

Public Document Pack

Halton Strategic Partnership Board

Wednesday, 10 September 2008 9.30 a.m.
Bridge Suite, Halton Stadium

AGENDA

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In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

HALTON STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

**Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, 21 May 2008 at the Bridge Suite,
Stobart Stadium, Halton**

Present:

Board Members:	Councillor Rob Polhill	Halton BC
	(Chairman)	
	Rebecca Burke-	Halton PCT
	Sharples	
	Beth Edwards	Community Empowerment Network
	Mike Fry (Vice Chair)	Community Empowerment Network
	Rev. Ray Jones	Faith Communities
	Steve Owens	CDS Housing
	Terry Parle	Halton Sports Partnership
	John Rowlands	Halton High School
	Dianne Sproson	Greater Merseyside Connexions Service
	Councillor John Swain	Halton BC
	Mark Wilson	Jobcentre Plus
	Councillor Marie Wright	Halton BC
	Jo Lappin	Government Office North West
	Gary Finchett	Cheshire Police
	Alex Waller	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
	Lyn Rhodes	Riverside College
	Deborah Dalby	Halton Voluntary Action
	Neil McGrath	Halton Housing Trust
	Gerald Meehan	Chair Children and Young People SSP

Advisors to the Boards

David Parr	Chief Executive HBC
Rob Mackenzie	Policy and Performance Unit HBC
Shelah Semoff	HSPB Team
Ian Grady	Policy and Performance Unit
Andrew Pannell	Planning

In Attendance:

Committee administrator

Apologies for Absence: Grunwell, Hignett and K. Mothersdale

1 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Nick Atkin, Pat Grunwell, Cllr Hignett, Fiona Johnstone, Steve Owens and Kevin Mothersdale.

2 Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2008 having been printed and circulated were agreed as a correct record.

In relation to The Formula it was reported that the community asset bid had failed and the team were looking for alternative options.

3 Waste Management

The Board received a presentation from the Councils Head of Waste Management which outlined the following:

- progress on waste management issues;
- facts and figures;
- municipal waste in Halton;
- multi-material collection – pilot scheme;
- the Challenge – meeting the challenge;
- drivers for continued change; and
- the way forward.

The Board discussed various issues such as fly tipping, education programmes for schools, possibilities of daily collections for areas that did not have wheeled bins, the amount of packaging used in supermarkets and the suggestion that the Board set itself and its partners standards and targets that had to be met in relation to recycling.

The Board requested that Jo Lappin take the request back to government to legislate on packaging.

The Chairman thanked the Head of Waste Management for an informative presentation.

4 Progressing the Halton Core Strategy

The Board considered an update on the progress of the Halton Core Strategy. In accordance with national guidance the first document within the Local Development Framework (LDF), that should be produced is the Core Strategy. The purpose of the Core Strategy was to set out the vision, objectives and strategy for the spatial development of the Borough for a period of at least 15 years from adoption and it would provide the over-arching policy for the LDF.

The report also outlined the forth coming process required for the production of the strategy:- an update on work completed so far: and it detailed the mechanisms put in place to ensure that that it connects with all the activities of partners within Halton.

The components for producing a successful Halton Strategy were detailed in the report.

The Board was advised that a community consultation had been carried out to help define the scope of the Halton Core Strategy. This was called the “Issues and Options” stage. At this stage strong linkages were made between the Community Strategy for a Sustainable Halton and the emerging spatial plan.

It was noted that a steering group of Council officers had been established to work through the potential policy content of the Core Strategy and its associated relationship with the Community Strategy and other corporate documents and the performance assessment regime.

Members were informed that the Halton Strategic Partnership Board would be kept fully updated at regular intervals of the progress on the Core Strategy.

The Board was advised of the strategic importance of the document and the weight attributed to its content. Once adopted the Core Strategy would have implications across a wider range of issues for the Council and its partners and actions of the private sector.

RESOLVED: That

1. the importance contribution that the Halton Core Strategy can make to delivering community ambitions, and meeting key performance indicators and agreements is recognised;
2. the critical relationship between the Community Strategy for a Sustainable Halton 2006-2011, the Core Strategy and the forthcoming Local Area Agreement is acknowledged; and
3. the need for co-operation with key local partners, including the Halton Strategic Partnership Board, to ensure that the Core Strategy realises its full potential is noted.

5 Draft Housing Strategy 2008/2009 to 2010/2011

The Board received a report outlining Halton’s draft Housing Strategy. Under the Local Government Act 2003, all local authorities were required to produce a Housing Strategy which reviewed housing related issues in a local authority’s area, set out its housing objectives and established priorities for action.

It was noted that housing strategies were assessed by the Department for Communities and Local Government against “fit for purpose” criteria, structured around ten questions detailed within the report.

The Board was advised that the draft strategy takes account of the criteria and would incorporate the findings of the Housing Needs Survey completed in 2006 and other relevant research.

The Board discussed the need to look after vulnerable people and how housing met the needs of an ageing population.

Concerns were raised in relation to the growing number of one bedroom apartments in the Borough and the problems these could cause in the future, and the definition of “affordable housing”.

The Chairman requested that should members have any views or comments regarding the draft, they should be forwarded to Steve Owens at CDS Housing, before the 21st May 2008 to be fed into the Housing Partnership meeting scheduled for the 22nd May 2008.

RESOLVED: The content of the Strategy was noted, and partners were asked to feed back any views or comments by 21st May 2008.

6 Local Area Agreement Progress

The Board was updated on the Local Area Agreement negotiations. The current framework of Local Area Agreements was to be replaced with the new LAAs from 2008. The timetable dictated that Ministers have the final version signed off by June 2008.

The outcomes framework had been the focus of the negotiation with Government Office North West (GONW). Detailed in the report was a list of designated indicators plus the 16 mandatory children and young people indicators. Agreed baselines and targets for most of the indicators were also set out in the report. The Waste Management target was still under negotiation as GONW did consider that the proposed target of 30% recycling by 2010 was sufficiently stretching as the National target for recycling was set at 40% recycling by 2010.

RESOLVED: That the Partnership approve the Local Area Agreement, subject to final endorsement of any further amendments by a written procedure if necessary.

7 Working Neighbourhood Fund Commissioning Process

The Partnership received an update report which detailed the progress made on the Working Neighbourhood Fund commissioning process.

The Strategic Commissioning Group had previously proposed that a series of commissioning debates should take place. The debates would be framed around the four areas for intervention already agreed – worklessness, health, crime and narrowing the gap on these and other measures of deprivation in the neighbourhood management areas.

Arising from a more recent meeting of the Strategic Commissioning Group it was suggested that all the SSP's meeting together was a better way forward in order to obtain a more inclusive approach. A joint debate across all the SSP's was critical to achieve outcomes.

RESOLVED: That Board note the report and agree the recommendations of the Strategic Commissioning Group on the way forward.

8 CPA Corporate Assessment, Joint Area Review and Comprehensive Area Assessment

The Board was updated on the recent CPA Corporate Assessment and JAR Inspection. Many HSPB representatives were involved in interviews and focus groups to enable inspection teams to establish how the Council worked with partners to deliver on Halton's priorities.

It was reported that issues may arise from the results of the inspections and would need to be addressed. Partners were thanked for their co-operation during the inspection progress.

It was noted that the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) would replace the current CPA and JAR regimes with effect from April 2009. The CAA would broadly focus on outcomes rather than processes and would look across Council's, health bodies, police authorities, fire and rescue authorities and other organisations involved in partnerships within the area.

The Board was advised that the CAA would be tailored to examine activity to deliver outcomes against those areas most in need of improvement. The final CAA methodology would be published in early 2009. Once more information regarding methodology was published, Board representatives would need to collectively consider how best to prepare for the introduction of the assessment in Halton.

RESOLVED: That

1. the Board note the contents of the report; and
2. that representatives of the Board engage in future activity, as required, to prepare Halton for the introduction of CAA.

9 Liverpool City Region Prospectus

The Partnership received a report outlining progress made to date on the development of new ways of working in the city region, as set out in the Liverpool City Region prospectus.

The Board noted that the proposals would improve the way business was conducted. In Halton for example, there were major waste disposal contracts which could only be let at a sub-regional level. Enterprise would be promoted and accelerated in the region to increase the wellbeing of residents.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

10 Ambition for Health

The Partnership considered the draft health strategy developed by the Primary Care Trust entitled Ambition for Health.

The strategy described the “story” of health in the local population based on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessments for both the Local Authority and areas covered by the Primary Care Trust.

Two overarching objectives had been identified as follows

- to improve health and tackle inequalities in health; and
- to deliver effective and efficient care services to those who need them.

In order to implement delivery of the objectives six strategic priorities had been identified and were detailed within the report.

Members were asked to forward any comments on the draft document to Rebecca Burke-Sharples.

RESOLVED: That the Board members provide feedback on the content of Ambition for Health and support its further development as the health Strategy for the LSP. Also agreed that a presentation be given to the Board at the September meeting.

11 Indicator Scorecard

The Partnership received the balanced scorecard of key indicators for the current quarter. The scorecard not only highlighted key indicators as identified by the SSP's but also included some of the cross cutting measures.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

12 Neighbourhood management update

The Board received an update on progress made in developing neighbourhood management in Halton.

The Board considered key developments over the past quarter and other relevant issues outlined in the document.

RESOLVED: That the report be received.

13 Performance Management Monitoring Report

Members received a summary of the end of year NRF financial position for the period between April 2007 to March 2008.

Also detailed in the report were the Working Neighbourhood allocations agreed to date for 2008/9 by the Halton Strategic Partnership Board and it was requested that should any SSPs needing to re-allocate funds they should notify the central team and have these approved by the accountable body.

RESOLVED: That Board approve the financial summary.

14 Any Other Business

As this was Ian Grady's last meeting, the Board wished to note their thanks and appreciation for his hard work during his time in Halton.

Meeting ended at 11.55 a.m.

REPORT TO: Halton Strategic Partnership Board
DATE: 10th September 2008
SUBJECT: Neighbourhood Management Update

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Board on progress in developing neighbourhood management in Halton.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- a) The Board receives the report.
- b) A value for money/business case is developed for sustaining Neighbourhood Management beyond 2010.
- c) The partnership's SSP's are urged to work with neighbourhood management on 'closing the gap' issues, and where appropriate, agree neighbourhood level objectives etc.
- d) Consideration be given to including more gap targets in the Community Strategy at the time it is next reviewed.

3. BACKGROUND

Since 2006 Halton has received funding to develop neighbourhood management in those areas of the Borough that fell within the 3% most deprived under the 2004 Index of Multiple Deprivation. Since April 2008 this has been part of Halton's Area Based Grant allocation, and continues until March 2010.

Work is being focused in three pilot neighbourhoods, each of which fell within the above category; Central Widnes, Hallwood Park & Palace Fields and Castlefields & Windmill Hill.

Neighbourhood management is designed to help close the gap between our most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of the Borough, with regards to health, education, employment and crime. A strategic partnership board made-up of key local service providers, elected members, resident representatives and the voluntary sector, currently oversees the development of neighbourhood management in Halton.

In addition to the 'strategic board', there are well-established neighbourhood boards working in each of the three neighbourhoods. The three neighbourhood boards include local residents, key local service providers, local stakeholders and ward councillors.

4. SUMMARY OF KEY DEVELOPMENTS OVER THE PAST QUARTER

The Halton Neighbourhood Management Board has met twice since your last meeting; on 3rd June and on 15th July 2008. The board also had an 'awayday' at Norton Priory on 8th July 2008 (See section 5)

(a) Key issues at the June meeting were;

- Councillor John Swain was re-elected chair and Windmill Hill resident Clare Nelson, vice-chair for the 2008/9 municipal year.
- A presentation and review of the partnership's service agreement with the Borough Council's Community Development service was received. The agreement is currently scheduled to end in March 2009.
- The board also received a report outlining the partnership's delivery of its 2007/8 Action Plan. Overall, progress in the delivery of the partnership's first action plan was satisfactory, with 10 (77%) out of the 13 key objectives being assessed as 'green' by the year-end. An analysis of each of the those objectives and milestones that attracted a 'red' light highlighted a shared key factor across all of them as to why progress has been slower than planned or had stalled. Briefly, pressure on staff resources both within the neighbourhood management team and in key partners was the major contributory factor. Therefore, it could be said that we were a little too ambitious last year when the Action Plan was agreed as to what could be delivered with the resources and the time available.
- In 2007/8 32 Quick Response Fund and Community Action Fund grants were made by the neighbourhood boards, for a total of £35,997.48. Reports from the partnership's appraisal panel on mid-point reviews of two major neighbourhood management supported interventions (Kooldown Plus and Neighbourhood Pride) were also considered.

(b) Key issues at the July Halton Neighbourhood Management Board

- A presentation on the innovative Men's Health service developed by Halton & St. Helens Primary care Trust ('PCT') was received.
- A draft Development Plan for the partnership covering the period up to the end of external funding for the development of neighbourhood management in Halton, March 2010 was discussed. The plan was drafted to take into account ongoing work from last year's action plan, David Winchurch's report, and the key issues identified at the Awayday the previous week. After a discussion and with some amendments to objectives and performance indicators it was approved and adopted.
- The board also agreed to set-up a small working group to review the partnership's Risk Register.

(c) Neighbourhood Management Boards.

The three neighbourhood management boards are continuing to develop, with all three now having evolving Neighbourhood Action Plans and growing programmes of events and interventions.

(d) Other relevant issues;

- Training sessions on the subjects of project appraisal (to provide partnership members with the skills and knowledge to examine applications for funding from the partnership's Intervention Budget) and an 'Introduction to Neighbourhood Management' were offered in spring. Attendance was good, and participant feedback was very positive. Further training opportunities are in the process of being set-up for the autumn.
- Neighbourhood management was singled out for particular praise in the Audit Commission's recently published Comprehensive Performance Assessment ('CPA') of the Borough Council – paragraph 8 on page 6.
- The latest update on the statistical baselines for each of the three neighbourhood management areas should be available by the date of your meeting.

5. THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT IN HALTON.

The Halton Neighbourhood Management Board had a well-attended and productive board awayday at Norton Priory on 8th July. The event was externally facilitated by Dr Helen Kara.

The main focus of the awayday was to scrutinise in detail the recommendations contained in the Winchurch report relating to the future development of the partnership, to discuss partnership development priorities between now and the end of external funding in 2010, and how to best maintain the ongoing development of neighbourhood management in Halton after 2010.

The strong view of participants was that whilst much has been achieved to date, there remains much work to be done to secure the future of neighbourhood working here in Halton.

The consensus was that the partnership needs to 'kick-on' over the remaining period of external funding up to 2010 to embed neighbourhood working and resident engagement within the broader evolving empowerment, inclusion and cohesion agenda currently being set at national level for local authorities and wider public services.

Pursuant to this, the Awayday set the following key areas of work for the partnership over the coming months;

- A restatement of the partnership's neighbourhood management 'vision'.
- To track the 'closing the gap' with regard to key indicators between the neighbourhood management areas and Halton.
- To build the value for money/business case for sustaining neighbourhood management beyond 2010.
- To reach a consensus about if, when and how to roll out' neighbourhood management after 2010 beyond the current pilot areas.

6. ISSUES FOR THE PARTNERSHIP

Clearly, a wider range of partners, beyond those currently directly involved in the immediate neighbourhood management partnership, will need to be included in the work outlined above, especially on the principle of contributing to the sustainability of neighbourhood management beyond March 2010.

Support and endorsement for the continuing development of neighbourhood management in Halton from the Halton Strategic Partnership is vital. For neighbourhood management to be sustained and grow, work needs to start now to reach agreement and consensus on how and by whom it is to be funded and supported after 2010. Also, how best to 'fit it' into wider governance arrangements, and how to maximise its contribution to the wider engagement, empowerment and cohesion agendas for Halton.

The partnership is also requested to encourage the SSP's to work with neighbourhood management on 'closing the gap' issues, and where appropriate, agree neighbourhood level objectives etc. within their borough-wide targets with regard to designated indicators. Indeed, the forthcoming mid-point review of Halton's Community Strategy, together with the designated targets in our Local Area Agreement and the demands of the pending Comprehensive Area Assessment ('CAA') framework will all require evidence of how we are working to 'close the gap' between our most deprived communities (both of geography and of interest) and the rest of Halton and beyond.

7. INTERVENTION ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE

The neighbourhood boards' grant awarding panels continue to consider applications from local community and voluntary groups seeking small and medium sized grants from their respective allocated budgets for a wide range of events, projects and activities.

The three neighbourhood boards are working, via thematic groups, on the best use of their delegated Intervention Budget to deliver the key priorities contained in their respective Neighbourhood Action Plans.

The partnership's overall level of expenditure is in line with its budget for 2008/9.

8. EMERGING ISSUES

- Negotiations with SSP's regarding the agreement of local targets for the neighbourhood management areas within Halton's 2008 LAA.
- Working with the relevant lead organisations regarding the key priorities set out in the HSP's commissioning pot.
- To start the planning process to sustain and develop neighbourhood management in Halton post-2010.

9. ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

None.

10. CONTACT OFFICER

Nick Mannion at Nicholas.mannion@halton.gov.uk Tel 0151 471 7470

REPORT TO: HALTON STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

DATE: 10 September 2008

SUBJECT: Mid Term Review of the Community Strategy/Vision 2025

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To propose a mid term review of the Sustainable Community Strategy, to ensure that our vision for Halton in 2025 is set out, and to update the targets in the light of changes to the national performance framework.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

- a. Approves the principle of a mid term review of the Sustainable Community Strategy**
- b. Agrees the next steps set out in section 5 of this report**
- c. Receives a progress report and more detailed project plan at its next meeting.**

3. BACKGROUND

The Community Strategy was produced in 2006. It sets out the five priorities and a number of key objectives and improvement targets. It provides an overall guide and framework for the activities of partners and other organisations in the Borough. The plan is entitled "A Community Strategy for a Sustainable Halton 2006-2011 - Making it Happen in Halton", and it sets targets for that five year period, although it is implicit that the vision and priorities are longer term.

Since 2006 there have been a number of new documents, legislation, plans and strategies produced, including the development of the LAA this year. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, and the statutory guidance that followed put the LSP, the Sustainable Community Strategy, and the LAA at the centre of the local policy framework. According to the statutory guidance, the purpose of a Sustainable Community Strategy is to set the overall strategic direction and long-term vision for the economic social and environmental well-being of the area - typically 10-20 years - in a way that contributes to sustainable development in the UK. In addition to this long term vision, it should contain key priorities which may realistically be achieved in the medium term.

Since the community strategy was adopted, the new National Indicator set has been introduced, and we are required to draw our LAA from these indicators. In some cases they differ from the indicators contained in the Community Strategy.

The statutory guidance also requires the alignment of the Local Development Framework Core strategy with the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS); with a joint sustainability assessment an option. We are also "expected" to incorporate the Homelessness and Housing Strategies with in the SCS.

4. CONSIDERATIONS

It has therefore become apparent that the Community Strategy requires updating to be more explicit about our long-term vision, and to bring some of the indicators and targets in to line with the new framework. The revised strategy needs to be based on updated local intelligence and consultation, and to maintain our approach to sustainability. It will also have to link to or embrace other strategies for housing and homelessness. It is not proposed that a cover-to-cover re-write is undertaken as the plan is only 2 years old, and the priorities and general direction still stand.

In formulating the 2008 Local Area Agreement, it was agreed with government office that we would not set local targets in the LAA as they were already reported and monitored as part of the Community Strategy. It is therefore important that these local targets are relevant and up to date. A table comparing the LAA and SCS targets is appended.

The development of Neighbourhood arrangements has highlighted the need to ensure that we set appropriate targets for closing the gap between our most disadvantaged communities and the rest of Halton. The National Indicator set is not very helpful in this respect, as most are reported at Borough level. The opportunity exists through the SCS to set complementary local gap targets, and this should form part of the mid-term review.

It would be timely to complete this mid-term review by the end of March, so that in 2009/10 we have a single, coherent performance framework based on the community strategy and LAA (taking account of the planned refresh).

Alongside the mid term review of the SCS, the Partnership should also consider the development of its performance framework to ensure that there is a delivery or action plan for each priority which incorporates all the LAA and SCS targets, and sets out clear accountability for actions. This will need to be supported by performance monitoring and review that is more consistent across all the partnerships, with a clear process for addressing under-performance, as recommended recently by the Audit Commission.

5. THE NEXT STEPS

If this approach is agreed, a number of activities are required. The suggested way forward is as follows:

- a. Vision. This discussion was started when David Parr made a presentation to the Board on Halton 2025. There is an opportunity to launch the process more widely at the October conference, and the Board is to be invited to an awayday session at "The Automatic" in mid October. Progress will be reported back to the next Board meeting.
- b. Targets. Initially it is suggested that each SSP look at the targets in the SCS, LAA and other relevant plans. The basic approach should be:
 - Include all LAA indicators/targets in the SCS
 - Discard any SCS indicators/targets that are effectively replaced by the LAA
 - Compare LAA indicator definitions with the National Indicator set, and bring into line wherever possible to facilitate benchmarking and reduce unnecessary reporting.
 - Look at the overall balance to ensure that there is the right mix of indicators
 - Identify any indicators for which gap targets would be appropriate as well as, or instead of, Borough wide targets

We will also need to

- involve other key partnerships (e.g. sports, housing and transport) in addition to the SSPs
 - Ensure that appropriate cross-cutting targets are included (cohesion and engagement for example)
 - Make sure that the proposals of individual SSPs add up to a balanced plan as a whole - in the existing strategy there are roughly 10 indicators per theme for example.
- c. Performance Management framework. Each SSP needs to review its own arrangements. The Performance Subgroup could be asked to set out some general criteria or standards so that there is a certain level of consistency across the partnerships.
 - d. Relationship to other plans. Some thought will be needed to ensure that the incorporation of housing and homelessness strategies does not lead to an unwieldy and unbalanced strategy. Possibly they could form appendices to the plan.

6. Conclusion.

There are a number of reasons for conducting a mid-term review of the plan, and it will be helpful to complete this at the same time that the refreshed LAA is finalised so that there is a single, clear planning and performance framework.

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

Comparison of existing SCS and LAA indicators and targets

For Further Information Please Contact:- Rob MacKenzie 0151 471 7416

APPENDIX A

TABLE OF LAA AND COMMUNITY STRATEGY TARGETS

Community Strategy Target	LAA Target	
HEALTH	NI Number	Indicator/target 2010/11
<i>Life expectancy</i> Narrow the gap at birth with the national average by at least 10%	120	All age-all cause mortality Males – reduce from 906 (07/08 baseline) to 755 (10/11) Females – reduce from 673 (07/08 baseline) to 574 (10/11)
<i>Heart disease</i> Reduce the death rate (in under 75s) by 53%		
<i>Cancer</i> Reduce the death rate (in under 75s) by 26%		
<i>Equity</i> Narrow the gap so that the overall death rate in any ward is no more than 25% above the Halton average		
<i>Satisfaction</i> Improve public satisfaction with the quality of health and social care services year on year		
<i>Birth weight</i> Reduce the proportion of low birth weight babies by 10%		
<i>Conception</i> Reduce the rate among girls under 18 by 55%	112	Under 18 conception rate Reduce from 48% (07/08) to -55% (10/11)
<i>Lifestyle</i> Reduce adult smoking rates to under 22%	123	16+ current smoking rate prevalence Target from 914 (07/08) to 1128 (10/11)
<i>Culture</i> Increase take up of cultural and sporting activities by adults by 5%	8	Adult participation in sport. Increase from 20.2% in 07/08 to 24.02% by 2010/11
<i>Housing</i> All social housing to have affordable heating systems and insulation levels that exceed the national minimum guidelines		
Additional LAA targets		
Alcohol harm (Alcohol/health not in CS)	39	Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates – Rate per 100 000 admissions. Reduce from 2225.2 in 07/08 to 2063.4 by 2010/11
		% increase in rate of alc related admission on previous year. Baseline -0.48% 07/08, target -3.48% by 2010/11
		Actual number of alc related admissions (rounded to nearest whole number of attributable admissions) Reduce from 2652 in 07/08 to 2459 by 2010/11
		Actual numbers of alcohol related admissions on previous year (rounded to nearest whole number of attributable admissions). Baseline -205 (07/08), target -89 by 2010/11
Breastfeeding	53	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth (* Indicative figures- this data will be refreshed in 2009/10- Quarter 4 2008/9 will form baseline for 2009/10) Increase from 15.5% in 07/08 to 23% by 2010/11
		Completeness of data capture. Increase from 0% in 07/08 to 95% by 2010/11
URBAN RENEWAL		

Growth Sustain levels of Gross Value Added (GVA) capita at or above the regional norm		
Jobs Increase the numbers of jobs in Halton by 10%		
Vitality Increase prime rents on commercial property by 15%		
Reclamation Bring 50ha of derelict land back into beneficial use		
Housing Ensure the decency standard is met by all social housing		
Housing Ensure 50% of all new housing is built on brownfield sites	154	Net additional homes provided. Baseline 522 (07/08) to 518 by 2010/11
Premises Facilitate bringing to market of at least 100,000sq.m. of new and replacement commercial floorspace		
Town Centres Increase footfall by 25% across the borough		
Transport Increase proportion of buses starting route on time to 98%		
Waste Ensure 40% of municipal waste is recycled or composted	192	Household waste recycled and composted. Increase from baseline 25.1% (07/08) to 34% by 10/11
Satisfaction Improve the satisfaction rate of residents on quality of the built and natural environment by 10%		

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE		
Health To increase to at least 85% the percentage of children fully immunised by their second birthday		
Safety To reduce the number of children killed or seriously injured in road accidents to 13 per year or below		
Obesity To stabilise the growth in obesity rates in the under 11's	56	Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6. Reduce from 22.4% in 07/08 to 21.3% by 2010/11
	Line 6	Total number of primary school age children in Year 6 recorded as obese for their age in the past school year. * Reduce from 269 in 07/08 to 251 by 2010/11
	Line 7	Total number of primary school age children in Year 6 with height and weight recorded in the past school year. Baseline 1200 in 07/08, target 1180 by 2010/11.
	Line 8	Total number of primary school age children in Year 6. Baseline (07/08) 1410, target 1380 (10/11)
	Line 9	Percentage of children in Year 6 with height and weight recorded who are obese. Baseline (07/08) 22.4, target 21.3 (10/11)
	Line 10	Percentage of children in Year 6 with height and weight recorded. Baseline (07/08) 85, target 86 (10/11)
Foundation Stage To increase to 60% the percentage of children whose personal, social and emotional development is assessed as "good" at the end of the Foundation Stage	72	Early years foundation stage attainment. Increase from 43.9% in 07/08 to 49% by 2010/11
	92	Achievement gap at early years foundation stage. Decrease from 31.7% in 07/08 to 30.25% by 2010/11
Attendance To reduce unauthorised absence towards the national average in both primary and secondary schools by 6% and 10% respectively	87	Secondary school persistent absence rate. Decrease from 7.2% in 07/08 to 6.5% by 09/10
Attainment To increase the number of pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A* - C to at least 60%	75	Proportion achieving 5 A* - C GCSE including English and maths. Increase from 41.1% in 07/08 to 49% by 2010/11
	101	Proportion on CiC achieving 5 A* - C GCSE. Baseline 12.5% 07/08 (1 out of 8) to 25% by 2010/11
Key Stage 3 To improve the performance of pupils in Maths, Science and English so that attainment at least matches the national average	83	Proportion achieving L5+ at KS3 in science. Increase from 68% in 07/08 to 80% by 2010/11
	94	Proportion progressing by two levels at KS2 in maths. Increase from 61.4% in 07/08 to 87% by 2010/11
	93	Proportion progressing by two levels at KS2 in English. Increase from 63.1% in 07/08 to 89% by 2010/11
	95	Proportion progressing by two levels at KS3 in English. Increase from 18% in 07/08 to 33% by 2010/11
	96	Proportion progressing by two levels at KS3 in maths. Increase from 51% in 07/08 to 66% by 2010/11

	97	Proportion progressing by two levels at KS4 in English. Increase from 59% in 07/08 to 73% by 2010/11
	98	Proportion progressing by two levels at KS4 in maths. Increase from 26% in 07/08 to 32% by 2010/11
	73	Proportion achieving L4+ at KS2 in both English and maths. Increase from 71.7% in 07/08 to 77% by 2010/11
	74	Proportion achieving L5+ at KS3 in both English and maths. Increase from 62% in 07/08 to 74% in 2010/11
	99	Proportion on CiC achieving Level 4 at KS2 in English. Baseline 100% 07/08 (6 out of 6) to 37.5% by 2010/11
	100	Proportion on CiC achieving Level 4 at KS2 in maths. Baseline 83% 07/08 (5 out of 6) to 37.5% by 2010/11
Engaged To reduce the number of young people not in employment, education or training to fewer than 7%	117	16-18 year olds not in education, training or employment. Decrease from 11.5% in 07/08 to 7.7% by 2010/11
Protect To increase the reported perception of safety after dark by at least 15% by 2008		
Employability To increase the number of 19 year olds with Level 2 qualifications by at least 30%	80	Achievement of a level 3 qualification by the age of 19. Increase from 34% in 07/08 to 42.22% by 2010/11
Accessibility To increase to 25% the number of 13-19 year olds that are reached by the youth service, and who have a youth centre or project open at least one night each week within a mile of their home		
Equity To reduce the proportion of children living in homes with a relatively low income by at least 40%		
Care To reduce the number of care leavers who live in temporary accommodation to below 15%	63	Stability of placements of looked after children. Increase from 69% in 07/08 to 81.5% by 2010/11.
Statements To reduce the proportion of pupils with statements of special education needs to 2.8%		
Crime To reduce year on year the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system	111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17. Reduce from 722 in 07/08 to 686 by 2010/11
		Additional LAA Targets
	115	Substance misuse by young people (C4) Deferred

EMPLOYMENT LEARNING AND SKILLS		
Employment Increase employment rate by 2%		
Economic Inactivity Reduce rate by 10%	153	Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods. Reduce from 31.6% in 07/08 to 28.6% by 10/11
	173	People falling out of work and onto incapacity benefits (C4 – Deferred)
Skills Increase number of adults qualified to Level 3 by 25%		
Skills Increase number of adults qualified to Level 2 by 15%	163	Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher. Increase from 60.2% in 07/08 to 69.5% by 10/11)
Learning Reduce number of adults with no qualifications by 15%		
Enterprise Increase rate of self-employment by 20%		
Growth Increase number of VAT registrations by 15%	171	VAT registration rate. Indicator deferred.
Knowledge economy Increase number of adults qualified to Level 4/5 by 15%		
Equity Ensure unemployment rate in any ward is less than 20% above the borough average		

SAFER HALTON		
Crime Reduce the British Crime Survey comparator rate by 17.5%		
Violence Reduce violent crime rates by 12%	20	Assault with injury crime rate. Decrease from 10.62% (per 1000 population) in 07/08 to 9.82% (per 1000 population) by 2010/11
Burglary Reduce burglary from dwellings by 40%	16	Serious acquisitive crime. Reduce from 16.47% in 07/08 to 15.23% by 2010/11
Drugs Treatment Increase the total numbers of places by 25%	40	Drug users in effective treatment. Increase from 527 in 07/08 to 548 by 2010/11
Drugs Treatment Increase the retention rate for 12 weeks to 85%		
Fear of Crime Reduce levels of expressed fear of crime and anti-social behaviour by 25%	17	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (C3) Baseline 35% (07/08), target for 2010/11 23% local data is a proxy at this stage.
Alcohol Reduce positive breath tests by 20%		
Domestic Abuse Increase the number of victims accessing support by 20%	32	Repeat incidents of domestic violence (C3) Reduce from 127 in 07/08 to 109 by 2010/11
Resident's Satisfaction Raise satisfaction levels with the neighbourhood area where people live to above 63%	5	Overall satisfaction with the area . Places Survey.
Volunteering Increase the rate of people involved in community activities by 30%	7	Environment for a thriving third sector (C4) Local survey to be undertaken in summer 2008
Neighbourhood Management Implement a local management scheme in all neighbourhoods in Halton		
Additional LAA targets		
	30	Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders. Baseline 16%, 2010/11 target tbc
	33	Arson incidents. Decrease from 1277 in 07/08 to 855 by 2010/11

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES		
Child Poverty Reduce the number of children living in income support eligible households to under 20%	116	Proportion of children in poverty. Decrease from 27% in 07/08 to 24.2% by 2010/11
Income Increase average household income in Halton to more than 90% of the national average		
Deprivation See Halton outside the 40 most deprived districts in England		
Additional LAA Targets		
	124	People with a long-term condition supported to be independent and in control of their condition. C3 Local data baseline 43% (07/08), target 49% 2010/11
	139	People over 65 who say that they receive the information, assistance and support needed to exercise choice and control to live independently. C4 Indicator deferred
	142	Number of vulnerable people supported to maintain independent living. Baseline 98.17% (07/08), target 99.04% 2010/11
	150	Adults in contact with secondary mental health services in employment C4 Indicator deferred
	175	Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling
		LTP1A – Access to Whiston Hospital. Increase from 29% in 07/08 to 100% by 10/11
		LTP 1B- Access to Warrington Hospital. Increase from 0% in 07/08 to 100% by 10/11
		LTP1C - Access to Runcorn College Campus. Increase from 84% in 07/08 to 89% by 10/11
		LTP1D – Access to Widnes College Campus. Increase from 89% in 07/08 to 93% by 10/11.
	186	Per capita CO2 emissions in LA area. Reduce from 10.1 tonnes per capita in 2005 to 8.98 tonnes per capita by 10/11.

REPORT TO: Halton Local Strategic Partnership Board

DATE: 10 September 2008

REPORT OF: Councillor John Swain

SUBJECT: Equalities and Community Cohesion

1.0 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To highlight progress on a range of issues surrounding equalities and community cohesion.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Local Strategic Partnership Board (LSP):

- i) **Note and comment upon the report;**
- ii) **Agree that the LSP Equalities and Community Cohesion Group co-ordinate issues surrounding migrants on behalf of partner organisations.**

3.0 **BACKGROUND**

3.1 Members of the LSP will recall that it was agreed that an LSP Equalities and Community Cohesion Group should be established to drive forward and co-ordinate issues surrounding equalities and community cohesion.

3.2 Since January 2008 the group has met three times and attached are the terms of reference. Considerable progress has been made during the first 6 months including:

- Completion of a baseline information exercise mapping issues of commonality across partner organisations.
- Agreed priorities following the baseline exercise. These are described later in the report.
- Met with the Housing Partnership Board to explore equality and community cohesion issues and agreed further work with the North West Housing Federation Group.
- Made contact with Government Office North West (GONW) to prepare a community cohesion planning and tension monitoring strategy.
- Assisted and supported Halton Borough Council with their aim to achieve level 3 of the National Equality Standard.

3.3 Following the completion of the baseline information exercise, 4 key areas of commonality were prioritised, these included:

- Migrants
- BME issues
- Lesbian, gay and transsexual groups
- Faith

3.4 Whilst all 4 were deemed important issues, the group felt that little work had been undertaken surrounding migrants and the anecdotal evidence appeared to suggest that the issue of migrants was becoming an increasingly important matter. The group therefore agreed to address a range of issues surrounding migrants.

4.0 **MIGRANTS**

4.1 What we do know is that there are officially over 500 migrants living in the Borough, however, we believe the real figure, when counting children and families is around 2,000 people. The table below is based upon National Insurance figures.

National Insurance Number Registrations in respect of non-UK Nationals in 2006/07 by Local Authority and country of origin.

Country of origin	Number
All	280
Poland	130
Slovak Republic	30
Australia	10
France	10
China People's Republic	10
Republic of Latvia	10
USA	10
Republic of Ireland	10
Philippines	10
Thailand	10
TOTAL	520

Source: ONS Revised Estimates 2007

4.2 The group have considered a range of issues surrounding migrants and we feel that we need to undertake the following pieces of work:

- Provide clearer data on the number of migrants living in the Borough for both short and long term stays.
- Work with private sector landlords and the Council tax team in an attempt to support the above.

- In line with the Communities and Local Government department guidance, develop a strategy for community cohesion, contingency planning and tension monitoring.
- Develop a welcome pack for migrants.
- Prepare strategies to assist the LSP with issues surrounding migrants.
- Work with educational organisations who are assisting migrants with their learning.

4.3 One example of this is Libyan families. There has been a number of Libyan Engineers coming to Halton for courses at Riverside College. When they come for the 52 week course they tend to bring their families as well, and use services provided by Partners in Halton e.g. primary school education and health care. There has been some concern regarding young children becoming isolated in schools due to their lack of English. The Strategic Director for Children and Young People has recently met the Principal at Riverside College, and following on from that the relevant officers are due to meet within the next couple of weeks. This meeting will include colleagues from those organisations directly affected, as well as the Partnership Team to ensure best practice across the Borough.

4.4 We therefore need to ensure that we have a co-ordinated approach to migrants and it is recommended that co-ordination of issues should be through the LSP Equalities and Community Cohesion Group.

4.5 A further update report on progress will be presented in early 2009.

REPORT TO: HALTON STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

DATE: 10th September 2008

SUBJECT: Halton Strategic Partnership Communications Update

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the board of the communications activities to date, in particular the recent formation of the partnership communications group.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the report is noted

3. BACKGROUND

The partnership has recently appointed (June) a new communications officer to replace Mathew Atherton who left in October 2007.

Since the commencement of this post, Helen Murphy has re-established the e-newsletter and updated the partnership website.

Recent communication activities have also included working closely with the Safer Halton Partnership to develop a number of campaigns around Hoax 999 calls and mini motos; and assisting the Neighbourhood Management Team with the creation of a community safety charter.

To ensure a more consistent and cohesive approach to partnership marketing and communications, a partnership communications group has been developed with marketing specialists and key individuals from each of the SSP areas, plus HBC, HHT, HVA and Neighbourhood Management.

There have been two meetings to date, which established a terms of reference (attached), agreed a number of actions (including a matrix of specific, project based and seasonal activities) and will utilise the next set of meetings to review a set of key messages for each of the SSPs that can be utilised in marketing communications activities for a more consistent and effective approach to message delivery. These key messages will be fed back to the SSPs for feedback and will be escalated to the Partnership Board for final approval or comments.

4. CONSIDERATIONS

That the partnership communications group is available to assist in partnership approach to marketing communications in Halton. The Partnership Board may wish to utilise this group for any specific campaigns that it wants to deliver from an overarching perspective.

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

Halton Strategic Partnership Communications Group Terms of Reference

For Further Information Please Contact:-

Helen Murphy - 0151 471 7528

h.murphy@halton.gov.uk

REPORT TO: Halton Strategic Partnership Board

DATE: 10th September 2008

SUBJECT: Working Neighbourhoods Fund : Financial Summary

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To provide members with a summary of financial spend for the first quarter of Working Neighbourhood Fund, April 2008 – June 2008.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Board is asked to note the financial summary stated in this report as being a true and accurate statement.

2.2 The Board, especially SSP Chairs are asked to note the concern regarding outstanding paperwork and low spend in the first quarter, and ensure approval to revised allocations is agreed by those required.

3. INTRODUCTION

Members will be aware that this is the first quarter of the new Working Neighbourhoods Fund, and SSPs were given a core allocation to continue funding projects on an annual basis, as well as being top sliced to provide a larger Commissioning Pot.

The issues arising from the Commissioning Pot are dealt with elsewhere on the agenda, this report deals only with the core allocation monies.

As in the past, some SSPs have approved a slight over programming for this current financial year, which will be covered by under spend at the end (March 09). SSPs are reminded that whilst they may reallocate funds (subject to necessary approvals) up to 30th September 08, any underspend identified after that date will be returned to the central pot for re-allocation.

It was agreed by the Board that although the WNF was not ring fenced to financial years as was the NRF, project managers would be informed that carry forward would not be allowed for core funded projects. It was hoped that this would prevent some of the difficulties that are known to arise at the end of the financial period.

Core allocations were approved by the Board in February of this year. As Halton Borough Council is the Partnership's accountable body, allocations

were also endorsed by the Executive Board in February.

Allocations for these funds are detailed below in Table 1.

Table 1

Area of Expenditure	Amount (£)
A Healthy Halton	710,313
Halton's Urban Renewal	629,000
Children & Young People in Halton	831,226
Employment, Learning & Skills	1,055,110
A Safer Halton	945,919
Area Forums	240,000
Partnership Support, Development and Promotion	256,000
Commissioning Pot	432,171
Total Available WNF 08-09	5,039,602

The deadline for completion of service level agreements (SLAs) was 2nd May 08. However, there are still several SLAs still outstanding. Most are due to logistics of project details still to be worked out and the central team are working with officers to resolve these issues no later than the end of the second quarter (September 08).

However, there is some concern regarding how SSPs are revising their allocations, and members are asked to remember that any changes to agreed allocations must be approved by relevant Chair and David Parr in his capacity as Chief Executive of the accountable body.

The lack of completed paperwork has also made the quarterly return process rather complicated with the central team not in possession of all contact details for relevant project managers, and therefore not sure who to expect returns from nor whom to chase.

Table 2 below shows the current spend until the end of July 08:-

Table 2

Area of Expenditure	Original Allocation	Forecasted 1 st Quarter Spend	Actual Expenditure	Remaining Allocation
A Healthy Halton	710,313	177,578	46,674	663,639
Halton's Urban Renewal	629,000	157,250	47,287	581,713
Children & Young People in Halton	831,226	207,806	83,992	747,234
Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton	1,055,110	263,777	129,301	925,809
A Safer Halton	945,919	236,480	81,984	863,935
Area Forums	240,000	60,000	32,240	207,760
Partnership support, development and promotion	256,000	64,000	17,368	238,632
Commissioning Pot	432,171	0	0	432,171
Total Expenditure	5,039,602	1,259,900	374,367	4,665,235

4. CONCLUSION

Whilst it is understandable that projects may spend less in the first quarter than anticipated, the above £374,367 expenditure only amounts to 7.4% of the projected spend, rather less than the 20%-25% normally seen. The worry is that those projects without completed SLAs either have not started or are spending money without the appropriate approvals and authorisations in place. Recent internal audit work has emphasised the need for a clear audit trail to be in place.

There is also some worry regarding a reallocation of funds from projects within one SSP that has now decided not to fund some of their original approved schemes – totally £339,000. The central team have been communicating with relevant officers and have reinforced the message that this money can't be carried over into 2009-2010. Officers have made assurances that the matter is in hand and will give the central team as much notice as possible regarding possible under spend.

There are also two funded projects within this SSP which due to recruitment problems have not started and the Chair has agreed that these two projects – only – may have one quarter spend in the 09-10 financial year.

Recently a member of the central team and the Council's financial section meet several projects managers and co-ordinator for the Urban Renewal SSP. This face to face meeting was very helpful , and the process will be repeated with other SSPs.

Reporting Officer : Shelah Semoff

No attached documents

REPORT TO: HALTON STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

DATE: 10th SEPTEMBER 2008

SUBJECT: WNF COMMISSIONING & LAA PROCESSES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide an update for the Board on the Working Neighbourhoods Fund Commissioning Pot and work being undertaken for monitoring the Local Area Agreement.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Board is asked to note the report's content and support future working.

3. BACKGROUND

The HSPB delegated decisions on the commissioning pot to a Strategic Commissioning Group. (HSPB 20/02/08). Following the Group's initial discussions and recommendations, a commissioning event took place on 4th July, to which members of all SSPs were invited. The event discussed proposals for spend as follows:-

Worklessness	£3.2 million
Community Safety with a focus on Anti-social Behaviour	£1.0 million
Health inequalities with a focus on alcohol harm	£1.0 million
Total programmed	£5.2 million
Total amount available	£5.4 million
Uncommitted Balance	£0.2 million

The outline proposals under each heading are summarised in appendix A.

4. CONSIDERATIONS

Work on the above proposals is being lead by relevant partners, working with

the Partnership Team to develop SLAs that will be based on the remaining 2 ½ years of the funding period. It is envisaged that some £400,000 will be spent during the current financial year enabling the ground to be laid for the following two years.

Work has also begun on developing, in conjunction with partners, a performance management framework which will ensure ownership and accountability across the Partnership. Ensuring a robust framework and monitoring process is key to the success of Halton's LAA and in developing a complete evidence base for the forthcoming Comprehensive Area Assessment.

It is hoped to have the initial SLAs will be completed by the end of September 2008, depending on the current SSP cycle of meetings – some may have to be signed off later in the year to ensure ownership by relevant SSPs and partners.

5. CONCLUSION

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

Appendix A : WNF Commissioning Proposals

For Further Information Please Contact:-

Partnership Team

Appendix A – Strategic Priority Proposals

Principles for allocation:

- Use funds in year 1 to lay the ground for years 2 and 3
- Workstreams (projects) need to address at least 2 of the themes
- Work undertaken must help us to achieve LAA targets
- The funds should not create an unsustainable infrastructure post year 3

1. Worklessness and Skills

a. Skills

- 100 apprenticeships
- 300 through pre level 2 courses
- 32 complete intensive learning and employment course
- 100 employers signed up to support NEET strategy

b. Employment

- 213 people in SOAs into work to hit LAA target
- 3 dedicated employment liaison officers linked to neighbourhood management areas
- New moped mobility pilot assisting 50 people
- In work support advice

c. Enterprise

- 100 more start ups plus 100 job growth
- Enterprise challenge
- 'How to sell' programme
- Public procurement – more contracts won
- Business buddies
- Primary school expansion
- Entrepreneurs in residence

d. Community Grid

- The start of a 3,000 household community grid in Windmill Hill
- WNF pays for 120 households
- Enables project to commence
- Roll out in stages as additional money sourced

2. Alcohol

a. Year 1

- A market research programme
- A training needs assessment and programme development.
- An Alcohol Arrest Referral Service.

b. Years 2 and 3

The substantial increase in funding available in years 2 and 3 will allow the continuation of the alcohol arrest referral scheme. In addition we anticipate a possible requirement for ongoing market research activity to inform the development of specific harm reduction programmes. The bulk of the alcohol awareness and brief intervention training will be carried out in year 2. Year 3 will be the main year for implementing the findings of the research and ensuring the programmes are robust and properly evaluated in preparation for mainstreaming of effective programmes after year 3

c. Complementary Anti-social Behaviour Reduction Projects

- To develop a 'promoting responsible behaviour' programme – targeting the neighbourhood management areas.
- To provide the new licensing enforcement officer with an operational budget allow greater emphasis on the promotion of a safer night time economy.

3. Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)

The focus for reduction of ASB is based on the current action plan within the ASB Strategy:
Promoting Positive Behaviour

- Prevent and Deter – improved data collection for better-targeted service delivery with partners, particularly with young people.
- Protect and Punish – provide skills and knowledge to practitioners in order to use appropriate legislation, Decrease in the public perception of levels of ASB with improved communication methods and support packages for victims of ASB.
- Rehabilitate – using different methods of support service delivery with individuals and families in conjunction with appropriate enforcement action

It is recommended to continually review current issues that the Safer Halton Partnership are focusing on with an individual project plan and to show the impact on each of the chosen areas. The monitoring and effectiveness of the individual projects can then be used to inform decisions on future programmes.

To continue and improve working with partners to combat areas of Arson fires and ASB activity which will fully cross cut emerging priorities associated with Youth Justice, Crime and Reducing Re-Offending strategies, linking with Police, Probation, Fire and Youth Justice.