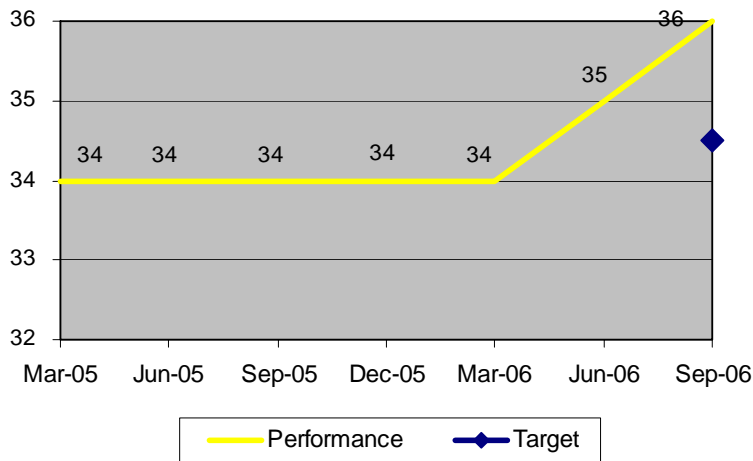
Sep-06 Target	
87.50	●

349 adults and older people received direct payments during the 12 months ending 30 September 2006. Performance has improved by 15.3 percentage points in the last 12 months and is now better than target.

- **LAA HC&OP 3b – older people in receipt of council tax benefit (LAA stretch target)**

Latest data is unavailable (latest data is May-05).

- **LAA HC&OP 5a - % receiving intensive home care**



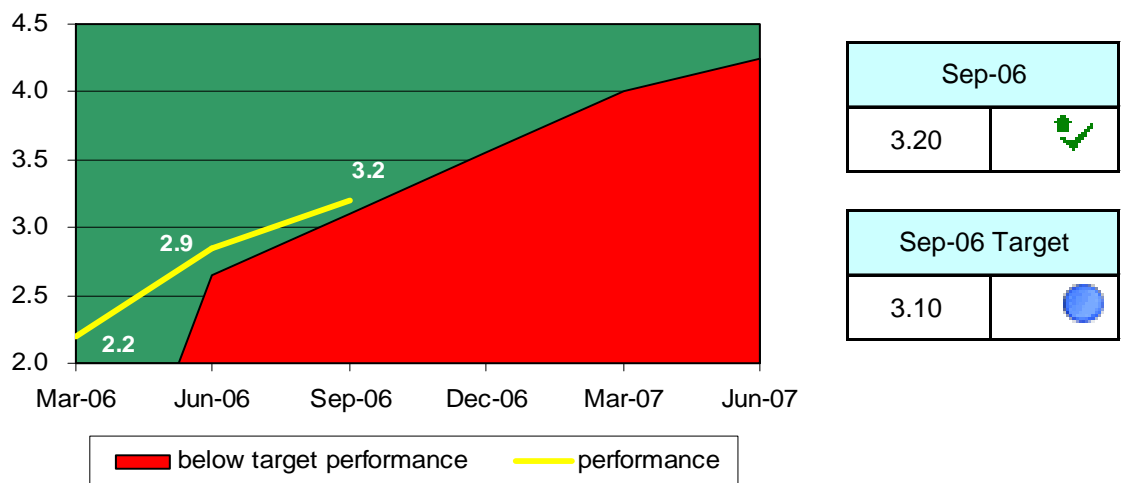
Sep-06	
36.00	✓

Sep-06 Target	
34.50	●

This indicator measures households receiving intensive home care (more than 10 hours and 6 or more visits per week) as a proportion of households receiving intensive home and residential care. The indicator is calculated using a sample week. The creation of Extra Care Housing where all tenants receive 13 hours home care per week has contributed to improved performance. During quarter 2, 1,997 households received intensive home care.

**Improved employment opportunities for people with learning difficulties**  
 – to know if we are succeeding at this we are measuring:

- **LAA HC&OP 4c - % people with learning disabilities (known to the Council) in work**



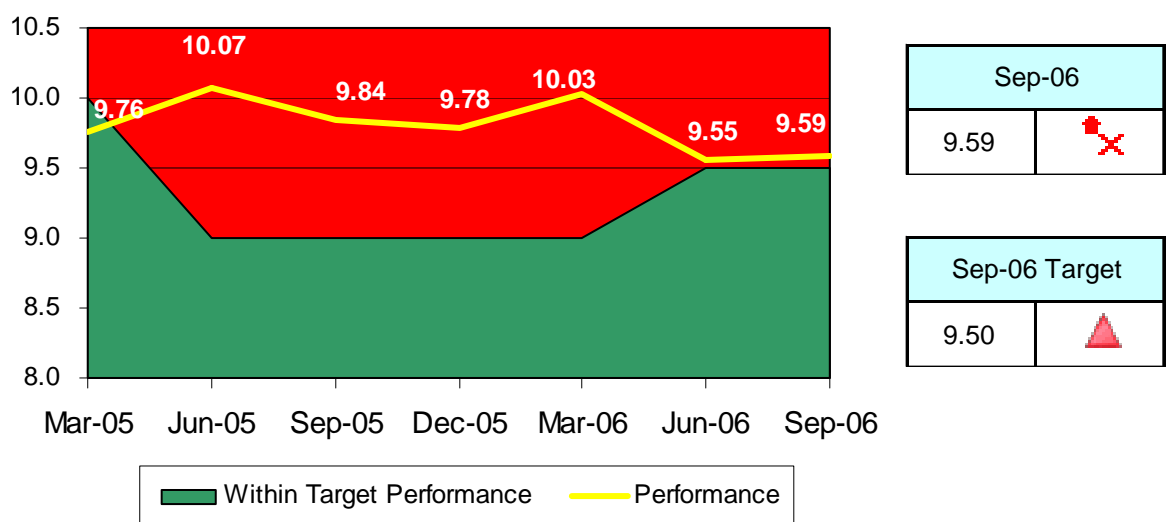
As at the 30 September 2006, 65 people known to the Council as having learning disabilities were in work.

**Improving Health**

Within this theme there are 4 outcomes that have been identified as areas we want to improve:

**Reduction in County Council sickness absence** – to know if we are succeeding at this we are measuring:

- **BV012 – Days / shifts lost to sickness**

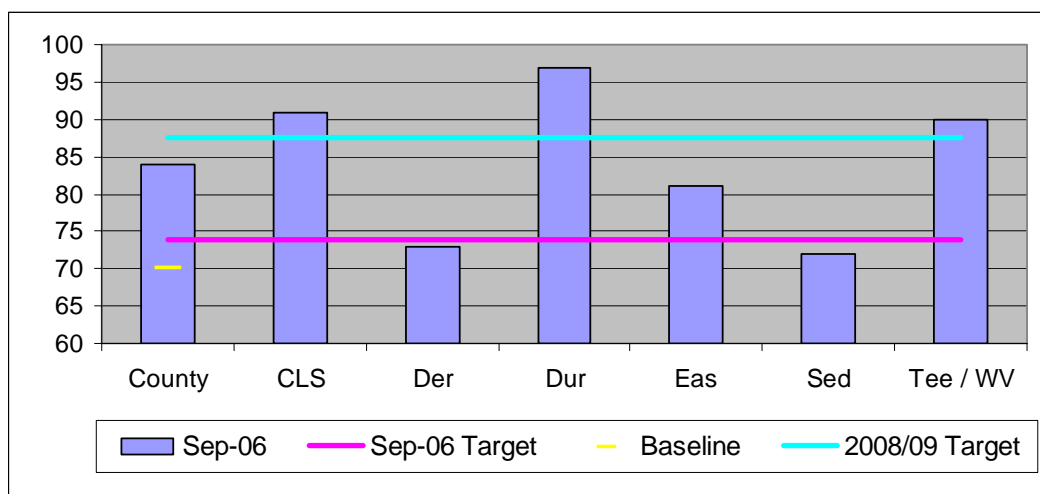


The table below shows sickness for the first six months of 2006/07 by service. Adult and Community Services, Chief Executive's Office, County Treasurer and Service Direct averaged more than 5 days, whilst Children and Young People's Services, Corporate Service and Environment averaged 4 days or less.

SERVICE	1 April 06 - 30 September 2006		
	FTE	Days Lost	Total Days Lost / FTE
Adult and Community Services	2,325.98	16,600.00	7.14
Chief Executive's Office	207.00	1,307.00	6.31
Children and Young People's Services	9,960.97	33,427.83	3.36
Corporate Services	348.68	1,396.00	4.00
County Treasurer	155.23	802.50	5.17
Environment	459.96	1,257.00	2.73
Service Direct	870.00	5,934.00	6.82
<b>Council</b>	<b>14,327.81</b>	<b>60,724.33</b>	<b>4.24</b>

**More children eating and drinking healthily, and regularly and involved in physical activity inside and outside of school – to know if we are succeeding at this we are measuring:**

- LAA C&YP 1b – % primary schools achieving new National Healthy Schools Status (NHSS) (LAA stretch target)**  
 At 30 September 2006, 27 of the 236 primary schools (11.4%) had achieved the new standard. Progress was impacted by the school summer holiday during which no schools were presented for moderation to National Healthy Schools Status. A 2006/07 year-end target of 80% has been set with the benefit of pump priming funding.
- LAA C&YP 1c – % of children (7-14 years) who spend a minimum of 2 hours per week on high quality PE and Sport, both within and beyond the school curriculum. (LAA stretch target)**



84% of children (aged 7-14) countywide are spending a minimum of 2 hours per week on high quality PE and sport, both within and beyond

the school curriculum. Excellent progress is being made toward the 2008/09 stretch target of 87%. 3 of the 6 school sport partnerships have exceeded the overall county stretch target at this point and all have improved from the 70% baseline.

**Reduction in the number of people smoking – to know if we are succeeding at this we are measuring:**

- **LAA HC&OP 1d – adult smoking rate**  
This data is available annually.
- **LAA HC&OP 1e – no. of 4 week quitters using NHS service (LAA stretch target)**  
Quarter 1 performance suggests that the annual target will be comfortably achieved with 1,007 quitters to date against an annual target of 3,886 and the strongest quarters historically (after Christmas) are still to come.

**Reduction in teenage pregnancies – to know if we are succeeding at this we are measuring:**

- **QoL 35 – teenage pregnancy**  
Latest data available is 2004.

**Other Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs)**

- There are 21 performance indicators relevant to our Corporate Aim, Promoting Strong, Healthy and Safe Communities that are not aligned to our corporate priorities for improvement. Of these indicators 2 improved performance, 4 deteriorated, 8 remained static and 7 had no comparative data.

It should be noted that 11 performance indicators achieved their targets for quarter 2.

Performance	BVPI
Improved	53 – intensive home care per 65+ 1,000 population (T) 163 – adoptions of children looked after (T)
Static	99ai – road accident casualties: KSI all (T) 99bi – road accident casualties: KSI child (T) 999ci – road accident casualties – slight injuries (T) 126 – domestic burglaries per 1,000 households (T) 127b – robberies per 1,000 population 128a – vehicle crime per 1,000 population (T) 162 – reviews of child protection cases (T) <b>100%</b> 166b – checklist – trading standards (T) <b>100%</b>
Deteriorated	49 – stability of placements of LAC (more than 3 placements) 54 – over 65s helped to live at home (T) 127a – violent crimes per 1,000 population 195 – acceptable waiting times for assessment

Performance	BVPI
Q1 data unavailable	197 – teenage pregnancies 226a – advice and guidance services: total expenditure 226b – advice and guidance services: CLS quality mark 226c – advice and guidance services: direct provision LPI 99a – road accident casualties: KSI all LPI 99b – road accident casualties: KSI child LPI 99c – road accident casualties: slight injuries (T)

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

### Areas of Improved Performance

- 5 The performance of a number of indicators improved during quarter 2, 2006/07. Of particular note:
- **BV 53 – intensive home care per 1,000 65+ population**  
The number of households receiving intensive home care on the 30 September 2006 increased compared to quarter 1. Current performance exceeds the target set for 2006/07.
  - **BV 163 – adoptions of children looked after**  
During the 12 months ending 30 September 38 adoption and 9 guardianship orders were granted.

### Areas of deteriorated performance

- 6 The performance of a number of indicators deteriorated during quarter 2, 2006/07. Of particular note:
- **BV 49 – stability of placements of LAC (more than 3 placements)**  
During the 12 months ending 30 September 2006, 48 looked after children had 3 or more placements (361 had less than 3). Children entering the looked after system often encounter more than 3 placement moves during their early stages in the system.
  - **BV 54 – over 65s helped to live at home (T)**  
8,386 older people are being helped to live at home, 15 less than in quarter 1, 2005/06, which equates to a 0.2% decrease. It should be noted that the population estimate has also increased. This indicator has exceeded the 2006/07 target.
  - **BV 127a – violent crimes per 1,000 population**  
During quarter 2 there was an increase of 11 violent crimes. This increase can be attributed to Durham Constabulary continuing to rigorously comply with National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS) and tackle quality of life issues across the communities of County Durham. This positive policing is resulting in an increase in the amount of low level violent crime recorded.



- **BV 195 – acceptable waiting times for assessment**  
Performance has remained stable from the previous quarter and remains in the orange (ask questions) PAF banding. A more accurate way of recording start dates of hospital discharge assessments has been identified and will be implemented in due course. This should lead to a slight improvement in performance. The vast majority of delays continue to be from Occupational Therapy Assessments. Several remedial actions are in place to improve this, and an analysis of good practice and the processes involved is also underway.

### **Recommendations**

That Corporate Scrutiny Sub-Committee Members:

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

---

**Contact: Debra Kitching**

**Tel: 0191 383 4186**

---