








Report of the Head of Corporate Policy




1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update of quarter 1 performance for the authority's Priorities For Improvement (PFIs) and the Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) relevant to our Corporate Aim, Promoting Strong, Healthy and Safe Communities.
2. To gain maximum impact of performance management intelligence from Performance Plus, the Authority's performance management system, tolerances and milestones have been set for 2007/08 targets.

Key to Tables





-  increasing, improved performance
-  decreasing, improved performance
-  decreasing, deteriorating performance
-  increasing, deteriorating performance
-  no change

-  performance worse than target
-  performance better than target by less than 10%
-  performance better than target by 10% or more

Key to CPA Indicators




-  below lower threshold
-  between thresholds
-  above upper threshold

Key to Quartile Positions

-  bottom quartile
-  third quartile
-  second quartile
-  top quartile

3. Performance and comments relating to indicators relevant to the Corporate Aim, Promoting Strong, Healthy and Safe Communities are reported in Appendix A. An overview of performance is as follows;

Direction of Travel since year-end 2006/07	Number of measures	% of total
 Improved	13	54%
 Maintained	2	21%
 Deteriorated	5	8%
Data is unavailable (N/a) during quarter 1	4	17%
Total	24	

Comparison to target	Number of measures	% of total
 Worse than	9	37%
 Better than by <10%	9	37%
 Better than by 10% or more	6	25%
Total	24	

Comparison to target	Number of measures	% of total
Predicted to be on target at 2007/08 year-end	17*	100%

*7 measures do not have a year-end prediction

4. Eleven indicators aligned to Promoting Strong, Healthy and Safe Communities and included in the authority's priorities for improvement were updated during quarter 1. The following table summarises the performance of these indicators.

	Achieved Q1 target	Did not achieve Q1 target
Improved from year-end	Re-registrations on Child Protection Register (A03) Equipment delivered / adapted (BV 56) Acceptable wait for care packages (BV 196) Direct payments (BV 201) Intensive homecare (LAA HC&OP 05d) Smoking rate (LAA HC&OP 01h)	National Healthy Schools Status (LAA C&YP 01b)
Unable to compare to year-end		First time entrants to youth justice system (LAA SSC 01f)
Deteriorated from year-end		Looked after children with 3 or more placements (BV 49) Investing in Children membership (LAA C&YP 08a) People with learning disabilities in work (LAA HC&OP 04c)

Areas of concern,

(indicators not achieving quarter 1 target with deteriorating performance since 06/07 year-end)

- BV 49 - % of looked after children with 3 or more placements**
 Although performance has not improved since the year-end and we continue to underachieve target, current performance is classed as 'very good' (i.e. below 16%) under national PAF bandings. This indicator is prone to fluctuation, however at this point it is predicted that the 07/08 year-end target will be met.
- LAA C&YP 08a – Number of agencies and organisations achieving Investing in Children membership**
 Figures for Investing in Children membership have reduced from 188 to 180 due to a number of services/teams no longer existing. Despite this it is expected that the number of services achieving Investing in Children status will increase to at least 205 sites by the end of the year.
- LAA HC&OP 04c - % of people with learning disabilities known to the Council and in work**
 Performance has deteriorated since the year-end due to 38 of the 108 jobs created in 2006/07 coming to an end. An additional 17 jobs have been created and the WorkAble

Solutions Team have an internal target of creating an additional 80 jobs for clients with learning disabilities. At this point it is anticipated that the year-end target will be achieved.

- **LAA SSC 01f – Number of first time entrants to the youth justice system**

Quarter 1 performance of 349 equates to 35% of the final target for 07/08. This is clearly more than anticipated and work is underway with appropriate partners to understand the recent trend. Staff are working to identify where young people have by-passed the Reprimand and Final Warning stage and gone straight to prosecution (103 in last quarter) and what can be done to minimise this. They are also looking at the numbers and appropriateness of Reprimands and Final Warnings.

County Durham Youth Engagement Service (CDYES) is currently working with the Police on the first time entrant target and should be able to give more feedback by September 2007. No year end prediction provided.

5. A summary of all other indicators relevant to this corporate aim and updated during quarter 1 is shown in the table below,

	Achieved Q1 target	Did not achieve Q1 target
Improved from year-end	Adoptions of looked after children (BV 163) Robberies (BV 127b) Intensive homecare for people aged 65 or over (BV 53) Acceptable waiting time for assessment (BV 195)	Reviews of child protection cases (BV 162) Violent crime (BV 127a)
Remained static	Trading Standards checklist (BV 166b) Vehicle Crime (BV 128a)	
Unable to compare to year-end	Casualties from road traffic collisions (LPI 99a/b/c)	
Deteriorated from year-end		Domestic burglaries (BV 126a) Over 65s helped to live at home (BV 54)

Areas of concern,

(indicators not achieving quarter 1 target with deteriorating performance since 06/07 year-end)

- **BV 126a – Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households**

There were 1,930 domestic burglaries during the 12 months ending 30 June 2007, 13 more than during the 12 months ending 31 March 2007. This equates to an increase of 0.7%.

- **BV 54 – Older people helped to live at home per 1,000 population aged 65 or over**

Although performance has deteriorated from that achieved at the year-end, national comparison rates this performance as 'very good'. It is predicted the year-end target will be achieved.

6. Of those indicators where it has been possible to provide a year-end predication, it is expected that all will meet their year-end targets.

7. It is recommended 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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